

Niu Waves

Sub-Regional Office for the Pacific

Accelerating Towards 2020

Welcome to the latest issue of Niu Waves, from the IPPF Sub-Regional Office for the Pacific. Well into the fourth quarter of 2019, SROP and MAs across the Pacific are gearing up for 2020. In October, members of the SROP leadership team met with the other implementing partners under UNFPA's Transformative Agenda, including representatives from the country offices to ensure we are all aligned when implementation begins next year. At the end of the month representatives of all nine MAs came together in Nadi with the Pacific Humanitarian and Development teams, as well as DFAT, MFAT, UNFPA, PDF and the Bangkok Humanitarian hub to review the year's work and plan for next year.

We've also seen some longer-term projects come to fruition in the last month. Following years of careful advocacy, we were thrilled to see Samoa's Prime Minister speak about the importance of Universal Health Coverage, sexual and reproductive health, and gender equality in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Congratulations to the whole Samoa Family Health team! SROP was also delighted to welcome ESEAOR Regional Director, Tomoko Fukuda, to the Pacific for the first time, in October. We look forward to working closely together in the coming year.

Our Highlights

- Representatives from all nine MAs attended the recent Annual Humanitarian Meeting, followed by planning and catch ups with the Development team.
- ESEAOR Regional Director, Tomoko Fukuda, visited the Pacific for the first time.
- Representatives from IPPF SROP and RFHAF attended the recent data utilisation workshop in Cambodia.
- Samoa's President used his address at the UN General Assembly to highlight the importance of UHC and SRHR. Congratulations to Samoa Family Health for their successful advocacy!



Participants at the Annual Humanitarian Review meeting

Social Enterprise Internship

The Global Social Enterprise Internship, hosted by the Social Enterprise Hub in Sri Lanka, began on 14th October. The 4-week program brings together MAs from 8 countries, including from Tamoa Moanatta from Kiribati Family Health Association (KFHA), to build their capacity to undertake social entrepreneurship activities. The program covers a broad range of topics and skills building activities to support delegates to be the social enterprise focal point when they return to their MA. We look forward to supporting Tamoa to share her knowledge when she returns.



Regional Youth Dialogue

From 8th to 10th October, SPC hosted a Regional Young Leaders Dialogue on Good Governance and Human Rights in Nadi, bringing together young people from 18 Pacific Island Countries. Jack Martin, SROP Youth and CSE Officer, and Monica Burns, Humanitarian SRH Services Advisor, delivered engaging sessions on how youth participation in governance can be strengthened both in development and humanitarian settings. Meaningful youth engagement is crucial to fulfilling IPPF's mandate and Jack also provided an update on the ongoing development of the IPPF Youth Manifesto.

RFHAF Open Day

On 26th October, the Reproductive and Family Health Association of Fiji (RFHAF) hosted an open day to commemorate Pinktober, a month to raise awareness of breast and other cancers, including cervical cancers. As part of the open day, RFHAF offered free screenings for cervical cancer, which is a major cause of mortality in Fiji and other Pacific Islands.

The open day was well attended, with lots of young people and was a great opportunity for RFHAF to raise awareness of the other services they offer in addition to cancer screening, including contraception.



Photos: Tamoa during the Social Enterprise Internship; participants at the Regional Youth Dialogue.

SROP Welcomes Tomoko!

From 14th to 16th October, the SROP office was thrilled to host Tomoko Fukuda, ESEAOR Regional Director, to the Pacific for the first time. Tomoko met with the SROP Humanitarian and Development teams to discuss priorities and actions for the coming year.

Tomoko visited the RFHAF clinic and attended a mobile outreach in a nearby village, and also met with donors and key partners during her visit. In true Pacific style, the teams at RFHAF and SROP ensured that Tomoko got to try some traditional Fijian delicacies during her trip.

We hope to welcome you back to the Pacific soon, Tomoko!

Data Utilisation Workshop

From 14th to 18th October, Sera Vulavou, SROP M&E Officer, and Adam Konrote, Data and Advocacy Officer at RFHAF, attended the Data Utilisation Strategy workshop in Cambodia. The workshop brought together Data and M&E Officers from MAs and Regional Offices around the region and was facilitated by the Organisational Learning team from Central Office.

The workshop focused on how we use data in decision making, the basics of data visualisation and how to promote the use of data in your organisation, as well as seeking to develop best practices for the use of data within IPPF more generally.

Following Sera and the team's work to revolutionise the data collection and management tools in the Pacific, we are now collecting a wealth of quality data which can greatly inform and improve the services we offer. The next step is ensuring that we use it. Sera and Adam will be sharing their learnings from the workshop, more information coming soon!



Universal Health Coverage - Samoa

Samoa's Prime Minister spoke about the importance of Universal Health Coverage, sexual and reproductive health, and gender equality in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, at the UN General Assembly at the end of September. This reflects the hard work and advocacy from the whole Samoa Family Health Association (SFHA) team – congratulations!

[Read the full statement.](#)

SIPPA Fundraising Dinner

Solomon Islands Planned Parenthood Association (SIPPA) hosted their first fundraising dinner in October to celebrate the expansion of their cervical cancer screening program. The evening included a speech from Ben Angoa, SIPPA Executive Director, on the importance of cervical cancer screening, and a drama put on by SIPPA staff and volunteers. Ben highlighted that cervical cancer is the third highest cause of mortality in Solomon Islands and called on government and the private sector to do more to support prevention and early screening.

UNFPA IP Meeting

From 22nd to 24th October, Karen Hill, Director of Programs and Operations, Pacific, and Robyn Drysdale, Humanitarian Deputy Director, Pacific, attended UNFPA's kick-off workshop ahead of the implementation of the Transformative Agenda, which will begin in 2020. The workshop brought together all the Implementing Partners (IPs) as well as the UNFPA team, including the country offices, and national government representatives. As the Transformative Agenda will be implemented across six countries, it was crucial to understand the differing needs and priorities of each country and to iron out what support each IP needed to achieve their part of the program.

SRHR & People with Disabilities

From 7th to 9th October, representatives from SROP, Tonga Family Health Association (TFHA), Samoa Family Health Association (SFHA), and RFHAF attended the Women and Young People with Disabilities: Guidelines for Providing Rights-Based and Gender-Responsive Services to Address Gender-Based Violence and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights workshop, hosted by UNFPA and Women Enabled International. The workshop focused on developing guidelines to support SGBV and SRHR programming for people living with disability and the MAs and SROP were represented on two panels.

Comprehensive Abortion Care

From 21st to 24th October, Tarai Nakolinivalu, SROP Quality of Care Officer, and Monica Burns, Humanitarian SRH Services Advisor, represented the Pacific at the Comprehensive Abortion Care in Humanitarian Settings training in Bangkok. Hosted by the Humanitarian Hub in collaboration with South Asia Regional Office, Global Comprehensive Abortion Care Initiative project and IPAS, the training focused on the importance of preparedness and comprehensive abortion care, particularly in humanitarian settings. Participants attended from seven countries.

World Cafe

Following the Annual Humanitarian Planning Meeting (see next page), Executive Directors and Program Managers from all MAs stayed on to meet one-on-one with technical focal points from the Development and Humanitarian teams to consolidate planning for 2020 and their discuss technical support needs.



Photos: Ben Angoa, SIPPA ED, at the fundraising dinner; Participants at the Comprehensive Abortion Care Training.

Humanitarian

Daniel Joins Us in Fiji

The whole SROP team was thrilled to finally welcome Daniel Noriega, Humanitarian M&E Specialist through RedR, to Fiji after he spent two months working from the Humanitarian Hub in Bangkok. Daniel joins us to strengthen monitoring and evaluation in humanitarian settings and will be working closely with Sera and the data officers in each MA.



SGBV Fundamentals Training in Vanuatu

Petra Letter, Gender Specialist, and Tura Lewai, SROP Advocacy Officer, travelled to Vanuatu from 14th to 18th October to jointly deliver the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) Fundamentals training for Vanuatu Family Health Association (VFHA) staff, volunteers and selected partners. The training focuses on building the capacity of staff and partners to provide first-line support to survivors of SGBV and to establish efficient and effective referral mechanisms to enable survivor-centred care.

Asia Humanitarian Meeting

Sala Tupou, Humanitarian Program Manager, joined the Humanitarian Hub in Bangkok for the annual Asia Humanitarian Meeting from 14th to 18th October. The meeting brought together MAs from across the Asia region, with Sala representing the Pacific, to share their experiences of responding to humanitarian crises and to plan for the next few years.

Annual Humanitarian Review Meeting

From 29th to 31st October, the Pacific Humanitarian team hosted the annual Humanitarian Review Meeting, bringing together all Pacific MAs, as well as DFAT and MFAT, to share experiences from enabling environment, preparedness and response activities and to undertake planning for 2020. It was also an opportunity to bid a fond farewell to Petra, whose final day with IPPF was 31st October.

Disability Inclusion in Gender and Humanitarian Action

[Listen to the latest Humanitarian webinar on disability inclusion in gender and humanitarian action](#), hosted by Maria Holtzberg, Gender and Inclusion Focal Point in the Bangkok Humanitarian Hub. The webinar shares experiences in disability inclusive programming from Sri Lanka and the UK government funded Women's Integrated Sexual Health (WISH) program in Africa and Asia.



Photos from top: Daniel Noriega, M&E Specialist; Petra and Sera at Petra's farewell; Participants at the Annual Humanitarian Review.



Inside SROP

Ahead of Fiji Day on 10th October, SROP was excited to celebrate with a beautiful blue cake (left) on Wednesday 9th! The SROP team has also joined a Business House Bowls competition and are rapidly developing our bowling skills.

Dates for Your Diary

- 13th – 15th November: The Nairobi Summit on ICPD25, Nairobi
- 12th – 13th: SROP Team Building
- 28th November: IPPF General Assembly Youth Pre-Conference, Delhi
- 29th – 30th November: IPPF General Assembly, Delhi

SRHR in the News

- IPPF has created an engaging map of our work around the world, where you can immerse yourself in the [life-changing work of the Federation](#).
- The Guardian has an interesting read on Niger's population growth, which the [President has linked to a misreading of Islam](#).
- IPPF celebrated [International Day of the Girl](#) on 11th October.

Get In Touch

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Coming Up Next

We wish all those attending ICPD25 the best, as we hope for a productive and galvanating meeting. We also look forward to the IPPF General Assembly at the end of November in Delhi, which comes at a crucial time for the Federation.

In the SROP office and across the MAs, we are busily planning for 2020. The teams gathered at the end of October in Nadi to set out priorities for the coming year. Now it's time to set out those priorities in our workplans and budgets, ensuring that we drive maximum efficiencies across the diverse range of projects that we will be implementing in 2020.

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

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