TUVALU

FAITH IN A CHANGING CLIMATE
Churches as Agents of Social Change in the Pacific

Bronwyn Fraser
Associate Director - International Programs
(Pacific)
Model of Culture

Behaviour
Values
Beliefs
Worldviews

Dr Lloyd Kwast (1992)
Pacific Context

95% Christian

Faith other than Christian
“Wives submit to your husbands”

Ephesians 5:22

God makes the promise to never flood the earth again - The story of Noah, the rainbow and the dove

Genesis 8:21-22
Working with and through Churches for Transformational Change

Belief Systems that underpin Attitudes and behaviours (R-GET Sub-Program)

Institutional Structures, Policies and Procedures that reinforce Social Norms (GET-IT Sub-Program)

Empowerment of Women to build Skills and Confidence in Leadership (WELW Sub-Program)
Key Activities: UnitingWorld Facilitated Annual Intensive GET training, the GET Training Manual, GET Resourcing and ongoing mentoring of Regional GETNet, Regional Sharing and Learning

Key Activities: UnitingWorld Support for Intensive training in GET and the GET Training Manual by GETFM and GETFP with leaders across the breadth of the Church establishing a GETCoP; work with Church and women’s fellowship to develop and roll out mechanism to embed GET into Church Theology, teaching and policies and praxis within specific church context and traditions to meet the joint Gender Outcomes as outlined in the MELF

Key Activities: UnitingWorld work with and support churches in ongoing monitoring and evaluation of project activities as outlined in the MELF with implementation to be coordinated by the Church GETFM and GETFP in partnership with Church Leadership and Women’s Fellowships; Local and regional GETNet available to support CSOs in their programs by providing local GET Expertise

GET-IT monitoring and learning shared across the Pacific Region as part of Participation in the Pacific Regional GETNet and in support of South to South sharing and learning.

Research opportunities into the impact of working with and through churches in the Pacific and from the Theological approach to attitudinal and behavioural change, including with respect to social norms and VAWG
GET-IT Sub-Program

Project Goal:
Women experience greater safety in family and community and more opportunities for participation in leadership decision making.

Churches as agents of Change in Communities:
- Local church leaders and community members model equal relations and gender interactions in community.
- Local gender service and support committees set up including local leaders, women, youth, PWD.
- Shift in community attitudes of violence against women & girls and violence no longer tolerated.
- Change in local social norms, in line with GET and church policy and Human Rights Principles.

Partner Church Teaching & Enacting GE:
- GET Training, Teaching & Preaching through all levels of the Church including Theological Colleges & Schools.
- Church Code of Conduct Developed.
- Church develops and implements an justice based, accountable mechanism for responding to situations of violence.
- Women report instances of violence and are supported by the Church to access services without stigma.
- Perpetrators of Violence reported in line with National Laws.

Partner Church Institutions - Policy:
- Partner Churches exposed to and engaged in GET.
- Partner Churches have developed their own Gender Equality Theology.
- Partner Churches have developed their own Gender Equality Policy.
- Church Gender Structural review and Gender Audit including Attitudinal.
- GET developed into Curriculum for Theological Colleges & Schools.

Ecumenical Focused Outcomes:
- National Ecumenical body exposed to and engaged in the GET.
- National Ecumenical Body have developed their own Gender Equality Theology.
- National Ecumenical Body have developed / reviewed Gender Equality Policy.
- National Ecumenical Body support National Conversation re GET in Government etc.

Enabling Outcomes:
- GETNet established and functioning representing all participating Partner Churches.
- GET CoP established with representatives from across the Partner country as represented by the Church.

Key:
Green: Needs to be set up to enable program implementation
Blue: outcomes as ecumenical decision-making body
Orange: Outcomes for individual Church Structure for each CPP Church
Yellow: Bringing the Theology in Community through preaching & teaching
Pink: The changes on Social Norms, Gender Equality & violence in community
Methodist Church in Fiji
Newsletter “Nai Tabe” June 2017
Fiji Council Of Churches Stand with One Voice

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uAUKW8r5R4s
Some examples of Progress:

- PNG CPP Gender Theology, Strategy and Implementation
- Vanuatu, Martha and Tanna
The way forward - 2018

- Moving from regional to national and local in Gender Equality Theology
- Facilitating a CSO workshop and Forum in Fiji in support of Rights-based agencies navigating the Church and Biblical hurdles
- Facilitating a Climate justice and Preparedness Theology Writing Forum through CAN DO and DFAT’s AHP
- Leading in the Theological foundation for DRM across the Pacific ecumenically through CAN DO
- Finalizing a Child Protection and Care Theology
- Liaising with PDF and SPATS on a Disability Inclusion Theology already in progress
The way forward - Future Frontier

- LBGTIQ Theological resourcing to support Churches to have open conversations about inclusion, equality and respect from a Biblical foundation.
Future Frontier

LBGTIQ Theological resourcing to support Churches to have open conversations about inclusion, equality and respect from a Biblical foundation.