Bougainville Performance Report
July 2016–June 2017

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Acronyms

ACIAR Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research
Bougainville Autonomous Region of Bougainville
BRIDGE Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections
Pacific Women Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development
PGK Papua New Guinean Kina
SSGM State, Society and Governance in Melanesia program of the Australian National University
UNICEF United Nations Children's Fund
Figure 1 Map of Bougainville
Executive Summary

This report presents the performance of the Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development (Pacific Women) program in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville (Bougainville) during 2016–2017. It is the first such report for Bougainville and covers activities undertaken 1 July–31 December 2016 as well as those planned for the first six months of 2017 that focus solely or primarily on Bougainville.

The Australian Government established Pacific Women in 2012. It commits up to $320 million over 10 years in 14 Pacific Island Forum member countries. The program aims to improve opportunities for the political, economic, and social advancement of Pacific women.

In 2015, the Bougainville Gender Investment Plan (2014–2019) was agreed between the Governments of Bougainville, Australia, and Papua New Guinea. Under the plan, Australia committed $14 million over five years, with $4 million provided through Pacific Women.

The Bougainville Gender Investment Plan prioritised the following objectives:
1. Reducing family and sexual violence and assist survivors of violence.
2. Strengthen women’s leadership.
3. Improve women’s economic opportunities.

The total commitment for Pacific Women activities that operate exclusively in Bougainville is $5.29 million. This exceeds the Pacific Women commitment made under the Bougainville Gender Investment Plan.

In financial year 2016–2017, Pacific Women Papua New Guinea contributed $682,410 on behalf of the Australian Government towards four Pacific Women activities that operate only in Bougainville. Three activities focus on strengthening women’s leadership in Bougainville and the fourth aims to reduce family and sexual violence and assist survivors. In addition, eight other Pacific Women-funded activities operate in Bougainville and in other locations in Papua New Guinea.

Progress toward objectives

1. Reducing family and sexual violence and assist survivors of violence

Five Pacific Women activities in Bougainville focus on reducing family and sexual violence and assisting survivors. Much of the initial work in this area has consisted of meeting urgent needs for treatment, counselling, and safe haven for survivors of violence.

In the first two years of Pacific Women support to April 2017, the Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation, which works in partnership with International Women’s Development Agency, provided counselling, safe house, and crisis support services to 1,904 women, men, girls, and boys. The entry point to these services are safe houses in Buka, Chabai, Arawa, and Buin and a Men’s Hub in Arawa. The Men’s Hub was officially launched in November 2015 after a critical mass of male advocates had been trained. The Men’s Hub trains and coordinates the work of male advocates and 30 of the 79 male advocates trained during the first year remained active volunteers in the second year, leading work on ending violence against women in their communities.

To prevent violence and shift community attitudes, the project trained 498 women’s human rights defenders and 201 male advocates on gender-based violence, human rights, women’s rights, and conflict resolution. The End Violence against Children campaign has reached over 800 people with its messages. Thirty-five staff and volunteers of the Haku Women’s Collective have taken part in training on child development, protection, and advocacy.

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1 All references to $ are to Australian Dollars.
Pacific Women partners are piloting a schools-based program to assess its effectiveness in preventing violence. A study on community attitudes to gender-based violence and gender equality will provide a baseline for future investments.

2. **Strengthen women’s leadership**

Five activities in Bougainville focus on building women’s confidence, skills, and knowledge as well as increasing acceptance of women in leadership roles.

The Inclusive Development in post-conflict Bougainville project is increasing women’s ability to plan and manage improvements to community infrastructure. Delivering 126 local community development projects through 85 women’s groups has positively shifted community perception of women’s participation and leadership ability and women’s involvement in village governance. Women’s confidence in undertaking community activities has also increased.

The Young Women’s Leadership Project enabled 102 young women to develop public speaking, planning, and networking skills. They can now play a greater role in their communities in four districts in Central and South Bougainville.

The Bougainville Women’s Federation, in partnership with International Women’s Development Agency, is educating Bougainville voters on the electoral process and good governance. By the end of 2016, the teams are exceeding their targets. They had visited 186 communities (58 per cent of target) and reached 7,334 people (already exceeding the full project target of 6,400). Pacific Women is also investing in further strengthening the Federation’s technical and organisational capacity.

3. **Improve women’s economic empowerment**

Two activities are contributing to economic empowerment for Bougainville women.

The Do No Harm research seeks to answer the question of how to empower women economically and improve their livelihood and security without compromising their safety. It is looking at informal and formal economies, including community-based microfinance and savings initiatives and women’s business enterprises. Findings show that increasing women’s income does not necessarily give them control over resources or lessen their risk of violence. This highlights that women’s economic empowerment activities need to take into account the role of gender norms and practices and household relationships.

The Family Teams agricultural action research development project, which began in Halia Bougainville in March 2017, uses a family-based approach to build the agricultural and business skills of women farmers. Benefits of the approach in other areas of Papua New Guinea have included more collaborative decision-making, more equitable workloads and increased family incomes.

**Challenges and risks for the program**

The Autonomous Bougainville Government is the very progressive in ensuring women’s representation in community decision-making and in the parliament. However, it has had difficulty meeting co-funding commitments to the Inclusive Development in post-conflict Bougainville project, and has limited funding to address women’s equality and access to services. This poses risks for organisations that depend on donor funding.

Successful implementation of projects and achieving community support requires time to form good relationships with key people. Respecting the roles of Councils of Elders, and involving them in decision-making and monitoring of projects, has improved support and appreciation of the work that women are doing in delivering community development projects.

Delivering services and information to remote and under-served communities requires more flexible planning and more time and money. The Bougainville Women’s Federation has successfully trialled training community trainers from each of the Councils of Elders local government areas. This has the benefits of strengthening community relationships and understanding local challenges.
1 Overview

This first *Pacific Women* in Bougainville Performance Report draws together the activity-level reports submitted by implementing partners to provide aggregate *Pacific Women* reporting. It draws on reports covering activities undertaken from 1 July to 31 December 2016 and planned for January to June 2017. It is dedicated to the activities that operate in Bougainville.

In 2015, the Bougainville Gender Investment Plan (2014–2019) was agreed between the Autonomous Bougainville Government, the Government of Australia, and the Government of Papua New Guinea. It was launched by the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs and the President of the Autonomous Region of Bougainville.

Under the Plan, Australia committed $14 million in funding over five years, including $4 million committed by *Pacific Women*.

*Pacific Women* commits up to $320 million over 10 years in 14 Pacific Island Forum member countries. The program aims to improve opportunities for the political, economic, and social advancement of Pacific women.

The Bougainville Gender Investment Plan prioritised the following outcome areas:

1. Reducing family and sexual violence and assist survivors of violence.
2. Strengthen women’s leadership.
3. Improve women’s economic opportunities.

2 Purpose and Structure

This performance report is a key method of monitoring progress against the Bougainville Gender Investment Plan. It provides the Autonomous Bougainville Government, the Government of Australia (through the Australian High Commission in Papua New Guinea), and the Government of Papua New Guinea with an overview of the contribution of the *Pacific Women* program to the Bougainville Gender Investment Plan. Whilst this information about Bougainville activities is presented as a separate report, the information is also integrated into the *Pacific Women* Papua New Guinea Performance Report 2016–2017.

Section three of this performance report identifies key achievements and discusses progress towards the intended results included in the Bougainville Gender Investment Plan. Challenges and risks faced by multiple partners are identified, together with approaches to mitigate these risks. This section also includes relevant regional *Pacific Women* research and evaluation activities.

Sections four through six provide details on each implementing activity operating in Bougainville, funded through *Pacific Women*. These activity summaries are drawn primarily from implementing partner activity reports for the period July to December 2016. These show progress updates against the activity objectives. The activity summaries also include key activities anticipated by partners for the period January to June 2017.

This performance report contributes to meeting the internal quality and accountability reporting requirements of the Australian High Commission in Papua New Guinea. It will be shared with implementing partners and will be published on the [pacificwomen.org](http://pacificwomen.org) website.

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3 Summary Data

3.1 Activities

Pacific Women funds four activities that operate only in Bougainville. Three activities focus on strengthening women’s leadership and the fourth contributes to reducing family and sexual violence and assisting survivors.

In addition, eight activities funded through Pacific Women work in Bougainville as well as other locations in Papua New Guinea. Of these, four were already active by January 2017. The remaining four activities began in the first half of 2017 in Bougainville. A full list of all Pacific Women Papua New Guinea implementing activities is available in Annex 1 of the Pacific Women Papua New Guinea Performance Report 2016–2017. Those involving Bougainville are shaded for ease of reference.

3.2 Funding

For the financial year 2016–2017, the Australian Government, through the Pacific Women Papua New Guinea program, contributed $682,410 towards the four activities operating only in Bougainville.

Since 2014, Pacific Women has committed $5.29 million to activities specific to Bougainville, exceeding the Australian Government’s commitment in the Bougainville Gender Investment Plan.

3.3 Key achievements

Reducing family and sexual violence and assist survivors of violence

Demand outstrips supply for safe houses in Bougainville. However, joined-up funding from different Australian sector investments has enabled the construction and operation of three safe houses, one in each of the three regions, North, Central, and South Bougainville. An example of this collaboration includes the law and justice sector program supporting the construction of the safe house and Pacific Women funding its ongoing operations.

The Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation has increased the level of support it provides to survivors. Stronger collaboration between service providers and effective community awareness and outreach has resulted in a four-fold increase in the number of women who sought and received support from the Nazareth Centre and success in obtaining interim protection orders (up from seven in year 1, to 27 in year 2), although response times and court processes remain as challenges.

Through Pacific Women funding, the Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation worked with communities to change social norms that lead to violence and to extend outreach support and protection to survivors of violence. In the first two years of Pacific Women funding from April 2015 to March 2017, 1,904 clients received counselling and/or emergency shelter from the Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation’s four safe houses and the Men’s Hub (1,102 women, 598 men, 72 girls, and 132 boys).

Strengthen women’s leadership

Changes took effect at the community government election in April 2017 that provided parity in the representation of women and men in community governments across Bougainville.

There is some evidence that the Inclusive Development in post-conflict Bougainville project is leading to changes to women’s status at community level through the effective delivery of this community-driven development program. Monitoring reports showed positive shifts in community perception of women’s participation and leadership ability, women’s involvement in village governance, and women having increased confidence in undertaking community activities. Through Phase 2 of this project, 85

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See footnote 2 above.
women’s groups are delivering 126 community projects meeting local rural community needs, such as water supply, local markets and resource centres. The projects will benefit an estimated 68,000 people and is reaching all 13 districts and all 43 Community Government constituencies.

Bougainville Women’s Federation community voter educators exceeded their outreach target by 14 per cent by the end of 2016, with six months still to go. They continue to conduct voter education training across all community government areas in Bougainville. The certified Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections (BRIDGE) trainers from each community government area are delivering five-day training to rural, remote, and under-served communities.

The strategy to recruit and use 43 community trainers from each of the 43 community government areas is anticipated to have longer-term impact, including allowing further knowledge sharing and influence even after the project ends. In addition, it is intended that these community educators will continue as part of the Bougainville Women’s Federation network across Bougainville.

The Bougainville Women’s Federation now has over 4,000 members. Many were recruited through the Inclusive Development in post-conflict Bougainville project. The Federation provides a supportive environment for women to exchange views and improve their leadership skills. It is becoming an increasingly important institution in Bougainville for developing women leaders through its partnerships and networking with government representatives and businesses. The collaboration of the Bougainville Women’s Federation as the key partner for the Family Teams project is evidence of the spread of the Federation’s access and influence.

**Improve women’s economic opportunities**

The design of the Bougainville Cocoa Project was based on the successful strategies used in the Coffee Industry Support Project funded by Pacific Women and implemented by CARE in Papua New Guinea. The CARE project takes a household relations approach to shift negative gender norms to increase women’s access to, and control over, income.

The University of Canberra-led Family Teams project uses a similar approach to teaching new skills and more equitable practices with husband and wives to promising effect. Families from villages in Western Highlands, Jiwaka and East New Britain have reported increased sharing of decision-making, workloads and improved productivity and incomes.

The Family Teams project commenced in Bougainville in March 2017. The project partners with the Bougainville Women’s Federation, working specifically with widows in the Halla constituency of Tinputz community government area. These agricultural-based investments have good potential to generate greater benefits for women, including in Bougainville.

### 3.4 Analysis of progress toward the intended results

Based on activity-level reporting, the following progress has been made against the measurable results identified in the Bougainville Gender Investment Plan 2014–2019.

Activity-level reporting available to the Pacific Women Support Unit and initial findings from the draft independent second country plan mid-term review report show that the Pacific Women Bougainville exclusive activities are all closely aligned with the Bougainville Gender Investment Plan and are achieving or on track to achieve the intended results.

The textbox in each heading below set out the intended results for each of the three objectives of the Bougainville Gender Investment Plan.

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Reducing family and sexual violence and assist survivors of violence

Five Pacific Women activities in Bougainville focus on reducing family and sexual violence and assisting survivors.

In partnership with International Women’s Development Agency, the Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation is delivering the From Gender Violence to Gender Justice and Healing project. The project provides crisis and safe haven support and counselling to survivors of violence.

Reports from the first two years of Pacific Women funding of the project indicate that collaboration with police has improved. During the first year, the project assisted seven clients to obtain Interim Protection Orders were issued and five perpetrators of violence were arrested and charged, in the second year this had increased to 27 Interim Protection Orders issued. During this period, the Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation’s four safe houses and Men’s Hub provided counselling support and/or emergency accommodation to 1,904 clients (1,102 women including ten with disabilities, 72 girls, including 1 with a disability, 598 men including 2 with disabilities, and 132 boys including one with a disability).

The Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation engaged in two learning exchanges this year to build other organisations’ capacity to provide (or plan to provide) a similar range of support services, including safe houses. This included a Jiwaka Province gender-based violence response team and a group from Papua New Guinean churches. Specific training, such as trauma counselling training, took place to improve the quality of services and responses to family and sexual violence and referral mechanisms in Bougainville.

To increase support for survivors and help shift community attitudes to family and sexual violence, training was provided to 699 women human rights defenders and male advocates (498 women and 201 men). The training topics covered gender-based violence, human rights, women’s rights, the roles of women human rights defenders, and peace and conflict resolution.

As part of the End Violence against Children Campaign, 35 Haku Women’s Collective staff and volunteers participated in training on child development, child protection, and advocacy. They subsequently reached 800 men and women with end violence against children messages.

In 2016, Sister Lorraine Garasu from the Nazareth Centre developed a Human Rights and Gender Justice Toolkit for Women Human Rights Defenders and Male Advocates. The Toolkit was tested during 2017 to ensure that it supports awareness raising and work at community level. It looks at human rights and gender equality through a local cultural lens, relates to Christian and Melanesian principles. It is designed in very simple language to enable community members, in particular from rural and remote areas, who may be illiterate and uneducated to understand concepts of human rights and gender equality and relate these to everyday life.

In addition to the Toolkit, in 2017 the Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation and International Women’s Development Agency expect to publish two learning papers. The papers will report on schools-based prevention programs in Bougainville and a baseline of community attitudes to gender-based violence and gender equality.

A further three research projects involve Bougainville: two will examine what can improve state and non-state (including community) responses to violence related to sorcery accusations, and a third will investigate menstrual hygiene management.
**Strengthen women’s leadership**

Five activities in Bougainville focus on increasing women’s leadership.

Three activities built the skills, knowledge and acceptance of women, including young women, as leaders in their communities.

The Inclusive Development in post-conflict Bougainville project built the skills and experience of 390 women who then went on to plan and manage 126 village-level development projects. The Young Women’s Leadership Project improved 102 young women’s skills and confidence in public speaking, planning, and networking so that they can play a greater role in their communities in four districts in Central and South Bougainville. Five young women are putting into practice the skills they learned during the earlier project in the North Bougainville pilot. They are now trainers as part of the current project and with other local nongovernmental organisations.

The Bougainville Women’s Federation Voter Education project informed communities across Bougainville not only about how and why they should engage with elections, but also about consideration of good leaders and women’s roles. The team exceeded its outreach target before the end of 2016 by providing five-day training to 7,334 people (3,761 women and female youth, and 3,573 men and male youth). They planned to reach a further 134 communities before the national election.

Following research funded by Pacific Women on women’s leadership and decision-making, a new program, Women in Leadership Support, started in January 2017 to provide training and support to women considering contesting elections. In February 2017, 16 women participated in the training in Bougainville. Participants included some of the young women from the Voter Education project. Six young women from the Young Women’s Leadership project were selected as scrutineers, election observers, and for other related activities such as counting officials by Office of the Bougainville Electoral Commission. These young women were selected because they are active in their communities and have developed relevant skills through the program.

The Women in Leadership Support program is a five-year inter-electoral cycle program intended to provide ongoing mentoring and skill-building for women who want to contest elections credibly. It will offer continued support for any woman who succeeds in winning a seat. The Bougainville Women’s Federation also has plans for a leadership forum for newly elected women’s community government representatives (funded through the Netherlands Government).

Through the partnership with International Women’s Development Agency, *Pacific Women* is investing in the activities that the Bougainville Women’s Federation is delivering, and also in strengthening the technical and organisational capacity of the Federation itself.
**Improve women’s economic opportunities**

Two *Pacific Women*-funded activities are contributing to improving women’s economic empowerment.

The Do No Harm research is investigating how to empower women economically and improve their livelihood and security without compromising their safety, particularly in contexts where violence against women is high. The research has been undertaken in Bougainville as well as in other areas of Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands. Researchers examined informal and formal economies, including community-based microfinance and savings initiatives, women’s business enterprises, cash-cropping (coffee and cocoa), and women’s formal employment.

Final analysis is expected in the second half of 2017. Preliminary analysis indicates that increasing women’s income does not necessarily lead to greater bargaining power within the household, which is necessary to enable women’s control over resources and lessen the risk of violence. One of the policy and programming implications is the need to ensure investments address household relations. This includes addressing the social and gender norms that constrain women (and men), so that economic resources can be transformed into benefits for women and not just create an additional burden.

The Family Teams agricultural research development project began in Bougainville in 2017. As mentioned above, it uses a family-based approach to enhance the economic development of women farmers by building their agricultural and business skills and knowledge. The Family Farm Teams approach develops the skills of women’s leadership teams and men and women village community educators. As part of this project, women are supported to recognise their existing skills. They also receive training in record-keeping, participatory project planning, management and communication skills, how to lead an adult learning program, what’s involved, and why to monitor activities. Teams of village community educators are trained as peer educators to demonstrate and provide advice to others within their networks on the benefits and effectiveness of more gender-equitable farming practices. The four Family Farm Team modules are planning as a family, setting goals as a family, decision-making as a family, and building family resilience. A review of the approach in the Highlands and East New Britain indicate evidence of more collaborative decision-making, setting of family financial goals, and increasing family incomes. These outcomes were demonstrated by purchases of farm and family assets.

In early 2017, a baseline study was conducted and community learning plans developed. Village community educators were identified along with women’s leadership teams in consultation with the Bougainville Women’s Federation. In June 2017, 70 women and men completed the first module of training in Halia constituency of Tinputz community government area.

### 3.5 Lessons learned

**Working with households**

Initial analysis of the Do No Harm research indicates that economic empowerment does not necessarily equate with empowerment in other areas of women’s lives, or freedom from violence. A key lesson from the Bougainville case study is that women’s economic empowerment activities need to take into account the role of gender norms and practices in the context of marital and household

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relationships. A preliminary recommendation from the Bougainville research is that male partners’ excessive consumption of alcohol is one of the factors that needs to be addressed.

**Formal and informal rules**

Partners recognise the need to establish meaningful connections with key people, the importance of developing personal relationships, and understanding formal systems and processes. They have found that negotiating formal protocols while learning and respecting informal rules is key to achieving stronger community support. Respecting the roles of Councils of Elders, and involving them in decision-making and monitoring of projects, has improved support and appreciation of the work that women are doing in delivering community development projects through the Inclusive Development in post-conflict Bougainville project, for example.

**Value, and risks, of role models**

Several activities seek to influence behaviour change through role models and peer educators. These include women human rights defenders, male advocates, voter education community trainers, and village community educators in Bougainville. Role model approaches can inspire behaviour change by demonstrating that change is beneficial and possible. Women and men that live and work and know the challenges of particular communities are powerful spokespeople in showing how to achieve change. However, key behaviour change spokespeople and project staff must have credibility when they express gender equality messages. To build this credibility, some teams have increased the focus on gender sensitisation training for project staff so that they have a deeper understanding of the issues and can advocate more persuasively the gender benefits to new ways of working.

### 3.6 Ongoing challenges and risks

The *Pacific Women* program and its partners face a number of challenges. These are highlighted below, together with proposed mitigation responses.

- Despite positive legal and policy developments, the Autonomous Bougainville Government has had difficulty meeting its co-funding commitments to the Inclusive Development in post-conflict Bougainville project. It has limited funding to address women’s equality and access to services. This poses ongoing sustainability risks for organisations that depend on donor funding.

- Taking information to remote and under-served communities to raise their knowledge and confidence is generally appreciated, but is time-intensive and usually more expensive. Multiple projects reported that committed staff and volunteers who deliver services in remote areas often have to spend long periods of time away from home and family. They often bear a personal cost in challenging community norms. More planning, flexibility, use of multiple communication channels, and different delivery approaches may all be required. Through the Voter Education project, the Bougainville Women’s Federation has successfully trialled training community trainers from each community government area. The benefits include stronger community relationships and local understanding of the challenges that communities face, and an expansion of the individual’s personal capacities.

- Many activities, including the Young Women’s Leadership Project, experienced delays as a result of difficulties in recruiting and retaining staff with the right skills. Implementation schedules must build in realistic timeframes when considering project planning and budgeting.

### 3.7 Regional activities

The following activities are current *Pacific Women* regional activities relevant to Bougainville:
The *Pacific Women* Support Unit has identified, through a competitive assessment process, a **panel of monitoring and evaluation specialists** and **gender specialists**, who are available to the program and implementing partners on an as-needed basis and as additional resources.

The *Pacific Women* Research Strategy has been developed through a consultative process involving a *Pacific Women Research Strategy Advisory Group* made up of research practitioners from the Pacific, Australia, and New Zealand. The group, with representation from Papua New Guinea, will guide the implementation of the strategy and assist in identifying research to be commissioned.

The *Pacific Women* Roadmap has been finalised and is available on the pacificwomen.org website. It will **inform and guide future regional and multi-country investments**. Cross-cutting areas identified in the roadmap include the need to focus on adolescent women and girls, and to address social norms and attitudes around gender equality.

The **regional review of counselling services** available in the Pacific for women and girls affected by violence has been completed and is available on the pacificwomen.org website. The review’s purpose is to assess counselling services for survivors of gender-based violence with regard to quality, reach, and accessibility. It outlines factors that contribute to success and current best practice in counselling service delivery. The recommendations are now being considered with a particular focus on developing and establishing counselling standards in the region.

A **review of the program monitoring and evaluation system** was undertaken in response to the recommendations of the *Pacific Women* Three-Year Evaluation.
4 Component 1: Reducing Family and Sexual Violence and Assist Survivors of Violence

Sections four through six provide a brief summary of each of Pacific Women’s implementing activities in Bougainville under each of the three objectives of the Bougainville Gender Investment Plan. The summaries provide an overview and list the aims and objectives of each project.

Progress reported in the last activity report against each of the activity objectives is provided in a table. The period covered by the activity level reports is indicated in the left-hand column.

Where activity-level reports have not yet been provided by partners for the January–June 2017 period, the summaries include details of activities that the partner has planned to undertake. Key lessons identified by implementing partners and the main barriers encountered are also included.

4.1 From Gender-Based Violence to Gender Justice and Healing

Project Partner: International Women’s Development Agency in partnership with the Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation

Total Funding: $1,693,366

Funding timeframe: April 2015–July 2018

Funding Source: Pacific Women Papua New Guinea

Overview

The From Gender Based Violence to Gender Justice and Healing project, is implemented by the Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation in Bougainville in partnership with International Women’s Development Agency. The project builds on work funded under the Government of the Netherlands’ Funding Leadership and Opportunities for Women program from 2013–2015. That work promoted women’s human rights defenders and prevention activities with communities. In 2015, this work was co-funded by Pacific Women. From 2016, the project has been fully funded by Pacific Women. The safe houses were funded via other Australian Government funded programs, but are linked through the agreed Bougainville Gender Investment Plan 2014–2019.

Aims and objectives

The project aims to reduce family and sexual violence in Bougainville by addressing the root causes of gender inequality, through:

▪ supporting Bougainville women’s human rights defenders to lead responses to and prevention of family and sexual violence with government and communities; and
▪ enabling men and women to prevent family and sexual violence at community level by promoting shared power and decision-making between women and men.

The objectives of this project are to:

▪ Provide crisis services to survivors of family and sexual violence (counselling, accommodation, access to justice, repatriation, case management and referrals).
▪ Provide ongoing capacity building for trauma counsellors.
▪ Continue to strengthen women’s human rights defenders and their work with communities on preventing and addressing gender-based violence.
▪ Work with male advocates and men.
The report submitted during this period covered April–September 2016. This summary has also been sourced from International Women’s Development Agency blogs, newsletters and informal briefings.

Table 1: Key project deliverables: From Gender Based Violence to Gender Justice and Healing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Objective 1</td>
<td>Crisis services are provided to survivors of family and sexual violence (counselling, accommodation, access to justice, repatriation, case management and referrals)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| April–December 2016 | - The four safe houses provided counselling and support to 349 people (223 women including 6 with disabilities, 82 men including one with a disability, 32 girls, and 32 boys including one with a disability).  
- Three community conversations were held with village chiefs reaching out to 127 people (47 women, 53 men, 16 girls, and 11 boys).  
- From August to September 2016, Voice for Change⁶, another nongovernmental organisation partner of International Women’s Development Agency based in Jiwaka, and Nazareth Centre project staff took part in workshops on disability inclusion. The training focused on various approaches to working with people living with disabilities, barriers to participation of persons with a disability, and the way society treats and reacts to people with disabilities.  
- In October 2016, eight Voice for Change staff visited the Nazareth Centre for an exchange learning tour. The group consisted of the gender-based violence response team, and representatives from the provincial and district courts, health sector and police. The aim of the tour was to learn more about the Nazareth Centre’s experience in establishing and running safe houses for women and children, the Men’s Hub in Arawa, and working effectively as a part of the response and referral system. |

| Objective 2 | Ongoing capacity building for trauma counsellors |
| April–September 2016 | - A six-day trauma counselling ‘in-service’ training course for existing counsellors from Central Bougainville and Bana Districts was held in Arawa with 19 participants (14 women and 5 men). The training aimed to strengthen skills in basic counselling, case management and counselling planning. Other topics included dealing with ‘problem’ clients, how to keep records, reporting, and new information on the trauma cycle of violence. |

| Objective 3 | Strengthening the work of women’s human rights defenders and working with communities on preventing and addressing gender-based violence |
| April–December 2016 | - International Women’s Development Agency conducted seven training activities with 230 new and existing women’s human rights defenders (154 women, 63 men, 11 young women / girls, and 2 young men / boys).  
- Members of International Women’s Development Agency, Voice for Change and the Nazareth Centre participated in the Pacific Feminist Forum in Suva, Fiji, in November 2016. The Forum was a Pacific Women’s regionally funded event. |

| Objective 4 | Working with male advocates and men |
| April–December 2016 | - As part of the 20 Days of Activism, the Men’s Hub based in Arawa organised a one-day Advocacy Forum on Gender-Based Violence. The project team in Buin organised an awareness event, and the project team in Chabai organised an awareness event focused on children.  
- The school-based program was piloted at 6 schools with 138 students (5 young women, 10 young men, 51 girls, and 71 boys including one with a disability).  
- Three training sessions on the school-based program were conducted for peer educators (21 women and 16 men).  
- Community-based male advocates held 27 trainings / sessions that included community conversations, group dialogues, awareness raising, and mediation processes. They also conducted individual counselling across 10 locations in Bougainville. This work reached 2,924 people (791 women, 811 men, 760 girls, and 562 boys).  
- Male advocates facilitated 29 trainings sessions on men’s health for 460 people (148 women, one with a disability, and 312 men).  
- The Men’s Hub team provided individual counselling services to 465 people (178 women, 242 men, and 45 boys). |

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⁶ Voice for Change was also an implementing partner with the Family Teams project in Jiwaka (Pacific Women funded Activity 6.1).
Objective

Progress

- The baseline study on community attitudes, perceptions and behaviour of women and men towards gender equality, and family and sexual violence was completed. The number of participants was 143 (77 women and 66 men).

Plans for January to June 2017

The Nazareth Centre continued to provide crisis support services to women and children and women’s human rights defenders will undertake community-based education activities. The Women’s Human Rights Defenders Forum took place in March.

International Women’s Development Agency and Nazareth Centre teams are preparing two learning papers, one on schools-based prevention programs in Bougainville, and the other on a baseline study on gender-based violence and gender equality. Both papers are expected to be published by June 2017.

Lessons learned

One of the biggest challenges in Bougainville is limited communication, which impacts the implementation of the project in various ways, including participant turnout at trainings, meetings and workshops. The difficulty of communicating with Bougainville women’s human rights defenders means more time is required to organise activities. More regular monitoring visits and persistent phone calls help to mitigate this issue.

Other challenges include the risk of working in a post-conflict zone and in areas prone to natural disasters with constant rainfall and strong wind. These situations require flexible planning and adjustment of work plans to cater for unforeseen circumstances.

Main barriers

International Women’s Development Agency’s partner organisations, Voice for Change (Jiwaka), Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation (Bougainville), and Eastern Highlands Family Voice (Goroka), reported similar challenges in obtaining support and resourcing from the Government of Papua New Guinea. Even in areas such as Bougainville, where the government is broadly supportive of the safe housing, counselling, and primary prevention initiatives offered by the Nazareth Centre, the police Family and Sexual Violence Unit and the Public Prosecutor’s Office remain under-resourced and unable to respond quickly and adequately to complaints.

4.2 End Violence against Children Campaign

Project Partner: United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
Total Funding: $1,995,000
Funding timeframe: February 2015–December 2017
Funding Source: Pacific Women Papua New Guinea

Overview

The End Violence against Children Campaign seeks to increase awareness and commitments by families, communities, and children to take individual and collective action to respond to and prevent violence against children by December 2017. The Campaign calls on all sectors of society (governments, religious and community leaders, parents, community members, and the media) to highlight violence against children wherever it occurs. It encourages ‘Talking Out and Taking Action’
and ‘Making Violence against Children VISIBLE’, by integrating child protection in national strategies and budgets, and by challenging social norms that perpetuate violence.

**Aims and objectives**

The aim of the project is to increase public awareness and understanding of the impact of violence against children and to galvanise national commitment to end violence against children and improve access to support services by December 2017.

The specific objective of the project is to reach at least 50 per cent of the adult population, young people in targeted provinces, and all law makers in Papua New Guinea with awareness messages on violence against children through sustained and multifaceted media and community-based campaigns.

**Table 2**  
**Key project deliverables: End Violence against Children Campaign**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At least 50 per cent of the adult population, young people and all law makers in Papua New Guinea are reached with awareness messages on violence against children through sustained and multifaceted media campaigns and community-based campaigns</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **July 2016–January 2017** | ▪ Two stakeholder awareness-raising and sensitisation workshops were held for 48 Child Protection Officers, community development advisers, and staff from nongovernmental organisations, community-based organisations, and faith-based organisations from Eastern Highlands, Chimbu, Jiwaka and Hagen. The workshops resulted in costed provincial implementation plans for End Violence against Children campaigns in respective communities.  
▪ A two-day training course was delivered to 97 health workers and 88 religious leaders and priests from Jiwaka and Western Highlands provinces to enhance their capacity to convey End Violence against Children campaign messages.  
▪ In Bougainville, 35 staff and volunteers (19 women and 16 men) from Haku Women’s Collective participated in three days of training on child development, child protection and End Violence against Children campaign messages. Haku Women’s Collective reported reaching 800 men and women following the training.  
▪ End Violence against Children awareness was integrated in a five-day Lukautim Pikinini Act (2015) training for 57 Child Protection Officers from 15 of Papua New Guinea’s 22 provinces. Following completion of the training, the Child Protection Officers received delegated power from the Director of Child and Family Services to perform duties under the Lukautim Pikinini Act as an interim measure, until their names are gazetted.  
▪ UNICEF partnered with the Provincial Department for Community Development, Goroka Show Committee and community-based organisations in Eastern Highlands Province to organise a three-day training on End Violence against Children awareness campaign during the Goroka Show. An estimated 10,800 men, women, and children took part. The first day was dedicated to children with a theme of End Violence against Children. Dissemination of campaign messages continued for the second and third days through announcements, display of banners, and distribution of End Violence against Children communication materials.  
▪ The Eastern Highlands Department of Community Development used a mobile float to conduct an End Violence against Children campaign in and around Goroka, reaching an estimated 800 children in schools and approximately 3,500 adults and young people at market places.  
▪ The campaign collaborated with the provincial offices of the Department for Community Development and the Catholic Archdiocese of Hagen and Kundiawa. This enabled the campaign to reach 81,000 children and adults in Western Highlands and Jiwaka and 27,794 in Chimbu through a community, church, school and health facility based campaign.  
▪ UNICEF and key partners engaged with those organising the FIFA Under-20 Women’s World Cup legacy program to conduct End Violence against Children campaign sensitisation sessions with 890 youth volunteers. UNICEF will continue to work with 50 of the volunteers on campaigns in 20 settlements in the National Capital District Commission. UNICEF partnered with the Oceania Football Federation and disseminated End Violence campaign messages in Under–20 Women’s World Cup stadiums. This initiative included provision and broadcast of animated content on the Convention of the Rights of the Child and End Violence campaign, public service announcements, and a Red Card campaign.  
▪ On Universal Children’s Day, UNICEF, used the existing ‘walk for life’ platform to undertake an End Violence campaign. It did this with the Papua New Guinea Football Association and Just Play, and with the permission of the Governor of National Capital District. An estimated 350 children and 800 adults joined the walk and the celebration.  
▪ With UNICEF support, the National Department for Community Development and Religion finalised the regulations for the Lukautim Pikinini Act and National Child Protection Policy (2017–2027). Both were endorsed by the National Executive Council in January 2017. The
Pacific Women
Bougainville Performance Report 2016–2017

Objective

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>policy identifies advocacy and social mobilisation and life skills programs for children and adolescents as key strategic priority areas.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Plans for January to June 2017

Communication materials, including End Violence against Children flip charts, brochures for religious leaders, and campaign advertisements produced in 2016, were printed and disseminated. Support will be provided to partners to implement their provincial End Violence against Children campaign plans. These plans include participatory drama at community level, community dialogue sessions using campaign flip charts, and road shows. A monitoring mechanism will be established to document partners’ progress towards the ambitious goal of reaching half of each of these communities. The monitoring will record the number and type of campaign sessions and number of participants disaggregated by gender and age group.

Lessons learned

The most successful provincial action plans have been in areas where church leaders have taken the lead in implementing the program. They have demonstrated leadership, commitment, and cooperation, though this varied across the provinces.

In the first 18 months of the project, Papua New Guinea has made significant progress in improving the legal and policy framework for the protection of children. If the new legal and policy frameworks are to result in tangible improvements in the lives of children, there must be more investment in implementation and effective mechanisms to monitor their implementation.

Main barriers

The implementation of the campaign has been affected by limited capacity in institutional financial management and reporting. This has added to costs and slowed disbursement of funds, which has delayed implementation.

4.3 Developing Communication Strategies for Social Change against Sorcery-Related Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Partner:</th>
<th>Queensland University of Technology in partnership with the Centre for Social and Creative Media at the University of Goroka</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Funding:</td>
<td>$896,165.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding Timeframe:</td>
<td>August 2016–June 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding Sources:</td>
<td>$719,800.77 (Pacific Women Papua New Guinea)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$176,364.40 (Queensland University of Technology)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overview

The research project targets the need to develop communication strategies as an integral part of the Papua New Guinea Sorcery National Action Plan to ensure a holistic approach to reducing sorcery-related violence. The aim of this research is to investigate the development of appropriate communication strategies that are informed by local knowledge and contexts and involve those affected by sorcery-related violence. It uses arts-based approaches to research (photography, digital storytelling, film) to facilitate a participatory design process with communities to develop communication strategies that meet their needs. This project works with stakeholders to implement the
Sorcery National Action Plan. The project builds on successful models of arts-based advocacy developed by the Centre for Social and Creative Media, University of Goroka.\(^7\)

The Queensland University of Technology team will work in close collaboration with the sorcery research project managed by the Australian National University, also funded through *Pacific Women*. The project is supporting the work of, and is overseen by, the Sorcery National Action Plan Research Committee.

**Aims and objectives**

The aim of this research project is to address violence related to accusations of sorcery in Papua New Guinea and specifically to:

- Develop audio-visual education, advocacy and awareness materials that captures initiatives that break the link between sorcery and violence and demonstrate best practice examples of tackling sorcery-related violence.
- Develop and implement a strategy to ensure communication of the materials and messages to key stakeholders and the public.
- Identify and network with organisations and individuals to provide mutual support and assistance in creating educational resources and advocacy strategies.
- Establish the Centre for Social and Creative Media and the University of Goroka as a key hub for audio-visual educational resource material on social issues and strengthen networking and collaboration with other partners to provide a holistic response to sorcery-related violence in Papua New Guinea.

**Table 3** Key project deliverables: Developing Communication Strategies for Social Change against Sorcery-Related Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective 1</strong></td>
<td>Develop audio-visual education, advocacy and awareness materials</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| August–December 2016 | ▪ Overarching ethics protocols have been established and Queensland University of Technology ethics approval obtained. Approval is still pending from the University of Goroka Ethics Committee. Fieldwork guides will be prepared as soon as final approval is obtained.  
▪ The research team has started foundational media analysis of Papua New Guinea’s two major daily newspapers. |
| **Objective 2** | Develop and implement a strategy to ensure communication of the materials and messages to key stakeholders and the public |
| August–December 2016 | No activities reported. |
| **Objective 3** | Identify and network with organisations and individuals to provide mutual support and assistance in creating educational resources and advocacy strategies |
| August–December 2016 | ▪ Initial activities focused on strengthening networks to ensure that research activities fit within stakeholders’ existing programs and organisational capacities, including Oxfam and members of the Human Rights Defenders Network: Kup Women for Peace\(^*,\) Kafe Urban Settler’s Women Association\(^*\); the SEEDS Theatre Group\(^*\), the Department of Justice and Attorney General, and the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.\(^9\) |

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\(^7\) Including through the *Yumi Kirapim Senis* series, funded through the *Pacific Women* funded Strengthening National Coordination, Implementation and Monitoring Mechanism to Prevent and Respond to Family and Sexual Violence project delivered through the United Nations Development Fund. For more information, see *Pacific Women* funded Activity 6.3 in the *Pacific Women* Papua New Guinea Performance Report 2016–2017 (footnote 2 above).

\(^8\) *Pacific Women* funded Activity 4.4.

\(^9\) Each of the organisations marked with * are implementing activities funded through *Pacific Women*. 
### Objectives and Progress

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- In November 2016, in partnership with Oxfam, a workshop with 16 participants (14 women and 2 men) was held to develop Information, education, and communication materials specifically for Human Rights Defender Network members. The materials were designed to support the advocacy work of the Human Rights Defender Network organisations to communicate legal information to communities. Key legal frameworks discussed included the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the <em>Family Protection Act</em>, the <em>Lukautim Pikinini Act</em>, and the repeal of the <em>Sorcery Act</em>.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- The project team documented the work of Highlands Human Rights Defenders at Goroka market during the 20 Days of Activism. The video material will be used to promote the Human Rights Defenders Association.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Queensland University of Technology has developed strong relationships with Oxfam and its partners. This has included supporting the analysis of sorcery related data by partners and the development of a new database. The partners are working to develop a toolkit so that they are better able to develop their own communication materials in the future. These relationships are also important for the implementation of this project.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- In December 2016, Dr. Kauli led a process drama workshop for 10 participants with the SEEDS theatre group in Lae, funded through the regional UN Women Ending Violence Against Women Trust Fund but linked to the Papua New Guinea funded initiative. The workshop was designed around specific themes of gender-based violence and sorcery-related violence. Two Centre for Social and Creative Media staff were trained in co-facilitating the workshop. An important feature of the workshop was the participation of two Highlands Human Rights Defenders. Outcomes included strengthening the facilitation skills of the Centre for Social and Creative Media staff and identifying the need to strengthen SEEDS’ understanding of gender-based violence issues and referral pathways before they developed scripts for their community theatre.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 4 Establish the Centre for Social and Creative Media and the University of Goroka as a key hub for audio-visual educational resource material on social issues</td>
<td>August–December 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- While formal partnership with the University of Goroka is still pending, staff from the Centre for Social and Creative Media were involved in all activities to build their knowledge and experience with the issues and partners. Staff from the Centre also participated in the Pacific Women funded SASA! training(^{10}) and a Centre student participated in the <em>Pacific Women</em> (regional) supported Feminist Forum in Fiji.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Queensland University of Technology are contributing additional resources to the project through the Postgraduate Research Award to a Papua New Guinean PhD scholar. This will further contribute to the building of local research and sorcery-related capacity.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Plans for January to June 2017

Fieldwork in the first two field sites will begin in Chimbu and Eastern Highlands, with partners Kup Women for Peace and Kafe Urban Settler’s Women Association. In-depth conversations with these organisations and their participation in the workshop showed that they had developed innovative approaches to address sorcery-related violence. The two organisations also provide potential for comparing rural and urban communities in the Papua New Guinea Highlands. They have a record of sorcery cases over the past few years and continued partnership with them could ensure that the project has longer-term impact beyond its actual life.

The information, education, and communication materials developed for the Human Rights Defenders Network were scheduled to be piloted in February and March 2017 and to be finalised in April 2017. The report on gender-based violence and sorcery-related case data collected through Oxfam is expected to be published by mid-2017.

### Lessons learned

Locally designed solutions are needed to address human rights defenders’ communication challenges and requirements when working in communities. The workshop brought to light strategies already

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developed by participants that are being integrated into the development of information, education, and communication materials.

There is often a disconnect between policy and the implementation of that policy at community level. This disconnect needs to be addressed by improving understanding of how policies impact on lived experiences within communities. Bringing Human Rights Defenders and Department of Justice and Attorney General staff together increased knowledge sharing about each other’s work.

Main barriers

The sensitivity of the research topic meant that rigorous ethics protocols had to be established in consultation with ethics review boards. Long timeframes for ethics approvals have caused delays. Local newspaper archives have been difficult to access. Archives at institutions outside of the newspaper archives were found to be incomplete, delaying the media analysis.

4.4 Improving the Impact of State and Non-State Interventions in Overcoming Sorcery Accusation Related Violence in Papua New Guinea

Project Partner: State, Society and Governance in Melanesia program of the Australian National University (SSGM)

Total Funding: $1,867,198.48

Funding Timeframe: September 2016–June 2020

Funding Sources: $1,059,239.23 (Pacific Women PNG) $807,959.48 (Australian National University)

Overview

Violence related to accusations of sorcery is a growing problem in Papua New Guinea. It can lead to economic disempowerment, poor health, insecurity, persecution, and violence including torture and murder, and disproportionately impacts women.

The Government of Papua New Guinea and a broad range of civil society, faith-based and international organisations have put legislative reforms, projects and programs in place. The Government of Papua New Guinea, led by the Department of Justice and Attorney General, together with partner organisations, has developed a Sorcery National Action Plan that sets out a comprehensive response to the problem. This project seeks to identify what is currently being done to address the problem of sorcery accusation related violence in Papua New Guinea and how these responses can be improved.

Other partners

In this project, SSGM draws together the efforts of research partners in Papua New Guinea, primarily the National Research Institute and Divine Word University, and works closely with the Department of Justice and Attorney General and the Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee.

The project works alongside the Queensland University of Technology project to develop communication strategies for social change against sorcery-related violence. The two sorcery research projects work together to bridge the gap between policies and action at community level by understanding the triggers for violence and ways of overcoming it. They do this using creative media materials and processes.

11 Pacific Women funded Activity 4.3.
This project also complements other ongoing research on this issue by SSGM, in particular Richard Eve’s work on perpetrators of sorcery accusation violence, and Nicole Haley’s work on violence against women and elections.

Aims and objectives

The objectives of this project are to:

- Identify the regulatory levers that exist to overcome sorcery accusation related violence, and the context or conditions necessary for them to work effectively.
- Document the Sorcery National Action Plan as a coalition for change network through identifying its development, impacts, failures and challenges.

Table 4  Key project deliverables: Improving the Impact of State and Non-State Interventions in Overcoming Sorcery Accusation Related Violence in Papua New Guinea

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Objective 1</td>
<td>Identify the regulatory levers that exist to overcome sorcery accusation related violence, and the context or conditions necessary for them to work effectively</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September–December 2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Initial activity was delayed in part due to delays in obtaining Australian National University ethics approval, which was received in February 2016. The Papua New Guinea research permit was approved by the Secretariat for Science, Research and Technology under the Department of Higher Education.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A robust research methodology using mixed methods was developed. Following trials, the survey approach was replaced with a case note approach. Pro forma were developed both for where violence occurs and where it does not.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A policy briefing setting out events related to the Sorcery National Action Plan for the previous six months was written and is available here: Responses to and Issues Arising from Recent Cases of Sorcery Accusation Related Violence in Papua New Guinea (November 15, 2016). RegNet Research Paper No. 2016/122. Available at SSRN: <a href="https://ssrn.com/abstract=2869615">https://ssrn.com/abstract=2869615</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Papua New Guinea-based Research Assistants were recruited from Enga and trained, including on the completion of the case note pro forma. Data collection began in Enga in 2017. The recruitment of Research Assistants to work with National Research Institute to complete case note forms and to monitor Port Moresby village courts’ involvement in sorcery-related cases is underway.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 2</td>
<td>Document the Sorcery National Action Plan as a coalition for change network through identifying its development, impacts, failures and challenges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September–December 2016</td>
<td>No action planned in this period.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unplanned contributions

This project is based on participatory action research. Since its beginning the project has already contributed to:

- developing, at the request of the Department of Justice and Attorney General, reporting templates for the Sorcery National Action Plan provincial committees;
- providing input to the Sorcery National Action Plan committee officials’ presentations to the Police Commissioner’s Conference in November; and
- launching a film competition at Divine Word University for media studies students to design an awareness film around a particular sorcery-related scenario.
Plans for January to June 2017

Now that ethics approval has been obtained, the project is focusing on documenting case studies illustrating different interventions that have been effective in managing sorcery-related conflict in a non-violent manner by both state officials and non-state leaders (including cases where the offender has been prosecuted and imprisoned, such as State v Toropo (no 2) [2015] PNGC 119).

The project will also undertake an analysis of all sorcery cases reported in newspapers since 2000 to identify facts, such as where it occurred, sex of victim, context of violence, and state response.

Lessons learned

Multiple methodological and logistical issues were identified as part of the process of developing a rigorous and manageable methodology.

Main barriers

Gaining ethics approval was more difficult than anticipated. The capacity of Papua New Guinea partner organisations is constrained by the insecurity of their organisational funding and stability of human resources.

4.5 The Last Taboo: Research on Managing Menstruation in the Pacific

**Project Partner:** Burnet Institute, Water Aid, and International Women’s Development Agency

**Total Funding:** $500,000

**Funding Timeframe:** 2016–2017

**Funding Source:** *Pacific Women* regional program

Overview

The Last Taboo research project is intended to provide formative research in Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Fiji on barriers to women’s and girls’ effective menstrual hygiene management and the potential impacts on their participation in education and income generation. In Papua New Guinea, the research will be conducted in Bougainville and National Capital District.

Aims and objectives

Specifically, the aims of the study are to:

- Understand how women and girls in the Pacific currently manage menstruation.
- Explore the barriers / challenges experienced by these women and girls with regard to their management of menstruation.
- Determine the impact of menstrual management practices on women’s and girls’ participation in education and income generation.
- Identify opportunities to improve women’s and girls’ ability to manage their menstruation safely and with dignity.

The project is managed by the team responsible for regional activities in Canberra. A literature review was completed and is available on the pacificwomen.org website (http://www.pacificwomen.org/resources/the-last-taboo-research-on-managing-menstruation-in-the-pacific-lit-review/).

Research has been undertaken in Papua New Guinea and the final report is due late in 2017.
5 Component 2: Strengthen Women’s Leadership

5.1 Inclusive Development in post-conflict Bougainville

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Partner:</th>
<th>World Bank</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Funding:</td>
<td>$4,920,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding Timeframe:</td>
<td>April 2013–March 2018 (2 phases)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding Sources:</td>
<td>$2,500,000 (<em>Pacific Women</em> Papua New Guinea, April 2015–March 2018)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PGK 2 million (Autonomous Region of Bougainville)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Overview**

Inclusive Development in post-conflict Bougainville is a community-driven development project that aims to increase women’s decision-making and influence at community level and improve social development. The World Bank, in partnership with the Autonomous Bougainville Government’s Department of Community Development, manages the project. *Pacific Women* funded an evaluation of Phase I and is funding Phase 2.

Phase 2 of the project provided 85 block grants to remote and rural women’s groups for community infrastructure at the village level, such as water supply, local markets and resource centres. Decisions about funding are made through Councils of Elders (community-level government), which include women’s representatives to ensure women not only benefit directly from grants, but are involved in decision-making with traditional local leaders. The project also supports women’s advocacy on local needs and issues.

**Aims and objectives**

The project aims to increase women’s decision-making and influence at community level.

Project objectives include:

- More women in decision-making at the local level, leading to changes in social norms concerning women’s leadership.
- Better targeted local economic infrastructure through women’s participation.
- Training for local women’s groups to enable them to manage their own affairs and advocate issues to government effectively.

No narrative reports were required during this period. This update is sourced from the data entry form completed for inclusion in the *Pacific Women* Knowledge Management System database.

**Table 5** Key project deliverables: Inclusive development in post-conflict Bougainville

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Objective 1</td>
<td>More women in decision-making at local level, leading to changes in social norms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>January–December 2016</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>After some delays to the rollout of Phase 2, 126 community-driven projects commenced throughout rural Bougainville. The estimated number of beneficiaries is 68,000.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Three hundred people, (249 women and 51 men) working with 85 local women’s groups participated in training, had their projects appraised and approved, and signed grants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Council of Elders chair people, executive officers and village chiefs in each community were involved in project appraisals. Through participatory consultations, their support and approval were requested for the training of women and women’s groups’ leadership in delivering community projects that were identified through participatory processes. These 51 men are also involved in monitoring the progress of projects.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Objectives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective 2</th>
<th>Better targeted local economic infrastructure through women’s participation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **January–December 2016** | ▪ The program built the skills and confidence of women and women’s groups to undertake project planning through participatory processes that are explicitly inclusive of women’s priorities. Women have taken on leadership roles in delivering priority community infrastructure.  
▪ Projects include: 54 water supply systems; the construction of 30 resources centres, 14 classrooms, seven aid posts, five market houses and one aidpost staff house; 10 targeted capacity building programs; 3 sanitation projects; and 2 road access projects. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective 3</th>
<th>Training for local women’s groups to manage their own affairs and advocate issues to government effectively</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **January–December 2016** | ▪ Each of the 85 women’s groups funded to deliver community projects received training in participatory planning, project design, monitoring and evaluation, managing a community-based organisation, organisational management, financial management, and strategic planning.  
▪ The project worked collaboratively with the Autonomous Bougainville Government’s Department of Community Development to raise awareness at workshops on issues such as violence against women and girls, including the services available and where to get help. |

### Plans for January to June 2017

In these six months, the project focused on an audit of Phase 1 projects and issuing of completion certificates and monitoring of all sub-projects currently being implemented.

### Lessons learned

The traditional leadership roles of elders and village chiefs must be respected. Their involvement in project appraisal and monitoring has improved their understanding of the project overall, as well as support for women’s leadership roles in planning and implementing these community projects.

Ensuring that women’s groups participate in all training, especially in financial management, ahead of the disbursement of funds, has significantly improved compliance with procurement processes, correct financial acquittal and implementation timeframes.

### Main barriers

Due to a shortfall in funding received from the national government, the counterpart Autonomous Bougainville Government commitment of PGK 2 million has yet to be received.

### 5.2 Young Women’s Leadership Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Partner:</th>
<th>International Women’s Development Agency in partnership with the Bougainville Women’s Federation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Project Value:</strong></td>
<td>$1,402,906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Funding Timeframe:</strong></td>
<td>January 2016–July 2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Funding Sources:** | $646,320 (*Pacific Women* Papua New Guinea)  
$756,586 (Australian Government’s Bougainville Program) |

### Overview

The Young Women’s Leadership Project builds on the key findings of a 2014 study conducted by the Bougainville Women’s Federation and International Women’s Development Agency with support from the Australian National University. The study looked at the barriers, issues, and needs impacting young women’s leadership in Bougainville. The project also draws on lessons from a 2015 North Bougainville pilot project.
The project has identified young women from across South and Central Bougainville for training and mentoring. The participants will put into practice their new public speaking, budgeting, and networking skills through organising and participating in a Young Women Leaders’ Forum. The project includes working with men and the broader community through awareness raising to support an enabling environment for women taking on leadership roles.

The project has a secondary objective of ongoing organisational strengthening of the Bougainville Women’s Federation to enhance its ability to deliver effectively to the districts.

Aims and objectives
The project aims to increase young women’s leadership effectiveness and provide a safe space in which they can engage and support each other. It works towards two mutually reinforcing objectives:

- Young women have stronger leadership skills and confidence, and a greater voice in local and regional government affairs and policy development.
- Bougainville Women’s Federation is strengthened as a sustainable, inclusive representative body for women across Bougainville.

Table 6  Key project deliverables: Young Women’s Leadership Project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Objective 1</td>
<td>Young women have stronger leadership skills and confidence, and a greater voice in government affairs and policy development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July–December 2016</td>
<td>The team recruited 102 young women in Buin, Kieta, Torokina and Wakunai to participate in the project. The first week’s training was delivered to 85 young women (18–30 years), including two with disabilities, in Kieta (26), Torokina (29), and Wakunai (30). It had good community involvement and support. The training included leadership and governance, self-confidence, and public speaking. Young Women’s Associations have been formed in both Kieta and Wakunai districts. Women elected as executives of these associations will form a caucus, to convene for the first time around International Women’s Day in March 2017. Young women took a leading role in advocacy activities around the 16 Days of Activism, World AIDS Day and World Disability Day in Arawa. They built networks with the Arawa Voluntary Confidential Counselling and Testing Centre and Callan Office, gaining practical experience in public speaking and advocacy. The project and activities received media coverage in Bougainville and Port Moresby through National Broadcasting Commission Bougainville. This provided a public space for young women’s voices and their issues, illustrating why it is important to engage young women in leadership roles. Participants conducted 22 radio interviews and two video interviews. Six project trainers strengthened their facilitation and conflict management skills, and self-esteem through leadership training. These were identified as key needs by district women and young women participants engaged in the project. Five young women from the North Bougainville pilot project attended the Bougainville Women’s Federation Annual General Meeting. Inclusion of a young women’s representative on the Bougainville Women’s Federation’s executive board and District Federations was noted for further deliberation. This will be a key advocacy focus for the Young Women’s Caucus in 2017.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Objective 2 | The Bougainville Women’s Federation is strengthened as a sustainable, inclusive representative body for women across Bougainville |
| July–December 2016 | The organisational review was deferred until February 2017. The focus during the period July to December 2016 was on improving financial management processes, including preparations for a full organisational audit that began in December 2016 with completion scheduled by March 2017. Alignment of support provided to the Bougainville Women’s Federation through International Women’s Development Agency and Australian Volunteers International ensured that the Bougainville Women’s Federation obtains coordinated support in key areas of need. |
Plans for January to June 2017

Leadership training began with young women in Buin in February 2017. Four training sessions are scheduled to take place in each of the districts by the end of 2017. This includes a session facilitated by male advocates who work with the Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation, involving young men who are related to participants. The aim of the session is to generate understanding within families, and therefore communities, of the benefits of young women having opportunities to learn and exercise more leadership.

Young Women’s Associations will be established in both Torokina and Buin ahead of the establishment of a Young Women’s Caucus, mirroring the structure of the Bougainville Women’s Federation. The caucus will have dedicated meetings that will, if approved by the executive board, feed into Bougainville Women’s Federation meetings through a young women’s representative on its executive board.

Project staff will tailor the mentoring program’s activities to the specific needs of individual women. For example, mentoring could include learning about leading a community organisation from district women’s executives, learning traditional weaving skills, medicinal uses of local plants, and folklore stories and songs, or being mentored by a local business woman. A mentoring guide has been produced for mentors. Copies will be provided to young women and prospective mentors in 2017.

Looking forward, a Young Women’s Forum will take place in November 2017, organised by the Young Women’s Caucus and Associations. Participants will use their goal-setting, planning, budgeting, leadership, and public speaking skills to reach young women outside the project.

Lessons learned

The project’s baseline study identified a need to broaden support for the project in Bougainville Women’s Federation and improve intergenerational communication and relationship issues. Active engagement of Bougainville Women’s Federation board executives in the first leadership training sessions as mentors has helped to address this. It also helped to build young women’s confidence in working alongside mature women leaders. The project will involve a larger cohort of mature members in the future.

According to trainer observations and participant evaluations, the training inspired and motivated the young women participants to support their community leaders.

The recruitment of project staff and young women participants, and progress towards building the Bougainville Women’s Federation’s organisational capacities, took longer than planned. This led to delays in activities. However, three of the four fulltime project staff are young women who are either alumni of the 2015 pilot, or who joined activities hosted through that project. This demonstrates the Bougainville Women’s Federation’s commitment to increase the representation of young women in the organisation and provides strong role models for current project participants.

Main barriers

District Women’s Federations did not support the recruitment of young women to the project as planned. This issue highlighted communication and information-sharing barriers, as well as the need to strengthen the functioning of the District Women’s Federations.

Organisational management challenges for the Bougainville Women’s Federation in 2016 caused a major disruption of activities. These challenges have been largely addressed. Underspent funds from 2016 will be reallocated in 2017 to ensure that improvements to financial management, organisational governance, and cohesion between staff, the executive and districts are bedded down. This work will be co-funded through the partnership with the Government of the Netherlands under the WAVE program.
5.3 Bougainville Women’s Federation – Voter Education

Project Partner: International Women’s Development Agency in partnership with the Bougainville Women’s Federation

Total Funding: $451,888.25 (Pacific Women Papua New Guinea)

Funding Timeframe: May 2016–December 2017

Overview

This is a voter education project for the ‘lost generation’ of Bougainville in preparation for community government elections (deferred from 2016 to April 2017), the 2017 Papua New Guinea national elections and the Independence Referendum expected in 2019.

The training is delivered throughout Bougainville by community trainers using certified Building Resources in Democracy, Governance and Elections (BRIDGE) modules. The project is linked to, and harmonised with, other Bougainville Women’s Federation projects. These include candidate training, young women’s leadership initiatives, referendum awareness raising efforts, and a ‘Leadership Forum for Women in Community Government’ planned for 2017 and funded through the partnership between International Women’s Development Agency and the Government of the Netherlands under the WAVE Program.

Aims and objectives

The aim of this project is to provide education on voting rights and responsibilities to people across Bougainville, focusing on the historically disenfranchised cohort of people who grew up during the Crisis, referred to as the ‘lost generation’.

The project objectives are to:

- Provide education on voting, elections and making informed decisions as a voter to 6,400 people in 320 communities across all 43 Council of Elders areas in Bougainville, focusing on the ‘lost generation’.
- Contribute to knowledge about how to ensure inclusivity and engagement in learning about democracy and elections in Bougainville communities.

Table 7 Key project deliverables: Bougainville Women’s Federation – Voter Education project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Objective 1</td>
<td>Provide education on voting, elections and making informed decisions as a voter, to 6,400 people in 320 communities across all 43 Council of Elders areas in Bougainville, focusing on the ‘lost generation’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

May–December 2016

- One community trainer from each of the 43 Council of Elders (community government) areas was selected (21 women and 22 men), following training of 57 participants (31 women, 26 men). Community trainers are now qualified to roll out five-day training workshops using accredited BRIDGE modules in their communities. Where possible, the workshops include three DVDs produced for the project covering good governance and election corruption, the economy, and the referendum, and conclude with a mock election.
- Community awareness sessions were undertaken in 186 communities (58 per cent of target). A total of 7,334 people (3,761 women and female youth, 3,573 men and male youth, including 55 women and 54 men with disabilities) participated in the community education sessions. This number already exceeds the outreach targets for the full project.
- Community participants reported better understanding of the election process and commitment to voting. They reported understanding why it was important to vote, recognition of the need for good governance and strong leaders, how the limited preferential voting system works and determines who wins, and greater confidence to participate as a result of the practice mock elections.
### Objectives Progress

- Communities reached through the training include remote, difficult-to-access, and under-served communities. Many people in these communities may not have participated in previous elections because of concerns about their own literacy and confidence, the distance to walk to polling stations, or transport difficulties.
- Two live radio broadcasts helped to communicate the objectives of the project. Based on calls from listeners asking questions and making comments, these broadcasts reached an audience of 200 listeners from Buin, Tinputz, and Kieta / Arawa.
- The names of all 57 people trained in the BRIDGE modules were forwarded to the relevant Bougainville and Papua New Guinea electoral authorities so they may have opportunities to assist in election training by these organisations as well.
- The relationship with the Office of the Bougainville Electoral Commissioner is strong. The Commission facilitated the training of trainers and funded the discussion guide for community-based trainers.

### Objective 2

**Contribute to knowledge about how to ensure inclusivity and engagement in learning about democracy and elections in Bougainville communities**

**May–December 2016**

- Partnerships and networking with both government representatives and local business people supported Bougainville Women’s Federation’s reputation as a leading agency for voter education. Bougainville Women’s Federation now has established contacts in remote communities that will aid access for other projects.
- BRIDGE training included information on how the limited preferential voting system and electoral cycle and processes work, ways to improve women’s participation, engaging with the media, how to observe elections, and options, and processes for dispute resolution.

### Plans for January to June 2017

The project will complete community workshops by 1 June 2017, taking into account the Community Government elections in April 2017. A mid-term workshop with community trainers to review progress and lessons is scheduled for early April 2017 ahead of an external end-of-project evaluation to be completed by November 2017.

The community workshops will be complemented by radio programs broadcasting Autonomous Bougainville Government-approved messages about the referendum, panel discussions on voter education and advocacy, and a Bougainville Women’s Federation-commissioned song on the importance of responsible voting.

### Lessons learned

Inviting representatives from all 43 community areas to receive training through the BRIDGE program provided a strong base for the workshops. The workshop model is reaching remote and under-served communities, but geographic and communication constraints mean that it is more expensive and time-consuming than planned. Communication about the timing and venues for workshops requires notice and pre-training awareness visits to increase participation in the actual training.

Placing trainers in their local communities has strengthened community relationships and enabled training to be tailored to the challenges faced by these communities.

### Main barriers

High workloads and family responsibilities, together with church and other community duties, restricted women’s ability to attend the workshops. Trainers often stayed longer in communities to provide training at times during the day or evening that women said were more suitable for them.

Logistical challenges, including lack of mobile phone connectivity and transport difficulties in remote locations, resulted in security concerns for trainers. These concerns were exacerbated by bad weather. As a result, an approach of two trainers working together has been implemented in high-risk areas.
Overcoming structural barriers, such as lack of transport for people with long distances to travel or mobility issues, will be necessary to ensure all communities can exercise their right to vote. This may include bringing polling booths to remote areas.

5.4 Women in Leadership Support Program

Project Partner: Australian National University and State, Society and Governance in Melanesia Program

Total Funding: $3,434,860.71

Funding Timeframe: December 2016–June 2021

Funding Sources: $1,937,592.01 (Pacific Women Papua New Guinea)
$1,497,268.70 (State, Society and Governance in Melanesia Program of the Australian National University)

Overview

This five-year inter-electoral cycle program focuses on building the capacity of prospective women candidates to develop and implement credible and effective election campaigns. A key objective of this project is to provide support for women candidates that is evidence-driven, sustained, and locally responsive. Project support is strongly grounded in available evidence and takes account of the realities of contesting elections in Papua New Guinea.

Aims and objectives

The goal of the Women in Leadership Support Program is to improve women’s leadership and political participation by enhancing the competitiveness of women candidates contesting Papua New Guinea’s 2017 and 2022 national elections and the 2018 local-level government elections. Specifically, the program:

- Helps prospective women candidates mount competitive election campaigns.
- Undertakes detailed analysis of the performance of women candidates in the 2017 elections, and will provide evidence-based support to selected candidates during the 2017 to 2022 electoral cycle.

The program was confirmed in late December 2016.

Table 8  Key project deliverables: Women in Leadership Support Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Help prospective women candidates mount competitive election campaigns</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2016–March 2017</td>
<td>- Initial candidate training was provided to 127 women from across the country in Port Moresby (48), Wewak (5), Kavieng (6), Madang (9), Buka (16), Mt Hagen (22), and Goroka (20). Participants included 75 intending to contest the 2018 local-level government elections, or, in the case of Bougainville, the 2017 Community Government elections.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Participants’ feedback on the training was very positive. They particularly valued the sessions addressing the importance of tailoring their campaigns to the political dynamics of their electorates, strategies for maximising their support bases, the evidence regarding women candidates who have been successful in elections in Melanesia, and issues of safety and security to be considered by women contesting elections in Papua New Guinea.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Mentoring support was offered to all participants intending to contest the 2017 national general elections.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Objectives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective 2</th>
<th>Undertake detailed analysis of women candidates’ performance in the 2017 elections, and provide evidence-based support to selected candidates during the 2017 to 2022 electoral cycle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ This analysis will take place after the 2017 national general elections.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Main barriers

The short lead time between signing the contract and delivering the first training, and the time of year, resulted in some misunderstandings regarding the roles and responsibilities of the various parties involved in the program. These roles and responsibilities have since been clarified. A Memorandum of Understanding has been agreed with the Integrity of Political Parties and Candidates Commission to support the delivery of the program over the next five years.

### 5.5 Research on Women’s Leadership and Decision-Making in the Pacific

**Project Partner:** Australian National University’s State, Society and Governance in Melanesia Program

**Total Funding:** $311,623

**Funding Timeframe:** July 2013–December 2016

**Funding Sources:** Pacific Women regional program

### Overview

Improving Women’s Leadership, Political Participation and Decision-Making in the Pacific is a multi-country research activity that examines women’s leadership and decision-making at the national and sub-national level, through discrete research activities. The research seeks to identify the characteristics and relationships that enable women candidates to compete successfully in national, sub-national and local politics and the campaign strategies they employ. The research also seeks to identify the factors underpinning their leadership success, the entry points and pathways to women’s leadership, and the relationships between different levels of decision-making.

### Aims and objectives

The aim of this research is to identify success factors and pathways to women’s leadership and decision-making at political and community levels across the Pacific. Specifically, the research seeks to:

- Identify the characteristics of women candidates who poll well.
- Undertake research and analysis on women in political and administrative leadership in the Pacific.
- Inform a wide range of activities, including future support and training for women candidates.
- Provide opportunities for PhD and Pacific Island scholars to become involved in collaborative research in each phase of the research projects.

Reporting on this project is drawn from the end of project report and therefore covers the entire project period.
## Table 9  Key project deliverables: Women in Leadership and Decision-making in the Pacific

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective 1</strong></td>
<td>Identify the characteristics of women candidates who poll well</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 2013 – December 2016</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Across the Pacific, women candidates who poll well are typically community-based, have deep connections to their electorates, are well educated, have strong male backers, are from high-profile families, have often built good reputations as local representatives, have a strong constituency support base, have significant involvement in the church, and are recognised as serving the community or delivering benefits locally.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ Several factors were identified as contributing to women’s success, including scholarships and professional mentoring. Civic engagement, involvement with the church, and local peace-building efforts provide important proving grounds for women leaders.</td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ SSGM’s detailed election research also demonstrates that creditibly contesting elections at the national level and finishing amongst the top-ranked losing candidates, is one pathway women in Papua New Guinea are successfully using to enter local and provincial (sub-national) politics.</td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ SSGM’s research also demonstrates that selection processes that prioritise the characteristics common to women who have performed well in the past elections should be adopted.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Women in government and those aspiring to political office are held to higher standards than their male counterparts, especially in relation to their private lives. Both women candidates and men supporting and campaigning on behalf of women candidates are subject to criticism and threats to their personal security.</td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ There are numerous institutional, cultural, attitudinal, and financial barriers to women’s participation in elections (Tavola 2014). Women do not participate in elections as equal citizens. For example, close to a third of all women voters surveyed (13–45 per cent depending on constituency) self-reported having experienced intimidation during voting. Many women, maybe even most women, do not control or cast their own vote.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective 2</strong></td>
<td>Undertake research and analysis on women in political and administrative leadership in the Pacific</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 2013 – December 2016</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Detailed election research finds that although leadership gains have been greatest at the sub-national level, the experiences of Pacific women involved in sub-national politics and decision-making differ considerably. This is consistent with the broader international literature which finds that quotas and other special measures ‘do not guarantee influence of women’s voice in shaping political outcomes, or that women politicians will prioritise gender equality agendas’ (Domingo et al. 2015; Ferguson 2013).</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ Women account for only 5.4 per cent of elected leaders in the sovereign states of the Pacific. In Melanesia, home to around eight million people, only four of the 213 parliamentary seats (1.9 per cent) are held by women. While 135 women contested the Papua New Guinea national election in 2012, only three women were successful in winning Parliamentary seats (2.7 per cent).</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ New research of women’s administrative leadership, analysing the gender profile of the Papua New Guinea public sector as at June 2014, reveals that the gender profile of the Papua New Guinea public sector is complex. While women were well represented in central government agencies, progress towards Papua New Guinea’s target of 30 per cent women in senior management has been uneven and women are severely under-represented in senior positions at the sub-national level where services are delivered.</td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ Money politics is gendered and impacts the campaigns of women candidates. Electoral campaigns in the Pacific are increasingly marred by heightened levels of electoral malfeasance and the proliferation of money politics. In Solomon Islands, as in Papua New Guinea, men typically receive cash and gifts more often than women and in larger amounts.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Nearly two thirds (64 per cent) of those who elicited cash from candidates during the 2014 Solomon Islands elections were men (Haley et al. 2015). In addition, men reported receiving 20 per cent more than women in exchange for their vote, and were far more likely to have personally elicited cash or gifts in return for their votes. They also reported greater confidence in declining gifts or cash offered to them, and felt less bound to honour such commitments.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ International evidence, including from the Pacific, shows that women elected to reserved seats find gaining re-election difficult, regardless of how well they have performed (Ferguson 2013).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objective 3</strong></td>
<td>The results from the research will be used to inform a wide range of activities, including future support and training for women candidates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>July 2013 – December 2016</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ The research arising from this project, and the 2013 Political Gifting Survey, informed the Papua New Guinea Electoral Support Strategy 2015–2018. The research findings from each of the discrete research activities were captured in an issues paper entitled ‘Women’s political and administrative leadership in the Pacific’, which was prepared to inform the Papua New Guinea Women in Leadership design work in 2016.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| ▪ Research findings, including suggestions of strategies that might better enhance election campaigning by women candidates, have been shared at the Papua New Guinea 2015
Objectives | Progress
--- | ---
Women's Forum and the 2017 Highlands Women's Forum, and at the Integrity of Political Parties and Candidates Commission training and with Pacific Women stakeholders separately in October 2016. The findings have been shared with elected executives of the Papua New Guinea National Council of Women, presidents of the Provincial Council of Women, Provincial Assembly nominees, and women intending to contest the 2017 national elections and their campaign managers.
- A synthesis report drawing on discussions with Pacific women in June 2016 is supplemented by a series of framing papers published as SSGM In Briefs and available on both the SSGM website and the Pacific Women website. In total, 16 In Briefs, five peer reviewed journal articles, 18 conference papers and five ancillary publications have been completed and are available on the Pacific Women website.
- In 2016, working with Centre for Democratic Institutions and the Integrity of Political Parties and Candidates Commission, evidence-based training for intending women candidates, and a strategy to support intending women candidates throughout the election cycle, was developed and is now being implemented through Pacific Women.

Objective 4 | Provide opportunities for PhD and Pacific Island scholars to become involved in collaborative research in each phase of the research projects
--- | ---
July 2013–December 2016
- The project was collaborative, involving 12 SSGM scholars (including three PhD candidates) in a substantive way and over 120 local partners in the Solomon Islands and Samoa election observations. SSGM's observation work also included other SSGM scholars and students from elsewhere across the Australian National University. Key local collaborators in Papua New Guinea included four independent researchers, Teresa Meki, Almah Tararia, David Lundape and Steven Gari, who undertook the 2013 Money Politics Survey.

Lessons learned
Empirical evidence for the efficacy of much of the donor investment has been lacking. In the past, candidate training has included material not directly relevant to the Pacific context while not addressing the gendered nature of political gifting and money politics, or the intimidation women voters report experiencing on polling day.

Activities designed to improve women’s political participation and voice must also recognise and look for the inter-relationship between different forms and levels of political participation. Efforts to support women’s leadership should be informed by lessons learned from contexts where gains have been greatest (often at the sub-national level) and from successful reform initiatives.

Focusing on political representation at the national level is not sufficient. Support for women in local leadership positions is required to build a critical mass of women in leadership and decision-making at all levels.

Main barriers
Existing efforts to enhance women’s leadership, political participation, and decision-making have not resulted in the gains expected. New modalities are needed. A key challenge will be to see new forms of support and engagement incorporated in future donor-funded activities.

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13 Pacific Women funded Activity 5.4.
6 Component 3: Improve Women’s Economic Opportunities

6.1 Increasing Economic Opportunities for Women Smallholders and their Families (‘Family Teams’)

Project Partner: University of Canberra

Total Funding: $3,596,991

Funding Timeframe: July 2015–June 2018

Funding Sources:
- $3,000,000 (Pacific Women Papua New Guinea)
- $596,991 (University of Canberra)

Overview

The Family Teams project adopts an action research and development approach to enhance the economic development of women smallholders by building their agricultural and business skills and knowledge. The University of Canberra team works with local partners, including the Pacific Adventist University, the National Agricultural Research Institute and University of Technology, CARE and Voice for Change. This project builds on an earlier ACIAR-funded project with women in horticulture. Key aspects of the project are development of teams of local village community educators who are trained to work as peer educators in their own communities. They deliver the Family Teams project, which supports families to plan their farming as a small business with both women and men making decisions about the business and the impact on the family. It allows farming families to explore issues of gender and culture in their family.

This is one of five projects commissioned by ACIAR under the Transformative Agriculture and Enterprise Development Program. This broader program is co-funded by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and ACIAR. Pacific Women funds the Family Teams project, which is wholly managed by ACIAR as part of the Transformative Agriculture and Enterprise Development Program.

Aims and objectives

The project aims to increase income through better farm business practices in which women have a significant role as decision-makers.

The project objectives are to:

- Examine the capacity development of women as community-based agricultural leaders.
- Explore ways in which communities can develop partnerships with the private sector, schools, and training providers that are relevant to the local context and culture.
- Further develop the peer education model of agricultural extension.
- Examine the uptake and impact of a family team approach to farming for women and girls.

No reports were required to be submitted to Pacific Women during this period. This update is sourced from publications under the project, the ACIAR mid-term review of the project June 2015–December 2016, and monthly broader program updates shared with the Pacific Women Support Unit.
Table 10  Key project deliverables: Family Teams project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Objective 1</td>
<td>Examine the capacity development of women as community-based agricultural leaders</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| July 2015–December 2016                        | ▪ There is little literature on the development of women leaders at village level and limited opportunities for women to exercise leadership roles outside of the church in the three districts of the project sites. The project provided capacity development for 36 women, primarily through experiencing a range of participatory processes to develop skills in group leadership, planning, ‘change story’ collection, impact observation, and survey implementation.  
▪ Three different approaches were adopted for the women’s leadership teams: women only, women and men, and women with support from influential men. The different approaches adopted by different communities enabled the researchers to assess the issues to be considered in the development of women as village leaders. A report on transferable lessons for the development of women as agricultural leaders is due second half of 2017. |
| Objective 2                                    | Explore ways in which communities can develop partnerships with the private sector, schools, and training providers that are relevant to the local context and culture                                                                                             |
| July 2015–December 2016                        | ▪ The range of training offered was appreciated. However, feedback from participants indicated that trying to offer training across one calendar year was not the most suitable strategy for farming families. More time is needed to account for time dedicated to activities such as social commitments, preparing new gardens, and building houses.  
▪ There was considerable interest in, and need for, Divine Word University to incorporate agricultural practices into curriculum and teacher training modules.  
▪ Livelihood training videos for use by teachers in their school rooms and by extension officers included making soap and peanut butter. The videos are in final editing before being trialled with the Fresh Produce Development Agency.  
▪ The Pacific Adventist University School of Business developed financial / business literacy modules for farmers and women and men with low literacy. The module was piloted with Coffee Industry Support Project14 partners. The training will be developed into a manual for others to use. Plans are underway with the Centre for Excellence in Financial Inclusion to certify the finalised modules as meeting the Bank of Papua New Guinea standards.  
▪ The project team consulted with CARE and World Vision on the design and planning of activities for the 2017 extension of the project to Bougainville and New Ireland. Bougainville Women’s Federation15 in Bougainville and the Department of Agriculture and Livestock in New Ireland Province will be the project’s partner agencies. |
| Objective 3                                    | Further develop the peer education model of agricultural extension                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| July–December 2016                              | ▪ An Advanced Trainers Master Class was delivered for top village community educators from Western Highlands Province (8 women and 3 men) and East New Britain Province (8 women and 5 men). These are village community educators who have been identified as having the skills and confidence to be able to train other village community educators. |
| Objective 4                                    | Examine the uptake and impact of a family team approach to farming for women and girls                                                                                                                                                                           |
| July–December 2016                              | ▪ An end-of-project study was completed for all three Highlands sites. This involved stakeholder interviews, surveys with village community educators (65 women and 50 men), and participatory group work with village community educators and participating farmers (103 women and 74 men). A post-project study will also be undertaken six months after the intervention has finished. |

Plans for January to June 2017

Following the mid-term review, it is anticipated that modifications will be made for the Islands region sites of Bougainville and New Ireland to extend the project’s village-level activities from a 12-month to 18-month period to enable a more suitable timeline for women with busy lives and community commitments. The baseline study and community learning plan will be conducted in March 2017. Village community educators and women’s leadership teams will be identified in consultation with two partner agencies, the Bougainville Women’s Federation and the Department of Agriculture in Livestock in New Ireland Province.

15 Pacific Women funded activities 5.2 and 5.3.
Plans are underway to train Papua New Guinea agency staff and field staff from the Fresh Produce Development Agency as trainers for the Family Teams modules and peer education model.

**Lessons learned**

Feedback from partners during the ACIAR mid-term review on the implementation of the Family Teams approach was positive. The community educators, who were supported to educate communities on effective and gender-equitable farming practices, identified more collaborative decision-making by men and women in families and the setting of family financial goals. Reports indicate that the income of families has increased, allowing them to buy assets such as farm equipment, water tanks, and permanent housing. The lives of women and men in these communities are changing through this empowerment process.

From the mid-term review:

‘Testimonials from women leaders and village community educators during the field visit to Lumusa told of increased family harmony (including lowered levels of domestic violence), opportunities for women to pursue different activities (to traditional roles), increase in participation in household work by other family members, and increase in discussion and consultation between family members.’

In Jiwaka, working with gender rights agency Voice for Change has meant that women and men village community educators already have a well-developed awareness of gender issues and there was strong uptake of the project concepts. Village community educators are now seeking ways to gain support to continue the work with new families.

These educators are a key to influencing changes that can improve family livelihood. Often community members will be receptive to the information they provide if they see a benefit to themselves, or the village community educator’s own family demonstrates positive changes. Community buy-in is often determined by the commitment and character of the peer educators.

**Main barriers**

The remoteness of communities posed challenges, not only for their development but also in brokering others to deliver training to them.

Low levels of education presented an initial challenge. Women who had never attended school were timid in participatory group work. In one case, the women’s leadership team struggled at first to gain credibility at community level. This was ameliorated (after consultation with the women) by appointing men leaders as well. These men stood beside the women’s leadership group to ensure fuller community acceptance and engagement. The village community educators’ model engages men and women farmers regardless of literacy levels, as the experience of these farmers is vital for the project.
6.2 Do No Harm: Understanding the Relationship between Women’s Economic Empowerment and Violence against Women in Melanesia

Project Partner: State, Society and Governance in Melanesia Program of the Australian National University and International Women’s Development Agency

Total Funding: $532,812

Funding Timeframe: February 2014–April 2018

Funding Sources: $362,316.44 (Pacific Women Papua New Guinea)
$170,495.56 (Pacific Women Solomon Islands)

Overview
This research in Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea examines both informal and formal economies, including community-based microfinance and savings initiatives, women’s business enterprises, cash-cropping (coffee and cocoa) and female formal employment. While the research is primarily a collaboration between SSGM with International Women’s Development Agency, a second research collaboration with CARE in the Coffee Industry Support Project was developed as a sub-project under the broad umbrella of the Do No Harm research.

Case studies cover both the informal and formal economies, and can be divided into three groups:

- **women in the community**: including examples from microfinance, microbanking, and women’s savings groups;
- **women in the workforce**: including examples of women in the public service, women in the mining industry, women who work for the Australian aid program in Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea, and women who have received Australian Government scholarships to study in Australia; and
- **women in business**: including examples of women entrepreneurs and women’s market initiatives.

An important component of the Do No Harm research project has been the training of local researchers. This has included CARE staff who took part in field work for the coffee smallholder research and Bougainvillean researchers involved in research in Papua New Guinea (including Bougainville).

Aims and objectives
The intention of the research is to enhance the knowledge and evidence base that informs policy and practice, particularly in addressing women’s economic disadvantage and facilitating greater economic inclusion in contexts where violence against women is high.

Plans for January to June 2017
Fieldwork took place in 2015–2016 and analysis continues. The research capacity development component will continue with local researchers working closely with the lead researcher, Dr Richard Eves, to analyse the data and write up the ‘Women’s Economic Empowerment among Coffee Smallholders’ component, and field research from ‘Coffee Smallholders, Bougainville and the Highlands’.

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The Papua New Guinea research reports arising from this research will be delivered in early 2018. They will include reports or discussion papers on professional women, coffee smallholders, Bougainville research, household decision-making, and gender challenges to financial inclusion. There will also be a Final Papua New Guinea Research Report and practitioner guidance material.

Lessons learned

Preliminary observations indicate that economic empowerment is not to be expected soon for many women coffee smallholders in the Highlands. It is clear from the initial analysis of the data from Bougainville that economic empowerment does not necessarily equate to broader empowerment or the absence of violence.

The major policy and programming implication of the research so far is that women’s economic empowerment programs will be more effective in achieving women’s empowerment if they explicitly include a focus on gender and gender relations, especially the role of gender norms and practices in the context of marital relationships.

A key lesson to be drawn from the Bougainville case study is that women’s economic empowerment programs need a wider focus beyond giving women access to economic opportunities. If women are to be truly empowered, work on gender norms and relationships is required. Gender norms and practices in the context of marital relationships have to be taken into account and should address excessive consumption of alcohol by male partners.

Research among coffee smallholders indicates that while women often have access to their own resources, this does not equate to empowerment. There are many reported instances of women earning money through coffee growing being forced to have sex with their husbands against their will. Often both men and women subscribe to the view that it is acceptable for a man to beat his wife or partner. This suggests that empowerment in one domain does not stop disempowerment in another.

Main barriers

The low levels of educational attainment among women coffee smallholders contributes to their financial exclusion. They generally do not speak English, the language of banking, and have poor numeracy skills. The Papua New Guinea government, donors and nongovernmental organisations are increasingly focusing on financial literacy. The research suggests that there needs to be focus on education, particularly literacy, for adult women and girls more generally.