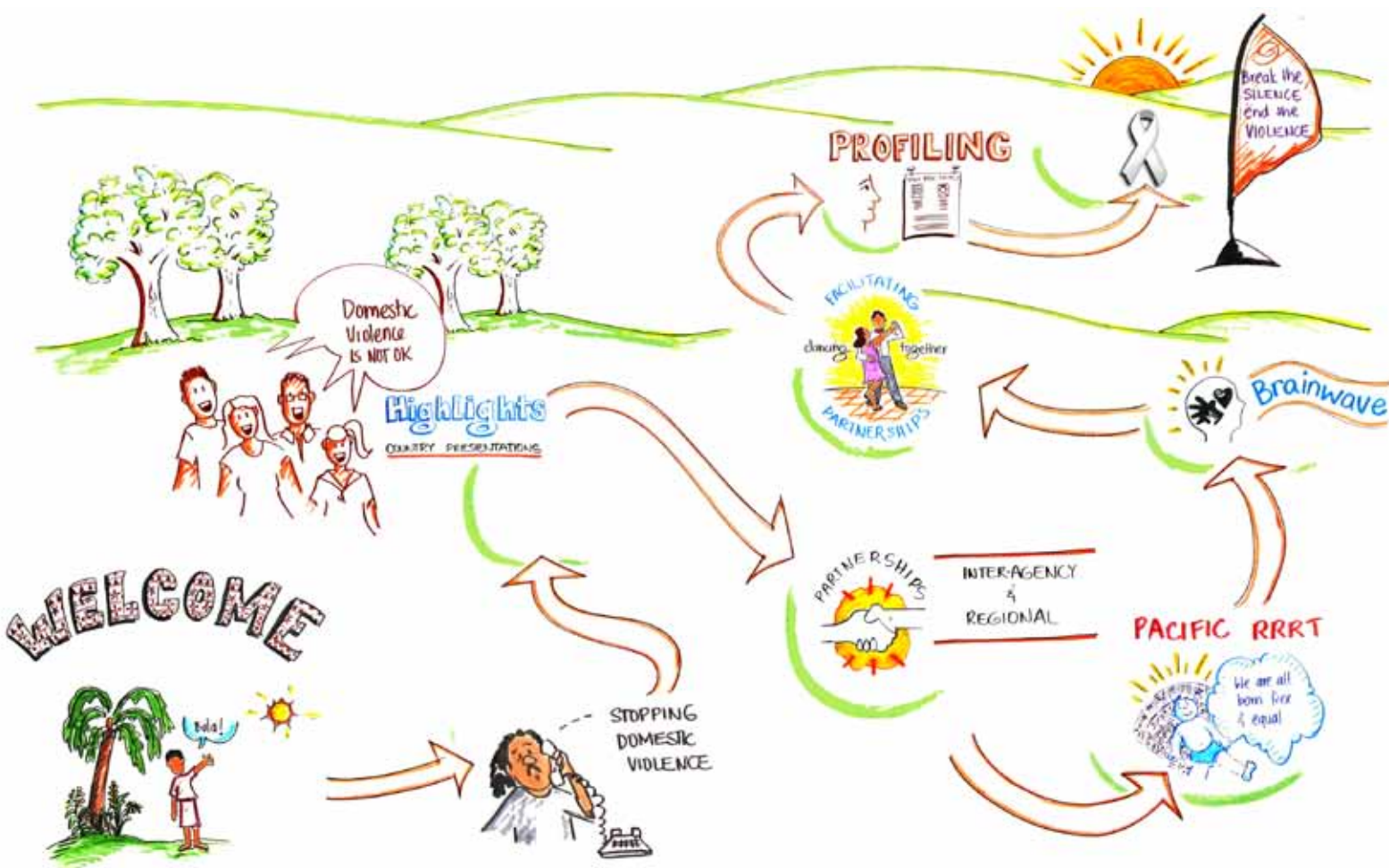




PPDVP News

Greetings, Kia ora, Kia orana, Malo e lelei, Talofa lava, Kamna mauri, Alo DECEMBER 2011



“Our Journey”



New Zealand Government



Programme update

Welcome to the seventh edition of the PPDVP News.

The PPDVP Conference in October 2010 discovered the journey that the police, community and other agencies have been on since 2006 to address the harm caused by domestic violence. The cover of this issue describes some of that voyage.

This edition is the last in the current five years of activity for the PPDVP. Although much of the newsletter focuses on some key activities in late 2010 and projecting towards the future including the Evaluation of the programme, it has been necessary to capture this timeframe while the programme undergoes its evaluation and transition period over much of the 2011 period. The events in 2011 will be reported in the next newsletter in early February 2012.

An important step in the development and delivery of the PPDVP has been the establishment of a "baseline" of community and police responses to domestic violence in each of the five participating countries. In order that an evaluation can be made of the changes that have occurred over that time, the original baseline reviews have been updated and published. Some of the findings from the updates have been picked up by the media around the Pacific who have focussed on a significantly increased level of reporting of cases and families at risk by the community, neighbours and friends of victims. Once again, our slogan **"Break the Silence - End the Violence"** has proven to be right on the nail.

We again focus on the outstanding work in many countries around White Ribbon Day in November 2010 when the Police, NGO's and the community have worked together to raise awareness on domestic and family violence. White Ribbon Day has been an easy match with the plans and aims of the police in the region and this has ensured its ongoing success.

At the end of 2010 members of the police domestic violence teams joined with NGO's who work alongside them to join a Pacific wide conference on domestic violence. This was a great success on many angles and the article in this newsletter identifies those and points a way to the future. The participating country updates have been given more space in this edition to allow the DV teams and their mentors to show the work that has taken place in each country over the five years. Every country is different, but they all have the same objective of making sure that the home and the family is indeed a place of safety.

The PPDVP web site continues to be one of our key tools and the baseline review updates, conference material, and various other research papers and news articles can be found at www.ppdvp.org.nz.

Cam Ronald

Working Together

In 2005 when work began on the design of an assistance programme to support the police services in the Pacific could hardly have envisaged the progress that has been made. The original design was around developing a comprehensive response to support the police and the community in how they dealt with domestic violence. As the current five year phase of the PPDVP draws to a conclusion in June 2011 it is clear that while great progress has been made that there is still much to be done both in domestic violence response and prevention. There are clear signs that other high risk areas which may harm a family such as child abuse, sexual crimes, and the wider dimensions around the dynamics of a family warrant support alongside the domestic violence work.

The various reports completed at the moment, such as the Programme Completion Report by the PPDVP team; the four Baseline Review Update reports in the Cook Islands, Samoa, Tonga and Kiribati; and the Programme Evaluation by the New Zealand Government each have a story to tell.

There are many successes. The most apparent is the strengthened role that all of the police across the Pacific now play in dealing with these crimes and responding to the needs of families and victims. Equally as important and just as obvious are the robust links and partnerships with NGO's and especially those who are working to support and advise victims of crimes. The regional links with our partners are strong, confident and honest, as we all rely on each other to play our parts to achieve the overall aims.

However, progress has not been so obvious in the development of processes to support victims during the court hearings or in raising awareness of the issues and forces which play on the minds of victims, offenders and witnesses as the court cases progress. Some countries have improved legislation dealing with family violence and others are part way through this very involved and time consuming process. Many countries are now developing their national strategies to address violence in all forms and across all of the community.

PPDVP has moved in to a "transition period" to the end of 2011 while considering the findings of the reviews and evaluations to plan the way ahead. Some of these findings will be reflected in short term or "ongoing" activities in the next 6 to 8 months while at the same time a further needs assessment and design of any future activities for each country will occur late in 2011 and early 2012. Any future activities will probably follow some common themes but the actual assistance in each country will be individually tailored to meet their own requirements.



Cam Ronald

The programme welcomes any comments/contributions to the newsletter. If you wish to make comment, please direct to Kim Bloomfield (Support Officer, PPDVP), Level 4 - PPDVP / ISG New Zealand Police Headquarters, 180 Molesworth Street, Wellington, New Zealand or email ppdvp@police.govt.nz DDI 64 4 4707373, Cell 64 021 224 3526. Fax: 64 4 4749540.

Baseline Survey Updates

In 2010 the PPDVP worked with Victoria University of Wellington Crime and Justice Research centre to “update” the original baseline surveys completed in 2006 and 2007. The media release drew considerable attention and coverage across the Pacific.

Domestic violence a hot issue in the Pacific

Family members and neighbours are starting to report instances of domestic violence in what researchers describe as an exciting change in attitudes in Pacific Island nations.

Researchers from Victoria University’s Crime and Justice Research Centre, who have assessed the impact the aid programme is having, say there is now much greater awareness that family violence is not ok and “Having other people, not just victims, report instances of violence is a breakthrough,” says researcher Dr Venezia Kingi. “Domestic violence has traditionally been seen as a private affair and that perception is even stronger in conservative religious communities.

“The rights of women are not yet enshrined in law in Pacific countries, but beating your wife is definitely seen as a crime.”

Domestic violence reporting rates are on the rise across the board in the Pacific. Other evidence of changing attitudes includes the rise of advocacy groups – the Cook Islands now have two men’s groups – and public condemnation of domestic violence. In Kiribati, for example, there was a public demonstration after a woman was beaten to death by her partner. Researchers say PPDVP has increased public confidence in the police and improved co-operation between all the agencies working to prevent family violence.

“Not only has awareness of the problem increased, so has the capacity to respond to it,” says Dr Michael Roguski, Director of Victoria’s Crime and Justice Research Centre

“A large number of NGOs are working in this area in the Pacific but, historically, there has been mistrust between them and the police. PPDVP has contributed to a dramatic increase in the level of co-operation and that is making prevention work more successful.”

“Men aged around 45 years seem to be very resistant to change and that is men in all ranks of the police force and the wider community. We are looking at how we can break through the barriers and get the message to them.”



Participating Countries

Cook Islands

When the PPDVP began in the Cook Islands almost five years ago we were told it was essential that we were not “Rarocentric”, meaning get off Rarotonga and include the outer islands. While this was achieved in the Southern Group fairly early on the Northern group proved problematic due to distance and costs.

However last November we had the opportunity to go to the Northern Group by hitching a ride on a charter flight with Police, Customs and the NZ Defence Dept. Sgt Rebecca Hosking-Ellis and PPDVP mentor John Robinson headed for Pukapuka for a three day visit. From there John bailed out for Rarotonga and Rebecca continued to Manihiki, Rakahanga and Penrhyn Island.

It was great to experience the hospitality of the people of Pukapuka who are some of the most isolated people in the world. We were able to discuss issues of domestic violence at a community meeting that continued for the whole morning because of the discussion with the locals. From there we were welcomed to the local school and had a session with the 150 children and staff. One of the interesting things about Pukapuka is the way local customary law works alongside Cook Island law in keeping the community safe and holding offenders accountable in an effective way.

From Pukapuka Rebecca continued to Manihiki and also had the opportunity to go to Rakahanga to do our domestic violence sessions.

Rebecca was particularly impressed with the community on Penrhyn and their response to keeping themselves safe from domestic violence.

Mr John Robinson
Cook Islands Mentor



Mr John Robinson



The Cook Islands Police and NGO team show off their White Ribbon Day T-shirts at the October 2010 conference in Fiji.



Participating Countries



Sue O'Neil

Samoa – Rugby & White Ribbon Day



Parade assemble in front of Government Building. Photo taken by Cam Ronald.

The Domestic Violence Unit, under the Crimes Portfolio, Assistant Commissioner Leiataua Fata Aviga Salale and operated by Superintendent LeMamea Su'a

Muliaga Tiumalu, commemorated their first ever International White Ribbon Day. About 300 people marched to the Government building, representing police, local rugby players, schools, NGO's and government departments from Aggie Greys Hotel. In addressing the marchers, Reverend Vaiao Eteuati reminded his audience that God created man in his own image. Violence against God's creation is therefore violence directed at God. Violence against women is not a sign of power and strength but of ignorance and male feebleness.

Programme Manager of the Pacific Prevention of Domestic Violence Programme (PPDVP/NZ) Cam Ronald said a brief Introduction about White Ribbon followed by Hon. Prime Minister Tuilaepa Lufesolai Sailele Malielegaoi with the keynote address.

The Prime Minister spoke strongly of the need for everyone to take responsibility for dealing with family violence and he extolled the leaders in the community to take up the call. In Samoa, White Ribbon Day commemorations have been generally low key and promoted by community groups such as Mapusaga o Aiga and others. This year's commemorations are being led by the Police Domestic Violence Unit with the support of Men Against Violence Advocacy Group working in collaboration with the Women's Groups.

Senior Sergeant Sue O'Neil
Samoa Mentor

Rugby Players from NZ, supporting White Ribbon Day in Samoa



Steve Symonds, Professional Development Manager, from the Hurricanes brought over five (5) rugby players from NZ to add their support to the Break the Silence – End the Violence message during November.

In Samoa the players continued the successful activities commenced in 2009 with an emphasis on getting the message out to men and boys on Savaii Island, as well as activities on Upolu as well as taking part in the White Ribbon Day march in Samoa.



Participating Countries

Vanuatu

Responding to Domestic Violence – A Partnership approach

On White Ribbon Day, 25th November 2010, the Vanuatu Police Force (VPF) launched their revised Family Protection Unit (FPU) incorporating the new Domestic Violence Team. This unit will continue to be responsible for the investigation of Child and Sexual Abuse offences, and will now also begin addressing Police attendance, investigation and prosecution of Domestic Violence offences.

The unit will also look to forge closer working relationships with key non government organisations working in this field to develop a more comprehensive interagency response to domestic violence. The focus of the Domestic Violence Team will be the safety of victims and their families, holding offenders accountable for their abusive behaviour, and developing these key partnerships with community agencies.

The VPF has worked closely with the Pacific Prevention of Domestic Violence Programme (PPDVP) to develop and resource the revised unit and they will continue to work together on issues of staff development and training as the unit progresses.

The Pacific Island Chiefs of Police, including Commissioner Joshua Bong have expressed their overwhelming support for the PPDVP's initiatives. Supt Daniel Vake Rakau, Commander South, is committed to an effective Police response to Domestic Violence and the enforcement of the Family Protection Act, 2009. Supt Rakau is pleased with the new office and resources that have been developed in partnership with the PPDVP and sees this as a great step towards the goal of "a safer Vanuatu, free from domestic violence."

The launching of the new team was timed to coincide with WHITE RIBBON DAY, the international day for the elimination of violence against women, and Supt Rakau confirmed that the VPF, with the support of the Australian Capacity Building Team, played a significant part in the events of the day. The PPDVP were also able to contribute to the White Ribbon Day's events with the supply of white ribbons, flags, wristbands and other promotional materials.

Senior Sergeant Alan McGlade, the New Zealand Police representative to Vanuatu says that "the goals of the FPU are ambitious but there is some very committed and passionate Police staff directly involved with the programme, and also key community agencies and individuals who are already working in the field. We hope to work very closely with them to support existing initiatives and look at formulating some new ones."

Since 2008 when Vanuatu joined the programme as a participating country, the Police have made huge strides in not only formalising internal structures regarding their response to DV but we have seen an ongoing cementing of relationships between Police and non government organisations says Inspector Soni Malaulau (Programme Regional Officer). The Police Commissioner and hierarchy have always been supportive of the programme and that has been a major force in moving their Dv response forward. The strengthening of the DV Unit under Davis Saravanu has led to a strengthening of partnerships with non government organisations in particular with the Vanuatu Women's Centre under Marilyn Tahi.

**Senior Sergeant Alan McGlade
Vanuatu Mentor**



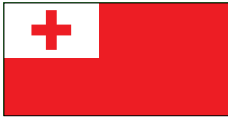
Senior Sergeant Alan McGlade



Davis Saravanu, Inspector Soni Malaulau and Snr Sgt Alan Mcglade with members of the Family Protection Unit.



Davis and Marilyn Tahi with Commander Daniel Rakau and with the Deputy Commissioner at the opening of the new Family Protection Unit Officers.



Participating Countries



Detective Haley Ryan

Tonga

These successes include the establishment of the National Domestic Violence Unit in August 2007 with just two staff. This number has now increased to four. In June 2009 a District Domestic Violence Officer was selected from each Police District and was given in depth training in the area of domestic violence. This meant that the majority of domestic violence victims could access a dedicated Domestic Violence Police Officer and have their complaint and safety immediately addressed.

Another success is the partnership that has been created between the National Domestic Violence Unit and Domestic Violence Officers with external agencies including The Women and Children Crisis Centre, The National Centre for Women and Children, Lifeline and the Salvation Army. These partnerships have not only assisted in ensuring the continued safety of victims but ensured accountability amongst these vital stakeholders.

Two very important committees were also established within this time, the first was the Tonga Police National Domestic Violence Committee. This committee was established in 2008 and its purpose was to oversee the Tonga Police progress on domestic violence issues. This included improving police

responses, reviewing overall incidents of domestic violence, discussing high risk offenders/victims and ensuring adequate strategies are put in place. The committee also promotes accountability for all District Commanders to ensure that all domestic violence incidents in each of their perspective districts are dealt with in a consistent and professional manner.

The second committee is the National Police Domestic Violence Advisory Committee. This committee comprises a variety of domestic violence stakeholder organisations its aim is to provide strategic advice, ensure accountability amongst all stakeholders and incorporate future focused planning. The committee also discusses any areas of concern and looks at detecting any non compliance of policy and procedures. The most important achievement by establishing such a committee is that has created a successful working partnership amongst all the vital stakeholders and thus immensely benefiting the victims of domestic violence.

In September 2010, the Domestic Violence Response Policy was adopted by the Tonga Police. The policy creates clear procedures and behaviours that all Tongan Police Officers must abide by. For example all victims of domestic violence (regardless of charges laid) must be referred to a NGO service provider so they receive continual support. The policy also creates greater accountability from a front line police to the executive level within the Tonga Police Service.

Tonga Police have also maintained a domestic violence database which was implemented in 2007. This database not only allows Tonga Police Management to see domestic related statistics but also allows specific areas of targeting. The database highlights prevalent offenders, victims, undesirable behaviours (alcohol), and locations. Tonga is now in a position to effectively respond to all domestic violence incidents, but also to reduce the reoccurrence of such incidents.

There are a number of other achievements but those that I have mentioned above are what I believe are the most notable. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those I have worked directly and indirectly alongside during my time as a Mentor with the PPDVP in Tonga. I acknowledge the hard work and dedication of each and every one of you, your dedication and hard work ensures the success of the partnership between the Tonga Police and the external agencies, and most importantly benefits the victims of domestic violence in the Kingdom of Tonga.

Detective Haley Ryan
Tonga Mentor



Sona Taumalolo, (Chiefs Rugby) and Siali Fiatau (Highlanders Rugby) making, "Break the Silence, End the Violence", advertisements for PPDVP, to play on Digitv in Tonga.



Participating Countries



Sergeant James Sole

Kiribati

There is a very exciting piece of work going on with the Secretariat Pacific Community (SPC) and Regional Rights Resource Team (RRRT) drafting laws for the Ministry of Internal and Social Affairs. It is looking at addressing the issue of violence against women and is an opportunity to take ideas locally and around the world to develop effective legislation for Kiribati.

The PPDVP working with the Kiribati Police Service (KPS) and UN Women have made submissions to ensure that the legislation is developed with Police in mind as they will be a key partner in enforcing and applying the law and it needs to be user friendly for the Justice sector.

There have been some key changes with Sgt Okoro moving on to UN Women and Inspector Titan returning from Fiji.

We would like to thank Okky for her support and commitment over the years. Policing domestic violence is one of the most challenging types of policing, no matter where in the world you police. She has always approached her work with a smile and worked hard to bring professionalism to the team.

The return of Inspector Titan sees one of the most forthright, if not the most forthright women I have ever worked with return to policing domestic violence. She is hard working, empathetic, professional, honest and compassionate. (except for when it came to my bad habits - in which case I received very little compassion). In Titan the KPS has a leader who will address the issue of violence in Kiribati families with determination and skill.

I am grateful that A/Commissioner Tebano shares that view and has supported her return to domestic violence. His leadership in addressing in domestic violence is greatly appreciated and we were pleased to hear that that work and commitment was acknowledged by parliament.

We welcome Maneaba's baby into the PPDVP family and wish her and her husband all the very best.

With the prospect that this could be the last time I visit this wonderful nation, but mindful of what was happening in my home town of Christchurch, there was an a great deal of mixed emotion when I headed off to Kiribati in May

I spent the time working with the DVSO and community policing officers in a workshop setting to share ideas and encourage a sense of ownership and teamwork around the issue. It was an ideal time to talk about the future and what they could do to raise awareness and develop effective responses to domestic violence. Further work has been completed on the draft Domestic Violence Response Policy. This is near to completion and ready for consultation. It is my hope that it will set up the next phase of the PPDVP.

With sadness that I was leaving but happiness we had time together I said farewell to many friends and colleagues in Kiribati and hope that it will be tiabo moa. At a function given by the A/Commissioner I repeated my often said comment that I have received far more than I have given while in Kiribati. In a special ceremony I left the greenstone taonga that had always travelled with me from home with the sisters of the AAFR and Crisis Centre so my family will remain connected for years to come.

Sergeant Jim Sole
Kiribati Mentor



Participants at White Ribbon celebrations in Kiribati.



Waiting for the festivities to start.

PPDVP Regional Conference

The first 'JOINT' Police and Non Government Organization (NGO), PPDVP Regional Conference was held in Nadi, Fiji on 10th-15th October 2011 with over 50 attendees from 17 countries says Inspector Soni Malaulau, Regional coordinator, PPDVP.

As Law enforcement organisations, we typically have our enforcement lens on when dealing with domestic violence and generally our focus is on the offender. We now have a more holistic approach and recognise that the key to tackling domestic violence is understanding the underlying causes. It is not simply a police response issue or an NGO response issue, but a whole of society problem that requires a whole of government and community focus to change what seems to be an accepted culture of violence and to understand its impact on our communities and families so that we can jointly identify interventions that bring about real change.

This holistic approach is what the conference focused on for much of the week. The conference provided a forum for attendees from Police and non government organisations to present joint country presentations reflecting their partnered approach and response nationally. This was the first time this approach has been taken and it engendered a sense of team work and a team approach to how we respond to domestic violence. This is a response that the PPDVP programme has consistently advocated since the start in 2006. This was also a significant step in our approach to developing, maintaining and sustaining a consistency of approach region- wide.

We are constantly reinforcing the message that police and NGO's are in this together. The issue of domestic violence does not recognise boundaries and neither should our approach to tackling it be limited by commonly accepted boundaries.

There is plenty of work to be done in tailoring our response to domestic violence at the national and regional level, but at the same time we need to ensure that our structure of response is right. We must keep our minds open to what is happening internationally and the learning we gain by listening and observing what others are doing. We accept the slogan of local solutions for problems but also recognise that we can learn extensively from others internationally and examine how successful responses can be incorporated into our own approach at the local level.

More than ever, we need to have a partnered, directed, focused and consistent approach to combating domestic violence across our Pacific Island territories.

During the conference the programme was very fortunate to have services of Mary Brake from Reflection Graphics who produced daily wall charts summarizing the day's activities and the main themes from the conference.

The Conference provided an open forum to share experiences and provide updates on progress and issues. This allowed, both Police and NGOs to fully understand the challenges and pressures each faced and provided a deeper appreciation of each other's work.

On the first day participants were welcomed and given a stark reality check during Vic Tamati's presentation where he outlined his personal experience, initially as a victim, then as an offender of domestic violence. The joint country presentations occupied the first and second days and proved once again how some very influential NGO leaders were making things happen and their absolute tirelessness in the pursuit of what is right and of natural justice.

The main themes to emerge from the Police presentations were:

- The need for ongoing 'Top level' commitment combined with bottom up operational focus,
- Issues were identified between Cultural & Customary V's Legislation.
- DV Units are already dealing with combined Family violence and sexual offence cases.
- Working together with NGO's and other partners is more effective.
- Most identified the need for DV Legislation
- Many identified the need for best practice
- Needed more DV training.



Superintendent Ross Adhern



Vic Tamati



The main themes identified from the NGO's were that:

- They have ongoing and consistent issues with resources and sourcing funding
- They are heavily reliant on volunteers.
- There is a recognition that Police attitudes are changing.
- That they are working together with Police more and more.
- That Custom & Culture is still a barrier to changing attitudes.

The 3rd day focused on 'Facilitating Partnerships' and presentations from – from RRRT as well as refreshing the CMIS database and PPDVP website. The 4th day focused on Targeting and Profiling of repeat victimization and repeat offenders.

The 5th and final day examined planning for White Ribbon and role of Police leading up to and on the actual day of White Ribbon. Each of the country representatives were then handed a variety of 'support' material for White Ribbon including large white ribbon banners, wristbands, balloons, flags, pens, T shirts and posters. Superintendent Ross Ardern – NZ Police Liaison Officer based in Samoa handed out certificates to attending participants on the final day.

The outcomes of the conference included:

- Police having a better appreciation around the difficulties faced by NGO's - NGO's lack funding need more resources
- The NGO's also have a better understanding of the pressures faced by Police.
- More understanding of benefits of profiling by both Police and NGO's
- Increased communication and better Partnerships developed – Police NGO's working together
- Increased awareness at the regional level of what others are doing and pressures faced.
- Increased sense of teamwork at National and Regional level and that we are not alone.
- Increased learning and consistency of understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence

A consensus that there needed to be a Regional conference on an ongoing and regular basis, maybe every second year.



Photo montage of conference participants at work.



Photo montage of conference participants at work.

White Ribbon Day

The White Ribbon symbolizes the protection of innocence and purity. The significance of the white knot represents and symbolizes 'Equality' and equality in Marriage.

At its 2010 Regional conference the PPDVP programme allowed a full session to focus on planning and preparation for white ribbon says Inspector Soni Malaulau, PPDVP Regional coordinator. The PPDVP is an Official Ambassador for White Ribbon New Zealand in the Pacific. Many countries already observe White Ribbon but many of our members wanted a coordinated approach regionally and wanted more support around white ribbon resources during the preparation phase.

In this regard the Programme has been able to provide resources including, wrist bands, balloons, large banners, stickers, caps, tea shirts and posters designed to fit in with the local context.

The White Ribbon session looked at various topics around white ribbon including the actual history behind the white ribbon campaign and the meaning and message behind the campaign. Sessions included media engagement and developing a media strategy, preparing a media release as well as identifying specific activities designed to create awareness during the campaign as well as identifying some key stakeholders and links.

It was then very pleasing to see many Police Services not only being involved in the campaign but taking the lead and working with key stakeholders including other government departments, non-government organisations and religious organisations to develop programmes and activities during the build up to white ribbon day and in some countries continuing through with activities during the 16 days of activism leading onto the 10th December which is marks 'International Human Rights day'.



Cam and Soni handing out White Ribbon day resources at the Regional conference in Fiji 2010.



Cook Island Police preparing for White Ribbon day.



Kiribati Domestic Violence Unit.



Police and local leaders leading WR day March in Vanuatu.



Meeting in Tuvalu to End Violence.

Link countries

Solomon Islands

There have been a number of changes and positive steps around the police response to domestic violence in the Solomon Islands in 2010. The most significant of these for the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force domestic violence team has been the move to bring them under the Sexual Crimes Group within the Criminal Investigation Division of the Police. The DV team had been working within the Community Policing group which provided an excellent starting point for them as they developed their relationships with the community, the NGO's, Government agencies and the Churches.

A number of DV coordinators have been established as portfolios at the out stations and in the districts with many of them being very active in community work as well as responding to reported cases.

The move in to the CID means that the DV team has much more of a coordinating role with the regional and districts while offering a wider range of skills from the staff in the sexual crimes unit. The transition from community to investigations is one that has been taken in a number of Pacific police services, and it reflects some of the findings of a Study Tour with the Tonga Police. The DV coordinator, Constable Lawrence Iko and the RAMSI PPF adviser Jo Linton studied how the Tonga Police were handling domestic and family violence and submitted a well considered report and proposal to the RSIPF Executive.

The RAMSI Participating Police Force command group were able to offer long term programme funding around domestic violence with the RSIPF to be considered and this resulted in a significant budget being made available over three years for the implementation of the RSIPF response to domestic violence. The DV policy was updated, the DV report form modified, and new structures put in place. A detailed programme plan staged over the three years and including awareness, training and response mechanisms was developed and signed off.

PPF domestic violence adviser Jo Linton completed her extended 12 month deployment in March 2011. Jo's replacement Maree Stephenson is now working with Lawrence.

UNDP & Nepal

In September 2010 The programme was invited by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Nepal Police to present to their conference in Nepal focusing on women's safety and civic and political rights specifically looking at gender and policing says Inspector Soni Malaulau. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Bureau Crisis Prevention & Recovery Programme is supporting Nepal Police's capacity building efforts on gender issues focusing on sexual and gender based violence.

They were particularly interested to hear about the programme's successful structure and delivery of its regional efforts in the Pacific supporting and working with other police jurisdictions. I was one of nine Internationals presenting at the conference.

Nepal is a country of around 35 million people. Its police force consists of about 60,000 officers. Police women make up around 5% of the police force, around 3000 woman officers. The ratio of police to community officially sits at about 1 officer to 400 people, although unofficially they point to it being more like being 1 to 1400, this may be because, of the 60,000 officers, less than 40,000 are on active duty.

It has taken 14 years for Nepal to pass DV legislation. However like so many other countries; it is the capacity underneath to support the legislation that is proving to be the problem. Consultation is hugely important and developing legislation, particularly with those agencies, government and community organisations that provide support around the legislation to sustain it. Failing to get this side of things right will have implications within the community and will impact on the community's confidence in Government.

Inspector Soni Malaulau
Regional Coordinator

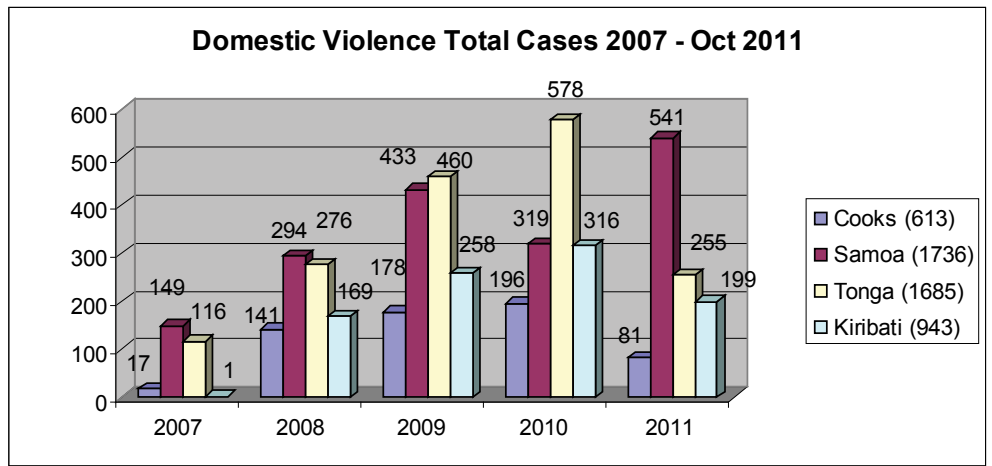


Soni Malaulau

CMIS database

The recording of data on CMIS has allowed us to track the progress of reported DV cases in our participating countries over the last 4-5 years. The chart is indicative of increased reporting reflecting the confidence of the community in the police. This change does not happen immediately but over a period of time, at the same time there are factors which impact on reporting of DV cases, such as staff numbers on the DV unit, legislation and police policy which at times need to

be tweaked to align to community expectations. Reported DV cases have increased steadily up to 2011. Figures for Tonga in particular has shown a decrease, due partly to a debate around a 'no drop' policy and the impact on victims of crime. This is not unexpected and as a result we will expect to see steady increases and at times some spikes in reporting.



STOP PRESS – PPDVP EVALUATION & FUTURE ACTIVITIES

An Independent Evaluation report examining the first five years of the PPDVP has been completed. Many police members and NGO workers participated in the evaluation and their views ensured that a full assessment was made.

The Evaluation found that PPDVP has succeeded in working with the Pacific police services to meet the key measures applied in all assistance programmes and that significant changes have occurred and new skills developed. However many of the positive changes which were evident require further work to ensure that the skills are firmly set in place. Discussions have begun to decide exactly what further assistance is required and how it is best delivered, as well as identifying other potential areas where support might assist. These might include skills, such as training of counsellors and a wider scope of offence types may be considered. The New Zealand Aid Programme (NZ AID) have endorsed the programme for a further 4- 5 years. The Pacific Island Chiefs of Police (PICP) were invited to endorse a further period of PPDVP working during their meeting in Pohnpei in late August. This will be followed up with more detailed discussions specific to each country. Currently a new design is being looked at and a revised programme targeted for July 2012. In the interim the programme is in a Transition phase and PPDVP staff will continue to work with the pacific police services.



The Pacific Prevention of Domestic Violence Programme (PPDVP) is a five year commitment by NZAID, the New Zealand Police, and the Pacific Islands Chief of Police (PICP) focused on reducing the incidence of domestic violence in the Pacific.

If you would like to know more about the PPDVP go to www.police.govt.nz/service/overseas or call +64 4 470 7213

PPDVP HELPING PREVENT VIOLENCE IN THE PACIFIC AIMS TO:

- increase police capacity across the region to prevent and respond effectively to domestic violence
- increase the police capacity to respond effectively in the participating countries of Cook Islands, Samoa, Tonga and Kiribati
- develop and maintain effective partnerships between the Police and NGOs
- support the development of appropriate legislation on domestic violence and training for the judiciary and legal profession
- support development of appropriate national policy on domestic violence and the inclusion of appropriate actions National Development Plans of participating countries.



New Zealand Government

