




DAVID E. SOLVALU

Barrister & Solicitor

LLM - PDL D - PDLP - LLB

INFO

 David Edward Solvalu

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 P.O. Box 553, Lautoka, Fiji

EDUCATION

● 2023
Master of Laws in Global
Environmental and Climate
Change Law
**University of Edinburgh,
United Kingdom**

● 2016
Professional Diploma in
Legislative Drafting (PDL D)
**University of the South
Pacific (USP)**

● 2015
Professional Diploma in Legal
Practice (PDLP)
USP

● 2010-2014
Bachelor of Laws (LLB)
USP

LANGUAGES

English

IELTS 8.5/9

TOEFL iBT 113/120

ABOUT ME



Legal Practitioner, Consultant, Entrepreneur and Chevening Alumni with demonstrated experience in the Legal Services Industry

EXPERIENCE



Solara Law and Policy Consultant

June 2024 - Present

Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission Chief Legal Counsel

December 2021 - Present

Consumer Council of Fiji Board Member

May 2022 - Present

Assets Fiji Pte Limited Director

April 2022 - August 2023

Howards Lawyers Solicitor, Commercial Department

November 2021 - December 2021

Office of the Attorney-General, Fiji Principal Legal Officer, Legislative Drafting Department

February 2020 - November 2021

Film Control Board Board member

March 2020 - September 2023

Office of the Attorney-General, Fiji Senior Legal Officer, Legislative Drafting Department

2018 - 2020

Security Industry Licensing & Registration Board Solicitor-General's nominee

2016 - 2021

Office of the Attorney-General, Fiji Legal Officer, Legislative Drafting Department

2016 - 2018

Government Chambers, Parliament of Fiji Research Officer & Speech Writer

2015 - 2016



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SKILLS



Management

Owner of Solara Law and Policy since June 2024, leading business operations while drawing on leadership experience as Chief Legal Counsel at the Fijian Competition and Consumer Commission (FCCC) since December 2021 and also responsible for overseeing key departments, including IT, Competition, Business Excellence and Research, and Environmental and Social Governance.

Governance roles also include serving as a Board Member of the Consumer Council of Fiji since May 2022 and previously as a Board Director at Assets Fiji Pte Limited from April 2022 to August 2023, a Board member on the Film Control Board (2020–2023) and as the Solicitor-General's nominee to the Security Industry Licensing & Registration Board (2016–2021), emphasizing extensive management and strategic oversight expertise

Law Reform, Revision, and Legislative Drafting

Over nine years of experience in law reform, revision, and legislative drafting, with six years spent as a legislative draftsman at the Office of the Attorney-General, responsible for drafting both primary and subsidiary legislation across various sectors, including serving as the lead draftsman for the Climate Change Act 2021, focusing on carbon sequestration property rights and emissions reduction projects in Part 10 and three years at the FCCC reviewing and drafting competition and consumer-related laws.

Through Solara Law and Policy, involved in legislative review and reform projects, including Fiji's Migration Policy and the revision of migration-related laws as a consultant to the UN International Organization for Migration.

Part of the core team responsible for producing the Revised Edition of the Laws of Fiji, the first official update of Fiji's laws since 1985, with quarterly updates.

International Multilateral Negotiations

Significant experience in international multilateral negotiations, particularly in climate change, as Fiji's Senior Negotiator at COP23, COP24, and COP25 to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, playing a central role in negotiating international carbon markets and mitigation strategies, with proven capability in representing national interests on the global stage and engaging in complex multilateral discussions.

Legal Advocacy

Extensive legal advocacy experience, including handling high-profile constitutional redress and judicial review cases in the High Court of Fiji and appearances before parliamentary standing committees to review bills tabled in Parliament demonstrate proficiency in both courtroom advocacy and legislative scrutiny, with a strong grasp of Fiji's legal and legislative processes

Research Skills

The following underscore a strong capacity for in-depth legal and policy research:

currently serving as a Visiting Fellow with the Ocean Voices Foundation, an ocean science diplomacy initiative dedicated to building capacity and connecting the voices of ocean-dependent people to ocean science and policy;

Masters Dissertation at the University of Edinburgh, focusing on international carbon markets and their impact on Small Island Developing States, with a specific case study on Fiji;

currently heads the Business Excellence and Research Department at the FCCC;

previously served as a Research Officer at the Government Chambers in the Fijian Parliament;

in 2013, presented a research paper at the 'Law and Culture' Conference in New Zealand, sponsored by the University of Auckland

REFEREES



Lyanne Vaurasi

PDL, PDL Lecturer, USP
Chief Law Draftsperson, OAG
[2016-2019]

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Dr Michael Hennessy

Piccard
Lecturer in Environmental
Law,

Univeristy of Edinburgh

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Mr Sachindra Singh

Project Manager
International Organization
for Migration

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