



Kiribati



Pacific Partnership to End Violence Against Women and Girls (Pacific Partnership)

The Pacific Partnership brings together governments, civil society organisations, communities and other partners to promote gender equality, prevent violence against women and girls (VAWG), and increase access to quality response services for survivors.

This document highlights key accomplishments supported by the Pacific Partnership.



2018 - 2023

Snapshot: Pacific Partnership Programme in Kiribati

GOALS:

Preventing violence against women and girls (VAWG) using a whole-of-population approach and improving accessibility and quality services for all women and girls

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



- The **Kiribati Government**; Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs (MWYSSA), including SafeNet; and



- **Two Key Civil Society Organisations** including: Aia Maewa Ainen Kiribati (AMAK); Kiribati Women and Children Support Centre (KWCSC).

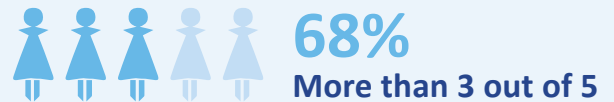
TOTAL FINANCIAL INVESTMENT:

\$3,676,000 USD over 6 years

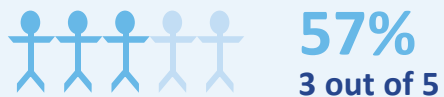
Kiribati has some of the highest documented rates of violence against women and girls and male perpetration



women in South Tarawa have experienced Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) in the past year¹



women in Kiribati have experienced physical and/or sexual IPV in their lifetime



men in South Tarawa have perpetrated physical and/or sexual IPV in the past year

Progress towards Ending Violence Against Women and Girls through the Pacific Partnership



Strengthening and implementing national legislation and policies

The Pacific Partnership is working with MWYSSA to:

- Implement the National Approach to Eliminate Sexual and Gender Based Violence Policy and Action Plan 2011-2021, ensuring access to strengthened and coordinated support services for survivors of VAWG; and,
- Review and update the Te Rau n te Mwenga Act / Family Peace Act, and the Eliminating Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Policy that defines domestic violence in Kiribati.

¹ South Tarawa Healthy Living Study: An Impact Evaluation of the Strengthening Peaceful Villages (SPV) Violence Prevention Intervention in South Tarawa, Kiribati, (2020).

² Henrica A.F.M. Jansen. 2016. 'KNOWVAWdata Regional Snapshot: Women Who Experience Intimate Partner Violence, 2000-2016, UNFPA Asia and the Pacific Region'. Bangkok.



Preventing violence against women and girls (VAWG) through faith, sports, schools, and community transformation

The **STRENGTHENING PEACEFUL VILLAGES (SPV) PROGRAMME** is adapting the [Raising Voices SASA! Together methodology](#) to prevent VAWG through local activism, community leadership and institutional strengthening.

- SPV is expected to reach approximately **56,400 people**, with **1 in 10** people in South Tarawa and Betio having engaged in primary prevention activities.
- **Local informal support networks have strengthened** as some village activists and community leaders are **supporting survivors** of violence by providing information on available services and facilitating women's access to services (e.g. KWCS, health clinics, police, crises centre).

The **SOCIAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION (SCE) IN SCHOOLS PROGRAMME** is integrating SCE into school curricula reaching **1,480 teachers** and **31,000 students** across Kiribati. The programme applies a 'whole-school approach,' to improve the knowledge, attitudes, and behaviours of young people in Kiribati about human rights, gender equality, and VAWG.



Women and girls, especially rural women, have improved access to quality essential services to recover from violence

Women and girls in Kiribati have improved access to essential services due to the growth and expansion of SafeNet, the largest government led programme coordinating sexual and gender-based violence response, which has resulted in: direct services and improved support to survivors of violence; prevention and advocacy programs; referrals to other service providers through coordinated formal referral pathways; and governance and accountability frameworks.

SafeNet Members include: Kiribati Inclusive Education Improvement Programme (KIEIP), Kiribati Police Service (KPS), Kiribati Teachers College, Kiribati Women and Children's Crisis Centre (KWCS), Ministry of Health and Medical Services, Ministry of Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs (MWYSSA), Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Crisis Centre, Office of the People's Lawyer and Office of the Attorney General. KWCS has increased capacity to provide quality essential services, and services have been improved through the development and adoption of the Kiribati National Domestic Violence Counselling Guidelines, Code of Ethics and Practise Standards that align to the Te Rau n te Mwenga Act / Family Peace Act. KWCS has expanded it's service to Kiritimati Island, ensuring that women and children in remote locations can access essential services to recover from violence. KWCS has expanded it's service to Kiritimati Island, ensuring that women and children in remote locations can access essential services to recover from violence.

The Pacific Partnership works with government and CSO's to develop multisector GBV response systems, including referral pathways, that adapt during emergencies and public health pandemics, such as COVID-19.



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Key Research and Policy Achievements include:

1. Kiribati Police Service Domestic Violence and Sexual Offence Standing Orders and Procedures.
2. South Tarawa Healthy Living Study: [An Impact Evaluation of the Strengthening Peaceful Villages \(SPV\) Violence Prevention Intervention in South Tarawa](#) (available in English & I-Kiribati).
3. Kiribati National Domestic Violence Counselling Guidelines, Code of Ethics and Practise Standards, and the National Kiribati Gender-Based Violence Referral Pathway adapted for COVID-19.
4. CPD 467 – 3-day in-service Teacher Training Unit, teacher training package on human rights, gender equality and VAWG.
5. LEA 420- 6-week pre-service training for teachers in the outer islands in partnership with the Kiribati Teachers College (KTC).

The Pacific Partnership is funded primarily by the European Union, and the Governments of Australia and New Zealand, and UN Women, and is led by the Pacific Community (SPC), UN Women and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat. All three coordinating agencies of the Pacific Partnership programme have activities in Kiribati. Imagery inspired by empowering female-specific tattoo motifs used in the Pacific region.

For more information, please contact: comms.pac@unwomen.org

