

Niu Waves

Sub-Regional Office for the Pacific

Leaving No One Behind

Welcome to the latest issue of Niu Waves, from the IPPF Sub-Regional Office for the Pacific. As always, our work in the last month has focused on ensuring sexual and reproductive health and rights reach everyone, particularly the most marginalised. In May, SROP and the Pacific MAs have, among other things: worked with partners to promote the rights of LGBTIQI communities, upskilled our nurses to provide contraceptive options that are convenient and accessible for women living in remote communities, and integrated SRHR with sports to reach marginalised young people in Solomon Islands.

With the Niu Vaka well underway, we have also been looking to the future this month and planning how we can scale delivery to ensure no one is left behind. As such, SROP brought together Pacific MAs and Family Planning New South Wales and New Zealand to plan our work under UNFPA's Transformative Agenda. To support Pacific MAs to move towards sustainability, SROP also hosted an Introduction to Social Enterprise workshop, led by Viti Simmons, SROP Resource Mobilisation Officer.

Our Highlights

- PNGFHA hosted a youth engagement day in Lae, attended by an estimated 300 young people.
- The regional LARCs training was held in Vanuatu, in partnership with FPNSW.
- Rainbow Pride hosted the first Pride march in Suva for the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia.
- Australian High Commissioner to Solomon Islands, HE Roderick Brazier, visited SIPPFA's Honiara clinic.
- SROP hosted a planning workshop around UNFPA's Transformative Agenda.
- SROP also hosted a one-day social enterprise introduction for Pacific MAs who attended the planning workshop.
- We're looking forward to strong Pacific representation at the Women Deliver conference next week.



Reaching Provincial Youth in PNG

On 28th May, Papua New Guinea Family Health Association (PNGFHA) hosted a youth SRH and SGBV engagement day in Lae, Morobe Province, in partnership with UNFPA PNG, the Provincial Health Authority and local schools.

An estimated 300 young people attended the event, which was filled with music and performances. There were also panel discussions and question and answer sessions for young people to find out more about SRHR. The guest of honour was Mr. Micah Yawing, the Provincial Health Advisor for Morobe Province. Marie Stopes International, Susu Mamas and Femili PNG joined PNGFHA to provide information and raise awareness of SRHR and SGBV and the support services available.



LARC Training

From 20th to 24th May, Vanuatu Family Health Association (VFHA) hosted a regional Long Acting Reversible Contraception (LARCs) training. Delivered by Family Planning New South Wales, with support from Tarai Nakolinivalu, SROP Quality Improvement Officer, and Monica Burns, Humanitarian SRH Services Advisor, the training brought together clinical staff from across the nine Pacific MAs to upskill themselves on the provision of LARCs.

LARCs, including implants and IUDs, are an important contraceptive option as they remove the need for frequent visits to health centres, which can be difficult and expensive for many women particularly in the Pacific. In 2018 alone, we provided almost 7,000 LARCs across the Pacific.

Following the successful LARC training, Tarai and Monica are conducting quality of care visits to VFHA's clinics in Tanna and Port Vila.

Suva's First Pride

SROP was delighted to join Reproductive Family Health Association of Fiji (RFHAF) at Suva's first Pride march to celebrate the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia (IDAHOTBI), organised by Rainbow Pride Foundation of Fiji.

The event was colourful and inspiring, with SROP Advocacy Officer, Tura Lewai, taking charge of the loudspeaker to lead chants demanding Justice and Protection (this year's theme) for all.



From top: PNGFHA booth at the Youth Engagement Day, Lae; RFHAF and SROP at the IDAHOTBI march in Suva.

Aus High Commissioner Visits SIPPA

On 17th May, the Australian High Commissioner to Solomon Islands, His Excellency Roderick Brazier, visited the Solomon Islands Planned Parenthood Association (SIPPA) clinic in Honiara.

Mr Brazier thanked the SIPPA staff, volunteers and board members for the work that they do in providing SRH services for the people of Solomon Islands, particularly the most vulnerable. Ben Angoa, Executive Director of SIPPA, reiterated SIPPA's commitment to leaving no one behind and ensuring that quality SRH services are available for all.



TFHA at FEMM

Kathy Mafi, Program Manager at Tonga Family Health Association (TFHA), ensured that gender equality and SRHR were on the agenda at the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat's Forum Economic Ministers Meeting (FEMM), which was held in Suva from 7th to 8th May. As a CSO representative at FEMM, Kathy advocated for the importance of gender equality and its link to financial resilience. From 1st to 5th May, Kathy was also part of the Tongan delegation at the Asian Development Bank's annual meeting in Nadi



CMIS Training

Sera Vulavou, SROP M&E Officer, joined colleagues from across the ESEAOR region in Kuala Lumpur from 20th to 24th May for discussions and further orientation on IPPF's Clinic Management Information Systems (CMIS). Building on the CMIS review in Nepal in 2018, from which the [CMIS Learning Document](#) was developed, the sessions focused on CMIS best practices. A technical working group was established and all MAs have been requested to appoint CMIS focal points – Sera will provide further feedback to the SROP team and Pacific MAs shortly.



From top: Ben Angoa, SIPPA ED, with the Australian High Commissioner to Solomon Islands; Kathy Mafi, TFHA Program Manager, with the Tongan delegation at FEMM; Sera Vulavou, SROP M&E Officer, at the CMIS workshop.

UNFPA Planning Workshop

From 21st to 23rd May, SROP hosted a workshop to plan our contributions under UNFPA's Transformative Agenda. The workshop brought together Executive Directors of the six Pacific MAs eligible for funding under the Transformative Agenda as well as SROP staff and representatives from both Family Planning New South Wales and Family Planning New Zealand.

The three days were filled with lively discussions and brainstorming on how we can most effectively and efficiently improve sexual and reproductive health services across the Pacific in both stable times and in humanitarian crises.



The team at the Transformative Agenda planning workshop

Participants came away from the workshop with a clearer understanding of the roles that each partner will play in this important piece of work and we look forward to working with UNFPA further in the near future.

Introduction to Social Enterprises

Following the UNFPA planning workshop, the Pacific Executive Directors stayed on in Suva for an introduction to social enterprises, led by Viti Simmons, SROP Resource Mobilisation Officer, on Friday 24th May. The first session focused on the mind-shift necessary for NGOs to become less reliant on donor funds and move towards sustainability before Viti went on to discuss different models for social enterprise and possible next steps for MAs.

Sports & SRHR

Following the success of their Easter sports competition, which reached over 5,000 young people across five sites, the Solomon Islands Planned Parenthood Association (SIPPA) has expanded their integrated sports and SRHR activities to reach more young people, particularly in Honiara's most marginalised communities.

CIFWA's CSE at Church Schools

The Cook Islands Family Welfare Association (CIFWA) has been working closely with the Papaaroa Seven Day Adventist College since last year to deliver Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) for students between 11 and 15 years old. This year, CIFWA have expanded their partnership and are developing a schedule to provide regular CSE sessions, after youth volunteers presented on the program at Papaaroa's PTA AGM last month.

VIA at SIPPA

SIPPA has begun using VIA (visual inspection with ascetic acid) to provide cervical screenings to women in remote communities in Solomon Islands who have not been able to attend the clinic in Honiara. Over three days of screening for women in Noro and Munda, the SIPPA nurse screened 79 women, of whom three cases were referred to the provincial hospital.

Humanitarian

Women Deliver

The 2019 Women Deliver conference will take place in Vancouver, Canada, from 3rd to 6th June and we are so pleased to see strong representation both from the global IPPF family and the Pacific in particular.

Leiloa Asaasa, Program Manager at Samoa Family Health Association, will be speaking on two panels, including an [IPPF side event on the power of localisation](#)

in humanitarian settings, which will be moderated by Robyn Drysdale, Humanitarian Deputy Director.

Some events will be filmed and livestreamed through Facebook. [Watch the live stream here.](#)

Vanuatu MISP Training

Aggie Dawainavesi, Humanitarian Capacity Development and Partnerships Advisor, is in Vanuatu from 20th to 31st May to support Vanuatu Family Health Association (VFHA) deliver MISP training in Santo. VFHA will deliver two consecutive MISP trainings, one targeting program managers and one targeting clinical staff. These trainings are designed to improve staff's ability to deliver life-saving sexual and reproductive health services in a crisis setting.

Papua New Guinea SGBV Consultation and Fundamentals Training

Petra, Humanitarian Gender Specialist, will be in Papua New Guinea from 3rd to 14th June to consult with Papua New Guinea Family Health Association (PNGFHA) and key SGBV stakeholders before conducting Sexual and Gender Based Violence fundamentals training the following week.



From top: poster for Women Deliver IPPF event; participants at MISP training, Vanuatu.

SRHR in the News

- Read Dr Alvaro Bermejo's op-ed on why [SRHR is crucial in conflicts and crisis situations](#).
- The Guardian analyses the impact of Trump's [extension of the Global Gag Rule](#).
- IPPF shows why [climate change action and SRHR](#) go hand in hand.

Dates for Your Diary

- May: IPPF Global report released
- 27th – 30th May: Pacific Women's Economic Empowerment Regional Forum, Suva
- 3rd – 6th June: Women Deliver 2019 conference, Vancouver
- 3rd – 5th July: Regional Youth Forum, Kuala Lumpur
- 4th – 5th July: Regional Executive Directors' Meeting, Kuala Lumpur
- 5th July: Regional Executive Council Meeting, Kuala Lumpur
- 6th – 11th July: PSRH 13th Biennial Conference 2019, Port Moresby
- 13th – 15th November: The Nairobi Summit on ICPD25, Nairobi

Get In Touch

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Learning

Webinar: SGBV Fundamentals Training Package
 Petra from the Pacific Humanitarian Team shared how the *SGBV Fundamentals* training package was developed, its role in assisting MAs to scale up SGBV services and its importance in humanitarian contexts. [Watch the recording here](#).

Tool: Tupaia

Tupaia, a tool which maps health facilities and services in Pacific countries, has been launched. The tool shows how many health centres, hospitals and posts each country has, the services offered at each and how they are staffed. The mapping is ongoing, with more countries to be added shortly. [Access the tool here](#).

Research: UNJUST, UNEQUAL, UNSTOPPABLE

Diva's research on the experiences of LBT women in Fiji was launched on May 17th as part of the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia celebrations. The report will be released through the [DIVA Facebook page shortly](#).

Coming Up Next

There are plenty of opportunities to share experiences and learnings from the Pacific coming up including the Women Deliver conference in June and the Pacific Society for Reproductive Health conference in early July.

Also in July, the Regional Youth Forum, Regional Executive Directors' and Regional Executive Council meetings will take place in Kuala Lumpur. We're excited to share experiences from the Pacific and learn from others in our region.

From all at SROP, we would like to thank our partners and Member Associations across the Pacific for their tireless work.

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