THE CARE ECONOMY LIVING WITH DIGNITY THROUGH A RESILIENT CARE INFRASTRUCTURE

Chair

Sandra Kraushaar

Regional Representative, The Asia Foundation Pacific Islands

Panel

The Honourable Sashi Kiran

Fiji Assistant Minister of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation

Ms. Laisa Bulatale

Team Leader for the Gender Transitional and Justice Programme, Fiji Women's Rights Movement

Mr Lemeki Cagialau

Executive Director, Fiji National Council for Persons with Disabilities



Key Insights



Care workers are not a monolith.



Coordination and cooperation between actors across local, national, regional, and global bodies is critical.



Most policies focus on legal reforms for formal paid workers, neglecting informal workers.



Significant policy change, advocacy, and agenda-setting are needed at the national, regional, and global levels



Poor governance and unclear coordination are common impediments to reform



Enforcement and compliance of existing policies remains a concern in many countries.



Paid care workers are undervalued and underpaid, consistent with other highly feminized sectors.



Dominant cultural norms, social pressures, and demographic shifts complicate care provision in Asia and the Pacific.



Rising care demands during Covid-19 have deepened already existing gender inequalities.

Care Economy

