



JUNE 2020

Niu Waves



IPPF International
Planned Parenthood
Federation
East & South East Asia and Oceania Region

SIPPA to Open New Clinic in Temotu Province

The Solomon Island Planned Parenthood Association (SIPPA) marked a major milestone recently when they signed an MoU with the Temotu Provincial Health Authority (TPHA) to set up a clinic in Temotu Province.

The partnership with TPHA includes provide support for family planning and SRHR services for the people of Temotu province.

The partnership is an important one as cervical cancer mortality rates are high and the population is widely dispersed. It is also the first time that SIPPA is using a government facility as they own the four static clinics in Honiara, Malaita, Western Province and Choiseul.

SIPPA is the largest NGO provider and advocate of SRHR in the Solomon Islands. It is registered in the Solomon Islands under the provisions of the Charitable Associations (incorporation) Act and works closely with the Solomon Islands Ministry of Health.



The Provincial Health Director (Lata Hospital) Dr Morris Tealiki (left) and the Executive Director of SIPPA, Mr Ben Angoa, following the signing of the MOU. Photo Credit : SIPPA



The RFHAF response team delivering life-saving SRH services post TC Harold in Kadavu, Fiji. Photo Credit: Daniel Noriega, IPPF.

Thank You To All Our Pacific Member Associations, Partners and Pacific Youth

Greetings from the team at IPPF SROP in Fiji to all our Member Associations (MAs), Partners and Pacific Youth. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to you all and acknowledge the role of the Executive Directors who have led their teams through these challenging times. Vinaka for your tenacity and for your hard work and many thanks for achieving outstanding results in 2019 under the Niu Vaka Strategy 2019 – 2022.

Key to these successes is the longstanding partnership between IPPF and Australia’s Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and New Zealand’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT), who have provided unwavering support for the Niu Vaka implementation.



Temotu Province Clinic where SIPPA will provide services. Photo Credit: SIPPA

SFHA Re-designs Peer Education Program

The Samoa Family Health Association (SFHA) has taken a brave step forward to re-develop its peer education program to be more ‘youth centred’, with young people driving the design. It is envisaged this will allow for better engagement at community and national level, advocating for positive behavior change, in the hope that young people will experience youth-friendly clinical services in SFHA’s three static clinics and various mobile clinics.

To this end the SFHA program staff have started work on re-developing the Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) training package, volunteer support packages and activity schedule, workplans, reporting tools and monitoring processes in order to better support the roles and activities of their peer education network.

The program staff have also started identifying existing and new community sites throughout Samoa based on youth data sourced from its clinics, national health and youth statistics and information provided by the Ministry of Health.

The team at SFHA have also committed to including other vulnerable and marginalized populations in their programs such as young people living with disabilities, young people of diverse sexual orientation and gender identity,

and sex workers. It will continue to work with the Ministry of Education to support the in-school program and advocate for Family Life Education to be taught as a stand-alone subject or integrated into existing subjects.

IPPF SROP has been requested to assist in developing the train-the-trainers pack to support the training component, monitoring and evaluation tools development and advocacy plans to connect youth with national youth lead initiatives and partner agency activities.



Youth volunteers in Samoa are actively involved in various events organized by the SFHA. Photo Credit: SFHA

Samoa Family Health Association (SFHA) is the leading sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) services provider in Samoa. SFHA delivers family planning and reproductive health (RH) services in Samoa through a permanent clinic in Apia, and a mobile unit which visits rural areas and the outer islands three times a week to provide educational and contraceptive services to vulnerable communities. SFHA is the leading champion of SRHR in Samoa and also acts as an advisor on SRHR to the Government of Samoa.

SRH Emergency responses in Tonga, Fiji and Vanuatu following TC Harold

SPRINT funding, courtesy of DFAT, enabled the mobilisation of SRH emergency response teams by MAs in Vanuatu, Fiji and Tonga. Deployment of SPRINT-response teams to affected communities ensured the delivery of life-saving SRH services to remote and hard to reach communities impacted by the disaster.



Awareness and delivery of SRHR Services in Vanuatu. Photo Credit: VFHA



In Fiji, RFHA deployed to Kavava, one of the most affected islands, to provide life-saving SRH services. Photo Credit: Daniel Noriega - IPPF Humanitarian Team



SRH outreach in Tonga included people with disabilities. Photo Credit: TFHA



In Tonga, TFHA response team conducting mobile clinic outreach at Nukunukumotu. Photo Credit: TFHA



In Vanuatu, TFHA delivered SRH services to cyclone-affected communities in Sanma Province working closely with Provincial Health colleagues. Photo Credit: VFHA

CIFWA Launch ‘Smea Your Me’a’ Campaign

The Cook Islands Family Welfare Association (CIFWA) launched a ‘Smear your Me’a’, campaign to raise awareness of cervical cancer and to encourage women, particularly young women, to come forward for pap smears. The campaign was launched in partnership with New Zealand-based Smear Your Me’a Trust in January, targeting women 25 years and older.

The Auckland-based Trust provided support for CIFWA’s launch as part of its Cervical Cancer Prevention Program. The ‘Smear Your Me’a’ Campaign 2020 was launched with Ms. Georgie McPherson, who is currently the clinical lead for colposcopy service at the Waitemata District Health Board in Auckland. Ms McPherson also conducting the initial clinics during the launch period from 8 - 10 January.

During the campaign CIFWA had a dedicated 5pm – 8pm evening clinic every Tuesday evening for pap smears, to accommodate the women who were unable to visit the clinic due to work and family responsibilities.

Since 2019, CIFWA has focused service delivery on STI and Cervical Cancer Prevention. Under the campaign and in partnership with the Ministry of Health, women were encouraged visit the clinic for a pap smear as well as to introduce their family, friends and colleagues to have a smear. Group bookings were also encouraged for peer support. With guidance from the Gynae Clinic, Rarotonga Hospital, women on the recall list were also contacted to return for pap smears. From January to mid March (when inter island travel ceased), 96 women have completed their pap smears, and samples sent to an Australian lab for testing. The program is currently on hold until borders re-open.



Caption: Georgina McPherson (Auckland District Health Board), Tiana (CIFWA), Dr Helen Heimoana (Smear Your Mea Trust), Rongo File, Executive Director of CIFWA. *Photo Credit : CIFWA*

Samoa Measles Response

In January Tarai Nakolinivalu, SROP Quality of Care Officer, and Nester Suinao, a nurse from the SIPPA, traveled to Samoa to support SFHA’s outreach as part of the measles response, supported by UNFPA CERF funds. Tarai and Nester supported SFHA to expand their outreach activities, ensuring that those who weren’t able to access services during the height of the epidemic, particularly those in remote and marginalised communities were covered by the extended program which ran until March. The reach of the program was 3,705 people, 72% of the original target (4,994). Of this, 27% was SRH clinical services. The gender distribution of clients was 74% women and 26% men. Community feedback during the first week led to a change in target from solely women of reproductive age, to include men as well. The implementation of the program was delayed due to severe weather and early termination due to Covid-19.



Clinical outreach during a crisis is critical, particularly for remote and marginalized communities. *Photo Credit: SFHA*

Filitonu TFHA Build Youth Network in with Friday Fun Days

Tonga Family Health Association’s Filitonu drama group have created a "Friday Funday" which is open for youth to gather and have fun. The sessions are run along themes covering SRH and other cross-cutting issues. The group fundraise every Wednesday to help with the refreshments for the Friday Funday.

The objective of the Friday Fun Day is to help build and develop the TFHA outreach for young people in their own villages, through the Champions who attend the fun days.



It’s all about Fun and building youth networks on Friday Fun Days
Photo Credit: Filitonu Drama Group



Members of the Filitonu group and youth during Friday Fun Days
Photo Credit: Filitonu Drama Group

IPPF SROP and Humanitarian Teams Conduct Training for KFHA



Monica Burns, SRH Services Advisor (Humanitarian) conducts training for the KFHA team. Photo Credit: Humanitarian team.

The IPPF SROP team conducted a series of training sessions with seven members of the KFHA team, including Executive Director, Norma Yeeting, who have been stranded in Fiji since the Covid-19 lockdown earlier in March.

Training and workshop sessions included SGVB fundamentals, SRH policy mapping and updating KFHA’s MoU with the Kiribati Ministry of Health.

SGBV Training for TuFHA

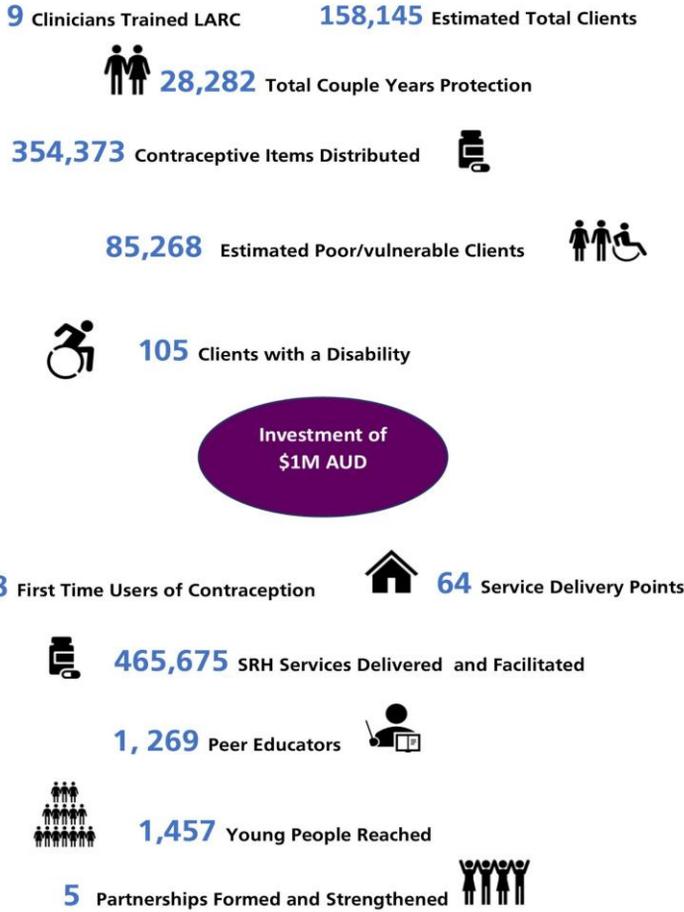


Workshop participants in Tuvalu in January. Photo Credit: Tura Lewai

In January, Tura Lewai, SROP Advocacy Officer conducted a Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) fundamentals training for the Tuvalu Family Health Association (TuFHA) and key partners. The training was aimed at building the capacity of TuFHA’s program and clinical staff to provide first-line support to survivors of SGBV. Dolli Kumar, the IPPF SROP Finance Officer, also worked with TuFHA to strengthen their financial management and reporting.

Onwards and Upwards for Niu Vaka IPPF Pacific Strategy

Pacific Member Associations 2019 Dashboard



In the year since its launch, we have already seen the impacts of the Niu Vaka IPPF Pacific Strategy 2019 -2022 in numerous ways. In 2019 alone our Pacific MA’s delivered almost 1 million SRH and non-SRH services, representing a 10% increase in comparison to 2018¹ results. This data used for decision making and planning.

The increase in SRH services year on year was due to an increase in mobile clinics, which are crucial for reaching remote communities in the Pacific.

Our team looks forward to working with all our partners to build on the successes of 2019 and especially to ensure that all people across the Pacific have access to quality SRH services and information, especially those in remote underserved and marginalized communities.

¹Source: DHIS2

We’d love to hear from you!

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The International Planned Parenthood Federation has held a long-standing presence in the Pacific. Over more than 30 years, a collection of nine Pacific Member Associations (MAs) in the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu have worked towards meeting the sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) needs in the communities they serve, and have achieved powerful and transformative impact towards improving the health and wellbeing of those they reach.

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