

Costello Sings Tokelau SIDS Theme Song

Tauva Lima

Pacific Islands singing sensation, Daniel Rae Costello, is the voice behind the Tokelau SIDS conference theme song *My Tokelau*, launched yesterday at the SNPF Plaza.

"I am very honoured to be associated with something like this because as a songwriter and artist, these are the songs that challenge us," he

"You know we grow tired of writing pop songs, singing songs about a guy and a girl and all that kind of stuff, this is about a nation and its people, and it's really important to know it's worth putting time into something like this."

Costello also collaborated with top Fijian musicians in 2006 on a similar project for the Fijian Rugby team where the theme of the song was to 'bring the nation together'

Costello said he would love to write for Samoa but was never asked to do so.

He confided to the media that he will release an album close to Christmas season with a song that is going to be

The motivation behind *My*

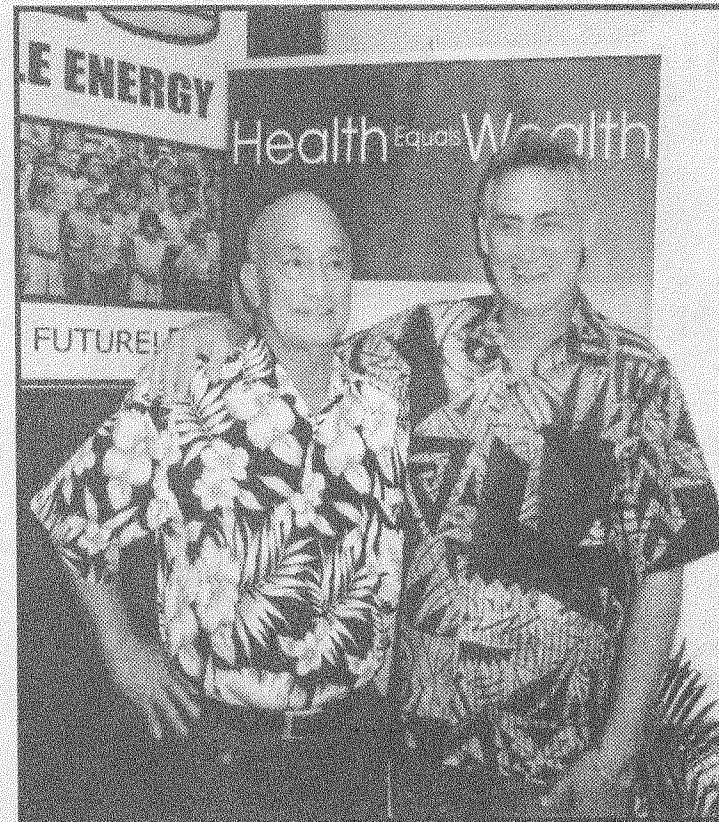
Tokelau song according to Costello is 'to raise awareness through SIDS and people who will participate to take note of the climate change effects that could affect our countries, if these big countries don't pick up their socks and clean up their mess, Pacific people are going to suffer (from Climate Change)'

Costello said that he believes 'some good will come out of the song' and will also help 'pull some hard strings' to people who are Tokelauans around the world to always remember their nation which is suffering from climate change and is about to sink in the future.

Costello said that he researched the people of Tokelau for him to understand a little bit more about the nation.

Costello who is not Tokelauan said he felt emotional listening to the song and remembering the experience he had with the people of Tokelau that will stay with him as he is going about life with his career.

The launching of *My Tokelau* SIDS theme song marks the commencement of Tokelau's



SIDS Engagement.

Faipule Kuresa Nasau who is the Minister for EDNRE and OCOG who spoke during the launching of the theme song added that the 'song is about localizing and understanding

global issues such as the sustainability of our vulnerable islands in the face of climate change, national disasters, exploitation of our oceans and the unsustainable use of our environment."