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The Thirteen 25 Report – January, February 2018 Edition (</index.php/en/actions/archive/605-the-thirteen-25-report-january-february-2018-edition>)

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FemLINKPACIFIC EMegazine: **The Thirteen 25 Report**

World Radio Day 2018!

by Sharon Bhagwan Rolls – Executive Producer-Director, femLINKpacific, and Station Manager, FemTALK89FM.

It all started in 2003. I found the 'Suitcase Radio' in Kathmandu in Nepal at my first conference of the World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters. It was early days of femLINK and we wanted to take radio to women in their communities, to link women in communities, contributing to extend the work of the Blue Ribbon Peace Vigil, as a women-led multiracial, multifaith and intercultural dialogue following the May 2000 crisis.

It was about women speaking to women for peace.

It's been a long journey since discovering the suitcase radio technology all those years ago. We started small – with monthly weekend broadcasts with a team of fifth form students from St Joseph's School at the Ecumenical Centre for Research, Education and Advocacy (ECREA) office.

Read more: <https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-world-radio-day-2018/10156202443289295/>
(<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-world-radio-day-2018/10156202443289295/>)



In This Edition:

Peace, Human Security and Development

New Publications

Women's Weather Watch

On Air and Online

Last edition:

Web: <http://www.femlinkpacific.org.fj/index.php/en/actions/archive/598-the-thirteen-25-report-november-december-2017-edition> ([/index.php/en/actions/archive/598-the-thirteen-25-report-november-december-2017-edition](http://www.femlinkpacific.org.fj/index.php/en/actions/archive/598-the-thirteen-25-report-november-december-2017-edition))

PDF: <http://www.femlinkpacific.org.fj/index.php/en/actions/2015-01-20-00-21-36/599-ebulletin-6-2017> ([/index.php/en/actions/2015-01-20-00-21-36/599-ebulletin-6-2017](http://www.femlinkpacific.org.fj/index.php/en/actions/2015-01-20-00-21-36/599-ebulletin-6-2017))

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/the-thirteen-25-report-november-december-2017-edition/10156026075234295/> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/the-thirteen-25-report-november-december-2017-edition/10156026075234295/>)

Mailchimp: <http://mailchi.mp/8b4cf7718a50/the-thirteen-25-report-november-december-2017-edition> (<http://mailchi.mp/8b4cf7718a50/the-thirteen-25-report-november-december-2017-edition>)



Media Initiatives are made possible with the support and collaboration of our following partners:



Peace, Human Security and Development

Women amplify solidarity for ATS workers

by Sharon Bhagwan Rolls

There was a strong show of solidarity in Nadi Town today as the trade union movement came together with community groups, political parties and diverse human rights activists.

They walked, they sang, they locked arms and chanted peacefully through the 'jet set town' - the hub of Fiji's tourism sector.

Read more: <https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-women-amplify-solidarity-for-ats-workers/10156104530289295/> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-women-amplify-solidarity-for-ats-workers/10156104530289295/>)



16 Days, 4 Countries – Voices for Peace

by Sian Rolls with Vanessa Heleta, Ender Rence and Carolyn Kitione

“Achieving peace and justice can only (happen) when there is no violence, abuse (or) corruption,” says 13 year old Lilyan Falemaka from Tonga.

Read more: <https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-pacific-16-days-4-countries-voices-for-peace/10156128066234295/> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-pacific-16-days-4-countries-voices-for-peace/10156128066234295/>)



Women in Politics - A look at Tonga

by Carolyn Kitione

With Fiji and the Cook Islands set to go to the polls later this year, Tonga's November elections has brought the issue of women in Pacific politics back to the forefront.

Read more: <https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-pacific-women-in-politics-a-look-at-tonga/10156182940409295/> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-pacific-women-in-politics-a-look-at-tonga/10156182940409295/>)

Raising The Voices of People through Community Media

by Ender Rence

“I have seen a lot of enthusiasm displayed and it brings hopes to the work of rural movements,” shared Janet Aihari, Founder of Hearts of Hope in the Solomon Islands.

Read more: <https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-pacific-raising-the-voices-of-people-through-community-media/10156170186859295/> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-pacific-raising-the-voices-of-people-through-community-media/10156170186859295/>)

MASI and FSC – Highlighting the Family Protection Act

by Ender Rence

The 16 Days of Activism was a time that the Media Association of Solomon Islands and Family Support Center organised an information sharing forum on the Family Protection Act (FPA) for its members.

Read more: <https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-pacific-masi-and-fsc-highlighting-the-family-protection-act/10156175651184295/> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-pacific-masi-and-fsc-highlighting-the-family-protection-act/10156175651184295/>)

Solomon Islands Forum Examines Gendered Challenges

by Ender Rence

A mother of Shortland Islands has called for the Solomon Islands-Bougainville border to be urgently protected.

Read more: <https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-pacific-solomon-islands-forum-examines-gendered-challenges/10156191141074295/> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-pacific-solomon-islands-forum-examines-gendered-challenges/10156191141074295/>)

WARA - Investing in Financial Independence, Health Access

by Ender Rence

The West Areare Rokotani Keni Association (WARA) has launched a third product called Haiamasiha - in English its means 'WARA cares' - on the 25th of November during the 2017 Solomon Islands Women's Forum at Heritage Park Hotel.

Read more: <https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-pacific-wara-investing-in-financial-independence-health-access/10156199403134295/> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-pacific-wara-investing-in-financial-independence-health-access/10156199403134295/>)

Radio With Pictures and 2017's 16 Days of Activism

by Carolyn Kitone

As femLINKpacific concluded its 2nd National Consultations for 2017, it produced a new series of Radio With Pictures focusing on Women's Weather Watch and the 16 Days of Activism.

Read more: <https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-radio-with-pictures-and-2017s-16-days-of-activism/10156202427674295/> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-radio-with-pictures-and-2017s-16-days-of-activism/10156202427674295/>)

Putting Rural Women in the Forefront of Development

by Carolyn Kitone with Sian Rolls

“Development to me is the increased women’s participation in local government and district... participation in leadership of women, in all levels of leadership,” said Bulou Yavala, President of the Soqosoqo Vakamarama iTaukei of Tavuki in Kadavu. “Our nation, as one of our policies it is to have... 30-70% participation. That’s impossible because resources are limited for women.”

Read more: <https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-putting-rural-women-in-the-forefront-of-development/10156210794229295/> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-putting-rural-women-in-the-forefront-of-development/10156210794229295/>)

Breaking Barriers through Sports

by Carolyn Kitione

“Lord, I want to be a champion in this sport.”

This was the thought running through Mere Roden’s head when she first tried table tennis in 2014 after being introduced to it by a friend.

Read more: <https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-breaking-barriers-through-sports/10156199709309295/> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-breaking-barriers-through-sports/10156199709309295/>)



Walking with Confidence

by Sian Rolls

"The ability for a blind person, any blind person to be able to walk independently and with a lot of confidence from one point to another is pretty much ensured by the use of a white cane and our proper training," underscored Senimilia Seru at a recent United Blind Persons of Fiji (UBP) event.

Read more: <https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-walking-with-confidence/10156233403589295/>
 (https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/femtalk-walking-with-confidence/10156233403589295/)

Listen to the podcast: <https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/look-at-my-abilities-feb18-walk-with-confidence-handover>
 (https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/look-at-my-abilities-feb18-walk-with-confidence-handover)

New Publications

Community Radio Times 4/2017

Community Radio Times 1/2018

Community Radio Times
Edition 4/2017

Radio for, by and about Women in their Communities

WOMEN ARE FIRST RESPONDERS - NDMO
BY SHARON INGAEVA ROLFE

At a global level, the disaster has often featured the phrase along the lines of 'women and children are the most affected by disaster'. "Through Women's Weather Watch, we are putting the spotlight on women's leadership as peacemakers as well as first responders in emergencies," said Sharon Ingaeva Rolfe, Executive Producer-Director of femLINKpacific. While we continue to amplify the work of women leaders as first responders, natural disasters continue to wreak havoc. It presents us with an opportunity to address women's role in disaster resilience, pre- and post-disaster.

Recognising this, the National Disaster Management Office is working to include a gender perspective in the draft Hazard Mitigation and Disaster Risk Reduction Policies with consultations from women-led groups in the country. Using Tropical Cyclone Winston as a benchmark for Fiji's preparedness and response plans, one recurring theme was the inclusion of women in decision-making spaces like the National Disaster Management Council.

"You [women] are the quiet leaders of development," quoted Permanent Secretary for Rural and Maritime Development and National Disaster Management, Nereid Belanderson during femLINKpacific's 2nd National Consultation. "The men say they meet and talk and decide, but you are really the decision-makers."

While there is acknowledgement of women's role as first responders, more needs to be done in terms of bringing women to policy making tables. As Fiji undergoes a review of the 1999 National Disaster Management Act, one recommendation that has been put forth by the International Red Cross committee overseeing the review, is the need to have more input from women. "The consultations before, few men would sit in the room and they decide what happens for everybody," Belanderson explained. "For the men it's an advantage because there are men sitting there but there's no women to sit and say, 'we women would like to see something else like this.'"

As the country braces itself for another cyclone season, communication, in terms of information sharing, is an area that needs to be strengthened. "We are working very hard together with Fiji Red Cross so that we can come up with a weather forecast or weather information - not only updates but also forecasts - that can be understood by the general public," explained Vilma Tumani, National Disaster Management Officer (NDMO) senior advisor officer. One suggestion that femLINKpacific continues to push for is the development of the Public Emergency Broadcast Strategy that builds on its Women's Weather Watch leader - a recommendation that is now being integrated into the Disaster Risk Reduction policy.

"There should be an emergency broadcasting network whenever there is an emergency," Tumani said. "We have to expand communication capabilities, dedicated broadcast frequency. The messages need to be disseminated at a faster time and we have to clarify the role of the communication cluster." In its role as a community media platform, femLINKpacific has continued to campaign for the inclusion of women in all aspects of disaster preparedness, response and recovery as well as on stakeholders to establish strong communication links with women leaders.

CONTENTS

- Women's Human Security First 2
- Women's Weather Watch 3
- 16 Days of Activism 4
- Womanitarians of WWW 8
- Community Radio Soundbytes 10
- Intergenerational Leadership 13

Community Radio Times
Edition 4/2017

Community Radio Times
Edition 1/2018

Radio for, by and about Women in their Communities

WORLD RADIO DAY

HEROWINS

YOUR WOMEN'S WEATHER WATCH STATION:

24 hours in Suva
9am to 5pm in Labasa

Promoting Women's Leadership in
Disaster Preparedness, Response and Resilience

Produced with support from the Australian Government

Australian Aid

<http://www.femlinkpacific.org.fj/index.php/en/actions/community-radio-times/603-community-radio-times-4-2017>
 (/index.php/en/actions/community-radio-times/603-community-radio-times-4-2017)

<http://www.femlinkpacific.org.fj/index.php/en/actions/community-radio-times/604-community-radio-times-1-2018>
 (/index.php/en/actions/community-radio-times/604-community-radio-times-1-2018)

Section J in Action: Pacific Women and the Media - Recommendations for Action



Section J in Action

PACIFIC WOMEN AND THE MEDIA: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

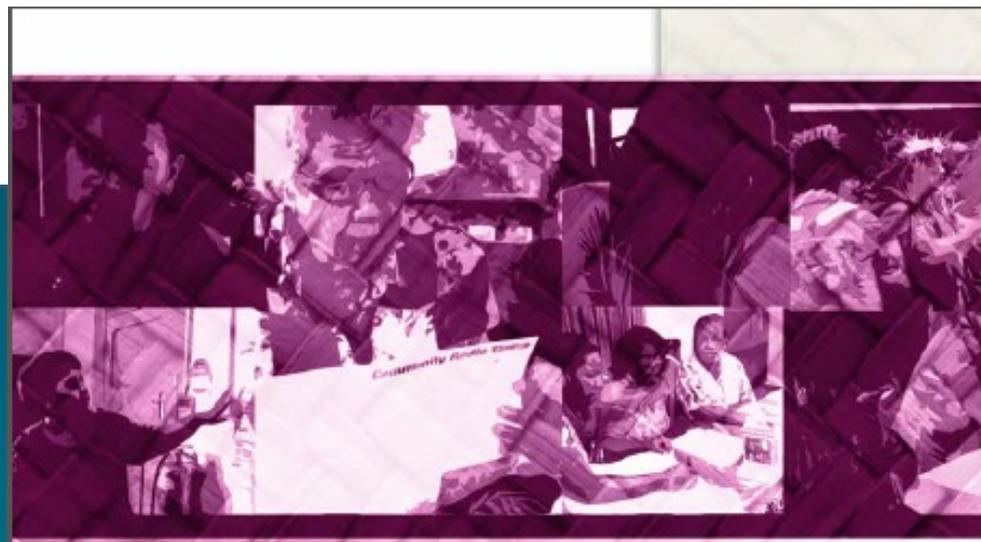
"SPC recognises that the media are a source of empowerment for communities, as information and knowledge enable people to make informed decisions about issues that affect their lives" [SPC, 2013]



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Strengthening Non-State Actors Engagement in Regional Policy Development and Implementation Programme



FemTALK

No Peace Without Women UNSCR1325+17

<http://www.femlinkpacific.org.fj/index.php/en/actions/policy-documents/601-femtalk-no-peace-without-women-unscr-1325-17> (/index.php/en/actions/policy-documents/601-femtalk-no-peace-without-women-unscr-1325-17)

<http://www.femlinkpacific.org.fj/index.php/en/actions/policy-documents/600-section-j-in-action-pacific-women-and-the-media-recommendations-for-action>
(/index.php/en/actions/policy-documents/600-section-j-in-action-pacific-women-and-the-media-recommendations-for-action)

Women's Weather Watch

Visit our hub page for updates: <http://www.femlinkpacific.org.fj/index.php/en/actions/archive/602-women-s-weather-watch-updates-2018-january-and-february> (/index.php/en/actions/archive/602-women-s-weather-watch-updates-2018-january-and-february)

Supporting women to prepare

by Carolyn Kitione

“Because of Women's Weather Watch, important information comes to us personally,” said Losana Derenalagi, femLINKpacific’s convenor in Nadi and Lautoka. “It empowers us rural women leaders to be more aware of how to make our community more resilient to disasters.”

Read more: <https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/womens-weather-watch-supporting-women-to-prepare/10156172925329295/> (<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/womens-weather-watch-supporting-women-to-prepare/10156172925329295/>)



**This International Women’s Day,
reaffirm women as leaders and
first responders with your
Women’s Weather Watch station,
FemTALK89FM, and femLINKpacific!**

Always Be Prepared

by Carolyn Kitione

In a Women’s Weather Watch update with the Director of Fiji Meteorological Services, Ravind Kumar, has echoed calls to be prepared.

Read more: <https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/www-always-be-prepared/10156182907979295/>
(<https://www.facebook.com/notes/femlinkpacific/www-always-be-prepared/10156182907979295/>)



Women's Weather Watch has given us all the early warnings of disasters coming in, the correct and accurate information that we can share with the community - **Shakuntla Permal, Advisory Councillor in Lautoka**



Women's Weather Watch... is our voice piece to stakeholders, it empowers us to stand up and participate - **Vani Tuvuki, Koronubu Women's Fellowship in Ba**

Women's Weather Watch is a great help by building women's resilience and disaster awareness in our communities - **Sera Waqalevu, Naqai Women's Group in Labasa**



We women have an important contribution during natural disaster. We prepare the (everything) for the family to move them to evacuation centres. I am really grateful for the Women's Weather Watch because I am informed of the weather and the changes in weather patterns - **Vikatoria Tuivanualevu, Naweni Women's Group in Savusavu**



No one was prepared (before TC Winston) because, at that time, we didn't get enough information... (through Women's Weather Watch) I'm now prepared to send the message to women's groups - **Sarojani Gounder, Advisory Councillor in Tavua**



On Air and Online

Radio With Pictures – Season 2 (2017)

Now online, listen to our latest season of Radio With Pictures: <https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/sets/radio-with-pictures-season-2> (<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/sets/radio-with-pictures-season-2>)

Coming to YouTube soon!

Day In The Life Stories

Sulueti Waqa - femLINKpacific's Programme Associate in Labasa - speaks to women leaders of all diversities about what they do on a day-to-day basis, reflecting on their leadership roles as well as economic contributions. She's spoken to Rev. Angela Suruj Prasad, Mareta Tagivakatini, Saras Wati and Amra Wati. Coming soon to the series are the reflections of women from the Navakai Community in Nadi speaking to Sokoveti Lutumailagi and the Vuqele Settlement in Tavua speaking to Fane Boseiwaqa.

Listen to the podcasts: <https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/sets/day-in-the-life-stories-2018>
(<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/sets/day-in-the-life-stories-2018>)

Look At My Abilities

For the Look At My Abilities show, Sulueti Waqa - femLINKpacific's Programme Associate in Labasa - speaks to women of all diversities with disabilities. She has spoken to Elenoa Kaisau, Savita Devi and Jay Nasilasila.

Also, on the 26th of February, the United Blind Persons of Fiji marked the special occasion of receiving 200 white canes which will be distributed to people with visual impairment across Fiji. The canes were financed through an Australian Government DFAT grant, with the funds for distribution of the canes supported by the Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation's Disabled Peoples Organisations grants. For FemTALK89FM, Sian Rolls filed a special 'Look At My Abilities' report.

Listen to the podcasts: <https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/sets/look-at-my-abilities-2018>
(<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/sets/look-at-my-abilities-2018>)



Section J in Action – FemTALK89FM: Suitcase Radio Her'Story

Ahead of World Radio Day 2018, femLINKpacific held a half day learning exchange with FemTALK89FM broadcast personnel as well as femLINK's team of community media correspondents and convenors from around Fiji.

Reflecting on the organisation's 14 year her'story, Adi Vasu and Lucille Chute from Labasa, Fane Boseiwaqa from Tavua and Losana Derenalagi from Lautoka took the young women broadcasters of all diversities took a trip through time to when FemTALK89FM started with weekend community radio broadcasts from the only suitcase radio in the Pacific.

They discussed the role of community radio, the value of a woman's voice and the power of telling one's own story as well as the valuable link that the community radio network plays as a bridge between rural communities and the urban administrative hubs that make decisions that impact the lives of everyday people.

Listen to the podcast: <https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk-jan18-section-j-in-action-suitcase-radio-herstory>
(<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk-jan18-section-j-in-action-suitcase-radio-herstory>)

Women in Sports

For FemTALK89FM and in line with the theme for World Radio Day 2018 - 'Radio and Sports' - Mereani Nawadra spoke to Matelita Buadromo, a member of the national swim team, about some of the challenges that she faced and how she's overcome it.

Listen to the podcast: <https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/women-in-sports-feb18-matelita-buadromo>
(<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/women-in-sports-feb18-matelita-buadromo>)

For FemTALK89FM and in line with the theme for World Radio Day 2018 - 'Radio and Sports' - Carolyn Kitone spoke to Lavenia Yalovi, a woman with many experiences across various sports as well as the field of education.

Listen to the podcast: <https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/women-in-sports-jan18-lavenia-yalovi>
(<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/women-in-sports-jan18-lavenia-yalovi>)

The NGO CEDAW Shadow Report

For FemTALK89FM, Carolyn Kitone speaks to Executive Director of the Fiji Women's Rights Movement, Nalini Singh, about the Shadow Report findings and process for the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

Listen to the podcast: <https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-feb18-the-ngo-cedaw-shadow-report>
(<https://soundcloud.com/femlinkpacific/femtalk89fm-feb18-the-ngo-cedaw-shadow-report>)

FemVids Ultimo: November and December (2017)

On YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hoLsqgs4SWE> (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hoLsqgs4SWE>)

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/femlinkpacific/videos/10160129666940093/>
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