

Accounting Forum >

Volume 29, 2005 - [Issue 3: Tax avoidance and global development](#)

166 | 21 | 0
Views | CrossRef citations to date | Altmetric

Original Articles

South Pacific tax havens: From leaders in the race to the bottom to laggards in the race to the top?

J.C. Sharman 

Pages 311-323 | Published online: 28 Feb 2019

 Cite this article  <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.accfor.2005.03.006>

Sample our
Economics, Finance,
Business & Industry Journals
>> [Sign in here](#) to start your access
to the latest two volumes for 14 days

 Full Article  Figures & data  References  Citations  Metrics

 Reprints & Permissions

Read this article

Share

Abstract

This paper examines the fortunes of South Pacific tax havens in light of recent international campaigns to raise minimum regulatory standards. The paper is structured around three puzzles. The first is that although offshore sectors have generated meagre returns and are now associated with rising costs, this has not prevented existing players mounting a spirited defence of their offshore sectors. Secondly, although Pacific islands states would seem to be highly vulnerable to international pressure, they have also been the most recalcitrant in response to international regulatory initiatives. The third puzzle is that although onshore countries and international organisations bemoan the negative consequences of Pacific tax havens, they have been unwilling to offer the tiny sums necessary to buy out these offshore centres.

Keywords:

Pacific islands

Development

Regulation

International organisations

Tax haven

Related Research Data

[Financial havens, Banking Secrecy and Money-Laundering](#)

Source: Criminal Justice Matters

[‘Ma'afu's word is in the hills’](#)

Source: Journal of Pacific History

[Offshore Asset Protection Trusts: Tax Planning or Tax Fraud?](#)

Source: Journal of Money Laundering Control

[Preliminary Report, “Financial Havens, Banking Secrecy, and Money Laundering.”](#)

Source: Trends in Organized Crime

[Defining the boundaries of legitimate state practice: norms, transnational actors and the OECD's project on harmful tax competition¹](#)

Source: Review of International Political Economy

[Overview: Markets, Offshore Sovereignty and Onshore Legitimacy](#)

Source: Unknown Repository

[The Role of Offshore Financial Centres in Globalization](#)

Source: Accounting Forum

Related research

People also read

Recommended articles

Cited by
21

Information for

[Authors](#)

[R&D professionals](#)

[Editors](#)

[Librarians](#)

[Societies](#)

Opportunities

[Reprints and e-prints](#)

[Advertising solutions](#)

[Accelerated publication](#)

[Corporate access solutions](#)

Open access

[Overview](#)

[Open journals](#)

[Open Select](#)

[Dove Medical Press](#)

[F1000Research](#)

Help and information

[Help and contact](#)

[Newsroom](#)

[All journals](#)

[Books](#)

Keep up to date

Register to receive personalised research and resources by email



Sign me up



Copyright © 2026 Informa UK Limited [Privacy policy](#)

[Cookies](#) [Terms & conditions](#) [Accessibility](#)

Registered in England & Wales No. 01072954
5 Howick Place | London | SW1P 1WG



Taylor & Francis
by informa