
WOMEN: PEACE, HUMAN
SECURITY & DEVELOPMENT UPDATE
A FEMLINKPACIFIC POLICY BRIEF

MAY 2014



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OVERVIEW & MONTHLY ROUND UP

In May FemLINKPACIFIC commemorated the first decade of advancing our mission to provide a safe space via community radio and enabling women from within their local communities to claim and localize UNSCR1325 as well as CEDAW with the theme **“Communicating Peace, Development, Diversity, Security and Freedom”**

Our Radio with Pictures campaign enabled 82 women leaders in all their diversities, representing a collective constituency of 1811 members, in Nadi, Nausori and Labasa to communicate their peace, human security and development priorities. Additionally in May through our rural network activities 94 women, particularly rural women, disabled women, young women and transgender women came together to discuss and document their collective priorities in Labasa, Nausori, Tavua/Rakiraki, Ba and Nadi

It was clear across the 3 divisions that women are not being accounted for – current development processes are not accounting for commitments to CEDAW or the National Women’s Plan of Action whether it is addressing environment security (disaster risk reduction, responses and management/recovery as well as climate change adaptation) or economic security which is closely linked to food and nutrition security.

Without women’s equal access to and participation in development processes from the district and tikina level, gender inclusive development will not happen and we will continue to hear the call for improvements in rural infrastructure (roads, water and electricity supply) and enhancing health services as well as guaranteeing a life free of violence and crime.

Meanwhile, 41% of respondents (143 women) in our monthly household income and expenditure survey highlighted the struggle to meet cost of living expenses such as food, household bills, in addition to education, transport and health expenses being priorities when earning less than \$50 to at least \$200 a week.

Our survey this month has once again highlighted the prevalence of the information-communication and digital divide for 82% of respondents which is why we also celebrate that over the last 10 years we are enabling women who would otherwise be silent or invisible to claim their communication rights.

As WACC says community radio is a key to participatory development and change: *“Community radio enables people - especially marginalized sectors such as women and youth - to voice their concerns and to unite around common causes in order to challenge decision-makers and create communities that better respond to their needs. Community radio, alongside digital platforms and citizen journalism, is fast becoming one of the focal points for grassroots democracy, good citizenship and good governance.”* (WACC General Secretary Rev. Dr. Karin Achtelstetter)

Read more: (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/growing-up-with-femtalk-89fm/10152391855874295>;
<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/recalling-10-years-with-the-suitcase-radio/10152384905389295>;
<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-89fm-the-community-radio-is-awesome/10152345064384295>;
<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-89fm-continues-to-communicate-a-culture-of-peace/10152345047229295>;
<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-89fm-making-spaces-for-rural-seniors/10152345026899295>;
<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-89fm-labasa-village-voices/10152345006759295>;
<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/my-journey-with-femlinkpacifics-suitcase-radio-station-femtalk-89fm/10152343442574295>;

HOUSEHOLD INCOME AND EXPENDITURE SURVEY (HIES) FINDINGS: MAY 2014

Overview of respondents:



A total of 143 respondents took part in the monthly WHIES from 3 rural centres in Ba, Tavua/Rakiraki and Labasa

73% of the respondents were between the ages of 32-53.

21% of the respondents indicated to be either widowed, divorced or in a relationship where the rest were married and responsible for an average 3-5 children.

74% of the respondents were Itaukei while the remainder were of Indian descent.

11% of the respondents have NO ACCESS to water Supply to their Households that were from Labasa.

41% indicated to be main income earners, earning from less than \$50 to at least \$200 a week.

Economic issues:

73% Main income earners indicated to earn less than FJD\$50-\$FJD\$200 a week.

Access to health services:

64% visit health centres/hospitals once a month or a few times a year, with medical costs topping the list of major expenses.

Access to information and communication:

All respondents indicated the radio as main source of information listening to news and information on a daily basis or once a week.

Majority 82% of women indicate to have never accessed the internet.

76% of the respondents have access to mobile phones with a majority of this number subscribing to the Vodafone and Inkk network.

Access to power and decision making:

18% of respondents indicate to be affiliated with a NGO or to have accessed information from local government.

24% of respondents have attended workshops/consultations on the constitution.

Sources of Information: May 2014	
Nausori	Women travel for up to 2 hours via bus to our consultation in Vunimono, Nausori from: Vuci Rd, Nakasi, Nadali Koronivia, Noco, Manoca, Vunivivi, Dilkusha, Bau Rd, Vunidawa, Waikete, Wainibosi, Nausori Village, Raralevu , Waituri, Nabouciwa, Visama, Kiuva, Naitalasese, Vusuya, Toga, Lekena, Sawani.
Tavua/ Rakiraki	Women travel for up to 2 hours spending at least \$2 to \$20 on carrier/bus fare travelling from: Colasi, Nadalei, Toko, Vatukoula, Wainivoce, Tavualevu, Nasomo, Yaladro, Yasiyasi, Korowaqa, Waikubukubu, Vuqele, Mulau, Noroko, HART Home, Qalela, Natolevu, Korowere
Labasa	Women travel to our community media centre in Labasa for 1325 consultations, some from as far as 20km from Vunimoli, Korowiri, Baulevu, Navau, Vuniyalayala, Matalolo, Dogotuki, Tuatua, Wainikoro, Wasavulu, Naodamu, Dreketi, Cawaira, Vunivau, Vuya, Daria, Nasavu, Wailevu, Bulileka & Line Point
Nadi	Rural women leaders, trans-women, women of diverse sexual orientation convening at the Hexagon hotel in Nadi travelled from as far as Lautoka (next city centre), and as far as a two hour long truck/bus ride from rural settings Malamala, Votualevu, Nawaka, Namaka, Sikituru, Yavusainia, Nakavu, Wailoaloa, Qeleloa, Tubenasomo, Navokai, Nawaka, Dratabu,
Ba	Elderly women and rural women aged 31- mid 70s living at least an hour bus ride away from the Ba town centre participated in the monthly Women’s Household and Income Expenditure Survey from Nasolo, Badrau, Yalalevu, Tawarau, Maruru, Toko, Vuli, Nailaga, Votua, Vareko, Vitogo, Tauvegavega, Field 22, Ratuaki, Vatulaulau, Clopcott

MAY 2014 ACTIVITY UPDATE

FemTALK 89FM Community Radio Broadcast hours (includes live television simulcasts*)

2014	2013	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
<i>Suva</i>	1160	193	220	238	261	246							
<i>Nausori</i>	12*		6			4							
<i>Nadi</i>	7*			6		4							
<i>Ba</i>													
<i>Tavua/Rakiraki</i>	4			6									
<i>Labasa</i>	462*	71	81	80	72	80							
Totals	1645	264	246	330	333	334							

Community Radio Programmes Produced

	2013	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
<i>Suva</i>	80	9	5	13	6	10							
<i>Nausori</i>	41	21	12	4	3	7							
<i>Nadi</i>	29	8	2	4	1	6							
<i>Ba</i>	24	21	4	4	1	3							
<i>Tavua/Rakiraki</i>	40	24	2	3	3	3							
<i>Labasa</i>	60	32	6	4	2	5							
Totals	274	115	31	32	16	32							

Number of women featured in community radio programmes

	2013	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
<i>Suva</i>	654	9	18	4	5	7							
<i>Nausori</i>	231	21	54	18	13	12							
<i>Nadi</i>	76	8	16	25	13	17							
<i>Ba</i>	73	21	29	37	28	2							
<i>Tavua/Rakiraki</i>	147	24	7	28	12	8							
<i>Labasa</i>	379	32	32	30	23	16							
Totals	1560	115	156	142	94	62							

Respondents to the Monthly Women's Household Income and Expenditure Survey

	2013	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
<i>Suva</i>	115	5											
<i>Nausori</i>	565	50	50	50	50								
<i>Nadi</i>	175	50	50		18								
<i>Ba</i>	343	50	50	50	36	43							
<i>Tavua/Rakiraki</i>	358		50	50	50	50							
<i>Labasa</i>	203	50	50	50	50	50							
Totals	1759	205	250	200	204	143							

Attendance at FemLINKPACIFIC monthly network meetings & local and divisional level consultations

	2013	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
<i>Suva</i>	20												
<i>Nausori</i>	230	16	50	24	11	39							
<i>Nadi</i>	82	9	16	16	13	32							
<i>Ba</i>	464	11	26	21	28	28							
<i>Tavua/Rakiraki</i>	142	17	7	35	9	7							
<i>Labasa</i>	225	14	32	28	21	16							
	1163	67	131	111	82	94							

Media Advocacy and Outreach

	2013	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
<i>Press releases</i>	20			2	2	4							
<i>Op-Eds</i>	27	4	2		1	1							
<i>Quoted in the media</i>	58	2	1	12	2	5							
<i>Press IVs</i>	53	3	1		2	3							
<i>Presentations</i>	21	1		5	1	1							
<i>FemVIDS</i>	35	9	4	7		1							
<i>Facebook Likes (Social Media)</i>	2472	2527		2593	2625	2705							

GLOBAL COMMITMENTS & LOCAL RECOMMENDATIONS: WHAT THE WOMEN SAY

Personal Security	<i>Once we call the Police they say they don't have any transport or come late when everything is stolen or the whole house is empty and then the Police will come so I don't anything has changed - Shalini Chand, 39, Secretary of SHEETAL SHARDA MAHILA Women's group</i>	CEDAW : Article 14, Article 7, Article 5 UDHR: Article 3 UNSCR1325
Environment and Food Security	<i>Climate change is affecting our food supply ... (because) changes in climate (we can see) how well our food are growing in some areas due to climate change whether we use to grow these food in this season because before we use to know these food grows in this season we can't grow those food well now - Ilisabeta, Ba Mission Hospital Dietitian.</i>	UDHR: Article 14+ UNSCR1325 CEDAW Article 14 Beijing Platform for Action – Section(s) A, F, G
Economic Security	<i>We also need to do backyard gardening that will save us money as well as it'll be good for our health. - Hasmat Shah, 72, Ba Senior Citizens Centre</i>	Beijing Platform for Action Section F
Health Security	<i>The health system should also be good . . . every now and then once we go to the hospital the system is not good and the doctors are not on time; we can see that the medicines are not enough for everybody so what I was thinking the hospital system should be changed- Shalini Chand, 39, Secretary of SHEETAL SHARDA MAHILA Women's group</i>	Article 12 : CEDAW Article 14 Beijing Platform for Action Section C
Political Security	<i>People living with disabilities who were left out (previous elections) I think they too want to come out and have a tick for the parties who can serve us more properly and in health wise so those are the kind of things that we want , people with disabilities want a good service for us to select those who will look into our needs - Litia Naitanui, 46, President Rewa Disabled Persons Organisation.</i>	UNSCR1325 CEDAW Article 3

LOCAL AND NATIONAL ACTION PLANS:

Priority Area and Situation	Recommendations for Action - Local	Recommendations for Action - National
The persistent and increasing burden of poverty on women		
<p>5 Rural Women leaders representing 215 women and households in Yasiyasi, Natoalevu, Davota, Drumasi, Vuqele are still facing water problems.</p> <p>1 woman leader representing 50+ from NASELAI VILLAGE is calling for improvements in drainage and sewerage systems.</p> <p>One young woman representing 44 women from WAINIBUKU is calling for STREET LIGHTS</p> <p>1 woman leader representing 16 women from NAKELO wants ROAD HUMPS/SPEED HUMPS on the main roads in her community</p> <p>Women leaders representing a collective 800 rural women from Nausori highlight the risks of using the old Waidamu Bridge</p>	<p>Membership of local development planning committees must include equal representation by women;</p> <p>Development planning must ensure women have been effectively involved and their needs are reflected in approved plans</p> <p>Training on gender equality must be compulsory for all local, district and divisional level planning committee members to ensure accountability to women's human rights conventions</p>	<p>In line with the outcomes statement of the 12th Triennial Pacific Women's conference PICTs to strengthen existing reporting mechanisms on international, regional, and national instruments to parliament so as to inform leaders and decision makers and all other stakeholders on the progress made towards gender equality;</p> <p>Public service commissioners, chief executive officers and executive directors to mainstream gender within the public/basic service providers as water and electricity, to include systems that strengthen programmes human resource development policies to advance gender equality ensuring that infrastructure development processes should be clearly communicated to women as well as men;</p> <p>Governments, the private sector and financial institutions to invest in and support women and young women, including those with disabilities, women living in rural and remote areas, and working in the informal sector, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) giving access to productive resources; b) establishing business incubators; c) promoting financial literacy programmes and access to financial services (noting potential negative risks associated with credit programmes); and d) guaranteeing safe and sanitary condition
<p>1 woman leader representing 200+ women from BURETU TIKINA- representing 5 villages - BURETU, DAKU , NABOUCIWA, MATAINOCO, NAIVAKACAU recommends more women to be trained and</p>	<p>Greater inclusion of women in food security programmes with Ministry of Agriculture which will ensure effective crop rehabilitation and the management of food prices in local markets.</p>	<p>The implementation of the National Women's Plan of Action should ensure that women's access to services address</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) enhancement of rural women's participation in local government (b) improve women's access to market economy and not simply regard women

supported to be involved in climate change adaptation strategies in particular food and nutrition security		as market vendors
Rural women from the Ba Senior Citizens Centre who have to travel at least 15 minutes to town say bus services should be responsive to the elderly and persons with disabilities.	The Land Transport Authority must ensure passengers have access to a toll-free line to file complaints and coordinate a training and implementation on PSV code of conduct.	Ministry responsible for transport must ensure consultations are inclusive of rural women and not just the PSV operators
Women's access to health services		
6 women leaders representing 285 women from Back road, Vatukoula, Natoalevu, Drumasi, Davota, Vuqele, Qalela, Yasiyasi need improvements in the health services provided at the Tavua Hospital; they all travel 12-15km	<p>Local and sub divisional health managers must ensure that rural priorities are communicated to ensure the necessary supply of medicines</p> <p>Senior Divisional Medical Officer to organize a meeting with women leaders to help better understand health budget procurement process. Need to look at systems that are responsive to rural communities.</p> <p>State must ensure that the Ministry of Health per capita allocation for medicines as well as operational costs in responsive to specific needs of rural and remote communities.</p>	<p>National budget processes must be accountable to rural women's health needs as an affirmation of the Women's Plan of Action (-2010-2019) Pillar 10 Improving Health Service Delivery.</p> <p>Call for PIC states to implement effective/ accessible systems for sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) to be guaranteed, ensuring that women, young women, and girls, including those with disabilities, receive comprehensive and confidential SRHR services that respect their human rights throughout their life cycle.</p>

MARKET REPORT: NAUSORI MARKET

PERSONAL (IN) SECURITY

Our side a little improvements because shelter we have it and washrooms same conditions from 20 years because I'm here from 20 years but no changes in the washroom, we are paying 20cents but no changes - SANGEETA DEVI 29, Nausori Market.

First of all the rubbish bins ,I think they are not washing nicely and drains and the most of the time the water supply and when we go on Saturdays the cleaners come in and not clean nicely and they give us notice they cleaning market - SANGEETA DEVI 29, Nausori Market.

When it rains when we sell fish the rain comes to us we get wet, we need good shelter there and most of the vendors need good drains because we sell fish and drains blocked - VONISITA QOLIVI,36, Nausori Market

HERE ARE THE WOMEN: RURAL WOMEN DEFINE THEIR HUMAN SECURITY PRIORITIES

POLITICAL (IN) SECURITY:

*I think the whole system should be changed , the system out there the , the officials sitting in the office , the department , the whole system should be changed because they sitting there for a very long period of time and they are not taking any action so in my opinion I think all the system should change so we can see what the other next generation officials can do for us . . . the system I mean the minister who is sitting in the POLICE, HEALTH Department , SOCIAL WELFARE Department, and you know all the department first of all - **Shalini Chand, 39, Secretary of SHEETAL SHARDA MAHILA Women's group***

*We want to see the qualification , you know the qualification details of a person who is wanting to stand for elections , we want to know details of the person so we can know that he is the one who can fulfil what he promises us - **Litia Naitanui, 46, President Rewa Disabled Persons Organisation.***

*With what we are currently facing, we want to see changes, and changes are coming up slowly (. . .)Parties should have those leaders who have the capability to actually bring about the benefit in people. It's not the benefit for the party, it is the benefit for the people. So I am looking forward for such a party who can really being about the change that will help our people to come up from the poverty, to come up from the uneducated that it is sometimes faced by the people.- **Sophie, Ba Mission Hospital Physiotherapist.***

*People living with disabilities who were left out I think they too want to come out and have a tick for the parties who can serve us more properly and in health wise so those are the kind of things that we want , people with disabilities want a good service for us to select those who will look into our needs - **Litia Naitanui, 46, President Rewa Disabled Persons Organisation.***

PERSONAL (IN) SECURITY:

*Infrastructure like bridge, we need to access reliable (ones) - **Mereia Tabuvale, Bulileka mother's Club***

*Once we call the Police they say they don't have any transport or come late when everything is stolen or the whole house is empty and then the Police will come so I don't anything has changed - **Shalini Chand, 39, Secretary of SHEETA SHARDA MAHILA Women's group***

*The issues that I always brought up for example poor drainage and poor rubbish dump (ing) is being developed, it is so urgent because it leads to high rates of sickness in our community and also in the family- **Elenoa Dibera, Naqai Women's Club***

*I have always said , geographical structures and some more people living with disabilities they live in other villages you know they are very swampy and mangroves places and it is very hard for them to come up from those places to be taken to the polling stations - **Litia Naitanui, 46, President Rewa Disabled Persons Organisation.***

ENVIRONMENT (IN) SECURITY:

*Climate change is affecting our food supply I was asking my husband why is our pawpaws turning yellow. He's done some programme with climate change. Changes in climate and how well our food are growing in some areas due to climate change whether we use to grow these food in this season because before we use to know these food grows in this season we can't grow those food well now - **Ilisabeta, Ba Mission Hospital Dietitian.***

ECONOMIC (IN) SECURITY

*I always buy and sell my products, when we buy banana from the farmers, sometimes the prices go high and we have less profit to earn on that day and it will affect that we can't use our capital to buy and to use that to buy food and what we want- **Mereia Tabuvale, Bulileka mother's Club***

*The Cost of living is high the price for the Sugar Industry is not very high and the cost of fertilizer and labour cost is very high, that is why I can put the three Food Groups on the table – **Saras Singh, 57, Ganesh Mothers Club***

FOOD (IN) SECURITY:

*Food security means having enough to feed the family and having abit of surplus having enough quality food to feed everyone in the family so that they meet their nutritional needs and yet they still have enough surplus to feed the family on the other hand that's food security. – **Ilisabeta, Ba Mission Hospital Dietitian.***

*Food security to us elderly are very important. We need to have a healthy meal and also we have to look out for our health. As we are getting old we need to be very conscious of our health – **Prahalad, 74, Ba Senior Citizens' Centre***

HEALTH (IN) SECURITY:

*Medical wise we want to be served as proper as a person as we are part of a nation - **Litia Naitanui, 46, President Rewa Disabled Persons Organisation.***

*The health system should also be good . . . every now and then once we go to the hospital the system is not good and the doctors are not on time , we can see that the medicines are not enough for everybody so what I was thinking the hospital system should be changed- **Shalini Chand, 39, Secretary of SHEETA SHARDA MAHILA Women's group***

*Health service, the transport is too late like when we ring the ambulance, it takes a lot of time then the transport will come, the health to provide more transport for us – **Mereia Tabuvale, Bulileka mother's Club***

MEDIA MONITORING

The Global Media Monitoring Project (GMMP) provides a framework to analyze new media content. The ultimate goal of the GMMP is

- To map the representation and portrayal of women in the world's news media
- To develop a grassroots research instrument
- To build solidarity among gender and communication groups worldwide
- To create media awareness To develop media monitoring skills on an international level

Between 1995- 2005 GMMP revealed that women's representation within mainstream content was dramatically low where only 21% of those interviewed or who were the subject of news content were females.

FemLINKPACIFIC undertakes news media analysis on a daily basis to gauge where women are and are not making the news. In May 2014, the themes where women made the news were:

- ✓ Politics and Law
- ✓ Young Woman elections candidate victim of cyber/sexual harassment
- ✓ Women in elections
- ✓ Women priorities mandate of political parties
- ✓ Woman Judge appointment to UN in Geneva as Fiji's permanent representative
- ✓ Women in business networking and success stories
- ✓ Women in fashion
- ✓ Women's achievement in sports
- ✓ Women nurses receive training to advance skills to better services with Diabetes
- ✓ Women provincial council meetings
- ✓ Women in separate traffic accidents in the month
- ✓ Women and young women subjected to sexual violence
- ✓ Human Trafficking

Online media content produced by Radio Australia, Radio New Zealand International, the Fiji Times, Fiji Sun and Fiji Village showed that women were making the news because of outstanding achievements in fields as education, sports and the political space leading up to national elections.

In the Solomon Islands women and children's welfare was of great concern after riots broke out in the streets of Honiara that were led by those displaced by the floods. Women blamed the slow response and inadequate supply of rations to the flood victims by the government that led to this display of frustration by the people.

MAY: FEMLINKPACIFIC IN THE NEWS

- FijiONE news

<http://fijione.tv/femlink-takes-waste-management-initiative-to-regional-level/>

- The FijiTimes

<http://www.fijitimes.com/story.aspx?ref=archive&id=267380>

- Australian Broadcasting Corporation

<http://www.australiaplus.com/international/radio/program/pacific-beat/tenth-anniversary-for-fiji-suitcase-community-radio/1304486>

- PACMAS Blog

FemLINKPACIFIC's new documentary communicates peace and development
<http://www.pacmas.org/subject/community-radio/>

- MaiTV:

Radio with Pictures simulcasts was aired live on MaiTV: 23rd May, 27th May ; with replays on the 24th - 25th, 28th-29th May.