

Editorial

The South Pacific Journal of Natural and Applied Sciences (SPJNAS) is an international journal dedicated to the latest advancement of natural and applied sciences and provides a platform for scientists and academics in diverse areas of research.

The University of the South Pacific (USP) is the premier provider of tertiary education in the Pacific region and an international centre of excellence for teaching, research consulting and training on all aspects of Pacific culture, environment and human resource development needs. **SPJNAS** is USP's open access, peer-reviewed, multidisciplinary, scientific journal that publishes original research findings, review articles and short communications. The journal focuses on academic excellence, research rigidity, knowledge distribution, and reciprocated scholarly efforts in order to endorse theoretical, experimental and applied research at national and international levels, especially in the South Pacific region.

Research plays an important role in the question of how regional sustainable development is possible. Therefore, research on regional issues has always been a hot topic in the field of sustainable development. The present issue of **SPJNAS** contains three quality research papers on topics of applied interest i.e. related to sustainable development, and they are summarized below.

1. The first paper reports the assessment of sugarcane varieties for their stability and yield potential in Fiji. This study was to evaluate the relative performance the genotypes during breeding program and identify promising ones that could be released for cultivation. Thus, an investigation has been carried out to determine the magnitude of Genotype Environment interactions and the stability analysis of the genotypes cultivated in Fiji. The study confirmed that two genotypes LF82-2122 and LF60-3917 had higher yield and stability statistics for the two most important traits: cane and sugar yields. The researchers have concluded that the genotypes can be recommended for adoption and cultivation on all soil types in Fiji.
2. Rainwater harvesting for drinking purpose has been a great source for survival by many societies since ages and now scarcity in water resources has been forcing many others to follow. The second paper discusses the rainwater harvesting for drinking. The study has been conducted through physiochemical assessment rainwater in Port Vila, Vanuatu. The study has revealed that the standards for the harvested drinking water are compromised at some sites either in one or multiple physiochemical parameters. It was observed that proper management and adaptation to new technologies would yield better quality of the harvested water.
3. Sharma *et al.* have demonstrated the design and implementation of a Global System for Mobile (GSM) based digital energy monitoring device. A prototype system has verified real-time with its test and verification phase results where remote monitoring of electricity has been made easier for the utility. Further, an effective overcurrent monitoring system has been embedded along with a backup battery source. Researchers have proved that with this emerging technology it is possible to move towards a smarter grid at a rapid and cost effective way.

I hope that readers of **SPJNAS** will find these articles of great value. I would like to thank the authors for their contributions to this volume/issue of **SPJNAS**, and to acknowledge the kind cooperation of associate editors and the reviewers for their time, and in maintaining the high standard of the journal. I wish to acknowledge the continuing support of the Dean of the Faculty

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