

RIGHTS, EMPOWERMENT AND COHESION (REACH) FOR RURAL AND URBAN FIJIANS PROJECT



United Nations Development Programme



REPORT

25 October 2015



| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Location & Dates | Suva, Fiji. 12 October and 14-16 October 2015 |
| Activities | (Pre-Expo) 1. Awareness Workshop; (Expo) 2. REACH Information and Awareness sessions; 3. Rural Women Talk Show; 4. REACH project booth; and 5. Press conference and visibility for Japan's contribution |
| Key Result 1 | 122 women and men (121:1) from Northern Division have gained awareness on the topics relevant to them: Services provided by the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, and Legal Aid Commission; Gender-based violence; and Financial literacy |
| Key Result 2 | 79 women and men (78:1) from Western, Central and Eastern Divisions participated in the Project REACH sessions during Expo and have gained information and awareness on the services provided by the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, and Legal Aid Commission. |
| Key Result 3 | 'Rural Women Talk Show' on information and awareness on the services provided by the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, and Legal Aid Commission was heard by all people in the Expo venue as well as broadcasted live through all six radio stations of the Fiji Broadcasting Corporation (FBC) across Fiji. |
| Key Result 4 | 600 participants (598 women, 2 men) and 11,673 visitors (5,636 women, 3,787 men, 2,250 children (under13) to Expo have increased their knowledge on the REACH project, UNDP Fiji Multi-Country Office, Sustainable Development Goals, UN Volunteer Programme, and International Day of Rural Women (October 15) through various advocacy materials and discussions with UNDP team members at the Expo project booth. |
| Key Result 5 | Contribution to rural women through the REACH project and Expo made by the Government of Japan was visible through Fiji national media and UNDP social media globally. |

BACKGROUND

UNDP supported the 2nd Fiji National Women's Expo (Expo) through the Rights, Empowerment and Cohesion (REACH) for Rural and Urban Fijians Project which is being implemented by UNDP in partnership with the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation and the Legal Aid Commission.

The REACH Project aims to promote peacebuilding, social cohesion and inclusiveness through awareness of rights, access to services, provision of legal advice and institutional capacity building in Fiji. The three-year REACH project is funded by the Government of Japan and commenced in June 2015 with the initial focus being to enhance delivery of services through the provision of 'mobile teams' visiting urban informal and rural communities.

Expo was identified by the Project as an opportunity to promote the message of the project and deliver the services to 600 women participants plus the total of 11,673 visitors to Expo and strengthen a synergy between project partners. A series of awareness sessions and advocacy activities were conducted during the three days at Expo. In addition, one-day pre-Expo workshop was also organized by the Project inviting 122 women and men from the Northern Division, where the REACH mobile missions have commenced. The workshop provided space for them to exchange information and raise awareness on key issues relevant to the participants.

FIJI NATIONAL WOMEN'S EXPO

Fiji National Women's Expo is one of the key nationwide activities hosted by the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation. The 2nd National Women's Expo was held at the Vodafone Arena, Laucala Bay, Suva on 14th - 16th October, 2015 under the theme, "Connecting Women to Markets: Make It Happen".

The Objectives of the 2nd National Women's Expo was to:

- a) Enhance rural women's development
- b) Celebrate Fijian Women's talents
- c) Recognize rural women talents
- d) Connect rural women in micro-entrepreneurship through business development opportunities
- e) Market Fiji rural women's products with the "FIJIAN MADE" Emblem.

Six hundred (600) women from across Fiji (Central, Western, Northern and Eastern Divisions) participated in Expo to showcase their arts and handicrafts and also to commemorate the International Day of Rural Women, 15 October.



Expo opening by the Prime Minister



Expo booths

Pre-Expo Awareness Workshop

1. 'Rural Women Get Together for Rights, Empowerment and Cohesion' (12 October)

One-hundred and twenty two (122) people from the Northern Division participated in a one day workshop in Suva to gain awareness on the social and legal services available to them and also to increase their skills in financial literacy. The workshop was organized by UNDP in conjunction with the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, and the Legal Aid Commission as part of REACH Project.

Key result

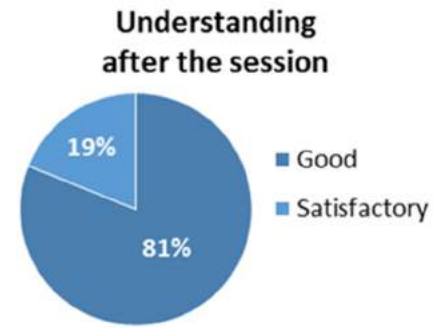
Hundred and twenty two (122) women and men (121:1) from Northern Division have gained awareness on the topics relevant to them: Services provided by the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, and Legal Aid Commission, Gender-based violence; and Financial literacy.



Issues raised by participants on services provided by the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation and Legal Aid Commission

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Writing a will | Lodging caveat |
| Location of Legal Aid Commission office in Bua and Cakaudrove Provinces | Child Helpline |
| Probate | Social Pension Scheme |

Understanding of services provided by the Ministry and Legal Aid Commission among participants



Topic 1: The services provided by the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, and the Legal Aid Commission (Facilitated by REACH project: Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation and Legal Aid Commission)

Voices from participants

“I was so happy to learn especially about social welfare services provided by our government. I am a health worker for my village but did not know about the services we can access. After returning home, I will tell the single mothers in my village and help them get support from the government”.

Lusa Cabealawa, Wairiki village, Vuya District, Bua Province



“We are usually very busy during Expo, and so it was good that the one day was set aside for our learning on different topics which I found very interesting and useful”.

Milika Butulawa Curu, Tuatua settlement, Labasa District, Macuata Province

Topic 2: Gender-based violence (Facilitated by Fiji Women’s Crisis Centre and Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation)

- The gravity of gender-based violence in Fiji, importance of awareness of rights and services provided by Fiji Women’s Crisis Centre
- EAW programme, related legislations and violence free communities programme provided by Department of Women

Voices from participants

“Gender-based violence is something all people should know about including men. I will bring back the issue to my community and discuss it”.

Iisabeta D. Koliloa, Rava Housing, Labasa District, Macuata Province



- Financial first steps, produce presentation and customer relations

Voices from participants

“It was really good learning. We learned difference between ‘needs’ and ‘wants’ for start. It was very easy to understand but very useful to think to help how we manage our money”.

Letia Masei, Nabubu village, Namuka District, Macauta Province (left)

“The business manner I learnt from Westpac was very interesting to me. I would like to apply that when I sell my flowers at Labasa market every Saturday morning”.

Karolina Vunavere(right), Bulileka, Labasa, Macauta Province (right)



Fiji National Women’s Expo

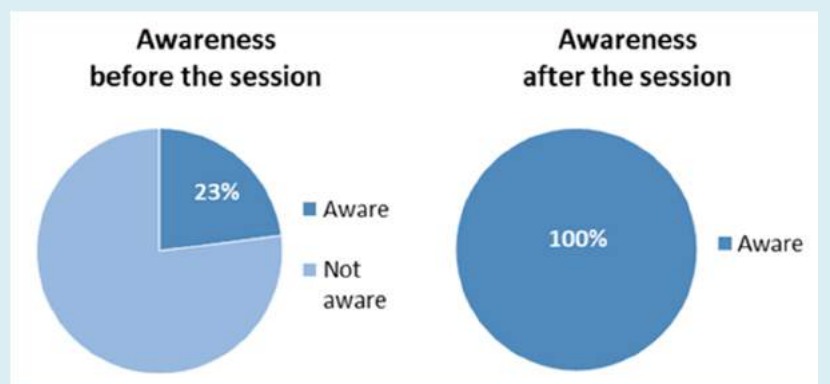
2. ‘Information and then Question & Answer Session’ on the services provided by the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, and the Legal Aid Commission (14-16 October)

One-hour information and awareness session was conducted daily during the three-day Expo for Expo participants at the capacity building workshop tent facilitated by the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, and Legal Aid Commission.

Key Result

Seventy nine (79) women and men (78:1) across Fiji (Eastern Division, Central Division and Western Division) participated in the sessions and have gained information and awareness on the services provided by the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, and Legal Aid Commission.

Issues raised by participants



3. Rural Women Talk Show (15 October)

The onstage Talk Show was conducted as role play in a community setting with four rural women from the Province of Macuata and Bua, hosting officers from Legal Aid Commission and Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation.

Key Result

The Talk Show was heard by all stall holders and visitors in the Expo venue as well as broadcasted live through all six radio stations of the Fiji Broadcasting Corporation (FBC) across Fiji.

Rural Women



Nomai Ditui,
Cakaudrove Province



Anaseini Adi, Macuata Province



Karalaini Naviri, Bua Province



Torika Tinaikuita, Macuata Province

Advisors



Christine Atalifo,
Department of Women



Ela Tukutukulevu, Department of
Social Welfare



Christina Choy,
Legal Aid Commission

Issues talked about:

Bus fare concession

Maintenance

Food voucher for rural
and pregnant mothers

Reproductive health

Child helpline

Writing a will

Birth certificate

Social pension scheme

Legal representation

Livelihoods & business



4. Information sharing and awareness raising through the project booth

UNDP booth was set up together with the project partners, the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation and Legal Aid Commission to provide information and awareness to 600 Expo participants and 11,673 Expo visitors for three days on:

- Map display with locations of the villages in Vanua Levu which the REACH project mobile team has visited
- Information on the REACH project
- Information on UNDP Fiji Multi-Country Office
- Information on Sustainable Development Goals
- Information on The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme
- UNDP and REACH project banners display
- Expo-International Day of Rural Women bags (1,000 bags were distributed to Expo participants and visitors)



5. Press conference and visibility for Japan's contribution (pre, during and post Expo)

Japan's support was visible in various Expo publicity materials:



Expo opening stage



Expo billboard



Expo programme



Expo flyer

Press conference was organized by the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation on 14 October to highlight the achievements of the REACH project and contribution made by the Government of Japan. Press release ‘Support to Rights, Empowerment and Cohesion for rural and urban Fijians for sustainable development’ was issued by UNDP on 16 Oct 2015 (<http://www.fj.undp.org/>)

H.E. Mr. Takuji Hanatani Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan

“Japan is a co-sponsor of the Rights, Empowerment and Cohesion for Rural and Urban Fijians Project...this is aimed at effectively improving the people’s access to social services, especially for the women of Fiji in rural areas and informal settlements. This is in line with two of the main concepts for Japanese Overseas Development Assistance, namely Strengthening Human Security and Encouraging Gender Equality.”



The Hon. Rosy Sofia Akbar Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation

“The Fijian Government places a lot of importance on taking services to the people wherever they live. The REACH project is a wonderful fit to the puzzle and a means to do reach. This project will be the first of its type in Fiji and I am sure that a lot more space will make a big break for our “difficult to reach communities”.



Mr Sunil Sharma, Director, Legal Aid Commission

“The REACH project offers us a platform whereby we are able to disseminate information on social and legal services to the women of Fiji. Our aim is to empower the women of Fiji through legal awareness programmes and the REACH project has literally enabled the Legal Aid Commission to reach out to the rural and remote communities of Fiji.”



Akiko Fujii, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative

“Since the REACH Project commenced in June 2015, there has been most positive feedback from those who have benefitted from the mobile services, as they consider the awareness and service delivery being provided at the community level by the Fijian Government, through the project as highly valuable.”



Fiji Sun, Thursday, 15 October 2015

The support given by the Government of Japan through the REACH project and Expo was covered by two major national newspapers, The Fiji Times and Fiji Sun as well as the FBC News on line.



The Fiji Times, Saturday, 17 October

UNDP Pacific Social Media

Press release, social media posts and photos on key events during Expo have been posted on various social media of UNDP Pacific

UNDP Fiji Multi-Country Office website:

<http://www.fj.undp.org/content/fiji/en/home/presscenter/pressreleases/2015/10/16/support-to-rights-empowerment-and-cohesion-for-rural-and-urban-fijians-for-sustainable-development/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UNDP.Pacific>

Twitter: @UNDP_Pacific

Flickr:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/undppc/albums/72157657668919523>



Tweet on 15 October 2015

Facebook post on 15 October 2015

List of attachments

1. Copy of the Expo flyer
2. Copy of the Expo programme
3. Copy of the REACH project leaflet
4. List of the Media coverages
5. UNDP press release 16 October 2015
6. List of the Facebook posts
7. List of the Twitter posts

UNDP Tokyo Twitter and Facebook posts on 28 October 2015



An article on the REACH project was written by Ms Anshoo Chandra, the media liaison officer for the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation for The Fiji Times, 27 October 2015.

Cover Photo: Ryoko Yonamine (UNV/UNDP)

Acknowledgements: Special thanks to Embassy of Japan in Fiji, Fiji Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, and Fiji Legal Aid Commission.

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Copy of the Expo flyer

MINISTRY OF WOMEN, CHILDREN & POVERTY ALLEVIATION

FIJI NATIONAL
WOMEN'S EXPO 2015

14th to 16th October 2015
VODAFONE ARENA, SUVA

Celebrating "World Rural Women's Day" - 15th October 2015

CONNECTING WOMEN TO MARKETS
MAKE IT HAPPEN

ENTRY IS FREE
OPENING HOURS: 9^{AM} to 8^{PM}

For further details please contact:
EVENT'S ORGANISER
Ms. Shahana Didar
☎ 9759571 ☎ 3312199

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TRADITIONAL CRAFT
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WWW.WELFARE-WOMEN.GOV.FI DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN - TEAM WOMEN FIJI NATIONAL WOMEN'S EXPO - FIJI

Copy of the Expo programme

14TH TO 16TH OCTOBER 2015

VODAFONE ARENA, SUVA

9 AM TO 8 PM

ENTRY IS FREE

Celebrating "World Rural Women's Day" - 15th October 2015





For further details please contact:

EVENT'S ORGANISER, MS. SHAHANA DIDAR 9759571 3312199

OUR SPONSORS:




















DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN - TEAM WOMEN FIJI NATIONAL WOMEN'S EXPO - FIJI

| ON STAGE PROGRAMMES | DAILY PROGRAMMES | CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOPS |
|--|--|--|
| <p>WEDNESDAY, 14th OCTOBER PROGRAMME</p> <p>08.00 am DJ + MC 09.00 am Live Jazz Band 10.30 am Opening Ceremony 11.25 am DJ + MC 12.00 pm FBC Outdoor Broadcast 02.30 pm Make Advocacy 03.30 pm Fijian Made / Crafted Certification Awards 04.00 pm FBC Outdoor Broadcast 07.00 pm DJ + Fun Night 08.00 pm Close of Day</p> <p>THURSDAY, 15th OCTOBER PROGRAMME Theme: World Rural Women's Day</p> <p>08.00 am DJ + MC 09.30 am UN Women 10.30 am UNDP Rural Women's Talk Show 12.00 pm FBC Outdoor Broadcast 02.00 pm Sporting Stars Special Appearance - Marie Lutua 04.00 pm FBC Outdoor Broadcast 06.00 pm Fashion Show 08.00 pm Close of Day</p> <p>FRIDAY, 16th OCTOBER PROGRAMME</p> <p>08.00 am DJ + MC 10.00 am Performance by Indonesia 12.00 pm FBC Outdoor Broadcast 02.00 pm Sporting Stars Special Appearance - Banuve Tabakaucoro 03.00 pm DJ + MC 04.00 pm FBC Outdoor Broadcast 07.00 pm Closing Ceremony 08.30 pm Close of Day</p> | <p>TUESDAY - 13th OCTOBER PROGRAMME</p> <p>10.00 am Set up of vegetation areas 06.00 pm Pre-Launch Cocktail</p> <p>WEDNESDAY - 14th OCTOBER PROGRAMME</p> <p>09.30 am Guests to be seated 10.00 am Arrival of the Chief Guest & Welcome by MC - Mr Mervyn Singh 10.05 am Singing of the National Anthem of the Republic of Fiji led by the Fiji Corrections Services Jazz Band 10.10 am Devotion and Opening Prayer 10.15 am Reverend Emmanuel Maduka Dubei Methodist Church, Suva 10.15 am Grand Opening of the Expo 10.20 am Carrying gifts Fijiana Mataka, Grace Tatala and Zena Shear 10.20 am Welcome Address by the Hon. Minister of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation: Ms. Romy Sofu Akbar 10.30 am Introduction of the Chief Guest - Ms Anusika Arifika Devi, Senior Women's Interest Officer 10.35 am Keynote Address by the Chief Guest: Prime Minister, Minister for I-Tourist Affairs and Sugar Hon. Ratu Inama (Retired) Jaisa Vunaga Saminarama 11.00 am Cutting of World Rural Women's Day Cake 11.05 am Vote of Thanks to Hon. Prime Minister 11.05 am Hon. China Minister departs the Vodafone Arena 11.10 am Guided Tour of the Expo display 11.25 am Morning Tea and Indonesian Cultural form performance 12.00 pm End of Official Opening Programme 12.00 pm Expo Open to General Public 02.00 pm Capacity building workshops and other programmes start 03.30 pm Handing over of "Fijian-Made" Licence/Certificates to 63 rural women artisans on the marquee by the Hon. Fayoa Romy, Minister for Industry & Trade 07.00 pm Fun Night 08.00 pm Close of Day</p> <p>THURSDAY - 15th OCTOBER PROGRAMME</p> <p>07.00 am Transfers from Accommodation for Participants 09.00 am Expo Open to General Public 09.40 am Capacity Building Workshops + Other Programmes Start 10.00 am Guided school tours 10.00 am "Women's Expo and Emerging Designer's Fashion Show" 06.00 pm Chief Guest: Indonesian Minister of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection: H.E. Dr. Yohana Susana Yembida 08.00 pm Close of Day</p> <p>FRIDAY - 16th OCTOBER PROGRAMME</p> <p>07.00 am Transfers from Accommodation for Participants 09.00 am Expo Open to General Public 09.30 am Capacity Building Workshops + Other Programmes Start 10.00 am Guided school tours 10.00 am Official Closing Programme 10.05 am GRASS UP by GrassUp 10.30 am Arrival of Chief Guest 10.35 am Welcome by MC - Ms. Lenora Deseperetabua 10.40 am Welcoming Remarks, Hon. Romy Sofu Akbar 10.45 am Minister for Women, Children & Poverty Alleviation 10.50 am Introduction of the Chief Guest- Mrs. Rajal Mava, Senior Women's Interest Officer 10.55 am Closing Address - Hon. Alipa Soged-Rahayu 11.00 am Attorney General and Minister of Finance, Public Enterprises, Public Service and Communications 11.05 am Vote of thanks to the Hon. Attorney General - Ms. Lusi Deseperetabua 11.10 am Principal Research Officer, Ministry for Women, Children & Poverty Alleviation Cultural team 12.05 pm Press Meeting by sponsors 12.05 pm Official Close of the Ceremony 08.05 pm Fireworks 08.15 pm Refreshment and Musical entertainment provided by the Fiji Corrections Services Jazz Band 08.30 pm Official Close of Expo</p> | <p>WEDNESDAY - 14th OCTOBER PROGRAMME</p> <p>03.00 pm Westpac Financial Literacy 04.30 pm UNDP REACH Program</p> <p>THURSDAY - 15th OCTOBER PROGRAMME</p> <p>09.30 am Seler and Flo cket Stove Workshop 10.00 am Indonesia Plastic Recycled Product Training 10.00 am Westpac Financial Literacy 11.30 am UNDP REACH Program 02.00 pm Westpac Financial Literacy 02.00 pm Indonesia Elastic Recycled Product Training 03.00 pm Mechanics of Sewing 04.00 pm Westpac Financial Literacy</p> <p>FRIDAY - 16th OCTOBER PROGRAMME</p> <p>09.30 am Seler and Flo cket Stove Workshop 10.00 am Indonesia Plastic Recycled Product Training 10.00 am Westpac Financial Literacy 11.30 am UNDP REACH Program 02.00 pm Westpac Financial Literacy 02.00 pm Indonesia Plastic Recycled Product Training 03.00 pm Mechanics of Sewing 04.00 pm Westpac Financial Literacy</p> |

Copy of the REACH project leaflet

RIGHTS, EMPOWERMENT AND COHESION (REACH) FOR RURAL AND URBAN FIJIANS PROJECT

- Project duration: June 2015 – June 2018
- Project location: Throughout Fiji, pilot location in Northern Division
- Partnership: The Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, and Legal Aid Commission
- Total budget: US\$2.685 million
- Funds: Government of Japan and UNDP

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Tel: 679 331 2500
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Email: registry.fiji@undp.org
www.fiji.undp.org

Mobile team visit at Nasesu village, Walevu West District, Cakaudrove Province.

RIGHTS, EMPOWERMENT AND COHESION (REACH) FOR RURAL AND URBAN FIJIANS PROJECT

The key purpose of REACH project is to promote peace building, social cohesion and inclusiveness through awareness of rights, access to services, provision of legal advice and institutional capacity building in Fiji.

The REACH project is linked to the Sustainable Development Goals through the empowerment of women and girls and the promotion of a peaceful and inclusive society for sustainable development, provision of access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions.

The REACH project will primarily work with the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation and the Legal Aid Commission on the following two components:

- To improve awareness and service delivery to people in urban informal and rural communities in the areas for the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation of people's right to social and economic wellbeing; and for the Legal Aid Commission in the area of people's right to justice, focusing on legal aid.
- To support research and analysis for evidence based policy making.

The REACH project aims to accomplish the following key results:

- Increased awareness in urban informal and rural communities of constitutional rights in the areas of social and economic wellbeing and justice, focusing on legal aid, through the provision of mobile teams.
- Enhanced delivery of the services provided by the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation and the Legal Aid Commission through the provision of mobile teams visiting urban informal and rural communities.
- Strengthened capacity of the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation and the Legal Aid Commission through support to strategic planning and support of coordination with relevant line ministries for effective and coordinated service delivery to urban informal and rural communities.
- Strengthened capacity of institutions working on democratic governance, human rights, rule of law, and anti-discrimination aspects through provision of targeted support in areas identified as high priority during the project REACH implementation.
- Policy making informed and based on evidence through research and analysis on the relevant areas related to the empowerment of women and girls, promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provision of access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions.

Mobile team visit at Domesu village, Walevu West District, Cakaudrove Province.

Consultation with Laveku settlement and Yisaku settlement, Laveku District, Bau Province.

List of the Media coverages

| | |
|---|---|
| Fiji Times Online 27 October 2015 | http://www.fijitimes.com/story.aspx?ref=archive&id=327364 Reaching out to all |
| Fiji Sun Online 10 October 2015 | http://fijisun.com.fj/2015/10/10/ministry-to-strengthen-womens-health-services/ Ministry to Strengthen Women's Health Services Programmes focused on positive parenting, child protection, family wellness, etc. |
| Fiji Sun Online 15 October 2015 | http://fijisun.com.fj/2015/10/15/assistance-japan-gives-63k-for-national-womens-expo/ Japan Gives \$63K For National Women's Expo |
| FBC News 15 October 2015 | http://www.fbc.com.fj/fiji/33955/legal-aid-commission-increases-its-reach-to-rural-women Legal Aid Commission increases its reach to rural women |
| The Fiji Times Online 17 October 2015 | http://www.fijitimes.com/story.aspx?ref=archive&id=326196 \$63k for rural women |

UNDP press release 16 October 2015

<http://bit.ly/1jrR8Sc>

Support to Rights, Empowerment and Cohesion for rural and urban Fijians for sustainable development



The REACH project supporting the Fiji National Women's Expo (Photo: Ryoko Yonamine/UNDP)

(Suva, Fiji) – The importance of building resilient social, economic and governance systems was highlighted as a key enabler for rural and urban Fijians to both contribute to and benefit from sustainable development by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) at the opening of the Fiji National Women's Expo on 14 October.

UNDP is supporting Expo through the Rights, Empowerment and Cohesion (REACH) for Rural and Urban Fijians Project which is being implemented by UNDP in partnership with the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation and the Legal Aid Commission. The REACH Project aims to promote peacebuilding, social cohesion and inclusiveness through awareness of rights, access to services, provision of legal advice and institutional capacity building in Fiji. The three-year REACH project is funded by the Government of Japan and has commenced in June 2015 with the initial focus being to enhance delivery of services through the provision of 'mobile teams' visiting urban informal and rural communities.

The Honourable Rosy Sofia Akbar, Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation stated, "The Fijian Government places a lot of importance on taking services to the people wherever they live. The REACH project is a wonderful fit to the puzzle and a means to do reach. This project will be the first of its type in Fiji and I am sure that a lot more space will make a big break for our "difficult to reach communities".

Sunil Sharma, The Director, Legal Aid Commission said, "The REACH project offers us a platform whereby we are able to disseminate information on social and legal services to the women of Fiji. Our aim is to empower the women of Fiji through legal awareness programmes and the REACH project has literally enabled the Legal Aid Commission to reach out to the rural and remote communities of Fiji."

H.E. Mr. Takuji Hanatani Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan at the opening said, "Japan is a co-sponsor of the Rights, Empowerment and Cohesion for Rural and Urban Fijians Project...this is aimed at effectively improving the people's access to social services, especially for the women of Fiji in rural areas and informal settlements. This is in line with two of the main concepts for Japanese Overseas Development Assistance, namely Strengthening Human Security and Encouraging Gender Equality."

The Ambassador also urged the women of Fiji, “to realize your true value in society and recognize your rights. I encourage you to come forward and take advantage of the REACH project and the wider empowerment initiative put in place by the Fijian Government and key stakeholders. It is only through ownership and participation by you, the women, in the programmes and policies initiated by the government, that practical empowerment of women can be realized.”

Akiko Fujii, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative said, “Since the REACH Project commenced in June 2015, there has been most positive feedback from those who have benefitted from the mobile services, as they consider the awareness and service delivery being provided at the community level by the Fijian Government, through the project as highly valuable.”

Prior to the Expo, on Monday 12 October, 120 women from the Northern Division who were selected to participate in Expo, attended a one-day workshop in Suva coordinated by the REACH project and gained awareness on the social and legal services available to them and also to increase their skills in financial literacy.

"I learned about some important things in our life, such as registration of titles, caveat filing, preparing a will and more about the REACH project in today's session," said Maopa Maibatiki, from Wailevu District, Cakaudrove Province who participated in the workshop.

Also during Expo on Thursday 15 October the International Day of Rural Women was celebrated. In his message, the UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon said, “this year's observance of the International Day of Rural Women falls just after last month's landmark adoption by world leaders of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Our challenge now is to seize the opportunity offered by this inspiring new framework to transform rural women's lives.”

In Fiji, the REACH project is taking up this opportunity to contribute to the transformation of rural women's lives.

List of the Facebook posts

REACH project activities during the 2nd Fiji National Women's Expo

Facebook posts on UNDP in the Pacific and PNG <https://www.facebook.com/UNDP.Pacific>

UNDP in the Pacific and PNG
October 18 · 🌐

How did you observe #RuralWomenDay? UNDP REACH project was with women in Expo together with the Ministry, Legal Aid Commission and Embassy of Japan. <http://bit.ly/1jyR8Sc> More photos on: <http://bit.ly/1TKY2n5>

👍 John Douglas Morgan, Va Vak-Hargrove and Salome Turukawa like this.

18 Oct 2015 <http://on.fb.me/1Md1AEe>

UNDP in the Pacific and PNG
October 18 · 🌐

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👍 John Douglas Morgan, Vylian Neil Lautangiva Kabua and 2 others like this.

18 Oct 2015 <http://on.fb.me/1Md1AEe>

UNDP in the Pacific and PNG shared a link
October 15 at 8:11pm · 🌐

WOMEN'S EXPO 2015
14th to 16th October 2015
Vodafone Arena, Suva

RIGHTS, EMPOWERMENT AND COHESION (REACH)
FOR RURAL AND URBAN FIJIANS PROJECT

Support to Rights, Empowerment and Cohesion for rural and urban Fijians for sustainable development
The importance of building resilient social, economic and governance systems was highlighted as a key enabler for rural and urban Fijians to both contribute to and...

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- 2013
- 2012
- 2011

15 Oct 2015 <http://on.fb.me/1GiFX3J>

UNDP in the Pacific and PNG
October 15 · 🌐

Today is last day of the National Women's Expo- Fiji. This year, UNDP is supporting the event. Don't forget to visit our booth at the Vodafone Arena in Suva.

👍 Sushil Patel likes this.

15 Oct 2015 <http://on.fb.me/1Pn653o>

UNDP in the Pacific and PNG
October 15 · Edited · 🌐

"This is aimed at effectively improving people's access to social services, especially for the women of Fiji in rural areas and informal settlements."

Japanese Ambassador to Fiji HE Takuj Hanatani
<http://bit.ly/1Ck8l8n>

Rights, Empowerment and Cohesion (REACH) for Rural and Urban Fijians Project is being implemented by UNDP in partnership with the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, and the Legal Aid Commission.

The REACH Project aims to promote peace building, social cohesion and inclusiveness through awareness of rights, access to services, provision of legal advice and institutional capacity building in Fiji.

👍 Margaret J Mohamed, Betty Bariba and 2 others like this.

15 Oct 2015 <http://on.fb.me/1Op8IDk>

UNDP in the Pacific and PNG
October 15 · 🌐

Commemorating the International Day of Rural Women (15 October)

"I am most pleased that the Rights, Empowerment and Cohesion (REACH) for Rural and Urban Fijians Project includes the provision of support to Rural Women in Fiji. Since the REACH Project commenced in June 2015 there has been most positive feedback from those who have benefited from the mobile services as they consider the awareness and service delivery being provided at the community level by the Fiji Government through the project as highly valuable."

Aiko Fuji, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative at Fiji National Women's Expo (14 October)

👍 Los Muelatai, Patricia Rokoua, Christine Fong and 9 others like this.

Betsy Naeasa Solokini Nau Love
October 15 at 7:30am

15 Oct 2015 <http://on.fb.me/1GLYaLS>

List of the Twitter posts

REACH project activities during the pre-Expo workshop and the 2nd Fiji National Women's Expo

Twitter posts by UNDP Pacific (@UNDP_Pacific) and staff (retweeted by UNDP Pacific)

| | |
|--|---|
|  <p>19 Oct 2015 http://bit.ly/1MIA8DO</p> |  <p>16 Oct 2015 http://bit.ly/1Md3RIU</p> |
|  <p>16 Oct 2015 http://bit.ly/1kboS6y</p> |  <p>16 Oct 2015 http://bit.ly/20uRGrp</p> |
|  <p>16 Oct 2015 http://bit.ly/1Rw0ZBf</p> |  <p>16 Oct 2015 http://bit.ly/1HrILlV</p> |



15 Oct 2015 <http://bit.ly/1MIDdnD>



15 Oct 2015 <http://bit.ly/1PaMKUL>



15 Oct 2015 <http://bit.ly/1NeGSUu>



15 Oct 2015 <http://bit.ly/1MIDt60>



14 Oct 2015 <http://bit.ly/1NeGZPG>



14 Oct 2015 <http://bit.ly/1QdBMNi>

tomoko kashiwazaki @tomokoUNV Following

Happening now: REACH project awareness session at Fiji Expo supported by Japan @UNDP_Pacific @UNDP_Tokyo



RETWEETS 4 FAVORITES 4

14 Oct 2015 <http://bit.ly/1NeH9H5>

tomoko kashiwazaki @tomokoUNV Following

Collabo w/ Japan, Ministry, LegalAidCommission n @UNDP_Pacific will assist all Fijians 2 access socio legal services



RETWEETS 7 FAVORITES 3

14 Oct 2015 <http://bit.ly/1PaNrOk>

tomoko kashiwazaki @tomokoUNV Following

What services Fiji Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation provides? Join REACH session at Women'sExpo n get info @UNDP_Pacific

RETWEETS 2 FAVORITES 2

3:26 PM - 12 Oct 2015

12 Oct 2015 <http://bit.ly/1Rw1D1G>

tomoko kashiwazaki @tomokoUNV Following

"You have rights n we assist you", Director, Legal Aid Commission, REACH mobile team. @UNDP_Pacific @UNDP_Tokyo



RETWEETS 3 FAVORITES 2

3:01 PM - 12 Oct 2015

12 Oct 2015 <http://bit.ly/1NeHh9u>

tomoko kashiwazaki @tomokoUNV Following

Financial literacy prog for women by @westpac to get ready 4 Fiji women's Expo @UNDP_Pacific @unwomenpacific @dfat



RETWEETS 2 FAVORITES 4

11:47 AM - 12 Oct 2015

12 Oct 2015 <http://bit.ly/1Md6VeF>

tomoko kashiwazaki @tomokoUNV Following

Talking on #gbv provided by @fwcc to women from vanualevu at REACH project awereness workshop, Suva. @UNDP_Pacific



RETWEETS 2 FAVORITES 3

10:12 AM - 12 Oct 2015

12 Oct 2015 <http://bit.ly/1PaNKlq>

tomoko kashiwazaki @tomokoUNV Following

Women frm vanualevu arvd suva to talk on rights, empowerment and cohesion -REACH @UNDP_Pacific @UNDP_Tokyo



RETWEETS 6 FAVORITES 3

9:37 AM - 12 Oct 2015

12 Oct 2015 <http://bit.ly/1LQnsHD>