

Renewable Energy vs. Fossil Fuels in the Pacific



From
the People of Japan



Environmental Impact

Renewables

Zero emissions from solar, wind, hydro, and biomass

Help Pacific nations meet Paris Agreement and SDG 7 goals

Reduce pressure on fragile island ecosystems

Fossil Fuels

Emit large amounts of CO₂ and air pollutants

Accelerate climate change, rising seas, and extreme weather

Depend on imported diesel and fuel oil shipped across oceans



Cost Over Time

Renewables

Abundant energy sources: sun, wind, and water

Lower long-term costs after installation

Governments and donors offer **grants, incentives, and financing**

Fossil Fuels

High operating costs due to fluctuating fuel prices

Subsidy-dependent and vulnerable to global fuel shocks



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Energy Access & Reliability

Renewables

Decentralized mini-grids and off-grid solutions for villages

Reliable during emergencies

Ideal for islands with no grid

Fossil Fuels

Limited to **urban centers** or **diesel generators**

Power cuts common in remote areas

Fuel supply disruptions after disasters



Community & Development Impact

Renewables

Create local jobs in installation, maintenance, and training

Power schools, clinics, and small businesses

Empowers communities with **energy independence**

Fossil Fuels

Jobs limited to **fuel transport** and **diesel maintenance**

Health risks from generator fumes and spills

Not sustainable for future generations



Link to project website: **Pacific Green Transformation Project | United Nations Development Programme**