



Australian Government
AusAID

Consolidated Quality at Entry Report for Vanuatu Women's Centre Phase 6 (July 2012-June 2016) 24 May 2012

A: AidWorks details <i>completed by Activity Manager</i>			
Initiative Name:	Vanuatu Women's Centre Phase 6		
Initiative No:	INK586	Total Amount:	\$5,354,009 (465,798,789 Vatu)
Start Date:	1 July 2012	End Date:	30 June 2016

B: Appraisal Peer Review meeting details <i>completed by Activity Manager</i>	
Initial ratings prepared by:	Jacinta Overs, Vanuatu Desk
Meeting date:	23 May 2012
Chair:	John Davidson, Minister-Counsellor Suva
Peer reviewers providing formal comment & ratings:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Felicity O'Brien (AusAID Policy Officer, Ending Violence Against Women) - Nilesh Goundar (Program Manager, Fiji Women's Crisis Centre)
Independent Appraiser:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Froniga Greig (Gender Specialist)
Other peer review participants:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Edwina Kotoisuva, Fiji Women's Crisis Centre - Sonia Wasi, Vanuatu Women's Centre - Marilyn Tahu, Coordinator, Vanuatu Women's Centre - Stephen Hills, Vanuatu Program Manager - Katherine Ruiz-Avila, Counsellor Port Vila - David Momcilovic, First Secretary Port Vila - Helen Corrigan, Program Manager, Port Vila <p>Apologies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Susan Ferguson, Principal Gender Adviser - Corinne Tarnawsky, Pacific Gender and Disability Policy Manager - Sally Rynveld, Pacific Performance and Quality Manager - Chad Clark, Strategic Programming and Investment Policy Manager (design services)

C: Safeguards and Commitments (completed by Activity Manager)		
<i>Answer the following questions relevant to potential impacts of the activity.</i>		
1. Environment	Have the environmental marker questions been answered and adequately addressed by the design document in line with legal requirements under the <i>Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act</i> ?	<u>Yes/No</u>
2. Child Protection	Does the design meet the requirements of AusAID's Child Protection Policy?	<u>Yes/No/N/A</u>

D: Initiative/Activity description <i>completed by Activity Manager (no more than 300 words per cell)</i>	
3. Description of the Initiative/ Activity	<p>What is it?</p> <p>The Vanuatu Women’s Centre Program Against Violence Against Women July 2012 to June 2016 will expand the centre’s direct assistance to women and children who suffer violence in Vanuatu. It will strengthen community education and advocacy to achieve universal acceptance of women and children’s human rights in Vanuatu and an end to violence and discrimination. The program has the following components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 &2: counselling, legal assistance and support through the main centre in Port Vila, and branches in Torba, Sanma, Tafea and a proposed new branch in Malampa - \$2.63 million (50%) • 3: community education for social change through selected partnerships e.g. with schools, faith-based organisations, youth groups and through media campaigns and a national conference - \$0.5 million (10%) • 4: legal advocacy, lobbying and human rights training to reduce discrimination and improve gender equality in law, policy and practice (e.g. a comprehensive family law and a no-drop policy for Police) - \$0.13 million (2%) • 5: management, training and technical assistance to improve program management and facilities, including purchase of, renovation and relocation to new premises - \$2 million (38%)
4. Objectives Summary	<p>What are we doing?</p> <p>The program goal is to eliminate violence against women and children throughout Vanuatu. The expected long-term outcome is effective prevention and response to violence against women and children. Expected outcomes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Component 1 – survivors of violence are empowered, claim their rights and access justice • Component 2 – effective and confidential crisis counselling and support services—including legal assistance and representation—for women and children throughout Vanuatu • Component 3 – increased community acceptance that violence against women and children is a violation of human rights • Component 4 – reduced discrimination and increased gender equality in law, policies and institutions • Component 5 – effective management and coordination of the Vanuatu Women’s Centre network and its prevention and response services.

E: Quality Assessment and Rating <i>(no more than 300 words per cell)</i>			
Criteria	Assessment	Rating (1-6) *	Required Action (if needed) ‡
1. Relevance	<p>Why are we doing this?</p> <p>Aligns well with Government of Vanuatu’s law and justice sector strategy and National Plan of Action for Women, and with Government of Australia development policies on gender equality and ending violence against women.</p> <p>Time-frame for achieving high-level outcomes and program objectives should be clearly specified.</p>	6	<p>Proceed on the basis of a four-year program.</p> <p>Use the mid-term review to clarify short, medium and long-term objectives and performance outcomes.</p>
2. Analysis and Learning	<p>Have well have we thought this through?</p> <p>Good use of analysis and review findings e.g. improved monitoring and evaluation approach, improved testing of educational materials, and increased efforts to address both causes and consequences of violence against women (including increased use of male advocates and community leaders).</p> <p>More information is needed on other organisations working on violence against women and women’s rights and services in Vanuatu, including Vanuatu Association of NGOs (VANGO) members, other civil society organisations (such as Wan Smolbag), and government departments and agencies.</p> <p>Need to analyse and apply lessons from UN Men as Partners work in the Pacific.</p>	5	<p>Add analysis on Vanuatu Women’s Centre’s experience working with partner organisations.</p> <p>Add analysis of lessons about UN Men as Partners work in the Pacific, noting that it was looked at but current male advocate network started as an alternative and more appropriate model for the Pacific.</p> <p>Add information about planning work underway on how to work with the perpetrators of violence.</p>

E: Quality Assessment and Rating <i>(no more than 300 words per cell)</i>			
Criteria	Assessment	Rating (1-6) *	Required Action (if needed) ‡
3. Effectiveness	<p>Will it work?</p> <p>The objectives are achievable and proposed activities are appropriate, although the expected timeframe for achieving change needs to be clearly specified (as above).</p> <p>Different views about the design structure. The Design treats VWC headquarters and provincial centres as program components, but an alternative may be to organise the design around the centre's deliverables (e.g. counselling, community education, advocacy, research etc).</p> <p>VWC explained that the structure is intended to strengthen community ownership of the branches at provincial level.</p> <p>More consideration is needed of the VWC's long-term vision and its strategy to get there.</p> <p>Increased effort needed to collaborate and coordinate better with related development programs in Vanuatu, Melanesia and the Pacific e.g. Regional Rights and Resources Team, Pacific Islands Forum reference group, and national organisations.</p> <p>Increased cooperation (beyond providing office space) with provincial governments would be useful to strengthen the work of the Committees Against Violence Against Women (CAVAWs).</p>	4	<p>No change to structure at present.</p> <p>Reconsider program structure & components during mid-term review and/or any future design phases.</p> <p>Identify ways to strengthen provincial government involvement in CAVAWs.</p>
4. Efficiency	<p>How will we do it?</p> <p>Overall budget appears reasonable, although assessment of the budget and value for money would be aided by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a summary that shows the cost of each component and the numbers of beneficiaries • clear information linking different remuneration levels with different roles, responsibilities, qualifications and experience • information on how the work of the VWC complements the work of other organisations providing related services for women in Vanuatu • obtaining additional Government of Vanuatu in-kind or financial contributions to support VWC activities where VWC activities support Government priorities (e.g. in health, youth services and/or criminal justice). 	4.5	<p>Develop a longer-term strategy for working with Government on advocacy and policy change.</p>
5. Monitoring & Evaluation	<p>How will we know?</p> <p>M&E highly rated, although two reviewers (Goundar & O'Brien) noted that deficiencies in national data on violent crimes mean that it will be very difficult to assess whether the program will ever meet its goal of ending violence against women in Vanuatu.</p> <p>Suggestions on monitoring and evaluation included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • do not add any new M&E requirements as VWC already has sophisticated measures in place • compensate for lack of data on violent offences by conducting surveys to measure changes in knowledge and attitudes of women and men • clearly define end-of-program outcomes for Phase 6, including specific targets and time frames for changing the behaviours of: survivors of violence, other women and children, men, communities, police and other government partners, community leaders, male advocates, and program staff and managers. 	5	<p>Refine the design so that objectives and planned outcomes for the four-year program are clear and <i>can be measured</i> against expected targets - i.e. to show increase/decrease in the knowledge, attitudes and behaviours that the centre is seeking to change, the number of survivors of violence that will access services etc.</p>

E: Quality Assessment and Rating <i>(no more than 300 words per cell)</i>			
Criteria	Assessment	Rating (1-6) *	Required Action (if needed) ‡
6. Sustainability	<p>Will benefits last?</p> <p>While some of the policy gains may be sustainable, the assessments noted the centre's complete dependence on the Australian Government for funding. New Zealand's support for the Sanma counselling centre will cease in June 2012, and the VWC currently receives no Government of Vanuatu funding.</p> <p>The reviewers agreed that, in the absence of Vanuatu government support, the centre would rely on AusAID to continue its work for the foreseeable future. They agreed that valuable resources could be wasted trying to 'diversify the funding base' when private philanthropy and government support to civil society organisations is non-existent.</p> <p>However, the reviewers emphasised that the centre should continue to lobby the Government of Vanuatu and other donors for support, and build upon successes such as recent agreement by the Torba Provincial Government to provide land for the Torba Counselling Centre.</p> <p>Sustainability of policy and practical changes could be improved by continuing to build partnerships with the police, ministry of health, ministry of justice and ministry of education.</p>	4	<p>During Phase 6 implementation, the centre should focus on clearly defining its mission, role and objectives.</p> <p>It could do this by preparing a long-term strategic plan and budget, including milestones to measure performance.</p> <p>Subject to the quality of the document produced, AusAID may be able to consider future core funding on this basis, rather than through multiple project designs.</p>
6. Gender Equality	<p>How will we achieve gender equality?</p> <p>The program was rated very highly on this criterion due to excellent gender analysis, research and adoption of best practise in addressing the root causes of violence against women appropriate to the context.</p> <p>Gender equality and child protection are integral to the design.</p> <p>Suggestions to improve included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate services or referrals for adult male victim survivors of violence where appropriate (although the primary focus remains on women) Integrate the needs of persons with a disability and those living with HIV/AIDS, particularly in rural and remote island areas, in cooperation with national and regional disability organisations. 	6	<p>The centre will continue to support male survivors (up to eighteen years of age) where appropriate, or refer them to relevant services if available.</p> <p>The centre will strengthen its outreach to people with disabilities, following the lead of the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre.</p>

* Definitions of the Rating Scale:

Satisfactory (4, 5 and 6)		Less than satisfactory (1, 2 and 3)	
6	Very high quality; needs ongoing management & monitoring only	3	Less than adequate quality; needs to be improved in core areas
5	Good quality; needs minor work to improve in some areas	2	Poor quality; needs major work to improve
4	Adequate quality; needs some work to improve	1	Very poor quality; needs major overhaul

‡ **Required actions (if needed):** These boxes should be used wherever the rating is less than 5, to identify actions needed to raise the rating to the next level, and to fully satisfactory (5). The text can note recommended or ongoing actions.

F: Next Steps <i>completed by Activity Manager after agreement at the Appraisal Peer Review meeting</i>		
Provide information on all steps required to finalise the design based on <i>Required Actions</i> in "C" above, and additional actions identified in the peer review meeting	Who is responsible	Date to be done
1. Reconsider program structure and components during mid-term review and/or any future design phases to look at a rolling design.	VWC and AusAID	During mid-term review in 2014
2. Add analysis on Vanuatu Women's Centre's experience working with partner organisations.	VWC	30 June 2012
3. Add analysis of lessons about UN Men as Partners work in the Pacific that was looked at, noting male advocates network started as more appropriate model for Pacific.	VWC	30 June 2012
4. Add information about the planning work underway on how to work with perpetrators of violence.	VWC	30 June 2012
5. Identify ways to strengthen provincial government involvement in CAVAWs.	VWC	On-going
6. Provide following additional information in the design: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a summary that shows the cost of each program component and the expected number of beneficiaries a list of staff roles, responsibilities, qualifications and experience, and remuneration for each position. 	VWC	30 June 2012 (prior to first tranche payment for FY12-13)
7. Develop a longer-term strategy for working with Government on advocacy and policy change.	VWC	On-going
8. During Phase 6 implementation, clearly define VWC's mission, role and objectives e.g. by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Preparing a long-term strategic plan and budget, including milestones to measure performance. 	VWC	In time for mid-term review
9. Refine design so that objectives and planned outcomes for the four-year program are clear and <i>can be measured</i> against expected targets - i.e. to show increase/decrease in the knowledge, attitudes and behaviours that the centre is seeking to change, the number of survivors of violence that will access services etc.	VWC	30 June 2012
10. Continue to build partnerships with the police, ministry of health, ministry of justice and ministry of education.	VWC	On-going

G: Other comments or issues <i>completed by Activity Manager after agreement at the APR meeting</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to technical problems with AusAID's conference call facility, Froniga Greig (independent appraiser) only joined the discussion at the summing-up. The Chairperson had ensured that the key issues raised in Ms Greig's independent appraisal were discussed at the meeting Ms Greig had a separate discussion with Port Vila Post (Corrigan) and Canberra Desk (Overs) immediately following the peer review meeting. Ms Greig was given a brief account of the peer review proceedings, and supported the ratings proposed at the meeting.

H: Approval *completed by ADG or Minister-Counsellor who chaired the peer review meeting*

On the basis of the final agreed Quality Rating assessment (C) and Next Steps (D) above:

- QAE REPORT IS APPROVED**, and authorization given to proceed to:
 - FINALISE** the design incorporating actions above, and proceed to implementation
 - or: **REDESIGN** and resubmit for appraisal peer review

NOT APPROVED for the following reason(s):

<i>Blair Davidson</i>	signed: <i>[Signature]</i>	<i>30.05.2012</i>
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MC Pacific

When complete:

- Copy and paste the approved ratings, narrative assessment and required actions into AidWorks and attach the report.
- The original signed report must be placed on a registered file.