



CIRCUM-PACIFIC COUNCIL

Urban Sea Systems and Deep-Sea Minerals

A STAR-CPC Workshop – First Notification

16-17 November 2026

Grand Pacific Hotel in Suva, Fiji

The Circum-Pacific Council for Energy and Mineral Resources (CPC) in cooperation with the STAR Network will be convening its third formal annual two-day workshop on deep-sea minerals and the role of Pacific Islands' Urban Sea Systems may play in the development of this resource. This workshop is designed to continue the introduction of information and discussions about the Pacific region's potential for deep-sea minerals exploration and exploitation. The workshop is open to all interested parties including industry, governments, and scientists with an invitation to those Small Island Developing States (SIDS) whose Urban Sea Systems have a potential in supporting and monitoring the resource.

While the agenda is presently being organized, initial themes being considered range from new deep-sea technologies that can be used to collect nodules and monitor seafloor activities to desired protocols that may reduce oceanic impacts from mineral extraction. Since exploration activities in the Pacific has increased within the last year and forecasting for mineral exploitation to take place has been estimated to begin before the end of 2027, much needs to be reported regarding this rapidly advancing field. It appears imperative that a continuing dialog initiated in the earlier workshops advances and that transparency of intents be illuminated. This is a knowledge sharing event and although controversial, will be held in a civil, giving manner where all participants will be involved in sharing ideas and recommendations.

In the fashion of the previous workshops, an exercise in mapping the potential seafloor mineral sites useful in plotting up-to-date information about exploration and exploitation activities will be undertaken. From this activity country representatives will be able to construct their own base maps for monitoring mineral development and industry will be able to show results that will be of mutual benefit to all.

For those interested in participating in the workshop please contact STAR through its STAR 2026 Conference web site (star.org.fj) or contact one of the CPC officers listed below:

Edward Saade, CPC Chairman

edwardsaade@cox.net

H. Gary Greene, President

herbert.greene@sjsu.edu