

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY BREAKFASTS

You are warmly invited to celebrate this important annual event on March 8th

Events marking International Women's Day are held throughout New Zealand every year, generously hosted by various NGO organisations as a very practical way of supporting the work of UNIFEM New Zealand. We welcome you and your colleagues and value your support.

Information about 2009 breakfasts will be posted on our website late in 2008. For more information please contact:

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Since their establishment in NZ in 1993 IWD breakfasts have become our key annual fundraising activities, aiming to help women in UNIFEM-funded projects to make real progress towards equality, development and peace. All of the funds raised at IWD events are used exclusively overseas for UNIFEM NZ's gender equality projects which focus on the development needs of women in the Pacific Islands and qualify for a 4:1 matching grant from NZAID.

Donations received from IWD events throughout New Zealand enable UNIFEM NZ to continue financing the Marshall Islands' foremost women's NGO, WUTMI (Women United Together in the Marshall Islands), as they conclude the second phase of mentoring workshops in their innovative "Gender Equality in Decision Making and Leadership" project and move on to the very necessary follow-up processes of monitoring and evaluation.

This is taking place in communities, large and small, on all the widely scattered inhabited atolls and islands of the Marshall Islands. Carefully designed and facilitated discussion forums on women's rights and gender equality, civics and voter education in the lead up to the November 2007 elections were well attended by local men as well as women. Further, the translation of the Marshall Islands Constitution into Marshallese language and its general distribution countrywide allowed access to it by all and this 'first' was much appreciated.

UNIFEM (NZ)'s current Pacific project in Micronesia has been an important pilot project. It is definitely steadily increasing general awareness among men and women of the worth and potential of women as leaders from grass-roots to MPs. It has given the Marshallese people a solid grounding for further progress as UNIFEM Pacific rolls out its new GEPG (Gender Equality Pacific Governance) Stronger Women Citizens and Leaders.