





VIVIANA TAUBERA MARINE BIOLOGIST

BSc in Marine Science

Growing up in Taveuni, Fiji's Garden Island, Viviana heralds her seaside upbringing for her fascination with the underwater world. She has seen firsthand how a person's livelihood can depend on the sea, and has witnessed more recently, how the number of fish caught within her community (both for sustenance and sale) is declining each and every year. Determined to protect the ocean against further pollution and prevent coral reefs from destruction, Viviana graduated with a BSc in Marine Science from the University of the South Pacific. She is currently working toward her Divemaster certification.

With extensive experience in field and laboratory work, Viviana joined Kokomo Private Island in 2017 as a nanny before transitioning to the Marine Biology team in 2019. Viviana's experience collecting important fisheries data, performing community surveys and data analysis for the Fiji Ministry of Fisheries, has been invaluable to Kokomo's coral restoration and marine conservation projects. Her efforts were recognised, with the Kokomo Coral Restoration Project selected as the top Coral Restoration Program in Fiji led by Victor Bonito of Reef Explorer Fiji.

Out of the water, Viviana is leading our community engagement programs, including the Mangrove Reforestation work on Narikoso Village. Over the next few years, Viviana will work with the local villagers to help restore and protect their vulnerable village against coastal erosion, by transplanting mangroves along the shoreline. More recently, she has helped develop our Turtle Conservation Project in collaboration with the University of the South Pacific, where she earned her degree.

Viviana's passion for preserving the marine life around her and securing its sustainable future resonates most with our younger guests. She is leading the kids and teens sustainability programs here at Kokomo, creating fun interactive programs with a core educational underlining. Diligent, patient and self-reliant, Viviana is committed to creating more ocean-conscious youth in our society and helping others understand the impact triggers around them.

A team player, and an independent thinker, Viviana recently participated in the Pacific Leadership Program at the Lead Centre for Not for Profit Leadership. Here, Viviana honed her coaching and mentoring skills, with an emphasis on culture, values and community leadership.