Global crisis, domestic crisis and crisis of confidence: Which way forward for Fiji

Prof Biman Prasad
Tuesday 9 November
12.30pm - 1.30pm
Weston Theatre, Level 1, new Crawford Building
Light lunch will be provided
Please RSVP to Josie Stockdill: josie.stockdill@anu.edu.au, ph: 6125 0178

The 2006 coup led by Commodore Frank Bainimarama promised several changes to the political and economic landscape of Fiji. More than three years on is a realistic time in which to assess the extent to which the promises have been delivered. On the political front, the Prime Minister has promised a general election in 2014 under a new constitution. On the economic front, his government promised policies that would lead to a good economic recovery within the next three years. Analysis of previous coups in Fiji and the economic recovery plans followed by governments provides little optimism that we will be seeing good economic recovery soon, especially given the impacts of the global economic crisis on the Pacific Islands’ economies.

Professor Biman Prasad is currently Professor of Economics and Dean of the Faculty of Business and Economics at the University of the South Pacific, Fiji. He has contributed significantly to the debate on social and economic issues and has done consultancy work for international organisations and governments in the Pacific region. He is a member of the Asia Pacific Forum on Environment and Development, Secretary of the Asia Pacific Academy of Business in Society (APABIS) and was recently appointed as the Chair of the Oceania Development Network (ODN).