Addressing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions from the shipping sector has long been a priority for the PIDF. Together with its key partners on this issue – the Marshall Islands, the Solomon Islands and the University of the South Pacific – PIDF recently prepared a Pacific Position Paper as part of the global High Ambition Coalition for Shipping Emissions Reduction. Efforts in this area were further bolstered by a Side Event held at the Third Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers’ Meeting held in Nuku’alofa in April this year. As a result of submissions made, initially by Marshall Islands, calling for action on reducing emissions from shipping, the IMO approved at its MEPC 70 meeting in 2016 the Roadmap for developing a comprehensive IMO strategy on the reduction of GHG emissions from ships. It contains a workplan that will result in the adoption of an initial IMO Strategy at MEPC 72 (2018) and the adoption of a revised IMO Strategy at MEPC 80 (2023). The first meetings to consider the initial IMO Strategy took place in June and July this year in London. Pacific IMO member states who participated in those meetings were Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Tuvalu. This Talanoa will provide an opportunity to hear back from some of those who participated in the latest round of IMO meetings and to discuss ways going forward in preparation for the next IMO meeting in October this year.

Guest Speaker
Ms. Isabelle Rojon
Isabelle is a research associate at University College London (UCL). Her research focuses on maritime greenhouse gas policies, the diffusion of technological innovation in shipping and environmental management. Before joining UCL, she was a Senior Research & Editorial Executive at Fathom Maritime Intelligence, writing publications on environmental regulations and energy efficiency in the maritime industry, and has previously worked in the Energy & Environment Department of the research and consultancy company Ecorys in the Netherlands. Isabelle has a BA in Political and Economic Sciences from RWTH Aachen University, Germany and an MSc in Environmental Policy and Management from Utrecht University, the Netherlands.