

# Other themes describe how Pacific languages can thrive...

<p><b>... harness the potential of social media and digital technology...</b></p>	<p><b>... invest in language resources...</b></p>	<p><b>... consider how Language Weeks can be strengthened...</b></p>	<p><b>... grow opportunities to learn the language outside of formal education...</b></p>
<p><i>"Digital resources are the way of the future. If professional digital resources are created, they can last forever"</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look at the power of the language messaging for COVID – harness that approach for the Strategy</li> <li>• Language learning apps, online hubs with resources and profiles of initiatives would be so helpful for smaller or more isolated Pacific groups</li> <li>• Role of social media and technology needs to be clearer in the Strategy</li> </ul>	<p><i>"There are many groups creating their resources, but they are hard to find. Perhaps there could be a centralised system, platform or access/pathway to knowing where families or anyone can access them."</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a dire shortage of language resources, and resources that cover a range of abilities</li> <li>• There is a need for more classroom resources, resources to support home learning, ones accompanied by audio, dictionaries and online resources</li> </ul>	<p><i>"Niue Language week activities were awesome, and we need to keep the momentum going instead of waiting for next year."</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Many people expressed how much they appreciate language weeks</li> <li>• There is some concern that they can be quite tokenistic and not contribute to increasing number of speakers or language proficiency</li> <li>• A need for clarity on who the audience is and to be more intentional about what we want to achieve</li> </ul>	<p><i>"Initiatives and programmes to learn the language and culture through doing like workshops to learn how to make Niue spears, make a Niue umu, arts and crafts, the uptake of this for Niue young people is huge"</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are many young adults and young parents who are "akama" around learning a language they feel like they should know. There needs to be safe spaces to learn and continue their journey.</li> <li>• Need more opportunities to learn in cultural contexts</li> <li>• Would be beneficial to develop recognised qualifications that can be accessed in communities</li> </ul>
<p><b>... ensure use across domains and translated public information...</b></p>	<p><b>... prioritise young people...</b></p>	<p><b>... understand the challenges churches are navigating and...</b></p>	<p><b>... clearly show how the responsibility for languages goes across Govt.</b></p>
<p><i>"Pacific languages is innate in us it's not something you turn on and off like a light switch. To fully embrace this, Pacific languages should be a part of everyday life in schools and communities. Not just at home or church."</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use in the home is central but use in education would encourage young people to see the value</li> <li>• All language domains must be "activated" (have action or investment) and research informs which domains are most critical</li> <li>• There is demand for more translated information, particularly in health and education.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There should be specific funding and resources for young people to develop their own solutions</li> <li>• Young people don't necessarily feel represented or included by some of the more formal language groups and they are often the ones accessing funding.</li> <li>• Young people live in digital spaces so any actions must meet them there.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministers are struggling with prioritising the language and trying to include children and young people when many of them do not speak enough of the language</li> <li>• Some communities do not have many options for churches that operate in their heritage language or do not attend church so want to explore how languages can grow in other spaces.</li> </ul>	<p><i>"There needs to be greater recognition in the strategy that government's responsibility goes beyond actions from MPP. All government agencies have an obligation to support Pacific languages."</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Strategy should be clearer on what other agencies are doing and what they need to do more of</li> <li>• Need to recognise systemic racism across Government that values language when it is convenient (providing translations, cultural events) but doesn't recognise this specialist skill in other ways</li> </ul>

Minor themes	The quality of Pacific languages is declining	There needs to be more coordinated, accessible funding	Broadcasting can better promote Pacific languages	Legislation should give Pacific languages some form of official status
	A Pacific Language Commission could carry this work	This work should feed into a wider National Languages Policy	The Strategy should commit to developing relationships with Pacific nations	There should be consideration for whether Fijian-Indians are included

