

**GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN  
COOK ISLANDS  
1999-2002**

**A. Objectives**

In Bank operations in the Cook Islands, the following gender and development objectives will be actively pursued:

- (i) Promote the equal participation of women in the economy, with particular attention to education and employment opportunities; and
- (ii) Encourage the active involvement of women in decision-making in the public and private sectors.

**B. Action Plan**

<b>Ongoing &amp; Planned Bank Operations</b>	<b>Gender &amp; Development Action Plan</b>
<b>A. Loans (including PPTA)</b>	
1317-COO    Education Development Project	Ensure equal access of women to educational opportunities.
(1999)        Solid Waste Management (2000)        Water Supply and Sewerage (2002)        Outer Island Development	Ensure regular consultation with women throughout project design and implementation in light of potential impacts; involve NGOs in consultations, especially those that have strong links to womens' organizations and informal groups.
<b>B. Technical Assistance</b>	
(2001-02)    Public Sector Reform (2002)        Local Government Capacity Building	Require monitoring of social impacts of reform program on gender disaggregated basis; encourage involvement of women in decision-making bodies and task forces.
<b>C. Economic and Sector Work</b>	
(1999-00)    Economic Report	Update of 1995 report will seek to provide indicators of service delivery performance in the health and education sectors on a gender disaggregated basis; recommendations will be formulated to address gender bias in access to services and job/educational opportunities.
<b>D. Regional Technical Assistance (RETA)</b>	
(1999)        Regional Assistance on GAD Issues	Provide assistance to Cook Islands National Council of Women and to Women, Youth & Sports Division of the Internal Affairs Ministry on gender and development programs.