

BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION +25



KIRIBATI NATIONAL REVIEW

ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING DECLARATION AND PLATFORM FOR
ACTION
(2014-2019)

Summary Gender Indicators

	Total	Male	Female	Data Sources
Population size and Composition				
Population	110136	54096	56040	2015 Population & Housing Census
% Population		49	51	
Sex ratio	97			
Percent of Population under 15	35	37	33	
Percent of Youth Population 15-24	19.97	20.43	19.53	
Old age population 60+	6	5	7	
Economic structures, participation in productive activities and access to resources				
Youth unemployment rate 15-24	67.4	62.0	73	2015 Population & Housing Census
Labour force participation rate aged 15-24	64	67	61	
Labour force participation rate aged 15+	66	73	61	
Proportion of employed who are own account workers	33.0	30.0	37.0	
Proportion of employed who are contributing family workers	9.9	9.6	10.2	
Proportion of employed who are employers	0.5	0.4	0.6	
Percentage distribution of employed population in agricultural sector	0.5	0.7	0.2	
Proportion of adult population owning land, by sex	63.4	63.6	63.2	
Education				
Youth literacy rate of persons (15-24 years), by sex	86.9	82.8	91.0	2015 Population & Housing Census
Proportion of females among tertiary education teachers or professors			43	
Educational attainment (primary) of the population aged 25 and older, by sex	10.62	10.11	11.07	
Educational attainment (lower secondary) of the population aged 25 and older, by sex	47.49	48.96	46.17	
Educational attainment (upper secondary) of the population aged 25 and older, by sex	36.89	35.30	38.31	
Educational attainment (post-secondary) of the population aged 25 and older, by sex	2.12	2.36	1.91	
Educational attainment (tertiary) of the population aged 25 and older, by sex	2.09	2.23	1.97	
Human rights of women and girl children				
Proportion of ever-partnered women (aged 15-49) subjected to physical and/or sexual violence by a current or former intimate partner, in the last 12 months			68	Kiribati Family Health and Support Study 2009
Proportion of women (aged 15-49) subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner, since age 15			45	
Public life and decision-making				
Women's share of government ministerial positions			7	Administrative data records of government employee
Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament		93	7	MIA data 2015
Women's share of managerial positions			37	2015 Population & Housing Census
Percentage of female police officers		95	5	
Percentage of female judges		56	44	

SECTION ONE

Overview analysis of achievements and challenges since 2014

1. The review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action shows the changes in the situation of Kiribati women twenty five years after countries agreed to its implementation. The findings indicate that in some respect, women's lives have improved and that the gender gap has been narrowed especially in the areas of education, employment and institutional mechanisms. But there remain urgent issues that hamper the achievement of equality and development such as those related to reproductive health and poverty. There are also new or emerging issues that require priority attention as they threaten or erode progress achieved in women's condition, including the new forms of violence in electronic media that victimize women, girls and children, and those related to the impact of climate change.

1. What have been the most important achievements, challenges and set-backs in progress towards gender equality and the empowerment of women over the past 5 years?

In answering this question, please explain why your country considers these important, how it has addressed them, the challenges encountered and the factors that have enabled progress or led to set-backs in each case (3-5 pages).

ACHIEVEMENTS

The most important achievements over the past 5 years have been;

- 1) Increased recognition and acceptance of Women/gender issues
- 2) Improved Services and programs to eliminating Violence against Women and Girls
- 3) Increased Economic Empowerment opportunities for Women

1) Increased acceptance and recognition of Women/gender issues

The Kiribati Government considers this important as research, statistics and reports from various consultations have shown that Women need special attention as they are lagging behind in various areas of development. Equally important is the need to look at development from a gendered perspective. The following are progress and initiatives showing the increased recognition of Women and Gender issues in the last 5 years in Kiribati from 2014-2019.

Government Plans/Policies

Various Government Plans and policies in the last 5 years have seen an increase in the focus or prioritisation of women or gender. These include the **Kiribati Development Plan 2016-2019** which is the guide for formulating policies and programs to advance inclusive economic development in Kiribati. One of its principals is Gender equity and empowerment of women. Ministries use this KDP as a guideline when formulating their policies and programmes. The Kiribati Manifesto focuses on Women's economic empowerment

- **Kiribati Vision 20 2016-2036**

The Kiribati Vision 20 is a long term development blueprint for Kiribati. Its vision is for Kiribati to become a wealthy, healthy and peaceful nation and is motivated by a collective aspiration to become a better society by 2036. It has 4 pillars being wealth, peace and security, infrastructure and Governance. However, in addition to the core pillars, the vision 20 is anchored also on gender, youth, vulnerable groups, equity and partnership as a Government has emphasized the importance of this in its Kiribati 20 Year Vision (KV20) as follows:

‘gender will be mainstreamed in government policies, plans, budgets and programmes to enhance equal opportunity for men and women. Government will also implement measures through a gender development policy to increase the participation of women in all economic, social and political decision making processes (e.g. higher representation of women in Parliament); improve access to disadvantaged groups to businesses opportunities, health and education services, housing, justice, etc; ...’

- Institutional strengthening and resourcing of National Women Machinery
The establishment of the new Ministry for Women, Youth and Social Affairs (MWYSA) in late 2013 and now Ministry of Women, Youth, Sports and Social Affairs (MWYSSA) in 2018. This was made possible through an amendment to the Constitution of Kiribati which required a two thirds vote in Parliament reflecting the changing cultural views about the role of women in development and nation building.

MWYSSA has a portfolio to look after Women, Youth, Sports, NGO’s, Faith based Organisations, Child Protection, Elderly, People living with Disabilities ,Social Welfare and Counselling.

The decision to set up a dedicated Ministry for Women was initiated by the Women’s unit and Women NGO’s who were not happy with how the Women’s unit was shifted from one Ministry to another and was then placed under AMAK, the National Women’s Umbrella Organisation. There was a need to place the Women’s unit in a more permanent and strategic position where it would be able to expand and be in a better position to develop and implement women/gender policies more effectively. The set up of the new Ministry was made possible through the hard work, collaborations and lobbying by Women NGO’s, Women’s unit, key partners including male advocates. Through the support of the Australian Government, consultations were held to inform the general public and seek their support for the Ministry bill in all the outer islands making it easy to get the full support of the Parliament.

The national Women’s Machinery has now expanded to a Women’s Development Division with increased staffing from an office of only 2 staff in 2011 till currently 16 staff of which 4 are males and 12 females. The Vision of the new division for Women, is to improve the status and livelihoods of women and girls in Kiribati through equal access to resources, opportunities, rights, services and their full participation in the spiritual, social, economic and political development. Its Mission is; 1) To economically empower women through the implementation of the Government Policies and manifesto, and providing training and marketing opportunities for women 2) To improve the health and living status of women and their families and 3) To maintain peace in the homes and communities by reducing violence against women and children

The main challenges was to get the two third vote by MP’s, consultation needed to be done to all 23 outer islands , high consultation costs and short time to conduct the consultation. A funding proposal was sent to Dfat to conduct consultations on the Ministry bill in addition to consulting on the Family Peace Bill and Gender Policy. Dfat approved and a committee was formed to plan the consultation. Within a few months, various teams consisting of the Women’s development division, women’s group reps and stakeholders (Women’s groups, Women’s Division spread out to consult to people on the outer islands. During the 1st and final reading of the bill, hundreds of people (Women’s groups, male and youth advocates and Women Division staff) gathered outside Parliament lobbying MP’s for the support of the new Ministry bill. This resulted in the two third support of the bill which lead to the set up of the first Ministry for Women, Youth and Social Affairs in August 2013 and with a further name change in 2018 to include the sports division, Ministry for Women, Youth, Sports and Social Affairs (MWYSSA).

- **Stocktake of the Gender Mainstreaming capacity of the Kiribati Government** – This stocktake took place late 2013 but the finding report was completed in 2015. The purpose of it was to determine the extent to which capacity for effective gender mainstreaming exists in the national government and to identify potential areas of strategic interventions. Recommended strategic actions included the need to strengthen capacity for data collection and gender analysis, need for gender focal points in Ministries, technical assistance to name a few. These recommendations have provided the impetus for the recently endorsed Gender Equality and Women’s Development Policy and put in places measures to support gender mainstreaming.

- **CEDAW implementation and reporting**

Kiribati first ratified the CEDAW with no reservations on 17 March 2004. Much work has been done including the translation of the articles of CEDAW into the local vernacular, awareness programmes through workshops and consultations to the community, women’s groups, female councillors, youth groups and Government officers. In addition, a lot of effort has been put into enhancing education systems, school curricula, traditional practises and national laws to address issues of discrimination and disadvantages facing women and girls and reporting of CEDAW. Reporting has been greatly delayed due to various challenges such as lack of sex disaggregated data, lack of a updated database and reporting system within Ministries/organisations, poor understanding of CEDAW and difficulties in getting CEDAW information to and from outer islands due to the scatterness and isolation of our many islands. However, last year, the Kiribati Government approved its first CEDAW report and sent its initial, second and third periodic CEDAW State report to the UN CEDAW Committee. Currently, the Government is waiting for the CEDAW Committee to invite them to present their report.

The set up of the new Human Rights division and Kiribati National Human Right Taskforce has helped speed up implementation and reporting of CEDAW and other human rights conventions that Kiribati has ratified such as CRPD and CRC. A new Ministry for Justice set up in 2018, has taken the Human Rights Division under its wing and is coordinating the monitoring and reporting process for CEDAW and other human rights conventions.

- **Policies/Legislation**

The Gender Equality and Women’s Development Policy (GEWD) 2019-2021 was endorsed and launched in February 2019 during a Partnership Dialogue and again during the 2019 International Women’s Day celebrations. The policy’s vision is “**All Kiribati men and women reach their full potential.**” The GEWD Policy has five priority areas being:

- To progressively implement a gender mainstreaming approach within all Kiribati Ministries and Departments to achieve gender equality
- To improve the economic empowerment of women
- To support stronger, informed families
- To improve women’s political representation and leadership
- To eliminate sexual and gender-based violence.

An implementation plan will be developed in the next few months with financial and technical assistance from the Australian Government.

- **Gender awareness and trainings**

Prior to the passing of the Gender Equality and Women’s Development Policy, the Women’s Development Division conducted national gender awareness through the assistance of UNWomen, Dfat and SPC/ RRRT. This was done together with ESGBV and CEDAW awareness introducing gender and sex at the start of each sessions during community workshops to men and women and youth groups. Introductions to gender and sex have been incorporated into the primary school curriculum through the respectful relationship programme. In addition, basic Gender trainings have been part of all the Women’s divisions trainings when conducting ESGBV, Economic Empowerment or general gender trainings that they usually

conduct to communities mainly to women's, youths, Church groups. In addition, the Women's Division has been working with various organisations/institutions in facilitating gender trainings such as the Kiribati Institute of Technology (KIT), Kiribati Teachers College (KTC), Kiribati Nursing School and with the Kiribati Uniting Church RAK Women's group in their Gender In Theology (GET) programme

- **Incorporation of gender into plans and programmes**

The last 5 years has seen an increase in the inclusion of gender analysis or gender inputs into many programmes or plans. Examples include road and climate change projects. The increased demand for the Women's Development Division to comment, take part or analyse it from a gendered angle is evidence on its own. Moreover, the increase in the number of gender consultants hired by projects in the designing stage of projects and inclusion of more women to participate in designing, implementing or monitoring projects are other examples. The Women's division has seen a great demand for their services in terms of increase in visits by students researching information on various gender issues mainly domestic violence and women's rights. Other common visits have been by consultants requiring information on gender programmes or requiring our inputs on new country projects.

- **Gender Statistics**

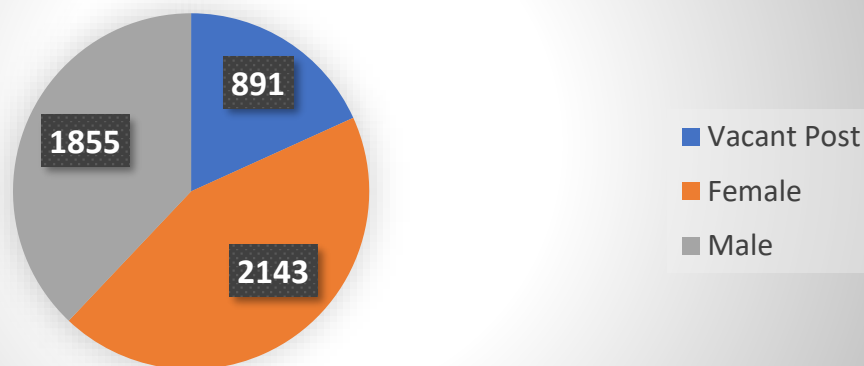
There has been a lot of focus in improving data and more importantly gender statistics since it is a major gap in national research and reporting's. The National Statistics Office (NSO) started off by recruiting a staff whose job description included gender statistics. This speeded up work in building up resources and capacity in this area. The Pacific Community former SPC, has been supporting Kiribati to strengthen capacity and technical expertise in gender statistics through funding from the government of Australia's Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development programme. Through the SPC Progressing Gender Equality in the Pacific Project (PGEP), a couple of trainings have been conducted in Fiji on gender statistics to improve the capacity of the Statistics office and Women's development division in this area. In October 2017, a training was conducted in Kiribati enabling participants from various Government Ministries and NGO's to take part in training on basic skill level in Excel so they can learn and apply intermediate level skills in the drafting and presentation of gender statistics and analysis.

More recently, the Kiribati Gender Statistics Abstract (2017) has been developed providing a Statistical Starting Point for Gender Equality in Kiribati. The first of its kind, this abstract has been used widely for research, reporting and policy formulation since it provides key gender statistics that relate to education, health, human rights of women and girls, public life, decision making, and economic structures, participation in productive activities, and access to resources. In addition, the abstract also incorporates cultural considerations relating to gender equality using data sourced from Kiribati's Census, administrative records, and the 2009 Demographic and Health Survey. The abstract also contains indicators from the United Nations Minimum Framework of Gender Statistics, the Pacific Leaders Gender Equality Declaration, relevant SPC programme indicators and even some Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicators. This Kiribati gender abstract has been very instrumental in the finalization of many recent policies such as the Gender, Youth and Sports Policies and all three human rights conventions reports which Kiribati recently sent its report on namely CEDAW, CRC and CRPD.

The abstract can be accessed on SPC's website: <http://sdd.spc.int/en/news/latest-news/158-kiribati-2017-gender-statistics-abstract>

- **Increase in women in the Public Service or Decision Making positions**

Details of Vacancy and Gender



- Strong progress has been in the employment sector. In 2015, females were 51% of the national public service compared to 44% males. In 2017, 44% of the workforce were female and 38% male. 18% of positions were vacant and had not been filled. Table 2 (Appendix) provides details of vacancy and gender in 2017.
- The number of women in decision making positions in government has increased over the past ten years. Some examples are in the highest civil service positions including the Head of the Civil Service (Secretary to the Cabinet) and Permanent Secretary in government ministries. Until recently, Kiribati's foreign missions were all headed by females including the 2015 established Mission to the UN in New York. Even though the national parliament is dominated by males, in recent years more women are joining politics. Table 3 (Appendix) outlines leadership positions by gender from 2009-2013 and Table 4 shows the number of women in leadership positions in ministries in 2017.
- Gender parity has increasingly become the norm in the composition of decision making bodies such as Boards of Public Companies, appointment of Commissioners to the Public Service Commission and interview panels for civil service recruitment. However, men still dominate most boards with the exception of the Kiribati Women and Children Support Centre Council and AMAK National Council of Women which consist of all women. In the private sector, more women have become successful owners of private companies owning some of the largest most successful businesses.
- Gender sensitisation and mainstreaming has become entrenched and evident in most government processes. The National Population and Housing Census 2015 (Census) included indicators to measure women's economic activities and rate awareness on the major principles of the *Te Rau n te Mwenga Act 2014*.
- The Women's Development Division hosts two national events every year namely International Women's Day and 16 Days of Activism for Eliminating Sexual and Gender Based Violence. During this events, WDD and stakeholders conduct awareness raising campaigns through radio programmes, road shows, dramas, candle light marches and hosting a public show at the Bairiki Square. Support to these national events through sponsorship by donors and partners such as Dfat and UNWomen. The Government of Kiribati has shown its ongoing support and commitment to address women and gender issue by providing budget support for the running of these 2 events annually. It includes budget to support these activities on all outer islands to ensure that rural women are not left behind

2) Improved Services and programs to eliminating Violence against Women and Girls

Kiribati has made considerable progress in terms of work in addressing Sexual and Gender Based Violence. The Kiribati Family Health and Support Study (2008), showed that 68% of ever-partnered women aged 15–49 reported having experienced physical or sexual violence, or both, by an intimate partner at some time in their life. The study findings shocked the nation and resulted in a strong political call and whole of government and nation commitment to eliminate violence against women and girls.

Major achievements have included the set up and expansion of the ESGBV unit within the Women's Development Division to coordinate national ESGBV programmes, the development and implementation of the National Approach to Eliminating Sexual and Gender based Violence Policy and NAP 2011-2021 and ESGBV Shared Implementation Plan (SHIP) 2014. In 2014 the passing of a domestic violence legislation, "Te Rau n Te Mwenga" Act (Family Peace) and followed by its implementation plan. Other achievements include the set up of the Safenet programme which is a network of frontline service providers working together to help victims/survivors of domestic violence on the capital (Tarawa) and also the outer islands.

Funding for the ESGBV projects/programmes from 2014 to 2019 in Kiribati has been provided mainly from the Australian Government, UNWomen, UNFPA, World Bank, RRRT/SPC and more lately the European Union (EU). From September 2016 to date, an Essential Service Programme (ESP) funded by UNWomen (working in collaboration with UNFPA) has been implemented in Kiribati improving services of SGBV frontline service providers such as Police, Judiciary, Health and Social Welfare services for victims/survivors of domestic violence. The impacts of improved services have been fast tracking of high risk cases through SAFENET's Case Management Review Committee (key front service providers), increased use of services by women and girls, national awareness through promotion use of IEC materials as illustrated by the Kiribati Women and Children Support Centre (KWCSA's) records having served a lot of GBV cases from when it first opened last year.

A Multi Sector Manual in dealing with domestic violence cases has been finalized and will be used by all frontline service providers nationally. ESP has also brought together various counsellors from around the country to design a 1st Draft of DV Counselling Standards Framework – This is a requirement under the "Te Rau n te Mwenga Act or the Family Peace Act where a DV Counselling Register needs to be set up within the Ministry of Women to ensure qualified DV Counsellors are registered. The framework describes what Counselling is about and what are standards to be achieved, offering also clarity on what sort of trainings that current counsellors will need to take to offer better and appropriate GBV/DV counselling service. A plan to complete the Framework is in place which Social Welfare is taking lead in.

- Ministry of Health and Medical Services set up a Family Health clinic in 2016 which is a specialized service counter for counselling and urgent treatment of survivors of domestic violence through the RMNCAH program with support of Dfat and UN Women. The Healthy Family clinics also aim to provide integrated health delivery by providing general health and family planning support. Although operational, it is faced with staffing budget challenges as there is no budget to operate the clinic on a 24-hour basis. Staff are on call outside working hours although there is no provision for overtime in the Ministry of Health and Medical Services budget. Staff continue to be paid but on a lower rate than when funded. Discussions are reportedly underway to include clinic operations in the Ministry of Health and Medical Services budget. An additional constraint to the clinic's operation is that finalisation of the Standard Operating Procedures for health workers has been significantly delayed. (Country Plan report)

- Within the Kiribati Police Services a comfort lounge was set up at the Kiribati Police Headquarters Domestic Violence and Sexual Offences Unit. This was to enable survivors of SGBV to have more privacy and a more comfortable place to rest and stay while waiting for their case to be dealt with. While operational, the comfort lounge also faced staffing challenges as there were only two women officers trained in this area of work and stationed at the lounge. This resulted in a lack of 24-hour cover at the

lounge although the trained staff were on call 24 hours. The two staff involved provide gender training with the Kiribati Police Force but faced challenges in changing attitudes of male officers. The police force has started a practice of including one woman officer in all shifts in major stations, giving women increased confidence in accessing justice.

- The courts are recognising the need to expedite hearing of Domestic Violence cases and priority is given by the court to these cases. Currently the judiciary is supported to improve its Bench Book and have it translated for better service by all courts nationwide
- The Judiciary has also been supported to improve the witness/survivor court hearing system to enable a distant hearing facility to ensure security/safety as well as avoid direct encounters of the survivor/witness with perpetrators.
- The MWYSSA's SAFENET (under initial World Bank and UN Women late support) committees and activities in Tarawa and outer islands are revived under the ESP to continue its important role in monitoring and conducting case management meetings, to ensure Domestic Violence and VAWG cases receive due and appropriate support.
- Extended focus from campaigns for elimination to primary prevention of VAWG has received support by DFAT and UN Women with a four-year program on Strengthening Peaceful Villages approved and implemented in late 2017. Strengthening Peaceful Villages (SPV 2017-2021) is a primary prevention programme working with communities on south Tarawa to mobilise them to address domestic violence in their own communities. This is a 4 year programme working with Village Activist (VAs) using the SASA Approach. Currently starting its 2nd phase ie Awareness phase. This project is technically and financially funded by UNWomen
- A Male Advocacy Programme was set up from around 2014 on Tarawa during 16 Days of Activism identifying men who were active in women and gender programmes. These men were trained on a male behavioural change course in 2016 which resulted in the formation of the Kiribati Male Behavioral Change (KMBC) group. This group has been conducting trainings and consultations to male groups around the country. In the outer islands male champions have been identified and will be targeted to undergo the Male Behavioural training. Currently, 3 islands have been visited for this training namely South Tarawa, Abaiang and Marakei. Funding for this programme has been provided by UNFPA.
- The Government also continuously supports and works together with NGOs who are partners in the combat to end violence including KFHA, OLSH Crisis Centre, Alcohol Awareness and Family Recovery centre (AAFR), AMAK and the Kiribati Women and Children Support Centre (KWCS). Partnerships with communities and island councils continues in annual campaigns against violence against women and girls and Gender Equality, with support of donor partners (Australia, UNWomen). MWYSSA works with NGOs closely sitting on a number of its National Committees for ESGBV, SAFENET, and National Women's special events Committees. (VNR report)
- The Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Centre is the only Crisis Centre in Kiribati. The centre is run by Nuns and is owned by the Catholic Church and also offers counselling for GBV survivors.
- Referral pathways are in place and are reported to be working reasonably well, as all service-providers offer different services. However this range of services is limited to South Tarawa. Although SAFENET has been set up in the outer islands, it is reportedly not working smoothly yet in all locations.
- **Another key achievement was the establishment of the the Kiribati Women and Children's Support Centre (KWCS) that opened in January 2018. The centre** offers domestic violence counselling, management of the victim support fund, case management, support and advocacy service for the women and children of Kiribati. The establishment of the KWCS was identified in the ESGBV SHIP as part of a multi-sectoral approach to the elimination of violence against women and children. It was initially auspiced and managed under the Kiribati Family Health Association (KFHA) till it became a fully fledged NGO in June 2019. Funding for the running of the KWCS centre has been provided by the Australian Government

including support through training from the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre and supervision and debriefing of counsellors by UN Women in Suva, Fiji. It has also received UN Women support for organisational capacity development

- The Kiribati Family Health Association (KFHA) is a leading NGO service provider in advocating for reproductive health care and in fostering the rights for all individuals in Kiribati. Registered since 2011, KFHA has developed a strong working relationship with various Ministries such as the Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS) and other key stakeholders in addressing HIV & AIDs, STIs and Sexual Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR), including family planning issues. More recently, KFHA has also been involved with the Ministry of Women, Youth, Sports and Social Affairs (MWYSSA) working towards the national goal of eliminating violence against women and children. KFHA was very instrumental in the set up of the Kiribati Women and Children Support Centre. It also runs the One Billion Rising campaigns each year working with various Government Ministries and conducting road shows raising awareness on GBV. KFHA has a drama group consisting of youth peer educators who regularly do shows on various issues such as SRH and GBV.
- Kiribati has taken part in various ESGBV campaigns. Black Thursdays was initiated from graduates of the RTP FWCC course in Fiji but was adopted by Cabinet in 2016 making it compulsory for all civil servants to wear black to work. This was to signify their support to end GBV. This has been further supported by various businesses and schools around the nation so it is no longer uncommon to see most people to wear black every Thursdays in Kiribati. The national Women's umbrella organization AMAK on the other hand, runs the Orange Day campaign encouraging people to wear orange on the 25th of every month through support of UNWomen.
- The Women's Development Division hosts two national events every year namely International Women's Day and 16 Days of Activism for Eliminating Sexual and Gender Based Violence. During this events, WDD and stakeholders conduct awareness raising campaigns through radio programmes, road shows, dramas, candle light marches and hosting a public show at the Bairiki Square. Support to these national events through sponsorship by donors and partners such as Dfat and UNWomen. The Government of Kiribati has shown its ongoing support and commitment to address women and gender issue by providing budget support for the running of these 2 events annually. It includes budget to support these activities on all outer islands to ensure the rural women are not left behind

3) Increased Economic Empowerment opportunities for Women

Twenty five years on, the Kiribati Government is pleased to see a noticeable rise or increase in economic opportunities for Women in Kiribati

- The Kiribati Government under its Kiribati Development Plan (KDP), Manifesto and Kiribati Vision 20 and the Gender Equality and Women's Development Policy has Economic Empowerment as a priority. As a result, the Women's Development Division created a specific position for Women's Economic Empowerment (WEE) to coordinate and implement programmes for women on the outer islands on topics such as financial literacy, budgeting, starting your own business, skills training on cooking, sewing, handicraft making, home gardening and enhancement of women economic empowerment. These programmes are conducted in collaboration with different ministries and women's groups. Through this WEE programme upskilling trainings have been conducted in various outer islands through the assistance of the Taiwan and Kiribati Government. Not all outer islands have been covered due to lack of funding. The

WEE position is supported by the Government of Kiribati and is an initial positive indicator of Government's commitment to furthering work in this area. However, challenges include lack of funding opportunities for WEE activities compared to ESGBV programmes. The need for technical assistance to support the Women's Development Division as WEE initiatives begin.

A WEE feasibility study was conducted in Kiribati to identify feasible economic opportunities for Women in Kiribati in March 2018. It was commissioned by *Pacific Women and funded by the Australian Government*. The study identified multiple barriers to women's entry into formal and informal sector business. A set of barriers encompassed the requirement for multiple business licences for separate activities, high license fees, and limited time windows to purchase licenses – with penalties for missing deadlines. These challenges compound the very real lack of access to viable markets and the limited potential for product development from natural resources. Several recommendations were made to improve women's economic empowerment status and they will inform the GEWD Policy WEE Priority in the implementation plan to be developed and the focus of the Kiribati Country Plan project and its outputs for 2019- 2020.

- Women in Kiribati are taking the lead in the private sector. Major businesses are owned by women and graduates of the Kiribati Institute of Technology (KIT) Certificates in Business and Accounts Administration are dominated by females. The three major garment factories are owned by women and employ women workers. National business records for the period 2005 to 2015 showed that 1971 women had registered a business.

Women also have moved into traditionally male trades such as plumbing, carpentry and mechanical engineering. Small scale local produce and fish markets are run by women. The many food stalls around government offices are run by women. In addition, Women from North Tarawa are going to the capital South Tarawa from nearby islands by boat every day to sell their products.

A 2016 government innovative initiative started by MWYSSA was the promotion of the traditional *tibuta* wear which started with a local *Tibuta* competition. Known as Mauri Wear it is now compulsory for all government females to wear the traditional Kiribati dress every Friday. Males are required to wear locally made shirts and a local necktie. This has enabled Kiribati women to gain income from their sewing, helped build pride in their own creation and designs and assist maintain our traditional wear.

Women faced extreme challenges accessing credit or loans to set up small businesses such as market stalls. Also, local producers, including women, could not meet international standards or make sufficient quantity to sell local products overseas. Village banks (VB) have been operational for a while in Kiribati although 87% of them are inactive and not accessible to women. There were no loan schemes specially for women so they have developed their own informal banking "Te Karekare" as a way of saving money. Each woman in the group will pay an agreed amount of money at set times to a pool of funds that are then paid out to a member of the group determined by straw poll.

Recent improvements to women's access to assistance to engage economically include:

Recent

- More women accessing banks as before they could not open their accounts unless they were employed. ANZ now has a programme allowing people who are unemployed to open accounts so they can save money.
- Rural loan support scheme administered by Development Bank Kiribati (DBK) target islands with DBK branches but limited to agriculture, fisheries and tourism initiatives. This was launched June/July 2017.
- Youth and Young Couples' Loan Scheme 2017 run by MWYSSA provides small loans to young people and couples on Tarawa to start a small business. Twelve female and eight males accessed loans in the first year and has increased this year to include youths in two other outer islands.
- The Small Business Development Fund initiated by Ministry of Commerce (MCIC) in 2017 but not yet commenced by 2018 reporting, will provide both grants and loans up to \$3000 to the most marginalised people including women, youth, and people with disabilities.
- The Kiribati Provident Fund (KPF) also offers loans to its members and the amount is determined on the member's total KPF.

The first National Women Expo took place in November 2018. It consisted of women reps from all outer islands and the capital who brought in local produce to sell on the main island. Men were also invited to join but only one male took part in the selling of goods at the stalls. It was a great success and enabled women from different islands to gather for a week, learn from each other and also start trading locally. The Government of Kiribati was the major sponsor for this event and others included the Australian and Taiwan Government and fundraising from the Expo committee. There is a plan to host Expos annually however, getting funding annually is an issue as it is very costly.

There have been more access to open markets held every now and then by Churches, local councils and communities and especially during national events such as International Women's Day, White Ribbon Day. This has given women and communities who do not have shops or markets to sell from an avenue to sell their local produce whether for fundraising purposes or individual purposes. Compared to 5 years ago, there has been a great increase in roadside mini markets where women can be seen selling local products ranging from fruits, vegetables, seafood to cooked food. The abundance and variety of Vegetables and fruits sold at this markets and the more colourful food trays during functions is an indication that people are gardening more and eating more healthily. It is also a positive impact of the many agricultural, cooking and nutrition trainings that have been conducted throughout the country from Women's groups, Taiwan Technical Mission, Community, Ministry of Health and Agricultural projects from the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Agricultural Development (MELAD).

A few success stories from WEE trainings on Coconut products from Ministry of Commerce in collaboration with SPC (now Pacific Community) in Fiji include the set up of Kiribati Organic Producers (KOP). This was set up by a local woman to produce and sell Virgin Coconut Oil and Toddy sugar. Through this project, trainings on the 2 products have been conducted to encourage women and men to use these products to generate income. KOP has been quite successful and resulted in the availability of Virgin Coconut oil around

the Capital which has been used regularly for medicine, cooking and as a beauty product. Toddy sugar is not as readily available as VCO but after the set up of KOP on Abaiang Island and involving community members, there has been a gradual increase in this product. On going training, funding secured from SPC for production, bottling, packaging and labelling and marketing support has enabled KOP to thrive. Challenges faced include the lack of availability of coconuts and lack of interest of people who prefer to use their coconuts for copra since Government increased the price of copra in 2016 making it a more easier and attractive source of income in comparison to VCO making. In addition, the lack of resources and difficulty in accessing markets overseas so KOP has opted to mainly market locally.

Factors that have contribute to this increase in women's economic empowerment and entrepreneurship efforts includes efforts by Government Ministries and local councils in prioritizing Women's Economic Empowerment and Women in Business. In addition, increased opportunities for loans from the ANZ bank, private money lenders and other financial institutions such as the Development Bank of Kiribati (DBK) and Kiribati Provident Fund (KPF) have enabled women to take access loans and set up or expand their businesses. Another factor for the increased engagement of women in entrepreneurship can be attributed to easier access of women to training, credit facilities and opportunities to market and sell their goods and another factor is that more Kiribati Women are academically trained in the field of business and accountancy and for some in communities have undergone SYOB, financial literacy trainings from Women's groups, ANZ bank and key Government Ministries such as Ministry of Commerce, Industries and Cooperatives.

The lack of employment opportunities for women in Kiribati has led women to look for extra cash to meet daily family needs. It is therefore not rare to see women going around houses and offices selling their local products and for some food parcels or BBQ, noodles, cold drinks and cigarettes on roadside stalls.

Kiribati needs further support to further enhance and promote Women businesses through. Capacity building trainings for both urban and rural women to empower them to expand their business skills and be more creative. There tends to be a lot of copycat businesses resulting in a lot of failed businesses. In addition, increasing women's participation in the private sector, registering with national entities such as the Chamber of Commerce or cooperatives for rural women in order to open up opportunities for them to participate in national and regional business forums and trainings. Further support is needed for more microfinance organisations /programmes and an accessible Women in Business Association that can be a source for information, training or coordinating body dedicated to improve economic and business opportunities for Women and therefore, help eradicate poverty by empowering women in poor rural villages with the opportunity to start, grow and maintain sustainable, income generating micro-enterprises.

OTHER CHALLENGES

Employment and Economic Opportunities

Although there have been increasing opportunities for employment for men and women, there is still a significant difference showing that men have more access to formal and recognised employment opportunities. The labour force participation of men is 73% compared to women 60% (2015 census). The unemployment rate among people aged 15 years and over is 36% for men and 47% for Women. The high female unemployment rate has contributed to the high teenage pregnancy rate in Kiribati. One factor contributing to this is that, many young males have an opportunity to enter more employment opportunities such as the Marine Training Centre to become seafarers and also as seafarers in local and international in overseas fishing vessels, Fisheries observers and as seasonal workers in NZ and Australia of which most are males. Young women only have opportunities locally in the Nursing School.

Women are often disadvantaged in accessing labour markets and productive resources as they do not have equal opportunity as men to take on employment or develop a business, due to their greater share of home-based duties and responsibilities for children (KV20). Women are also more vulnerable to issues such as sexual and gender based violence, poverty, economic shocks and environmental hazards.

Leadership and Political Representation

Representation of Women in the Political Arena is quite low. Kiribati has only three female members of Parliament representing 9% of all members of Parliament all of which are in the opposition party. At the local government level, there are only 10 women Councillors, out of a total of 332. One of the common challenges for Women Kiribati candidates is the need for funding assistance or support during campaigns. Many women interested and wanting to become Member of Parliaments, **lack the capacity in terms** of financial assistance. This is one of the main challenges discussed between Women MPs all over the region. Therefore, there is a need to generate funds for campaigning for example establishing a common fund for women candidates in Kiribati and building awareness of how women build funds for campaigning.

2. Which of the following have been the **top five priorities** for accelerating progress for women and girls in your country **over the past five years** through laws, policies and/or programmes? (please check relevant categories)

- Equality and non-discrimination under the law and access to justice
- **Quality education, training and life-long learning for women and girls**
- **Poverty eradication, agricultural productivity and food security**
- **Eliminating violence against women and girls**
- **Access to health care, including sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights**
- Political participation and representation
- Right to work and rights at work (e.g. gender pay gap, occupational segregation, career progression)
- **Women's entrepreneurship and women's enterprises**
- Unpaid care and domestic work / work-family conciliation (e.g. paid maternity or parental leave, care services)
- Gender-responsive social protection (e.g. universal health coverage, cash transfers, pensions)
- **Basic services and infrastructure (water, sanitation, energy, transport etc.)**
- Strengthening women's participation in ensuring environmental sustainability
- Gender-responsive budgeting
- Digital and financial inclusion for women
- Gender-responsive disaster risk reduction and resilience building
- Changing negative social norms and gender stereotypes
- Other

Please provide brief reflections on how your country has addressed these priorities (3 – 5 pages).

- **Quality education, training and life-long learning for women and girls**

MoE supporting curriculum development and implementation

- Curriculum writers at Curriculum Development and Assessment Centre (CDAC) have undertaken gender and disability analysis in education training and actively contributed to the development the Gender Equality and Disability Inclusion in Curriculum Checklist to guide the development of curriculum and teaching materials. Improvements in the performance of some key staff members at CDAC has been observed and numerous achievements in this area were evident in the CDAC's presentations at the Inclusive Education Showcase Workshops and follow-up workshops. Nonetheless gender and disability awareness and sensitivity amongst this target group (as well as other groups) has been identified as an ongoing area for further development. To ensure that all materials move from gender blind or gender neutral to gender sensitive, and from disability invisible to disability inclusive, requires substantial ongoing knowledge and skills development amongst both key male and female staff. This capacity development process, as expected, is very challenging because it requires change at the attitude, belief and value levels. Recent staff turnover and new leadership means that ongoing training will be very important to ensure that the improvements and achievements are sustained.
- A number of new locally written, illustrated and produced school readers, poems and songs focus on gender and/or disability have been developed including a set of readers written in partnership with the Te Toa Matoi (Kiribati's disabled peoples' organisation). Whilst the majority of these gender and/or disability specific readers are gender and disability neutral or sensitive there are several examples of materials that would have benefited from a peer review process undertaken by gender and disability stakeholders prior to production. The introduction of a gender and disability specialist peer review process will be a next step in future work to improve in this area.
- Gender and social inclusion considerations have been mainstreamed as one of the key principles underpinning the National Curriculum and Assessment Framework (NCAF). The NCAF promotes the school curriculum as something that should provide "all groups of students, irrespective of education settings and locations, with access to a wide range of knowledge, skills and values. It recognises the different starting points, abilities, gender,

interests, religious and socioeconomic backgrounds of an individual student or groups of students” (NCAF).

- Representatives from the Exams and Assessment Unit (EAU) actively participated in a number of gender and disability awareness and analysis training workshops.



Examples of locally written, illustrated and produced Big Books with a gender and/or disability inclusion focus

MoE strengthening the capacity of teachers

- Gender and social inclusion has been mainstreamed into the school leaders’ program through the School Improvement Plan’s (SIP), Pillars, Standards and Indicators, that has “Inclusive and Gender Sensitive” as the first of five development pillars, which provide a set of standards to guide practice. In addition, pillars 2, 4 and 5 each include a standard that relates to gender, disability and/or social inclusion. Regular training is conducted with key stakeholders to support the implementation of SIP and in the most recent SIP Report Review process consideration was given to gender and disability dimensions to ensure they were included and referred to in practice.
- Representatives from KTC lecturing staff have participated in gender and disability analysis workshops as well as a workshop on the School Wellbeing Guidelines. It is noteworthy that following one of the gender workshops 2 female lecturers decided to undertake and complete gender studies via distance studies at the University of South Pacific. These gender studies graduates have since been teaching in the team delivering the inclusive education training topics at KTC and actively participating as members of the Eliminating Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Education Committee. The next step is to involve KTC lecturers in foundational responding and preventing gender based violence training to raise their awareness about the impact of gender based violence in schools on health, wellbeing and learning.
- A new Inclusive Education course has been developed for the Professional Studies Unit in the Diploma in Primary School Teaching. The course which include a standalone section on gender equality has now been approved by the Course Approval Committee, University of South Pacific and the Kiribati Teacher’s College (KTC) taught the course for the first time at 3rd Year level in Term 2, 2016. One of the next steps will be an external course peer review process by stakeholders with gender, disability and inclusive education expertise including representation from Te Toa Matoa, the gender sector and agencies such as the Pacific Disability Forum and/or CBM Nossal. The A/Principal of

KTC has also requested that another next step be the provision of coaching support for the lecturers in the team teaching this course.

- Tailored gender equality and inclusion training was designed and delivered in order for KTC lecturers and Teacher Professional Development (TPD) Coaches to develop their understanding of gender, disability and inclusive education. KTC has reported that by furthering their understanding, KTC lecturers and TPD Coaches were better able to incorporate and promote inclusive practices when planning and delivering TPD workshops and developing the pre-service program.
- TPD cycles of training for all year 1, 2, 3 & 4 teachers across Kiribati featured inclusive education and gender awareness in education sessions as major content in stand-alone sessions as well as integrated cross cutting content.
- In preparation for the TESOL roll-out KTC lecturers and TPD coaches conducted an internal review of the TESOL curriculum to ensure gender and disability inclusion issues were considered. KTC has reported that course content is regularly reviewed and lecturers are asked to demonstrate their understanding of inclusivity practices when in the field discussing strategies for example, multi-grade teaching, which requires good planning and a focus on child centered and inclusive learning.
- As a component of the Island Education Coordinators (IECs) induction program in late 2015, involving the newly recruited IECs as well as members from the SIU primary professional development group, actively participated in a two-day workshop on the principals of inclusive education with a focus on gender equality and how to promote the inclusion of children with disability within the formal mainstream school system.

MoE improving school infrastructure

- All school upgrades undertaken to date comply with accessibility requirements in ‘Accessibility Design Guide: Universal Design Principles for the Australia’s Aid Program’ and the National Infrastructure standards (NIS).
- Input prior to school upgrades was sought during the design and siting exercise with the community consultation group that has a gender balance within the group and pays attention to ensuring a gender balance in the consultation process.
- The infrastructure team proactively sought and supported the participation of female students from the Kiribati Institute of Technology in the work experience program to re-roof schools. In written feedback about her work experience on the Bikenibeu West Primary School re-roofing activity one female student shares that she “*was happy to see the job was successful completed ... I just encourage girls to make a mighty effort and remind themselves that working with others, sharing experiences is a good idea.*”
- All school upgrades to date addressed the need for accessible, adequate and separate toilets for boys and girls¹ including design considerations for girls and boys to ensure adequate privacy and separation of the individual facilities.
- Gender equality criterion affirming the employment of women was included in the selection criteria for the school upgrading infrastructure tender processes. It is noteworthy that Kiricraft Central Pacific who is manufacturing the Kitset modular designed classroom system employs a number of women in what are usually male orientated manufacturing roles.



Separate toilets for boys and girls

MoE enhancing the school-community partnership

- A key strategy during the school rehabilitation program and community consultation team (CCT) island visits has been to ensure that the CCT comprise a balance of both male and female team members. Paying attention to the venue for consultations has proved effective with more women actively participating when discussions are held in church mwaneabas rather than traditional village mwaneabas.
- MoE staff have actively initiated and participated in gender awareness raising events such as Black Thursdays, White Ribbon Day and International Women's Day and White Ribbon Day. Case studies highlighting MoE's pro-active involvement on Black Thursdays and White Ribbon Days are provided below.

MoE strengthening capacity to plan, monitor and improve sector performance

- Gender equality and disability and social inclusion considerations were mainstreamed into the principles underpinning the Kiribati Education Act (2014) including the principle of inclusive education and that a child of compulsory school age or above school age including those with a disability must, where practicable, be enrolled and attend a school. Key sections explicitly refer to several gender equality considerations including: an emphasis on school safety and security; and requirements for the immediate student suspension for the use of violence or threats of violence, sexual harassment or indecent assault. In addition the Act states that; a school may not exclude a student on the basis of a student's disability; school rules must be "applied without discrimination on the basis of a student's sex, religion, race or disability"; and that pregnancy or status as a parent is no longer grounds for disciplinary action (i.e. it is now illegal to expel or suspend pregnant girls or young mothers from attending school).
- The MoE's Inclusive Education Working Group (IEWG) (advisory to the Secretary of Education), established initiated and then actively worked towards the development and finalisation of an Inclusive Education Policy. As mentioned above the inaugural policy for this area was endorsed by Cabinet in 2015. Following endorsement the IEWG has been working towards the development and wide consultation of a strategic work plan to guide policy implementation plan. Key external partners are represented on the IEWG including representatives from the disability and women's civil society sector.
- The Ministry of Women, Youth and Social Affairs and MoE together with MoE established an Eliminating Sexual and Gender Based Violence in Education Committee (ESGBVE Committee). The Committee met to oversee the development of the School Wellbeing & Counselling Good Practice Guidelines (which operationalise Kiribati's Family Peace Bill). New terms of reference for the committee and a Draft Work Plan have recently been developed to enable the ESGBVE Committee to continue its work as

an ongoing MoE committee that will continue to oversee the implementation of the guidelines as well as other new initiatives that respond and prevent sexual and gender based violence in education and gender equality more broadly. This includes new initiatives planned for 2017 to a) build the awareness of MoE staff through training workshops and capacity development support on responding and preventing Sexual and Gender Based Violence; b) support girls at school with their mensuration (after a successful pilot by the MWYSA the MoE has given approval for another schools specific menstruation pilot in education to be rolled out); and c) develop an inaugural child safe environments in education policy to address the issue of child abuse.

- The school survey form used for MoE's annual collection of Kiribati Education Management Information System (KEMIS) data was reviewed and revised annually, with special attention to gender, disability and inclusion monitoring.
- The ESSP M&E framework has been reviewed at intervals in consultation with MoE Heads of Divisions. Indicators relating to pupils and teachers are disaggregated by gender where meaningful and new indicators were added to enhance gender, disability and social inclusion monitoring including percentage of schools with mixed (M/F) Parent's Committee membership; number of children with disability accessing school by disability type; and number of children in the school catchment area with disabilities not attending school. Gender and disability disaggregated and specific indicators continue to be integrated into the ESSP and M&E framework and are monitored to inform decision making. The MoE has been redeveloping relevant ESSP indicators to allow for better gender disaggregation.

Gender awareness and analysis in education workshops

A number of professional development workshops on gender awareness and analysis in education have been designed and delivered to MoE staff. These workshops were very well attended by both female and male staff. The gender analysis exercises which required participants to apply gender analysis concepts and tools to education and school related case studies generated the most engaging discussions and debate on a number of key gender and education issues.

It is noteworthy, one workshop inspired one male MoE participant to enrol in post graduate level gender studies:

- **Access to health care, including sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights**

- Access to Health care is one of the priorities under the Kiribati Development Plan 2016-2019, KV20 and the Government Manifesto. Health programmes and services are provided for free to all I-Kiribati and foreigners living in Kiribati except for the private ward
- The Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS) oversees the delivery of health services with focus on six priority areas of (i) non-communicable diseases, (ii) population growth, (iii) maternal and mobility, (iv) child morbidity and mortality, (v) health service delivery; and (vi) gender based violence and youth health.
- Health services are free of charge to all I-Kiribati and working foreigners living in Kiribati. The MHMS operates hospital services, public health services and nursing services from four main hospitals. Two of

the hospitals are on South Tarawa and two on the outer islands of North Tabiteuea which serves the Southern District and the Kiritimati Hospital which serves the Line and Phoenix groups. Patients requiring specialised assistance that TCH cannot provide may be recommended for overseas treatment by the Medical Referral Board.

- The high population growth remains to be a significant development challenge. The total fertility rate has increased from 2.7 in 2011 to 3.7 in 2016. Between 2005–2010 the adolescent (those aged 15–19 years) fertility rate was 39 per 1000 women which was around the median for the region and reflected the low contraceptive prevalence rate of 36% of women of reproductive age (2000 data). Family planning is therefore an MHMS key priority area 2 with the strategic objectives of increasing access to and use of high quality, comprehensive family planning services, particularly for vulnerable populations including young people and women whose health and wellbeing will be at risk if they become pregnant. There are eight contraceptive methods available and used in the country; they are: Microgynon, Jadell, Depo Provera, condom, vasectomy, tubal ligation, copper intrauterine device; and Billings Method
- The MHMS delivers Family Planning services and collects data from 108 sites. These include 100 health clinics (Kiribati and Line and Phoenix), eight special clinics in which the ministry works with NGOs and CSOs. Some Family Planning implemented activities are (i) training for staff capacity building, (ii) awareness program conducted on South Tarawa, (iii) awareness through media and posters; and (iv) outer island outreach programs. Programs are run in partnership with MWYSSA, MoE, KFHA and NGOS and FBO to expand the reach of services and increase the involvement of men. Table 17 (Appendix) outlines the provision of Family Planning outreach programmes to the outer islands.
- A challenge for population growth relates to church and FBO which prohibit family planning and any contraceptive and sexual reproductive health. The government including in the 'Parliamentary Select Committee on Population Management and Development Report 2015' has advised church leaders to guide their congregations and parents to make family planning decisions on the basis of their individual resource capacity.

Maternal health in Kiribati is improving. By 2005, the antenatal care coverage rate (the proportion of pregnant women who had at least one visit) was 100%. In 2010, 98% of births were attended by skilled health personnel from the Ante Natal Clinic (ANC).

Several areas of health care have been progressed through public health outreach programs:

- Active community outreach program disseminating information to urban populations on the importance of, and how to ensure mothers are healthy.
- High initial immunization coverage (DPT3 99%, measles 90%) although scheduled completion drops significantly.
- Improved maternal care: 66% of women delivered in a health facility, 80% delivered with a skilled attendant and universal availability of antenatal care. In 2010, 98% of births were attended by skilled health personnel.

- Efforts are underway to integrate child health services in a single service point; biannual national child health weeks; postnatal care program with in-home visits for new mothers.
- Model commitment to end open defecation to be presented nationally; community gardens underway to produce nutrient-rich food.

There has also been an ongoing training for all maternity ward staff in which they go through 20 hours Mother and Baby Friendly Health Facility Initiative (MBFHI) training course which is the standard recommended for all maternity staff under the Infant and Youth Child Feeding (IYCF) Global Strategy. Under the ILO Maternity Protection Convention the following are considered as rights for mothers:

- 12 weeks maternity leave with pay
- Free medical attendance for pregnancy and breastfeeding mothers
- Breastfeeding women have the right to take breastfeeding breaks each day

The Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child and Adolescence Health (RMNCAH) programmes/activities

- Infant mortality rate ranged between 34 and 41 per 1,000 live births during 2010 to 2013, falling to 26 in 2017. The main causes of death were pneumonia, prematurity, and birth asphyxia. Neonatal Mortality was 10.2 per 1,000 in 2015 and increased to 11 in 2017. The Under 5 mortality rates have improved slightly, falling from 52 per 1000 live births in 2012 to 44 per 1000 live births in 2017.
- The maternal mortality rate rose from 125 per 100,000 live births in 2010 to 151 in 2014, and to 179.3 in 2016. However, annual variation in maternal mortality should be assessed in the context of the volatility that a small number of cases can introduce (for example, four maternal deaths were recorded in 2015).

NHSP Objective two- Increase access to and use of high quality, comprehensive family planning services

The Outer Island – OI outreach activities and programs facilitated by the RMNCAH program has included not only MHMS health personnel but other key implementers e.g. KIFHA, UNICEF and WHO. This integration of services which involved ten integrated OI visits in 2016 has allowed the program to concurrently conduct FP services, staff training and vasectomy procedures whilst at the same time allow MHMS personnel to work alongside other organisations in strengthening services provided to both health staff and island communities. FP services during OI visits is packaged with child health checks and issues, HIV and STI awareness and cervical screening. Information provided on FP included spacing of children, various methods and types of contraception and linkage to maternal and child mortality and morbidity.

NHSP Objective three-Improve maternal, new born and child health

- In strengthening capacity of health staff to improve their skills in clinical maternal and child health care, the RMNCAH program funded training of 2 participants – a midwife and the O&G specialist to attend the PEMNet – Pacific Emergency Maternal and Neonatal training in New Zealand in July, 2016. This training which is part of the development programme of the PSRH- Pacific Society of Reproductive Health is aimed at emergency prevention and death avoidance in everyday routine professional activities. The educators are part of the RANZCOG – Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and co-edit the facilitator’s guide of this training and include a Training of Trainers - ToT workshop and EENC - early essential new-born care. The two participants facilitated a ToT at Tarawa of 10 participants comprising of medical officers, midwives and nurses from TCH and Betio hospital. The aim is to increase the skills of health workers and subsequently decrease mortality and morbidity of mothers and new-borns.
- In response to the MHMS SP2016 Strategic Action Area 3.4.3: Strengthen and systematise processes for reviewing all cases of maternal death, including using and implementing review findings to improve health care practice. A quality improvement strategy was the establishment of the MPDSR – Maternal & Perinatal Deaths Surveillance & Response which aims to strengthen notification of all maternal deaths and stillbirths in Kiribati, facilitate the monitoring of maternal deaths and stillbirths, assess the true magnitude of maternal mortality and stillbirths, provide quality information on where, when, and why these deaths occur and knowing and understanding the circumstances that surround maternal deaths and stillbirths. This information will facilitate the development of health strategies to prevent similar deaths in future.
-
- Revision of the midwifery curriculum and course with the assistance of a New Zealand midwife volunteer and PSRO Technical Advisers. This resulted in an 18 month midwifery course which was reduced to a 12 months course inclusive of theory and included six-month mandatory clinical placement in the maternity ward. This revised curriculum will contribute to quality capacity development in shorter period of time.

- Poverty eradication, agricultural productivity and food security

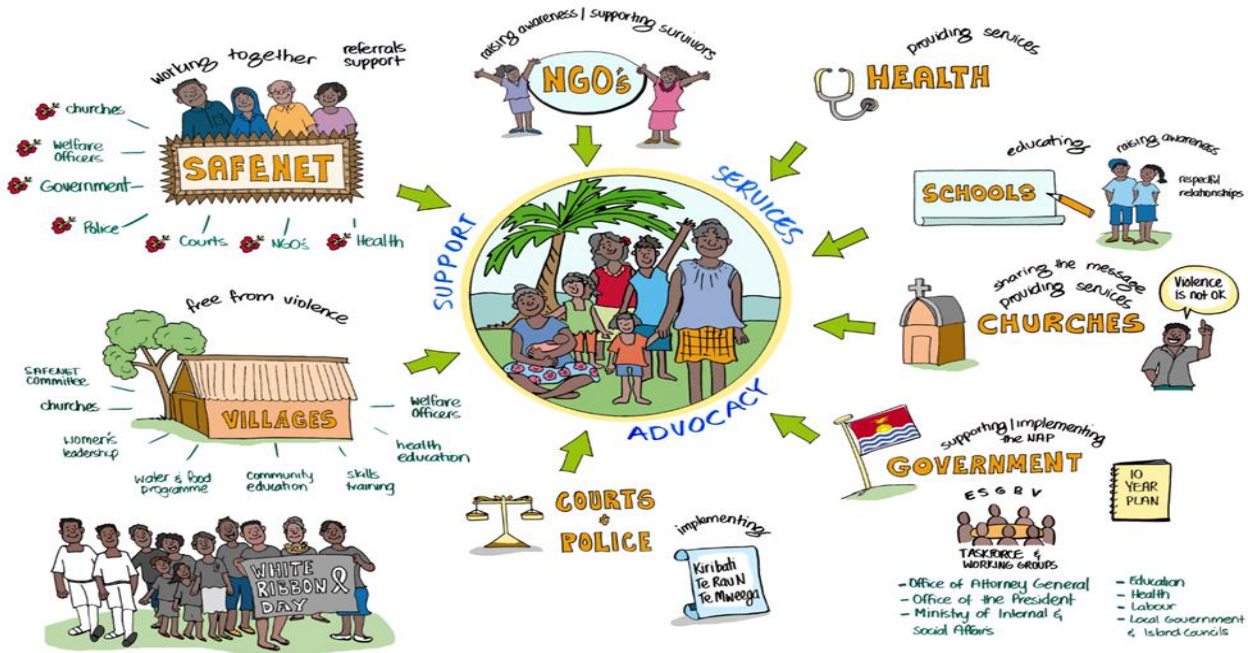
The above have been priorities for the Kiribati Government from 2013 and has implemented several policies and measures to improve in these areas such as . This include;

- The Government’s Kiribati Development Plan (2016-2019), Manifesto and Kiribati Vision 20 has economic growth and poverty reduction as a Key Priority area or a major outcome.

- One of the best strategies to eradicate poverty is to target families, communities and the more vulnerable people in the society such as children and people with disabilities.
- Kiribati is running various Social Protection programmes such as the 1) Senior Citizen Allowances which targets elderly people from the ages of 65-70 upwards. From this scheme, 2933 females have benefitted from 2018 to date. The elderly fund has led to the reduction of neglect of the elderly and enabled them to contribute to their households and improved their standing. 2) The Students Support Scheme for Underprivileged Students main purpose is to financially assist senior secondary school under privileged students who no longer continue their education because their father/mother are either deceased or disabled. From 2012 to date, 674 female students have benefitted from this scheme. (waiting for data on males)
- The Government has also embarked on new structural reforms such as the Copra Scheme intended to improve the livelihoods of people on the outer islands, by increasing the cost of copra in order for people to increase their earnings. This has also given rural people a reason to stay back in the outer islands directly addressing urbanisation, overpopulation and poverty issues on the main island.
- Social Welfare Division has also started a taskforce working with communities identifying vulnerable or unprivileged families and assisting them to get out of poverty through assisting them with income opportunities, skills training or giving them access to toilets and water.
- The Disability Benefit allowance is a new initiative that started recently

- Eliminating violence against women and girls

ELIMINATING SEXUAL + GENDER BASED VIOLENCE (ESGBV) IN KIRIBATI



INCREASING GENDER EQUALITY & IMPROVING HUMAN RIGHTS FOR WOMEN & CHILDREN

There have been a lot of progress in addressing the issue of Violence against Women in Kiribati ever since the release of the findings of the National survey on Domestic violence known as the Kiribati Family health and Support study (KFHSS) in 2008. The study showed that 68% of Women (2 in 3) between the ages of 15-49 years who have entered a relationship have reported experiencing physical or sexual violence, or both, by an intimate partner. Government has responded by establishing the National Approach to Eliminating Sexual and Gender-based Violence (ESGBV) Policy and Strategic Action Plan 2011-2021, a major, whole of government initiative and the ESGBV Shared Implementation Plan (SHIP) in 2014. Due to the high violence prevalence rate, there has been a lot of technical and financial assistance poured to Kiribati in the last 5 years to address VAW. They include the Australian, New Zealand, Turkish and Kiribati Government, World Bank, UNWomen, UNFPA, UNICEF, SPC, PIFS and lately the EU. This has enabled the Kiribati Government to focus on ESGBV or EAW as one of its main priorities especially through its Ministry of Women.

The ESGBV Policy and SHIP's 5 priorities have been the guide for the Government's activities/programmes implemented for the last 5 years to address VAW. Below are the priorities and main activities implemented under them.

Priority 1: To Develop National Leadership and Commitments to Eliminate Gender Based Violence .

Support the 1) Women's Development Division ESGBV Taskforce to drive ESGBV Policy and NAP, 2) Support ESGBV Taskforce meetings and capacity building 3) Coordinate Safenet across Kiribati 4) Coordinate whole-of-government efforts –ESGBV Taskforce 5) Build Monitoring & Evaluation capacity 6) Embed gender budgeting and financial management 7) Support small grants such as the Victim Support fund firstly run by Government and now run by the Kiribati Women and Children Support Centre.

Priority 2: Strengthen Legal Frameworks, law Enforcement and Justice

Development and passing of a Domestic Violence law namely the "Te Rau n te Mwenga Act" or Family Peace Act and its implementation plan, - Develop and resource *ESGBV Justice Action Plan* and coordination,

Priority 3: Build Institutional and Community Capacity

In country Capacity Building trainings to WDD staff and stakeholders on ESGBV, Counselling, Safenet, conduct community trainings on ESGBV, Human rights, gender. Staff of WDD and key frontline service providers attending a 1 month FWCC EAW training in Fiji known as the Regional Training Programme (RTP), workplace attachments at UNWomen, Fiji and Solomon Islands Women's Divisions and FWCC,

ESGBV workforce development working groups, - Develop comprehensive cross-sector training packages, mentoring and training

Priority 4: Strengthen and Improve Protective, Social and Support Services

Implement an Essential Services Programme to improve SGBV support services of key frontline service providers eg Social Welfare, Police, Ministry of Health. Support national SAFENET coordination & capacity building, Case management Review, Develop minimum standards and protocols, Establish independent crisis centre and support services such as the newly set up Kiribati Women and Children Support Centre (KWCS) and the Kiribati Family Health Clinic to deal with DV patients at the Tungaru Central Hospital, Strengthened links between children's rights and women's rights, safety and protection

Priority 5: Eliminate and Prevent GBV through Civil Society Engagement and Advocacy

Respectful relationships (RR) program through development of RR and GBV curriculums for primary and Junior Secondary Schools, textbooks for primary schools that remove stereotypes, Working to end Violence against Women through respectful relationships in sports. Set up and implement the 4 year Strengthening Peaceful Villages (SPV) project mobilizing communities to work together to EVAW.

Refer to Question 1 and Question for more details on EVAW work and achievements in Kiribati.

- **Basic services and infrastructure (water, sanitation, energy, transport etc.)**

The Kiribati Government with the assistance of donor partners has implemented a number of projects to ensure it provides its people basic services and infrastructure in relation to roads, water, sanitation, energy, transport etc as listed below.

- Projects on water and sanitation are guided by the National Water Resources Policy and the National Sanitation Policy (2008) and the Implementation Plans (2008-2018). The National Water Committee and National Sanitation Committee within MISE are responsible for monitoring the implementation of the policies and projects to ensure quality and standards are adhered to and that tests are done regularly. Projects include;
- The Water and Sanitation Health (WASH) is a programme that promotes schools to have WASH facilities (toilets, water for hand washing and brushing of teeth). Support is provided by UNICEF for the schools including Ministry and Health Promotion Team in enhancing the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) standards in the clinics in some islands, as well as rehabilitated 22 WASH facilities.
- The Kiribati Outer Island Food and Water Project (KOIFAWP)- is an IFAD funded project which had four priorities being, 1) Community Planning and Action, 2) Nutrition and Agriculture 3) Rain water harvesting and 4) Project management. This project targeted the 4 islands of Abemama, Nonouti, Tabiteuea North and Beru. Major achievements from this project included the provision of water tanks, increase in growing and consuming of root crops and vegetables, cooking, improved diets, agricultural skills, trainings on proposal writing, planning and mapping and conflict resolution. Women, youth and people with disabilities were targeted to ensure their participation. In addition, Community members were hired as community field workers and Island facilitators and equipped with resources to run and monitor the project on their respective islands. Lessons learnt – change approach held their trainings or consultations under the trees to avoid formalities and cut costs and time when holding usual consultations or trainings in local meeting houses.
- Through the South Tarawa Sewerage Improvement Program (STSIISP), PUB has rehabilitated and improved its sewerage and saltwater systems and outfalls with support from the World Bank which was completed in 2018. Various Community visits and trainings have been conducted on South Tarawa promoting the use of toilets and tippy taps and how to maintain them.
- Other improvements from the Public Utilities Board (PUB) include the restoration of water and sanitation pipes which has resulted in better access to drinking water and better sanitation for people on South Tarawa. Another development is that, PUB is currently piloting a 24-hour metered water service in 2 villages ie Nanikaai and Tebikenikoora, Eita.

- A major development and biggest project in Kiribati has been the rehabilitation of the roads in South Tarawa to ensure it is up to international standards. Compared to 6 years ago, when the roads were full of pot holes and it took too long to travel from one end of Tarawa to the other. Nowadays, there are sealed roads throughout south Tarawa, new road signs, solar street lights, pedestrian sidewalks and improved junctions for the safety of drivers and road users. The Kiribati Road Rehabilitation Project was completed in 2017 and was supported by the World Bank, the ADB and Australia. This has reduced travel times, safer roads and no longer a problem for many pregnant women who had to travel in very rough bumpy roads. It also led to the increase in roadside businesses of which most were run or owned by Women.

- The improvement and maintenance of Water on the outer islands is implemented by the Kiribati Water and Sanitation (KIRIWATSAN) II Project. This project started in 2014 and covers eight islands being Makin, Butaritari, Marakei, Abaiang, Maiana, Nonouti, Nikunau and Beru with a total funding of Euro3.3m. Other developments in the areas of transportation, airfield, wharf, causeways have given women and their families better access to remote areas, increased trading opportunities and will set a strong foundation for further economic growth and improved service delivery.

- **Women's entrepreneurship and women's enterprises**

As in question 1

3. Over the past five years, have you taken specific measures to prevent discrimination and promote the rights of women and girls who experience multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination? (please check relevant categories)

- Women living in remote and rural areas**
- Indigenous women
- Racial, ethnic or religious minority women
- Women living with disabilities**
- Women living with HIV/AIDS
- Women with diverse sexual orientations and gender identities
- Younger women
- Older women
- Migrant women
- Refugee and internally displaced women
- Women in humanitarian settings
- Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses (2 pages max.).

Women living in remote and rural areas

According to the 2015 Population and Housing Census the total population of Kiribati was 110,136 with 49% living in rural areas (Table)

Table 22: Population by Gender and island, 2015 Census **Source: National Statistic Office**

Island	Male	Female	2010		Male	Female	2015(total)
Banaba	117	94	211	Banaba	148	120	268
Makin	910	903	1813	Makin	1006	984	1990
Butaritari	2288	2119	4407	Butaritari	1573	1651	3224
Marakei	1347	1397	2738	Marakei	1387	1412	2799
Abaiang	2822	2849	5671	Abaiang	2743	2825	5568
North Tarawa	3045	3079	6124	North Tarawa	3257	3372	6629
South Tarawa	24104	25906	50010	South Tarawa	18674	20384	39058
Betio				Betio	8485	8845	17330
Maiana	1001	1032	2033	Maiana	998	984	1982
Kuria	515	471	986	Kuria	535	511	1046
Aranuka	520	537	1057	Aranuka	579	546	1125
Abemama	1684	1677	3361	Abemama	1593	1669	3262
Nonouti	1297	1301	2598	Nonouti	1407	1336	2743
Tab/North	1762	1931	3693	Tab/North	1924	2031	3955
Tab/South	680	624	1304	Tab/South	672	364	1306
Onotoa	724	737	1461	Onotoa	730	663	1393
Beru	1055	1042	2096	Beru	1206	1205	2051
Nikunau	1003	904	1907	Nikunau	900	889	1789

Tamana	587	624	1211	Tamana	576	528	1104
Arorae	621	651	1272	Arorae	483	528	1011
Teeraina	914	787	1701	Teerain+a	909	803	1712
Tabuaeran	1019	971	1990	Tabuaeran	1182	1133	2315
Kiritimati	2976	2815	5791	Kiritimati	3300	3156	6456
Kanton	17	14	31	Kanton	9	11	20

The Women's Development Division created a new position , Outer Island Liason Officer (OILO) in 2014. The purpose was to ensure that rural women were not left behind and the key role of the officer included; Coordination of programmes for rural women, promotion of rural women's rights, seeking funds for rural women projects and increasing their representation in trainings, forums or expos in their islands or on the capital, Tarawa . Through this programme, trainings have been conducted in 7 outer islands on ESGBV, Human rights, Gender, Women Economic Empowerment, handicraft and jewellery making, cooking, sewing, agriculture, Women's Health, ESGB, SYOB and financial Literacy. This is usually done in collaboration with other key Ministries. The budget for this project was Aud \$100,000.00 and funded by the Taiwan Government.

Administrative Social Welfare Officers (ASWO's) are placed in all outer islands and are focal points for the Ministry for Women, Youth, Sports, and Social Affairs for all issues related to Women, youth, sports, social welfare, disability and also civil registration. The ASWO is based within the Island Councils and is able to conduct basic counselling for survivors of domestic violence and referrals.

Other organizations that conduct trainings for Women organisations on the outer islands include Aia Mwaea Ainen Kiribati (AMAK) which consists of many women's groups mainly Church groups and more recently youth groups have joined. In addition, the Catholic Women's association, Teitoiningaina . These 2 women organisations have members on the outer islands and therefore often go out to the outer islands to conduct trainings to their members or invite women to the main islands for conferences or trainings.

Outer Island Programmes which have a direct impact on women run by other Government Ministries

MHMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Hygiene (Ways to avoid Diarrhea and Vomiting) ❖ Nutrition (Balanced Food) ❖ Family Planning Methods and effects of population growth ❖ Breastfeeding ❖ Toilet in a home (sanitation) ❖ Using sunlight to purifies water
MELAD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Farming Methods/Agroforestry ❖ Ways to improve the quality of a product ❖ Livestock Management ❖ Food Security ❖ Composting ❖ How to set up a garden ❖ Extension program
MWYSSA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Difference between Gender and Sex ❖ Gender Stereotypes ❖ Human right ❖ Women Economic empowerment <p>Women's and Men's Role and Responsibilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ What and How the wife and the husband should do or contribute for the good wellbeing and livelihood of all the family members ❖ Parenting Skills ❖ Domestic violence, rape, children abusive
AMAK	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. –Cooking, Sewing and fixing a broken-down sewing machines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ How to cook foods that are available on the Island e.g. from trees/plants exist on the island ❖ Sewing clothes for kids, school uniforms and men's and women's clothes ❖ Training on how to repair sewing machines ❖ Tie dye ❖ Making local handicraft like local shoulder bag and etc

MCIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ How to start and maintain a Business ❖ Balancing accounts ❖ Basic Marketing ❖ Saving and Loan ❖ Budgeting/Financial Literature ❖ Women's Business Work plan
MCTTD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ House Keeping ❖ Hospitality

Source- CEDAW report 2019

Impacts out of these programmes is the improved livelihoods of rural women through improved diets, increased reporting of domestic violence cases from the outer islands, skills in handicraft making enabling them to generate income and increased participation in trainings, expos and decision making bodies. Challenges include inadequate funds to meet the costly trainings programmes in the outer islands therefore the WEE and ESGBV trainings have not been conducted in all 21 islands of Kiribati. However, island visits and trainings from other Ministries have managed to cover islands that have not been covered by the WDD programme.

Women Living with Disabilities

Historically there have been no specific government laws, policies, budgets and practices that have dealt and proactively addressed discrimination amongst women living with disabilities. However, in the past 5 years there have been progressive measures undertaken by the GoK to address inequalities for all people living with disabilities through laws, policies, and budgets.

Disability development activities have mainly been co-funded by the GoK and development partners. The budget allocations vary year by year depending on the assessed development activities needed by community. In 2018, the total identified GoK budget for disability development activities was 0.007% (\$151,575.00) of the national budget (\$195,690,354.00). This does not include funding for the estimated six civil servants working in disability programs.

In 2013 the GoK ratified CRPD showed its commitment to address *the systemic discrimination faced by people with disabilities and* improve their livelihoods. The first CRPD report submitted to the UN in 2018 highlights legislative and policy development over the last ten years. *Reform has been reflected in the Employment Ordinance (2008), Education Bill (2013), Kiribati Building Code (2015), the Education Act (2013), the Inclusive Education Policy (2015), Kiribati Development Plan 2015–2016 and 2016-2019, and the Employment and Industrial Relations Code (2016).*

The Kiribati 2015 National Population and Housing Census estimated the number of people with disability to be 12,765 or 11.5% of the national population. Of the national population aged over five years, 3.1% were identified to have significant impact related to disability. Of those 1541 were female and 1404 were male; and 289 were aged between five and 17 years. People with disabilities are marginally more likely to live on an outer island and rural environment than in South Tarawa/urban (53%/46%) (Appendix Table 1).

Since 2015, the Disability Inclusive Unit (DIU) in the Ministry of Women, Youth, Sport and Social Affairs (MWYSSA), which has responsibility to progress Kiribati's broad ranging commitments to citizens with disability, has had one employee. This post was established with funding from the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) in 2015 though is included in the Kiribati national budget from 2018. Two additional posts to support the work of the DIU are scheduled for funding under the national budget from 2019. The unit was supported in 2017/18 with policy and program assistance through one position provided by the Australian Government's Australian Volunteers in International Development (AVI) program.

The GoK has set up a separate Disability Division within the Ministry for Women, Youth, Sports and Social Affairs. It was first set up with project support from Dfat funding 1 staff in 2016, a Volunteer from Australia from 2017-2018 and recently GoK has absorbed the by GoK. In 2018, there was support for an extra staff and volunteer from Australia. This has including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses

In 2018, the GoK released its first Kiribati National Disability Policy and Action Plan 2018 – 2021 (KNDP) The policy was driven by people with disabilities working with government, donor partners and community organisations and provides an overarching vehicle to coordinate, drive, monitor and report on the progress of initiatives nationally progressing the rights of people with disabilities.

Employment & Industrial Relations Code, 2015

107. Prohibition of discrimination

(1) An employer shall not discriminate, directly or indirectly, against any employee or prospective employee in respect of recruitment, training, promotion, terms and conditions of employment, termination of employment, or other matters arising out of the employment relationship, for a prohibited reason or for reasons including a prohibited reason.

(2) For the purpose of subsection (1), a prohibited reason shall be a reason that is affected by any of the following attributes of the employee or prospective employee, whether actual or perceived:

- (a) ethnic origin, race, colour, national extraction, social origin, social class or economic status; (b) sex, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation or family responsibilities;
- (c) age, state of health, HIV / AIDS status, or disability;
- (d) religion or political opinion;
- (e) trade union membership or activity; or
- (f) involvement in an employment dispute, an investigation or legal proceedings affecting the employer.

(3) For the purpose of subsection (1):

- (a) direct discrimination occurs when a distinction, exclusion or preference is made on the basis of an attribute listed in subsection (2); and
- (b) indirect discrimination occurs when a distinction, exclusion or preference is made on the basis of an attribute that is not listed in subsection (2), but that disproportionately disadvantages people with a particular attribute listed in subsection (2).

A key result of this new law has seen a few people living with disabilities entering the workforce as permanent officers or doing work experience in Government offices.

In 2017 the GoK gave attention to progressing the right of people with disability to meaningful work and paid employment; and began to address the right to an adequate standard of living. This is exemplified through the drafting of programs to introduce (a) an Employment Quota of people with disability in ministries and (b) a direct social protection payment for people unable to access employment because of the significant impact of their disability.(CRPD report, para 27)

A Toolkit on ERAW for People Living with Disabilities was developed and is yet to be launched.

People with Disabilities are always included in Government Ministry decision making bodies such as taskforces on ESGBV, Women's Economic Empowerment. Female members of the Tetoamatoa Disability Association are affiliated or are members of AMAK, the national Women's Umbrella Organisation and have a representative at the National Council of Women.

Younger women

The Adolescent Girls Initiative(AGI) was a project implemented in MWYSSA in 2013-2015 that dealt directly with younger girls/women through the Women and Youth divisions .. Funded by UNWomen, the aim of the project was to empower young adolescent girls by promoting their rights and data collection on young girls . Awareness raising on domestic violence, leadership and empowerment, human rights, gender and health were conducted to young women around the island through workshops and camps to inspire and empower them to become self reliant and successful in life. Young boys to ensure they were aware of these issues and engage in respectful relationships with girls/women from an early age.

The Youth Division within MWYSSA regularly runs awareness programmes on skills building, self reliance, SRH, domestic violence also runs skills building workshops to youths during national youth days

The Women's Development Division through its Respectful Relationship programme ran a project on Eliminating GBV through sports in 2017. The long term aim of the project was to reduce domestic violence through engaging young men and women to develop respectful relationships from a young age while playing volleyball together. The project funded by the Rotary Club, involved the training of girls on volleyball skills so that when competing or playing with boys they would have acquired the skills already and be in a more equal playing field with boys who were known to have better volleyball skills having more opportunities to play volleyball. Once the girls have been trained, there would be sessions on gender, GBV and Respectful relationships, then they will start playing together It however, targeted youth from Junior Secondary Schools in collaboration with the Kiribati National Olympic Committee and Sports Development Division

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses (2 pages max.).

4. Has the increasing number of humanitarian crises—caused by conflict, extreme weather or other events—affected the implementation of the BPfA in your country?

YES/NO

If YES, please give concrete examples of the effects of humanitarian crises on progress for women and girls in your country and of measures taken to prevent and respond to humanitarian crises in a gender-responsive manner (1 page max.).

5. Which of the following does your country consider to be the top five priorities for accelerating progress for women and girls in your country for the coming five years through laws, policies and programmes? (please check relevant categories)

- Equality and non-discrimination under the law and access to justice
- Quality education, training and life-long learning for women and girls
- Poverty eradication, agricultural productivity and food security
- Eliminating violence against women and girls
- Access to affordable quality health care, including sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights
- Political participation and representation
- Right to work and rights at work (e.g. gender pay gap, occupational segregation, career progression)
- Women's entrepreneurship and women's enterprises
- Unpaid care and domestic work / work-family conciliation (e.g. paid maternity or parental leave, care services)
- Gender-responsive social protection (e.g. universal health coverage, cash transfers, pensions)
- Basic services and infrastructure (water, sanitation, hygiene, energy, transport, communication, etc.)
- Strengthening women's participation in ensuring environmental sustainability
- Gender-responsive budgeting
- Digital and financial inclusion for women
- Gender-responsive disaster risk prevention, reduction and resilience building
- Changing negative social norms and gender stereotypes
- Other

Please provide brief reflections on how you plan to address these priorities (3 – 5 pages).

- 1) Implementation of the key Government Plans or Priorities such as the Kiribati Development Plan, KV20 and Manifesto as they have all those priorities. For ones that are not in these plans will ensure we propose they be part of our future activities/plans when there is a review of these plans at the end of this year.
- 2) Implement the Gender Equality and Women's Development Policy as it has similar priorities such as Gender mainstreaming, Women's Economic Empowerment, Stronger Informed Families, Political participation and Leadership and Elimination of Sexual and Gender Based Violence
- 3) Review the ESGBV Policy and its Implementation Plan, SHIP and insert any changes or new recommendations
- 4) Review of current laws that are discriminatory to women and plan out how to change or amend them then hire TA's to assist us draft new legislations
- 5) Work in aligning this with CEDAW in domesticating it to our national laws
- 6) Set up a taskforce that could serve as a Beijing +30 taskforce that could start monitoring the above plans and start early preparations on the data collection for the next CEDAW and Beijing report.
- 7) Work closely with Women's NGO's on how to achieve the above through consulting them on how best to effectively work together to achieve Gender Equality. During our consultation with them for this Beijing review they highlighted that the Government was taking up a lot of programmes that could be done by NGO's. Therefore, there is a need to sit down together and split and clarify our roles so we may be stronger in advocating against discrimination
- 8) On going trainings required on CEDAW, Human rights
- 9) Draw up a Beijing action plan to implement with other Ministries and Organisations to make future reportings for Beijing, and CEDAW easier to compile. Include a plan for M&E.
- 10) Ongoing Capacity building for Women's Division staff and key stakeholders on Human rights, gender, Legal literacy
- 11) Seek for funding or support for continuation of our ERAW projects running out of funds such as ESP, Safenet.

- 12) Work with existing NGO's, partners and stakeholders in sharing our load and as a team to address VAW
- 13) Build capacity of staff to enable them to address GBV
- 14) Need to review the ESGBV Policy and SHIP and the Family Peace Act to evaluate what has been achieved and where we need to work more on
- 15) Institutional strengthening and resourcing of the Women's Division and key Ministries/NGO's implementing Beijing priorities.

Section Two: Progress across the 12 critical areas of concern

This section covers progress across the 12 critical areas of concern of the Beijing Platform for Action. To facilitate the analysis, the 12 critical areas of concern have been clustered into six overarching dimensions that highlight the alignment of the BPfA with the 2030 Agenda. This approach is aimed at facilitating reflections about the implementation of both frameworks in a mutually reinforcing manner to accelerate progress for all women and girls.

Inclusive development, shared prosperity and decent work

Critical areas of concern:

- A. Women and poverty
- F. Women and the economy
- I. Human rights of women
- L. The girl child

6. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to advance gender equality in relation to women's role in paid work and employment?

- Strengthened / enforced laws and workplace policies and practices that prohibit discrimination in the recruitment, retention and promotion of women in the public and private sectors, and equal pay legislation
- Introduced / strengthened gender-responsive active labour market policies (e.g. education and training, skills, subsidies)
- Taken measures to prevent sexual harassment, including in the workplace
- Strengthened land rights and tenure security
- Improved financial inclusion and access to credit, including for self-employed women
- Improved access to modern technologies (incl. climate-smart technologies), infrastructure and services (incl. agricultural extension)
- Supported the transition from informal to formal work, including legal and policy measures that benefit women in informal employment
- Devised mechanisms for women's equal participation in economic decision-making bodies (e.g. in ministries of trade and finance, central banks, national economic commissions)
- Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

Legislations passed to address discrimination include the Employment and Industrial Relations Code, 2015

Employment & Industrial Relations Code (EIRC), 2015

107. Prohibits discrimination (1) An employer shall not discriminate, directly or indirectly, against any employee or prospective employee in respect of recruitment, training, promotion, terms and conditions of employment, termination of employment, or other matters arising out of the employment relationship, for a prohibited reason or for reasons including a prohibited reason.

All workers in Kiribati, including those with disability, are protected against sexual harassment in the work place under Section 112 of the EIRC (2015).

112. Prohibition of sexual harassment (1) A person shall not sexually harass an employee or a prospective employee (2) An employer shall take all reasonable steps to prevent the sexual harassment of an employee or a prospective employee. (3) A person sexually harasses an employee or a prospective employee if: (a) the person makes an unwelcome sexual advance, or an unwelcome request for sexual favours, to the employee or prospective employee; or (b) the person engages in other unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature, (c) in circumstances in which a reasonable person, having regard to all the circumstances, would have anticipated

that the employee or prospective employee would be offended, humiliated or intimidated in the course of their employment or application for employment.

(4) A person who contravenes this section commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction for a fine of \$1,000.

(5) If the person who contravenes this section is an employee, the employer of that employee shall also be liable under subsection (4) unless the employer can prove that it took all reasonable steps to prevent the sexual harassment.

(6) The Minister may direct the Board to develop guidelines on sexual harassment, the purpose of which shall be to provide information on the types of behaviour that may constitute sexual harassment and the reasonable steps an employer may take to prevent sexual harassment.

CRPD report, para 27:

In 2017 the GoK gave attention to progressing the right of people with disability to meaningful work and paid employment; and began to address the right to an adequate standard of living. This is exemplified through the drafting of programs to introduce (a) an Employment Quota of people with disability in ministries and (b) a direct social protection payment for people unable to access employment because of the significant impact of their disability.

7. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to recognize, reduce and/or redistribute unpaid care and domestic work and promote work-family conciliation?

- Included unpaid care and domestic work in national statistics and accounting (e.g. time-use surveys, valuation exercises, satellite accounts)
- Expanded childcare services or made existing services more affordable
- Expanded support for frail elderly persons and others needing intense forms of care
- Introduced or strengthened maternity/paternity/parental leave or other types of family leave
- Invested in time- and labour-saving infrastructure, such as public transport, electricity, water and sanitation, to reduce the burden of unpaid care and domestic work on women
- Promoted decent work for paid care workers, including migrant workers
- Conducted campaigns or awareness raising activities to encourage the participation of men and boys in unpaid care and domestic work
- Introduced legal changes regarding the division of marital assets or pension entitlements after divorce that acknowledge women's unpaid contribution to the family during marriage
- Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

CRPD report, paragraph 80.

At this stage of CRPD implementation Kiribati has no formal services to practically assist people with disabilities to live more independently within their family or to move about and take part in community life. There are no vocational support services and no formal personal care services. Community and cultural expectations require families to provide that care to members with disabilities and those who are elderly.

8. Has your country introduced austerity/fiscal consolidation measures, such as cuts in public expenditure or public sector downsizing, over the past five years?

YES/NO

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

9. Has your country introduced austerity/fiscal consolidation measures, such as cuts in public expenditure or public sector downsizing, over the past five years?

YES/NO

If YES, have assessments on their impact on women and men, respectively, been conducted?

- Yes, their impact on women/men was estimated before measures were put in place.
- Yes, the impact was assessed after measures were put in place.
- No, the impact on women/men has not been assessed.

If YES, please describe the findings (1-2 pages).

Poverty eradication, social protection and social services

Critical areas of concern:

- A. Women and poverty
- B. Education and training of women
- C. Women and health
- I. Human rights of women
- L. The girl child

10. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to reduce/eradicate poverty among women and girls?

- Promoted poor women's access to decent work through active labour market policies (e.g. job training, skills, employment subsidies, etc.) and targeted measures
- Broadened access to land, housing, finance, technology and/or agricultural extension services
- Supported women's entrepreneurship and business development activities
- Introduced or strengthened social protection programmes for women and girls (e.g. cash transfers for women with children, public works/employment guarantee schemes for women of working-age, pensions for older women)
- Other Improving Women's Economic Opportunities
- Introduced/strengthened low-cost legal services for women living in poverty
- Other

The Office of the Peoples Lawyer is a government body mandated to provide free legal aid service to the disadvantaged people in Kiribati, reform contributions on human rights issues and the rule of law as well as community legal education on the same.

The mission of the OPL is to provide free, accessible, quality and timely legal aid to the disadvantaged people of Kiribati including law reform contributions and community legal education on human rights and the rule of law.

CRPD report, para 161:

161. The GoK introduced a Senior Citizens Fund Scheme in 2014 for all citizens including those with disability aged over 65 years and a Child Support Scheme for children less than six years with disabilities is being finalised as of drafting (February 2018). In addition to free education to form six for all a School Fee Support Scheme

managed by MWYSSA assists children whose parents are deceased, are sole parents or have a disability to attend form seven. In 2016 the government made an election commitment to introduce a social protection payment for people who are not able to gain employment because of the impact of their disability. Work to progress this is referenced in the KNDP (PA8) and is anticipated to commence in 2018.

The Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives conduct trainings to Outer Islands including South Tarawa that include women and youth on Business Development that include how to start and maintain a Business, Balancing Accounts, Basic Marketing, Saving and Loan, Budgeting/Financial Literacy and Women's and Youth Business Work Plan. (CEDAW)

The Women's Economic Empowerment position is created within the Women's Development Division to deal with increasing women's economic opportunities and improving the living standard of women's families. The Women's Economic Empowerment training program is implemented to women on Outer Islands and the training covers the area of financial literacy, budgeting, starting your own business, skills training on cooking, sewing, handicraft making, home gardening and enhancement of women economic empowerment. The training program is conducted in partnership with different Ministries and women's groups. (CEDAW)

- Promoted poor women's access to decent work through active labour market policies (e.g. job training, skills, employment subsidies, etc.) and targeted measures
Seasonal workers

An initiative that also assists in reducing poverty is through the creation of employment. The Ministry of Employment and Human Resource currently monitors two types of Labour Mobility Schemes namely the Pacific Labour Scheme (formerly the Northern Australia Workers Pilot Program) and Seasonal Employment Schemes; Recognised Seasonal Employment (RSE in New Zealand) and Seasonal Worker Program (SWP in Australia). This initiative allows Kiribati to supply workers to our current employing countries: Australia and New Zealand.

The objective of the Northern Australia Workers Pilot Program (NAWPP) is to contribute to economic development in Kiribati by providing opportunities for I-Kiribati citizens to gain knowledge, work experience and skills in Australia, earn wages for performing work in Australia and remit some earnings to Kiribati. This scheme is now known as the Pacific Labour Scheme allowing the employment of low to medium skilled I-Kiribati to take up a 3 year employment (work visa) with registered Australian employers. Currently, the number of females participating in this scheme stands at fifty (50). This scheme targets those who have qualifications in specific areas example hospitality, aged care, trade to name a few and usually these workers are sourced from South Tarawa.

In the Seasonal Worker Program (SWP), unskilled I-Kiribati workers get employed in the Horticulture Industry in Australia. This is only a 6 to 9 month employment contract and their re-engagement depends on their performance with the employer. So far, 42 females are currently involved in this scheme. This scheme targets the unemployed from all over Kiribati. But in order to be eligible, they have to be registered with their respective councils and also have to undergo fitness and basic interview test.

Finally is the Recognised Seasonal Employer scheme with New Zealand. This employment initiative is also a 6 to 9 months employment contract in the horticulture industry and currently there are 99 females on the scheme. This scheme targets the unemployed from all over Kiribati. But in order to be eligible, they have to be registered with their respective councils and also have to undergo fitness and basic interview test.

All in all, these labour mobility initiatives have assisted in the uplifting of women's lives through the income they make and send back home to their families. Families of these workers have uplifted their standard of living, invested in the education of their children, contributing to their communities or church groups and initiated ways of sustaining themselves through small businesses and planting their own fruits and vegetables.

11. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to improve access to social protection for women and girls?

- Introduced or strengthened social protection for unemployed women (e.g. unemployment benefits, public works programmes, social assistance)
- Introduced or strengthened conditional cash transfers
- Introduced or strengthened unconditional cash transfers
- Introduced or strengthened non-contributory social pensions
- Reformed contributory social protection schemes to strengthen women's access and benefit levels
- Improved access to the above for specific populations (e.g. women in informal employment, including domestic workers; migrant and refugee women; women in humanitarian settings)
- Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

1. The Government has embarked on new structural reforms such as the 3) Copra Scheme intended to improve the livelihoods of people on the outer islands, by increasing the cost of copra in order for people to increase their earnings. This has also given rural people a reason to stay back in the outer islands directly addressing urbanisation and overpopulation issues on the main island. MWYSSA has also started a taskforce working with communities identifying vulnerable or unprivileged families and assisting them to get out of poverty through assisting them with income opportunities, skills training or giving them access to toilets and water. The Provident Fund is another scheme. The Disability Benefit allowance is a new initiative this year which is currently being implemented.

School Fee Support Scheme

The School Fee Support Fund Scheme (SFSS) established in 1996 in order to provide school fee support for those who have no supporter in some extent. The SFSS have a committee body that will do the process of approval strictly following the criteria of the application. The SFSS targeted the students in the mainstream schools whose parent(s) have died or live with disability. The approval applicants to the scheme got their school fee paid from the Social Welfare Office (MWYSSA) and have been monitored by their performance every term/semester.

1. The approved Criteria for the School Fee Support Fund Scheme are as follows:

- The parent(s) of the student is deceased or disable
- The student is attending mainstream school and he/she is in the level of form 7 only
- The student is the citizen of Kiribati and attending the mainstream school in Kiribati not studying overseas.

Members of the Committee includes representatives from education offices of major Churches, Education Officer (MoE), KANGO representative, MHMS Representative, Social Welfare HoD, Secretariat (SPO) and DSMWYSA as Madam Chair.

2. Underprivileged Students meet MOE's criteria as a student who passed any recognized examination to Form 7 will eligible to cover his/her school fee under School Fee Support Scheme through MWYSSA.

- This include underprivileged student who studied USP preliminary program at registered school in Kiribati. In such cases, the scheme will pay the full course fee and the boarding fee since MOE for in the year 2017 did not include Form 7 students who passed their preliminary courses.

Data for School Support Scheme 2016-2019

The data below show the number of students from Form 4 to Form 6 funded under the Student Support Scheme. Only

Year	No of females	No of males	Total amount
2012	54	43	97
2013	91	67	158
2014	109	100	209
2015	151	112	263
2016	207	141	348
2017	25	16	41
2018	53	29	82
2019	69	38	107
			1305

2017-18 included Form 7 only

According to the table shown above and it clearly showed that

number of students who applied under this scheme has increased rapidly for each year.

year	rem bal	current	total budget	exp	bal
2010	\$ -	\$ 56,000.00	\$ 56,000.00	\$ 40,378.25	\$ 15,621.75
2011	\$ 15,621.75	\$ 56,000.00	\$ 71,621.75	\$ 28,616.75	\$ 43,005.00
2012	\$ 43,005.00	\$ -	\$ 43,005.00	\$ 25,799.70	\$ 17,205.30
2013	\$ 17,205.70	\$ 56,000.00	\$ 73,205.70	\$ 43,405.70	\$ 29,800.00
2014	\$ 29,800.00	\$ 56,000.00	\$ 85,800.00	\$ 47,992.55	\$ 37,807.45
2015	\$ 37,807.45	\$ 56,000.00	\$ 93,807.45	\$ 81,887.66	\$ 11,919.79
2016	\$ 11,919.79	\$ 56,000.00	\$ 67,919.79	\$ 74,977.45	-\$ 7,057.66
2017	-\$ 7,057.66	\$ 114,007.99	\$ 106,950.33	\$ 51,194.04	\$ 55,756.29

Senior Citizen Allowance Scheme

- The Senior Citizen Monthly Allowance package was firstly introduced in April 2004. At that time, all citizens who have reached the age of 70 years and over receive a monthly allowance of \$40.00.
- In June 2011, 7 years after the establishment of the scheme, the rate and age eligibility was then revised. The amount of \$40.00 per month is paid to Senior Citizens who have reached the age of 67 up to 69. For those who have reached the age of 70 and over receive a monthly rate of \$50.00 monthly.
- In October 2015, this scheme was revised again. Those who have reached 65 years of age get \$50.00 and those senior citizens who have reached 70 years of age and above get \$60.00.

Data for Senior Citizen Allowance for 2019

Island Councils	F	M	NS	70+ yrs		F	M	NS	67-69 yrs	Total
No. of elders 2018										
	Gender					Gender				
Makin	32	13	4	49		14	12	3	29	78
But	57	28	7	92		34	16	2	52	144
Marakei	58	38	0	96		22	31	0	53	149
Abaiang	80	48	6	134		31	27	1	59	193
Tarawa Ieta	56	27	2	85		38	27	1	66	151
Maiana	50	25	1	76		26	19	0	45	121
Kuria	27	11	0	38		5	7	0	12	50
Aranuka	20	10	0	30		11	11	0	22	52
Abemama	53	33	2	88		24	26	1	51	139
Nonouti	50	33	1	84		20	29	1	50	134
Tab North	52	29	8	89		15	17	0	32	121
Tab South	26	13	3	42		5	2	0	7	49
Onotoa	39	22	2	63		19	16	3	38	101
Beru	51	35	2	88		27	20	0	47	135
Nikunau	28	16	1	45		13	16	0	29	74
Tamana	28	20	0	48		12	6	0	18	66
Arorae	37	22	1	60		18	13	1	32	92
Kiritimati	74	39	3	116		44	23	2	69	185
Banaba	2	4	0	6		2	2	0	4	10
Tabuaeran	28	18	3	49		6	6	2	14	63
Teeraina	16	10	0	26		4	2	1	7	33
TUC	620	324	10	954		448	283	9	740	1694
BTc	250	96	0	346		361	172	3	536	882
Total	1734	914	56	2704		1199	783	30	2012	4716

Budget for Senior Citizen Allowance from 2004 – 2016

year	Population	Payment
2004	1955	\$ 922,680.00
2005	1932	\$ 956,600.00
2006	2012	\$ 991,800.00
2007	2036	\$ 948,760.00
2008	2098	\$ 1,033,800.00
2009	2067	\$ 963,220.00
2010	2110	\$ 1,063,370.00
2011	2865	\$ 1,447,130.00
2012	3117	\$ 1,764,350.00
2013	3541	\$ 1,837,090.00
2014	3550	\$ 1,959,100.00
2015	3685	\$ 1,989,630.00
2016	4205	\$ 2,894,060.00

12. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to improve health outcomes for women and girls in your country?

- Promoted women's access to health services through expansion of universal health coverage or public health services
- Expanded specific health services for women and girls, including sexual and reproductive health services, mental, maternal health and HIV services
- Undertaken gender-specific public awareness/health promotion campaigns
- Provided gender-responsiveness training for health service providers
- Strengthened comprehensive sexuality education in schools or through community programmes
- Provided refugee women and girls as well as women and girls in humanitarian settings with access to sexual and reproductive health services
- Other
- Strengthened educational curricula to increase gender-responsiveness and eliminate bias, at all levels of education
- Provided gender equality and human rights training for teachers and other education professionals
- Promoted safe, harassment-free and inclusive educational environments for women and girls
- Increased access to skills and training in new and emerging fields, especially STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) and digital fluency and literacy
- Ensured access to safe water and sanitation services and facilitated menstrual hygiene management especially in schools and other education/training settings
- Strengthened measures to prevent adolescent pregnancies and to enable adolescent girls to continue their education in the case of pregnancy and/or motherhood
- Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

.The Kiribati Development Plan 2016 – 2019 and KV20 has prioritized Health and highlighted that 'a healthy population is a productive population' and that good health is a prerequisite to economic growth and poverty reduction. The Ministry of Health and Medical Services has initiated programs that provides free services in all Medical Centres and free health delivery services to all I-Kiribati thus making no gender distinction. To the extent of expanded health services for Women and Girls, the Ministry of Health and Medical Services focus on six priority areas such as (i) non-communicable diseases, (ii) population growth, (iii) maternal and mobility, (iv) child morbidity and mortality, (v) health service delivery; and (vi) gender based violence and youth health. The total number of available health personnel (which includes medical doctor, dentists, assistants, nurses and midwives) increased from 39 per 10,000 in 2015 to 42 per 10,000 in 2017. The vast majority (71 percent) of medical staff are nurses.

In terms of health facilities, the New Zealand Government is the major development partner working in the Health infrastructure space. The Tungaru hospital in Tarawa is the main hospital facility in Kiribati, and was originally constructed with the assistance of Japan.

To achieve this priorities, the MHMS have partnered with NGOS to implement a number of activities. The Kiribati Family Health Association is an active partner of the Ministry and is mandated under its constitution to focus on Family Health and the core function of women health-check services (for cancer) and has expand its scope its scope and reach out to most in need of Sexual Reproductive Health and Right (SRHR). The Association is one of the leading NGO on SRHR and also working Gender Based Violence. It worked closely with the Government of Kiribati, Faith Based Organizations and has signed and MOU with 8 provisional councils to enable them to provide continuous services on SRHR to them. This organization has its own clinic and offer free sexual health consultations and testing which had attracted hundreds of teenage girls with their friends, and mothers who find it difficult to visit the Health Clinic. They also have a mobile clinic by which they attend to national events such as National Women's Day, National Youth Day, Independence Day, and

Health Days to provide checkup and lab services to mainly Women and Girls. In the last few years, KFHA has rolled out an exciting array of sexuality education campaigns nationwide, including the successful KFHA Drama Group, which was lauded as a creative approach in the outreach and dissemination of sexual and reproductive health (SRH) information.

Family Planning has been prioritized by the MHMS as a key initiative to improve the health of women and girls whose health and wellbeing are at risk if they become pregnant. With this, a comprehensive family planning services are increasingly made accessible through condom distribution to public conveniences and the availability of eight contraceptive methods such as Microgynon, Jadall, Depro Provera, condom, vasectomy, tubal ligation, copper intrauterine device and Billings Methods to be used in Country.

As for the HIV services, a new set of national guideline was launched and a partnership was formed between local communities such as Boutokaan Inaomataia ao Mauriia Binabinaine Association and the Ministry of Health to strengthen the control, prevention and care for the immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and other Sexually transmitted infections on the Island. This guideline used the WHO on the provision of HIV and STI-related interventions and ensuring effective delivery of prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care service. **(Data on HIV- last 5 years)**

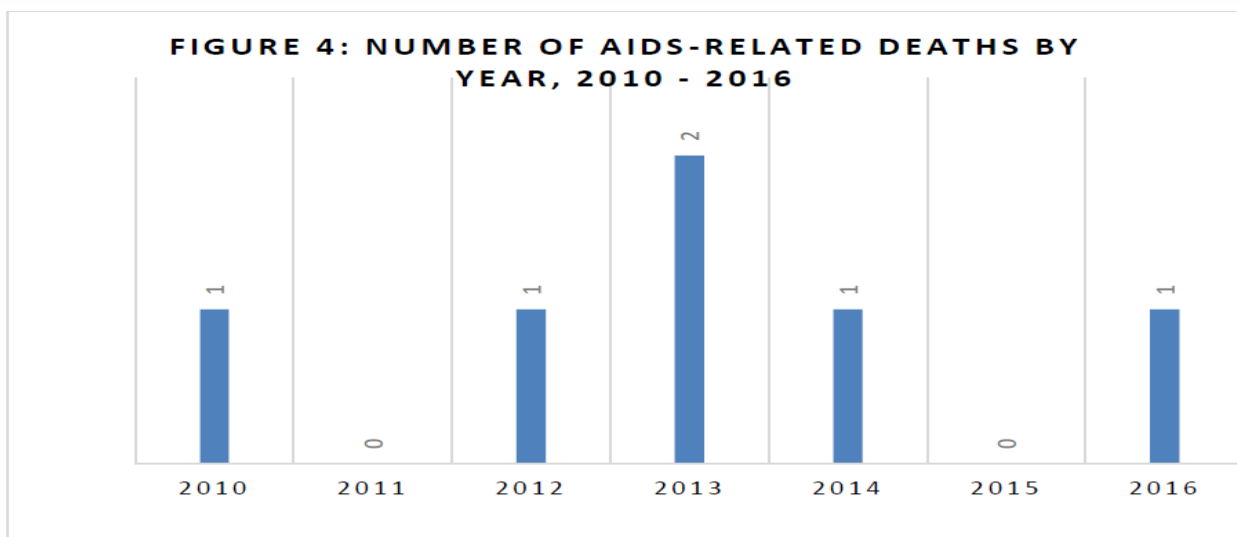
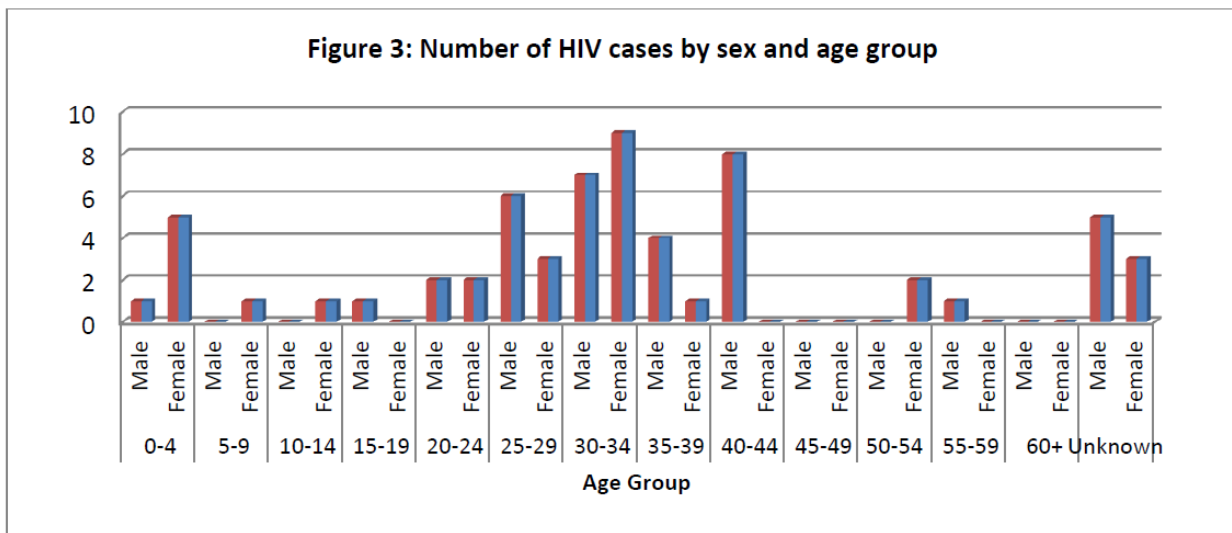
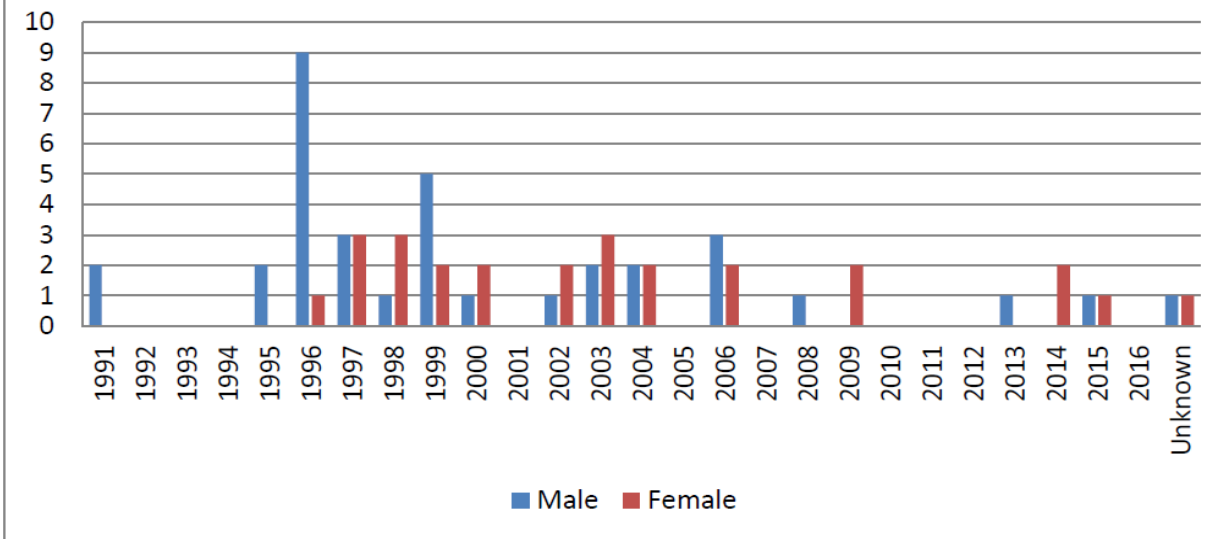


Figure 2: Number of HIV cases by year



Description	All	15-24 years	25+ years
% of pregnant women attending ANC with a reactive syphilis serology	2.4	2.7	2.3
Number of women attending ANC services who tested positive for syphilis	48	21	27
Denominator Number of ANC attendees who were tested for syphilis	1970	770	1200

In 2015, the actual number of maternal deaths in Kiribati is quite low due to the small population and low number of live births annually. The maternal mortality ratio was 90 per 100 000 births, and infant and under-five mortality rates were 44 and 56 per 1000 live births, respectively. High levels of neonatal mortality and malnutrition are also central concerns. Other major health problems include the prevalence of communicable. (Kiribati Development Plan 2016) With this great achievement, maternal care is the most essential parts by which a mom had to take care of every necessity of embryo, this would include the health, medical check-up and tender care after and before delivery.

The Government however had to update facilities and other instruments that would provide benefits to these target people, the health of the mother had to be much ensured in order to maintain and secure the one she carry. With proper facilities and other traditional means would guarantee the safety of both the mother and the child before, during and after birth.

The Government has been working hard by seeking foreign donors to ensure that the safety of the mother and the baby is safeguarded. Though, the data showed that the impact was not huge, it still gave satisfaction that the Ministry of Health activities such as Awareness phases and building staff capacity had made a difference to the life of the child and the mother despite the lack of better tools that are needed to improve the health of women and child.

The health challenges for Kiribati are stark and entrenched. These challenges are across both Communicable (CDs) and Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) which remain significant threats to

the lives, wellbeing and the productivity of I-Kiribati. While progress has been made in service delivery, indicators continue to remain unacceptable across a number of areas.

The recent increase in rates of reported NCDs and nutrition related diseases makes these the leading causes of morbidity. The prevalence of diabetes in the 2015-16 STEPS Survey was 20.5%. Although data shows new cases of diabetes dropped from 1450 in 2016 to 1100 in 2017, the prevalence of diabetes is still much higher than historical levels pre-2008.

It is worth noting that a rise in NCDs is likely to impact on life expectancy; with the MHMS Strategic Plan for 2016-19 noting that the NCD incidence could slow down, or even reverse, recent improvements in life expectancy. Adult mortality rate in 2015 was 45.9 and dropped to 43.4 in 2016.

The urban areas of TUC and BTC, both in South Tarawa, have registered the highest cases of diabetes and hypertension (Figure 5.10), likely reflecting the high availability of convenient, high salt and high sugar foods. As further background, the total number of cases with more than three risk factors in developing NCDs has increased from 79% in 2004-06 to 83.6% in 2015-16. Tobacco use is also high, with around 67% of adult men and 37% of adult women regular users of tobacco.

Maternal and Child health

While policy measures are being implemented through the Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child and Adolescence Health (RMNCAH) program, high population growth remains a significant development concern. The total fertility rate remains above three children per woman (TFR of 3.5 in 2017) and there is a high prevalence of STIs, with a study in 2004 showing around 15 percent of pregnant women were infected. At the end of 2010, Kiribati had a cumulative total of 54 HIV/AIDS cases, of which 24 were known to have died.

However, the primary concern relates to child mortality. A comparative analysis of child mortality measures across the Pacific Island Countries at different age groups shows Kiribati to have the highest under five mortality rate in the Pacific (excluding Papua New Guinea). 43

Figure 5.13 Under five, Infant and Neonatal Mortality Rates in the Pacific, 2015

Source: UNICEF

Infant mortality rate ranged between 34 and 41 per 1,000 live births during 2010 to 2013, falling to 26 in 2017. The main causes of death were pneumonia, prematurity, and birth asphyxia. Neonatal Mortality was 10.2 per 1,000 in 2015 and increased to 11 in 2017. The Under 5 mortality rates have improved slightly, falling from 52 per 1000 live births in 2012 to 44 per 1000 live births in 2017.

The maternal mortality rate rose from 125 per 100,000 live births in 2010 to 151 in 2014, and to 179.3 in 2016. However, annual variation in maternal mortality should be assessed in the context of the volatility that a small number of cases can introduce (for example, four maternal deaths were recorded in 2015).

Malnutrition is a persistent health concern among children and adults in Kiribati. Malnutrition is a significant risk factor for other conditions, with 38 percent of males and 54 percent of females aged 20 years and over being classified as obese in 2008. At the same time, under-nutrition is a significant problem among children; the 2009 DHS found that close to one quarter of children are underweight or severely underweight. Improvement is occurring however, in 2010 the percentage of new-born infants weighing less than 2500 grams at birth was 22 percent but by 2016 this percentage had dropped to 6.2. While recent improvements have been seen, improper and inadequate consumption of nutritious diets, and high consumption of foods which are high in fat, sugar, and salt, remain contributing factors to NCD and malnutrition rates.

The recent graduation from GAVI was supplemented by transitional funding from Australia, with the Government of Kiribati taking up this responsibility in 2018. Immunization is offered to all newborns and infants, but immunization records for children under five-year olds showed a drop in coverage for measles from 89.2% in 2015 to 82.8% in 2016. Recent efforts have improved this 92.2% in 2017.

Health Institutions - Service Availability and Accessibility

The health care facilities that are available in Kiribati consist of three different settings: Hospitals (4), Island Health Centers (21) and Village Clinics/ Dispensaries (106). Visits to households for certain individual health cases are undertaken by health staff, including the distribution of TB and Leprosy medications. Medical service and medicines are free in Kiribati. 44

Medical doctor availability has improved from 4.1 per 10,000 in 2015 to 6.0 per 10,000 in 2017. The total number of available health personnel (which includes medical doctor, dentists, assistants, nurses and midwives) increased from 39 per 10,000 in 2015 to 42 per 10,000 in 2017. The vast majority (71 percent) of medical staff are nurses.

In terms of health facilities, the New Zealand Government is the major development partner working in the Health infrastructure space. The Tugaru hospital in Tarawa is the main hospital facility in Kiribati, and was originally constructed with the assistance of Japan.

The 2016-19 MHMS Strategic Plan

The above health situation confirms the unhealthy position of Kiribati in relation to the rest of the world. Despite some positive progress, Kiribati remains one of the lowest performers in health indicators among Pacific Island Countries. This is acknowledged in both the KDP (that has set targets and indicators to address the issues) and in the MHMS's Strategic Plan 2016-2019, that concurrently identified six strategic objectives:

1. Strengthen initiatives to reduce the prevalence of risk factors for NCDs, and to reduce morbidity, disability and mortality from NCDs.
2. Increase access to and use of high quality, comprehensive family planning services, particularly for vulnerable populations including women whose health and wellbeing will be at risk if they become pregnant.
3. Improve maternal, newborn and child health.

4. Prevent the introduction and spread of communicable diseases, strengthen existing control programs and ensure Kiribati is prepared for any future outbreaks.
5. Address gaps in health service delivery and strengthen the pillars of the health system.
6. Improve access to high quality and appropriate health care services for victims of gender-based violence, and services that specifically address the needs of youth.

Maternal and child health were combined into a single objective under the RMNCAH to improve coordination between maternal and child health, reflecting a key area for improvement under the review of Kiribati Child Survival Strategy 2008–2012.

The sixth objective was identified as a priority issue for the next four years. Strategies relating to gender equality are included in the KDP under KPA 5 on governance, and gender-based violence is considered in the results matrix for this KPA. The needs and health issues of youth are considered in various parts of the KDP including in relation to health (STIs and HIV) and governance (empowerment, involvement and participation).

The MHMS Strategic Plan 2016-19 emphasizes the importance of relationships, partnerships and inter-sectoral coordination and collaboration. The Ministry has relationships with key local partners, including other Kiribati government departments and agencies, NGOs, and community-based groups. It also has relationships with numerous bi-lateral and international development partners. The Plan also promotes the use of the Health Sector Coordinating Committee as the main avenue to create dialogue with key partners, share MHMS progress on implementation of priority interventions, monitor spending, and determine needed assistance from development partners

The Ministry partners with NGOs to execute a number of activities to contribute to achieving goals and targets. The Kiribati Family Health Association is an active partner of the Ministry and is mandated under its constitution to focus on Family Health and the core function of women health-check services (for cancer). KFHA operates a mobile check-up and lab service, and does community and outer island outreach programs in this area. Furthermore, in partnership with the Kiribati Red Cross Society (KRCS) under its WASH, Disaster Management and First Aid programs, significant health improvements have been achieved at the community level. In addition, the Youth Division of MWYSSA, through the RMNCAH program has mobilized youth registered with the Ministry to undertake required basic health surveys, community outreach programs, and more.

MHMS also partners with Kiribati Community Health Organization (KCHO), a national CSO overarching smaller NGOs and community groups and representing them

in higher-level national and international meetings, workshops and conferences. KCHO is an active partner to the MHMS in advocating on health issues and challenges, empowering smaller community groups to understand their roles and cause in health-related interventions, and to create understanding and ownership in various development aspects of the KPAs and SDGs. An initiative from the KCHO to eliminate open defecation is a pilot project to construct WHO and MHMS recommended pit toilets in every household within the community. The project is well supported and co-monitored by the MHMS and UNICEF as part of the national WASH program. UNICEF provided technical assistance and sato pans to provide low cost sanitation options in the communities.

UNICEF has been a consistent partner and supporter for Kiribati Immunization programs for children, supporting also the Pharmacy, capacity building for nurses, amongst others. UNICEF has also supported the MHMS and Health Promotion Team in enhancing the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) standards in the clinics in some islands, as well as rehabilitated 22 WASH facilities. With UNFPA, UN Women, UNDP, and the WHO, MHMS is benefiting from joint programs such as the RMNCAH. Close support by national staff of the UN Agencies at the UN Joint Presence have assisted with project acquittals and reporting and capacity building of project staff in the Ministry. Kiribati's traditional bilateral donors are New Zealand and Australia, both of whom are actively supporting the MHMS in a wide range of areas alongside significant financial and technical support also being provided from Japan and Taiwan.

For strengthened coordination of this support, the MHMS brings together donor and ministry/NGO partners to an annual National Health Forum. Through the Health Steering Committee, there have been better and closer working relationships that have enabled more effective monitoring, evaluation, and implementation of the programs supported by the development partners.

13. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to improve education outcomes and skills for women and girls?

- Taken measures to increase girls' access to, retention in and completion of education, technical and vocational education and training (TVET) and skills development programmes
- Strengthened educational curricula to increase gender-responsiveness and eliminate bias, at all levels of education
- Provided gender equality and human rights training for teachers and other education professionals
- Promoted safe, harassment-free and inclusive educational environments for women and girls

- Increased access to skills and training in new and emerging fields, especially STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) and digital fluency and literacy
- Ensured access to safe water and sanitation services and facilitated menstrual hygiene management especially in schools and other education/training settings
- Strengthened measures to prevent adolescent pregnancies and to enable adolescent girls to continue their education in the case of pregnancy and/or motherhood
- Other

(Please refer to Education Para in Section 1 for more on education)

Gender equality and disability and social inclusion considerations were mainstreamed into the principles underpinning the Kiribati Education Act (2014) including the principle of inclusive education and that a child of compulsory school age or above school age including those with a disability must, where practicable, be enrolled and attend a school. Key sections explicitly refer to several gender equality considerations including: an emphasis on school safety and security; and requirements for the immediate student suspension for the use of violence or threats of violence, sexual harassment or indecent assault. In addition the Act states that; a school may not exclude a student on the basis of a student's disability; school rules must be "applied without discrimination on the basis of a student's sex, religion, race or disability"; and that pregnancy or status as a parent is no longer grounds for disciplinary action (i.e. it is now illegal to expel or suspend pregnant girls or young mothers from attending school).

In the past, pregnant girls were automatically expelled while the boyfriend remained in school. Under this law, pregnant girls have remained in school to complete their education.

All school upgrades to date addressed the need for accessible, adequate and separate toilets for boys and girls including design considerations for girls and boys to ensure adequate privacy and separation of the individual facilities.

The Pacific Partnership to End Violence against Women and Girls (PPEVAWG) brings together governments, civil society organisations, communities and other partners to promote gender equality, prevent violence against women and girls (VAWG), and increase access to quality response services for survivors.

The programme is funded primarily by the European Union (EU) with targeted support from the Australian Government. The implementing partners are UN Women, the Pacific Community (SPC) and the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS). The Pacific Partnership runs from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2021. SPC, led by its Regional Rights Resource Team (RRRT) working in collaboration with the Educational Quality and Assessment Programme (EQAP) and the Social Development Programme (SDP), is responsible for the implementation of Outcome 1: Enhanced formal and informal education on gender equality and prevention of violence against women and girls.

The aim is to contribute towards shaping children and youth's notions and awareness of human rights and responsibilities, gender equality, social inclusion and ending violence against women and girls in their communities primarily in three countries: Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands and Tuvalu. Activities under this Outcome should lead to the following: 1. Educational

curricula, standards, resources and programmes addressing human rights, gender equality and EVAWG are developed and integrated into formal and non-formal education. 2. Individuals supported through formal and non-formal education are more aware of how to promote human rights, gender equality and EVAWG.

The Ministry of Education is the key implementing agency for Social Citizenship Education (SCE) under the PPEVAWG project. Kiribati Teachers College (KTC) lecturers and assistant lecturers, as well as school principals and other MOE divisions are being trained around SCE since Nov 2018.

SCE emphasises those social rights and obligations necessary to be part of, and enjoy equal opportunities, benefits and status in, a community. It refers to active, informed and responsible citizens who know their human rights and responsibilities, practice gender equality, non-discrimination and inclusion, eschew violence, are concerned about the welfare of others, and are willing to contribute to the development of the country. The programme adopts a contextualised, participatory and country-driven approach. It recognises that ideas of human rights and responsibilities, gender equality and social inclusion need to be contextualised so that they are linked to and draw upon the strength of Pacific cultural and religious values and understandings. The methodology is learner centred and draws on activity-based learning methods that nurture respectful constructive dialogue and critical thinking rooted in teachers' and children's own experiences and knowledge

A package of holistic support activities comprises the social citizenship education programme in schools. 1. Curriculum mapping, scoping and sequencing 2. Teaching and learning resources 3. Teacher training and mentoring 4. Piloting the program 5. Assessment for learning and refinement 6. Gender mainstreaming support

CRPD report, para 152;

The MEHR *Disability Inclusive Policy 2015-2020* requires employers and educational institutions to provide employment and vocational training services which are accessible to people with disabilities. Individual examples are beginning to be reported; for example, the paid employment of a KSCCSN student who is blind by the ANZ Bank in 2018.

Inclusive education Act:

The GoK is committed to achieve an inclusive education system at all levels and the potential for lifelong learning for all. Significant work has been undertaken to improve the access to, and participation in, education for I-Kiribati people living with a disability.

The rights of people with disabilities have been mainstreamed throughout the principles outlined in the Kiribati Education Act (2014). These include the principle of free and compulsory

education for all students until the end of junior secondary school (JSS) and that a child with a disability must, where practicable, be enrolled and attend a school.

The Act states that a school may not exclude a student on the basis of a disability; the Minister may establish centres for special education; and school rules must be "applied without discrimination on the basis of a student's sex, religion, race or disability". Disability inclusion is also explicitly referred to in the Kiribati Ministry of Education's Education Sector Strategic Plan (2016-19), the Government's Inclusive Education Policy (2015) and its associated Implementation Plan which outlines the delivery of a range of activities to promote inclusive education.

Education Act, 2013 s19:

19. Provision for students with special educational needs

- (1) In this section –
'principle of inclusive education' means the principle that a child of compulsory school age with a disability or is above the school compulsory age, must, where practicable, be enrolled in and attend a school, and be given the opportunity to participate together with the other students of the school in the education and extra-curricular activities offered by the school.
- (2) A child of compulsory school age with a disability or is above the school compulsory age, must not be excluded from access to free primary and junior secondary education on the basis of the disability or age.
- (3) The Minister, acting in accordance with the advice of the Cabinet, may establish centres for special education for children of compulsory school age with disabilities, or children above the school compulsory age

Freedom from violence, stigma and stereotypes

Critical areas of concern:

- D. Violence against women
- I. Human rights of women
- J. Women and the media
- L. The girl child

14. In the last five years, which forms of violence against women and girls, and in which specific contexts or settings, have you prioritized for action?

Intimate partner violence/domestic violence, including sexual violence and marital rape

- Sexual harassment and violence in public places, educational settings and in employment
- Violence against women and girls facilitated by technology (e.g. cyberviolence, online stalking)
- Femicide/Feminicide
- Violence against women in politics
- Child, early and forced marriages
- Female genital mutilation
- Other harmful practices
- Trafficking in women and girls
- Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

15. What actions has your country prioritized in the last five years to address violence against women and girls?

- Introduced or strengthened violence against women laws, and their enforcement and implementation
- Introduced, updated or expanded national action plans on ending violence against women and girls
- Introduced or strengthened measures to increase women's access to justice (e.g. establishment of specialist courts, training for the judiciary and police, protection orders, redress and reparations, including for femicide cases)
- Introduced or strengthened services for survivors of violence (e.g. shelters, help lines, dedicated health services, legal, justice service, counselling, housing)
- Introduced or strengthened strategies to prevent violence against women and girls (e.g. in the education sector, in the media, community mobilization, work with men and boys)
- Monitoring and evaluation of impact, including evidence generation and data collection, including regarding particular groups of women and girls
- Introduced or strengthened measures for improving the understanding of causes and consequences of violence against women among those responsible for implementing measures on ending violence against women and girls
- Other

Office of the Peoples Lawyer (OPL's) Community legal education - Improving peoples understanding on the rule of law and strengthening processes and capacity to deliver the same.

Community legal education is an integral part of most legal aid organization. OPL has wide insights in carrying out this service and in consistently educating the public on legal issues. The problem however is that it has very limited resources to do this.

In spite of this, OPL has taken extra steps to educate the public on legal matters via media, utilizing the Kiribati National Broadcasting Authority so called Nimaua Akea (5-0) program. Members of the public enjoyed using this live program very often interacting with the national broadcasting authority

OPL's Training on the Family Peace Act, Human Rights Law & Practice, led by RRRT in Nov 2017. Objectives: Discuss gender and human rights law and their link to ending violence against women through the implementation of the Family Peace Act; Analyze procedure, evidence and remedies in the Family Peace Act using human rights and gender lenses; Discuss, develop and apply learning tools and activities suitable for the facilitation of topics for community-based workshops around the Family Peace Act and human rights generally.

Human Rights & Faith Based Organisations (FBO's) Action To Support Implementation Of Te Rau N Te Mwenga Act (Family Peace Act):

An initiative arising from a consultation with FBOs convened in Tarawa (Nov 2017) by the RRRT, to discuss human rights and Christian lenses, the common values required for positive faith based support for the Te Rau n Te Mwenga Act implementation and awareness raising; Establish and develop strong partnership with government and other key stakeholders and set out national framework, guiding principles and initiatives on faith based action to end violence against women.

MOJ has engaged FBOs on Tarawa in an ongoing dialogue to support and strengthen the implementation of the FPA from common ground between human rights-based and faith-based approaches to ending violence against women and set a platform for marrying these two approaches to support the implementation of Te Rau n te Mwenga Act. The consultation participants agreed that principles and cultural values that are aligned to non-discrimination, equality, human dignity, safety and security of the person; access to justice, duty of care, love, peace and fullness of life were common to both human rights and faith-based approaches and could underpin this work going forward.

An inter-faith mechanism for the support of the FPA implementation will be established. (Please refer to Section 1 on EVAW para for more details on EVAW programmes)

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

16. What strategies has your country used in the last five years to prevent violence against women and girls?

- Public awareness raising and changing of attitudes and behaviours**
- Work in primary and secondary education, including comprehensive sexuality education
- Grassroots and community-level mobilization**
- Shifting the representation of women and girls in the media

- Working with men and boys
- Perpetrator programmes
- Other

1. Kiribati Respectful Relationship Program.

- ❖ Development of the Kiribati Respectful Relationship program was funded and supported from DFAT with the amount of \$41,445.00 AUD. The Respectful Relationship package is a primary prevention program and was part of the Eliminating of Gender Based Violence program (ESGBV) Project Program. It's also one of the key pillars and priorities in preventing of violence against women and girls. The Program will integrate in the school curriculum to teach year 9 level and implemented in 2020. Development of the Respectful Relationships and Primary Prevention Package is forms part of a Whole of School Approach in prevention violence against women and girls. The package will teach students the skills to build respectful relationships, create a safe and equal environment and to demonstrate appropriate and respectful behavior to students.
- ❖ Through the ESGBV Program, the awareness about Gender Based Violence has been integrated into the school curriculum for year 3 and 4 such as providing reading books on Gender. Training of basic counselling skills has been carried out in 2013 and 2014 and a school wellbeing and counselling good practice guideline has been developed and used.
- ❖ The program will targeting the young people new generation. The ESGBV project through the Women Development Division within the Ministry of Women, Youth and Social Affairs will work in collaboration with the Ministry of Education to address this issues.
- ❖ The program aim to address the root cause of Violence (Gender Inequality), Promote Gender Equality, Respectful Relationships between boys and girls and prevent sexual assaults in school.
- ❖ The Government of Kiribati through the Ministry of Women, Youth and Social Affairs have learnt that addressing violence against women should targeted the young new generation that they will grow up with new understanding and able to create lasting changes in individual and community attitudes, and to increase acceptance that violence in all its forms is inappropriate within family and community relationship.

2. 16 Days of Activism Program

- ❖ The 16 Days of Activism celebrated for the first time in Kiribati in 2008 with the support of the United Nation and non-governmental organizations. These advocacy activities have contributed towards increasing public awareness around violence against women as a human rights violation. The Ministry of Women, Youth and Social Affairs have work together with non-governmental organizations and private sectors to sustain the program and run campaign every year throughout Kiribati Islands start from 25 of November to 10 December, Human Right Day.

- ❖ In 2017 to 2018 the program was funded and supported from Essential Services Program (ESP), DFAT, Kiribati Government and the fundraising from members of the committee. The campaign was aim to raise awareness on domestic violence and human rights of preventing future violence. Challenging people to speak out and think about their actions and encourage men to take a personal stance against violence.
- ❖ During the 16 days of activism there have many activities/awareness conducted by members of the committee such as:
 - Roadshow
 - Distribution of Pamphlet and posters
 - Gender in Respectful Relationship in Sport
 - Sunday combine service
 - White Ribbon Day
 - Consultation to communities
 - Candle light night march
 - Media and Radio program
 - Drama competition
 - Parenting program
 - Talk back show

Working with men and boys

Kiribati Male Advocate – (K-MBC) and Male Advocate

- ❖ During the 16 Days of Activism in 2012 one of the initiative program was identifying Males champions in the outer Islands and Tarawa. The program was one of the priority area under the ESGBV Shared Implementation plan. The purpose of the program was to raise awareness on ESGBV and work with men to address GBV (Ref: ESGBV Policy)
- ❖ Under the SafeNet project program within the Women Development Division, the Kiribati Men’s Behavioral Program was set up in 2016 and funded from the World Bank. This project involved working with male champions/advocates in building their capacity in training men to change their violentbehaviours especially In 2019 the UNFPA have continue to fund such program with the amount of \$130,724.00 AUD. Members of the K-MBC has been selected and well trained. The program will be carry out to 13 Islands from 2019 to 2020 for the establishment of the program in the outer Island and conducting Training of Trainers to members (TOT).
- ❖ The aims of the program is to work and help men to change their behavior and norms from the negative to the positive. A one week TOT on Men’s behavioral change was conducted and then the training was rolled out to different communities on South Tarawa and Betio

(Please refer to Section 1 para on EVAW)

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

17. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to prevent and respond to violence against women and girls facilitated by technology (online sexual harassment, online stalking, non-consensual sharing of intimate images)?

- Introduced or strengthened legislation and regulatory provisions
- Implemented awareness raising initiatives targeting the general public and young women and men in educational settings
- Worked with technology providers to set and adhere to good business practices
- Other

(Refer to EAW Para in section 1)

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

18. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to address the portrayal of women and girls, discrimination and/or gender bias in the media?

- Enacted, strengthened and enforced legal reforms to combat discrimination and/or gender bias in the media
- Introduced binding regulation for the media, including for advertising
- Supported the media industry to develop voluntary codes of conduct
- Provided training to media professionals to encourage the creation and use of non-stereotypical, balanced and diverse images of women and girls in the media
- Promoted the participation and leadership of women in the media
- Established or strengthened consumer protection services to receive and review complaints about media content or gender-based discrimination/bias in the media
- Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

19. Has your country taken any action in the last five years specifically tailored to address violence against specific groups of women facing multiple forms of discrimination?

YES/NO

CRPD report:

The CRPD provided a unifying framework for the legislative and policy development that over the last ten years has begun to address the systemic discrimination faced by people with disabilities. Reform has been reflected in the Employment Ordinance (2008), Education Bill (2013), Kiribati Building Code (2015), the Education Act (2013), the Inclusive Education Policy (2015), Kiribati Development Plan 2015–2016 and 2016-2019, and the Employment and Industrial Relations Code (2016).

In addition the GoK will release its first strategic disability response - the Kiribati National Disability Policy and Action Plan 2018 – 2021 (KNDP) in 2018. The policy was driven by people with disabilities working with government, donor partners and community organisations and provides an overarching vehicle to coordinate, drive, monitor and report on the progress of initiatives nationally progressing the rights of people with disabilities.

GoK is in the process of revising its existing *bench book* which includes a guideline for magistrates on how to effectively make concrete judgements on domestic violence cases involving women, girls and people with disabilities. The first human rights training on the *Te Rau N T Mwenga Act* (2014) (also called the *Family Peace Act*) and their role was conducted in October of 2016 for all 130 outer island magistrates. At this stage of the CRPD implementation there are no other explicit strategies to ensure reasonable accommodations are made to facilitate the participation of children, young people or adults with other than psychosocial disabilities in any aspect of the justice system whether as victim, perpetrator or witness.

Women with disability in prisons/female inmates

One-day mental health awareness training has been conducted to help ensure the rights of people with psychosocial disabilities are protected within the justice and prison system. A full-time registered nurse with mental health experience will commence work in the prison system in early 2018. Plans to introduce a mental health screening tool will also progress in 2018 with additional health resources.

Critical areas of concern:

- G. Women in power and decision-making
- H. Institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women
- I. Human rights of women
- J. Women and the media
- L. The girl child

20. What actions and measures has your country taken in the last five years to promote women's participation in public life and decision-making?

- Reformed constitution, laws and regulations that promote women's participation in politics, especially at decision-making level, including electoral system reform, adoption of temporary special measures, such as quotas, reserved seats, benchmarks and targets
- Implemented capacity building, skills development and other measures

- Encouraged the participation of minority and young women, including through sensitization and mentorship programmes
- Provided opportunities for mentorship, training in leadership, decision-making, public speaking, self-assertion, political campaigning
- Taken measures to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish violence against women in politics
- Collected and analyzed data on women's political participation, including in appointed and elected positions
- Other

The Kiribati Deaf Association (KDA) was registered in 2017 and is beginning to take a leadership role in promoting the deaf community in Kiribati.

The KNDP (PA1) outlines the government's commitment to incrementally reform Kiribati legislative structures to comply with the principles and articles of the CRPD. This includes the expectation that new disability legislation will be developed by 2021 to *inter alia* protect and promote the right of people with disabilities to engage in all aspects of Kiribati political and public life.

Female Elected Leaders Training (FELT – Oct 2017) coordinated by KILGA and funded by Canada Fund. The main aim of FELT is to provide an encouraging environment for female Council leaders to participate in Parliamentary and Councils elections and become policy makers for their islands and Kiribati. There were 10 female elected leaders altogether.

Objectives: To teach female Mayors and Councillors basic story-writing skills to allow for publication of Women Leaders Stories; To empower elected female Mayors and Councillors to become advocates for the rights of women, children and PWDs; To foster interest by locally-elected females in local and national politics thus generating interest by and incentives to other females; To build the capacity of female elected Councillors to make them more competent and influential policy makers.

The Maneaba ni Maungatabu provides training for Women MPs and it is also part of the Maneaba ni Maungatabu strategic plan, to facilitate support to women MPs, to work closely with the current cohort of women MPs to support their professional development, in particular, by identifying and facilitating specific opportunities available for them through partnerships with UN Women, UNDP, the Australian Government Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development Programme and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) Pacific Women Parliamentary Partnership (PWPP).

The Pacific Women Parliamentary Partnership (PWPP) is one of the most important and effective programmes for Women MPs was coordinated by the Australian Parliament's Parliamentary Skills Centre, with the financial support of the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development initiative. The PWPP Programme provides networking and professional development opportunity for Pacific Women Parliamentarians. It allows them to share lessons learnt in leadership, decision making, public

speaking and many more. They have also shared how good leadership involves demonstrating concrete achievements, knowledge of laws and policy, and confidence.

An annual commonwealth Day week has been held every March since 2008, in cooperation with the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association & with the assistance from UNDP. Activities in the programme include annual Youth Parliament. Participants for such activities were all young men and women and to be gender balance. Target groups were Junior and Senior Secondary Schools participants to become Members of Parliament for this Youth Parliament Programme, which runs for half a day and a three weeks preparation time.

Challenges:

One of the common challenges for Women Pacific candidates is the need for support during campaigns. Many women are interested and wanting to become Member of Parliaments, but they lack the capacity in terms of getting fellow women to support them and financial support. This is one of the main challenges discussed between Women MPs all over the region. Therefore, there is a need to generate funds for campaigning for example establishing a common fund for women candidates in the Pacific and building awareness of how women build funds for campaigning.

Youth Employment Select Committee:

The Youth employment select committee was recently established by the Maneaba ni Maungatabu this year, on top of its aim goal of exploring the youth unemployment generally, it is also mandated to examine the impact of health-related issues in causing unemployment, specifically teenage pregnancy. The Maneaba ni Maungatabu notes that pregnancy is no longer a ground to restrict a female participation in the education system (Education act 2013 s41(2)), however the Select Committee will examine if it still impacts the employment of young female in work force.

With the establishment of the Ministry of Women, Youth, Sport & Social Affairs, the women's participation in public life and decision-making underlined a positive contribution of women's ideas for a better society. By improving women's participation at the working place or at their community, these are the key factors that contribute to the success and improvement of women's engagement but also enabling them to understand their full worth to participate at the community, church and national level to make decision for the society

1. Establishment of the Ministry of Women where there is a recognition of women capability to involve in decision making and public life to create a peaceful and safe society. For example, encouraging women to pursue their education either informal or formal (taking courses at the Kiribati Institution of Technology or empowerment training on sewing and handicraft, etc). For example, the Kiribati Institution of Technology reported through its educational program, women and girls that are interested in carpentry or electricity are allowed but have to compete with men for that course or otherwise pay their own fee if they failed the entrance exam. Another improvement for women to in the public and decision making arena has shown from the Summary Gender Indicators (extract from the 2015 data) that women are access to civil services or participating in the church or lead their homes (pg 6 & 7 GEWD Policy, 2019)

2. Including women representatives from women groups to participate and engage in making policies as well as implementers for such policies. According to the Kiribati VNR 2018, it is now become a norm that gender parity for decision making bodies such as Boards of Public Companies, the Public Service Commission and interview panels for civil recruitment (pg 60). Not only that but when policies developed for the public interest, women groups either church women groups or NGOs such as AMAK (Aia Maea Ainen Kiribati) are consulted also by the responsible ministry. As it highlighted in the Kiribati VNR 2018, Kiribati gradually improved in ensuring that women have the same privilege with men in all levels of decision making in political, economic and public life (page 58). Furthermore, strengthening and working collaboratively with women groups (NGO and Church women groups) to achieve the government goals is highly recommended because these women groups are known as the government right hand to fulfill its obligations to the public
3. Development of Policies and reviewing of Acts to accommodate women's interest and needs in all areas where necessary. For example, KV 20, Disaster Act 1993 review, Te Rau n Te Mwenga Act, ESGBV Policy, etc where women's ideas are taken into consideration

Aims and scope of measures taken through reviewing, monitoring, supporting, improving policies and acts for transparency and accountability. For example, reviewing the Incorporated Societies Acts to strengthen NGOs and support Faith Base Organization (women church group as well) because they are the most effective and active groups to work within their community to assist in fulfilling the government obligations, CEDAW to monitor the government whether it is fulfilling its roles and responsibilities, ESGBV for action against violence towards women, etc.

Impact evaluation: The government recognizes the importance of partnership with agencies and other non - government bodies to fulfill its goals and aims. Though involving women groups in planning and decision making there is more to be done on ESGBV policy, Te Rau n Te Mwenga Act, Kiribati Constitution, etc to achieve gender equality in all aspect of life whether at work, family, home and in the community. (page 63 Kiribati VNR 2018)

Lesson learnt: The KDP mid-review need to focus on ensuring the alignment of the KDP and UNDAF to make sure that the S

DG's are well integrated into the national system (page 7 VNR 2018) Apart from that, gender equality is far from achieved because our Policies and Acts even our National Condition of Service had restrictions on women rights

Links tor further information: MWYSSA website, MFED website, OB office

21. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to increase women's access to expression and participation in decision-making in the media, including through information and communication technologies (ICT)?

- Strengthened the provision of formal and technical vocational education and training (TVET) in media and ICTs, including in areas of management and leadership
- Taken measures to enhance access, affordability and use of ICTs for women and girls (e.g. free wifi hubs, community technology centers)
- Introduced regulations to advance equal pay, retention and career advancement of women within the media and ICT field
- Collaborated with employers in the media and ICT field to improve internal policies and hiring practices on a voluntary basis
- Provided support to women's media networks and organizations
- Other

Attention to the need to ensure accessibility of information is reflected in the National Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Policy in draft phase II at the time of reporting. It highlights the need for widespread public access to internet services, including access for disabled persons. Challenges to achieving inclusive ICT service delivery across Kiribati are noted as there are currently no legislative mechanisms with which to hold ICT providers accountable for their services. KNDP PA5 cites action to enhance access to information and communication technology particularly for people with vision, hearing and intellectual impairment and in relation to health care needs and services, education, employment, and community events such as sports, church and cultural performances.(CRPD)

Communications Act 2013

Objectives:

One of the objectives of a Communication Act 2013 is Providing regulation that is proportionate to the end to be achieved and non-discriminatory. Section 114: Offence Related to Child Pornography. Every Person who knowingly:

- Produces child pornography for the purpose of its distribution through a computer
- Offence or make available pornography though a computer
- Contributes or transmits child pornography through a computer
- Procures child pornography through a computer for oneself or for another person
- Possesses child pornography in a computer or on a computer – data storage medium, commits an offence

Penalty: A person who commits an offence under this part shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$10,000 and to a term imprisonment not exceeding two years.

Challenges in relation to the Act:

- The Communications Act 2013 section on online sexual harassment, online stalking, non-consensual sharing of intimate images is not very compressive, compared to Regional Acts in relation to the mentioned issue.
- At the moment, no one has been convicted or prosecuted according to online sexual harassment and online stalking yet as there are not enough resources, tools and officers to categorise and prove commitment of online crimes.

- There is a need to review and amend the Communications Act 2013 especially the section on online crimes for identification of gap and improve the section.

Way Forward:

- Ministry of Communication is working with Attorney General Office on the amendment of the section on cybercrime.

General Achievements:

- Established the first Online Child protection working group - Principal Social Welfare officer also a member of the working group'
- Carried out a Child Protection Assessment Kiribati in 2012 which focuses on Cybersecurity and Child Online Protection.

22. Do you track the proportion of the national budget that is invested in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women (gender-responsive budgeting)?

YES/NO

If YES, what is the approximate proportion of the national budget that is invested in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women?

Please provide information on the specific areas in which these resources have been invested as well as reflections on achievements and challenges encountered in making budgets gender-responsive.

23. As a donor country, does your country track the proportion of official development assistance (ODA) that is invested in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women (gender-responsive budgeting)?

YES/NO

Not applicable

If YES, please provide further information on the methodology, the scope of tracking, past trends and current proportion of investments.

24. Does your country have a valid national strategy or action plan for gender equality?

25.

YES/NO, Only a Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Policy (2019-2022). Implementation plan to be done in October 2019.

If YES, please list the name of the plan and the period it covers, its priorities, funding and alignment with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the targets under SDG 5.

If YES, has the national action plan been costed and have sufficient resources been allocated to its achievement in the current budget?

26. Does your country have an action plan and timeline for implementation of the recommendations of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (if a State party), or of the recommendations of the Universal Periodic Review or other United Nations human rights mechanisms that address gender inequality/discrimination against women?

YES/NO

If YES, please provide some highlights of the action plans and timeline for implementation.

27. Is there a national human rights institution in your country?

YES/NO, only the Kiribati National Human Rights Taskforce but lately had national consultations and most agreed to have one established.

If YES, does it have a specific mandate to focus on gender equality or discrimination based on sex/gender?

If YES, please provide up to three examples of how the NHRI has promoted gender equality. (2 pages max.)

Peaceful and inclusive societies

Critical areas of concern:

- E. Women and armed conflict
- I. Human rights of women
- L. The girl child

28. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to build and sustain peace, promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development and implement the women, peace and security agenda)? N/A

- Adopted and/or implemented a National Action Plan on women, peace and security

- Integrated women, peace and security commitments into key national and inter-ministerial policy, planning and monitoring frameworks
- Used communication strategies, including social media, to increase awareness of the women, peace and security agenda
- Increased budgetary allocations for the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda
- Taken steps to reduce excessive military expenditures and/or control the availability of armaments
- Re-allocated funds from military spending to social and economic development, including for gender equality and the empowerment of women
- Supported inclusive and gender-sensitive conflict analysis, early warning and prevention mechanisms
- Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

29. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to increase the leadership, representation and participation of women in conflict prevention, resolution, peacebuilding, humanitarian action and crisis response, at decision-making levels in situations of armed and other conflicts, and in fragile or crisis settings? N/A

- Promoted and supported women’s meaningful participation in peace processes and the implementation of peace agreements
- Promoted equal participation of women in humanitarian and crisis response activities at all levels, particularly at the decision-making level
- Integrated a gender perspective in the prevention and resolution of armed or other conflict
- Integrated a gender perspective in humanitarian action and crisis response
- Protected civil society spaces and women’s human rights defenders??????
- Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

30. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to enhance judicial and non-judicial accountability for violations of international humanitarian law and violations of the human rights of women and girls in situations of armed and other conflicts or humanitarian action and crisis response? N/A

- Implemented legal and policy reform to redress and prevent violations of the rights of women and girls

- Strengthened institutional capacities, including of the justice system and transitional justice mechanisms as applicable, during conflict and crisis response
- Strengthened capacity of security sector institutions on human rights and prevention of sexual and gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse
- Increased access of conflict-affected, refugee or displaced women to violence prevention and protection services
- Taken measures to combat illicit arms trafficking
- Taken measures to combat the production, use of and trafficking in illicit drugs
- Taken measures to combat trafficking in women and children
- Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

31. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to eliminate discrimination against and violations of the rights of the girl child?

- Taken measures to combat negative social norms and practices and increased awareness of the needs and potential of girl children
- Strengthened girls' access to quality education, skills development and training
- Tackled disadvantages in health outcomes due to malnutrition, early childbearing (e.g. anemia) and exposure to HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases
- Implemented policies and programmes to reduce and eradicate child, early and forced marriage
- Implemented policies and programmes to eliminate violence against girls, including physical and sexual violence and harmful practices
- Implemented policies and programmes to eradicate child labour and excessive levels of unpaid care and domestic work undertaken by girl children
- Promoted girls' awareness of and participation in social, economic and political life
- Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, target population, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

Environmental conservation, protection and rehabilitation

Critical areas of concern:

- I. Human rights of women
- K. Women and the environment
- L. The girl child

32. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to integrate gender perspectives and concerns into environmental policies?

- Supported women's participation and leadership in environmental and natural resource management and governance
- Strengthened evidence and/or raised awareness about gender-specific environmental and health hazards (e.g. consumer products, technologies, industrial pollution)
- Increased women's access to and control over land, water, energy, and other natural resources
- Promoted the education of women and girls in science, engineering, technology and other disciplines relating to the natural environment
- Enhanced women's access to sustainable time- and labour-saving infrastructure (e.g. access to clean water and energy) and climate-smart agricultural technology
- Taken measures to protect and preserve the knowledge and practices of women in indigenous and local communities related to traditional medicines, biodiversity and conservation techniques
- Taken steps to ensure that women benefit equally from decent jobs in the green economy
- Monitored and evaluated the impact of environmental policies and sustainable infrastructure projects on women and girls
- Other

A groundbreaking consultation was conducted at Abemama on October 2018 to enhance Food Security in the context of Global Climate Change. Participants in the consultations include full island councils, elders' group, Women, Youth and students at 4 Primary Schools, 1 JSS and 3 Senior Secondary Schools as well as members of the Co-operatives from the Fishing, Agricultural and Copra Associations. The 5-year project has US\$4.45 million dollar funding provided by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the implementing agency, UNDP, provided US\$140,000. (MELAD)

Same Consultation is conducted at Maiana Island and the representative's turnout to be more than 40 participants which also include women. In the consultation participants show interest in Agricultural activities, aquaculture, in particular milkfish farming and internal trade on local produce to South Tarawa. (MELAD)

A two weeks training was undertaken at Nonouti Island from 18 to 29 November 2017. The training was on cookery and hospitality and the total number of participants attending the training was 46 participants (37 young women and 9 young men) who came from all the different communities and villages on the island. The training was funded by the Food Security project also known as the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) project managed by MELAD with support funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) through UNDP. The training aimed to prepare the people of Nonouti to provide hospitality

services for foreign fishers of the bonefish and trevally sport fishing which is an eco-tourism initiative that is about to start in 2018. The training also serves as an opportunity to the people of Nonouti in seeking job opportunities and in terms of equipping themselves with skills and knowledge that are in line with the Kiribati Vision (KV 20) on Tourism Development. (MELAD)

Female technical officers from the Kiribati Meteorology Services completed a four-week training at the India's National Institute of Hydrology and gained skills and knowledge to monitor and use meteorology and hydrology data, for quality analysis early warning and climate information dissemination. (UNPS Review)

A good strategy to enhance women's participation and influence in planning and implementing Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management measures is to work sensitively with Women's NGOs, the wider NGO sector and in Faith Based Organizations (FBOs) to boost women's status in leadership and broader acceptance of gender equality. (KJIP)

- Strategy 1 Build a program of empowerment and leadership for women's community based organisations and community services organisations to effect system change and address attitudinal barriers amongst women to taking leadership roles.
- Strategy 2: Ensure communications programs include key gender responsive messages to encourage attitudinal and behaviour change amongst: men to discourage gender based violence, and amongst women to taken on leadership roles and around environmental management.
- Strategy 12: Enhancing the participation and resilience of vulnerable groups. Explore opportunities to develop markets and provide livelihoods and training for young people based on Kiribati cultures and traditions, in order to build resilience to climate change

Reviewed Kiribati's NAP, the Joint Implementation Plan on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management (KJIP), highlighting areas for gender inclusion. All strategies and actions in the KJIP are inclusive of vulnerable groups, considering gender, youth and children, the elderly and people with disabilities. Revised KJIP has been approved and the gender aspect adopted. (Kiribati NAP Global Network)

Civil society organizations are key vehicles for expressing community views and solving community problems. Working sensitively with Women's NGOs, the wider NGO sector and in Faith Based Organizations (FBOs) to increase women's status in leadership and broader acceptance of gender equality will be a further strategy to enhance women's participation and influence in planning and implementing CCA and DRM measures. (KJIP)

Strategy 7: Delivering appropriate education, training and awareness programs:

Ensure communications programs include key gender responsive messages to encourage attitudinal and behaviour change amongst: men to discourage gender based violence, and amongst women to taken on leadership roles and around environmental management. (KJIP)

Incorporate the consideration of risks and responses to climate change and hazards into strategic and business plans and explore options to transfer risks to third parties (micro insurance) to protect

local businesses from loss of business and/or profit due to damage caused by fire, inundations, storms, coastal erosion and tsunami. (KJIP)

No insurance coverage available for certain natural hazards i.e. erosion, loss of land, inundation and flooding (Kiribati Insurance Company). Also gaps in obtaining existing insurances (such as fire). (KJIP)

33. What actions has your country taken in the last five years to integrate gender perspectives into policies and programmes for disaster risk reduction, climate resilience and mitigation?

- Supported women's participation and leadership, including those affected by disasters, in disaster risk reduction, climate resilience and mitigation policies, programmes and projects
- Strengthened the evidence base and raised awareness about the disproportionate vulnerability of women and girls to the impact of environmental degradation and disasters
- Promoted access of women in situations of disaster to services such as relief payments, disaster insurance and compensation
- Introduced or strengthened and implemented gender-responsive laws and policies related to disaster risk reduction, climate resilience and mitigation (e.g. disaster laws addressing vulnerability of women in disaster)

Concrete examples

1. Taken steps to promote the banning of plastics initiative under the Solid Waste Management Urban Development Program Phase II.
 - a. Aim and Scope:
 - i. to reduce pollution generated on land which will end up in the ocean and will affect our marine resources
 - ii. to reduce the composition of plastic wastes and enhance the economic value of landfilling
 - iii. to ban the importation of single use shopping plastic bags, ice-bags and non-biodegradable nappies
 - iv. to encourage people to bring their own shopping bags, reuse drinking bottles and cloths for nappies
 - b. Target population: Primary schools, private sectors and local communities
 - c. Budget: Budget for under the project Solid Waste Management Urban Development Program Phase II
 - d. Impact evaluations: No evaluation has been done, however, a review on the Environment (Amendment) Act 2007 will soon take place which will enforce and

strengthen this plastic banning initiative. In the meantime, it can be seen around South Tarawa and Betio how the local communities are very active in reusing plastics for decorations, small businesses, etc...

- e. Lesson learnt: This program just started late last year. The lesson learnt is that consultations for the school plastic free initiative needs to start during school terms.
- f. Data: There were 5 primary schools involved in the School Plastic Free Initiative and the data from each school on ice-bags generation is 133,000 per year. As of now, these schools have stopped using ice-bags which amount to zero generation ice-bags.

1. Integrated Vulnerability Assessment

- a) Aim and Scope:
 - To assess vulnerabilities of islands or communities against the impact of Climate Change
 - Remediation or mitigation of the identified risks, threats and vulnerabilities can be properly budgeted and planned according to the prioritization and criticality of the island, communities and their assets.
- b) Target Population
 - Different categories – Women, Men, Youth, Oldies and Handicaps
- c) Budget – Funding under the Least Developed Country Fund – Enhancing Food Security in the face of Climate Change.
- d) Impact Evaluation:

Evaluation of this activity has not yet completed or initiated but the analysis of the information and data collected on this has produced reports for Abemama and for Nonouti only. However, there is still a need to involve different peoples with different categories as they have different issues related to the impact of CC.

e) Lessons Learnt:

The consultation with villages on the island really takes longer and may take up 1 day for each village on the island. With this, a new methodology has just trialed on Aranuka Island where representatives from villages came to one place for a workshop or consultation. This may have led to not spending much operational cost and time and to be able to collect information in just 1-2 days.

f) Data:

The data that were collected were focused on vulnerabilities related to Income Security, Food Security, Coastal Security, Security of Place, Water Security, Energy Security and Health.

Section Three: National institutions and processes

34. What is your country's current national machinery for gender equality and the empowerment of women? Please name it and describe its location within Government. (WDD)

Government efforts to progress gender equality (GE) and the empowerment of women (WE) is demonstrable through a number of changes made thus far: most notable has been the creation of the Ministry for Women in 2013 tasking the Ministry for GE and WE amongst other responsibilities for youth, sports and social welfare. Within the Ministry is the Women Development Division which plays a national role of planning and coordination, policy development and implementation, and monitoring and evaluation for women development. The Ministry as national machinery for GE & WE has made further progress with the 10-year ESGBV policy with the NAP adopted and implemented in 2011, with the 4-year SHIP developed in (...) to implement the policy. Most recent has been the approved Gender Equality and Women Development policy launched in Feb 2019.

35. Is the head of the national machinery a member of the institutional process for SDG implementation (e.g. inter-ministerial coordinating office, commission or committees)?

YES/NO

There is no national process for SDG implementation

If YES, please provide further information

The Kiribati Development Plan (KDP) 2016-2019 is closely aligned with the SDGs addressing all goals in the 6 Key Priority Areas of the plan. Government places the overall coordination of implementation, monitoring and reporting with the Development Coordination Committee (DCC) comprising of all Ministry Secretaries, playing a significant role in overseeing the KDP/SDG processes with Secretarial services provided by the National Economic Planning Office. The recent Voluntary National Report presented in 2018 to the UN General Assembly provided the Government with opportunity to review its performance on implementing the KDP for which a national SDG taskforce was established. Members of the taskforce were drawn from all key sectors and MWYSSA as national women machinery bearing also other roles for signed international conventions, as well as other national responsibilities for social welfare, youth and sports is also a member of the taskforce/committee was also selected member.

36. Are there formal mechanisms in place for different stakeholders to participate in the implementation and monitoring of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?

YES/NO - Yes

If YES,

- a) Which of the following stakeholders participate formally in national coordination mechanisms established to contribute to the implementation of the Beijing**

Declaration and Platform for Action and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?

Beijing Declaration and PfA

- Civil society organizations - y
- Women's rights organizations – n/a
- Academia and think tanks – n/a
- Faith-based organizations - y
- Parliaments/parliamentary committees - y
- Private sector - y
- United Nations system - y
- Other actors, please specify.....

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- Civil society organizations - y
- Women's rights organizations – n/a
- Academia and think tanks – n/a
- Faith-based organizations - y
- Parliaments/parliamentary committees - y
- Private sector - y
- United Nations system - y
- Other actors, please specify.....

b) Do you have mechanisms in place to ensure that women and girls from marginalized groups can participate and that their concerns are reflected in these processes?

YES/NO - No

Please provide further details about the mechanisms used. (2 pages max.)

c) Please describe how stakeholders have contributed to the preparation of the present national report.

Stakeholders from Various Government Ministries/Divisions such as Health, Police, Parliament, Social Welfare, Women's Division, Youth, Environment, Human Rights, Justice and the Kiribati Women and Children Support Centre joined the first consultation. Through 3 meetings they were asked to provide information relevant to their line of work.

Another meeting was organized with NGO reps from various women and Church groups. Other stakeholders, were visited to gather information but most opted to send their inputs by email some of which I never got.

37. Is gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls included as a key priority in the national plan/strategy for SDG implementation?

- Yes
- No
- There is no national plan/strategy for SDG implementation

Please explain.

The KDP 2016-19 takes into account various international obligations that the Government of Kiribati has assented to. These include the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Istanbul

Plan of Action, the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Framework for Pacific Regionalism.

The KDP 2016-2019 Key Priority Area (KPA) 5 is on Governance which states 2 specific strategies for GE & WE: *“Finalisation and implementation of the National Gender Equality and Women’s Development Policy.”* and *“Improvements in the economic empowerment of women through the conduct of Women’s Economic Empowerment Training and the development of a manual on Women’s Economic Empowerment for trainers.”* Under the same KPA are other related strategies: *“Continue to actively monitor the implementation and reporting of Kiribati’s obligations under ratified international conventions including ..., the Human Rights Convention, the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) ...”* and *“Execution of the Kiribati Shared Implementation Plan on eliminating Sexual and Gender Based Violence.”* (KDP 2016-2019 p 42).

Section Four: Data and statistics (NSO)

38. What are the top three areas in which your country has made most progress over the past five years when it comes to gender statistics at the national level?

- 17) Promulgated laws, regulations, or statistical programme/strategy setting out the development of gender statistics
- 18) Established an inter-agency coordination mechanism on gender statistics (e.g., technical working group, inter-agency committee)
- 19) Used more gender-sensitive data in the formulation of policy and implementation of programmes and projects
- 20) Re-processed existing data (e.g., censuses and surveys) to produce more disaggregated and/or new gender statistics

In 2017 The National Statistics Office worked in collaboration with SPC Gender Statistics Advisor Mrs Kim Robertson, in analysing 2015 Population Census to produce a gender abstract. The analysis comes with capacity building to key stakeholders on how to read and interpret key statistics that are disaggregated by sex.

Kiribati Gender Abstract can be downloaded from this website; [https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=3&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwjTwJyvpa7iAhXIfd4KHeT4BZAQFjACegQIChAL&url=https%3A%2F%2Fsdd.spc.int%2Fen%2Fnews%2Flatest-news%2F26-gender-\(hdp\)%2F158-kiribati-2017-gender-statistics-abstract&usg=AOvVaw25cTZxPvwjXsSG7ivsKgEU](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=3&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwjTwJyvpa7iAhXIfd4KHeT4BZAQFjACegQIChAL&url=https%3A%2F%2Fsdd.spc.int%2Fen%2Fnews%2Flatest-news%2F26-gender-(hdp)%2F158-kiribati-2017-gender-statistics-abstract&usg=AOvVaw25cTZxPvwjXsSG7ivsKgEU)

- 21) Conducted new surveys to produce national baseline information on specialized topics (e.g., time use, gender-based violence, asset ownership, poverty, disability)

The Kiribati National Statistics just completed the Kiribati Social Development Indicator Survey that had been built using methodologies of the MULTIPLE INDICATOR CLUSTER SURVEY(MICS UNICEF) including few modules questions from the Demographic Health Survey(DHS7). Domestic Violence Module is one of the module questionnaire inserted in the survey. This domestic violence module was adopted from Standard questionnaire developed by WHO. Information of this survey can be seen and read on MICS website; <http://mics.unicef.org>
http://mics.unicef.org/news_entries/129/FIRST-EVER-KIRIBATI-MICS-IS-PREPARING-FINAL-SURVEY-RESULTS

- 22) Improved administrative-based or alternative data sources to address gender data gaps
- 23) Produced knowledge products on gender statistics (e.g., user-friendly reports, policy briefs, research papers)
- 24) Developed a centralized web-based database and/or dashboard on gender statistics
- 25) Engaged in capacity building to strengthen the use of gender statistics (e.g., trainings, statistical appreciation seminars)

Regional Gender statistics workshop had been attended by Social Statistician and Women Division Principal at Nadi, Suva Fiji and in Bangkok in 2015, 2016 and 2017.

National Gender Statistics workshop was conducted by National Statistics office and facilitated by SPC Gender Statistics Advisor. Participants invited are key stakeholders from gender groups.

26) Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

The Kiribati National Statistics office strategized the filling of data gaps in Gender Statistics. The implementation of this commenced with the assigning of tasks to fill in data gaps for Gender Statistics. This comes with a Regional Statistical capacity building which facilitated by ADB in collaboration with SPC. The objective of the workshop is to strengthen the capacity of Statisticians and Women Division Staff on Gender Statistics's methodologies of data collection and compilation of Gender statistics indicators that are sourced by Population Census, Surveys and administrative records.

The National Statistics office then included Gender Statistics as one set of Statistical output to be released by the Social Statistics Section. started compiling set of indicators and drew set of displays and Charts that would be utilized by Women division for CEDAW reporting. Later SPC expert came over to the Country and did an analysis on 2015 Census Data. A gender abstract was obtained as the output of the analysis and showcased during the Head of Planning and Statistics in Noumea 2017.

39. Out of the following which are your country's top three priorities for strengthening national gender statistics over the next five years?

27) Design of laws, regulations, or statistical programme/strategy promoting the development of gender statistics

Statistical collection regulations and act should be revised and enforced as well. Implementing and coordinating agencies for Gender based violence survey should be assigned both to National Statistics Office and Women Divisions including Non Government Organizations that dealt with Domestic Violence cases or victims.

28) Establishment of an inter-agency coordination mechanism on gender statistics (e.g., technical working group, inter-agency committee)

29) Use more gender-sensitive data in the formulation of policy and implementation of programmes and projects

Government should enforce the utilization of gender sensitive data in formulating policies and implementing programmes and projects. Guidance in using data should come with statistical literacy capacity building by national and international experts on Gender Statistics. Regional and International training should be consistently targeting not only statisticians and women division staff but to include stakeholders from other NGOs and Kiribati Police Academy, High Court and so forth.

30) Re-processing of existing data (e.g., censuses and surveys) to produce more disaggregated and/or new gender statistics

31) Conduct of new surveys to produce national baseline information on specialized topics (e.g., time use, gender-based violence, asset ownership, poverty, disability)

32) Greater utilization and/or improvement of administrative-based or alternative data sources to address gender data gaps

The advancement of administrative data capturing system from Women Division, Kiribati Police Academy, and Health Information Unit should be improved and revised to target the quality of administrative data and fill such existed gaps. Gaps identified usually related to frontline data collectors, existed computer system, management of data and the capacity of data processors at those institutions.

33) Production of knowledge products on gender statistics (e.g., user-friendly reports, policy briefs, research papers)

34) Development of a centralized web-based database and/or dashboard on gender statistics

35) Institutionalization of users-producers' dialogues mechanisms

36) Statistical capacity building of users to increase statistical appreciation on and use of gender statistics (e.g., trainings, statistical appreciation seminars)

37) Other

Please provide a brief explanation and examples of your plans (2 pages max.).

40. Have you defined a national set of indicators for monitoring progress on the SDGs?

Yes

No

If YES, how many indicators does it include and how many of those are gender-specific²?

If YES, how many of the gender-specific indicators are additional country indicators (i.e., not part of the global SDG monitoring and indicator framework)?

Please provide the indicators in an annex

If NO, how many global gender-specific SDG indicators (list provided in Annex 1) are available in your country?

Please provide the indicators in an annex

41. Has data collection and compilation on SDG 5 indicators and on gender-specific indicators under other SDGs begun?

Yes

No

If YES, please describe which indicators have been prioritized

² The term 'gender-specific indicators' is used to refer to indicators that explicitly call for disaggregation by sex and/or refer to gender equality as the underlying objective. For example, SDG indicator 5.c.1 captures the percentage of countries with systems to track public allocations that are directed towards policies and programmes that promote gender equality—the underlying objective is the promotion of gender equality. The term is also used for indicators where women and girls are specified within the indicator as the targeted population (see UN Women. 2018. *Turning Promises into Action: Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. New York).

If NO, explain the main challenges for collecting and compiling data on these indicators

42. Which of the following disaggregations³ is routinely provided by major surveys in your country?

- Geographic location
- Income
- sex
- Age
- Education
- Marital status
- Race/ethnicity
- Migratory status
- Disability
- Other characteristics relevant in national contexts

* * *

43. Out of the following which are your country's top three priorities for strengthening national gender statistics over the next five years?

- 38) 1.Design of laws, regulations, or statistical programme/strategy promoting the development of gender statistics
- 39) 2.Establishment of an inter-agency coordination mechanism on gender statistics (e.g., technical working group, inter-agency committee)
- 40) Use more gender-sensitive data in the formulation of policy and implementation of programmes and projects
- 41) Re-processing of existing data (e.g., censuses and surveys) to produce more disaggregated and/or new gender statistics
- 42) Conduct of new surveys to produce national baseline information on specialized topics (e.g., time use, gender-based violence, asset ownership, poverty, disability)
- 43) Greater utilization and/or improvement of administrative-based or alternative data sources to address gender data gaps
- 44) Production of knowledge products on gender statistics (e.g., user-friendly reports, policy briefs, research papers)
- 45) Development of a centralized web-based database and/or dashboard on gender statistics
- 46) Institutionalization of users-producers' dialogues mechanisms
- 47) 3.Statistical capacity building of users to increase statistical appreciation on and use of gender statistics (e.g., trainings, statistical appreciation seminars) – There is a need to build the capacity of users of statistics within different Ministries and NGO's to enable them to use it for policy maker. This is a specialised area which NSO cannot do.
- 48) Other

Please provide a brief explanation and examples of your plans (2 pages max.).

³ As specified in A/RES/70/1, with the addition of education and marital status.

44. Have you defined a national set of indicators for monitoring progress on the SDGs?

- 1.Yes
- No

If YES, how many indicators does it include and how many of those are gender-specific⁴?

If YES, how many of the gender-specific indicators are additional country indicators (i.e., not part of the global SDG monitoring and indicator framework)?

Please provide the indicators in an annex – all indicators in Gender Abstract, KSDIS – DHS and MICS disaggregated by sex indicators,

If NO, how many global gender-specific SDG indicators (list provided in Annex 1) are available in your country?

Please provide the indicators in an annex

45. Has data collection and compilation on SDG 5 indicators and on gender-specific indicators under other SDGs begun?

- Yes
- No

If YES, please describe which indicators have been prioritized

If NO, explain the main challenges for collecting and compiling data on these indicators

46. Which of the following disaggregations⁵ is routinely provided by major surveys in your country?

- Geographic location
- Income
- sex
- Age
- Education
- Marital status
- Race/ethnicity
- Migratory status
- Disability

⁴ The term 'gender-specific indicators' is used to refer to indicators that explicitly call for disaggregation by sex and/or refer to gender equality as the underlying objective. For example, SDG indicator 5.c.1 captures the percentage of countries with systems to track public allocations that are directed towards policies and programmes that promote gender equality—the underlying objective is the promotion of gender equality. The term is also used for indicators where women and girls are specified within the indicator as the targeted population (see UN Women. 2018. *Turning Promises into Action: Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. New York).

⁵ As specified in A/RES/70/1, with the addition of education and marital status.

- Other characteristics relevant in national contexts

* * *

47. What are the top three areas in which your country has made most progress over the past five years when it comes to gender statistics at the national level?

- 49) Promulgated laws, regulations, or statistical programme/strategy setting out the development of gender statistics
- 50) Established an inter-agency coordination mechanism on gender statistics (e.g., technical working group, inter-agency committee)
- 51) Used more gender-sensitive data in the formulation of policy and implementation of programmes and projects
- 52) Re-processed existing data (e.g., censuses and surveys) to produce more disaggregated and/or new gender statistics
- 53) Conducted new surveys to produce national baseline information on specialized topics (e.g., time use, gender-based violence, asset ownership, poverty, disability)
- 54) Improved administrative-based or alternative data sources to address gender data gaps
- 55) Produced knowledge products on gender statistics (e.g., user-friendly reports, policy briefs, research papers)
- 56) Developed a centralized web-based database and/or dashboard on gender statistics
- 57) Engaged in capacity building to strengthen the use of gender statistics (e.g., trainings, statistical appreciation seminars)
- 58) Other

Please provide details of up to three concrete examples of measures taken, including aims and scope of measures taken, budget, impact evaluations, lesson learnt, and links to further information. Please also provide information about actions for specific groups of women and girls, such as those listed in question 3. Where relevant and possible, please provide data to support your responses. (2 pages max.)

48. Out of the following which are your country's top three priorities for strengthening national gender statistics over the next five years?

- 59) Design of laws, regulations, or statistical programme/strategy promoting the development of gender statistics
- 60) Establishment of an inter-agency coordination mechanism on gender statistics (e.g., technical working group, inter-agency committee)
- 61) Use more gender-sensitive data in the formulation of policy and implementation of programmes and projects
- 62) Re-processing of existing data (e.g., censuses and surveys) to produce more disaggregated and/or new gender statistics
- 63) Conduct of new surveys to produce national baseline information on specialized topics (e.g., time use, gender-based violence, asset ownership, poverty, disability)
- 64) Greater utilization and/or improvement of administrative-based or alternative data sources to address gender data gaps

- 65) Production of knowledge products on gender statistics (e.g., user-friendly reports, policy briefs, research papers)
- 66) Development of a centralized web-based database and/or dashboard on gender statistics
- 67) Institutionalization of users-producers' dialogues mechanisms
- 68) Statistical capacity building of users to increase statistical appreciation on and use of gender statistics (e.g., trainings, statistical appreciation seminars)
- 69) Other

Please provide a brief explanation and examples of your plans (2 pages max.).

49. Have you defined a national set of indicators for monitoring progress on the SDGs?

- Yes
- No

If YES, how many indicators does it include and how many of those are gender-specific⁶?

If YES, how many of the gender-specific indicators are additional country indicators (i.e., not part of the global SDG monitoring and indicator framework)?

Please provide the indicators in an annex

If NO, how many global gender-specific SDG indicators (list provided in Annex 1) are available in your country?

Please provide the indicators in an annex

50. Has data collection and compilation on SDG 5 indicators and on gender-specific indicators under other SDGs begun?

- Yes
- No

If YES, please describe which indicators have been prioritized

If NO, explain the main challenges for collecting and compiling data on these indicators

51. Which of the following disaggregations⁷ is routinely provided by major surveys in your country?

- Geographic location

⁶ The term 'gender-specific indicators' is used to refer to indicators that explicitly call for disaggregation by sex and/or refer to gender equality as the underlying objective. For example, SDG indicator 5.c.1 captures the percentage of countries with systems to track public allocations that are directed towards policies and programmes that promote gender equality—the underlying objective is the promotion of gender equality. The term is also used for indicators where women and girls are specified within the indicator as the targeted population (see UN Women. 2018. *Turning Promises into Action: Gender Equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*. New York).

⁷ As specified in A/RES/70/1, with the addition of education and marital status.

- Income
- sex
- Age
- Education
- Marital status
- Race/ethnicity
- Migratory status
- Disability
- Other characteristics relevant in national contexts

* * *

APPENDIX

Table 1: Number of children with disability aged five to 18 years old by sex living in urban-rural

Age	Rural			Urban			Total
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
5	7	5	12	4	7	11	23
6	7	4	11	10	5	15	26

7	3	5	8	6	2	8	16
8	4	5	9	7	1	8	17
9	5	1	6	3	6	9	15
10	8	4	12	8	5	13	25
11	7	3	10	5	3	8	18
12	3	6	9	4	1	5	14
13	9	8	17	7	8	15	32
14	15	6	21	9	1	10	31
15	6	1	7	14	4	18	25
16	6	8	14	8	6	14	28
17	10	1	11	4	4	8	19
Total	90	57	147	89	53	142	289

Table 2: Number of people with disability aged 18 years and over by sex and living urban-rural

Age 18-99	Rural			Urban			Total
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
Total	646	768	1,414	579	663	1,242	2656

Source: Policy for People with Disability

Child Protection Assessment Kiribati 2012.

The key driver for this report is to examine how students access the Internet and which risks they are facing. Taking into account that there is almost no data available regarding the number of victims of Cybercrime in Kiribati, the report also helps to access the general situation with regards to Cybercrime victimization. The assessment was carried out through a questionnaire with several multiple-choice questions. While in 2013 four schools were selected for the assessment (Sacred Heart College, Nursing School, King George V School and Moroni High School) in 2018 seven schools participated. In total 188 students participated in the survey. The average age group of the students was 16. The assessment of the current situation related to COP and Cybercrime underlines that despite a comparably low Internet penetration rate of less than 30 percent students in Kiribati are intensively using the Internet. More than 90 percent of the students use the Internet with more than 30 percent of the students using the Internet more than 2 hours a day. Facebook is among the most popular services with almost 80 percent of the students using it. Cybersecurity is a topic that the students are confronted with. Almost 40 percent faced infection with malicious software. However, less than 5 percent of the students reported that they use anti-virus software. When it

comes to teaching security, the school remains an important source of knowledge for students. almost 20 percent of all students mentioned that they learned about Cybersecurity in school. Even more relevant is the knowledge shared within the family. Around 30 percent of the students received valuable security training by family members. Students have been exposed to Cybercrime. Apart from computer viruses (see above) one third of the students in Kiribati have been victim of Cyber bullying. Almost the same percentage of students have been contacted by strangers online. The questionnaire also contained a section dealing with illegal/inappropriate acts. Around 30 per cent of the students have stent mean/harmful messages which could be considered Cyber bullying. Around one third of the students tried or successfully broke into protected wireless networks. The data collected through the survey enables the government of Kiribati as well as schools in the country to better respond to the challenges of Child Online Protection.

Result and Policy implications

1. Policy Implication: Children in Kiribati – just like students in other parts of the world – use Internet services such as Facebook and Chat Rooms that offer great opportunities. However, those services have in the past also been utilized to victimize children. As pointed out above the safe usage of those services that are particularly popular among students in KiribatI should be taken into consideration. In order to ensure that all students benefit from such training with updates at least once a year Cybersecurity training could be made a mandatory component of the curriculum. There is currently a discussion within some Pacific countries to make this part of the national Cybersecurity policy. A second policy implication is the need from criminalizing offences victimizing children. If for example solicitation of children (“grooming”) is not criminalized offenders from abroad could target children without the police being able to step in. Therefore a review of the current Cybercrime legislation should be taken into consideration in order to ensure that the police can act if children are at risk.
2. Policy Implication: The assessment shows that existing structure in the country that partly already take over tasks related to Cybersecurity training might require support in order to play an even more important role. A more institutionalized environment could help in this regard. This could be a bi-directional process where the institutions provide knowledge but at the same time repeat the assessment to ensure that the relevant stakeholders in the country have access to up-to-date information. Apart from schools there might be other institutions and stakeholders that could take over an important role like churches, religious leaders and chiefs.
3. Policy Implication: The assessment underlines that Cybercrime is already affecting people in Kiribati. Even students are among the victims of such crime. Computer viruses can be dangerous as their payload may go beyond slowing down computer systems and requiring a reinstallation of the operating systems. Some of the current computer viruses can secretly activate built-in microphones or cameras, record and transmit videos to the offender. Such

potential threat is a concern for both users and their privacy as well the government and government secrets. Although it is likely the offenders will in most cases not be acting from Kiribati the ability of local authorities to take action depends on the existence of an effective legal framework. Such framework should especially include a response to those offences, that are most relevant for people in Kiribati. In addition the police needs to receive specialized training in investigating such crime. The fact people are already affected underlines the importance of strengthening measure of crime prevention. Such measure, that could for example be included in a Cybersecurity policy could include new way of distributing technical protection measures as well as institutionalizing training for students.

4. Policy Implication: As explained in the introduction cyber bullying is a serious crime. The assessment highlights that students in Kiribati have already been victimized. With regard to the fact that victims of cyber bullying often feel alone and do not speak to others about the incident, priority should be given to encourage students to report cyber bullying. At the same time it is important that at the institutions the crime could be reported to (for example teachers or police) are trained to deal with victims of such crime. This might require special skills and training. The increasing number of students that do not report those incidents to anybody is therefore troublesome. It might also be required to verify if the current legislation in Kiribati contain provisions that criminalize cyber bullying. If the offence is not criminalized in the country the ability of law enforcement to act is limited. To be able to deal with such cases may not only be necessary with regard to possible victims in the country. The assessment shows that some students have themselves been involved in cyber bullying.
5. Policy Implication: Based on the assessment it is possible that children in Kiribati have already been victim of grooming. Around 30 per cent of the students that participated in the assessment have already been contacted by strangers and almost one in three of them felt hurt. In addition to including this subject matter in Cybersecurity training for students a more in-depth assessment could be carried to verify the background of those inappropriate contacts. Further more a review of the legislation could be taken into account to verify if solicitation of children is criminalized in Kiribati.
6. Policy Implication: Compared to other parts of the world the Pacific is a rather peaceful place. It is most likely that most Cybercrimes will be committed by non-nationals from abroad. However, the assessment shows that if acts like attempted illegal access to a computer network and cyber bullying are criminalized some offenders might actually be locals. If there is an interest to exclude acts typically committed by minors that do not lead to any damage from criminal liability restrictions to criminalization could be included in the provisions. To ensure that such acts are not committed as a consequence of a lack of knowledge about the criminalization, information about the illegal acts in Kiribati could be included in Cybersecurity training in schools.

