

SPOTLIGHTS, PROTECTION, SECURITY, SAFE SHELTERS...

"I believe the spotlight should shine on the leadership because women with disabilities can also provide assistance and be first responders in disasters because they understand their networks and their communities better. As women with disability, we only need the appropriate support mechanisms to lead us to providing that assistance that's needed on the ground" – Luisa Mana, Fiji National Council for Disability Persons, Fiji



"After [Tropical Cyclone] Gita, I had realised that protection and the right to life and the basic necessities must be immediate and urgent for the people. We can't stop the natural disaster but we can arm ourselves with knowledge on better preparedness. We must include women and young women in the discussion. After Gita, I saw a lot of the key decision-makers were men" – Vanessa Heleta, Talitha Project, Tonga



"For us in the humanitarian sector, it's important that these human security is extended to the humanitarian sector that we are working in because women are always affected by so many disasters and we have to look at the new and emerging issues that affects the lives of women in the Pacific region and disasters are one of them so we have to look at the humanitarian sector" – Josephine Teakeni, Vois Blong Mere, Solomon Islands.



"For women in Vanuatu, women's peace and security means safe shelters and not living in fear of being displaced. Women are at the frontline of these disasters and for us, when we're looking at protection with dignity, we're looking at actually being confident at being at the frontline and being at the humanitarian decision-making spaces because if you are at the frontline, you're gonna lead confidently and lead the community towards safety and dignity" – Yasmine Bjournum, Sistah magazine, Vanuatu



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