



**MINISTER FOR WOMEN, CHILDREN AND SOCIAL
PROTECTION HON. SASHI KIRAN**

Witten Question 162/2026 Hon. Alipate Tuicolo to ask the Minister for Women, Children and Social Protection – Can the Minister inform Parliament on the following –

- a) the Mid Term Review for the National Action Plan for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls was recently completed;**
- b) what were some of the achievements under the NAP EVAWG; and**
- c) how will the Ministry manage some of the gaps that were identified in the Mid Term Review Report.**

Due: Wednesday 19th August

Question a) the Mid Term Review for the National Action Plan for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls was recently completed;

Responses:

- 1.0 The Fiji National Action Plan to Prevent Violence Against All Women and Girls (NAP-PVAWG) was endorsed by Cabinet in May 2023, which**

outlines Fiji's long-term commitment to prevent violence against all women and girls in Fiji. It is first in the Pacific, with a historic regional achievement;

- 2.0 The National Action Plan is a world-leading, evidence-based policy framework that demonstrates Fiji's resolve to address one of its most pressing human rights challenges. It is coordinated by the NAP Coordination & Implementation Unit (CIU) within the Ministry for Women, Children and Social Protection.
- 3.0 The NAP Mid-Term review was conducted between July – December 2025, assessing implementation progress over 21 months (November 2023 – August 2025). It reviewed the processes and structures enabling the NAP and documented recommendations as the plan moves to the next stage. The Mid-Term Review Report findings and recommendations, which I will later highlight, were validated by the Technical Working Group on the 14th of April 2026 at the Great Council of Chiefs (GCC) Talanoa Complex, Nasese.
- 4.0 The Mid-Term Review Report was made possible through the engagement of a Writer-Consultant who coordinated an extensive review process involving all key stakeholders. This work was funded and supported by the Government of Australia.

Question: what were some of the achievements under the NAP-PVAWG;

Responses:

Since the launch of the National Action Plan, we have made **significant strides** that demonstrate both progress and promise. Allow me to highlight some of the key achievements:

1.0 In relation to Governance & Political Commitment of Government towards the implementation of the National Action Plan:

- Government was able to dedicate **FJD \$357,375** towards 4 Ministries in support of the implementation of the National Action Plan initiatives for the past 3 years. (2024/2025-2026/2027 Financial Year) The Ministries included the Ministry of Health & Medical Services which consisted a 35.3% (\$126,250) allocation, Ministry of Education with a 29.7% (\$106,250) allocation, Ministry of Youth and Sports with a 19.6% (\$70,000) allocation and the Ministry of iTaukei Affairs with 15.4% (\$54,875) allocation;
- The NAP is aligned with the Fiji National Development Plan 2025–2029, ensuring long term policy coherence.
- Establishment of the Coordination and Implementation Unit (CIU) within the Ministry of Women, Children and Social Protection, growing to five staff by mid-2025.
- Transition of NAP management from UN Women to the Ministry with the support of DFAT's Fiji Program Support Platform, strengthening national ownership.

2.0 Integration Across Key Settings

- The Fiji NAP PVAWG aligned with the Fiji National Development Plan 2025-2029, ensuring long term policy coherence for the PVAWG agenda across government.
- The NAP Coordination and Implementation Unit (CIU) was established and grew to a team of five staff by mid-2025.
- The traditional institutions setting achieved the strongest integration nationally: the Ministry of I-Taukei Affairs appointed 23 GEDSI officers as NAP focal points and incorporated PVAWG into the Great Council of Chiefs Strategic Plan.
- Multi-faith leaders united under the “My faith says NO! Campaign established a shared prevention language and integrating PVAWG into church governance structures across denominations.
- The Service Delivery Protocol was reviewed and updated, strengthening referral pathways, intersectional practice and coverage of emerging issues related to technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV) and inclusive pathways for persons living with disabilities. The Ministry acknowledges the support of the Government of Australia and UNFPA in providing technical support towards this review process.
- The Online Safety Commission shifted toward a proactive GBV prevention approach in informal partnership with the NAP CIU, resulting in increased TFGBV reporting and community outreach.

- Integrating gender perspectives into the Law and Justice Reform Roadmap across all seven pillars representing a significant step toward legal system alignment with the National Action Plan.

3.0 Sectoral and Community Engagement

- Strong momentum in traditional, faith-based, and health/social services settings, showing structural integration and ownership.
- Early but limited progress in universities, sports, media, public spaces, transport, and disciplined forces.
- Engagement of diverse stakeholders, including civil society, faith communities, and government ministries, has created a whole-of-society commitment.

4.0 Listening to our people: The **Rapid Attitude Survey**, engaging over 600 adolescents and adults, is now complete. This provides us with a vital evidence base to shape prevention messages and inform our national communication campaign.

5.0 Partnerships through sports: A national sports landscape assessment and dialogues have positioned sporting organizations as active partners in prevention, safeguarding, and promoting respectful relationships.

6.0 Engagement of disciplined forces: For the first time, more than 250 women in uniform marched together during the Combined Disciplined Forces International Women’s Day Parade. This visibility underscores the critical role of our disciplined forces in prevention, protection, and access to justice.

- 7.0 Young women leading change:** At the second Young Women’s Forum, 76 participants provided practical recommendations on online safety, reporting mechanisms, and digital literacy—ensuring that our responses to technology-facilitated violence are informed by the voices of young women themselves.
- 8.0 Education sector reform:** The Family Life Education curriculum has been reviewed and validated, creating a pathway to integrate respectful relationships, human rights, and gender equality into our schools.
- 9.0 Traditional governance engagement:** Thirty GEDSI focal officers from the Ministry of iTaukei Affairs have been trained on drivers of violence, disability inclusion, and technology-facilitated GBV, strengthening culturally grounded responses.
- 10.0 National standards and protocols:** **We have launched the** National GBV Shelter Guidelines **and the revised** Service Delivery Protocol, **setting** clear expectations for survivor-centred, coordinated, and quality services across health, welfare, police, legal, and civil society sectors.
- 11.0** Through the coordination and support of the NAP, the Ministry was able to:
- Coordinate developing GBV Awareness packages with Child Protection components to allow officers within the Ministry to disseminate and undertake awareness programmes in the Communities;

- Coordinate Gender Based Violence Awareness for our officials before conducting the same with other government officials across the Divisions and Districts;
- Strengthening coordinated approach with line ministries and identifying safe guarding principles embedded into their policies, plans and strategies.

12.0 These achievements are not isolated—they represent a whole-of-society approach. They show that when government, civil society, traditional institutions, young people, and disciplined forces work together, we can transform harmful norms, strengthen protection systems, and deliver justice for survivors.

13.0 We must acknowledge that violence against women and girls remains one of the most pervasive human rights violations in Fiji. The NAP is our roadmap, but its success depends on sustained political will, adequate resourcing, and collective accountability.

14.0 There must be continued support of the implementation of the NAP—through budget allocations, policy alignment, and oversight.

c) Question: how will the Ministry manage some of the gaps that were identified in the Mid Term Review Report.

Responses:

1.0 Strengthening accountability and evidence: The Ministry have recruited a dedicated Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Manager,

embedding a culture of evidence-based reporting and accountability across the NAP. This ensures that our actions are guided by data and that progress is consistently measured;

- 2.0 The Ministry have streamlined the Settings from 13 to 8 specific Settings/Sectors which provides strategic mobilization and maximization of resources with tangible impacts of addressing gender-based violence across all settings.
- 3.0 With a more coordinated and strategic approach in achieving its targets, the Coordination & Implementation Unit have realigned its roles with preferred outputs achieved through close monitoring and evaluation of activities and programmes outlined in the Plan. Agencies are required to report every 6 weeks to identify progress, gaps and support needed for the implementation of the NAP;
- 4.0 Development and adoption of the MEL Framework will be critical and we acknowledge DFAT support in this process, to ensure coordination and implementation across all settings.
- 5.0 The Ministry will be working towards strengthening messaging approaches on gender-based violence, having to recruit a Strategic Communications and Resource Personnel in coordinating wider circulation of communication packages and IEC materials on NAP activities in all 3 languages.
- 6.0 Update of the implementation Plan for the next 3 years that integrates contextual changes, updated plans and budgets. This will drive the whole-of-government delivery and holds ministries accountable for

GBV budget expenditure with the consolidated interventions across the 8 Settings of the National Action Plan.

- 7.0 Launch the social norms and behavioral change campaign. This will deliver NAP's most significant unfulfilled priority action with population wide reach across all settings.
- 8.0 Finalize governance arrangements and prioritize coordination over implementation. This will clarify roles and reset realistic expectations with its revised TOR for Technical Working Group, mapping aligned work in Settings, data sharing and donor coordination.
- 9.0 Ensure physical and psychosocial safety for survivors and staff prioritizing safety particularly where primary prevention activities may increase reporting.
- 10.0 The Ministry wishes to acknowledge the continued support of the Government of Australia. The coordination and implementation of the National Action Plan is supported through the Fiji Program Support Platform.

ENDS