

# TFGBV PRIORITIES DOCUMENT: Safe and Equal Online Spaces – Pacific Cyber Safety Symposium 2023

# INTRODUCTION

In a first for the Pacific, the regional 'Safe and Equal Online Spaces – Pacific Cyber Safety Symposium' brought together key stakeholders from across the region working to address online safety particularly technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV). This built on the digital age theme of the 2023 67th Commission on the Status of Women and its CSW67 Agreed Outcomes, while also advancing online safety priorities in the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent and the now revitalised Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Gender Equality Declaration.

Of the 130 in-person participants, in the event's closing Evaluation Survey, 98% stated they had increased their level of knowledge about TFGBV (either agreeing or strongly agreeing), while 99% confirmed they now 'understand the key priorities to address TFGBV' in the Pacific.

# **TFGBV Priorities Document**

The key priorities to address TFGBV in the Pacific were nominated by participants and captured in the event's final Priorities Document. Post event, the Priorities Document was circulated to participants several times and two follow-up webinars were held to ensure the final list correctly reflected the priorities raised directly by participants. This final document was formally released December 2023, and divided into two sections and the annexures:

# Contents:

- Shared Priorities the top 5
- Shared Priorities common across countries

## Annexures:

• Annex 1: Country Priorities (nominated by participants from each country)

# **Background**

The 'Safe and Equal Online Spaces – Pacific Cyber Safety Symposium' was held from 12-14 September 2023 in Suva, Fiji, convened by the Pacific Community (SPC) through its Pacific Women Lead at SPC (PWL at SPC) programme, in partnership with Australia's eSafety Commissioner, and supported by the Australian Government. As a member of the Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific (CROP), SPC is collaborating with other CROP partners: the University of the

South Pacific (USP) as Chair of the CROP ICT Working Group, and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) as lead of the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent.

The emergence of digital technologies has the potential to foster economic growth, increase education and employment opportunities, and elevate voices often left behind. However, it also provides spaces for the perpetration of harm at all levels, from individuals to communities and nations.

A broad range of stakeholders attended the Safe and Equal Online Spaces symposium, from civil society to government, private sector and regulatory bodies.

The convening addressed TFGBV by increasing a shared understanding of what works. This included seeking clarity around roles and responsibilities across government and other stakeholders; working with governments on key legislation and regulatory approaches; and documenting the Pacific's TFGBV priorities. The final TFGBV Priorities Document has been collated based on the event's discussions and regional priorities identified. In addition to the Priorities Document, other outputs from the event include:

- Number of participants: 130 in-person (plus a limited number of invited guests online)
- Country representation: 14 Pacific Islands countries were represented, plus Australia and New Zealand attendees, and speakers from Bangkok, Asia. In total 17 countries were represented.
- One CROP approach was taken for the event: Convened by SPC, through Pacific Women Lead at SPC (PWL at SPC), in partnership with Australia's eSafety Commissioner, and supported by the Australian Government. As a member of the Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific (CROP), SPC collaborated with other CROP partners: the University of the South Pacific (USP) as Chair of the CROP ICT Working Group, and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) as lead of the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent.
- Focus on storytelling and talanoas delivered by a range of grassroot speakers: In the absence of robust TFGBV data for the Pacific, the event focussed on lived experiences so featured many crisis centre directors and counsellors, along with young people, people with disabilities, people who identify as SOGIESC, and others sharing anonymous, third-party stories about TFGBV situations.
- List of Pacific legislation: Legislation including or omitting TFGBV was listed by participating government representatives. This process of listing legislation included several pre-event sessions, working with government representative to identify key laws, policies and regulations.
- List of Pacific projects: A list of current and planned Pacific projects involving TFGBV was created and updated by participants. Post event participants continue to be reminded to update the list of projects. This is a basic list, which could be expanded into a more complete list.

# PRIORITIES DOCUMENT

Priorities share by participants of the 2023 regional 'Safe and Equal Online Spaces – Pacific Cyber Safety Symposium'

- 1. Shared Priorities the top 5
- 2. Shared Priorities common across countries
- 3. Annexures:
- Annex 1: Country Priorities (by country refer to the list below).

# 1. SHARED PRIORITIES – the top 5

Following are the top five categories deemed to be most popular, and repeated by participants, as being key priorities across participating countries.

- Research and data that is Pacific specific: More evidence is required to guide actions to address TFGBV in the Pacific, including data and research.
  Research is required to learn more about TFGBV from a Pacific perspective and better understand its impacts.

  Details: This may include support to existing and planned TFGBV research in the Pacific, while also seeking to integrate TFGBV into other studies and research such as future intimate partner prevalence studies across the Pacific. This research should consider key target audiences and diverse wome
  - research such as future intimate partner prevalence studies across the Pacific. This research should consider key target audiences and diverse women and men, girls and boys include people of diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC), people with disabilities, people of different age groups, and those living in remote communities.
- 2. **Legislation, regulations, policies and commitments:** There is a need for greater understanding about: what TFGBV legislation and rules exist in Pacific Island countries; how to make these laws more comprehensive; and how to ensure continuous improvement in the implementation of existing laws that directly or indirectly address TFGBV. There is also a need to ensure TFGBV is reflected in national and regional commitments, as has been achieved in the Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration
  - Details: This process may include assessing laws that exist, reviewing laws, while also educating stakeholders to ensure awareness and implementation of existing cyber, family violence and other laws including those that may be amended to integrate TFGBV alongside GBV. Ideally this should be coordinated in a multi-country approach, so countries can share lessons, laws and insights to save resources and expedite outputs.



- 3. **Education and training:** There is a concerning lack of understanding about TFGBV from frontline workers including police and GBV counsellors to teachers, school students, legal advisers, policy makers and others. This lack of stakeholders' understanding, information, tools and support commonly results in their inability to take action against perpetrators of TFGBV.

  \*Details: This may include, but would not be limited to: training for frontline workers and possibly also training-of-trainers (TOT); legal training for the policing and legal sectors around legislation and GBV/TFGBV reporting; training for GBV Counsellors and other counselling services; awareness and education to the community especially for young people such as through the school curriculum to teach girls and boys they are of equal value, while teaching them early about the safe use of technology and how to report any type of violence online or offline. For GBV and TFGBV gender sensitisation training is important given understanding gender inequality is essential to address GBV, including gender in all its diversity including people who identify as SOGIESC.
- 4. Awareness raising and information: There is a need to raise awareness about TFGBV in the Pacific across all audiences, given the current lack of awareness versus the fast-growing prevalence.
  Details: Key audiences to be targeted with TFGBV awareness raising include the general public, frontline workers, legal and policing sectors, faith-based and sports sectors (as major influencers of change), women leaders including politicians, SOGIESC people, and other stakeholders. The aim is to ensure audiences are aware TFGBV is a significant issue in the Pacific, along with being aware of rights and laws and having access to information, tools and support to enable survivors and stakeholders to take action to address TFGBV.
- 5. Coordination: Participants at the symposium overwhelmingly requested support to ensure a coordinated, multi-country approach so countries can efficiently share lessons, laws and insights to save resources and expedite outputs.

  Details: This coordination support may range from information sharing around legislation content and amendment processes, to funding opportunities and potentially Safety by Design to embed safety within technology.

# SHARED PRIORITIES – common across countries

Based on the 'Country Priorities', following is a list of the priorities most commonly raised as an issue or opportunity by participants at the Safe and Equal Online Spaces – Pacific Cyber Safety Symposium 2023.

# Research:

- More evidence including data and research is needed on TFGBV. This should include support to existing and planned TFGBV research in the Pacific, while also seeking to integrate TFGBV into other studies and research such as future intimate partner prevalence studies across the Pacific.
   Examples include a possible mini-survey in Honiara; crisis centres' post-symposium plan to include TFGBV in confidential client data collection; and PNG's plan to use existing technology initiatives to generate TFGBV data. There is also TFGBV research underway involving multiple partners such as Monash and Deakin universities. This research should consider key target audiences and diverse women and men, girls and boys including people of diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC), people with disabilities, people of different age groups, and those living in remote communities.
- 2. Building on existing research, there is also an opportunity to strategically plan more coordinated TFGBV Pacific research.

# Legislation, regulations, policies and commitments:

- 1. Expand the informal list of legislation developed at the symposium. SPC to expand the list to include other PICTs, as well as specific wording of the different provisions and sections that exist about TFGBV, as a template for learning and adaptation of legislation in other countries with a view to supporting countries to amend existing legislation based on legal precedents.
- 2. Strengthen existing TFGBV inclusive legislation and policies to ensure the inclusion of child protection, family protection, SOGIESC persons protection, and references to other relevant acts, policies or constitutions. For example, this may involve conducting a gender analysis of the draft Cyber Crime Bill pending release in Solomon Islands to ensure it includes TFGBV sufficiently. This approach can be replicated across other relevant Acts being created or reviewed.
- 3. For countries without legislation that includes TFGBV, review legislation and seek option(s) for laws that could be amended to include TFGBV. Longer term there may be further reviews to analyse need/benefit for dedicated TFGBV and/or cyber safety legislation.
- 4. Seek to review both legislative pathways: civil and criminal laws.
- 5. Seek to strengthen implementation of legislation, such as ensuring it is inclusive of persons with disabilities and persons of diverse SOGIESC.



6. Include TFGBV in national priorities and regional commitments. This may include the Micronesian Gender Equality Framework being developed, or regional efforts such as inclusion in the 2024 Pacific Islands Forum Women Leaders Meeting (PIFWLM) and Pacific ICT Ministerial (held in PNG in 2023). PNG also called for a GBV national state of emergency.

# **Education and training**

There is a concerning lack of understanding about TFGBV within the community and across all key stakeholders.

- 1. Support existing training such as the rollout of Australia's eSafety Commissioner's frontline training, which may evolve to also include TOT.
- 2. Gender sensitisation training understanding gender inequality is essential to address GBV, including gender in all its diversity including people who identify as SOGIESC. Support existing training and programs by crisis centres and other organisations. Implementation and expansion of gender sensitisation training to be a priority.
- 3. Implementation is a separate stream of work versus developing training. Allow resources for this work stream.
- 4. Support ministries and their development partners who lead education and awareness raising for children and young people (inclusive, intersectional and intergenerational). This is a prevention approach, especially for young people, while also providing information about response services and support (including legal rights) for survivors. Education ministries and curriculum to be included in education and awareness raising campaigns, with cybersafety to be included in mainstream curriculum.
- Training for mainstream and non-traditional media (such as feminist media) plus communications professionals to ensure survivor-centred reporting of TFGBV.
- 6. Training for the criminal justice sector on TFGBV, including magistrates and judges plus also police cybercrime divisions on investigation and prosecution for TFGBV.
- 7. Training for GBV Counsellors and other counselling services.

# Awareness raising and information:

There is a need to raise awareness about TFGBV in the Pacific across all audiences. This would support and intersect with education and training activities.

- 1. The aim is to ensure audiences are aware TFGBV is a significant issue in the Pacific and have access to information, tools and support to enable survivors and stakeholders to take action to address TFGBV.
- 2. General public awareness coupled with targeted awareness campaigns for key audiences such as adolescent girls and young people; GBV counsellors; policing and criminal justice sector, and others.
- 3. Faith and culture based-collaborations contextualised to local beliefs, including the promotion of social norms that are not harmful and that promote equity, to educate and campaign for behaviour change around TFGBV.

# Coordination (collaborating, organising and sharing learning)

- 1. Collaboration, networking, mentoring and information sharing across TFGBV stakeholders such as government ministries, civil society including crisis centres and SOGIESC partners, private sector such as telecommunications providers, and others. This is for legislative amends or implementation; education and awareness campaigns, and other initiatives that can be shared and improved via lessons learned across PICTs.
- 2. Operationalising diverse and inclusive cybersafety committees and taskforces, plus ensuring improved implementation of legislation, to leverage existing mechanisms to drive rapid progress. For example, in Tonga there are plans to revitalize the 'Awareness & Education' Cyber Safety Sub Committee (of the National Cyber Safety Committee) while Solomon Islands plans to fast-track the release of the drafted Cyber Crime Bill including a review for inclusion of TFGBV.
- 3. Support the mobilisation of donor funding and the prioritisation of support for TFGBV. Donors and funding mechanisms to increasingly resource initiatives to address TFGBV. This may include funding and technical support, along with multi-country coordination, to enable PICTs to learn and leverage each others' progress; work progressively together benefitting from each other's activities, research and learning, rather than independently. For example, countries can share reports, researchers, legislative drafters and other resources.

# Safe spaces:

- 1. Establish and strengthen existing prevention and response services to better respond to TFGBV.
- 2. Create new safe spaces for survivors in locations where they do not exist it is vital that TFGBV survivors in all their diversity are aware they are GBV survivors and that support services are available. For example, in Pohnpei it is establishing a safe space for survivors.
- 3. Develop regional platforms for young people in all their diversity where they can discuss TFGBV issues, together with other child/youth issues, including young people with disabilities.

# Accessibility:

- 1. Accessibility ensure information on TFGBV is accessible to everyone.
- 2. Review current legislation and strengthen implementation, ensure it is inclusive of SOGIESC, young people and persons with disabilities.

# **ANNEXURES**

# Annex 1: Country Priorities

In total 17 countries were represented, 14 Pacific Islands countries were represented, plus Australia and New Zealand attendees, and speakers from Bangkok, Asia. The following text and explanations about priorities have been provided by symposium participants.

- Cook Islands
- 2. Fiji
- 3. French Polynesia
- 4. FSM
  - -Pohnpei
  - -Chuuk
- 5. Kiribati
- 6. Nauru
- 7. Palau
- 8. Papua New Guinea (PNG)
- 9. Samoa
- 10. Solomon Islands
- 11. Tokelau
- 12. Tonga
- 13. Tuvalu
- 14. Vanuatu

Also: Pacific Disability Forum and Pacific Sexual and Gender Diversity Network (PSGDN)

COUNTRY	PRIORITIES
Cook Islands	Priorities:
	1.Educate: Educate government, NGOs, CSOs, businesses and communities about TFGBV through trainings and awareness programs.
	2.Review: Review existing national frameworks related to ICT and DV matters, to clearly include TFGBV.
	Next steps/wishlist (initiatives ahead):
	1.Educate:

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- Police 1-year plan to train front-liners, CIB and new recruits on GFH & GBV TFGBV.
- ICT Policy Centralised Government system for addressing cybersecurity issues and attacks.
- Train INTAFF Family Protection Unit on TFGBV.

#### 2.Review:

- Assess the severity of TFBGV in the Cook Islands through a rapid assessment to provide evidence-based recommendations.
- ICT Policy new offences involving computers proposed in the Crimes Bill 2019.
- Have the NSDA capture TFGBV cases.
- Include data into CEDAW and CSW outcome reports and discussions.

# What has been working:

Cook Islands News – media charter.

Public Facebook pages – administrated responsibly.

ICT – Get Safe Online Cook Islands Website – online safety.

## Need for improvements: .

Lack of knowledge and awareness.

No legislation in the Cook Islands that adequately targets cybercrime.

Implementation of the Harassment Act 2017.

Capturing, monitoring and reporting system.

# Fiji

# Generally:

Have TFGBV included in a multi pronged approach as was done in Fiji for the 2008-12 Fiji National Initiative on Civic Education (NICE) Project (UNDP with support from EU, MFAT and the Government of Fiji) getting in all stakeholders and getting messages and training for all sectors.

## Specifically:

The following could be addressed.

- 1. Review legal frameworks so that it has a civil component and ability to sue and make individuals and companies accountable and not just criminal. To follow the Australian Legal System in regards to cybersafety and TFGBV.
- 2. Support existing networks.
- a. DIVA: Supporting Feminist Free School. Help in their infrastructure; accessibility and awareness of TFGBV.
- **b. FemLINK Pacific:** Support the media network to help in advocacy and information dissemination specifically, Support the radio station (Radio 89FM ), support of the WWW network, rural Convenings and general media advocacy and research on TFGBV.
- c. FWCC: Gender Sensitization training to be further strengthened.















French Polynesia	Priorities: 1. Priority National: French State plans to open an office to combat violence against women. 2. Priority territorial: Open emergency accommodation centers for people who are victims of violence, review regulations to protect victims of violence and set up a toll-free number.
	Next steps/wishlist:  Define cybersecurity  Improve the acquisition of digital skills, in particular by young people, women and people in vulnerable situations (training)  Information, Dissemination, prevention
FSM -Pohnpei -Chuuk	Priorities:  1.Amending the existing laws to be inclusive of victim services and implement the TOR for the protection cluster working group. (Noting the Obscene and Offensive Act was recently passed.)  2.To have counseling programs for the victims and counseling training/class for first responder or relevant stakeholders  3.Projects: Safe House/ Shelter (Safe space to assist victims and survivors of TFGBV); Micronesian regional Gender Equality Framework.  Next steps/wishlist:  TFGBV to be placed in school system and to implement or enforcement of the Obscene and Offensive Act and all relevant to GBV  Pacific Girl Young women empowerment program project / to have a Cyber security [component].
Kiribati	<ul> <li>Referral Pathway / Collaboration on relevant services providers</li> <li>Awareness raising</li> <li>Priorities:         <ul> <li>Review legal frameworks and develop digital literacy programmes and awareness</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	2: Invest in Data collection and research to better understand the prevalence, nature and impact of TFGBV at the national level 3: Foster collaboration in the region and with international ICT bodies to share best practices, experiences and resources in addressing TFGBV
	<ul> <li>Kiribati next steps/wishlist:</li> <li>MWYSSA &amp; MICTD to work together to address TFGBV – review legal frameworks</li> <li>Engaging male advocate group- KMBC and JSS GBV advocates</li> <li>Digital literacy and digital citizenship, empowerment of women, girls and the marginalized groups through ICT</li> <li>Capacity building – Justice system (Police, OAG, Judiciary) to respond to TFGBV, handling of digital evidence, etc</li> </ul>
Nauru	Priorities:

Pacific Cyber Safety Symposium













1. (National): Complete the policies that will form the structure of the Department for endorsement by cabinet. 2. (National): Review of the DVFP Act 2017 3. (Regional): Capture learnings and synergy of the work undertaken by RWG on DV/FP Laws. Next steps/wishlist: Visibility of the issues surrounding TFGBV Learnings by all stakeholders on what their roles are in response to TFGBV Ensuring that the regulatory frameworks are grounded legally Palau **Priorities:** 1.Streamline GBV 2. Update & Pass Legislation 3.Strengthen FPA. Next steps/wishlist:

- Central Database
- Update & Pass Legislation
- Connect COMMS and other partners.

# Papua New Guinea (PNG)

Government legislation and the political will to see this issue addressed: declare a national state of emergency.

- a. Government to recognise it as a big problem, and to declare it as a national state of emergency, because this is impacting lives of young people, families.
- b. The national resources of the country can be pulled together such as police govt agencies and civil society orgs to come together and work together to put a stop to this.
- c. This will help to form an emergency community, where the police get involved, and various public and civil agencies and departments to work together to address it.
- d. These issues are cross-cutting and generational. These young people are going to be corrupted and distracted en-masse, and our countries are going to suffer when these young people become adults and bring forth children and start families, and the future doesn't look bright if we continue down this trajectory.
- 2. Government to pass laws to require technology companies, like social media platforms, to conform to certain national standards and requirements, such as what India did in 2021, by introducing rules social media companies are required to comply by or face a ban.
- a. Now that we have a national internet gateway by NICTA, to be used to monitor and ensure those requirements that align with the national laws, policies, traditions and norms of the country, to adhere to our standards.

Pacific Cyber Safety Symposium













- b. Big tech firms such as Meta, Microsoft, and Google should use the power of AI and the power of large language models (you can train large language models to monitor such behaviours such as hate speech, grooming) to detect such behaviour of bad actors).
- Big tech companies can be a part of the solution. They have a social and community responsibility/obligation to do whatever they can within their power to ensure their systems are safe.
- No one is asking the big techs on how they can improve their technologies to make sure users are safe online. Companies have a business, social and morale responsibility to ensure their technologies are safe for their users to use.
- The issue has not only gotten worse, but it's got multi-dimensional.
- One platform can be used in multiple ways to carry out all these activities.
- So the tech companies should have a social, morale and business responsibility to ensure their users, both young and old, male and female, are protected and have a fare and safe experience online.
- 3. Alignment of key stakeholders who are a part of the prevention, referral pathways, and responsive process, to ensure governments, policy makers and regulators, law enforcement, CSOs, and other online safety stakeholders have clarified their roles and responsibilities, and understand where they come in when it comes to preventing and addressing TFGBV.
- 4. More education programs that teach responsible use of the internet, and other social media platforms teaching kids and young people how use and surf the web safely, as well as acceptable behaviours on online.
- a. More focus needs to be on educating young people of the dangers available online that they need to be aware of, and how to respond to different scenarios and cases of TFGBV.

#### Samoa

# **Priorities:**

- 1. The development and strengthening of legislation and policies which specifically addresses online safety and TFGBV:
  - Creating and developing new laws/policies
  - Amend existing laws to clearly define and criminalize/illegal online harassment, cyberbullying, revenge porn, abusive text messages and other forms of digital gender-based violence.
  - Review the outdated National Cybersecurity Strategy
  - Plan: implement a Cybersecurity Act with the inclusion of TFGBV
- 2. Raising public awareness about online safety and TFGBV:
  - Allocate resources to develop comprehensive education campaigns that target both the general public and specific vulnerable groups
  - Provide information for these educational campaigns in order to recognize, prevent and report instances of online harassment and violence. Additionally, this can help to dispel stereotypes that contribute to the normalization of such behavior
  - · SamCERT under MCIT focuses mainly on online safety to engage all about online safety and TFGBV

# Next steps/wishlist:

• Update and review existing legislations with the inclusion of TFGBV

# SAFE AND EQUAL ONLINE SPACES Pacific Cyber Safety Symposium













- Develop policies to address TFGBV
  - Awareness programs to engage communities through the Districts Development Programs with the inclusion of TFGBV.

#### Solomon Islands

#### Priorities

## Top two priorities:

- Conduct a mini snap research on TFGBV in the country
- Gender analysis of the (final draft) Cyber Crime Bill (policy and legislative reforms)
- TBC: Nation-wide awareness and advocacy on TFGBV and laws that protects one from TFGBV

## Wishlist

#### Other priorities

- Establish a technical working group (this group here) to provide initial oversight to the implementation of these priorities while we work out the official coordination mechanism (then establish a coordination mechanism to enhance unified approach across all sectors).
- Nation-wide awareness and advocacy on TFGBV and laws that protects one from TFGBV. Start with:
  - MCC and CCC conduct awareness in Malaita and CCC and surrounding communities, respectively (have to find a standard approach)
  - TFGBV training and awareness for people with disability
- MOU with tech companies (also to support nation wide awareness and advocacy as their corporate social responsibility)
- Connect with Swipe Safe project (for in-country education initiative)
- Incorporate TFGBV into SAFENET database.

# For SPC

• To compile all TFGBV legislations (expand the list compiled in the Symposium to include details of provisions) in the region and make available to all countries

# Tokelau

#### **Priorities:**

- 1. (National) Endorsement of Draft Cyber Communication Rules. Complete Ongoing Developments following the endorsement of the draft rules that require amendments other rules such as Teletok Rules 1996
- 2 (National): Awareness & Educational Programmes on cyber bullying and inter-island Consultations.

# Commented [JB1]:

# Top two priority

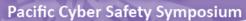
- Conduct a mini snap research on TFGBV in the country
- •Gender analysis of the cyber crime bill

## Other priorities

- •Establish a technical working group (this group here) to provide initial oversight to the implementation of these priorities while we work out the official coordination mechanism
- •MOU with tech companies (also to support nation wide awareness and advocacy as their corporate social responsibility)
- •Connect with Swifpe Safe project
- •TFGBV training and awareness for people with disability
- •Incorporate TFGBV into SAFENET database
- MCC and CCC conduct awareness in Malaita and CCC and surrounding communities, respectively (have to find a standard approach)

## For SPC

•To compile all TFGBV legislations (expand the list compiled in the Symposium to include details of provisions) in the region and make available to all countries















	Next steps/wishlist: General Fono of Tokelau to endorse the Draft Cyber Communication Rules. Establishment of Children and Family Protection Legislations for Tokelau. To have sufficient and adequate skilled technical staff and resources.
Tonga	Priorities: 1. Coordination and awareness raising: -Raise community awareness about TFGBV, including awareness of key stakeholders responsible for implementing laws who may have staff unaware of the TFGBV and its complex natureOperationalize / Revitalize the 'Awareness & Education' Cyber Safety Sub Committee (of the National Cyber Safety Committee).
	2.Legal frameworks:  - More comprehensive laws are needed to cover all forms of GBV/TFGBV  - Continuously improve implementation of legislation, such as the new Electronic Communication Abuse Offences Act 2020, which will require more training and capacity development to ensure all parties understand the law and how to implement it. For example, [National Cyber Safety Committee] Enactment of Relevant Cyber Crime/Safety Bills (supported by Funding/Technical Assistance for Police Investigators).
	3.Research Research is required as we need to know more about TFGBV from a Pacific perspective and better understand its impacts. Potentially this could be an added component in future intimate partner prevalence studies across the Pacific.
	4. Counselling Services  Counselling Services to incorporate online resources, support and services and increase visibility of the issues through awareness and education to the community.
	5.Education sector -School curriculum to teach girls and boys they are equal value, teach them early about the safe use of technology and how to report any type of violine online and offline.
	6. Faith based organisations to get involved, and have programs about TFGBV – what it is and actions to help prevent it.  – this space is very influential across the Pacific.  - churches who play a major role in Tonga should have programmes on TFGBV available for members to learn about, and have tools to help them prevent it from happening in their homes and with their families.













# Other priorities:

Pacific Cyber Safety Symposium

- -Induced Curriculum & Mainstreaming TFGBV into the Education System (Education & NGOs)
- -Revitalize Outer Islands Working Group & [introduce a] National Survey on TFGBV under the supervision of MIA Cyber Safety Working Group. Need for a Cyber Safety Symposium
- -Rehabilitation of Perpetrators & Continued Counselling for Family/Society Integration (Justice System & Crisis Centers)

# Next steps/wishlist:

Operationalize the 'Awareness & Education' Cyber Safety Sub Committee within Tonga's National Cyber Safety Committee: The Cyber Safety Sub Committee focuses on Awareness & Education (Chaired by Ministry of Internal Affairs, Members Ministry of Education and Training, Ministry of Police, Attorney General's Office, Cyber Emergency Response Team (CERT), UCAL, Digi, Talita Project, NGOs & Others.

# Background

- The National Cyber Safety Committee approved by Cabinet Decision CD) in 2012
- The Sub Committees
- Cyber Safety Sub Committee: Awareness & Education (Chaired by Ministry of Internal Affairs, Members Ministry of Education and Training, Ministry of Police, Attorney General's Office, Cyber Emergency Response Team (CERT), UCAL, Digi, Talitha Project & NGOs (Focus on awareness and education)
- Cyber Emergency Response Team (CERT) Chaired by MEIDECC
- Cyber Crime Members Chaired by Ministry of Police

## Legislations that may be in relation to the TFGBV

- Electronic Communications Abuse Offences Act 2020 (Offence Using a service to abuse and cause harm by posting an electronic communication, using a service to bully, menace, harass or cause harm)
- Computer Crimes Act 2019 ------Computer Crimes Bill 2019 (how you collect and use electronic evidence)
- Criminal Offences Act 1926 ------Amendment 2019
- Family Protection Act 2013----------- "harassment" means engaging in a pattern of conduct that induces psychological abuse or the fear of harm b) repeatedly making unwarranted phone call or inducing another to make such phone call to the person c) repeatedly sending, delivering or causing the delivering of unwanted letters, packages, other objects, facts, text messages or other electronic mail to the person.

## **Government Support**

The TFGBV work and interventions may support the implementation of the Family Protection Act 2013. We acknowledge the Ministry of Internal Affairs and available grants to support the work of youth women and gender, and the persons with the disability.















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Tuvalu	Priorities:
	- National:
	1.Review FPDV Act and to include TFGBV
	2.Raising awareness. 16 days of activism. Dialogue/Roundtables
	3.Develop guidelines for parents & guardians
	4.Develop brief for all Island Magistrates, Office of the Attorney General & Police
	- Regional:
	5.TFGBV reflected in regional efforts: Follow up on the PIFWLM outcomes; Recommendations to the next ICT conference to include TFGBV
	Next steps/wishlist:
	16 Days of Activism – roundtables and dialogues
	Review FPDV Act 2014.
Vanuatu	Priorities:
	Public Awareness in the Communities, targeting adults/parents. This will be done with our outreach awareness program. TIV can start this on Efate     This will be done with our outreach awareness program. TIV can start this on Efate     This will be done with our outreach awareness program. TIV can start this on Efate     This will be done with our outreach awareness program. TIV can start this on Efate
	in the first year.
	• Awareness in High Schools in Vila & Efate targeting youths/vulnerable. To start with, TIV will visit all the High Schools in Vila and Efate Island, in the
	first year. Partnerships:
	Partnership with OGCIO (office of Government Chief Information Officer).      Partnership with National Youth Council.
	Partnership with National Youth Council.      Partnership with VANGO Members (Vanuatu Association of Non-Government Organizations). Some CSOs work with Youths, young girls &women,
	etc.
	Funding:
	Funding. Scattered islands, bad roads and unpredictable weather means that travel around the country, outside Vila is expensive.
	Need funds to work with the CSOs working for youths, girls, vulnerable.
	Need to engage young people as Champions.
	Theme: The internet or the world wide web should be a Safe space for all
Pacific Disability	Priorities:
Forum	1. Review current legislation in place to strengthen its implementation as well as ensure that it is inclusive of persons with disabilities. (with
	reference to Fiji) for other Pacific island countries, the need to have laws that include TFGBV and also cater for persons with disabilities.
	2. Inclusion of cyber security, SOP, rules in the main stream education system. Start at an early age.

Pacific Sexual and Gender Diversity Network (PSGDN)

# Draft text pending approval:

- In addressing TFGBV in the Pacific, it is critical to support advocacy and participation with people of diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC) as digital rights stakeholders. It is critical to promote human rights, equitable digital access, inclusion, and participation for people of diverse SOGIESC as part of addressing TFGBV.
- 2. Digital technologies are showing great potential in efforts to address GBV, violence, abuse, harassment, and exploitation of women, girls, and people of diverse sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, and sex characteristics (SOGIESC). At the same time, GBV is emerging as a significant problem in the digital sphere, with negative implications for women's and girls' digital safety, access, and inclusion (Fascendini and Fialová 2011, cited in the <u>USAID</u> 'Addressing GBV Through Technology Programs' report.)

**ENDS**