



PACIFIC WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

FUNDING LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN (FLOW)
1 JANUARY 2012 - 31 DECEMBER 2015



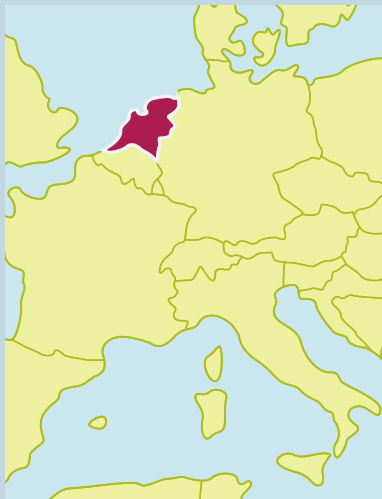
iwda
international
women's development
agency inc.



GOAL

The FLOW program will drive gender equality by increasing women's civil and political leadership in four Pacific Island Countries: Fiji, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu.

PURPOSE & FUNDING



IWDA's FLOW program in the Pacific seeks to build the capacity and confidence of individual women to participate in decision-making processes and assume positions of civil and political leadership. IWDA believes that supporting and strengthening the capacities of women's organisations and networks is key to enabling women's political engagement, advocating for change and providing a safe space for women to come together and act collectively.

In 2011, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, **Netherlands** Government granted IWDA €3,956,503 EUR (\$4,795,761 AU) for a four year, multi-partner program in the Pacific. The FLOW program commenced on 1 January 2012 and will end on 31 December 2015.

In 2013, the Netherlands Government awarded IWDA an additional grant of €77,100 EUR (\$93,455 AUD) to support an Asia-Pacific Women's Knowledge Exchange between IWDA partners from the Thai Burma Border and Fiji. The additional activities commenced on 1 October 2013 and will end on 30 September 2014.



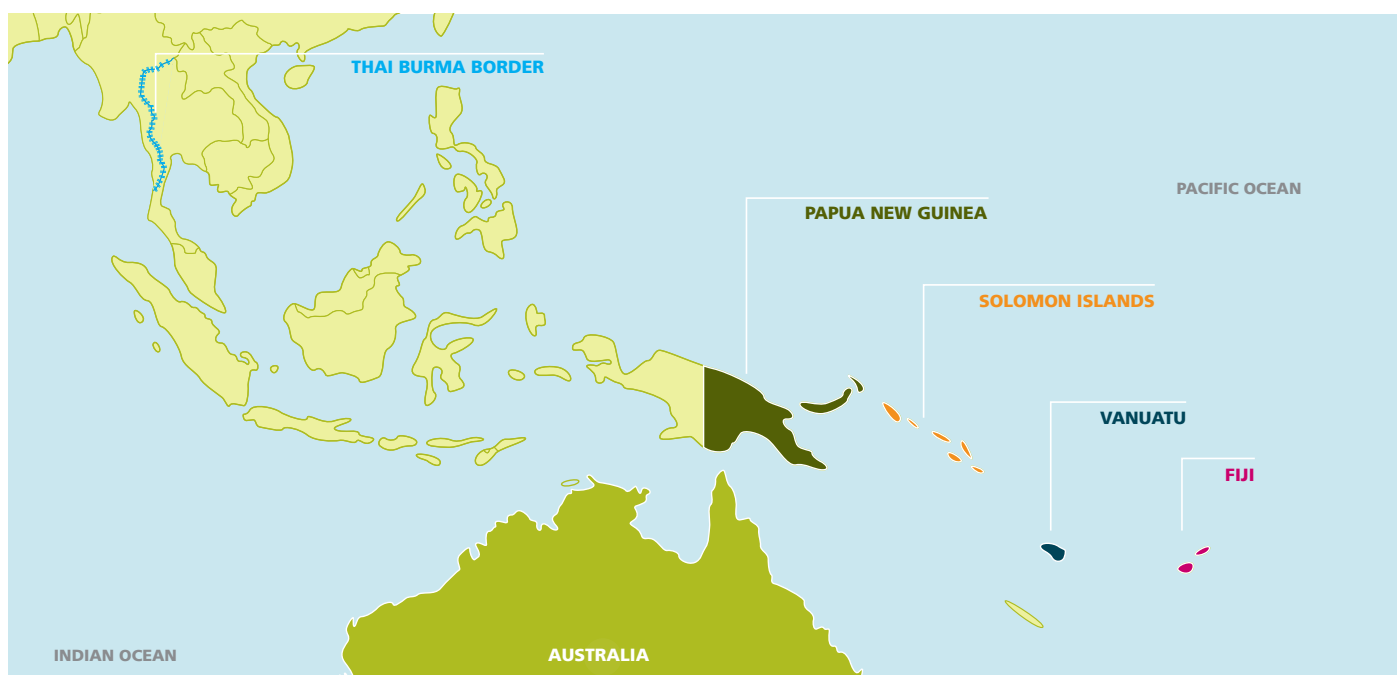
Women attending the FLOW 2013 retreat. Photo: Jess Jacobson

OUTCOMES

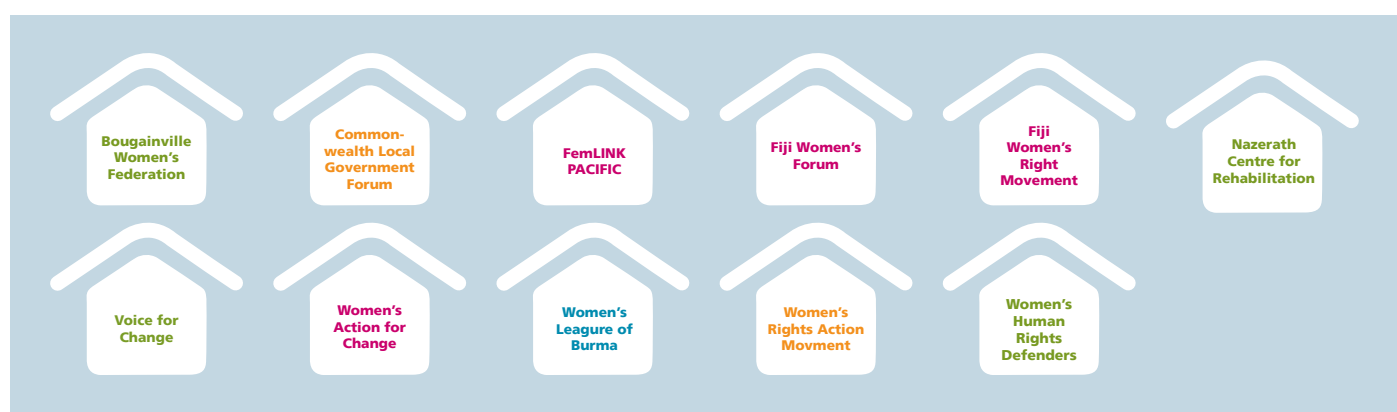
- 1 By 2015, women's civil society in Fiji, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea will have successfully advocated for increased coherence between national and regional commitments to gender equality.
- 2 By 2014, young women will be mobilised, skilled and coordinated to participate in decision-making processes.
- 3 By 2015, local government policies and service delivery will reflect increased gender equality commitments.
- 4 By 2015, there will be increased voter willingness and ability to support women candidates in local, provincial and national level elections in Fiji, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea.
- 5 By 2015, women in Papua New Guinea will be supported to lead responses to violence against women (VAW).

PARTNERS

COUNTRY	RELATIONSHIP	PARTNERS
FIJI	FLOW partners	FemLINKPACIFIC, Fiji Women's Rights Movement and Women's Action for Change.
FIJI	FLOW extension partner	Fiji Women's Forum
FIJI	FLOW regional partner	Commonwealth Local Government Forum Pacific
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	FLOW partners	Bougainville Women's Federation, Commonwealth Local Government Forum Pacific, Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation Voice for Change and Jiwaka Women's Human's Rights Defenders.
SOLOMON ISLANDS	FLOW partners	Commonwealth Local Government Forum Pacific and Women Rights' Action Movement.
THAI BURMA BORDER	FLOW extension partner	Women's League of Burma
VANUATU	FLOW partner	To be Confirmed
AUSTRALIA	International NGO	International Women's Development Agency (IWDA)



The flow program is made up of the following locally-based partners:



IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH

The Pacific FLOW program will broaden and strengthen partnerships between IWDA and local organisations across the four Pacific Islands Countries of Fiji, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu. FLOW will provide a mechanism that links organisations in countries at different stages along the gender equality journey, and enable women to share strategies, experiences and achievements in order to collaborate and increase women's political and civil leadership.

The program takes a comprehensive and holistic approach to developing and enabling women's political participation and leadership up to local and national elections (Fiji in 2014, Solomon Islands in 2014 and Papua New Guinea in 2015). Building on existing successful programs, FLOW seeks to develop the capacity and confidence of individual women to participate in decision-making processes and assume positions of leadership. The program also aims to strengthen the capacities of women's organisations and networks in each country and the legitimacy of their participation and voice.

IWDA also received additional funding for a four-day 'Asia-Pacific Women's Knowledge Exchange' workshop, and a cross regional 'look and learn' exchange. Drawing on the implementation of UNSR 1325, the exchange will support women in Fiji and from the Thai Burma Border to share and analyse the range of policy options and advocacy strategies for women's peace and human security. This is an opportunity for representatives from the Fiji Women's Forum and Women's League of Burma to share lessons and develop new strategies to promote democratic principles and practice in non-democratic spaces.

While the FLOW program supports the delivery of specific programs and activities in individual countries and communities, the program is also focussed on sharing ideas, strategies and resources across the Pacific region.



FLOW 2013 retreat. Photo: Jess Jacobson

PARTNERS & ACTIVITIES

These activities may change during the implementation of the four-year program.

FIJI PARTNERS

Fiji Women's Rights Movement (FWRM)

FWRM was established in 1986 and provides a range of programs, including monitoring the implementation of Convention to Eliminate Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in Fiji and a comprehensive young women and leadership program. Through the FLOW program, they primarily work on Outcomes 1, 2 and 4.

See www.fwrn.org.fj/ for more information.

Activities

- Young Women in Leadership training program for rural women.
- Mentoring and advocacy support to Emerging Leaders Forum Alumni (ELFA).
- ELFA advocacy campaign. "Connecting Girls, Inspiring Futures".
- ELFA voting education (Guide to Voting, One Billion Rising Campaign, Advocacy).
- ELF Labasa (Young Women in Leadership Programme for rural women).
- Girls Theatre Program.
- Regional work (inclusion of young Pacific women at the Triennial, regional meeting of young women).



FemLINKPACIFIC

FemLINKPACIFIC is a Fijian women's organisation established in September 2000. Its main focuss is to develop and implement media initiatives to provide a safe space for women to speak and exchange their ideas and experiences. FemLINKPACIFIC primarily works on Outcomes 1, 2 and 4.

See www.femlinkpacific.org.fj/ for more information.

Activities

- Profile and distribute stories of women within CSO leadership positions in Fiji.
- Provide mentoring and support to young women through the Generation Next community radio program.
- Annual Young Women's Media Institute (10 days) training course for young women from Fiji, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea.
- Build partnerships between local government and women's CSOs.
- Profiling of women CSO leaders and documenting stories of women in local government leadership.
- Participation in national/regional forums/committees.
- Mentoring and advocacy support and young women and community radio program.
- Young women's media institute training.
- Community workshops on democratic processes.
- Media campaign and monitoring.
- Provide Feminist Regional Legal Literacy Training to 25 women to increase gender analysis amongst Pacific women's CSO's and FLOW network partners.



Women's Action for Change (WAC)

Women's Action for Change is a women's collective based in Suva, Fiji. WAC was established in 2000 and provides local people with access to a drop-in and referral centre, community theatre, as well as community workshops, lobbying and advocacy activities. WAC primarily worked on Outcome 4. However, the FLOW partnership ended in mid 2013.

See www.womensactionforchange.blogspot.com.au for more information.

Activities

- Community theatre productions and performances on democracy and constitutional processes.
- Community workshops on democracy, electoral processes
- Consultations with community women on democratic processes
- Voter education – materials developed and distributed.



PAPUA NEW GUINEA PARTNERS

Bougainville Women's Federation (BWF)

The Bougainville Women's Federation is an umbrella organisation and representative body for the women of Bougainville. BWF is a new partner for IWDA (identified in 2012), and has worked alongside them in order to conduct strategic planning and drive future direction and growth. BWF is delivering activities under Outcomes 1 and 2.

Activities

- Strengthen the organisational processes of BWF's Executive, Board and Secretariat.
- Strengthen the organisational processes of the District BWFs.
- Development and implementation of a young women's leadership program (including collecting baseline research on young women's leadership in Bougainville).

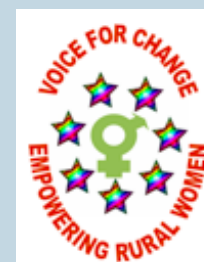


Voice for Change (VFC)

Voice for Change and IWDA are a new partner. Therefore, the below activities are projections of what is anticipated to happen under Outcomes 1, 3 and 5.

Activities

- Baseline research – women's experience of VAW.
- Training of village court magistrates, peace mediators.
- Completion of two films raising awareness of violence against women in Jiwaka Province for WHRDs to use in advocacy activities.
- Scoping mission for women's CSO and LLG representative to visit local government in Australia who are showing promising practice in responding to and preventing VAW.



Women's Human Rights Defenders (WHRD) Jiwaka and Bougainville

WHRD's projects in Bougainville and Jiwaka will focus on strengthening the capacity of women human rights defenders and supporting community responses to VAW. IWDA will implement the projects via a partnership with Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation in Bougainville and will work directly with WHRDs in Jiwaka province. WHRDs are delivering activities under Outcomes 1 and 5.

Activities

- Development of action plans for WHRD in two provinces.
- Peace-building training.
- Delivery of trauma counselling to women.

SOLOMON ISLANDS PARTNER

Women's Rights Action Movement (WRAM)

A new organisation, WRAM was formed in 2012 and receives core funding from FLOW. WRAM contributed to the NGO Shadow report on the Status of Women in Solomon Islands (2002 – 2012). The report can be viewed here: www2.ohchr.org/English/bodies/cedaw/docs/ngos/SolomonIslandsJointNGOCEDAWShadowReport.pdf.

WRAM's central focus is to monitor the Solomon Island's government response to CEDAW. They primarily deliver activities under Outcomes 1 and 4.

Activities

- Organisational establishment and development (hire staff member, develop strategic plan etc.).
- Establish WRAM as a 'knowledge hub' on gender equality in Solomon Islands.
- Raising profile of WRAM and lobbying on key issues via the media.
- Networking with other women's CSOs in the Pacific.
- Provide workshops for journalists to increase their understanding of legislation and policy on women.
- Establish and maintain a policy, legislation and research 'Knowledge Hub' in WRAM, Honiara.
- Review and comment on Solomon Island's government responses to CEDAW.



FLOW 2013 retreat. Photo: Kristy Nowland.

Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CLGF) Pacific

CLGF Pacific is a government funded organisation focussed on supporting local government in countries across the Pacific. CLGF is primarily responsible for the implementation of activities under Outcome 3 of the Pacific FLOW program in Solomon Islands and Bougainville.

See www.clgfpacific.org/index.cfm/pageid/517 for more information.

Activities

- Strengthen regional Women in Local Government (WiLG) network.
- Scope, establish and support national networks for women in local government in Solomon Islands and Fiji.
- Building partnerships between local government and women's CSOs in Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea.
- Centres for Excellence (establish, design and implement attitude surveys, gender training and 'strengthening reviews' of nominated CoEs).
- WiLG network (collect baseline statistic on WiLG in each country, establish network and document stories).
- Support partnerships between local government and CSOs to strengthen and support gender equality.



ASIA-PACIFIC WOMEN'S KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

Fiji Women's Forum

The Fiji Women's Forum brings together the diverse experiences and perspectives of four women's partnerships. Convened by the National Council of Women, Soqosoqo Vakamarama i Taukei, Fiji Women's Rights Movement and FemLINKPACIFIC; the Fiji Women's Forum is committed to four priority areas agreed upon during the inaugural national Women's Forum held in April 2012.

Women's League of Burma (WLB)

Women's League of Burma is an umbrella organisation representing 13 already-existing women's organisations of different ethnic backgrounds. WLB was established on 9th December 1999 to increase the participation of Burmese women in the struggle for democracy and human rights.

Joint Activities

- Desk review of the 'advocacy journeys' of the women's organisations involved in the Women's Knowledge Exchange.
- Four-day Asia-Pacific Women's Knowledge Exchange workshop conducted for key Fiji and Thai-Burma Border CSO partners working on UNSCR 1325, attended by at least 9 participants.
- Three-day 'Look and Learn' exchange hosted by IWDA's Fiji partners for at least (the same) representatives of women's rights organisations (following the four-day workshop).
- Consolidation and launch of documentation of shared learning around the 'advocacy journeys' of the participating women's organisations, including at least 1 new advocacy tool or message each for Thailand/Burma.



FemLINKPACIFIC Rural Correspondent Fane Lomani and Lilly Be'Soer from Voice for Change attending the 2013 FLOW Retreat. Photo: Kristy Nowland.



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