

LEADING CHANGE IN BOUGAINVILLE:

EXPERIENCES OF NAZARETH CENTRE FOR REHABILITATION
AND WOMEN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

LEARNING BRIEF
JUNE 2018

"As women human rights defenders, we are committed to building our nation,
Bougainville, to be free of violence where women and men are equal."

Bougainville Women Human Rights Defenders Guiding Principles and Values

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Nazareth Centre
for Rehabilitation



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the
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PACIFIC WOMEN
SHAPING PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

Around the world, women human rights defenders (WHRDs) work tirelessly to defend the human rights of others and to challenge violence, discrimination and injustice. The crucial role of WHRDs has been recognised through international agreements such as the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders (1998), the United Nations Resolution on the protection of women human rights defenders (2013), and the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders. The Agreed Conclusions from the Commission on the Status of Women in 2018 (CSW62) also saw recognition of WHRDs and their crucial role.³

Women Human Rights Defenders are women who, individually or collectively, work peacefully on behalf of others to promote and defend internationally recognised human rights.

Definition used by NCfR and IWDA.

It is increasingly acknowledged that WHRDs face unique risks and challenges which are specific to their gender and driven by deep-rooted discrimination against women, including gender-based violence, the burden of unpaid care work and gender stereotypes which restrict women's participation in decision making spheres.⁴ At the same time, many

WHRDs are not recognised for their leadership and contribution in their communities.⁵ This learning paper aims to address this gap and to share the experiences and examples of work of WHRDs from Bougainville.

In Papua New Guinea (PNG), there are laws and policies, such as the National Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender Based Violence, that show the Government's commitment to address gender-based violence and provide legal and political grounds for prioritising this work.⁶ However, in practice, implementation of these policies is lagging behind. In the absence of effective government interventions to prevent and respond to Gender Based Violence, WHRDs are leading community level prevention and support to survivors of violence against women and girls. For many years, Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation (NCfR) and WHRDs networks have worked together to raise awareness on violence against women and girls across the Autonomous Region of Bougainville.

In Papua New Guinea, the National Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender Based Violence (2016-2025) recognises the role of Human Rights Defenders to champion behaviour change in their communities as a key component for reducing gender-based violence (Output 4.3).



Women leaders at the Bougainville WHRDs Forum held in Siwai (27 November - 01 December 2017)
Photo Credit: Harjono Djoyobisono/ IWDA

From Gender Based Violence to Gender Justice and Healing Project

Bougainville is an Autonomous Region of Papua New Guinea that was engaged in a civil war from 1989 to 1998. Women and children continue to experience high rates of violence in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville (ARoB). A 2013 study found that in the ARoB 80% of men reported perpetrating physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence.⁷

From Gender Based Violence to Gender Justice and Healing project was a three-year project (2015-2018) that was implemented by Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation in partnership with International Women's Development Agency (IWDA) and funded through the Australian Aid (*Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development* Program) and the Government of the Netherlands (*Funding Leadership and Opportunities for Women* (FLOW) Program).⁸

Through this project, Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation leads on advocacy, prevention and response initiatives to address Gender Based Violence (or Family and Sexual Violence, the term commonly used in Bougainville and PNG). It provides and expands rights-based services to women and children, who have experienced violence, including women and children with disabilities. Such services include safe accommodation, counselling, facilitating access to justice and health services, case management, life skills building and referrals. This support includes drop-in and live-in services through four safe houses in Bougainville, and is complemented by work of the Men's Hub that works with men, including perpetrators of violence.

In the absence of effective mechanisms to address violence against women and limited services for women and children survivors of GBV, especially in rural and remote areas, Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation works with and through WHRDs and male advocates. WHRDs raise awareness about gender-based violence and gender equality, and increase opportunities for women and children survivors of violence to receive support, crisis response and referrals.

This learning paper sets out the achievements, challenges and key learnings over this three year project working with the Bougainville WHRD Network.



Agnes Titus, NCFr Program Coordinator, presenting at the Bougainville WHRDs Forum (Siwai, November 2017)
Photo Credit: Harjono Djoyobisono/ IWDA

MAKING A DIFFERENCE:

Women Leading Responses to Gender Based Violence in Bougainville

Over three years of the project, Nazareth Centre for Rehabilitation trained and increased the capacity of **1,982 Women Human Rights Defenders**, including counsellors, through **59 trainings and on-going capacity building**.⁹

NCfR focuses on building and strengthening the capacity of existing and new WHRD through forums and training on gender-based violence, human rights, women's rights, the roles of WHRDs, peace and conflict resolution. At the end of the training, all participants develop their individual and district plans for working as Women Human Rights Defenders and return to their communities to implement these commitments. NCfR conducts quarterly monitoring visits and meetings with activists in districts to monitor and mentor WHRDs.¹⁰

KEY LEARNING:

Working with human rights, has to always consider engaging with cultural and spiritual (theological) parts of life. The NCfR team works with indigenous groups, who have a worldview that closely connects these three areas. Based on this lesson, Sr Lorraine Garasu developed the *Human Rights and Gender Justice Toolkit* that is used for educating WHRDs and male advocates through the lens of cultural, theological and legal approaches.

Evidence from the three year project demonstrates that working with WHRDs individually and supporting collective actions of the Bougainville WHRDs Network is a sustainable and effective approach. The WHRDs take ownership over actions and lead on gender-based violence prevention and response.



Sr Lorraine Garasu, CSN, NCfR Director. Photo Credit: Elena Leddra/ IWDA, July 2017

WHAT WE DO:

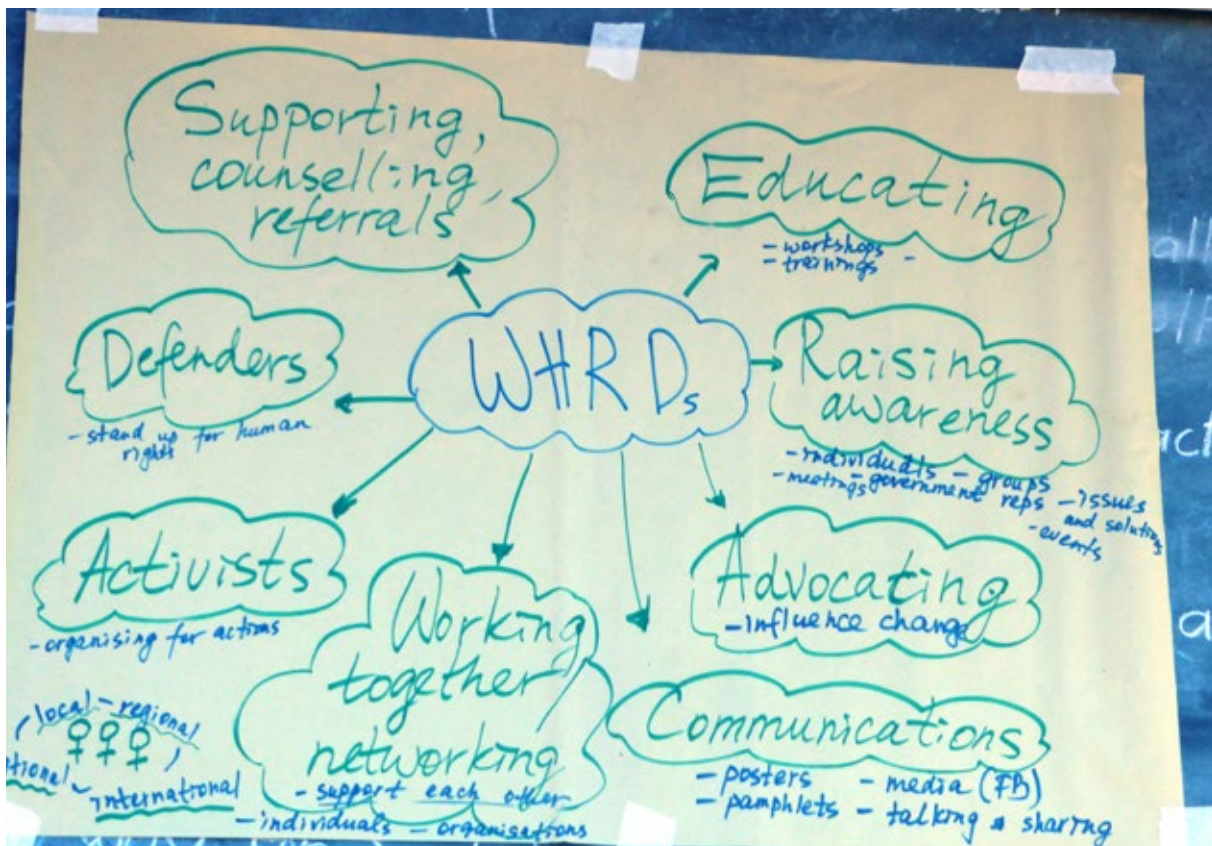
We stand up for the rights of women and to stop gender-based violence. We promote the reduction of violence, women's access to justice, gender equality, women empowerment, right relationships, responsible citizenship, respect of the dignity of the human person, increase resilience, spiritual wellbeing and freedom.

Extract from Bougainville Women Human Rights Defenders Guiding Principles and Values¹¹

Women Human Rights Defenders - agents for change

The NCfR's model of working with WHRDs is predicated on individuals taking ownership over actions to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in their communities. Evidence demonstrates that WHRDs are actively leading on various initiatives for community peace and rehabilitation, addressing gender-based violence, providing counselling, mediation, advocacy awareness raising and educational activities, as well as improving their communities' livelihoods and infrastructure development.

WHRDs play a number of different roles including as **educators** (raising awareness on Family and Sexual Violence, gender equality and human rights), **defenders** (providing basic counselling, referrals and response to protect women and extract them from situations of violence), **advocates** (influencing decision makers at community level), and **activists** (taking action in public places to address Family and Sexual Violence issues) in their communities.¹²



WHRDs play many roles to address GBV. Photo Credit: Elena Leddra/ IWDA, March 2017

During monitoring and training conducted by NCfR during the three year project, 502 WHRDs, that were surveyed, indicated they were active in their communities.¹³ At the end of the first year of the project, 44 per cent of WHRDs reported undertaking advocacy actions to request funds for activities to prevent or respond to GBV from different government actors. 25 per cent of WHRDs also reported asking the police and Council of Elders to improve services to respond to gender-based violence. At the end of 2015 there was no information available to track how successful these efforts were in obtaining funding. However, it was reported in the end of project WHRDs capacity assessment (2017) that 26 per cent of WHRDs had received support and funding from their local governments to lead on their activities as WHRDs. This is a great success for WHRDs and NCfR.

Significantly, with every year of the project, the number of WHRDs participating in monitoring meetings increased, which indicates that WHRDs stay engaged and continue their work beyond the time spent in trainings or activities organised by NCfR.¹⁴

The proactive engagement of WHRDs at the community level to address gender-based violence and gender inequality through awareness raising, education, providing support and initial response to cases of violence against women and children has made a difference. Many WHRDs reported during Bougainville WHRDs Forums (held in November 2015, March and November 2017) the work of WHRDs has brought positive change to their communities. For example, change in attitudes about gender-based violence and the role of women towards more respect of women and non-acceptance of violence; a reduction in alcohol and drug sales and consumption; reports of women feeling safer in their communities; and reports of successful collaboration between WHRDs and police in responding to cases of gender-based violence.

"In my opinion, WHRDs are very important because women are backbone of the community. Women are power. We WHRDs must also work to improve our community, so that we are free. So that we can walk freely and not be afraid...."

Alodia Males, young WHRD (Tinputz District, North Bougainville), Interview, 30 November 2017.

KEY LEARNING:

To lead responses to and prevention of family and sexual violence (FSV), WHRDs need: knowledge of human rights, gender equality and FSV; confidence to implement activities as a WHRDs; and skills to provide basic counselling and refer women who have experienced FSV.

End of Project WHRDs Capacity Assessment, March 2018

Increasing women's leadership and peacebuilding roles in the community:

WHRDs act as agents of change and role models for other women, which contributes to creating structural change in traditional norms and practices, and improves the situation of women at a personal, family and community level. Over the three years of the project, WHRDs reported they were participating in leadership positions and leading initiatives in their communities. This included women being elected to community government positions.

12 WHRDs in South Bougainville who were trained through the Gender Justice program became leaders and community facilitators in other development projects.

Women have been elected to community governments as ward members - 19 WHRDs in South Bougainville and 15 WHRDs women in North Bougainville.



Emelda Lomah, a young WHRD from Bana. Photo Credit: Harjono Djoyobisono/ IWDA, November 2017

"The important is that the community saw that I liked to speak in public, they supported me and wanted me to take up a leadership position either in the community or in the church. I am happy that this dream from my community has become a reality."

Emelda Lomah, young WHRD (Bana District, Bougainville), Interview, 29 November 2017.



Cathy Birengori, a WHRD from Kieta
Photo Credit: Harjono Djoyobisono/ IWDA,
November 2017

"We see that it is important for women to be represented at the community government and at the national government level because our ways are different as Bougainvillian women. When we are trying to make peace in our communities, women take the lead, events in the community, women are the ones taking lead not the man. Man do the laborious jobs like chopping and carrying the fire wood. Women are advisors to the men and that is why women need to be in community government. Women lead at the village as well as the family level."

Cathy Birengori, WHRD and counsellor (Kieta District, Central Bougainville), Interview, 27 November 2017.

A mechanism for community engagement in remote communities:

The WHRDs model has proven to be particularly effective for community outreach in the remote and rural context of Bougainville. Given WHRDs come from local communities, they are able to utilise existing relationships and local knowledge to engage with members of their communities on issues related to gender equality and gender-based violence. This also creates community ownership of initiatives. WHRDs can engage in ways that work in their particular community and which take into account local power dynamics and community needs. For example, WHRDs have started community projects on youth employment, building a resource centre and developing services for people with disabilities.

This also increases opportunities for women and children survivors of violence to receive support, crisis response and referrals as WHRDs can assess and identify the support needs in their community. Some WHRDs provide temporary accommodation for survivors in their houses, until survivors are transferred to Safe Houses. One WHRD from Bana has opened a Safe Home in her community, so women do not have to travel to Buin Safe House if their case is not serious and they need emergency temporary accommodation.

The training for WHRDs also explored how drama, dance and songs can be an effective way to communicate difficult messages about hidden issues in the community such as violence and mental health. The program has found that sharing these messages through creative ways can make it easier for local communities to understand the values of gender equality and respectful relationships, especially for people who are illiterate, and live in remote communities.

KEY LEARNING:

The staff of Safe Houses identified that awareness raising in communities regarding services, leads to increased demand for services. Similarly, the better networking with key service providers, the more clients referred by referral partners, such as police, Family Support Centre and hospitals. It is important to have an effective network of referral partners and to have awareness about services that the Safe Houses provide. The NCfR team includes information about services of Safe Houses (as well as the Men's Hub) in information shared during various trainings and initiatives delivered as part of this and other projects. WHRDs are trained to provide this information to women in their communities (as often they are the first point of contact for survivors of violence), provide basic trauma counselling and network with NCfR on further referrals and actions required for cases.

"In my community, people really hear what I say and respect me when I talk. Because I have been to many trainings, and run them as well in the community...We work with chiefs, women leaders and police in the community."

Alodia Males, young WHRD (Tinputz District, North Bougainville), Interview, 30 November 2017.

"The women see the work that I am doing, so now when they are facing problems they come and find me. When they seek my help, it really motivates me to keep working."

Bernadette Komeleko, WHRD Coordinator (Bana District, South Bougainville), Interview, 30 November 2017.



WHRDs from North presenting their plans at the Bougainville WHRDs Forum at Siwai. Photo Credit: Harjono Djoyobisono/ IWDA, November 2017

FROM THE COMMUNITY TO THE DISTRICT

At the Bougainville WHRDs forums and network meetings with NCfR, participants work in groups to develop shared District Action Plans, which address some of the priority issues discussed during the forum, including violence against women and children, sorcery related violence, rape and incest, conflict resolution, and peace building, working with communities and men, women’s leadership and roles in keeping peace and security in the lead up to 2019 Bougainville Referendum. The WHRDs’ action plans include raising awareness on human rights and gender issues around key dates such as International Women’s Day (8 March) and 16 Days of Activism Against GBV (25 November – 10 December).

The Ripple Effect

Over the three years of the project, the WHRDs network has demonstrated the outreach which can be achieved through educating and mentoring women and providing women with opportunities for leadership. In turn, these women have educated other women, their families and communities and have taken ownership over community-focussed actions.

For example, at the end of 2015, WHRDs had conducted 299 awareness raising activities on GBV, women’s rights and gender equality. The largest target audience for awareness was communities (51%) with, families (25%), government representatives (14%) and individuals (10%) following. International days have also been used as key moments for mobilisation of the community with community events and marches.

“And I am going to help those other women human right defenders that didn’t come to the forum because in the community I think I have almost 20 women human right defenders. So from this forum I will go back and have a meeting with them, and talk to them and I will encourage them to continue the work that our role and responsibility, our responsibility as women human right defenders.”

Olita Mokela, WHRD (Buka District, North Bougainville), Interview, 30 November 2017

"After I did the trainings, I went back to the other 11 magistrates in my area. I am the only woman magistrate. I told them, there is a network of women who can help us. The other magistrates were really happy that we can work together."

Mary Tanai, WHRD (Bana District, South Bougainville), Interview, 4 December 2017.

COMMUNITY MOBILISATION IN ACTION

A group of 25 WHRDs from Selau district (North) with support from NCfR organised and led a Peace March under the theme 'From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World', which they held on the 20th of December 2017. Over 700 community members were mobilised to attend the march. Later WHRDs reported that because of this awareness, during the Christmas break and celebrations there were no major issues with community level violence and disturbances, resulting in a period of quiet enjoyment of the holiday season for all community members.

The importance of networks and connections

A key method of supporting WHRDs to implement their work at the community level is to create a network of support, solidarity, and shared learning. In addition to quarterly monitoring visits, NCfR organises annual Bougainville Women Human Rights Defenders Forums. These events are designed to facilitate sharing and learning, supporting networking and collaboration among WHRDs.

Bougainville Women Human Rights Defenders Forums

- 26-29 November 2015 - 107 WHRDs from 10 districts of Bougainville met in Chabai, North Bougainville;
- 06-10 March 2017 - 271 WHRDs from all 13 districts of Bougainville met in Tunuru, Arawa, Central Bougainville; and
- 26 November - 01 December 2017 - 209 WHRDs from all districts of Bougainville met in Siwai, South Bougainville.



Bougainville WHRDs Forum held in Siwai (27 November - 01 December 2017).
Photo Credit: Harjono Djoyobisono/ IWDA

The forums gave space for WHRDs to reflect on their achievements, challenges and plans. They also allowed WHRDs to build connections and strengthen networks for collaboration with other advocates and leaders. The solidarity of being part of a network of like-minded women is important to WHRDs, as well as feeling connected to the international women's movement. The end of project capacity assessment revealed that 60 percent of women said that they 'always' learn things from other WHRDs to support their work and 78 percent of women said that they 'always' feel stronger when working with other WHRDs.

"We must work together with women in other places to have a network that we can reach out to for help and support. It's good to hear about what other places are doing, we can learn from that."

Clarice Bakiri, WHRD (Buka District, North Bougainville), Interview, 30 November 2017.

"I feel that the forum has shown me how the older women can support us young women leaders...The training has allowed me to meet other women and sisters who have supported and encouraged me to be courageous. This is the second forum I've attended. I feel that it is important as it is a time where others meet to encourage each other in order to continue doing our work boldly."

Emelda Lomah, young WHRD (Bana District, South Bougainville), Interview, 29 November 2017.

SECOND ANNUAL BOUGAINVILLE WOMEN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS FORUM

During the week of International Women's Day, 6-10 March 2017, NCfR brought together 271 WHRDs for the second annual Bougainville Women Human Rights Defenders Forum. This year's theme was 'Spaces, Journeys, Dreams and Hopes for the Future'. Participants discussed their role in increasing peace and safety in Bougainville, and successes and challenges of their role as WHRDs.

On the last day of the Forum (2017), a festival was organised to celebrate and honour all women who participated in and organised the forum. It was an exciting celebration of local cultures and traditions, including the endorsement of a WHRD's song.¹⁵

Listen to the song here: <https://youtu.be/6iBCUNM9f-k>

KEY LEARNING:

NCfR have successfully piloted an approach of taking trainings to local communities rather than bringing participants to central locations. This has allowed savings in travel and accommodation costs for participants, though it required additional time and coordination efforts from the NCfR team to organise trainings. It was also acknowledged by the NCfR team that they need a balance of district level activities, as there is value in bringing participants to a centralised location.

Working with Male Advocates

While supporting the WHRDs networks in Bougainville, NCfR has identified the need to engage, develop and support male advocates to work with WHRDs. The importance of this strategy was highlighted in the recent United Nations (UN) study on men's use of violence towards women, which found that "factors related to unequal gender norms and relationship and sexual practices are in fact the most important in accounting for men's perpetration of violence against women... Violence against women is fundamentally an issue of gender inequality, reflecting the larger structures that shape society"¹⁶. The Male Advocacy Program is working together with the WHRDs program to engage men and boys in attitude and social behaviour change programs to reduce violence and build non-violent communities. In November 2015, NCfR opened a Men's Hub to coordinate work of the male advocacy program that complements efforts of the WHRDs program.

When male advocates work alongside WHRDs, they act as role models for gender equality and respectful relationships for their communities, it gives women an option to also work closely with male traditional leaders, which contributes to changing traditional norms that perpetuate gender inequality and enhance gender based violence. NCfR looks at working with male advocates as an entry point to challenge gender inequality and enhance gender equality. NCfR encourages close collaboration between WHRDs and male advocates (starting from having joint trainings for both men and women). Changes can already be seen in some parts of South and North Bougainville, where WHRDs and male advocates work collaboratively together.

"The Male Advocates walk with us, as our security. Sometimes, during those interventions, we WHRDs share our skills and knowledge with the Male Advocates. And they share with us as well. Now the Male Advocates are grateful to us WHRDs, they have really changed their attitude towards us."

Bernadette Komeleko, WHRD Coordinator (Bana District, South Bougainville), Interview, 30 November 2017.



Bernadette Komeleko, a WHRD from Bana. Photo Credit: Harjono Djoyobisono/ IWDA, November 2017

Challenges in working with Women Human Rights Defenders

Over the three years of the project, a number of challenges have been identified and will continue to be a focus during Phase 2 of the Program.

Economic empowerment

There is a challenge in sustaining WHRDs trained by the project, as they work in communities as volunteers. After the training and skills development with NCfR, other INGOs in Bougainville employ them in paid positions (e.g. as facilitators). On the one hand, this is a positive outcome of the project, as the NCfR builds a pool of employable women. Conversely, employment can lead to disengagement with NCfR. NCfR is working to identify creative ways of motivating WHRDs to continue engaging with the project as volunteers. For example, by recognising efforts and initiatives of WHRDs, inviting them to participate in networking and capacity building opportunities, such as the Bougainville WHRDs Forums and/or professional development and training.

A new component for Phase 2 implementation is a women's economic empowerment pilot for WHRDs, which will involve training and supporting WHRDs to become economically strong and independent so that they can engage with their communities to address GBV and gender inequality.

"We need financial support. We work as volunteers and many people say to us that we are wasting time because of it. Before my husband used to challenge me. He said - you are leaving me and our family to do this work."

WHRD, Interview, Bougainville WHRD Forum in Siwai, 4 December 2017.

Unique risks and barriers

It is increasingly acknowledged that women human rights defenders face similar challenges to all human rights defenders across the world, but also unique risks which are specific to their gender and driven by deep-rooted discrimination against women, such as gender-based violence. WHRDs also face barriers to participating in public life including the burden of unpaid care work and gender stereotypes which restrict women's participation in leadership and public spaces.

"One was in my own family, when I went out into the community, they always say "hey, mother you are always going out. You are not caring for us". That was one challenge I got from my family."

WHRD, Interview, Bougainville WHRDs Forum in Siwai, 30 November 2017.

The end of project WHRDs assessment (November 2017) revealed that WHRDs reported they had experienced resistance and violence as a result of their work including:

- Men in the community trying to stop their work (34 percent);
- Women in the community trying to stop their work (26 percent);
- Being challenged in a public place (42 percent);
- Being harassed by someone (30 percent); and
- Having someone threaten to hurt or harm them (16 percent).

24 percent of women reported that they have 'sometimes' or 'always' been hurt by someone as a result of their work as a WHRDs.

NCfR will continue to monitor risks faced by WHRDs and to ensure support is available. IWDA has also established an Urgent Action Fund to increase support for WHRDs (see box below).

URGENT ACTION FUND

The Urgent Action Fund (UAF) was established by IWDA in 2016 and was piloted in Papua New Guinea and Bougainville over 15 months (April 2016 – June 2017). The key purpose was to pilot ways to increase support for Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs) so that they can: (a) move themselves and others out of immediate danger or threat to life; and (b) respond to the ramifications of violence through funding legal fees, medical treatment, counselling, and transportation. This Fund provided flexible and responsive emergency support to WHRDs who experienced threats, intimidation or violence as a result of their program, services and advocacy. IWDA is currently looking into ways of continuing this support after the end of the pilot project.

Engaging young women

Young women also face specific challenges when it comes to taking on leadership roles and performing their roles as WHRDs in the community. More understanding is needed of these barriers as well as strategies for increasing the confidence of young women. The exchange of knowledge between older and younger WHRDs is also crucial to ensure work reflects intergenerational priorities and for the purposes of succession planning.

After the first year of the project, NCfR identified that it was important to engage young women as WHRDs and started to develop strategies to address this. This included developing training for young women to join the WHRD network and facilitating mentoring between older and younger women. During the three year project, 158 young women (8% of all WHRDs) had their capacity built as WHRDs.

“To support young women to become WHRDs is important, so they can take our place. I travel a long way to do interventions, I’m getting older now and it is difficult to climb the mountains. So I need more women, the younger women, I need to mentor them so they can take my place.”

Bernadette Komeleko, WHRD Coordinator (Bana District, South Bougainville), Interview, 30 November 2017.

Extract from *Bougainville Women Human Rights Defenders Guiding Principles and Values*

In our future Bougainville women and girls will:

- Be safe in our homes, families, workplaces and communities.
- Be educated.
- Choose what we want for ourselves and our families.
- Be free to express our knowledge and talents.
- Have economic opportunities and increased resources and wealth.
- Influence decisions in our homes, churches, communities and the nation.

Women and men, girls and boys will:

- Have shared roles and responsibilities.
- Have equal respect.
- Promote healthy cultural practices.
- Participate in the family, community and nation equally.
- Preserve knowledge for survival in times of crisis or disaster.

The nation will:

- Be reconciled.
- Obey and respect the law and human rights.
- Care for our environment.
- Be transformed, prosperous, peaceful and united.

- ¹ United Nations General Assembly. 8 March 1999. A/RES/53/144. Available at: <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N99/770/89/PDF/N9977089.pdf?OpenElement>
- ² United Nations General Assembly. 30 January 2014. A/RES/68/181. Available at: http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/68/181. See also: International Service for Human Rights, November 28, 2013. UN adopts landmark resolution on Protecting Women Human Rights Defenders. Available at: <http://www.ishr.ch/news/un-adopts-landmark-resolution-protecting-women-human-rights-defenders>
- ³ <http://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw62-2018>
- ⁴ For discussion see: AWID, 2014. 'Our Right to Safety: Women human Rights Defenders' holistic Approach to Protection'. Available at: <https://www.awid.org/publications/our-right-safety-women-human-rights-defenders-holistic-approach-protection>; JASS, 'Women Human Rights Defenders'. Available at: <https://justassociates.org/en/women-human-rights-defenders>; United Nations Human Rights, Office of the High Commissioner, 2015. 'Women Human Rights Defenders'. Available at: 'https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Women/WRGS/SexualHealth/INFO_WHRD_WEB.pdf
- ⁵ International Women's Human Rights Defenders Day – UN Special Rapporteurs' Statement, 29 November 2016.
- ⁶ Papua New Guinea National Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender Based Violence (2016-2025), available at: <https://archive.org/details/UNDPNGWHRDStrategy2016202530mmMargin290816LR1>
- ⁷ Fulu, E., Warner, X., Miedema, S., Jewkes, R., Roselli, T. and Lang, J. (2013). Why Do Some Men Use Violence Against Women and How Can We Prevent It? Summary Report of Quantitative Findings from the United Nations Multi-Country Study on Men and Violence in Asia and the Pacific. Bangkok: UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women and UNV.
- ⁸ The project builds on work funded under the Funding Leadership and Opportunities for Women (FLOW) Program by the Government of the Netherlands from 2013-2015 to strengthen work of Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs) across Bougainville and Gender Based Violence (GBV) prevention activities with local communities. In 2015 (Year 1) this work was co-funded by Australian Aid (via the Pacific Women Shaping Pacific Development Program), and from 2016 (Year 2) the project is fully funded by Pacific Women.
- ⁹ 'From Gender Based Violence to Gender Justice and Healing' End of the Project Report (July 2018).
- ¹⁰ NCfR also works with male advocates and provides similar types of capacity building for these male advocates.
- ¹¹ Bougainville Women Human Rights Defenders Guiding Principles and Values - these guiding values were developed by NCfR team and WHRDs during 2016-2017 and officially adopted during the Bougainville WHRDs Forum held in Siwai during 27 November – 01 December 2017.
- ¹² Evidence from capacity assessment of WHRD's undertaken in 2015 and 2017.
- ¹³ Over 3 years, NCfR team conducted 21 monitoring visits and organised 3 district meetings with WHRDs from 21 communities (15 from North, 4 from South and 2 from Central Bougainville).
- ¹⁴ In year one 62 WHRDs participated, in year two 173 WHRDs and in year three 267 WHRDs took part in monitoring and district meetings.
- ¹⁵ <https://youtu.be/6iBCUNM9f-k>
- ¹⁶ Fulu, E et al. Why Do Some Men Use Violence Against Women and How Can We Prevent It? Summary Report of Quantitative Findings from the United Nations Multi-country Study on Men and Violence in Asia and the Pacific. Bangkok: UNDP, UNFPA, UN Women and UNV: 2013.

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