

## In this issue



**PIPAD Course  
Writers Meet**  
- p 3



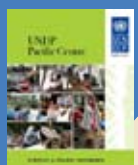
**Freedom of Infor-  
mation Workshop**  
- p 4 and 5



**CEDAW report for  
Cook Islands-** p 6



**New Faces at  
Pacific Centre**  
- p 7



**Knowledge  
Centre - p 8**

and much more..

## Building Blocks for Pacific Regional CSO Project

Regional and national civil society representatives from around the Pacific have reached an agreement on a set of building blocks for the Regional CSO - Millennium Development Goals (MDG) Capacity building project which is being implemented in partnership with the UNDP Pacific Centre.

This was agreed at the Civil Society Organisations (CSO) Consultation on the Regional CSO-MDG Capacity Building Project which was held in Suva from July 23 to 24. The two day consultation brought together thirty representatives of Pacific regional and national civil society organisations (CSOs) from Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu, and regional CSO networks, mainly members of the PRINGO Alliance.

Discussions at the consultation among national and regional CSOs identified that certain building blocks were necessary to ensure ownership of the project. It also revealed the need to identify concrete initiatives that will enhance Pacific NGO/CSOs capacity so they can contribute more effectively to promoting and practicing good governance principles to advance the achievement of MDGs in the Pacific.

The building blocks identified include a stock take of CSOs in relation to the work they do in the area of MDGs and a capacity assessment to identify how to build on existing capacity as well as identify other potential bottlenecks to CSO involvement.

"Many of the activities that we do as PRINGOs and as national NGOs involve MDGs but they are

not reflected in our work as MDGs," said Fei Tevi, of the Pacific Conference of Churches.

There are eight MDGs which range from halving extreme poverty to halting the spread of HIV/AIDS and providing universal primary education, all by the target date of 2015. The MDGs form a blueprint agreed to by all the world's countries, including Pacific Island countries and the world's leading development institutions. It must always be remembered that the MDGs set minimum targets only and as a consequence all countries in the Pacific still had improvements to make.

The national CSOs that were present at the meeting also emphasised the need to meaningfully participate in all the processes involved in the project.

There will be more consultations on this project preceding the MDGs stock take exercise of CSOs and the completion of the capacity assessment. The regional CSOs will play an important role in these exercises.

The original idea for this project came about in 2005 during a stakeholder workshop which reviewed a UNDP/United Nations Volunteers (UNV) project that had been implemented with Pacific Islands Association of Non Government Organisations (PIANGO) between 2002 and 2005. Recommendations from that workshop included that a new project be designed focusing on strengthening the role of CSOs implementing activities to promote the achievement of the MDGs.

## Asia Pacific Human Development Report "Tackling Corruption, Transforming Lives" Launched

The Pacific launch of the APDHR "Tackling Corruption, Transforming Lives" took place on June 30 in Honiara, Solomon Islands. The report shows ways in which governments and citizens across the Asia-Pacific can tackle corruption together by focusing on areas which impact daily life such as health, education, justice and natural resources. The report was launched by the Solomon Islands Deputy Prime Minister Fred Fono (pictured) during the Freedom of Information Workshop for Pacific Policy Makers (more on the workshop on pages 4 and 5).



## Polynesia Introduced to MDG Needs Assessment/ Costing Tools

Polynesian countries are on track to achieving Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 but face challenges in achieving MDG 7 relating to environmental sustainability and MDG 3 on gender equality and women empowerment. MDG 1 relates to eradicating extreme poverty and hunger; MDG 2 relates to achieving universal primary education; MDG 4 relates to reducing child mortality by two-thirds; MDG 5 is about reducing maternal mortality ratio by one-third; and MDG 6 relates to combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases.

The United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative for Samoa, Cook Islands, Tokelau and Niue, Naheed Haque made the above observation while speaking at the Sub-Regional workshop on MDG-based Planning, Costing and Budgeting for Polynesian Countries, organised in Rarotonga, Cook Islands by the UNDP Pacific Centre from May 26 – 29.

The Prime Minister of the Cook Islands Hon. Jim Marurai, in his keynote address, agreed with the progress made on the MDGs and also acknowledged the challenges that need to be addressed to achieve MDG 7 relating to environmental sustainability.

“Climate change has now become an unprecedented challenge for the 21st Century and we need to collectively implement adaptation and mitigation measures so critical for the survival of small nations.”

“Vulnerability to rising oil and food prices, distances from markets, small populations and gender inequities - and the inter-relatedness among them - are issues of paramount importance to small islands developing states in this region and we need to find sustainable solutions to address them. We also need to balance these competing priorities with an equitable allocation of resources and opportunities for all, in particular for our vulnerable communities,” said Hon. Marurai.

The sub-regional MDG workshop brought together 50 government officials from departments of finance, planning, education, health, gender and environment as well as civil society representatives from five Polynesian countries – Cook Islands, Niue, Samoa, Tokelau and Tonga.

The presentation of a number of sectoral costing tools which governments can use to estimate the cost of interventions in specific sectors (education, health, energy, etc) was among the highlights of this workshop. More accurate costing of policy initiatives and interventions can improve the way governments plan their budgets and strengthen the coherence between policy, planning, costing and budgeting for the achievement of the MDGs.

The workshop addressed how local and national plans can be linked to the MDGs. Workshop participants also had hands-on practical experience of the sectoral costing tools that have been jointly developed

by the UNDP Bureau of Development Policy and the UNDP Regional Centres in Colombo and Bangkok, and which are presently used in over 22 countries globally.

“The MDG costing tools can support governments to estimate expenditure in education, health, gender, energy, environment, infrastructure and other sectors and also support prioritisation of interventions and policy options,” said Ms Naheed Haque.

The sectoral tools allow governments to plan and cost the outcomes they wish to achieve in the areas of education, health, energy, water and sanitation and other sectors. Governments can test a variety of scenarios to determine what might be both achievable and affordable within available funding and capacity constraints that they face.

The use of such planning methodologies and costing tools should enable governments to improve both efficiency and effectiveness in the use of its domestic and external resources.

The workshop was the third in a series which started in 2007; the first targeting countries in the North Pacific and the second was held for countries in the Western Pacific.

Following the MDG sub regional training in the Pacific region many governments have expressed great interest in using the MDG costing tools to better address their development priorities. UNDP Pacific Centre in co-operation with UNDP Country Offices and other United Nations and partner agencies will be developing a programme to provide capacity development and technical assistance in the use of MDG costing tools to improve national policy, planning and budgeting practices.



**Workshop opening:** (L-R) UNDP PC's MDGs Specialist Carol Flore-Smerezniak, Cook Islands Prime Minister Hon Jim Marurai, UNDP Samoa Res Rep Haheed Haque and UNDP Pacific Centre MDGs Team Leader David Abbott

## PIPAD Brings Course Writers Together

Representatives of academic institutions from around the world who will be involved in developing curriculum on Pacific peace building and development met in Suva in May.

The Pacific Institute for Peace building and Development (PIPAD) Course Writers' Working Session was held from 12 to 16 May. PIPAD will work with Pacific leaders from the government and civil society and provide courses and other learning opportunities to build a critical, competent practice in peace building and development. PIPAD is housed within the Pacific Centre's Crisis Prevention and Recovery team.

The Course Writers' Working Session was attended by the representatives of the American University, Canterbury University and University of the South Pacific. These three institutes were successful in their

bid to develop the PIPAD courses. Also represented were the Divine Word University, PNG University of Technology, and University of Fiji as well as some members of the PIPAD Panel of Trainers and Resource Persons located at Griffith, Coventry, Queensland Universities. NGO practitioners working in peace, conflict, gender and development such as Women's Action for Change (WAC), Pacific Foundation for the Advancement of Women (PACFAW), Citizens Constitutional Forum (CCF) as well as UNDP staff also attended the course writer's session.



**PIPAD contributors:** Brother Pat Howley from Divine Word University makes a point

Speaking at the workshop, UNDP Pacific Centre's Manager Garry Wiseman encouraged writers and participants to ensure the courses designed were “technically sound, accurate, stimulating and relevant for situations in the Pacific.”

“The challenge of the course writers is to develop exciting courses that can keep busy people engaged and interested: going beyond papers to the “how to” and to inspire application,” said Mr. Wiseman.

The courses that will be offered by PIPAD present models, processes and skills for analysing conflict, building peace and promoting people-centred development in a gender sensitive approach.

Participants at PIPAD courses will be encouraged to apply these to the public sector, the security sector, the media and in their roles as leaders, policy makers, planners and programme developers, advocates and lobbyists.

PIPAD aims to provide a healthy combination of theory and practice – this is anticipated to be its greatest strength. It will bring recent debates in the field of conflict, peace and development studies into conversation with the actual lived experiences of a range of actors like international or community development practitioners, mediators in national or community level conflicts, women leaders who have survived violence or have held positions of great responsibility in government, parliament, community or church.

PIPAD courses will start from next year and will be facilitated by skilled teams of trainers.

### Pacific CSOs Making Governance Gender Responsive

Civil society organisations (CSOs) from ten Pacific Island countries attended a five-day training programme on “Making Governance Gender Responsive” in Suva in May. The training was part of an ongoing initiative targeted at building the capacity of CSOs to advocate and implement gender responsive programmes in their own work and the work of their governments.

The meeting was organized by the UNDP Pacific Centre in collaboration with the Centre for Asia Pacific Women in Politics (CAPWIP).

Thirty participants attended from Fiji, Vanuatu, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Nauru, Samoa, Tonga, Cook Islands, and Marshall Islands. Participants came from a range of organisations working on women's rights, community-based development, regional accountability, good governance and policy advocacy, as well as from academia.

Participants came together to learn and share experiences on developing effective and strategic campaigns for promoting gender sensitive legislative change and gender sensitive governance. They also unpacked the principles which underpin gender and development and learned about tools and strategies such as gender budgeting, gender auditing, gender analysis and how to use and develop gendered statistics.

# Advocating Freedom of

The importance of Freedom of Information legislation, the different experiences in developing them and key components needed were some of the topics for discussion at a regional workshop.

"Allowing citizens to access government information under a freedom of information (FOI) law can strengthen the trust between governments and citizens and lead to better service delivery," said Charmaine Rodrigues from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Pacific Centre at a "Freedom of Information Workshop for Pacific Policy Makers" held

in Honiara, Solomon Islands from June 30 to July 2.

The workshop highlighted that to ensure the optimal application of FOI legislation, both the public and government officials need to be made aware of their rights and obligations. Public participation in the ongoing process of developing, implementing and using a law is crucial.

Sharing her experience, the Cook Islands Ombudsman Janet Maki said that the Cook Islands Government recognised the importance of freedom of information as one of

the pillars of good governance and consequently developed an FOI law. The Cook Islands Official Information Act was passed in February 2008 and comes into force in 2009.

"The Cook Islands FOI legislation allows citizens to directly access government information, whereas before they have had to rely on the media or the coconut wireless," said Ms Maki.

She said the Cook Islands FOI legislation was based on the New Zealand Official Information Act and includes provisions for the Ombudsman to investigate and

# Information in the Pacific

review decisions by government officials to withhold requested information.

Ms Maki said the Cook Islands Ombudsman Office was working on the implementation of the Act, which would include awareness campaigns targeting the public and civil servants.

The workshop also included a presentation by Natasha Bodden from the Cayman Islands Government's Freedom of Information Unit. Ms Bodden shared the experience of her Caribbean island country in developing and imple-

menting their FOI legislation.

Ms Maki said she had learnt many good lessons on implementation from the Cayman Islands experience that she was willing to explore further for possible adaptation and application in the Cook Islands.

Ms Bodden and Ms Maki both identified changing the public sector mindset of secrecy as a challenge in implementing FOI legislation. Another challenge identified was public records management.

Also presenting at the workshop was Andrew Ecclestone from

the New Zealand Office of the Ombudsmen who discussed the key components of a good FOI law.

"The key principles of access to information laws include a presumption of disclosure, limited exemptions, processes to facilitate access, and a strong, independent mechanism to investigate complaints about non-disclosure," said Mr. Ecclestone.

The workshop was attended by participants from ten Pacific Island Countries - Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

## Solomon Islands Keen on FOI

The Solomon Islands Government is keen to work with regional partners to develop national legislation on freedom of information, Prime Minister Dr Derek Sikua announced at the Freedom of Information Workshop for Pacific Policy Makers held in Honiara.

Delivering the keynote address he said his Government also acknowledges the value of the right to information in promoting responsive democratic governance, supporting participatory social and economic development, moderating conflict and in professionalising the media.

"We support information disclosure to the extent that it does not undermine public interest and national security," said Dr Sikua.

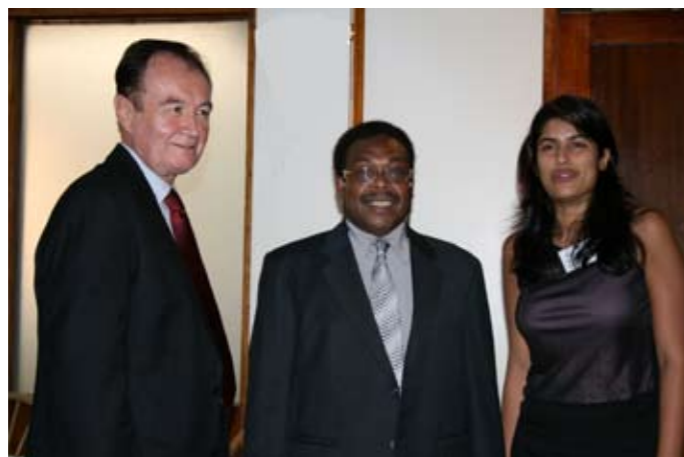
Dr Sikua emphasised the critical role the media plays in realising the right to freedom of information.

"The media have a duty to give people as much information as possible

about events and issues affecting their lives. Without media analysis an information vacuum occurs in which rumours, whispers and false stories are spread that could create undue anxiety and instability in our countries."

Garry Wiseman, the Manager of the UNDP Pacific Centre, said the right to information has long been recognised as underpinning all other rights to which the United Nations is committed.

"Without information people cannot effectively protect and promote their own rights," said Mr Wiseman.



Mr Wiseman said contrary to popular belief in the Pacific, freedom of information was not restricted to the work of the media.

"The right to information is a tool which can be used by all members of society to empower ordinary members of the community to better participate in their own governance and development. With more information about what governments are doing, what services they provide and what programmes they are implementing, members of the public can engage with the development activities around them at their own pace and in their own way," he said.

"With freedom of information, people can start asking questions about issues that interest them and that are important to their lives."

*FOI champions: Solomon Islands Prime Minister Dr Derek Sikua (middle) flanked by UNDP Pacific Centre's Garry Wiseman (L) and Charmaine Rodrigues (R)*

## Cayman Islands FOI Experience

Sharing experiences across oceans proved to be a fruitful exercise when Pacific participants at a Freedom of Information (FOI) workshop heard the Cayman Islands experience in developing and implementing FOI.

Natasha Bodden from the Cayman Islands Government's Freedom of Information Unit shared the experience of her Caribbean island country in developing and implementing their FOI legislation. The Cayman Islands FOI law was passed

by the Legislative Assembly in August 2007 and comes into effect in January 2009.

"In Cayman Islands, we have designed FOI legislation which is suited to our island situation, given the smallness of our community," said Ms Bodden.

One such measure was for requests for general information to be accompanied by the name of a contact person which did not necessarily have to be the name of the applicant.

"Cayman Islands is a small country - everybody knows everybody. This provision allows for 'anonymous' requests," said Ms Bodden.

The Cayman Islands FOI legislations allows anyone, anywhere in the world to make a request for information free of charge.

Cayman Islands is composed of three islands; Grand Cayman, Cayman Brac and Little Cayman, and

is located in the western Caribbean about 150 miles south of Cuba, 460 miles south of Miami, Florida and 167 miles northwest of Jamaica. It has a population of 52,000.

"We looked at other FOI legislation like those from Jamaica, the United Kingdom, New Zealand and the State of Florida and we picked relevant sections of these laws that suited our situation the best," said Ms Bodden.

Ms Bodden also spoke about the importance of public records management. She said that records were at the heart of many access to information schemes and unless there were accurate and timely records and the means of finding and releasing information, an information regime was bound to fail.

Ms Bodden's presentation generated a lot of discussion about the best practises and lessons learnt from the Cayman Islands that could be applied to the Pacific Islands. Her participation also demonstrated the power of South-South co-operation or technical co-operation between developing countries.



*Island experience: Natasha Bodden from the Cayman Islands shares her country's experience of developing and implementing FOI legislation.*

## Cooks to Undertake CEDAW Law Reform

The Cooks Islands has agreed to reform their domestic laws to make them more compliant with the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). The joint UNDP Pacific Centre and UNIFEM Pacific publication; "Translating CEDAW into Law: CEDAW Legislative Compliance in the Cook Islands" that was launched in Rarotonga in May will contribute towards the law reform exercise that Cooks Islands will take.

CEDAW, which is also known as the international bill of rights for women, defines what constitutes discrimination against women and sets up an agenda for national action to end such discrimination. Countries that have ratified CEDAW are legally bound to put the provisions of the Convention in place and are also required to submit reports on measures they have taken to comply with their treaty obligations.

The report reviews the Constitution and national law of the Cook Islands against 113 indicators developed to measure legislative compliance with each of the 16 articles of CEDAW.

The indicators used to measure legislative compliance with CEDAW include legal guarantees of fundamental rights and freedoms to men and women equally, including in political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field. The indicators reflect CEDAW's examination of the guarantee of equality between men and women and include both direct and indirect discrimination, the requirement to legislate special measures provisions; and the importance of anti-discrimination provisions. CEDAW and the legislative compliance indicators cover a wide range of equality issues including: sexual assault, the

exploitation of women, direct and indirect discrimination in employment, equality before, during, and upon the breakdown of relationships, including de facto relationships, and many more.

Launching the report, the Cook Islands Minister for Internal Affairs Hon Ngamau Munokoa said that the Cook Islands Cabinet had examined the UN CEDAW Committee's



**Cooks report:** Minister for Internal Affairs Hon Ngamau Munokoa (R) and UNDP Resident Representative and UN Resident Co-ordinator for Cook Islands, Niue, Samoa and Tokelau, Ms Naheed Haque with copies of the new report

concluding comments on Cook Islands CEDAW Report and was looking at implementing them. She also said that Cook Islands government had established an inter-ministerial working group to undertake a systematic approach to CEDAW law reform.

She acknowledged the important role that NGOs have played and continue to play in CEDAW implementation.

Cook Islands Counseling Centre's Nani Samuela, who spoke at the launch on behalf of the Cook Islands NGOs, said the work done by the Cook Islands government and development partners in the area of CEDAW implementation was commendable.

"We as NGOs will be referring to these compliance indicators not only as a checking and monitoring

mechanism in measuring progress but also as part of advocacy and training tools," said Ms Samuela.

"CEDAW legislative compliance indicators provide a one stop shop in identifying inconsistent legislation, the policy reasons that explain how and why the law should assist in advancing equality and suggestions for change," said Ms Samuela.

The United Nations Development Programme Resident Representative and United Nations Resident Co-ordinator for Cook Islands, Niue, Samoa and Tokelau, Ms Naheed Haque told guests at the launch that gender equality was central to all that the work that UN did.

Ms Haque commended the work of all members of Parliament as well as that of the NGOs and civil society in advancing CEDAW in the Cook Islands.

"The UN CEDAW Committee has clearly recommended that the Cook Islands take steps required to ensure that the national legal framework is brought into line with the Convention. "Translating CEDAW into Law: CEDAW Legislative Compliance in the Cook Islands" provides a detailed roadmap to assist with that process and very clearly and concretely specifies the law reform that is required," said Ms Haque.

The new Cook Islands report is a companion to a publication launched by the UNDP Pacific Centre and UNIFEM Pacific in 2007 entitled "Translating CEDAW Into Law: CEDAW Legislative Compliance in Nine Pacific Island Countries" which examined the legislative compliance with CEDAW of nine Pacific Island countries; FSM, Fiji, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

## RRRT Moves Under SPC Umbrella

The Pacific Regional Rights Resource Team, better known as RRRT came under the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) umbrella from July 1, 2008 - this after being a project of UNDP since 2002 of which the last year and half was spent under the management guidance of the Pacific Centre.

RRRT Project Manager Sandra Bernklau said being with SPC would allow RRRT to work with the 22 Pacific Island countries and territories that SPC serves as compared to the eight countries RRRT has worked with - Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. The work would include services in human rights education and policy in economic, social and cultural rights.

Ms Bernklau said that RRRT's long term plan included the establishment of a regional human rights mechanism, a move which could be facilitated by being with SPC.

"During 2007, it was clear that becoming a non government

organization (NGO) would not achieve RRRT's aim of building the capacity and services in human rights for the Pacific as much as the development of a regional mechanism in human rights. RRRT has now focused its new strategy on working with key stakeholders in the region towards the development of a regional human rights mechanism; which we hope will lead to the future creation of a regional human rights commission."

RRRT was established in 1995 as a legal literacy project of the UK Department for International Development (DFID) to enhance the legal and social status of women.

When DFID stopped direct aid to the Pacific region in April 2002, UNDP, because of its mandate in human rights and good governance, was identified as a host for RRRT. The project which UNDP/RRRT jointly executed was called Poverty Reduction through Access to Justice for All (PRAJA).



**UNDP no more:** Sandra Bernklau, RRRT's Project manager at the UNDP Pacific Centre retreat last year

RRRT has been involved in much of the human rights education and policy work in the Pacific.

Key achievements of RRRT over the years include the work carried on the Fiji Family Law Act and the Vanuatu Family Protection Bill; working with Samoa and Vanuatu for the ratification of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR); working with Solomon Islands in developing a Bill of Rights for their draft Constitution; and working with Pacific countries for mock CEDAW reporting process.

## New Staff at UNDP Pacific Centre

The UNDP Pacific Centre has a new Governance Specialist: Nurina Widagdo. She joined the Pacific Centre in June 2008 and brings with her 15 years of experience as a development worker.

Prior to joining the Pacific Centre, she was the Assistant Resident Representative/Governance Unit Head, in the UNDP Indonesia Country Office, her home country, where she managed a USD 15 million annual portfolio on decentralization and local governance; elections and parliamentary support; and human rights, legal, and justice sector reform.

Nurina has thorough experience in

**New staff:** Nurina Widagdo (R) and Jessica Robbins (below)



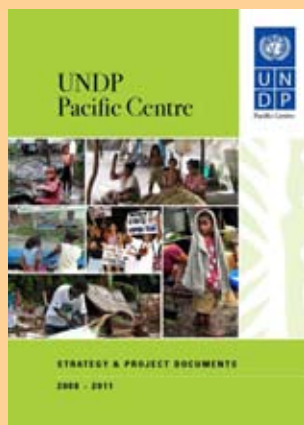
the non-governmental organization sector, having worked in Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, China, Burma, Thailand, Philippines, and USA. She was the Regional Director for East Asia at Oxfam America in 2003-2005.

Nurina received her MA degree in International Studies from the

University of Oregon, USA in 1992. Her expertise and experience has since then evolved around governance in multi-country, multi-level, and multi-sector issues from global governance in development finance, to the Mekong River governance involving a regional institution, multi-country governments and communities, to building stronger people voice and representation through elections and in parliaments.

Also new at the Pacific Centre is Jessica Robbins, an Australian Youth Ambassador for Development (AYAD) who will work in the area of Knowledge Management.

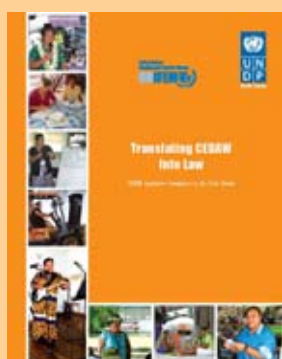
## Latest Knowledge Products



### Pacific Centre Strategy and Project Documents 2008 - 2011

This report is a compilation of the Pacific Centre Strategy Document as well as the Project documents for Pacific Conflict and Natural Disaster Challenges project, Democratic Governance project, MDG Achievement and Poverty Reduction project and the Pacific Financial Inclusion project. The report covers the programming cycle 2008-2011.

[http://www.undppc.org.fj/\\_resources/article/files/UNDP\\_PC\\_Strategy\\_and\\_Project\\_Documents.pdf](http://www.undppc.org.fj/_resources/article/files/UNDP_PC_Strategy_and_Project_Documents.pdf)

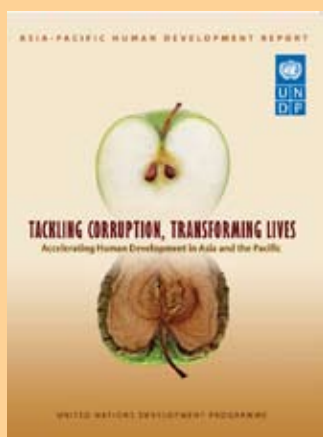


### Translating CEDAW into Law: CEDAW Legislative Compliance in the Cook Islands

This report reviews the Constitution and national law of the Cook Islands against 113 indicators developed to measure legislative compliance with each of the 16 articles of CEDAW, the Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. This report is a companion to "Translating CEDAW Into Law: CEDAW Legislative Compliance in Nine Pacific Island Countries" which examined the legisla-

tive compliance with CEDAW of nine Pacific Island countries; FSM, Fiji, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

[http://www.undppc.org.fj/\\_resources/article/files/Cook\\_Islands\\_Translating\\_CEDAW\\_into\\_Law.pdf](http://www.undppc.org.fj/_resources/article/files/Cook_Islands_Translating_CEDAW_into_Law.pdf)



### Tackling Corruption, Transforming Lives

This new Asia Pacific Human Development Report, produced by the UNDP Regional Centre in Colombo, shows that people across the Asia-Pacific region are becoming increasingly concerned about corruption, and governments are starting to react. Hauling the rich and powerful before the courts may grab the headlines, but the poor will benefit more from efforts

to eliminate the corruption that plagues their everyday lives. Corruption has to be tackled from the top down and from the bottom up, with vigorous support from the media and organisations of civil society.

<http://www.undppc.org.fj/pages.cfm/publications/democratic-governance-reports/>

**PASIFIKA Focus** is a publication of the UNDP Pacific Centre.

UNDP Pacific Centre focuses on specific issues within the practice areas of UNDP that impact on small vulnerable island countries of the sub region. The primary focus of the Pacific Centre is to deliver policy and technical advice and build capacity of Pacific Island countries to respond more effectively to the development challenges of the region.

UNDP Pacific Centre, 2nd Floor,  
YWCA Building (JJ's on the Park),  
Ratu Sukuna Park, Suva, Fiji  
Postal address: c/o UNDP,  
Private Mail Bag, Suva, Fiji

Tel: (+679) 330 0399,  
Fax: (+679) 330 1976

[registry.pacificcentre@undp.org](mailto:registry.pacificcentre@undp.org)

[www.undp.pc.org](http://www.undp.pc.org)

## Upcoming Events

### Regional CSO/NGO Training for Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) 53 September 22 - 25, Fiji

This training will prepare Pacific CSO/NGO on the processes and procedures at the 53rd Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) that will be held in New York from March 2-13. The CSW is a functional commission of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), dedicated exclusively to gender equality and advancement of women.

### Regional Workshop on Temporary Special Measures to Promote Women in Pacific Legislatures September 25 - 26, Papua New Guinea

This workshop aims to impart knowledge on the Temporary Special Measures that can be used to increase women's participation in Pacific parliaments.