Pacific Platform for Action on Gender Equality and Women's Human rights 2018–2030

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Pacific Community
Communauté du Pacifique

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1. About the PPA

The Pacific Platform for Action for Gender Equality and Women's Human Rights (PPA):

- provides a roadmap for achieving gender equality and enhancing the well-being of all women and girls of all diversities in all their diversity, inclusive of young women, older women, rural women, women with disabilities, women with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities, and indigenous women
- supports action on national, regional and international gender equality commitments made by Pacific Island countries and territories (PICTs), particularly under the Pacific Leaders' Gender Equality Declaration (PLGED) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
- guides PICTs, regional agencies and development partners in prioritising strategic approaches to achieve gender equality.

All Pacific Island governments and administrations, civil society organisations, CROP[1] agencies and development partners supporting initiatives in the Pacific Islands region are encouraged to use the PPA to guide their policies and actions. Successful implementation of this Platform also relies on robust and active engagement with civil society organisations (CSOs), faith-based organisations (FBOs) and the private sector. The Platform will benefit all partners by providing an instrument to support their advocacy and to encourage governments to fulfil their obligations.

2. Problem

Progress to achieving gender equality in the region has been slowed by both structural barriers and underlying social, cultural and economic barriers, such as:

- harmful social norms and exclusionary practices
- lack of acknowledgement of gender equality as a priority in legal and policy frameworks
- limited resourcing for addressing gender inequality issues
- limited capacity within governments for gender-responsive policies and programmes
- weak leadership and lack of political will for addressing gender equality.

3. Context

In the past 20 years, PICTs have made commitments to achieving gender equality and have acknowledged how critical it is to sustainable development. The Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration (PLGED),[2] which was endorsed by Pacific Islands Forum Leaders in 2012, is particularly important. This high-level declaration sets out specific policy actions to progress gender equality 'in the areas of gender-responsive government programmes and policies; decision-making; economic empowerment; ending violence against women; and health and education'.

Recognising the legacy of the Pacific Platform for Action and the Revised Pacific Platform for Action, the new Pacific Platform for Action for Gender Equality and Women's Human Rights is presented as an extension of the RPPA rather than as a new instrument. The new PPA aligns with international and regional commitments on gender equality made by PICTs, especially the PLGED. It is designed to accelerate progress on these commitments, which share a core set of priority areas (Fig. 1).

The PPA is meant to support the implementation of commitments made in all global, regional and national instruments, and more specifically through the PLGED and Sustainable Development Goal 5 – Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. It will serve as a tool for accelerating the implementation of the PLGED.

Regional and international commitments to gender equality and women's human rights

Global instruments

Universal Declaration of Human Rights - 1948

Agreed conclusions of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women - held annually since 1956

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) - 1979

Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) - 1990

International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) - 1994

Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BpA) -1995

UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security - 2000

Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) - 2000

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) - 2007

SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (S.A.M.O.A.) Pathway- 2014

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGS) - 2015

Regional instruments

Pacific Platform for action on the advancement of women and gender equality - 1994, and revisions (PPA and RPPA) - 2004

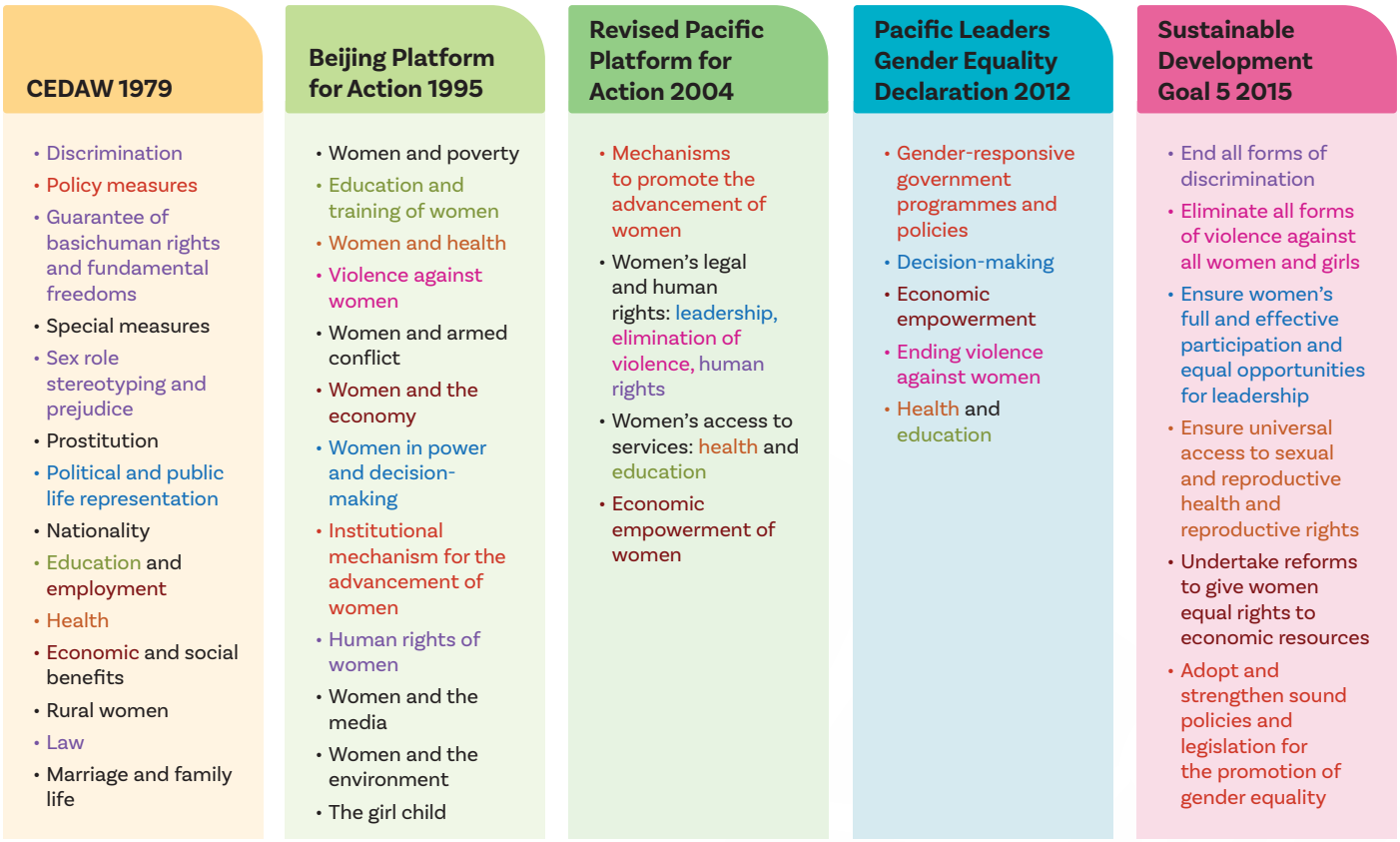
Outcomes of Triennial Conferences of Pacific Women and regional meetings of Ministers for Women

Pacific Leaders on Gender Equality Declaration (PLGED) - 2012

Moana Declaration, Outcome Statement of Pacific Parliamentarians for Population & Development - 2013

Pacific Framework for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (PFRPD)- 2016

Figure 1. Priority areas for addressing gender inequality, as agreed in key international and regional instruments*



*The text colours represent themes that are common across the international and regional commitmentws made by PICTs.

4. Vision and long-term outcomes

4.1 Vision

The vision of the PPA:

> **All people, of all genders of all diversities, enjoy their fundamental human rights, are empowered and benefit equally from development outcomes in all areas of their lives.**

In achieving its vision, the PPA seeks to strengthen an enabling environment for attaining the vision of the Framework for Pacific Regionalism, as endorsed by Pacific Islands Forum Leaders in 2014:

'Our Pacific vision is for a region of peace, harmony, security, social inclusion, and prosperity so that all Pacific people can lead free, healthy and productive lives'.[3]

4.2 Expected outcomes

The main expected outcomes of the PPA are as follows:

- Policies and legislation for the promotion of gender equality and women's human rights are adopted and strengthened.
- Full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership and decision-making become the norm for all women and men.
- Reforms to give women and men equal rights to economic resources are implemented.
- Gender based violence is eliminated
- Universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), and diverse opportunities through education, are provided.

The PPA also seeks to make progress towards the targets set for SDG 5 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:

1. End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls
2. Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls
3. Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership
4. Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights
5. Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources
6. Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular information and communications technology
7. Adopt and strengthen sound policies and legislation for the promotion of gender equality and women's human rights

As Pacific Small Island States, there are additional regional and international priorities:

8. The resilience of women and girls to climate change and disasters and other economic and social crises – reaffirming that gender equality and the effective participation of women and indigenous peoples are important for effective action on all aspects of climate change (S.A.M.O.A. Pathway, 2014, para. 40).
9. The improvement of all aspects of women's health and well-being – by exploring innovative strategies and new technologies to increase access to good quality, comprehensive, and inclusive health systems, including social protection, to improve health outcomes, including reducing deaths and disability from noncommunicable diseases in women, especially in rural and remote areas (Outcomes of the 12th Triennial Conference of Pacific Women, 2013, para. 58).
10. The social and economic inclusion of women and girls with disabilities in all areas of life – by ensuring that they have equal access to development opportunities, representation in government decision-making, and sexual and reproductive health services, and that their special vulnerabilities to intersectional discrimination including all forms of violence are addressed (Pacific Framework for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2016).
11. The promotion of the rights of women with diverse sexuality and gender identity – by ensuring access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) for all our peoples, without discrimination (Moana Declaration, 2013).
12. Full and decent employment and economic empowerment for young women – by providing economic incentives for the private, not-for-profit, and state sectors to train and employ young women (Outcomes of the 12th Triennial Conference of Pacific Women, 2013, para. 66).
13. The full participation of women in peace and security processes – by protecting women's and girls' human rights during humanitarian crises and in transitional and post-conflict contexts (Pacific Regional Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security, 2012).

5. Overarching approaches and strategies

5.1 Values and approaches

The PPA shares the values of the Framework for Pacific Regionalism, particularly in embracing good governance, full observance of democratic values, the rule of law, defence and promotion of all human rights, gender equality, and commitment to just societies.[4]

It adopts the following principles:

- Women's human rights are indivisible, inalienable and universal
- The full realisation of women's and girls' human rights
- Valuing the strengths of Pacific cultures that contribute to gender equality
- Supporting women of all diversities, inclusive of young women, older women, rural women, women with disabilities, women with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities, and indigenous women
- Strengthening partnerships between governments, civil society and faith-based organisations, the private sector, regional organisations and development partners, based on mutual respect
- Full and equal partnership of women and girls and men and boys in all spheres of life
- Complementarity of national, regional and international gender equality commitments

The following approaches apply to all actions under the PPA:

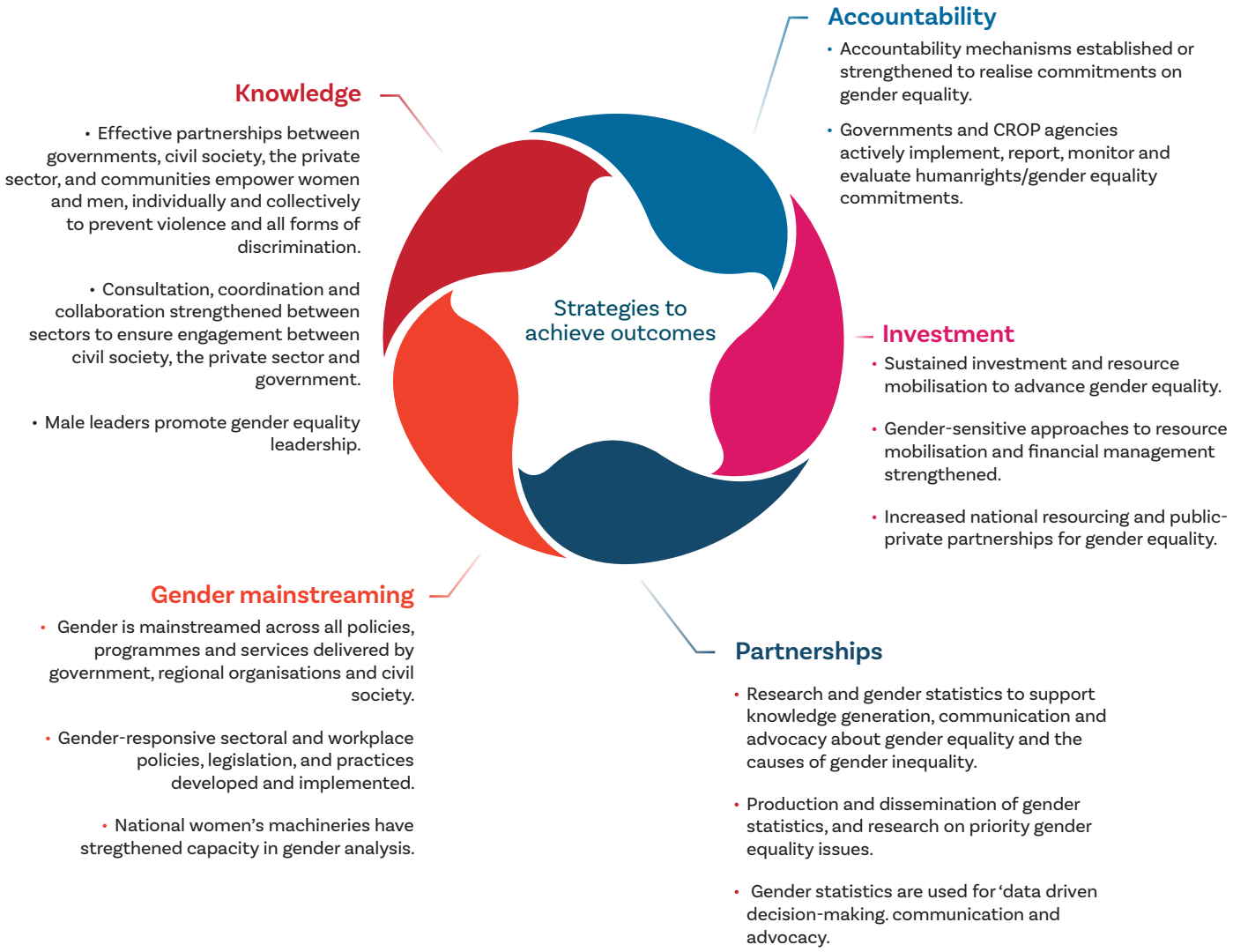
- Strengthen capacity to promote gender equality and the human rights of women of all diversities
- Promote communication and advocacy through the media and accessible ICT
- Ensure a rights-based and empowering approach
- Draw on positive social norms and transform harmful social norms
- Combine a mainstreaming approach across sectors and targeted interventions to address gender issues

5.2 Strategies to progress the outcomes

A number of crosscutting strategic objectives (Fig. 2) are proposed to accelerate the implementation of commitments to achieving gender equality and making human rights a reality for all women and girls of all diversities:

1. **Knowledge** – Enhance the generation of knowledge to inform policies and decision-making, build capacities, and support advocacy for gender equality.
2. **Mainstreaming** – Increase efforts to mainstream gender perspective across all legislation, policies, programmes and services delivered by government, CROP agencies and CSOs.
3. **Partnerships** – Develop and strengthen effective partnerships between governments, institutions, CSOs, the private sector and FBOs, so that women and men of all ages across all levels of society are empowered as individuals and communities to prevent violence and all forms of discrimination.
4. **Investment** – Mobilise resources and sustain investment to advance gender equality.
5. **Accountability** – Establish mechanisms and systems to make stakeholders accountable for implementing commitments on gender equality and the human rights of all women and girls, including through harmonised monitoring and reporting.

Figure 2. Summary of crosscutting strategies for achieving PPA outcomes



Strategic objective 1: Enhance the generation of knowledge to inform policies and decision-making, and support advocacy for gender equality

Countries need evidence to support their advancement of legislation, policies, planning and programmes to achieve sustainable development. Although data collection in the region has improved over time, many gaps remain. There is also a need for more in-depth and qualitative research in several areas relating to gender equality. In particular, information and/or gender analysis is lacking in areas such as the impacts of social protection, wage gaps and income inequalities, and social and cultural factors that promote resilience to climate change and disasters.

This strategic objective focuses on research and gender statistics to support knowledge generation, capacity building, communication and advocacy about gender equality. It includes the production and dissemination of relevant gender statistics, and research on priority gender equality and intergenerational issues, and use of this knowledge for sound decision-making, communication and advocacy. It provides an opportunity to document good practices in addressing gender inequality, to integrate a gender perspective in sectoral programmes, and to further encourage learning, sharing and dialogue across the region. Such sharing already demonstrates that positive change can happen and is happening in our region. There is an ongoing need for increased advocacy and communication on gender equality to support the fundamental premise that without gender equality, sustainable development cannot be achieved.

Strategic objective 2: Increase efforts to mainstream gender perspective across all legislation, policies, programmes and services delivered by government, CROP agencies and CSOs

Gender mainstreaming requires a 'whole of government' approach (Fig. 3). Women and men may be differently affected by social, economic and environmental factors. Therefore, a gender perspective should be mainstreamed into all policies, programmes and services to make sure they benefit women and men of all ages and situations and address their diverse concerns, needs and priorities.

This objective promotes mainstreaming of gender perspective across all policies, programmes and services delivered by government, CSOs and regional organisations. It includes the development and implementation of gender-responsive sectoral and workplace policies and legislation, building capacity in gender analysis and policymaking informed by evidence, and strengthening the role of organisations in promoting gender equality in policy development.

Strategic objective 3: Develop and strengthen effective partnerships between governments, CSOs, the private sector and FBOs, so that women and men of all ages across all levels of society are empowered as individuals and groups to prevent violence and all forms of discrimination

The 12th Triennial Conference of Pacific Women reiterated that effective partnership between government and CSOs was critical for the advancement of women. CSOs, especially women-led organisations and human rights activists, have been instrumental in raising awareness and advocating for achievement of gender equality through better laws, policies and services for women in all areas of life. The role of women-led CSOs has been recognised by governments across the region, although this recognition has not always resulted in better resourcing of their organisations. In recent years, the Pacific has witnessed the rise of women-led organisations representing specific constituencies advocating for an intersectional approach to promoting the rights of all women, of all diversities, including young women, women with disabilities and LGBTQI. However, women cannot make the transformational change needed to achieve gender equality by themselves. Men have a critical role to play because gender equality also benefits them. The agreed conclusions of the 48th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) recognise the capacity of men and boys in bringing about change in attitudes, relationships and access to resources and decision-making, which are critical for the promotion of gender equality and women's full enjoyment of their human rights.

Objective 3 includes developing effective partnerships between government, civil society, the private sector, and communities, so that women and men, individually and collectively, are empowered to prevent violence and all forms of discrimination. This includes ensuring effective coordination and collaboration between sectors; consultative mechanisms and constructive dialogue with and between civil society, the private sector and government; engagement of all leaders; and capacity strengthening for CSOs.

Strategic objective 4: Mobilise resources and sustain investment to advance gender equality

Limited resources are allocated for addressing gender issues and promoting women's human rights and gender equality at national and regional levels. The 'Review of progress in implementing the Beijing platform for Action in Pacific Island countries and territories' (SPC 2015) noted the continued high level of dependence on donor funding for gender-related activities in the Pacific and the low levels of budgetary allocation by governments. Stocktakes in 15 PICTs of the capacity of governments to mainstream gender across policies, programmes and services showed that the departments responsible for coordinating efforts on gender equality were critically under-resourced, receiving less than 0.5% of the total government budget. Despite recognition of the contribution of women-led organisations to advancing gender equality and women's human rights, they receive little financial support from their governments. CSOs providing essential services to survivors of gender-based violence also struggle to access enough resources to sustain their services and they thus depend heavily on support from development partners. Specific attention is also required to support the empowerment of young women and men to lead change and transform harmful social norms that contribute to gender-based violence, discriminatory practices, and exclusion of women and youth from decision-making.

There is a critical need to mobilise resources and sustain investment for progressing gender equality and support women's empowerment, including through public allocation of funding for gender equality, private sector partnerships, and increased resourcing for civil society

Strategic objective 5: Establish mechanisms and systems to make stakeholders accountable for implementing commitments on gender equality and the human rights of all women and girls of all diversities through a harmonised monitoring and reporting mechanism.

Accountability requires monitoring of compliance with human rights standards and achievement of human rights goals, as well as remedies for breaches of rights. For accountability to be effective there must be appropriate laws, policies, institutions, administrative procedures and mechanisms of redress to secure human rights.

Gender equality and women's human rights have been on the regional agenda for more than 20 years. The PPA was first endorsed by PICTs in 1994. Most countries of the region have ratified CEDAW. The 14 Pacific Islands Forum Countries adopted the Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration in 2012, and most countries and territories have a gender equality policy or action plan in place. Nevertheless, those commitments have not automatically led to allocation of resources. There is lack of accountability for gender equality at all levels of government and in the programmes of regional organisations and other development partners.

Mutual accountability measures are needed to ensure stakeholders implement and monitor commitments to gender equality. Accountability includes ensuring that governments, CSOs and regional organisations are actively implementing, evaluating, and reporting on national and international human rights/gender equality commitments, and that they demonstrate inclusiveness, participation and transparency to the public.

Figure 3. How the PPA aligns with the 2012 Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration

Gender equality, the protection of human rights, and the empowerment of all women and girls in all aspects of life in the Pacific region

Approaches

Support women of all diversity

Promote enabling use of information, communication and technology

Draw on positive cultural values and tranform harmful social norms

Ensure a right-based and empowering approach

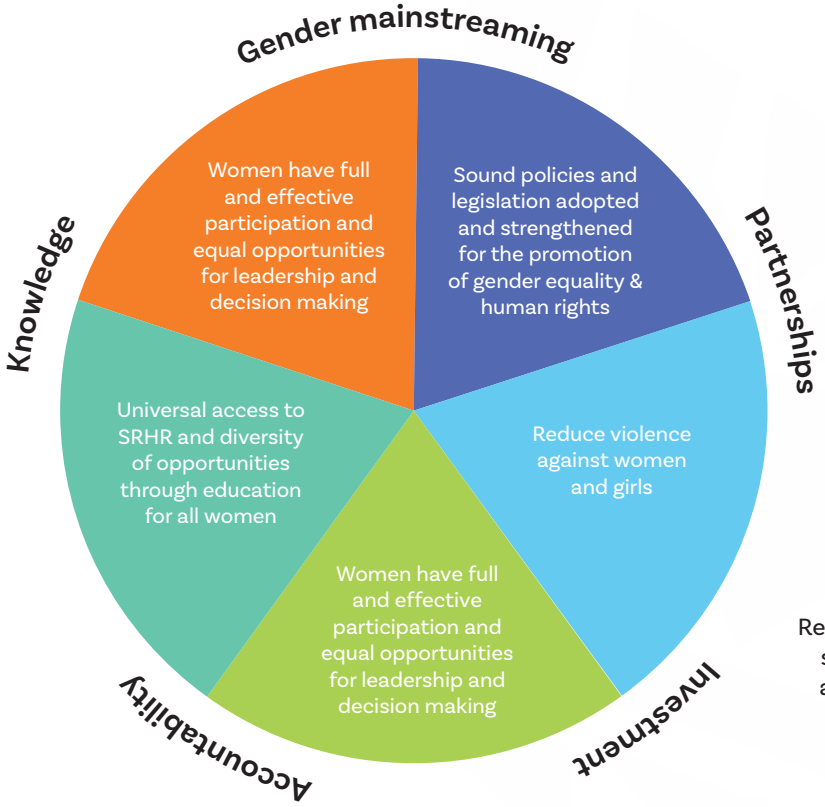
Strengthen capacity to promote gender equality and the human rights of women of all diversities

Combine a mainstreaming approach across sectorsand targeted interventions to address gender issues

Mainstreaming gender across all policies, legislation, programmes and services delivered by government, CSOs and regional organisations

Research and gender analysis to support knowledge generation, communication and advocacy about gender equality.

Effective partnerships between government, CSO, private sector, FBOs -so that women and men, individually and collectively, are empowered to prevent violence and discrimination



Mutual accountability measures support the realisation of gender equality and women's human rights

Resource mobilisation and sustained investment to advance gender equality including human capital

Harmful social norms and exclusionary practices

Gender inequality is not acknowledged as a priority in legal and policy frameworks

Limited resourcing for gender inequality

Limited capacity within governments for gender responsive policies and programmes

Weak leadership and political will for progressing gender equality

Barriers

Progress towards achieving gender equality in the region has been slow due to a number of structural and underlying social, cultural and economic barriers

6. Implementing the Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration

Under the PLGED, Leaders agreed to implement specific national policy actions in five outcome areas as discussed below. The PPA provides a tool for making concrete progress to achieve these outcomes.

6.1 Leaders Declaration: Gender-responsive policies and programmes

Outcome overview:

Policies and legislation for the promotion of gender equality and women's human rights are adopted and strengthened.

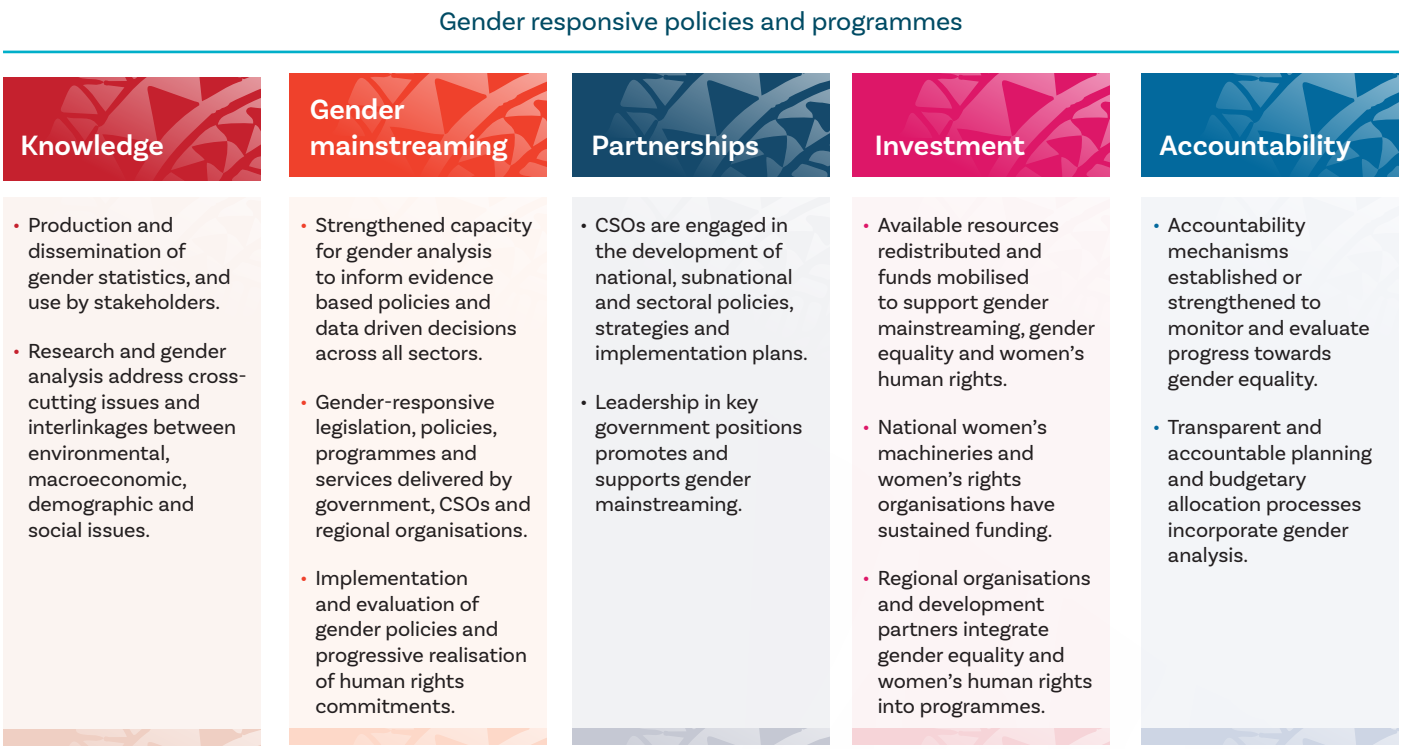
PPA priorities in progressing this outcome focus on developing and implementing gender-responsive legal systems, policies and programmes, based on relevant data, gender analysis and sound accountability mechanisms (Fig. 4).

Priorities stated in the Leaders' Declaration:

- Strengthen consultative mechanisms with civil society groups, including women's advocacy groups, on key budget and policy issues of national and subnational governments
- Support the production and use of sex-disaggregated data and gender analysis to inform government policies and programmes
- Incorporate articles from CEDAW in legislative and statutory reforms and policy initiatives across government

The PPA also focuses on transforming harmful social norms and exclusionary practices.

Figure 4. Summary of crosscutting strategies to achieve the PPA outcome – Gender responsive policies and programmes



Key means of implementation:

Knowledge: 1) Continue to promote the use of sex disaggregated data and gender statistics, including statistics to support better understand of intergenerational, disabilities and other diversity perspectives and improve their accessibility and use by stakeholders. 2) Ensure research and gender analysis address crosscutting issues and interlinkages between environmental, economic, demographic and social issues.

Gender mainstreaming: 1) Strengthen capacity for gender and intersectional analysis to inform evidence-based policies and data-driven decision-making across all sectors. 2) Implement gender-responsive legislation, policies, programmes and services delivered by governments, CSOs and regional organisations across all aspects of, sustainable environmental, social, and economic development. 3) Support the implementation and evaluation of gender policies and progressive realisation of national and international human rights commitments, including commitments related to youth and disabilities.

Partnerships: 1) Engage CSOs, especially women-led organisations and inclusive of young women and women with disabilities of all diversities, in the development of national, subnational and sectoral policies, strategies and implementation plans. 2) Strengthen leadership in key government positions to promote and support gender mainstreaming.

Investment: 1) Redistribute available resources and identify additional sources of financing to support gender mainstreaming and promote gender equality and women's human rights. 2) Ensure sustained funding to women's rights organisations and national women's machineries. 3) Require integration of gender equality and women's human rights in programmes funded by regional organisations and development partners.

Accountability: 1) Strengthen reporting mechanisms to monitor and evaluate progress towards gender equality and women's human rights. 2) Enhance transparency and accountability in planning and budgetary processes for gender mainstreaming.

6.2. Leaders Declaration: Leadership and decision-making

Outcome overview:

Full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership and decision-making.

PPA priorities in progressing this outcome focus on adopting a range of legal, social and political measures that will support the participation of women of all diversities in decision-making positions – at local, national, regional and international levels and in all institutions in public and private spheres (Fig. 5).

Priorities stated in the Leaders' Declaration:

- Adopt measures, including temporary special measures (such as legislation to establish reserved seats for women and political party reforms), to accelerate women's full and equal participation in governance reform at all levels and women's leadership in all decision-making.
- Advocate for increased representation of women in private sector and local-level governance boards and committees (e.g. school boards and produce market committees).

Means of implementation:

Knowledge: 1) Strengthen understanding through research on the status of women in all forms of leadership in all arenas (including barriers and enabling strategies). 2) Advocate for inclusiveness in decision-making, using research and gender statistics to highlight benefits. 3) Strengthen leadership skills of women and men, including young women and men through diverse forms of capacity building.

Gender mainstreaming: 1) Generate opportunities at all levels of decision-making for participation by women of all diversities. 2) Increase women's political participation at all levels. 3) Introduce measures to achieve gender parity in senior government positions, including in constitutional bodies and state-owned businesses. 4) Initiate legal and constitutional reviews or reforms to increase the number of women in national parliaments and legislatures.

Partnerships: 1) Strengthen partnerships between politicians, candidates, leaders and civil society, and with the media, to promote positive messages on the benefits of gender equality and representation of women in leadership positions and decision-making.

Investment: 1) Increase resources to promote women's leadership in a sustained way. 2) Sustain long-term investment in civic education that promotes gender equality and women's human rights in all forms of leadership. 3) Provide resources to further build the capacity of women and men in leadership roles, and to increase the capacity of those aspiring to leadership.

Accountability: 1) Demonstrate the removal of barriers to women's participation in decision-making and enforce equal opportunity practices. 2) Resource and monitor strategies to strengthen leadership. 3) Ensure transparency and inclusiveness in recruitment, selection and appointment processes.

Figure 5. Summary of crosscutting strategies to achieve the PPA outcome – Leadership and decision-making

6.3. Leaders Declaration: Women's economic empowerment

Outcome:

Reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources are implemented.

PPA priorities in progressing this outcome focus on strengthening women's financial capability, and ensuring expanded pathways to economic opportunities for all women of all diversities and increased access to finance and financial services (Fig. 6).

Priorities stated in the Leaders' Declaration:

- Remove barriers to women's employment and participation in the formal and informal sectors, including in relation to legislation that directly or indirectly limits women's access to employment opportunities or contributes to discriminatory pay and conditions for women.
- Implement equal employment opportunity and gender equality measures in public sector employment, including state-owned enterprises and statutory boards, to increase the proportion of women employed, including in senior positions, and advocate for a similar approach in private sector agencies.

- Improve the facilities and governance of local produce markets, including fair and transparent local regulation and taxation policies, so that market operations increase profitability and efficiency and encourage women's safe, fair and equal participation in local economies.
- Target support to women entrepreneurs in the formal and informal sectors, for example financial services, information and training, and review legislation that limits women's access to finance, assets, land and productive resources.

Means of implementation:

Knowledge: 1) Strengthen understanding of (a) economic pathways and measures to support women's economic empowerment, and (b) the impact of macroeconomic and fiscal policies and trade agreements on women and their rights. 2) Strengthen collection of data on gender wage gaps and the contribution of women to the economy through unpaid or informal employment. 3) Conduct time/use surveys and assess the value of unpaid work, including unpaid care work.

Gender mainstreaming: 1) Implement appropriate regulations, legal and policy frameworks to remove barriers to economic opportunities (including equal employment opportunities, paid parental leave, international resources, land resources, fee and tax regimes) and contribute to protecting women's human rights. 2) Support access to inclusive financial services and improve infrastructure and access to markets for women of all diversities. 3) Adopt measures in disaster risk management and resilience strategies to ensure protection of women's economic assets. 4) Implement gender-responsive workplace policies and contribute to safe, respectful places of work and employment and equality. 5) Adopt policies to ensure equal employment opportunities and equal pay for work of equal value. 6) Adopt measures to support the employment and entrepreneurship of young women and women with disabilities of all diversities.

Partnerships: 1) Strengthen partnerships between government, including local government, the private sector, business associations, education and training providers, CSOs and women's organisations that support and provide pathways for women's economic empowerment. 2) Support the participation of women in economic decision-making (at household, community and institutional levels).

Investment: 1) Realign available resources and identify additional sources of financing to support women's economic opportunities and develop their productive assets. 2) Implement social protection programmes to support women by alleviating the burdens of paid and unpaid work, including providing paid parental leave in both the private and public sectors.

Accountability: 1) Strengthen economic structures and access to resources to build gender equality in employment, equal remuneration for women and men, non-discrimination in employment and occupation type, and better reconciliation of work and family life.

Figure 6. Summary of crosscutting strategies to achieve the PPA outcome – Women's economic empowerment

Knowledge

- Understanding of economic pathways and measures to support women's economic empowerment, including the impact of macroeconomic and fiscal policies, as well as trade agreements on women and their rights, is strengthened.
- Statistics on the gender wage gap and contribution of women to the economy through unpaid or informal employment arecollected, compiled, analysed and disseminated.

Accountability

- Economic infrastructure and access to resources support gender equality in employment, equal remuneration, non-discrimination in employment and occupation and reconciliation of work and family life.

Investment

- Sustained investments and resource mobilisation support increased economic opportunities for women and their productive assets.
- Social protection programmes are implemented to support women's double work burden including paid parental leave in both the public and private sector.

Gender mainstreaming

- Regulations, legal and policy frameworks remove barriers to economic opportunities and contribute to women's human rights.
- Access to inclusive financial services and access to markets increased, and infrastructure improved for women of all diversities.
- Implement gender responsive policies so that workplaces are safe and women's rights are respected.
- Equal employment opportunity and equal pay for work of equal value policies are implemented.

Partnerships

- Partnerships between government, private sector, business associations, education and training providers, CSOS support and provide pathways to women's economic empowerment.
- Women participate in economic decision making at the household, community and institutional level.

6.4. Leaders Declaration: Ending violence against women

Outcome:

All forms of violence against women and girls (VAWG) are eliminated.

PPA priorities in progressing this outcome focus on ensuring full implementation of domestic violence and family protection legislation, provision of essential services for survivors of violence, and no tolerance of violence against women and girls of all diversities (Fig. 7).

Priorities stated in the Leaders' Declaration:

- Implement progressively a package of essential services (protection, health, counselling, legal) for women and girls who are survivors of violence.
- Enact and implement legislation on sexual and gender-based violence to protect women from violence and impose appropriate penalties for perpetrators of violence.

In the PPA, there is additional emphasis on addressing social norms and dynamics that perpetuate violence against women and girls.

Figure 7. Summary of crosscutting strategies to achieve the PPA outcome – Ending violence against women

Knowledge

- Understanding of the causes and the social and economic impacts of VAWG and strategic approaches to combat harmful social norms are strengthened.
- Data collection systems for access to and engagement with referral services including CSOs, health and the criminal justice system are strengthened.
- Alternative research and data collection methods are developed to estimate the prevalence of gender based violence.
- Sex disaggregated statistics and gender analysis for VAWG is routine in police, health and criminal justice sector performance reporting.

Accountability

- Mechanisms are established to evaluate the implementation of legislation, programmes, polices and investments to EVAW.
- The effectiveness of partnership agreements for referral pathways, standard operating procedures and protocols are regularly reviewed.
- All women and children have access to services and support for survivors of GBV.

Investment

- Sustained investment and resource mobilisation support CSOs and other service providers deliver integrated services and referral pathways for GBV, including safe places for survivors of violence.
- Financial barriers to justice are reduced through the provision of free legal services for survivors of GBV.

Gender mainstreaming

- Access to essential services for women and girls who are survivors of violence is progressively increased.
- Legislation protecting women from sexual and gender based violence and imposing appropriate penalties for perpetrators is enacted and implemented.
- Strategies addressing prevention and rehabilitation promote healthy relationships and non- violent masculinities oriented towards equality and respect.

Partnerships

- Communities lead in implementing strategies to end VAWG.
- Male leaders play a prominent role in alliances and effective messaging to end VAWG.

Means of implementation:

Knowledge: 1) Strengthen understanding of the causes and the social and economic impacts of violence against women and girls (VAWG) of all diversities, and of strategic approaches to combat harmful social norms. 2) Strengthen data collection on women and girls' access to and engagement with referral services, including CSOs, and the health and criminal justice systems. 3) Investigate alternative research and data collection models for estimating the prevalence of gender-based violence. 4) Build inclusion of sex-disaggregated data and analysis in performance reporting for the police, health and criminal justice sectors.

Gender mainstreaming: 1) Implement progressively a package of essential services (protection, health, counselling, legal) for women and girls who are survivors of violence. 2) Enact and implement legislation on sexual and gender-based

violence to protect women and impose appropriate penalties for perpetrators of violence. 4) Adapt services to address the additional and particular forms of violence women with disabilities 3) Implement strategies, including for prevention and rehabilitation, that promote healthy relationships and non-violent masculinities oriented towards equality and respect.

Partnerships: 1) Engage stakeholders in supporting communities to take responsibility for ending VAWG. 2) Strengthen coordination across the health, social and justice sectors in addressing VAWG. 3) Build alliances, distribute effective messages, and support male leaders to speak out against VAWG; Support programs to engage men to be involved in transforming harmful social norms and eliminate gender-based violence; and work with and support youth to become a driver force to prevent gender based violence and promote gender equality.

Investment: 1) Increase resourcing, financial and human capital for civil society, community-based groups, and other providers delivering integrated services and referral pathways for gender-based violence, including safe places for survivors. 2) Reduce financial barriers to justice, including by providing free legal services for survivors of gender-based violence. 3) invest in youth-led programmes to build their leadership in preventing and addressing gender-based violence.

Accountability: 1) Establish mechanisms to evaluate implementation of legislation, programmes, policies, and investment to end violence against women. 2) Regularly review the effectiveness of partnership agreements regarding referral pathways, standard operating procedures and protocols. 3) Implement measures to ensure that all women and children, regardless of where they live and their social, economic and health status, have access to services and support for survivors of VAWG.

6.5. Leaders Declaration: Health and education

Outcome:

Universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), and diverse opportunities through education, are provided.

PPA priorities in progressing this outcome focus on supporting access to SRHR, as well as adopting measures to support a gender-responsive, accessible health system and to strengthen gender parity throughout the education system (Fig. 8).

Priorities stated in the Leaders' Declaration:

- Ensure reproductive health (including family planning) education, awareness and service programmes receive adequate funding support
- Encourage gender parity in informal, primary, secondary and tertiary education and training opportunities

The PPA also focuses on ensuring that these priorities benefit women of all diversities.

Means of implementation:

Knowledge: 1) Conduct research to build understanding of the social determinants of health, including the benefits and obstacles to SRHR. 2) Disseminate information on the benefits of promoting and protecting women's SRHR. 3) Include sex-disaggregated data and analysis in health sector performance reports. 4) Conduct research to build understanding of the enablers and constraints in transition pathways from education to gainful employment. 5) Conduct gender analysis of student learning outcomes, enrolment, out of school children, attendance, completion and transition rates to ensure equal access for all girls and boys, women and men to inclusive and equitable education and learning.

Gender mainstreaming: 1) Ensure legal, regulatory and policy frameworks for health and education, and service delivery mechanisms, are gender responsive and inclusive and accessible to women and girls of all diversities, including those living in remove areas. 2) Ensure employers implement family-friendly workplace policies and initiatives. 3) Reform primary and secondary education curricula, teacher education and student assessments to promote gender equality and girls and women's human rights, and challenge stereotypes. 4) Promote SRHR, including through comprehensive, age-appropriate sexuality education. 5) Promote lifelong learning for all women, including young women, and encourage and support young women and young men to develop skills in science, technology, engineering and mathematics and gain qualifications that enhance their employment prospects.

Partnerships: 1) Strengthen partnerships between all stakeholders to implement community-based SRHR strategies. 2) Strengthen partnerships between schools, families, communities, civil society and regional organisations to support family-life education and educational messages that promote gender equality.

Investments: 1) Ensure adequate resourcing for, and education about SRHR. 2) Develop and implement investment plans to ensure all school facilities meet minimum school standards as per national regulations and guidelines. 3) Continue to invest in fee-free and compulsory education for pre-primary, primary and secondary education and lifelong learning.

Accountability: 1) Review and reform government laws, policies and accountability mechanisms to protect women's SRHR. 2) Ensure gender equality in governance bodies responsible for selecting government scholarship recipients. 3) Demonstrate stable investment in accessible education and addressing the SRHR needs of women and girls.

Figure 8. Summary of crosscutting strategies to achieve the PPA outcome – Health and education

Knowledge

- Research and gender statistics on the social determinants of health, including SRHR, are used for advocacy.
- Information on the benefits of promoting and protecting women's SRHR is disseminated.
- Sex disaggregated statistics and gender analysis for women's health, including SRHR is routine in health sector performance reporting.
- Research strengthens understanding of the enablers and constraints in transition pathways from education to employment.
- Gender analysis of student learning outcomes, enrolment, out of school children, attendance, completion and transition rates ensures equal access to inclusive and equitable education and learning.

Accountability

- Laws, policies and accountability mechanisms to protect women's sexual and reproductive health and rights are reviewed and reformed.
- Government scholarship governance bodies are gender balanced.
- Stable investment in accessible education and addressing the SRHR needs of women and girls is demonstrated.

Investment

- Resourcing for SRHR and education about women and girls sexual and reproductive health and rights is adequate.
- Investment plans for all school facilities to meet minimum school standards as per national regulations and guidelines are developed and implemented.
- Investment in fee-free and compulsory education for pre-primary, primary and secondary education, as well as lifelong learning, continues.

Gender mainstreaming

- Regulations, legal and policy frameworks as well as service delivery mechanisms are gender responsive and inclusive and accessible to all women and girls.
- Employers implement family friendly workplace policies and initiatives.
- Education curricula, teacher education and student assessments promote gender equality, girls and women's human rights, and challenge stereotypes.
- All women, including young women, have access to lifelong learning and young men and women are encouraged and supported to develop skills in science, technology, engineering and mathematics and gain qualifications that enhance their employment prospects.

Partnerships

- Partnerships between all stakeholders to implement community based SRHR strategies are strengthened.
- Partnerships between schools, families, communities, civil society and regional organisations support family life education, and educational messages that promote gender equality.

Endnotes

1 CROP (Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific) members include the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), Pacific Community (SPC), Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP), Pacific Islands Development Program (PIDP), South Pacific Travel Organisation (SPTO), University of the South Pacific (USP), Pacific Aviation Safety Organisation (PASO) and Pacific Power Association.

2 http://www.forumsec.org/resources/uploads/attachments/documents/2012%20Forum%20Communique,%20Rarotonga,%20Cook%20Islands%2028-30%20Aug1.pdf

3 Pacific Islands Forum. 2014. The Framework for Pacific Regionalism. p. 3

4 Pacific Islands Forum. 2014. The Framework for Pacific Regionalism. p. 3.

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