

Dr Sitiveni Halapua (Project Manager):

Currently CEO of the Talanoa and Development Project, Sitiveni Halapua has had over 20 years experience as the Director of the Pacific Islands Development Program in the East-West Center, Hawaii, USA, and the Secretary-General of the Secretariat for the Pacific Islands Conference of Leaders.

An economist with a PhD from the University of Kent U.K. in Monetary Theory, Dr Halapua developed the Talanoa process in response to the failure of current development models and the recognition of the vicious cycle, which sees development leading to conflict, and conflict inhibiting development.

After developing the dialogic process of Talanoa, he has led practical applications of Talanoa in the Cook Islands (1996), Fiji (Talanoa: 2000-2004), Solomon Islands (Tok Stori: 2005) and the Kingdom of Tonga (Public Civil Servant Strike [Talanoa: 2005] and the National Committee for Political Reform [Talanoa: 2006]).

For more information visit: www.eastwestcenter.org;
www.buildingglobaldemocracy.org; <http://talanoa.org>

Max Purnell (Build Manager):

Newick's New Zealand Agent, Max Purnell, is an experienced yachtsman and dairy farmer who spent a number of years working in the American Virgin Islands tourist industry sailing day-charter yachts. He has served on a number boards including the Auckland Harbour, Agricultural Research, Marketing and Development Trust, and the Waikato Trust. Purnell first met Matthew Flynn (below) when they together crewed a Newick trimaran in the New Zealand Coastal Classic twenty years ago.

Matthew Flynn (Maritime Lawyer):

Matthew Flynn, a Partner at McElroys Litigation Lawyers, has had a wide range of experience in all aspects of boat building contracts and insurance related boat building disputes. Matthew has been the maritime lawyer for the New Zealand Marine Industry Association for many years, and has advised them on a wide range of issues surrounding the NZ Marine Industry generally. As part of his role there, he has drafted an Industry Standard Boat Building Contract for use by NZ Boatbuilders, which is now widely accepted as a template agreement for construction of boats in NZ.

Matthew is currently the President of the NZ Branch of the Maritime Law Association of Australia & NZ. He retains his professional association in England and is still admitted as a barrister and solicitor to the High Courts of England and Wales and is a member of the London Maritime Arbitrators Association. He is also a keen yachtsman and has now been sailing for over 40 years with many years experience as a multihull sailor.

For more information visit: www.mcelroys.co.nz