



PNG Women's Forum 2019 Recommendations

Empowering Through Partnerships - Kisim Strong lo Wok Bung
Center for International and Private Enterprise

Political Representation

Unpacked the 2017 elections, noting significant shortcomings in the resources allocated to women, as well as the perceptions of female candidates. Noted that given PNG's past history of violence, it would be beneficial for women to be better represented in government.

Recommendations

- Importance of looking at a potential Parliamentary Committee to integrate female ideas into legislation.
- Lack of parliamentary representation skews priorities of parliament.
- Elections need more protections for women.
- Possibly reserving a certain amount of parliamentary seats for women as a temporary measure.

Hearing Impaired Group's Community

Recommendations

- Deaf adults need to get better literacy training to learn more about education opportunities available to them.
- Deaf adults need access to skills trainings so that they can find employment.
- Financial assistance for sign language training.
- Raising sign language awareness.
- Need a center for deaf education.
- Access to better communication services, computer, laptop, phones to improve business opportunities, e.g. SMEs.

Gender Based Violence

Recommendations

- To have central data processing to be hosted by DfCDR; revisit directory in PNG to see which organization is doing work regarding GBV.
- Request a GBV Secretariat with presence in each province
- Witness security must be considered; must have a law for witness protection regarding GBV.
- Gender base violence program integrated into empowerment to reduce GBV issues in PNG; healing program / Inap Nau program targeting families, youth program under Oxfam (Best practice).
- All CBO & NGO counselors should be involved more effectively in the training and registered
- Rehabilitation center for both victims and perpetrators.
- More hospitals, safe houses, and NGOs are needed.
- Counter fund with donors' funds.

Access to Finance & Markets

Recommendations

- Strong need for information.
- Create a database for registering women in business, or potential women in businesses in PNG.
 - For this to happen and be sustainable, would like to ask for endorsement for relevant government departments to work with nominated working committee. Database would capture



PNG Women's Forum 2019 Recommendations

Empowering Through Partnerships - Kisim Strong lo Wok Bung
Center for International and Private Enterprise

discussions/ideas/participations, helping women with common interests to contribute groundwork to other start-ups.

- Working groups can be formed and maintained based on identified interests.
- Women's Forum can be a great way to identify women with common interests.
- Recommend a finance facility be provided for women with existing business or who are starting up business so they can have access to credit cards.
- mibank has started a facility will help out start-up businesses, which is very helpful because this will bring informal to formal sector movement because they have to register at the banks.
- Need to learn from existing models to create avenues to source domestic financial aid.
- Possibly create or use an established organization to market local products for wider sale.

Increasing Women Participation in the PNG Economy

Although there are no women in parliament, they are very active in the economy. There are three areas to consider in women's participation in the economy: job opportunities, women entrepreneurs (formal and informal MSMEs), and women as consumers. Similarly, there are numerous dynamics to take into consideration: rural vs urban, generational considerations, etc., when considering women's economic empowerment in PNG.

Recommendations

- Need for more research and data to act on the issues raised in private sector, such as:
 - Definition of success, women-owned business
 - Movement from informal to formal sectors
 - NRI/ think tanks, data collection
 - DHS
- Review policies- See if they are gender sensitive, build capacity; recommend amendments
 - ICT – E-procurement non-discrimination
 - National procurement act 2018 / IPA Act 2007
 - Reserved bus for women to contract amend to value
- Touch point facilities and networks – govt needs to take ownership
- Leverage technology and innovation- WF panel on Women in Tech a great example

Parliamentary

Recommendations

- Set up parliamentary committee possibly using reserved seats – Chairman members of parliament would be part of the committee. Groups would have input to committee.
- Central data procuring Dept. of community DRV.
- Toll free numbers in all province Hasik / Safe Home / NGO / Police / Rural Area
- Security of survivors' service providers