

OUR FUTURE PRIORITIES

Over the coming years, Plan Pacific will look for opportunities to consolidate and expand initiatives including:

- ✓ Through our WASH program, strengthen community and school responses to prevent community transmission of COVID-19.
- ✓ Build the capacity of young Pacific Islanders, including people with disabilities and other vulnerable young people to engage with decision-making processes in communities, civil society and government.
- ✓ Support and expand Pacific Islanders' resilience and their ability to prepare for and respond to disasters.
- ✓ Support people in the Pacific to identify and challenge harmful gender norms and practices, while strengthening the positive dimensions of Pacific Island culture.
- ✓ Build young Pacific Islanders' capacity to access decent work and livelihood opportunities.
- ✓ Strengthen young women and men in speaking out on Climate Change



PLAN PACIFIC OFFICES :



WEBSITE LINKS:

Plan International in Solomon Islands:
<https://plan-international.org/solomon-islands>

Plan International in Papua New Guinea:
<https://plan-international.org/papua-new-guinea>

PLAN PACIFIC OUR CHALLENGE

People in the Pacific are uniquely susceptible to economic shocks and natural disasters. According to the World Bank, eight Pacific countries are among the world's top 20 countries most affected in terms of annual losses from disasters.

Entrenched gender inequality and gender-based violence are significant concerns, with the Pacific reporting some of the world's poorest development indicators for women and girls.

A Lowy Institute report indicates that half of the Pacific population is younger than 23 years old. Youth unemployment is 10% higher than the global average, with equal access to affordable technical, vocational, and tertiary education a key challenge.

The Pacific has some of the lowest water and sanitation indicators globally. According to the WHO, PNG is one of only three countries in the world where less than 50% of the population can access safe drinking water.



STRENGTHENING GIRLS RESILIENCE

Plan Pacific has a number of projects which empower girls to speak out, to claim their rights, and build their leadership and livelihood skills. In PNG, the Bougainville Youth Empowerment Program (YEP) supports young people's ability to exercise their social, political and economic rights, while strengthening their leadership and livelihood skills.

In Solomon Islands, the Safer Cities for Girls Program works closely with the Honiara City Council and Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) to engage adolescent girls and boys to build safer and more inclusive cities through influencing change at community, government and policymaking levels.

With ChildFund Australia, Plan supports a DFAT funded cyber safety project that fosters online safety, equipping young people and caregivers with the knowledge and skills for responsible and safe internet usage.

OUR RESPONSE

Plan International began working in the Pacific in 2011. In 2020, Plan committed over € 1.6 million to Pacific programs, through direct implementation and in-country partners, with grant support from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), USAID and private donors.

DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT (DRM)

Plan Pacific implements the DFAT-funded Disaster Ready Program through the Australia Humanitarian Partnership (AHP) with other Australian NGOs and local partners. This program supports localised disaster risk reduction and preparedness through strengthening local capacity and coordination, and including vulnerable groups.

In response to COVID-19, AHP has expanded to ensure marginalised and vulnerable populations in at-risk locations are prepared, protected and engaged in their own responses.

WASH

In the Solomon Islands and PNG, Plan collaborates with Live and Learn Environmental Education (LLEE) to implement three WASH projects funded by DFAT and Latter-day Saints Charities. These projects are implemented in the provinces of Guadalcanal and Isabel in Solomon Islands, and New Ireland Province and Bougainville, PNG. All projects improve gender equitable access to quality sanitation and hygiene services for disadvantaged and remote communities.

In Fiji, Plan is implementing a six-month emergency WASH project funded by USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance. This project works with local partners to support the immediate hygiene and handwashing needs of 8,000 vulnerable individuals at increased risk of COVID-19 infection.



OUR KEY PARTNERS

Plan Pacific's primary local partners are civil society and government at all levels.

Key NGO partners include: Partners in Community Development Fiji (PCDF), Empower Pacific, Rainbow Pride Foundation, Field Ready, Fiji Disabled People's Federation (FDPF), Solomon Islands Development Trust, LLEE, YWCA, Honiara City Council, Bougainville Women's Federation and the Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation.

HIGHLIGHTS

Here are a few small examples of key outcomes from the programs:

✔ Bougainville's Adolescent Health Clinic has supported over 650 adolescents to access knowledge and services concerning their Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights.

✔ To prevent community transmission of COVID-19, Solomon Islands Water for Women program has improved access to basic sanitation for over 700 households and established 22 WASH clubs in schools in Guadalcanal Province.

✔ In Bougainville, 150 community farmers were trained in resilient agricultural practices through the Disaster Ready Program to improve resilience to climate change and disasters.

✔ In the Solomon Islands, youth and adolescent girls have responded to Tropical Cyclone Harold, after being trained in gender and disability-inclusive emergency response management.

