

PSRH Newsletter

October 2026



Message from the President



Malo e lelei and warm greetings to our PSRH members and partners across the Pacific.

Tonga 2026 reminded us of the strength of connection, shared learning and regional collaboration. In his opening address, WHO Regional Director for the Western Pacific, Dr Saia Ma'u Piukala, spoke about talanoa — listening, building trust and learning from one another — and challenged us to think differently about the sexual and reproductive health issues we sometimes describe as taboo. In the Pacific sense of tapu, these are matters deserving care, respect and attention, not silence. He also compared our collective Pacific journey to a canoe crossing a vast ocean, moving forward when everyone paddles together in the same direction.

As PSRH moves into the 2026–2028 biennium, let us keep the talanoa going — staying connected, sharing ideas and continuing to strengthen reproductive health across our region.

We are pleased to welcome Ana Thompson as Vice President – Midwifery and Frank Apamumu as Vice President – Medical for the 2026–2028 term.

Their profiles, together with those of the wider PSRH Board, are being updated on the PSRH website.

We look forward to introducing more of the new Board over the coming months.



Meet the 2026-2028 Board

PSRH Board
2026 - 2028





CONFERENCE BRIEFING



Conference presentations from the 16th PSRH Biennial Scientific Conference are now available in the PSRH Members Lounge.

Members can access presentations from the scientific programme as well as the Biennial General Meeting presentations from the President, Treasurer and Head of Secretariat.

If you missed a session or would simply like to revisit some of the discussions from Tonga, we encourage you to log in and take a look.

The full opening address from WHO Regional Director Dr Saia Ma'u Piukala will also be made available in the Members Lounge.



Dashboard Membership

Welcome to the PSRH Members Lounge – your exclusive hub for professional resources, training and updates in reproductive health. Access clinical guidelines, recorded conference presentations and training opportunities designed to support your work across the Pacific.

Pacific Society for Reproductive Health 2025 Conference
Building and sustaining the Pacific SRH workforce through strengthened regional collaboration. Fakaalofa to the future!

NUKUNU, ALUFA, TONGA 14 - 18 SEPTEMBER 2025
Presentations

Day One	Day Two	Day Three
Topic 1: Strength in Specialised Care in the Pacific	General Cancer Screenings	Supporting the Women's Health and Gender Transformation and Sustaining the Health Workforce
Complementary	Screening in Pacific Central Cancer Prevention Strategy in the Pacific	Navigating contemporary issues: young people and contemporary issues in the Pacific region
Division of Global Health & Population	Prevalence and detection of cervical cancer (prevalence) in the Pacific region: a systematic review and meta-analysis	PSRH 2025: Health, Gender, Research and Human Capital
Regional Cancer Control, Prevention of Infection and Injury	Cervical Cancer Screening in the Pacific Islands	Menstruating with confidence in the Pacific
Responsible Research and Innovation: Case & Methodology	A Comprehensive Study of Women's Empowerment and Satisfaction of Providers of SRH Services in the Pacific	Supporting the Women's Health and Gender Transformation and Sustaining the Health Workforce

Connections that continue beyond Tonga

One of the most valuable outcomes of a PSRH conference is what happens after the formal programme ends.

We have already heard from delegates who have taken connections made in Tonga into further learning and professional development opportunities.

One delegate, after making contact through the conference, subsequently attended an additional ultrasound upskilling workshop.

Midwife Latileta Dau, Labasa Hospital, Fiji stopped by the RANZCOG exhibition stand and took home some Beanies for Babies for their Loloma Closet in Labour Ward — a small but lovely example of the conversations, resources and connections that can come from meeting our partner organisations face to face.



These stories are a reminder that the value of our meetings extends well beyond conference week itself.





Breakfast Forums and Masterclasses

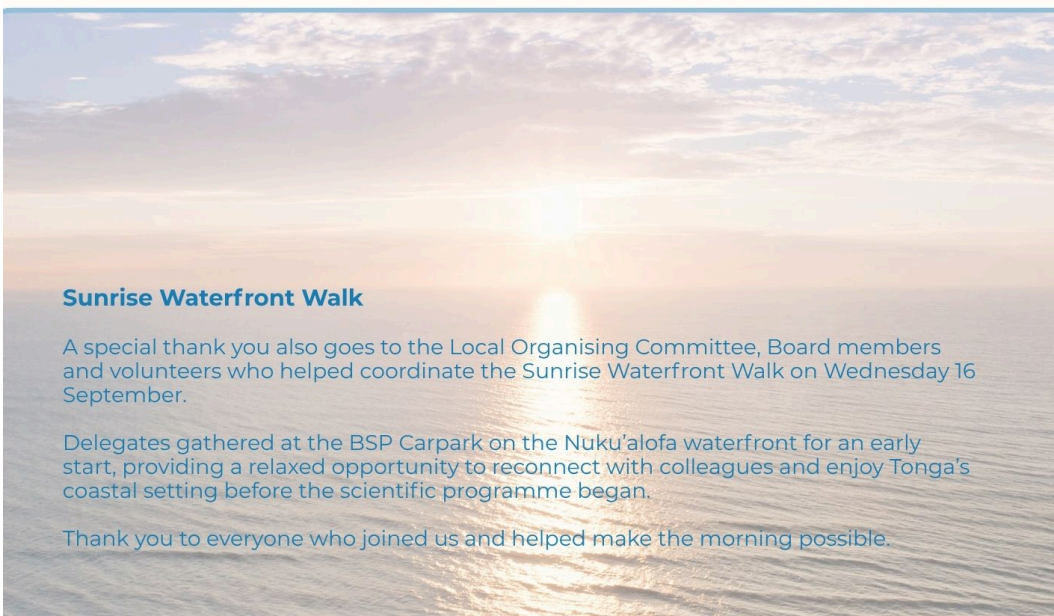
Three early-morning sessions created valuable opportunities for focused discussion and regional collaboration during conference week.

On Tuesday 15 September, delegates joined Pacific Cervical Cancer Elimination: Progress, Partnerships and Pathway Completion, held in the Fiefie Room at the Tanoa International Dateline Hotel. The stakeholder roundtable brought together regional leaders, technical experts, implementing partners and country representatives working across the cervical cancer elimination pathway. On Thursday 17 September, two concurrent breakfast sessions were held at the Tanoa International Dateline Hotel:

- **Strengthening Regional Collaboration in Maternal and Newborn Emergency Care**, held in the Fiefie Room; and
- **Strengthening Pacific Midwifery**, held in the Kalia Room.

PSRH extends its sincere thanks to **Cepheid** for supporting the cervical cancer breakfast and to **UNFPA** for supporting the PEMNeT and Midwifery Leadership breakfast sessions.

We also thank the session chairs, facilitators and delegates whose participation made these discussions so worthwhile.



Sunrise Waterfront Walk

A special thank you also goes to the Local Organising Committee, Board members and volunteers who helped coordinate the Sunrise Waterfront Walk on Wednesday 16 September.

Delegates gathered at the BSP Carpark on the Nuku'alofa waterfront for an early start, providing a relaxed opportunity to reconnect with colleagues and enjoy Tonga's coastal setting before the scientific programme began.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and helped make the morning possible.



Stay connected with our Tonga exhibitors

A special thank you to the organisations who joined us with exhibition stands in Tonga and took the time to meet, talk with and share resources with delegates throughout the conference.

Our exhibitors were:

- Organon – Gold Sponsor
- SAPL
- Health-e-Learning
- RANZCOG

We encourage delegates who made useful contacts at the exhibition stands to follow up with the organisations, resources and people they connected with during the week.



Thank you!



With thanks to our hosts, partners and volunteers

The success of PSRH 2026 was made possible by the generosity, hard work and hospitality of many people and organisations. PSRH extends its deep appreciation to the **Government and people of the Kingdom of Tonga**, and in particular the **Tonga Ministry of Health**, for their support and partnership in hosting the conference. We also extend our sincere thanks to the **Local Organising Committee**, PSRH Board members, volunteers and local supporters who helped coordinate venues, transport, catering, delegate activities and the many practical details that brought the conference together.

A special thank you also goes to those who helped coordinate the **Sunrise Waterfront Walk** on Wednesday 16 September. Delegates gathered at the BSP Carpark on the Nuku'alofa waterfront for an early start and a relaxed opportunity to reconnect with colleagues before the scientific programme began.

The conference was hosted by PSRH in partnership with the Kingdom of Tonga.



Looking ahead to Fiji 2028

With Fiji confirmed as the host of the next PSRH Biennial Scientific Meeting in 2028, the journey has already begun. At the close of the Tonga conference, the **PSRH Kalia** — our symbolic voyaging canoe, carrying the spirit of the Society from one host country to the next — was handed on to Fiji.

The Fiji team has begun early planning and discussions, with further details to be shared once local arrangements and approvals are confirmed. The image of the Kalia feels especially fitting as PSRH looks ahead: carrying forward the relationships, learning and shared purpose of Tonga, while keeping our course set toward the next gathering in Fiji.

Mālō 'aupito, Tonga. The Kalia sails on to Fiji 2028.

*Look forward to
seeing you in
2028 in Fiji!*



PSRH continues to build relationships that support education, professional development and connection across the Pacific. We are exploring opportunities for increased engagement with the **Society of Obstetric Medicine of Australia and New Zealand (SOMANZ)** and the **Australasian Menopause Society**, building on existing educational collaboration and shared interests.

We are also pleased to have formalised a new Memorandum of Understanding with the **Centre of Perinatal Excellence (COPE)**. Through the COPE partnership, PSRH will help connect clinicians and healthcare workers across the Pacific with educational courses and professional resources in perinatal mental health. PSRH COPE MOU July 2026 signed.

Further information and links will be shared through the PSRH website and member communications.



Want instant access to the conference presentations and exclusive PSRH education?



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