

## Professor Elisabeth Holland Bio

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Professor Elisabeth Holland is the Professor of Ocean and Climate Change and the Director of the Pacific Center for Environment and Sustainable Development (PaCE-SD) at the University of the South Pacific (USP), one of only two regional universities in the world. USP serves 12 Pacific Island countries: Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

Professor Holland was a recipient of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize for her contributions to the IPCC. She is a Leopold Fellow, a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of the Sciences. She serves on the USP Council, the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection, the [GESAMP](#) Climate Task Team and the Greenhouse Gas Emission Working Group, the Sea Power Advisory Board for the US Secretary of the Navy, the advisory boards of ZMT, Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research in Germany, the Naturalis Advisory Board in Leiden, the Netherlands, the Priestly Center Advisory Board in the UK, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights Pacific Region Technical Advisory Group, and the EU Horizon 2020 COMFORT stakeholder working group. Professor Elisabeth Holland co-leads the Pacific Ocean and Climate Crisis Assessment with distinguished Professor Steven Ratuva of the University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand.

Professor Holland has more than 30 years of global climate change research experience and more than 12 years of research, innovation, and leadership in the Pacific. She served as an author in five of the six cycles of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reports, including the recent [Special Report](#) on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate and the Ocean chapter of the IPCC AR6 WG2 [Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability](#).

Professor Holland has been an advocate for the greater diversity and increased representation of women, Pacific Islanders, and underrepresented minorities in Climate Change and Ocean science community. The Significant Opportunities in Atmospheric Research and Sciences. program for historically underrepresented minorities at the National Center for Atmospheric Research, co-founded by Professor Holland, won the US Presidential Award for Educational Excellence. Many of Professor Holland's students are celebrated leaders leaving a lasting Pacific and international legacy.

Professor Holland's current research focuses on Pacific ocean:climate interactions, the science:policy interface and understanding of the climate risks facing the people and cultures of the Pacific Ocean and Islands. She supports the empowerment of Pacific students and communities to build climate and disaster resilient futures.

Professor Holland has worked more than a decade at the science-policy interface. She often serves as USP's representative including on Pacific delegations for UNFCCC and IPCC negotiations including Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Nauru, Solomon Islands, and Tuvalu representative. She has led USP's delegation to support Pacific governments in negotiating the Paris Agreement and has co-authored many of the Pacific Climate Change and Ocean declarations. Professor Holland has recently focused on the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), centering SDG 14 on the Ocean and especially SDG13 on Climate Change.