

# National Office of Child and Family Services

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## Roles and Functions

The National Office of Child and Family Services (NOCFS) is the custodian to statutory functions on Child and Family Services. The office has significant responsibilities within the Department and the State. NOCFS protects the rights of children and welfare issues of Families through provisions of services by implementing the Lukautim Pikinini Act (LPA) and the Child Protection Policy. The National Child Protection Policy embraces and guides LPA.

Under the DfCDR structure NOCFS is headed by the Director of National Office of Child and Family Services, there is one Deputy Director including the Manager, NCD Child and Family Services, they both report to the Director. The Director of NOCFS reports to the Deputy Secretary . Corporate & Regulatory Services of DfCDR or directly to the Secretary on notable grounds.

## Vision and Mission

The National Office of Child and Family Services rides on the Vision and Mission Statements of the Integrated Community Development Policy (ICDP) as the overarching Policy of DfCDR. However, NOCFS also gives Prominence to the Vision Statement of the National Child Protection Policy; **'Protect Children, Secure Future'** with specific policy definitions surrounding the primary objectives and core principles of the LPA to guide the implementation of programs.

### Vision (ICDP)

We intend to build vibrant, resilient, knowledgeable and productive communities in Papua New Guinea as the key to a sustainable future.

### Mission (ICDP)

We take a lead in mobilising local communities and marginalised groups in order to enhance productive living and an ongoing process of human development

The three Key Priorities of the O'Neill/Dion Government set out in the Alotau Accord for DfCDR include:

- National Identification Project
- Social Protection Program
- Establishment of Office of Religion

NOCFS participated and contributed in implementing activities of the above key priorities. We also see the significance of aligning our work to visions and aspirations of the government. The department's alignment tool clearly spells out this process with the overarching Integrated Development Policy (ICDP) and the enabling Policies and Legislations.

- Vision 2050
- Development Strategic Plan (DSP)
- Medium Term Development Plan (MTDPs)

### **Conventions, Legislations and Policies**

The National Office of Child and Family Services (NOCFS) through the National Child Protection Policy (NCP) which provides an overarching guide for promoting protection and care for all children in PNG by implementing these instruments;

## Conventions/Instruments

- Convention on the Rights of Children (CRC)
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights
- Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) . NOCFS plays supporting role to Gender Branch & Office of Development of Women

## Legislations

NOCFS plays lead roles in implementation and coordination with partners the:

- Lukautim Pikinini Act (LPA) 2015
- PNG National Constitution (Integral Human Development)

## Policies

NOCFS takes lead as well as provide support roles in the implementation of DfCDR's overarching and enabling policies

- National Child Protection Policy (NCPP)
- Early Childhood Care and Development Policy (ECCDP)
- Integrated Community Development Policy (ICDP)
- National Disability Policy
- Gender & Women Empowerment Policy
- National Informal Economy Policy
- National Social Protection Policy

## Legislations and Policies implementation

Programs have been devised from the core strategies of our policies and legislations and aligned to long term plans, visions and ambitions of government. These are captured in DfCDR annual and intermediate plans which show the roadmap for implementation.

Implementation of these policies and legislations is by partnering with respective government agencies, our development partners and stakeholders as responsible government entities and committed international friends.

The National Child Protection Policy captures the Goals of the UN Agenda for Sustainable Development and they include:

- **Goal 5.1** End all forms of discrimination against all women and girls everywhere
- **Goal 5.2** Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation
- **Goal 5.3** Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation
- **Goal 16.2** End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children

The National Office of Child and Family Services has recently developed its first **National Child Protection Policy (NCPP)**. The policy is the important document that embraces and guides the implementation of the Lukautim Pikinini Act (LPA).

The policy is currently implemented.

## Partner Assistance

We get a lot of assistance and support from our partners and stakeholders to implement our programs/projects. NOCFS works collaboratively with the department (DfCDR) and in partnership with our development partners, line agencies and stakeholders which is crucial due to our mandates and functions. Almost in all our work we receive contributions and assistance in forms of resources, personnel and technical from respective and stakeholders as well as NOCFS and DfCDR attending to their request.

Our major Partner Agencies include:

- Dept. of Education
- Dept. of Health
- Dept. of National Planning
- Dept. of Treasury
- Dept. of Labour and Industrial Relations
- Dept. of Provincial and Local Level Government
- Provincial & District Administrations
- Dept. of Justice & Attorney General
- etc

Our Stakeholders and Development Partners include:

- UNICEF
- AUSAID
- European Union
- JICA
- National Council of Women

Our Stakeholders

- Churches
- Community Based Organisations
- Civil Society Organisations
- Faith Based Organisations
- etc