



### Women's Entrepreneurship in the Pacific

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# SPC's approach to GE and women's empowerment



**Two interlinked approaches:** 

- Institutional strengthening on gender equality and diversity.
- Connecting our work across sectors and amplifying impact through a Gender Equality Flagship

Pacific women & girls, in all their diversity, are safe and equitably share in resources, opportunities and decision-making, with men & boys.

#### **Current Status and Trends on WEE**

Pacific Communitu Communauté du Pacifique





- Lower labour force participation rates
- More likely to work in the informal economy
- Carry the burden of unpaid care work
- Negative impacts of climate change and disasters
- Lower levels of access to digital technology
- Key barriers to women's economic empowerment include:
  - Gendered social norms
  - violence
  - lack of access to finance and economic assets
  - Lack of voice in decision making



#### Pillars

 Legal Framework
Supportive Policy and entrepreneur ecosystem

• MEL

 Understanding of economic pathways and measures to support women's economic empowerment, including the impact of macroeconomic and fiscal policies, as well as trade agreements on women and their rights, is strengthened.

- Statistics on the gender wage gap and contribution of women to the economy through unpaid or informal employment are collected, compiled, analysed and disseminated.
- Regulations, legal and policy frameworks remove barriers to economic opportunities and contribute to women's human rights.
- Access to inclusive financial services and access to markets increased, and infrastructure improved for women of all diversities.
- Implement gender responsive policies so that workplaces are safe and women's rights are respected.
- Equal employment opportunity and equal pay for work of equal value policies are implemented.



 Economic infrastructure and access to resources support gender equality in employment, equal remuneration, nondiscrimination in employment and occupation and reconciliation of work and family life.

- Sustained investments and resource mobilisation support increased economic opportunities for women and their productive assets.
- Social protection programmes are implemented to support women's double work burden including paid parental leave in both the public and private sector.
- Partnerships between government, private sector, business associations, education and training providers, CSOs support and provide pathways to women's economic empowerment.
- Women participate in economic decision making at the household, community and institutional level.



- Business Hubs/Incubators for Women
- E-Commerce Literacy
- Targeted focus on women led/owned MSMEs
- Expert Advisory Group to policymakers
- MEL



## **THANK YOU**