



**Spotlight
Initiative**



REGIONAL WORKING
GROUP ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF
FAMILY PROTECTION/
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
LEGISLATION



Pacific
Community
Communauté
du Pacifique

2021 RWG Annual Meeting

24 - 26 August, 2021

23 - 25 August 2021 (Cook Islands)

**Innovative ways of working: Responding
to the COVID-19 pandemic and natural
disasters – VAW data**

ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

Kim Robertson

Adviser (Gender Statistics)

Since 2014 Kim has worked across all government agencies to support gender mainstreaming including planning and policy processes as well as reporting requirements. More generally she provides technical support to strengthen capacity for planning, reporting and knowledge management; statistical coordination and dissemination. Since 2019 SPC has been working in close coordination and cooperation with UNFPA and kN0wVAWdata and the Spotlight Initiative with a focus on GBV data.

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OBJECTIVE OF THE PRESENTATION:

The objective of the presentation is for the RWG to understand the two types of GBV / VAW data and underpinning coordination mechanisms; framed around the 2019 recommendation to ensure the effective monitoring and implementation of family protection / domestic violence legislation as measuring the outcomes and impacts of the legislation. Due to time constraints the presentation focuses on administrative data.

BACKGROUND TO THE PRESENTATION TOPIC:

Across the region there are two types of DV data commonly collected: a) prevalence (household) survey data and b) administrative data from service providers showing the number of clients accessing services. The Regional GBV Administrative Data Technical Reference Group, comprising UNFPA, UN Women, SPC and University of Melbourne, provides coordination with broader EVAW programs, as well as providing a pool of technical expertise in DV/IPV data. Pacific countries have made considerable investment to provide up-to-date and reliable population and socio-economic data.

This includes investments in VAWG data and research focusing on the prevalence, incidence and drivers for Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) collected in the DHS and prevalence studies carried out with support from international agencies. However, across government and service providers in referral pathways, including the justice system, there is need for an integrated and coordinated approach to data collection across national survey and administrative collection instruments, including harmonised definitions and indicators. In addition, the various survey and administrative data collection systems rarely talk to each other, partially hampered by the fact that many of the government institutions involved use paper based rather than electronic systems.

KEY MESSAGES:

With time, effort, robust partnerships and accountability mechanisms, it is possible for stakeholders to work together to ensure quality, disaggregated (age, ethnicity, location, socio-economic status, disability) and globally comparable data on different forms of VAWG, as well as nationally and contextually relevant DV/IPV to inform legal frameworks, policies and programmes. Administrative data can be challenging in terms of quality and coverage but is essential to support national (and sector) priorities and programs being implemented – one size doesn't fit all in terms of administrative data so a clear plan is required, especially in times of disaster to ensure that service delivery protocols are followed.

Careful planning is required to define what are public data/indicators and what is private/confidential for the purposes of DV/FPA legislation implementation, GBV policy etc. It is important to understand that DV/IPV data from service providers measures the number of services provided, not the prevalence of violence. People may seek support multiple times and from multiple agencies and administrative data will tell us how many times services are requested for GBV. The TWG is asked to note and promote the capacity development opportunities available through UNFPA's kNOwVAWdata Initiative for all DV/IPV stakeholders including from the health and criminal justice sectors.