



Solomon Islands Government

Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs

**Theme:** *No livim Eniwan Bihaen*

*"No Policy goal should be met unless it is met for everyone"*

# *Annual Report 2017*



## Foreword by the Minister

It is my pleasure to once again provide a foreword for this important document. It is the second one I am asked to provide as minister of the ministry.

The Ministry of Women Youth Children and Family Affairs has well defined mandates to oversee. These mandates are grounded in the principles of inclusiveness; where different needs of women, youths and children including people with disability and those in rural and remote areas in the Solomon Islands are recognized. Guiding the implementation of these mandates a key frameworks which include National Government Policies, Ministry Policies, relevant Acts of Parliament and International Treaties. The ministry continues to ensure that these mandates are captured and translated into these documents for clarity and implementation.

As minister, my role is to ensure that the current government's priorities are recognized, enforced and implemented. It is pleasing to note that the ministry has progressively carried out these government priorities despite the limited resources it has. What is more pleasing is the effort taken by both the ministry and SIDCCG to work collaboratively to progress this vision and aspirations. I can say that this collaboration and working together has become more prominent now than before.

The current SIDCCG holds and value women, youth and children of the country dearly. First and foremost, this is reflected very strongly in the government's Policy Statement. Secondly, the SIDCCG has strongly supported programmes, policies and laws that recognize and protect the group. While resources may be minimal, the government has also taken the lead to raise the issues of concern to a level where these concerns are now recognized and need to be addressed holistically. The ruling government will not stop there but continue to advocate and progress work on these issues where it matters.

I can say with certainty that through all these efforts, some issues affecting our women, youth and children are now addressed. They also become more prominent so much so that work to address them are now urgent. In this regards, may I thank all those who are involved to get us to this level. May I also acknowledged the work of our ministry staff and stakeholders for working collaboratively not only to get these issues recognized but realised.

I wish everyone a good year next year. Let us maintain the spirit of oneness in our effort to achieve our goal.



Hon Fred Tuki  
Minister  
Ministry of Women Youth Children and Family Affairs

## From the Permanent Secretary's

2017 has been a very difficult year for the Ministry of Women Youth Children and Family Affairs. It has been difficult because of the changes in officers in the leadership position in addition to internal debacles in the administration that slows down implementations. Nonetheless, the ministry continues to flourish and despite the fact that it did not go well with expectations, a lot have been achieved.

One of the key activities that the ministry has pursued vigorously this year is the review of the National Youth Policy and subsequently the development of the three-tier policy. A nationwide consultation was conducted where the whole ministry has participated in. The ministry also started discussion on the development of the Children's Amusement Park not only in Honiara but in the provinces as well. There was also work on the CRC report which is to be presented in Suva, Fiji in early 2018. With regards to Women's Division, the key activities are the development of Women's Provincial Policies in Guadalcanal, Western and Malaita Provinces and work on enhancement and enactment of the Family Protection Act 2014.

In addition to key activities (highlighted above), ongoing priority programmes continue to dominate this year's activities. Women and Youth empowerment programmes and supporting initiatives that provides conducive environment for people are provided. This year as well, the ministry has started to focus more on awareness and advocacy and unlike before, press releases highlighting the problems faced by women, youth and children are done.

So much have been achieved despite the challenges and I must acknowledged the efforts put by ministry staffs in putting all efforts to implement their programmes despite all odds. They have been magnificent and showed patient when things did not go their way. At the end of the day, their patience paid off and some activities were implemented.

On behalf of the ministry, I would also like to thank our networks and stakeholders who have assisted in the implementations of ministry activities. In particular, I would like to thank our international and local non-government organizations, women and youth groups as well as government agencies for their tireless effort to make sure the year's work are achieved. It is through this partnership that we have been able to implement some of the planned activities.

So much have been learnt this year which the management has taken note off. To ensure that things go smoothly, change must be effected and issues addressed. I am glad to announce that some of these corrective measures have already been effected but more will follow next year.

Thank you.



Dr Cedric Alependava  
Permanent Secretary

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## **CHAPTER: ONE (1) VISION and MISSION**

### **1.1.VISION & MISSION & OUR VALUES AND PRINCIPLES**

#### **Our Vision**

Solomon Islands that is peaceful, productive, and prosperous; and one that embraces and honours diversity, sustainable futures, justice and equality for all.

#### **Our Mission**

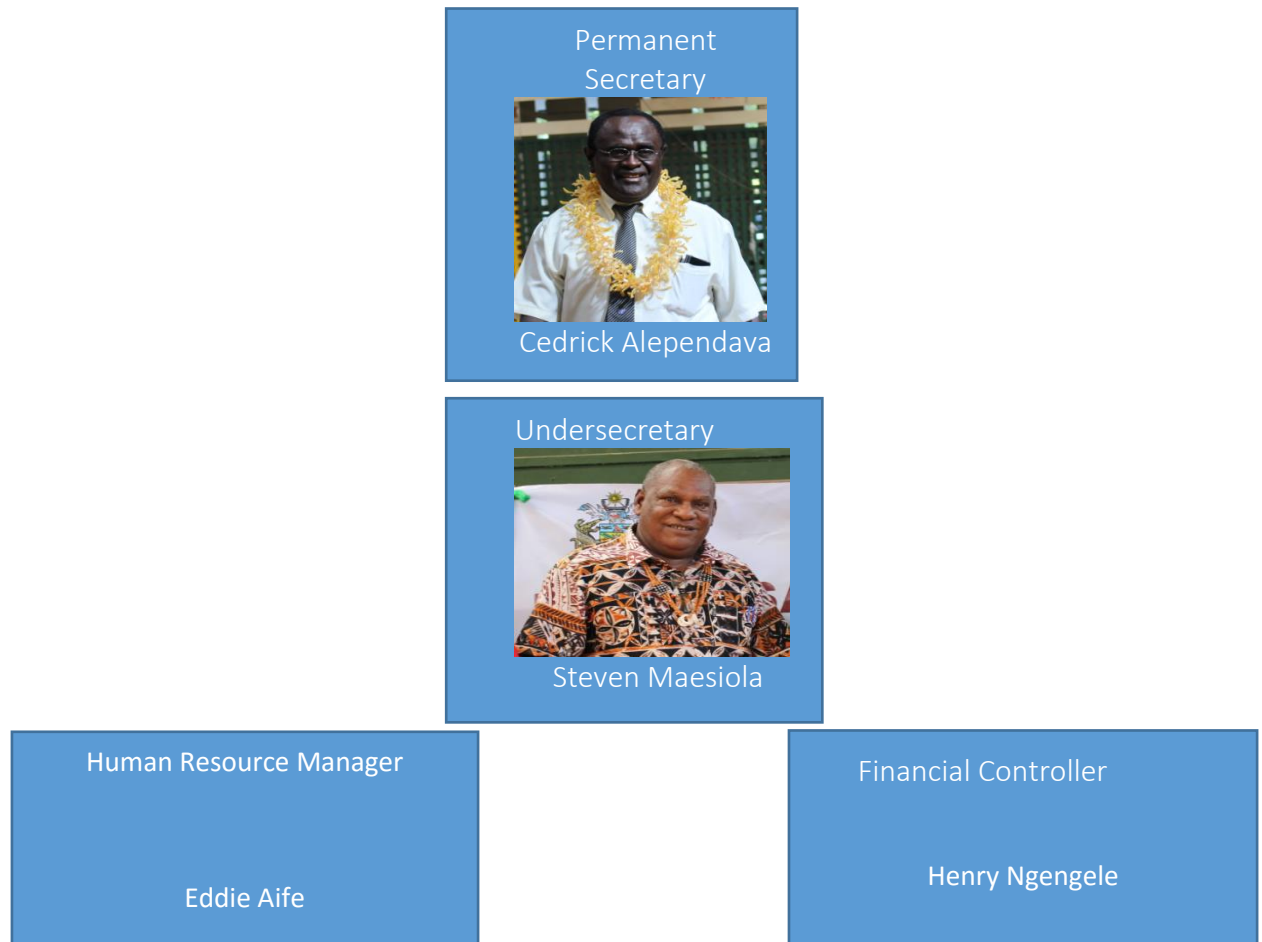
MWYCFA is committed to uphold and promote, protect and fulfil the rights of women, young people, children and families through effective partnerships, inclusiveness, fairness and creating equal opportunities to advance the wellbeing of the nation.

#### **Our Values & principles.**

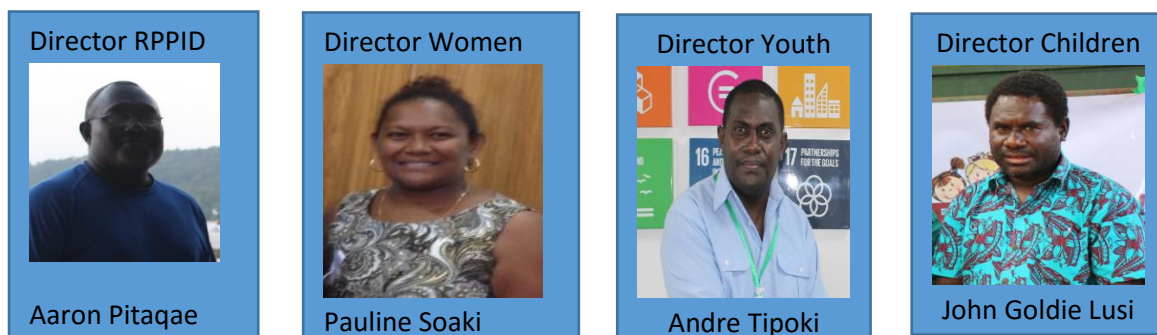
1. Equality before the law and Equity, justice, fairness and participation in all spheres of society
2. Family is the foundation of society and recognizing that the best interest of the child must be paramount.
3. Mainstreaming recognizes that the needs and concerns of women, youth and children and other marginalized groups are cross-cutting and central to development.
4. Achieving gender equality is the shared responsibility of women and men, girls and boys.
5. Mutual accountability and Partnerships between government and NGOs/CSOs and with donor partners can facilitate holistic development.
6. A healthy environment is essential for a sustainable future. This includes the human environment: Women, youth and children 'in harm's way' must be protected within the overarching theme of family.

## CHAPTER TWO (2): MWYCFA SENIOR EXECUTIVE TEAM, ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING

### 2.1 The Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs Senior Executive Team

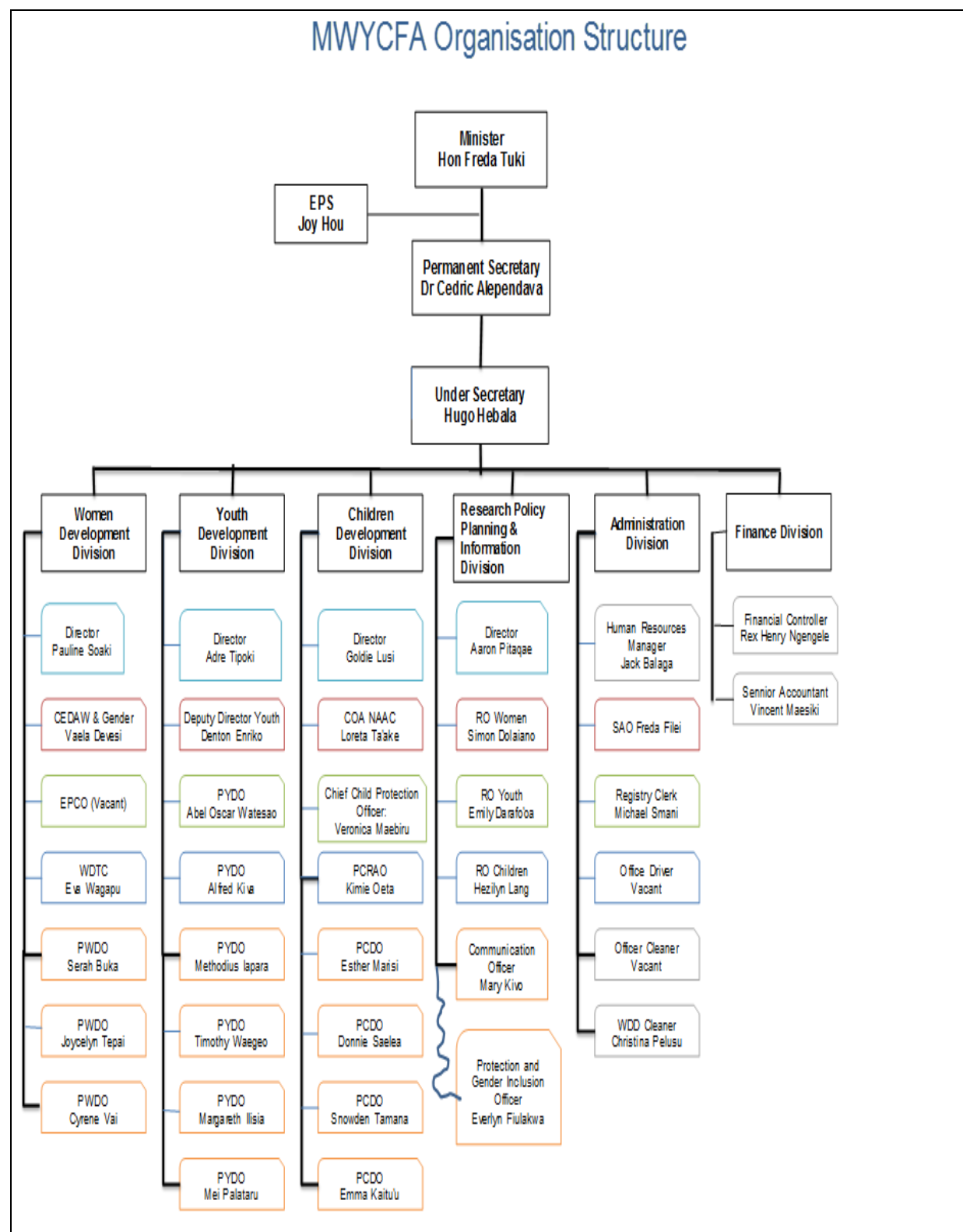


2.2 Below are the heads of Divisions of the Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs. The Ministry has five functional divisions and their heads: 1. Corporate Services (Management, Administration and Finance); 2. Research, Policy, Planning & Information Division (RPPID); 3. Women's Development Division (WDD); 4. Youth Development Division (YDD); and 5. Children's Development Division (CDD).



## 2.3 ORGANISATION STRUCTURE

The management and reporting structure of the MWYCFA is presented in Figure 1 below:  
December 2017 MWYCFA Organization Chart



## 2.4 Staffing Position

MWYCFA had a total of 39 positions in its manpower establishment for 2017. Out of the total number of posts, 37 were established posts while 1 were non-established post. The total number of vacant posts at the beginning of 2017 was 9 of which total of 6 posts were filled by 31<sup>st</sup> December bringing the total number of filled positions to 34 altogether. There was no promotion for this year.

2.4.1. Table represent summary of staffing positions of MWYCFA at the end of 2017 by division, type of post, filled and vacant posts and by gender.

Division	Established posts & non-established post	Filled posts			Vacant
		Female	Male	Total	
HQ/ Corporate Service Division	11	3	7	10	1 –Driver; In process for appointment
Women Development Division	8	6	1	8	1 pending PSC
Youth Development Division	8	2	6	8	0
Children Development Division	7	3	4	7	0
Research, Policy and Planning Division	5	3	2	5	0
		<b>17</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Total Estab</b>	<b>37</b>				
<b>Total Non- Estab</b>	<b>2</b>				
<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>				

## 2.5 Ministerial and Staff Movement

### 2.5.1 Ministerial Reshuffling

- There's no reshuffling to ministerial folio after the election of new PM
- Posting of Under Secretary – Mr. Stephen Maesiola
- Posting of HRM- Mr. Eddie D Aife

### 2.5.2 Appointments –

- Dr. Cedrick Alependava- PS- SS4 10-Mar-17
- Mr. Abel O WATESAO- PYC - L7.1 12-Oct-17
- Ms. Emma KAITU- PYC - L7.1 9-Oct-17
- Mr. Mary Q KIVO- NW & Info Officer L7.1 8-Sep-17
- Ms. Margaret R ILISIA- PYC L6.1 14-Sep-17
- Ms. May PALATAU- PYC L6.1 to resume duty

**NB:** The appointment of EAW Policy Coordinator is still with PSC for its deliberation and final decision.



### 2.5.3 Promotions & Confirmation

- There's no promotion recommendation completed and submitted for PSC approval in 2017.
- 10 PADS appraisal reports of the ministry officers for confirmation of trial promotions and probationary appointment were submitted to PSC for its deliberation and final decision.

### 2.5.4 Transfers

- HRM, Mr. Jack Balaga to MID

### 2.5.5 Acting Appointments and supervisory Responsibilities

- There's no acting neither additional responsibilities recommendation prepared and submitted for PSC for its approval in 2017

### 2.5.6 Resignation

- Nil

### 2.5.7 Termination

- Mr. Clench Ani - Office Driver terminated under G.O Chapter S 503.1 (F) and G.O Chapter S503.2 (F) (A & B).

## 2.6 Training and overseas travel

### 2.6.1. Table: Trainings undertaken in 2017 (local and overseas)

	Officer(s)	Training Course	Duration	Country
1	Mrs. Hezilyn Lang Kanamoli	KOICA Master's Degree Program	1½ year	South Korea
2	Simon Dolaiano	Certificate IV in Project Management	Oct-Nov (4 weeks)	SI
3	Emily Darafo'oa	Certificate IV in Project Management	Oct-Nov (4 weeks)	SI

### 2.6.2. Overseas travel in 2017

	Officer(s)	Purpose	Duration	Country
1	Mr. D Dolaiano	5 <sup>th</sup> . Pacific Regional Disability Conference	5 days- 20 <sup>th</sup> .to 24 <sup>th</sup> ./2/17	Apia, Samoa
2	Mr. H Hebala	Regional Workshop on Core Statistic/ Indicators of Development Including Headline SDG Indicators	5 days- 27/2/17 to 2/3/17	Noumea, New Caledonia
3	Mr. H Hebala	International Conference	13 days- 12 <sup>th</sup> . To 24/3/17	Morocco, Africa
4	Mr. G Lusi	1 <sup>st</sup> . Asia- Pacific Ministerial Forum of Mngt of Social Transformation Program	4 days- 20 <sup>th</sup> . To 23/3/17	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

5	Mr. A Pitaqae	PS&PDYE	3 days- 5 <sup>th</sup> . To 7/4/17	Fiji
6	Mrs. V Devesi	Advance Security Cooperation (ASC) 17-1 course	2 month- 30/3/17 to 3/5/17	Hawaii
7	Mrs. A Tipoki	PS&PDYE	6 days- 4 <sup>th</sup> . To 9/4/17	Fiji
8	Mrs. J Hou	Accompany, Hon Minister for medical check	17 days- 14 <sup>th</sup> . To 28/4/17	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
9	Mrs. P Soaki	PSC Regional Workshop	8 days- 27/5/17 to 3/6/17	Fiji
10	Mrs. P Soaki	Pacific Multi- Stakeholders Dialogue	3 days- 14 <sup>th</sup> . To 16/6/17	Fiji
11	Mrs. V Maebiru	4 <sup>th</sup> . PROPA Networking	6 days- 5 <sup>th</sup> . To 9/6/17	Fiji
12	Everlyn Fialakwa	PRRP Regional Board Meeting	29 <sup>th</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> August 2017	Fiji

### 3.0. CHAPTER THREE: BUDGET PERFORMANCE

#### 3.1 Budget

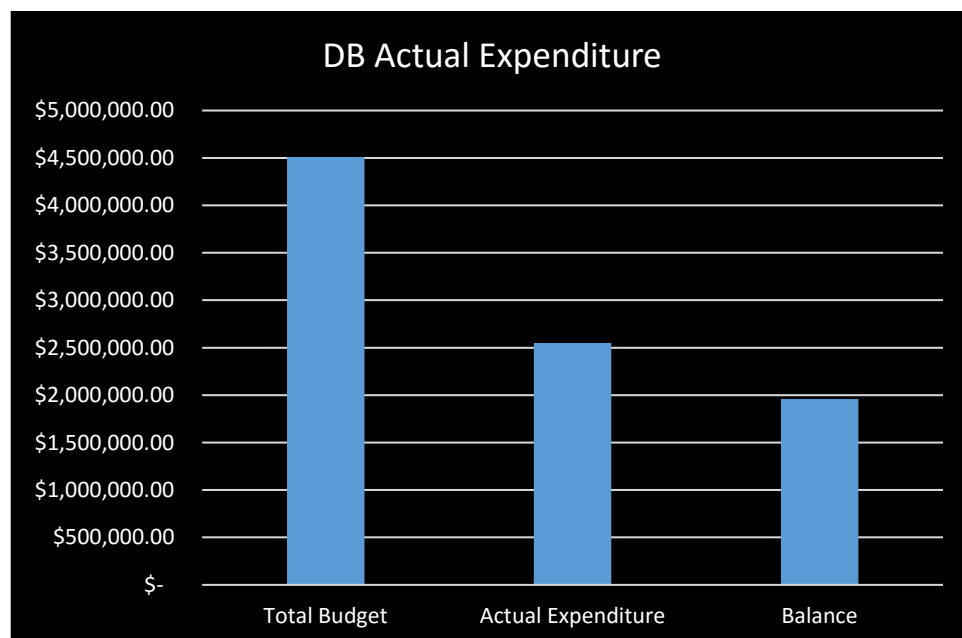
##### 3.1.1 Development Budget

2016 MWYCFA Development Budget totaled to \$4,510,000.00. This amount was for the 12 key programs and projects. The projects include following activities:

- National Centre for Women,
- Youth and Children,
- Family Protection Act,
- Economic Empowerment of Women,
- CRC Periodic Reporting,
- NACC Institutional Strengthening Ratification of Optional Protocols,
- Review of National Children's Policy,
- Child and Family Welfare Bill,
- Scoping for Provincial Youth Centres,
- Review of National Youth Policy,
- Youth Parliament,
- Centre for Youth Excellency

All the above programmes and projects are implemented by respective divisions in the ministry.

The graph below shows the rate of implementation. Out of the total amount the ministry was allocated, only \$1,959,653.90 was expended. The amount used make up 56.5% of the total amount which is not good enough.



The underutilization of the funds are based on three reasons. The first is the moratorium placed by MOFT. The ministry was told to reserve and not use \$1,000,000.00 of the budget. The second reason is the land issues pertaining to area to be developed. Lastly, there was in adequate support from support services within the ministry.

### **3.1.2 Recurrent Budget**

The ministry's 2017 recurrent budget is \$11, 209, 265. Payroll accounted for \$2,513,608 while Other Charges \$8, 695, 657. When compared with the 2016 budget, this was a reduction of \$717, 438. A big portion of reduction is from other charges, notably house rent, printing and photocopying, office stationary, subventions and grants and women's development assistance.

The cut has resulted in some of the activities to be foregone. There were also some realignments and movements of funds made to cater for the drop in budget. For example, additional funds were taken from Youth Division to cover shortfall in staff house rentals.

## **CHAPTER 4: DIVISIONAL FUNCTIONS, AWP ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS**

### **4.1 CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION**

The Corporate Services Division, headed by the Permanent Secretary and assisted by the Under Secretary, consist of the Executive Personal Secretary, the Human Resources Manager, the Financial Controller, a Senior Accountant, a Senior Administrative Officer, a Registry Clerk, an office driver and a Hygiene Technician (Cleaner). The division principally covers management, administration, and finance sections.

#### **4.1.1 POLICY & MANAGEMENT**

**DCCG Policy Objective: Provide enabling environment for effective & efficient service delivery through corporate and support services**

**Strategic Action:** Improvements of ministry's strategic leadership through sound policy advice to minister & relevant government authorities.

**Activity:** Provide Advice and support Role of the Minister

**Achievements:** The Minister is accorded ongoing and timely advice.

#### **Administration**

**Strategic Action:** Improvement of management of MWYCFA professional and organizational abilities to ensure effective service delivery.

**Activity:** Develop Human Resources Staff Development Plan.

**Achievements:** A simple plan is developed and now used.

**Activity:** Coordinate implementation of Performance Management Process (PMP) at Ministry Level.

**Achievements:** An implementation Committee is established which comprise of all HODs. First appraisals conducted using this committee.

**Activity:** Carry out staff appraisal and performance management.

**Achievements:** PMP processes continue for finalisation of staff appraisals.

#### **4.2.1 FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS**

This section is not completed since no information is provided.

### 4.3 RESEARCH, POLICY, PLANNING & INFORMATION DIVISION (RPPID)

The Research, Policy, Planning & Information Division supports the other Divisions in terms of “Information-education-communications” (IEC), policy, planning, coordination and monitoring. The following are some of the roles played by the division:

- Coordinate and support research, policy and planning activities
- Coordinate data collection, processing and dissemination of information
- Support monitoring of Policies, Plans and Programmes of the ministry
- Establish and support effective and reliable communication networks with key stakeholders and back that network up with reliable information/data system that government can base its policy initiatives upon, and stakeholders can use to coordinate their Programme assistance.

#### 4.3.1 Organization and Staffing

Research, Policy, Planning and Information Division has five positions. The Director heads the division. There are three Research Officers and one Networking and Information Officer. The division also accommodates the Protection & Gender Social Inclusion Officer. This post is currently funded by UNDP with the hope of it being integrated into the ministry’s establishments.

#### 4.3.2 Activities and Achievements by DCCG Policy Objectives

**DCC Policy Objective: Establish & develop community engagement programs that address the needs of women, youth and children.**

**Strategic Action:** Development & execution of a community engagement strategy and implementation plan that builds on ongoing commitments for community development; is inclusive and sustainable in its design and approach; and addresses the specific needs of women, youth and children at the community level and in the most disadvantage and vulnerable areas in Solomon Islands.

**Activity:** Develop Community Engagement Strategy

**Achievements:** A communication and networking officer to facilitate work on this is now at work. The process to develop the strategy has now began.

**DCC Policy Objective: Facilitate and Strengthen Women and Youth Livelihood Empowerment Programmes through direct funding of Micro and Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) projects**

**Activity:** Develop guidelines for small grants on SME projects

**Achievements:** Draft guidelines completed. Further deliberations is required.

**Activity:** Develop bid for SIG 2018budget to increase specific grants for SME projects for women and youth.

**Achievements:** 2018 Bids already developed and submitted.

**Activity:** Generate support for women and youth livelihood empowerment Programmes from existing donors & line ministries already supporting SME projects.

**Achievements:** Collection of information on donors who have supported women and youth were done. Draft report on Donor Agents supporting women and youth SME initiatives was compiled.

**DCC Policy Objective:** Provide enabling environment for effective and efficient service delivery through corporate and support services

**Strategic Action:** Enhancement of planning for effective implementation of MWYCFA plans, projects and programmes

**Activity:** Undertake policy and corporate plan review.

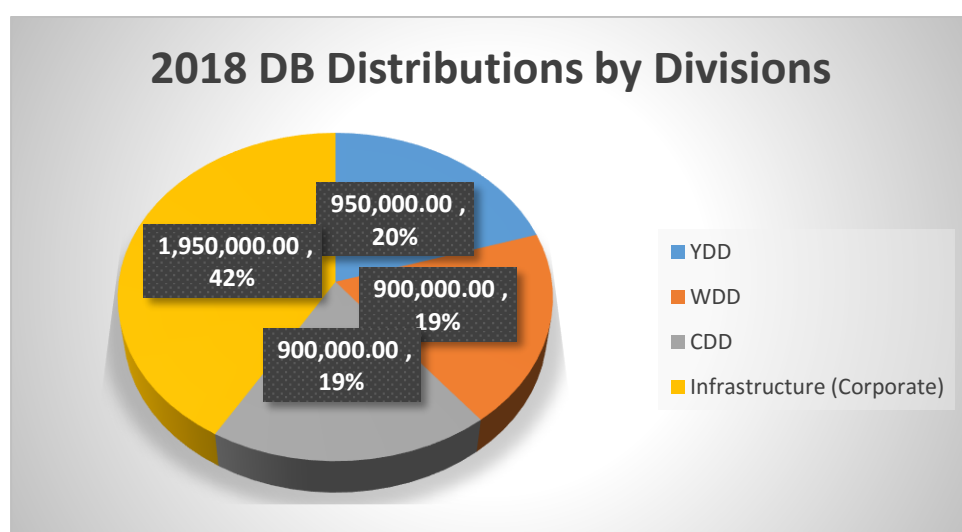
**Achievements:** A review of the Corporate Plan 2015-2018 is still on going with the view to start working on the review in 2018.

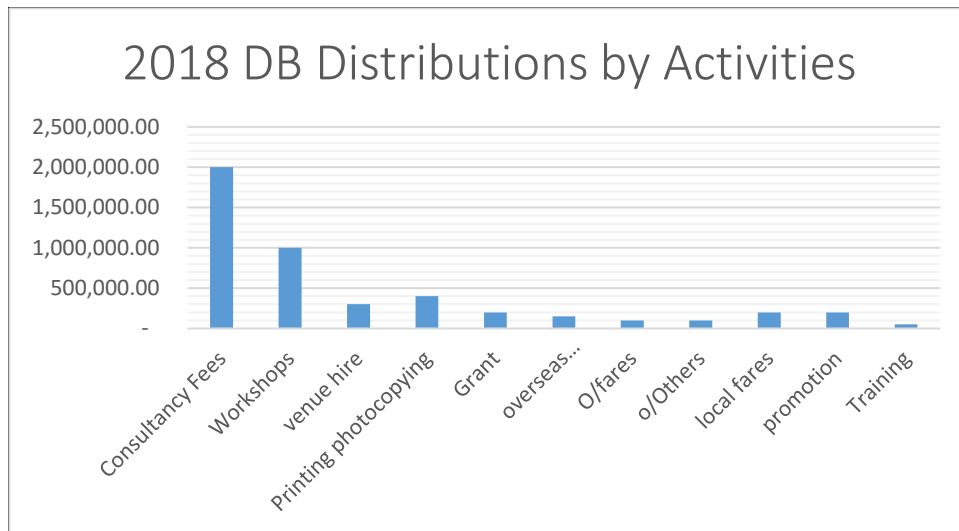
**Activity:** Set up website to improve MWYCFA's profile and image.

**Achievements:** Funds for upgrade and yearly fee paid towards end of the year. Work on the website is underway.

**Activity:** Lead preparatory work on MWYCFA 2018 budget estimates in consultation and partnership with Finance and Accounts sections

**Achievements:** Completed and done. Awaiting passage of National Budget by Parliament.





**Activity:** Prepare and complete 2016 Annual Report

**Achievements:** Report could not be completed and printed because some divisions failed to submit their report.

**Activity:** Coordinate and collect information for 2017 Annual report.

**Achievements:** Work on this has started in mid-year and is still on going. The report should be ready by the beginning of 2018.

**Activity:** Prepare quarterly and bi-annual progress reports on implementation progress of 2017 Annual work plan

**Achievements:** The first three reports were completed and sent to MDPAC. Reports on progress of implementations also sent to PMO.

**Activity:** Develop Ministry database on indicators relevant to women, youth and children.

**Achievements:** This is continuing. Some data were collected. Assistance to identify relevant indicators are being sought from relevant authorities.

**Activity:** Provide technical support to all budgetary and planning process.

**Achievements:** In house capacity building is ongoing. Two divisional staff completed Project Planning Course.

**Activity:** Coordinate and develop an M & E system for monitoring and report

**Achievements:** Consultation work with MDPAC M & E division to develop a system continues. Hopefully a simple system will be completed by mid-2018.

**Activity:** Coordinate and develop a communication strategy.

**Achievements:** Work on this was stalled awaiting recruitment of Communication and Networking Officer. It is now deferred to 2018.

**Activity:** Implementation of PMP Process

**Achievements:** All forms completed and with the support of PS and US, sent to PSC for concurrence.



#### **4.4. WOMEN DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**

WDD has a total of 8 staff manning the division. The division is headed by the Director for Women and supported by 1 National Training Coordinator, 1 Eliminating Violence against Women Coordinator, 1 Gender Equality and Women's Development Coordinator and 4 Provincial Development officers.

##### **4.4.1. Activities and Achievements by DCCG Policy Objectives**

**DCC Policy Objective: Establish & develop community engagement programmes that address the needs of women, youth and children**

**Strategic Action:** Support to women's development programmes and activities at national and community levels.

**Activity:** Develop provincial women's policies

**Achievements:** MWYCFA supported 3 provinces and Honiara to develop their women's policies.

Malaita Province Women's Empowerment and Development Policy was endorsed by provincial executive and assembly. The policy will be launched in March 2018.

Guadalcanal Province Women's Policy was endorsed and implementation in progress.

Western Province Women's Policy in draft to be launched in 2018.

Honiara Women's Policy in Draft to be endorsed by Honiara City Council Executive.



**Activity:** Conduct scoping exercise and design of programs on equal opportunities access to address gender inequality issues faced by women and girls with special needs.

**Achievements:** TOR was developed and discussion held with PWDSI. However, due to conflicting ideas on what research should be focused on. Work halted awaiting report for the Fiji regional workshop on gender and disability (date).

**Strategic Actions:** Provide support to community programme and projects for women and girls through women's development grants prioritizing rural women and girls, including those with special needs.

**Activity:** Administer Women's Grants for women led and women focused programmes/activities with priority attention to rural women and women with disabilities.

**Achievements:** Several projects proposals have been submitted adding to a backlog of project proposals from past years. However, only two were successful to receive their grants payments. Kohimarama Women's Group was supported with \$20,000 and one from Rennell and Bellona.

**Activity:** Administer grant for NCW, CCC and FSC.

**Achievement:** Grant Agreement was developed and signed with NGO partners. All NGO Partners received their grants as follows: National Council of Women - \$150,000; Christian Care Centre - \$150,000; and Family Support Centre - \$290,926. Templates for acquittal will be developed as well.

**Strategic Actions:** Civic education to women and communities in rural areas.

**Activity:** Celebrate International Women Events, recognising and promoting women's rights.

**Achievements:** The International Women's Day (IWD) was held on 8<sup>th</sup> of March and the International Rural Women's Day (IRWD) from 15<sup>th</sup> October for 5 days. Both events were organised and successfully led by the Women's Development Division. Women and men in the formal and informal and the private sectors attended both events.

**Strategic Actions:** Promotion and delivery of skills training for community women's groups (including women with special needs).

**Activity:** Provide skills training and raise awareness on women's issues at community level.

**Achievements:** Trainings were held in Louna, Russell, Central Province funded by the Central Provincial Government and facilitated by MWYCFA WDD staff, Reef Islands and in Potanu'u, East Are'are in December. (WDD responsible officers to provide data)

**DCCG Policy Objective:** Develop, promote & facilitate socio-economic development programmes that address the specific needs of women, youth and children.

**Strategic Action:** Enterprise development and business training through support for women's business association and youth entrepreneurial groups.

**Activity:** Develop Programme for Financial inclusion, Enterprise development and business trainings.

**Achievements:** Discussions on these are underway with the Ministry of Commerce.

**Strategic Action:** Financial inclusion through financial literacy, savings schemes and access to affordable financial services for women and youth.

**Activity:** Provide training for establishment of Savings Clubs.

**Achievements:**

Province	Constituency /village	Number of Savings Clubs Established	Total Savings	Trainings conducted	Responsibility
Choiseul	South Choiseul-Pangoe	6	\$585,949.	297 all savings clubs members.	Provincial Women's Desk Officer
	Taro	8			
Guadalcanal		10	\$270,000.	A total of 532 members.	Provincial Women's Desk Officer
Central Islands		6		2	Provincial Women's Desk Officer
Rennell and Bellona		2		1	
Isabel		7	\$144,634.	3	Provincial Women's Desk Officer
Makira		5	\$78,977.00	2	Provincial Women's Desk Officer
Temotu		2			
Western	Gizo	2	275,888.	2	Provincial Women's Desk Officer
	Roviana	1			
	Vangunu	2			
	Marovo	22			
	Ramata	2			

**Strategic Action:** Collaborate with existing service providers for training in financial literacy and marketing opportunities for savings clubs.

**Activity:** Partnership with key service providers explored and established

**Achievements:** Exploration for partnerships with key service providers is still on going. A partnership explored was with Food, Nutrition and Technology unit under the Ministry of Commerce.

**Activity:** Develop a database for all women centred savings clubs

**Achievements:** Work on developing the database has been slow but progressing. It is expected to be completed in 2018.

**Activity:** Create partnership with institutions for microfinance schemes for women in rural, informal, minority and with disabilities to have access to finance (Ministry of Commerce, Commercial Banks etc.)

**Achievements:** Conversations with relevant partners have begun but substantial work is expected to begin in 2018.

**DCCG Policy Objective:** Strengthen and support gender equality, eliminate gender based violence and stop abuse of women and children.

**Strategic Action:** Adoption of concrete result-oriented measures, such as quotas and time tables, preferential treatment and outreach and support programmes to promote substantive equality between women and men.

**Activity:** Implement CEDAW Concluding Observation Plan of Action and raise awareness among stakeholders.

**Achievements:** A National and provincial Stakeholders workshop was held in October 2017 where the CEDAW and its concluding observations were disseminated to stakeholders.

**Activity:** Preparation of reporting process (consultations and trainings) for the Constructive Dialogue, Geneva, Switzerland in 2018 on the CEDAW Fourth Periodic Report.

**Achievements:** Solomon Islands submitted its initial, second and third CEDAW periodic report to the UN CEDAW Committee in 2014. Since then SI has received from the UN CEDAW committee its Concluding Observations (CO) based on the submitted report. The CO recommended that SI submit a follow up report on four critical areas highlighted in the CO. The SI CEDAW Follow up report was drafted and submitted to the UN CEDAW committee in February 2017 previously endorsed by Cabinet.

**Activity:** Finalise and adopt the Affirmative Actions' / Temporary Special Measures (TSM) Strategy

**Achievements:** A Draft Strategy has been drafted and in final stages of completion. Finalising of the strategy through a peer review is planned to take place.

**Strategic Action:** Review of GEWD & EVAW policies and implementation of revised priorities in close alignment with CEDAW Concluding Observations.

**Activity:** Finalize and implement the GEWD Policy 2016 – 2020.

**Achievements:** GEWD policy 2016 – 2020 endorsed by cabinet and launched in May 2017. ARRC established and appointments made.

**Activity:** Finalise and implement the EVAWG Policy 2016 – 2020.

**Achievements:** EVAWG policy 2016 - 2020 endorsed by cabinet and launched in May 2017.

**Activity:** Support the National EVAW Task Force to implement and monitor with a results framework, and assess progress of EVAW Policy.

**Achievements:** NTF EVAWG established, members appointed and orientation completed. Capacity Building of the NTF completed.

M&E Framework developed and NTF are familiar with the tool.

Reports complied through the FPA Annual Report.

**Activity:** Finalize Gender Statistics Initiative Assessment Report (GSI).

**Achievements:** Completed and launched.

**Strategic Action:** Institutional strengthening of MWYCFA with particular focus on WDD and the need to support gender mainstreaming

**Activity:** Review the report for organizational restructure of the WDD by National Gender Advisor to inform structure and staffing establishment for 2017 and 2018.

Conduct specialized advance training on gender analysis, gender statistic and gender and development, including organizational management skills.

**Achievements:** DFAT has indicated support and a TOR to be drafted.

No qualified candidates so re advertised.

**Activity:** Finalise and implement Gender Mainstreaming Strategy

**Achievements:** In draft and awaiting peer review by GFPs to be led by MPS  
Await SPC and MPS to lead on this.

**Activity:** Develop submission to Ministry of Public Service to formally recognize appointments of Gender Focal Points (GFP).

**Achievements:** Await SPC and MPS to lead on this.

**Activity:** Establish Parliamentary Standing Committee on Gender Equality.

**Achievements:** No progress

### **Strategic Actions: Implementation of the Family Protection Act 2014.**

**Activity:** Provide technical assistance for the implementation of the Family Protection Act and EVAWG policies with a focus on training key policy and decision-makers, and programme managers. These should cover: Members of Parliament, Permanent Secretaries and Under Secretaries & Directors

**Achievements:** Work on this has not happened. Consultant was hired to develop the manual but did not deliver.

**Activity:** Coordinate and organise Family Protection Advisory Council and conduct meetings.

**Achievements:** Since establishment of the FPAC five meetings were successfully held.

**Activity:** Set up Register of DV counsellors

**Achievements:** Consultant recruited to develop the regulations and framework for the registration of qualified counsellors. This is funded under the UNJP and ESP. Partially completed: Preliminary discussions through one to one meetings, interviews and a one day participatory workshop attended by 22 participants were conducted to inform the development of a National counselling Framework and Practice Standard for Domestic Violence.

Six categories of counselling identified to be recognised in the DV counselling registry are: Psychological First Aid, Basic Counselling, Trauma counselling, Therapeutic Counselling, Perpetrator Counselling and Faith Based Counselling.

**Activity:** Develop training program for Counsellors and conduct training.

**Achievements:** Consultant is yet to develop training program, this is to be informed by the National Counselling Framework once completed.

**Activity:** Develop a reporting template set up for the Minister for Women – Section 57 of the FPA

**Achievements:** Reporting template has been developed pending FPAC's endorsement.

**Activity:** Support the development of a gender training manuals for law enforcement and local justices to ensure that they are able to respond to and investigate complaints of domestic violence in a gender-sensitive manner.

**Achievements:** Not progressed.

**Activity:** Disseminate information which is clear and easy to understand, including for women with disabilities, on the criminalization of different forms of violence under the Family Protection Act among the general public.



**Achievements:** The MWYCFA monitors messages that are disseminated on the Family Protection Act, and is in the process of developing standardized awareness materials which can be used by all stakeholders who will be undertaking awareness and training programs. Erroneous messaging on domestic violence can be harmful when it reinforces gender inequality, justifies violence and shifts blame from a perpetrator to a victim of domestic violence.

**Activity:** Support stakeholders' community-based EVAWG initiatives, to conduct prevention programmes, esp. in rural areas, and with people with special needs, and raise awareness on Family Protection Act 2014.

**Achievements:** Raising awareness and trainings on the FPA is an on-going program of the WDD. Other Stakeholders including responsible government ministries and NGOs also carry out awareness on the FPA. Data regarding participants in different provinces can be found in the FPA annual report 2017.

**Strategic Action:** Support to and strengthening of the Referral SAFENET and other key GBV/VAWG service providers by:

**Activity:** Track ESPWG funding to develop system for data collection and analysis by referral network for use by SAFENET members.

**Achievements:** SAFENET partners continue to effectively gather VAWG data on a monthly basis which are compiled by UNW. ESP was launched in September 2017, which brought more than 100 people representing various service providers, government agencies, NGOs and CSOs in the country.

**Activity:** Strengthen Coordination and implementation of the referral network SAFENET MOU and SOP and protocols.

**Achievements:** Draft SAFENET Practitioner's Guide is in place pending finalising and printing.

**Activity:** Disburse and manage funds to update SAFENET IEC materials. Disburse the funds for print and distribute updated orientation training packages.

**Achievements:** Not done.

**Strategic Actions:** Partnership with stakeholders, including community and traditional leaders, community groups (men, women and youth) to implement behavioural change programmes to end GBV/VAWG.

**Activity:** Carry out 16 Days of Activism Campaign in selected areas in Honiara and Provinces

**Achievements:** 16 Days of Activism campaign successfully carried out. It began with a launch followed by vehicle convoy from Henderson, through to Naha/Boarder ending at White River. The convoy stopped at different spots along the route to carryout awareness and advocating to end violence against women and girls.

*The 16 days program was also extended to CP which was their first time to officially launch the 16 days program in their province and the funding allocated to them was \$8,000.00. This was part of the funding drawn out of the \$60,000 funding from Honiara 16 days of activism budget.*

**Activity:** Conduct social marketing research on violence against women in the Solomon Islands

**Achievements:** A consultant has been engaged to conduct the social marketing research. Research consultations has been conducted in Temotu, Malaita, Guadalcanal and Honiara. The consultancy contract has been extended to finalise the financial, research and narrative reports.

**Strategic Actions:** Adoption of National Action Plan for Women, Peace and Security to give due consideration of women in the maintenance of peace.

**Activity:** Finalise National Action Plan for Women, Peace and Security for implementation.

**Achievements:** WPS NAP endorsed by Cabinet and launched in May 2017. Awareness and advocacy on Women Peace and Security is on-going at national, provincial and community levels. 4 Gender and Women provincial policies were developed incorporating women peace and security as policy priority areas. The 4 provinces are Malaita, Guadalcanal, Western and Honiara City.

**DCCG Policy Objective:** Facilitate and strengthen women and youth livelihood empowerment programmes through direct funding of micro and small and medium enterprise (SME) projects

**Strategic Actions:** Adoption of a women and youth livelihood empowerment strategy.

**Activity:** Provide financial support to women led and women focused SME initiatives through women's development assistance grant.

**Achievements:** Only two provincial women led groups received grants from the women's development assistance grant.

**Activity:** Establish and support the National WEES Task Force to implement and monitor with a results framework, and assess progress of Strategy.

**Achievements:** National WEES Taskforce yet to be established,

**Activity:** Scope for incubation centres for women in provinces.

**Achievements:** No progress.

**DCCG Policy Objective:** Work in partnership with organizations, companies, business houses, traders, manufacturers and employers to increase access to labour market for women and youth and increase gender equality in workplace.

**Strategic Actions:** Recognition of women in business and organisations with good gender and equal employment practice.

**Activity:** Support the establishment of a gender award event for business programs.

**Achievements:** Not yet although some funds have been allocated to the SIWIBA Awards Night. Discussions with SICCI is still on-going.

**Strategic Actions:** Supply of employment data based on age, sex, industry and type of work.

**Activity:** Develop a Women's Employment Data Collection System.

**Achievements:** On-going conversation with Ministry of Commerce..

**DCCG Policy Objective: Strengthened and increase support to women and youth empowerment programmes.**

**Strategic Actions:** Availability of market access to women handicraft entrepreneurs and vendors.

**Activity:** Work with relevant government ministries e.g. Min. Lands & Tourisms to secure land for women's handicraft centre.

**Achievements:** Initial discussion has been done between Ministry and Tourism and also with Ministry of Commerce.

#### **4.5. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT DIVISION (YDD)**

The Youth Development Division (YDD) is one of the technical division within the Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs (MWYCFA). The overall function of the Division is to manage Solomon Islands Government priorities for Youth Development and Empowerment in the country which includes;

- Develop Youth policies and strategies with National and Provincial Governments
- Coordinate, monitor and evaluate implementation of youth policies and strategies
- Provide and support platforms to link youth engagements
- Administer government core funding support for youth

The Youth Development Division currently has 8 full-time staff consisting of (1 Director, 1 Chief National Youth Programme Officer and 6 Provincial Youth Coordinators Honiara based staff). According to the ministry corporate plan 2014-2017, youth division requires an additional post for 1 Deputy Director Youth – Policy Coordination.

##### **4.5.1. Activities and Achievements by DCCG Policy Objectives**

**DCC Policy Objective A: Establish & develop community engagement programmes that address the needs of women, youth and children address**

**Strategic Action:** Support to Community development youth programmes & projects through provision of youth grants

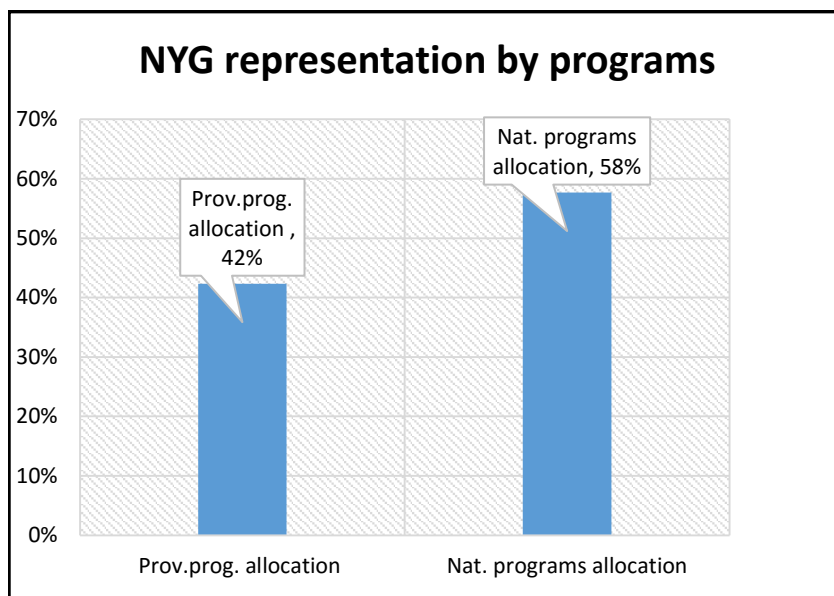
**Activity:** Administer National Youth Grants to youth led and youth focused programmes/activities

**Achievements:**

MWYCFA Provided Funding assistance to the Implementation of National and provincial youth programs. The total 2017 Subvention and youth Grants allocation was \$1,450,436. According to the report obtain from YDD divisional staffs at the end of the fourth quarter, the total youth grants execution was \$ 1,376,946 as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017. Note that youth events, YDD staff provincial travel and other youth implemented programs at provincial level were also funded under this NYG. Below is a graphical representation of Youth grants distribution by programs.



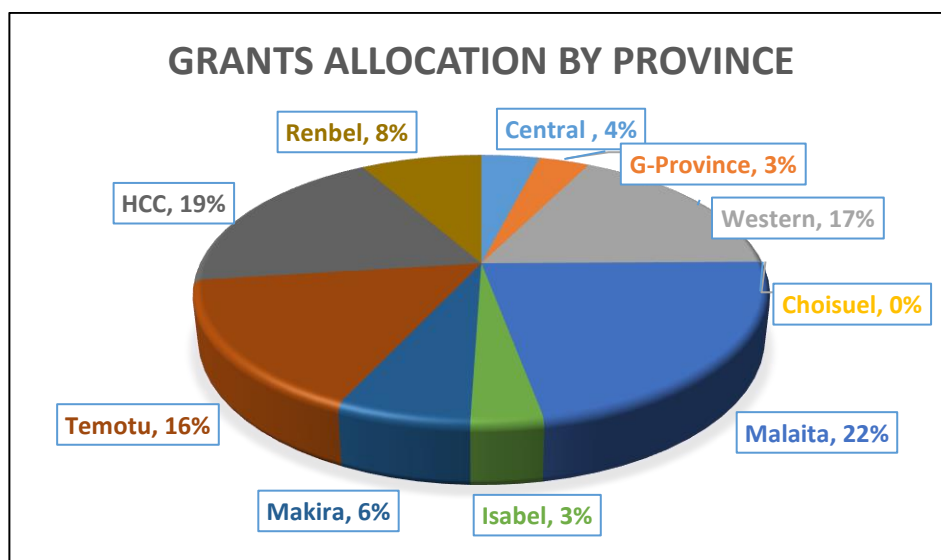
## Total youth grants distribution by programs



### Achievement

**Total Grants allocated to Provinces including HCC as of 31<sup>ST</sup> Dec 2017 is \$562,946.** Provincial youth programmes and projects were funded under NYG including activities by YDD staff at the provincial level. Below is the summary of grants distribution by province.

### Total Grants implemented by Provinces including HCC



Youth groups across the provinces who have received financial assistance from MWYCFA through youth Development division. *Note: other programs may have been implemented at the provincial level but not capture under this section as funding assistance came from other source than MWYCFA-YDD grants.*

### Guadalcanal

- Ministry apportion an amount of \$20,000 towards start your own Business Training SME – that was organised by Urahai Youth Association in South Guadalcanal, Guadalcanal province.

### Honiara City Council (HCC)

These are the HCC youth groups who have received the funds from MWYCFA through YDD division projects;

- Financial support with an amount of \$31,5000 to assist Koloale Youth group
- Provided funding support to Salvation Army Youth with an amount \$10,000.00
- Provided financial assistance of \$10,000 to REWA Youth Group
- Financially assisted Solomon Islands DEAF association with an amount of 10,000.00

### Renbel

- Grants also given towards Avaiki Adventist youth group of (\$48,000.00) in Renbel province for their SME project.

### Western

Support to Western youth groups include;

- Touo Youth Association with an amount of \$20,000
- New Mala Youth Association \$19,000
- JD Young Entrepreneurs \$11,497. 84
- Western Province Youth office \$21,648
- Phase 1 high level provincial dialogue & consultation with Western provincial government \$29,420

### Malaita

- Malaita project was delivered directly to the recipient group- Sifilo Youth Ministry of East Kwaio, On 5th October 2017 –an amount of \$34,780-00
- Auluta, East Fataleka received an amount of -\$60,000 to support with an events hosted by faith-based youth groups that merged with YID events
- On 25th October 2017 – an amount of \$35,000-00 Warutana Christian Youth Group, Waiahaa, Ward 21-Raroisuu Small Malaita project was paid and delivered directed to the recipient

### Isabel

- Support to Kmaga Ward Youth Rally (held once every two years) at Koregu village, Isabel province held from 14 - 18th July 2017 with \$20,000 – 00

### Makira/Ulawa

- Support with an amount of \$37,400 towards Makira Joint Annual work plan

### Temotu

- Support to YID with an allocation of \$25,200 towards YID Lata, Temotu
- Temotu province supported with an amount of \$37,400 to convene Joint work planning
- Grants assistance to Temotu youth officer with an amount \$10,000
- UTA youth group received an amount of \$20,000 to assist towards UTA youth conference

### Central

- Central support with an amount \$23,100

**Strategic Action:** Promotion of Youth Community Services programmes with churches and community groups through celebration of youth memorable events

**Activity:** International Youth Day in Honiara and selected provinces

**Achievement:** Out of the ten provinces, only two provinces manage to successfully celebrate the youth memorable events for 2017.

Malaita

International Youth Day 2017 together with the Solomon Islands Mission Pathfinder Camporee held at Auluta, East Fataleka -Malaita – December 2017



Official Opening Day



Raising of Pathfinder Camporee Flag

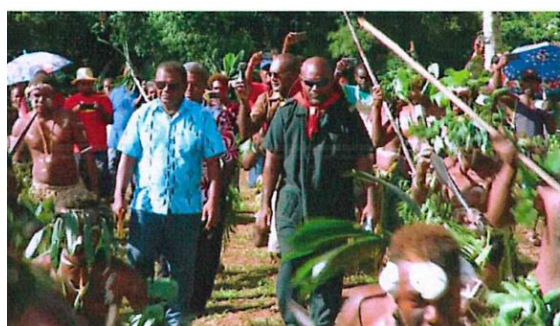


Figure 1: Camporee pathfinders event snap shots of various activities

Temotu

Youths successfully celebrate youth international day on September 2017 at Lata. Good number of young people celebrates YID that coincides with the youth speech competition.

**DCCG POLICY OBJECTIVE D: Facilitate and Strengthen Women and Youth Livelihood Empowerment Programmes through direct funding of Micro and Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) projects**

**Strategic Action:** Adoption of a women and youth livelihood empowerment strategy.

**Activity:** Provide financial support to Youth led and youth focused SME initiatives through youth development grants;

**Achievement:** For 2017, only four provinces allocated with SME grants, Guadalcanal, Western, HCC and Renbel. Most of the provinces were given zero allocation. The reason may differ across provinces depending on their priorities and the tight budget for the year.

**Strategic Action:** Increase focus with budgetary support to finance SME projects under partnership arrangements with public and private sector organisations and with development partners

**Activity:** Provide financial support to Youth@Work Programme

**Achievement:** No financial support provided for Youth-At-Work in 2017. However, MWYCFA/YDD has provided technical and advisory support for the Youth@Work's Advisory and Support Group & Y@W's Exit Strategy.



Figure 2: PS/MWYCFA Chairing SASG for Youth-At-Work Programme

**DCCG POLICY OBJECTIVE E: Work in partnership with organizations, companies, business houses, traders, manufacturers and employers to increase access to labour market for women and youth and increase gender equality in workplace.**

**Strategic Action:** Legislation and policy for special measures on equal employment opportunities in the formal labour market and for youth sensitive condition of service

**Activity:** Finalise the development of National Youth Employment Strategy

**Achievement:** Draft national framework for a joint strategy to enhance youth employment & entrepreneurship completed

- Successfully supported consultancy towards the draft framework with \$43,000.00.



Figure 3: Consultant Dr Jimmy Rodgers with PS Ethel signed the contract variation as witnessed by US Hugo Hebala

**Activity:** Develop National Youth Entrepreneurship Strategy

**Achievement:**

- Trade-oriented Youth Entrepreneurship Strategy and Action Plan – Phase 1 – Needs Assessment and Situation Analysis completed
- Solomon Islands Trade-oriented Youth Entrepreneurship Strategy and Action Plan – Phase 2 – Phase 2: Analysis on regional and global trade scenarios completed
- Successfully implemented Phase 1 & 2 consultations with \$57,000



**Activity:** Support initial establishment of Young Entrepreneur Council (YEC) with SICCI  
**Achievement:** Total amount of \$200,000 was paid to the Solomon Islands Chamber of Commerce and Industry the Grants to finance support the operationalization of the Solomon Islands Chapter of the Young Entrepreneurs Council.



Figure 4: SICCI Chair Mr Bartlet and PS/MWYCF (Supervising) during the signing of YEC Grants

**Strategic Action:** Review of National Youth Policy to closely align strategic areas of focus with government priorities for youth empowerment.

**Activity:** Finalize the review of National Youth Policy (NYP) and Strategic Framework for Youth Development in Solomon Islands (SFYDESI). These activities (NYP & SFYDESI) are being jointly funded by UN Women and Oxfam International

**Achievement:**

- National Youth Policy review consultation with National & Provincial Government completed- and the initiative to have 3 –tier policy frame work for youth development & empowerment in Solomon Islands was agreed upon by stakeholders and the draft was finalized, yet to be submitted to the cabinet for endorsement.
- 10 Provinces including Honiara have being consulted on the National youth policy review and have convened all initial and follow-up consultation in 2017.





Figure 5: NYP Review Consultation facilitators and participants

**Activity:** Recognition and Presentation of National Youth Awards & National Youth Workers Awards to young people and youth workers who have taken outstanding leadership

**Achievement**

- Presentation of Awards winning candidates 2016 / 2017 was completed on the 27<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at the Mendana Hotel during which 7 winners receive their award prices
- Supported National Youth and Youth Workers Awards with \$97,000.00



**Activity:** Conduct Post National Youth Parliament follow-up programmes; and begin preparations for Melanesian Youth Parliament in collaboration with the National Parliament of Solomon Islands

**Achievement:** No progress made. This was differed for 2018

#### 4.6 CHILDREN DEVELOPMENT DIVISION (CDD)

The Children's Development Division has seven positions. The Director for Children assisted by the Deputy Director heads the Division. There is one Development/Participation Officer, one Principal Child Right Advocacy Officer, and three Provincial Child Development Officers giving a total number of seven staff altogether. In 2016, interviews was done for an additional Provincial Child Development Officer which will increase the staffing list to eight (8).

##### 4.6.1. ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENT BY DCCG POLICY OBJECTIVES

**DCC POLICY OBJECTIVE: A. Establish & develop community engagement programmes that address the needs of women, youth and children address**

**Strategic Action:** Establishment of Provincial Advisory and Action Committee on Children (PAACC)

**Activity:** Work with provincial governments of Western and Malaita for establishments of Provincial Advisory Committee on Children (PACC).

**Achievements:** Western province-Initial lobby for establishment of the mechanism was done on February through a three day workshop held with the provincial stakeholders. TOR governing the operation of PACC was developed and an executive paper to formalize the mechanism was presented to the executive for endorsement.

Malaita – On early May, a formal request was send to the provincial executives, detailing the need for PACC to be established at the province. Our child focal officer at the province helped to mediate the content and objectives of the letter on our behalf. Following their approval, the division organized a three day workshop on CRC and child rights with the provincial executives, from 4th – 6th October. After presentations & roundup, the participants reiterated the need for TOR for PACC in Malaita to be reviewed and have it presented to executive for endorsement.



*Figure 6: Participants of PAAC Establishment awareness with Provincial Assembly Members and stakeholders*

**Strategic Action:** Promotion of children rights and responsibilities through the celebration of children’s memorable.

**Activity:** International Children’s Day (ICD) & other related memorable events are celebrated in Honiara and in the Provinces

**Achievements:** By the stretched of our funding support for the year, ICD was celebrated only three specific centres namely Honiara, Isabel & Temotu.

Honiara – Celebration took place on 24th November. Again, it was one day celebrations and school children around Honiara were invited. The highlight of the event was the engagement of Hon. Prime Minister Ricky Hou, as guest of honor at the celebration. His official presence has graced the event, as it was first time for a PM of this country and his delegation to attend ICD celebration held in Honiara, and the key note presented really bring home the key message of the theme for the celebration, “children of today, keepers of tomorrow”.





Figure 7: CID celebration at Multi-purpose hall with the guest of honour, Hon. Prime Minister Rick Hou

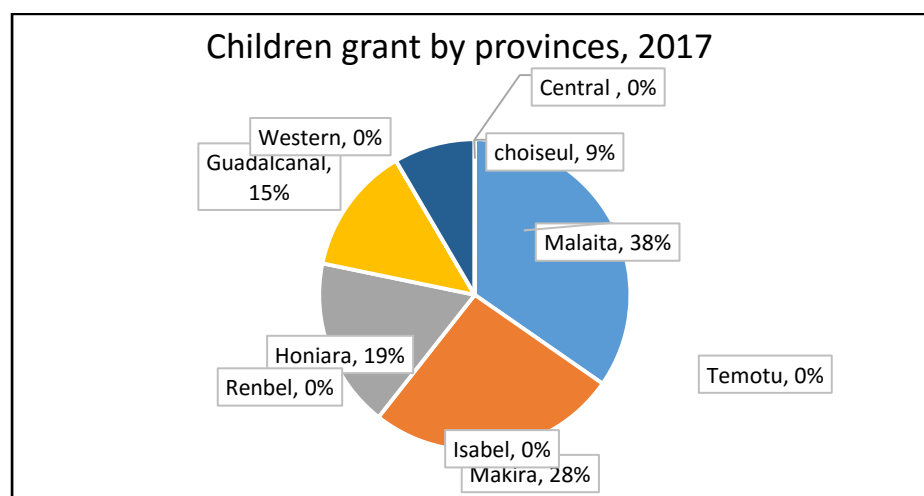
Isabel CID-Children International Day was supposed to be held in Samasodu village, Havulei Ward, Isabel Province on December 2017 but has now postponed to January 2018 because the community has tied up with schedules for December Christmas programs and payment for CID was just receive on 8th December 2017.

Temotu CID- Celebration took place on 11th November and 15th December. Again, it was one day celebrations. We celebrate it at two different school in two different ward where children around Fano cove primary were invited. Also school children around bimbir were invited. The event was organize by CID committee with the help of CDO and vice president of Youth council. The best part of the event was the engagement of children form different school as it was their first time. The key message that really bring home the theme is the key note address form the paramount chief.

**Strategic Action:** Administer children's grants to children focused programmes & activities

**Activity:** National children grant is fairly distributed to interested children groups & applicants

**Achievements:** Total national children grant allocation for 2017 was \$682,194 (Source: MOFT). Total amount expended as of December 31st 2017 was \$150,304 which was dispersed to interested children's groups/applicants.





Summary children grants distribution by province as of 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2017 are as follows;

#### Malaita

- Ngalikekero kindergarten school - \$12, 560
- St. Mark Children Sunday School - \$6, 000
- Fanalei Kirio Kindy garten School - \$17,544.00
- Nasuruta Children Featival Program - \$16,000

#### Makira/Ulawa

- Toroa Youth and Children Rally Program - \$19,000.00
- MUP SSEC Regional Child Protection Outreach Program - \$20,000.00

#### Honiara

- Sunlight youth/children development association - \$15, 500
- Jackson valley young children - \$11, 000

#### Guadalcanal

- Fatima parish youth/Sunday school - \$20, 000

#### Choiseul

- Choiseul province received an amount of \$12,700

**Strategic Action:** Improvement of children participation and leadership through children's forums

**Activity:** Conduct trainings on CRC and other child protection issues with selected children's group in Renbel and Makira.

#### **Achievements:**

**Renbel** – Three day workshop on CRC and Child rights issues was conducted and was held at Tingoa, from 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> August. Participants attended were stakeholders responsible for children. Facilitators PCDO responsible and child focal officer for the province.

#### **Makira**

Two days' workshop on child Protection conducted for St Peter ACOM Church Leaders at Kirakira and Bwaunasugu SSEC Community Leaders at Bwaunasugu on 26 -27<sup>th</sup> October 2017.



Fig: Participants from St. Peter Kirakira featuring their presentation and Bwaunasugu participants listening to the child protection presentation

**DCCG POLICY OBJECTIVE C: Strengthen and support gender equality, eliminate gender based violence and stop abuse of women and children**

**Strategic Action:** Review & reforming of existing laws to address child abuse, exploitation & neglect and to promote the welfare and protection of children

**Activity:** Child and Family Welfare Bill passed by parliament and information dissemination done

**Achievements:** The Child and Family Welfare Act was passed on the floor of parliament on 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2017. Following the passage, the ministry through child protection taskforce has embarked on information dissemination on the Act at national & sub-national levels.

Sub-national level - provinces reached so far are Western, Isabel & Malaita provinces.

National level – the taskforce had awareness with NAACC stakeholders. On 7th November. Awareness was incorporated with pretesting of IEC materials to be used on the Act.



*Figure: CFWA Taskforce workshop awareness with NACC stakeholders*

Additional to this, UNICEF sponsored a weeklong awareness training on the Act with MWYCFA officers and SWD officers from 20th – 23rd November.



*Figure: Participants of UNICEF sponsored CFWA awareness training convened by MHMS in partnership with MWYCFA and UNICEF*

**Activity:** Develop implementation plan for the Act & its policies

**Achievements:** Further delayed, as efforts and resources are being committed to information dissemination on the Act first. Further, this is an activity purely much under the leadership and advice of SWD.

**Activity:** Child and Family Welfare Systems (CFWS) modelled in Isabel & Western Provinces

**Achievements:**

**Isabel** – Modelling exercise was done with/through PACC. Stakeholders had training on CFWA, and discuss ways to help SWD to address incidents of child abuse, neglect and exploitation that occur at the provincial level. Activities were blended into a week-long workshop which runs from 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> February at Buala.

**Western** – Again the pilot project was done through PACC. Participants, first had training on CFWA, and then breakup to propose ways to help SWD in its responsibility, given the many support service or systems we have on ground. Activity was blended into a three day workshop which was hosted at Gizo from 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> April.

**Activity:** Develop Community Facilitation Package (CFP), promoting Child Protection in family, community and school environment

**Achievements:** Further delayed, as the CFP package is still with printing press in Fiji

**Activity:** Review of the National Children's Policy

**Achievements:** Advertisement, screening of candidates for Consultancy work to assist with NCP review completed. Four applicants being spotted as suitable candidates for the position. Our ministry has looked into calling them for interview soon. Once this is done, the preferred candidate will be decided on and offer letter issued to commence the work.

**Strategic Action:** Establishment of an independent mechanism to monitor implementation of the CRC, to deal with complaints from children in a child sensitive manner and to provide remedies for violations of children's rights under the CRC

**Activity:** Conduct a feasibility study to explore the best option for an Independent Child Right Mechanism

**Achievements:** Funding support for consultation was received late November, and so negotiation is sought to have the consultations early 2018

**Strategic Action:** Promotion of CRC Report & Concluding Observations

**Activity:** Prepare delegation to be well versed with CRC report prior to Constructive Dialogue

**Achievements:** Done with state responses to the List of Issues (LOI) provided by the Committee. Already state delegation to the CRC interactive dialogue have been informed of the venue and part to play in the dialogue, which is scheduled to take place in Fiji on 23rd January, 2018. Our ministry is following up on budget request to get the committee to the dialogue.

**Activity:** Develop submission paper for ratification of CRC Optional Protocol on Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography

**Achievements:** NAACC has endorsed proposal for OPS2 to be ratified by government. The process to prepare cabinet has been slow, as the ministry being entangled by lack of technical capacity and competing Programme/activities.

**Activity:** Review NCP and CRC Concluding observation in preparation for review of NCP

**Achievements:** NCP & CRC concluding observation have been reviewed at the first NAACC meeting on 9th March. NAACC then entrust research officer for children to update the performance of the state on the CCO using a table of matrix. The table of matrix was put to NAACC for noting, whilst waiting review of NCP.

**Activity:** Printing of CRC materials & other related IEC's

**Achievements:** The division support printing of A3 size posters for use in the ongoing campaign against domestic violence & child abuse on February this year. The materials have shelved for use in the ministry's outreach program to the provinces.

**Strategic Action:** Revitalization of the roles and functions of the National Advisory & Action Committee on Children (NAACC).

**Activity:** Strengthened the role of NAACC based on priority NAACC review recommendations

**Achievements:** NAACC had conducted six (6) separate meetings this year – 4 regular working group meeting, and 2 extra-ordinary ones.

**DCCG POLICY OBJECTIVE F: Establish National Children's Civic Amusement Parks to increase safe place for children's enjoyment and development.**

**Strategic Action:** Adoption and implementation of children's civic amusement park plan for urban areas and safe place for children in schools and selected communities.

**Activity:** Develop Concept paper and Implementation Plan for the establishment of children's civic amusement parks

**Achievements:** A three day consultation workshop was held on 17th to 19th May 2017 at the Save the Children Conference Room, Tandai Highway .The ministry host this 3 day workshop for stakeholders who have knowledge and experience on park development. Participants engaged were from lined ministries like MEHRD, MID, MLHA, and NGO's. Discussions revolved around types of children parks that are best for SI. At the close of workshop, ministry established a technical workgroup that would oversee children park development in SI. TOR for the working group has been tasked to children's division to develop.



## 4.7. 0. Other MWYCFA Staff Activities

### ACTION! Special events

#### 4.7.1. 2017 Christmas Party

The MWYCFA Christmas party was held on 3/12/2017 at auditorium venue. Though few staffs could not make it to the party, it was still well attended by majority of staff. The food was sufficient enough to those who solely attended. Each division supposed to have a turn to share their Christmas items but instead all MWYCFA staff did swing one item together as most of division staff could not make it. Several Christmas carols was shared with staff by Ministers group. We did enjoy and thank you to those who made the Christmas party a successful one.



*Fig: staff of MWYCFA posing during Christmas party*

#### 4.7.2. Hospital Visit

The minister organized Hospital visit on 8/12/2017 where she led the team with her PS and staff of ministry to meet the patients, parents, guardians and children at National referral hospital at children's ward offering comfort, encouragement and sharing gifts. The MWYCFA team was acknowledged by the Doctor and Nurse in-charge of Pediatric department for the visitation and sharing gifts to children that embraced and enlightened the children in the ward.



*Fig: Minister, PS & staff of MWYCFA comforting sick patients at Pediatric ward*

## **CHAPTER FIVE (5): CHALLENGES**

### **5.1 CHALLENGES EXPERIENCED IN 2017**

Similar to 2016, compilation of this annual report is a big challenge. It is very difficult to collect information simply because certain responsible officers deliberately refused to contribute their part. The whole report therefore is late. This is not good and should be stopped.

In addition to the non-cooperation of certain responsible individuals, the ministry has encountered a lot of challenges which are both internal and external at varying magnitude.

#### **5.1.1. RESEARCH, POLICY, PLANNING AND INFORMATION DIVISION**

As a supporting division, the division depends on response from all the divisions and stakeholders for information to carry out its work effectively. The challenge is to get timely information from those concerned. When response is not coming forward in a timely manner then there is a problem. Additionally, the division is struggling to implement some of its key activities because of limited funds.

#### **5.1.2. WOMEN DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**

1. The mismatch between SIG policy commitments and budget commitments for effective implementation of policies
2. Delayed execution of budget request for programs and activities including meeting the financial system process, inconsistency in financial advice and delay disbursement of funds
3. Success of Implementation is depend on other Ministries taking the lead
4. Timely feedback and endorsement of programs and activities by relevant authorities
5. Competing priorities
6. Understaffing or limited human resources within the WDD including limited technical capacity in some specialised areas such as M & E
7. Outdated Job descriptions that needs to be realigned to current policy and legislation mandates and requirements and the need to be remunerated accordingly

#### **5.1.3. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**

The following challenges remains relevant to Youth Development and Empowerment;

##### **5.1.3.1. Political Will**

1. Lack of political support for youth policies and programs in alignment to national development priorities and plans
2. Support to youth development is small and fragmented
3. General weakness in systems and processes for service delivery

##### **5.1.3.2. Budget**

1. Slow processing of payments and release of funds to implement activities
2. Inconsistency in procurement procedures
3. Support by provincial government through youth grants still minimal stretching MWYCFA youth budget hence limits expanding grant support to other areas of youth development

#### **5.1.3.3. Resources Mobility**

1. Lack of technical capacity to appraise projects with no proper guidelines for funding disbursement
2. No MOU with partner agency and implementing organisations

#### **5.1.3.4. Staff Capacity**

1. Capacity gap between policy dialogue and planning to policy implementation
2. Limited technical capacity to generic functions

#### **5.1.3.5. Policy Coordination & Support**

1. No NSC bi-annual meeting to direct policy implementation
2. Irregular meeting of NYSCMC & PYSCMC to coordinate policy implementation and progress monitoring

#### **5.1.4. CHILDREN'S DEVELOPMENT DIVISION**

The division acknowledges the followings as key challenges inhibiting the execution of work programmes in 2017.

1. The division needs to instil responsibilities in NAACC to be alive and active in deliberating on issues affecting children.
2. The division needs to strengthen resourcing on prevention programmes to supporting child protection.
3. There has been need for further clarity of the objectives of some of the planned projects, as some of the project activities are technical in nature, especially those raised as recommendations from UN CRC Committee.