

**GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN
REPUBLIC OF THE FIJI ISLANDS
1999-2002**

A. Background

1. The Government recognized the need to further improve the involvement of women in the development process and launched the Women's Plan of Action 1999-2008 in October 1998. Key objectives include mainstreaming women's and gender concerns, reviewing laws affecting women, developing women's microenterprises, increasing women's participation in all levels of decision-making, and promoting an environment free of domestic violence, sexual harassment and child abuse. An inter-ministerial coordinating committee has been set up to implement and monitor the Women's Plan of Action.

B. Objectives

2. In all loans and technical assistance activities supported by the Bank in the Republic of the Fiji Islands (Fiji), the Bank will support the implementation of the Government's National Women's Plan of Action. The work of the Bank will complement that of the Government and people of Fiji and the additional, external assistance provided by other donors such as that of AusAID, the Commonwealth Secretariat, New Zealand, and the United Nations Development Programme.

C. Action Plan

| Ongoing and Planned Bank Operations | Gender and Development Action Plan |
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| A. Loans | |
| (1999) Suva Port Rehabilitation | No specific impact on women. |
| (2000) Suva-Nausori Water Supply and Sewerage | Ensure regular consultations with women and women's groups. |
| (2000) Sugar Rehabilitation (including PPTA) | Ensure regular consultations with women and women's groups particularly with respect to social impact of structural adjustment to more competitive pricing in both sugar production and processing. |
| (2001) Road Rehabilitation (including PPTA) | The project will have a major impact on women in reducing their travel burden and improving access to health and education services, employment and markets. Women will be a target group in specific activities to increase opportunities for women to earn cash incomes. Ensure that women benefit from the project to the equal extent with men. Consultations with beneficiaries, including women, will be carried out through consultative committees organized for the activity. |

| Ongoing and Planned Bank Operations | | Gender and Development Action Plan |
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| A. Loans (continued) | | |
| (2002) | Urban Sector Development (including PPTA) | Ensure regular consultations with women and women's groups, particularly in relation to access to essential public services and utilities. |
| B. Technical Assistance | | |
| 3155-FIJ (Phase II & III—under processing) | Public Enterprise Reform (Phase I, II and III) (1999 to 2001) | Ensure gender employment, and equal opportunities are fully taken into account in all public enterprise reform monitoring and implementation. |
| (1999 & 2001) | Strengthening of Public Asset and Debt Management | Gender priorities to be specified during fact-finding in June 1999. |
| (1999 & 2001) | Institutional Strengthening of Public Policy Formulation | Ensure equal involvement of women in analyses and formulation of all policy issues. |
| | Implementation of National Women's Plan of Action | Direct assistance to mainstreaming gender rights and issues. |
| | Urban Sector Strategy Study | Ensure regular consultations with women and women's groups, particularly in relation to access to essential public services and utilities. |
| 3170-FIJ | Corporatization of Water and Sewerage Services | Ensure regular consultations with women and women's groups, particularly in relation to access to these essential public services. |
| (2000-01) | Capacity Building, Government's Financial Management Information System | Gender priorities to be specified during fact-finding in June 1999. |
| 2680-FIJ | Capital Market Development Authority | Gender priorities to be specified during fact-finding. |
| (2001) | Environment Management and Training | Gender priorities to be specified during fact-finding. |
| C. Economic and Sector Work | | |
| 3167-FIJ | Pacific Island Economic Report for Fiji | Gender policy dialogue will be strengthened by the output of the PIER that is currently being drafted. |

Ongoing and Planned Bank Operations

Gender and Development Action Plan

D. Regional Technical Assistance (RETA)

Regional Assistance to the
Fiji Women's Rights
Organization

To study and recommend improvement of legislation
in support of the rights of lower paid female workers.
These activities will lead to greater support for
women's rights in both public and private sectors.
