



Ina'ilau

*AN ENHANCED
WOMEN AND JUSTICE
PROGRAMME*

"Ina'ilau" is a reference to a well-known Samoan proverb – "*E au le Ina'ilau a Tama'ita'i*" – loosely translated to tama'ita'i (women) can do anything, be whatever they want to be, aspire to any heights, and make it. It is often used to identify strong-hearted, dedicated women who aspire to lead in their communities.

Objective 1

Court services are highly centralized in urban centres, limiting access for many women and children. Expanding court circuits outside urban areas improves access for women in rural communities who face geographic and transport barriers. Mobile courts bring formal justice to remote villages, increasing the likelihood that family and sexual violence cases move from community-based to formal justice processes. Remote proceedings also enhance access and provide vulnerable groups with greater physical and psychological safety than in-person court attendance.

Expanding the reach of courts

to provide access to justice for more women and children

RESEARCH BARRIERS FACED BY WOMEN IN ACCESSING COURTS

INCREASE CAPACITY AND FREQUENCY OF LOWER COURT CIRCUITS

DEVELOP MOBILE COURT SERVICES

INITIATE AND/OR INCREASE USE OF REMOTE COURT PROCEEDINGS, INCLUDING REMOTE PROTECTION ORDER APPLICATION PROCESSES

Objective 2

Courts are building capacity to develop service models based on the needs of women and children, including by increased efficiency and transparency. However, they lack financial and human resources to achieve these standards across all levels of courts, particularly local courts, despite their important role in expanding access to justice. Efficient court service models designed from the perspective of women and children court users will be identified, encouraged and supported.

Improving efficiency and transparency of court services in family violence and family-related cases

A MORE ACCURATE PICTURE OF FAMILY VIOLENCE AND RELATED FAMILY CASES

**RESEARCH TO ASSESS HOW COURTS
PROVIDE SERVICES TO WOMEN AND
CHILDREN**

**TAILORED SUPPORT TO
PROGRESSIVELY IMPROVE COURTS'
ABILITY TO RELIABLY CAPTURE,
ANALYSE AND REPORT DATA ON
FAMILY VIOLENCE AND RELATED
FAMILY CASES.**

BETTER AND MORE EFFICIENT COURT SERVICE MODELS

**DEVELOP CASE TIME GOALS FOR
FAMILY VIOLENCE AND RELATED
FAMILY CASES**

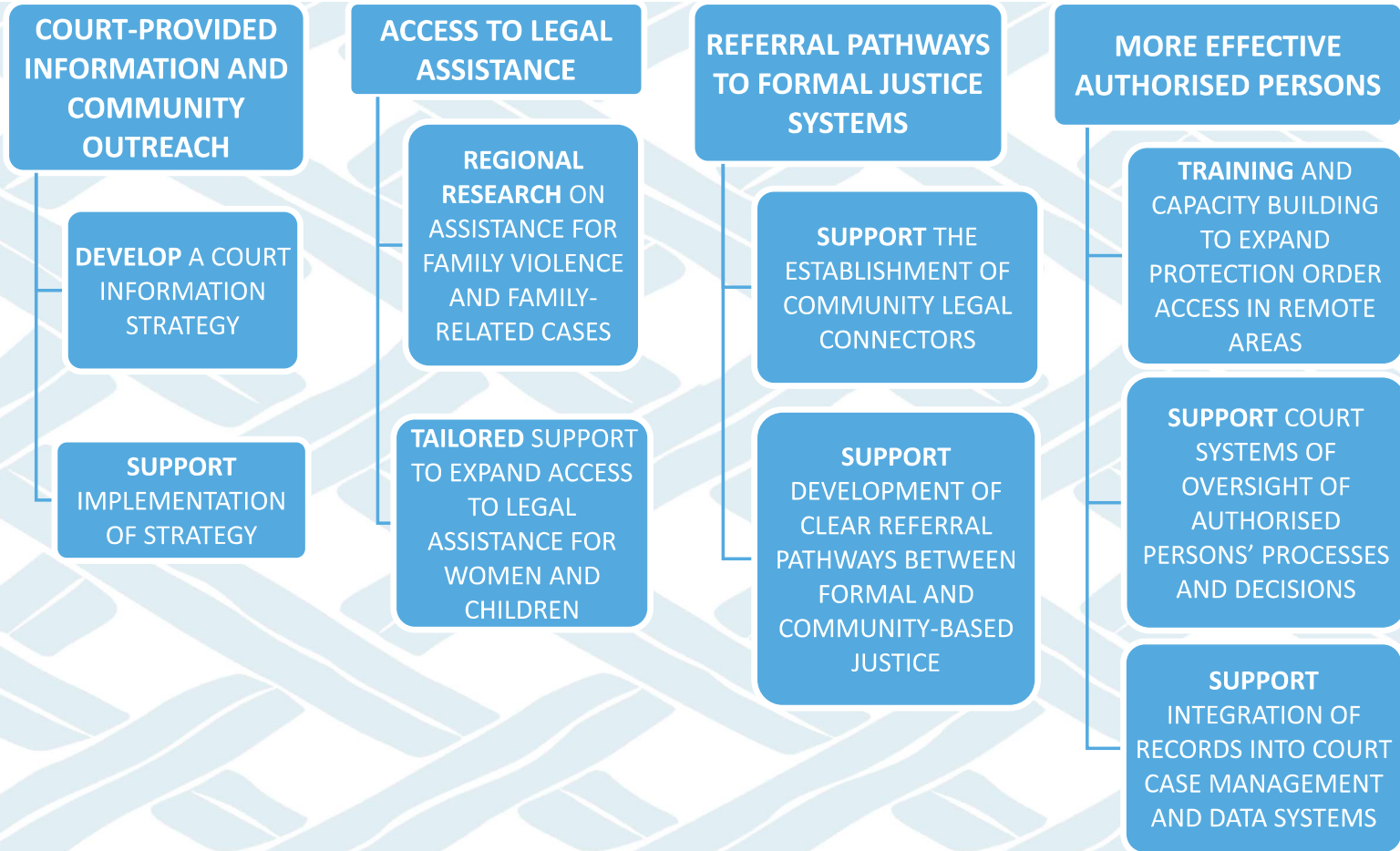
**DEVELOP SERVICE MODELS THAT
ARE MORE EFFICIENT AND BETTER
RESPOND TO THE NEEDS OF
WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

**STRENGTHEN CAPACITY TO
IMPLEMENT THESE SERVICE
MODELS**

Objective 3

Limited legal awareness and assistance prevent women from accessing protections and remedies for themselves and their children. Providing accessible, targeted legal information and support at the local level is essential to improving access to justice for women and children in navigating plural legal systems in the Pacific.

Strengthening justice pathways for women and children



Objective 4

Lower courts, often presided over by lay officers, handle cases involving both law and custom. Strengthening human rights capacities in these courts ensures consistent rights protection for women and children. Although appeals provide important oversight, they may not be accessible. In some countries, magistrates can review local court decisions to safeguard rights. Strengthened internal oversight systems are essential for improving the quality and consistency of rights protection.

Supporting quality decision-making for the protection of women and children's human rights

IMPROVED IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

RESEARCH CAPACITIES AND
TRAINING NEEDS; COURT POLICIES
AND PROCEDURES

DELIVER FACE-TO-FACE
WORKSHOPS FOR JUDICIAL
OFFICERS, COURT STAFF AND
OTHER JUSTICE PROVIDERS

TAILORED SUPPORT TO REVIEW
COURT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

RESOURCES

WRITE AND PUBLISH A FAMILY
LAW BENCH BOOK

DELIVER THREE REGIONAL
WEBINARS

SHOWCASE SAMOA'S
FAAMASINOGA O SAUAGA O
AIGA FAMILY VIOLENCE COURT

CREATE TWO VIDEO RESOURCES:
RIGHTS OF CHILDREN; FAMILY
VIOLENCE

Objective 5

Professional development supports the growth of skills, knowledge, confidence, and connections of women working in the justice sector. Opportunities for women to access professional development and connect with others across the region are limited and specific support for women is required.

Professional development

for women in the justice sector

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

FUNDING TO ATTEND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN THE PACIFIC REGION

COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

SUPPORT FOR ATTENDANCE AT THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN JUDGES CONFERENCE (IAWJ)

ENABLE FACE-TO-FACE FORUM TO SUPPORT A PACIFIC CHAPTER OF THE IAWJ

USP SCHOLARSHIPS

CERTIFICATE OF JUSTICE

DIPLOMA OF JUSTICE

BACHELOR OF LAWS

TUTORIAL SUPPORT

MENTORING

SUPPORT WOMEN JUDICIAL OFFICERS INTO MENTORING PARTNERSHIPS

Objective 6

Removing gender barriers to justice requires more women in the judiciary and senior court roles, improving outcomes for women and children. Strengthening women's roles as both users and providers of justice fosters inclusivity and models gender equality. Encouraging women-led approaches to justice access builds a more inclusive system. Understanding women's representation, challenges, and solutions is key to driving change and tracking progress.

Supporting women leaders in justice and women into judicial and leadership roles

BASELINE RESEARCH

ASSESS THE PRESENCE OF WOMEN IN JUDICIAL ROLES AND COURT LEADERSHIP, BARRIERS TO WOMEN BEING APPOINTED TO THESE ROLES, AND THEIR SUPPORT NEEDS

MENTORING

SUPPORT WOMEN LEADERS IN JUSTICE INTO MENTORING PARTNERSHIPS

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

TAILORED SUPPORT