



# Gender Equality and Gender-Based Violence

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# Overview

- Policies and Progress
- Issues:
  - Political Representation
  - Economic Empowerment
  - Gender-based violence
- Way forward



# Policies and Progress

- Gender equality a key strategic objective of the **Pacific Plan**.
- At their annual meeting in 2012, the Pacific Leaders adopted the Pacific Leaders **Gender Equality Declaration**, which provides the highest political strategic platform for the intensification of work in the Pacific to support gender equality, including the elimination of violence against women.
- The **Pacific Platform of Action for the Advancement of Women and Gender Equality 2005 – 2015** guide the work of Pacific countries in this area. It provides a Pacific regional context to our commitments made in various international instruments like the Millennium Development Goals, the Beijing Declaration (PoA), ICPD PoA, and others.



## ...ICPD Survey priorities

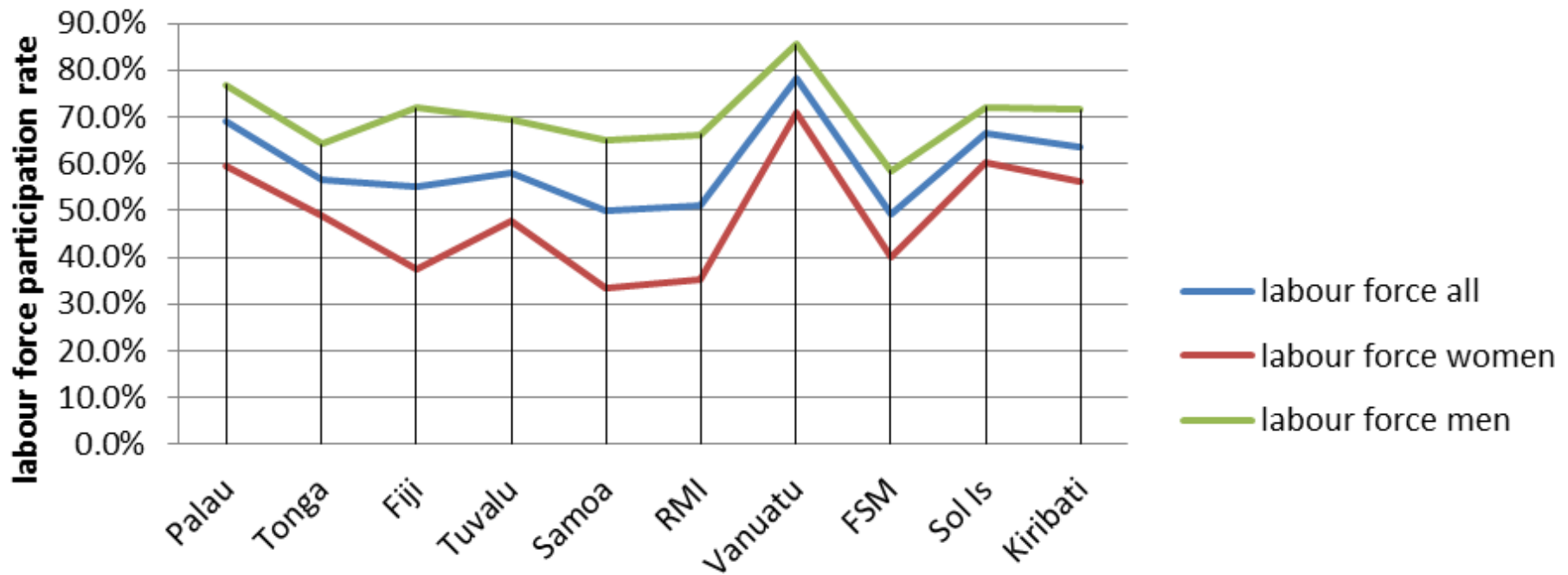
- Increasing women's participation in informal and formal economy (101 )
- Ending GBV (8)
- Women's representation in political processes (8)
- Improving the situation of and addressing the needs of rural women (7)
- Improving the welfare of the girl child, especially with regards to health, nutrition and education (6 )
- Collection and analysis of data on social and economic status of women (5)



# ICPD Priorities

- **Increasing women's participation in informal and formal economy (101 countries)**
  - Ending GBV (8 countries)
  - Women's representation in political processes (8 countries),
  - Improving the situation of and addressing the needs of rural women (7 countries)
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  - Collection and analysis of data on social and economic status of women (5 countries)

# WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE LABOUR FORCE – UN WOMEN, 2013



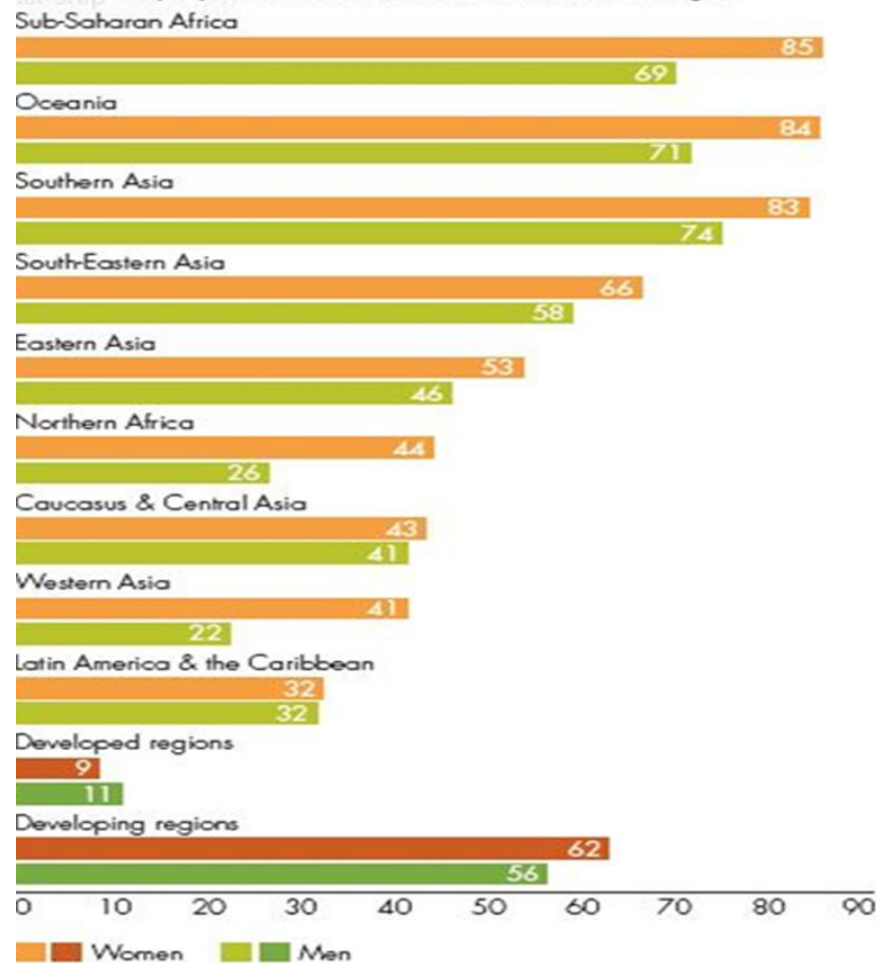
Countries ranked by GDP per capita (World Bank data) (Palau highest to Kiribati lowest)



A large percentage of women who are self-employed or contribute to family-owned enterprises are often in situations of **“vulnerable employment”** characterized by inadequate earnings, lack of social protection, low productivity and difficult work conditions

# Vulnerable Labor

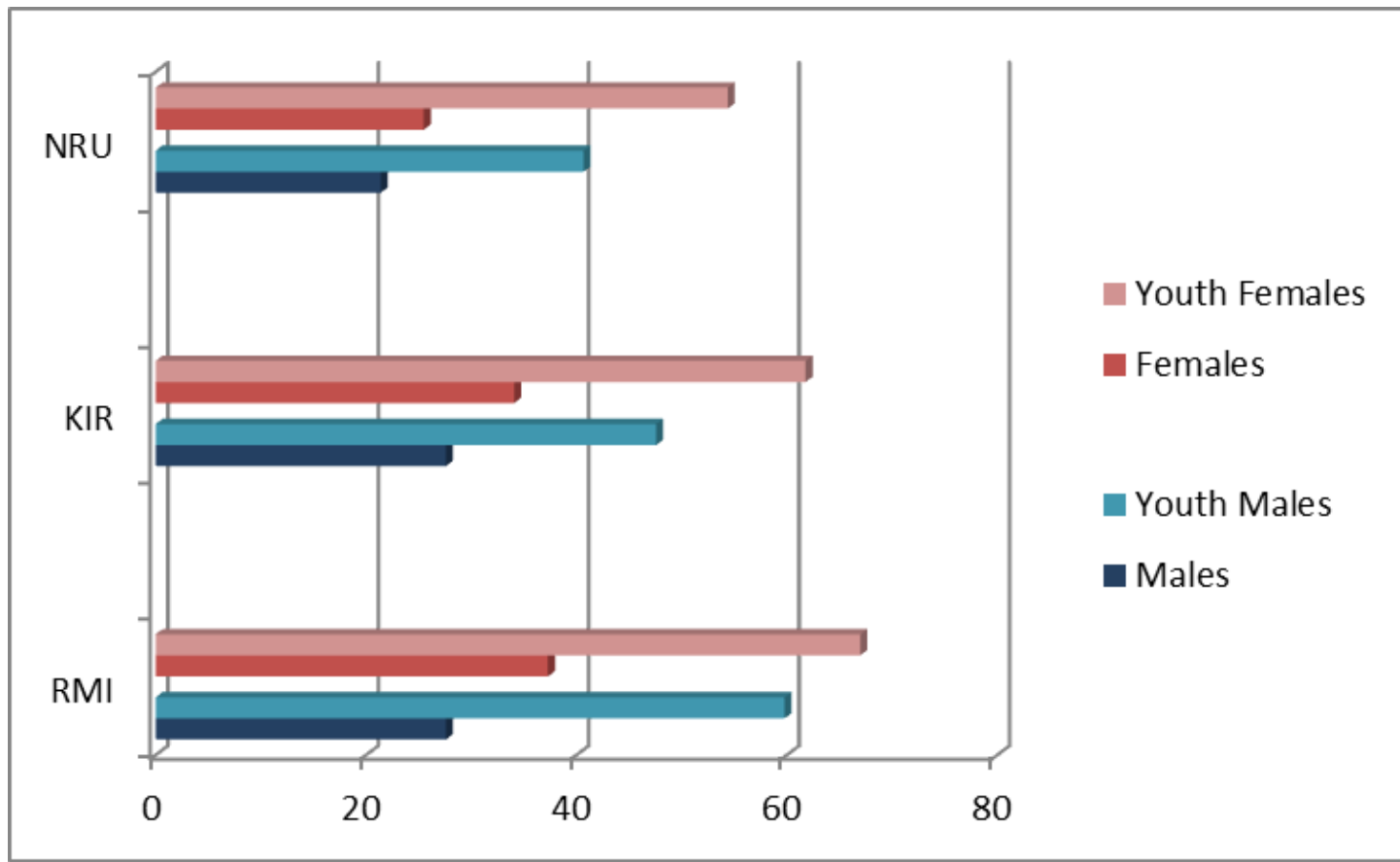
Proportion of own-account and contributing family workers in total employment, women, men, 2011 (Percentage)



United Nations (2012) World Millennium Development Goals Report



# Unemployment



















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## Women and Political Representation in the Pacific

Countries	Number of MPs	Number of Women
 Fiji	103*	13
 Kiribati	44	4
 Niue	20	3
 PNG	111	3
 Palau	29^	3
 Cook Islands	24	3
 Samoa	49	2
 Tuvalu	15	1
 Tonga	28	1#
 Marshall Islands	33	1
 Solomon Islands	50	1
 Nauru	19	1
 Federated States of Micronesia	14	0
 Vanuatu	52	0

\* This number refers to both Houses of Parliament (71 elected member House of Representatives & 32 appointed member Senate), prior to Dec-06.

# The 1 woman in Tonga was appointed as a Minister by the King.

^ These numbers refers to both elected Chambers (16 member House of Delegates and 13 member Senate)



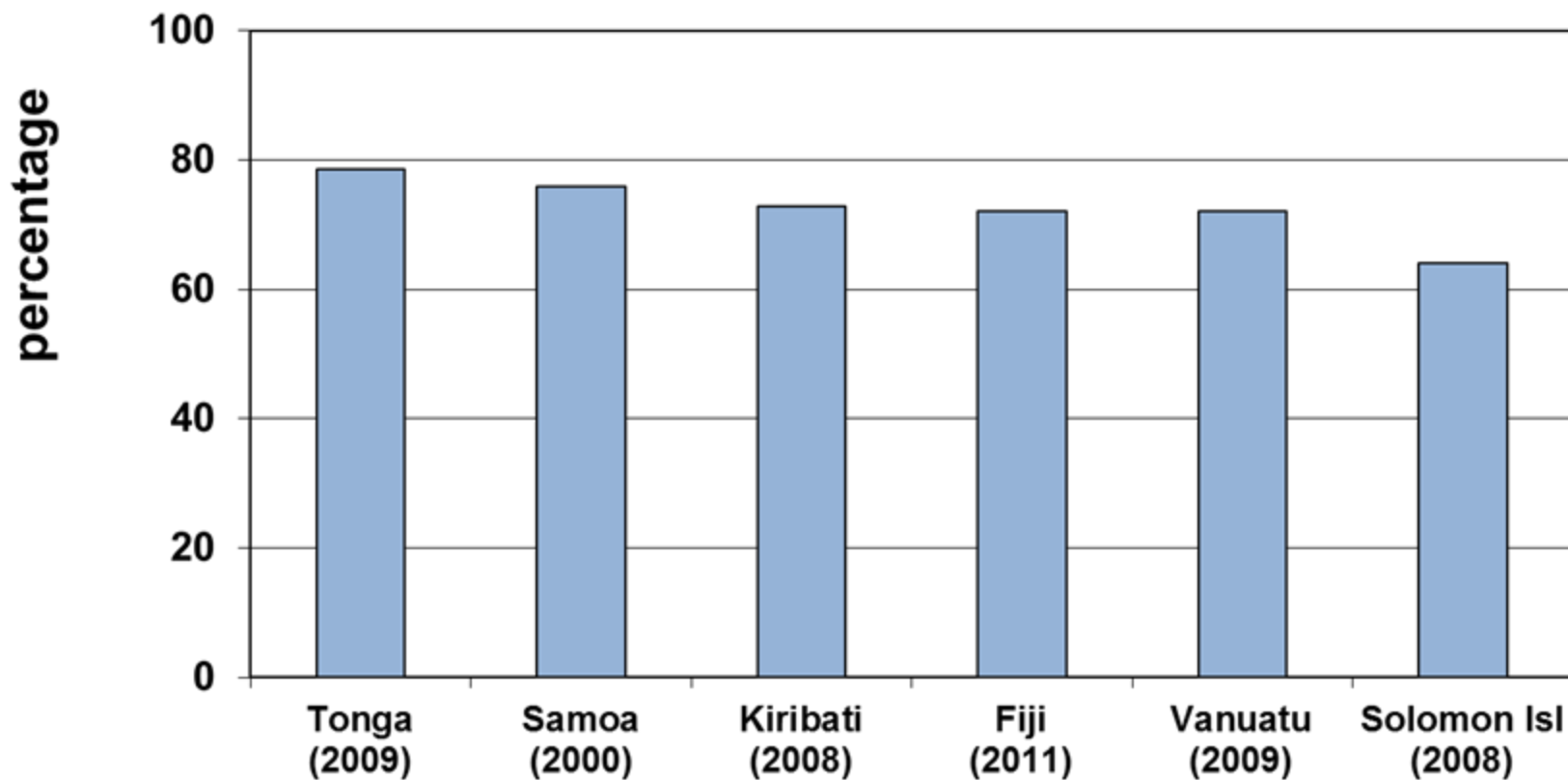
# Way Forward

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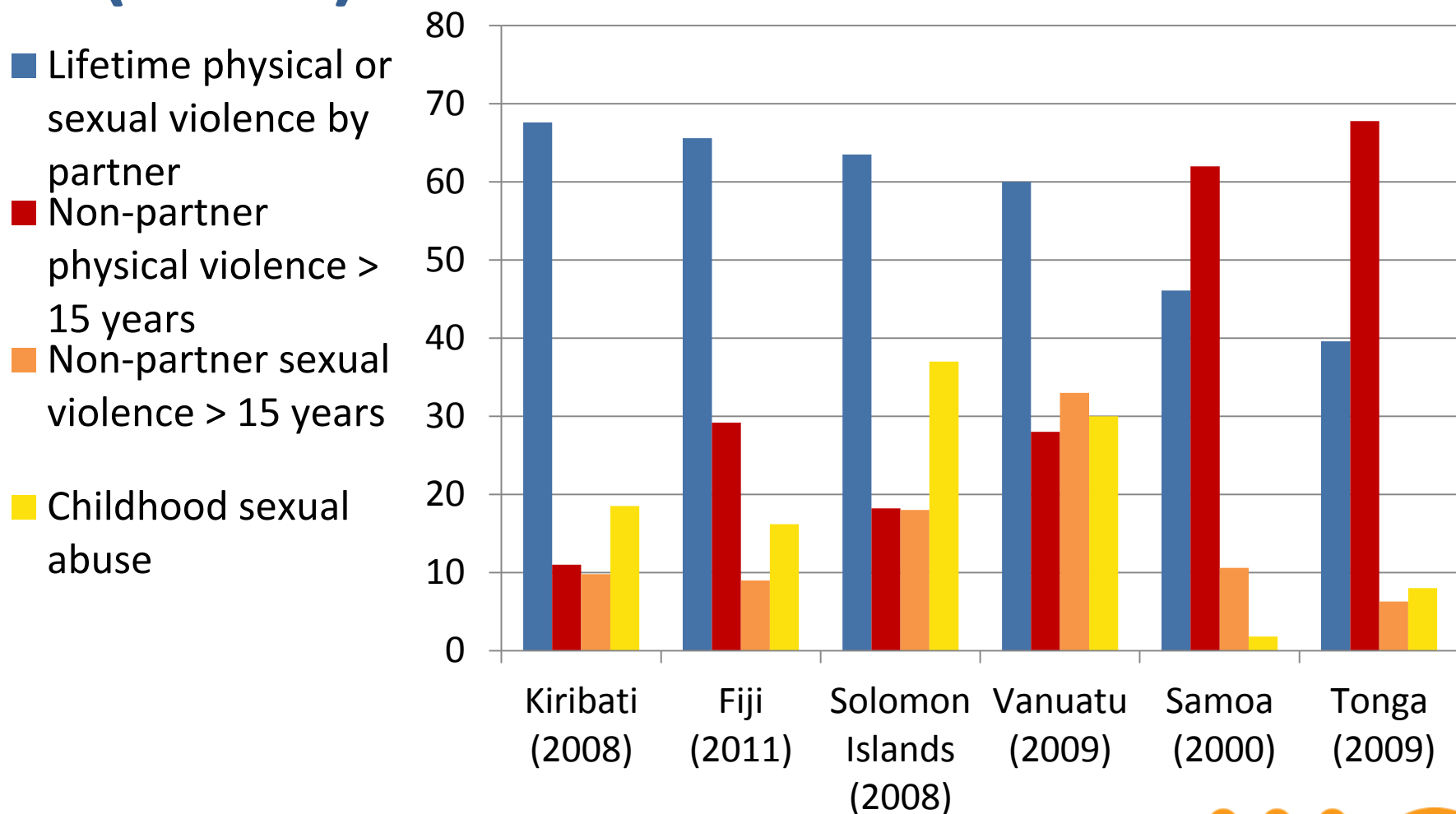


# Violence against Women

**Prevalence of lifetime physical or sexual violence against women by anyone, since age 15, among women 15-49 years old**



# Patterns of violence against women (15-49) in Pacific Island countries



Source: Henriette Jansen, UNFPA, 2013 based on Kiribati, Samoa, SI FHSS, TCC and VCC VAW prevalence reports and FWCC summary of findings)





*Percentage of Women (20-24) who were first married before age of 18—  
DHS and MICS, \*lack of legal provisions*  
SOURCE [http://www.childinfo.org/marriage\\_countrydata.php](http://www.childinfo.org/marriage_countrydata.php)

Country	Percent
Vanuatu*	27
Nauru	27
Marshall Islands *	26
Solomon Islands *	22
Kiribati	21
PNG	20
Tuvalu	10



# Way Forward ... Prevention

- Kiribati, Vanuatu, RMI and Tonga all noted that they are falling behind in addressing GBV by not adopting strategies that support gender equality and women's empowerment. (Niue –Parliamentary Commission)
- Weak legal framework and inconsistent enforcement.
- Address vulnerable populations = attention on elder abuse, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Palau, but no specific programming or policies. Few countries completed sections on disabilities



## Way Forward ....

# Services and Referral

- All the countries have services for survivors, but with weak and disjointed, not multi-sectoral approaches, focus on:
  - SOP and medical protocols
  - Capacity Building
  - Minimum Essential Services and Commodities (emergency contraceptives)
- Countries that note the lack of GBV within health policy framework or strategy are Samoa and Cook Islands. Kiribati has adopted GBV as an objective in draft Health Strategy
- Confidential care flagged as a weakness regarding SV, IPV and GBV in RMI, Samoa and Cook Islands



# Vinaka Vakalevu

