
Gender Research in the Pacific 1994-2014: Beginnings



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Table of Contents

Executive Summary	iii
Conclusions	iii
Recommendations	iv
Strategic Recommendations	iv
Technical Recommendations	iv
Recommendations for Research by Area of Concern	v
1. Introduction	1
2. Searching for the Research	5
Team Members' Research Databases	6
Database Searches	6
'Drilling Down'	7
Organisational Scanning	7
Consideration: Books, Book Sections, Dissertations, and Theses	8
Summary	8
3. Research Access and Research Use	11
Accessing Research	12
Actively Searching for Research	12
Passively Accessing Research	13
Problems Associated with Accessing Online Research	13
Use of Research	13
Research Used by Respondents in Academia	13
Research Used by Respondents in UN, Regional/Bilateral Organisations, and NGOs	14
Conducting Research	14
Research Capacity	14
The 'Identity' of the Pacific Researcher	15
What Makes a Person a 'Researcher'?	15
What Makes the Research 'Pacific' Research?	16
What Makes the Person a 'Pacific' Researcher?	16
Identified Research Priorities and Recommendations	17
4. Literature Review	19
Education	20
Health	21
Environment and Climate Change	22
Economic Empowerment	23
Gender Mainstreaming	24

Table of Contents continued

Leadership and Decision-Making	25
Violence Against Women, Including in Conflict Situations	26
Human Rights	27
5. Usefulness, Reliability, Quality, and Building Capacity.....	29
Usefulness	30
Reliability	30
Quality	30
Building Capacity.....	31
Recommendations for Usefulness, Reliability, Quality, and Building Capacity	31
6. Discussion, Conclusions, and Recommendations	33
Conclusions	34
Recommendations.....	35
Strategic Recommendations	35
Technical Recommendations.....	35
7. Appendix 1: Refworks and Bibliographies	37
About RefWorks	38
About the Annotated Bibliography	38
Entire Database of All References	40
Economics References	48
Gender Relations References	51
Health References	52
Human Rights References	53
Leadership References	54
Peace and Security	55
Religion and Custom.....	55
Violence Against Women	56
Journal Articles.....	57
Books and Sections	60
Organisational Reports, Policy Documents, Conference Papers.....	61
References with PDFs	65
References without PDFs	71
Annotated Bibliography	74
8. Appendix 2: Terms of Reference.....	95
9. Appendix 3: Additional Survey Data.....	101

Executive Summary

This scoping study examines gender-responsive and evidence-based research conducted in Pacific Island countries since 1994¹. Specifically, it deals with research on eight critical areas of concern covered in the Revised Pacific Platform for Action 2005–2015 (RPPA)². The areas are: education, health, climate change and environment, economic empowerment, gender mainstreaming, leadership and decision-making, violence against women (VAW), and human rights.

While gender research on each issue exists in one way or another in the Pacific, there are many unknowns as to the scope, nature, and quality of this research. This study was initiated by a group of gender specialists based in Suva who were concerned about the need to strengthen gender-responsive policy development in the Pacific and to continue to build research capacity in the region. Despite the existence of robust research in the critical areas of concern and government commitments to address these concerns, gender inequalities persist. Further, rapid social, economic, political, cultural, and environmental changes mean that on-going research in all areas, as well as in emerging areas of concern, is essential.

The study objective is threefold: (i) to map and provide a gap analysis of existing gender research in eight thematic areas; (ii) to assess its quality, reliability and usefulness and, (iii) to provide recommendations relating to capacity building on gender research in the Pacific. The study methodology involved the use of three complementary methods: Internet search and review of literature, an online survey³, and in-depth interviews⁴. All members of the consultancy team were Pacific women scholars (two were resident in a Pacific country). The senior team members have been active as researchers, teachers, and consultants for a combined period of over two decades.

This project created a bibliography of over 400 citations, an annotated bibliography of 135 pieces of research and a literature review of eight areas of concern. A review of the research, together with information gathered through the survey and interviews, formed the basis for the assessment of research gaps, quality, reliability, and usefulness.

Research-informed policy making is a dynamic but imprecise process in the Pacific. The nature of the institutional commitments, organisational arrangements, and the ability of the individual policy-makers involved at any particular time makes a difference to the uptake of research into policy-making. Research findings do percolate into policy making, but in many diverse and sophisticated ways. Sometimes there are direct and immediate effects, sometimes research findings stimulate

controversial public debates, sometimes the ideas from published research simmer for some time before emerging into policy. The subtle but sensitive uptake of new ideas generated by research often produces more sustainable and effective policies for gender equality.

Research however needs to be 'good quality' to have these effects. This means research needs to be undertaken using rigorous design and methods, it needs to have something important to say, it needs to be relevant to the concerns of the target audience, it needs to be communicated repeatedly, and it needs to be exposed to feedback from stakeholders. Research plays a valuable role in providing new concepts, ideas and insights into apparently intractable issues – gender inequality is one of them. Building on-going research capacity on gender equality in the Pacific is therefore critical.

The report on gender equality research highlights a range of conclusions and makes several recommendations. The key conclusions are set out below:

Conclusions

- There has been a **steady increase** between 1994 and 2014 of research publications on all eight areas of critical concern. The majority of this work is authored by researchers who are based outside the Pacific region.
- Of the eight areas of research studies reviewed, climate change and environment had the lowest number of publications identified. This indicates sporadic research attention to gender in newly emerging areas. It also reveals the lag time in publishing good quality research, the limited accessibility of relevant research (e.g., research concealed in larger reports that are not publicly available or accessible), and the varying quality of research (e.g., research activities, such as consultancy reports and graded theses, which have opaque quality-assurance processes).

¹ The Pacific Platform for Action (PPA) was launched in 1994. It focuses on thirteen areas of critical concern for gender equality in the region.

² The Revised Pacific Platform for Action 2005–2015 (RPPA) was launched in 2004. It focuses on thirteen critical areas of concern divided into four themes. There were also eight emerging issues.

³ The Study Team wishes to thank all the participants who gave their time to complete this survey.

⁴ The Study Team wished to thank all the women interviewed for this study. We greatly appreciate the insights and commitment to improve good quality gender research in the Pacific and by Pacific researchers.

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- **Research by staff at Pacific universities** generally focuses on specific single areas in their respective island countries, reflecting a seemingly fragmented research culture in academia. This relates to the small number of scholars who incorporate gender perspectives into their work, a shortage of research funds, and heavy teaching workload.
-

- **Research collaboration** is a common feature of studies commissioned by regional and international organisations. More multi-country and multi-sectoral studies are conducted by these agencies with Pacific Island governments and civil society groups, compared to Pacific universities.
-

- Quality primary research is more likely to come from those with **dedicated research training at university level**. This is different to evaluations and stock-taking exercises whose primary aim is identifying progress towards gender equality and contribution to policy making. While these exercises can also generate valuable new ideas and insights for policy making, the extent to which it is considered research, let alone good quality research, depends largely on the level of independent scrutiny applied to the findings.
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- Pacific-based researchers face **difficulties accessing research**. This is a significant challenge despite the availability of the Internet, because many resources cannot be accessed due primarily to financial costs.
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- Gender expertise and resources to support research are lacking in Pacific-based organisations. There was a strong feeling **that Pacific researchers should be supported** to address this deficiency, which points to the need for on-going capacity building.
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- Compared to regional and international agencies and civil society, **institutional effort to make gender a serious focus of study and research in Pacific universities is lukewarm**. Absence of gender policy and weak systems of research development and support are important factors.
-

- **Definition of 'quality' of research is open to interpretation** because of the varied reasons, contexts, and goals for different research. A robust method for assessing quality research requires frequent and open discussion involving various interested parties – scholars, researchers, government and regional policy-makers, and members of civil society. This is an area for on-going discussion.
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Recommendations

Three types of recommendations are proposed: strategic, technical, and research on particular areas of concern.

Strategic Recommendations

These recommendations speak to the direction needed to be taken to deliver sustainable high-quality gender research in the Pacific. They require discussion with key stakeholders and should lead to a clear vision for gender research in the Pacific underpinned by clear principles of engagement and clear guidelines for institutional commitment.

- **Strengthen the gender research capacity of Pacific peoples through skills training programmes on research, policy analysis, and monitoring. These are best located in Pacific universities and are best undertaken by Pacific scholars and researchers. Long term commitments to teaching, training, and research collaboration between gender researchers based in Pacific universities and those based elsewhere should be better resourced.**
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- **Reduce barriers to access of information on gender-related research for stakeholders and the research policy community.**
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- **Synergise technical and gender subject expertise in the design of a dynamic research portal or platform or clearinghouse. This can take various forms: see the New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse <https://nzfvc.org.nz>; Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety Limited (ANROWS) <http://anrows.org.au>. It might also take the form of the New Zealand Research Review <http://www.researchreview.co.nz/nz/Home.aspx>.**
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- **Resource evidence-based gender research, especially undertaken by researchers who actively contribute to Pacific knowledge in an "ethical, respectful and empowering way" (quote from survey), and develop a platform for dissemination of this research in a sustainable and long-term manner.**
-

- **Develop a systematic way of performing quality assurance, including ethical compliance, suitable for producing high-quality gender research in the Pacific.**
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- **Undertake a feasibility study into the establishment of a Pacific Gender Research Institute. This would include a thorough analysis of gender research capability in Pacific universities as well as innovative funding mechanisms.**
-

Technical Recommendations

These recommendations are more specific and technical in nature. They are discrete tasks that, when combined, support a robust regional research platform upon which longer term research strategies and activities can develop.

Research: volume, scope, focus, access, expertise, effort, quality

- Develop an **on-going process** of locating high-quality relevant research in key areas of concern and assess its policy relevance.

The following specific recommendations pertain to this process:

- Add **additional keywords** to search in substantive areas of concern. Searches should also be made for individual countries, regions and islands in Pacific Island Countries (PICs).
- **Expand** the search process to include the scanning of and drilling down into the bibliographic references contained within specific items of research.
- **Repeat** the search process by selecting more items of research or following the publication path of a particular author.
- **Deepen** the research process by following the citations of an item of research and then drill down into those that have used this research.
- Develop a system to locate quality research within **theses and dissertations**. This could begin with a database of all MA theses that received a grade in the A range and all completed PhDs. A caveat would need to be added about the quality assessment process for each university.
- Find abstracts and review the evidence-based research located **in print format** on the topic of gender based research on/by Pacific Island countries.

Capacity Building

- Place **gender research as a priority** item for discussion at high-level meetings such as that of the Pacific Islands Universities Network and Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific (CROP) Working Groups.
- Support research organisations to be more proactive in **supporting initial efforts** at some of the Pacific universities (such as Fiji National University, National University of Samoa, University of Fiji and Divine Word) that are just beginning to develop gender research and teaching.
- Instigate a **gender scholarship scheme** for Pacific Island students.
- Develop **formal research collaborations between researchers and policy-makers** to “facilitate policy fit with academic research so it doesn’t just gather dust on academic library shelves but actually finds policy-making ground” (survey respondent).

- Develop an **ethics approval process** to facilitate research on critical but often sensitive and high-risk research on women and girls. This needs to be placed within wider research protocols that include training and quality assurance.

Recommendations for Research by Area of Concern

These recommendations arose in several ways. Some research gaps were specifically mentioned in the research collected. Some were identified from the survey and interviews. Members of the Research Peer Group identified some gaps, as did members of the survey team. As a result, the suggested areas of research that follow should be understood as indicative, not comprehensive. Further discussion among, for instance, researchers, policy-makers, and community groups would help to identify overlaps in topics (such as workforce planning), refinements in scope (such as research into tourism), and emerging areas of concern. Robust research proposals are still needed to justify research funding.

Education: development of primary school curricula that challenges gender stereotypes, such as girls taking science subjects and incorporating accounts by women into history subjects; transition to decent work and the different implications in rural and urban areas; how to incorporate comprehensive sexuality education in schools; the possibilities of gender sensitivity training in teacher training institutions; how to fund and enforce compulsory education at primary schools for all; gender analysis of technical and vocational training; gender gaps in government-sponsored scholarship and formal training opportunities for girls in non-traditional areas like engineering, agriculture, and vet science; and education workforce issues.

Health: improving maternal health in the context of other health conditions (e.g., TB, malaria, menstrual disorders), as well as with new health challenges (e.g., zika virus); gendered health behaviour (e.g., the use of contraceptives); gendered health implications of emerging concerns (e.g., obesity, sorcery, sexual violence, mental health, and disabilities); the effects of environmental poisoning from extractive industries, agriculture and small industry; disability due to GBV work-related accidents; health needs of older women; depression and suicide; LGBTQI health issues; the sustainability of health systems and their management and funding; health workforce issues (e.g., women occupying lower levels, shortages in critical areas, exported staff, imported care workers, alcohol abuse, and addictive behaviour); cancers affecting women (breast, cervical, and ovarian), access to HPV immunisation, early detection screening, and treatment; and the various gendered dimensions of non-communicable diseases.

Climate Change and Environment: gender analysis at all phases of the disaster cycle; the design of safe housing; dealing with trauma counselling and mitigating post-traumatic stress; gender analysis in all areas of livelihood

and resource development (e.g., fisheries, agriculture, small-scale businesses; mining); gender analysis in future-scenario research; gender access to land and marine resources; impact of sudden and slow onset climatic events on pre-existing vulnerabilities.

Economic Empowerment: gender analysis of access to terrestrial and marine resources; research that captures the dynamic shifts occurring in many economic sectors; the effects of economic development in high growth areas of tourism and infrastructure; how to address the gender wage gap; how to address extreme economic inequality for gender equality.

Gender Mainstreaming: the effectiveness of multi-sectoral co-ordination in gender mainstreaming; the value of short courses in gender mainstreaming for shifting policy development and changing individual mindsets; what strategies and tools are needed to address implicit and explicit gender bias in agencies; how to change organisational behaviours and cultures in Pacific governments that are detrimental to women; how to develop gender stereotypes that do not only cast women as primary care givers.

Leadership and Decision-Making: the role of technology and social media in leadership development; how to encourage women's participation in leadership at the local and provincial level, in the public services, private sector, on Boards, and in civil society; the role of political parties as gatekeepers for women candidates; the impact that the types of electoral systems might have on election

outcomes; how electing more women to parliaments can translate into tangible development outcomes; the extent to which women politicians have a 'role-model' effect on societal attitudes; the particular institutional strategies needed for success in women's leadership and the processes by which institutional barriers are created and maintained; how Pacific women politicians are ranked and influential within their parties and/or the impact of this on decision-making in parliaments.

Violence Against Women: the extent and impact of gender-based violence (GBV) in particular sectors where economic opportunities transform household and family dynamics, such as in seafaring communities, communities where seasonal workers originate, among the poorly housed, those with poor access to basic social services, and among younger people; how to ensure greater protection and enhanced services for victims of violence; how to develop more robust legal mechanisms to address and prevent violence; how to promote more effective ways of promoting widespread public awareness of zero tolerance for violence; the inter-relatedness of economic, social, and psychological contexts for violence.

Human Rights: the paradoxes and contradictions that come with the normative practice of human rights; substantive equality to redress disadvantage; to counter stigma, prejudice, humiliation and violence; to transform social and institutional structures; and to facilitate participation, both in the form of political participation and social inclusion.

- 1 -

Introduction



There are hundreds of papers written about women in the Pacific and of the Pacific. Only some are written by Pacific women or by women in the Pacific. The topics are extensive, the authors are diverse and new research is published regularly. Yet there are many unknowns as to the scope, nature, and quality of the research. The need to know the state of play on the eight critical areas is central to developing strategies to support and enhance capacity-building efforts on gender-related research. Developing the capacity for gender research in the Pacific Island region is a key strategy to support the enhancement of gender-responsive policy formulation, implementation, and attitudinal change in society. It is also essential in advocating for gender equality and social justice.

Significant Pacific government reforms over the last 20 years reflect the recognition of gender equality as necessary for economic, social, and political development. Most Pacific countries are signatories to global conventions on improving gender equality. Most Pacific Island Forum (PIF) countries have ratified CEDAW⁵ and are committed to its implementation. Most countries are also committed to the revised Pacific Platform for Action on the Advancement of Women and Gender Equality (2005–2015), and the recommendations of the Triennial Conference of Pacific Women.

In addition, the Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration (2012), commits PIF governments to advancing gender equality in the following areas: gender-responsive programmes and policies, decision-making, economic empowerment, violence against women (VAW), and health and education. These recent commitments by Pacific leaders indicate a firm regional commitment to gender equality. However, misconceptions of 'gender equality' and a disconnect between global approaches to women's rights and equality, and policy implementation in local contexts, among others, continue. The persistence of such challenges is not easy to address but good quality gender research contributes to better understanding the complex, multi-layered, and intersecting nature of these challenges.

Research-informed policy making is a dynamic but imprecise process in the Pacific. The nature of the institutional commitments, organisational arrangements, and the ability of the individual policy-makers involved at any particular time makes a difference to the uptake of research into policy-making. Research findings do percolate into policy making, but in many diverse and sophisticated ways. Sometimes there are direct and immediate effects, sometimes research findings stimulate controversial public debates, sometimes the ideas from published research simmer for some time before emerging into policy. The subtle but sensitive uptake of new ideas generated by research often produces more sustainable and effective policies for gender equality.

Research, however, needs to be 'good quality' to have these effects. This means research needs to be undertaken using rigorous design and methods, it needs to have something important to say, it needs to be relevant to the concerns of an identifiable audience, it needs to be communicated repeatedly, and it needs to be exposed to feedback from stakeholders.

Research plays a valuable role in providing new concepts, ideas, and insights into apparently intractable issues – gender inequality is one of them. Building regional capacity in gender research in the Pacific is therefore critical for policy development as well as to support women's advocacy for gender justice.

This scoping study is an initiative of a group of gender specialists involved in a series of panel discussions for a postgraduate gender and development course at the University of the South Pacific (USP) in Fiji in 2015 (referred to as the 'Research Peer Group' throughout this report). Representing civil society, development partners, regional organisations, UN agencies, and USP, the group recognised the need for a better understanding of existing gender research and the extent of its use for policy. Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development (*Pacific Women*) subsequently commissioned the study in 2015. The Research Peer Group continued to shape and enhance the study as part of a peer review process.

The research enquiry that informs this report required a robust methodology that could identify ways of discovering research, understanding research, using research, and looking more deeply at the strengths of the body of research and evidence to inform policy. In addition, good knowledge of gender research throughout the Pacific was needed.

The methods used include the following:

- a systematic search for gender-based literature available between 1994 –December 2015 on/by Pacific Island countries,
- an online survey with gender researchers and specialists in the region,
- interviews with key people working in the field of gender research and development, and
- applied specialist knowledge of gender research consultants.

This report has been structured to reflect the different methods used throughout the study, alongside the corresponding findings and recommendations. Section 2 of the report focuses on searching for the research within defined research parameters, and organising and storing

⁵ The only two PIF countries that have not ratified CEDAW are Palau and Tonga.

research items (citations and PDF copies of articles). Section 3 focuses on the use of research, as informed by an online survey questionnaire as well as interviews with selected people in Suva, Fiji and Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

Section 4 revisits the research that was collected during this project and analyses selected research items within a literature review. This literature review has been organised according to the eight critical areas of investigation identified in the study Terms of Reference (TOR) (Appendix 2). Other areas of concern were identified but were not developed into a narrative. However, bibliographies are attached of areas of concern beyond the eight mentioned in the TOR.

Section 5 builds upon the analysis in the literature review by commenting upon the quality, usefulness, and reliability of research. This section also makes a broad assessment of the research capacity of people of Pacific Islands heritage working and publishing research in these fields. Section 6 provides a short discussion and contains a complete summary of recommendations.

The more technical dimensions of this report have been included in the Appendices. Appendix 1 contains the technical outputs of the research search, including an expanded outline of the research search methods and the bibliographies. Appendix 2 contains the TOR of the project. Appendix 3 contains additional data tables from the online survey results.



- 2 -

Searching for the Research



This section outlines the methods employed to undertake a systematic search of existing databases and digital libraries to find evidence-based gender-related research published between January 1994 and December 2014. The methods were chosen because they were mostly desk and Internet based. This was for two reasons – one pragmatic and one conceptual. Pragmatically, it allowed for the four team members, all of whom were Pacific women scholars (i.e. all had doctoral degrees) located in three different countries, to effectively and efficiently engage as a team via weekly Skype meetings. All team members were known to at least one other person in the team and social relationships developed further into very collegial and productive team work. This is consistent with effective Pacific team work.

Conceptually, the use of desk/Internet based methods mirrors the prevailing mode of communication used by researchers globally and in the Pacific. This was confirmed in the study survey where 86% of respondents reported using an Internet based search engine. Although the study team is aware of the digital divide in the Pacific, the Internet still provides the best possible options for making information accessible. Had more resources been available to identify research gaps, more time could have been devoted to visiting remote communities, gender-advocacy groups and policy-makers who had been involved in gender-based research projects. This would have allowed for the possibility of different views to be captured in this study. However, we are confident that the methods used in the study were appropriate to the ‘scoping’ focus of the study.

Although the methodologies are presented in this section as occurring in a linear process, in reality, the research path was interactive, with each new discovery along the research trajectory refining and informing the next steps. The methods used within this project enabled a substantial collection of evidence-based research files and bibliographic citations that have been organised and analysed systematically.

This process of collecting and analysing the existing stock of gender-based research in the Pacific mirrored the discovery path that researchers often follow. As such, the challenges and barriers that were encountered were documented and have been used to inform the recommendations which feature in this section of the report.

The main objective of this stage of the project was to locate as many examples as possible of gender research on Pacific Island countries within the identified eight critical areas of concern: education, health, climate change, economic empowerment, gender mainstreaming, leadership and decision making, human rights, and VAW.

Team Members’ Research Databases

The personal bibliographic databases of two senior members of the team provided the initial search platform. The citations were shared and searched for via library search engines of the University of Auckland (UoA), University of the South Pacific (USP) and Google Scholar. If the research items were available they were stored within a RefWorks bibliographic database (see Appendix

1) with basic citations, and categorised according to type of publication. Where possible, a PDF version of the research file was saved in a DropBox library and attached to the citation. Although the senior researchers of the team had excellent knowledge of gender research in the Pacific, they did not have expert knowledge of all areas. Their knowledge was supplemented by robust searching, key informant interviews, questions asked in a survey, and input from the Research Peer Group. Further time would have allowed for other experts to be involved in the search process. These productive engagements also raised important issues about what constituted ‘quality’ and these debates are necessarily on-going.

Database Searches

The second step in the search process was to search databases via the University of Auckland library using key words ‘Pacific Islands and Gender Research’; ‘Gender Research in the Pacific Islands’; ‘Pacific Gender Research.’

The databases used were:

- Wiley Online
- Science Direct
- JSTOR
- Expanded Academic
- AB/Inform Proquest
- Google Scholar
- Palgrave Connect
- EBSCO Academic Search
- Taylor and Francis Online
- Academia
- Research Gate

The process of searching for research first within the database created by the team, and second by exploring other databases, revealed a range of access issues that act as research barriers. These include:

- Not all research within the team members’ personal databases was available via the Internet or university library databases, which raised questions about access to research, publication sharing, and copyright laws.

- Gender research on/by the Pacific Islands was located across a disparate number of databases and was often difficult to locate.
- Some databases contain technical problems associated with direct citations from a database to a reference tool such as RefWorks, and access to PDFs.
- Gender research published prior to 2000 was more difficult to locate, and did not always have access to a PDF of the research.
- The search terms were too broad, and the time scale too wide which resulted in a large amount of possible research needing to be scanned for relevance by reading the key words and the abstracts.

The challenges encountered in searching for research enabled the research team to understand more fully the specific issues impacting database-user experience and research access, and have informed the following recommendations.

- *That an on-going process of locating relevant research in key areas of concern and assessing their quality and policy relevance, be developed. Such a process would have systematic and non-systematic ways of tracking relevant research. It should require, and also allow for, specialist opinions on substantive areas.*
- *Other keywords should be added to search in substantive areas of concern. Searches should also be made for individual countries, regions, and islands in PICs.*

‘Drilling Down’

The third step in the search process was to drill down into the bibliographic references contained within specific items of research. Initially, the senior consultants selected five items of research for each area of concern that represented pieces of research which they assessed as being reliable, useful, and of a high quality. This assessment was made based on their experience as scholars, researchers, and teachers of gender in the Pacific over the last 20 years. More recently, one of the team has been actively involved in New Zealand in developing national quality standards for Pacific research (as co-Chair of the New Zealand Performance Based Research Fund (PBRF) Panel on Pacific Research).

Sometimes the article was selected because the track record of the author was reputable by academic standards. Sometimes it was because of the way the article was framed and the rigour with which it drew on previously published work. Sometimes it was because of the specific methodology used and the particular timeliness of the research problem. This is an incomplete science that comes with experience, but which is not infallible; ideally, it would involve more senior scholars with expertise covering all eight areas. This was partly achieved with the review of the

Research Peer Group twice in the process of completing the study. The views and insights, and challenges, of the Research Peer Group provided welcome debate and contribute to the study recommendations about the need for a dynamic on-going process for identifying high-quality research for gender sensitive policy development.

The bibliographies of these articles were reviewed and new items of research that fitted the search parameters and citations were added to RefWorks. Where possible, a PDF file of the research was added to the DropBox Library. Overall, this process was more efficient for locating relevant research in comparison to using the online search engines.

Recommendations for future scoping of gender-related research include the following:

- *Expand the search process to include the scanning of and drilling down into the bibliographic references contained within specific items of research.*
- *Repeat the search process by selecting more items of research or following the publication path of a particular author.*
- *Deepen the research process by following the citations of an item of research and then drill down to into those that have used this research.*
- *Support a process for recognised experts to collectively assess the quality of research.*

Organisational Scanning

The fourth step in the search process was scanning the websites of the following organisations to locate research papers. The websites were reviewed and new items of research that fitted the search parameters were added to the RefWorks bibliographic database, and if possible, a PDF file of the research was added to the DropBox Library.

The organisations that were searched included:

- The University of the South Pacific (USP)
- Fiji National University (FNU)
- National University of Samoa (NUS)
- University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG)
- Australian National University (ANU)
- The University of Hawai‘i (UoH)
- The University of Auckland (UoA)
- La Trobe University
- University of Queensland (UQ)
- UN Women
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- CARE International

- Oxfam New Zealand / Australia
- Pacific Community (SPC)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Pacific Centre
- United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) Pacific
- International Labour Organisation (ILO)
- International Women’s Development Agency (IWDA)
- Young Women’s Christian Association (YWCA) in the Pacific
- The Fiji Women’s Rights Movement (FWRM)
- SPC’s Regional Rights and Resource Team (RRRT)
- Fiji Women’s Crisis Centre (FWCC)
- FemLINK Pacific / Women, Peace, and Human Security
- Tonga Ma’a Fafine mo e Famili
- Women and Children Crisis Centre (WCCC), Tonga
- Vanuatu Women’s Centre (WVC)
- Australia’s Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)
- New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT)
- Inter Parliamentary Union (IPU)

This search involved retrieving published research from public websites. The scanning of organisational websites also revealed numerous challenges that relate to restricted access. It is important to note that research located within the University of Auckland library and the University of the South Pacific library was accessible due to research teams’ memberships. However, access to other university libraries or university research was restricted. In addition, some organisational website interfaces are difficult to navigate and research was not able to be located. This was an important lesson that has led to the construction of a key recommendation.

Recommendations for future scoping of gender-related research include the following:

- *To provide a more comprehensive database, more time is needed to extend the robust research process outlined above. This would also include directly contacting organisations, universities, librarians, and authors and working with them to identify research. The process of scanning organisational websites was time intensive with few examples of evidence-based research being located, therefore this alternative method of direct contact is expected to lead to better research outcomes.*
- *To ensure an on-going and dynamic process of identifying research and assessing its quality and policy contribution, a clearinghouse process is needed. This can take various forms: see the New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse <https://nzfvc.org.nz/> or Australia’s National*

Research Organisation for Women’s Safety Limited (ANROWS) <http://anrows.org.au/>. It might also take the form of the New Zealand Research Review <http://www.researchreview.co.nz/nz/Home.aspx>. These three options need further scoping to identify the one that best fits the on-going needs of the users of research on gender equality in the Pacific

Consideration: Books, Book Sections, Dissertations, and Theses

The bibliographies and annotated bibliography contain citations for books and book sections. If a book or book section was available electronically, the research items were downloaded and included in the Dropbox library. However, a number of book publications that make a significant contribution to the body of knowledge of gender based research on/by Pacific Island countries are available only in printed format. The citations for these items of research have been included in the bibliography, and further review of this material is recommended.

In general, citations for dissertations, theses, in-brief essays, and discussion papers have not been included in the bibliographies and annotated bibliographies unless they are from established researchers. Several of the latter two categories are common in blogs and widely available in websites of some universities’ Pacific programmes (such as the ANU’s State, Society and Governance in Melanesia (SSGM) Program and Crawford’s School of Public Policy). The guiding principle of locating ‘quality’ research led to the decision to exclude this research from the project, because the time constraints did not allow the research team to analyse the material and assess the quality of the research (e.g., what research design and methods were used, what kinds of quality assurance were employed). These recognised limitations have informed the following recommendations.

Recommendations:

- *Continue to search for abstracts and review the evidence-based research located in print format on the topic of gender based research on/by Pacific Island countries.*
- *Develop a system to locate quality research within theses and dissertations. This could begin with a database of all MA theses that received a grade in the A range, and all PhDs which have passed the examined stage. A caveat would need to be included about the quality-assessment process for each university.*

Summary

Although the number of citations here is large, this does not cover all research citations. To develop a comprehensive list requires an on-going process of both systematic searching and focused searching, which was beyond the time available for this scoping study. Overall,

the combination of the search approaches developed led to the identification of 405 citations. During the process of searching for material, adding citations, and creating the Dropbox library, a sensitivity test of the process was conducted to ensure that the research included adhered to the search parameters. This sensitivity test involved reviewing material in particular areas of critical concern. In the process, some articles were excluded because they were either not related to the Pacific, or they did not relate to any of the eight areas. Some articles were included which the systematic search process had not captured.

The breadth of research collected resulted in new categories of research on gender which were outside the eight critical areas. This includes research on gender relations, peace and security, religion, culture, and femininities. Our view is that some of this material has relevance to the intent of this study, and the bibliographies of these new areas have been included for future consideration.

The main outputs of this section of the study are bibliographies and annotated bibliographies containing the citations and abstracts of each item of evidence-based gender research on Pacific Islands from 1994 – 2014. These bibliographies have been organised according to different categories, depending on the focus of the research or type of publication. It is important to note that the intersecting research focus of many items of research has resulted in some items appearing in more than one bibliographical category. These bibliographies are located in Appendix 1.

The assessment of quality used in locating this research is based on the proxy measure of quality – that is, citations in peer-reviewed journals. This assessment is based on the notion that published research is of better quality because it has been subject to a robust process of quality assurance. This is a process whereby blinded papers are reviewed by experts in the field. The major considerations relate to the acknowledgment of existing research or theory; the transparency of the design and methods used; the appropriateness of the chosen design and method; its cultural sensitivity; the validity of measurement, internal coherence, and replicability; its reliability; and its clarity.

Journals themselves are also ranked according to their impact and this is a highly technical and often contested field within academia. Ultimately, this proxy measure of quality has some value, but it provides an incomplete picture of quality. Ideally, more gender research from the Pacific would be published in peer-reviewed journals and more Pacific researchers would be peer reviewers in more journals. This is part of the capacity building needed among Pacific researchers.

Poorly designed weak research is also found in peer-reviewed journals, and not all research published in peer-reviewed journals is of high quality. Often, research from the Global South is excluded from consideration in journals which primarily serve the Western academy. Often, journals from the Global South struggle to get enough papers or the resources to publish regularly. What is needed is an

inclusive and broad approach to identify quality research in the Pacific, but more specifically in the area of gender research. This is a key recommendation of this initial study.



- 3 -

Research Access and Research Use



To further understand how gender research is discovered and used in the Pacific region, a survey questionnaire was developed using the Internet Survey Monkey tool. The objectives of this survey were threefold:

1. to engage and inform the gender-research community in the Pacific on the scope and intent of this research project;
2. to gather perspectives on what constitutes 'quality' gender research via asking respondents to provide examples of quality research. These examples allowed us to cross-check our own list of research items, and, if the item was not included, to locate the research and include it in our literature review; and
3. to collect data on the sex, age, and self-identification of the respondents (Pacific/non-Pacific), their highest level of academic qualification and year of completion, and their current job title/role in their institution.

These guiding survey objectives informed a set of questions that explored each respondent's use of research, access to research, and how they understood research quality and reliability. Respondents were also asked to comment on what constitutes Pacific research and what constitutes a Pacific researcher.

The total number of respondents to the survey was 61. The responses analysed in this report are from the surveys that were fully completed (n=43). There were a number of partially completed surveys (n=18).

The survey questionnaire involved the following stages:

- A contact database was constructed using the contact details from existing databases of organisations and searching online.
- One hundred and sixty people were emailed with an explanation of the research project and asked to complete an online survey.
- Two reminder emails were sent to those who had not yet completed the survey.
- The survey data was imported into NVIVO for storage, management, and analysis.
- Demographic data on the respondents was coded using NVIVO's Node Classification function.
- The coding of open-ended responses was done in a two-stage process.
 - Open coding (going through all responses and creating preliminary labels/codes for emergent themes).
 - Axial coding (identifying relationships and linkages between the codes).

- Quantitative analysis was carried out where applicable.

The results of the survey are discussed in the following narrative.

Accessing Research

Actively Searching for Research

The most frequent means used by respondents to actively search for or access research was an Internet search engine, e.g., Google, with 86% of respondents saying that they used this method either frequently or very frequently (see Figure 1). This high proportion is believed to be associated with the availability of free search engines. The number drops sharply with online academic/bibliographic databases which approximately half of the respondents could access.

Much lower access is associated with subscription-based search engines. The subscription-access problem was encountered more by those respondents residing in Pacific Island countries than by those in Australia, New Zealand, and other non-Pacific Island countries. As subscriptions are generally expensive for individuals, researchers would only have access through their institution or organisation of work. Those not working for institutions or who are in organisations with limited or no funds to subscribe, would not have the same level of access as those located in well-resourced institutions outside the region.

Frequency of Actively Searching for Research

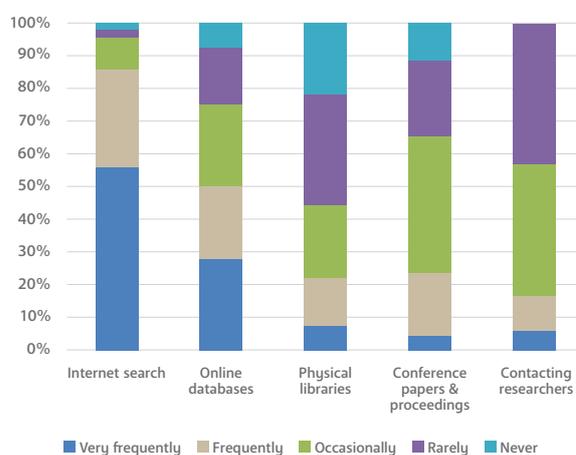


Figure 1: Frequency of actively searching for research, by means.

The experience of a Fiji-based independent consultant points to this: on several occasions she had to ask her friends at the university to help with accessing gender references for her work. Over half of the respondents rarely or never access research by visiting the library of an academic or technical institution. Fewer than 20% of

respondents say that they access research frequently or very frequently by contacting the researcher directly.

Passively Accessing Research

The two most frequent modes of passively accessing research was if the respondent had research items sent to them by someone else or if they came across it on social media. These results indicate the increasing role of individual-driven online networks as a means for accessing or communicating research. Much of this is informal in nature (social media) and relatively cheap to users. Social media's growing influence in sending and receiving research information points to the need for researchers and/or their organisations to be more open with sharing resources via this mode (see Figure 2).

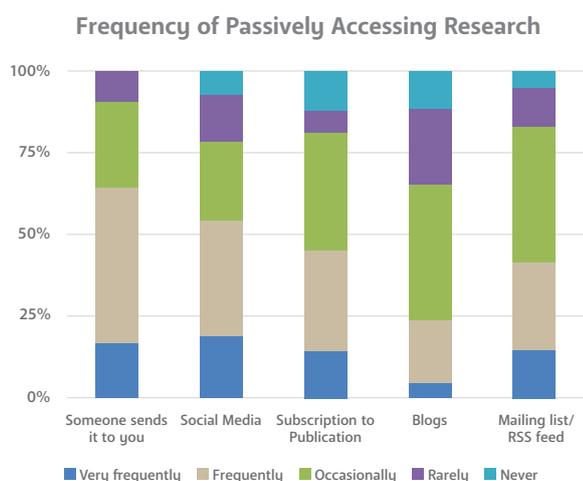


Figure 2: Frequency of passive access of research, by type.

Problems Associated with Accessing Online Research

The other major problem identified by respondents was to do with either poor Internet connectivity or data restrictions that made downloading large publications difficult. Respondents were asked how frequently they encountered particular difficulties in accessing online publications. Fifteen respondents reported that they frequently encountered subscription barriers to accessing publications, another 20 stated that this was a problem they encountered occasionally. The majority of respondents also reported either frequently or occasionally not being able to access publications because they were not available online, or because of broken links to their locations (see Figure 3).

When asked whether there were any additional problems to do with accessing online research, five respondents identified difficulties to do with actual Internet access, in terms of either poor Internet connectivity or data restrictions, that made accessing or downloading large publications difficult. Four of these respondents were based in Pacific Island countries, working either in government, academia, for an NGO, or as a consultant. The fifth is a

student at a New Zealand university, who specified that her access problems were only when working from home.

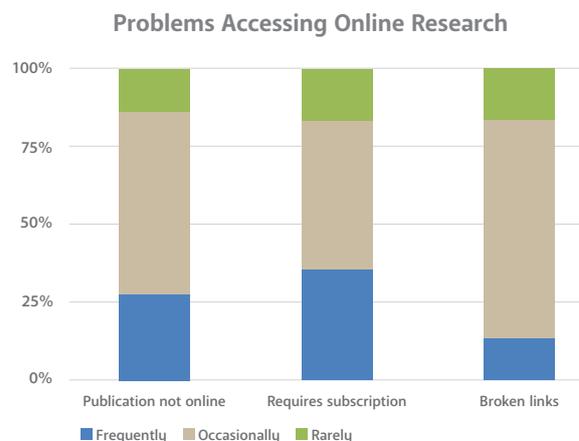


Figure 3: Problems associated with accessing online research.

Use of Research

Research Used by Respondents in Academia

All but one of the respondents whose current role was in an academic institution stated that they used research findings either frequently or very frequently in their work. The main ways in which they reported using research findings were:

- as part of their teaching role – to use in lectures, seminars, or for training of research students, and to assign as readings in a course;
- to inform and refer to in their own writing – this writing covered a wide variety of writing such as academic papers, theses, reports, training documents, discussion papers, and blogs;
- to assist them, in a more general sense, with staying up-to-date with the work in their field, for knowledge, understanding, and reflection; and
- to seek funding for research, to develop new research programmes, or to identify new areas that are under-researched.

Participants were also asked about the research that had been useful to them. Useful research ranged from specific research findings that were already in the database, some recent, some from almost 20 years ago; research located in organisational or NGO or government reports; video projects; and some unpublished research. This range indicates both a very healthy diet of research use but also a very diverse range of understandings of what is useful. Assessing the quality of this range requires an on-going and systematic process of quality assurance.

Research Used by Respondents in UN, Regional/ Bilateral Organisations, and NGOs

Most respondents in these organisations reported frequent use of research findings, although some said they used them only rarely or occasionally. The main ways in which they reported using research findings were:

- to inform and develop programme design and activities;
- to prepare training or awareness-raising material, including speeches;
- to write briefs or otherwise provide advice for government/policy-makers; and
- to write research papers/reports.

Respondents in NGOs reported using research findings in awareness-raising activities with the wider community, and for advocacy and lobbying, or for informing management decisions.

Conducting Research

Respondents who were actively engaged in conducting research as part of their current job were then asked to identify roles they personally played in carrying out research. Eighteen of the 31 were personally involved in at least five of the eight roles described (see Figure 4).

The role carried out by the most respondents was that of communicating research findings (26 of the 31). The writing of research publications was the role carried out the least often (18 of the 31).

The majority of respondents (including 11 of the 12 who do not currently do research as part of their current job) said they would like to do more research.

Research Capacity

Of the 38 respondents who work within an organisation, 29 rated their organisations as having good or very good research capacity.

When asked what they would recommend in order to improve the research capacity of their organisations, the responses ranged across the following categories:

- A major theme of the responses was better resources; this was brought up in terms of funding, staffing, time, and electronic library access, as well as in overall “investment in Pacific research.”
- Better collaboration and partnerships, specifically among Pacific-based research institutions.
- Training and mentoring of personnel within the organisation.
- Encouraging linkages between research and policy – “facilitate policy fit with academic research so it doesn’t just gather dust on academic-library shelves but actually finds policy-making ground.”
- A more reasonable ethics-approval process – “All of the important issues for women in the Pacific (such as violence, marriage, religious beliefs) are considered ‘sensitive’ and high risk - so researchers get knocked back.”

Overall, these recommendations from the survey are also echoed in the interviews of 17 key informants, 13 in Suva and four in Port Moresby. Processes for accessing research were generally ad hoc and based on contacts with reliable colleagues. There is clearly room for a more systematic delivery of research digests to email lists.

Building research capacity in the Pacific has been the focus of various initiatives over the years (e.g., Oceania

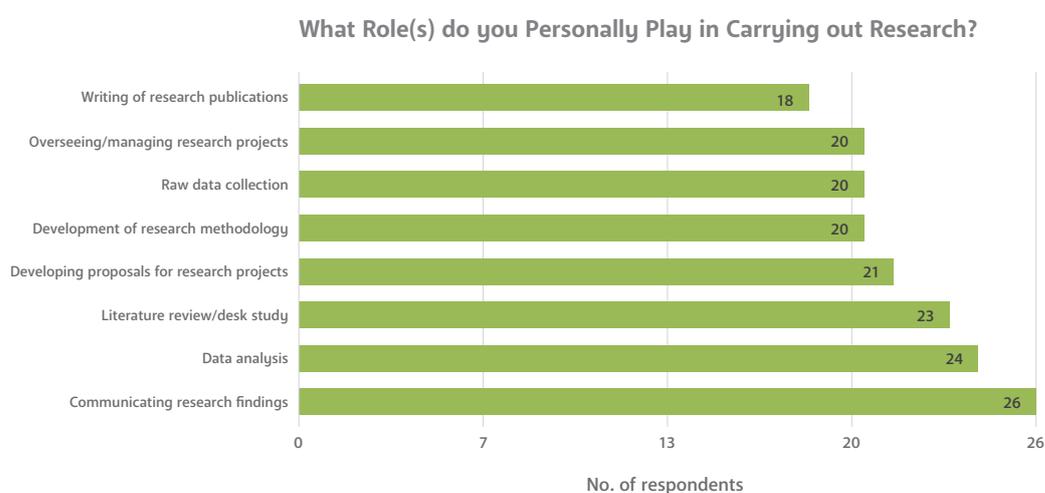


Figure 4: Research roles played by survey respondents

Development Network). However, there is yet to be a specific focus on building gender research. Senior women researchers spoke of the value of research collaborations with other universities in the region as well as with universities in Australia, New Zealand, and the USA. The underlying principle behind these collaborations would need to be explicitly about building the capacity of Pacific researchers and institutions. This an on-going process which, as one survey respondent noted, requires senior researchers “designing and leading programmes, often writing them up but featuring the names of all the research team.” Basic literacy and numeracy skills need to be developed, as do skills in research design, data collection, qualitative and quantitative analysis, research management, and communicating research findings. These skills are best packaged in university-based graduate-teaching programmes. To advance this idea, a specific study would need to be undertaken to scope the establishment of a Pacific Gender-Research Institute. Such an institute might focus on developing research outcomes, supporting research collaboration, and providing capacity building (teaching, research, and communication).

The ‘Identity’ of the Pacific Researcher

Respondents were asked to describe their research position to provide an indication of the current level of Pacific-research capacity in the region. The high-level finding from this question was that 13/43 respondents **do not** describe themselves as a ‘Pacific Island researcher’ compared to 30/43 respondents who **do**. This result requires a little more analysis.

Being a Pacific Islander by ethnicity or heritage was not a ubiquitous component of the responses, and many respondents (both those with Pacific citizenship and those without) either did not mention these factors, or specifically stated that they were not part of how they defined the term ‘Pacific researcher.’ Nevertheless, ‘not being a Pacific Islander’ was the main reason why those without Pacific Island citizenship did not consider themselves to be ‘Pacific researchers’. In addition, responses raised issues of ethics, positionality, and benefit-sharing as part of their definitions for the term ‘Pacific researcher.’ Overall, three categories of definitions were gleaned from the responses to both the survey and the key-informant interviews.

What is a ‘Pacific Island researcher’?

- A person of any heritage doing research that is Pacific focused.
- A Pacific-heritage person doing research that is Pacific focused.
- A Pacific-heritage person doing research of any kind.

Interviews with key informants also revealed mixed views on what constituted a Pacific researcher, with the focus

being on quality research. However, there was a clear desire to see capacity-building among younger and emerging Pacific-heritage women researchers. These descriptions are unpacked in more detail in Figure 5.

Citizenship and Self-Identification as a Pacific Researcher

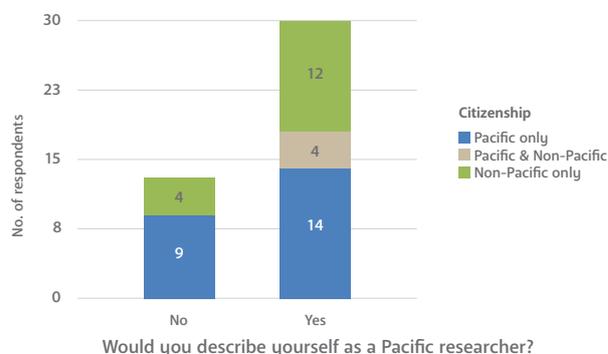


Figure 5: Citizenship of respondents and self-identification as a Pacific researcher.

The survey also sought to explore perceptions of how we should be thinking about the existing level of Pacific gender-research capacity. The respondents were asked if they self-identified as a Pacific researcher and also to think more widely about ‘Pacific research.’ This section builds upon the survey results above to provide more qualitative interpretations and analysis upon the open-ended question:

1. “What does the term ‘Pacific researcher’ mean to you?”

In broad terms, the responses to this question focused on three main themes:

- What makes a person a ‘researcher’?
- What makes the research ‘Pacific’ research?
- What makes the person a ‘Pacific’ researcher?

Each of these categories has been expanded in the sections below to illustrate the predominant perceptions under each of these questions.

What Makes a Person a ‘Researcher’?

Definitions of what makes a person a ‘researcher’ are open to interpretation and connected to the respondent’s own experiences of ‘doing research.’ This question brought forth perceptions of being a ‘researcher’ among a group of respondents who characteristically perform multiple roles in addition to research, such as advocacy work, policy work, and teaching.

Actively engaged in undertaking, writing and publishing research.

Not sure whose definition we’re working from. Too academic sounding. Leaves no room for the natural, helper, healers as researchers.

The first of these responses illustrates a more conventional view of performing research and suggests looking at research capacity from the perspective of writing and publishing research. However, the second response suggests a wider definition and indicates that narrowing the view to academic research excludes research being performed in a wider sense.

What Makes the Research 'Pacific' Research?

The question of what makes research 'Pacific' research incorporated a variety of perceptions ranging from the geographical context and the population focus of the research, through to research participation and Pacific-based community outcomes. For example:

Most responses included a reference to the location of the research being done, i.e., in the Pacific:

Person conducting research in the Pacific.

A person who undertakes research in one of the countries of the Pacific region.

Others referred to the research being 'about' the Pacific or Pacific issues:

A researcher focused on Pacific Island issues.

Research on Pacific issues within the Pacific region.

Some respondents made reference to the process and outcomes of the research:

Conducts research in the Pacific region and in collaboration with Pacific Islanders.

A researcher whose work resonates with Pacific Islanders.

Doing research to improve life of Pacific Islanders.

In a similar manner to the question of "what makes a person a researcher?", these responses encompass a range of views on what constitutes 'Pacific research.' The geographical location of the research featured strongly among the responses, alongside responses which focused on Pacific peoples. The range of responses suggests an expansive framing of 'Pacific research' which includes Pacific people living outside the Pacific region, and research with other people in other places which could improve the lives of Pacific Islanders.

What Makes the Person a 'Pacific' Researcher?

The notion of what makes a person a 'Pacific' researcher is a controversial topic and, in order to create a roadmap for building 'Pacific research' capacity, a deeper understanding of how we define a 'Pacific' researcher is necessary. There was a range of responses to the question of what constitutes a 'Pacific' researcher, covering self-identification, heritage and ethnicity, and connection and commitment to the Pacific. A summary of these responses

has been loosely categorised below to illustrate the multiple positions from which this notion is viewed.

A number of responses specifically referred to being a Pacific Islander through birth, citizenship, ethnicity, or heritage:

A person of Pacific origin.

A Pacific person, by lineage or descent, born and raised there.

One who is born and bred in one of the Pacific Islands.

It means being indigenous to the Pacific and being a researcher.

Others referred specifically to how a person self-identifies:

A researcher who identifies as a Pacific Islander.

Someone who self-identifies as a Pacifican or Pacific Island researcher.

A person who has grown up and identifies as a Pacific Islander.

Some responses included one or more of the above:

A researcher who has Pacific heritage or citizenship, or identifies as being a Pacific Islander.

Other responses specifically stated ethnicity or citizenship were not necessary components for Pacific identity, so long as the research being done was Pacific focused:

A Pacific Islands person doing research in the Pacific or a non citizen doing research on the Pacific.

Someone who researches the Pacific. They don't have to be from the Pacific necessarily.

It means that someone who is from the Pacific (inclusive of Australia and New Zealand) is doing research on Pacific issues or it can also be about Pacific being the field of research which then can be done by any person not necessarily from the Pacific.

In some cases, the length of time a person had worked in the Pacific was mentioned:

Someone who has spent a minimum of 10 years.

Lived and worked there for many years.

Having an interest or passion in Pacific issues:

Someone taking the interest and is passionate about Pacific issues and is keen to learn and study more about how we do and live.

Genuine interest in expanding research on Pacific-interest issues.

Having a Pacific perspective/understanding/connection with the issues was also frequently mentioned:

A person who understands the Polynesian peoples' perspective.

Someone that understands the ins and outs of political, social, economic, and cultural dynamics which categorises the different countries within the Pacific.

Has a wider knowledge and understanding on how the Pacific Islands systems are placed in the world stage.

Actively contributes to the Pacific studies body of knowledge and/or practice in an ethical, respectful and empowering way.

Accountable to Pacific Islanders.

Always interested in amplifying the Pacific voice.

Believes in and employs as a central part of their research praxis Pacific values and well-being as defined by their (Pacific peoples') epistemological frameworks.

In combination, the quantitative and qualitative responses to Pacific-research capacity in the field of gender research in the Pacific demonstrate a good level of Pacific-research capacity, although clearly the number of researchers with Pacific heritage is not large. However, before future priorities can be designed, more work is needed to identify how this can be achieved, and how we would know when we get there. There are clearly some researchers who have a strong connection and commitment to the Pacific and seek to deepen this by building local research capacity. There are others who signal the need for an expanded view of the 'region' and do not place as much value on the location of the researchers. Yet overall, there was a recognition that researchers located in the Pacific are best positioned to undertake research because they have greater access to research communities, but they are less likely to be able to commit as much time to undertake research. This is particularly so for researchers teaching at Pacific universities where teaching loads are high. Researchers who live or have lived for significant periods of time in the Pacific are also often more attuned to the daily lived experience of women in the Pacific and can develop the respectful, ethical, and on-going social relationships which are central to high-quality research.

Identified Research Priorities and Recommendations

The survey questionnaire asked respondents to identify future priorities for gender research in the Pacific and make recommendations relating to capability and capacity building of gender researchers in the Pacific. The identified research priorities predominantly aligned with the eight critical areas of gender research upon which this report focuses. There were, however, new areas of gender research identified such as services and infrastructure, peace and security, family, land, migration, governance,

extractive industries, religion and custom, and femininities. In addition, the survey and the key-informant interviews revealed a demand for more gender research in the Pacific and the development of stronger, more robust research processes. The comments within this survey have been used to construct a list of recommendations.

Recommendations:

- *Better access is needed to research material which has been quality assured. Internet searching and the personal connection with researchers are useful but not systematically robust ways of accessing quality research. A clearinghouse process is needed. One model is for junior researchers or research assistants in the Pacific to source new research while senior researchers review the material and write short briefs that are widely and routinely circulated. This is the process used in the successful New Zealand Medical Review (which also works in Australia).*
- *Formal collaborations between Pacific-based research institutions should be developed or revived.*
- *Formal collaboration between researchers and policy makers should be developed – "facilitate policy fit with academic research so it doesn't just gather dust on academic-library shelves but actually finds policy-making ground."*
- *An ethics-approval process needs to be developed to facilitate research on critical, but often sensitive and high-risk, research on women. This needs to be placed within wider training on research protocols.*



- 4 -

Literature Review



The following section presents a review of the literature in the eight critical areas specified in the TOR. There are new and emerging areas of research but they are not included in this section, given the parameters and time constraints of the study. However, an extensive range of bibliographies has been developed, located in Appendix 1.

The reviews that follow are derived from prior knowledge of each subject area as well as articles found in the systemic searching of research. They do not represent a comprehensive review of literature, given the extent of the research identified and the time available for this scoping study. It was also beyond the ability of the senior team members of the consultancy team who do not claim expertise in all eight critical areas as well in the emerging areas. Rather, these review sections seek to capture key findings from research which they identify as 'high-quality' research. The main way to identify high-quality research across the range of subject areas and countries is that the research was published in peer-reviewed journals. Even then, some journals have higher quality-assurance standards than others. High-quality research was also identified with reference to known scholars and their reliability over time. Organisational reports are subject to internal review processes, but as these are rarely subject to external review, quality-assurance processes are hard to verify. The boundaries between research, policy, and evaluation is not a clear one and it is highly likely that quality evaluation and/or research was often drawn upon to develop policy. Distinctions between 'research' and 'information' are constantly under discussion, which takes us back to the need for dynamic and open processes of quality assurance.

A comprehensive review of critical areas would require locating more research material. This would include:

- More in-depth scanning of online academic databases (specially to identify books, book chapters, oral presentations informed by research, and good quality MA and PhD theses referred to in policy documents).
- More in-depth searching of non-academic websites (of each government and relevant government departments, of each development agency, of each donor agency, and of each NGO).
- Interviews with the users of research to identify other research material.

Subsequent to identifying research material in this manner, a process for assessing quality would need to be developed. The best people to do this would be scholars in the field. This could be combined with inviting them to comment on the research material and, in particular, how it builds on prior knowledge and gaps in the research. Insights from interviews with key informants, many of whom are based in universities or research institutes in the Pacific, reveal that they would have more time to comment if they did not also have to undertake the time-consuming process of searching and scanning. In lieu of not having expertise in all of the eight areas covered in this study,

the following reviews are of uneven quality. However, an attempt is made to provide a critical-feminist analysis of the broad areas of concern.

Education

Addressing gender inequalities in educational success has been a significant research focus globally and in the Pacific. This focus emerged in the 1990s as a challenge against the economics-driven approach to formal education of the previous decades (Fairbairn-Dunlop, 1994b, 2000). Education policies that are solely underpinned by economic models of educating countries' human resources to improve their production capacity, increased saving, and economic growth, have had some negative sociocultural and economic consequences. In the Pacific, problems included increased urbanisation associated with the search for waged employment, increased unemployment rates, and a growing number of female-headed households (Fairbairn -Dunlop, 2000; Scheyvens, 1998). Despite millions of dollars of aid money allocated to education departments in the Pacific in the 1970s and 1980s, these did not address issues such as equal participation of boys and girls in schools, fair distribution of resources for urban and rural schools, the treatment of girls in schools, the relevance of the education provided, and societal factors discriminating against girls and women (Hindson, 1995). In addition, a notably high female-illiteracy rate prevalent across the Pacific at the time, especially in Melanesia, led education researchers to question the capacity of the economics approach to satisfactorily deal with the "complex reality of the human condition (e.g., gender/ethnicity)" (Kedrayate & Schulz, 1996, p. 38).

Attention to these issues defines education research since the 1990s. Driven mainly by the UN Declaration on Education for All (EFA) and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the first instance, much research in the Pacific focuses on the range of gender-differentiated access to basic education (e.g., cost, transportation, competing care responsibilities; Gibson, 2000b; Gibson & Rozelle, 2004); transition from primary to secondary to tertiary education, and transition into employment (Chattier, 2013; Spark 2010, 2011; Strachan et al., 2010).

The MDG's emphasis on "universal primary education by 2015" stressed the need to reduce the gender gap in primary schools. Cases of bias against girls' education have persisted across the region, and the level of commitment by respective countries to resolve the issue has varied considerably. Research on literacy and numeracy rates and the ratio of girls to boys in schools still shows gender gaps as well as low skill achievements (UNESCO, 2008). Since 2009, there has been a general positive trend in this regard for the Pacific, although questions of quality of

primary-education delivery and rate of school attendance remain a concern (Nanau et al., 2014). Access to universal primary education was strengthened by the introduction of national legislations on compulsory primary education as well as policies on 'fee-free education' since the 2010s. While these have, in some ways, helped in closing the gender gap in primary schools, problems remain with regards to enforcing legislation, given parents' resistance, and with management of free-education budgets at the school levels.

While research based on instrumental concerns provides useful insights, it often fails to acknowledge the rights-based arguments and therefore the fundamental structural issues that require attention. For instance, to address the safety of girls attending educational institutions, locking girls in dorms at night (which had tragic consequences in Tuvalu) is a policy approach that is very different to providing comprehensive sexual and reproductive-health education (Underhill-Sem, 2003). Further instrumental arguments for education for women erroneously promote the idea that education is the 'best contraceptive.'

Workforce issues are also of interest in the education field given, the high percentage of women employed in this sector. The secondary school system is generally considered to lack relevance to labour-market needs. With too much emphasis on the expectation of future professional employment or white-collar jobs, youth unemployment figures are likely to continue to rise, and research into the gender dimensions of this would make an excellent masters thesis. The lack of diversity of skills training means that employment prospects by gender are not thoroughly considered.

Recent studies show the importance of the role of non-formal education in improving women's employment chances, how gender values are shaped by society, and how to use stories of women school teachers to personalise the teaching profession (Afamasaga, 2009; Kedrayate & Shultz, 2006; McCormick, 2014).

Critical gender research in education should focus on issues of the inclusion of students regardless of, for instance, disability, vernacular language, geography, religion, sexual orientation, and age. It should also address modes of delivery of education such as distance education, as well as different ways to provide lifelong learning. Also welcome would be the addition of a gender perspective to research into the provision of appropriate and sustainable infrastructure and transport, especially as this relates to education.

Future-identified research areas under the category of education include: developing primary-school curricula that challenge gender stereotypes, such as girls taking science subjects, and incorporating accounts by women into history subjects; technical and vocational training for girls; transition to decent work and the different implications in rural and urban areas; how to incorporate comprehensive sexuality education in schools; the possibilities of gender-sensitivity training in teacher-training institutions; how to fund and

enforce compulsory education at primary schools for all; gender analysis of technical and vocational training; gender gaps in government-sponsored scholarship and formal training opportunities for girls in non-traditional areas like engineering, agriculture and vet science; and education-workforce issues - gendered and women at lower levels than men.

Health

Gender and health research in the Pacific used to be narrowly focused on women and maternal and child health but over time there has been an expansion of topics covered, as well as more diverse approaches to research. Basic research on women and maternal health remains important given high levels of maternal mortality and as new health challenges emerge (e.g., zika virus). These continue to be complicated by the persistence of other conditions such as neglected tropical diseases, menstrual disorders, and the effect of malaria or TB on maternal and family health.

Increasingly, health research has recognised the interrelated nature of health concerns, as well as the social dimensions of health (Kanemasu & Molnar, 2015; Lepani, 2008a; Seeley & Butcher, 2006; Stewart, 2004; World Health Organisation [WHO], 2011). Research on gender and health in the Pacific continues at key universities and medical research institutes with a continuing focus on HIV/AIDS (Meleisea, 2009), STIs (Hammar, Gucake, & Strobel, 2013; Man et al., 2013), maternal health (Lukere & Jolly, 2002), unplanned pregnancy (Reimers & UNDP, 2006), malaria and TB, and other communicable and non-communicable diseases. There is also research on gendered behaviour such as the link to use/non-use of contraceptives.

More attention is also being given to research on the gendered health implications of obesity, sorcery-related violence (Forsyth & Eves, 2015), sexual violence (Medicins Sans Frontiers, 2010) and disabilities (Spratt, 2013; Stubbs and Tawake, 2009; Tnines, 2010). A critical gender analysis in health research would take the above into account and also look for structural impediments such as differential access to services, resources, and medicines.

There is growing interest on research about how trade affects public health through food supply and food preferences (McDonald, 2015). Examining the gendered health effects of economic activities, such as tourism, forestry, fisheries, and mining, have particular policy relevance. Another key area of research would be on the mental-health impacts of trauma, especially sexual violence, but also in relation to disasters and civil conflict.

Official government and agency reports consist mostly of national surveys with quantitative analysis for prevalence rates (e.g., WHO, 2005). The series of "Family Health and Safety Studies" across several countries in the Pacific was a well-resourced nation-wide research project that examined the extent and nature of GBV and its impact on women's health. The multi-country studies, started in

2006, highlighted the extensive nature and deep impact of domestic violence on women's physical, mental, and reproductive health (Jansen et al., 2012; SPC, 2006, 2009, 2010a). Subsequent research has identified the costs of inaction (Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development, 2014; UN Women, 2013b). These reports, as well as many other large-scale commissioned studies of health and domestic violence, did not have the authors' names but only that of the commissioning agencies. It seemed the majority of large-scale commissioned research on family health and safety was authored either solely or by a group of non-Pacific Islander researchers, based in universities and institutes in Australia and New Zealand. These studies were funded by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) through UNFPA with technical support from WHO (whose model it followed) and undertaken in collaboration with national governments and the SPC. In each case, local researchers were involved. This a very good example of collaborative gender research.

Research on particular health issues related to women, such as maternal health and malaria transmission from mother to child, includes both clinical and broadly social research and is therefore often found in databases not necessarily covered by this review. However, it would be useful to examine this because of the peripheral insights that come from medical research. There is also the possibility of more gender-relevant findings in medical or clinical research in which sex-disaggregation is a standard technique of analysis. There is also health-related research that covers workforce issues such as the supply and mobility of health personnel in the Pacific.

Future identified research areas under the category of health include: the effects of environmental poisoning from extractive industries, agriculture, and small industry; disability due to work-related accidents; health needs of older women; depression and suicide; LGBTI health issues; the sustainability of health systems and their management and funding; gendered-health workforce issues such as women at low levels, shortages of skilled staff, imported care workers; alcohol abuse and addictive behaviour like gambling.

In addition, research is needed into cancers affecting women (breast, cervical, and ovarian), access to early detection screening and treatment and the various gendered dimensions of non-communicable diseases (such as who makes food purchasing choices, who eats what in families, and who are the primary care givers of the young, the elderly, and the disabled).

Environment and Climate Change

Gender and climate change constitutes a relatively small component of the Pacific climate-change literature. Compared to other regions (e.g., Asia and Africa), published research on this topic in the Pacific is thin. The paucity of research on gender and climate change may not be surprising given the absence of gender in the 2005 *Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change 2006-2015*

– a framework drawn upon international documents such as the Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction.

The few scholars on Pacific gender and climate change have argued for the need to explore gender in research within the social, economic, and environmental components of the Pacific Islands Framework. However, the persistently low number of publications could be an indication of a bigger issue, relating to the lack of Pacific gender scholars with climate change/environment-related expertise.

The literature categorises climate change under the subject of 'disaster', which falls under the overarching framework of human security and sustainable development. As such, approaches to adaptation, disaster risk management, and resource management are often applied to specific discussions on gender and climate change. As Anderson (2009) argues, gender analysis can be used in all phases of the disaster cycle. For example: disaster preparedness involves training and awareness programmes for both women and men; disaster response involves consideration of gender-responsive relief assistance and protection; and adaptation involves the inclusion of gendered local knowledge on water use, crops and planting cycles, and soil improvement.

The most common focus of the literature is gendered approaches to climate-change adaptation. Two factors are at the heart of the discussion: (i) the extreme vulnerability of Pacific Island environments to climate change and, (ii) the recognition of women's participation in areas like fisheries, agriculture, and informal small-scale businesses. The impact of irregular and extreme weather patterns on the environment and natural resources threatens the sustainability of these forms of livelihood, involving a high number of women. Immediate and long term consequences are worse for women whose ecological knowledge is not always considered because of their limited participation in decision making on resource use and management.

As the potential for irregular weather patterns increases with climate change, understanding the capacities of women, men, girls, and boys in addressing their risk is crucial. As Lane and McNaught (2009) argue, "Gendered division of labour in non-disaster or normal times inform the way and extent to which communities can adapt to extreme climatic events. Local gender-specific knowledge must be recognised; it can contribute much to furthering the existing body of knowledge on climate change" (p. 69).

Linked to this focus is the subject of women and land. In islands with matrilineal land systems, women's traditional role in land management is increasingly constrained by administrative systems and land-reform processes which are controlled by men and do not recognise the diverse roles of women in land tenure and management. Land deals for agriculture and mining, for example, involving government officials and investors, often exclude women, as their respective representatives, predominantly men, prefer to consult with local men. This is not new and is in

part attributed to inherited-patriarchal colonial systems that were introduced into the Pacific. Stege, Maetala, Naupa and Simo (2008) note that this neglect has continued today when it comes to land and natural-resource use and management. This forms part of the challenge for gender specialists in the field because the problem is tangled with behavioural norms that may not be easily resolved by inserting gender measures in policy or strategies.

An equally important aspect of the gender and climate-change literature is the discussion on its link to VAW and their health. Global research shows that after disasters strike, pre-existing vulnerabilities and patterns of gender discrimination are usually exacerbated, and women face protection risks including unequal access to assistance, discrimination in aid provision, loss of documentation, and inequitable access to property restitution. A lack of security in shelters or camps, impunity for perpetrators of violence, and a breakdown of social structures that is often prevalent in a crisis, also result in protection risks for women. Women may face heightened risk of domestic violence, and other forms of sexual and gender-based violence (GBV) and exploitation, including trafficking. These problems are already happening in parts of the Pacific. The possibility of increase is high, hence gender researchers and practitioners treat the inclusion of women in climate-change-related decision-making in all levels of governance as a matter of urgency.

Other areas of critical gender research include research into the design of safe housing, in relation to ensuring protection, but accessibility; and research into the best ways of providing trauma counselling and mitigating post-traumatic stress.

Authors on gender and climate change are mainly researchers based in research institutions outside the Pacific, mainly in Hawai'i and Australia. As expected, most of them are women scientists who seem to have picked up 'gender' as a late or side interest in their career as resource management and climate-change scientists. This points to the need for scientists who are also qualified in gender/feminist theoretical and research analysis.

Economic Empowerment

Research on the economic empowerment of women in the Pacific has a long history covering different sectors (e.g., Emberson-Bain, 1994), and in different countries (Leckie, 2005). Recently published research covers fisheries (Chapman, Bertram, & Pasisi, 2005; Demmke, 2006; Lambeth, 1999, 2000; Ram-Bidesi, 2010; Vunisea, 2006), oil palm (Koczberski, 2007), and coffee (Overfield, 1998), in rural areas (Pamphilon, Mikhailovich, & Chambers, 2014), and food marketing (Dewey & Bolabola, 2014; Kruijssen et al., 2013; Underhill-Sem, Cox, Lacey, & Szamier, 2014) in urban areas.

Research on economic empowerment traverses a number of approaches, for example: descriptive studies of the formal labour force using gender-disaggregated

data in various sectors, for particular groups of women, and/or in particular geographical locations; analysis of microeconomic processes that produce gender inequalities such as bride price or access to financial services; and discussion of macroeconomic practices, like trade policies, that create or exacerbate gender inequalities (Jones, Chattier, Sibley, & Salpietra, 2013). There are also methodological studies, such as the value of time-use studies, and studies of new economic practices like gambling. There are also numerous anthropological studies that provide useful background to, and relevant insights into, contemporary economic practices in particular places, such as *pasinja meri* and transactional sex (Stewart, 2014; Wardlow, 2006).

Country-level research often focuses on characteristics of unequal gender participation in formal employment. For instance, research on Fiji notes that despite many regulatory measures established in the late 1960s to help promote women's workplace rights to varying extents, they became largely ineffective as a result of decades of military governments (Narsey, 2007; Parker & Arrowsmith, 2014). The research showed that key positions in the Solomon Islands public service are predominantly filled by men (Braun, 2012) and that women still have the prime responsibility of household care, even if they were employed.

There are some critical economic sectors where research with an explicit gender focus is still light. This includes work in the forestry and mining sectors, sago production, and light industry. There is also a dearth of research on women's economic empowerment in sectors where women predominate, such as the care industry (Tua'a, 2010), education, and hospitality. Research on informal and 'black-market' or illegal economic practices is still scarce and difficult to undertake, but important given the macroeconomic evidence of poorly performing national economies, dual economies, and the implications of this on the availability of formal employment. Macroeconomic analysis of the nature trade (Espino & Underhill-Sem, 2012; Ferguson & Mironesco, 2008) and extent of poverty (Chattier, 2012; Jones et al., 2013), and the challenges of supporting sustainable development (Lacey, 2011) makes reference to women being further disadvantaged.

Research has emerged more recently on initiatives aimed at fostering women's economic empowerment through financial-inclusion programmes (Banthia, Tyroler, Schoeffel, & Saho, 2013) and support for small businesses, women's leadership, and entrepreneurialism (Foskey, 2004; Sibley, 2010). However, as with many new economic-empowerment initiatives, research is needed to better understand their impact in different parts of the Pacific.

More attention to microeconomic research would be useful to understand gendered power relations, especially as it examines household economic behaviour and the possibilities for women's economic empowerment. There is considerable anthropological literature on this in the Pacific, especially in the Western Pacific, and this will require careful sifting through by specialist gender scholars. Economic empowerment for women in the formal

sector also requires attention to appropriate education pathways, accessible childcare, parental/maternity leave, and social protection. Research in these areas has begun but it is patchy and requires more attention, especially to support policy changes that improve women's participation (Parker & Arrowsmith, 2014) at all levels in different economic sectors.

Supporting the business case for women's involvement in trade and commerce is welcome. Critical gender research in this area would identify the various ways of working practised by women who are also heavily involved in family and community-care work. This involves recognising the double and triple burdens of women, and the nature and diversity of care arrangements involved. Research on informal economies has grown relatively recently. This includes research on informal collectives of women working together; women working in particular sectors; as well as financial security, social protection systems, and aged care. There has been some useful research-attention focused on markets (Benediktsson, 2002; Dewey & Bolabola, 2014; Kruijssen et al., 2013; Ross, 2005; Sharp, 2013; UN Women, 2009, 2011b, & 2013a; Underhill-Sem et al., 2014; Wang 2014).

Research on accessing resources, especially land (land and marine grabbing), both in rural areas and in rapidly developing informal settlements in urban areas, is needed. This leads back to research that captures the dynamic shifts occurring in many economic sectors, such as tourism and infrastructure, and how these intersect with underlying gender dynamics that affect women's economic empowerment. Ongoing research is needed into the gender wage gap and the implications of extreme economic inequality for gender equality.

Gender Mainstreaming

This has been a long-standing area of feminist advocacy and analysis. Although international research has identified major shortcomings in the practice of gender mainstreaming (Mitchell, 2004; O'Neil, 2004; Parpart, 2013; Wells & McEwan, 2004), there is still an express commitment to continue a policy of gender mainstreaming especially funded by major development agencies.

Recent stocktaking studies of gender mainstreaming in the Pacific have pointed to the need for more work and better coordination in and between government institutions and private sector organisations to try to encourage cross-sectoral engagement on gender. Further, and somewhat paradoxically, continued attention is still needed to support national women's machineries – one of the key institutional features of Pacific gender-mainstreaming practice (Nicholl, 2008b; SPC, 2012a, 2012b, 2012c, 2012d, 2012e, 2012f, 2013a, 2015b, 2015c, 2015d, 2015e; Vuki & Elder, 2014). Yet, the results are disappointing.

There is a need for systematic research to better understand the local contextual barriers and resistance to the implementation of mainstreaming, in particular.

The goal of the SPC stocktakes (2012a, 2012b, 2012c, 2012d, 2012e, 2012f, 2013a, 2015b, 2015c, 2015d, 2015e) was to identify the extent to which there is an enabling environment for mainstreaming to take place. Many country reports identified areas of progress, as well as those needing more effective implementation efforts by governments and stakeholders to improve.

No country has fully achieved gender-equality goals for the key areas of education, health, VAW, and leadership. Appropriate legislative and policy frameworks, political will, and appropriate implementation tools are enabling factors crucial to seeing improved results of gender mainstreaming. The absence of a National Gender Equality Policy in some countries like Tonga and Federated States of Micronesia, makes it difficult to track gender-mainstreaming progress in both government and the private sector. While there is some good collaboration between the state, via the women's machinery, and civil-society groups and development partners in all countries, the lack of a strategic location for women's departments or divisions means they do not have full independence nor are they given priority in terms of programme resources and budget allocation. This is the case for Cook Islands, Tonga, Marshall Islands and FSM, where women's machineries are under the jurisdiction of another ministry.

Specific studies on gender mainstreaming in Fiji's educational-leadership policy (Mohammed, 2013) and the forestry-sector policy (Vuki & Elder, 2014) as well as the health sector in PNG (Lamprell, Greenfield, & Braithwaite, 2015) show its absence or invisibility. Women are still under-represented in managerial and leadership positions in these sectors, and gender mainstreaming does not feature in many of the national programmes for the respective sectors. The overriding research gap includes the need for better understanding of the dynamic nature of decision making and the negotiation of power between political leaders, government officials, and advocacy groups within different governing structures and under different leadership.

The Pacific Community (SPC) stocktakes of gender mainstreaming in the Pacific in 2009-10 highlighted shortcomings in the notion of 'cross-cutting', with many programmes implemented as 'add-ons.' Critical gender research would examine the effectiveness of multi-sectoral co-ordination in gender mainstreaming and evaluate the value of short courses in gender mainstreaming for shifting policy development and changing individual mindsets. Central to this will be the identification of strategies and appropriate implementation tools to address implicit and explicit bias, as well as agency attitudes towards the idea and practice of gender mainstreaming. For example, it is important to gather evidence on the involvement of both women and men in consultations with beneficiaries of services provided by government ministries, on the formulation of gender-sensitive objectives and strategies in programmes and projects, as well as impact assessment on gender equality.

More nuanced research would also examine organisational behaviours and cultures in Pacific government and the

continuation of gender stereotypes that cast women as primary-care givers. As with other areas of concern, much can be learnt from international studies on the paradoxes and existing gaps, especially in the implementation stage of gender-mainstreaming policy.

Leadership and Decision-Making

Much research in this area concerns descriptive gender representation in political leadership at the national level and points clearly to the need for greater understanding of how power works in different places. Research has shown that there is still considerable lip service given to women in formal political leadership. There are diverse reasons for this, ranging from ambivalent voter behaviours to structured political and sociocultural barriers (Baker, 2014b; Huffer, 2006; Siwatibau, Johnston, Khan, & Whippy, 2005). While research has linked these barriers to patriarchal culture and religion, more work is needed to scrutinise the detailed dynamics of such institutions. For example, it is important that research addresses strategies for consistent and meaningful engagement with the church, village governance, and mainstream media.

Gender research continues to point to the need to change the mindsets of leaders and the rest of society. Specific attention needs to be paid to the disconnect between leaders' support for gender equality at regional and international levels on the one hand, and, on the other, the lack of the same at national/community levels. Questions need to be asked on the role of political parties as gatekeepers for women candidates, as well as the impact that the types of electoral systems might have on election outcomes.

Throughout the Pacific, leadership in villages and communities is dominated by men. Research to examine how leadership in this sphere translates to patterns of inequality in national leadership is critical in pinpointing weak links, as in the case of Samoa (Centre for Samoan Studies, 2015). Such work can help towards framing relevant strategies (policy, legislation, programmes, etc.) more specifically for improvement.

Continual public debate in both urban and rural areas is needed to build awareness. We know that there is a strong call for more women in politics, but there are still large impediments to overcome. Critical gender research would examine the possibilities that both descriptive and substantial representations of women would bring.

Important to many voters is the question of how electing more women to parliaments can translate into tangible development outcomes expected by the former. Many Pacific Islanders still struggle to grasp the logic of the campaign, not only in the context of sociocultural and religious realities of their daily life and living, but also in relation to tangible development outcomes.

Thus, as in other parts of the developing world, campaigns tend to suffer from an external drive for a 'women's revolution' and a move to yield to pressure from outside

the Pacific (Tolefoa, 2013). In the Pacific, where gender relations sit at the intersections of other forms of relations considered by Pacific Islanders to be equally, if not more, important – for example, familial, generational, sociocultural, religious, and political relations – meddling with one of these at the expense of the others will result in resistance and non-cooperation. Crucial in this is attention to voters' understanding of actual and perceived benefits associated with improved gender representations in parliaments. It is thus important that research identifies strategies informed by both rights-based approaches and instrumental concerns. These need to be identified by, communicated to, and must involve, all constituents.

There is a lack of knowledge on the extent to which the 'role-model' effect of women politicians influences societal attitudes. In other parts of the world, particularly in Europe, past and current women leaders have, to a large extent, provided a positive impression on younger generations of both women and men.

Globally, a common feature of women leaders in politics and business, at least, is their high level of educational achievement, professional skills, and charisma. Such characteristics are not short among Pacific women. While reality in the Pacific may be different and complex, the need to have insights into the role-model effect of women leaders is timely. During the last four years, the following women have been elected to national governments: Loujaya Toni, Dellilah Gore, and Julie Soso Akeke in PNG; Selina Napa in the Cook Islands; Maere Tekanenem, Rereao Tetaake Eria, Teima Onorio, and Tangariki Reeta in Kiribati; Vika Lusibaea and later Freda Tuki Soriamoota in the Solomon Islands; Pelenike Isaia in Tuvalu; Jiko Luveni as Fiji's first woman Speaker of Parliament; Faimalotoa Kika Stowers in Samoa, Fiaame Naomi Mata'afa as Samoa's first woman Deputy PM, and Hilda Heine as Marshall Islands' president and the first woman head of any Pacific Island state. These are important milestones for these countries. On-going research is timely to better understand how this impetus can be maintained. This will build on the research that shows the individual struggles of successful women leaders (e.g., Pollard & Waring, 2009). More importantly, it should focus the particular institutional strategies that are needed for success and thereby identify the processes by which institutional barriers are created and maintained.

There is virtually no research to date on how Pacific women politicians are ranked within their parties and/or how they impact decision making in parliaments. While gender plays a role in women's (and men's) impact on decision making, the assumption that women MPs would advocate for women's issues remains debatable. There is a lack of information about women MPs' actual decision making and how it characterises the substantive representation of women's interests. It is important, therefore, to think 'beyond bodies' in understanding how women really impact decision making and policy. Whilst legislative changes that benefit women are beginning to emerge in some PICs, these have been attributed mainly to activism by civil society organisations and development partners.

The lack of knowledge on how women's political power affects policy and substantive representation of women's interests could have possibly underpinned leaders' hesitation in persistently lobbying for change within their own national contexts.

Although widely known in the Pacific, especially in the French Territories (see Bargel, Guyon, & Rettig, 2010), quota systems for more women in political leadership continue to be treated with ambivalence, or silence from leaders and society at large (Chattier, 2015; Kidu & Setae, 2002). This raises questions related to the ambivalence of leaders, stakeholders, and local populations. It is crucial to extend research into the dimension of leadership, where the practice of politics is examined with particular regard to the involvement of particular groups of citizens, including women, but also other marginalised groups.

With the possibility of more women running in elections, shifts in perceptions about the quota system and similar strategies might occur. Understanding the role of technology and social media in such changes is also valuable. Equally important is the awareness of how all this might work to encourage women in other spheres of leadership, such as at the local and provincial level, in the public services, private sector, on boards, and in civil society.

Violence Against Women, Including in Conflict Situations

There is a wide range of literature on this area that includes research by women's civil-society groups, development partners, UN agencies, regional organisations, and academia, both within and outside the Pacific. All have highlighted not only the endemic nature of GBV against women in the Pacific but that some of the most pervasive forms of domestic violence are found in the region. Among the first issues identified were partner violence relating to physical, sexual, emotional, and economic abuses (Amnesty International, 2004; SPC, 2006).

Increasingly, studies have focused on 'structures' of violence and routine forms of coercion or threats of violence at the national level (Baines, 2012; Greener, Fish, & Tekulu, 2011). Although most GBV cases occur in the family context, discussions on possible solutions are not confined to the family level. Broader societal implications of domestic violence as well as questions on how the state and civil society could intervene also form parts of the dialogue on solutions (Leslie & Boso, 2003).

Specific concerns about the adverse effects of GBV on women's physical, mental, and reproductive health, on the children who usually witness the violence, and on women's work and financial autonomy underpin much of the discussion (Amnesty International, 2006; AusAID, 2008; SPC, 2006; Vanuatu Women's Centre, 2011). Such a dialogue on GBV has demonstrated effective collaborations among researchers and other stakeholders in various organisations across the region.

Specific in-country studies have elaborated on the causes of GBV based largely on the accounts of the victims, as well as on possible mechanisms to counter the problem. As noted by Fulu et al. (2013):

Partner violence was largely driven by factors related to gender inequality and harmful, hegemonic masculinities within the relationship space. In particular, violence was strongly associated with controlling behaviour, quarrelling, depression, having transactional sex and multiple partners, and experiences of child abuse, among other factors. (p. 14)

Anthropological studies in Papua New Guinea are among the most useful in terms of understanding the link between GBV and the sociocultural and policy contexts. An important aspect of these analyses is the emphasis on the complex nature of gender violence in a country like PNG, with diverse clans, tribal groups, and languages, alongside the complex networks of foreign aid, development assistance, and international agendas (Macintyre, 2012). As such, a one-size-fits-all approach to GBV cannot be recommended.

In this complex context, the question of whether GBV is getting worse or not lingers. While some research recognises the role of the police as central to domestic-violence law enforcement, others have questioned this, saying that many police are reluctant to enforce the law because of their own perception of the legitimacy of GBV (Macintyre 2012). Studies in other parts of the Pacific, however, identified some positive results. For example: Lievore and Fairbairn-Dunlop (2007a, 2007b), in their studies on the Cook Islands and Kiribati; Fairbairn-Dunlop and Lievore (2007a, 2007b) on Samoa and Tonga; Fairbairn-Dunlop (2009) on Vanuatu; and follow-up reviews by Roguski and Kingi (2011a, 2011b). Initiatives were identified that aimed at strengthening the capacity of national police services to prevent and respond effectively to domestic violence. Recommendations from these studies were influential in the establishment of Domestic Violence Units in police departments of these countries.

Collaborative work, particularly involving civil-society organisations, development partners, UN agencies, and regional institutions, is common. A check of the bibliographic references of reviewed references shows that collaborative reports make up the bulk of this literature. Journal articles and e-book chapters are relatively fewer in number. For instance, 20 reports, four journal articles, and two e-books were relevant to the review. A number of discussion papers by Pacific Island women are found at SSGM's (ANU) publication site. While valuable in their own right, most relate more to women's involvement in conflict resolution and peace-building processes, particularly in the Western Pacific. Women's spiritual strength and resilience are significant themes in these papers that, to some extent, overshadow issues of GBV in families and communities that were concurrently reported in other studies.

Most of the literature reviewed was published between 2000 and 2015, as reflected also in the literature review

and annotated bibliography of UN Women's (2010, 2011) *Ending Violence Against Women and Girls: Evidence, Data and Knowledge in Pacific Island Countries*. Non-Pacific researchers were the primary authors of studies in the early 2000s. Examples include the 2004 and 2006 Amnesty International-commissioned study in the Solomon Islands and PNG respectively, and UNICEF-commissioned *Situation Analysis of Women, Children and Youth* for several PICs.

Within the last ten years, collaborations involving Pacific Islander researchers feature more strongly in publications. For example, the two edited e-books published by ANU Press⁶ contain chapters authored by Papua New Guineans and Solomon Islanders. A number of reports by women's organisations in Fiji and Tonga are co-authored by Pacific Islanders. With larger multi-country studies, however, authorship by non-Pacific researchers is prevalent. Several of the materials cover other critical areas also considered in the review, such as health, human rights, and economic empowerment. Examples include the 2005-2006 UNICEF-commissioned *Situation Analysis of Women, Children and Youth* for PICs; the multi-country study on 'Family Health and Safety' commissioned by SPC between 2006 and 2012; the *National Study on Domestic Violence against Women in Tonga* (Jansen et al., 2009), and Fiji Women's Crisis Centre's (2013) *National Research on Women's Health and Life Experiences in Fiji*. The overlap of issues covered in these studies reflects the complex and intersecting nature of VAW, particularly in terms of cause, impact, and policy implication.

Most reports identify and discuss the types, causes, and extent of the impact of VAW, as well as prevention strategies, and these serve as a form of awareness-raising among leaders and the public in general (Baines, 2012; Boodoosingh, 2015). Much of this literature is captured in the UN Women's literature review referred to above.

More recent assessments shift attention to legal analysis on VAW. Spearheaded by SPC's RRRT, the 2013 reports – which served as technical background papers for the governments of Kiribati, Samoa, and Solomon Islands – were written by a team of Pacific Islander women lawyers led by Fijian Imrana Jalal. Recommendations to PIC governments on legislative-reform options constitute the direct policy-oriented nature of this literature. Newer studies give recommendations that complement and reinforce earlier research (Bradley, 2011; Eves, 2007; Leslie & Boso, 2003). As Jewkes et al. (2013) note in their multi-country study: "There are a number of other documents that outline more comprehensive recommendations for prevention, which should be considered along with these recommendations" (p. 156).

More scholarly studies published in journals and books provide sociocultural and anthropological analyses of VAW (Hermkens, 2008; Lateef, 1999). Sorcery and witchcraft are difficult topics to research (Jorgensen, 2014). This difficulty

is becoming evident in studies of the perpetrators of violence as well as alternatives to incarceration for women and men.

On-going research from a critical gender perspective would invite analysis of GBV in particular sectors where economic opportunities transform household and family dynamics, for instance, in seafaring communities and among communities where seasonal workers originate; in areas of entrenched social injustice, for instance, among the poorly housed and those with poor access to basic social services; and among younger populations where new gender relations are still emergent.

As with all work on VAW, research needs to cover ways of ensuring greater protection and enhanced services for victims of violence, more robust legal mechanisms to punish but also to avert violence, and more effective ways of promoting widespread public awareness of zero tolerance for violence. Research is also needed that recognises the inter-relatedness of economic, social, and psychological contexts for violence.

Human Rights

The research literature on this area is the most challenging to sift through because it is entangled with all critical areas in this review. Women's human rights should explicitly underpin all efforts for gender equality, yet over the last 20 years, despite significant work on women's human rights in the Pacific (Jalal, 1998), rights-based research has struggled to retain an active research agenda (but see Pacific Human Rights Law Digest). Some useful research has engaged with the contradictions of modern and indigenous notions of women's human rights (Hermkens, 2008; Jolly, 1996) but far less has been apparent in the areas of women's rights in employment and work, health, and education. For the purposes of this scoping study, the discussion is related mainly to the legal aspects (Farnan, 2000; Forster, Jalal, Jivan, & Mehra, 2003; Jalal, 1998; Wallace, 2000).

The Revised Pacific Platform for Action (SPC, 2005) calls on Pacific Island governments to "continue to play a greater role in the promotion of women's legal and human rights and the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women" (p. 21). As a result, the emphasis on legislation has been an important focus of the literature. Different levels of outcomes are noted for different countries. For example: Fiji's Family Law Act was passed in 2003 after years of lobbying and negotiations between Fiji Women's Rights Movement and the government.⁷

During the next ten years, most Pacific countries struggled to pass similar laws, and the process leading to the creation and passage of legislation was often confrontational. However, Regional Rights Resources Team's initial support

⁶ *Engendering Violence in Papua New Guinea*, by M. Jolly and C. Stewart (Eds), 2010.

Talking it Through: Responses to Sorcery and Witchcraft Beliefs and Practices in Melanesia, by R. Eves and M. Forsyth, (Eds), 2015.

⁷ "An Analysis of Influencing Family Law: A Case Study of Legislative Advocacy and Campaigning in Fiji" Pacific Regional Rights Resource Team & Fiji Women's Rights Movement", by UNDP, 2007, in *Towards Inclusive Governance- Promoting Participation of Disadvantaged Groups in Asia-Pacific*, pp. 64-77.

in drafting bills helped lead to the passage of Family Protection Acts in Solomon Islands (2014), Samoa (2014), Kiribati (2014), Tonga (2013), PNG (2013), and Vanuatu (2008).

Nineteen reports and four technical background papers form the bulk of the literature listed here. Ten of these are *Situation Analysis of Children, Youth and Women* based on extensive studies commissioned by UNICEF (see subsection on VAW). Team members from outside the Pacific wrote seven of these reports. The technical background papers – although not directly based on research – are critical analyses of existing laws and their implications for gender-based discrimination. These analyses form part of the response to the depressing evidence of high rates of domestic violence recorded in the multi-country studies on ‘Family, Health and Safety’ (SPC, 2006, 2009, 2010b; Te Marae Ora Cook Islands Ministry of Health, 2014).

- 5 -

Usefulness, Reliability, Quality, and Building Capacity



This section focuses upon the quality, usefulness, and reliability of the research that has been collected via the different search methods, then analysed via the literature review. The indicators of quality, usefulness, and reliability are explored below via key questions that relate specifically to the time period and context of the research under consideration.

Usefulness

- Are there obstacles to accessing research on/by Pacific Island countries from 1994 to 2014 that prohibits the use of gender-responsive policy-making?
- Which research is more readily available, and how does this influence which research is used to inform gender-responsive policy-making in Pacific Island countries?

Overall, the research uncovered during this study has the potential to inform policy, to lobby for changing policies, or to frame future research projects. The bibliographies are a guide to inform the research community of good-quality gender research. However, research usefulness rests heavily on having access to bodies of research.

The searching, collecting, and organising of gender research on/by Pacific Island countries has brought to light a range of obstacles that exist to accessing research. It is important to work towards limiting the barriers to accessing research, and to more fully understand the research-discovery paths of people working in this area, so that a more appropriate and democratic way of accessing research can be established. It is probable that there was unavoidable research bias in the literature review that we conducted.

Research bias, however, is only a real problem when there is an expectation of complete objectivity. More useful, however, is where researchers are explicit about their 'bias', or more correctly, are transparent about how they approach their research, how they undertake the research, and how they moderate unexpected findings. These skills are part of the process of scholarly training and should form part of any capacity-building training.

By properly acknowledging possible biases, as well as clearly explaining the research methodology, research is able to be more useful for policy-makers or others.

Reliability

- Is the research within the stocktake of gender research on/by Pacific Island countries reliable?
- What useful metrics are available to consider the reliability of research?

There are a number of existing measures of research reliability which indicate that the research collected for the purposes of this study can be considered reliable. For example, research located in academic journals has generally been through a peer-review process to cross-check reliability. Searching via academic databases was

a prioritised method during this research project, and, as such, the collected citations for research located in peer-reviewed journals has produced a reliable list of evidence-based research on gender in the Pacific. In addition, research from international- and regional-development agencies is expected to adhere to internal research standards (although this was not always made apparent), so their publications might also be considered to have a good level of reliability. Many are included here. Many respondents to the survey mentioned these reports.

The field of monitoring and evaluation of research contains a range of metrics for assessing the reliability of research. This report considers that although 'metrics' might deliver quantifiable indicators of quality, there are shortcomings. These include that the characteristics of gender research, specifically research that addresses multiple issues and spans multiple contexts, are too complex to be easily assessed. This limits the direct applicability of research and evaluation tools that are used in other fields of research.

More discussion with stakeholders is needed to identify a system that can deal with research that works across multiple categories and deals with specific Pacific contexts. This should include looking more widely for measures of evaluation being used in other fields, and within the discipline of gender studies, to aid in the development of specific monitoring and evaluation tools.

Quality

- Is the research within the stocktake of gender research on/by Pacific Island countries of a high quality?
- What useful metrics are available to consider the quality of research?

The literature review in this document provides some examples of evidence-based research that the research team considers to be of 'high quality.' This is linked to the process of research use, and, as our work demonstrates, this database of research could be referred to as 'quality research.' However, it is the interpretation and analysis of specific research questions in different research areas that reveals the merits of research.

Assessments of quality and merit are based upon the consideration of the conceptual framing, transparency, validity, reliability, and cogency. The literature review performed the main function of assessing the quality of items of research, whilst also commenting upon the strength of evidence within each of the critical areas of investigation. It was not possible in this project to individually assess each item of research based on any metrics of quality. The research team recommends that a

systematic way of performing this analysis is designed and implemented in the future. This would include engaged debate by researchers active in the field, as often happens at conferences where research is presented.

Building Capacity

To ensure the ongoing sustainability of useful and reliable research of a high quality, building research capacity of Pacific Islanders in the Pacific is essential. This project was able to determine proxy measures of Pacific Islander researchers who are currently publishing gender-based research. This was achieved by generating a list of authors (n=382) from the RefWorks bibliographic database, deleting duplicates, and categorising the authors as either Pacific or non-Pacific heritage, based on either personal knowledge of the author, or on the best assumption possible by researching their biographical details online. The best estimate of the proportion of Pacific Island authors ranges from 24% to 31%. When analysing only those who are listed as first author or lead author of a publication, this range drops slightly, from 22% to 30%. This indicates that researchers of Pacific heritage have the ability to lead major projects.

What we also know is that these researchers have other responsibilities in their institutions, communities, and countries that make them particularly time-poor. This is particularly so for researchers working in teaching universities (all Pacific universities) who are time-poor. Building capacity to undertake more research requires teaching-relief and short but regular fellowships to Pacific-rim universities. It is clear that researchers working outside the region are better able to complete research projects and publish them in more easily accessible places.

This was a major point mentioned by informants. There is a willingness to undertake research on key gender issues but the time needed to do this is too often prohibitive. For gender researchers working in the Pacific, there is a regular sense of frustration with visiting researchers who have access to more research resources, especially time away from teaching. Consideration was given to more collaborative-research processes that provided teaching buy-out for researchers at Pacific universities, as well as short-term fellowships at universities with better library facilities.

Underpinning these considerations is the need for a more focused assessment of gender-research capacity in the Pacific, with close attention given to the establishment of a Pacific Gender-Research Institute.

Recommendations for Usefulness, Reliability, Quality, and Building Capacity

- **Usefulness:** *It is important to work towards limiting the barriers (such as to accessing research, and to more fully understanding the research-discovery paths of people working in this area), so that a more appropriate and democratic way of accessing research can be established.*

-
- **Reliability:** *More research is needed to identify a system that can deal with research that works across multiple categories (see United Kingdom Department for International Development, 2014). This should include looking more widely for measures of evaluation being used in other fields, and within the discipline of gender studies, to aid in the development of specific monitoring and evaluation tools.*
-
- **Quality:** *The research team recommends that a systematic way of performing quality assurance is designed and implemented in the future.*
-
- **Building institutional research capacity:** *To ensure the ongoing sustainability of useful and reliable research of a high quality, more attention needs to be placed on building the research capacity of Pacific Islanders. Recommendations include:*
 - *That Pacific universities assess the most effective systems of ensuring that gender is prioritised in research and teaching.*
 - *That gender research be made a priority item for discussion at high-level meetings such as that of the Pacific Islands Universities Network and CROP Working Groups.*
 - *That regional and international organisations actively support collaboration with Pacific universities through provision of training and internship opportunities for students.*
 - *That collaboration be strengthened between research organisations in the region, and that specific roles in the collaboration be clearly identified.*
 - *That research organisations be more proactive in supporting initial efforts at some Pacific universities (such as FNU, NUS, University of Fiji, Divine Word) that are just beginning to develop gender research and teaching.*
 - *That research organisations in the region, in collaboration with development partners and the private sector, consider a gender-scholarship scheme for Pacific Island students.*
 - *That a feasibility study into the establishment of a Pacific Gender-Research Institute be undertaken. This would include a thorough analysis of gender-research capability in Pacific universities, as well as innovative funding mechanisms.*

- 6 -

Discussion, Conclusions, and Recommendations



What became clear through the study process, was the amount of relevant Pacific research that was not identified or located through our rigorous, formal search process. Many of the research gaps were filled by the knowledge of two senior researchers on the team, including from other literature reviews and annotated bibliographies on gender in the Pacific. The responses from the survey and from peer reviewers were also useful in filling gaps. The need for a clearinghouse process for research is plainly evident.

The eight areas specified cover a broad array of topics, but there are other gender-related research areas that have emerging relevance, such as, for instance, the issue of sorcery. Some studies of sorcery fit into the area of VAW, some in health, and some in human rights. Some studies of sorcery draw on historical and area-specific research that rightfully locate the understanding of the brutal contemporary practice of sorcery-related violence in different spaces and times. This raises another issue of the policy silos that are created by focusing solely on these eight areas. Often, research covers more than one area of concern. Caution is needed, therefore, to ensure that policy-relevant research allows for clear policy directives while recognising the inter-relatedness of issues. Research that is policy-relevant may not necessarily be framed with specific policy recommendations, which means work is needed to translate insights and findings into policy directions.

Another key finding is that there is a sizable amount of literature in some areas. Time and skills are needed to refine and update the knowledge generated by this material. Time is needed to ensure research material relevant to more deeply understanding key gender concerns in the Pacific is also located. This involves locating research material that focuses on similar situations in different countries or regions – such as the Caribbean – or that provides cutting-edge methodologies and results – such as on gender mainstreaming. This approach serves to also locate the value of Pacific-focused research and methodologies in other regions. Skills are needed to ensure the research located is based on robust research methods and, therefore, contributes to what is currently known. Some features of robust research include the consideration of previous relevant research, clearly stated research questions, and a well-designed and appropriate methodology. The results generated from such research are more reliable and, therefore, pertinent to policy making.

Insights gained from interviews with selected gender-research specialists in Suva and Port Moresby supported the call for broadening research topics, deepening critical feminist analysis, and working in collaboration with policy makers.

Conclusions

Key conclusions of the study are summarised as follows:

- There has been a steady increase between 1994 and 2014 of research publications on all eight areas of critical concern. The majority of this work is authored

by researchers who are based outside the Pacific region. This increase may have been influenced by increased global and regional policy attention to gender equality.

- Of the eight critical areas of research, climate change and environment has the lowest number of publications. This is related to research-specific issues (e.g., recent research attention and time lag to get research published), accessibility of relevant research (e.g., research concealed in larger reports that are not publically available or accessible), and quality of research (e.g., research activities, such as consultancy reports and graded theses, which have opaque quality-assurance processes).
- Research studies by staff in Pacific universities generally focus on specific single areas in their respective island countries, reflecting a seemingly fragmented research culture in academia. Part of this relates to the relatively small number of scholars who incorporate gender perspectives into their work, a shortage of research funds, and heavy teaching loads.
- Research collaboration is a common feature of studies commissioned by regional and international organisations. More multi-country and multi-sectoral studies are conducted by these agencies with Pacific Island governments and civil society groups, compared to Pacific universities.
- Quality primary research is more likely to come from those with dedicated-research training at university level. This is different to evaluations and stock-taking exercises whose primary aim is in identifying progress towards gender equality and contribution to policy making.
- A significant challenge for Pacific-based researchers is difficulty in accessing resources for research, despite the availability of the Internet. Financial costs are a key impediment.
- Gender expertise and resources to support research are lacking in Pacific-based organisations.
- Compared to regional and international agencies and civil society, institutional effort to make gender a serious focus of study and research in Pacific universities is lukewarm. Absence of gender policy and weak systems of research development and support are important contributors.

- Definition of 'quality' of research is open to interpretation because of the varied reasons, contexts, and goals for different research.

Recommendations

Three types of recommendations are proposed: strategic, technical, and research on particular areas of concern.

Strategic Recommendations

These recommendations speak to the direction needed to be taken in order to deliver sustainable, high-quality gender research in the Pacific. They require discussion with key stakeholders and should lead to a clear vision for gender research in the Pacific, underpinned by clear principles of engagement and clear guidelines for institutional commitment.

- **Strengthen the gender-research capacity of Pacific peoples** through skills-training programmes on research, policy analysis, and monitoring. These are best located in Pacific universities and are best undertaken by Pacific scholars and researchers. Long-term commitments to teaching, training, and research collaboration between gender researchers based in Pacific universities, and those based elsewhere, should be better resourced.
- **Reduce barriers to access of information** for stakeholders and the research/policy community.
- **Synergise technical and gender-subject expertise** in the design of a dynamic research portal or platform or clearinghouse. This can take various forms: see the New Zealand Family Violence Clearinghouse <https://nzfvc.org.nz/> and Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety Limited (ANROWS) <http://anrows.org.au/>. It might also take the form of the New Zealand Research Review <http://www.researchreview.co.nz/nz/Home.aspx>.
- **Resource evidence-based gender research**, especially undertaken by researchers who actively contribute to Pacific knowledge in an "ethical, respectful and empowering way" (quote from survey), and develop a platform for dissemination of this research in a sustainable and long-term manner.
- **Develop a systematic way of performing quality assurance, including ethical compliance**, suitable for producing high-quality gender research in the Pacific.
- **Undertake a feasibility study into the establishment of a Pacific Gender-Research Institute.** This would include a thorough analysis of gender research capability in Pacific universities, as well as innovative funding mechanisms.

Technical Recommendations

These recommendations are more specific and technical in nature. They are often discrete tasks that, when combined, support a robust regional-research platform upon which longer-term research strategies and activities can develop.

Research: Volume, Scope, Focus, Access, Expertise, Effort, Quality

Aim: to develop an on-going process of locating high-quality relevant research in key areas of concern and assess their policy relevance.

The following specific recommendations work towards meeting this aim.

- **Add additional keywords** to search in substantive areas of concern. Searches should also be made for individual countries, regions, and islands in PICs.
 - **Expand** the search process to include the scanning of and drilling down into the bibliographic references contained within specific items of research.
 - **Repeat** the search process by selecting more items of research or following the publication path of a particular author.
 - **Deepen** the research process by following the citations of an item of research and then drill down into those that have used this research.
 - **Develop a system to locate quality research within theses and dissertations.** This could begin with a database of all MA theses that received a grade in the A range and all completed PhDs. A caveat would need to be added about the quality-assessment process for each university.
 - **Find abstracts and review the evidence-based research located in print format** on the topic of gender-based research on/by Pacific Island countries.
 - **Undertake more in-depth scanning** of online academic databases (specially to identify books, book chapters, oral presentations, and good-quality MA and PhD theses).
 - **Undertake more in-depth searching** of non-academic websites (of each government and relevant government departments, of each development agency, of each donor agency, of each NGO).
 - **Undertake more interviews with experts and users** of research to identify other research material.
- Usefulness, Reliability, Quality**
- **Usefulness: limit the barriers** to accessing research by making Internet access and university databases affordable.

j. *Reliability: identify a system that can deal with research that works across **multiple categories** (see DIFD, 2014). This should include looking more widely for measures of evaluation being used in other fields, and within the discipline of gender studies, to aid in the development of specific monitoring and evaluation tools.*

k. *Quality: develop a systematic way of performing **quality assurance**.*

Capacity Building

l. *Place **gender research as a priority** item for discussion at high-level meetings such as that of the Pacific Islands Universities Network and CROP Working Groups.*

m. *Support research organisations to be more proactive in **supporting initial efforts** at some Pacific universities (such as FNU, NUS, University of Fiji, and Divine Word) that are just beginning to develop gender research and teaching.*

n. *Instigate a **gender-scholarship scheme** for Pacific Island students.*

o. *Develop **formal collaborations between researchers and policy-makers** to “facilitate policy fit with academic research so it doesn’t just gather dust on academic-library shelves but actually finds policy-making ground.”*

p. *Develop an **ethics-approval process** to facilitate research on critical but often sensitive and high-risk research on women and girls. This needs to be placed within wider research protocols, training, and quality assurance.*

Literature Review Recommendations

(See the text for specific recommendations for research in each area and also executive report)

- 7 -

Appendix 1: Refworks and Bibliographies



Appendix one includes a discussion of RefWorks, the research management system used by the Research Peer Group, as well as the search processes used and the limitations to search parameters. This is followed by an explanation of the annotated bibliography, including considerations and exclusions. The appendix also includes the entire database of all references which is first given in full, then divided into sub-categories of research areas, flowed by type of reference material. The appendix concludes with the annotated bibliography.

About RefWorks

RefWorks is the database management system the Peer Research Group has used for organising and storing evidence-based gender research on/by Pacific Island countries from 1994 - 2014. The research team selected RefWorks because it is a web based platform that can be shared among members of the research team. RefWorks is a dynamic tool which can be continually updated with new research by multiple researchers, and edited to ensure consistency of data entry; and can also provide a range of different outputs, such as bibliographies and data metrics. Another advantage of the RefWorks tool is the direct links that the system has with university library systems, electronic-based publishing groups, databases, and Google Scholar. RefWorks databases can also be exported to other database management systems such as Endnote.

In this project, the majority of the RefWorks database creation and maintenance was performed by one person, and this has assisted the consistency of the data entry. One of the most valuable functions of RefWorks is the ability to attach PDF or HTML material, and during this project, wherever possible, an electronic copy of the gender research has been attached to each bibliographic entry. RefWorks is a tool that has allowed us to organise the research into subcategories and has facilitated easy searching via the advanced search capabilities. This programme has also allowed us to create bibliographies in a range of formats, including annotated bibliographies. The project team views RefWorks as a tool that has facilitated the task of stocktaking and organising the evidence-based gender research on/by Pacific Island countries from 1994 – 2014.

The method of sourcing items of research that were included within the RefWorks database is detailed in Section 2. This sections deals specifically with the research team's reflective analysis of the possible limitations of this methodology. The search parameters used to source the research to be included within the RefWorks database were useful for this scoping phase of discovering evidence-based gender research; however, it is likely to have disguised important pieces of research which need to be included during subsequent projects.

Limitations to the search parameters:

- Key word searches focused on one country at a time which may have disguised regional, and multi-country, comparative research.
- Key word searches focused on the subcategories of the eight critical areas and may have excluded research that did not have these exact key words in their title, abstract, or content.
- Publication research searches were limited to organisations as defined by the ToR and the Research Peer Group, but excluded international organisations such as the European Union, and other international universities.
- Access to PDFs of research was not always possible because of university library-membership restrictions.
- New subcategories such as gender relations, femininities, religion, and sorcery have surfaced during subsequent phases of the research methodology; these subcategories were not part of the initial key word searches.
- The collection of research material (PDFs) focuses on digital material and does not include hard-copy research contained in books, sections of books, or dissertations and theses, although, where possible, abstracts or EBooks for this research have been included in the RefWorks database.

About the Annotated Bibliography

The specific objective of this annotated bibliography is to provide expanded citation information for a selection of research.

The expanded citation information contained within this annotated bibliography also serves the purpose of providing an appendix to the Literature Review that discusses the evidence-based research material within subcategories relating to the critical research areas identified in the ToR. The format of this annotated bibliography also demonstrates one of the possible format outputs when using the database management system of RefWorks.

Considerations:

- Wherever possible, the abstracts have been included via direct citation between University of Auckland databases and the RefWorks database.
- Where direct citation was not possible, the PDF document for the research was scanned, and copied and pasted into the abstract field in RefWorks.

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- Key items of research included within this annotated bibliography were selected by the team members during the process of reviewing the literature within each critical area of evidence-based gender research in the Pacific.
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- Within larger reports where no abstract was provided, the document was scanned for relevant information relating to the item of research within the Executive Summary or Introduction.
-
- A few books have been included in this annotated bibliography, and in some cases, where an abstract was not available, a third party description of the research has been included.
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- The text contained within the annotated bibliography was directly copied from text within the original piece of research. There has been no analysis performed by the research team within the annotated bibliography.
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- RefWorks was used to format and export the annotated bibliography. Further formatting was performed on the annotated bibliography to ensure consistency of text and font throughout the report.

Exclusions:

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- Print material, books, and theses and dissertations are not included in this annotated bibliography. The research team recommends that a comprehensive review of research contained within printed material be performed and used to expand the annotated bibliography.





Entire Database of All References

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Annotated Bibliography

Alston, M. (2011). *Understanding gender and climate change in the Pacific*. Melbourne, Australia: Monash University.

This preliminary report outlines the likely gendered impacts of climate change in the Pacific Island region. It is based on secondary data analysis as well as a number of informal interviews with key informants. In this report, climate change is linked to both rapid-onset climate events, such as more frequent cyclones and storm surges, as well as incremental events such as prolonged drought and sea level rise. Significantly, it must be noted that climate change events are but one aspect of a complex set of circumstances that may render Pacific Island nations particularly vulnerable to changed circumstances, and exacerbate gender inequities. Poverty, ongoing environmental concerns, poor infrastructure, and less than optimal disaster risk-management planning also expose Island people to greater risk. An inability to produce sufficient food is already leading to food insecurity, while water security is threatened by the erosion of infrastructure, and salination caused through salt water intrusion or storm surges. Thus, if food prices rise in other parts of the world, the Island nations will be exposed to greater food insecurity, and a failure to address water infrastructure issues will also compound the effects of climate change. It is of note that not all Island nations are as exposed to risk as others. Lower lying atolls such as Tuvalu, for example, are at greater threat from sea-level rises, and many of the Island nations have developed some levels of resilience through initiatives such as tourism, providing greater income and employment opportunities. The brief of this project is to focus particularly on the differential vulnerabilities of women and men, and the greater vulnerability of women, to climate change risks resulting from social and cultural circumstances, a lack of ownership of land, inadequate access to decision-making, and responsibility for food and water security for their families. It is clear from our analysis of secondary data that there is insufficient information on the differential impacts of climate change for women and men in the Pacific Island nations, and further research at village level and across nation states is needed to allow a detailed analysis. What we do know is that women are at greater risk and that their livelihoods are threatened by both rapid-onset and slow-onset climate events.

Alston, M. (2006). Gender mainstreaming in practice: A view from rural Australia. *NWSA Journal*, 18(2), 123-147.

This article focuses on gender mainstreaming in practice, using the example of agriculture departments in Australia. Gender mainstreaming is a policy initiative adopted internationally following the Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing in 1995 to address gender inequality. The move represents a policy shift from a focus solely addressing women's disadvantage, to a broader attention to gender inequality. This article provides an historical overview of the move toward gender mainstreaming in the international environment, as well as a theoretical critique. Using the Australian case example, the shift of attention from rural women to gender mainstreaming in Australian agricultural departments appears to be taking place with little understanding of the concept of gender mainstreaming or its goals. It is further argued that recent moves by government departments of agriculture toward gender mainstreaming may have disadvantaged women. This article argues that while, in theory, mainstreaming is a more successful way of addressing gender inequality, in practice it risks reducing attention to women unless changes occur in departmental cultures and gender mainstreaming accountability measures are introduced at international and national levels.

Amnesty International. (2006). *Papua New Guinea: Violence against women: Not inevitable, never acceptable!* Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea: Amnesty International.

In 1995, Papua New Guinea ratified the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). In so doing, the Government of Papua New Guinea made a commitment to ensure that the women of Papua New Guinea would not be denied their enjoyment of human rights because of gender-based discrimination. Part of this commitment includes an obligation to act with due diligence to ensure that gender-based violence against women is prevented, investigated, and punished, whether the perpetrator is a state official or a private individual, and that reparation is provided to victims. A decade later, Amnesty International spoke to

women throughout the country still waiting for the government to deliver on that commitment. Although recent, comprehensive data does not exist, all available evidence and Amnesty International's own research indicate that violence against women in the home and the community is pervasive, and, in some regions, affects most women's lives. The threat of gender-based violence, particularly sexual violence, impacts on women's ability to move freely in the community, to use public transport, to access health and education services, and to travel to market or to the workplace. The threat and the reality of gender-based violence increase women's vulnerability to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. The threat and the reality of gender-based violence mean that fear permeates many women's existence – with the home a place of risk and not refuge. The threat and the reality of gender-based violence continue to damage the physical and mental health of women across the country who live with permanent injuries and scars, both seen and unseen.

Anderson, C. (2009). Gendered dimensions of disaster risk management, natural resource management, and climate change adaptation in the Pacific. *SPC Women in Fisheries Information Bulletin*, 20, 3-9. Disasters and climate change result in numerous impacts on people, their communities, and their environments. The Pacific Islands region is one place where such changes are visible along coastlines and in marine and terrestrial ecosystems, and where they impact on the availability of water and food. The livelihoods of Pacific Islanders depend on natural island ecosystems; therefore, in order to reduce negative impacts on them, it is essential to involve people from multiple sectors, including communities, civil society, and governments, who have a range of scientific and indigenous approaches that can be used to reduce risks and build resilient communities. An understanding of the gendered dimensions of disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation, and natural resource management will help illuminate social and cultural vulnerability, because gender ultimately informs the ways in which society works and in which decisions are made. In the Pacific, policies, programmes, and initiatives that rely on donor funding have been directed to focus on mainstreaming gender or have employed a gender focal point to represent organisations in regional and international discussions of gender. In order to think further about ways to address gender, as it pertains to these issues, it is important to understand the context of gender and the issues in the Pacific Islands. Under the overarching frameworks of sustainable development and human security, the fields of disaster risk management and climate change adaptation have engaged in increasingly parallel tracks for planning and programming. In the Pacific, the cross-cutting themes of gender and traditional ecological knowledge are important perspectives for understanding the socioeconomic dimensions of disaster, environmental degradation, and climate change. Explorations of gender dimensions of disaster and climate impacts provide a deeper understanding of these impacts, which enables the identification of solutions that may alleviate them.

Anderson, C., Lane, R., Zoll, S., & Drucza, K. (2008). *The gendered dimensions of disaster risk management and adaptation to climate change: Stories from the Pacific*. Canberra, Australia: Australian Agency for International Development (AusAid); United Nations Development Programme - Pacific Centre.

The gender dimensions of disaster risk management and adaptation to climate change can no longer be ignored. Global virtual networks recognise the fundamental differences in the way women and men are affected by, contribute to, cope with, and adapt to, these vulnerabilities. There are many reasons for the differences, including gender inequalities, the roles women and men play in their communities, and the reality that women constitute most of the world's poor. As such, they are highly dependent on local natural resources for their livelihood and are disproportionately vulnerable to, and affected by, disasters and climate change.

Baantarawa, T., Schulz, L., & Teairo, T. (1997). An i-Kiribati man's gender values: Influences which have shaped his attitudes and behaviour toward males and females. *Directions: Journal of Education Studies*, 19(1), 42-54.

Gender values are acquired during the first few years of human life and begin at home. Parents are often the first to introduce us to the

identification of our gender, to all the tasks and/or behaviours which strengthen our values as males and females. As we grow up, other influences such as religion, school systems, and so forth, add to or reshape our values. Gender values are an unstable element of human life, vulnerable to many change factors. The following is an account of how one Kiribati man's gender values were shaped and reshaped as he grew up. Change factors emphasised are the influences of parents, religion, peers, the constraints of a strict school system, and the possibilities for realising more about his own capabilities, freedom, and functioning, at university level.

- Baines, L. (2012). Gender-based violence in Papua New Guinea: Trends and challenges. *Burgmann Journal*, 1, 21-26.
Gender-based violence (GBV) is a phenomenon that occurs globally, to varying degrees and with various consequences. This essay investigates GBV, specifically family violence, where most often the victim is the wife and the perpetrator is the husband, in the context of Papua New Guinea (PNG). I argue that although GBV is difficult to measure, small-scale studies and anecdotal evidence suggest that GBV is severe and widespread, and, in some instances, worsening. In PNG society, there remain several challenges that inhibit the substantial reduction of GBV. Cultural challenges include the existence and adherence to bride-price traditions; women's lack of political representation, affecting how this issue is dealt with at the highest level of society; and the traditional village court systems, which align judgments with customary male-biased law. There are state-sector challenges present that also inhibit a reduction of GBV, such as inadequate and biased policing services; and inefficient, sporadic and underfunded support services (e.g., hospitals and emergency shelters). Change in PNG cannot be achieved in a short time-frame. It may take generations for significant change to be made in communities so that women are viewed as equals, and for GBV not to be seen as the 'norm'. When this occurs, a reduction in severe and widespread GBV may be experienced in PNG.
- Baker, K. (2014). Women's representation and the use of reserved seats in Bougainville. *State, Society & Governance in Melanesia*, 2, 1-2.
The Autonomous Region of Bougainville currently has the Pacific's only parliamentary reserved seats for women system. While the system guarantees a minimum level of representation for women in the Bougainville House of Representatives, concerns have been raised that the reserved seats act as a ceiling for women's representation and prevent women from successfully contesting other seats (CS/PIF 2005; Kelly 2010). This "In Brief" draws on fieldwork conducted in September 2013. I conducted qualitative interviews in Buka, Arawa, and Port Moresby, including with the three current women members of the House of Representatives (MHRs), two of the three previous women MHRs, unsuccessful women candidates, the women representatives on the Bougainville Constitutional Commission, and representatives from church and women's groups.
- Baker, K., Shiu, R. N., & Corbett, J. (2013). Women MPs in Samoa and Kiribati. *State, Society & Governance in Melanesia*, 11, 1-2.
The percentage of women elected to parliament in the Pacific region is amongst the lowest in the world. Culture, both traditional and Christian, is one commonly cited inhibitor, but other socioeconomic factors, including the costs of elections, are also considered restrictive. This trend has generated significant interest, especially as, in some instances, female representation is declining, defying conventional wisdom and the growing number of women holding senior positions in other sectors (see Fraenkel 2006; Huffer 2006; Liki 2010). Interventions that aim to address this dynamic include donor programs designed to train female candidates, and positive discrimination measures, including reserved seats, for women politicians.
- Baker, K. (2015). Pawa blong meri: Women candidates in the 2015 Bougainville election. *State, Society & Governance in Melanesia Discussion Paper*, 14
The 2015 Bougainville election was a milestone for women's political representation. The largest ever cohort of women candidates contested; one candidate, Josephine Getsi in Peit constituency, became the first woman elected to the House of Representatives in an open seat. She joins the three women members elected in reserved seats in a House that now has 10 per cent women's representation, although the number of women in cabinet remains the same as in previous terms, at one. For many women candidates, however, the results of the election were disappointing, mirroring recent elections elsewhere in Melanesia, which has one of the lowest rates of women's political representation in the world. While Josephine Getsi's win is a notable individual

achievement, it would appear that the vast majority of women candidates still face significant barriers to election. This Discussion Paper examines the question of how women contest and win elections in Bougainville, through an analysis of the campaign experiences of successful, near-successful, and less-successful women candidates. It adds to the empirical literature on women's political representation in the region through an in-depth study of women candidates in the 2015 Bougainville election: their profiles, motivations, and campaign strategies. Furthermore, it analyses the impacts of three issues that emerged as common themes in discussions around women's participation in political decision making in Bougainville: the electoral system, money politics, and matrilineal traditions.

- Banthia, A., Tyroler, C., Schoeffel, P., & Saho, R. (2013). *Deepening financial inclusion for women in the Pacific Islands: An assessment of the gender issues surrounding women's ability to access and control financial resources in Papua New Guinea and Samoa*. New York, NY: Women's World Banking.
With funding from the New Zealand Aid Programme, Women's World Banking conducted a gender study in Papua New Guinea (PNG) and Samoa to explore women's ability to access and control financial resources and analyse the issues that must be addressed in order to provide effective financial services to women toward their deepened financial inclusion. This document represents a comprehensive analysis of insights drawn from women's perceptions of their financial behavior. The recommendations found in this report are directed toward donors and practitioners in the region and are intended to serve to stimulate dialogue toward the development of strategic entry points to deepen women's financial inclusion in the Pacific.
- Bargel, L., Guyon, S., & Rettig, I. (2010). *Assessment of the application of the 'parity law' in New Caledonia, French Polynesia and Wallis and Futuna*. Noumea, New Caledonia: Secretariat of the Pacific Community.
This report presents the findings of a study of the application of the parity (equal gender opportunity) law in political life in New Caledonia, French Polynesia, and Wallis and Futuna. In 2007, six years on from the first 'equal-representation' elections, little information was available on the positive or negative effects of this law. Not much progress had been made in devising ways of dealing with the negative effects or shortcomings identified as a result of the law's introduction. The first full assessment of its application in France had just been issued, however two student dissertations addressed the immediate application of the law in French Polynesia in 2001 and in New Caledonia in 2004. At the same time, Berman's legal research yielded an initial socio-political analysis of aspects of the law's application in New Caledonia. Sufficient time had elapsed to review the medium-term effects. This review was initiated in Vernaudon's work for the Pacific Regional Workshop on Advancing Women's Representation in Parliaments, and continued in this study. This report first addresses the genesis of the parity law and its effects on the increase in the number of women in assemblies in France and the French Pacific jurisdictions. It compares the number of elected women at the 'commune' (basic local government) level, the provincial level, the territorial level, and the government level in these three territories, before and after the application of the parity law. The focus is on the social and political effects of the law's application on the many people involved in political and social activity in the countries considered. First, the political parties were legally obliged to put forward equal-representation candidate lists at the elections: the effects on party operations and candidate enlistment are shown. Detailed reports from elected women who have benefited from the parity law follow, to help identify favourable conditions for women to engage in politics. The practical circumstances of women newly elected to assemblies were studied. The specific positions held by women in the institutions in which they sit were assessed, to shed light on the roles and responsibilities of women in politics. Elected women were interviewed, to discover some of the difficulties they had faced on entering political life. Lastly, the report identifies the positive developments ushered in by the law, for both elected women and for political life and national development. The local interviews helped us to establish how to assist the promotion of women in politics, and to recommend some options to strengthen and refine local development policies, thus fostering equal gender representation.
- Boodoosingh, R. (2015). Measuring gender-based violence: Towards improved services for victims in Samoa. *Journal of Samoan Studies*, 5, 97-107.
Combating gender-based violence (GBV) and providing services for victims requires a multi-sectoral approach to data collections as well as to service provision. This paper reviews definitions and approaches to

GBV and the sources of data in Samoa. It argues that data collection by different agencies should be improved, and suggests that the Samoa Bureau of Statistics should be given the resources and responsibility for gathering relevant data from the Ministry of Justice and Courts, and the Ministry of Health, on an annual basis, and providing a summary report for the use of the various stakeholders in government and non-government sectors to ensure continuity of policy development and provision of programmes.

Bradley, C. (2011). *Ending violence against women and achieving MDG3*. Canberra, Australia: AusAID Office of Development Effectiveness. Violence against women is a barrier to the achievement not only of Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 3, but of all the MDGs. Lack of data and agreed methods and standards for measuring its various forms prevented the inclusion of an indicator of violence against women for the MDG3 target. Although there has now been considerable progress in the development of tools and techniques, there is still a need for much greater investment in measurement of violence against women, and in documenting the monetary and nonmonetary costs of violence. Similarly, while the evidence base has grown on good and promising practices for interventions, more rigorous evaluations are needed to demonstrate what works. Progress on the MDG3 indicators for educational parity and women's employment could be accelerated by adding a focus on violence against women. Sexual harassment in workplaces and in the informal sector is a major barrier to women's economic empowerment which has not yet been systematically addressed in the Pacific Island region, although there are examples of successful strategies elsewhere. Likewise, there has been little utilisation in the region of proven strategies to make education safer for girls. The paper concludes with some suggestions for ODE's proposed gender evaluation around MDG3.

Brigg, M., Chadwick, W., Griggers, C., Murdock, J., & Vienings, T. (2015). *Women and peace: The role of Solomon Islands women in conflict resolution and peacebuilding*. Suva, Fiji: United Nations Development Programme Pacific Centre. While Solomon Islands women played an active and important role in creating the necessary conditions for the Solomon Islands peace process, they were largely excluded from the formal peace processes that brought about the end of the conflict known as the 'Tensions'. This case study examines some of the roles women played during the conflict, as well as in post-Townsville peacebuilding efforts that continue today, while reflecting on the potential for expanding women's roles in dialogue and conflict resolution processes in the future.

Buadromo, V. (2014). The constitutional process: A view from the Fiji Women's Rights Movement. *Accord*, 25, 65-68. The process included a five-member Constitution Commission to produce an initial draft, comprising two international experts and three Fijians. The constitution was to be approved by a constituent assembly, representing the people but appointed by the government, and requiring a two-thirds majority to change the commission's draft. The decree by which this process was put in place stipulated some essential features of the constitution, including racial equality and immunity for coup leaders. The constitution would not come into effect until a court had certified compliance with these constitutional principles.

Butt, L., Numbery, G., & Morin, J. (2002). The smokescreen of culture: AIDS and the indigenous in Papua Indonesia. *Pacific Health Dialog*, 9(2), 283-289. Throughout Asia, governments have typically reacted to the spread of AIDS by blaming the "West," outsiders, or the sexual deviance of its modernising citizenry. In Indonesia, after years of evasion and denial, the government seems to be moving beyond moral judgments about sexuality towards addressing the pragmatics of dealing with rising infection rates. In Indonesia's easternmost province, now known as Papua (also known as Irian Jaya, or West Papua), all levels of government have been galvanised as rates of HIV infection skyrocketed in the past few years. There are presently 20.4 cases per 100,000 people in Papua, a dramatic contrast to the rest of Indonesia, which has only 0.42 cases per 100,000 people. Approximately 40% of the HIV and AIDS cases in Indonesia are located in the province of Papua, even though that province has less than 1% of the country's population. If HIV is a problem elsewhere in Indonesia, in Papua it is rapidly becoming an epidemic.

Butt, L. (2005). 'Lipstick girls' and 'fallen women': AIDS and conspiratorial thinking in Papua, Indonesia. *Cultural Anthropology*, 20(3), 412-442. A widespread theory in the province of Papua, Eastern Indonesia, links the spread of sex workers and HIV/AIDS to a broader government conspiracy to eliminate indigenous Papuans. Explicit conspiratorial thinking by indigenous Papuans draws from diverse evidence such as provincial partition legislation, patterns of sex-industry usage, economic transformations, rumors of witchcraft, and new automobile technology. This article argues against treating conspiracy theories about AIDS simply as symbolically powerful rumors expressing indigenous Papuans' perceptions of oppression and unequal access to state resources. Rather, conspiracy theories articulate awareness of inconsistencies in the government's formulation and administration of sexual regulations and AIDS-prevention policies. AIDS conspiracy theories can therefore be understood as pragmatic and detailed interpretations of Papuan lived experiences in a context of ethnically disenfranchising forms of power in post-Suharto Indonesia.

Care, J. C. (2000). Customary law and women's rights in Solomon Islands. *Development Bulletin*, 51, 20-22. Solomon Islands is made up of several hundred islands, spread out over a sea area of approximately 1,340,000 square kilometres. The social structure of the country is extremely complex. Culture and social organisation vary from island to island, and even from village to village. The official languages are English and Pidgin, but there are also about 65 vernacular languages and dialects. Solomon Islands became independent in 1978 (having been a British Protectorate since 1893), with a constitution brought into force by the British Privy Council. This constitution incorporates international human rights (Chapter II), and also promotes local values by giving formal recognition to customary law. This law had continued to operate in traditional parts of society throughout the 'colonial' period. Little attention appears to have been paid to the fact that human rights (particularly women's rights) and customary law embrace very different ideals. Customary law is based on male domination (see Brown & Corrin Care, 1998), and even in those parts of the Solomon Islands where title to land descends through matrilineal lines, land disputes are generally litigated by men. Human rights, on the other hand, are founded on principles of equality. The constitution is thus a vehicle for two competing notions. Like many other small Pacific Island countries, Solomon Islands faces the challenge of reconciling the two. There is some guidance in the constitution as to the relative weight to be given to its provisions and to customary law generally. Section 2 declares the constitution to be the supreme law. More particularly, Schedule 3 states that customary law will not apply if it is inconsistent with the constitution. On the other hand, the anti-discrimination section in Chapter II provides a number of exceptions to the right of protection, including those relating directly and indirectly to customary law. Further, inconsistency is often a matter of opinion. As in other countries, doubtful cases must be decided by the courts, taking into account the context not only of the constitution but also of Solomon Islands generally.

Carswell, S. (2003). A family business: Women, children and smallholder sugar cane farming in Fiji. *Asia Pacific Viewpoint*, 44(2), 131-148. This paper highlights the contribution of women and children to the sugar industry in Fiji by examining the importance of family labour in the historical development of the smallholder system and describing the present situation for the study participants. It is based on ethnographic fieldwork conducted during 1996-97, on the island of Vanua Levu in the northern region of Fiji. The twenty smallholder households in the study comprised both Fijian and Fiji Indian respondents who relied primarily on selling sugar cane for their cash income. How inequalities within the household in terms of allocation of labour and resources are legitimated is outlined. Resource distribution within the household in regards to two important issues for the sugar industry, land and trade liberalisation, are examined. In light of global trends in trade liberalisation and probable falls in sugar prices, future strategies for survival identified by Fijian and Fiji Indian smallholders are also discussed. The case study demonstrates that the sugar industry is still largely reliant on family labour and, particularly for low socio-economic smallholders, the unremunerated labour of family members makes an essential contribution to the production of sugar cane.

Centre for Samoan Studies. (2015). *Village governance in Samoa: Do women participate?* Apia, Samoa: National University of Samoa. The Centre for Samoan Studies (CSS) at the National University of Samoa (NUS) is conducting research on women, village government,

and politics, prior to the forthcoming elections. The Samoa Local Government Research Project (SLGRP) aims to provide empirical evidence on the extent of women's participation in political and economic village-based organisations. The two-year (2013/2014-2014/2015) study is funded by the Australian Development Research Awards Scheme (ADRAS). The research is testing the hypothesis that the practices of village councils and mainstream churches deter women from assuming leadership roles. We think this might be the reason why so few women aspire to parliamentary careers, and why hardly any of those who do, are elected. We suspect that it may also economically disempower women in village life, even those women who are active in, and play many leading roles in, the urban economy. Until CSS conducted its nation-wide survey of leadership across villages last year (2013), there was no data to support or to deny these assumptions, and Samoans frequently disagree about them. Some insist there are no obstacles to women's participation, arguing that low political participation is because women are not interested in leadership roles. Others argue that there are customary impediments. In most countries where there are few or no women in parliament, it is usually because women have low status. In the modern aspects of life in Samoa, women do not have low status.

Chang, H., & Be'Soer, L. (2011). Sweetpotato marketing in Papua New Guinea: A gender perspective. *Stewart Postharvest Review*, 7(3), 1-14.

Purpose of review: Women play an important role in agricultural production and marketing. However, little research has been done to look at productivity and other issues from a gender perspective. This review looks at the role women play and issues they face in the sweetpotato supply chain in Papua New Guinea (PNG), as well as the underlying causes of gender issues and how they have been addressed by various development agencies globally and by the government in PNG. Findings: There is a clear gender division of labour in the sweetpotato supply chain in PNG, and the gender-specific marketing issues facing women farmers are: poor facilities at the open markets, heavy workloads and lack of support from the family, uneven distribution of income within the household, and intimidation and sexual harassment along the supply chain. Major contributing factors to those issues are women's marginalisation and gender inequality existing in a traditionally profoundly patriarchal society. Gender-awareness training for participants along the supply chain, and business and leadership training for women, appear to be reasonable first steps to address gender inequality and to empower women in the sweetpotato supply chain. Improving market conditions is also a must because not only will it improve women's welfare and the quality of the produce, but it will also attract more sellers and more customers into the market and, hence, increase sales. Directions for future research: More research on gender relations is needed to understand how power asymmetry between men and women in the supply chain can be improved through self- and collective-empowerment and how gender mainstreaming can be operationalised in the supply chain in ways that are socially and culturally appropriate.

Chapman, L., Bertram, I., & Pasisi, B. (2005). FAD research project: Final results from community surveys, gender assessment, and catch and effort data analysis. *SPC Fisheries Newsletter*, 113, 27-47.

Community surveys were conducted three times each in Niue, Aitutaki, and Rarotonga, at one-year intervals. Over 600 households were interviewed between the three locations, with 479 households (111 on Niue, 200 on Aitutaki, and 168 on Rarotonga) being interviewed on all three occasions. A further 74 households were interviewed on two occasions. Benefits accruing to the surveyed communities, from having FADs adjacent to their villages, appear to be in two forms, direct and flow-on. The main beneficiaries are local fishermen with canoes and boats, who benefit directly. The FADs increased their fishing areas, and increased catches. Canoe fishermen benefited if a FAD was close enough to shore for them to access it safely, which was the case in Niue. Boat fishermen were able to fish both offshore and inshore FADs and increase their catches, while reducing their operating costs (by using less fuel). They were also able to travel along the coast to fish the FADs located off different villages, whereas canoe fishermen were restricted to the FAD adjacent to their village. In most cases, fishermen would keep what they needed from the catch and sell the surplus. The flow-on benefits were in the form of fish being distributed by the fishermen to family, relatives, and friends, especially when catches were good. Analysis of the sex disaggregated data collected during the community surveys revealed that women in all three locations were mainly involved in reef fishing and reef gleaning. Males conducted

the majority of fishing activities, however, especially in terms of fishing outside the reef in canoes or boats. The split of fishing effort varied between the three locations, with gillnetting a main method used in Aitutaki (which has a large lagoon). Baitfishing from canoes was a traditional fishing method that many men were involved in off Niue. A catch and effort data collection system was implemented in March/April 2002 in each project location. Fishermen were asked to complete a logbook that covered their fishing activities by method used. Some fishermen in Niue and Rarotonga provided excellent data from the outset, but it was difficult to get a lot of fishermen to do this consistently. Over 3000 logsheets were completed, and these showed a marked season for wahoo trolling in open water along the reef (August to October), while catches from FADs were spread more evenly throughout the year. Trolling was the main fishing method, with mid-water fishing methods used around the FADs from time to time. To conduct a cost-benefit analysis in regard to the use of FADs, a dollar value was assigned to the catch by species, based on the average price fishermen received in 2003 and 2004. The Niue catch from FADs was 27,468 kg of fish over the project, with a value of NZD 153,988. The open water trolling catch for Niue equalled 25,714 kg with a value of NZD 169,359. The Rarotonga catch from FADs (39,188 kg) was much higher than Niue's, and had a value of NZD 230,302. In contrast, the catch from open water trolling in Rarotonga was much lower than in Niue (15,609 kg, with a value of NZD 99,035). The reported catch figures are estimated to be around one-third of the actual catch; this would increase the value of the FAD-related catch to around NZD 491,964 in Niue and NZD 690,906 in Rarotonga. The cost of all FAD materials provided to Niue equalled NZD 91,007. This includes the cost of eight original FADs, the three replacement FADs that were deployed, and the materials still available in Niue (sufficient for three additional FADs). The cost of the materials for Rarotonga FADs equalled NZD 90,480. In the case of Rarotonga, four FADs were deployed initially, with one replacement FAD deployed in 2003. In addition, three FADs were initially deployed off Aitutaki with one replacement in 2003. Materials are available in Rarotonga to deploy three additional FADs. The value of the catch far exceeded the cost of the materials in both Niue and Rarotonga, especially as there are still materials on hand for three replacement FADs at each location. In terms of the overall catch, FADs are a major contributor to the success of small-scale fishing operations in both locations. These also provide important social benefits for local communities, as many subsistence and recreational fishermen use the FADs to catch fish for their families, or for sport or pleasure. Fish taken by commercial or part-time fishermen are available for sale, although the market in Niue is limited, which restricts the amount of fishing and the catch taken at some times of year. Based on the data collected by the project, it is clear that the benefits to local small-scale fishermen and local communities far exceeds the cost of the FAD materials. Ongoing FAD programmes should be continued by government as a way to support local communities and the small-scale fishing sector. The FAD research project has been widely publicised, with results published in SPC's Fisheries Newsletter on a quarterly basis. Two major articles appeared in the Fisheries Newsletter (#105 and #106) that presented the results as of the end of the project's second year. Fisheries Newsletter #112 provided the final results of the project in regard to FAD mooring designs, aggregators, and costs. The production of a technical manual with recommended FAD designs was completed in English in June 2005, and in French in July 2005.

Chattier, P. (2012). Exploring the capability approach to conceptualize gender inequality and poverty in Fiji. *Journal of Poverty*, 16(1), 72-95. This article highlights the gaps in Fiji's poverty literature, notably the persistent insensitivity to gender within mainstream approaches to poverty measurement. To address the androcentric biases in household analyses, the author suggests the capability approach as more suited to conceptualise and assess gender inequality and women's poverty within the household. This article uses the capability framework to indicate a space within which intrahousehold comparisons are made, using empirical evidence from Fiji. The article explores the ways in which one could operationalise the methodologies for gender-sensitive measures of poverty, which are capable of reflecting the experiences of women and men.

Chattier, P. (2013). Does schooling and work empower women in Fiji? Or have gender inequalities persisted and why? *Global Change, Peace & Security*, 25(1), 61-76.

The paper explores the limitations of the theoretical presumptions underlying the relationship between empowerment, education,

and employment that have been emphasised in both the existing literature and the current rhetoric to empower women in developing countries. The research uses findings from in-depth interviews and focused group discussion data to empirically examine the relationship between schooling, paid work, and empowerment of women in Fiji. The paper argues that the relationship between education, work, and empowerment is conditioned by gender norms surrounding women's and men's choices on key economic decisions. The findings demonstrate that cultural norms about gender roles are considered to persist, generating gender inequality despite women's and girl's education and employment. Empirical evidence makes a strong case for the need to move away from broad-based conceptualisations of women's empowerment to an analysis of the social construction of gender as both a conceptual and an empirical category of inquiry.

Chattier, P. (2015). Women in the house (of parliament) in Fiji: What's gender got to do with it? *The Round Table*, 104(2), 177-188.

Women in Fiji have made steady, albeit slow, progress in terms of parliamentary representation, with women now holding 14% of seats in the lower house of parliament. Some of the progress has occurred as a result of improvements associated with increased socio-economic development, such as education, female employment, and incremental changes in women's standing in Fiji society. Much of this change, however, has been due to women's movements and civil society activism becoming more astute to concerns of gender equality and lobbying for women's political participation. In a country that witnessed four political coups, women have had to create their own path into the public sphere. Despite progress, with an increasing number of women in the 2014 parliament, patriarchy is still a major force hindering women's political advancement in Fiji. This paper argues that a combination of cultural stereotyping and persistent gendered norms contribute to masculinisation of the political realm and eulogise women's role in the private sphere. But gender intersecting with ethnicity, age, and class create differential levels of political agency for different groups of women in Fiji.

Corbett, J., & Liki, A. (2015). Intersecting identities, divergent views: Interpreting the experiences of women politicians in the Pacific Islands. *Politics and Gender*, 11(2), 320-344.

Anecdotally, it is assumed that the factors that constrain women from entering parliament spill over into the way they experience holding public office, thus limiting their influence. Drawing on in-depth biographical interviews and other publically available materials we test this supposition by investigating the experiences of women who have served in parliament in the Pacific Islands, a region famous for its low levels of women's representation. We ask if and how women see their gender as influencing their parliamentary roles. We identify two narratives. The first aligns with the orthodox assumption where prevailing patriarchal norms stymie the influence of women MPs. The second, however, is a counternarrative that defies the conventional reading and instead posits that gender matters little once inside parliament with MPs, highlighting the importance of other identities—family, community, religious, etc.—to their constituent representation and re-election campaigns. In turn, women MPs who hold to this latter perspective are often critical of what they see as the imposition of gender norms by foreign donors. Employing the concept intersectionality allows us to simultaneously acknowledge and problematise this duality, thus providing a more nuanced reading of the impact of gender on parliamentary life in the Pacific region.

Corrin, J. (2008). Ples bilong mere*: Law, gender and peace-building in Solomon Islands. *Feminist Legal Studies*, 16(2), 169-194.

This article discusses women and peace-building in Solomon Islands and the effect of law, theory, and practical circumstances on their role. It looks at the place of Solomon Islands women in society historically, with particular reference to war and peace. It then analyses their current status from a legal perspective, looking at the existing Constitution, the proposed Federal Constitution, and relevant aspects of international law. It questions whether gender equity provisions are sufficient to promote participation at a practical level. The article also disputes the effectiveness of various international, regional, and local initiatives, designed to enhance the status of women. The article discusses the application of some of the theories relating to women and peace-building to the circumstances of Solomon Islands. It concludes by looking to the future and discussing means of consolidating women's position, and increasing their involvement in leadership and decision-making.

Cox, J., & Phillips, G. (2015). Sorcery, Christianity and the decline of medical services. In M. Forsyth, & R. Eves (Eds.), *Talking it through: Responses to sorcery and witchcraft beliefs and practices in Melanesia* (pp. 37-54). Canberra, Australia: ANU Press.

In Papua New Guinea (PNG), witchcraft and sorcery accusations appear to be proliferating and, in many cases, leading to horrific violence, torture, and murder of those thought to be sorcerers (Chandler 2013). Our contribution to the debates about sorcery-related violence is to see it as the result of poverty and failing services. Following the medical anthropologist and infectious diseases physician Paul Farmer, we reject interpretations of sorcery accusations and violence as grounded in the ancient traditional culture of Melanesia. Instead, we see the resurgence of sorcery as an effect of poverty and social inequality, particularly the neglect of medical services and training (Farmer 1999). Sorcery accusations are largely associated with untimely or unanticipated deaths, therefore the contest between these ways of thinking and biomedical understandings of disease and illness is important to examine. In this chapter, we argue that the explanatory power of biomedicine in PNG and Solomon Islands is hampered by several factors, not least the poor access to, and resourcing of, medical services. The reinvigoration of medical training and service provision is crucial to demonstrating the efficacy of biomedicine and improving health outcomes for PNG, as well as combating the spread of competing understandings of illness and disease that give rise to maltreatment, social division, misogyny, and violence.

D'Costa, B., & Lee-Koo, K. (2009). *Gender and global politics in the Asia-Pacific*. New York, NY: Palgrave Macmillan.

This book demonstrates the integral nature of gendered issues and feminist frameworks for a comprehensive understanding of contemporary IR. It uses feminist frameworks and research to both uncover and reflect upon gender and global politics in the contemporary Asia-Pacific. It also brings together, into a coherent and accessible collection, the work of feminist scholars, teachers, and activists in international relations.

Dickson-Waiko, A. (2013). The missing rib: Mobilizing church women for change in Papua New Guinea. *Oceania*, 74(1), 98-119.

This paper examines the particular shape taken by a modern instance of Third World feminism. In Papua New Guinea, an emerging nexus between grassroots female activism and Christian churches is helping to liberate and empower some female citizens in a state which, in practice, has neglected women's interests and gender relations despite early national rhetoric about the importance of women to nation-building. Tracing the origins of modern women's fellowship groups to the early work of female missionaries with indigenous women, the paper considers the increasing politicisation of women's organisations during the last two decades as they expand their 'traditional' preoccupation with spiritual, domestic, and welfare matters to embrace wider social, political, and human rights issues. In the course of surveying church women's groupings in Papua New Guinea, the paper looks specifically at the National Council of Women, women's groups in East New Britain Province, the United Church Women's Fellowship, and women's involvements in the developing ecumenical movement. The paper concludes by contrasting the class dimensions of grassroots Christian women's activism with official denial of the existence of class differentiation or exploitation in this purportedly egalitarian Melanesian state.

Donald, I., Strachan, J., & Taleo, H. (2002). *Slo slo*: Increasing women's representation in parliament in Vanuatu. *Development Bulletin*, 59, 54-57.

In the recent general election (May 2002) Vanuatu elected its third-ever woman (Isabelle Donald) to parliament. In 1987, Hilda Lini and Maria Crowby were the first women elected to parliament of Vanuatu. Hilda Lini served three terms and Maria Crowby one. During her term, Hilda Lini was also Minister for Health. From 1998 to 2002, Vanuatu had no women's representation in parliament, although equity is enshrined in Vanuatu's constitution, the Comprehensive Reform Program, and Vanuatu's ratification of the United Nations' Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in 1995. The reasons women in Vanuatu are so under-represented in national, provincial, and municipal governments are complex and include the reluctance, and in some cases direct opposition, of some (both men and women) to acknowledge women's rightful place in the decision-making processes of the country. These attitudes are deeply embedded in traditional custom and Christianity. Particularly in the early days of independence, many members of parliament were also church pastors, and today many are chiefs.

Dumaru, P., & Chand, D. (2005). *Pacific energy and gender annotated bibliography*. Suva, Fiji: SOPAC Secretariat.

This annotated bibliography was prepared in response to priorities set during the regional workshop "Gender, Energy and Sustainable Development", 4-8 August, 2003, and specifically the recommendations made by Pacific Island countries to strengthen dissemination of information on energy and gender issues in the region. The specific objective of this document is to summarise the most important materials on gender and/or women and energy, which refer to the Pacific region, whether written from within or outside of the region. The range of resource materials on gender and energy in the Pacific is limited. Very few entries in this annotated bibliography primarily deal with this issue in the region. Most of the materials included are reports of conferences, projects, surveys, policies, and papers on energy that make reference to women in the Pacific, and these are often linked to stove- and community-based energy projects. As such, the scope of the materials included in this bibliography is somewhat wider than anticipated. Also, materials included in this bibliography are limited to libraries and resource centres in Fiji, and a few publications physically sent from New Caledonia. Materials contained in the numerous resource centers and libraries in the other Pacific Island countries are not included in this bibliography. Access to resource materials while based in Fiji is a constraint, especially when most reports and project documents are available only in hard copies. Despite the constraints in terms of geographical coverage, literature for 11 countries is substantial, mainly Fiji Islands, Marshall Islands, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea (PNG), Cook Islands, Tonga, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Western Samoa, and American Samoa. Literature was limited for the following countries: Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Tokelau, and Palau. It should be noted that most research papers, publications, and statistical profiles collected for this bibliography are dated from 1980s to early 1990s, most of which are focusing on woodstove or household energy. This is mainly due to the donor interest and funding in the Pacific region back in 1980s in this area. There is limited recent research carried out in this area. Nevertheless, the 1980s and 1990s research papers and statistical profiles provide useful background, lessons learnt, and data for future studies. Indeed, in compiling this annotated bibliography, it became very clear that further studies and research work needs to be carried out in the area of energy and gender to ensure up-to-date information and data is available.

Eriksen, A. (2012). The pastor and the prophetess: An analysis of gender and Christianity in Vanuatu. *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*, 18(1), 103-122.

The focus of this article is the proliferation of new charismatic Pentecostal churches in the South Pacific nation Vanuatu. The established Presbyterian Church on the island of Ambrym is compared to a new Pentecostal church in the capital Port Vila, in terms of gender. The idea of a vanishing form of masculinity and the development of a form of gender nostalgia is emphasised in the comparison. By looking at gender relations, new perspectives on the difference between the new churches and more established churches emerge, and these perspectives, I argue, might also give us an understanding of why fission seems to be inevitable for the new Pentecostal churches in Vanuatu.

Espino, A., & Underhill-Sem, Y. (2012). Gender, social equity and regional economic processes: Latin America and the Pacific perspectives. *Development*, 55(3), 358-368.

Alma Espino and Yvonne Underhill-Sem discuss the issue of regionalism and regionalisation in Latin America and in the Pacific. Although there are important differences between these realities, they highlight advantages, dangers, and challenges of economic integration for gender and social equity, focusing on the power relations operating at various levels. They emphasise the need to improve knowledge about the gender dimension of these processes. Understanding the gendered implications of the geographic expansion of global capitalism will allow feminists to build proposals of economic integration schemes that are more comprehensive, gender-aware, and oriented to human development.

Eves, R., & Butt, L. (Eds.). (2008). *Making sense of AIDS: Culture, sexuality and power in Melanesia*. Honolulu: University of Hawai'i Press.

Melanesia is part of the wider region of the Pacific, or Oceania, an often neglected part of the world, but this neglect desperately needs to be confronted as part of the worldwide response to AIDS. Although this volume has been able to attend only to Melanesia, we hope that some

of the lessons it contains will be taken up as relevant to the wider Pacific, and that it will encourage further research. Part of the reason for the neglect of the Pacific is that it is so often seen as vast, empty, and uninhabited. As one early commentator remarked, the Pacific is so vast that "the human mind can scarcely grasp it" (cited in Finney, 2002, p. 38; see also Lockwood, 2004, p. 10). For many, the Pacific appears as an "immense inconvenience" to those on the rim, a mere barrier to commerce, and indeed the study of HIV/AIDS in the wider region has concentrated on Asia and Southeast Asia (Finney, 2002, p. 46). For example, at the Seventh International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific in 2005, only a handful of papers examined countries in the Pacific, while hundreds examined the epidemics in Asia. Also, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) brackets the two regions together under the label "Asia-Pacific," an unfortunate move that relegates the Pacific to the position of lesser, neglected cousin.

Eves, R. (2003). Money, mayhem and the beast: Narratives of the world's end from New Ireland, Papua New Guinea. *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*, 9(3), 527-547.

This article discusses the relationship between money, the nation, and new imaginings of apocalypticism in Papua New Guinea. Robert Foster has argued that money played an important role in the Australian administration's efforts to promote a sense of nation at the end of the colonial period. I explore the effects of the new imaginings beyond the nation, that are occurring as Christian apocalypticism becomes a dominant framework for interpreting the world. New meanings and values are being attached to money, resulting in the destabilisation of the strong link between money and nation that was observed by Foster. I argue that, within this new world-view, money is losing its symbolic potency, that new forms of identity are emerging, and that people's attachment to the nation is being weakened.

Eves, R. (2007). *Exploring the role of men and masculinities in Papua New Guinea in the 21st century: How to address violence in ways that generate empowerment for both men and women*. Alexandria, NSW, Australia: Caritas.

A recent United Nations Secretary-General's report affirms that "Violence against women persists in every country in the world as a pervasive violation of human rights and a major impediment to achieving gender equality" (UN, 2006, p. 9). "As long as violence against women continues," the report adds, "we cannot claim to be making real progress towards equality, development and peace" (UN, 2006, p. 9). The issue of violence against women has thus become a major item of concern in the field of human rights and development, partly under the influence of the women's movement, but also because gender equity has come to be seen as an essential basis for sustainable development. Not only women, but also men, have a lot to gain from a more equitable and constructive relationship with women. Caught in a cycle of violence and reaction, men suffer violence from other men, expose themselves and their families to health risks, endure family conflict, and waste their own resources as they try to live up to and maintain particular masculine ideals. To be added to the significant economic and social costs of inequity and violence is the loss of the potential contribution of the women whose capacities are thwarted.

Fairbairn-Dunlop, P. (1994). Women's education Pacific overview. *Directions: Journal of Education Studies*, 16(1), 55-68.

Ensuring that the education of women and girls is on the national agenda is a high priority issue in all Pacific countries, whether we are arguing from the viewpoint of human resource development, or equity for women. The difference today is that this push is now supported by data - it is no longer based on unverified assumptions about how many women are getting/not getting into schools, and how these women are progressing through the system. Women are appreciating the importance of data in this increasingly data-proof society; they are asking for existing information to be desegregated by gender and questioning the validity of the assumptions on which much of this data is based, and collecting new data based on new questions as well. Data baselines about women have been established in all regional countries, action plans featuring achievable targets have been identified from this information, and appropriate monitoring and evaluation processes set in motion. This paper describes the educational status of Pacific women and girls today. There are great variations between countries, as will be seen, and within countries as well, but this paper draws attention to general trends. The data, as always, must be treated with caution regarding its accuracy. Other points of note are that: increases in participation noted are proportional, and may not always

be 'real' gains for women; participation does not equate with quality of education - shortages of experienced, trained teachers are the norm in the Pacific, particularly in science subjects, and many schools have very minimal resources; 'national' data masks urban/rural disparities in the provision and quality of education. For example, the secondary schools which prepare students for entry into tertiary institutions are located in urban areas, thus perpetuating inequity.

Ferguson, K. E., & Mironesco, M. (Eds.). (2008). *Gender and globalization in Asia and the Pacific: Method, practice, theory*. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.

What is globalisation? How is it gendered? How does it work in Asia and the Pacific? The authors of the sixteen original and innovative essays presented here take fresh stock of globalisation's complexities. They pursue critical feminist inquiry about women, gender, and sexualities, and produce original insights into changing life patterns in Asian and Pacific Island societies. Each essay puts the lives and struggles of women at the center of its examination, while weaving examples of global circuits in Asian and Pacific societies into a world frame of analysis. The work is generated from within Asian and Pacific spaces, bringing to the fore local voices and claims to knowledge. The geographic emphasis on Asia/Pacific highlights the complexity of globalising practices among specific people whose dilemmas come alive on these pages.

Fiji Women's Crisis Centre. (2013). *Somebody's life, everybody's business! National research on women's health and life experiences in Fiji (2010/2011): A survey exploring the prevalence, incidence and attitudes to intimate partner violence in Fiji*. Suva, Fiji: Author.

This report presents findings from a national survey on violence against women and girls conducted by the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre (FWCC). The survey was undertaken in cooperation with the Fiji Islands Bureau of Statistics in 2011. It provides reliable data on the prevalence of physical, sexual, emotional, and economic violence against women by husbands/intimate partners, and on physical and sexual assault of women and girls by others (non-partners), including rape, attempted rape, and child sexual assault. It provides detailed information on the impacts of men's violence, including on women's physical, mental, and reproductive health, women's work and ability to earn an income, their participation in organisations, and the short-term and long-term effects on children. It also provides data on women's attitudes to gender-based violence and women's human rights, how women cope with violence, and the risk factors associated with gender-based violence.

Fiji Women's Rights Movement. (2012). *Balancing the power: Promoting women's political representation in Fiji through temporary special measures*. Suva, Fiji: Fiji Women's Forum.

The Fiji Women's Forum (FWF), in its inaugural meeting in April 2012, identified four key priority areas that are of concern for women. One of these key priority areas was the promotion of women's participation in decision-making and democratisation processes. The FWF agreed that the current democratisation process needed to integrate the need for representation of women at all levels. In addition, any new or reformed constitution must integrate temporary special measures to promote 50% women's political participation at national and local government levels. Further, the FWF also recognised the need to include women in decision-making roles within the communities as well. This paper will examine temporary special measures and the different options that can be used to ensure women's political participation. In addition, it will also highlight best practices in countries that have successfully adopted these different options. There are two main types of temporary special measures which have been utilised in many countries to promote women's political participation: (1) reserved seat quotas, and (2) political party or candidate quotas.

Forsyth, M., & Eves, R. (2015). The problems and victims of sorcery and witchcraft practices and beliefs in Melanesia: An introduction. In M. Forsyth, & R. Eves (Eds.), *Talking it through: Responses to sorcery and witchcraft beliefs and practices in Melanesia* (pp. 1-21). Canberra, Australia: ANU Press.

The belief that illness, death, and misfortune of all sorts are frequently caused by the deliberate interventions of individuals with special powers or magical knowledge is pervasive throughout Melanesia. As a result, sorcery and witchcraft beliefs and practices exert a powerful influence on many aspects of day-to-day life, as well as being significant vectors for community tensions, conflict, and violence. Moreover, rather than disappearing under the influence of Christianity and modern life, sorcery and witchcraft practices and beliefs are

proving extremely resilient, with many claiming that they are increasing and spreading. In recent years, most of the attention given to the problems arising from sorcery and witchcraft beliefs and practices has been on the attacks and killings of accused sorcerers and witches. Three widely publicised events in 2013 and 2014 brought these forcibly into public focus. In Mount Hagen, in 2013, a woman was tortured and then burnt alive in front of hundreds of onlookers, including members of her community and police officers. Later that year, a female teacher in Bougainville was publicly tortured and beheaded. Then, in November 2014, two men in Vanuatu were publicly hanged in a community hall following accusations that they had been practising witchcraft. However, sorcery and witchcraft beliefs and practices also give rise to a range of social problems that are not as visible, including the retarding of economic development, poor public health, undermining of social cohesion, incentivising crime, and creating insecurity. Today, as in the past, many communities, individuals, church organisations, and policymakers in Melanesia are trying very hard to grapple with these negative societal impacts of belief in sorcery and witchcraft. Partly as a result of the three incidents detailed above, the 'problem' of sorcery and witchcraft is increasingly a focus of international attention, such as through special rapporteur reports and the work of international non-government organisations (NGOs) (e.g., Heyns, 2014; Manjoo, 2013). The chapters in this book document and discuss the ways in which different actors are addressing and exploring the different facets of the problems associated with these beliefs in Melanesia. As such, this book's emphasis is on trying to understand what is happening, and also on the types of interventions that are being trialled, and their successes and failures.

George, N. (2008). Contending masculinities and the limits of tolerance: Sexual minorities in Fiji. *The Contemporary Pacific*, 20(1), 163-189. Fiji is one of only a handful of states that has given constitutional recognition to the rights of sexual-minority groups. This occurred in 1998 when a new constitution was enacted in the wake of a two-year process of public hearings and consultations, coordinated by an independent commission of constitutional review. While it was not a direct subject of public deliberation, the commission included in its report a recommendation that Fiji's Bill of Rights include a clause prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation (Tarte, 2001). Fiji's gay, lesbian, and transgender advocates hailed this move as progressive and visionary, anticipating a more accommodating future political environment as they pressed the case for further legal reforms. However, an almost immediate public backlash to these provisions, from conservative indigenous nationalists and some of the country's most influential religious institutions, indicated that such expectations were overly optimistic. As public criticism of the constitution's codification of sexual minority rights mounted, it became clear that Fiji was witnessing not a new and more tolerant era with regard to questions of sexual orientation, but rather a heightened level of controversy over the issue of same-sex relationships, and an increasingly powerful condemnation of those who choose to publicly demonstrate a homosexual or transgender identity.

George, N. (2014). Promoting women, peace and security in the Pacific Islands: Hot conflict/slow violence. *Australian Journal of International Affairs*, 68(3), 314-332.

How has the Women, Peace and Security agenda been advanced in the Pacific Islands? While some observers argue that this region suffers from a contagion of unrest, violence, and state weakness, these estimates commonly ignore the vital work women have performed in the region as promoters of peace and security. Even when such activity places them in direct personal danger, women across the region have spearheaded efforts to bridge communal boundaries and challenge the increasing normalisation of violence, gendered and otherwise, that accompanies threatened or actual incidents of conflict. As this article demonstrates, these efforts have had profound impacts on the ground in conflict-affected Pacific Island countries. They have also received increased recognition at the level of institutional politics, with member states of the Pacific Islands Forum recently accepting a Regional Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security. This has been hailed as a significant achievement for the region's women peacebuilders. But much of this plan is focused on women's contributions to peacebuilding at the pointy end of a crisis. This overlooks the extent to which the 'slow violence' of environmental degradation, masculinised politics, and militarism also compound gendered insecurity in the region. Attention to these issues offers a contradictory picture of the gains made in promoting the Women, Peace and Security agenda in the

Pacific Islands. While this advocacy framework has provided important opportunities for the region's women peacebuilders, it may also have discouraged broader reflection on the prevailing structural conditions at work across the region, which function in an attenuated fashion to undermine women's security and the achievement of a gendered regional peace.

George, N. (2015). 'Starting with a prayer': Women, faith, and security in Fiji. *Oceania*, 85(1), 119-131.

Scholars of global security have recently been captured by the idea that there is a link between sex and world peace. They argue that the security of states and the international system should be understood as conditional upon the social, economic, and political standing of women. Accordingly, they contend that societies and states that display chauvinistic and discriminatory sociocultural influences are more tolerant of high levels of gender disadvantage and violence towards women, and more likely to be marked by general levels of belligerence, violence, and insecurity. Ideologies of faith are identified as helping to fuel this scenario. Hence, proponents of the sex and world peace thesis construct a strongly oppositional relationship between gender and faith on the one hand, and gender and security on the other. In this paper, I challenge the idea that efforts to build security, gendered or otherwise, are only effective if they are secularised. I draw on examples from the Pacific Islands to defend my case. While I concede that faith can be a source of insecurity in many parts of the Pacific Islands region, and is often invoked in ways that legitimise violence, I also discuss important examples that illustrate where and how faith is a resource for the region's women peacebuilders who have resisted violence in interpersonal, intercommunal, and interregional contexts.

Gibson, J. (2000). Who's not in school? Economic barriers to universal primary education in Papua New Guinea. *Pacific Economic Bulletin*, 15(2), 46-58.

Many studies recommend making primary education the priority investment in developing countries because of its impact on economic growth and other development goals. Yet few developing countries achieve universal primary education despite numerous international commitments to this goal. This study focuses on Papua New Guinea, where over one-quarter of children are out of school. Household survey data are used to see the effect of individual, household, and community characteristics on whether or not a child attends primary school. Increases in household income and in men's education raise both boys' and girls' enrolments (slightly favouring girls), but women's education has a significant impact only on girls' schooling. Even after controlling for observable factors, girls' enrolments lag behind those of boys and have significant unexplained differences across regions.

Gibson, J., & Rozelle, S. (2004). Is it better to be a boy? A disaggregated outlay equivalent analysis of gender bias in Papua New Guinea. *Journal of Development Studies*, 40(4), 115-136.

The demographic evidence of gender bias in many countries has provided an impetus for finding ways to study the status of women in developing countries. Because of the lack of accurate intrahousehold data, Deaton (1989) introduced a method for using household expenditure data to infer discrimination in the allocation of goods between boys and girls. Few studies of discrimination using the method, however, have detected bias, even though alternative indicators suggest it is a serious problem. In this paper, we study the case of Papua New Guinea, a country in which there are many indicators of severe gender bias. Discrimination in the allocation of goods between boys and girls within households in Papua New Guinea is examined using Deaton's outlay-equivalent ratio method. Adding a boy to the household reduces expenditure on adult goods by as much as a nine-tenths reduction in total outlay per member, but girls have no effect on adult goods expenditure. The hypothesis of Haddad and Reardon (1993), that gender bias is inversely related to the importance of female labour in agricultural production, is not supported. Sensitivity analysis shows that bias in rural areas occurs equally, regardless of the age of the household head, while bias against girls may be less in regions of the country that have ethnic groups which practice matrilineal descent.

Hand, J., & Sheridan, N. (2010). National political representation and health inequalities in Aotearoa/New Zealand: Could a Pacific woman be our Obama? *Race, Gender & Class*, 17(3), 189-200.

From a South Pacific perspective, we see the Obama presidency as a symbol of optimism for public engagement and grassroots movements, and as a model for new-found power for marginalised peoples.

New Zealand shares in the global issues of political representation and accountability, growing economic and social inequalities, and increasing rates of chronic disease. We will describe the history and current situation of national political representation and discuss major current social and health issues. The discussion is illustrated by a case study and verbatim quotes from people with chronic disease, drawn from research on consumer perspectives on the services provided by the health system in one New Zealand city. We conclude by advocating for community organising and empowerment, resulting in many Obamas supporting the social and economic policies necessary to address the inequalities we hold to be fundamental to current social and health crises. Given the racial, social, and political context of Aotearoa/New Zealand, yes, our Obama could be a Pacific woman.

Hemer, S. R. (2014). *Gender & mining: Strategies for governing the development of women in Lihir, PNG*. Adelaide, Australia: Working Paper, University of Adelaide.

The negative impacts of mining on local communities, and particularly women in the Pacific, are well documented. It is acknowledged that mines are notoriously male-dominated, and women struggle to be heard in negotiations between communities and mines, as well as to gain the benefits of mine-related development. In recent years, in attempts to address these issues, there have been calls to examine the interface between gender and mining more fully, and to mainstream gender in all aspects of mining. This paper takes its lead from recent research that aims to move beyond the 'negative impacts on women' of mining (Mahy, 2011), to instead examine the strategies and resilience of women in mining locations (Rimoldi, 2011). In the case of the Lihir Gold mine, there are two key women's organisations that work for women's development: the Petztorme Women's Association which draws its membership from the Catholic and United Churches, and the Tutorme Association which developed from a Sewing Centre. These two organisations, however, have developed very different strategies to advance the position of women. Through an analysis of this case, the paper argues that gender mainstreaming has not been effectual at the local level in Lihir, and that instead women continue to gain their status from their role as guardians of the future through children, youth, and health.

Hermkens, A. (2015). The gendered politics of witchcraft and sorcery accusations among the Maisin of Papua New Guinea. *The Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology*, 16(1), 36-54.

This article investigates yafuni ('witchcraft' or female sorcery) accusations among the Maisin people living in Collingwood Bay, Oro Province, Papua New Guinea. It takes as its primary case a public meeting at which two women were accused of killing a man. During the meeting, reasons for the victim's unexpected death and why he was subjected to 'witchcraft' were questioned and explored. While sorcery and witchcraft accusations might have violent outcomes, I argue that among Maisin they can be understood as performative rituals in which tensions and frustrations are vented in controlled ways, effectively preventing aggression and violence towards those accused. Accusations must be understood in the context of local identity politics that entail the questioning and redefining of relations and boundaries between gender, clans, and cultural groups. In the case examined in this paper, the meeting provided a forum for the predominantly male accusers to re-establish gender hierarchies and social boundaries in order to restore social balance, albeit at the cost of victimising two women.

Hermkens, A. (2008). Josephine's journey: Gender-based violence and Marian devotion in urban Papua New Guinea. *Oceania*, 78(2), 151-167.

This article deals with how, in the urban setting of Madang, Papua New Guinea, Marian devotion is deployed in response to domestic and gender-based violence. While providing insight into the lived religious experiences of Catholic women living in Madang, this article shows how Mary empowers her followers to resist violence, yet, at the same time, paradoxically, is instrumental in sanctioning women to tolerate violence. Josephine's 'journey of violence' reveals not only Josephine's turning to Mary, but more so, her negotiations with values belonging to different cultural logics. Caught between 'tradition', Christianity, and 'modernity', Josephine and other Catholic women engage in painful processes of self-analysis and self-transformation to adapt to and change their situation. In these processes, Mary is used as a role model

Hermkens, A. (2015). Mediations of cloth: Tapa and personhood among the Maisin in PNG. *Oceania*, 85(1), 10-23.

Tapa (or barkcloth), which is made from the outer bark of specific trees, is intimately interwoven with past and present socialities across

Oceania. The cloths have been used to decorate, wrap, cover, protect, and carry the human body, as exchange valuables and commodities, in land claims, and as indexes and embodiments of ancestral power. This article explores the complexities of personhood in Oceania by focusing on the making and ceremonial use of tapa among the Maisin of Collingwood Bay, Papua New Guinea. It elucidates dynamics of the intimate correspondence between people and things, and, in particular, how people's gendered identities are mediated: that is, shaped, reproduced, and contested through the cloth's specific materiality and design. Ultimately, it reveals the mutual growth of people and things, and how they are part of each other's substance, thereby dissolving the subject object dichotomy.

Hinton, R., Kopi, M., Apa, A., Sil, A., Kini, M., Kai, J., ... Cowley, D. (2013). The Kup Women for Peace: A localised and innovative approach to free, fair and peaceful elections. In R. J. May, R. Anere, N. Haley, & K. When (Eds.), *Election 2007: The shift to limited preferential voting in Papua New Guinea* (pp. 157-169). Canberra, Australia: ANU E Press.

This chapter, based on interviews with men and women from Kup communities, examines a unique approach by a community-based organisation, Kup Women for Peace (KWP), during the election period in Chimbu Province. KWP developed its own comprehensive and localised strategy, based on their peacebuilding work, and engaged the local community. Their approach sought not only to prevent election-related violence, but also to improve the electoral process and ensure a free and fair election. KWP applied new and creative practices, which developed outside the normal paradigms utilised by government and official bodies.

Hutchinson, S. (2015). Women, peace and security in the South Pacific. *Constructive Pathways: Stimulating and Safeguarding Components of WPS*, 74, 227-242.

The Asia Pacific may be the most militarised region of the world, but security concerns do not simply lie with high end threat of state on state conflict. There are a range of fragile states in the south Pacific where stability is threatened by a range of human security challenges. It is important to consider Women, Peace and Security as part of a broader strategy for security and stability across the Pacific. Advancing WPS in the Pacific fits well with PACOM efforts to build stronger relationships in the region to advance common interests and address shared threats.

In 2012, the Pacific Islands Forum released both a Regional Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security and a Human Security Framework. There is strong engagement from civil society across the Pacific on Women, Peace and Security. The Pacific Islands Forum Reference Group on Women, Peace and Security includes representatives from two different women's civil society organisations. The Australian government has identified WPS as a key component of new regional aid program, but diplomatic and aid efforts need increase from a range of donors and allies. Women, Peace and Security could be one issue which PACOM coordinates with federal partners and NGOs in the region. Regional cooperation, stabilisation and disaster relief activities could be used to reinforce Women, Peace and Security efforts and bilateral exercises like Exercise TALISMAN SABRE could prioritise Women, Peace and Security, as could other bilateral and multilateral exercises with military and police forces from the South Pacific.

Jolly, M. (2005). Beyond the horizon? Nationalisms, feminisms, and globalization in the Pacific. *Ethnohistory*, 52(1), 137-166.

This paper situates the fraught relation of nationalisms and feminisms in the context of wider debates about globalisation in the Pacific. Through a reading of the poetry and prose of the late Grace Mera Molisa of Vanuatu, and Haunani-Kay Trask of Hawai'i, it raises questions about what might be considered 'indigenous' and 'foreign' in their different locations. Over several decades of intensive and reflective political practice, their respective positions on the relation between nationalisms and feminisms took divergent trajectories. Yet their corpus of poetry, written primarily in English, raises similar questions about what has been described by Wilson and Hereniko as the 'inside-out' cultural politics of the contemporary Pacific.

Jolly, M. (1996). Woman ikat raet long human raet O no? Women's rights, human rights and domestic violence in Vanuatu. *Feminist Review*, 52, 169-190.

Domestic violence in Vanuatu was debated in the context of the relations between tradition culture and Christianity. Western concerns for the civil rights of women grossly overlook the South Pacific

perspectives of collectivity for the rights to economic development and self-determination. A conference on violence and the family in Vanuatu in 1994 studied ideological and cultural differences in addressing women's right within the broader domain of human rights.

Jolly, M. (2011). Flying with two wings? Justice and gender in Vanuatu. *The Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology*, 12(2), 195-201.

Miranda Forsyth's book offers a lucid account of the relation between state and non-state systems of justice in Vanuatu, as prospectively like a 'bird that flies with two wings'. It is equally informed by a strong command of the theory and practice of legal pluralism, and the history and anthropology of Vanuatu. While acknowledging the complex diversities of the archipelago, it affords a national but not a state-centric perspective. But how realistic is this image of the future complementarity and parity between kastom and state justice, and how might the challenges of gender hierarchy and gender violence skew that hope of flying with two wings?

Jolly, M. (2015). Braed praes in Vanuatu: Both gifts and commodities? *Oceania*, 85(1), 63-78.

The debate about braed praes as either gift or commodity has a long and complex genealogy in foreign writings on Oceania, engaging anthropologists, Christian missionaries, policy-makers, and feminists. Debates between ni-Vanuatu have been equally protracted, passionate, and complicated, creating an echo chamber of resounding conversations. Such debates and political contests about bride price address deep questions about the value of a woman as a person, a worker, sexual partner, and mother, and engage profound philosophical questions about the local traction of imported distinctions between subjects and objects, persons and things, and how indigenous categories have been transformed by the longue durée of Christian conversions and simultaneous processes of commoditisation, complicit and conflictual. How have these transformed the value of woman as bride and the character and significance of braed praes? Can the entrenched binaries in such debates be eclipsed by seeing braed praes as both gift and commodity?

Jolly, M., Lee, H., Lepani, K., Naupa, A., & Rooney, M. (2015). *Falling through the net? Gender and social protection in the Pacific*. Bangkok, Thailand: UN Women.

Pacific women are hardworking, creative, resourceful, and resilient. Yet, their predominant portrayal is one of vulnerable victimhood distinguished by limited opportunities for empowerment and intractable gender inequality and gender violence. Our discussion of gender and social protection in the Pacific starts with the recognition of women's agency while also acknowledging that pervasive structures and processes of inequality severely constrain their creativity and resilience in adversity. Pacific women are doubly devalued by masculinist structures that have their origins in both indigenous cultures and the introduced culture of a globalising capitalism, in both colonial and contemporary epochs. This discussion paper considers these dynamics in three countries of the region – Papua New Guinea, Tonga, and Vanuatu – and explores how best to approach social protection so as to promote gender equality rather than risk reinscribing prevailing gender inequalities. The paper emphasises the need to move beyond bipolar divisions of customary and commodity economies or informal and formal economies to consider the everyday realities of making a living. Women will 'fall through the net' if social protection is unduly yoked to the public sphere of the state and the formal commodity economy in which women are marginalised. Indigenous forms of social protection – safety nets grounded in kinship and collective relations to the land – are fraying with commoditisation, especially in the context of extractive industries such as mining and logging, as well as urbanisation, tourism, and real estate speculation. This is further diminishing the little influence women have over land as both resource and place of belonging. Hence, we suggest that efforts to ensure women's social protection in the Pacific need to be alert to the risks that women might 'fall through the net'. Women's own perceptions of their contemporary situation and their agency as both individuals and collectivities (articulated in church groups and civil society organisations) should be carefully heeded in finding creative solutions for gender equality in social protection for sustainable Pacific futures.

Jorgensen, D. (2014). Preying on those close to home: Witchcraft violence in a Papua New Guinea village. *The Australian Journal of Anthropology*, 25(3), 267-286.

Recent attacks on suspected witches in Telefomin led to several deaths and the flight of families in fear of their lives. This violence has

much in common with similar events elsewhere in PNG, but there are important differences as well: accusations do not have a misogynist cast (all the targets were men), and the witchcraft is attributed to non-indigenous sources. As in many PNG instances, the police failed to prosecute homicides arising from witchcraft accusations, a fact that has led to widespread local concern. In this paper I present the Telefol cases with a focus on the relation of perpetrators to their victims and to the community at large. I argue that certain aspects of the regional economy, combined with a generic witchcraft discourse and the ineffectiveness of the state, have fostered a lethal crisis in the relation between villagers and male youth.

Kanemasu, Y., & Molnar, G. (2015). Double-trouble: Negotiating gender and sexuality in post-colonial women's rugby in Fiji. *International Review for the Sociology of Sport*, September

Although women's exclusion in sport has attracted significant attention in the Western context, similar issues in relation to post-colonial societies have remained in the margins of the sociology of sport. By analysing primary, interview-based evidence, article explores the challenges female rugby players face regarding gender and sexuality in Fiji, a male dominated post-colonial society. In particular, we focus on participants' resistance to dominant cultural practices, and ways in which they (re)negotiate gender norms and sexuality in a double-bind struggle against both traditional and sporting male hegemonies. We argue that the case of Fijian women rugby players illustrates an interplay between a multiplicity of power relations in sport in a post-colonial society and the resilience with which the athletes negotiate and respond to them, as well as the dynamic nature and the transformative potential of their everyday practices.

Kauanui, J. K. (2008). Native Hawaiian decolonization and the politics of gender. *American Quarterly*, 60(2), 281-287.

My research examines why feminist assertions within the Hawaiian nationalist movement are silenced, by male and female activists alike, but not because Native Hawaiian feminism is seen as irreconcilable with Hawaiian cultural norms; instead, feminism is typically viewed as unnecessary and superfluous. I suggest that this view is based on the fact that there are so many Native Hawaiian women in leadership positions within the movement. This perception also seems to rest on the widespread understanding that prior to British and Euro-American colonialism, Native Hawaiian culture was egalitarian, not patriarchal. This popular understanding is critical to the current nationalist context, wherein the movement as a whole encourages a rethinking of the Hawaiian past as a basis for cultural reclamation projects in the service of political mobilisation. My argument is twofold: gender oppression has been a mode of imperialism in the history of Hawai'i; and the nationalist struggles over the meaning of precolonial history, with regard to both gender and sexuality, constitute a significant political terrain within the context of Native Hawaiian decolonisation. From this perspective, the recovery of precolonial history for the nationalist struggles, along with a research agenda that focuses on the history of U.S. imperialism and gender oppression in Hawai'i, is crucial to an engaged politics of decolonisation.

Keeton, C. (2007). Changing men's behavior can improve women's health. *Bulletin of the World Health Organization*, 85(7), 505-506.

The report, *Engaging Men and Boys in Changing Gender-Based Inequity in Health*, commissioned by the Department of Gender, Women and Health of the World Health Organization (WHO) found that almost a third of the 58 programs evaluated were successful in encouraging men to end violence against women, to care for their pregnant wives and children, and to take steps to prevent infecting their partners with HIV or becoming infected themselves. One shortcoming identified by the report, released in May, was that even successful programs were limited to a pilot or short timeframe. Peju Olukoya, a physician and unit coordinator for Integrating Gender into Public Health, says that "gender transformation allowing women and men to discuss and decide on health, when that may not typically be the case, is the gold standard. In some places women cannot even seek health care unless they get permission from a man". The report evaluated 24 projects in North America, 9 in sub-Saharan Africa, 9 in Latin America and the Caribbean, 9 in Asia and the Pacific, 5 in North Africa and the Middle East, and 2 in Europe.

Koczberski, G. (1996). From Mexico to Beijing: "Women in development" twenty five years on. *Australian Geographical Studies*, 34(1), 138-148. During the past twenty-five years the Women in Development (WID) approach has become an increasingly important issue in the literature

on Third World development. WID policies and related activities have now been incorporated into the aid practice of most development agencies. This paper critically analyses the diverse and conflicting ideologies that have emerged in the WID literature since the early seventies.

Koczberski, G. (2007). Loose fruit mamas: Creating incentives for smallholder women in oil palm production in Papua New Guinea. *World Development*, 35(7), 1172-1185.

This paper presents a case study of the introduction of a more gender-equitable payment scheme for oil palm smallholders in Papua New Guinea. Women are now paid separately from their husbands for their work on family oil palm plots, thereby increasing the economic incentives for women to commit labour to oil palm production. The study incorporates broader local cultural and economic processes in the analysis of intra-household gender and labor relations to explain how the new payment systems successfully resolved intra-household disputes over labor and income. The paper highlights the critical role export firms can play in enhancing women's access to commodity crop income. Further, the paper demonstrates that by widening the framework of household analysis, insights can be gained into two key questions that have received only limited attention in the literature: the question of why men do not share a greater proportion of cash crop income with other family members, and the apparent inability of families to resolve intra-household conflicts over income.

Kruijssen, F., Albert, J. A., Morgan, M., Boso, D., Siota, F., ... Schwarz, A. J. (2013). *Livelihoods, markets, and gender roles in Solomon Islands: Case studies from Western and Isabel Provinces*. Penang, Malaysia: CGIAR Research Program on Aquatic Agricultural Systems.

Livelihoods in Solomon Islands are diverse, composed of a wide range of activities. The marketing of marine resources through value chains is an important component of this livelihood portfolio in many parts of the country. Gendered analysis of marine resource value chains can identify key entry points for equitable improvement of the livelihoods of those participating in these value chains. Case studies of two Solomon Islands communities (one each from Western and Isabel Provinces) provide insight into this issue. Some of the main findings of the value chain study, conducted in 2012, are as follows: Men and women fulfill different roles in marine resource value chains. Men are more involved in reef fishing and use a higher number of different fishing methods, while women more often participate in the gleaning of other marine resources. Selling fish is more often done by men, while women may dominate the sales of other marine resources, although this depends on the cultural context. At the production level (fishing and gleaning), control over income derived from marine resources is most often with the person who is involved in the sales transaction. Thus women's access to financial compensation for their work is linked to their capabilities to bargain with other value chain actors, and this process is shaped by gender norms and power relations. In the case study in Isabel Province, income from fish is more equally divided between husband and wife than income from other marine resources. The number of livelihood activities pursued differs between the two communities, but is almost equal for men and women within them. Some activities are more commonly conducted by one of the sexes, but specific division of roles differs between the two case study communities and is dependent on local norms and customs. There is a gender-differentiated pattern of decision making for decisions related to the daily functioning of the household, economic activities, and the family, with some decisions being made by either men or women alone, while others are made jointly. At the community level, however, men tend to dominate decision-making processes. It is posited that women's participation in decision making will be enhanced by addressing underlying gender norms as well as improving the skills and capabilities of women.

Lacey, A. (2011). Shifting the gaze, shifting the agenda: Sustainable livelihoods in urban Honiara. *Development*, 54(3), 368-375.

Anita Lacey addresses the ways in which the contemporary development gaze does not accommodate urban lives, or does so in homogenising ways. She draws on her research in Honiara, Solomon Islands, examining the impact of the increasing convergence among development aid actors in Honiara on export-oriented market-based development. Lacey argues that donor actors, as well as non-governmental organisations, must recognise the different challenges that urban and rural settlement patterns and poverties pose.

- Lamprell, G., Greenfield, D., & Braithwaite, J. (2015). The paradoxes of gender mainstreaming in developing countries: The case of health care in Papua New Guinea. *Global Public Health, 10*(1), 41-54.
- Gender mainstreaming developed as the global strategy for gender equality nearly two decades ago. Since then it has faced criticism for its technocratic application, and its role in the de-politicisation and neutralisation of the women's movement in gender policy-making. In the health sector, this incongruity is exacerbated by a traditional bio-medical approach to women's issues. In this paper, we ask whether gender mainstreaming can be made to work in the health sectors of developing countries where these challenges, as well as women's poor health status, are further complicated by a raft of local traditional, cultural, political, and socioeconomic barriers. To answer these questions, we present a case study of Papua New Guinea (PNG), one of the world's most disadvantaged and politically challenging countries. We review data on women's health in PNG and analyse PNG's aspirational and actual performance on gender mainstreaming, looking at: international commitments, political will and capacity, national policies and programmes, and the women's movement along with civil society's participation. We find numerous paradoxes between the aims of gender mainstreaming and the necessary conditions for its success.
- Lane, R., & McNaught, R. (2009). Building gendered approaches to adaptation in the Pacific. *Gender & Development, 17*(1), 67-80.
- This article reflects upon how gendered approaches to climate change adaptation can be strengthened in the Pacific region. The article looks at what has been learnt in the region, surveys some examples of best practice in gender-responsive programming, identifies the challenges we face on our journey, and suggests future directions. It is a collaborative effort, comprising input from a number of agencies who have been proactive in the areas of gender, climate change, and disaster risk-reduction in the Pacific Region, including: the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement in the Pacific region, the UNDP Pacific Centre, and the World Wildlife Fund's (WWF) Fiji Country Programme.
- Latai, L. (2015). Changing covenants in Samoa? From brothers and sisters to husbands and wives? *Oceania, 85*(1), 92-104.
- This article explores how, in the process of Christian conversion in Samoa by the London Missionary Society, the indigenous sacred covenant between brother and sister was transposed onto the relation between the pastor, his wife, and the congregation. I consider how far Victorian models of gender and domesticity, based on more individuated modes of personhood and the nuclear family, were promoted by foreign missionaries, and whether Samoan people accepted, resisted, and transformed these models. In Samoa, women had assumed powerful statuses as feaiga covenants and as tamasa sacred child. These ascriptions gave Samoan women sacred power and they were highly esteemed in their families and natal villages. What impact would Christian conversion have on this high valuation of Samoan women? And how would this transformation impact on Samoan ideas about gender and personhood?
- Lepani, K. (2007). Sovasova and the problem of sameness: Converging interpretive frameworks for making sense of HIV and AIDS in the Trobriand Islands. *Oceania, 77*(1), 12-28.
- This article considers how different models of sexuality and disease converge and interact to co-produce understandings of HIV and AIDS, and the implications of inter-cultural communication for effective HIV prevention in diverse settings. In the Trobriand Islands of Papua New Guinea, the phenomenon of sovasova, or chronic illness that manifests when members of the same matrilineal clan have sexual relations, is a persuasive and problematic form of cultural knowledge that directly influences comprehensions of HIV and AIDS. As a social proscription, sovasova underscores cultural ideations about the importance of social exchange and the corporeal mixing of difference in sexual relationships. Trobrianders recognise clear signs and symptoms that herald the onset of sovasova, which are similar to descriptions of AIDS-related illness: weight loss, nausea, and malaise. Affected people use various herbal and magical treatments to effectively manage sovasova, and people can avoid the sickness altogether by simply not having sex with a fellow clan member. The cultural resources available for treatment allow people to regard transgression as a safe possibility, albeit socially undesirable. The broad comparisons that Trobrianders draw between sovasova and AIDS create tensions as people contemplate HIV prevention based on the cultural model of sexual disorder and the valued capacity and efficacy of sexuality in maintaining relations of difference.
- Lepani, K. (2008). Mobility, violence and the gendering of HIV in Papua New Guinea. *The Australian Journal of Anthropology, 19*(2), 150-164.
- The links between gender, sexuality, and violence hold serious implications for HIV transmission and its social and economic effects. In Papua New Guinea, enduring and pervasive patterns of male sexual behaviour involving coercion, violence, and gang rape are highly conducive to the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmitted infections and have a critical bearing on women's sexual autonomy and health. The realities of violence are intensified by the widespread view that women are responsible for the spread of the virus. This paper engages the theme of mobility to consider the fluid and dynamic character of gender relations and sexuality in contemporary Papua New Guinea, and to gain perspective on constructions of modern masculinity and the discursive representations of gender violence in the context of the escalating HIV epidemic.
- Lepani, K. (2015). 'I am still a young girl if I want': Relational personhood and individual autonomy in the Trobriand Islands. *Oceania, 85*(1), 51-62.
- In the Trobriand Islands of Papua New Guinea, sexuality is valued as a positive expression of relational personhood, registering the efficacy of consensual and pleasurable practice in producing and maintaining social relations. The power of sexuality to demonstrate individual and collective capacity and potential holds particular salience for unmarried young people. This paper draws on my ethnographic research on culture and HIV in the Trobriands to address perduring questions about the locus of individual autonomy in Melanesian sociality, where relational personhood shapes identity and modes of exchange in the moral economy. I focus on the gendered agency of youth sexuality, including the use of kwaiwaga, or love magic, in exercising and controlling desire. The narrative identities of two young women provide the lens through which questions of agency are explored, revealing how the autonomous mind, nanola, is central to understanding the embodiment of social relations, how the power of love magic transfers agency from one individual to another, and how individual assertions and acts are ultimately expressions of situated relationality.
- Leslie, H., & Boso, S. (2003). Gender-related violence in the Solomon Islands: The work of local women's organisations. *Asia Pacific Viewpoint, 44*(3), 325-333.
- With its historical roots in the struggle for land and resources, and the migration of ethnically diverse peoples, the Solomon Islands crisis of 1998 caused untold trauma and suffering for many people. Because of their gendered position in society, however, women were arguably more adversely impacted by the conflict than men. Many women were raped by members of both warring parties and many felt guilt and hopelessness when the social and economic impacts of the conflict restricted their ability to fulfil traditional gender roles and responsibilities.
- Loxley, W. (1996). 'Sluts' or 'sleazy little animals'? Young people's difficulties with carrying and using condoms. *Journal of Community & Applied Social Psychology, 6*(4), 293-298.
- A survey of 105 young people (mean age, 18.3 years) from Perth, Western Australia, revealed significant obstacles to carrying and using condoms. Respondent were asked to describe their perceptions of what the opposite sex thinks of young women/young men who carry condoms. Although both men and women were concerned that carrying condoms would have a negative effect on their reputation, these fears generally were not matched by the responses of the opposite gender. 45% of men were positive about women carrying condoms, yet only 10% of women thought that men would be supportive; 40% believed that men would consider women who carry condoms 'sluts,' but only 18% of men had such negative views. Similarly, while only 24% of men believed women would support their carrying condoms, the actual rate was 36%. When asked to describe actual experiences with condom use, 71% reported negative experiences (e.g., condom broke while being put on or fell off during sex, loss of sexual arousal), 32% gave neutral responses, and only 5% were positive. Few respondents had used lubricated condoms. Recommended is the provision of inter-gender information to reduce the misperception that neither males nor females approve of the other sex carrying condoms and to promote the correct use of lubricated condoms.
- Luker, V. (2004). AIDS and the burden of care: Mainstreaming gender or 'main-themeing' women? *Development Bulletin, 64*, 78-81.
- In Papua New Guinea (PNG), when a person falls sick with AIDS, the main site of care is home, and the main providers of care are family members. In theory there are merits to this arrangement. Being at

home can be comforting for the sick person. Loved ones might be able to provide more tender attention than could hospital staff. Caring for the sick at home is also praised as 'traditional', and certainly repudiates the stigma often associated with HIV and AIDS. But in Papua New Guinea, perhaps the greatest virtue of care by relatives at home is necessity. Hospital beds are few, often inaccessible, and AIDS is already taxing hospital facilities in the major centres. The prevalence of HIV/AIDS is increasing, and the limited introduction of antiretroviral therapies from mid 2004 is not likely to significantly reduce AIDS-related morbidity or mortality in the foreseeable future, particularly among adults. The growing need to support families and communities in what is called 'community-based care' is widely recognised. This paper reflects specifically on the gendered burdens of AIDS care within the family, and some of the difficulties of redressing them. As UNAIDS (2004) has stated in its current campaign document, "HIV and AIDS have significantly increased the burden of care for many women. Poverty and poor public services have also combined with AIDS to turn the care burden for women into a crisis with far-reaching social, health and economic consequences" (p. 4). In PNG too, AIDS increases the burden of care for women. While the consequences of this burden are many, the potential effects upon the health of women and girls alone deserves attention. Although mainstreaming gender (and HIV / AIDS) is necessary, I will argue that the gendered burden of AIDS-care highlights the prior importance of 'main-theming' women in research upon which policy and programs can draw.

Macintyre, M. (2011). Modernity, gender and mining: Experiences from Papua New Guinea. In K. Lahiri-Dutt (Ed.), *Gendering the field: Towards sustainable livelihoods for mining communities* (pp. 21-32). Canberra, Australia: Australian National University E Press.

This volume presents a selection of papers that were presented at an international workshop on 'Mining, Gender and Sustainable Livelihoods', organised to disseminate the results of an 'action research' project. The project endeavoured to integrate a gender outlook in one major mining company's community development initiatives, and strengthen interdisciplinary approaches in examining the interface between gender, mining and sustainable livelihoods (EC 2007). Held in late 2008 in the Resource Management in Asia-Pacific Program (RMAP) of The Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra, the workshop was, for a number of reasons, an important international event in the field of social and community issues surrounding the extractive industries. It represented a confluence of several streams of thought and disciplinary approaches to gender and mining. The significance of this confluence lies in its holistic approach, through a conflation of community and gender interests, to the broad field of mining—without separating large and formal mining from informal, artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) practices.

Macintyre, M. (2012). Gender violence in Melanesia and the problem of Millennium Development Goal no. 3. In M. Jolly (Ed.), *Engendering violence in Papua New Guinea* (pp. 239-266). Canberra, Australia: ANU E Press.

This chapter explores and offers a critique of the ways that foreign aid projects engage with the problem of violence against women in Papua New Guinea. Inspired by the work of Amartya Sen and Stephen Lewis, writers who bravely defend humanist ideals and enable the exposure of much of the empty rhetoric about diversity and equality as public relations talk, I argue that aid projects directed at reducing violence have failed because they do not confront the structural inequalities between men and women. The strategies wrongly assume widespread acceptance of human rights, and ignore the anthropological analyses that reveal the deeply ingrained cultural attitudes and economic relations that naturalise female disadvantage and male entitlement. As such projects also sustain the unequal power relations between donor countries and the nations who are recipients of aid, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that are directed towards redressing gender inequality are strategically inappropriate. In particular, the fine research that has been done by anthropologists on gender violence in Papua New Guinea and elsewhere in the Pacific has not really been 'taken on board' by aid agencies because it documents the fact that for women to gain the control over their own lives and bodies that 'eliminating violence' entails, men are going to have to lose it. Aid agencies negotiate projects with male politicians and these deals are underpinned by masculinist politics so the real nature of the changes required is never acknowledged.

Macintyre, M. (2003). Petzorme women: Responding to change in Lihir, Papua New Guinea. *Oceania*, 74(1-2), 120-134.

The goldmining project on Lihir Island in New Ireland Province, Papua New Guinea, has brought dramatic socio-economic changes. In this matrilineal society, while women's economic contributions were substantial, their political status was not. Women's participation in decision making about the mine has been restricted, mainly because men have excluded them. The mining company established a women's section that has supported the development of women's organisations and a range of economic development projects. The women's organisations provide the context for new political roles for women but have experienced many setbacks that are common in such groups across Papua New Guinea. Through the Lihir experience in the first five years of the mine, this paper examines the tensions and divided loyalties that constrain women's organisations and often lead to the failure of income-generating women's projects in Papua New Guinea.

May, R. J., Anere, R., Haley, N., & Wheen, K. (2013). *Election 2007: The shift to limited preferential voting in Papua New Guinea*. Canberra, Australia: ANU E Press.

Papua New Guinea's general election in 2007 attracted particular interest for several reasons. Not only did it follow what was widely acknowledged as the country's worst election ever, in 2002 (in which elections in six of the country's 109 electorates were declared to be 'failed elections'), it was the first general election to be held under a new limited preferential voting system. It also followed the first full parliamentary term under the Organic Law on the Integrity of Political Parties and Candidates, which had been introduced in 2001 in an attempt to strengthen political parties and create a greater degree of stability in the national parliament, and was the first to embrace a 'whole-of-government' approach to electoral administration, through an Interdepartmental Electoral Committee. This volume provides an analysis of the 2007 election, drawing on the work of a domestic monitoring team organised through the National Research Institute, and several visiting scholars. It addresses key issues such as voter education, electoral administration, election security, the role of political parties, women as candidates and voters, the shift to limited preferential voting, and HIV transmission, and provides detailed accounts of the election in a number of open and provincial electorates.

McDougall, D. (2003). Fellowship and citizenship as models of national community: United church women's fellowship in Ranongga, Solomon Islands. *Oceania*, 74(1), 61-80.

From humble beginnings in the 1960s, the United Church Women's Fellowship (UCWF) is now viewed as one of the most effective organisations on the island of Ranongga (Western Province, Solomon Islands). This essay considers reasons for the success of women's fellowship in Ranongga, focusing on the distinctive position of women in gendered local and translocal forms of social organisation. Far from being isolated from the outside world, Ranonggan women have long been engaged in drawing outsiders into local communities. I explore this theme in narratives of Christian conversion and of the beginning of women's fellowship; I also consider the practices of local and national women's fellowship groups that work to constitute unified communities out of diverse groups of people. My discussion of Ranonggan women's fellowship illustrates local dynamics of community making that do not map easily on to dominant models of nation-states and ethnic groups. I ask whether the UCWF provides an alternative model for thinking about larger-scale political formations, particularly in the Solomons. This question is especially relevant considering the significant contribution that women's Christian organisations have made in efforts to reconstitute a national community in the context of the ongoing political crisis in Solomon Islands.

McNae, R., & Vali, K. (2015). Diverse experiences of women leading in higher education: Locating networks and agency for leadership within a university context in Papua New Guinea. *Gender and Education*, 27(3), 288-303.

The ways in which women deliberately press back against practices of oppression and demonstrate agency in higher education institutions are highly contextual and culturally bound. The formal and informal networks that women develop and maintain are important elements of generating agency and enhancing women's access to, and opportunities for, leadership. This article presents a case study from research that explored women's leadership experiences in a higher education context in the Pacific Islands – Papua New Guinea. Situated within a feminist poststructural methodology, the research examined

women's experiences of leadership and considered aspects that influenced women's access to formal leadership roles. The findings illustrated that the women faced numerous barriers to formal leadership opportunities. A range of culturally and contextually located approaches supported women to demonstrate agency with regard to their own leadership development and practice. This research highlighted the importance of considering the relationship between networks and agency and the impact of associated cultural and contextual practices within organisations, providing insights into the culturally located complexities of women's leadership in higher education contexts.

McNaught, R., Warrick, O., & Cooper, A. (2014). Communicating climate change for adaptation in rural communities: A Pacific study. *Regional Environmental Change*, 14(4), 1491-1503.

The academic literature on climate change communications is growing. However, the majority of this literature focuses on the issue of climate change mitigation in a developed country context, and there is little published material regarding communication in a developing country and adaptation context. Similarly, despite community based approaches to climate change adaptation and disaster risk-reduction increasing in the Pacific Islands region, there is very limited guidance on how to effectively communicate climate change in a way that enhances people's resilience. This paper documents the experiences of organisations, including local and international nongovernment and faith-based organisations, governments, regional technical organisations, and donor agencies, in communicating climate change for adaptation in the Pacific region. Three key climate change communication challenges are highlighted, and suggestions made for overcoming them, based on results from interviews, a focus group discussion, and an online forum. Finally, recommendations are made for good practice guidance in climate change communication that is empowering and culturally relevant.

Medecins Sans Frontiers. (2010). *Hidden and neglected: The medical and emotional needs of survivors of family and sexual violence in PNG*. Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea: Author.

This report highlights the urgent, unmet medical and emotional needs of survivors of family and sexual violence in Papua New Guinea, and recommends concrete action in order to meet these needs. Family and sexual violence have long been recognised as an extremely serious problem in Papua New Guinea. Almost twenty years ago, a government-commissioned study revealed the shocking levels of violence throughout the country. Further studies since then have reached the same conclusion: Family and sexual violence in Papua New Guinea is widespread, pervasive, and has a devastating impact on the lives of individuals, families, and communities. In the last twenty years, a great deal of time and resources have been invested in attempts to tackle this issue, yet almost no progress has been made when it comes to providing essential medical and psychosocial care to survivors. Multi-sectoral strategies that have been devised to address the situation have focused on preventing or stopping violence. Whilst this work is commendable, it will take long-term behavioural change across several generations to see a real impact on the ground. In the meantime, lives are being lost and thousands of women and children are suffering unnecessarily without adequate medical and psychosocial services. Without proper healthcare, survivors of family and sexual violence risk serious long-term physical and emotional harm. Rape survivors are at risk of HIV infection, sexually transmitted diseases, hepatitis B, tetanus, and unwanted pregnancies if they do not receive timely, specialised care. Some survivors are at risk of depression, suicidal thoughts and attempts, anxiety, phobias, and post-traumatic stress disorder. These acute needs remain hidden and are neglected by Papua New Guinea's health facilities. Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) / Doctors Without Borders works in Papua New Guinea to address this neglect, providing specialised care for thousands of survivors of sexual, physical, and emotional abuse in Lae, Morobe Province and Tari, Southern Highlands/Hela Province. This report presents the experiences of MSF's patients based on the first-hand testimonies of staff and survivors, as well as previously unseen medical data.

Meleisea, P. S. (2009). *Gender and HIV in the Pacific Islands region: A literature review of evidence with recommendations*. Suva, Fiji: United Nations Development Programme.

This study presents evidence linking the spread of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) with gender inequality in law and in custom in Pacific Island countries and territories. The subject of HIV and

gender is sensitive and cannot be discussed without the use of explicit language and without plainly stating the facts. This study suggests recommendations based on the findings in five areas, proposing policy responses and programme approaches which can and should be fundamental to fighting the spread of HIV in Pacific Island countries and territories. Among the key issues identified through this work, gender still does not get adequate attention in HIV programming, despite the fact that it has long been recognised as being fundamental to understanding and addressing HIV and AIDS. The spread of HIV is closely associated with the different and unequal circumstances of women and men, and the power imbalances between them which result in different forms of gender-based discrimination against women. The Pacific Platform for Action for the Advancement of Women identified HIV as an area of concern to Pacific women in 1994. It was pointed out thirteen years ago (in 1996), in a UN report, that stopping the spread of HIV in the Pacific demands attention to the different social and cultural determinants of HIV infection among men and women. However, even in the new (2009-2014) Pacific Regional Strategy on HIV and other Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs), gender is still referred to as one of many issues to be addressed to halt and reverse the spread of HIV, rather than as a central, cross-cutting consideration. Similarly, few countries have developed gender-responsive national HIV strategic plans and policies. One notable exception is Papua New Guinea which provides an example of best practice in formulating a national gender policy for HIV and AIDS, albeit major challenges remain in its implementation.

Mohammed, M. (2009). *Making invisible work more visible: Gender and time use surveys with a focus in the Pacific and unpaid care work*. Suva, Fiji: United Nations Development Programme Pacific Centre.

This report discusses how time use studies (TUS) have been used to identify the type and extent of women's work, specifically their unpaid caring work. Section one gives a brief overview of the history and nature of time use. Section two outlines the various methods used, commenting on their respective strengths and weaknesses. Section three focuses on time use studies in the Pacific. Examples found of work done in the Pacific, from the 1970s to the present, are outlined and key findings reported. There is a scarcity of TUS in the Pacific and no national study has been done, either as a stand alone or as a satellite survey. Those that have been done, or data which has been taken from other surveys, such as the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES), show similar patterns to other developing countries - women do most of the unpaid work, especially domestic work. Section four focuses on the importance of care work, specifically on women and men's unpaid work caring for people with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). Again, there is lack of Pacific studies in this area. Section five provides a series of recommendations for advancing the use and application of findings of time use surveys to policy, planning, and budgeting in the Pacific Island countries. The report concludes that women's unpaid work caring for others will increase as the prevalence of HIV increases in the Pacific.

Monson, R. (2010). Women, state law and land in peri-urban settlements on Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands. *Justice for the Poor*, 4(3), 1-6.

From 1998-2003, Solomon Islands suffered from violent conflict, popularly known as 'the Tensions', which resulted in many deaths, the internal displacement of tens of thousands more, and the destruction of the country's narrow economic base. While the causes of the crisis are complex, they include social conflicts arising from the use of land which remain largely unaddressed today. Land tenure in Solomon Islands is characterised by multiple, overlapping arenas, norms, and institutions emanating from customary practice, the state, and Christianity. To date, very little of the research on land in Solomon Islands has been undertaken by women, or focused on women's perspectives and experiences of land tenure. This paper provides a brief overview of the intersection of state and customary laws governing land in peri-urban settlements around Honiara, focusing on their impact upon landowners, particularly women landowners. It suggests that the intersection of customary and state legal systems allows a small number of individuals, predominantly men, to solidify their control over customary land. This has occurred to the detriment of many landowners, who have often found themselves excluded from both decision-making processes and the distribution of financial benefits from the use of land. This contributes to social conflict and undermines the legitimacy of land dealings, and, as the Tensions demonstrate, can ultimately lead to violent conflict.

- Moore, C. (2013). Indigenous participation in constitutional development. *The Journal of Pacific History*, 48(2), 162-176.
In 1950, the first four Solomon Islanders were nominated for the Advisory Council. Further constitutional reforms were made between 1960 and 1978, slowly preparing the Protectorate for a transfer of power through a unitary state operating under the Westminster system. British policy was guided by previous colonial experiences in Africa, Asia, and the Pacific, and, to a limited extent, by local circumstances, particularly through constitutional review committees. This paper addresses three central questions. Did Solomon Islanders make their own decisions when establishing the structure of their constitution and parliament, or were these decisions made for them by British and other advisers? What attempts were made to include indigenous political structures in the governing process? To what extent did events elsewhere influence Solomon Islands political development?
- Morgain, R. (2015). "Break down these walls": Space, relations, and hierarchy in Fijian evangelical Christianity. *Oceania*, 85(1), 105-118.
Patterns of sociality in Fijian evangelical Christianity differ from the mainline Fijian Methodist church in being notably less integrated with relations of vanua and chiefly hierarchy, leading scholars to speculate as to whether such traditions are more individualised. Analysing teachings, hymns, worship styles, and spatial arrangements within a prominent Fijian Pentecostal ministry, I explore how sociality is produced through the interaction of spatial, conceptual, and embodied processes. Competing dynamics of hierarchy and equality, connections and boundaries, are mobilised within an overall framework that emphasises individual moral authority and personal relationship with God. Through this analysis, in conversation with previous studies, this paper argues for a critical examination of schemes of egalitarian individualism and hierarchical holism, which, through the influence of Louis Dumont in particular, have been prominent in studies of Christianity and sociality in Oceania.
- Morgain, R., & Taylor, J. P. (2015). Transforming relations of gender, person, and agency in Oceania. *Oceania*, 85(1), 1-9.
This introduction contextualises the nine papers that make up the special issue *Gender and Person in Oceania*. Gender and personhood represent core orienting concepts within Pacific anthropology, from the pioneering work of Marilyn Strathern's *Gender of the Gift* to more recent scholarly attention to the impact of Christianity and modernity. The papers in this volume offer a comparative and critical perspective on long-standing ideas of relational and individual personhood across multiple sites in Oceania, highlighting several key insights, including the importance of situated and relational understandings of agency and the centrality of those things typically seen as non-agentive to the formation of personhood. Most importantly, while re-establishing the inseparable articulation of personhood with gendered dynamics, the contributors to this volume also highlight the differential, transforming, and shifting nature of engendered personhood, revealed through close attention to local knowledge, conditions, and practices.
- Moser, A. (2007). The peace and conflict gender analysis: UNIFEM's research in the Solomon Islands. *Gender & Development*, 15(2), 231-239.
This article discusses a research methodology, the Peace and Conflict Gender Analysis, used by UNIFEM in the Solomon Islands to investigate women's and men's experiences of armed conflict and peace building. The simple methodology enables a deeper understanding of the gender dimensions of conflict and peace. This includes issues such as moving beyond stereotyped conceptions of men-as-combatants and women-as-victims, challenging gender-role stereotypes, demonstrating the significance of traditional gender roles, and highlighting gender-related tensions arising in the post-conflict context. Finally, the article highlights how the results of the research have important implications for post-conflict recovery and peace building programmes.
- Narsey, W. (2007). *Gender issues in employment, underemployment and incomes in Fiji*. Suva, Fiji: Vanuavou Publications.
The need for gender-sensitive data / gender equality may be encouraged at a wide variety of inter-related levels: access to education, resources, employment opportunities at all levels, remuneration for equal work done, and key positions requiring decision making, to name just a few. One of the weaknesses of the Millennium Development Goals is that the employment-related targets ("wage employment in the non-agricultural sector" and "gender balance in representation in Parliament"), while a start, are extremely limited as indicators of progress on the wide number of fronts that concern gender stakeholders. This study will suggest more specific and relevant employment-related targets for this extremely important area of women's development for Fiji, other Pacific Island countries, and developing countries in general. Policies to encourage gender equality in any of these areas require accurate data and statistics which clearly outline the nature of gender inequality and how the situation has changed over time. In respect of employment and incomes in the Fiji labour market in general, there have been various ad hoc sample surveys over the years, as well as regular censuses that collect information on the whole population, albeit of a more limited kind. The Fiji Islands Bureau of Statistics attempts to conduct an annual employment survey of establishments on their business register. This survey unfortunately has an important limitation in that it is focused on the formal sector organisations. It does not, therefore, cover the large number of persons engaged in the informal sector, or the large numbers who are self-employed. A national Employment and Unemployment Survey does cover the entire labour market. Although the one immediately prior to 2004-05 was way back in 1982, the report (published in 1985) did not give extensive sex-disaggregated tables. Nevertheless, a few comparisons with the 2004 data are possible, and will be given in Chapter 10.
- Nicholl, R. (2008). Women, the press, and the Fiji coups d'état. *Fijian Studies: A Journal of Contemporary Fiji*, 6(1), 88-110.
Coups d'état are major events that gain the attention of governments and citizens alike. As a result, the international media become saturated with stories surrounding them - and most of those stories are about men. This article examines how women were portrayed by the press in the aftermath of the Fijian coups and relates their stories as they appeared in the daily papers. By analysing the Fiji Times and the Fiji Sun for twelve days following three of the coups, evidence will show that Fiji's press has begun to recognise the role played by women as decision makers and human rights activists and that, during these times of crisis, they moved from the periphery of the news in 1987 to play a more central role in 2000 and 2006.
- Paini, A. (2003). 'The kite is tied to you': Custom, Christianity, and organization among Kanak women of Drueulu, Lifou, New Caledonia. *Oceania*, 74(1-2), 81-97.
This paper explores Drueulu women's engagement in an organised collectivity during the late 1980s and early 1990s. I focus particularly on the Drueulu Women's Group, a group affiliated to the umbrella Catholic organisation, mouvement féminin vers un Souriant Village Mélanésien (mfSVM), to illustrate how these women mobilised cultural elements, including customary bonds, religious affiliation, and maternal relations, to assert their agency and empowerment. To move beyond a given and unchanging representation of Lifouan men and women means bringing to the fore multiple changing identities which are negotiated in different times and places. This does not mean privileging localism over national commonalities. By examining a 1990 protest march against alcohol abuse by men, I attest to the various articulations of women's concerns, customary linkages, and denominational affiliation which informed women's agenda at the village level. I then consider how these configurations were articulated in the 1992 annual general assembly of the mfSVM when 200 women gathered in Drueulu from all over the country for the twentieth anniversary of the movement. In the wider social settings here examined, the ubiquitous metaphorical use of maternal tropes gained strategic efficacy.
- Pamphilon, B., Mikhailovich, K., & Chambers, B. (2014). Training by Papua New Guinea women, for Papua New Guinea women: Lessons from the development of a co-constructed course for women smallholder farmers. *International Journal of Lifelong Education*, 33(6), 721-736.
This article examines the lessons from a collaborative project that worked with women agricultural leaders in Papua New Guinea. The project sought to build the capacity of these leaders as trainers in a way that would enable the development of a sustainable community of practice, and worked within a critical and place-based pedagogy underpinned by asset-based community development principles. Whilst the process of our collaborative work has a number of salutary lessons, the co-construction of the training course with PNG women farmer leaders did illustrate a particular knowledge-design continuum: that is, surfacing knowledge, distilling knowledge, clarifying knowledge, and then consolidating knowledge. From this consolidated knowledge, together we were able to design locally valid and locally relevant modules. As the trainers went out to trial their training, they were then engaging in sharing knowledge and reviewing that knowledge, which then led to our collective ability to improve knowledge that will enhance future training in this area.

- Parker, J., & Arrowsmith, J. (2014). Collective regulation and working women in New Zealand and Fiji. *Relations Industrielles*, 69(2), 388-416. In many nations, women's labour market presence is significant, though it tends to lag that of men on most indices, including pay and seniority. The ramifications of such are huge for women's experience of employment, their circumstances in other spheres, and, thus, societal progress. Employment relations (ER) regulation seeks to structure equitable access to and progress within the labour market. However, despite on-going, work-related gender inequities, there is a relative dearth of cross-national (particularly South Pacific), gender-focused analyses. This constrains the development of theory and policy geared towards gender equality in the labour market. This paper thus compares how recent collective ER regulatory initiatives have been applied in New Zealand (NZ) and Fiji, amid shared and unique national and international conditions. Martin and Bamber's (2004, 2005) ER system model frames an analysis of qualitative survey responses and documentary evidence to more particularly assess the meaning of ER regulation for working women. It emerges that the achievement of gender equality via regulatory instruments has proven elusive, particularly in Fiji. A withering of formal employment regulation and its decentralisation in NZ, weakly implemented regulation in Fiji's politically tumultuous setting, and the space left by a shift away from collective bargaining in both contexts, have not been replaced by social dialogue, fundamental social rights, and, in Fiji, regulatory enforcement. This has contributed to deteriorating circumstances for some working women in NZ, and comparatively more in Fiji. However, informants showed a preference for certain regulatory measures for improving working women's situation, concurring that stronger formal regulation of ER, tripartism, and effective enforcement are needed in both nations, and that particular issues for working women require tailored responses. The paper discusses how ER regulatory measures might be theorised in terms of improving working women's context-bound circumstances in Fiji and NZ, and with regard to the infusion of gender-related and sociocultural values in wider economic and political approaches. It also examines how regulatory initiatives might operate and impact in a more gender-sensitive way by being re-couched in 'win-win', inter-connected terms for different ER stakeholders. For Fiji, much hope also rests on its return to democratic rule, and, for both countries, on strengthened union activity.
- Ram-Bidesi, V. (2015). Recognizing the role of women in supporting marine stewardship in the Pacific Islands. *Marine Policy*, 59, 1-8. The study analyses support for fisheries management through the adoption of ethical principles that can initiate change in individual behaviour, attitude, and actions implicit in the current policies for achieving sustainable fisheries. It highlights that women can potentially play important roles in many Pacific Island coastal communities through their multiple responsibilities, and should, therefore, be recognised as key agents for such change. Using the case of four villages in Fiji, the study demonstrates the close interaction between women and children. As primary caregivers and fishers, women are instrumental in instilling the desired social and moral values in children at a young age, the critical years in the development of children's cultural and value systems. Women would influence children to follow fishing practices that are sustainable and support the protection of the marine environment while, at the same time, nurture the culture of marine stewardship and marine citizenship. This, in turn, could encourage individual's voluntary action that can simultaneously serve multiple societal objectives, including the reduction in fisheries management costs. Recognising women's direct and indirect role in the fisheries sector and empowering them in this regard is, however, a necessary condition.
- Ram-Bidesi, V. (2010). Employment opportunities for women in the tuna industry in small islands: Is it really restrictive? A case study of Fiji Islands. *South Pacific Studies*, 31, 1. Having close proximity to the world's most productive tuna fishing grounds, and with limited formal employment choices, most Pacific Islands countries see the labour-intensive nature of tuna fishing and processing as extremely important means to support their economic development. Whether this economic development is equitable and fair, and benefits both men and women equally, or whether it creates greater disparity, has always been a concern. Many Pacific Island countries are a party to several international agreements and have formulated national policies to support the advancement of women and to eliminate gender discrimination. Have these addressed women's concerns in the tuna industry or supported labour and fisheries policies to be more sensitive to their needs? Using Fiji as a case study, employment in the tuna industry is investigated with emphasis on identifying problems and prospects for women, and where policy intervention might be most effective, given that several studies have raised concerns about employment conditions and inequitable policies. The paper points out that there are other external factors that have a strong bearing on the productivity and profitability of the industry which in turn directly impact on employment opportunities that become available to women. Understanding these factors can provide a more balanced and realistic approach to address gender issues in the tuna industry. The study argues that gender policies for the tuna industry must be aligned within this broader context in order to effectively address women's vulnerabilities, concerns, and aspirations, otherwise they may be ineffective and may in turn disadvantage women further.
- Rankine, J., Percival, T., Finau, E., Hope, L., Kingi, P., Peteru, M., ... Selu, E. (2015). Pacific peoples, violence, and the power and control wheel. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*. Advanced online publication. 1-27. This qualitative project was the first to study values and practices about sexual assault among migrant communities from the Cook Islands, Fiji, Niue, Samoa, Tokelau, Tonga, and Tuvalu, in New Zealand. It aimed to identify customs, beliefs, and practices among these ethnic groups that were protective and preventive factors against sexual violence. Researchers were ethnically matched with 78 participants from the seven ethnic communities, and conducted individual interviews and one female-focus group using protocols that were culturally appropriate for each ethnic group. Interviews were thematically analysed. The study identified the brother-sister covenant and the sanctity of women as strong, protective, and preventive factors against sexual violence, expressed differently in each culture. Most participants viewed sexual violence as involving their extended families, village, and church communities, rather than solely the individuals concerned. However, the communal values and practices of these seven Pacific cultures raise questions about the individualistic assumptions and the meaning of violence underlying the Power and Control Wheel and the Duluth Model of domestic violence. It also raises questions about how such an individualised model can help services effectively support women, in these collective societies, who are experiencing violence, and how it can contribute to Pacific community prevention of violence. This study is therefore relevant to countries with significant populations of Pacific peoples and other collective cultures.
- Rasanathan, J. J., & Bhushan, A. (2011). *Gender-based violence in Solomon Islands: Translating research into action on the social determinants of health*. Draft background paper prepared for the World Conference on Social Determinants of Health, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. World Health Organization. As elsewhere, gender inequality is prevalent in Solomon Islands, and impacts health through "discriminatory feeding patterns, violence against women, lack of decision-making power, and unfair divisions of work, leisure, and possibilities of improving one's life," in addition to limiting access to health care services. One of the most significant consequences of gender inequality for women in Solomon Islands is the high level of gender-based violence (GBV) they face, which ranges from sexual violence, and coercion, to emotional and/or physical violence, perpetrated by intimate and nonpartners.
- Scales, I. A., & Teakeni, J. (2006). Election of women in Solomon Islands: The case for a local governance approach. *Journal of Pacific Studies*, 29(1), 67-84. Identifies constraints to women's participation in electoral politics in Solomon Islands and develops ideas about how to overcome some of them. Focuses on opportunities to increase women's representation through governance reform at the village level and on governance issues in rural rather than urban electorates.
- Scheyvens, R. (1995). Would the hand that rocks the cradle dare to rock the boat? *New Zealand Geographer*, 51(1), 6-9. In the Solomon Islands, it has been assumed that the educated, urban-based minority of women will push for change for women. In fact, these women's voices have been quietened and it is to rural areas that we must turn if we wish to witness a movement for change amongst women. There is a new form of feminism stirring in the villages.
- Scheyvens, R. (2003). Church women's groups and the empowerment of women in Solomon Islands. *Oceania*, 74(1-2), 24-43. Throughout the Pacific, church women's groups play an important

social and spiritual role in the lives of many indigenous women. However, these groups rarely attract the interest of development practitioners or theorists concerned with the empowerment of women, largely because of their outwardly conservative stance. Preoccupied with sewing classes, pastoral care, and social work, church women's groups appear to epitomise a welfare approach to women's development. Yet, while welfare concerns remain central to the activities of many such groups, by drawing on case studies from Solomon Islands, in the period leading up to the onset of political crisis in 1999, this article demonstrates that a welfare approach does not preclude women's groups from engaging in strategic activities for the empowerment of women. Such activities include support for logging protests, workshops to affirm the importance of women's roles and develop their confidence, and opportunities for them to travel and expand their knowledge basis. Furthermore, the process of coming together to engage in welfare activities, which many women enjoy greatly, can provide opportunities for confidence-building, income generation, and networking.

- Seeley, J., & Butcher, K. (2006). 'Mainstreaming' HIV in Papua New Guinea: Putting gender equity first. *Gender & Development*, 14(1), 105-114. Papua New Guinea (PNG) has a rapidly worsening HIV and AIDS epidemic. Gender-based violence is common and is, in part, fuelling the spread of HIV. We argue that the situation in PNG illustrates very clearly why mainstreaming HIV into all aspects of development simply cannot happen without serious attention to gender inequities. We describe a scheme in the oil palm industry in PNG that specifically targets women to ensure that they benefit from playing a part in the harvesting of oil palm. This scheme is not only giving women economic independence, but is also reducing conflict and gender-based violence and, in so doing, can begin to contribute to the arresting of the spread of HIV.
- Seepoe, O. (2002). To make a difference: Realities of women's participation in Papua New Guinea politics. *Development Bulletin*, 59, 39-42. The ways in which women deliberately press back against practices of oppression and demonstrate agency in higher education institutions are highly contextual and culturally bound. The formal and informal networks that women develop and maintain are important elements of generating agency and enhancing women's access to, and opportunities for, leadership. This article presents a case study from research that explored women's leadership experiences in a higher education context in the Pacific Islands – Papua New Guinea. Situated within a feminist poststructural methodology, the research examined women's experiences of leadership and considered aspects that influenced women's access to formal leadership roles. The findings illustrated that the women faced numerous barriers to formal leadership opportunities. A range of culturally and contextually located approaches supported women to demonstrate agency with regard to their own leadership development and practice. This research highlighted the importance of considering the relationship between networks and agency and the impact of associated cultural and contextual practices within organisations, providing insights into the culturally located complexities of women's leadership in higher education contexts.
- Sharp, R., & Vas Dev, S. (2006). Integrating gender into public expenditure: Lessons from the Republic of the Marshall Islands. *Pacific Studies*, 29(3), 83. In 2003, the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) became the first Pacific Island government to introduce a gender budget initiative (GBI) as a strategy for promoting gender equality. Important enabling factors which facilitated the GBI included the RMI's matrilineal culture, its strong women's nongovernment organisations (NGO) base, and a raft of budgetary reforms seeking to increase transparency and accountability. However, a poorly resourced women's office within the government, low numbers of women holding political office, and the absence of key gender accountability mechanisms limited the success of the initiative. The most significant constraining factor was the RMI's budgetary context, including the uncertainty created by the US-RMI Compact negotiations. A key lesson for other countries is that GBIs, like any budgetary reform process, encounter a range of problems in changing budgetary processes and decision making, including a lack of political will of the government.
- Sibley, J. (2010). *Financial capability, financial competence and wellbeing in rural Fijian households*. Suva, Fiji: United Nations Development Programme Pacific Centre. This study has sought to increase our understanding of the relationship

between financial competence and household wellbeing in rural communities in the Pacific, in particular to examine whether there is a positive relationship between financial knowledge and skill, financial behaviour, and attitude to money of those who make financial decisions on behalf of the household, and the wellbeing of the household generally. Financial inclusion in rural communities has become the focus of increased attention in recent years. There has been a number of financial literacy training programs and efforts to enhance participation in the formal financial sector by rural households. However, we know little about levels of financial literacy and patterns of financial behaviour in rural communities, in particular communities transitioning from subsistence lifestyles to monetised lifestyles; we know little about attitudes to money held by people for whom engagement with the money economy is not a core component of their daily life; and we know little about the relationship between financial behaviour and household wellbeing in these communities. The study has sought to develop a comprehensive understanding of the ways in which rural Fijian villagers use money and access the formal financial system, and the nature of the relationship between rural villagers' levels of financial competence and the wellbeing of their households. The study has used the lens of financial competence.

- Slatter, C. (2010/2011). Gender and custom in the South Pacific. *Yearbook of New Zealand Jurisprudence*, 13 & 14 [Combined], 89-111. In this paper, which largely draws on that produced for the Law Commission, I discuss gender and custom in the Pacific, specifically the value and standing accorded women under regimes of custom, from the broader perspective of advancing universal humanist values. As I see it, Pacific Island societies ascribe value to a range of meaningful "intangibles" – relationships, a sense of community, social responsibility for the wider group, respectful behaviour, sharing and reciprocity, leisure, or investment of time in strengthening social relationships, including through celebration and practices of redistributing wealth. Not all of these values are necessarily practised today, but they exist as ideals and, what is more, are congruent with evolving more equitable gender relations, giving women equal voice and standing, opportunities, and rights.
- Smith, D., & Tavola, H. (2014). Putting gender equality centre stage in the Pacific. *UNESCAP Pacific Perspectives Policy Brief*, 01, 1-5. Gender inequality is both a human rights issue and a serious constraint to inclusive and equitable sustainable development. Addressing it will enable better outcomes for economic growth, social development, and for the environment. Although many commitments to achieving gender equality have been made by Pacific Island governments at global, regional, and national levels, progress has been poor. Violence against women in the Pacific is at alarming levels and the Pacific region is the worst in the world in terms of women's representation in national parliaments.
- Spark, C. (2014). An oceanic revolution? *Stella* and the construction of new femininities in Papua New Guinea and the Pacific. *The Australian Journal of Anthropology*, 25(1), 54-72. In August 2012, a new magazine for women was released in Papua New Guinea (PNG). Entitled *Stella*, the magazine provides an ideal opportunity to analyse shifting constructions of gender among educated, employed women in PNG and elsewhere in the Pacific. Drawing on interviews, surveys, and readers' letters, this article discusses Papua New Guinean women who, because they display modern attributes, are maligned and discredited as 'inauthentic'. It then goes on to document the ways in which *Stella* is enabling such women to assert themselves anew. Arguing that the publication of *Stella* marks the arrival into the public sphere of a group hitherto consigned to the margins of Pacific societies, on the basis that they represent an 'inauthentic minority', the article makes an important contribution to scholarly discussion about the emergence of new femininities in PNG and the Pacific.
- Spratt, J. (2013). *A deeper silence: The unheard experiences of women with disabilities: Sexual and reproductive health and violence against women in Kiribati, Solomon Islands, and Tonga*. Suva, Fiji: UNFPA Pacific Sub-regional Office. This report explores the SRH and rights experiences of women with disabilities in three countries: Kiribati, Solomon Islands, and Tonga. This exploration involved using all available information sources to collate as much information as possible in an area where information is scarce. A general literature review set the scene for what is known globally about the SRH needs of women with disabilities, and violence against women

with disabilities. The bulk of the work involved a review of country-based literature, interviews with women with disabilities, and interviews with key stakeholders. This report is the summary of this work.

Stege, K. E., Maetala, R., Naupa, A., & Simo, J. (2008). In E. Huffer (Ed.), *Land and women: The matrilineal factor: The cases of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu*. Suva, Fiji: Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat.

How well do we understand the current status of women in relation to land tenure, land management, and access to land in matrilineal societies in the Pacific? This question forms the central objective of this research by Joel Simo, Ana Naupa, Kristina Stege and Ruth Maetala, and Dr Elise Huffer, commissioned by the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat in 2007. The researchers attempt to improve our understanding of the roles of women over land in matrilineal societies, in two dimensions. One dimension is examining women's role with respect to land. The second dimension is examining the role of women in leadership, including decision making. Both dimensions are explored in terms of the past and the present, thereby allowing for the changes that might have occurred over time to be observed, and how those changes impact on women's current status with respect to land and leadership.

Stewart, C. (2004). Towards a climate of tolerance and respect: Legislating for HIV/AIDS and human rights in Papua New Guinea. *Journal of South Pacific Law*, 8(1), 1-15.

From the time, some 12-15 years ago, when the Papua New Guinea public first became aware of HIV/AIDS, it was felt that there needed to be "some laws" on the subject. However, no-one at that stage had much idea of the possible content or direction of those laws. Occasionally the media carried (largely apocryphal) stories of attempts at deliberate transmission (through rape, or blood-filled syringes, for example) which would prompt calls to proscribe such acts. Various compulsory testing policies were instituted by the Defence Force for its personnel, by one or two private companies for employees, and by the Department of Foreign Affairs for intending residents. Proposals along the lines of "lock them up and throw away the key", or "ship them off to an isolated island" were bandied about. All of these suggestions and initiatives were derived piecemeal from classical public health disease-management models of detection and containment by physical segregation, if necessary. But it was not until the PNG National HIV/AIDS Medium Term Plan 1998-2002 (the MTP) was developed, through a long process of discussion, research, and intensive work on the part of the coordinating-committee and working-group members, that the possibility of law reform in the context of HIV/AIDS came to be approached in a systematic and rational way.

Stewart-Withers, R. (2011). Re-positioning the experiences and situation of single mothers: Accounts from Samoa. *Women's Studies Journal*, 25(1), 47-62.

Cultural values and societal norms can place a considerable burden on young women to be sexually non-active outside of a marriage, with the understanding that motherhood must occur within marriage. Those who deviate outside what is expected, may find themselves and their children labelled in negative ways and positioned as 'other'. Yet, some cultural and value-based frameworks, rather than stigmatising and discriminating against single mothers, may also offer a contestable space. With this in mind, this paper draws on qualitative field research undertaken in Samoa in 2002, 2004, and 2006, to illustrate how the cultural framework of fa'asamoa (the Samoan way), 'āiga (family), and the feaigaiga, understood to mean balance within relationships, and the brother/sister relationship, might lend themselves to support single mothers. It is also shown how engaging with cultural concepts such as fa'amagalo (seeking forgiveness) and fa'a'ilo ga tama (to mark or distinguish a child/accepting the baby) means single mothers are not stigmatised and ostracised as individuals or as a social group.

Sullivan, N., & Ram-Bidesi, V. (2008). *Gender issues in tuna fisheries: Case studies in Papua New Guinea, Fiji and Kiribati*. Suva, Fiji: South Pacific Forum Fisheries Agency.

The objective of this study is to establish what constraints and opportunities exist for women in the tuna industries of three case study countries - Fiji, Kiribati, and Papua New Guinea - in the interests of promoting their greater participation in the wider Pacific Islands tuna fishing industry. An important aspect of the study is to assess and compare current levels and contributions of women in the tuna industry. The country studies in this report give various types of information on the participation of women in the industry. Due to the

diversity of conditions in the three countries, the information collected represents a fairly heterogeneous assemblage of facts.

Taylor, J. P. (2015). Sorcery and the moral economy of agency: An ethnographic account. *Oceania*, 85(1), 38-50.

An ethnographic account of sorcery accusation, violence, and subsequent community discussion provides a basis to explore the moral economy of agency that shapes expressions and interpretations of personhood in Vanuatu. Mediated historically by transforming social, political, and economic circumstances, agency is demonstrated to be patterned according to culturally-specific ontological and moral schemes. Key local categories of embodied personhood, including man ples (man place), man wan (man one), and jelus (jealousy) are examined to elucidate two relationally entwined analytic categories, referred to as distributive and possessive agency. Such categories, it is argued, fundamentally shape expressions and interpretations of moral being and doing, including by providing a basis for identifying morally abject expressions of personhood. Taking seriously the important role of spiritual agency within such moral economies, this paper provides new ethnographically grounded insights into the ways in which communities and individuals negotiate moral being within transforming contexts of economic and sacred power.

Teaiwa, T. (2011). Bleeding boundaries: Gendered analyses of militarism in the Western Pacific. *Asia Pacific Viewpoint*, 52(1), 1-4.

This introduction to an *Asia Pacific Viewpoint* special section on militarism and gender in the Pacific argues that gendered analyses are crucial to understanding processes of militarisation, and that multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches are integral in that effort. The introduction also provides background to the articles, outlining their origin in a workshop on militarism and gender in the Pacific held in Wellington, New Zealand, in 2009, and its subsequent iteration in sessions at the Oceanic Conference of International Studies in 2010. The special section constitutes the first publication of a permanent working group on militarism and gender in the Pacific with an international, multidisciplinary membership.

Teaiwa, T. K. (1994). Bikinis and other s/pacific n/oceans. *The Contemporary Pacific*, 6(1), 87-109.

This paper addresses tourist and militarist notions of the Pacific by discussing the bikini bathing suit and its connection to nuclear testing. The paper begins with an account of nuclear testing on Pacific Islands, focusing longest on Bikini Atoll, and ends with a description of the Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific movement. The body of the paper is a discussion of the politics of the bikini bathing suit in terms of what it simultaneously reveals and conceals. The bikini reveals the female body in order to depoliticise it, and symbolically conceals the bodies of Pacific Islanders in order to depoliticise them. Feminist, psychoanalytic, and Marxist theories are used to argue that the bikini both commodifies a nasty colonial reality and appropriates the female body to divert attention from the indigenous decolonising efforts. However, while the bikini was created to celebrate nuclear power, s/pacific bodies have survived in spite of nuclear destruction and continue to resist tourist and militarist notions of who they should be.

Tengan, T. K. (2002). (En)gendering colonialism: Masculinities in Hawai'i and Aotearoa. *Cultural Values*, 6(3), 239-256.

In this paper, I argue that indigenous men in the Pacific engage in gender practices that historically have had widely different consequences for their positions of power or marginality. I focus my analysis on the production of modern Polynesian masculinities in Hawai'i and Aotearoa (New Zealand), highlighting the importance of the intersection of European and American colonialism(s) with indigenous forms of social organisation. I look specifically at the participation of indigenous men in the military and sports, two of the most important sites for the production of masculinities, where indigenous men contend with hegemonic ideologies of gender and culture. I end with some critical reflections on the possibilities and limitations of reviving traditional indigenous masculinities in decolonisation movements in Hawai'i and Aotearoa.

Tengan, T. K. (2008). *Native men remake: Gender and nation in contemporary Hawai'i*. Durham, NC: Duke University Press.

Many indigenous Hawaiian men have felt profoundly disempowered by the legacies of colonisation and by the tourist industry, which, in addition to occupying a great deal of land, promotes a feminised image of Native Hawaiians (evident in the ubiquitous figure of the dancing hula girl). In the 1990s, a group of Native men on the island of Maui

responded by refashioning and reasserting their masculine identities in a group called the Hale Mua (the “Men’s House”). As a member and an ethnographer, Ty P. Kāwika Tengan analyses how the group’s mostly middle-aged, middle-class, and mixed-race members assert a warrior masculinity through practices including martial arts, woodcarving, and cultural ceremonies. Some of their practices are heavily influenced by, or borrowed from, other indigenous Polynesian traditions, including those of the Māori. The men of the Hale Mua enact their refashioned identities as they participate in temple rites, protest marches, public lectures, and cultural fairs.

The sharing of personal stories is an integral part of Hale Mua fellowship, and Tengan’s account is filled with members’ first-person narratives. At the same time, Tengan explains how Hale Mua rituals and practices connect to broader projects of cultural revitalisation and Hawaiian nationalism. He brings to light the tensions that mark the group’s efforts to reclaim indigenous masculinity as they arise in debates over nineteenth-century historical source materials, and during political and cultural gatherings held in spaces designated as tourist sites. He explores class status anxieties expressed through the sharing of individual life stories, critiques of the Hale Mua registered by Hawaiian women, and challenges the group received in dialogues with other indigenous Polynesians. *Native Men Remade* is the fascinating story of how gender, culture, class, and personality intersect as a group of indigenous Hawaiian men work to overcome the dislocations of colonial history.

Tomlinson, M. (2015). Gender in a land-based theology. *Oceania*, 85(1), 79-91. In Fijian Methodist discourse, the vanua (land and people) is often characterised as the foundation of the traditional order and all it entails. Indigenous theologians attend to the vanua in novel ways, especially as it is paired in a half-complementary, half-oppositional way to Christianity. The question of whether the vanua might be understood in gendered terms highlights a gap between theoretically universal values and practically patriarchal norms. In this article, I discuss several innovative thinkers on this subject: women in the Weavers theological collective; the Methodist theologian and former church President Ilaitia Sevati Tuwere; and a female Methodist minister, Tima, whom I interviewed in 2009. I focus especially on Tuwere’s description of the feminine face of the vanua and Tima’s continual and wrenching conflict with the church’s male-dominated hierarchy. Whereas Tuwere uses a quasi-feminist Christian theology to reconcile Christianity and the vanua in terms of gender, Tima implies that her experiences of conflict with older men demonstrate how Christianity and the vanua might not be fully reconcilable.

Underhill-Sem, Y. (1999). Of social construction, politics and biology: Population geographies in the Pacific. *Asia Pacific Viewpoint*, 40(1), 19-32. Sustained challenges by Third World, black, and feminist scholars have unsettled the established agenda of the social sciences in the 1990s. Unfortunately, population geographies in the Pacific have failed to engage with these debates. By avoiding the metaphysical challenges posed by contemporary theoretical debates, often by people from previously marginalised groups, population geographies have failed to provide the spark necessary for the dynamic expansion of ideas. However, an analysis of population geographies in the Pacific, almost all of which are mobility studies, reveals important contributions for advancing a more critical population geography. This paper begins with a critical review of population geography in general, then looks more specifically at population geographies, mostly mobility studies, in the Pacific. It advances the argument that the humanist geographers Chapman and Bonnemaïson have made critical contributions in reconceptualising population mobility. Further advances would benefit from an engagement with feminist geography and post-structural discourse analysis.

Underhill-Sem, Y. (2004). The fertility of mobility: Impulses from Hawai’i. *GeoJournal*, 59(1), 55-58. As a concept, mobility has permeated many disciplinary frameworks with the possibilities evident in the variety and continuity of the ebbs and flows of women, men, and children. The antiquity and persistence of mobility among people living in the Western Pacific has been a fertile site for the geographical inquiry into mobility beginning with Chapman in the Solomon Islands (1970) and Bedford in Vanuatu (previously the British New Hebrides; 1973). In the absence of vital statistics, and where many languages aside from English co-exist, Pacific population geographers focused on population mobility and undertook the

challenge of working in colonial and post-colonial places. As a direct refutation of Zelinsky’s demographically inspired theory of the mobility transition, that cast population mobility and modernisation as intimate companions (Zelinsky, 1971), Chapman and Prothero (1985) were interested in the existence and nature of pre-modern mobility patterns in the Western Pacific. In the energetic scholarly and policy debates around issues of population distribution since that time, the concept of mobility has proved to be both remarkably resilient and remarkably fertile. Few North-based population geographers have actively engaged this literature (but see Lawson, 2000), but the fertility of this early scholarship has been marked by the mobility of population concerns into other sub-disciplinary areas of critical geography. In this brief paper I trace some trajectories from the teachings of population geography at the University of Hawai’i that successfully engendered this geographical scholarship at the same time as other American geographers have rendered it insignificant.

Underhill-Sem, Y., Cox, E., Lacey, A., & Szamier, M. (2014). Changing market culture in the Pacific: Assembling a conceptual framework from diverse knowledge and experiences. *Asia Pacific Viewpoint*, 55(3), 306-318. Addressing the multiple dimensions of gender inequality requires commitments by policy-makers, practitioners, and scholars, to transformative practices. One challenge is to assemble a coherent conceptual framework from diverse knowledges and experiences. In this paper, we present a framework that emerged from our involvement in changing market culture in the Pacific, which we name a radical empowerment of women approach. We draw on detailed narratives, from women market vendors and women-led new initiatives in marketplaces, to explain this approach. We argue that the primary focus of recently developed projects for marketplaces in the Pacific is technical and infrastructural, which is insufficient for addressing gendered political and economic causes of poor market management and oppressive conditions for women vendors. By exploring the complex array of motives and effects of the desire to transform or improve marketplaces in the Pacific, we caution against simplistic technical or infrastructural solutions. This paper also introduces the practice of working as a cooperative, hybrid research collaboration. The knowledges and analyses that we bring to this issue demonstrate that substantive analysis generated from diverse and shifting locations and roles, but underpinned by a shared vision of, and commitment to, gender justice, can provide distinctive policy and research insights.

Usman, S. (2013). Where are the women candidates during elections? A Fiji media case study. *Pacific Journalism Review*, 19(1), 148-166. Examines the participation of female election candidates and females in general in the *Fiji Times* and *Fiji Sun* during the 2006 general election. Comments that, due to extensive coverage of race and coup-related issues in the media, other major issues were overlooked. Notes that women have secured fewer than twelve percent of the available parliamentary seats when they form nearly half of the total population.

Vanuatu National Statistics Office. (2012). *Alternative indicators of wellbeing for Melanesia: Vanuatu pilot study report*. Port Vila, Vanuatu: Malvatumauri National Council of Chiefs. In August 2011, the Conference on Happiness and Economic Development was organised by the Kingdom of Bhutan, hosted by the Honorable Prime Minister Thinley and Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs from Columbia University’s Earth Institute. This resulted in the World Happiness Report, presented in April, 2012, at the first ever UN High-Level Meeting on Wellbeing and Happiness in New York City. The report provides empirical evidence that happiness—as well as being a fundamental human goal—also contributes to greater productivity, better health, faster recovery from adversity, less risky lifestyle choices, and more pro-social behavior. It adds up to a convincing argument for changing the governance agenda from one that focuses primarily on economic growth, to one that takes all domains of well-being into consideration. The Malvatumauri National Council of Chiefs has completed a pilot study on well-being which measures happiness and considers variables that reflect Melanesian values. The three unique domains of well-being explored in the study—resource access, cultural practice, and community vitality—are intended to modify the existing progressive measures accepted internationally by governments and aid agencies in order to better track the factors that contribute to, specifically, ni-Vanuatu well-being.

Vuki, V. C., & Elder, M. (2014). Gender mainstreaming of Fiji’s forest policies: Issues, challenges and the future for women in the development of the forest sector. *SPC Women in Fisheries Information Bulletin*, 25, 42-44.

Fiji is a patrilineal society and tribal land ownership passes down the male line. In terms of their use of land and other natural resources including forests, men and women in Fiji have traditional and distinct gender roles. Food, fruit, nuts, herbal medicines, and building materials for most Fijian traditional communities have been sourced from forests (Bynoe et al., 2011). Women have good knowledge of forests and plants that are used for traditional herbal medicines for all types of ailments. Women also use the forest to collect firewood and food, such as wild yams. Seasonal abundance of food crops, fruits, nuts, and vegetables are well known to both men and women. Men dominate decision-making processes concerning the management of forests and use of forest products. They also dominate decision making on management of other natural resources and any form of development targeting traditional Fijian communities in villages. Women's participation in forest governance at the national level or traditional community level is, therefore, very limited. Customary land tenure is a key issue, with 82 percent of Fijian land owned by customary landowners. Land ownership follows the traditional structure recorded by the British colonial administration (Nayacakalou 2001). The primary land-owning unit is the clan, often headed by the most senior male member.

Walker, B. L. E., & Robinson, M. A. (2009). Economic development, marine protected areas and gendered access to fishing resources in a Polynesian lagoon. *Gender, Place and Culture*, 16(4), 467-484.

This study examines the potential socio-spatial impacts of a new series of marine protected areas (MPAs) on fishers in Moorea, French Polynesia. The establishment of the MPAs is contextualised within recent and historical processes of economic development and theories of women in development and gender, culture, and development. Seventy adults from three neighborhoods in Moorea were interviewed. Analysis of the data provides new information about the characteristics of fishing in Moorea. Unlike most fishing cultures and communities throughout the Pacific Islands, men and women in Moorea have similar, as opposed to segregated, spatial patterns of fishing activities and fishing methods. The study also points out the potential negative impacts of the MPAs on both men and women, particularly younger and lower-income fishers.

Waring, M., & Sumeo, K. (2010). *Crisis and unpaid work in the Pacific*. Suva, Fiji: United National Development Programme.

UNDP reports that while many Pacific Island countries are already facing the brunt of the global economic and financial crisis, the full impact of the crisis is yet to be felt in the Pacific. Sadly, more people are expected to slide into poverty and hardship. According to the Asian Development Bank (ADB), an additional 50,000 people in the region could be living below the poverty line next year – a direct result of the global economic crisis. Inclusive economic growth is a cornerstone for poverty reduction. It is often a priority for countries that want to reduce inequality, make growth more equitable, and spread its benefits more fairly among society. In times of crisis, the focus on inclusive economic growth needs to be balanced with government expenditures in social sectors to protect development gains, particularly for the vulnerable. The United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights described a Pacific where some of the most pressing human rights issues in the region “include widespread poverty, violence against women and children, lack of judicial independence and ill treatment in detention. These issues are compounded by political and social instability and weak justice systems. There are also significant instances of racial discrimination. Processes of social reconciliation and peace-building in the Solomon Islands, civil unrest and emergency rule in Tonga, and a political crisis in Fiji all affect those nations’ key institutions.” This was the environment for Pacific women before the global and economic crisis and weakening world economy presented an even greater challenge for them and their families and communities. In the months prior to the collapse of banks and downward spiral on world markets, Pacific women had already been coping with massive rises in the costs of fuel and imported grains, rice in particular. Many were able to respond by increasing their subsistence food production. For others the crisis had major effects: export commodities dropped in price, with consequent layoffs affecting family incomes. Tourism figures fell markedly, affecting both those women in full-time paid work in the industry, and those who were supported by the sale of handicrafts. Remittance figures fell. Negative fiscal balances worsened. Investments from Trust funds diminished. Governments stopped recruitment of public service staff, including in health and education. Male and female roles in extended family systems in the Pacific’s predominantly semisubsistence societies are very gendered, usually

with males in leadership roles, and with differential access to resources. The importance and the enshrinement of gender roles is reinforced by heavily patriarchal church systems. The reinforcement of gendered roles and status in national legal and constitutional instruments supports this patriarchal system. This paper investigates what effect the pre-existing conditions, and the impact of the crisis, has had on women’s unpaid caring work in the Pacific.

Williams, C. (2014). *How to calculate the cost to business of gender-based-violence in Papua New Guinea: Review of existing approaches and methodologies*. London, England: Overseas Development Institute.

Until recently, there has been little systematic attention to the economic costs of GBV. Costing studies have largely been limited to developed economies, where the availability of data across different cost categories is generally more robust. In developing countries, estimating the economic costs of GBV, particularly to business, is a new research area gaining rapid attention. This overview is intended to heighten awareness of this issue among companies in PNG and to build their interest in identifying and quantifying the cost of GBV to their business. Ultimately, the intention is to calculate the cost of GBV to business, review options for interventions to address GBV, and assess both the efficiency and effectiveness of these options. To calculate the cost of GBV to businesses, there are three elements that need to be understood, as outlined below in the review of existing approaches and methodologies to calculating the cost of GBV.

Wisor, S., Bessell, S., Castillo, F., Crawford, J., Donaghue, K., Hunt, J., & Pogge, T. (2014). *The individual deprivation measure: A gender-sensitive approach to poverty measurement*. Melbourne, Australia: The International Women’s Development Agency.

To develop a new, gender-sensitive measure of multidimensional poverty, we undertook participatory research in Angola, Fiji, Indonesia, Malawi, Mozambique, and the Philippines. Local research teams worked with men and women in poor communities to understand how they viewed poverty and related hardships, to what extent they saw these as gendered, and how they thought deprivation could best be measured. After two phases of participatory research, we developed the Individual Deprivation Measure (IDM). The IDM improves upon existing measures of poverty and gender equity in several ways. It measures deprivation at the individual rather than household level, allowing for the investigation of the distribution of deprivation within the household and the construction of gender equity indices based on individual achievement. It is justified through a process of public reason, and takes account of previously excluded dimensions of deprivation, especially those important for revealing gender disparity. It uses interval rather than binary scoring, to allow for evaluating the different degrees of deprivation below a minimally acceptable threshold. Furthermore, the survey used to calculate the IDM is extremely easy to administer and financially less costly than its competitors, and the IDM makes poverty assessments that are comparable across contexts and over time.

Wood, T. (2015). Aiding women candidates in Solomon Islands: Suggestions for development policy. *Asia & the Pacific Policy Studies*, 2(3), 531-543.

This article discusses the poor performance of women candidates in Solomon Islands elections and potential aid policy responses. The article outlines women candidates’ performance, details challenges faced by women, examines existing aid work designed to help women candidates, and provides policy suggestions. The article argues that existing aid policy focused on candidate training and voter education has achieved little because the main impediments faced by women candidates are access to finance and local gatekeepers, alongside more subtle normative constraints. These are barriers that are not easily shifted by training or education programs. Meanwhile, for reasons of political economy, another area of aid-supported engagement, a parliamentary gender quota, is unlikely to be enacted. Reflecting this, and the nature of the challenges women candidates face, the article recommends donors also undertake work to help prospective women candidates engage with communities over time, building ties and reputations as providers of assistance.

World Health Organisation. (2005). *WHO Multi-Country Study on Women’s Health and Domestic Violence Against Women: Summary report of initial results on prevalence, health outcomes and women’s responses*. Geneva, Switzerland: World Health Organization.

The WHO Multi-Country Study on Women’s Health and Domestic Violence Against Women is a landmark research project, both in its scope and in how it was carried out. For the results presented in this report, specially trained teams collected data from over 24,000

women from 15 sites in 10 countries representing diverse cultural settings: Bangladesh, Brazil, Ethiopia, Japan, Namibia, Peru, Samoa, Serbia and Montenegro, Thailand, and the United Republic of Tanzania. The use of a standardised and robust methodology has substantially reduced many of the difficulties that affected earlier work on violence against women, and produced results that permit comparison and analyses across settings. Other strengths of the study include the multinational participatory method used to develop the research protocol and questionnaire, the involvement of women's organisations in the research teams, the attention to addressing ethical and safety considerations, and the emphasis on careful selection and training of interviewers and on capacity building of all members of the research teams. Another important feature was the study's link with policy processes, achieved through the cooperation of members of the research team with policy-making bodies on violence, and the involvement of consultative committees that included key stakeholders at the country level.

Zetlin, D. (2014). Women in parliaments in the Pacific region. *Australian Journal of Political Science*, 49(2), 252-266.

The island states of the Pacific region are at the bottom of the international league table for the representation of women in parliament. Despite considerable efforts by international agencies and donor governments, and by women of the region, progress on increasing representation is extraordinarily slow. Three major explanations for these low levels of representation can be identified. The most common explanation relates to cultural beliefs, while a second account locates the problem in women's socio-economic status. The third explanation argues that there are obstacles for women in the electoral and parliamentary institutions that warrant the introduction of legislated minimum representation of women. Each of these explanations contributes value to our understanding, but each also has significant deficiencies, which are identified in the article.

- 8 -

Appendix 2: Terms of Reference



Research Consultancy

Reports to: Team Leader, Pacific Women Support Unit

Location: Home-based. Some regional travel may be required

Duration: Up to a maximum of 60 working days (between August 2015–31 January 2016)

ARF Classification: Discipline Group B, Job Level 3 (fee rate will be within the B3 range, based on the relevant skills and experiences of the successful candidate)

Background

There has been significant progress made on gender equality in the Pacific region since countries adopted the Beijing Platform for Action 20 years ago. This is reflected in an important body of reforms and innovative policies brought about by both high-level commitment and recognition that gender equality is an integral part of the economic, political, cultural and social development of Pacific Island Countries and Territories.

In 2012, the leaders of Pacific Island Countries (PICs) committed to the Pacific Leaders' Gender Equality Declaration. Through this declaration, PICs have committed to implement specific national actions to progress gender equality, with particular attention to areas of gender including; gender responsive government programs and policies, decision - making, economic empowerment, ending violence against women, and health and education.

The effects of these commitments and reforms can be seen in many ways. They include; women's higher education levels; the adoption and implementation of national gender equality policies and a willingness on the part of governments to examine, review and improve mechanisms to ensure better delivery of national gender equality commitments; an appreciation of the need to include the voices of women in decision-making at all levels; the implementation of affirmative action measures in several countries; and progress made in a number of countries in addressing violence against women.

In general, while there is a clear commitment to advancing women's rights and gender equality among the Pacific Islands, as indicated by the above high-level declarations, the gender research and analysis to inform gender-responsive policy formulation and implementation has been led largely by international and regional development agencies such as UN Women, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), International Labour Organization (ILO), and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), among others⁸. The Asian Development Bank has

conducted reports on specific Pacific Island Countries, including gender assessments across sectors and the Pacific Women Support Unit hosts a virtual library of resources on Pacific gender and development (www.pacificwomen.org).

NGO publications are critical to policy advocacy in the Pacific region. There are a number of women's rights organizations who have undertaken or commissioned research studies in their areas of work (e.g., Fiji Women's Crisis Centre – violence against women (VAW); FemLINK – women, peace and human security; Tonga Ma'a Fafine mo e Famili and Vanuatu Women and Children's Crisis Centre – national prevalence studies on violence against women), as well as International Non-Government Organisations (INGOs) such as CARE, Oxfam, the International Women's Development Agency (IWDA) and the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), among others. VAW prevalence studies have provided an important evidence base for policy, legislative and program responses to intimate partner violence in a number of PICs. Gender monographs (as well as youth and other publications that mainstream gender) provide sound analysis of census data. The Fiji Women's Rights Movement (FWRM) and SPC's Regional Rights and Resource Team (RRRT) have produced a joint publication, "Law for Pacific Women", which remains a seminal document and has been recently updated with a supplement. On the other hand, some important publications on specific social groups (e.g., women with disabilities), reach a narrow audience.

Academic gender research in PICs and Australian based universities (such as the Australian National University's, State Society Governance in Melanesia Program and LaTrobe) have undertaken research from within and outside the region over the last four decades. This research has focused on the following areas: gender and development; gender and the economy; gender and socio-culture/religion; gender and health (including sexual and reproductive health); gender, human rights and the law; gender-based violence; women's leadership and decision-making and conflict and peacebuilding⁹. While this body of research can provide a platform for gender-responsive policy-making, development programming and social transformation in the region, most of it has been scholarly research, published in academic journals or books, and while these gender research findings contribute to theoretical debates within academia, they do not tend to be disseminated widely outside the academic setting. Most of their conclusions and recommendations are not translated into policy language in order to inform governments and other agents of change in PICs.

Pacific Island universities are also relatively young and still primarily teaching institutions. Apart from USP, there is little or no gender research conducted by other Pacific Island universities. There are only a few gender scholars currently at USP (3 in the School of Government, Development and

⁸ Often with financial support from Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and New Zealand's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT).

⁹ See the Annexes for a preliminary list of individual gender researchers/scholars who have contributed to these fields of academic research in/on the Pacific Island Countries.

International Affairs; 2 in the School of Education; and 1 in Gender Studies) who have tended to conduct research within their own disciplines¹⁰. The disjointed nature of gender research in Pacific Island universities has not enabled scholars to prioritise gender as a development concern. Gender scholars at the universities argue that there is little demand from Pacific Island governments for gender research. International and regional development agencies collaborating with Pacific Island governments and NGOs argue that there is a dearth of gender research coming out of academia that could be applied to gender-responsive policy-making, development planning and programming.

Some international gender research has been conducted in collaboration with universities in the Pacific Island Countries (e.g., the work by the International Planned Parenthood Federation on the Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights Risk Index). However, the majority of universities publishing gender research are based outside the Pacific Island Countries, most commonly in Australia and New Zealand. In addition, many of the researchers commissioned by international and regional development agencies are not Pacific Island nationals, and there is currently no standardized modality for twinning international, Australian and New Zealand researchers with Pacific nationals to support gender research capacity-building in the region. There are a number of emerging initiatives to address these challenges, for example, SPC is leading the development of a Gender Statistics framework that can inform policy and program development as well as harmonized human rights reporting. The RRRT lead an inter-agency effort (that includes the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), UNFPA, FWRM, Development Alternatives for Women in the New Era, Pacific Disability Forum (PDF) and IPPF) to develop a Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) toolkit that makes research and resources accessible to decision-makers, and provides effective training tools to reinforce knowledge on Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights and violence against women (VAW). PIFS has led a study on women's representation on state-owned boards in Forum Island Countries following the directives from the Forum Economic Ministers Meeting, in partnership with UN Women.

Developing the Capacity for Gender Research in Pacific Island Countries

Despite the achievement of national independence by the majority of Pacific Island Countries and the establishment of national universities, there is currently no dedicated gender research centre in the Pacific. Pacific Island Countries therefore have the least national/regional capacity (when compared to other regions in the global South) to conduct gender research and generate knowledge on their own behalf, in order to shape and define policy-making and development programming to advance women's rights and gender equality.

In order to better inform gender-responsive policy formulation, implementation and social change in the region, there is an urgent need to support the establishment of Centres or Institutes for Gender Studies at Pacific Island universities; strengthen the capacity of scholars, academics, researchers and students at Pacific Island universities to conduct gender research and analysis in a wide range of policy areas; forge an active engagement between academia, government, NGOs and regional and international development agencies; and thereby enable Pacific women to shape development in Pacific Island Countries.

A number of international, regional, bilateral and national organizations have come together to advance this gender research capacity-building agenda among Pacific Island Countries: UN Women, University of the South Pacific (USP), PIFS, SPC, United National Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

On behalf of these institutions, the Pacific Women Support Unit is commissioning a Scoping Study to provide a mapping/ assessment/ gap analysis of what gender research is available and what is required to inform gender-responsive policy-making and social change in Pacific Island countries.

Purpose of the Role

The Pacific Women Support Unit seeks the services of a consultant/s to undertake a Scoping Study of gender-responsive, evidence-based research and analysis carried out on and by Pacific Island Countries.

Key Objectives

Provide a mapping and gap analysis of gender-responsive evidence-based research that has been undertaken on and by Pacific Island Countries. This research could have been carried out by international, regional and bilateral agencies; universities; governments; civil society and other organizations; as well as by individual scholars and activists in the critical areas of concern for advancing women's empowerment and gender equality. These critical areas include: violence against women, including in conflict situations; economic empowerment; leadership and decision making; health; education; human rights; gender mainstreaming and climate change

Assess the quality, reliability and usefulness of the gender research and analysis generated on and by Pacific Island Countries to inform gender-responsive policy-making, development planning and programming in the region

Provide concrete recommendations on how the capacity for conducting Pacific-specific gender-responsive, evidence-based research and analysis can be built/strengthened among national/regional universities in PICs,

¹⁰ The Gender Studies Programme at USP offers a postgraduate certificate programme by course work only. Parts of the assessment require students to do literature reviews of various gender topics. Full research papers are not yet offered – but hopefully sometime soon within the MA program. All gender scholars at USP supervise MA theses by students enrolled in other disciplines who are conducting research on gender-related topics.

in collaboration with regional, international and bilateral agencies; governments; civil society organizations; and other relevant social actors.

Duration of Consultancy

The duration of the consultancy will be a maximum of 60 working days between the periods of August 2015 to 31 January 2016. The draft Scoping Study will be submitted

to the Pacific Women Support Unit no later than 18th December, 2015.

The Research Consultant will report directly to, and work under the technical guidance of the Pacific Women Support Unit Team Leader. In addition, the Research Consultant will meet once a month with a Peer Review Group (comprised of representatives from the Pacific Women Support Unit; UN Women; USP; DFAT Suva Post; PIFS, SPC, UNFPA, and FWRM) who will guide and oversee the Scoping Study.

Output	Description / Means of Verification	Due Date
Consultancy Work Plan	The work plan should include the number of days for key deliverables, timelines, and schedule of meetings with the Peer Review Group and the final Stakeholder Workshop	No later than 31st August 2015
Develop research methodology	Outline of the proposed methodologies for doing a thorough search of university databases (in the PICs, and relevant universities in Australia, New Zealand, UK and US); other online sources; and consulting relevant international, regional and bilateral development agencies; governments, civil society and other organizations based in the PICs; Draft the Research instruments: Interviews and Survey questionnaires; Proposed list of persons/ institutions to send survey questionnaire (e.g., Gender Divisions; Units in international, regional and bilateral agencies based in the PICs; National Women's Machineries across the PICs; national universities across the PICs; relevant university centres in the PICs, Australia and New Zealand, US and UK).	No later than 25th September 2015
Desk Review Sub-report	Table of Contents for the Scoping Study; Draft Literature Review; Draft Annotated Bibliography	No later than 20th November 2015
Draft Scoping Study	Literature review (mapping/gap analysis) of gender-responsive, evidence-based research and analysis that has been undertaken on and by PICs; An Executive Summary, of no more than 8 pages that highlights main findings and recommendations. The Executive Summary should present findings in line with the critical areas (violence against women, including in conflict situations; economic empowerment; leadership and decision making; health; education; human rights; gender mainstreaming and climate change); An assessment of the percentage of policy-oriented gender studies undertaken by Pacific Island researchers, compared to those commissioned to international researchers and consultants; An assessment of the quality, reliability and usefulness of the gender research and analysis generated on and by Pacific Island Countries for informing gender-responsive policy-making, development planning and programming in the region;	No later than 18th December 2015

	<p>Concrete recommendations on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How the capacity for conducting Pacific-specific gender-responsive, evidence-based research and analysis can be built/strengthened among national/regional universities in the Pacific Island Countries, in collaboration with regional, international and bilateral agencies, and governments and NGOs; • How gender-responsive, evidence-based research and analysis can strengthen policy-making and development programming on women's empowerment and gender equality in the PICs; • How the commissioning agencies and others can use this information to effectively support gender-responsive research capacity, policy-making, development planning and programming in the PICs. <p>A standalone annotated bibliography of gender-responsive, evidence-based research and analysis undertaken on and by PICs;</p> <p>Summary of existing capacity at Pacific universities, for example; FNU, USP and University of PNG for planned or potential gender research, including key resource people identified in each university;</p> <p>A Dropbox library, which could be housed online at DFAT's and other Peer Review Group websites.</p> <p>Propose approaches for sharing and presentation of research findings.</p>	
Submission of final Scoping Study	Based on feedback/suggestions made by the Research Reference Group.	30th January 2015
Total Input Days	60 Days	

Essential Criteria

Education:

- Minimum of a Master's degree (and ideally a Ph.D.) in one of the following fields:
 - Development Studies, or other disciplines in the Social and Political Sciences;
 - Gender Studies, Human Rights or related field.
- Demonstrated knowledge (education, publications, etc.) of women's rights and gender equality, and socio-economic development.

Experience:

- A minimum of 10 years of professional experience in development research and/or international development work focused on gender equality and socio-economic development;

- Proven experience in addressing gender and socio-economic development with a focus on women and other vulnerable groups;
- Excellent research and analytical skills including proven capacity to undertake research on the Pacific region;
- Demonstrated capacity to write clear and well-constructed reports in accordance with agreed terms of reference and within specified time constraints; and
- Excellent communication, interpersonal and liaison skills with government, inter-governmental agencies, UN system and international and regional development partners, academic institutions, civil society organizations, and other relevant institutions.
- Consultants with extensive research experience in the Pacific context will have an added advantage.
- Written and oral proficiency in English is required.

To Apply

Interested Research Consultants must submit the following documents/information to demonstrate their suitability for the Consultancy:

1. Competency based Curriculum Vitae
2. A 5-10 page research proposal that includes:
 - Experience against the Essential Criteria – Education and Experience;
 - The proposed scope (breadth and depth) of the Scoping Study;

Preliminary Reading List

Academic gender research in Pacific Island Countries has been undertaken by researchers from within and outside the region over the last four decades. These include; gender and development¹¹; gender and cultural and/or religion¹²; gender and health/community development and domestic violence¹³; women and migration¹⁴; women, leadership and decision-making¹⁵ and gender conflict and peace-building¹⁶.

¹¹ Atu Emberson Bain, Vina Ram Bidesi, Cema Bolabola, Priya Chattier, Elizabeth Cox, Peggy Fairbairn Dunlop, Vanessa Griffen, Shireen Lateef, Jully Makini, Selina Tusitala Marsh, Milika Naqasima, Noumea Simi, Claire Slatter, Rochelle Stewart-Withers, Nancy Sullivan, Teresia Teaiwa, Konai Helu Thaman Yvonne Underhill-Sem, Veikila Vuki, Aliti Vunisea, Gayle Nelson, Jessica Gardner

¹² Tili Afamasaga, Vanessa Griffen, Margaret Jolly, Martha Macintyre, Debra McDougall, Mercy Maliko, Ioana Chan Mow, Ruth Saovana-Spriggs, Penelope Schoeffel, Regina Sheyven, Claire Slatter Marilyn Strathern, Anne Waiko); women/gender and law (e.g., Jennifer Corrin, Imrana Jalal, Sue Farran

¹³ Leslie Butt, Bronwyn Douglas, Henriette Jansen, Jane Koziol-McLain, Christine Bradley, Peggy Dunlop, Richard Eves, Theresia Hopkos, Katherine Lepani, Enikelen Netin

¹⁴ Lola Baustita, Teena Pulu Brown, Jacqueline Leckie, Asenati Liki, Sailiemanu Lilomaiava-Doktor, Tamasailau Sauni, Tina Tauasosi-Posiulilai, Yvonne Underhill-Sem

¹⁵ Shalom Akao, Kerryn Baker, Patrina Dumar, Aiono Fanaafi, Nicole George, Nicole Haley, Elise Huffer, Carol Kidu, Asenati Liki, Alice Pollard, Caroline Ralston, Samantha Rose, Orovu Sepoe

¹⁶ Ruth Maetala, Rebecca Monson, Alice Pollard, Tamasailau Sauni, Marilyn Waring

- 9 -

Appendix 3: Additional Survey Data



Table 1: Respondents who do NOT describe themselves as Pacific researchers (n=13)

Pacific researcher?	Citizenship – Coded	Why / Why not?
No (13)	Non-Pacific Only (9)	<i>I am a New Zealander, who does research in and on the Pacific, in partnership with Pacific researchers.</i>
		<i>I am not a Pacific Islander.</i>
		<i>I'm not a Pacific Islander - would call myself a researcher working in the Pacific</i>
		<i>Not from the region</i>
		<i>I am not actively involved in undertaking, writing and publishing research. (though I'd like to have time to..)</i>
		<i>My current role (and perhaps due to the lack of opportunities in Australia for 'Pacific Researchers' due to the low priority Pacific Studies is given nationally) means that I am not currently able to be 'dedicated' or 'active' (sadly and unfortunately).</i>
		<i>Research is not a primary component of my professional role, and I also work for an international agency, so the focus of my work tends to be on global norms in the Pacific</i>
		<i>I have a broad knowledge of key issues however I have covered other areas in the world for the last 15 yrs and just returned to the Pacific.</i>
		<i>I work in many different locations</i>
	Pacific only (4)	<i>I don't conduct research, just use it (and contribute to it).</i>
		<i>I don't do much of this in practise but use the outcomes to implement my program activities.</i>
		<i>I said no because I never saw myself as one and most of my research work has only been in Papua New Guinea</i>
		<i>Not currently as most of my work is in Asia but previously yes, and in the future yes</i>



Table 2: Respondents who DO describe themselves as Pacific Island researchers (N=30)

Pacific researcher?	Citizenship – Coded	Why / Why not?
Yes	Non-Pacific Only (14)	<i>Because I am a person who does research on the Pacific.</i>
		<i>I undertake research in the Pacific.</i>
		<i>Because my work is overwhelmingly with Pacific Island communities.</i>
		<i>I'm working and living in a Pacific Island and my research focuses on Pacific topics</i>
		<i>Yes because I have worked with communities in Papua for almost 2 decades. But I'm not a Pacifican. And No because I am currently researching in other parts of Southeast Asia.</i>
		<i>I have undertaken academic and applied research (for AusAid, Govt. of PNG and mining companies for over 30 years.</i>
		<i>Since beginning the Alliance and moving from Sydney, research has not been prioritized although I have been doing it 'island style' so it wouldn't be recognized academically, constantly inquiring and growing but research isn't something we're strong on both within our islands and around the Pacific.</i>
		<i>See 26. I also have ancestry in Oceania.</i>
		<i>Because I love the Pacific. It is home. It is also in the interests of Australia to have a deep and nuanced understanding of and relationship with the Pacific.</i>
		<i>I am a New Zealand born Cook Islander</i>
		<i>I have definitely been one and am currently still closely involved. Thank you for this questionnaire</i>
		<i>I'm interested in, looking for understand things around me and searching how to mobilize people how to have a better life...</i>
		<i>But not a Pacific Islander</i>
		<i>I'm interested in People first and foremost, and I have an understanding of the Polynesians that moved to another country like in New Zealand and Australia and the issues and problems they have when it's a different Country. Communication becomes a huge problem for them, accepting changes and help when health becomes an issues is also another and delays of understanding all the factors can also be a huge problem. I have these skills, which I have just used to get my mother help when she got discharged from Middlemore hospital recently. It is coordinating all the necessary agencies, communicating and convincing and ensuring all, that the process being put in place has a main objective, that is the best for the sick person.</i>
	Pacific & Non-Pacific (4)	<i>Because I engage explicitly in the development and practice of, as a matter of course, research that has, privileges and/or prioritises as its starting point Pacific values and Pacific well-being.</i>
		<i>Because I live and breathe the Pacific every day of my life. It is my reality.</i>
		<i>I am Fijian and I hold a PhD</i>
		<i>I live in the Pacific and I am a Pacific based woman who recognises, identifies and lives the cultural and customary differences.</i>
	Pacific only (12)	<i>I am writing reports on gender issues in the country.</i>
		<i>I have done research in the past on fisheries and coral reef health issues in the Pacific.</i>
		<i>Most of my research work has been within the Pacific context - seeing things from a Pacific Perspective</i>
		<i>Because I learn about my culture and live by it and most importantly I share with my new generation on what I learn or share my skills to my younger generation</i>

Yes	Pacific only (12)	<i>I am because I've already done research on domestic violence against women in Samoa in collaboration with SPC/WHO/UNFPA. And my team were the very first to complete the DVAW out of all the many developed countries who were part of this multi-country DVWA</i>
		<i>I genuinely have the interest of the Pacific at heart, am conducting research for the benefit of women in the region, and hope that it can be a contribution to making the links between activism and academic research.</i>
		<i>Because I have done research on the Pacific and see my self as an 'insider' because I was born and have lived most of my life in the Pacific.</i>
		<i>Because I would like to do more research in the Pacific and Im from the Paific as well.</i>
		<i>I am a Pacific Islander and an insider so what I bring is not comparable to an outsider researching the Pacific. That is the bonus and the point of difference those engaged in Pacific research should know and acknowledge.</i>
		<i>For the reasons stated in #26</i>
		<i>I am a national of a Pacific nation and I have done research in the region for over 10 years.</i>
		<i>Because the approach to our policy advocacy is informed by the research / documentation findings</i>





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