



Voice for Change, Jiwaka Province—Papua New Guinea

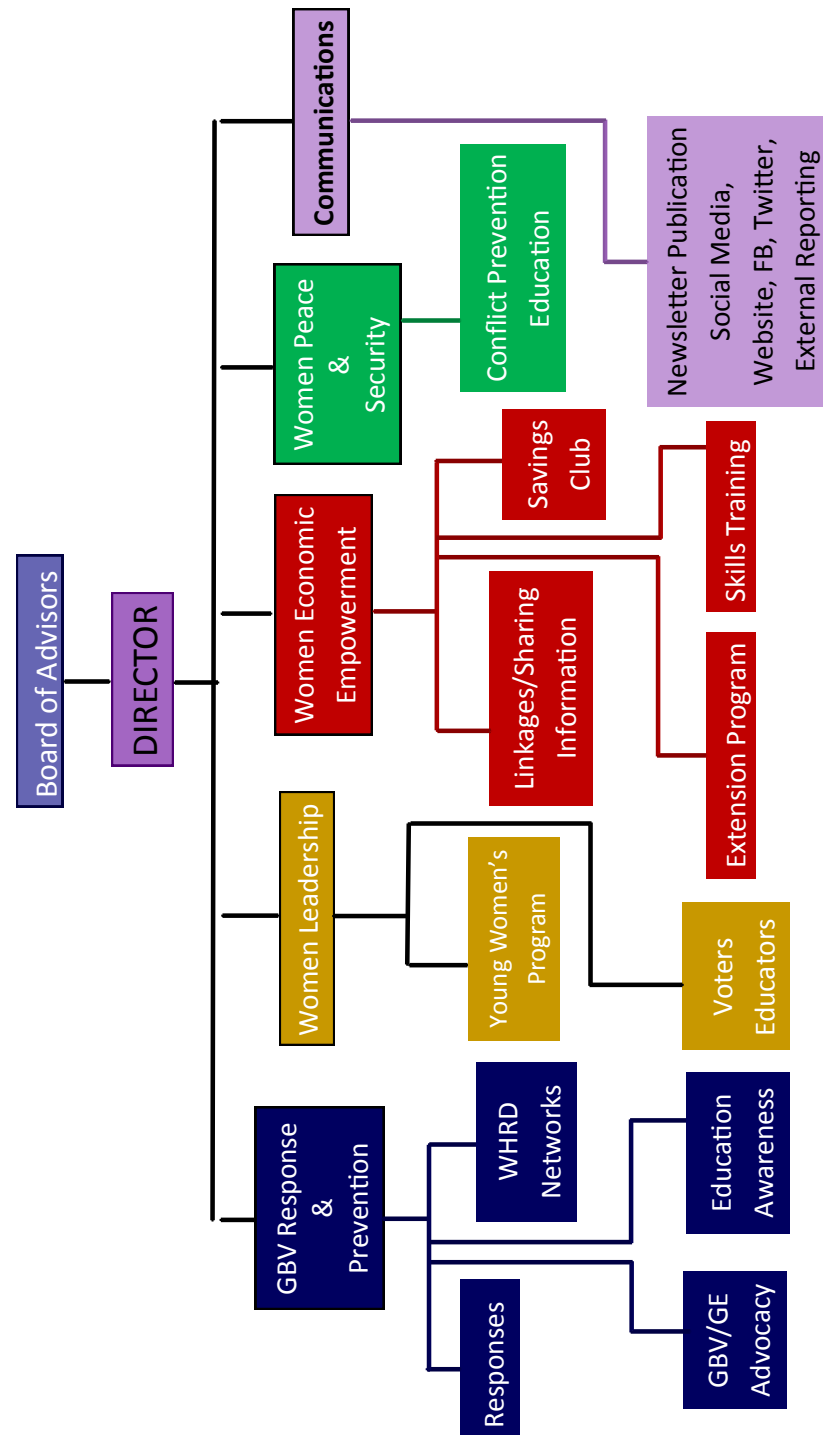


VOICE FOR CHANGE NEWSLETTER

JANUARY – MARCH, 2018

ISSUE 1, FIRST QUARTER 2018

Voice For Change Structure



International Women's Development Agency (IWDA) PNG Partners Workshop in Kokopo.

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3 Kings Mission,
Horizon 3000

Oxfam PNG

Jiwaka Provincial
Government

"EMPOWERING
RURAL WOMEN"

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MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR'S DESK



Welcome to Voice for Change (VfC) first quarter edition of its newsletter for 2018.

In this edition, VfC is pleased to share with its partners and the people of Jiwaka updates about various activities it has carried out through this quarter of the year.

Two significant highlights VfC successfully undertaken were:

1. Secured funds to set up a third office in



Capacity Building on Livelihood Skills

On the 15th to 16th of February 2018 under the Women Economic Empowerment Program (WEPP), 17 participants (14 females and 3 males) benefited from Potato Production training.

Facilitated by VfC, the trainers from Fresh Produce Development Agency (FPDA) conducted the training for VfC extension workers and its farmers across Jiwaka.

After the two days training, participants were the first group to receive the potato seeds including



Nukmar and Milang communities with their Certificates

fertilisers and pesticides as a start up kits .

This initiative was funded and supported by Oxfam under the VfC vegetable production activity program

Training on Family Teams and Family Goals

For this quarter under the ACIAR Project, a training on Family Teams and Family Goals was conducted by VfC for Koskala Community in North Waghi District from the 20th to 21st of February 2018.

A total of 43 participants consisting of 18 female and 25 male benefited from the training.

Professor Katja Mikhailovich, from University



Prof Katja (left) and Ms Vero (right) with the participants

of Canberra, and Ms Vero, from PNG University of Technology, under the project witnessed the training.

Banz, North Waghi District

2. Had the opportunity to speak on the Issues for Rural Women in PNG to the international community at UN Headquarters in New York

Enjoy Reading and God Bless!

Lilly Be'Soer

IWDA Finance Coordinator's Visit

Ms Suzanne Fletcher, Finance Coordinator, from IWDA made a visit to VfC from the 29th of January to 2nd of February 2018.

Her visit was to:

- Sort out 2017 ready for the second financial year
- Revisit the financial work and activity plan for 2018

IWDA through Women's Action for Voice and Empowerment (WAVE) Program is funding VfC for four years and VfC has completed its second financial year.



Ms Suzanne (right) with Ms Lilly and Ms Brenda from VfC

Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development team Visit

A team from Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development (PWSPD) made a courtesy visit to VfC on the 2nd of March 2018.

Their visit were to:

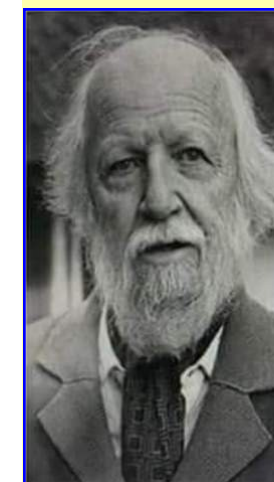
- Know more about VfC, its work and the office location
- Provides updates on National Sorcery Action Plan

The team comprised of officers from Australian National University, National Sorcery Plan Committee Representatives, and Port Moresby based Gender Justice Group.



PWSPD and VfC team during the visit

MESSAGE FROM EDITOR'S DESK



William Golding
British Novelist, Playwright & Poet
1911 --1993

I think women are foolish to pretend they are equal to men. They are far superior and always have been. Whatever you give a woman, she will make greater. If you give her sperm, she will give you a baby. If you give her a house, she will give you a home. If you give her groceries, she will give you a meal. If you give her a smile, she will give you her heart. She multiplies and enlarges what is given to her. So, if you give her any crap, be ready to receive a ton of shit!

The Editor wish to thank those who have contributed towards the publication of this first Issue 2018.

Hope you enjoyed reading this newsletter

Gideon Bare



ACRONYMS

EVAW - Ending Violence Against Women

FSVAC - Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee

FSVU - Family and Sexual Violence Unit

GBV - Gender Based Violence

HR - Human Rights

WAVE - Women's Action for Voice and Empowerment

WEPP - Women Economic Empowerment Program

WHRD - Women Human Right Defender

VAW - Violence Against Women

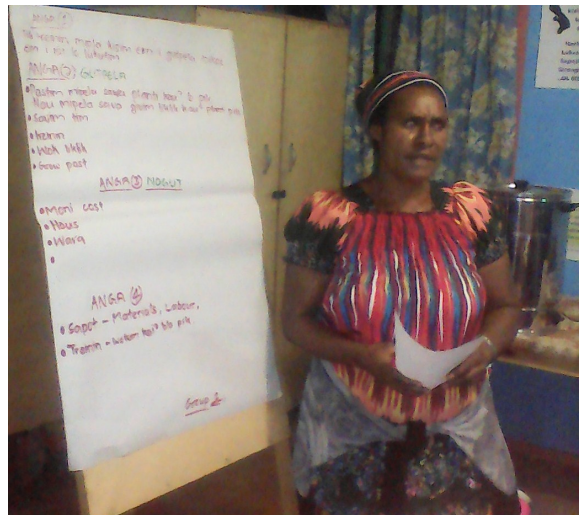
VCE - Village Community Educators

Livelihood Skills trainings Reflection

In this quarter VfC conducted two Reflections on Livelihood Skills trainings under the Women Economic and Empowerment Program funded by DKA.

A total of 74 participants comprising of 42 females and 32 males that received pig, fish, duck, sewing, cooking and nutrition trainings presented their success and milestone achievement stories.

Each farmers were given opportunities to share their experiences and changes within their life's after the training



One of the excited women farmer presenting her success story

Financial Literacy Trainings Reflection

Financial Literacy Rollout Trainings Reflection was conducted by Oxfam on the 20th February 2018.

It was to monitor the impact of the trainings conducted last year 2017 by Bank of PNG for VfC and its network partners.

The participants shared successes on the impact of the trainings received.



Group photo after the Reflection training

Presentation on the "Do No Harm Research" Findings in Goroka

A team from VfC attended the two days Workshop in Goroka on the 20th and 21st of March 2018.

The "Do No Harm Research" findings was presented by International Women's Development Agency (IWDA) for all its network partners including VfC on Gender Analysis.

The findings shows that women in economic activities are under great pressure to meet all family expenses



Ms Eunice Kaman (left) and Ms Mai Kelly from VfC having a group discussion during the workshop

Trainings on Vegetable Production

In this quarter VfC conducted two Vegetable Production trainings for VfC extension workers and farmers.

A total of 40 participants (37 females and 3 males) received various trainings on Soil & Compost, Nursery and Chemicals Application Skills.



Extension Workers and Farmers after the training

The training was to improve the livelihoods and wellbeing of local women, men and their families in the rural areas.

This project is funded by Oxfam under the VfC Women Economic Empowerment Program (WEEP).

Narrative Report Writing Training

A Narrative Report Writing Training was conducted by DKA Project Officer Mr Waibo Bosia for VfC Staff on the 28th of February and 1st of March 2018.

A total of 28 participants received the training as part of staff capacity building.

It was to enhance their knowledge and skills on report writing of activities according their respective programs of the organisation.



Participants posing for group photo

Business Development Skills Training in Mt Hagen

Two officers from VfC attended a one week Business Development Skills Training at Goldline Lodge in Mt Hagen from the 29th of January to 2nd of February 2018.

The training was conducted by Bank of PNG and focused on:

- Looking after money when doing business
- Identifying Cost
- Basic Book Keeping



Mark and Angela from VfC and other participants

- Inventory Registry
- Marketing Strategy

IWDA PNG Partners Workshop in Kokopo

International Women’s Development Agency (IWDA) PNG Partners Workshop was held at Rapopo Plantation Resort in Kokopo, East New Britain Province from the 30th of January to 2nd of February 2018.

A total of 24 participants from six partners including IWDA and VfC attended the workshop. The theme was on sharing, connecting experiences and working together through Advocacy.

Each partner presented and shared their work.

Organisations participated were:

1. Bougainville Women’s Federation
2. Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation



Team VfC presenting its work during the workshop

3. Wide Bay Conservation Agency
4. Eastern Highlands Family Voice
5. IWDA
6. Voice for Change

Oxfam Partner’s Conference in Cambodia

From the 22nd to 26th January 2018, VfC Director Ms Lilly BeSoer attended the Oxfam Partners conference in Cambodia.

The focus of the conference was to learn from other Oxfam partners in the region on the initiatives taken to empower women economically. More than 100 partners and beneficiaries gathered in Siem Reap Cambodia for the two days conference.



Ms Lilly (second left) speaking to participants as panel speaker

Commission on the Status of Women 62nd Conference in New York, USA

VfC was represented by Ms Lilly BeSoer and Ms Sophie Kilipi at the Commission on the Status of Women 62nd Session Conference hosted by United Nation (UN) in New York from the 12th to 23rd of March 2018.

Ms Lilly was on three different session panels and she spoke about the Issues Concerning Rural Women in PNG and how VfC as an organisation is doing to contribute in empowering women and girls.



Ms Lilly (left) and Sophie (right) with one of the participants after registration for participation

GBV Response and Prevention Program

GBV Prevention

GBV Prevention focuses on trainings, advocacy and coordination of awareness through its Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs) network.

GBV Response

The GBV Response main focus of the Response Desk is to help survivors with the following services;

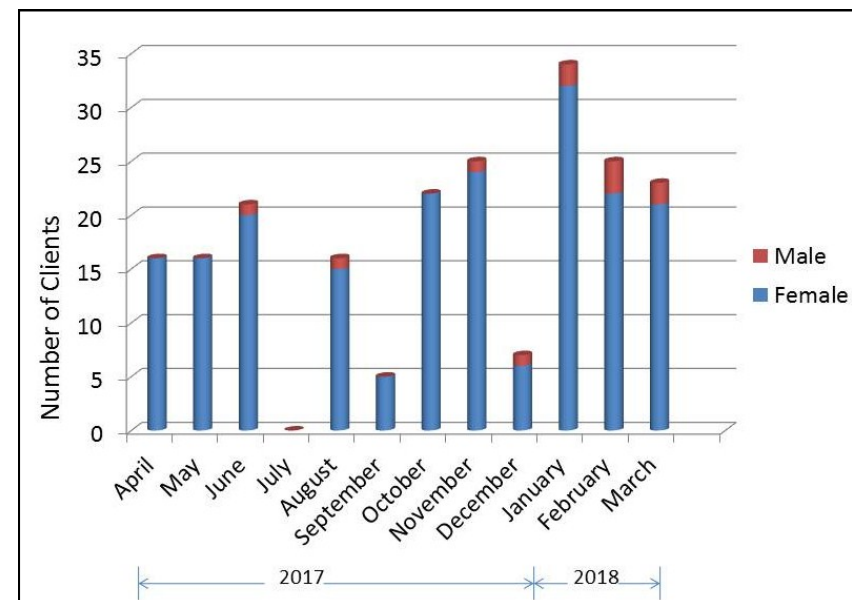
- Counselling
- Referrals and escorting survivors to hospital, village courts and police stations
- Paralegal Support

- Rehabilitation and Support for reintegration
- Repatriation

The desk is working in partnership with:

- Police
- Health Centres
- District and Village Courts
- Family Support Centres
- Provincial and Local Level Government

This year 2018, on a trial project, VfC is setting up a Pilot Safe House for survivors. Also this year VfC has secured an office space in Banz to provide counselling and referral services. Two counsellors and a support staff are stationed at the desk to save women from North Waghi.



GBV Response Desk received 210 clients within 12 months (April 2017 - March 2018) who were survivors of both physical and sexual violence who sought various support from VfC. They were:

- ♦ 199 women
- ♦ 11 Men

Note that there are more than 480 number of children and dependents who are directly affected within those total number of clients.

The column graph **above** shows the number of survivors visiting VfC per month and its total for the period of April 2017 to March 2018.

RESPONSE TEAM

This year the number of staff under the Response Desk have increased from 6 to 9 and a few changes were also made to their positions.

The Response team comprised of:

- A Program Coordinator

- 2 Support Staff
- 6 Counsellors

