



FWRM
FIJI WOMEN'S RIGHTS MOVEMENT

FWRM's Submission for Regional Consultation by Special Rapporteur on the Right to Development

(27 November 2018)

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Women's Right to Development

The Fiji Women's Rights Movement (FWRM), established in 1986, is a multi-ethnic and multicultural non-governmental organization committed to removing all forms of discrimination against women through institutional reform and attitudinal change. Being a feminist organization, FWRM uses feminist analysis in the work we do in addressing gender inequality. By means of its core programmes on Gender and Transitional Justice and Intergenerational Women in Leadership, FWRM practices and promotes feminism, democracy, and the rule of law, good governance and human rights. We strive to empower, unite and provide leadership opportunities for women in Fiji, especially for emerging young leaders.

This submission seeks to highlight key set of considerations, key set of barriers to women's right to development in Fiji's context as identified through FWRM's ongoing work. The submission then presents relevant set of boarder recommendations particularly in relation to gender and women's context.

Key Considerations

1. FWRM acknowledges the multidimensional nature of development. We call for greater level of distinction between having rights to development, knowing these rights and attempting to exercise the right to development. FWRM notes that each of these dimensions comes with different set of challenges for different groups/individuals/nations in different contexts. While the pathway for having right to development has been forged via the declaration, the road to ensuring state, individual and collective accountability towards it thorough mainstreaming right to development in terms of concrete national level polices, plans and projects is an important undertaking.
2. FWRM advocates for a paradigmatic shift in development landscape whereby marginalized groups such as women, children, LGBTQIA+ and economically disadvantaged groups are placed at the center rather than the periphery of national level development policy and process.
3. In reference to women's right to development, FWRM recognizes that there are systemic and structural barriers which hinder women's civil and political participation and decision making autonomy and as such we believe that women's political participation at all levels of decision making is a necessary first step towards ensuring inclusivity, representation, participation at decision making space particularly those that are related to development at grass-root, local and national level.
4. FWRM also recognizes the link between intersectional and diverse realities of women's lives and their access to right to development. Existing gender norms, barriers and pattern of inequalities have implications on women's and other vulnerable group's ability to claim their rights as well as participation in the economic, social and political arena. ¹

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http://www.fwrmm.org.fj/images/fwrmm2017/PDFs/outcome/NationalConvention_FinalOutcomeStatement_1309.pdf

5. FWRM strongly emphasizes that right to development cannot be fully realized at national level without meaningful and effective partnership between public and private sector, State, civil society organizations for transformative paradigmatic shift towards a rights based approach to development.
6. FWRM call for greater integration of rights based development priorities with effective, transparent and accountable mechanisms for resource mobilization at national level.

Context: Democracy, Rule of Law and Governance

The backdrop of this submission lies within the context of Fiji's fragile democracy and rule of law situation, as the issues highlighted are interlinked with the contextual realities in Fiji and has implications development and progress of individual citizens, private sector, public enterprise and as well as the nation as a whole.

Fiji's history of coups has periodically challenged and held to ransom democracy and rule of law. The current government is complicit in committing acts of treason in 2006 despite being declared illegal by the Fiji Court of Appeal and being dismissed in 2009. The then President was made to reappoint the current government from 2009 to 2014. This resulted in the abrogation of the 1997 Constitution and dismissal of the Court of Appeal and judiciary. The re-appointed government brought and confirmed to the bench existing and new judges, many of whom aligned themselves with the unelected government. Fiji adopted a new Constitution in 2013² without a proper, full and fair referendum and held its first election in 2014. Today, we have members of our current government who are immune from prosecution under Chapter 10 of the 2013 Constitution for all crimes associated with their act of treason in 2006.

As Fiji has completed another election in November 2018, it must show that a robust constitutional democracy has replaced all vestiges of authoritarian rule. Since the 2006 military coup, the regime has legislated numerous decrees without parliamentary due process. Legislation issued via Decree such as the Public Order Decree (2012), Media Industry Development Decree (2010) and others referred from 2006 to 2014 were done without parliamentary approval, public consultation, and with provisions in the 2013 Constitution that bars the ability for courts or tribunals to challenge their validity.³ They allow for example, for the suspension of human rights and the arbitrary unlawful control of free speech at the whim of the State.

Viewed together with the Media Industry Development Decree 2010, these laws created a chilling effect on human rights defenders by criminalizing free expression, assembly, and association,⁴ and specifically have been used to target women's rights organisations. For example, FWRM's planning retreat was shut down in 2011, where police detained FWRM staff for holding a private meeting on the basis of needing a permit, and the International Women's Day events led by FWCC were canceled in 2013.⁵ These are only a few examples that directly undermine the State's contention that "[t]here have never been any restrictions placed on any organisations with regards to engaging on issues pertaining to gender equality. . ."⁶

² "Following Fiji's Court of Appeal decision in April [2009], ruling that the actions of Fiji's military in December 2006 were unlawful and unconstitutional, the military regime has . . . abrogated the 1997 Constitution." Coalition of Women's NGOs for the CEDAW Shadow Report, *3rd and 4th Combined Periodic Report to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women*, at 9 (2010).

³ Fiji Const., Sec. 173(3), 174 (4).

⁴ Amnesty UPR, *supra* note 15 at 3.

⁵ FWRM UPR, *supra* note 8 at 3-4; Amnesty UPR, *supra* note 15 at 2.

⁶ State CEDAW Report, *supra* note 13 at 6.

In 2016, the Parliament of Fiji and the President legislated an act called the 'Revised Edition of Laws (Consequential Amendments) Act 2016'⁷ Section 107 (b) (i) states: '*where any Decree was in force on 31 July 2016, the word "Decree" used with reference to any such Decree in the title or provisions of any written law or in any document or legal proceeding may be replaced with the word "Act".*' Again this was done without any public consultation or awareness.

According to the Citizen's Constitutional Forum (CCF) the constitution largely does away with the checks and balances of past constitutions.⁸ CCF notes that the most striking feature is that the Prime Minister has been granted unprecedented power to appoint or remove, directly or indirectly, almost every commission or office. In addition to that, the Attorney General has also been given remarkable and wide-ranging powers, including influence over all judicial appointments.

Fiji has an extensive nongovernmental organization (NGO) network, which, largely operates without government interference. However, strict sedition laws, which criminalize criticism of the government, place sharp constraints on the range of initiatives that NGOs can undertake. NGOs have been critical of the Parliamentary Powers and Privileges Act⁹, which they claim criminalizes criticism of parliament and could further erode civic space¹⁰.

In terms of International commitments, Fiji is a State party to the following international human rights instruments - the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD), the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT)¹¹, and Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It has also ratified the Convention on the Prevention of the Crime of Genocide and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court as well as the Refugee Convention (1951) and the Refugee Protocol (1967). However, there are gap in term of higher level of compliance to the above-mentioned Conventions. For instance, Fiji's compliance with its obligations under the CEDAW has been limited. The consequence of non-compliance by the Fiji government is that gender inequality permeates most sectors of society; few measures to develop women's social, economic, and political life have been adequately supported; and the continued pervasiveness of gender-based violence (GBV) throughout Fiji serves as the most visible manifestation of these systemic failures. And as long as an "authoritarian military presence remains," women's political rights and participation, both at the local and national level, will continually be constrained.¹²

It is important to note that the above political context is interlinked with not only developmental challenges that Fiji faces but also in term existing conditions of inequalities and discrimination. Only within the context of good governance, peaceful just and transparent rule of law and democracy can the potential of right to development be fully realized.

Key systemic barriers affecting Women's Right to Development in Fiji

Existing patterns inequalities are symptomatic of the underlying hegemonic norms and assumptions that not only undervalue women's contributions but also tend to relegate women and other marginalized groups to the margins of the developmental process. The right to development cannot be fully realized

⁷ http://www.paclii.org/fj/legis/num_act/reotlaa2016505/

⁸ <https://www.radionz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/223647/critics-of-fiji-constitution-warn-judiciary-is-prey-to-political-interference>

⁹ http://www.paclii.org/fj/legis/consol_act_OK/ppapa379/

¹⁰ <https://freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/2018/fiji>

¹¹ Fiji has reservations to the UN Convention Against Torture particularly regarding the definition of torture and access to remedies.

¹² Nicole George, *Lost in Translation: Gender Violence, Human Rights and Women's Capabilities in Fiji* in *Gender Violence & Human Rights: Seeking Justice in Fiji, Papua New Guinea & Vanuatu*, at 105 (2016), <http://press-files.anu.edu.au/downloads/press/n2168/pdf/book.pdf?referer=2168>.

without addressing these forms of systemic barriers. Given below is a snapshot of evidences that highlights the specific barriers that woman in Fiji face.

1. Poverty in Fiji

- “Fiji is ranked 88 out of 187 countries in the 2014 Human Development Index (HDI). Average annual HDI growth has been positive—0.86 in 1990–2000 and 0.55 in 2000–2013. In comparison with its neighbors, Fiji is ranked 2 out of 10 Pacific developing member countries, behind Palau (ranked 60) but ahead of Papua New Guinea (157), Samoa (106), and Tonga (100).”¹³
- “Estimates suggest that less than 2% of the population lived in extreme poverty in 2013-14 using the international poverty line (2011 PPP \$1.90USP per person per day); 14.3% lived in poverty line using the lower class income poverty lines (2011 PPP \$3.20); and close to half the population lived in poverty using the upper middle class poverty line (2-11 PPP %5.50)”¹⁴
- “According to the latest estimates, about 140,000 people live in over 200 informal squatter settlements around the country. Besides having no proper legal title to their homes, the vast majority lack basic amenities such as piped water, sewerage, and electricity. The analysis of poverty maps indicates that poverty rates for squatter settlements are amongst the highest across all the divisions”¹⁵
- “About 70% of the elderly populations age 60+ are not covered by either the FNPf pension or the FAP”.¹⁶

2. Women in Decision-Making:

- Women make up nearly half of the population of this country and yet are underrepresented in decision making in private the public institutions.
- Within the Fijian Local government:¹⁷
 - Less than 25% of employees in local government are women.
 - Only 2% of local government field staff are women
 - There have been only 3 women CEOs in the history of local government in Fiji.
 - Local government has a lower representation of women than the national government (17% as at September 2014).¹⁸
- At the highest-level, women’s representation in Parliament stands at 20%, which is well below the 30% target set by CEDAW.
- Out of 144 countries, the Global Gender Gap Report (2017) ranks Fiji as 125th when it comes to global gender gap. Fiji has a ranking of 105th /144 in terms of political empowerment; 127th in terms of economic participation. However, Fiji has done better in education (71) and health (36).

¹³ <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/linked-documents/cps-fij-2014-2018-pa.pdf>

¹⁴ *ibid.*

¹⁵ *ibid.*

¹⁶ *ibid.*

¹⁷ [http://www.pacwip.org/resources/uploads/attachments/documents/CLGN%20\(2010\)%20Strengthening%20Women's%20Participation%20in%20Municipal%20Governance%20\(SWPMG\)%20Where%20are%20the%20Women.pdf](http://www.pacwip.org/resources/uploads/attachments/documents/CLGN%20(2010)%20Strengthening%20Women's%20Participation%20in%20Municipal%20Governance%20(SWPMG)%20Where%20are%20the%20Women.pdf)

¹⁸ http://www.clgf.org.uk/default/assets/File/Country_profiles/Fiji.pdf

3. Sexual and Gender based Violence

- Fiji Women's Crisis Centre survey *Somebody's Life, Everybody's Business*, shows that 64% of women in this country suffer physical and sexual violence in their lifetimes. Of the 3193 women surveyed, 15 per cent have been beaten during pregnancy, and one-third of these were punched or kicked in the abdomen by their husband or partner.¹⁹
- In June 2016, Fiji Women's Rights Movement (FWRM) commissioned and conducted by the Market Research Consultants, Tebbutt Research, it was found that one in five women have experienced sexual harassment in the workplace. Whilst the incidence of sexual harassment in the workplace in 2016 as compared to 2002 has decreased, the findings of the research point out interesting relations to Fiji's economic development in past decade: The Food, Beverage and Hospitality sector (35%) has the highest incidence of sexual harassment followed by Public Service (25%), Health (24%) and Retail (23%) with Education (8%) sector being the lowest.²⁰
- FWRM's research on *Balancing the Scales: Improving Fijian Women's Access to Justice* revealed that women applying for restraining order cases in the family division of the High Court quadrupled from 97 applications in 2012 to 392 cases in 2016.²¹
- The same research pointed out that 9 out of 10 sexual offence cases (rape and attempted rape, indecent assault, child sexual abuse) reported to the Fiji Police Force, women and girls are the victims/survivors and 9 out of 10 cases of Offences against the Persons and Offences Against Morality reported to the Fiji Police men are the perpetrators.

4. Women and Economic Participation

- Fiji is ranked 127th in terms of economic participation in global gender gap report
- In Fiji, only 19% of businesses are registered to women and most of those are micro and small businesses. "The complexity of starting a formal sector business causes most women entrepreneurs to keep their businesses informal".²²
- There is a pronounced horizontal occupational segregation of labor force participation as a large number of women's economic participation is inclined towards low paying jobs within precarious informal sector such as agriculture, Handicrafts, sales-related jobs and Tourism.
- "Employed women spend an average of 64 hours per week in their main occupation and on household chores, compared with 49 hours spent by men."²³
- According to Dr. Neelesh Goundar (2016) an Academic at the University of the South Pacific concluded that after controlling for variables such as age, education and experience, women in Fiji earn 8-10 per cent less than men.²⁴
- Numbers of graduates are equal in both universities, yet labor force participation rate for women stands at 37.4%, in comparisons to 76.4% for men.²⁵

¹⁹ <http://www.fijiwomen.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/National-Survey-Summary.pdf>

²⁰ <http://fwrn.org.fj/images/fwrn2017/publications/analysis/FWRM-Public-Copy-MG-050916.Pdf>

²¹ <http://fwrn.org.fj/images/fwrn2017/publications/analysis/Balancing-the-Scales-Report-FINAL-Digital.pdf>

²² <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/institutional-document/210826/fiji-cga-2015.pdf>

²³ <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/institutional-document/210826/fiji-cga-2015.pdf>

²⁴ <http://www.fijitimes.com/story.aspx?ref=archive&id=370241>

²⁵ 2017 Population and Housing Census: <https://www.statsfiji.gov.fj>

5. Women and Ageing

- FWRM conducted a study titled “Women & Ageing: Scoping study on Perceptions of Ageing Among Women in Fiji”, in terms of gender the research found that there is no acknowledgment of the feminization of ageing within the National Ageing Policy and issues specifically pertaining to this phenomenon. “There is little information in regards to how the feminization of ageing can and will affect the population impacts the progressive vision of women’s pursuit of empowerment and gender equality for substantive development within a national scale.”²⁶
- The research also found that the rights and contributions of older women still remain largely invisible in society and this problematic because ageing women who tend to face multiple sources of disadvantages and which can be compounded further by other factors such as socio-economic factors and intersectional discrimination.²⁷

Recommendations

1. SIDS Context Specific Development Challenges

1.1. Recognize the threat that Climate Change presents for human rights and development

- 1.1.1. Increase state and private sector investments in generation of potential green jobs particularly for women to further reduce environmental degradation and lower carbon emissions and promote “just transition” towards a greener and sustainable economy.²⁸
- 1.1.2. Greater public and private partnership to implement gender responsive disaster risk management²⁹, sustainable infrastructure³⁰ and work towards building resilience to climate change.³¹
- 1.1.3. Include legislative policy, plan and framework by the state for relocation of settlements affected by climate change based on a human rights approach for holistic bottom up approach to adaptation.³²

²⁶ <http://fwrn.org.fj/images/May-24-2017-Women--Ageing-Scoping-Study-on-Perceptions-of-Ageing-Among-Women-in-Fiji.pdf>

²⁷ <http://www.fwrn.org.fj/images/May-24-2017-Women--Ageing-Scoping-Study-on-Perceptions-of-Ageing-Among-Women-in-Fiji.pdf>

²⁸ The employment and environment sustainability fact sheet for Fiji by ILO provides an overview of employment in various potential green job sectors. https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/documents/publication/wcms_627561.pdf

²⁹ http://fwrn.org.fj/images/FWRM_National-Disaster-Plan_Submisison-.pdf

³⁰ While not exclusively mentioned as sustainable, investment in infrastructure is priority identified in A Green Growth Framework for Fiji. <https://pafpnet.spc.int/pafpnet/attachments/article/475/GREEN%20GROWTH%20FRAMEWORK.PDF>

³¹ *ibid*

³² Due to the impacts of climate change, a total of 64 villages will be relocated in next few years: https://www.postguam.com/news/pacific/villages-in-fiji-to-be-relocated-due-to-climate-change/article_0d4239c8-597c-11e6-a463-63e44c267cf2.html

1.1.4. State should ensure that Green bonds are invested in sustainable development projects thorough inclusive and transparent process with equitable returns for both the people as well as the economy. ³³

1.2. Sexual and Gender Based Violence as a barrier.

1.2.1. Relevant stakeholders need to recognize the cost of Sexual gender based violence for the economy, the private businesses as well as the victims.

1.2.2. State needs of address access to justice barriers for women, as the cost of accessing justice is often higher than the average income a women living on poverty line earns on a weekly basis. ³⁴

1.2.3. Note that ending violence against women (EVAW) requires a holistic reconfiguration of the social, economic and justice sector. Hence, both short term and longer term programs that provide economic support and empower a survivor of violence is crucial to reduce chances of survivors staying or returning to their abusers. ³⁵

1.2.4. State as well as development actors need to ensure that women's economic empowerment (WEE) projects have a component on ending violence against women. ³⁶

1.2.5. Greater coordination between private and public sector to address specific workplace challenges that women face which includes: gender pay gap, sexual harassment in workplace, access to decent work, good working conditions, maternity provisions as well as inclusivity.

1.3. Regional Development Frameworks

1.3.1. Conduct regular stock take of the progress made in reference to regional and sub-regional commitments, action, plans and framework that focus on development. ³⁷

1.3.2. Engage in opportunities for regional alliances and trade in compliance with formalized regional mechanisms and endorsements centered upon human rights framework.

³³ In October 2017, Fiji became the first emerging market to issue a sovereign green bond, raising 100 million Fijian dollars, or US\$50 million, to support climate change mitigation and adaption: <https://cop23.com.fj/fiji-green-bond/>

³⁴ e.g. FWRM's research on Balancing the Scales, Improving Fijian Women's Access to Justice, to initiate or defend a case In Fiji, it costs \$50 court fee in family court and \$100 in high court whereas an average income earned for women living on poverty line is \$49.50 and \$55.12 in rural and urban areas respectively: <http://fwrp.org.fj/publications/research-analysis/access-to-justice>

³⁵ Financial stability is often cited by survivors as the reason behind their decision to stay with or return to abusers and thus social and economic support such as child support, child care, housing, transportation, access to justice as well as longer term support in terms of saving plans and asset ownerships is crucial: <http://www.pcadv.org/Learn-More/Domestic-Violence-Topics/Economic-Justice-And-Restoration/>

³⁶ Studies show that including "violence prevention initiatives" in WEE programs particularly in conservative societies can help reduce intimate partner violence: <http://gsdrc.org/docs/open/hdq790.pdf>

³⁷ e.g. Key documents endorsed at Pacific sub regional level: Pacific Community Strategic Plan (2016-2020), SAMOA Pathway, Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration, Framework for Pacific Regionalism, Climate Change Regional Framework and pacific sustainable development report: https://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/II_Pacific%20Roadmap%20for%20SD.pdf

1.4. Enabling environment

- 1.4.1. Recognize the importance of good governance, peace and security for the full realization of the right to development.
- 1.4.2. Provisions for easier dissemination and access to information on development policies, plans, opportunities and funding.
- 1.4.3. Greater access and provision for social protection for ageing.

1.5. Donor Aid landscape

- 1.5.1. Shift away from donor driven approach to development towards an inclusive, meaningful partnership³⁸ and aid transparency³⁹, which positions humans at the center of development.
- 1.5.2. When adopting development project models from other countries, State and non-state actors need to negotiate and consider the interests and needs of the target groups with particular focus on addressing gaps rather than duplicating foreign development project models without proper contextual analysis.⁴⁰
- 1.5.3. Address the unequal foreign aid/per capita distribution across the Pacific Region.⁴¹
- 1.5.4. Shift away from an influx of short-term demonstration/pilot projects to longer-term sustainable and transformative development investments.
- 1.5.5. Provision for mechanism and process, which makes accessibility options easier for donor funding and compliance for grassroots level organizations, which focus on gender and development.

2. Gender Transformative Approach to Development

- 2.1. State needs to identify and eliminate existing patterns of discrimination and inequalities⁴² through establishment and implementation of relevant legislative provisions, policies and programs.
- 2.2. As per Article 3 and 4 of the Convention on Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against women (CEDAW), state needs to work towards greater realization of “full development and advancement of women” in all fields and set in place affirmative measures such as temporary special measures aimed at “accelerating de facto equality between men and women”.⁴³

³⁹ <http://www.devpolicy.org/foreign-aid-to-the-pacific-an-overview/>

⁴⁰ e.g. duplication of the Barefoot college program and distribution of sewing machine scheme in Fiji based on models from India.

⁴¹ While there has been a general increase in aid flow to the Pacific region, “Changes in the allocation of foreign aid across Pacific island countries have not been linked to per capita income, or arguably by association, poverty reduction efforts”. This is well illustrated in the case of PNG and Timor-Leste that are two of the poorest nations and yet there has been a gradual decline in the flow of aid to these two countries. <http://www.devpolicy.org/foreign-aid-to-the-pacific-an-overview/>

⁴² such as the key systemic barriers affecting women’s right to development in Fiji as identified in the previous section.

⁴³ <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/text/econvention.htm#article2>

- 2.3. The National Development Plan for State must adopt gender responsive and human rights based framework for development planning and work towards mainstreaming this effectively into concrete set of policies, actions and projects that takes into account not only practical but also strategic gender needs. ⁴⁴
- 2.4. Transformative approach to development also requires a shift in development practice in order to reconfigure the rhetoric of women and Small Island Developing States being cast as passive recipient of development aid to active agents of change at local and global level respectively.
- 2.5. Rights-based approach to development requires redistributive policies and provisions with an intentional gradual shift from a system wholly dependent on distributive models such as welfare based approach to one that unifies development goals with equitable redistribution of resources in a manner that reduces the tradeoff between economic growth and inequality. ⁴⁵

3. Inclusive and meaningful participation of women and other marginalized groups

- 3.1. Ensure women's participation at all levels of decision-making (community, local and national) through legislative provision, affirmative action and rigorous institutional arrangements.
- 3.2. Put in place compliance and reporting mechanism to ensure women and marginalized groups are included as all stages of development process (planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluations) by State and Non State development actors and practitioners.
- 3.3. Ensure women's capacities, skills, traditional knowledge as well as contributions is recognized, valued and integrated meaningfully within development process.
- 3.4. Ensure that all development related programmes integrated the principles of free, prior and informed consent. ⁴⁶

4. Gender and Development Processes

- 4.1. Mainstream Human rights and Gender transformative approach in development policies, plans and action.
- 4.2. All development projects and programs need to have integrated vulnerability, human rights and gender needs and impact assessments within the planning process.
- 4.3. All development programmes and projects must consider adopting gender sensitive monitoring and evaluations framework, which includes participatory approach in planning, implementation and monitoring; collection of sex desegregated data and gender sensitive indicators and measures for both progress and risks.

⁴⁴ Fiji's 5-year and 20 year National Development Plan make only 6 reference to human rights with a narrow focus on legislation and good governance. While the broader goals of sustainable development goals are integrated within sectorial plans, more articulate mainstreaming approach to gender and human rights would offer transformational shifts particularly in reference to positioning humans rather than economic goals at the center of development

⁴⁵ http://www.un.org/esa/desa/papers/2015/wp139_2015.pdf

⁴⁶ <http://www.itaukeiaffairs.gov.fj/index.php/divisions/development-services-division/fpic>

- 4.4. All development projects ought have institutional arrangements for integrating women's meaningful participation and representation in all stages of development process.
- 4.5. Both state and non-state development actors need to conduct regular gender audits of their projects as well as gender institutional capacity assessments to effectively inform decision-making, development planning and organizational strengthening.
- 4.6. State is strongly recommended to have concrete sectorial gender action plans, targets and indicators.
- 4.7. Capacity building of development planners and practitioners is important steps towards mainstreaming gender responsive right to development from policy to implementation.

5. Resource mobilization

- 5.1. Implement gender responsive approach to budgeting.
- 5.2. State to put in place mechanisms for equitable resource allocation with transparent priority setting criteria, which is responsive to the holistic development of vulnerable and marginalized groups.
- 5.3. State and non state development actors need to create institutional arrangements and mechanisms that allow women and other vulnerable groups easier access resources, grants, schemes and other funding opportunities.
- 5.4. Reduce the tradeoff between mobilization of local resources with social, economical and environmental injustices.

6. Strategic partnership and alliances

- 6.1. Greater coordination within government ministries for mainstreaming right to development through institutional arrangements ⁴⁷, multi-sectorial plans, multi-stakeholder taskforces and standardized gender responsive practices. ⁴⁸
- 6.2. Establish institutional mechanism for greater coordination with key stakeholders including donor agencies, government departments, private sector and civil society.
- 6.3. Formalize standardized set of coordinated tools by and for multi-stakeholders for planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation processes to reduce duplications and to capitalize on the strengths of various multi-stakeholders.
- 6.4. Further "strengthen, recognize and respect the role of civil society" advocating for the right to development particularly shedding light on discrimination, lack of transparency and instances of social, economic and ecological injustices. ⁴⁹
- 6.5. Recognize the role of civil society and human rights defenders in holding the state to accountability in terms of human rights as well as development justi

⁴⁷ e.g. multi-sectorial taskforces, working groups and steering committees.

⁴⁸ e.g set of practices mentioned under gender and development processes

⁴⁹ http://www.civicus.org/media/CSI_Fiji_Country_Report.pdf

