

Tonga Country Brief

December 2024

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# **Pacific Women Lead overview**

Pacific Women Lead (PWL) is a portfolio of regional investments valued at AUD170 million over 5 years (2021 – 2026). PWL aims to advance gender equality and is ambitious in its intent to take a Pacific-led, intersectional and transformative approach to promoting gender equality in the region and bringing new emphasis to strengthening regional action and architecture in support of gender equality. PWL builds on the strengths and lessons learned through Australia’s 10-year gender equality investment, Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development.

The goal of PWL is for: Pacific women and girls, in all their diversity, to be safe and equitably share in resources, opportunities and decision-making with men and boys.

The program works across three outcome areas with the following end-of-PWL sub-outcomes:

Table 1 Pacific Women Lead outcomes and sub-outcomes

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Outcomes** | **Sub-outcomes** |
| Women’s Leadership Promoted (WLP) | * More women and girls, in all their diversity, are respected, listened to and are influencing decision-making at all levels **(Women and girls’ voice)** * The Pacific feminist movement has grown in depth, is better connected and their expertise is drawn upon by Pacific partners **(Pacific feminist civil society)** |
| Women’s Rights Realised (WRR) | * Diverse women and adolescent girls have improved access to quality health services, especially sexual and reproductive health **(Women’s health – SRHR)** * Diverse women have more equitable access to resilient economic opportunities, including increased voice in economic decision-making **(Women’s Economic Empowerment)** * Violence against women and children is reduced, and survivors have access to quality support services, including in times of disasters **(Women’s safety)** |
| Pacific ownership and regional effectiveness (POE) | * Pacific Governments and development partners are implementing programs and policies that support gender equality **(Gender mainstreaming)** * There is robust engagement, cooperation and mutual sharing between regional agencies and intergovernmental organisations to deliver on gender equality commitments **(Pacific ownership)** |

# **Program components**

PWL is a portfolio of 5 components; each component is a distinct implementing partner [[1]](#footnote-2)of PWL: Through these components, technical support and funding is provided to Pacific women-led civil society organisations, multilateral and regional organisations, government and other stakeholders.

The components of the portfolio include:

**The Pacific Community (SPC) as a key implementing partner of PWL. PWL** at SPC sits within SPC’s Human Rights and Social Development (HRSD) division and supports 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. Through PWL, SPC provides technical, convening and funding support to government ministries, civil society, and other partners, while also acting as Secretariat for the PWL Governance Board.

**Pacific Women Lead Governance Board** provides direct strategic oversight on SPC’s PWL related activities and decides the allocation of AUD 5 million of discretionary funds. The Board also provides strategic advisory to DFAT Canberra (Australia) in enhancing regional effectiveness by identifying gaps and opportunities across the Pacific but does not provide direct strategy advice or have a decision-making role over the DFAT Posts or the Pacific Women’s Funds component. The Board receives reporting on outcomes for all other portfolio components through the PWL Annual Progress Report, compiled by the Pacific Women Lead Enabling Services.

**Pacific Women’s Funds** are supported to expand their work with women’s rights organisations and human rights defenders in the Pacific. This includes funding their advocacy activities to draw more resources for work towards gender equality to the region and funds to support the establishment of the first Pacific Feminist Fund.

**DFAT manages bilateral and regional programs. DFAT Canberra (Australia) and Fiji Post** manages direct funding arrangements for regional gender projects, including (but not limited to) UN Women’s Markets for Change and Pacific Partnership to End Violence Against Women and Girls, and UNFPAs Transformative Agenda program. **DFAT Posts** manage and fund country-level gender projects. Importantly, bilateral programs have autonomy in design, delivery and governance, but their gender programming aligns with the PWL goal and outcomes, and they will report results into the Pacific Women Lead Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) System.

**Pacific Women Lead Enabling Services** (PWLES) managed by DT Global, provides support to SPC and DFAT to implement PWL. This includes whole-of-portfolio monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL), partnership brokering and the delivery of an independent Quality and Technical Assurance Group (QTAG). It is the role of the MEL team within the PWLES to compile a yearly whole-of-portfolio progress report, which brings together all the above components of PWL.[[2]](#footnote-3)

# **Purpose of the Country Brief**

A Country Brief is designed and tailored for each country to serve the following purposes:

* Increase PWL partners and external stakeholders’ visibility of projects and implementing partners that are being funded or come under the PWL portfolio in a country. It is intended to contribute to greater collaboration and coordination by grantors and grantees.
* Serve as a mechanism for PWLES to collaborate with the 5 components of PWL to review project details (i.e. project information, timeframes and budget) to ensure all information captured in the PWL MEL system is correct.
* Support DFAT’s internal reporting, where investments are above AUD3 million.

Therefore, the Country Brief is designed to cover a calendar year (January to December) and will be updated six monthly. The information will be drawn from the PWL quantative database to show:

1. Gender projects funded by the 5 components of PWL
2. Reach data[[3]](#footnote-4) against PWL quantitative indicators
3. Impact stories collected by partners or PWLES

## **Tonga Country Brief**

This Country Brief update is for Tonga. It provides information on all projects that are being funded by or come under the 5 components of PWL in Tonga and focusses on January to June 2024 period.

# **Pacific Women Lead at SPC Projects**

The Pacific Community (SPC) is a distinct implementing partner of PWL (known as PWL at SPC) and has a grant agreement with DFAT Canberra, valued at AUD57,600,000. From this total value, SPC provides technical support to Pacific governments, hosts and supports regional convenings (such as the Triennial) and a grants program for its government partners and women’s organisations across the Pacific. You can also watch a short explainer video here: [Pacific Women Lead at the Pacific Community (PWL at SPC) explainer video](https://youtu.be/bBOpTVKh8Hs?si=OxeE63PdSKrxVdbT).

This section provides information on projects funded and managed by PWL at SPC that are implemented in Tonga.

## **Project and implementing partner count by outcome and sub-outcome**

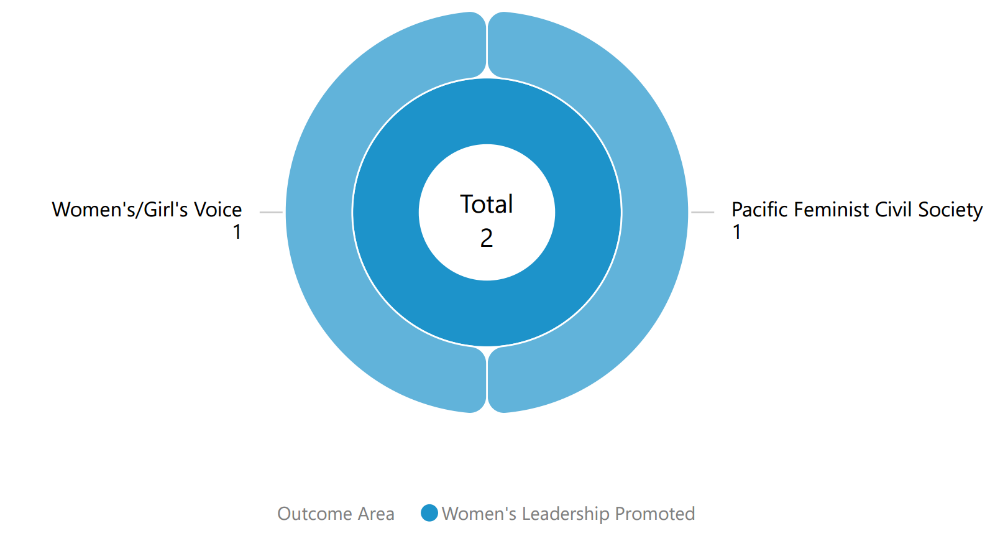
Pacific Women Lead at SPC funds 2 downstream[[4]](#footnote-5) implementing partners to implement 2 projects. Table 2 provides an overview of the projects (refer to Annex 1 for detailed project information).

Table 2 Overview of PWL at SPC projects in Tonga

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Project name** | **Downstream implementing partner** | **Outcome and sub-outcome** |
| Shifting the Power Coalition: Strengthening Diverse Women's Leadership in Humanitarian Action | ActionAid Australia (Talitha Project Incorporated) | Women’s leadership promoted – Pacific feminist civil society |
| Pacific Girl: My Body! My Rights! | Talitha Project Incorporated | Women’s leadership promoted – women and girls voice |

The two projects work in Women’s leadership promoted in Pacific feminist civil society (1) and women and girls’ voice (1).

Figure 1 Projects by outcome and sub-outcome



## **Type of implementing partner**

One downstream implementing partner is a Civil Society Organisation, and the other is an international NGO.

Figure 2 Type of implementing partner



## **Committed funding by outcome and sub-outcome**

The committed funding for each of the projects comes out of PWL at SPC AUD57,600,000 budget.

Table 3 Committed funding by outcome and sub-outcome

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Outcomes** | **Sub-outcomes** | **Committed Funding (AUD)** |
| Women’s leadership promoted | Pacific feminist civil society | 532,233.07 |
| Women’s leadership promoted | Women and girls Voice | 177,117.13 |
| **Total** |  | **709,350.20** |

# **Pacific Women Lead Governance Board Projects**

This section will provide information on projects funded by the PWL Governance Board for Tonga when available and entered into the PWL quantitative database.

## **Discretionary Funds**

Five million has been set aside for activities to be funded at the discretion of the Governance Board with the aim to add value to and build on existing PWL activities. The Board’s Secretariat (SPC) developed seven criteria to guide the use of the Board funds. The seven criteria include: 1) alignment with PWL outcomes; 2) Pacific-led approaches; 3) regional or multi-country in scale; 4) promoting transformational change; 5) development effectiveness; 6) diversity and inclusion; 7) informed by research, evidence and data.

There are no projects currently being funded by the Board in Tonga.

## **Board Members**

The PWL Governance Board has 13 members, 12 of whom are from the Pacific region (refer to Annex 2 for detailed list of all members). DFAT’s Assistant Secretary of the Pacific Development Branch is an ex-officio member of the Board.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| A photo of PWL Governance Board member. | ‘Ana Malia Falemaka is one of the Tonga representatives on the Governance Board. Ms Falemaka is a young and passionate advocate from Tonga. At just 19 years old, she currently serves as a board member, mentor and youth ambassador of Talitha Project, Tonga, an NGO that focuses on empowering young women and girls. Ana Malia first became involved with the Talitha Project in 2018, while attending an empowerment camp. Since then, the belief that she can help change our community, society and world has motivated her to continue on this journey. She has worked across various Talitha projects, including the Pacific Girl programme. She is also an advisor in the “With and For Girls Fund Advisory Group”, facilitated by Purposeful, as well as a member of the “Pacific Islands Students Fighting Climate Change”, a youth-led organisation comprised of students across the Pacific. ‘Ana Malia is also a student at the University of the South Pacific – Tonga, pursuing a Bachelor of Law. She is humbled and greatly appreciates the various platforms and opportunities that she has been fortunate to have in order to highlight the issues that girls in Tonga and across the Pacific face and to represent the voices of young Pasifika women and girls in lobbying for change. Her advice to girls in Tonga, as well as in the Pacific, is: If you believe very strongly in something, stand up and fight for it. We cannot always rely on our leaders to continue dictating and shaping the World which we will eventually lead. We are the future generation and so, as future leaders, our opinions must be included, heard and valued. |
| A photo of PWL Governance Board member. | Rhema Misser is the second Tonga representative on the Governance Board. Mr Misser has been a leader in the disability movement for 19 years. He is the President and Founder of the Lavamea Taeiloa Disabled People Association, Inc. and, for four years, served as a board member of the Pacific Disability Forum in Fiji. Rhema looks forward to collaborating with other participants in Pacific Women Lead for the benefit of everyone throughout the Pacific. |

# **Pacific Women’s Funds Projects**

The Pacific Women’s Funds is made up of three feminist organisations: Women’s Fund Fiji, Urgent Action Fund Asia and Pacific and Pacific Feminist Fund. Table 4 provides an overview of the Pacific Women’s Fund organisations.

More information about Women’s Fund Fiji and Urgent Action Fund Asia and Pacific can be found on their websites: [Women's Fund Fiji](https://womensfundfiji.org/) and [Urgent Action Fund Asia and Pacific](https://www.uafanp.org/). Pacific Feminist Fund is recently established and does not have a website.

Of the three feminist organisations, Pacific Feminist Fund and Urgent Action Fund Asia and Pacific provides grants to women’s organisations across the Pacific. Currently, there are no projects funded through this component being implemented in Tonga.

Table 4 Overview of Pacific Women’s Fund organisations

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Partner organisation** | **Committed Funding** | **Funding Source** | **Outcome and sub-outcome** |
| Women’s Fund Fiji | 4,841,659.75 | Bilateral – Fiji | Women leadership promoted – Pacific feminist civil society |
| Urgent Action Fund Asia and the Pacific | 4,336,500 | Regional | Women leadership promoted – Pacific feminist civil society |
| Pacific Feminist Fund | 1,170,849 | Regional | Women leadership promoted – Pacific feminist civil society |
| **Total** | **10,349,008.75** |  |  |

# **DFAT Regional Projects**

This section presents information on regional (multi-country) gender activities that are implemented in Tonga. These regional gender activities are managed by either DFAT Post in Fiji or DFAT Canberra (Australia).

## **Project and implementing partner count by outcome and sub-outcome**

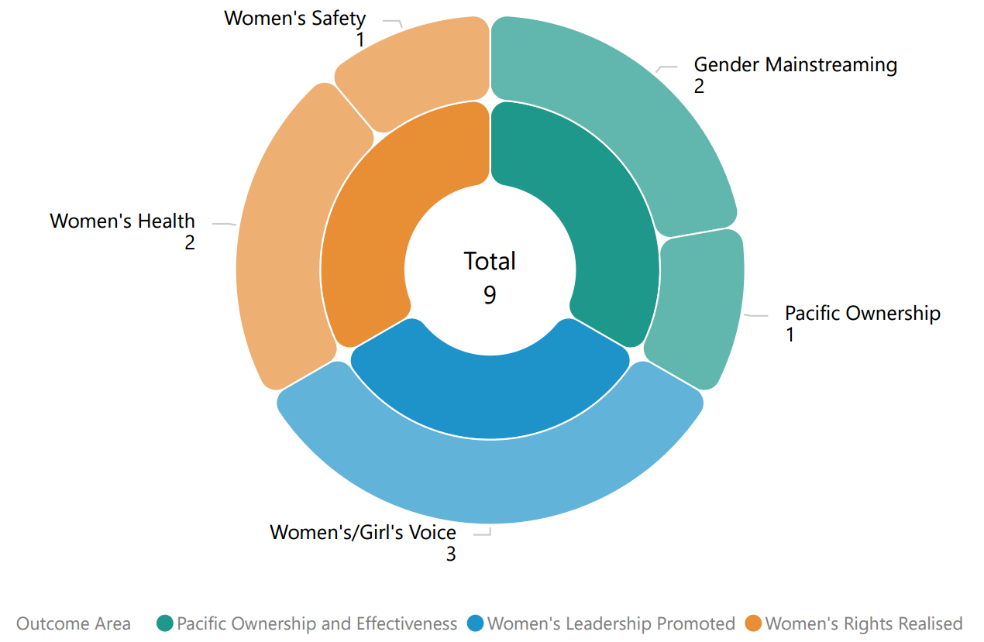
There are 9 regional projects implemented by 8 distinct implementing partners in Tonga, plus 3 research projects. Table 5 provides an overview of the projects (refer to Annex 1 for detailed information).

Table 5 Overview of regional projects implemented in Tonga

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Project name** | **Distinct implementing partner** | **Outcome and sub-outcome** |
| Core funding for the IPPF global strategic framework (22-26) and Pacific Strategy (22-26) Phase 2 | International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) | Women’s rights realised – women’s health (SRHR) |
| Gender responsive Climate Policy and Women’s Climate Leadership in the Pacific | Women Environment and Development Organisation (WEDO) | Women’s leadership promoted – women and girls’ voice |
| Netball Australia (Pilot Pacific Women’s Sports Administration Program) | Netball Australia | Women’s leadership promoted – women and girls’ voice |
| Oceania Rise Rugby Project | Oceania Rugby | Women’s leadership promoted – women and girls’ voice |
| Pacific Partnership to End Violence Against Women and Girls Phase 2 | UN Women | Women’s rights realised – women’s safety |
| Progressing Gender Equality in the Pacific | SPC’s Human Rights and Social Development | Pacific ownership and regional effectiveness - gender mainstreaming |
| Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat Gender Disability and Social Inclusion | Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) | Pacific ownership and regional effectiveness – gender mainstreaming |
| SPC’s Human Rights and Social Development (HRSD) Division Support | SPC’s Human Rights and Social Development (HRSD) Division Support | Pacific ownership and regional effectiveness – Pacific ownership |
| Transformative Agenda for Women, Adolescents and Youth in the Pacific: Towards Zero Unmet Need for Family Planning Phase 2 | UNFPA | Women’s rights realised – women’s health (SRHR) |
| **Research Activities** | **Distinct implementing partner** |  |
| Building Back Better: Promoting gender data-driven response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the Pacific and South-east Asia | UN Women | Research activity |
| Equality Insights | International Women’s Development Agency (IWDA) | Research activity |
| Strengthening Capacities for Measuring Violence Against Women (nKOwVAWdata)  Phase 2 | UNFPA | Research activity |

Of the 9 projects, three projects work in Women’s rights realised: one project in women’s safety (1) and two in women’s health (SRHR) (2). Three projects work in Women’s leadership promoted in women and girls’ voice (3). Three projects work in Pacific ownership and regional effectiveness: one project works in Pacific ownership (1) and two project works in gender mainstreaming (2)

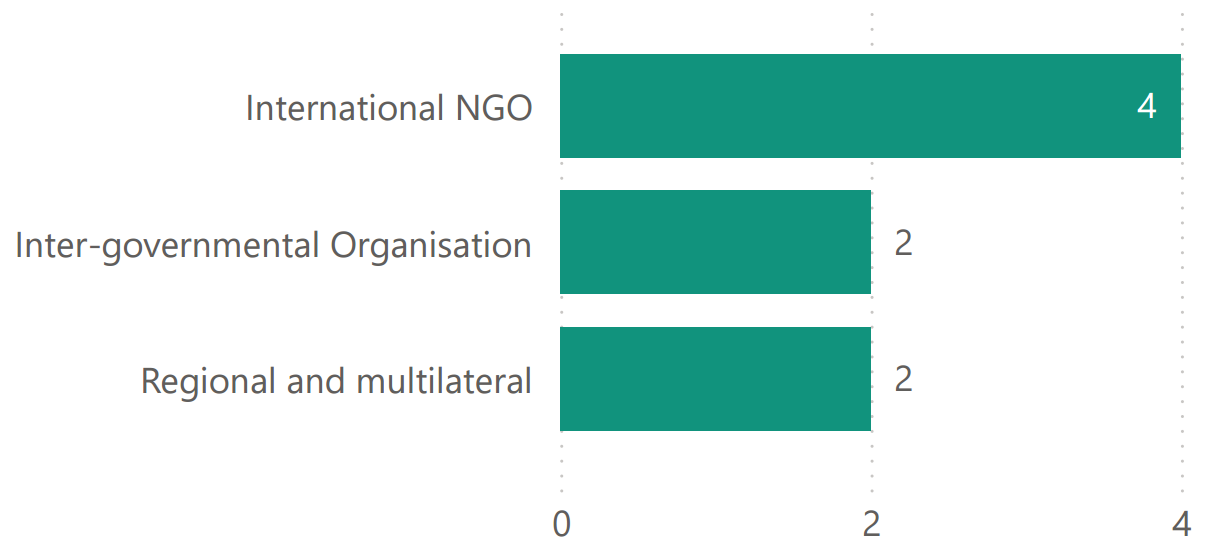
Figure 3 Projects by outcome and sub-outcome



## **Type of implementing partner**

Of the 8 distinct implementing partners, 4 are international NGOs, 2 inter-governmental organisations and 2 are regional/multilateral partners.

Figure 4 Type of implementing partner



## **Committed funding by outcome and sub-outcome**

The committed funding is total grant value and is not broken down by funding allocation for Tonga. It is notpossible to provide specific funding allocation of regional projects for Tonga, nor actual spend. This information is not provided to PWLES.

**Table 6 Committed funding by outcome and sub-outcome**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Outcome** | **Sub-outcome** | **Committed Funding (AUD)** |
| Women’s rights realised | Women’s health | 52,500,000 |
| Women’s right realised | Women’s safety | 16,734,693.05 |
| Women’s leadership promoted | Women and girls’ Voice | 5,271,500 |
| Pacific ownership and regional effectiveness | Gender mainstreaming | 6,059,377 |
| Pacific ownership and regional effectiveness | Pacific ownership | 2,700,000 |
| **Total** |  | **83,265,570.05** |

# **DFAT Post in Tonga Projects**

This section provides an overview of the gender activities that are funded and managed DFAT Post in Tonga and through Tonga Australia Support Platform (TASP). TASP is managed by DT Global.

## **Project and implementing partner count by outcome and sub-outcome**

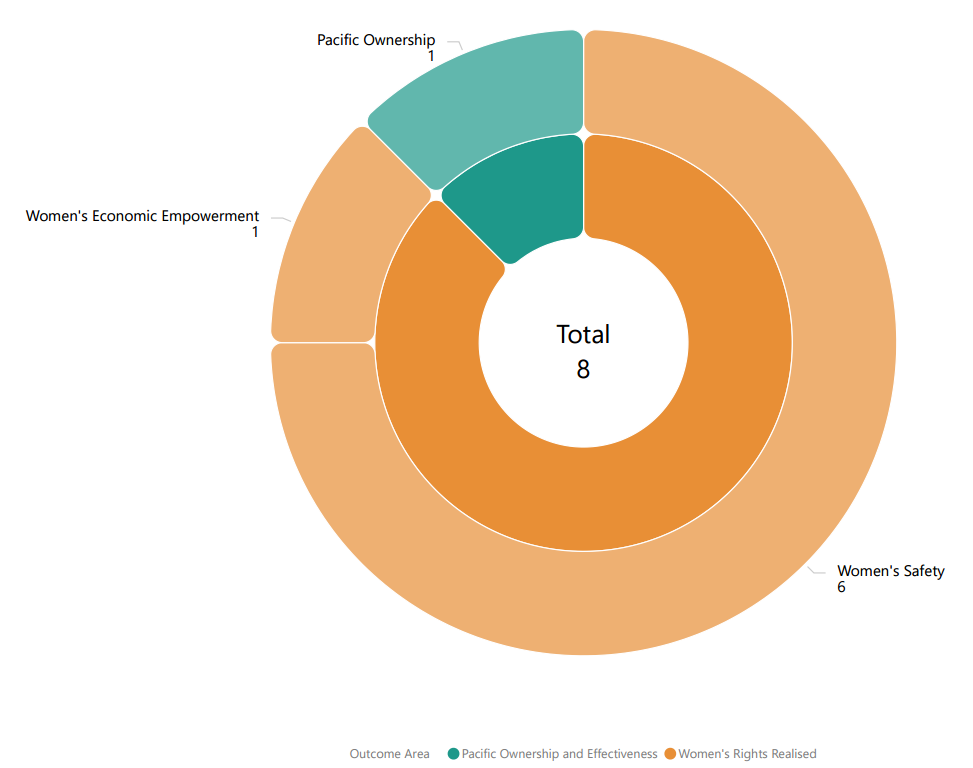
There are 8 projects implemented by 8 distinct implementing partners in Tonga. Table 7 provides an overview of the projects (refer to Annex 1 for detailed information).

Table 7 Overview of DFAT Post in Tonga projects

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Project** | **Distinct implementing partner** | **Outcome and sub-outcome** |
| Eliminate Violence Against Women and Children in Tonga using a human rights framework. | Tonga Women and Children Crisis Centre | Women’s rights realised – women’s safety |
| Empowering Women and Girls in ICT and Tech-inclusive for EVAW Program | Tonga Women in ICT | Women’s rights realised – women’s safety |
| Family Free of Violence Program | Australia Federal Police (AFP) program | Women’s rights realised – women’s safety |
| Provision of care and support to aged population project in Tongatapu | Ma’a Fafine Mo’e Famili Inc | Women’s rights realised – women’s safety |
| Provision of economic empowerment services for women survivors of violence alongside their counselling and support services | Tonga National Centre for Women and Children | Women’s rights realised – women’s economic empowerment |
| Support to the Ministry of Justice for Family Protection Legal Aid Centre | Ministry of Justice | Women’s rights realised – women’s safety |
| Support to Women’s Affairs Division, Ministry of Internal Affairs | Ministry of Internal Affairs | Pacific ownership and regional effectiveness – Pacific ownership |
| Tackling Stigma and Discrimination against People with Disability Project | Lavame’a Ta’e’iloa Disabled People Association INC | Women’s rights realised – women’s safety |

Of the 8 projects, seven work in Women’s rights realised: six projects in women’s safety (6), and one project in women’s economic empowerment (1). One project work in Pacific Ownership and regional effectiveness in Pacific ownership (1).

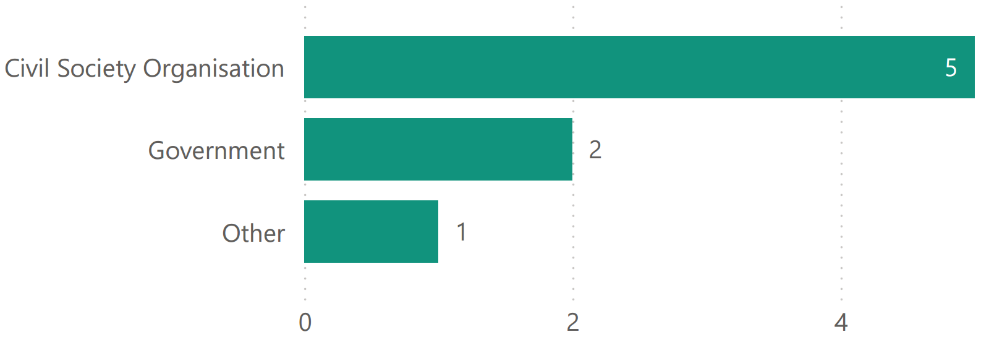
Figure 5 Projects by outcome and sub-outcome



## **Type of implementing partner**

Of the 8 distinct implementing partners, 5 are Civil Society Organisations, 2 are government partners and 1 is categorised as other (Australia Federal Police program).

Figure 6 Type of implementing partner



## **Committed funding by outcome and sub-outcome**

Table 8 Committed funding by outcome and sub-outcome

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Outcome** | **Sub-outcome** | **Committed Funding (AUD)** |
| Women’s rights realised | Women’s economic empowerment | 330,609.48 |
| Women’s rights realised | Women’s safety | 9,304,313.93 |
| Pacific ownership and regional effectiveness | Pacific ownership | 500,000 |
| **Total** |  | **10,134,923.41** |

## **Reach data by projects and indicators**

From January to June 2024, no projects provided quantitative data against the PWL indicators. For cumulative reach data, refer to Annex 3.

# **Pacific Women Lead Enabling Services Activities**

This section provides information on the PWLES activities and support available for DFAT Posts and PWL at SPC. PWLES is valued at AUD32 million.

## **Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Support**

**PWL MEL System:** The PWLES manages the PWL portfolio MEL system. The MEL system has two databases:

1. A **Quantitative database** that tracks progress against PWL indicators and can be accessed through a dashboard on the PWL website: [Pacific Women Lead - Our Impact](https://pacificwomen.org/our-impact/). The dashboard is updated six monthly after each reporting cycle.
2. A **Qualitative database** that allows the PWLES MEL team to code partner narrative reports against qualitative change domains (Refer to Annex 2).

The MEL system has the capability to organise and provide data, particularly for DFAT’s reporting processes (IMR and Tier 2 reporting), and qualitative evidence or quotes that can be used for briefing documents or speeches.

**Collection of qualitative impact stories:** PWLES collaborates with distinct and downstream implementing partners in each country to collect impact stories twice a year (February and July). These stories are used to inform the PWL MEL system and can be used by the PWL components for public diplomacy. Additionally, the stories will be published on the PWL website: [Pacific Women Lead - Stories](https://pacificwomen.org/latest-updates/stories/) and annexed to this brief when available.

**Monitoring the rights of people with disabilities Framework:** PWLES developed two guidance notes to support distinct and downstream partners to enhance data collection and reporting on disability inclusion. The guidance notes can be accessed here: [Pacific Women Lead - Resources](https://pacificwomen.org/resources/). PWLES has also facilitated a webinar discussion on these guidance notes which you can watch here: [Monitoring the journey towards the realisation of rights for people with disabilities](https://youtu.be/JCeG_6OmOuE?si=WgwOnXcFATJoiKG7).

**Annual Reflection and Analysis Workshop:** Each year, PWLES co-convenes an Annual Reflection and Analysis Workshop in September that brings together distinct and downstream implementing partners across the PWL portfolio to collaborate and analyse data to understand the program’s progress and make recommendations for the program. A summary of this year’s Annual Reflection and Analysis Workshop can be watched here: [Second Pacific Women Lead Annual Reflection and Analysis Workshop (2024)](https://youtu.be/p5gbcZHlKdg?si=7LXyyJI6AQalYxBT).

**Clear Horizon Academy PWL MEL Platform:** PWLES developed three training modules with Clear Horizon Academy to support PWL partners: Using Data for Reporting and Learning, Collecting Impact Stories and Understanding, monitoring and reporting disability inclusion. These are online and self-paced modules and partners can seek access through the PWLES.

## **Quality Technical Assurance Group (QTAG)**

Through the QTAG, PWLES provides technical support to smaller DFAT Post in Tuvalu, Kiribati, Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Nauru, Niue, and Republic of Marshall Islands. QTAG currently offers tailored GEDSI support through consultants to smaller DFAT Posts:

**Gender Focal Point (GFP) mentoring:** QTAG continues to provide regular mentoring to GFPs in smaller DFAT Posts to support them to carry out their role with confidence through QTAG’s technical partner Co-LAB. The mentoring provides a space to support GFPs broader professional development priorities including provide advice and feedback on communication, help with problem solving and to act as a sounding board to troubleshoot issues and ideas with the GFPs without conflicting with other management and supervision support provided by the GFP’s manager/supervisor, and the GFPs existing workload.

**GEDSI Analysis and Country Plans/Design:** Through its panel of consultants, QTAG provides support to smaller DFAT Posts to carry out GEDSI Analysis and develop their Gender Country Plan/Design. PWL support to the development of country briefs/designs includes PWL whole-of-portfolio MEL briefings to ensure there is alignment to the PWL whole-of-portfolio MEL Framework. Larger Posts can draw on this support to ensure alignment to PWL whole-of-portfolio MEL.

**Larger DFAT Posts can access the panel of consultants on the QTAG but will have to cover the associated costs.** If Post would like to access the QTAG, Post can reach out to the QTAG Coordinator for initial discussion.

## **Grant Management**

PWLES provides program management support to DFAT Posts in smaller countries and DFAT Canberra. Currently, PWLES provides grant management support to:

1. Two regional programs: Balance of Power and We Rise Coalition Phase 3,
2. Three projects in Tuvalu (funded through the Tuvalu DFAT Post Gender Country Plan), and
3. Management of 3 Gender Advisers in Tuvalu (Gender Equality and Social Inclusion Adviser), FSM (Family Protection Adviser) and Palau (Family Protection Act Adviser).

**Balance of Power and We Rise Coalition Phase 3**

Balance of Power and We Rise Coalition Phase 3 are implemented by 2 distinct implementing partners, and 1 downstream implementing partner for one of the projects in Tonga. Table 9 provides an overview of the projects (refer to Annex 1 for detailed information).

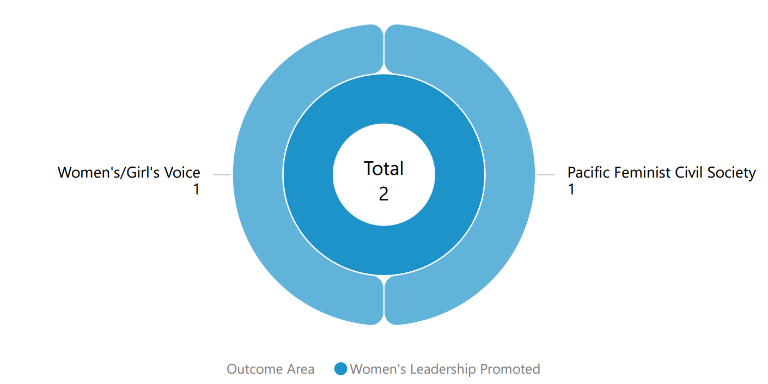
We Rise Coalition Phase 3 is transitioning into Phase 4 which will be managed by DFAT Canberra from March 2025. Table 9 only captures We Rise Phase 3.

**Table 9 Overview of projects managed by PWLES in Tonga**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Project Name** | **Distinct implementing partner** | **Downstream implementing partner** | **Outcomes and sub-outcomes** |
| Balance of Power | Pacific Women Lead Enabling Services (managed by DT Global) |  | Women’s leadership promoted – women and girls voice |
| Feminist movements for transformative change: We Rise Coalition Phase 3 | International Women’s Development Agency (IWDA) | Talitha Project Incorporated | Women’s leadership promoted – feminist civil society |

The two projects work in Women’s leadership promoted in women and girls voice (1) and Pacific Feminist Civil Society (1).

Figure 7 Projects by outcome and sub-outcome

****

**Type of implementing partner**

Balance of Power is implemented by DT Global, a managing contractor, and We Rise Coalition is implemented by IWDA, an international NGO.

Figure 8 Type of implementing partner



**Committed funding by outcomes and sub-outcomes**

The committed funding is total grant value and is not broken down by funding allocation for Tonga. The committed funding comes out of PWLES AUD32 million.

**Table 10 Committed funding by outcome and sub-outcome**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Outcomes** | **Sub-outcomes** | **Funding Committed (AUD)** |
| Women’s leadership promoted | Women and girls voice | $11,597,674 |
| Women’s leadership promoted | Pacific feminist civil society | $3,240,024 |
| **Total** |  | **$14,837,698** |

# **Annex 1: Projects implemented in Tonga**

Annex 1 provides detailed information on each project’s name, implementing partner, project description, end of project outcomes, total funding (AUD) and timeframe of all projects for Tonga under the 5 PWL components that have been entered into the PWL quantitative database.

Table 11 provides a summary of the projects implemented in Tonga by component. Note that total funding only reflects the grants managed under these components and does not reflect the total value of the components.

Table 11 Summary of projects implemented in Tonga

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| PWL Components | # Of Projects | Total Funding (AUD) |
| PWL at SPC Projects | 2 | 709,350.20 |
| PWL Governance Board Projects | N/A |  |
| Pacific Women’s Fund Projects | N/A |  |
| DFAT Regional Projects | 9 | 83,265,570.05 |
| DFAT Post in Tonga Projects | 8 | 10,134,923.41 |
| PWLES Projects | 2 | $14,837,698 |
| **Total Combined Funding** |  | **108,947,541.66** |

#### PACIFIC WOMEN LEAD AT SPC PROJECTS

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| NO. | PROJECT NAME AND PARTNER | PROJECT DESCRIPTION | END OF PROJECT OUTCOMES | VALUE (AUD) AND TIMEFRAME |
| 1 | Shifting the Power Coalition: Strengthening Diverse Women's Leadership in Humanitarian Action (ActionAid Australia) | Works to ensure diverse Pacific women’s voices are included in disaster planning and response at all levels with tangible outcomes around diverse women leaders in six countries.  The Coalition includes ActionAid Vanuatu, FemLink Pacific, Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation, Pacific Disability Forum, Talitha Project Incorporated, Transcend Oceania, Vanuatu Young Women for Change, Vois Blong Mere, YWCA PNG and YWCA Samoa.  Shifting the Power Coalition partner in Vanuatu are ActionAid Vanuatu and Vanuatu Young Women for Change. | * 200 diverse women leaders in six countries will have increased capacity to engage in local and national disaster coordination mechanisms and to organise and influence decision making * Diverse women’s needs and capacities in times of crises will be documented and contribute to evidence-based disaster planning and response at national and regional level * Platforms will be established to strengthen diverse Pacific women’s voices in regional humanitarian and disaster resilience forums and their influence on policy and decision making | $532,233.07  2022 – 2024 |
| 2 | Pacific Girl: My Body! My Rights! | Pacific Girl grant in Tonga, the Talitha Project's My Body! My Rights! Program will reach 375 girls aged 10 - 14 in four locations around Tonga, including outer islands. The program will improve community perceptions of girls' value, amplifying girls' voices through creative media and train girls on health, sex and sexuality education and self-esteem. | * Adolescent girls’ interests and priorities are increasingly visible in decision making * Adolescent girls have increased agency (knowledge, skills, and voice). * Adolescent girls are increasingly respected and valued by communities and stakeholders. * Adolescent girl programming in the Pacific is connected, strengthened and informed by the interests and priorities of Pacific girls. * Evidence is built and shared on effective gender transformative programming for adolescent girls in the Pacific and incorporated into practice in Pacific Women’s work | $177,117.13  2021 – 2024 |

#### PACIFIC WOMEN LEAD GOVERNANCE BOARD PROJECTS

There are currently no projects funded under this component. A table will be included when projects funded by the Board are implemented in Tonga.

**PACIFIC WOMEN’S FUNDS PROJECTS**

There are currently no projects funded under this component. A table will be included when projects funded by the Pacific Women’s Fund are implemented in Tonga.

#### DFAT REGIONAL PROJECTS

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| NO. | AID-WORKS NUMBER | PROJECT NAME AND PARTNER | PROJECT DESCRIPTION | END OF PROJECT OUTCOMES | VALUE (AUD) AND TIMEFRAME |
| 1 | 77862 | Core Funding for IPPF Global Strategic Framework (22-26) and Pacific Strategic Strategy (22-26) Phase 2  (IPPF) | The strategy aims to come together and break through the barriers that limit sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), thereby enabling quality SRHR to be realised for everyone in the Pacific. It is an ambitious agenda that is informed by the emerging challenges and opportunities in the region | * Centre Care on People: Expand choice and access in coordination with government partners and national civil society and explore digital options and self-care. * Move the Sexuality Agenda: Shift attitudes and norms in the Pacific through grass roots advocacy to drive gains in SRHR, ensuring the voices of young people and marginalised or excluded groups are heard. * Solidarity for Change: Create new strategic partnerships and contribute to social movements on SRHR and intersectional areas, and harness opportunities for learning and sharing * Nurture our Federation: Strengthen IPPF’s Secretariat and Member Associations through improvements in governance, financial and programmatic management, and draw on the Federation’s global expertise and knowledge base. | $2,000,000  2023 – 2026  *Phase 1 completed*  *$500,000*  *2021 – 2022* |
| 2 | 77520 | Gender responsive Climate Policy and Women’s Climate Leadership in the Pacific  (WEDO) | Advance Pacific women's leadership in climate change decision-making via WEDO's Women Delegates Fund (WDF) program, as well as enhance the implementation of gender-responsive climate policy via capacity strengthening for National Gender and Climate Change Focal Points in the Pacific. | * Strengthen Pacific women’s leadership in climate change diplomacy and policymaking via travel support, training and networking * Support effective operationalization of the role of National Gender and Climate Change Focal Points across Pacific Island countries | $699,900  2022 – 2024 |
| 3 | 76569 | Netball Australia (Pilot Pacific Women’s Sport Administration Program) | The program focuses on governance and administration support – recognizing that this enables netball associations to advance women in decision-making and leadership roles (and their effectiveness in those roles), as well as enhancing access to safe and inclusive competition for women and girls across the Pacific. | * Improved governance and administration * Increased women in leadership and decision-making roles * Increased grassroot participation rates of women and girls in safer and more accessible environments | $1,638,600  2021 – 2024  **Completed** |
| 4 | 77557 | Oceania Rise Rugby Project  (Oceania Rugby) | Strengthen the participation, influence and visibility of women in all parts of the game, both on and off the field. | * 4 new high profile women’s domestic rugby competitions, completing several women’s rugby pathways * 11 Pacific women in new full-time Senior or Middle Management positions * 45 emerging Pacific women leaders trained and mentored in governance, leading to more women appointed in decision making roles and improved governance practice * Over 200 women completing Rugby Accreditations and in leadership roles within the new domestic competitions (as Coaches, Match Officials, Strength & Conditioning coaches, First Aid, Club Administrators) * Oceania Women in Rugby Network established supporting individuals, peer learning and collective advocacy * 4000< girls participating in high-quality rugby * Communities witnessing girls and women play, lead and be celebrated in a formerly ‘men’s’ sport, helping to drive positive change in attitudes and norms gender equality * Australia and DFAT celebrated as the primary supporter of these successes, opportunities and significant shifts * Australian dignitaries visible and engaged at high profile, newsworthy announcements, events and competitions * Direct engagement between Australian government representatives and both profiled and emerging Pacific Island leaders * Alignment and mutual reinforcement of other significant Oceania Rugby activities driving the participation and empowerment women in Pacific Islands and Australian diplomacy. | $2,933,000  2022 – 2024 |
| 5 | 77334/8 | Pacific Partnership to End Violence Against Women and Girls Phase 2  (UN Women) | The Pacific Partnership seeks to promote Gender Equality, prevent VAWG, and increase access to quality VAWG response services for survivors. The programme engages with over 100 partners across the region, including national governments, CSOs, EVAWG networks, faith-based groups, and sports associations. | * To enhance Pacific youth’s formal in-school and informal education on gender equality and prevention of violence against women and girls. * To promote gender equitable social norms at individual and community levels to prevent violence against women and girls, and to ensure survivors have access to quality response services. * To empower national and regional civil society organisations (CSOs) to advocate, monitor and report on regional institutions and governments commitments to enhance gender equality and prevent violence against women and girls. | $15,934,693.05  2022 – 2027  *Phase 1 completed*  *$800,000*  *2021 – 2023* |
| 6 | 69294/46 | Progressing Gender Equality in the Pacific  (HRSD SPC) | PGEP’s overall objective is to strengthen gender mainstreaming, policy design, and implementation, including strategic support to civil society organisations, while supporting country and regional gender data and statistical initiatives. | * Gender Mainstreaming: Public Institutions are implementing policies, practices and programs that support gender equality * Accountability Mechanisms: Government gender mainstreaming planning budgeting, accountability, monitoring, and reporting systems enhance progress towards achieving gender equality commitments | $2,156,401  2021– 2023  **Completed**  Will come under PWL at SPC in 2024 |
| 7 | 78400 | Pacific Island Forum Secretariat Gender Disability and Social Inclusion  (Pacific Island Forum Secretariat) | Progressing Pacific Island Forum Secretariat Gender Equality Disability and Social Inclusion priorities | * PIFS Social Policy team to implement priorities on gender equality, disability and social inclusion including in the implementation and monitoring of the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent including gender policy capability and advice * Enhanced strategic engagement and communications * Support to members and actioning outcomes * Progressing disability inclusion * Progressing implementation of social policy program | $3,902,976  2023 - 2026 |
| 8 | 69294/67 | SPC’s Human Rights and Social Development Division (HRSD) support | HRSD leads SPC’s work in the areas of human rights, gender equality and social development. | HRSD Business Plan   * Objective 1: Strengthen inclusive, transparent, and responsive governance and institutions for human rights, gender equality and social development. * Objective 2: Mobilise, empower, and build conditions for gender equality, equity and social inclusion in society and development * Objective 3: Promote, preserve, and protect positive expressions of culture * Objective 4: Accelerate impact on human rights, gender equality and social development through knowledge, learning and innovative solutions. | $2,700,000  2022 – 2026 |
| 9 | 77337/9 | Transformative Agenda for Women, Adolescents and Youth in the Pacific: Towards Zero Unmet Need for Planning 2018 – 2022 (Phase 2)  (UNFPA) | The Transformative Agenda outlines action that will increase the demand for, and supply of, SRH services and information (particularly family planning) and create an enabling environment for their progress.  Goal - Transformative change in the lives of women, adolescents and youth across the Pacific by 2022. | * Increased and improved supply of integrated sexual and reproductive health (SRH) information and services, particularly for family planning * Increased demand for integrated SRH information and services, particularly for family planning * More conducive and supportive environment for people to access and benefit from quality SRH, especially contraceptive choice. | $42,500,000  2022 – 2028  *Phase 1 completed*  *$7,500,000*  *2021 – 2023* |

#### DFAT POST IN TONGA PROJECTS

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| NO. | AID-WORKS NUMBER | PROJECT NAME AND PARTNER | PROJECT DESCRIPTION | END OF PROJECT OUTCOMES | VALUE (AUD) AND TIMEFRAME |
| 1 | 70187 | Eliminate Violence Against Women and Children in Tonga using a human rights framework  (Tonga Women and Children Crisis Centre) | Supported existing violence against women service providers to increase the quality, coverage and awareness of services. Funded additional support following Tropical Cyclone Gita. | * Improved access by vulnerable and rural women and children to appropriate and effective support services * Key institutions incorporate human rights and gender equality into their daily roles * Key decision makers and the wider community are informed about the WCCC’s work and influenced to change policy, practices and the law * Effective management and coordination of response programs | $3,271,148.93  2021 - 2024 |
| 2 |  | Empowering Women and Girls in ICT and Tech-inclusive for EVAW Program  (Tonga Women in ICT) |  |  | $93,750  2024 – 2025 |
| 3 | 75274 | Families Free of Violence  (Australia Federal Police program) | The Families Free of Violence (FFOV) Program is an Australian Government-supported initiative to support the Government of Tonga to achieve its objectives in strengthening its response to gender-based violence (GBV). FFOV will continue to work towards the overarching goal: “Survivors of family violence in Tonga access better quality services and ongoing support.” | * Women’s Affairs and Gender Equality Division (WAGED) is effectively coordinating implementation of the FPA, including the SDP, with diverse service providers. * Tonga Police demonstrates improved frontline response to survivors of family violence, including on the outer islands. * Civil Society Forum of Tonga (CSFT) supports increased awareness and engagement in implementation of the FPA and SDP by diverse CSOs. | $4,226,243  2022 - 2026 |
| 4 |  | Provision of Care and Support to Aged Population Project in Tongatapu  (Ma’a Fafine Mo’e Famili INC) |  |  | $312,500  2023 - 2025 |
| 5 |  | Provision of economic empowerment services for women survivors of violence alongside their counselling and support services  (Tonga National Centre for Women and Children) | Supported women and girls, including survivors of violence against women and girls, to have access to and control over expanded economic opportunities and to be able to make strategic life choices. | * Women & girls, including survivors of VAWG, have access to and control over expanded economic opportunities, and are able to use them to make strategic life choices. | $330,609.48  2021 – 2023  **Completed** |
| 6 | 73035 | Support to the Women's Affairs Division, Ministry of Internal Affairs (Ministry of Internal Affairs) | Providing institutional strengthening and gender mainstreaming and equality support to the Women’s Affairs Division.  Supporting consists of funding three positions at WAGED: a Family Protection Act Co-ordinator, a Principal Policy Officer, and a Monitoring & Evaluation officer, including a Safety and Protection Cluster Coordinator in the CEO’s office to highlight the importance of effective safety and protection for vulnerable community members throughout the Disaster Risk Management Cycle: DRR, Emergency Response, and Recovery Stage. Additional funding was also provided to cater for activities to strengthen policy and practice of WAGED. |  | $500,000  2021 – 2026 |
| 7 |  | Support to the Ministry of Justice for Family Protection Legal Aid Centre | FPLAC provides free legal advice to clients in response to Family violence. |  | $100,000.00  2021 – 2022  **Completed** |
| 8 |  | Tackling Stigma and Discrimination against People with Disability Project  (Lavame’a Ta’e’iloa Disabled People Association INC) |  |  | $312,500  2023 - 2025 |

#### PACIFIC WOMEN LEAD ENABLING SERVICES PROJECTS

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| NO. | PROJECT NAME AND PARTNER | PROJECT DESCRIPTION | END OF PROJECT OUTCOMES | VALUE (AUD) AND TIMEFRAME |
| 1 | Balance of Power  (DT Global) | The Balance of Power program aims to initiate dialogue and action around social norms and women’s roles in decision making and leadership in the Pacific region. | * There is a shifting balance of power towards women and men sharing decision-making at all levels. * Women's right to participate in the public sphere, including their right to vote independently, is increasingly understood and accepted by women and men. * Traditional, church, and democratic governance institutions demonstrate action consistent with their commitments on women in leadership and role model gender sensitive practices. | $11,597,674  2021 - 2026 |
| 2 | Feminist movements for transformative change: We Rise Coalition Phase 3 | The goal of the We Rise Coalition is to develop, demonstrate and strengthen feminist coalitions and partnerships in order to grow and uphold inclusive governance, equality, diversity, justice and women’s human rights. | * Coalition and organisational strengthening: Diverse Fiji and Pacific Women are contributing to a coordinated, feminist social movement. * Movement Building: We Rise partners, and the Coalition demonstrate feminist praxis and solidarity. * Policy, structural and institutional reform: Pacific women influence local, national and regional decision-making to reflect Pacific women's human rights concerns. | $3,193,822  2021 - 2024 |

#### RESEARCH PROJECTS

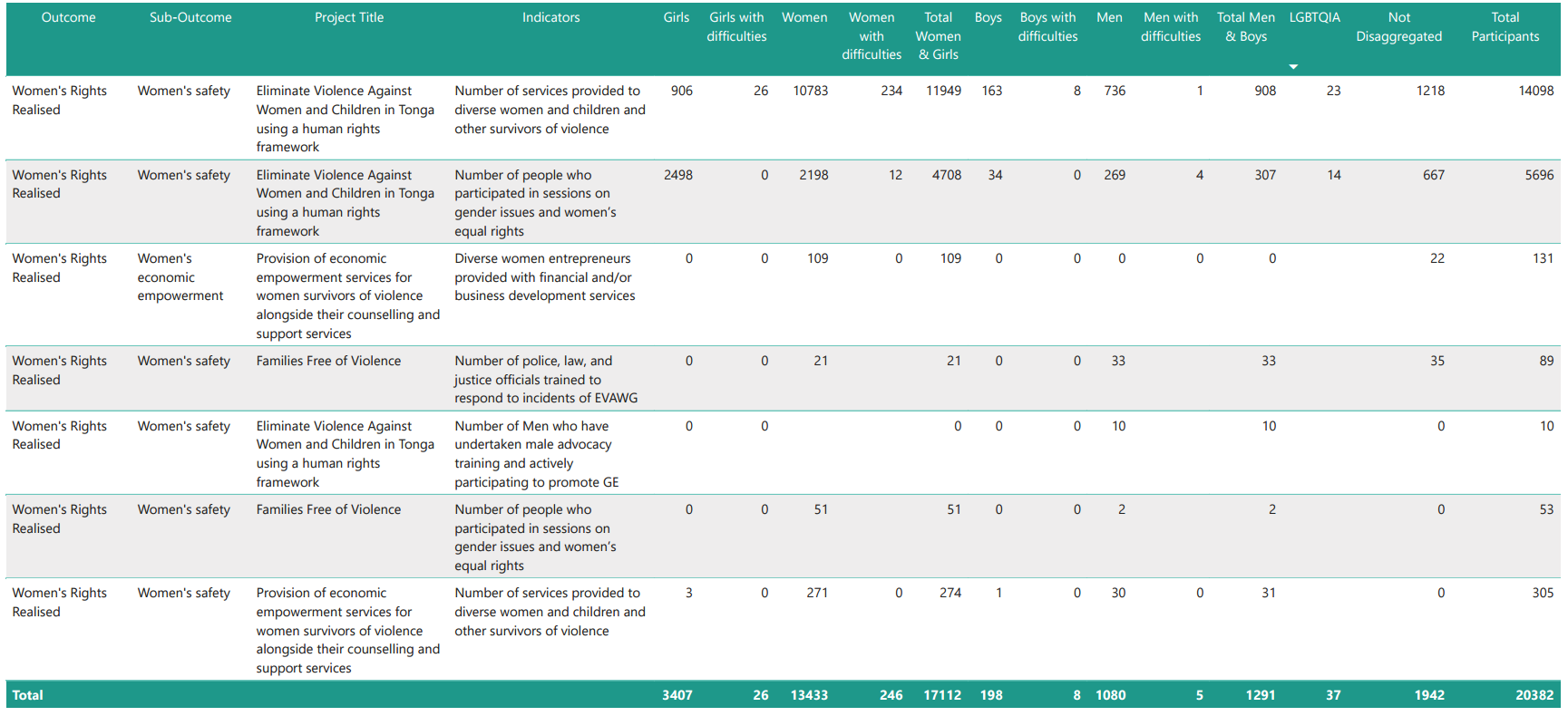
Total funding for research projects is not included in the combined total funding for projects implemented in Tonga

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| NO. | AID-WORKS NUMBER | PROJECT NAME AND PARTNER | PROJEC DESCRIPTIONS | END OF PROJECT OUTCOMES | VALUE (AUD) AND TIMEFRAME |
| 1 | 76473 | Building Back Better: Promoting gender data-driven response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the Pacific and South-east Asia  (UN Women) | The Project seeks to increase the production and use of quality timely data to ensure COVID-19 response and recovery efforts are sensitive to gender inequality considerations, provide maximum production from COVID-19 impacts, and enable women’s and girls’ fullest contributions to recovery. | * Timely gender-sensitive data on the impact and responses to crisis, most importantly COVID-19, are produced to inform decision-making. * Gender-responsive COVID-19 policies and recovery plans are in place. * COVID-19 gender data are accessible and used to inform policies, programmes, advocacy and research. | $3,522,558  2021 – 2023  **Completed** |
| 2 | 76470 | Equality Insights: Gender data supporting COVID-19 response and recovery in the Pacific  (IWDA) | Program goal is to improve the gender equality outcomes of COVID-19 recovery through use of Equality Insights Rapid data. | * Improved evidence base for implementing COVID-19 recovery that advances gender equality in selected Pacific countries. * Bilateral and other decision-makers and change agents can access and are using Equality Insights Rapid data. * Policy, programming, advocacy and/or resource allocation for COVID recovery is informed by Equality Insights Rapid data in at least two countries. * Regional actors recognize and use Equality Insights data and/or tools. | $2,516,863  2020 – 2022  **Completed** |
| 3 | 72938/47 | kNOwVAWdata Phase 2  (UNFPA) Strengthening Capacities for Measuring Violence Against Women (nKOwVAWdata) Phase 2  (UNFPA) | Works to sustainably strengthen regional and national capacities to measure the prevalence of violence against women in Asia and the Pacific. kNOwVAWdata improves the availability and quality of data to inform more effective policy and programme responses to prevent and end violence against women. | * Data-driven, context-specific decision-making in VAW policy and programme design * Quality data on what works and what does not work to address VAW effectively * Effective policies and programmes to address VAW are implemented, monitored and evaluated. | $3,000,000  2021 – 2024 |

# **Annex 2: Pacific Women Lead Governance Board Members**

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| A photo of PWL Governance Board member. | Dr Audrey Aumua is a co-chair of the PWL Governance Board. Dr Aumua oversees the work of The Fred Hollows Foundation NZ, which has a mission to end avoidable blindness and vision impairment in the Pacific. It achieves this by raising funding to support and partner with Pacific governments and ministries to train local eye care workers and provide the facilities and technology they need to improve access to quality eye care. Previously, Dr Aumua served as Deputy Director General at The Pacific Community’s (SPC) Suva office, where she managed the operations of staff, divisional work and Fiji-based activities, including SPC’s education, maritime, geosciences, land resources, social development and human rights programmes. Dr Aumua has extensive experience in research, policy development and management in the health and education sectors in New Zealand and Australia and has held sustainable development leadership roles across the Pacific. |
| A photo of PWL Governance Board member. | Reverend James Bhagwan is the second co-chair of the PWL Governance Board.   Rev. Bhagwan is married to Maelin (Fiji/Kiribati/Samoa) and has two children. He is an ordained minister of the Methodist Church in Fiji and licensed to preach and celebrate the sacraments in the Anglican Diocese of Polynesia. A descendant of indentured labourers from India, James has roots in the vanua of Noco (Notho) in the province of Rewa and maternal links to the Vanua of Macuata (Mathuata). He holds a Bachelor of Divinity in Ecumenical Studies (Hons.) from the Pacific Theological College in Suva, Fiji and a Master of Theology in Christian Social Ethics from the Methodist Theological University in Seoul, South Korea. He was elected General Secretary of Pacific Council of Churches at its 11th General Assembly in Auckland in 2018. He is a passionate advocate for ecological stewardship and climate justice, with particular focus on care for the ocean and self-determination issues and is also an active gender justice advocate. He is a keen Stand-Up-Paddler and long-time volunteer chaplain and crew member and trustee of the Fijian traditional voyaging society, the Uto Ni Yalo Trust and mentors several ocean health collectives. |
| A photo of PWL Governance Board member. | Mereseini Rakuita is the Pacific Community (SPC) representative on the PWL Governance Board. Ms Rakuita is a visionary champion of gender equality and women’s rights in Fiji and the Asia-Pacific region. She is the Pacific Community (SPC) Principal Strategic Lead – Pacific Women and Girls, driving gender equality and empowerment of women across the Pacific region as part of SPC’s executive team. Dedicated to gender equality, she serves as the chairperson for the FP2030 global movement dedicated to advancing the rights of people everywhere to access family planning services. Mereseini Rakuita is a qualified lawyer and the youngest female politician to be elected to Fiji’s parliament, in 2014, and she was the first female Minister for Lands and Mineral Resources. She has also served as Acting Permanent Secretary for Justice and Anti-corruption with oversight of operations in the Elections Office (2012–2013). Prior to politics, as State Solicitor (2009–2013), she was the highest ranking female legal advisor to the government, and Chairperson of the Telecommunications Authority of Fiji (2008) – the first and youngest Fijian woman in all of these roles during tenure. |
| A photo of PWL Governance Board member. | Honourable Nadine Jalabert is the New Caledonia representative on the PWL Governance Board. Born in New Caledonia in 1965, Hon. Nadine Jalabert studied midwifery in France (1984–1987), served as a midwife in New Caledonia in bush dispensaries (1987–1997), and has worked in a hospital setting in Noumea (since 1998). Since 2014, Hon. Nadine Jalabert has served as Councillor in Mont-Dore city where she helped establish a shelter for female victims of domestic violence and has actively promoted equality between girls and boys, women and men. Since 2019, Hon. Nadine Jalabert has served as the President of the Women’s and Family Rights Committee in the New Caledonia Congress. Hon. Nadine Jalabert is married and has two sons. |
| A photo of PWL Governance Board member. | Ethel Sigimanu is the Solomon Islands representative on the PWL Governance Board. Ms Sigimanu has been instrumental in advancing gender equality and women’s human rights in the Solomon Islands. She is one of the longest-serving permanent secretaries in the Solomon Islands government, having spent 17 years as permanent secretary in various government ministries 10 of which were as Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs. During this time, she took leadership and was greatly influential in the work towards the passage of the Family Protection Act 2014, which is the first domestic violence legislation in Solomon Islands, as well as the Child and Family Welfare Act 2017. She also developed and reviewed National Gender Equality and Women’s Development policies and conducted a study on Family Health and Safety. In recognition of her courage, strength and leadership in the areas of human rights, social justice, women’s equality and advancement, Ms Sigimanu received the Women of Courage Award in 2019 by the US Secretary of State. Ms Sigimanu also serves on a number of national and regional boards, particularly in the areas of gender and human rights and other areas of the social services sector. Ms Sigimanu is now serving as a freelance consultant, focusing on areas that she is passionate about, particularly the advancement of gender equality and recognition of human rights. |
| A photo of PWL Governance Board member. | Teretia Tokam is the Kiribati representative on the PWL Governance Board. Ms Tokam is the Executive Director of the Kiribati Women and Children Support Centre or KWCSC. Previously, Teretia worked at the Office of the Attorney General in Kiribati, as the country focal officer of the SPC Regional Rights Resource Team, and as the National Coordinator of the Eliminating Sexual and Gender-based Violence project of the Women’s Ministry in Kiribati. Teretia is a feminist and women’s human rights activist, and she is currently a member of the regional network to combat violence against women. |
| A photo of PWL Governance Board member. | ‘Ana Malia Falemaka is one of the Tonga representatives on the Governance Board. Ms Falemaka is a young and passionate advocate from Tonga. At just 19 years old, she currently serves as a board member, mentor and youth ambassador of Talitha Project, Tonga, an NGO that focuses on empowering young women and girls. Ana Malia first became involved with the Talitha Project in 2018, while attending an empowerment camp. Since then, the belief that she can help change our community, society and world has motivated her to continue this journey. She has worked across various Talitha projects, including the Pacific Girl programme. She is also an advisor in the “With and For Girls Fund Advisory Group”, facilitated by Purposeful, as well as a member of the “Pacific Islands Students Fighting Climate Change”, a youth-led organisation comprised of students across the Pacific. ‘Ana Malia is also a student at the University of the South Pacific – Tonga, pursuing a Bachelor of Law. She is humbled and greatly appreciates the various platforms and opportunities that she has been fortunate to have to highlight the issues that girls in Tonga and across the Pacific face and to represent the voices of young Pasifika women and girls in lobbying for change. Her advice to girls in Tonga, as well as in the Pacific, is: If you believe very strongly in something, stand up and fight for it. We cannot always rely on our leaders to continue dictating and shaping the World which we will eventually lead. We are the future generation and so, as future leaders, our opinions must be included, heard and valued. |
| A photo of PWL Governance Board member. | Rhema Misser is the second Tonga representative on the Governance Board. Mr Misser has been a leader in the disability movement for 19 years. He is the President and Founder of the Lavamea Taeiloa Disabled People Association, Inc. and, for four years, served as a board member of the Pacific Disability Forum in Fiji. Rhema looks forward to collaborating with other participants in Pacific Women Lead for the benefit of everyone throughout the Pacific. |
| A photo of PWL Governance Board member. | Alex Su’a is the Samoa representative on the PWL Governance Board. Mr. Su’a is a lawyer who has been practising law since 2004 in Apia, Samoa. He is registered as a barrister, solicitor and notary public of the Supreme Court of Samoa. Since 2018, he has been a partner of a small law firm, Stowers & Su’a Lawyers, in Apia and, currently, serves as the President of the Samoa Law Society. Alex is a very proud fa’afafine and is a steadfast advocate in favour of the human rights of the fa’afafine and fa’atama community in Samoa. Since 2005, he has been a founding member of the Samoa Fa’afafine Association, Inc., the only SOGIESC organisation in Samoa, and, since 2018, has served as its President. |
| A photo of PWL Governance Board member. | Tahina Booth is one of the Papua New Guinea representatives on the PWL Governance Board. Ms. Booth is an accomplished tri-international athlete representing Australia in Olympic weightlifting and powerlifting and in the Rugby League for the Papua New Guinea Orchids. Elite sport has instilled in Tahina discipline and leadership, and the many other skills learnt through sport have transferred into Tahina’s professional life. Tahina founded the Grass Skirt Project (GSP), a Papua New Guinea NGO and social enterprise using sport to prevent gender-based violence through collaborative partnerships and innovative health and wellness events for grassroots communities. |
| A photo of PWL Governance Board member. | Susil Nelson-Kongoi is the second Papua New Guinea representative on the PWL Governance Board. Susil is a senior executive with ExxonMobil PNG with over 15 years’ experience in the development and professional services sector. In addition to her role as ExxonMobil PNG Media and Communications Manager, Ms Nelson-Kongoi is the Chair of Incentive Fund, Vice President (International) of the Business Council of PNG, Chair of the PNG Business Advocacy Network, and Honorary Treasurer on the Board of Coalition for Change. She is actively involved in other non-profit organisations, such as the Business and Professional Women’s Association, advocating for the promotion of women’s participation in the economy, respecting women’s rights and ending violence against women and children. Susil has a Bachelor of Commerce from Canterbury University, New Zealand, and also holds a Master of Business Administration from Divine Word University, Papua New Guinea. |
| A photo of PWL Governance Board member. | Wynetta Dewis has family connections from Boigu island and Horn Island in the Torres Strait. She has over 20 years’ experience in leadership and project management roles. Ms Dewis is Chief Executive Officer for the Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Legal Service, the Chair of the National Family Violence Prevention Legal Service Forum and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Group. Ms Dewis is also a member of the Queensland Legal Assistance Forum Committee, the Coalition of Peaks Committee and the Community Legal Centre Australia Board. |
| No photo available | Virginia Dawson is the Director Policy at the Pacific Islands Forum. She has championed gender equity through policy and programme development during her international career. Her prior roles include Counsellor at the New Zealand High Commission to Fiji (2020-2024) and First Secretary at the New Zealand Embassy in Myanmar (2017-2019). As a development practitioner, Ms Dawson has worked for United Nations Agencies, non-governmental and civil society organisations across the Pacific, Asia, Africa and the Caribbean.  Ms Dawson holds a master’s degree in development studies and Graduate Diploma in Human Resource Management. |
| No photo available | Clemency Oliphant is the Assistant Secretary of the Pacific Development Branch in DFAT Canberra (Australia). Full bio will be included in the next update. |

# **Annex 3: Cumulative reach data (2021 to present) for DFAT Post in Tonga projects**



# **Annex 4: Whole-of-portfolio PWL Indicators**

| Program Logic key outcome area | Quantitative indicators | Qualitative indicators | Domains of inquiry to track change in social norms |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Women’s leadership promoted: **women and girls’ voice** | * # diverse women and girls supported to assume a leadership role * # of sectoral policies or initiatives clearly addressing diverse women’s leadership needs | * Evidence of more women and girls, in all their diversity, that are respected, listened to and influencing decision-making as a result of PWL grant making * Evidence of change in social norms that limit diverse women and girls’ leadership opportunities as a result of PWL grant making * Evidence of women and girls taking on and practice leadership (at all levels) as a result of PWL grant making * Evidence of how linking and learning between PWL grantees and collaborative MEL has led to better program outcomes in women and girls’ leadership | **Attitudes, beliefs and behaviours** that leadership (both formal and informal) is better suited to men and boys |
| Women’s leadership promoted: **Pacific feminist civil society** | * # diverse women and girls participating in civil society and intergovernmental forums (e.g., Pacific Feminist Forum and Triennial) * Number of women’s organisations, groups or coalitions actively engaged in the project * Number of Pacific organisations of people with disability actively engaged in the project | * Evidence that long-term and flexible funding from Pacific Women’s Funds is contributing to increased recognition and amplification of feminist civil society leadership * Evidence that the Pacific feminist movement has grown in depth, is better connected and their expertise is drawn upon as a result of PWL funding * Evidence of how linking and learning and collective action amongst women’s organisations and the feminist movement has supported better gender equality outcomes |  |
| Women’s Rights Realised – **women’s health** (SRHR) | * # diverse women and girls who received a modern method of contraception * Number of unintended pregnancies averted * Total couple-years protection for contraceptives distributed by countries to lower levels including service delivery points (SDPs) (disaggregated by method including emergency contraception and long-acting reversible contraception) | * Evidence of diverse women and girls’ improved access to comprehensive SRHR services as a result of PWL grant making * Evidence of change in social norms that limit diverse women and girls’ access to SRHR services as a result of PWL grant making * Evidence of the health sector providing comprehensive SRHR services as a result of PWL grant making * Evidence of how linking and learning and collaborative MEL between PWL grantees has led to better program outcome in SRHR | **Taboos and stigma**: cultural taboos surrounding discussion about sex, sexuality and reproductive health  **Gender norms and inequality:** traditional norms that restricts women’s autonomy to make decisions about their bodies  **Religious and moral beliefs**: that influence who should be able to access SRHR services |
| Women’s Rights Realised – **women’s economic empowerment (WEE)** | * # diverse women entrepreneurs provided with financial and/or business development services * # diverse women who have attained formal qualifications | * Evidence that diverse women have increased access to resilient economic opportunities, including increased voice in decision making as a result of PWL grant making * Evidence of change in social norms that prevent diverse women’s entry into the workforce as a result of PWL grant making * Evidence women in all their diversity have increased access to sustainable formal and informal economic opportunities as a result of PWL grant making * Evidence of how linking and learning and collaborative MEL between PWL grantees has led to better program outcome in WEE | **Attitudes and beliefs** that place the main responsibility for the home and care of children, the sick and the elderly on women and girls. |
| Women’s Rights Realised – **women’s safety** | * # of counsellors graduating from recognised counselling institutions * # of services provided to diverse women and children (girls and boys) and other survivors of violence, such as counselling * # people who participated in sessions on gender issues and women’s equal rights * # men who have undertaken male advocacy training * # police, law, and justice officials trained to respond to incidents of violence against women and girls according to an established protocol | * Evidence that violence against women and children has reduced as a result of PWL grant making * Evidence that women and children have improved access to comprehensive support services, including in times of disasters, as a result of PWL grant making * Evidence of increased access to comprehensive support and crisis services for diverse women and children as a result of PWL grant making * Evidence of changed social norms that contribute to diverse women and girls’ experience of violence as a result of PWL grant making * Evidence of how linking and learning and collaborative MEL between PWL grantees has led to better program outcome in safety | **Attitudes, beliefs and behaviours[[5]](#footnote-6)** that condone violence against women  (Refer to footnote 17 for full list of attitudes, beliefs and behaviours. Partners are asked to focus impact story collection on any one (or more) of these attitudes, beliefs and/or behaviours) |
| Partners supportedto increase Pacific ownership and effectiveness of regional gender equality efforts – **gender mainstreaming** | * # of government staff and development practitioners applying gender mainstreaming tools * # of mechanisms in place to support gender mainstreaming processes in the government | * Evidence of how Pacific governments have utilised support to build capacity in gender analysis and mainstreaming * Evidence of how Pacific governments and development partners are mainstreaming gender as a result of PWL grant making, technical support, coaching or mentoring * Evidence of how Pacific government are implementing programs and policies that support national and/or regional gender equality commitments as a result of PWL grant making, technical support, coaching or mentoring |  |
| Partners supportedto increase Pacific ownership and effectiveness of gender and equality efforts – **Pacific ownership and regional effectiveness** |  | * Evidence of effective collaboration between SPC, PIFS and DFAT on regional gender equality commitments * Evidence of how collective action has supported implementation of government commitments to gender equality |  |
| Program Logic strategies   * Grant making in the thematic areas of leadership, health (SRHR), women’s economic empowerment and safety * Linking and learning that supports understanding of change in PWL’s outcome areas * Collective action that supports implementation of government commitment and movement building amongst Pacific feminist and/or women’s organisations * Technical support for gender mainstreaming activities * Collaborative portfolio level monitoring, evaluation and learning sense-making spaces to inform PWL decision-making | * Number of projects funded (by outcome and sub-outcome area) * Number of diverse women and girls reached through activities * Funds committed per outcome and sub-outcome area * Satisfaction with linking and learning events * Satisfaction with technical support for gender mainstreaming | * Evidence of how program logic strategies supported (or undermined) outcomes |  |

# **Annex 5: Impact Stories**

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| **Project:** Oceania Rugby  **Organisation:** Tonga Rugby Union  **Tittle:** A level playing field for women in Tonga Rugby |
| **Unaloto Sili** has done everything in Rugby except play.  *“Although I grew up in a family with lots of boys, I belonged to the one percent of Tongans not interested in rugby! I don’t kick, throw or catch the ball…but what I do is the law and business! My involvement in rugby has been in governance and administration, playing the position which allows me to do what I do best – chasing equity and opportunity for women.”*  For the past year, Una has been the Governance and Business Administrator for Tonga Rugby Union (TRU), funded by the Oceania Rise Rugby Project, part of the Australian Government's Pacific Women Sport Administration Program (PWSAP). The program supports women sport leaders across the Pacific, aiming to boost participation, increase female leadership, and strengthen governance in women’s sports.  Despite her background in netball, Una had no experience with rugby before joining TRU. A conversation with a colleague sparked her interest. *“I was working for the Ministry of Internal Affairs in the Gender Equity Division when I heard that Tonga Rugby Union was looking for someone with a governance background. I thought, ‘This position seems to be about creating an inclusive environment where women can have a voice – that’s me!’ At the interview, the first question was, ‘What do you know about rugby?’* I said, *‘Nothing! But I do know about business and accountability.’ Now, I belong to the 99% of Tongans for whom Rugby is the number one sport – I never miss a game!”*  Using her expertise in civil and business law, Una focused on drafting Tonga Rugby’s new constitution, working with Dr. Paul Jonson from Oceania Rugby. She led a culturally grounded approach, forming a Governance Review Sub-committee and conducting a broad consultative process with stakeholders, from grassroots clubs to sub-unions across Tonga. *“Originally, the union wanted a top-down approach. Knowing our nature as Tongan people, I said no, we need to consult everyone. People told me it would take five years, but I stood my ground. Because we had talanoa at the grassroots and in the outer islands, we have strong ownership and support for the new constitution – it is in their hearts.”*  A key change in the constitution was the introduction of quotas to increase women’s representation at all levels, including the Board. At least two positions on the seven-member Board must now be held by women, with voting rights. *“The introduction of quotas is significant because the option to simply tick the box is no longer there – these quotas are about women having a voice. In 2019, the union recruited a woman to join the Board, but just as an observer – she had no voting rights. We are increasing women’s participation on the field, so why not off the field? There are 47 members in the general meeting and only one is a woman – yet we have 24 women’s teams. We cannot wait another ten years to give women a voice! This is a big step forward for gender equity.”*  Beyond governance, Una has supported TRU’s strategy to expand women’s competitions and high-performance pathways, helping local players gain recognition. *“There are many opportunities for Tonga to participate in Oceania Rugby tournaments, but our local girls need more game time. Game time is essential for our women players to gain experience and grow. The talent is here – we just need resources to run competitions that will improve their skills.”*  With support from Rise Rugby, TRU launched a Women’s U18 Sevens domestic competition in 2022, which led to a surge in teams, visibility, and sponsorship. They also developed a Women’s National Development Squad and started Tonga’s first women’s fifteens competition. *“We’ve seen a real turning point for the women’s game in Tonga. The funding from the program enabled us to host grassroots tournaments, increasing visibility. We’ve seen many new players and fans engage with the game – it was a huge moment.”*  Una recently completed the Winter 2023 Oceania Rise Rugby Women's Governance and Mentoring Program, which offers professional development and networking opportunities. *“I thought I understood good governance with my law background, but during the course, I realised I had much to learn! The finance essentials component was particularly valuable – being financially literate and understanding reports has given me confidence.”*  Inspired by the program, Una plans to mentor the Spring 2023 cohort. *“This will be my first time mentoring officially. I thought, why not mentor someone like me facing similar challenges? I want to share what I know – that’s why we are here, to touch other people.”*  In April, Una was awarded a World Rugby Capgemini Women in Rugby Leadership Program Scholarship – the first for a Tongan. The scholarship supports women leaders in rugby. *“The scholarship experience was great. I aimed to build my skillset, but it became so much more. I worked with the Women’s Sports Foundation in New York, learning about governance, driving community impact, and making policies like equal pay into law. It was an awesome exchange – I expanded my network and secured grants and sponsorship for our union.”*  Despite her global experiences, Una’s focus remains on TRU. *“I am interested in progressing pay equity for women in rugby. We need to make the call that pay equity matters – it’s about valuing women in rugby equally.”*  Reflecting on her role, Una believes it has strengthened her commitment to gender equity in sport and accelerated her professional goals. While there is still work to be done, Una believes in a bright future for women in Tongan rugby. Her advice to the next generation is simple. *“When I took on this role, I had two choices…to sink or swim…I chose to swim! For the women who come after me – jump in! There are other women swimming alongside you, and we will support you.”* |

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| **Project:** Support to Tonga Women and Children Crisis Centre  **Organisation:** Tonga Women and Children Crisis Centre  **Tittle:** Women and Children Crisis Centre supports a seasonal worker to overcome mental and emotional stress |
| Melaia [not her real name] is 35 years old client of the Tonga Women and Children Crisis Centre (WCCC) since the beginning of this year and is currently working as a fruit picker under the seasonal worker’s program in Australia. Her husband is also a fruit picker in Australia but is under a different company from Melaia.  At the beginning of this year, Melaia approached the WCCC seeking help when her husband of over 10 years revealed his extra-marital affair with one of his co- workers and made the decision to leave her and their children. Due to give birth to their youngest child in just less than a month, she felt hurt and betrayed and was at the lowest point in her life. Melaia just wanted to give up on everything - her saving grace was when she would think about her children and what would happen to them if she gave up.  At first, she tried to hide what she was going through from her parents, siblings and those she was closest to. Eventually they found out and realized how broken she was. One of her aunts, who had attended one of WCCC’s workshops, told Melaia about WCCC’s services and that she should try seeking help from them. Melaia at the time was stressing over how she would care for the children since her husband was no longer in the picture. She had reached a point where she wanted to hurt her husband like she was hurting and to seek revenge.  Her mind was full of confusion and chaos.  When she approached WCCC, she was able to unpack what was happening and have a clearer understanding of where her life was at, regarding the problems she was facing. Through counselling, she started to understand and see a pattern of continual lies.  People would tell her that her husband was cheating on her, but her husband constantly denied that he was having extra-marital affairs. She started to think clearly about how he had denied the rumors about his infidelity that were told to her by her husband’s co-workers and friends. It was not until she fell pregnant with their youngest child that her husband finally confessed to her and at the same time, told her that he will leave her for the other woman. At one point, she even blamed herself for her husband’s extra-marital affairs thinking she was not good enough. When he left, all she thought about was getting revenge on her husband for the heartaches he had put her through.  The counselling sessions helped Melaia address the hurt and anger she was feeling in a healthier way and how to move on and start a new journey with her children. During the sessions, she was able to consider several options to choose from on how to maintain a relationship with her now estranged husband regarding taking care of their children. Melaia worked on self-empowerment so that she did not have to rely on her husband for her everyday needs and so forth. There was a time that her ex-husband’s family also tried to create trouble for her by meddling in their troubled affairs. However, through the counselling, she felt empowered because she felt she was not alone, and she was finally able to put her life into order and find ways to stand on her own two feet.  After giving birth to her youngest child, she also decided to file for child maintenance and WCCC was able to assist her during this difficult time. Melaia is now seeking legal assistance from WCCC for her parents to have legal guardianship over her children because her parents have always played a big part in raising her children. She feels that her parents are the best guardians as she wants to be able to continue working as a seasonal fruit picker in Australia. She has plans for her children’s future so her choice of work will help bring in money for her children’s upbringing and education.  Melaia will approach WCCC again to seek their assistance with this application, however, because she would still need her ex-husband’s consent, she knows this will possibly mean ongoing legal disputes. |

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| **Project:** Pacific Girl Programme – Pacific Women Lead at SPC  **Organisation:** Talitha Project  **Tittle:** Making girls’ health a family matter and national priority: Destigmatising sexual and reproductive health and rights for young girls in Tonga |
| *“Barriers surround us such as taboos for topics including reproductive health, that are not commonly discussed at home and in communities,”* said Ana Malia Falemaka, former Youth Mentor with the Talitha Project and now PWL Governance Board member.  The Talitha Project’s *My Body! My Rights!* (MBMR) initiative supported by the Pacific Girl programme, is successfully striking a balance between adolescent girls asking for information about menstrual hygiene and reproductive health versus Tonga’s taboo approach towards the topic, as community and national leaders shift to support their girls. In one MBMR project, an astounding nine in 10 parents participating had not previously talked with their adolescent daughter about menstrual hygiene or related topics. Meanwhile adolescent girls are citing increased agency and improved decision making as result of their improved knowledge.  Tonga’s Minister for Internal Affairs, Lord Vaea, was impressed by *MBMR*’s positive impact and requested Talitha Project to extend the program to remote areas including for youth and adolescent girls in Houma (a rural area on Tongatapu, Tonga). This highlights the interest from the national level to implement Talitha’s programmes in further remote areas, and to counter the nation’s high levels of teenage pregnancy. It also follows research being socialised about adolescent unplanned pregnancy in Tonga indicating *“neither parent, teachers or anyone has taught them [girls] about puberty, menstruation cycle, contraception and just the absolute basic information about their bodies”* according to Talitha’s Director, Vanessa Heleta. *“Girls have a right to know what is happening in their bodies – you can’t make good decisions on false or absent information,”* she explained.    *My Body! My Rights!* (MBMR) reaches out to girls aged 9 to 14 years in four locations around Tonga, including outer islands, to empower girls to make informed decisions in life. This includes decisions about finances, child protection, how to report abuse, safe spaces for girls, menstrual hygiene, sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR).  MBMR is supported by Pacific Girl, which is managed by the Pacific Women Lead at the Pacific Community (PWL at SPC) programme. PWL’s former iteration, Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development, worked with the Talitha Project and Tonga Family Health Association to release the ‘Adolescent Unplanned Pregnancy in the Pacific – Tonga’ research report in 2021, developed by the University of NSW (UNSW). The programme has been instrumental in the dissemination of the Adolescent Unplanned Pregnancy findings, creating ownership in the community about the need to talk about such a taboo topic in a conservative community, to protect young women and girls.  There have been a number of changes from the work of MBMR since it began in 2019. For adolescent girls as part of the program, more now understand that incest and sexual abuse is illegal and can be reported by police who can assist girls to access support and counselling services. “*By being a part of the Program, it really helps them to be able to speak up. They [girls] share about the bad things like sexual violence in families and in the community, in which they have never been able to speak about it because they are afraid,”* (Key Informant, Pacific Girl Mid-Term Review).  The Talitha Project and the *MBMR* program has also been able to positively influence those at the community and national level about this work.  Another example is that all 13 parents ‘Apifo’ou (Tongatapu, Tonga), who were requested for their children to participate in the program’s activities granted permission for Talitha Project to work with their young girls. Of these participants, 92% provided feedback saying it was the first time for them to openly discuss SRHR, menstrual hygiene and healthy relationships, with an adult. These examples demonstrate the work that Talitha Project has done to destigmatise SRHR conversations in Tonga, through socialising culturally appropriate messages for participation of young girls.  In the future, the Talitha Project hopes its work continues, and to become sustainable with the original participants evolving their relationship with the program and becoming mentors to the young generation who are now participating in the program. *“…some of the girls that started in our programme, they were 12 or 13 years old. Now they're 18, they're 19. You can see the growth because it's everything takes time. You can't just plant a seed and you expect it to grow the tree to grow. Now you have to nurture it. You make sure that it's has enough sunlight, that it's got, you know, water and you might put a little fertiliser, you know, and that's how you, that's how our programme is with my Body, My Rights programme. It's a lot of investment, time, commitment and passion.”* (Vanessa Heleta, Talitha Project). |

1. Distinct implementing partner means organisations who have a direct grant agreement with donors or funders. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. An ambition outlined in the PWL design was for SPC to progressively take over responsibility for the whole-or-program MEL. Further conversations will be had with SPC’s PWL MEL team and more details about how this could happen will be outlined in future PWL MELF updates. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Reach data refers to the coverage of activities: how many diverse men, women, boys and girls have been reached by an activity or project. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Partners holds a grant agreement with a distinct implementing partner. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. As found in the Pacific Women Lead baseline, social norms and attitudes that condone violence include: wives and mothers should be submissive to their husbands; husbands and fathers are the head of the household and make the final decisions; there is a certain way women and girls should dress, always modestly and never exposing body parts that could lead to rape or sexual harassment; men can drink and socialise after hours with their friends, but their women should return or remain at home to take care of chores; women and girls should do the household chores (washing, cleaning, cooking, taking care of children, looking after elderly); wives who cannot give birth are devalued; women should be virgins before they get married; girls should aspire to become wives and mothers; there is no such thing as marital rape because husbands have the right to demand sex from their wives; violence against women can be justified, especially if she oversteps the line; sexual harassment is normal and in the Pacific, it is generally accepted

   [↑](#footnote-ref-6)