

Science communication tool

By Sierra Ison

The Centre for Marine Socioecology hosted their first interdisciplinary summer school in Hobart, Tasmania. The theme of this year's summer school was Interdisciplinary Skills for Equitable Climate Adaptation in Socioecological Systems.

The summer school connected and inspired researchers from all disciplines and diverse cultures to work collaboratively to devise creative, innovative and practical solutions to the myriad socioecological challenges our world and oceans face today.



I was interested in the summer school's focus on building the necessary skills to understand and engage in interdisciplinary marine and climate change research.

I was particularly impressed by the breadth of experts from the natural, social and economic sciences that provided expertise on socioecological challenges to climate change with examples across the Pacific Island countries and Africa.

The breadth of experts provided us with different approaches to improve engagement and knowledge exchange within small island developing state communities. This provided all researchers in the course with steps towards helping scientists engage more effectively with diverse stakeholders and communities.

We received lectures and were engaged in activities that explored how we improve the uptake of science among Pacific Island communities allowing them to build adaptive capacity to climate change and enhance local livelihoods throughout the region.

Beyond the lecturers, the daily hands-on sessions allowed us as students to gain practical skills in science communication and how to engage and operate at the science-policy-society interface so that we can support diverse climate change challenges globally.



This was a fantastic opportunity for students and researchers to engage, connect and develop collaborative solutions to address these socioecological grand climate change challenges.