

# PACIFIC WOMEN LEAD

## AT THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY (SPC)

Pacific women and girls, in all their diversity, are safe and equitably share in resources, opportunities and decision-making, with men and boys.



# Innovation, Convening and Partnerships

**PWL at SPC has three streams of work that guide programme implementation.**

These streams of work are underpinned by key mechanisms such as research and grants to Pacific Island governments and civil society partners.

## **Pacific-led innovation for gender equality**

Building on SPC's mandate as a technical and scientific inter-governmental agency, this stream of work focuses on new and emerging development practice. To catalyse action, PWL at SPC aims to serve the region through initiatives that embody the realisation of national, regional and international commitments to gender equality.

This includes providing support to crisis centres, civil society and other grantees, member governments and other partners aligned to implementing the outcomes of the Triennial Conference of Pacific Women.

## **Programme learning and convening**

As the leading technical agency on gender equality embedded in the region, this stream of work focuses on communicating what works to advance gender equality. Through incubating, trialling and distilling promising practice, PWL at SPC aims to capture and communicate this vital information.

This includes managing Pacific Girl (the only regional funding programme focused on adolescent girls), facilitating learning networks such as the Women's Economic Empowerment Roundtable and piloting initiatives and partnerships in emerging areas such as cybersafety and online violence.

## **Partnerships for gender equality**

To accelerate what exists with ongoing and new partnerships, this stream of work focuses on building and sustaining momentum for gender equality. By connecting governments and civil society as well as gender mainstreaming and gender sectoral initiatives, PWL at SPC aims to deepen the organisation's ongoing work.

This includes providing additional resourcing to scale up already established work within SPC as well as transitioning relevant work to the organisation, such as the TokSave gender research portal.

## Pacific Women Lead (PWL) at SPC

One of the largest global commitments to gender equality, Pacific Women Lead aims to improve women's leadership, realise women's rights, and increase the effectiveness of regional gender equality efforts.

The Pacific Women Lead (PWL) at the Pacific Community (SPC) programme, termed PWL at SPC, has more than AUD 55 million dedicated to its work under the Australian Government's AUD 170 million Pacific Women Lead portfolio.

This partnership with the Australian Government commits SPC to deliver the programme, as the cornerstone for the PWL portfolio.

## Gender equality at SPC



**Pacific Women Lead is at the centre of SPC's work for gender equality.**

In 2023, SPC will use its flagship approach to further develop gender transformative initiatives and outcomes in the Pacific, building on its gender equality commitments and growing portfolio of work across all divisions.

The SPC gender flagship will chart a way forward to mainstream gender equality across all of SPC's leadership and work, further investing in our Pacific people within the organisation as well as those we reach in the delivery of our services to member countries and territories.

## PWL Embedded in SPC

SPC is involved with PWL across 2 levels:

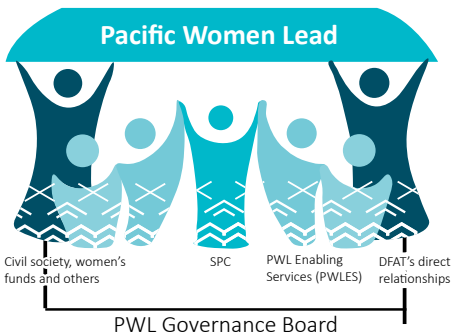
- **PWL portfolio:** The PWL portfolio comprises AUD 170 million in support from the Australian Government for gender equality initiatives across the Pacific over five years (2021 to 2026). In total, SPC receives about AUD 60 million from the PWL funding portfolio.



Disclaimer: These amounts are general estimates, based on available data at the time of publishing March 2023.

## Pacific Women Lead Portfolio

Among the delivery partners of the PWL portfolio, SPC is the key implementing partner.



Other central partners under the PWL portfolio include the AIR (Amplify – Invest – Reach) partnership of women's funds, civil society organisations and coalitions. There is also PWL Enabling Services (PWLES) delivering monitoring, evaluation and other services, along with the Australian Government's direct relationships with development partners for regional programmes, such as the United Nations (UN) and International Planned Parenthood Foundation (IPPF).

The bulk of these funds are for the AUD 55 million PWL at SPC programme, with additional resourcing for the Women in Leadership (WIL) internal SPC initiative, SPC's executive Principal Strategic Lead – Pacific Women and Girls, POETCom's Building Prosperity for Women Producers, Processors and Women Owned Businesses through Organic Value Chain (BPWP) Project, and the Progressing Gender Equality in the Pacific (PGEP) Phase 2 initiative.

- **PWL programme:** As the key implementing partner for the PWL portfolio, SPC leads the PWL at SPC programme, receiving more than AUD 55 million in support from the PWL portfolio. It is located within SPC's Human Rights and Social Development (HRSD) division.

## PWL Governance Board



**A Pacific centred approach will set the strategic direction, through the PWL Governance Board** comprising diverse and experienced members from across the region, with at least two-thirds of members being Pacific women.

The board drives the strategy and high-level decision making for the PWL portfolio. It has 10 independent members, and three representatives from SPC, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) and the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

For a current list of members, visit the SPC website: [hrsd.spc.int/node/1025](https://hrsd.spc.int/node/1025)

**SPC's role as PWL's key implementing partner, signals the importance of Pacific priorities and Pacific leadership in driving gender equality in the region.**

It also provides an opportunity for SPC to deepen its own expertise in this area and enable the regional technical organisation to become more gender equitable in all its work.

PWL at SPC provides technical, convening and funding support to member governments, the civil society sector, women's funds and other partners, while also supporting the independent PWL Governance Board as Secretariat.

This includes supporting the implementation of key regional commitments, outlined in the Pacific Leaders' Gender Equality Declaration, the Pacific Platform for Action on Gender Equality and Women's Human Rights, and the outcomes of the Triennial Conference of Pacific Women.

The implementation of PWL at SPC programme activities also directly contributes to realising SPC's Strategic Plan 2022–2031, through 'Key Focus Area 4: Equity, Education and Social Development'.



PACIFIC  
WOMEN  
LEAD

## **Pacific Women Lead at the Pacific Community (PWL at SPC)**

Human Rights and Social Development (HRSD) division

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*The PWL imagery is inspired by symbols from the Pacific and motifs tattooed specifically on women in the Pacific.*