

Niu Waves

Sub-Regional Office for the Pacific

Driving Pacific Representation

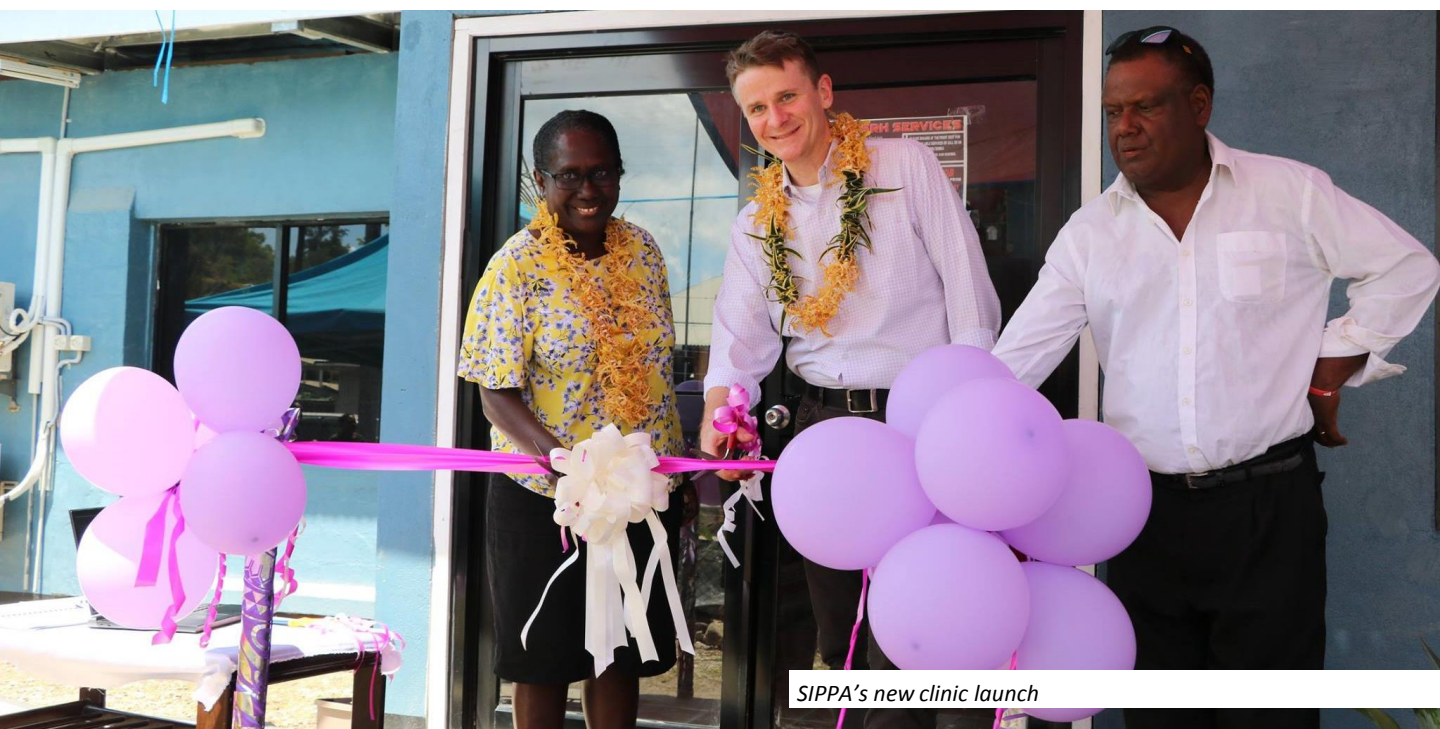
Welcome to the latest issue of Niu Waves, from the IPPF Sub-Regional Office for the Pacific. It has been another busy month, with SIPPA launching their new clinic, International Women's Day, multiple capacity building workshops and opportunities, and staff from SROP and Pacific MAs travelling around the world to represent the Pacific and raise awareness of and support for sexual and reproductive health, to name but a few of our highlights.

We were thrilled that Tura, SROP Advocacy Officer, and Liai, Executive Director of Samoa Family Health Association, were able to attend CSW63 in New York, representing the Pacific branch of IPPF and joining forces with the broader IPPF family and CSO community to ensure that governments uphold their commitments to SRHR and gender equality. You'll be hearing a lot more about their experiences and what's next in the coming weeks and months.

The SROP team has welcomed two new team members: Viti and Monica. Viti joins us as our Resource Mobilisation Officer and Monica as Humanitarian SRH Services Advisor.

Our Highlights

- Australian High Commissioner to Solomon Islands, HE Roderick Brazier, has officially launched SIPPA's renovated clinic.
- Tura Lewai, SROP Advocacy Officer, and Liai Iosefa Siitia, ED of SFHA, attended CSW63 in New York.
- The Pacific Humanitarian team, in partnership with FPNZ, hosted the SRHiE MFAT inception meeting in Wellington.
- Leiloa Asaasa, SFHA Program Manager, will present on integrating SRH into disaster preparedness at the Women Deliver conference in June in Vancouver
- SROP celebrated International Women's Day.
- SROP welcomed Viti, Resource Mobilisation Officer, and Monica, Humanitarian SRH Services Advisor, to the team.



SIPPA's new clinic launch

CSW63

From 11th to 22nd March, Tura Lewai, SROP Advocacy Officer, and Liai Iosefa-Siitia, Executive Director of Samoa Family Health Association (SFHA), represented IPPF Pacific at the 63rd Commission on the Status of Women, thanks to funding from Pacific Women. Hosted by UN Women in New York, the theme of the event was social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

The event was wide-ranging and at times challenging, with Tura and Liai joining with the global IPPF team to ensure that sexual and reproductive health is respected and promoted by governments around the world, and particularly in the Pacific, in the face of strong opposition.

We will share more about Liai and Tura’s experiences and what comes after the commission in the coming weeks and months.



SIPPA Clinic Launch

On 7th March, the eve of International Women’s Day, the Australian High Commissioner to Solomon Islands, His Excellency Roderick Brazier, officially launched the Solomon Islands Planned Parenthood Association's (SIPPA) renovated clinic in Honiara.

In close consultation with the People With Disability Solomon Islands, the clinic underwent major renovations in 2018, to ensure that SIPPA can continue to offer high quality SRH services to all clients, including people living with disabilities. SIPPA have also expanded the clinic, adding two new consultation rooms and improving their youth-friendly spaces, which will allow them to see more clients and expand their services.

The clinic renovations have raised the profile of SIPPA and drew the attention of the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senator the Hon. Marise Payne, who visited in February.

At the launch, Mr Brazier also demonstrated SIPPA’s electronic client management system, which SROP and SIPPA are planning to roll out to other MAs when ready.



Photos from top: Tura and Liai at CSW63; Ben Angoa, ED of SIPPA, and the Australian High Commissioner to Solomon Islands launching the SIPPA clinic in Honiara.

TFHA at Regional CSO Forum

Katherine Mafi, from Tonga Family Health Association (TFHA), attended the Regional Civil Society Organisation (CSO) Forum in Suva, from 20th to 22nd March, as well as the Gender Equality and Ending Violence Against Women and Girls Forum, which was hosted from 18th to 19th March.

International Women’s Day

On 8th March, the SROP team and MAs across the Pacific celebrated International Women’s Day. At SROP, we marked the day with a lively and passionate discussion on the inclusion of women in all their diversity in our programs and what it means to be truly inclusive.

To celebrate the women leading the SRHR movement, we’ve put together a [short video](#). We hope you enjoy!

We also launched a blog series, with IPPF East and South East Asia and Oceania Regional Office, to acknowledge in more detail some of the women behind the work of IPPF and our MAs, starting with Leiloa Asaasa, of SFHA. Read her story on the [ESEAOR blog](#) and check their [Facebook page](#) for more stories coming soon.

P4H Highlights

The final Partnerships for Health and Rights report has been submitted to DFAT. Some of our highlights from the program (2015 – 2018) include:

180
Clinicians trained

5
New clinics established

2,007,662
SRH services delivered and facilitated

668,975
Estimated total clients

418,040
Estimated clients who are poor or vulnerable

1,877,373
Contraceptives distributed

131,844.4
Couple Years Protection

4,145
Peer educators trained



SROP celebrates International Women’s Day

PNG Finance and QoC Support

From 18th to 22nd March, Dolli, SROP Finance Officer, and Tarai, SROP Quality of Care Officer, traveled to Papua New Guinea to provide finance and QoC support respectively to PNG Family Health Association. Dolli worked with the PNGFHA finance and administration team to build their capacity in financial management, while Tarai carried out clinic assessments in Lae and Port Moresby and provided recommendations and support to improve the quality of care provided.

SFHA Facilitation Training

In February, SFHA hosted a Training of Trainers, in collaboration with Family Planning New South Wales. The five-day training focused on building the capacity of SFHA staff and partners to facilitate workshops and awareness sessions. Representatives from government ministries, Nuanua O Le Alofa (the local Disabled Persons' Organisation), Red Cross and Samoa Faafafine Association attended the training.

TFHA Media Training

Following the 2018 training, in March Tonga Family Health Association (TFHA) hosted a one-day media training refresher, to improve the knowledge and capacity of local media staff in covering sensitive issues like SRHR and gender-based violence.

Participants included journalists and representatives from the local papers, Ministry of Health Public Health staff, Tonga Broadcasting Commission, Women and Children Crisis Centre, Tonga Leitis' Association and TFHA staff.

Global Health 50/50 Report

IPPF are thrilled to be ranked as a 'high achiever' in Global Health 50/50's latest report on gender equality within global organisations working in health. The report examines the ways in which organisations embed gender equality within their workplace and in their work.

Read the report at globalhealth5050.org and Dr Alvaro Bermejo's, IPPF Director-General, response on the [IPPF website](http://ippf.org).

Data Management

Sera, SROP Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, has had a busy month supporting MAs across the Pacific to upload their data to DHIS in time for reporting.

As well as providing remote support from Suva, Sera travelled to Solomon Islands to assess SIPPA's electronic client information management system (eCIMS), ahead of rolling out the system to other MAs.

Sera also travelled to Vanuatu to support Vanuatu Family Health Association's (VFHA) roll out their data management systems and processes from the principal clinic in Port Vila to their clinics in Tanna and Santo.



TFHA media training

Humanitarian

Global Humanitarian Taskforce Meeting

Robyn, Humanitarian Deputy Director Pacific, and Jane, Humanitarian SRH Services Advisor are currently in Bangkok for the yearly Global Humanitarian Taskforce Meeting, which brings together humanitarian representatives from across the IPPF regional offices with the humanitarian hub to discuss regional experiences in disaster preparedness and response, developments in the humanitarian sector and more!



Launching the MFAT SRHiE Program in Cook Islands, Kiribati and Tuvalu

The Pacific Humanitarian team held the MFAT-funded SRH in Emergencies Program inception meeting from 11th to 12th March in Wellington, bringing together MAs from Cook Islands, Kiribati and Tuvalu; MFAT; and Family Planning New Zealand (FPNZ). The workshop was exciting and productive and, in true Pacific-style, even featured some stunning dance moves. We look forward to continued close partnership with FPNZ as we expand the humanitarian program to three new countries with MFAT support.

IPPF Pacific at Women Deliver Conference

The Pacific Humanitarian team is proud to support Leiloa, SFHA Program Manager, to present at the Women Deliver Conference in June in Canada. Leiloa will be a panelist on ‘SRHR in humanitarian settings – shifting power through community engagement to realise the potential of localisation’, sharing her experiences of localising disaster preparedness and ensuring SRHR is embedded in disaster preparedness and response.

Fiji SGBV Fundamentals

Petra, Humanitarian Gender Specialist, conducted Sexual and Gender Based Violence fundamentals training for staff from Reproductive Family Health Association Fiji (RFHAF) and SROP staff from 25th to 27th March. The training generated some lively discussions and developed participants’ skills in providing first-line support to survivors.



From top: humanitarian representatives from IPPF’s regional offices; RFHAF and SROP staff at SGBV Fundamentals training.

Welcome Viti and Monica

SROP is thrilled to welcome Viti Simmons and Monica Burns to the team.

Viti joins us as our Resource Mobilisation Officer. Viti specialises in social enterprise and has over 25 years’ experience in social impact, project management, community engagement, implementation of ideas and research in the Not for Profit, Education and Small Business sectors. She is the founder of Bear Fruit, a social business dedicated to supporting communities’ social enterprises. Viti can be contacted on vsimmons@ippf.org.

Monica is our new Humanitarian SRH Services Advisor. An accomplished Public Health Project Coordinator, Monica specialises in International Humanitarian Emergencies. Monica is a qualified nurse and has worked extensively across Africa and in Pakistan with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) as a project coordinator and head nurse, as well as in India and Nepal as a medical officer. Monica can be contacted on meburns@ippf.org.



From top: Viti; Monica

SRHR in the News

- There has been a breakthrough in studies testing a [male contraceptive pill](#).
- Around the world, young people are leading the way for change. Read more about how [young people are working with IPPF](#).
- The US has expanded the reach of the [Global Gag Rule](#).

Dates for Your Diary

- 8th – 12th April: Pacific MISP ToT, Nadi
- May: IPPF Global report released
- 27th – 30th May: Pacific Women’s Economic Empowerment Regional Forum, Suva
- 3rd – 6th June: Women Deliver 2019 conference, Vancouver
- 6th – 11th July: PSRH 13th Biennial Conference 2019, Port Moresby
- 13th – 15th November: The Nairobi Summit on ICPD25, Nairobi

Coming Up Next

IPPF is offering small grants for youth-led projects [combating abortion stigma](#). Please reach out to SROP if you are interested. The deadline is 21st April. There are also funding opportunities through the Canada Fund for Local Initiatives. Visit [their website](#) or contact Tura for more information.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness month and, once again, we look forward to supporting member associations across the Pacific to raise awareness of sexual assault and reduce stigma for survivors.

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

Funding support gratefully received from

