



China Delegates Pacific Diplomacy to the Provinces — Last Week in the Pacific

Summary of PRC Activity

Jiangsu Province Vice Governor Zhao Yan led a delegation to Fiji and Solomon Islands last week, meeting both countries' heads of government and signing several agricultural cooperation agreements. The visit followed a multilateral briefing in Nanjing by Qian Bo, China's Special Envoy for Pacific Island Country Affairs, for Pacific Island Countries diplomats, where he laid out priorities under China's Seven Pacific Islands Cooperation Platforms.

This Week's Big Themes:

Jiangsu in Fiji

Vice Governor Zhao Yan led the Jiangsu delegation to Fiji, joined by Lu Hualiang, Director General of the Jiangsu Foreign Affairs Office, and Zhu Yan, President of the Jiangsu Academy of Agricultural Sciences (JAAS).

The delegation met with Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka, who highlighted Vanua Levu as Fiji's next major development priority and flagged continuing opportunities for Jiangsu investment. Rabuka also noted the China Aid Vanua Levu Road Upgrading Project. Zhao met separately with Foreign Affairs Minister Sakiasi Ditoka to discuss economic cooperation, agricultural development, and poverty reduction.

Ambassador's Corner:

On 16 June, China's Special Envoy to the Pacific, Qian Bo, hosted a briefing in Nanjing on China-Pacific Island Countries Multilateral Cooperation Platforms, drawing more than 100 participants—Pacific Island diplomats, Chinese provincial representatives, university officials, ministry staff, and delegates from the seven China-PICs multilateral platforms.

Those seven platforms, including the agriculture center discussed below, drive much of China's structured Pacific engagement. Beijing runs them through provincial governments and universities rather than the foreign ministry, which keeps their activities out of diplomatic reporting and difficult to track.

**The PRC Pacific Embassies Monitor provides systematic, open-source tracking of Beijing's public diplomatic activities across the nine Pacific Island Countries hosting Chinese missions. The monitor captures official embassy social media and website posts, supplemented by local sources, to offer a weekly structured intelligence report that bridges critical information gaps on regional engagement*

Agricultural development anchored the visit. The delegation attended an unveiling of a new agriculture demonstration site in Nadi, sponsored by the China-Pacific Island Countries Agriculture Cooperation and Demonstration Center, which is administered by JAAS.

Supporting Events

- **Fiji:** [Jiangsu Delegation Meets with Prime Minister](#)
- **Fiji:** [Jiangsu Delegation Meets with Foreign Minister](#)
- **Fiji:** [Unveiling of New Agricultural Demonstration Base](#)

Jiangsu in the Solomon Islands

Following the Fiji visit, Zhao Yan's delegation travelled to the Solomon Islands, where Jiangsu has a sister-province relationship with Malaita. The delegation opened with a meeting at Prime Minister Matthew Wale's office. Wale and Zhao discussed extending the Malaita model across the Solomon Islands. Wale called Jiangsu a strategic partner, and Zhao presented an initiative to raise agricultural productivity through new technology.



Jiangsu Province Vice Governor Zhao Yan with Solomon Islands Prime Minister Matthew Wale (Source: [Prime Minister's Office, Solomon Islands](#))

The delegation launched that initiative through a joint event with the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Development (MALD), Solomon Islands National University (SINU), and JAAS. Zhao oversaw a handover of agricultural supplies from Jiangsu to MALD. The parties unveiled the Honiara Rice Demonstration Centre under the China-Pacific Island Countries Agriculture Cooperation and Demonstration Center. All three parties signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to establish a climate-smart agricultural laboratory. SINU also signed a separate MoU on scientific and technical cooperation with Yangzhou University—located in Jiangsu—signed by Yangzhou University President Liu Qiaoquan and SINU Vice-Chancellor Transform Aqorau, with the provincial delegation in attendance.

The delegation closed the visit with a scholarship award and donation ceremony for Malaita. Zhao pledged to deepen Jiangsu's ties with the province. Malaita Premier Elijah Asilaua thanked Jiangsu for its support following the handover of 200 flooring machines and other livelihood supplies..

Supporting Events

- **Solomon Islands:** [Jiangsu Delegation Meets with Prime Minister](#)
- **Solomon Islands:** [Jiangsu Delegation, MALD, and SINU Event](#)
- **Solomon Islands:** [SINU and Yangzhou University MoU](#)
- **Solomon Islands:** [Jiangsu Delegation Donation to Malaita](#)