Who We Are

Pacific Resources for Education and Learning (PREL) is an independent, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization headquartered in Honolulu, Hawai‘i.

Our vision for the Pacific is clear and compelling: to support strong schools, healthy communities, and thriving cultures with Pacific hearts and global minds.

At the heart of PREL is our world-class team: dedicated and experienced professionals who are intimately connected with the communities we serve. We consider this local knowledge and integration one of our strongest assets, allowing us to be a powerful and effective agent of change and partner for the Pacific.

Who We Serve

PREL is dedicated to working collectively in support of children who live in Hawai‘i -- and all Pacific islands -- to live strong and healthy lives in their own language and culture, while also being successful global citizens.

We harness community strengths to serve local educators and students, from early childhood through higher education, with comprehensive, culturally relevant, formal and informal educational supports.

Our Network

Since 1990, we’ve been working with hundreds of local and international service-delivery partners and funders to co-create education strategies that are contextualized for each community. Our partners are:

• Community groups
• Corporate and private foundations
• Non-profit organizations
• State education agencies
• U.S. and international government agencies

PREL’s work lies at the intersection of place-based research, theory, and practice. Our endeavors include college and career readiness, early learning, education policy, health literacy, standards and curriculum development, evaluation and assessment, and teacher professional development, as well as informal, community-based learning opportunities.

Why PREL?

PREL is recognized as the leading capacity-building nonprofit research organization in the Pacific region. The depth, diversity, and history of our work, coupled with the strength of our locally based teams and research-based knowledge and products, give PREL a unique advantage for bringing about needs-driven, sustainable change.
Project Spotlight: Voyaging for STEM
In collaboration with the National Marine Sanctuaries, College of Education, Hawaiʻi Department of Education, and the Polynesian Voyaging Society, PREL is delivering the “STEM Education and Voyaging” Project in Sāmoa.

This exciting initiative provides educators with a workshop series and toolkit to plan, create, deliver, and assess project-based lesson units that are focused on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math; tied to Math and ELA Common Core State Standards and Next Generation Science Standards; and use the Hōkūleʻa Worldwide Voyage as a central example.

Voyaging for STEM also provides a platform for community partners to connect with DOE staff and teachers to integrate American Sāmoa’s Department of Education new STEM initiative, share resources and opportunities for students and teachers to connect with local projects, and to learn from experts in STEM education and standards-based curriculum development.

Our Work in Action: The Pacific Islands Climate Education Partnership (PCEP)
The Climate Science Teacher Institute (CSTI) —in partnership with the Hawaiʻi Institute of Marine Biology, PREL and Voyaging for STEM—is helping build and enhance in-country capacity for climate science understanding in American Sāmoa.

CSTI held its third workshop on climate science for high school teachers in Pago Pago from August 15 to 19 at Tafuna High School. Eighteen teachers from fourteen schools participated.

The workshop was structured around climate science and climate change themes with 15–30 minute-lectures followed by a practical demonstration or application. Presenters addressed topics such as weather patterns in American Sāmoa, the effects of increased sea surface temperatures on coral reefs, and the resilience of coastal communities to climate change impacts.

The teachers summarized their learning and used the material to create lesson plans adapted to their grades, aligning them with Next Generation Science Standards.

Get Involved
If you’re interested in supporting PREL as a volunteer, partner, or funder, we’d love to hear from you! You can also learn more about us, or make a tax-deductible gift, at www.prel.org. We post updates about our work at Facebook.com/PREL.org

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