



Women In Media & Communications
Solomon Islands

Solomon Islands Inaugural Feminist Forum Report



DATE: 5-6 December 2022
VENUE: Holy Cross Hall
Honiara, Solomon Islands

The Pacific feminist forum 2022 is a regional initiative program that represents the Pacific and feminism movement.

BACKGROUND

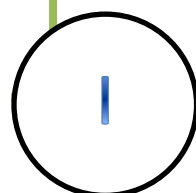
The Pacific feminist forum recognised the need to embrace the collective power of feminism movement at community, national and regional levels, therefore part of the Pacific feminist forum Strategic Plan, for the first time included clear outcomes for local feminist leaders and feminist organizations to provide space for more feminist programs in Pacific, using the power of feminist and innovative collaborative approaches to address feminism issues and needs.

The Non-government organisations (NGO) such as Feminist Organisations and some private women lead entrepreneurs have committed themselves in working together on feminism movement for Solomon Islands.

Everyone recognises that the influence that feminist organisations and women lead entrepreneurs have for promoting women and girls is very significant here, knowing the influence coverage in all communities in Solomon Islands and Pacific at large. The local feminist organizations also recognises that majority of Activist that have been working very hard have reach out to provide support for the feminist and feminism program in Solomon Islands.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

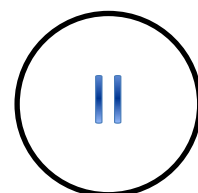
Thank you to the Fiji Women's Rights Movement team for your leadership, trust and confidence in Women in Media and Communication Solomon Islands for taking the lead in organizing the inaugural Feminist forum for Solomon Islands. Acknowledge UN Women, Spotlight, the European Union, World Bank, and Australian Aid for your generous supports.



CONTENT PAGE



<i>Background</i>	<i>i</i>
<i>Acknowledgement</i>	<i>i</i>
<i>Introduction</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Objectives</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Methodology</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Forum Overview</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Opening Remarks</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Women in Business</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Matavale Women association and empowerment Project</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Women in Leadership, Politic and Development</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Health and Sex Workers</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>Biodiversity Indigenous Community Project</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>What is feminism in the context of Solomon Islands</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Gaps and Opportunities</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>Outcome Statement</i>	<i>24</i>
<i>Reflection</i>	<i>26</i>



Women in Media and Communication Solomon Islands

Acknowledge the Leadership, trust and confidence rendered by Women in Media and Communication Solomon Islands for taken the lead in organising and mobilizing the participating organizations representatives to the inaugural Feminist forum for Solomon Islands.

Inaugural National Feminist Forum

The First Ever inaugural National Feminist Forum for Solomon Islands was successfully held in Honiara from Monday 5th to Tuesday 6th December 2022.

Participating Organizations

The inclusive working group mainly comprised of Women in Media, People with Disabilities, Development Service Exchange and key stakeholders including Honiara youth, Mere Care Social Entrepreneur, Matavale Women's Association, Sunday Isles Women Newspaper, Native Lens, SIPPA Solomon Islands Planned Parenthood, Living Sustainably, Solomon Islands National forum and ILukim Sustainability Solomon Islands (ISSI)

Slogan: Leave NO One Behind

The theme for the pacific feminist forum 2022 is 'embracing the collective power of our movement' with the slogan, 'leave no one behind'.

INTRODUCTION

Objectives

The focus of the forum is to build relationships between feminist, women's rights organisations and key stakeholders, as well as areas of potential collaboration between these organisations, and feminism initiatives led by the collective effort and support network for Solomon Islands. Furthermore, the forum will be an opportunity to seek support from feminist organisations to potentially provide technical advice and partnership in related feminism activities. There will be a significant opportunity to collaborate and engage in two-way sharing and learning, for example, the pacific feminist network can provide guidance on feminist theory and the local context connections to feminism organisations, and key stakeholders organisations can provide feminism definition based on Solomon Islands context as feminism is a new term in Solomon Islands situation.



The **FORUM** **OVERVIEW**

The facilitator Ender Rence from Women in Media Solomon Islands provides an overview and introduces the forum agenda based on the following:

Start with an introduction. Brief introduction of the participants, which organizations they have represented and highlight some related and relevant information which would be helpful for the forum.

Announce the subject and duration of the forum. This is where the participants were informed about feminism as the key subject by pointing out the forum program contents, topics and the duration of the forum.

Explain the purpose of the forum. Go through and remind the participants of the purpose, objectives and what the expected outcomes of the forum.

Explain why the participants were chosen to be there. The participants of feminist organizations and representatives whose expertise and work experience on feminist and women projects and programs implemented by respective organizations

METHODOLOGY

- ✓ **Mobilization**
- ✓ **Invited Speakers**
- ✓ **Group Discussion**
- ✓ **Group Presentation**
- ✓ **Questions / Comments / Response**
- ✓ **Reflections**

OPENNING REMARKS

The outcome of this forum will inform the participating feminist leaders to be able to design and develop strategic actions for effective and efficient implementation, collaboration and achieving the goals and objectives outcomes of feminises movement enhance empowering and provide space for women supporting women and women working with men in Solomon Islands.

The increasing focus on feminist based organizations; they play important roles to deal with feminism issues and needs must be acknowledged and supported by the government and development partners.

Feminism definition in the context of Solomon Islands

Feminism is a new concept for many people in Solomon Islands

Strengthening network and relationship with feminist based organizations, key partners such as UN women, government through relevant ministries such as MWYCA, NGOs and other feminist movement is our way forward.

Women in Business by *Dr. Dona Marie Wate*



Speaker from:

MERE CARE SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR

Feminism message:

- ▶ *Health and medical issues affecting women*
- ▶ *Women Empowerment, business innovation and establishment*
- ▶ *Women Network and partnership in business*

Dr. Dona from Mere Care organization provides information about her privately owned social entrepreneur business. She has been involved in medical services serving the Solomon Islands Government as a general medical Doctor. She has learned a lot of lessons and believes in moving beyond her current engagement as a general doctor. A motivational feeling that fills her to venture into formally establishing a small business in medical and social health related business general practices in 2014.

She put more emphasis on her interests, dreams and on what she can enjoy in the social and medical entrepreneurship. She was utilizing an effective business practice that combined with medical, social and community awareness to change the lives of those in need. While she enjoys her education qualification as medical general practitioner and as a women, she also see the importance of the power of women and their collective effort to support the communities and especially

women to have access to programs and opportunities in the Solomon Islands, Pacific region and internationally.

She also shares about her business online approach by using social media to deliver her business. This online business is very new in the Pacific and particularly for Solomon Islands. She has shared her experiences and some of the opportunities to help women to have access to her network and that may be directly beneficial for women. A lot of motivational stories have been shared with women to get empowered especially in the income-generating activities. This is critical for family income, business making profits and the government revenue.

She highlights some of the challenges and opportunities based on her experiences. As a medical doctor going into operating and managing a private business is irrelevant with her field of studies and qualification. She is expecting more challenges to face and will not be easy for her. In most cases, business is about taking the risk; self-trust and having courage, enhances gaining advantages in the business management, making profits and business sustainability. The problems and challenges she has encountered become her lesson learned for more strategic work, making improvement, moving way forward and developing motivation.

Health and medical Issues affecting women

- Women addressing social health-related issues affecting women and girls in Solomon Islands
- Women dealing with the common diseases affecting women in Solomon Islands communities including but not limited to the human reproductive system problems, breast cancers and Diabetes are among many others.
- Impacts of life style on human health status of individuals and communities in Solomon Islands

Empowerment, innovation and business Establishment

- The Education power utilization in general medical services by female doctor in serving the Solomon Islands National Government.
- Education qualification a worthwhile achievement empowering women to engage and establish women lead business in Solomon Islands.
- Private sector women lead business establishment dealing with medical and health issues concerning women living in the local communities of Solomon Islands.

- Women empowerment and motivation in economic activities have owned and operated private businesses.
- Encouraging and strengthening Women Network with capacity to venture into medical business concerning women and youth health issues.
- Venturing into Social entrepreneurship aiming at empowering women to actively participate, innovate and develop online newly established business approach.
- Women online business marketing and innovation strategy for effective modern business development and advancement.
- Have dreams, set goals and possesses strong determination for the fulfillment of women potentials especially in business management and ownership.
- Provide health advisory services and business for the general public by working with the identified and selected communities; enhance supporting women, girls and children in Solomon Islands.

Women Network and business partnership

- Women support social work through networking and partnering with the communities in and around Honiara.
- Embracing women moving forward through networking and partnership with other potential women abroad.
- Promoting social marketing involving women participations at international forums.
- Networking and linking business partners at international, national and local levels for women in Solomon Islands.

Matavale Women's Association and Empowerment Projects

by: Ellen Kereau

Speaker from

MATAVALE WOMEN ASSOCIATION

Feminism message:

- ▶ *Women mobilization and association establishment*
- ▶ *Women empowerment project*
- ▶ *Networking and partnership*



Individual woman mobilization, community women network through working together initiative women group associations' establishment.

The Matavale Women Group Association was established in 2013 in Honiara to facilitate development concerning women that foster their social and economic inclusion or achievement. The women group association in some cases is also supporting the Government efforts to impact positive change, policy development and contribute to the national development frameworks allowing responsible authorities delivering a more efficient, equitable and accessible services especially in areas concern women, girls, children and disabilities.

The association development objective is to assist women of different background and ethnic groups, ensuring that vulnerable poor rural and urban women groups

take advantage of sustainable socio-economic development opportunities through adequate, rights-based and gender-sensitive policies implemented by authorities, Solomon Islands government and their partners.

We do this through community mobilization and empowerment projects with access to funds that improved the association implementation development programs. These include community women group office setup, get assistance for the most vulnerable groups, women, youth, children, disabilities and the organizations activities. Beneficiary communities are actively involved in planning, setting up, coordination, management and ensuring they are fully participated in decision making and ownership.

Provided updates that include the association implementation experiences for 2022 - 2023 on the community mobilization and empowerment projects that support the vulnerable Women and impacts community activities and benefits in Honiara and rural areas.

The women association seeks help to support their community empowerment and engagement activities through the contribution of individuals, community members, and partner organizations.

- Small household livelihood activities through empowering family members especially children involvement and active participations
- Innovation to mobilise women to raise their voice on issues concerning women and girls in the community
- Utilizing young women with good qualification to manage the women projects and programs
- Volunteering effort to sustain the challenge of financial inadequacy and other resources gaps
- Working with husband on genuine support arrangements for the project proposals
- Working with women in Honiara and across Solomon Islands nine provinces.

- Effective and efficiency project coordination and women initiative to set up office in Honiara.
- Creating Change for women through women supporting each other, networking and collaboration with key partners.
- The women association activities have been expanded to rural communities by implementing women lead projects in Makira Ulawa province.

Discussion points

- **Organization contact:** Organization contact and its establishment office in Honiara, Solomon Islands.
- **Women organization Management:** despite all our differences, we stand in solidarity to establish, create and impact positive change in our communities.
- **Inclusive implementation approach:** one of the organization key objectives is working on issues concern the women, girls, youths, children and people with disabilities in the communities.
- **Women Network and partnership:** Networking among women within town ground residential area and nearby communities and working in partnership with potential development partners on projects.
- **Documentation and Access:** Documentation and have access to women associations' information, project and program activities.
- **Participation:** Active participation by women in decision making and benefits.
- **Motivation Advice on women support:** encourage and learn to appreciate each other others work, potentials and showing love for one another.
- **Building Confidence:** Working towards women organization establishment, community resilience and sustainability.

Women in leadership, politics and development *by: Watson Puiahi*

Watson Puiahi founder and Director of ISSI ILukim Sustainability Solomon Islands delivers presentation based on his survey findings report Title: “Women Vote Women Survey” in Honiara, Solomon Islands.

Women Member in Parliament is a long existing concern since Solomon Islands gained its independence in 1978 as evidenced with little or no effort done by responsible authorities and key stakeholders. Recently the agenda was actively coordinated and supported by international and regional agencies, national and local networks in Solomon Islands.

The posing barriers for women member in parliament involve a lot of contributing factors including women themselves. Women support for women is critical, confusing, lacking and is vested among women themselves which is an outstanding issue that this survey attempts to prove for Solomon Islands.

The women vote women survey (WVWS) follows a focus group data collection approach. The survey hypothesis is; WOMEN DO NOT SUPPORT WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP & POLITICS and it is a statement that this survey was trying to prove or disapprove. To achieve this and have an in- depth understanding of the statement, ILukim Sustainability Solomon Islands (ISSI), a local

Speaker from

ILUKIM SUSTAINABILITY SOLOMON ISLANDS (ISSI)

Feminism message:

- ▶ *Posing barriers for women member in Parliament*
- ▶ *Ordinary and professional women perception on women political leadership*
- ▶ *Women do not support women in leadership, politics and development*
- ▶ *Women support women and Women work with men approaches*

NGO has formulated questionnaires and used it to conduct the women vote women survey in Honiara.

The purpose of the survey has been to provide information and statistics that are reliable and evidence based about women voting women in leadership and politics.

The women vote women survey aims at interviewing women about their perception, critical thinking and the level of support for a woman candidate to contest leadership in politics through the national general election democratic system.

Survey objectives

- ✓ To critically analyze women's perception, critical thinking and support for woman candidate in leadership and politics
- ✓ To capture the different levels of confidence that women have about women candidate to the national parliament of Solomon Islands.
- ✓ Local women to aware and realize their own ignorance as a posing barrier to gain political leadership in parliament.
- ✓ The information and data collected will be used to find ways forward to strengthen women voting women member in Parliament.
- ✓ This report is available for education, advocacy, awareness, mobilization and planning for impacting attitude change, behavior change and decision making for voting women candidates to ensure balance of power is exercised in Solomon Islands.

***PERCEPTION
ANALYSIS***

***There is NO right or
wrong answers***

DECISION FACTORS

- ***Jealousy***
- ***Culture***
- ***Religion***

***DIFFERENT TYPES OF
WOMEN ARE:***

***Ordinary women and
professional women***

***STRATEGIC
APPROACH***

***Women support
Women and
Women work with
Men***

Women do not support women in leadership, politics and development

Perception analysis outcomes indicated that there is no wrong and either right answer from respondent, however their views and opinions are different.

Women perceived women in leadership and politics has been influenced by different factors including but not limited to jealousy, cultural and region factors and the different types of women in our society. The survey indicated that there are two types of women existed in Solomon Islands, first the ordinary women and secondly the professional women. Formally a professional woman refers to those highly qualified and involved or participated in professional works. Ordinary women refers to women are not formally engaged however are useful in community activities and family daily leadership and management especially those living in rural areas.

The finding shows that the 6 Women including the former and current women members in parliament and provincial assembly in Solomon Islands have gained their political power because they were supported mainly by men.

In terms of jealousy, the professional women indicated with high percentage compare to ordinary women towards women in leadership and politics.

Ordinary women have high percentage believing that women leaders should ascribed to cultural and religious consideration. Professional with low rate believes that it doesn't matter if women leaders relate them to culture and religion.

The women members themselves revealed this and it also evidence in our communities as far as men supporting women in leadership and politic

is concerned.

The survey strategic approaches which can be of assistance to future women candidate has to apply this approach Women support women and women work

with men approach. Managing women feelings is critical that whenever women are working with women, it is important to develop a feeling of supporting each other than competition against each other especially within the professional spaces. If a woman candidate wants to win leadership and politics, it is critical to work with men.

Questions, Comments and responses

What are some examples of how you have been working with or supporting women?

- Support women candidates in their political campaign and awareness in Solomon Islands
- Work with women organizations project proposals and other professional supports
- Hire for doing some of the consultancy work towards supporting women program and projects in Solomon Islands.
- Advocate for woman rights and freedom to meaningfully engage in economic and social development in Solomon Islands.

Was it international or local organization research initiative?

- The perception survey was locally initiated and conducted by local organization ISSI; ILukim Sustainability Solomon Islands.
- The survey report is local intellectual property of ISSI ILukim Sustainability Solomon Islands.
- Having integrated professional and local knowledge is a capacity we have developed for providing advice, strategies and contributed to the development of Solomon Islands.

Research finding impacts on National General Election

- The survey result analysis provides information for awareness and campaign strategic plan for women candidates in the future.

Was the Feminism developed due to masculine?

- A radical organized female movement and empowering women socially, economic and political spaces and inclusions due depression and sexism or sexist locally and at global level.

Health and Sex Worker Issue: by Lawrence

One of the staff members Mr Lawrence from SIPPA made presentation based on his work concern women and youth's health and sexual violence sex workers project implemented particularly in Honiara, Malaita, Western and Isabel provinces in Solomon Islands.

SIPPA governance: SIPPA is the leading NGO in providing Sexual & Reproductive Health & Family Planning information and services in Solomon Islands. SIPPA is a full member of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) head office in London and its regional office in Suva, Fiji. For the last 40 years, SIPPA had formally established its office in Honiara and setup centres in the provinces.

Project: the project involved partnership with key stakeholder on sexual reproductive system and planning, providing sexual services, health and clinic and training on feminism related issues.

Project approach: The project approach is "living no one behind" including disabilities and ensuring recognition and addressing with sex workers in the society.

Sex worker issue: Sexual violation issues such as sex workers in Solomon Islands are real mainly affecting the youth especially young girls. The issue is critical that SIPPA was struggling with how to overcome the challenges especially dealing with sex workers confidentiality, promoting safety and mobilizing victims to regain their lives back to the society.

Victims: Most of the sex workers victims come from broken home due to poor parenting, divorces and disunity between father and mother.

Accessibility: SIPPA is providing technical assistance that victims can have access such as technical training and pregnancy counselling and education. SIPPA also

Speaker from

SOLOMON ISLANDS PLANNED PARENTHOOD ASSOCIATION (SIPPA)

Feminism message:

- ▶ *Dedicate to supporting access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health information, Education and Services*

provides service for sex workers safety and healthy relationship while at the same time rehabilitating vulnerable victims with live-skills activities.

Question / comments

- ✓ Personal and cultural challenges when dealing with sex workers
- ✓ Sensitive around Sex workers privacy
- ✓ Respecting Sex workers space
- ✓ Identify I know their number and who they are

- ✓ Connecting approaches through Facebook friends, arrange in person meeting and having lunch together
- ✓ Training victims and linking them to opportunity
- ✓ Partnership through SIPPA Membership



Feminism issues affecting women and girls are violence against our own families, society and country.

Biodiversity indigenous Community Project Presentation by: NIPSI

Empowering Indigenous people to address customary land, biodiversity, traditional knowledge, review environment law and affiliate with other organizations and government.

Review current policies adequacy using indigenous peoples lens and if the polices have included issues concern women and youth affairs. First we have reviewed the fisheries and forest policies to ensure women are included.

Women have directly affected by Extractive industries such as Mining and logging in Solomon Islands and the need to support women and youth in the future is fundamental action requiring quick intervention at different levels by different institutions and organizations.

MOU: we have used memorandum of understanding approach with partner organizations including national and provincial government especially on the community biodiversity project.

Women play important role in conservation and as such the community biodiversity project was directly involve women and youth participation.

The National Strategic Action Plan (NSAP) clearly indicated the sustainable development goal of action including environment and biodiversity conservation.

Our work will have impacts on national report on the commitment of the UN conventions on biodiversity and participation of women or gender equality.

We believe in community support for change and community in taking the leading role in community development projects. We have established community halls in the community we are working.

Speaker from

NETWORK FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLE SOLOMON ISLANDS (NIPSI)

Feminism message:

- Women focus
- Advocacy
- Biodiversity community project

Women participation in the project at its initiative state, development state and we have used women lens to review forest and fisheries policies in Solomon Islands.

Governance issues in terms of indigenous people and their land and natural resources. At the end of the day, the Solomon Islands law recognise people and their existence however are still informal meaning that their resources is subject to alienation, weak governance and poor participation in decision making and benefits. The laws only cater for individuals or foreigners with money and state to benefit more from the natural resources and are exposed to exploitation.

What is Feminism in the context of Solomon Islands?

It is generally agreed that at its core, feminism is **the belief in full social, economic, and political equality for women**. Feminism largely arose in response to Western traditions that restricted the rights of women, but feminist thought has global manifestations and variations. In this exercise we have shared ideas to what extends feminism could mean for Solomon Islands context.



THE WORD FEMINISM

F - Female

E - Empowerment

M- Male

I - Involvement

N- National

I - Interest

S - Solidarity

M - Movement

The word FEMINISM in summary

Female Empowerment: Women's empowerment to promote women's sense of self-worth, their ability to determine their own choices, and their right to influence social and economic change for themselves and the people of Solomon Islands.

Male involvement: Male champions' involvement in women programs is a practice wherein male community members actively participate in caring for women and supporting their affairs to access better life and proper services. There is positive association between male involvement and better women development program outcomes

National Interest: That the feminism policies concern women affairs is a national interest as part of sovereign state's goals and ambitions, taken to be the aim of government.

Solidarity Movement: an Independent Self-Governing women movement "Solidarity", is a Refinement women movement founded during the feminism regional forum November 2022 at Holy cross hall, Honiara, Solomon Islands. Subsequently, it was the first feminism forum in Solomon Islands recognised by the regional Fiji women association coordinated program.



Women's right: The group have realization of women's empowerment and gender equality towards the protection of the rights and improving the lives of women and girls. This has freedom to express them freely without violence and be able to make decision that can have impacts positive change. The rights come with responsibility by women and girls in any society.

New word: the word feminism is a new concept for Solomon Islands.

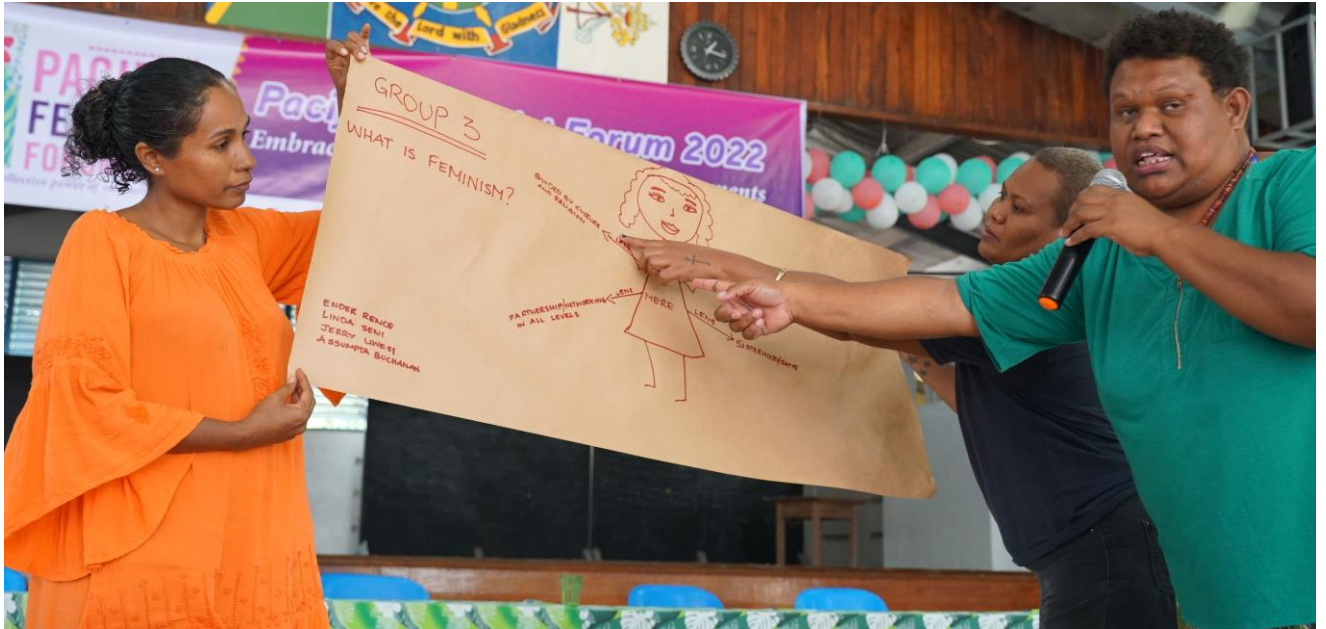
Including men: feminism movement in Solomon Islands not only involved women and girls however recognise men participation and taking part of feminism programs.

Women leadership: leadership is vested upon female

Stakeholders: recognised the feminism network of key stakeholders including the individuals, groups, private sector, NGO and government.

Women groups: that all women's group are feminism activists in Solomon Islands who directly promoting feminism.

Advocate for equality: feminism advocacy program will have impacts on national policies

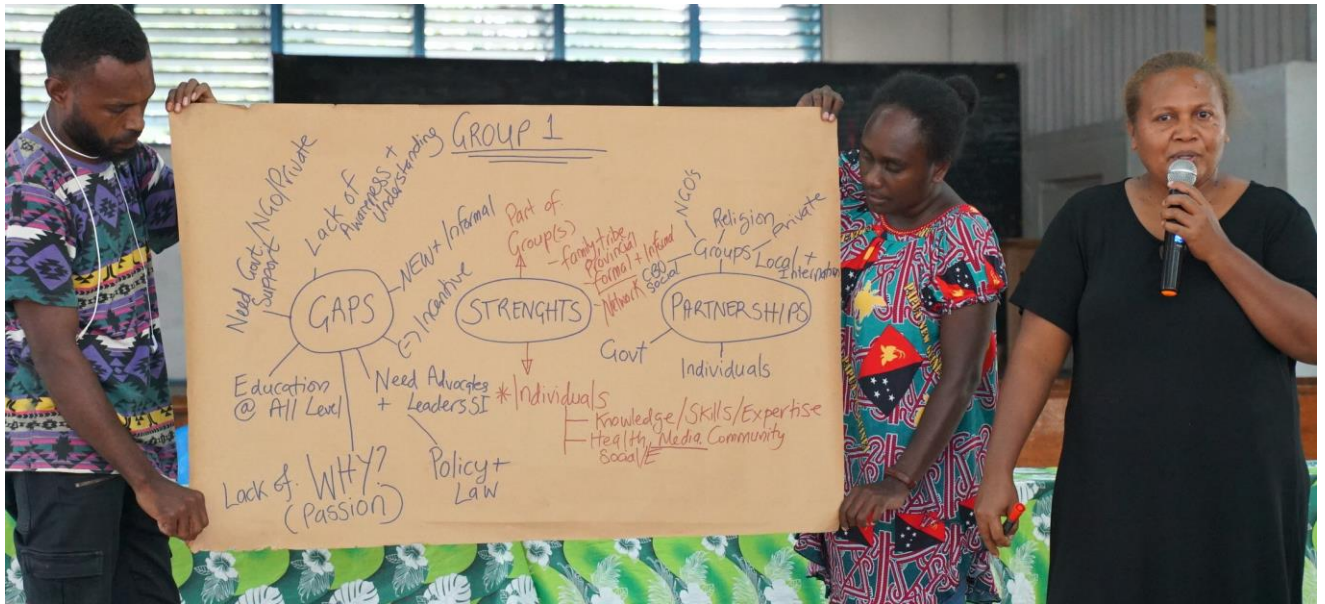


If feminism is to be different, it must acknowledge through women or Mere lens from the Solomon Islands context based on accepted cultural identity, challenges and opportunity significance for peace and justice. We need to be attentive to how the past enters differently into the realization of other historical periods and is further subdivided by a host of other factors including gender, caste, and class. The sisterhood networking and partnering in feminism movement has to be guided well by our culture and religion in the context of Solomon Islands.

Gaps and opportunities

Gap analysis:

- Pick a focus feminism point for discussion and assess.
- We work out our goals. Assess how we can improve, and then outlining a plan to make it happen
- Bridge the gap and finding opportunities for more effective feminism program for Solomon Islands



Identifying the strengths

- Individuals
- Part of groups
- Formal / informal
- Network

Partnership

- Individuals
- Government
- Groups such as CBO, NGOs, local and International organizations

Identifying the gaps

- Lack of awareness and understanding
- New and informal
- Need Advocate to political leaders or policy makers
- Required education at all levels
- Need government, NGOs and private sector support
- Lack of passion or desire

MAPPING & CONNECTING...

- Female Empowerment
- Male Involvement
- National Interest
- Solidarity Movement.

→ FEMALE EMPOWERMENT

- Lack of Support
- Lack of Awareness
- Resources

→ MALE INVOLVEMENT

- Awareness
- Support
- Male champions
- Stakeholders

→ NATIONAL INTERESTS

- Policy / Constitution
- Curriculum
- Nation-wide Awareness

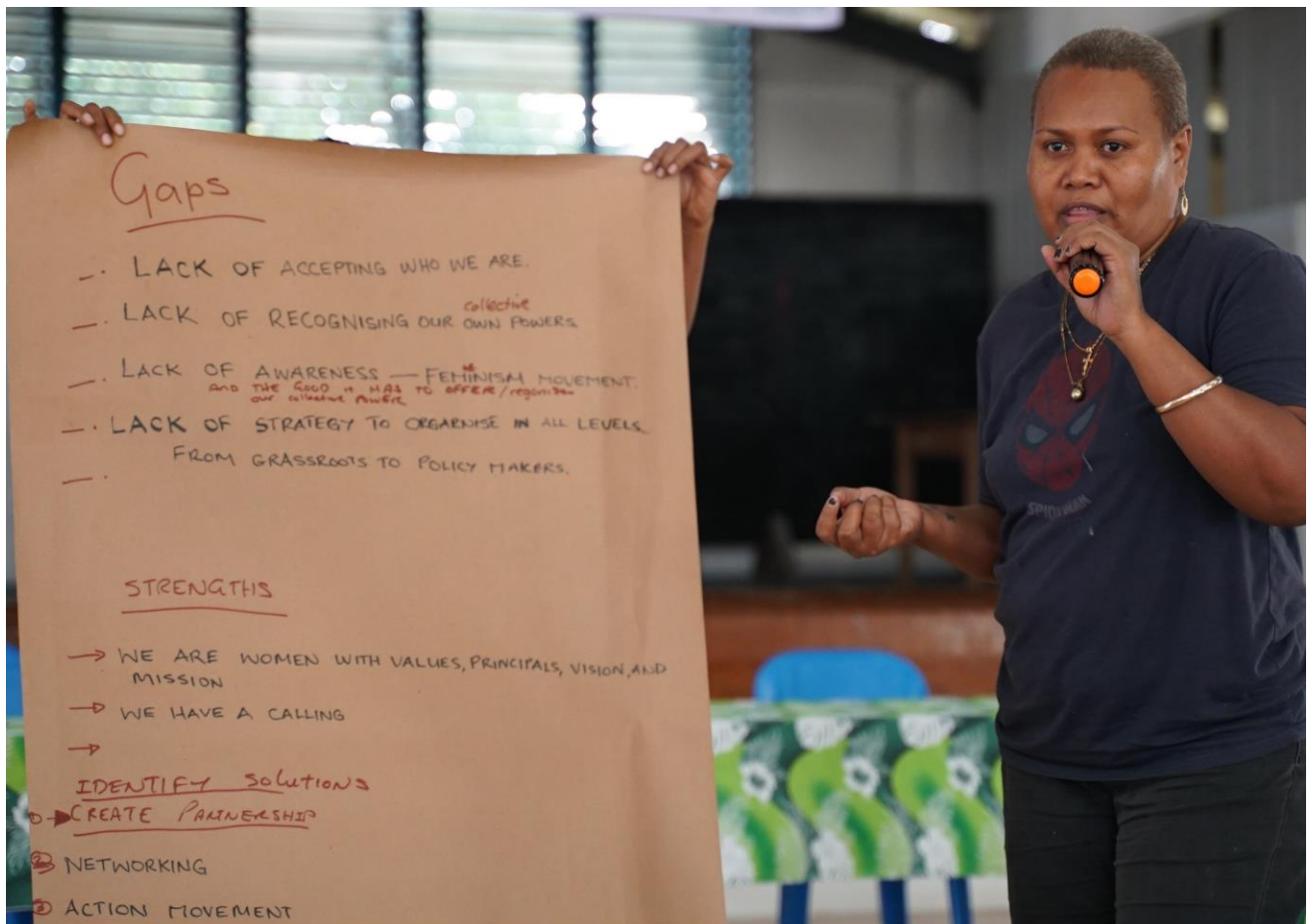
→ SOLIDARITY MOVEMENT

- Establishment
- Networks
- Partnerships
- Disconnection
- Innovation / Creativity

GAP S

OPPORTUNITIES.





Gaps

- Lack of accepting who we are
- Lack of recognition of our own collective power
- Lack of awareness – feminism movement
- Lack of strategy to organize in all levels from grass root to policy making

Strength

- We are women with values, principles, vision and mission
- We have a calling

Identify solutions

- Create partnership
- Networking
- Action movement

OUTCOME STATEMENT

Establish the Network of Feminism Movement Sustainability for Solomon Islands

People: Feminist / Feminism

Feminist and activist associated with the indigenous peoples movement focus on social, economic and politics in Solomon Islands.

Advisors on women's affairs provided to the government and active on women's development for Solomon Islands, also prominent in health, sex workers and HIV activism.

Inclusive leaders on feminism awareness and movement, founder of the national and local organizations, coalition against violence against women, children and social development disorders.

Establishment and governance:

CEDAW: Solomon Islands commitment to fulfill the "Women's Bill of Rights", the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) is the most comprehensive international instrument to protect the human rights of women.

The National Policy to Eliminate Violence against Women and Girls 2016 – 2020 was designed and developed to cater for GBV in Solomon Islands.

The specific Policy on feminism is yet to be developed. This policy which should recognizes feminism activists' movement key approaches and governance for effective and efficient coordination, implementation and addressing feminism issues in Solomon Islands. A Legal framework, law enforcement and the justice system are important areas need strengthening.

ESTABLISH THE NETWORK OF FEMINISM MOVEMENT SUSTAINABILITY FOR SOLOMON ISLANDS

Support Network:

Feminism and men-network have often been considered opposing idea. This forum developed a meeting between these seemingly divergent sexes and considers the challenges that men and feminism raise for one another. This forum calls for support network engagement with both men and feminism. Through the lens of female for developing an alliance between men and feminism would raise for any further female empowerment and support. The potential space where men and women can meet and mutually shape working together, provides network practice and innovation were explored. In doing so, this forum moves toward an imagining of a women working with men and supporting women through support network.

Action:

The forum outcome is ensuring that, feminism can be seen as a movement to put an end to prejudice, exploitation, and domination and to achieve full gender equality in law and in practice for Solomon Islands.

Sustainability:

The forum explore local women can be exhausting and emotional labour incapacitating. In the name of being good and strong local women who are struggling for women's right keep going even when it hurts. Doing so continues the legacy of domination by persistently caring for others at expense of our selves. To protect and preserve our physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual health as local women of Solomon Islands, we must ask; how can we repurpose our strength to lead and support demonstration against social injustice without suffering our happiness or wellbeing?

Reflection

- Important to mobilise and bring women together and men to advance gender equality in Solomon Islands
- Come up with feminism definition based on Solomon Islands context
- Feminism is a new concept for many people in Solomon Islands that require more support for capacity building, awareness and also strengthening feminism governance legal framework and establishment in Solomon Islands.
- Learn the Importance of men champions supporting feminism movement and their meaningful participation.
- Economic empowerment, sharing opportunities and connecting women to networks and partnership locally, nationally and internationally
- Feminism forum inform organization to put more effort by providing support for women and girls through medical, health and other essential services
- Feminism forum provide space for researchers to share some importance issues facing women such as ISSI findings shows that women do not support women in leadership, politics and development
- Feminism advocacy and awareness through media is an effective means of communicating feminism information to the communities of Solomon Islands
- One of the important outcome of the forum is the forming the FEMINISM SUPPORT NETWORK for Solomon Islands.