

Analysing data through a gender perspective

Palau Regional Enhancing Agency

December 27, 2019

*This Story of Change was originally published in the [Pacific Women Annual Progress Report 2017–2018](#). All values are consistent with that reporting period.

Project name: Support for implementation of the Government of Palau's gender mainstreaming policy and strategy

Project partner: Gender Division, Ministry of Culture and Community Affairs, Government of Palau

Total funding: \$92,000

Funding timeframe: 2017–2019

Gender statistics help governments implement gender mainstreaming policies and support the promotion of gender inclusion in government activities. Pacific Women has invested in training for gender analysts to improve the collection and analysis of gender-sensitive statistics.

Bunker Ruluked, the Gender Analyst for the Division of Gender, Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs in Palau, supports the implementation of Palau's Gender Mainstreaming Policy including the production of sex-disaggregated data to identify gender gaps to inform policy making.

'Statistics are essential for effective policy making, providing unbiased evidence and accurately measuring the issue and its progression or regression over time,' he said.

Mr Ruluked participated in a gender statistics workshop in Pohnpei in March 2018, organised by the Pacific Community's Progressing Gender Equality in the Pacific program. The workshop helped support gender analysts from Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands in drafting country statistical summaries and sex-disaggregated

analyses. During the workshop, Mr Ruluked produced an analysis of the social security data on formal sector employment and gross earnings in Palau.



Participants of the gender statistics workshop. Mr Ruluked is on the far right.
Photo credit: The Pacific Community.

In her opening address at the workshop, Lara Studzinski, the Director of the Pacific Community's Micronesia Regional Office, acknowledged the importance of this exercise. 'This workshop sets a precedent for gender statistics on the work of women and men in the Pacific region, using administrative data from social security systems,' she said. 'This annual data tells us about the work that men and women do and their average gross earnings.'

Mr Ruluked said the workshop improved his technical skills. 'Pacific Women has provided necessary technical and financial support to enable me to fulfil my role with the Office of Gender,' he said.

Mr Ruluked is working with the Gender Equality Adviser for the North Pacific, co-funded by Pacific Women and the Pacific Community, on a report on the Sustainable Development Goals and gender. The report uses statistics and indicators from Palau's Census of Population and Housing 2015.

'One of the indicators for Sustainable Development Goal 5 is the amount of time spent on unpaid household duties,' he said. 'In Palau, this is a significant statistic because of the much higher proportion of adult women (75 per cent aged over 18) engaged in unpaid household activities, compared to men. This is an example of a gender issue reflecting several different influences including historical context and traditions and so forth, making it complex and sensitive.'