



Progress Report

PEAP PACIFIC ELECTIONS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

UNDP Fiji Pacific Office

ANNUAL REPORT | March 2024 - March 2025





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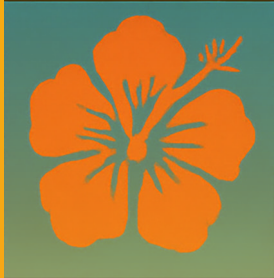
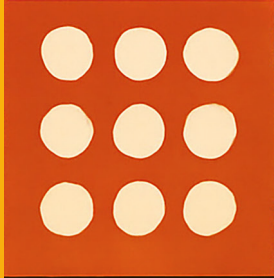
Project Summary Information	
Project Title	Pacific Elections Assistance Program (PEAP)
Project ID	1001333
Project Duration	Start Date: 1 November 2023, End Date: 31 March 2028,
Location	Pacific Region
CPD/UNSDCF/RPD/SP Outputs	Governance institutions are accountable and have improved capacities for service delivery
Gender marker	Gender Marker 2: Gender equality as a significant objective
Digitalization marker	Contributing to digital transformation of society and inclusive governance
Implementing Partner	UNDP
Total budget	NZD 3,000,000
Donors (funding sources)	New Zealand MFAT
Budget (annual budget)	USD 417,345
Expenditure recorded for the reporting period	USD\$ 373,804
Expenditure recorded for the total project	USD\$ 406,885
Project Manager name:	Daniel Hinchcliff

Program Overview

With funding support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of New Zealand, the Pacific Elections Assistance Program (PEAP), drawing on UNDP's global expertise in electoral support, serves as the dedicated regional office for UNDP electoral assistance in the Pacific. Delivered alongside a sister programme led by the New Zealand Electoral Commission (NZEC), PEAP aims to address growing inequalities and governance challenges by strengthening the capacity of Pacific Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs) to deliver inclusive, effective, and transparent elections.

Spanning five years—from November 2023 to March 2028—PEAP operates across the Pacific region. It convenes regional activities involving all Pacific EMBs and, upon request, provides tailored support to specific countries including the Cook Islands, Kiribati, Niue, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, and Tuvalu. Additional countries may also benefit through supplementary funding arrangements.

The programme employs a comprehensive approach, combining advocacy, technical advisory services, training, awareness campaigns, Pacific-focused research, curriculum development, and outreach efforts to strengthen democratic processes across the region.



Executive Summary

Covering the program's first full year of implementation (Q4 2023 – Q4 2024), this report highlights key achievements, progress across core outputs, and strategic partnerships established to deliver effective, inclusive, and accountable elections throughout the Pacific.

Key Achievements:

- **Support to Tuvalu's 2024 General Election** resulted in the first accurate voter data collection effort, improving electoral transparency and data integrity.
- **Regional peer-to-peer and capacity-building initiatives**, including three sub-regional BRIDGE workshops for Micronesia, Polynesia, and Melanesia, empowered over 80 EMB officials with training on inclusive electoral administration.
- **Launch of the Pacific Legal Electoral Advisory Dialogue (PLEAD)** created a regionally owned legal and policy forum for EMB officers.
- **Pacific Climate and Elections research** provided actionable recommendations for Tuvalu and Fiji on greening electoral processes and increasing climate change resilience.
- **Electoral safety survey for women candidates** uncovered significant risks to women's political participation, laying the groundwork for improved safeguards and support systems.
- **Revamp of the Pacific Women in Politics (PACWIP) website** commenced, with plans for enhanced accessibility and richer content for women's political empowerment.

Program Outputs:

Over the reporting period, PEAP contributed to strengthened capacities of Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs) in Tuvalu, Tokelau, and the Solomon Islands, and across the Pacific through targeted technical support, procedural reforms, and tailored training initiatives that emphasised inclusivity and gender-responsiveness.

Efforts to improve electoral integrity included the ongoing development of research and technical advice for EMBs on legal reform, dispute resolution (including producing summaries of over 1000 Pacific election Petitions, climate resilience, and digital transformation.

A key development was the establishment of the Pacific Legal Electoral Advisory Dialogue (PLEAD), offering a collaborative platform for legal and policy support among Pacific EMBs.

In parallel, the programme advanced citizen engagement and inclusion through civic education and advocacy initiatives, supporting long-term strategies to enhance women's political participation and the inclusion of people with disabilities. Notable activities included curriculum planning in Solomon Islands, beginning of a joint UNDP/UN Women women's candidate support toolkit, and dedicated workshops on disability voting rights.

Progress Review

Key results achieved

Accurate Voter Data Collection in Tuvalu

- For the first time, Tuvalu conducted accurate voter data collection during and after its general election, addressing longstanding issues unknown voter turnout - an issue caused by the voting system, where each voter can select up to two candidates per ballot.

Peer-to-Peer Exchange Support

- A Tokelau EMB representative gained hands-on experience in electoral processes through a structured learning program with Samoa's Office of the Electoral Commission.
- A Samoa EMB representative was able to work through IT and GIS issues with the Fijian elections Office

Two Sub-Regional BRIDGE Workshops Delivered

- Held in Micronesia (Pohnpei), and Polynesia (Samoa). The Program also supported the PIANZEA network by providing facilitation for another workshop in Melanesia. In total over 80 electoral stakeholders were trained in inclusive electoral administration, voter education, and gender equity.

Pacific Workshop Facilitation and Presentation Support

- Pacific Roll integrity Workshop (NSEC) (session on voter registration considerations for people with disabilities).
- Melanesia BRIDGE Workshop (PIANZEA).

Launch of PLEAD (Pacific Legal Electoral Advisory Dialogue)

- Established a regional platform for EMB legal and policy officers to collaborate, share advice, and engage on electoral legal frameworks.

Electoral Dispute Resolution (EDR) Research

- A comparative analysis across Pacific countries exploring legal frameworks, remedies, and adjudication mechanisms related to election disputes.

Research on Climate and Elections

- Consultants assessed environmental impacts of elections in Tuvalu and Fiji and proposed mitigation strategies to make electoral processes more sustainable.

Development of MERL Framework

- A Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, and Learning (MERL) framework was co-developed with NZEC to improve outcomes-based reporting for electoral support projects.

Electoral Safety Survey for Women Candidates

- Found that 57% of women candidates experienced harassment during elections, including verbal abuse and threats, underscoring the need for improved protection measures.

Revamp of the PACWIP Website

- Significant upgrades initiated to enhance accessibility and usability of the Pacific Women in Politics platform, supporting women's political participation.

Workshops on Disability Inclusion

- Advocacy and planning workshops addressed the voting rights of people with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities, identifying cultural and systemic barriers.

Research Initiated Under the TAPA Initiative

- Covering topics such as gender and elections, legal frameworks, civic education penetration, out-of-country voting, and the rights of persons with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities in the Pacific.



OUTPUT PROGRESS

Output 1: EMBs deliver effective, efficient, & inclusive elections with increased capacity and resources

Key results area 1.1: Procedure reforms adopted by management bodies.

Progress toward procedural reform was demonstrated through targeted support and peer learning. In Tuvalu, accurate voter data collection was introduced for the first time, addressing inflated turnout figures and enabling better analysis of voter trends. This also contributed to more structured operational planning. Peer-to-peer exchanges further supported capacity development, with Tokelau's EMB gaining practical insights from Samoa's electoral processes, and Samoa's ICT officer learning from Fiji's advanced voter registration systems. These experiences are informing procedural improvements in each country, strengthening overall electoral management.

1.1 EMBs have strengthened capacities to organise credible, inclusive, accountable elections

Positive progress has been achieved towards procedural reforms adopted by management bodies through the engagement with Tuvalu Government Election Officials. This involved the increased understanding and knowledge around data collection and formalisation of operational planning documents.

Tuvalu Election Data Collection (28 May to 03 June 2024)

An achievement to note was the introduction of accurate voter data collection for the first time. This step addressed previous gaps where voter turnout remained unknown due to the voting method. The availability of accurate data clarified important and analysis trends, such as declining voter numbers, enabling stakeholders to engage in targeted discussions. This progress sets the platform for strategies to increase electoral participation and underscores the long-term value of sustained electoral advisory support in Tuvalu.

Peer To Peer Exchanges

Tokelau EMB Program with Samoa Office of The Electoral Commission (21 October to 03 November 2024)

In October-November 2024, the project organised a peer-to-peer exchange program (P2P) for Ms. Sophie Tyrell-Saumani, a member of the Tokelau village election committee to participate in a peer-to-peer learning program with the Office of the Electoral Commission, Samoa (OEC).

The P2P assisted Sophie in her understanding of the electoral processes. The tasks assigned during the program were flexible, allowing her to observe the OEC processes, including voter registration, and interacting with staff to gain practical insights.

Through observation and Q&A sessions, Sophie gained a good understanding of key issues in electoral management, strategies for improving transparency and trust in

electoral processes, and understanding different methods of effective voter education programs. These insights are expected to contribute significantly to her professional development and Tokelau's electoral practices.



Figure 1: Ms. Sophie Keen to share and use the knowledge gained from the P2P in Tokelau

At the end of the program, Sophie aimed to develop skills in promoting electoral awareness through civic education, researching electoral policies, and effectively communicating electoral processes to the village candidates and village councils.

While Samoa's OEC operates as a full-time commission, Tokelau's Election Office is active only three months before an election. Additionally, the scale of operations and voter registration processes differ greatly, with Tokelau's voter population is significantly lower. The program offered insights and practical knowledge where Sophie can use this experience to enhance Tokelau's electoral management processes.

Samoa Office of The Electoral Commission with the Fijian Elections Office

In October 2024, and in support of the PIANZEA Secondment Programme, Mr. Shalom Maiava, Principal ICT Officer from the Office of the Electoral Commission, Samoa, was seconded to the Fijian Elections Office (FEO) to observe and learn from Fiji's advanced electoral ICT systems. The secondment focused on understanding voter registration technologies (including EVR kits and Voter Services Centers), ICT's role in field operations and business continuity, and the integration of GIS tools and e-learning platforms like e-Vuli.

Key outcomes included exposure to best practices such as the use of ArcGIS Pro for logistics planning, deployment of mobile EVR kits, and the use of laptop cloning for efficient device preparation. Mr. Maiava identified actionable innovations to introduce in Samoa, including the development of an online training platform, strengthening telecommunication partnerships for connectivity on election day, and exploring decentralised GIS-based data entry.

Key results area 1.2: Improving EMB's understanding of electoral topics through effective advocacy through thematic workshops

PEAP contributed to strengthening EMBs' understanding of electoral topics through targeted thematic workshops and regional collaboration. The Pacific Roll Integrity Workshop, delivered in partnership with NZEC and PIANZEA, brought together voter registration administrators to share best practices in maintaining accurate and inclusive voter rolls, including considerations for people with disabilities.

Sub-regional BRIDGE workshops in *Polynesia and Melanesia* further deepened EMB knowledge of electoral processes, with strong engagement on topics such as inclusive voter education, civic participation of women, youth, and persons with disabilities, and distinctions between civic and voter education. The use of regionally based facilitators, including a fully Melanesian team for the Vanuatu workshop, enhanced peer learning and relevance. Feedback across all sessions highlighted strong participant engagement and the value of building cross-country networks to support electoral professionalism and cooperation.

NZEC-PEAP Pacific Roll Integrity Workshop (10 To 13 June 2024)

The UNDP PEAP Project supported the New Zealand Electoral Commission (NZEC) and the PIANZEA network as they delivered a regional workshop focused on maintaining the integrity of the voter roll—an initiative that exemplifies the strong collaboration established through the dual NZEC and UNDP regional programmes.



Figure 2: Participants concentrating on an activity with Trainer David S.



Figure 3: Group work discussion

The workshop brought together voter registration administrators from across the Pacific, providing a platform for knowledge sharing, regional cooperation, and peer learning on best practices in voter roll management.

The PEAP team helped in the facilitation, with Electoral Officer Asenaca Kolinivala working alongside NZEC colleagues, supporting the workshop facilitation, and Technical Advisor Daniel Hinchcliff presenting on inclusive voter registration, specifically addressing considerations for people with disabilities.

Polynesia Bridge Program (05 to 07 November 2024)

Moving forward from the completion of the Micronesia sub-regional BRIDGE event in the first quarter, the PEAP team together with the UNDP Samoa multi-country office collaborated with the Pacific Islands, Australia and New Zealand Electoral Administrators (PIANZEA) Network mirroring the same BRIDGE program targeting the Polynesia EMBs and was held in Apia, Samoa in November.

Eighteen female and ten male EMB representatives from Tuvalu, Tonga, Cook Islands, Tokelau, Samoa and New Zealand came together to share experiences, knowledge, ideas where they were able to take back what they have learnt during the three-day program.



Participants' evaluations showed positive engagement throughout the program. Oral and written feedback highlighted the welcoming atmosphere and interactive learning methods. Major highlights of the three days evaluation proved that the workshop offered a learning space where participants were able to strengthen their knowledge of inclusive practices in electoral processes and promoting the participation of people living with disabilities, youths, and women in the process.

Beyond the constructive discussions and sharing similar sentiments around electoral processes, participants were able to build networks and friendships amongst themselves. The workshop also allowed two members of the Office of the Electoral Commission, Samoa: *Mauga Fetogi Vaai* and *Patea Uili Sio*, accredited to full workshop BRIDGE facilitators level.



Figure 4: BRIDGE participants with their certificate of completion

Melanesia Bridge Program (04 TO 06 December 2024)

The PEAP Program took on a supporting role for the third workshop, which was financed and managed by the PIANZEA network. Fourteen women and fourteen men from the Melanesian EMBs gathered at Port Vila for three days attending the final series of the sub-regional BRIDGE Introduction to electoral administration module for the year.

Building on the success of the earlier Micronesian and Polynesian BRIDGE workshops, the event was organised for Melanesian EMB staff and officials that were new to their roles and those that may need some sort of refresher course on electoral processes.

The Program was notable for having a fully Melanesian facilitation team. Asenaca Kolinivala from UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji provided the lead facilitation role, working with Desmond Tsianai from the Office of the Bougainville Electoral Commissioner, and Joy Manu from the Solomon Islands Electoral Commission.

The three-day program saw participants discussing meaningful election processes and topics that helped them gain understanding of technical terms and concepts. One key session helped participants to gain clarity on the distinctions between voter information, voter education, and civic education, recognising the relevance of these concepts to their line of work.



Figure 5: Election visitor program at the Vanuatu Electoral Office

The importance of inclusive voter education and accommodating people with disabilities was highlighted as critical in promoting accessibility and equity in elections.

In evaluations, participants highlighted that they valued the knowledge shared amongst topics like voter registration, stakeholder engagement, and an electoral security session run by PEAP. The workshop also accommodated discussions on empowering youth and women in elections, exploring strategies to increase women's political representation and youths' participation in the political arena.

1.2 technical advice provided to additional EMBs, upon request, to strengthen their capacities to organise credible elections

No activity.

Output 2: EMBs make robust, inclusive, and informed decisions, safeguarding the integrity of elections with improved independence and stronger mandates

2.1 EMBs demonstrate an increase in informed, data-driven electoral decisions by incorporating research papers on key electoral topics into their decision-making processes.

A key achievement was the first Climate and Elections Review in the Pacific, which engaged consultants to assess the environmental impact of electoral processes in Tuvalu and Fiji. The mission produced tailored recommendations for climate-resilient electoral practices, including integrating climate considerations into legal frameworks, introducing risk assessments, and improving waste management. These findings are being incorporated into PEAP's broader advocacy efforts, encouraging EMBs to consider environmental sustainability as part of electoral planning. Additionally, the development of a joint Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning (MERL) framework with the New Zealand Electoral Commission created a shared foundation for evidence-based reporting and programme improvement.

2.1 Systematic knowledge gathered and shared with EMBs and other democratic partners on key electoral topics

Elections And Climate Review Mission (28 May To 08 June 2024)

Environmental issues have increasing implications for elections and are a growing priority for countries and communities around the world. The UN Secretary-General, in addition to recognising the findings of the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2021), has acknowledged that human-induced climate change is causing dangerous and widespread disruption in nature, affecting billions of lives globally.

On that, the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP's) Strategic Plan 2022-2025 highlights both the environment and governance as key signature solutions.

The project supported the mission of two climate and elections consultants to conduct research and analyse the environmental impacts of electoral processes with mitigation strategies in Tuvalu and Fiji. The two consultants covered the Tuvalu electoral process as well as the Fijian Elections Office.

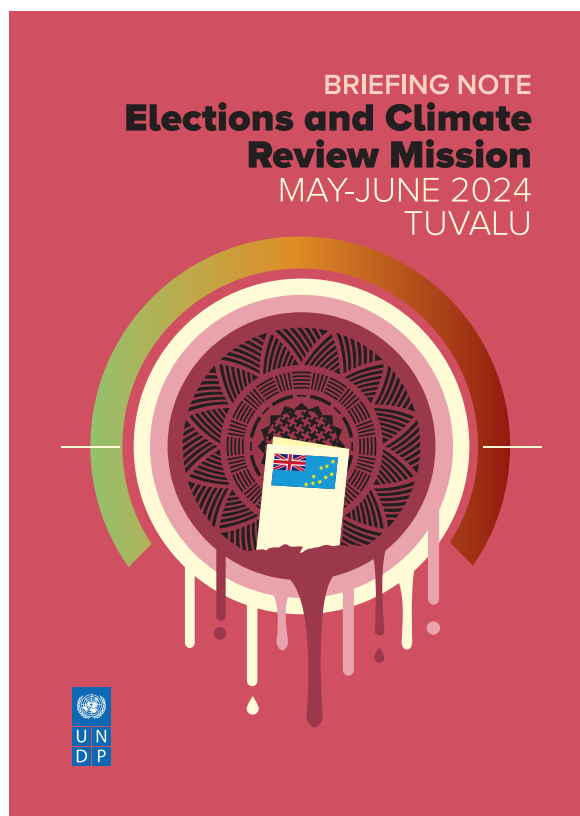


Figure 6: Climate and Elections consultants checking out election materials as part of their research

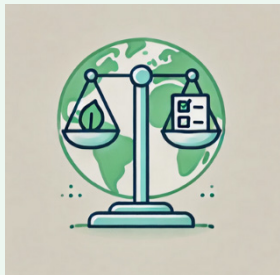
During their visit, the consultants held meetings with key stakeholders in both countries to gather insights and perspectives. They assessed the current election practices, looking for ways to make them more environmentally friendly. This included exploring alternative options that are specifically suited to the unique contexts of Pacific nations.



Figure 7: Meeting with the waste management officials of Tuvalu



Climate change mitigation recommendations, which have become a standard part of our advocacy work are:



Integrate climate considerations into electoral laws

Pacific Island countries are vulnerable to climate-related disruptions. Electoral legal frameworks should be updated to support environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient elections. This may include provisions to reduce waste, discourage single-use plastics, and use eco-friendly materials. Legal flexibility for contingency planning, climate risk assessments, and timeline adjustments will help ensure elections can proceed safely during extreme weather events or natural disasters.



Include climate impact reporting in election documentation

Election reports should feature a section on climate change to record how environmental factors affected the election process and what measures were taken to reduce risk. This could include tracking disruptions from storms or high tides, efforts to reduce waste, and the use of sustainable or digital tools. Regular reporting will help Pacific EMBs learn and adapt for future elections.



Establish a climate risk assessment process for each election

Each election cycle should include a climate risk assessment. This will guide EMBs in planning for local conditions—such as cyclone seasons, droughts, or sea level rise—by preparing backup polling locations, adjusting timelines if needed, and using durable and weather-resistant materials.



Encourage shredding and recycling of paper materials

Given the high volume of paper used during elections (e.g., ballots, posters, forms), EMBs should implement systems for shredding and recycling. These practices reduce landfill waste and support environmental sustainability in line with Pacific conservation values.



Work with local waste management and suppliers

Collaboration with national or local waste authorities can improve election-related recycling and waste reduction. EMBs should also engage suppliers to source eco-friendly materials and reduce packaging waste. Strengthening these partnerships supports greener elections and aligns with broader Pacific efforts to protect the environment.

Monitoring, Evaluation, Research and Learning (MERL) Framework Workshop (17 & 18 June 2024)

The project team, in collaboration with the New Zealand Electoral Commission team, dedicated two days in developing an elections Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, and Learning (MERL) framework. This effort aims to generate actionable insights and recommendations for improving electoral processes and outcomes-based reporting within the MFAT-funded electoral projects.



Figure 8: PEAP team and NZEC PEAP team discussions on MERL

At the end of the two days, the team was able to generate actionable insights and recommendations for improving electoral processes and outcomes-based reporting based on a MERL framework agreement which included reaching a common understanding on key M&E concepts and framing for theory of change, and an agreement on how to conduct outcome/output-based reporting in the future.

Key results area: 2.2: EMBs able to leverage regional & global electoral institutions to inform electoral decision-making progress.

Under Key Results Area 2.2, PEAP supported the creation and strengthening of regional platforms and initiated knowledge products to enhance the ability of Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs) to access and apply legal and policy expertise in their decision-making. The establishment of the Pacific Legal Electoral Advisory Dialogue (PLEAD) provides a dedicated, practitioner-led space for EMB legal and policy officers to share experiences, discuss emerging legal issues, and build regional coherence on electoral matters. Complementing this, the Electoral Dispute Resolution (EDR) research project analysed 492 election petitions across the Pacific, producing digests with thematic tags for use in a forthcoming searchable database, which will further support legal reference and reform efforts. Additionally, the TAPA research stream is developing papers on key electoral themes. The first of these, focused on bribery and customary gift-giving, will be released in 2025.

Transformative Approaches For People Agencies (Tapa) Research Topics

Two Fijian UN Volunteers have been recruited to undertake research on key electoral topics that are critical in the Pacific. One of the key objectives of *TAPA* is to collect, analyse data, report and publish a range of knowledge products designed to inform EMBs effectively and efficiently on a range of critical or emerging issues regarding elections in the Pacific.

These knowledge products will be in the form of research papers and guides. Through the strategic plan and UNDP direction of change, the topics were selected into different thematic areas.

Structural Transformation	Leave No One Behind	Building Resilience
Guide to Election Systems	Gender Research	Civic Education Penetration in the Pacific
Election Dispute Resolution	Out of Country Voting	AI and Elections in the Pacific (Information Integrity) (Digital skills for Resilience)
Mandates for Election Management Bodies to Promote Legal framework Reforms.	TSMs Temporary Special Measures	Climate Change
	Intellectual Disability Voting Rights	
	First Time Voters	

The research on many topics is well underway and will be complete in 2025.

Election Dispute Resolution (EDR) In the Pacific

This first research paper, scheduled for release in Q2 2025, is a study exploring how Pacific Island Countries (PICs) navigate the complex relationship between electoral bribery and customary gift-giving during election periods. It is written as an introduction to the topic and is intended for EMBs and stakeholders who may need to understand the topic in some depth.

In many Pacific societies, gift-giving is a respected and deeply rooted tradition that reinforces social bonds and obligations. However, during elections, these practices can be misused to influence voter behaviour, raising concerns about fairness and electoral integrity.

The study reviews and compares the legal frameworks of ten PICs—Solomon Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Micronesia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, and Sa-

moa—focusing on how electoral laws define and address bribery, treating, and traditional exchanges. It also highlights over 25 court cases from across the region to understand how judges interpret acts of gift-giving during elections, and how they distinguish between culturally legitimate practices and electoral corruption.

Through this analysis, the study identifies four key judicial principles used across the region: intent, timing, scale, and cultural context. It finds that while these principles are widely accepted, their application varies considerably between jurisdictions, leading to legal uncertainty and inconsistent enforcement. The study also highlights the practical challenges faced by courts, electoral management bodies, and law enforcement, including high evidentiary thresholds, limited guidance, and resource constraints.

2.2 User-friendly, searchable database/s of election-related legal frameworks and electoral event data created and maintained, with a specific membership platform for Pacific election practitioners

The Electoral Dispute Resolution (EDR) Research Project has undertaken a comprehensive review and analysis of 492 election petition cases from across the Pacific region. These cases span a range of jurisdictions and provide insights into how Pacific Island Countries (PICs) handle disputes related to electoral processes, including allegations of bribery, procedural irregularities, ineligibility, and vote counting issues.

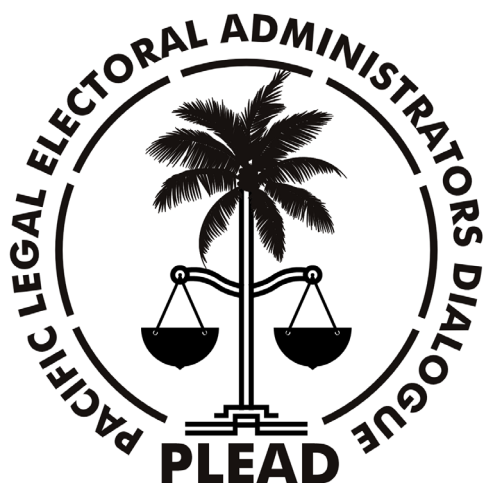
As a first phase, this research is being prepared for dissemination within the Pacific Legal Electoral Advisory Dialogue (PLEAD) network, which brings together legal and policy officers from Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs) across the region. Each case has been summarised into a digest format, capturing key facts, legal issues, rulings, and judicial reasoning. To enhance usability, keywords and thematic tags—such as “bribery,” “undue influence,” “customary practices,” and “election annulment”—have been assigned to each case, enabling easy cross-referencing and thematic analysis.

The next phase of the project will involve uploading the digests into an interactive and searchable online database, accessible to PLEAD members. This tool will support peer learning, comparative legal analysis, and evidence-based legal reform by allowing EMB legal officers and regional stakeholders to explore precedent, track trends, and identify consistent legal principles across jurisdictions. In the long term, this database aims to strengthen judicial coherence, improve legal literacy within EMBs, and support the development of fair, transparent, and culturally informed electoral legal frameworks across the Pacific.

Pacific Legal Electoral Advisory Dialogue (PLEAD)

Establishment of the Pacific Legal Electoral Advisory Dialogue (PLEAD)

In 2024, the Pacific Legal Electoral Advisory Dialogue (PLEAD) (supported by PEAP) entered its establishment phase, focusing on confirming its structure, purpose, and operational framework. Key milestones included the appointment of Mesake Dawai, Manager Legal at the Fijian Elections Office, as Chair, and Deidre Brookes as Secretary and honorary member.



The group formally adopted its purpose, objectives, and house rules, confirmed membership forms, and approved the official PLEAD logo. Membership criteria were established to ensure participation is limited to officers providing legal or policy advice to Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs) in Pacific Island Countries (PICs), including non-permanent EMBs. Associate membership is also available to heads of EMBs and senior officials.

Engagement with non-PIC EMBs began with guest speaker arrangements, and a commitment was made to invite all members, associates, and PIC law officers of

the Crown to two open dialogue sessions annually on electoral policy and constitutional issues. The group also agreed on the concept and initial development steps for a dedicated PLEAD website.

As of March 2025, PLEAD comprises ten full members from four EMBs, one honorary member, and three associate members from three additional EMBs. dialogues have included a session on featuring Principal and Senior Lawyers from the Australian Electoral Commission, focusing on the legal and policy differences between referenda and elections. A second session is planned for April 2025, with the Deputy Chief Electoral Officer of the New Zealand Electoral Commission presenting on interagency protocols developed during COVID-19.

PLEAD's informal structure is designed to avoid tasks often associated with formal committees, enabling flexible, consensus-based decision-making. This model ensures the forum remains practical, regionally relevant, and led by Pacific EMB legal and policy professionals.

Outlook and Next Steps for PLEAD

Looking ahead, PLEAD plans to continue to grow its network and deepen its impact. Guest speaker sessions for upcoming dialogues have been actively promoted, with associate members invited to participate. This outreach is expected to support further membership growth. Key next steps include strengthening engagement with stakeholders while maintaining a focused and relevant membership base, finalising the development of the PLEAD website, and continuing to provide a responsive, practitioner-focused platform for legal and policy officers in Pacific EMBs. Through these initiatives, PLEAD is trying to foster collaboration and capacity building, ensuring EMB legal and policy professionals are equipped to meet emerging challenges in the region's electoral landscape.

2.3 Upgrading and maintenance of the Pacific Women in Politics website and database as a trusted source of information on Pacific women in politics

Key results area 2.3: EMBs are more aware of gender issues and their impact in Elections.

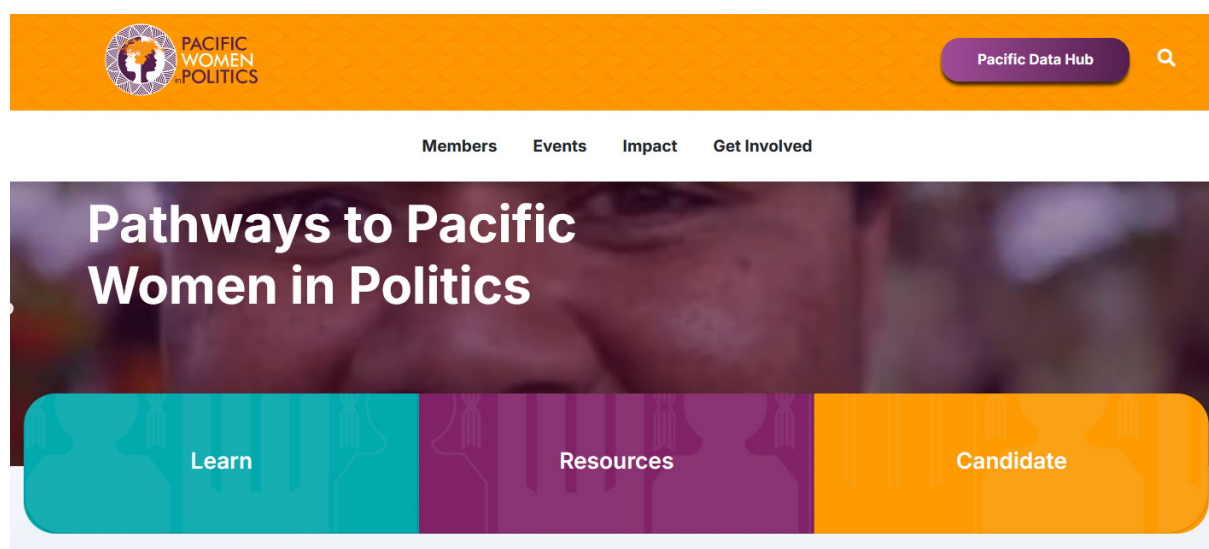
PEAP is currently supporting a major revamp of the Pacific Women in Politics (PACWIP) website to strengthen awareness of gender issues in elections. The updated platform will offer improved accessibility, mobile responsiveness, and easier navigation, making it a more effective tool for sharing resources, research, and updates on women's political participation.

Pacific Women in Politics (Pacwip) Website Revamp

A strong component of improving women's participation is through providing a platform where women can share, access resources and provided them with the latest news and updates. Since its launch in April 2012, the PACWIP website has served as a central hub for targeting Pacific women for knowledge-sharing, providing critical insights, research, and updates on initiatives that support women's political representation.

The PACWIP website has been instrumental in amplifying women's voices in decision-making spaces. To enhance its impact and accessibility, a major platform redesign is underway in partnership with a local communications and website development provider. This upgrade will deliver a more user-friendly experience, improved navigation, and mobile responsiveness, ensuring broader accessibility.

Additionally, the project will build the capacity of Elections staff through training on effective website use and content management. The revamped PACWIP platform, nearing completion, is set to launch this year, reinforcing its role as a vital tool for empowering women in politics across the Pacific.



Output 3: Citizens actively engage, understand, and are committed to protecting democratic rights and values

3.1 Gender-responsive civic education and curriculums are promoted to PICs by engaging with EMBs to encourage its uptake

Key Result area 3.1: Pacific countries with active gender-responsive Civic Education Curricula in their national education systems:

PEAP supported early progress toward integrating gender-responsive civic education into national education systems. In the Solomon Islands, a scoping mission engaged key stakeholders—including the Electoral Commission, Parliament, CSOs, and education institutions—to assess the feasibility of supporting a civic education curriculum for schools. Stakeholders expressed strong interest in structured, youth-focused civic learning aligned with the electoral cycle and inclusive of gender and democratic values. The mission confirmed both the demand and opportunity to develop tailored civic education materials, with next steps including a curriculum review, stakeholder roundtable, and pilot implementation in selected schools in 2025.

Civic Education Curriculum Support in the Solomon Islands

As a focus country of the project, PEAP staff visited the Solomon Islands to engage with key national stakeholders and assess the potential for supporting the development and integration of a civic education curriculum for schools. The visit aimed to better understand the existing civic education landscape, explore interest in curriculum development, identify entry points for support, and evaluate stakeholder perceptions around the importance of civic literacy in promoting democratic participation. The EMB and the Ministry of Education are happy to proceed with the work on the curriculum.

Key Stakeholder Engagements and Findings

During the mission, a wide range of stakeholders expressed strong interest in expanding civic education in the Solomon Islands, particularly through structured, school-based initiatives. The Solomon Islands Electoral Commission (SIEC) and Parliament's Civic Education Unit both highlighted the importance of youth-focused civic materials aligned with the electoral cycle and existing curricula. The Registrar of Political Parties and the Ministry of Youth stressed the need for greater voter awareness on political parties, the impact of community development funding (CDF), and support for female candidates. Civil society organisations and NGOs shared examples of current civic education efforts but identified significant gaps, particularly in provincial areas. The Solomon Islands National University noted the importance of balancing democratic education with traditional systems of governance. MFAT reiterated its support for electoral development and underscored the role civic education can play in strengthening electoral integrity, political accountability, and peaceful elections.

Conclusions and Opportunities

The mission confirmed widespread recognition of the value of civic education in the Solomon Islands. While some civic education initiatives are already underway, particularly within Parliament and civil society—stakeholders identified clear gaps in public understanding of democratic systems, political party roles, and election processes. There is a shared sense that more structured, youth-focused civic education is needed, and that schools offer a key platform for long-term impact.

Stakeholders welcomed the idea of supporting the development of civic education curriculum materials for schools, especially if aligned with national education standards and respectful of local cultural and governance norms. Opportunities also exist to strengthen collaboration between the SIEC, Parliament, CSOs, and the education sector to deliver more coherent, coordinated civic education programming.

Next Steps for Solomon Islands Curriculum development in 2025

- Conduct a curriculum review to identify where civic education is currently positioned within the school system and where enhancements or supplementary resources may be integrated.
- Facilitate a stakeholder roundtable to co-design a civic education framework, drawing on local expertise and regional experience.
- Support the SIEC and Parliament in aligning messaging and materials, particularly around the electoral process, democratic values, and acceptance of results.
- Pilot initiatives in selected provinces or schools to test curriculum materials and delivery methods.
- Leverage existing partnerships, including with MFAT funding the UNDP SECSIP Project, and SINU, to support research, content development, and teacher training.

3.2 Women empowered to engage more effectively in political and electoral activities, as voters, party members and candidates

Key results area 3.2: EMBs receiving technical advice on TSMs for increasing women's inclusion in democratic processes.

PEAP is focusing on the challenges women face in entering political spaces. A regional electoral safety survey of 37 women candidates revealed that 57% experienced harassment during elections, including verbal abuse, threats, and even physical assault. This underscores the urgent need for EMBs to adopt stronger safety protocols, improve reporting mechanisms, and support safe campaign environments for women. The emotional toll of harassment also highlighted the long-term impact on women's political engagement, with many respondents unsure about running again.

To support women candidates more directly, PEAP is collaborating with UN Women to develop a Women Candidates Toolkit. This resource will be tailored for Pacific contexts and used by CSOs and facilitators to deliver practical training sessions ahead of elections. Supplementary materials and activities will be included to help women understand legal frameworks, develop campaign strategies, and build confidence. The toolkit will complement the ongoing revamp of the PACWIP website, which will house updated resources to promote women's political participation across the region.

Electoral Safety Survey for Women Candidates

As part of UNDP's Directions of Change and the TAPA Initiative thematic area Leaving No One Behind, the project also seeks to address the persistent underrepresentation of women in Pacific politics. A central strategy has been the implementation of a survey targeting former and current women election candidates to better understand the challenges they face and to identify practical solutions to enhance their participation in political life.

In the first round of the survey, thirty-seven women candidates shared their experiences through completed questionnaires. Of these respondents, 57% reported experiencing harassment during the election period—an alarming indication of the threats faced by women in politics across the Pacific. These findings highlight the urgent need for stronger safety measures and support systems to ensure that women can campaign and participate freely and securely.

The survey revealed that verbal abuse, death threats, and physical assault were not uncommon, and that such incidents significantly undermine women's engagement in politics and democratic processes. Three respondents explicitly stated they had received death threats while campaigning, which severely affected their sense of security and confidence in participating freely in the electoral process.

Ensuring the safety of candidates remains a critical priority. Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs) must take proactive steps to foster safe campaign environments. Harassment is often underreported due to fear of retaliation and limited trust in the authorities. Among the thirty-seven respondents, only five indicated they had reported incidents to relevant authorities—yet noted that the support received was minimal.

The emotional toll of harassment was also evident. Over one-third of respondents (35%) reported negative impacts on their well-being, which in turn affected their willingness to stand for future elections. This highlights the importance of establishing robust support systems to ensure that women can participate in elections without fear of psychological harm or intimidation.



Figure 9: The PEAP staff sharing key outcomes of the women's safety survey during a workshop

The survey findings underscore the urgent need for EMBs to implement stronger protections for women in politics, including improved reporting mechanisms and policies that safeguard all electoral actors—candidates, voters, and officials alike. Addressing these challenges is essential to creating a safer, more inclusive, and equitable democratic environment for women in the Pacific.

Development Of a Women Candidates Tool Kit

The project is currently exploring collaborative measures with UN Women in developing a women's candidates tool kit. This would involve pre-identified CSOs and facilitators being able to use a regional toolkit to run sessions programmed well in advance of an election event. In addition, plans are also underway for supplementary materials and activity tools to support the toolkit. While the toolkit will need to be tailored to the context of each country, many common elements can be expanded or adjusted as needed.

The toolkit will be designed to empower women to drive the change and familiarise themselves with the candidate process in their country context, legal framework, knowledge and skills to run for a successful campaign.

While the Pacific Women in Politics (PACWIP) website already provides online resources relevant to women candidates, the current revamp of the resource site aims to enhance its offerings with updated materials, including key reports, to assist women candidates moving the campaign of women's inclusion in democratic processes.

3.3 Promoting inclusive participation in Pacific democracies

Advocacy for Voting Rights of People with Intellectual and Psychosocial Disabilities

As a key research topic under TAPA, the project has taken steps in advocating and researching on the rights of people with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities in the Pacific bearing their under-representation in democracy and elections across the world.

PEAP has begun the development of a Pacific Guidebook to ensure the voting rights of people with intellectual and Psychosocial Disabilities. To support this effort the project team conducted a preplanning event aimed at fostering dialogue around the voting rights of individuals with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities. This workshop brought together key stakeholders to discuss and strategise on promoting electoral participation among marginalized groups. Key stakeholders that were present were:

- a. Chairperson, Elections Disability Access Working Group (EDAWG) and Director Operations, Fijian Elections Office
- b. Program Officer, Pacific Disability Forum
- c. Professional Doctor, St Giles Psychiatric Hospital
- d. Advocate, Psychiatric Survivors Association
- e. Project Coordinator, Gender and Inclusion, UNDP, Vanuatu

Key topics discussed include:

a. Language, terminology and community understanding of disability

Using positive and non-discriminatory language was identified as a key factor in promoting the inclusion of marginalised groups. A key outcome of the consultation was that the local terminology used to describe people with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities in Fiji and Vanuatu was largely negative and failed to distinguish between

the two disability types. Additionally, there were no positive terms in use, and existing translations were often reductive and deficit-based, reinforcing stigma rather than fostering inclusion.

b. Community Views and Stereotypes About People with Intellectual and Psychosocial Disabilities

Community perceptions and stereotypes about people with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities were found to have developed from historical cultural beliefs and traditional understandings of disability. As alluded in the discussion that in many parts of Fiji, the belief persisted that these disabilities were caused by past wrongdoings of family members, a concept referred to as '*Tamata Tauviimate*', which contributed to a sense of family shame. As a result, individuals with disabilities were often not included in family and community life in the same way as others, significantly contributing to their ongoing exclusion from social participation.

c. Strengths-Based Approach

Despite the significant discrimination and negativity faced by people with disabilities (PWDs), it was recognised that the project should focus on highlighting their strengths and positive contributions. A strengths-based approach emphasises identifying and building existing talents, skills, and resources to achieve goals and address challenges, rather than focusing on limitations. This way will promote equal participation, ensuring that PWDs are valued in society for their abilities rather than receiving support based on sympathy or pity.

d. Community Leaders and Gatekeepers

It also highlighted the crucial role of community leaders and chiefs in ensuring the success of this PWD initiative. Given their influence and authority within their villages and communities, engaging chiefs and community leaders create opportunities to shape community attitudes and encourage inclusion at all levels. By providing these community leaders with information and resources on disability engagement, they can guide their communities in adopting more inclusive perspectives and practices. Strengthening these relationships ensures that positive messaging and support for PWDs are integrated into village discussions and decision-making processes.



Figure 10: Group photo with key PWD organisations



Figure 11: Meeting with key stakeholders



PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

Visibility, and Partnerships

Visibility

The Program aims to ensure visibility for MFAT while also prioritising national ownership of electoral processes and events. Striking a balance between these objectives requires ongoing discussions and updates between MFAT and the Program to reach an effective result.

Partnerships

The PEAP Programme has continued to strengthen its collaboration with the New Zealand Electoral Commission (NZEC), particularly through joint support for the Tuvalu general election, where both partners coordinated technical assistance across key phases of the electoral process. In addition, PEAP has provided facilitation support to NZEC-led initiatives upon request and co-hosted a joint session on Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, and Learning (MERL) in the context of electoral programming. This exchange significantly deepened the understanding of MERL concepts and their practical application, benefiting both institutions and reinforcing the value of regional cooperation in electoral support.

The Programme demonstrated strong collaboration with the Pacific Islands, Australia and New Zealand Electoral Administrators Network (PIANZEA) through the successful delivery of the Melanesian BRIDGE workshop and close coordination for the Micronesian and Polynesian workshops. The PIANZEA provided partial funding support for the Micronesian workshop, while PEAP contributed to the design, facilitation, and delivery of key sessions across both events.

These partnerships show effective regional cooperation and collaboration, which is a key strength for the project.

Project Risks and Mitigation Measures

The Project at its outset identified the following risks:

1. Risk of Political Disruption: Potential disruptive political events pose a threat to the Program's stability, potentially impacting implementation, priorities, and funding.

None identified during the reporting period however, the project has maintained its communication channel and mechanisms to report for any event to project board and key stakeholders

2. Stakeholder Engagement Risk: There's a possibility that key stakeholders engaged by Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs) may not participate to the extent initially envisioned, affecting the inclusivity of program outcomes.

The success of the Programme depends on its ability to build and maintain strong, trust-based relationships with stakeholders. The sub-regional workshops played a key role in fostering these connections, with the regional approach proving effective in strengthening ties between Electoral Management Bodies (EMBs). In Tuvalu, support was only possible after establishing a strong relationship, highlighting the importance of trust in enabling meaningful engagement. Moving forward, the Programme will prioritise ongoing engagement with EMBs through research and regular communication—both formal and informal—to ensure feedback, concerns, and suggestions are identified and addressed in a timely manner.

3. Shifting Priority Risk: Stakeholders may undergo a shift in priority areas, leading to reduced emphasis on implementing Program activities

None identified during the reporting period however, the project is established on mechanisms should there is a shift in priority areas including the project team, project board and stakeholders.

4. Natural Disaster Risk: Natural disasters may disrupt stakeholders' daily lives and organisational functions, reducing their capacity to participate in and implement Program activities.

None identified during the reporting period however the project is established on mechanisms if a natural disaster disrupts the project functions and program activities.

5. Funding Utilisation Risk: There's a risk that Program funds may not be fully utilised or expended as intended, impacting the execution of planned activities.

The Programme fully utilised its planned budget during the previous reporting period and has continued to adopt cost-effective approaches through strategic co-funding arrangements with partner organisations. By co-hosting regional events and covering the participation costs of targeted countries only, the Programme has maximised its impact while ensuring efficient use of resources. Looking ahead, the Programme will seek Project Board approval for its 2025 Annual Work Plan and anticipates full budget utilisation for the upcoming year.

Lessons Learned

Several key lessons have emerged over the course of the reporting period, offering insights to guide future programming.

1. Peer-to-Peer Learning as a Catalyst for Contextualised Capacity Building

The value of **regionally led and sub-regional peer-to-peer learning** was a standout lesson. Exchanges between aligned cultural and operational contexts (e.g., Samoa–Tokelau; Samoa–Fiji) yielded highly relevant outcomes. The Melanesian BRIDGE workshop, delivered entirely by Pacific facilitators, not only provided tailored content but built **long-term professional networks** among EMB staff. These relationships have extended beyond the event, facilitating ongoing knowledge sharing. Going forward, regional ownership and localisation of facilitation should be prioritised to strengthen the sustainability of learning outcomes.

2. Targeted Advocacy for Women’s Participation Must Be Sustained and Evolving

The electoral safety survey revealed **persistent and underreported gender-based political violence**, with over half of surveyed women experiencing harassment. Beyond its emotional toll, this violence presents a **direct barrier to women’s future candidacy**, as some respondents indicated a reluctance to run again. These findings underscore the need for long-term strategies that go beyond workshops, including **policy reforms within EMBs, improved incident reporting, and community-level behavioural change**. Equally important is the design of pre-election toolkits tailored to Pacific cultural and political contexts, helping women navigate structural and informal barriers.

3. Building Trust Unlocks Deeper National Engagement

Engagement in Tuvalu demonstrated that **trust and relationship-building** are pre-conditions for effective technical support. Initial hesitance from national counterparts was overcome through regular, respectful dialogue, enabling PEAP to introduce the country’s first accurate voter data collection system. This experience reinforced the importance of **sustained presence and culturally sensitive engagement**, particularly in smaller or less-resourced countries.

4. Joint Programming with Regional Partners Maximises Impact

Collaboration with the NZEC, PIANZEA, and other regional partners enabled cost-sharing, **joint delivery of key workshops**, and **unified messaging**, all while amplifying reach. Co-facilitated events—like the MERL framework workshop—also strengthened shared understanding of regional priorities. These partnerships are critical not only for resource efficiency but for **harmonising approaches across jurisdictions** and avoiding duplication of efforts.

5. Embedding Climate Resilience Requires Institutionalisation, Not Events

Research on greening elections in Tuvalu and Fiji surfaced practical recommendations—waste reduction, legal reforms, climate risk assessments—but uptake will depend on **formal policy changes** within EMBs. Climate resilience needs to move beyond a research topic and become **institutionalised through updated election laws, standard operating procedures, and procurement protocols**.

6. Civic Education Requires National Alignment and Local Sensitivity

The Solomon Islands mission confirmed **strong demand** for civic education in schools, particularly content aligned with local culture, governance systems, and electoral realities. However, progress also depends on coordination across ministries, EMBs, and civil society. Future curriculum support must include **pilot testing, educator training, and integration with national education strategies** to ensure longevity and scale.

8. Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities Must Address Deep-Rooted Cultural Stigma

Initial workshops on the voting rights of persons with intellectual and psychosocial disabilities revealed significant stigma and negative perceptions embedded in local language and beliefs. These findings highlight the need for a **strengths-based approach** to inclusion, engaging not just EMBs but also traditional leaders and families. Programming must include ways for EMBs to raise **community awareness** and **inclusive language training** to shift societal attitudes.

Way Forward

Building on the foundation established to date, the Pacific Elections Assistance Program (PEAP) will focus on deepening impact and expanding reach across the region in the upcoming reporting cycle. A key priority will be the continuation and expansion of regional capacity-building initiatives, including sub-regional BRIDGE workshops and peer-to-peer exchanges, with increased emphasis on regionally led facilitation. The success of the Melanesian workshop demonstrated the value of locally grounded knowledge-sharing and affirmed the effectiveness of sub-regional engagement models.

PEAP will also accelerate the development and launch of strategic knowledge products. This includes the release of the first Election Dispute Resolution (EDR) research paper, completion of the searchable regional database of election petitions, and continued rollout of the TAPA research series on key electoral topics such as civic education, temporary special measures, and digital transformation. These resources will support EMBs to make informed, evidence-based decisions and improve regional policy coherence.

In the area of civic education, PEAP will advance its engagement in the Solomon Islands by facilitating a curriculum review, co-designing a civic education framework with national stakeholders, and piloting supplementary materials in selected schools. These activities will be designed to align with national education systems while respecting cultural and traditional governance structures.

Strengthening women's political participation will remain a critical focus. PEAP will prioritise the development of the Women Candidates Toolkit in collaboration with UN Women and regional CSOs, while using findings from the Electoral Safety Survey to guide advocacy for safer campaign environments. Additionally, the revamp of the PACWIP website will be completed, providing an updated and accessible platform for promoting women's leadership across the Pacific.

The PLEAD platform will continue to evolve as a space for legal and policy exchange. Finalising the PLEAD website and expanding its membership will support greater connectivity among legal officers in EMBs. Upcoming PLEAD dialogues will explore constitutional and legal issues relevant to EMBs, with a continued emphasis on peer-led learning and flexible, practitioner-focused engagement.

Throughout 2025, PEAP will maintain a strong focus on partnerships, cost-sharing arrangements, and leveraging regional expertise to ensure efficient delivery. With approval of its Annual Work Plan and expected full budget utilisation, the Programme is well-positioned to deliver another impactful year of electoral support, advancing inclusive, transparent, and resilient democratic processes across the Pacific.

Financial Reporting

April 2024 – March 2025

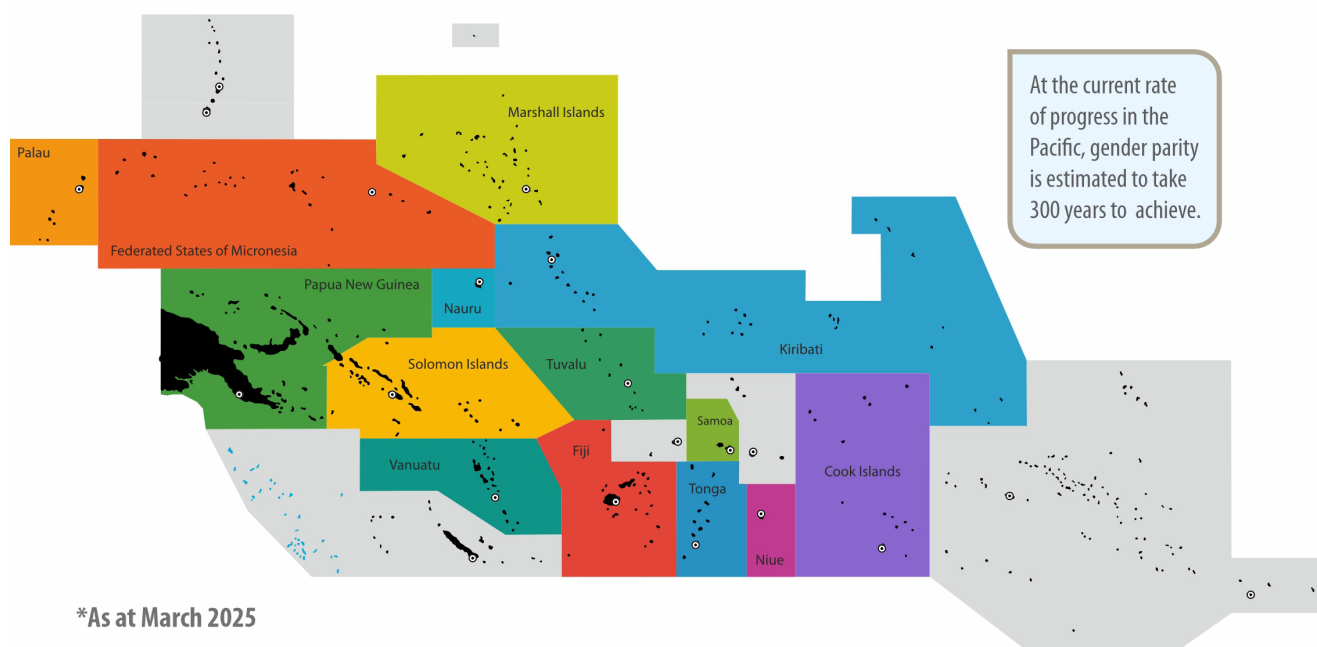
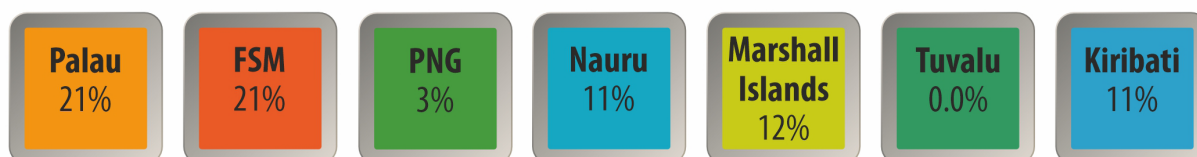
Outputs	Activities	April 2024 - March 2025 Budget	April 2024 - March 2025 Expendi- ture	April 2024 - March 2025 Expendi- ture rate (%)	Budget Balance 31 March 2025
OUTPUT 1	Activity 1.1	142,908	142,106	99%	802
	Activity 1.2	-	-	0%	-
	Activity 1.3	39,054	35,622	91%	3,432
Output 1 Total		181,962	177,727	98%	4,235
OUTPUT 2	Activity 2.1	62,647	55,854	89%	6,793
	Activity 2.2	14,663	11,663	80%	3,000
	Activity 2.3	11,119	5,494	49%	5,625
	Activity 2.4	24,179	22,268	92%	1,911
Output 2 Total		112,608	95,279	85%	17,329
OUTPUT 3	Activity 3.1	26,181	20,867	80%	5,314
	Activity 3.2	24,131	19,958	83%	4,173
	Activity 3.3	16,625	8,456	51%	8,169
	Activity 3.4	27,056	24,035	89%	3,021
Output 3 Total		93,993	73,315	78%	20,678
GMS (8%)		28,782	27,482	95%	1,301
TOTALS		417,345	373,804	90%	43,542

ANNEX: Output Tracking

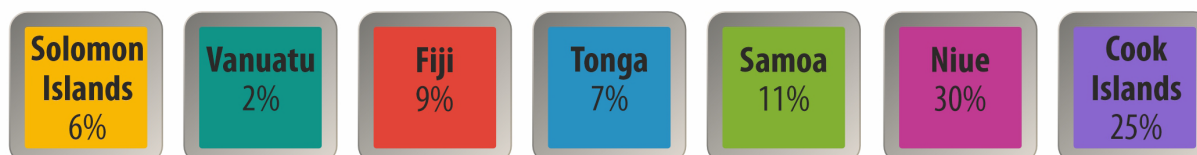
Expected Outputs	Output Indicators	Baselines Value type	Annual Target	End of, Project Target	Actuals/ Status: On-track/ off-track / complete	Means of verifications and comments to substantiate the selected response
Output 1: EMBs deliver effective, efficient, and inclusive elections with increased capacity and resources.	Indicator 1.1. Number of procedural reforms adopted by electoral management bodies (IRRF 2.4.1)	Electoral management bodies, Signed Project Documents, Election Reports,	4	14	0/ On Tack	Tuvalu data collection, Polling manuals.
	1.2 improve EMB's understanding of electoral topics through Effective Advocacy via Regional Thematic Workshops/ Events.	Workshop/Event Registration Data, Workshop/ Event Materials, Participant Feedback Forms, Pre- and Post-Workshop Assessments	2	4	3/ On Track	3 sub-regional BRIDGE workshops – Micronesia, Polynesia, Melanesia (introduction with inclusive, gender-oriented topics)
Output 2: EMBs make robust, inclusive, and informed decisions, safeguarding the integrity of elections with improved independence and stronger mandates.	2.1 EMBs demonstrate an increase in informed, data-driven electoral decisions by incorporating research papers on key electoral topics into their decision-making processes.	Publications, Election Reports, Interviews	2	5	0/ On track	On going. Initial research not yet complete.
	2.2 # of EMBs able to leverage Regional & Global electoral institutions to inform electoral decision-making progress	Official Reports, EMB Documentation, Interviews and Surveys	1	6	2/ On track	PIANZEA, PIF, UN EAD coordination on activities complete (Observation, Foundation course, Gender). Women Candidate Security Survey
	2.3 # of EMBs more aware of gender issues and their impact in Elections	Surveys, EMB Reports, Observations	1	5	3/ On track	Three sub regional workshops with strong gender components completed.

Expected Outputs	Output Indicators	Baselines Value type	Annual Target	End of, Project Target	Actuals/ Status: On-track/ off-track / complete	Means of verifications and comments to substantiate the selected response
Output 3: Citizens actively engage, understand, and are committed to protecting democratic rights and values.	3.1 # of Pacific countries with active gender-responsive Civic Education Curriculums in their national education systems	Government Education Departments, Education Stakeholders,	1	6	0	Scoping mission conducted in Solomon Islands.
	3.2 # of EMBs receiving technical advice on Temporary Special Measures (TSMs) for increasing women's inclusion in democratic processes	Partnership Agreements and Program Reports, EMBs, Surveys and Interviews	0	3	0/ On track	Fiji Received support on this – but was not taken up at the political level

Proportion of Elected Female MPs in Pacific Nations



*As at March 2025



Country	No. of seats	Women MPs	Percentage%
Cook Islands	24	6	25%
FSM	14	3	21%
Fiji	55	5	9%
Kiribati	45	5	11%
Nauru	19	2	11%
Niue	20	6	30%
Palau	29	6	21%
PNG	118	3	3%
Marshall Islands	33	4	12%
Samoa	53	6	11%
Solomon Islands	50	3	6%
Tonga	29	2	7%
Tuvalu	16	0	0%
Vanuatu	52	1	2%
Total	557	52	9.3%

Global Average: **25.5** %

Pacific Average: **9.3** %

Pacific Women in Politics

Supported by UNDP, the platform aims to support regional efforts to increase women's political participation and representation; support elected women in the Pacific to work together on issues of gender equality and women's empowerment; and to develop their professional skills and effectiveness as representatives.

www.pacwip.org



