

## **Brief Biography of Professor Vijay Naidu**

Vijay Naidu was born and educated in Fiji and the United Kingdom. His primary and secondary education was in Suva Methodist Boys School and Marist Brothers High School. He obtained his BA and MA (with distinction) degrees from the University of the South Pacific (USP). In 1989, he completed his doctoral studies at the University of Sussex in Brighton (Falmer), England.

He has been Professor and Director of Development Studies in the School of Government, Development and International Affairs (SGDIA), and Acting Head of the School of Management and Public Administration, Faculty of Business and Economics at USP. From 2003 to 2006, he was Professor and Director of Development Studies in the School of Geography, Environment and Earth Sciences, Faculty of Science at the Victoria University of Wellington (VUW). He worked closely with the NZ Council of International Development (CID), Pacific Cooperation Foundation and Save the Children Fund. He also served as the Co-Chair of Aotearoa New Zealand International Development Network (DEVNET) (2005-2006).

In the last 42 years, he has served USP in various capacities including Dean of Foundation Studies, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Academic) and Acting Vice Chancellor, Head of School of Social and Economic Development, and Head of School of Government, Development and International Affairs.

He was Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Pacific Studies and is an editorial board member of a number of international journals including, Migration Studies (Oxford) and Asia Pacific Viewpoint. He has researched and written on aid, development policies, ethnicity and racism, higher education, electoral politics and coups in Fiji, land tenure, MDGs, Indenture Labour, migration, informal settlements, the post-colonial state, poverty, social protection and human security, child sexual abuse and the commercial sexual exploitation of children, Samoan taro blight, small island states and globalisation\*. Most recently he has worked with a team of scholars on social friendly workplaces in the Pacific Islands with the Pacific Islands Centre for Public Administration (PICPA), the prospects of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Pacific, and Governance in Basic Education in this region.

He has served as a consultant to government, non-government organisations and to UN agencies including in the writing of the UNDP 2006 Human Development Report on East Timor. He was the Chief Technical Adviser for the Pacific Island delegation to the UN World Summit on Social Development in Copenhagen (1995). He has served as an Executive Committee member of the Oceania Development Network (ODN) and until December, 2013 was the regional representative in the Board of the Global Development Network (GDN) for the preceding 6 years.

He is actively involved in a number of NGOs in Fiji including Citizens Constitutional Forum (of which he is a founder member and former Chair, and current Director), Save the Children Fiji, and Peoples Community Network. He has served as a Commissioner in the Constituency Boundaries Commission (1990), the Legal Aid Commission (1991-1992) and in the Fijian Electoral Commission (2014).

*\* 12 books and monographs, 20 reports and more than 70 papers published as book chapters, journal articles and conference proceedings as well as more than 150 conference papers.*