

Regional Investments 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 regional Pacific Women Lead activities

As at 31 March 2025, 88 Pacific Women Lead projects and 4 research were being (or had been) implemented regionally, with a total funding of AUD**$227,559,784.76**.[[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 civil society organisations, multilateral and regional organisations, government and other stakeholders.

Table 1: Summary of PWL regional activities as at 31 March 2025

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| PWL components | # of projects | Ongoing | Completed | Total funding (AUD) |
| PWL at SPC | 1 | 1 | - | $44,975,956.31[[3]](#footnote-4) |
| PWL at SPC projects | 32 | 31 | 1 | $12,624,043.69 |
| PWL Governance Board projects | 1 | 1 | - | $798,750 |
| Pacific Women’s Fund (A-I-R Partnership) | 3 | 3 | - | $7,843,694 |
| Women’s Fund Fiji projects | 25 | 5 | 20 | $2,657,856.01 |
| DFAT regional and research projects | 26 | 19 | 7 | $143,776,118.75 |
| PWLES projects and Technical Advisers | 4 | 3 | 1 | $14,883,366 |
| **Total** | **92** | **61** | **31** | **$227,559,784.76** |

## 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.

Pacific Women Led at SPC funds 28 downstream implementing partners to implement 32 projects across the Pacific (Table 3). Of these 31 are ongoing and 1 has been completed.

Funding to these downstream implementing partners comes out of PWL at SPC’s AUD 57,600,000 budget. The remainder of PWL at SPC’s budget (Table 2) supports SPC’s key regional commitments.

Table 2: PWL at SPC as at 31 March 2025

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No. | Project name and partner | Project description | Countries | Value (AUD) / timeframe | Project status |
| 1 | Pacific Women Lead  (Pacific Community (SPC)’s Human Rights and Social Development (HRSD) Division) | Known as Pacific Women Lead at SPC, the program supports the implementation of SPC’s key regional commitments outlined in the Pacific Leaders’ Gender Equality Declaration, the Pacific Platform for Action on Gender Equality and Women’s Human Rights, and the outcomes of the Triennial Conference of Pacific Women. The implementation of PWL also directly contributes to realising SPC’s Strategic Plan 2022–2031. PWL at SPC is the secretariat of the Pacific Women Lead Governance Board. | All member Pacific Island countries | $44,975,956.31  2021 – 2026 | Ongoing |

Table 3: PWL at SPC projects as at 31 March 2025

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No. | Project name and partner | Project description | Countries | 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. | Fiji  Kiribati Samoa | $499,711.64  2024 - 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. | Samoa  Fiji  Solomon Islands | $415,539.25  2024 - 2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 3 | Building Rural Women's Leadership in Food Security and Disaster Management  (Ministry of Agriculture) | *Project description will be included in the next update*. | Vanuatu | $299,750  2024 - 2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 4 | Country Focal Point - Support for implementation for the Government of Palau's gender mainstreaming policy and strategy  (Ministry of Culture and Community Affairs – Gender Division) | This project funds a Country Focal Point (CFP) in Palau (previously national Gender Analyst position). The CFP supports the implementation of the National Gender Equality Policy/Strategy. | Palau | $34,000  2022 - 2024 | Completed |
| 5 | Economic Empowerment for Rural Remote Pacific Women  (Rise Beyond the Reef) | The project aims to build resilient communities through sustainable income generating projects that promote traditional knowledge in Fiji. In Solomon Islands, the project works 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 through GESI outreach trainings and community check-ins. | Fiji  Solomon Islands | $499,595.35  2024 – 2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 6 | Educate, Empower and Support: Reducing domestic violence in Cook Islands  (Punanga Tauturu Inc.) | The Project works to integrate GBV prevention into Cook Islands primary and secondary schools’ curricula, sports club and churches, deliver GBV training, including for health care professionals. There is a focus on recruiting men as allies and conducting research into GBV in the Cook Islands. | Cook Islands | $380,110.99  2024 - 2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 7 | Eliminating Violence Against Women Services  (Chuuk Women’s Council) | The Project supports Chuuk Women’s Council to establish a gender-based violence (GBV) counselling service for women survivors of violence and enables CWC to raise community awareness about GBV, strengthen referral pathways, and provide counselling and legal support to survivors. | FSM | $246,046.47  2022 – 2025 | Ongoing |
| 8 | Empowering women and girls now for a resilient and prosper future  (Fatu'Lei) | The Project focuses on advancing women’s rights, incorporating economic empowerment and access to health and women’s safety, including ending violence against VAWG. | Tuvalu | $164,698.33  2024 - 2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 9 | Expansion of KWCSC’s Domestic Violence Counselling services and Psycho-social support to women and children in Rural Kiribati  (Kiribati Women and Children Support Centre - KWCSC) | This project focuses on the expansion of the KWCSC’s Domestic Violence Counselling Services and psycho-social support for women and children in rural Kiribati. The project aims to extend its services to five outer islands, strengthening support for survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) and child abuse through the engagement of local councils and Women’s Interest Workers. | Kiribati | $487,451.41  2024 – 2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 10 | Gender mainstreaming in the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)  (Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)) | *Project description to be included in the next update.* | TBC | $555,176.43  2024 – 2026 | Ongoing (new) |
| 11 | Implementation of the 2014 Family Protection Act and Gender Analysis on the Cyber Crime Bill  (Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs (MWYCFA)) | The Project works to establish one Domestic Violence Counselling Committee in 9 Provinces of Solomon Islands (SI) (Regional working group implementation plan/ Family Protection Act, design and roll out First Responders for GBV and SAFENET Referral training package in collaboration with SI Police Force, and recruitment of a national EVAWG Coordinator. | Solomon Islands | $395,213.63  2024 – 2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 12 | 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 violence. | All Pacific countries West Papua American Samoa Australia New Zealand | $500,000  2024 - 2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 13 | Ni Vanuatu Women with Disabilities Leading Resilience to Disasters and Climate Change  (ActionAid Vanuatu) | The project empowers women with disabilities to claim their rights, improve their livelihoods, and strengthen their resilience. Using a train-the-trainer model, the project will equip women with disabilities to participate in emergency preparedness, recovery, and response through SMS blasts, phone tree networks, and sister circles, ensuring inclusive disaster resilience. | Vanuatu | $500,000  2024–2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 14 | Organic Fertilizer to Improve Women Growers Harvests and Increase Income Earning Opportunities for Rural Women  (Samoa Women's Association of Growers - SWAG) | This project produces organic seaweed fertilizer to help increase economic opportunities for women in rural coastal communities. | Samoa | $440,568.93  2024 – 2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 15 | 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.  The Fiji Women's Rights Movement's (FWRM) Girls Arise program works with girls aged 10-12 to build their life skills and confidence. Pacific Girl will enable FWRM to extend activities to girls outside of the capital Suva, share the organisation's approach in a toolkit and raise the profile of girls' issues with decision-makers. | Fiji | $165,159.43  2021 – 2026 | Ongoing |
| 16 | Pacific Girl: Young Women's Empowerment Program  (Chuuk Women’s Council) | Pacific Girl is a multi-country program designed to support adolescent girls in Pacific Island countries to achieve their full potential. Pacific Girl partners with CWC to empower 150 girls using a tailored curriculum that focuses on sexual and mental health, building healthy relationships, and setting future goals to support the girls' overall well-being and development. | FSM | $73,430.45  2021 – 2026 | Ongoing |
| 17 | Pacific Girl: Laef Blo Mi, Vois Blo mi  (CARE Vanuatu) | Pacific Girl is a multi-country program designed to support adolescent girls in Pacific Island countries to achieve their full potential. In Vanuatu, CARE’s Laef blo mi, Vois blo mi program works with girls aged 12–19 in rural and remote areas of Tafea Province. Through Pacific Girl, CARE will expand life skills and respectful relationships education to younger adolescents in schools, reaching approximately 800 girls. The program also engages male peers, teachers, and families to create a supportive environment where girls are safe and respected. | Vanuatu | $752,702.64  2021 – 2026 | Ongoing |
| 18 | Pacific Girl: My Body! My Rights!  (Talitha Project Incorporated) | (PWL at SPC novated grantee) Pacific Girl is a multi-country program designed to support adolescent girls in Pacific Island countries to achieve their full potential. The Talitha Project's My Body! My Rights! program aims to empower 375 girls aged 10 to 14 across four locations in Tonga, including outer islands. The program will enhance community perceptions of girls' value by amplifying their voices through creative media. It will also provide education on health, sexuality, and self-esteem, supporting girls to build confidence and advocate for their rights. | Tonga | $177,117.13  2021 – 2026 | Ongoing |
| 19 | Progressing Gender Equality and Addressing Family Violence in FSM  (Division of Health and Social Affairs) | The project supports the FSM government to strengthen gender mainstreaming implementation and coordination, advance women's economic empowerment activities, and implement family protection legislation to prevent gender-based violence. | FSM | $298,041.53  2024 – 2025 | Ongoing |
| 20 | Raising innovative sport enablers (RISE) Palau National Olympic Committee  (Palau National Olympic Committee) | The project aims to enhance women's leadership and economic empowerment through sports, fostering pathways for women to excel in executive, coaching, and entrepreneurial roles. The project supports women leaders, engages male champions to challenge stereotypes and promotes positive messaging about women’s leadership. | Palau | $438,564  2024-2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 21 | Realising Women’s Rights and to Increase the Effectiveness of Gender Equality in Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG)  (Melanisian Spearhead Group (MSG)) | The Project supports the recruitment of a GESI Adviser, Research Officers in Solomon Islands and Vanuatu for women MPs and works in advancing women’s economic empowerment through trade value chain training and markets initiative. It also works to finalise the MSG GESI Policy. | Solomon Islands Vanuatu | $402,000  2024 – 2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 22 | Sanap Strong, Standing up strong together for a zero-tolerance approach to GBV, Family & Sexual violence, and Child Harm  (Kokoda Track Foundation) | Establish an accessible, and essential case management services and counselling support, and medical services, justice processes and repatriation. | PNG | $497,899.25  2024 – 2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 23 | Sarah Safe Home: Temporary Shelter for Survivors of Gender Based Violence  (House of Sarah - HoS) | The Project works to establish Sarah’s Safe Home (SSH) to be a safe and secure temporary accommodation for survivors of GBV. | Fiji | $500,000  2024 – 2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 24 | Shifting the Power Coalition: Pacific Owned, Women-led Early Warning and Resilience (POWER) systems  (ActionAid Australia) | 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. | Vanuatu  PNG  Fiji  Tonga  Samoa  Solomon Is | $532,233.07  2022–2025 | Ongoing |
| 25 | 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) | 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 organisations to effectively monitor national, regional and international commitments, and advocacy on ending VAW. | Fiji | $381,229.84  2024 – 2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 26 | Strengthening women’s voice in Local Governance  (CARE Vanuatu) | This project strengthens Vanuatu’s decentralization policy by promoting diverse women’s leadership in community governance structures. Using the Central Tanna Area Council in Tafea Province as a case study, it will empower women to take on leadership roles within village and tribal pillar committees. Through training, reflection sessions, and ongoing support, women will develop strategies to navigate governance spaces, build collective leadership, and address challenges. Insights from the project will inform policy and practice, with learning briefs and a documentary capturing key outcomes shared at provincial, national, and regional forums to drive broader changes in inclusive governance. | Vanuatu | $500,000  2024–2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 27 | Strengthening of the women’s movement in Solomon Islands  (Women's Right Action Movement - WRAM) | The project will mentor young women on gender and the law, fostering their leadership through a community of practice. It will also conduct a study examining the connection between violence against women and women's leadership. | Solomon Islands | $500,000  2024 – 2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 28 | Strengthening Pacific Women’s Rights to Safety and Access to Health through Survivor-centered 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. | Fiji  Kiribati Solomon Islands Samoa | $500,000  2024 - 2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 29 | Strengthening gender mainstreaming awareness and capacity within Palau government, civil societies, women and vulnerable groups to create safe and inclusive space to engage  (Bureau of Domestic Affairs) | The project enhances the Bureau of Domestic Affairs' capacity to implement Palau’s Gender Mainstreaming Policy by developing frameworks, conducting audits, and supporting stakeholders. The project also coordinates the Gender Coordinating Committee, promoting gender equality integration and improving data collection. Additionally, it facilitates national coordination for regional and international reporting, while collaborating with community groups and media to raise awareness about gender equality, particularly for vulnerable and marginalised groups through advocacy campaigns and key national events. | Palau | $299,928.30  2024 – 2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 30 | Weto in Mour: Support Service for Women and Girls that are experiencing violence  (WUTMI) | This project supports WUTMI in delivering quality, community-based responses for women and girls affected by domestic violence in Majuro, while also expanding its GBV counselling program to Ebeye. | RMI | $376,449.65  2022 – 2025 | Ongoing |
| 31 | Women’s Leadership and Decision-making in the Beef Industry Province of Vanuatu  (Vanuatu Government’s Department of Industry) | This project focuses on improving women’s leadership and decision making in the beef industry in Sanma Province. The project takes an inclusive process, working with the family unit to support women’s economic empowerment. The project will also carry out action research to generate knowledge to develop evidence-based training to support women’s agribusiness in the Pacific | Vanuatu | $312,700  2024 – 2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| 32 | Women-led, communities thrive /Women-ledim, komunity-gud  (Save the Children, Solomon Islands) | The aim of this project is to empower and support survivors of gender-based violence and promote gender equality in Malaita Province by supporting the Malaita Christian Care Centre Safe House for victims of GBV. | Solomon Islands | $498,725.97  2024 – 2025 | Ongoing (new) |

## Pacific Women Lead Governance Board

The PWL Governance Board comprises 13 members, 12 of whom are from the Pacific region. DFAT’s Assistant Secretary of the Pacific Development Branch serves as an ex-officio member of the Board. To learn more about the Governance Board and its members, visit: [Pacific Women Lead - Our Board](https://pacificwomen.org/about-us/our-board/)

The Board has a $5 million discretionary fund for projects that it can use to add value to and build on existing PWL activities.

To date, the Board funds 1 downstream implementing partner to implement 1 project. This project is ongoing.

**Table 3: PWL Governance Board projects as at 31 March 2025**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No. | Project name and partner | Project description | Countries | Value (AUD) / timeframe | Project status |
| 1 | Advancing the sexuality agenda and shifting norms in the Pacific through improving access to sexual and reproductive rights and gender equality.  (International Planned Parenthood Federation - IPPF) | Pacific communities receive quality sexual and reproductive health care, especially the marginalised or excluded. The project aims to achieve three overarching objectives; the first is to create a better understanding of how religious, cultural and traditional practices in the Pacific influence access to SRHR amongst key populations. The second includes moving the sexuality agenda through greater investment in gender transformative programming for sexual and reproductive health. The third objectives seek to strengthen SRHR programming targeting Pacific adolescents and young people through youth network development, capacity building, and advocacy. | Cook Is  Kiribati  PNG  Fiji  Samoa  Solomon Is  Tonga  Tuvalu  Vanuatu  RMI | $798,750  2025 | Ongoing (new) |

## 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, also known as the Amplify-Invest-Reach (AIR) Partnership.

Pacific Women Lead Enabling Services (PWLES) is liaising with the Pacific Women’s Fund to gather and input data into the PWL monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) system. Projects funded under this component will be included in the next update.

**Table 4: AIR Partnership projects as at 31 March 2025**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No. | Project name and partner | Project description | Countries | Value (AUD) / timeframe | Project status |
| 1 | Amplify-Invest-Reach (AIR) Partnership with Women's Funds – Urgent Action Fund Asia & Pacific Urgent Action Fund Asia & Pacific (UAFAP) | The overarching goal of the AIR Partnership is the achievement of gender equality and the creation of an environment in which the human rights of women, girls and all persons with diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and sex characteristics (diverse SOGIESC) are fulfilled.  UAFAP provides one-off rapid response grants solely to women and non-binary human rights defenders facing security and safety issues and to assist them to maintain their well-being. Rapid response grants are for security support and for well-being support, and resourcing resilience. | All Pacific Islands Countries | $4,336,500  2021 – 2026 | Ongoing |
| 2 | Amplify-Invest-Reach (AIR) Partnership with Women's Funds -Pacific Feminist Fund (PFF) Inception Phase Project | The grant supports the PFF Charitable Trust Board for the inception phase of the PFF. PFF will provide grant to diverse Pacific women, girls and people of gender non-conforming Pacific identities and to advance their human rights and gender equality in a time of climate crisis. | All Pacific Islands countries | $1,170,849  2023 - 2026 | Ongoing |
| 3 | Amplify-Invest-Reach (AIR) Partnership with Women’s Fund – Women’s Fund Fiji (WFF) | 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. | Fiji | $2,336,344.99[[4]](#footnote-5)  2022–2025 | Ongoing |

### Women’s Fund Fiji

The Women’s Fund Fiji funds 19 downstream implementing partners to implement 25 projects[[5]](#footnote-6). Of these, 5 are ongoing and 20 are completed.

**Table 5: Women’s Funds Fiji projects in Fiji as at 31 March 2025**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No. | Project name and partner | Project description | Value (AUD) / timeframe | Project status |
| 1 | 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. | $20,339  2021 | Completed |
| 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. | $81,375  2022–2023 | Completed |
| 2 | 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. | $305,092  2023–2024 | Completed |
| 3 | 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. | $305,079  2023–2025 | Ongoing |
| 4 | 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. | $6,779  2021 | Completed |
| 5 | 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. | $67,798  2022–2023 | Completed |
| 6 | 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. | $61,018  2022 | Completed |
| 7 | 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. | $101,697  2023–2024 | Completed |
| 8 | 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. | $54,713  2023–2024 | Completed |
| 9 | 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. | $44,068.87  2023 | Completed |
| 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 | $305,092.19  2022 – 2025 | Ongoing |
| 10 | 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. | $25,288  2022 | Completed |
| 11 | 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. | $3,058  2022 | Completed |
| 12 | 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. | $122,031  2023–2026 | Ongoing |
| 13 | 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. | $101,697  2023–2024 | Completed |
| 14 | 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. | $94,917  2022–2024 | Completed |
| 15 | 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. | $23,894  2022 | Completed |
| 16 | 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. | $70,259  2022 | Completed |
| 17 | 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. | $20,339  2022–2023 | Completed |
| 18 | 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. | $10,393  2022–2023 | Completed |
| 19 | 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. | $21,082  2022–2024 | Completed |
| 20 | 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. | $32,850  2022 | Completed |
| 21 | 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. | $9,491.76  2022 | Completed |
| 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. | $305,092.19  2022 – 2025 | Ongoing |
| 22 | 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. | $67,798  2022 | Completed |
| 23 | 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. | $6,779  2022 | Completed |
| 24 | 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 | $305,092  2023–2025 | Ongoing |
| 25 | 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. | $84,744  2022 | Completed |

## DFAT regional projects

This section provides an overview of regional (multi-country) gender activities that are managed and funded by either DFAT Post in Fiji or DFAT Canberra (Australia).

There are 22 regional projects [[6]](#footnote-7)and 4 research implemented in multiple countries across the Pacific by 17 distinct implementing partners. Of these, 17 are ongoing and 7 have been completed.

Table 6: DFAT regional projects as at 31 March 2025

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No. | Aidworks number | Project name and partner | Project description | Countries | Value (AUD) / timeframe | Project status |
| 1 | 74352 | A Transformative Agenda for Women, Adolescents and Youth in the Pacific: Towards Zero Unmet Need for Planning 2018 - 2022 Phase 1  (UNFPA) | 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. | Fiji  Kiribati  Samoa  Solomon Islands  Tonga  Vanuatu | $7,500,000  2021 – 2022 | Completed |
| 77337/9 | A Transformative Agenda for Women, Adolescents and Youth in the Pacific: Towards Zero Unmet Need for Planning Phase 2  (UNFPA) | 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. | Fiji  Kiribati  Samoa  Solomon Is Tonga  Vanuatu  RMI  FSM | $37,000,000  2022 - 2028 | Ongoing |
| 2 | 69294/45 | Building Prosperity for Women Producers, Processors and Women-owned Businesses through Organic Value Chains[[7]](#footnote-8)  (Human and Social Development Division - SPC) | This project strengthened the recognition of women's vital role in organic agriculture by promoting both sustainable farming practices and gender equality and social inclusion (GESI). Through targeted activities, the project raised awareness of women's contributions to organic agriculture, enhanced their access to resources and decision-making processes, and supported initiatives that improved women's economic empowerment in the sector. By integrating GESI principles, the project ensured that women, along with other marginalised groups, had equal opportunities to participate in and benefit from organic agriculture initiatives. | FSM  Kiribati  Palau  RMI | $965,600  2021–2023 | Completed |
| 3 | 72410/14 | Child Protection in Kiribati, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu [[8]](#footnote-9)  (UNICEF) | The UNICEF Pacific Child Protection Programme supports 14 Pacific Island countries and territories, aiming to enhance protection for children against violence, abuse, neglect, and exploitation. The programme works to strengthen child protection frameworks within governments, particularly in target countries, and enhance the capacities of service providers, including NGOs, to prevent and respond to child abuse. It also focuses on increasing the knowledge and skills of parents, caregivers, and teachers to eliminate harmful practices and better protect children. The ultimate goal is to ensure children in the Pacific are better protected from abuse and psychological distress, even in emergencies. | Kiribati  Solomon Is  Vanuatu | $3,542,280  2021–2024 | Completed |
| 4 | 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. | Fiji  PNG  Samoa  Solomon Is Vanuatu | $1,111,000  2022–2026 | Ongoing |
| 5 | 77520 | Gender responsive Climate Policy and Women’s Climate Leadership in the Pacific  (Women’s Environment 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. | Cook Is  FSM  Fiji  Kiribati  Nauru  Niue  Palau  PNG  RMI  Samoa  Solomon Is  Tonga  Tuvalu  Vanuatu | $699,900  2022–2024 | Completed |
| 6 | 79303 | Gender-based Violence Prevention and Response  (House of Sarah - HoS) | The Project works to enhance the HoS’ proven approaches, further solidifying their networking capacity and reach, skilled volunteer workforce, advocacy and awareness raising, and internal policy and processes to change attitudes, values and beliefs that perpetuate VAW among faith-based peoples and promote gender equality. | Fiji | $334,651  2024 – 2025 | Ongoing |
| 7 | 79334 | Kiribati Gender-Based Violence Prevention and Response  (Kiribati Women and Children Crisis Centre -KWCSC) | The project contributes to the long-term work of KWCSC in accordance with the Strategic Plan 2021-2025. The project aims to strengthen existing programming dedicated to the key strategic outcomes. | Kiribati | 406,780  2024 - 2029 | Ongoing |
| 8 | 76940 | Markets for Change (M4C) Phase 2  (UN Women) | Promoting gender equality and the economic empowerment of market vendors, with specific attention to the needs and aspirations of women market vendors. | Fiji  Samoa  Solomon Is  Vanuatu | $9,951,871[[9]](#footnote-10)  2022–2026 | Ongoing |
| 9 | 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. | Cook Islands  Fiji  Kiribati  PNG  Samoa  Solomon Islands  Tonga  Tuvalu  Vanuatu | $500,000  2021 – 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. | Cook Is  Fiji  Kiribati  PNG  Samoa  Solomon Is  Tonga  Tuvalu  Vanuatu  RMI | $2,000,000  2021–2026 | Ongoing |
| 10 | 77557 | Oceania Rise Rugby Project Phase 1  (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. | Fiji  Samoa  Tonga  Solomon Islands | $2,933,000  2022 – 2024 | Completed |
| TBC | Rise Rugby Phase 2  (Oceania Rugby) | *Project description to be included in next update* | Fiji  Samoa  Tonga  Solomon Islands | $2,974,500  2025 - 2027 | Ongoing |
| 11 | 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. | Fiji  PNG  Samoa  Tonga | $1,638,600  2021–2024 | Completed |
| TBC | Netball’s Ocean of Power - Strength in Every Wave  Phase 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. | Fiji  PNG  Samoa Tonga | $2,403,991.70  2024 - 2026 | Ongoing |
| 12 | 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. | Fiji  Kiribati  PNG  Samoa  Solomon Islands  Tonga  Tuvalu  Vanuatu | $800,000  2021 – 2023 | Completed |
| 77334/8 | Pacific Partnership to End Violence Against Women and Girls (PPEVAWG) Phase 2  (UN Women) | The Project 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-centered 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. | Fiji  Kiribati  PNG  RMI  Samoa  Solomon Is  Tonga  Tuvalu  Vanuatu | $15,934,693.05[[10]](#footnote-11)  2023 – 2027 | Ongoing |
| 13 | 69294/67 | Pacific Community’s (SPC) 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. | Cook Is  FSM  Fiji  Kiribati  Nauru  Niue  Palau  PNG  RMI  Samoa  Solomon Is  Tonga  Tuvalu  Vanuatu | $2,700,000  2022–2026 | Ongoing |
| 14 | 78569 | Programs to Eliminate Violence Against Women in Fiji and the Pacific  (Fiji Women and Children 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. | Fiji | 1,835,397  2024 - 2025 | Ongoing |
| 15 | 69294/46 | Progressing Gender Equality in the Pacific [[11]](#footnote-12)  (Human Resources and Social Development (HRSD) Division - 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. | Fiji  Tonga  Samoa  Kiribati  Cook Is  RMI  Tuvalu  Vanuatu  Palau  FSM  Nauru  Solomon Is | $2,156,401  2021–2023 | Completed |
| 16 | 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. | Tuvalu  Solomon Is  Niue  Kiribati  Samoa  PNG  Vanuatu  Tonga  Palau  RMI  Fiji  Nauru  FSM  Cook Is | $3,902,976  2023-2026 | Ongoing |
| 17 | 76453 | RiseUp! Mobilising Young Women's Leadership and Advocacy Phase IV  (World YWCA) | World YWCA works with national-level YWCAs to provide training, networking and peer support to young women between the ages of 18 and 30 years. | PNG  Solomon Is | $6,000,000  2020–2025 | Ongoing |
| 18 | UN Women Trust Fund recipient | Women and Girls Accessing Essential, Safe and Secured GBV Services in Solomon Islands    (Family Support Centre -FSC) | This initiative aims to enhance the capacities of GBV Provincial Committees, increase service accessibility for women and girls, raise awareness in educational settings, and foster a supportive network for sharing best practices. Ultimately, it seeks to create a safer environment for women and girls, including women and girls with disabilities, in the Solomon Islands, ensuring they can seek help without barriers. | Solomon Is | TBC | Ongoing (new) |
| 19 | TBC | We Rise Coalition Phase 4    (International Women’s Development Agency -IWDA) | We Rise Coalition Phase 4 is a feminist movement-building project led by six experienced Pacific feminist organisations: femLINKpacific (Fiji), Fiji Women’s Rights Movement (Fiji), Sista (Vanuatu), Voice for Change (PNG), Brown Girl Woke (Samoa), and IWDA (Australia). The Coalition aims to strengthen Pacific feminist organisations and movements by fostering solidarity, empowering new generations of leaders, advocating for gender-transformative policies, and mobilising resources. | Fiji  Vanuatu  Samoa  PNG | $2,954,321  2024 – 2026 | Ongoing (new) |
| 20 | 74843 | 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. | Fiji  Kiribati  Vanuatu | $13,500,000  2021–2026 | Ongoing |
| 21 | 69294/63 | Women in Leadership  (Pacific Community - SPC) | The WIL programme will enhance SPC’s corporate direction to embed substantive equality through a change in organizational culture, strengthening of accountability mechanisms, policies and procedures. | Internal SPC | $3,002,564  2021–2026 | Ongoing |
| 22 | 70302 | Women's safety, leadership and rights in Tonga    (Tonga Women and Children Crisis Centre -WCCC) | The project contributes to the long-term goal of WCCC to eliminate all forms of violence, abuse and discrimination against women and children in Tonga using a human rights framework. | Tonga | $988,172.00  2024 - 2025 | Ongoing (new) |
| **Research Projects** | | | | | | |
| 23 | 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 increased the production and use of quality, timely data to ensure that COVID-19 response and recovery efforts addressed gender inequality, provided maximum protection from the pandemic's impacts, and enabled women’s and girls’ full contributions to recovery. |  | $3,522,558  2021–2023 | Completed |
| 24 | 76470 | Equality Insights: Gender data supporting COVID-19 response and recovery in the Pacific  (IWDA) | Equality Insights is a gender data program that gathers inclusive data to advance gender equality. Using a gender-sensitive measurement tool, the program collects detailed information on poverty and inequality, shedding light on the experiences of individuals often overlooked in traditional poverty data. These intersectional insights inform policy solutions to address inequality. |  | $2,516,863  2020 – 2022 | Completed |
| 25 | 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. |  | $3,000,000  2021–2024 | Completed |
| 26 | 73159/26 | Making Every Woman and Girl Count Phase 2  {UN Women) | This multi-donor flagship program aims to create a radical shift in how gender statistics are used, created and promoted to inform policy and advocacy on gender equality and women’s rights. |  | $7,000,000  2022–2026 | 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 distinct implementing partners that implement 2 projects. Of these, We Rise Coalition Phase 3 has completed, and Phase 4 is now being managed by DFAT Canberra.

Note: The committed funding is total grant value. The committed funding comes out of PWLES AUD32 million.

Table 7: PWLES-managed projects as at 31 March 2025

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No. | Project name / Partner | Project description | Countries | Value (AUD) / timeframe | Project status |
| 1 | Balance of Power  (DT Global) | BOP aims to initiate dialogue and action around social norms and women’s roles in decision making and leadership in the Pacific region. | Tonga  Fiji  Vanuatu | $11,597,674[[12]](#footnote-13)  2021–2026 | Ongoing |
| 2 | We Rise Coalition: Feminist Movement for transformative change Phase 3  International Women’s Development Agency (managed by DT Global) | 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.  Tonga | Fiji  PNG  Samoa  Vanuatu | $3,285,692 [[13]](#footnote-14)  2022 – 2024 | Completed |
| 3 | Pacific Women Sports Administration Program Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Adviser Consultant | The role provides MEL and gender advice and support to the Sports program – Netball Australia, Oceania Rugby and Tennis Australia, to strengthen gender mainstreaming in their sports program and monitor performance. | N/A | 2023 - 2025 | Ongoing |
| 4 | GBV Crisis Centres Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Adviser Consultant | The role provides MEL support to Crisis Centres to strengthen Crisis Centres’ monitoring, evaluation and learning systems and data collection. | Kiribati  Fiji | 2025 | Ongoing |

# 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 brief, please contact PWLES on [info@pwles.org](mailto:info@pwles.org).

1. Note that total funding only reflects the grants managed under these components that are being implemented regionally 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. Total funding is the remainder of PWL at SPC AUD 57,600,000 budget after funding allocation to grantees. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Women’s Fund Fiji total budget is AUD 4,841,659. Budget in table reflects deduction of total funding to WFF grantees in Table 5 to avoid double counting. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. Projects that have multiple phases are counted as one project. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. Projects that have multiple phases are counted as one project. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. Project evaluation completed in 2024. Next phase to be funded under Pacific Women Lead at SPC (TBC). [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. Project evaluation completed in 2024. Fiji DFAT Post to confirm new phase. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. Total budget inclusive of Solomon Islands DFAT Post contribution of AUD 1,000,000 and Samoa DFAT Post contribution of AUD 2,650,000. Samoa DFAT Post has expended AUD 2,650,000 in Phase 1. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. Total includes DFAT Post (TBC which Post) contribution of AUD 2,000,000. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. Next phase will be funded under Pacific Women Lead at SPC. Details to be confirmed. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
12. Total budget comes out of PWLES AUD 32,000,000 budget. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
13. Total budget comes out of PWLES AUD 32,000,000 budget. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)