



Pacific
Community
Communauté
du Pacifique

An Equitable and Inclusive Pacific Fisheries Sector

**Advancing Gender Equality and the
Empowerment of Pacific Women in Fisheries**

Call to action:
Impact of these multi-dimensional and multi-sectoral factors on achievement of equality and the advancement of women and girls across PICTs calls for a *regional action to accelerate the implementation of gender equality commitments.*



SPC's Gender Equality Flagship



The vision of the Pacific Platform for Action: All people, of all genders of all diversities, enjoy their fundamental human rights, are empowered and benefit equally from development outcomes in all areas of their lives.

What is flagship? Strategic integrated approach to framing SPC and the region's approach to addressing key regional development priorities in a cohesive manner to facilitate scaled-up investments to fast-track gender equality/human rights commitments.

First Regional Pacific Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) in Fisheries Symposium

9-11 April 2014, Honiara



Organised by FFA in close collaboration with SPC through the Pacific-European Union Marine Partnership (PEUMP), Pacific Women Lead and Pacific Fisheries Leadership (PFLP) programmes.



- National level Women in Fisheries Forum in Fiji and first one in Vanuatu this year in March but currently no regional platform exists.
- GESI in fisheries issues gaining importance at regional and national levels.
- Combining GESI themes for oceanic and coastal fisheries stakeholders through FFA/SPC collaboration.
- First regional GESI in fisheries symposium to bring together fisheries officers, regional organisations, civil society, academia, small-scale seafood entrepreneurs guided by high level leaders.

First Regional Pacific Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) in Fisheries Symposium



3 Priority Themes – unpacked, discussed, debated

1. Counting Women's Contributions & Social Benefits to tackle data and information gaps on social dimensions.
2. Applying equity in fisheries market development to empower small-scale fish entrepreneurs.
3. Break the bias - inclusive voices for a meaningful participation in fisheries management, conservation and development.



First Regional Pacific GESI in Fisheries Symposium



OBJECTIVES

- a) Deliberate on the challenges and barriers for the lack of quantifying women's roles and their socio-economic contributions and propose solutions, pathways to address the issues and potential partnerships
- b) Discuss the challenges and barriers; and share good practices relating to development of small-scale fisheries businesses, and proposals to and
- c) Examine the governance structures and approaches that prevent meaningful participation of women and marginalised groups in decision and policy making, and recommend solutions to enhance inclusive participation and decision-making
- d) Explore partnership opportunities and/or expanding existing partnerships to action the proposed strategies and solutions.

First Regional Pacific GESI in Fisheries Symposium



Snapshots of highlights and outcomes

- Partnership between CROP agencies and increased cross-collaboration across SPC gender and fisheries programmes (e.g. gender flagship) and between fisheries agencies and the women's machinery.
- Uplifting regional GESI in fisheries commitments for a high-level political support by Pacific leaders in song with the 2050 strategy for the Blue Pacific
- Enhancing socio-economic data gaps with a GESI lens to make invisible contributions by women and those providing social benefits visible to enhance evidence for policy makers.



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Snapshots of highlights and outcomes

- Investing in small-scale seafood businesses, including post-harvest, value adding and marketing for enhanced economic empowerment of small-scale entrepreneurs and improved social benefits to communities.
- Nurturing Pacific women and men in all their diversities to become leaders across the whole spectrum of the fisheries sector from science to management to private sector or at the community-based grassroots levels to ensure inclusive voices.





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**Merci, Vinaka
Thank you!**

