

**Legal Transplanting: International Financial
Institutions and Secured Transactions Law
Reform in South Pacific Island Nations**

Professor Gordon Walker & Dr Alma Pekmezovic
La Trobe Law School

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12:30 – 1:30 pm

Room 723, 7/F Cheng Yu Tung Tower
The University of Hong Kong

International Financial Institutions (IFIs) are often the key actors promoting legal transplanted in developing countries. They play a significant role in law reform and enhancing the capacity of local law reform commissions to undertake research and develop new laws.

This presentation considers the literature on legal transplanting with reference to the current law reform practices of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) - an IFI active in South Pacific island nations - in order to provide insights into the customisation processes involved when adapting laws from one jurisdiction into another.

The exemplar provided is the ADB's secured transactions law reform efforts in the South Pacific. The secured transactions laws now in place in several South Pacific jurisdictions exhibit a high degree of American law influence. The presenters analyse the reforms adopted and consider reasons for the success of United States of America (U.S.) as an "exporter" in this area of the law.

Professor Dr Gordon Walker, SJD (Duke) is Professor of Commercial Law at La Trobe University School of Law, Melbourne, Australia. Dr Walker consults to the Asian Development Bank on commercial law reform in the South Pacific. In 2009, he was Paul Hastings Visiting Professor at the Faculty of Law, University of Hong Kong.

Dr Alma Pekmezovic, PhD (La Trobe) is a Lecturer in Law at La Trobe University School of Law. She was educated at The University of Melbourne, La Trobe University and UCLA School of Law. Dr Pekmezovic is a member of the New York Bar.

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