

Gender Development & Human Rights

- **Roles and Functions**

Gender Development and Human Rights is a program Branch and comprises of two sections:

1. Gender Development's function include the following:

- Assist provincial community development advisors/women's officers to integrate gender sensitisation and equity programmes in their plans through the Community Learning and Development Centres.
- Identify specific priorities of and training needs required by women at all levels.
- Assist women's groups and NGOs to develop and implement effective programmes for women at community level.
- Provide avenues for women in government as well as in non-government and community sectors to work together in implementing gender and development awareness activities and life skills programmes.

2. Human Rights Section

- Work in partnership with all partners to raise awareness and advocate against human rights issues
- Work in partnership with the relevant government and private partners towards establishment of the Human Rights Commission for Papua New Guinea

Vision and Mission

The vision and Mission of the Branch is as according to the National Women's Development and Gender Equality Policy 2011-2015. This policy vision and mission are translated into the Branch programs and projects to achieve the vision and mission of the Integrated Community Development Policy which guides Department's functions and programs and are aligned to the Directive Goals and Principles of the National Constitution, the Vision 2050, the Development Strategic Plan, and Medium Term Development Plan.

The vision is for Women and Gender Equality is to achieve a Papua New Guinean society in which all citizens- particularly women and girls- live together in dignity, safety, mutual respect and harmony

The mission is to promote improved equality, participation and empowerment of women in Papua New Guinea.

The key priority areas of the Government through the Department captured

The key priority areas include:

1. Gender Based Violence
2. Women's Health
3. HIV/AIDS
4. Women's Education and Training
5. Women and Cultural Norms and Traditions
6. Women's Economic Empowerment

7. Women's Employment and Conditions
8. Women's Leadership and Decision Making
9. Women in Agriculture
10. Women and Environment

Conventions, Legislations and Policies

The Branch aligns its program and project activities to the following:

International Conventions

1. Universal Human Rights Declaration
2. Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
3. Beijing Platform for Action on Women
4. Sustainable Development Goals

Regional

1. Pacific Platform for Action on Women

National

1. National Constitutions
2. Vision 2050
3. Development Strategic Plan
4. Integrated Community Development Policy
5. National Women and Gender Equality Policy
6. Sector Policies

Legislations and Policies implementation

Key priority areas of these legislations and policies are translated into Branch Annual Work plan and as included in the Department Five Years Corporate Plan and Annual Operational Plan

There was only one policy developed in the last five years and that is the National Women and Gender Equality Policy 2011-2015. This policy is due for review now.

The policy has been implemented at minimal level due to inadequate resource support as well as capacity issues

Partnership Assistance

Gender work in the Department and the country has been progressed and advanced with the consistent support of partners especially the Development partners.

This means that the section uses its annual budget allocation and is supported by the Development partners.

The Development Partners include:

1. United National Development Program (UNDP)
2. United National Population Fund (UNFP)
3. United National Women (UNW)
4. AusAID
5. United States Embassy

We would like to see that the sections take the lead in the implementation of the Section work plans and the Partners assist with the necessary support in terms of funds and Technical Advises and skills and knowledge training or transfers.

There must be transfer of knowledge and skills from Technical Advisors provided by the Development Partners to support the work of the Sections.

Funding and Strategy

The Strategy in implementing the programs if there is a shortfall in the current resource allocation would be to reprioritise the activities to focus on the most important activities that need to be implemented to address urgent situations, then seek support from the partners to implement the urgent priorities.