

PAPE (01)
Funding required

USD 1,750,000

Programme area

Evidence-based, pro-child policies

Target beneficiaries

All children, young people and women, local administrations, civil society organizations, social sector ministries, national advisory committees for children, ministries of finance and planning.

Expected Outcome

Social and economic policies will be evidence-based and progressively addressing the rights of children, youth and women through inclusive mechanisms

Duration

5 years (2008-2012)

FINANCES

Policy analysis and tool development	293,900
Social budgeting analysis and capacity building	244,000
Law review and amendment	280,000
Regional training and capacity building	672,100
Monitoring and evaluation	260,000
Funding required	1,750,000

Issues

- Efforts to realize children's rights must be informed by diligent assessment of how child-centred and pro-poor past, current and future development policies, are/will be. To date there has been almost no impact analysis of social and economic policies to guide future interventions.
- National budgets tend to consider macroeconomic priorities ahead of social/human development concerns, local level involvement in budgetary processes is limited, there is little active stakeholder negotiation and harmonization of budgets to meet social needs, reliable information to inform outputs and proper costings is lacking especially at sub-national level, there is little performance-orientation and results-focus.
- While Pacific Island Countries have ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, most governments have not acceded to the Optional Protocols on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and on children affected by armed conflict, and have not acceded to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Governments have only just begun to actively align policies and laws to Convention articles, and struggle to submit reports to the relevant monitoring committees.

Actions

- Policy analysis will be achieved by means of a network of national and regional academic organizations commissioned to support policy, planning, finance and statistical units across three analytical streams: (a) how have policies and budgets influenced previous outcomes for children over the last 15 years?; (b) to what degree are current policies and government budgeting child-centred and gender-responsive, and what outcomes will they generate for children by 2012?; and (c) with a special focus on youth, gender and urbanization, how well do policies address the country's future needs, and what will be or could be the outcomes beyond 2012?
- Thematic studies and analyses on a range of topics pertinent to Pacific Island Governments will be commissioned to the same network, who will likewise build participatory research and budgeting capacity among NACC members and staff in relevant policy, planning, finance and statistical units at national and sub-national levels. Topics may include: children and poverty in the Pacific; disparities; the impact of public sector reforms on children's rights; youth and urbanization; why investing in children and young people is good for the economy; and the social determinants of children's health and education.
- Legislative reviews will be commissioned to a network of legal institutions and qualified national and regional consultants. Law amendment processes arising from these reviews will be organized as capacity building exercises for relevant national bodies and Ministry staff.

Impact

- National and sub-national (in selected areas) budgets based on an informed balance between macroeconomic priorities and child-, youth- and women-centred development goals, are results-oriented, accountable, and established and monitored through participatory processes.
- Ministries of Finance, Social Sector Ministries, Provincial Administrations use evidence-based and participatory pro-child, youth and women development policy formulation processes, tools and options.
- Selected Laws pertaining to health, nutrition, water, sanitation, education, HIV and AIDS are reviewed and amended to progressively align with CRC, WFFC, and CEDAW.

PAPE (02)
Funding required

USD 750,000

Programme area

Child-centred research, planning, monitoring and evaluation

Target beneficiaries

All children, young people and women, Local Administrations, Civil Society Organizations, Social Sector Ministries, National Advisory Committees for Children, Ministries of Finance and Planning.

Expected Outcome

Quality disaggregated social data on children, young people and women will be available and integrated into planning, monitoring and evaluation systems.

Duration

5 years (2008-2012)

FINANCES

Child-focused research, monitoring and evaluation	187,500
Social sector information system strengthening	292,500
Regional training and capacity building	160,000
Monitoring and evaluation	110,000
Funding required	750,000

Issues:

- Despite studies and surveys on children and young people being conducted in the Pacific, examples of meaningful translation of research findings into policy, budgeting and programming are scarce.
- Child-related data capture has been weak or uneven within countries and at regional level. Systematic tracking of progress towards child-related MDGs or other development targets needs support.
- Pacific Islands Forum leaders have agreed that greater attention be given to implementing international conventions on human rights (Pacific Plan Initiative 12.5). Many States are concerned about the burden of reporting and dubious about the benefits of ratification. Despite considerable support from UN agencies and other groups, the process of reporting can take time (sometimes years), and requires extensive consultation and information-gathering. Yet there have been good collaborative efforts to produce such reports and to implement these treaties, especially where NGOs and civil society groups have helped governments.

Actions

- Government ministries, regional agencies, academia, NGOs, Community-Based Organizations, young people and children will be supported in the design and conduct of focused research, including through the provision of technical assistance in population-based studies such as micronutrient surveys, the multiple indicator cluster survey (MICS), the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS), and Behavioural Surveillance Surveys (BSS).
- Social sector information management systems will be assessed, strengthened and monitored through technical assistance provided by a network of national social data management specialists and relevant regional institutions. PacificInfo will be promoted to national counter parts as one option for country and United Nations monitoring of the Millennium Development Goals.
- To strengthen CRC, CEDAW, WFFC and child-related MDG reporting, national and regional trainings will be offered alongside placements/exchanges of officials with reporting responsibility to join regional counterparts with reporting experience. These mechanisms will present opportunities for Governments and partners to: build their understanding of treaty ratification, implementation and reporting in the Pacific context; consider how to and actually develop treaty ratification, implementation and reporting capabilities; and share the experiences of national Human Rights Institutions in the region.

Impact

- Line Ministry staff, National Advisory Committee for Children members, partners, and rights holders more capable of researching, monitoring and evaluating child- and youth-related programmes through participatory processes and population-based surveys
- Statistics staff within Social Sector Ministries, NACC members, and staff from relevant units within Ministry of Development Planning and Aid Coordination, and Ministry of Finance and Treasury, annually update, disseminate and use disaggregated data associated with CRC, CEDAW, WFFC goals, relevant Millennium Declaration Chapters, and child-related MDG targets and indicators
- Line Ministry staff, NACC members, partners, and rights holders are more capable of reporting progress on CRC and CEDAW implementation, child-related MDGs and relevant Millennium Declaration Chapters, and WFFC Goals, Targets and Indicators.