

Issue 28- September, 2019

The past months have seen busy times for ECO and our Oceania family.

So many wonderful memories came from the recent Pacific Games, held in Apia. From the warm welcome by the school students, to the spectacular Opening Ceremony, the way all of Samoa wholeheartedly embraced the Games, and the wonderful achievements of the athletes - these were a Games to remember. Congratulations to the Samoan Organising Committee and SASNOC for hosting such a superb event!

Having just completed a very successful Regional Leadership Workshop in Nadi we are excited to see the confidence of the participants to take up the challenge of promoting gender equity within their NOC and sport.

Many athletes are now preparing for competition events which will lead to qualification for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games. We wish them every success.

Warmest regards,

Helen Brownlee AM
Chair, ECO

2019 / 2020 Oceania Events

11 October, 2019
International Day of the Girl

12- 17 October, 2019 World Beach Games, Doha, Qatar

17 - 18 October ANOC General Assembly, Doha, Qatar

Equity and Diversity – ‘Leaning In’ Workshop



To build on the 2018 Sub-Regional Workshops ‘Stepping Up’ ECO invited all the men and 50% of the women to return to further their capability in implementing gender equality in their communities. With 11 men and 13 women working together with the ECO Executive, the issues of unconscious bias, communication skills and safe sport were explored. All participants left with concrete plans to implement on their return home.

Shining a Light on Oceania Women



Makarita Lenoa was recently elected President of the Fijian National Olympic Committee (FASANOC). Makarita is only the second female to hold the post after the late Sophia Raddock (1988-1996). Congratulations!

Helen Brownlee (AUS) was reconised for her outstanding contribution to women in sport with an Honorary Fellowship of the Western Sydney University



Joyce Joshua (VAN) visited Ancient Olympia during her time at the International Olympic Academy, along with Matelita Vuakoso (FIJ)

Communication, Advocacy & Promotion



Over 5,000 athletes from 24 countries took part in 27 sports during the two weeks of the Games - with 22 countries winning medals.



PNG takes possession of the ball against Samoa in Women's Football



Badminton Samoa and the London Missionary Society's Church of Faleula used the Games for social good. For some 20 young people an interest in badminton has led them to staying off the streets and changing their lives. When not selected for Samoa's Badminton Team, they happily stood up to become volunteers.
Photo: Fata Junior Masefau

Margaret Kuras (VAN) made half marathon history at the 2019 Pacific Games - winning gold after running the 21kms race wearing only socks.
Photo: Team Vanuatu.



Rellie Kaputin (PNG) retained her Women's Long Jump title



One in Spirit



Tahitian women rule the waves

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We invite you to join our **FACEBOOK** page: **ECO – Equity Commission Oceania**, where you can share ideas and get up to date information on what is happening in Oceania for women and girls in sport.

Also our **INSTAGRAM** Page – Username: ecooceania
Password: eoonoc2019