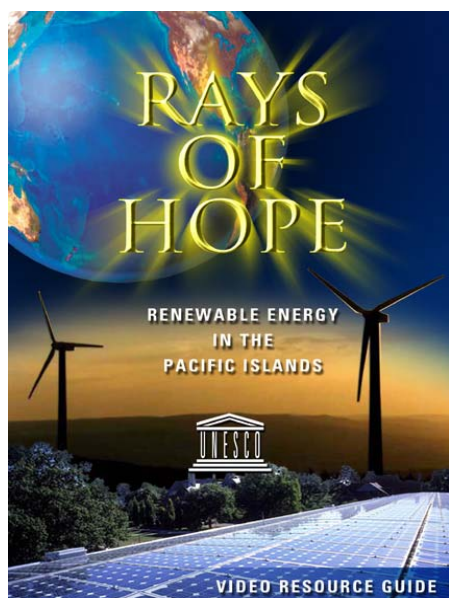


Rays of Hope: Renewable Energy in the Pacific

Video and booklet

Basic and Engineering Sciences, UNESCO
UNESCO Publishing



The production of “Rays of Hope: Renewable Energy in the Pacific Islands” is a timely contribution to information, education, awareness-raising and advocacy in the promotion and innovation of renewable energy in small island states.

The video is produced in three versions - a TV broadcast-quality version of 27 minutes duration, a schools version of 90 minutes and a “trailer” version of 90 seconds. The booklet, of 32 pages, is designed to provide further information to support the video as a stand-alone document.

The use of hydrocarbon fuels has led to global warming, climate change and sea level rise, which is nowhere more threatening than in small island states. International agreements on climate change and greenhouse gas emissions, such as the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change, the Global Environment Facility and UN Millennium Report call for a Clean Development Mechanism, are crucial to the survival of low-lying islands, their peoples and cultures.

Pacific island countries have been at the forefront of efforts in the use of renewable energy to address global warming and climate change, promote sustainable development and reduce dependence on expensive imported fuels.

Pacific islanders have been using renewable energy for millennia - sailing into and around the region on wind power, cooking with biomass fuel, drying crops under the sun and now, with international cooperation, the application of RE technologies in hydropower, solar photovoltaic systems for lighting and water pumping, solar water heating, improved cooking stoves and use of coconut oil as a diesel substitute.

“Rays of Hope” tells the story of renewable energy in a region which served as a laboratory for the trial of RE technology, where countries stand a real chance of becoming the first ‘renewable energy economies’ in the world - which is the aim of several countries of the region. These examples again show us that the Pacific islands should serve as an example and stimulus to us all.

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