

Fiji Country Brief

March 2025

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# About Pacific Women Lead

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.

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. For more information visit [www.pacificwomen.org](http://www.pacificwomen.org)

# Overview of Pacific Women Lead activities in Fiji

As at 31 March 2025, 51 Pacific Women Lead projects and 1 research were being (or had been) implemented in Fiji, with a total funding of AUD141,498,016.33.[[1]](#footnote-2)

Table 1 shows how each of these projects are linked to the different PWL portfolio components.[[2]](#footnote-3) Through these components, technical support and funding is provided to Pacific women-led civil society organisations, multilateral and regional organisations, government and other stakeholders.

Table 1: Summary of PWL projects in Fiji as at 31 March 2025

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| PWL components | # of projects | Ongoing | Completed | Total funding (AUD) |
| PWL at SPC projects  | 8 | 8 | - | $3,493,468.58 |
| PWL Governance Board projects | - | - | - | - |
| Pacific Women’s Funds projects | 25 | 5 | 20 | $2,657,856.01 |
| DFAT regional and research projects | 15 | 12 | 3 | $112,876,980.75 |
| DFAT bilateral gender projects in Fiji | 2 | 2 | - | $7,586,344.99 |
| PWLES projects  | 2 | 1 | 1 | $14,883,366 |
| **Total**  | **52** | **28** | **24** | **$141,498,016.33** |

## Pacific Women Lead at SPC

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 and a grants program for its government partners and women’s organisations across the Pacific.

In Fiji, PWL at SPC funds 7 downstream implementing partners to implement 8 projects. All projects are still ongoing.

Table 2: PWL at SPC projects in Fiji as at 31 March 2025

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No. | Project name and partner | Project description | Value (AUD) / timeframe | Project status |
| 1 | A Niu Pasifika Paradigm: ‘Whole of Life’ Transformative Leadership for Justice - Strengthening Women’s Leadership, Gender, Ecological, Economic and Social Justice in the Pasifika Household of God (Pacific Theological College)  | The Project works to introduce a new Master of Theology in Gender Justice, promote and support women’s economic empowerment, and advocate for a living income/wage policy with CSOs through Fiji Council of Social Services. It also aims to strengthen women’s agency within Methodist Church Women’s Secretariat and coordinate Talanoa sessions on GB, including setting up a help line and pastoral counselling. | $499,711.642024 - 2025 | Ongoing(new) |
| 2 | Barriers to Female Leadership for Staff at Selected Pacific Island Universities, with an emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) (University of South Pacific - USP)  | This project aims to establish baselines and catalysing mechanisms to increase the number of women in senior leadership positions in Pacific Island Universities within STEM and beyond. | $415,539.252024 - 2025 | Ongoing(new) |
| 3 | Economic Empowerment for Rural Remote Pacific Women (Rise beyond the Reef) | This project aims to build resilient communities through sustainable income generating projects that promote traditional knowledge. For Solomon Islands, work through the established Artisan Cooperative representatives in partnership with local government, village leaders, spouses, to develop a community development strategy that promotes GE and address harmful norms thru GESI outreach trainings and community check-ins. | $499,595.352024–2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 4 | Just, Safe, Resilient and Empowered Pacific Communities (Pacific Conference of Churches - PCC)  | The Project works to establish a reporting system for member churches to track and report on their gender equality performance, implement a Safe Church policy on zero tolerance of VAWC in church communities and the Code of Conduct and development and roll out of the Pacific regional faith-based EVAWG strategy. The Project also works to increase women’s participation and access in Church leadership and theology, collaboration of women theologians and national, regional Feminist Organisations, development of Church programmes to address masculinity and violenc  | $500,0002024 - 2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 5 | Pacific Girl: Girls Arise(Fiji Women’s Rights Movement) | Pacific Girl is a multi-country program designed to support adolescent girls in Pacific Island countries to achieve their full potential. FWRM’s Girls Arise program works with girls aged 10-12 to build their life skills and confidence. Pacific Girl enables FWRM to extend its Girls Arise activities to girls outside of Suva (Fiji’s capital), share the organisation's approach in a toolkit and raise the profile of girls' issues with decision-makers. | $165,159.432021–2026 | Ongoing  |
| 6 | Shifting the Power Coalition: Pacific Owned, Women-led Early Warning and Resilience (POWER) systems(ActionAid Australia – Fiji Disabled People’s Federation and Pacific Disability Forum) | Shifting the Power Coalition (StPC) empowers diverse Pacific women to lead disaster management, humanitarian, and climate action. Through rapid response and core support grants, StPC has enabled women-led networks to drive crisis response, recovery, and advocacy, ensuring inclusive, gender-responsive humanitarian action. | $532,233.072022–2025 | Ongoing  |
| 7 | Strengthening Capacity of Women’s Organisation in Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS) on Increasing Women in Leadership and EVAW in the World of Work (Fiji Women’s Rights Movement – FWRM) | To strengthen, upskill and support the technical capacities of women's rights organisations in the Pacific on gender analysis tools, evidence based legislative lobbying and advocacy in two key areas: women’s leadership at all levels of key decision-making spaces and support women’s rights organisation’s to effectively monitor national, regional and international commitments, and advocacy on ending VAW. | $381,229.842024–2026 | Ongoing (new) |
| 8 | Strengthening Pacific Women’s Rights to Safety and Access to Health through Survivor-Centred and Evidence-Based approaches(Fiji National University) | A situation analysis and research will be undertaken, review existing strengths, weaknesses, resources and opportunities, for national response to GBV in terms of health policies and programs in Fiji, Kiribati, Solomon Islands and Samoa.  | $500,0002024 - 2025 | Ongoing (new) |

## Pacific Women Lead Governance Board

The PWL Governance Board has 13 members, 12 of whom are from the Pacific region. DFAT’s Assistant Secretary of the Pacific Development Branch is an ex-officio member of the Board.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| A photo of PWL Governance Board member. | **Reverend James Bhagwan** is the Fiji representative and co-chair of the PWL Governance Board. An ordained Methodist minister, he is also licensed to preach in the Anglican Diocese of Polynesia. Of Indian indentured labourer descent, he has roots in Noco, Rewa, and Macuata. Holding theology degrees from Fiji and South Korea, he became PCC General Secretary in 2018. A strong advocate for **climate justice, ocean stewardship, and gender equality**, he volunteers as a chaplain and trustee of the **Uto Ni Yalo Trust** and mentor’s ocean health collectives. He enjoys **Stand-Up Paddling** and promoting ecological stewardship. |

The Board has a $5 million discretionary fund for projects that it can use to add value to and build on existing PWL activities. In Fiji, there have been no projects funded through this component to date.

## Pacific Women’s Funds

The Pacific Women’s Funds is made up of 3 feminist organisations: Women’s Fund Fiji, Urgent Action Fund Asia and Pacific and Pacific Feminist Fund.

In Fiji, Women’s Fund Fiji (WFF) funds 19 downstream implementing partners to implement 25 projects. Of these, 5 are ongoing and 20 have been completed.

**Table 3: Pacific Women’s Funds projects in Fiji as at 31 March 2025**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No. | Aidworks number | Project name and partner | Project description | Value (AUD) / timeframe | Project status |
| 1 | WFF Grantee | Achieving Economic Empowerment through inclusive, sustainable gender focus approaches Phase 1(Women’s Entrepreneurs Business Council) | This project aims to empower rural women entrepreneurs by addressing the lack of access to business information. Through funding from WFF, WEBC will implement the Achieving Women’s Economic Empowerment through Inclusive, Sustainable, Gender-Focused Approaches Project. Key activities include the Women’s National Forum, Toastmasters Program, stakeholder consultations, mentoring sessions, Women Entrepreneurs Toolkit, and supply chain assessments. The project also seeks to bring together government ministries, private sector, disability sector, and regulatory agencies to develop an information booklet, ensuring women in business have the resources, networks, and support needed for sustainable economic success. | $20,3392021 | Completed |
| WFF Grantee | Achieving Economic Empowerment through inclusive, sustainable gender focus approaches Phase 2(Women’s Entrepreneurs Business Council) | This project aims to address the lack of access to entrepreneurship information for remote rural women by bringing together key stakeholders, including government ministries, the private sector, and regulatory agencies, to develop an information booklet. Through this funding, WEBC will implement the Achieving Women Economic Empowerment Project, which includes activities such as the Women's National Forum, Toastmasters Program, stakeholder consultations, mentoring sessions, the Women Entrepreneurs Toolkit, and supply chain assessments. The project promotes inclusive, sustainable, and gender-focused approaches to supporting women in business and enhancing their economic opportunities. | $81,3752022–2023 | Completed |
| 2 | WFF Grantee | Advancing Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights and Social Services in Fiji through MSP's National Programme(Medical Services Pacific) | (Through this grant, MSP will deliver mobile outreach clinics offering services in Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence, post-rape care, psychosocial support, legal advice, and critical referral services across the Central, Western, and Northern divisions. MSP will consult and coordinate with stakeholders to ensure the program addresses service gaps and raise awareness about the available services. | $305,0922023–2024 | Completed |
| 3 | WFF Grantee | Beyond the Rural Women Convenings: Transformative Feminist Media Association of Diverse Fijian Women(FemLINK Pacific) | This project will focus on the provinces of Nadroga/Navosa, informal urban and semi-urban settlements around Lami, and the Northern Division, while complementing existing feminist rural women leaders’ network meetings in eleven other districts across Fiji. Young women in these areas will be brought into safe spaces and offered "Cool Club Collectives," which will include feminist media training in partnership with femLINK. They will also be introduced to key feminist allies, including the Fiji Women's Rights Movement (FWRM), to support their engagement and empowerment within the feminist movement. | $305,0792023–2025 | Ongoing  |
| 4 | WFF Grantee | Building Resilience for Udu Women Project (Udu Point Women’s Initiative Group) | Udu Point Women's Initiative Group was established in March 2016 by three women of part European, Rotuman, and Tongan descent. Udu Point is a remote island in Fiji/Vanua Levu located on the far northeast point of Vanua Levu. The group includes women who are members of the women's group in the four villages (Udurara, Vunikodi, Nabouono and Nukudamu). The group is made up of part-European, Tongan, Rotuman descent and it also includes Udu women residing in Viti Levu and other islands of Fiji and women that have married to Udu and resides in Udu point. | $6,7792021 | Completed |
| 5 | None provided | Cancer Education and Awareness(Fiji Cancer Society)  | This project aims to reduce the impact of cancer in Fiji through health education, early detection, and prevention, supported by strategic partnerships. Recognizing the threat of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), the Fiji Cancer Society (FCS) aligns its efforts with the Sustainable Development Goal on Good Health and Wellbeing and national health priorities. Through this funding, FCS will implement Cancer Education Workshops, International Women’s Day, and World Cancer Day activities. These initiatives will support cancer prevention and care, working towards the World Cancer Declaration’s targets in collaboration with stakeholders such as the Ministry of Medical Services across Fiji’s regions. | $67,7982022–2023 | Completed |
| 6 | WFF Grantee | Community Palliative Care Program (CPCP)(Fiji Cancer Society) | This project aims to reduce the impact of cancer by focusing on health and wellness, early detection, and prevention through strategic partnerships. With funding, FCS will implement the Community Palliative Care Program, addressing the lack of support for female palliative cancer patients. The project will include activities such as the procurement of palliative care kits and supplies. By providing essential resources and support, the initiative seeks to improve the quality of life for women facing cancer, ensuring they receive proper care during their palliative journey. | $61,0182022 | Completed |
| 7 | WFF Grantee | Ending Violence Against Children in Fiji(Save the Children Fiji) | This project aims to end violence against children in Fiji through collective action, engaging women, men, boys, girls, and the wider community. Save the Children Fiji, a Child Rights Organization established in 1972, will use this grant to implement the "Ending Violence Against Children in Fiji (EVAC)" project. The initiative focuses on working at both grassroots and policy levels, collaborating with various stakeholders to ensure children's rights are upheld and violence against them is eradicated, creating a safer environment for all children in Fiji. | $101,6972023–2024 | Completed |
| 8 | WFF Grantee | Economic Empowerment of Rural Maathar Sangam Women(THEN INDIA MAATHAR SANGAM) | This project aims to empower rural members of the Then India Maathar Sangam through economic initiatives. Established in 1939, the Sangam is an affiliate of the Then India Sanmarga Ikya Sangam and has been instrumental in the establishment of schools and the management of temples in rural areas. With this grant, the Maathar Sangam will collaborate with local organizations, including beekeeping groups, to develop skills, knowledge, and income-generating opportunities for its members, further enhancing their economic empowerment and sustainability. | $54,7132023–2024 | Completed |
| 9 | WFF Grantee | Economic Resilience & Leadership Development Program for Rural & Remote Women in Fiji Phase 1 Rise Beyond the Reef (RBTR) | The resilience grant will support the initial/start-up costs in the beginning stages (first 12-month cycle) of RBTR online selling of rural and remote women products on the Amazon marketplace.  | $44,068.872023 | Completed |
| WFF Grantee | Economic Resilience & Leadership Development Program for Rural & Remote Women in Fiji Phase 2 (Rise Beyond the Reef) | RBTR program supports rural remote women as they build agency, voice, choice, and resilience women through economic and leadership development. Building trust through economic development partnerships with rural remote women and their communities through online market access- e-Commerce platform, e-Commerce strategy development, capacity support for village and district coordinators and leadership opportunities for village-based coordinators  | $305,092.192022 – 2025 | Ongoing |
| 10 | WFF Grantee | Economic Empowerment Project - Vanua Levu Arya Mahila Mandal(Vanua Levu Arya Mahila Mandal) | This project aims to empower women in Vanua Levu by addressing the impact of Tropical Cyclones Yasa and Ana and COVID-19 on local women's groups. Through funding, the Vanua Levu Arya Mahila Mandal will implement an Economic Empowerment Project for its members. The project will also organize annual conferences and workshops to enhance knowledge on key issues such as domestic violence, human rights, non-communicable diseases (NCDs), and human values. This initiative seeks to uplift women's living standards and provide them with the tools to overcome challenges and improve their communities. | $25,2882022 | Completed |
| 11 | WFF Grantee | Organisational Strengthening Project BIRTH Fiji(Building Innate Resilience Through Hearts Fiji) | This project aims to strengthen BIRTH Fiji’s organizational capacity to address the increasing number of referral cases related to mental health, abuse, and discrimination. With limited resources, BIRTH Fiji has provided holistic support, including counseling, home visitation, and trauma recovery tools. Through funding, BIRTH Fiji will implement an Organizational Strengthening Project to develop policies and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), enabling more effective service delivery. This initiative will help BIRTH Fiji better respond to the growing demand for support and improve its ability to assist individuals in crisis. | $3,0582022 | Completed |
| 12 | WFF Grantee | Organisational Strengthening Project for Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation(Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation) | This project will enable the Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation (FDPF), an umbrella organisation consisting of four affiliated organisations—Fiji Association of the Deaf (FAD), United Blind Persons of Fiji (UBP), Spinal Injuries Association (SIA), and Psychiatric Survivors Association (PSA)—to build the capacities of women with disabilities as future leaders. The aim is to help them address issues and make decisions at various levels, with a specific focus on placing more women with disabilities in positions of power within their organisations and communities, ensuring they are meaningfully represented and engaged in leadership roles. The funding from Women’s Fund Fiji (WFF) will support FDPF in implementing the Organisational Strengthening project, which will achieve the following outcomes: (1) Build capacity and strengthen policies and processes of FDPF affiliates. (2) Enhance the knowledge and skills of FDPF members in leadership and income generation. | $122,0312023–2026 | Ongoing |
| 13 | WFF Grantee | Organisational Development and Strengthening for Rainbow Pride Foundation(Rainbow Pride Foundation) | This project aims to support the Rainbow Pride Foundation (RPF), one of the few registered organizations in Fiji focused on LGBTQIA+ issues. The project will address challenges related to core funding, staff capacity, and organizational development. By strengthening governance structures, creating a strategic plan, and enhancing staff resources, the project will enable RPF to deliver more impactful initiatives for the LGBTQIA+ community in Fiji. | $101,6972023–2024 | Completed |
| 14 | WFF Grantee | Psychological Support and Advocacy for Women and Girls(Building Innate Resilience Through Hearts Fiji) | This project aims to address the increased social and mental health challenges exacerbated by COVID-19 in Fiji. As an emerging organization, BIRTH Fiji requires additional resources to provide holistic support to clients, including counseling, home visits, and equipping individuals with tools to cope and heal from trauma. Through this initiative, BIRTH Fiji will strengthen its capacity to offer comprehensive services and support to those affected by mental health issues and trauma, ensuring better care and recovery for individuals in need. | $94,9172022–2024 | Completed |
| 15 | WFF Grantee | Surge Support- Post Pandemic(Medical Services Pacific) | This project aims to support the implementation of Surge Support – Post Pandemic to address the growing need for essential services. Through this grant, MSP will provide holistic support, including counseling, clinical outreach, and legal assistance. This initiative ensures that individuals have access to critical healthcare and support services as they recover from the impacts of the pandemic. | $23,8942022 | Completed |
| 16 | WFF Grantee | Revisioning Women living with Disabilities Project(Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation) | This project aims to build the leadership capacities of women with disabilities, empowering them to address challenges and make decisions at various levels. It focuses on increasing their representation in leadership roles within organizations and communities. Through this grant, the Fiji Disabled People’s Federation (FDPF) will promote inclusive leadership, raise awareness of issues affecting women with disabilities through key advocacy events, strengthen communication and media skills for advocacy, and foster networking and movement-building within FDPF, its affiliates, and the broader women’s movement in Fiji. | $70,2592022 | Completed |
| 17 | WFF Grantee | Strengthening Kioa Women's Organisation Project(Kioa Women's Group) | This project aims to strengthen the economic empowerment of women in Kioa Island by supporting the Kioa Women's Organisation, which has been active for 30 years with 100 members of Tuvaluan and Fijian ethnicity. The organisation operates a guest house and a women’s store, contributing to local economic development. Through this funding, the project will enhance women's business ventures, bringing essential services closer to the community and improving livelihoods for families and the broader Kioa community. | $20,3392022–2023 | Completed |
| 18 | WFF Grantee | Strengthening of PRAN and members access to Sexual Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR)(Pacific Rainbow Advocacy Network) | This project aims to support PRAN, a gender non-conforming group established in 2008 that advocates for the human rights of its members. Through this funding, the project will enhance PRAN’s capacity by providing project implementation support, raising awareness on Sexual Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) through clinics and member profiling, and delivering life skills training. Additionally, it will support income-generating activities to improve the economic empowerment and well-being of PRAN members. | $10,3932022–2023 | Completed |
| 19 | WFF Grantee | Strengthening and building a coalition for change for 17 Women's Group in Kadavu(Soqosoqo Vakamarama Kadavu) | This project aims to support women's groups across 17 villages in Kadavu by providing technical assistance for existing income-generating activities. Through this initiative, the Soqosoqo Vakamarama Kadavu will strengthen women's economic opportunities by focusing on three key activities: organisational strengthening, income generation profiling of the 17 women's groups, and life skills training with income generation support. By enhancing these areas, the project will empower women to improve their livelihoods, build financial resilience, and sustain economic activities within their communities. | $21,0822022–2024 | Completed |
| 20 | WFF Grantee | The Suva Pop-Up Clinic Project(Medical Services Pacific) | This project aims to support the implementation and advocacy of sexual and reproductive health rights in Fiji. With the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, the reopening of schools, and Fiji’s borders, MSP has seen an increase in clients seeking services. Through this grant, MSP will support the operation of the Suva Pop-Up Clinic, which will provide holistic services, including counselling, clinical outreach, and legal support. This initiative ensures that individuals have access to essential healthcare and support in a safe and accessible environment. | $32,8502022 | Completed |
| 21 | WFF Grantee | The Young Feminist Rise Project Phase 1 (Fiji Women's Rights Movement) | The Project supported the completion of FWRM’s project evaluation and implementation of Emerging Leaders Forum’s (8th Cohort) using a new toolkit. FWRM partnered with local organizations to develop knowledge, skills, and a program responsive to the specific needs, issues, and context of a cohort of diverse young women.  | $9,491.762022  | Completed |
| WFF Grantee | The Young Feminist Rise Project Phase 2(Fiji Women's Rights Movement) | The Project works closely with two cohorts of diverse young women between the ages of 18-35 from Fiji. By the end of the program, young women will be able to adopt a feminist and human rights lens and individually and collectively work towards dismantling hegemonic power relations and address existing patterns of inequalities and discrimination in their families, communities, networks, workplaces, and the wider local and national socio-political processes and systems.  | $305,092.192022 – 2025 | Ongoing |
| 22 | WFF Grantee | The Fiji National Feminist Forum(Fiji Women's Rights Movement) | This project aims to support the Fiji National Feminist Forum as an intergenerational space for strengthening feminist learning. The forum will build on progress in leadership, advocacy, and lobbying skills while providing opportunities for feminist women leaders to share knowledge with younger feminists. This initiative will contribute to movement-building in Fiji by fostering collaboration, addressing challenges, and identifying strategies to advance gender equality. | $67,7982022 | Completed |
| 23 | WFF Grantee | The Na I Soqosoqo Vakamarama iTaukei Project(Fiji Women's Rights Movement) | This project aims to support the Fiji Women’s Rights Movement (FWRM) in strengthening its role within the women’s movement in Fiji. Guided by its vision of equality and non-discrimination, FWRM works across four key pillars: democratization, institutional and policy transformation, intergenerational leadership, and organizational strengthening. Through this grant, FWRM will procure office equipment to support the urgent needs of Na I Soqosoqo Vakamarama ITaukei (SSV), a key partner of the Fiji Women’s Forum. This will enable SSV to continue its activities and projects with women leaders across Fiji. | $6,7792022 | Completed |
| 24 | WFF Grantee | Trauma Informed and Resilient Communities (TIRC)Transcend Oceania | This project will enable Transcend Oceania (TO), a non-governmental peacebuilding organisation, to implement the Trauma-Informed and Resilient Communities (TIRC) project in the Northern, Western, and Central Divisions of Fiji. The project focuses on advancing sustainable peace and development through justice and non-violence, with a particular emphasis on trauma-informed approaches to build resilience within communities across these regions. The funding from Women’s Fund Fiji (WFF) will support TO in fostering healing and long-term community resilience through its peacebuilding initiatives | $305,0922023–2025 | Ongoing |
| 25 | NA | We Rise! Fiji YWCA: Supporting an Inter-Generation Learning Space for Young Women Leadership and Voice(Young Women's Christian Association) | This project aims to strengthen the YWCA of Fiji as a national women-led organization rooted in grassroots leadership and linked to the global movement. Activities include the localization of the Young Women’s Call to Action across three area councils, with consultations from the National Council. Additionally, the project will support the strengthening of the national office to enhance the coordination of national and local activities. Through this initiative, the YWCA will continue to be recognized as a responsive organization, fostering the leadership of women, young women, and girls at all levels. | $84,7442022 | Completed |

## DFAT regional

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

There are 14 DFAT regional projects and 1 research implemented by 11 distinct implementing partners in Fiji. Of these, 12 are ongoing and 3 have been completed.

Table 4: DFAT regional projects in Fiji as at 31 March 2025

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No. | Aidworks number | Project name and partner | Project description | Value (AUD) / timeframe | Project status |
| 1 | 69294/46 | Progressing Gender Equality in the Pacific (HRSD SPC) | This project focused on strengthening gender mainstreaming by enhancing policy design, implementation, and monitoring to advance gender equality outcomes. It worked to build the capacity of Pacific governments to integrate gender considerations across policies, programs and services. The project also supported improved collection, analysis, and use of gender data and statistics at both country and regional levels. By strengthening data systems, the project aimed to provide evidence that informs policy decisions, tracks progress on gender equality commitments and ensures that the needs and experiences of women and men were accurately represented. | $2,156,401[[3]](#footnote-4)2021–2023  | Completed |
| 2 | 76569 | Pilot Pacific Women's Sports Administration Program Phase 1 (Netball Australia)  | 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.  | $1,638,6002021–2023 | Completed |
| TBC | Netball’s Ocean of Power - Strength in Every WavePhase 2 (Netball Australia)  | This project promotes women's leadership within netball by supporting women in taking on executive, coaching, and decision-making roles. It also aims to increase access to safe and inclusive competition for women and girls across the Pacific, ensuring they can participate in sports free from discrimination or harm.  | $2,403,991.702024 - 2026 | Ongoing |
| 3 | 74112 | Pacific Partnership to End Violence Against Women and Girls (PPEVAWG) Phase 1 (UN Women) | The Project sought 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.  | $800,0002021 – 2023 | Completed |
| 77334/8 | Pacific Partnership to End Violence Against Women and Girls Phase 2(UN Women) | The Pacific Partnership to End Violence Against Women and Girls Phase II aims to promote gender equality, prevent violence, and improve access to services for survivors. The programme supports regional and national leadership to align legislation and policies with international standards, addressing gaps and securing resources for enforcement. It challenges harmful social norms through community engagement and education, with the Social Citizenship Education project working within schools to promote gender equality. The programme strengthens survivor-centred services by enhancing the capacity of health, justice, and social service providers, while empowering women’s rights movements and amplifying the voices of marginalized groups. | $15,934,693.052022–2027 | Ongoing |
| 4 | 74352 | A Transformative Agenda for Women, Adolescents and Youth in the Pacific: Towards Zero Unmet Need for Planning 2018 - 2022 Phase 1 (UNFPA)  | The goal of the Project is transformative change in the lives of women, adolescents and youth across the Pacific by 2022. 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.  | $7,500,0002021 – 2022 | Completed |
| 77337/9 | A Transformative Agenda for Women, Adolescents and Youth in the Pacific: Towards Zero Unmet Need for Planning 2018 – 2022 Phase 2(UNFPA) | The project aims to improve access to quality sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) information and services, with a particular focus on family planning. It seeks to increase the availability of integrated SRHR services for both the general population and marginalised groups, while also driving greater demand for SRHR information. Additionally, the project works to create a more supportive environment that empowers vulnerable communities to access and benefit from SRHR services, with a specific emphasis on expanding contraceptive choice. | $37,000,0002022–2028 | Ongoing |
| 5 | 74843 | Niu Vaka Pacific Strategy (2018 - 2022) Phase 1(International Planned Parenthood Federation - IPPF) | The Niu Vaka Pacific Strategy provides a framework and guidance on a life course approach to SRHR in the Pacific. This entails broadening the focus from family planning to services across the life span from pregnancy and prenatal care and pre-menstruation through menopause. It also looks at critical factors for the Pacific including climate change, gender, disability, non-communicable diseases and sexual and gender-based violence.   | $500,0002021 – 2022 | Completed |
| 77862 | Core funding to the IPPF Global Strategic Framework (22-26) and Pacific Strategy (22-26)(International Planned Parenthood Federation - IPPF) | IPPF's Pacific Niu Vaka Strategy, Phase II aims to break down barriers and ensure quality sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) are accessible to all in the Pacific. The project focuses on reaching the most marginalised and excluded groups with comprehensive SRHR information and services. It champions the voices of young people and leverages the power of movements and networks to advance SRHR across the region. | $2,000,0002021–2026 | Ongoing |
| 6 | 77520 | Gender responsive Climate Policy and Women’s Climate Leadership in the Pacific (Women’s Economic and Development Organisation) | This project sought to advance Pacific women’s leadership in climate change decision-making through WEDO’s Women Delegates Fund (WDF) program. By providing funding and capacity-building opportunities, the WDF enabled Pacific women to engage meaningfully in global climate discussions, ensuring their perspectives were reflected in critical decision-making processes. The project also aimed to enhance gender-responsive climate policy in the Pacific by strengthening the capacity of National Gender and Climate Change Focal Points through targeted training and resources to support the integration of gender considerations into national climate policies and strategies. | $699,9002022–2024 | Completed  |
| 7 | 77557 | Oceania Rise Rugby Project(Oceania Rugby) | The project aims to promote gender equality in Pacific rugby through leadership, competitions, and governance. It seeks to establish new senior management positions for women, develop national women’s competitions in Fiji, Solomon Islands, and Tonga, and support leadership training. Regional initiatives will include building a Women in Rugby Network, delivering governance training, and developing shared resources. The project is designed to enhance pathways for women’s participation and visibility, strengthen institutional capacity, and foster sustainable development in rugby across the Pacific, with ongoing support from the Australian government. | $2,933,0002022–2024 | Completed |
| TBC | Rise Rugby Phase 2(Oceania Rugby) | *Project description to be included in next update*  | $2,974,5002025 - 2027 | Ongoing |
| 8 | 69294/67 | Pacific Community’s Human Rights and Social Development (HRSD) Division Support | This project provides program funding to support the implementation of the SPC HRSD Business Plan 2021-2026. The plan focuses on strengthening inclusive, transparent, and responsive governance and institutions for human rights and social development; promoting gender equality, equity, and social inclusion; preserving and protecting positive cultural expressions; and accelerating impact through knowledge, learning, and innovation. The project aims to achieve a just, equitable, and resilient Pacific Island society by ensuring that state laws, policies, and institutions uphold the rights of all people, providing equitable access to social services and economic opportunities for women, youth, and marginalised groups, promoting non-violence and inclusion in communities, and safeguarding cultural heritage. | $2,700,0002022–2026 | Ongoing  |
| 9 | 77821 | Emerging onto the World Stage - Tennis Australia Women and Girls Pacific Extension(Tennis Australia) | This project aims to increase the pipeline of women administrators in tennis across the Pacific. The program, implemented by Tennis Australia in Fiji, PNG, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu, focuses on professional development and networking opportunities for women in sports leadership. The project seeks to empower women to take on leadership roles, increase opportunities for elite-level competition, and improve governance structures to better support women and girls in tennis across the region. | $1,111,0002022–2026 | Ongoing |
| 10 | 78400 | Progressing Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion Priorities(Pacific Island Forum Secretariat) | This project provides funding for the Pacific Islands Forum Women Leaders Meeting (PIFWLM) and supports broader gender equality and disability inclusion efforts by the Secretariat, including the implementation of PIFWLM outcomes and the coordination and monitoring of key regional frameworks such as the revitalised Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration (PLGED), the Pacific Framework on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (PFRPD), and the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) commitments outlined in the 2050 Strategy Implementation Plan.  | $3,902,9762023-2026 | Ongoing  |
| 11 | 76940 | Markets for Change (M4C) Phase 2 (UN Women) | M4C strengthens economic opportunities and safety for women market vendors across the Pacific. The project improves market infrastructure, providing secure accommodation, sanitation, and clean water while empowering women through leadership, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship training. By increasing women’s representation in market governance and decision-making, M4C enhances their economic security and community influence. The project is implemented in Fiji, the Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu. | $9,951,871[[4]](#footnote-5)2022–2026 | Ongoing |
| 12 | 79303 | Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Response(House of Sarah) | This project supports the House of Sarah (HoS) to establish the Sarah Safe Home (SSH)—an emergency shelter providing immediate safety for survivors of violence. The shelter’s programs will expand survivors’ opportunities, reducing the risk of re-abuse and improving social support. The project strengthens HoS’s proven approaches, enhancing its networking, volunteer workforce, advocacy, and internal policies. It also fosters a critical mass of faith-based women, youth, men, and clergy committed to shifting attitudes and beliefs that perpetuate violence against women while promoting gender equality. | $334,6512025–2025  | Ongoing  |
| 13 | 73159/25 | Women’s Resilience to Disasters (WRD) Program(UN Women) | The project promotes gender-responsive decision-making and governance systems, aiming to enable countries to adopt targeted actions that build the resilience of women and girls to current and future disasters. Its key outcomes focus on ensuring that prevention, preparedness, and recovery frameworks are gender-responsive and shaped by the advocacy of local women and girls. Additionally, the project empowers women and girls by providing them with the agency and voice needed to withstand multiple hazards, recover from disasters, and strengthen their resilience to evolving risks. | $13,500,0002021–2026 | Ongoing  |
| 14 | 78569 | Programs to Eliminate Violence Against Women in Fiji and the Pacific(Fiji Women's Crisis Centre - FWCC) | The project contributes to the long-term goal of FWCC to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls in Fiji and the Pacific region using a human rights and development framework, and the six end-of-program outcomes.  | $1,835,397[[5]](#footnote-6)2024 – 2025 | Ongoing |
| **Research Projects** |
| 15 | 72938/47 | Strengthening Capacities for Measuring Violence Against Women (nKOwVAWdata) Phase 2(UNFPA) | This project aims to support and strengthen regional and national capacity to measure violence against women in Asia and the Pacific. The project aims to develop sustained regional capacity through the development and implementation of a sound training curriculum and to build a committed pool of trained professionals and researchers on the measurement of violence against women in Asia and the Pacific region. | $3,000,0002021–2024 | Completed |

## DFAT bilateral

This section provides information on projects funded and managed by Fiji DFAT Post.

There are 2 projects implemented in Fiji by 2 distinct implementing partners. The two project are ongoing. One of the projects, Women’s Fund Fiji, funds women’s organisations in Fiji – refer to section 2.3.

Table 5: DFAT bilateral gender projects in Fiji as at 31 March 2025

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No. | Aidworks number | Project name and partner | Project description | Value (AUD) / timeframe | Project status |
| 1 | 77240 | Women’s Fund Fiji | The Women’s Fund Fiji (the Fund), is the Pacific’s first national women’s fund, focused on mobilising resources for feminist and women’s rights organizations and movements. The Fund addresses four key areas: women’s economic empowerment, ending violence against women, women’s leadership and decision-making, and strengthening women’s groups and coalitions for change. In 2021, it was registered as a local entity under Fiji’s Charitable Trust Act. | $2,336,344.992022–2025 | Ongoing |
| 2 | 77254 | Programs to Eliminate Violence against Women in Fiji and the Pacific (Fiji Women’s Crisis Centre – FWCC)  | Core funding to FWCC as the leading crisis and support service for women and girls in Fiji.FWCC's program goal is the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls in Fiji and the Pacific region using a human rights and development framework. | $5,250,0002021 – 2025 | Ongoing |

## Pacific Women Lead Enabling Services

Pacific Women Lead Enabling Services (PWLES) provides whole-of-portfolio monitoring, evaluation and learning oversight, technical advisory support and grant management services. PWLES has an independent Quality and Technical Assurance Group (QTAG) panel of approximately 50 consultants. PWLES is valued at AUD32 million.

PWLES manages 2 projects in Fiji with 2 distinct implementing partners and one downstream implementing partner. We Rise Coalition Phase 3 is completed, and its next phase is now being managed by DFAT Canberra.

Table 6: PWLES-managed projects in Fiji as at 31 March 2025

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No. | Project name / Partner | Project description | Value (AUD) / timeframe | Project status |
| 1 | Balance of Power(DT Global – managing contractor)  | BOP aims to initiate dialogue and action around social norms and women’s roles in decision making and leadership in the Pacific region.  | $11,597,674 [[6]](#footnote-7)2021 – 2026 | Ongoing |
| 2 | We Rise Coalition: Feminist Movement for transformative change Phase 3 (International Women’s Development Agency – FemLINKPacific and Fiji Women’s Rights Movement) | We Rise Coalition Phase 3 focuses on developing, demonstrating, and strengthening feminist coalitions and partnerships to promote inclusive governance, equality, diversity, justice, and women’s human rights.  | $3,285,692 [[7]](#footnote-8)2022 – 2024 | Completed |

# Impact stories and reach data for DFAT bilateral projects

## Impact stories

Links to these stories will be available in the next update when the stories are uploaded onto the PWL website.

## Periodic reach data

From January to December 2024, 1 project in Fiji provided data against quantitative PWL indicators.

Table 7: Reach data for DFAT bilateral gender projects in Fiji (January to December 2024)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Project title | Indicator | Women | Women with disabilities | Men | Total  |
| Programs to Eliminate Violence Against Women in Fiji the Pacific | Number of Men who have undertaken male advocacy training and actively participating to promote GE | 23 | 0 | 197 | 220 |
| Programs to Eliminate Violence Against Women in Fiji the Pacific | Number of police, law and justice officials trained to respond to incidents of VAWG | 50 | 0 | 20 | 70 |
| Programs to Eliminate Violence Against Women in Fiji the Pacific | Number of services provided to diverse women and children and other survivors of violence | 1373 | 38 | 0 | 2102 |
| **Total** | **1446** | **38** | **217** | **2392** |

## Cumulative reach data

Since 2021 to present, one project in Fiji have provided data against PWL quantitative indicators.

Table 8: Cumulative reach data for DFAT bilateral projects in Fiji (2021 to present)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Project title | Indicator | Girls | Women | Women with disabilities | Boys | Men | Not disaggregated | Total  |
| Programs to Eliminate Violence Against Women in Fiji the Pacific | Number of services provided to diverse women and children and other survivors of violence | 0 | 50 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 70 |
| Programs to Eliminate Violence Against Women in Fiji the Pacific | Number of people who participated in sessions on gender issues and women’s equal rights | 0 | 23 | 0 | 0 | 368 | 0 | 391 |
| Programs to Eliminate Violence Against Women in Fiji the Pacific | Number of men who have undertaken advocacy training | 191 | 1068 | 0 | 212 | 528 | 0 | 1999 |
| Programs to Eliminate Violence Against Women in Fiji the Pacific | Diverse women and girls supported to assume a leadership role | 64 | 30663 | 979 | 12 | 0 | 227 | 32636 |
| **Total** | **255** | **31894** | **979** | **224** | **916** | **227** | **35096** |

# More information and support

This country brief was prepared by Pacific Women Lead Enabling Services (PWLES). PWLES provides support for DFAT Posts and PWL at SPC in the following ways.

## Monitoring, evaluation and learning support

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.

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 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. These stories are published on the PWL website: [Pacific Women Lead - Stories](https://pacificwomen.org/latest-updates/stories/)

**Monitoring the rights of people with disabilities Framework:** PWLES developed two guidance notes to support 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 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 the 2024 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 has developed 3 training modules with Clear Horizon Academy to support PWL partners:

* Using data for reporting and learning,
* collecting impact stories
* 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, FSM, Palau, Nauru, Niue, and Republic of Marshall Islands. QTAG currently offers tailored GEDSI support through consultants to smaller DFAT Posts.

## Grant management

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

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

## Contact and feedback

If you have questions or feedback on this country brief, please contact PWLES on info@pwles.org

1. Note that total funding only reflects the grants managed under these components that are being implemented in Fiji and does not reflect the total value of the components. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Each component is a distinct implementing partner of PWL, which means that organisations have a direct grant agreement with donors or funders. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Project to be funded under Pacific Women Lead at SPC. Details yet to be received. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Total includes Solomon Islands bilateral contribution of AUD $1,000,000 and Samoa bilateral contribution of $2,650,000. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. Funding additional to bilateral funding from Fiji DFAT Post. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. Balance of Power funding comes out of PWLES AUD 32,000,000 budget. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. We Rise Coalition funding comes out of PWLES AUD 32,000,000 budget. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)