

Niu Waves

Sub-Regional Office for the Pacific

A Time for Reflection

Welcome to the latest issue of Niu Waves, from the IPPF Sub-Regional Office for the Pacific, the final issue of 2019. As 2019 comes to a close, we take this opportunity to look back at the year.

2019 has been a year of significant achievement: by the end of September, we had already exceeded our target of SRH services delivered by 25%, with three months left of the year, and we've reached 58% more vulnerable and marginalised clients, compared to 2018. SROP coordinated and delivered clinical skills training and Values Clarification training to ensure all MAs are equipped to deliver the highest quality, rights-based services. At the same time, SROP and the Pacific MAs increased our advocacy further and have been strongly represented at key national, regional and international conferences and events throughout the year, ensuring that SRHR remains on the agenda in the face of stark opposition. The Pacific MAs have worked with partners to host engaging events to empower young people to realise their SRHR as well as working closely with schools and parents to deliver comprehensive sexuality education.

SROP would like to take this opportunity to thank the Pacific MAs and all our partners for their hard work and ongoing support and we look forward to building on the successes of 2019 next year.

Our Highlights

- At the General Assembly in New Delhi, MAAs overwhelmingly supported the proposed IPPF reforms.
- 16 Days of Activism was marked across the Pacific, and the world, on Monday 25th November.
- IPPF Pacific was strongly represented at ICPD in Nairobi, particularly by our young volunteers.
- SROP and RFHAF attended the Fijian Ministry of Education's review of its Family Life Education curricula.



Team IPPF at 16 Days of Activism march in Suva

ESEAOR Resource Mobilisation

From 5th to 7th November, ESEAOR hosted a workshop to strengthen Resource Mobilisation in the ESEAOR region. Karen Hill, Director of Programs and Operations Pacific; Phoebe Ryan, Chief, Australia and New Zealand Office; and Don MacIntyre, New Business Director from Central Office, joined the ESEAOR team in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The team reviewed current resource mobilisation processes and capacity and strategised how to strengthen this area going forward to ensure that MAs across the ESEAOR region, as well as the two Secretariat offices, can continue to expand our lifesaving work.



ICPD25, Nairobi

The 25th International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) took place from 13th to 15th November in Nairobi, Kenya. It is now 25 years since ICPD was initially convened in Cairo in 1994 and an ambitious Program of Action was adopted at the conference, calling for comprehensive sexual and reproductive health for all. In partnership with UNFPA, IPPF Pacific was strongly represented at ICPD25: Jack Martin, SROP Youth Officer, joined young volunteers and Executive Directors from across the Pacific at the event, where several Pacific countries made strong commitments towards prioritising SRHR, including comprehensive sexuality education.



Photos: ESEAOR Resource Mobilisation Workshop; Young Pacific representatives at ICPD25, Photo Credit: UNFPA

Evaluation Focal Points Meeting

From 18th to 22nd November, Sera Vulavou, SROP M&E Officer, attended the annual Evaluation Focal Points Meeting, held at the Central Office, which brought together Monitoring and Evaluation Officers and Data Analysts from across the IPPF regions. All regional focal points presented on key successes and challenges in data management in their respective MAs and Sera additionally provided an update on Clinical Management Information System in the Pacific. Together, the focal points discussed best practices globally and IPPF’s data management strategy generally, including a way forward for the Federation.

Women’s & Youth Forum, Tuvalu

On Monday 9th December, Tuvalu Family Health Association (TuFHA), in partnership with the government of Tuvalu and Pacific Women, opened the Tuvalu National Women and Youth Forum, which focuses on ending violence against women and girls, advancing sexual and reproductive health and rights, and increasing women’s participation in leadership. The forum will run until 13th December and aims to develop a concrete program of action for how to better engage young people in decision making in Tuvalu, particularly regarding their sexual and reproductive health and rights.

IPPF General Assembly

Member Associations from across the Federation gathered in New Delhi from 30th November to 1st December for the General Assembly, where MAs overwhelmingly supported the proposed reforms of IPPF’s governance structure and resource allocation system. The proposed reforms were presented by two independent commissioners. Over the two days of the General Assembly, MAs discussed the recommendations and reached unanimous consensus to reform. On 1st December these were endorsed by IPPF’s Governing Council.

Alvaro Bermejo, Director-General, said “The collective energy and passion from our Member Associations to drive the reforms forward has been tremendous. Over the last few days we have heard many passionate voices from our Federation. Together, our MAs have forged a path forward, finding compromise and building consensus. There is no doubt. IPPF is changing. By choice. For choice.” Read more at IPPF.org



Participants at the General Assembly

Fiji FLE Workshop

From 4th – 6th November, representatives from SROP and Reproductive and Family Health Association of Fiji (RFHAF) attended the Family Life Education (FLE) Situational Analysis Workshop, hosted by UNFPA. UNFPA brought together representatives from key CSOs working with young people and in SRH as well as government and teacher training institutes to review the current FLE curricula and identify gaps. Jack Martin, SROP Senior Program Officer – Youth and CSE; Katy Mackey, SROP Communications Officer; Matelita Seva-Cadravula, RFHAF Executive Director; and Adam Konrote, RFHAF Data and Advocacy Officer, ensured that quality, comprehensive and rights-based SRHR education was prioritised. RFHAF currently works in partnership with the Ministry of Education, especially in the delivery of FLE to out-of-school young people and young people with disabilities, ensuring that no one is left behind.

Safeguarding Investigations

Karen Hill, Director of Programs and Operations Pacific, co-facilitated CHS Alliance’s training on Protection, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Safeguarding Investigations in Melbourne from 12th – 15th November. The 4-day, practical training built the capacity of participants to conduct investigations into complaints of staff misconduct, particularly around allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse of affected populations. It will be held again in Nadi in 2020.

Cook Islands Advocacy

Cook Islands Family Welfare Association (CIFWA) was dismayed to learn that the select committee reviewing the 1969 Crimes Bill backtracked on the decision to remove "indecent acts between men" from the Bill. Instead, the clause has been reinstated in the draft Crimes Bill and expanded to prohibit sexual acts between women as well. In partnership with other local CSOs, and supported by Tura Lewai, SROP Advocacy Officer, CIFWA campaigned for the clause to be removed again.

16 Days of Activism

Monday 25th November marked the start of 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence. The SROP team joined our friends and colleagues at women’s rights organisations from across Fiji at the Suva March to End Violence Against Women, coordinated by the Fiji Women’s Crisis Centre.



Signs at the Suva 16 Days of Activism march

Humanitarian

MISP Training and Support to Papua New Guinea

From 25th to 29th November, Aggie Dawainavesi, Humanitarian Capacity Development and Partnerships Advisor, travelled to Papua New Guinea to support PNGFHA's preparedness work. PNGFHA hosted MISP training for their staff and partners and Aggie's visit provided an important opportunity for informal advocacy and meetings with key stakeholders.

Annual Humanitarian Planning Meeting, Bangkok

From 2nd to 6th December, the Humanitarian Hub completed our annual meeting. The meeting brought together the Bangkok and Pacific hubs to review learnings from the past year and plan for 2020. IPPF's humanitarian work has significantly evolved in recent years, as we've supported MAs to respond to a range of crises around the world and built capacity across the Federation, and this was an opportunity to review and recommit to our work providing lifesaving SRH services to those who need them most.

Emergency Response Plans

As part of our preparedness work, Aggie Dawainavesi, Humanitarian Capacity Development and Partnerships Advisor, has been supporting MAs to develop internal Emergency Response Plans. These institutional plans will integrate MAs' guides for emergency MISP responses and business continuity plans to ensure that MAs are equipped to maintain essential tasks while implementing emergency response activities during the initial phases of an emergency.

Recruitment

We are currently recruiting a Programme Advisor for the Pacific Humanitarian team. For more information, visit [IPPF.org/Jobs](https://www.ippf.org/jobs). Please share with your networks.

Office over Christmas

Please note, the SROP office will be closed from 24th December to 2nd January. However, due to the nature of our work, the team will be on call over the Christmas period. Please contact Robyn Drysdale, Humanitarian Deputy Director, in the event of an emergency.



The Humanitarian Team at the Annual Humanitarian Planning Meeting

Inside SROP

From 12th to 13th December, SROP had our annual retreat. After another busy year, this was a great opportunity for (almost) the whole team to come together. We spent the two days doing teambuilding activities and enjoying each other's company, as well as celebrating Christmas and the closing of another successful year of growth and achievement. We returned to the office rejuvenated and ready to rise to the challenges and opportunities that 2020 has to offer.



The SROP team at the retreat

SRHR in the News

- Inmates in Brisbane are learning new skills and tackling period poverty at the same time. [Read more at SBS.](#)
- IPPF was disappointed by Sky News' stigmatising report on people who have multiple abortions. [Read our response.](#)
- The Central Office Communications team created some beautiful SRHR posters. Download them at IPPF.org/Free-Posters.

Get In Touch

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Dates for Your Diary

- 25th December – 1st January: SROP Office Closed.

Coming Up Next

The end of the year provides a time to reflect on the previous 12 months and we're proud to say that it has been a productive 12 months indeed. Looking forward to the next year, we will build on the successes on 2019 and further expand our work, through UNFPA's Transformative Agenda and other projects starting next year. This will allow us to expand service delivery, awareness raising and advocacy efforts across the Pacific as well as ensuring the sustainability of our work.

From all at SROP, we would like to thank our partners and Member Associations across the Pacific for their support and tireless work in 2019. We look forward to working with you further in 2020.

Funding support gratefully received from

