Policy Coherence Dialogue
Accelerating the implementation of the development agendas in the Pacific Small Island Developing States
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Dr Srinivas Tata
Social Development Division Director
ESCAP
• Women and girls are bearing the brunt of interconnected economic, social and geopolitical crises.

• Women's equality and empowerment is central to fostering inclusive and sustainable development and is vital for the success of all SDGs.

• By aligning policies across sectors, governments can address barriers that hinder women's full participation and advancement in society.
## POLICY COHERENCE FOR GENDER EQUALITY IN THE PACIFIC REGION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD)</th>
<th>Pacific Leaders’ Gender Equality Declaration (PLGED)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)</td>
<td>Framework for Pacific Regionalism</td>
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<td>Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action</td>
<td>SAMOA Pathway</td>
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<td>CROP-UN Collaboration Framework for Gender Equality</td>
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<td>2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent</td>
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<td>UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF)</td>
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The number of women and girls living in extreme poverty in the Pacific region has significantly decreased since 2015, with expectations to halve by 2030.

Despite impressive progress, the extreme poverty rate for women and girls in the Pacific is projected to exceed 11% in 2030, equivalent to the global poverty rate in 2015.

Achieving zero poverty for all women and girls by 2030 will require addressing long-standing gender disparities, including in access to health care, education and the labour market as well as providing gender-responsive social protection.
The Pacific region has made good progress in reducing the maternal mortality ratio. Though progress has slowed slightly since 2015, the Pacific region remains on track to meet the 2030 goal of a maternal mortality ratio less than 70 per 100,000 live births. Ending all preventable maternal deaths will require strengthening health systems, closing gaps in care quality and access, and ensuring universal coverage.

Source: UN Women calculations using United Nations, 2023, Global SDG Indicators Database.
Institutional barriers, including workplace discrimination, an unequal division of unpaid care and domestic responsibilities, and an undersupply of decent job opportunities, are among the variables disrupting the school-to-work transition for young women.

In 2022, 35.5% of young women aged 15-24 in the Pacific were not in education, employment or training (NEET), compared to 28.2% of men.

The NEET rate for young women in the Pacific in 2022 was 3.4 percentage points higher than the world average and had risen by 0.2 percentage points since 2015 when the global goals were adopted.
• The Pacific region has seen gains made in the percentage of the population with access to electricity and clean cooking fuels.

• While access to electricity has notably improved, the percentage of the population relying primarily on clean fuels and technology has progressed at a slower pace. However, both indicators still trail behind other regions and significantly undershoot the global average.

• Driving clean and just energy transitions demands increased investments in energy service and the dismantling of barriers to women’s participation and leadership in the traditionally male-dominated energy sector.
Political Participation

• The Pacific region has made notable progress on the number of seats held by women in national parliaments, increasing from 11.2% in 2000 to 19.5% in 2023.

• Political participation of women in the region is 1.3 percentage points behind the ESCAP average and still well below the global average, which stood at 26.5% in 2023.

• In 2023, only four countries in the Pacific had more than 25% of their cabinet seats held by women, with several countries having no women female ministers.
• There is a lack of data, particularly over time, which prevents an analysis of trends on prevalence of gender-based violence in the region.

• While the number of countries with data availability on intimate partner violence is growing, the WHO-derived official estimates on SDG 5.2.1 – Violence against women – are dated to 2018.

• In the Pacific region 10.9% of women (aged 15–49) have experienced physical and sexual violence by a current or former intimate partner in the preceding 12 months.
The FLFP in the Pacific still lags behind that of men’s which stood at 66.3 percent in 2023.

Since the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action was adopted in 1995, the overall FLFPR (aged 15+) of the ESCAP region decreased by nearly 10%.

In the Pacific, the FLFP was 57.7% in 2023, 11% higher than the ESCAP regional average.

The FLFP in the Pacific still lags behind that of men’s which stood at 66.3 percent in 2023.

Source: ESCAP Data Explorer
Note: Pacific region includes Australia and New Zealand
Multisectoral plans and efforts to respond to climate change must prioritize women and girls most at risk. A lot more is also needed in the areas of conservation, disaster preparedness, adaptation and resilience and access to information.

In the Pacific, by mid-century, under a worst-case climate scenario, climate change may push up to 500,000 more women and girls into poverty and 800,000 women and girls into food insecurity.

In Europe and North America, approximately 6 million females are projected to fall into extreme poverty, with around 7 million into food insecurity by 2050. For Australia and New Zealand, these figures stand at around 75 thousand and 200 thousand, respectively. Due to space limitation, these figures are not depicted on the map.
# Beijing+30 Regional Review

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>19-21 November 2024</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Venue</td>
<td>United Nations Conference Centre, ESCAP</td>
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<td>Partners</td>
<td>ESCAP and UN Women</td>
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<td>Mandate</td>
<td>E/RES/2022/5 – mandates ‘regional commissions to undertake regional reviews’</td>
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| Objectives    | a) Assess progress on the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action in Asia and the Pacific over the past 5 years  
               b) Review current challenges, good practices, lessons learned, and priority actions required to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women  
               c) Prepare regional input to the 69th session of the Commission on the Status of Women which will focus on the review and appraisal of the implementation of the BPfA |
| Participants  | a) High-level representatives of ESCAP member and associated members  
               b) Intergovernmental organizations; United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and funds  
               c) Non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, youth organizations, academia, the private sector |
| Documentation | Survey and national reports by member States  
               Two parliamentary papers  
               Regional Synthesis Report |
| Preparatory Meetings | Virtual workshop for national-level reviews and survey  
                        Expert Group Meeting  
                        CSO Consultations and forum  
                        High-level roundtable for SIDS and LDCs |
Charting the way forward

Recommendations emanating from the conference will be realized to deliver meaningful change in the lives of women and girls along the six thematic focus areas through:

- Research and analysis
- Technical cooperation at country level
- Global and regional collaboration through established frameworks and processes
THANK YOU

For more information on the Beijing+30 process, please scan the QR code.