



## 2019 Year in Review and Plans for 2020

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### 2018: Highlights

The momentum from 2018 that enabled shift from climate policy analysis into the climate research, specifically in governance of geoengineering with an emphasis on Solar Geoengineering (also known as Solar Radiation Modification [Management] (SRM), continued through 2019.

In March 2019, Lefale became a research fellow at Harvard University participating in the Solar Geoengineering Research Program that resulted in a publication submission by the end of the year on climate risk insurance for solar geoengineering. In addition, he was appointed as adjunct research fellow at the University of the South Pacific, as he and colleagues at Oxford University pursued research opportunities into carbon dioxide removal (CRM) and governance of geoengineering initiatives.

Both Lefale and Anderson participated in the mission to Tokelau in April to engage in consultations on the Tokelau Disaster Risk, Response, and Resilience Plan (TDR4) with Tokelau's MiCORE staff for the development and endorsement of the three *nuku* plans that formed the basis for the national plan. The final plan was approved in November 2019.

The contract with the Government of Tokelau was renewed for the provision of climate change and resilience policy-relevant advice. LeA's role as climate advisor to Tokelau led to its co-Director Lefale spending considerable time attending regional and international climate change meetings and conferences during 2019.

Increased recognition of our work internationally also occurred in 2019. LeA was invited to a number of high level dialogues and conferences, including: the Pacific Futures Conference in Auckland, NZ; the third Climate Action Pacific Partnership (CAPP3) hosted by the Prime Minister of Fiji, Hon. Frank Bainimarama in Suva, in May\*; CAPP3 coincided with the visit by the UN Secretary General António Guterres to Fiji\*; Breakthrough Dialogue: Whole Earth Discipline by the Breakthrough Institute, San Francisco, USA, June; the United Nations Climate Summit, New York, September\*; the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC) COP25, Madrid, Spain, December\*; and, the opening of the exhibit on Tokelau at the Museum in Bremen, Germany, December\*. [NOTE: Activities with \* occurred directly as Climate Advisor to the Government of Tokelau.]

### 2020: Key Events

*February:* LeA (Lefale) invited by the Treasury (NZ Government) to be interviewed in connection with the Treasury forthcoming strategic document on fiscal management, the Long-Term Fiscal Statement (LTFS). The conversation would inform Treasury's work on the long-term fiscal issues facing New Zealand associated with climate change. The overall purpose of the LTFS is to describe pressures and trends on government spending and revenue. The examination of the possible fiscal consequences of climate change breaks new ground.

The Pacific Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) Hub Steering Committee meeting in Suva, Fiji. The Pacific NDC Hub overall objective is to support Pacific Island Countries in enhancing and implementing their national climate commitments as put forward in their NDCs.

*March:* The post-COP5 Review meeting, Apia, Samoa.

*April:* Danish delegation visit to Wellington to discuss potential joint projects in the Pacific.

*May:* The Pacific Ocean and Climate Change Conference, hosted by the National University of Samoa, SPREP and Victoria University of Wellington in Apia, Samoa.

*June:* 2020 UN Ocean Conference, Lisbon, Portugal.

Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction 2020 (APMCDRR20), in Brisbane, Australia.

*September:* 51<sup>st</sup> Pacific Islands Leaders Forum, Port Vila, Vanuatu (tbc).

*October:* SRMGI Forum and Climate Engineering Conference 2020, Berlin, Germany.

*November:* UNFCCC COP26, Glasgow, Scotland.