

# MANAGEMENT RESPONSE TO THE PACIFIC WOMEN MID-TERM INDEPENDENT EVALUATION

## Summary of management response

DFAT welcomes this evaluation, which we view as a constructive and well informed contribution to strengthening the Pacific Women program going forward. We generally agree with the proposed set of recommendations, with only one exception (to the nine). We will move to quickly implement most of the identified changes in early 2018.

Recommendation	Response [Note: Select one option from the column below, delete others]	Explanation	Action plan	Timeframe [If practical, please specify timeframe here]
<b>Recommendation 1</b>  Ensure that stakeholders understand the role of the <i>Pacific Women</i> Support Unit and that <i>Pacific Women</i> is not a grants program.	Agree	DFAT will clarify the contractual role of the <i>Pacific Women</i> Support Unit in the course of engagement with GoPNG stakeholders, program partners and bilateral counterparts.	Post and desk will action this through ongoing engagement with partners and stakeholders.	Ongoing.
<b>Recommendation 2</b>  Continue to build relationships with the Government of Papua New Guinea, especially the Department for Community Development and Religion, the Department of National Planning and Monitoring, and the Bougainville Department of Community Development. This could include providing Program reporting that clearly identifies <i>Pacific Women</i> contributions to the Government's strategic and policy commitments.	Agree	DFAT will continue to identify opportunities to engage with the GoPNG on the role and place of the <i>Pacific Women</i> Program as a major bilateral investment vehicle while advancing diplomatic relations with key GoPNG partners.	Post will action this through direct engagement with key GoPNG agencies, such as the recent meeting between the Minister for Community Development and the Ambassador for Women and Girls (on 1 December 2017).  DFAT will offer GoPNG stakeholders verbal updates on the <i>Pacific Women</i> on a regular basis as well as provide copies of the PNG and Bougainville Performance Reports.	Ongoing.  Performance reports will be shared in May 2018.

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<b>Recommendation 3</b>  Review the theory of change within the Papua New Guinea program in consultation with implementing partners and stakeholders.	Agree	Agree that it is timely to review and reflect on the theory of change with partners and stakeholders.	Post will convene an inclusive meeting to review the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework which will include the theory of change.	Second quarter of 2018
<b>Recommendation 4</b>  Do more to engage the Papua New Guinea Reference Group in advising DFAT on key strategic decisions, for example: should the program maintain its present course of working on violence reduction and services in a relatively large number of provinces, while adding more activities on women's economic empowerment and leadership and influence to selected geographies? If so which specific geographies (urban areas, districts, provinces) should be the focus?	Agree	DFAT fully supports this recommendation.	Post will initiate these discussions in future PNG Reference Group meetings, as well as other informal opportunities to engage. We will take into account other DFAT-funded programs and bilateral priorities.	Ongoing

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<b>Recommendation 5</b>  Engage the Papua New Guinea Reference Group and key implementing partners on the best way to build on existing networks and other mechanisms to strengthen support for child victims of family and sexual violence	Agree	DFAT supports this recommendation.	Post will include this as standing agenda item in future PNG Reference Group meetings, and engage key implementing partners. A discussion paper will be prepared to inform and guide discussions.	Second quarter of 2018
<b>Recommendation 6</b>  Continue to facilitate networking and coalition building among implementing partners and between existing and potential partners by providing formal and informal opportunities and safe spaces. Use these opportunities to strategise and prioritise together, taking advantage of learning from within the program and also from international experience.	Agree	DFAT supports this proposition.	Ongoing. Post will continue to include the informal themed 'lunch and learn' opportunities and the Annual Learning Workshop.	Ongoing

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<b>Recommendation 7</b>  Use <i>Pacific Women</i> networking and coalition-building opportunities to disseminate approaches used successfully by international partners to support local partners.	Agree in part	DFAT supports this idea in-principle, noting the importance of working closely partnership with GoPNG in this area.	Post and Desk will encourage this through forthcoming program and technical design processes, for example peer review processes of major new initiatives in November and December 2017.	First quarter of 2018

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<p><b>Recommendation 8</b></p> <p>Raise the profile of <i>Pacific Women</i> initiatives with DFAT staff and sector programs.</p> <p>Identify potential for uptake of successful approaches and priority areas for coordination and bring these to DFAT staff and sector program team attention.</p>	Agree	We fully support this recommendation and will continue to strengthen the linkages between <i>Pacific Women</i> investments and other sectoral programs.	<p>Post and Desk will continue to host more regular information sessions for DFAT staff and increase the frequency of internal reporting to Canberra and other Pacific posts.</p> <p>In addition, we will seek to deploy technical assistance as appropriate to help identify and improve cross-sectoral linkages.</p>	First quarter of 2018
<p><b>Recommendation 9</b></p> <p>Continue programs and approaches that have demonstrated good results and develop a strategy to ensure continuation after 2019.</p>	Agree	Fully agree.	Ongoing	Ongoing