



PSRH Conference 2026 Education and Training- Service Innovation
Veilomani: an online course for health care workers
responding to Gender Based Violence

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Content

1. Background to the SPACE Project and 2026 Veilomani Training
2. Outputs and outcomes of the program 2025-2026
3. Reflecting on our time together

The SPACE Project seeks to empower women by prioritising their safety and health through tailored, evidence-based health-system response strategies that place Gender Based Violence survivors at the heart of all health interventions.

The SPACE Project is led by the Fiji National University (FNU), through the Fiji Institute of Pacific Health Research (FIPHR), the research arm of FNU's the College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences (CMNHS), in partnership with Pacific Society for Reproductive Health (PSRH), St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne, and United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). It receives funding and technical support from the Pacific Women's Lead (PWL) programme at SPC. PWL is supported by the Australian Government.

The 2025-2026 Veilomani Training

Veilomani is a Fijian word referring to love for one another, to be at peace with each other, and working together constructively. The training course was delivered by and for Pacific Health Workers seeking to improve health care for families experiencing violence. This course, and our work, was guided by the spirit of love for one another.

The series was delivered online in a Project ECHO model, with all training provided free of charge for health or community workers delivering care and support in Pacific countries. The sessions were open for all health care and community workers, no set qualifications, or prior experience required.

A pilot training was conducted in 2020 with research to understand educational pathways for Pacific Island Countries and Territories' healthcare workers to strengthen Gender Based Violence clinical practices.

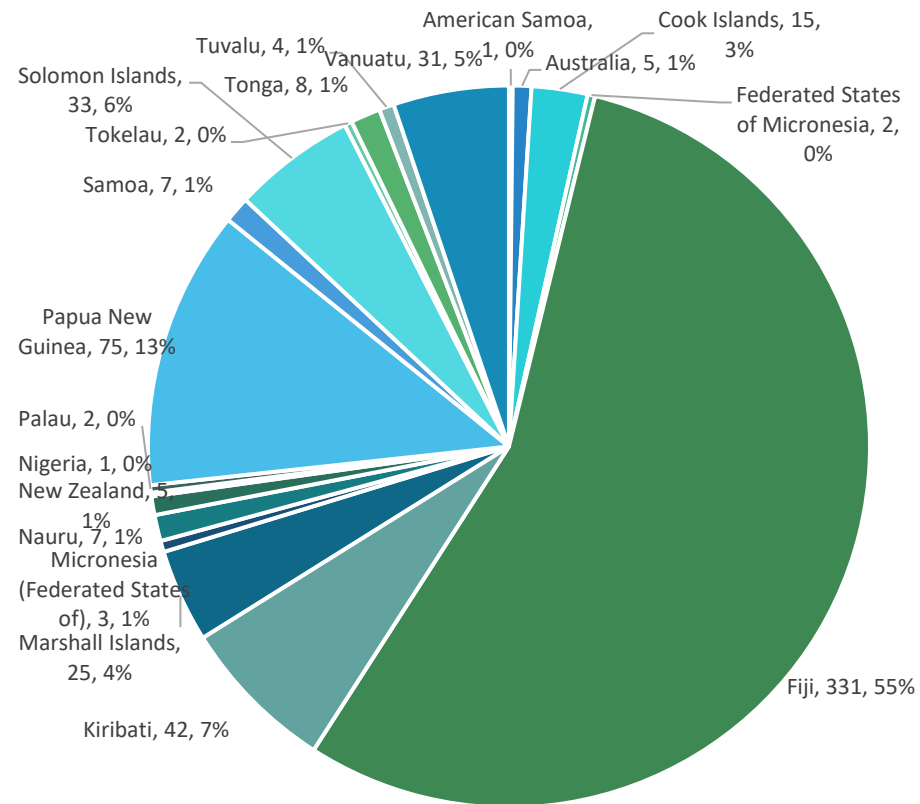
Global health guidance was adapted by Pacific experts to deliver a 15-week multidisciplinary course that could be delivered online and share best practices, resources and practical strategies.



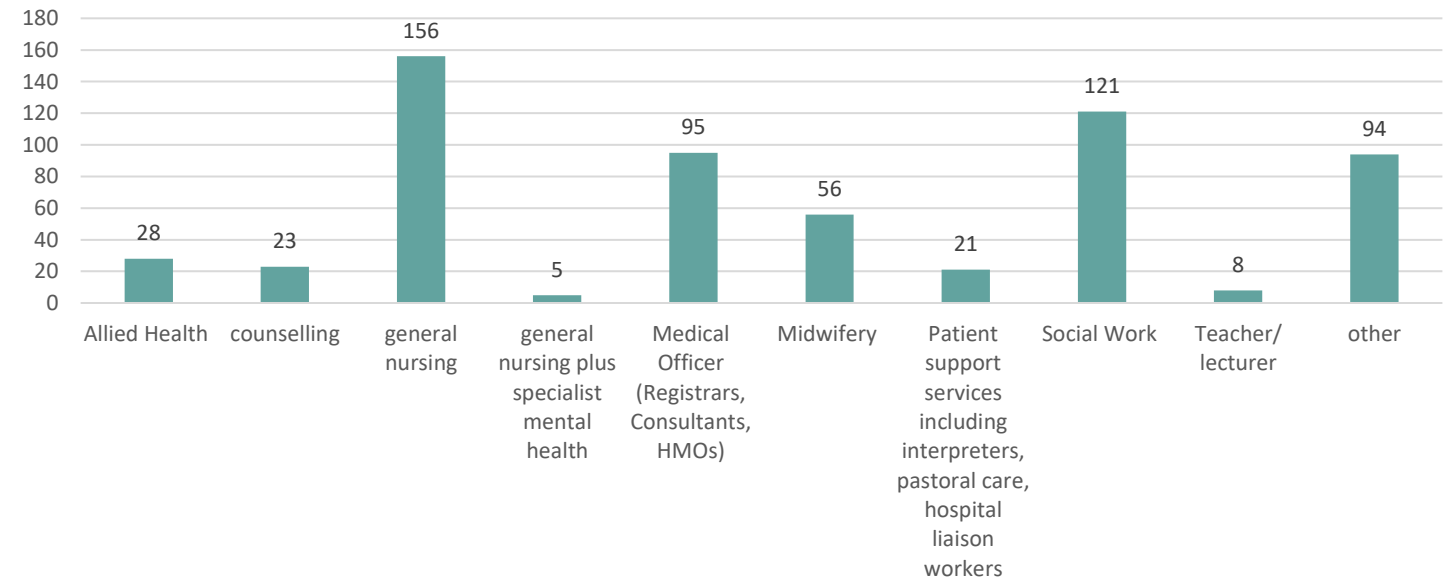
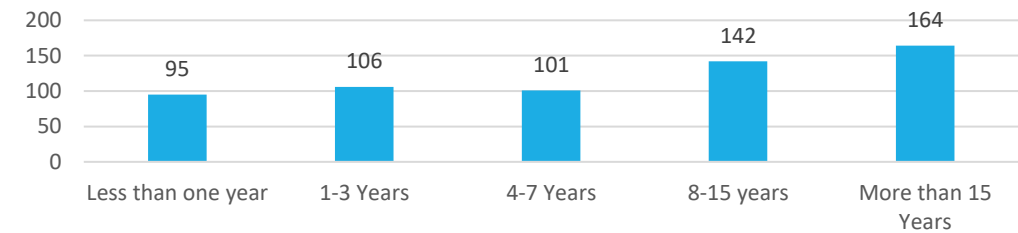
The SPACE Project –Capacity Building

Series	Sessions/ hours in each series	Registered people	Av. Participants per session	Attended hours of professional development	# people who were new to Veilomani
Veilomani 2026 Training Feb-May	15	309	62.9	943	209
Veilomani 2025 Training April- July	15	325	79.1	1187	291
Other sessions:					
Workshop: Recognising Red Flags in Antenatal Care 20 March 2025	1.5	71	71.0	105	71
Brain Health Seminar and Workshop June, July 2025	2	122	40.0	80	31
Psychological First Aid for Researching GBV 2025	3	10	10.0	30	10
Semester 2 Workshops: Talking about GBV. Oct-Nov 2025	5	210	48.6	223	128
Total:	41.5	1047		2568	740

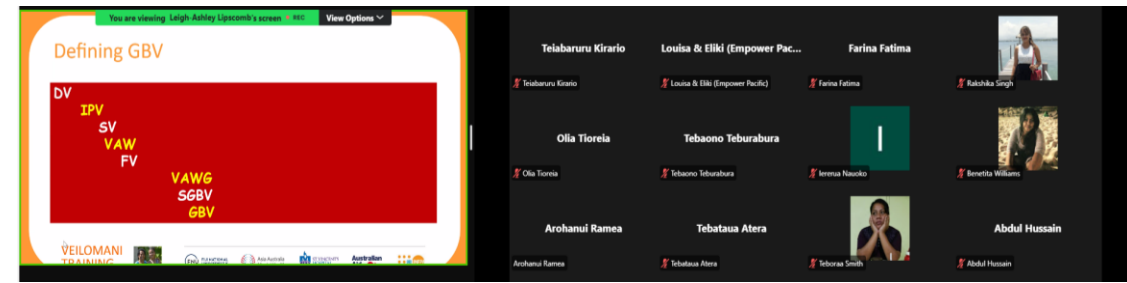
2025/2026 Participants (620)



Years working in health or community services



Thank you to all our presenters and facilitators



Module 1

Leigh Ashley Lipscombe, Abdul Hussein, GBViE Specialists, SRH&GBV Analyst, Gender and Human Rights Advisor UNFPA Pacific Sub-Regional Office

Dr. Amanda Noovao Hill, MMed (O&G), GCMEd, FRCOG. Head of Secretariat, Pacific Society for Reproductive Health (PSRH)

Dr. Adriu Naduva, Research Manager and Fellow, SPACE Project, Fiji Institute for Pacific Health Research, Fiji National University

Dr. Olivia Sharon Ephraim, Masters of Public Health, Public Health Researcher, SGBV Master Trainer, Papua New Guinea.

Dr. Sheetal Kumar, MBBS, PGDMH Lecturer, Fiji National University

Module 2

Dr. Kartika Goundar, MBBS, PGDMH Lecturer, Fiji National University

Dr. Lice Vaniqi, O&G specialist, Ministry of Health, Fiji,

Ms. Brigid Ryan, Senior Project Manager, International Program, St. Vincent's Mental Health, Melbourne.

Ms. Savaira Tinai, Member Services Officer, Pacific Disability Forum, Fiji

Ms. Senimelia Seru, Fiji Peoples with Disabilities Federation

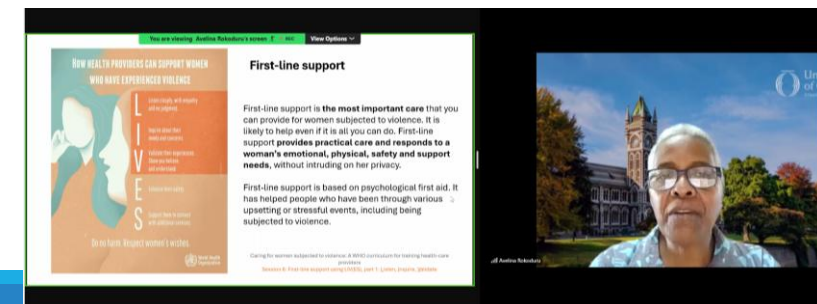
Dr. Jaya Jaya, Ms. Eunji Kim, Programme Specialists, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

Module 3

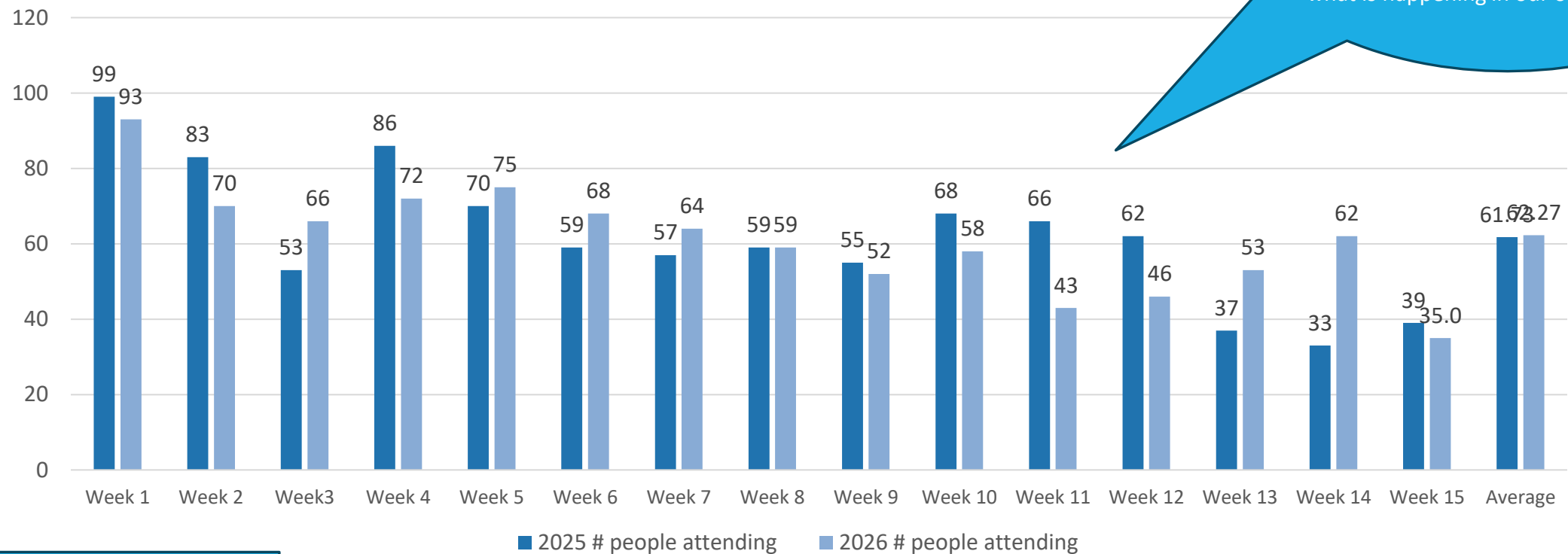
Dr. Kesaia Tawa Nawaqaliva, Research Coordinator Pacific Sexual Reproductive Health Research Centre, Fiji National University.

Dr. Fatima Farina, General Practitioner, Fiji

Ms. Avelina Rokoduru, Fiji Institute of Pacific Health Research (FIPRH), College of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences, Fiji National University.



Veilomani session attendance

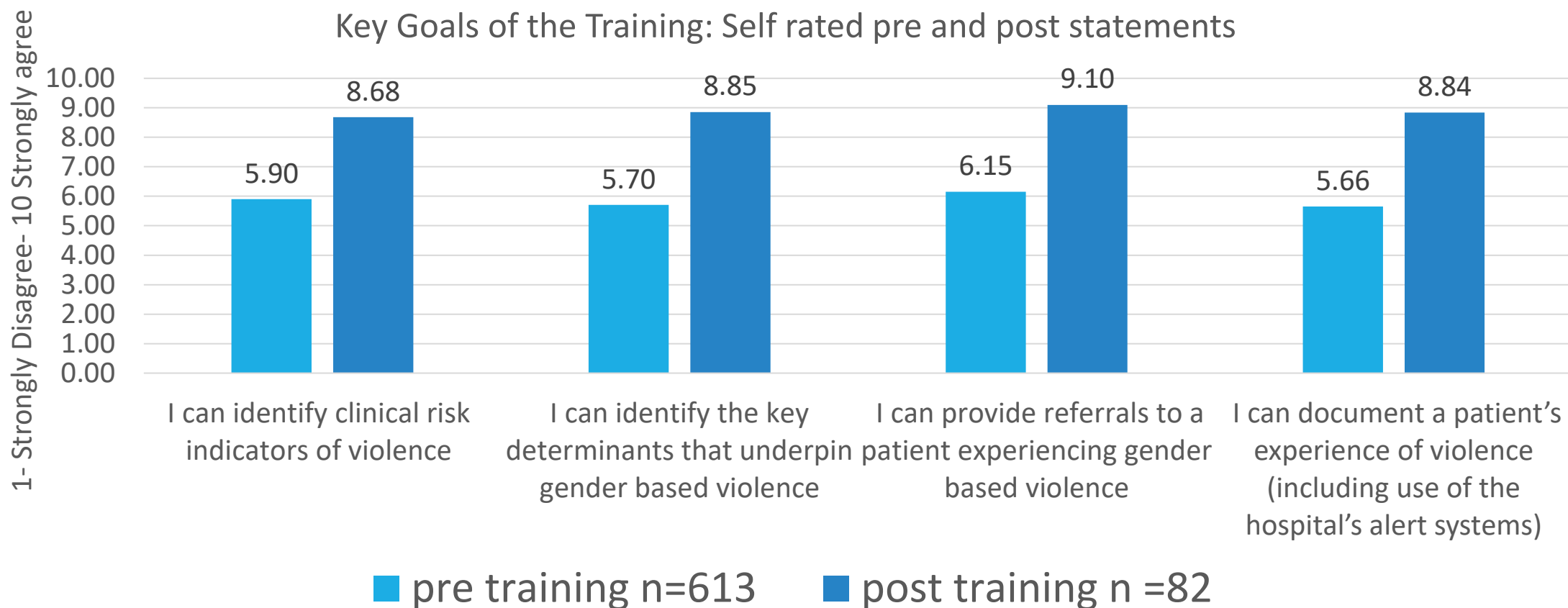


I really enjoyed the training. As someone new to this area, I found the stories and examples from people on the ground very powerful. Many have lived through gender-based violence and now help others. Their real-life experiences made the training feel honest and meaningful. I also liked that the training focused on what is happening in our own islands.

The opportunity to hear about the experiences of others and connect their insights and recommended actions to my work in the community has been particularly beneficial.

Veilomani 15 week training

Pre training- self assessed statements from 2025 and 2026 cohort combined



1. What has been the most valuable or most relevant part of attending this course?

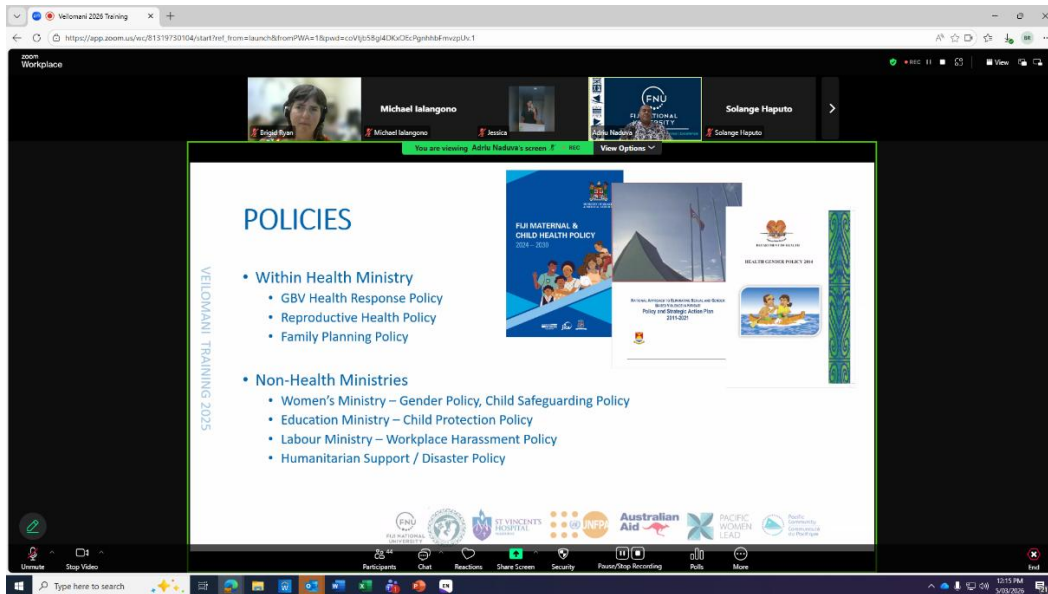
- Sharing from other countries and across countries
- Everyone brings something to the discussion, lots of different experiences
- Inspiration and ideas for future activities such as community engagement, service collaboration, new referrals, public health activities
- Slides and recordings being sent to participants

- Better understanding and identifying GBV and warning signs, respond appropriately and referral pathways
- Clear information
- Social and cultural elements of health care and GBV
- Information to include in education and inhouse training
- Confidence to act and try something new



What do you think would be of most help to you in identifying and supporting people experiencing or at risk of experiencing violence in your own context?

- Screening protocols for NCDs and other primary health work to include screening for GBV
- Leadership support for resources and guidance
- Facilities that allow more confidential work and less stimulating environments for people who have experienced trauma
- Working with older adults
- Strategies for rural and remote communities
- Strong support network
- Being able to engage with women's leaders and community trusted roles that can support women experiencing GBV
- Collaboration and relationships with health, NGO's, and community



Mālō 'aupito!

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St. Vincent's Hospital Melbourne- Brigid Ryan

Pacific Society of Reproductive Health – Dr. Amanda Noovau-Hill

