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PACIFIC



UN Pacific Strategy Fund

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

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NEW ZEALAND
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Aid Programme

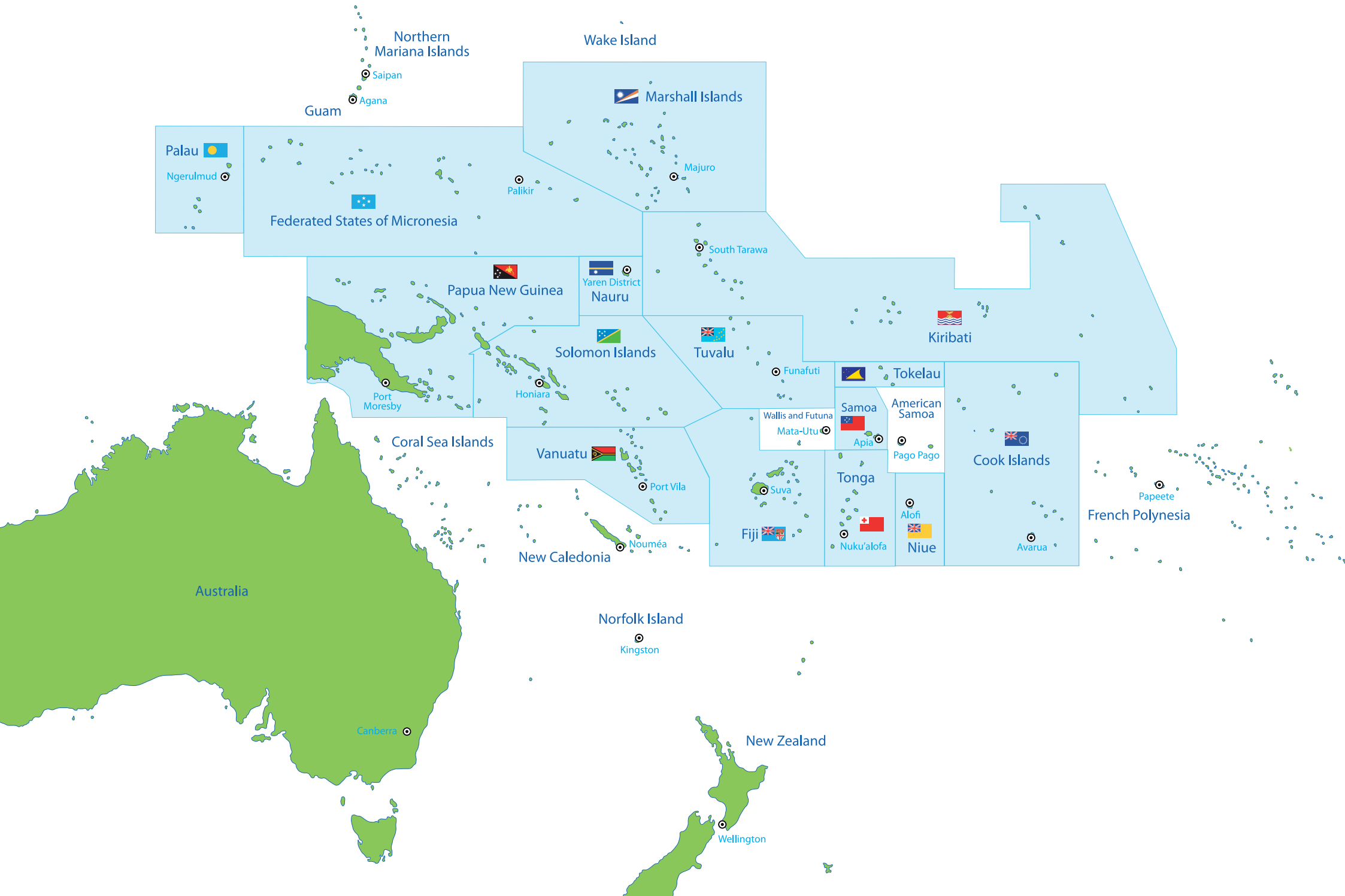


Table of Contents

Acronyms and Abbreviations	4
Executive Summary	5
Introduction	7
Outcome 2: Gender Equity	11
Outcome 4: Equitable Basic Services	19
Outcome 5: Governance and Data/ MIS	28
Partnerships	38
Challenges and Opportunities	41
Lessons Learned	45
Governance and Management	47
Financial Report	49



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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AYSRH	Adolescent and Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health	MVA	Market Vendor Association	UN	United Nations
CROP	Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific	NSO	National Statistics Office	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
CRVS	Civil Registration and Vital Statistics	NZUNPP	New Zealand United Nations Pacific Partnership	UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
DHS	Demographic Health Survey	PACJN	Pacific Anti-Corruption Journalists Network	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
ECD	Early Childhood Development	PacREF	Pacific Regional Education Framework	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
ECE	Early Childhood Education	PCRN	Pacific Civil Registrars Network	UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
FBoS	Fiji Bureau of Statistics	PHC	Primary Healthcare	UN-PRAC	United Nations Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption Project
FICAC	Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption	PIC	Pacific Island Country	UNPS	United Nations Pacific Strategy
FNU	Fiji National University	PINA	Pacific Islands News Agency	UNPSF	United Nations Pacific Strategy Fund
FSM	Federated States of Micronesia	PYFAC	Pacific Youth Forum Against Corruption	UNWOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
GBV	Gender-based Violence	QUT	Queensland University of Technology	WHO	World Health Organization
HFRSA	Health Facility Readiness and Service Availability	RMI	Republic of the Marshall Islands	YTYIH	Youth to Youth in Health
MCO	Multi-Country Office	SDG	Sustainable Development Goal		
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey	SPC	The Pacific Community		
MISP	Minimum Initial Service Package	SRHR	Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights		
M4C	Markets 4 Change Project				

Executive Summary

The United Nations Pacific Strategy Fund (UNPSF) was established on 1 June 2020 for a two and half-year period. Through the New Zealand - United Nations Pacific Partnership, the Government of New Zealand has invested NZ\$ 24.7 million in the UNPSF.

The UNPSF is the first-ever pooled fund set up in support of a regional strategy. It promotes the “One UN Approach” and enables five United Nations (UN) agencies to collaborate and drive achievement on three outcomes of the United Nations Pacific Strategy (UNPS), delivering results in the areas of gender, equitable basic services, and governance.

This report explores the activities that have been implemented by the UNPSF, highlights impacts and notable achievements, and presents the partnerships that have contributed to remarkable progress in each outcome area.

It also assesses outputs and results against the stated objectives of the UNPSF, which are to 1) demonstrate development impact and facilitate investment in priority development needs, 2) support coherence in the implementation of the UNPS, which includes joint programming, 3) enhance cooperation and leverage resources among stakeholders to deliver the UNPS, and 4) reduce costs and risks through joint activities, partnerships and resource mobilisation.

It is important to note that both the UNPS and the 2030 Agenda were agreed before the COVID-19 pandemic. By the time the UNPSF was established, the COVID-19

pandemic was raging across the world. Regression in SDG indicators globally has been attributed to the impacts of the pandemic, and every outcome of the UNPS has been negatively affected by its impacts to some extent.

While the pandemic disrupted the implementation of many activities, the agencies of the UN system adapted relatively quickly to the changed circumstances. The agencies participating in the UNPSF adeptly pivoted to ensure that many of the Fund’s activities were directly or indirectly part of New Zealand and the UN’s joint COVID-19 response.





This report finds that, although the Fund is new and has been operationalized during a pandemic in a region prone to disasters, it is proving to be a mechanism for effective and efficient investment in the development priorities of member states, as agreed and set out in the UNPS.

The UNPSF has already recorded good progress, in many areas going well beyond initial activities. The Partnership supports two highly regarded regional projects and has built on their successes. Innovative strategies, with the potential to result in the cross-pollination of projects, are used. Implementing agencies promote South-South knowledge exchange and share best practices.

The successful UN Pacific Strategy Fund is currently financed entirely by the Government of New Zealand. The United Nations sincerely appreciates the trust and confidence of the Government of New Zealand in its system and its strategy.

Prospective donors and partners are welcome to contact either the Government of New Zealand or the United Nations regarding the possibility of joining the partnership in support of the UN Pacific Strategy.



Photo: UNDP Office in Fiji



Introduction

Before presenting the UNPSF’s results for its first year of operations, this report presents an overview of the operational and strategic context in which the Fund is situated.

The United Nations in the Pacific

The United Nations maintains a considerable presence in the Pacific in order to support 14 Pacific Island Countries. Twenty-six resident and non-resident UN entities are members of the Pacific Joint UN Country Team and support the implementation of the United Nations Pacific Strategy. Recent UN reforms, intended to facilitate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) which comprise the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, enable UN agencies, with distinct mandates and diverse expertise, to work better in partnership to produce timely and targeted results.

The United Nations Pacific Strategy

The United Nations Pacific Strategy, or UNPS, is a five-year (2018-2022) strategic framework guiding the work of the Pacific Joint UN Country Team. It ensures that the work of the UN complements that of regional organizations, including the members of the Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific (CROP) and others.

The Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific includes the Pacific Aviation Safety Office, Pacific Islands Development Programme, Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Pacific Power Association, Pacific Community, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, South Pacific Tourism Organisation, and the University of the South Pacific.





The UNPS addresses the national development priorities of 14 Pacific Island Countries and Territories¹ through its six outcome areas, which are 1) Climate Change and Disaster Resilience, 2) Gender Equality, 3) Sustainable and Inclusive Economic Empowerment, 4) Equitable Basic Services, 5) Governance & Community Engagement, and 6) Human Rights. Through its work in those six areas, monitored through 38 indicators, the UNPS supports the localization of the Sustainable Development Goals.

New Zealand-United Nations Pacific Partnership

The Government of New Zealand has provided significant support for the implementation of the UNPS. This funding commitment is known as the New Zealand United Nations Pacific Partnership (NZUNPP), or simply the Pacific Partnership. This is a bold statement of support for the UN in the Pacific and signals a strong commitment to New Zealand's PIC neighbours.

¹ Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

The NZ UN Pacific Partnership prioritizes the promotion of inclusion through improved access to basic services; social protection and cash transfers in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic; people mobility and urbanization; and human rights and gender equality. Those topics were identified by the UN Development System and UNESCAP as the appropriate focus for Issue-Based Coalitions in the Asia-Pacific Region. The partnership is based on the principle that countries and development partners should take data-driven decisions together as they strive to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

The Partnership also recognizes that the sustainable development of the region requires collaboration, respect for national priorities and regional commitments, and the determination to work towards the achievement of the sustainable development agenda. Agenda 2030 must remain the focus, despite severe threats such as the COVID-19 pandemic and disasters.

By early 2020, the New Zealand Government and the UN had both assessed that insufficient progress had been made towards achieving the sustainable development agenda. Three of the six outcomes of the UNPS, namely Outcome 2 (Gender), Outcome 4 (Basic Services),

and Outcome 5 (Governance), were not progressing as well as planned and clearly required an additional investment.

The NZ UN Pacific Partnership therefore set up the United Nations Pacific Strategy Fund to enable five UN agencies to work together, through the first-ever pooled financing mechanism in the Pacific, on those three outcomes.

United Nations Pacific Strategy Fund

The UNPSF is notably the first example of a fund designed to support a regional strategy. Led by the UN Resident Coordinators from the Fiji and Samoa Multi-Country Offices (MCOs), contributors and participating UN Organizations, the UNPSF complements other financial resources available to Pacific Island Countries. The UNPSF effectively administers the financial support that been committed by New Zealand, through the NZ-UN Pacific Partnership, to the implementation of the UN Pacific Strategy.

The UNPSF is aligned with UN Resolution 72/279 on UN Development System Reform and advances the “One UN” approach.





Photo: UNDP Office in Fiji

It maximizes the impacts of the investment that the UN and its development partners make in the region by ensuring coordination and coherence. In addition, it serves to embed UN reforms, including the introduction of Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams; the use of funding compacts to achieve the SDGs; and the implementation of UN system-wide evaluations and strategic planning. It will ensure the full achievement of the UNPS and is intended to facilitate new partnerships. The UNPSF is an example of SDG 17, Partnership for the Goals, in action.

Through the generous support of the Government of New Zealand, five agencies, namely the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) receive funding through the UNPSF. The agencies work collaboratively on four projects related to UNPS Outcomes 2, 4, 5 and receive support for the direct cost budget.

This report presents an overview of the first six months of UNPSF operations. It features results by outcome and by output, and includes an analysis of the extent to which objectives are being met. The report also provides an overview of challenges, opportunities, lessons learned, governance and management matters, and a detailed financial report.

UNPSF INITIAL CONTRIBUTION TO RESULTS



OUTCOME 2: Gender Equality

- 145 market vendors (74% women) received basic farming tools and dry seeds through the Markets 4 Change (M4C) Project to assist their income generation efforts.
- 51% of the 129 women farmer vendors trained by the M4C Project, and 48% of their 119 male counterparts, have begun practicing business fundamentals and record-keeping.
- 112 vendors (90 women, 22 men) are now able to organize and leverage their business behavior and are branching into organic agriculture and other value-adding activities.



OUTCOME 4: Equitable Basic Services

- At least 20% of healthcare facilities in RMI, FSM, and Solomon Islands have staff who have been trained in the delivery of Adolescent and Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health (AYSRH), with the highest being FSM, with an achievement of 30%.
- 10,661 unregistered children (0-17 years) were identified in Samoa, with a view to registering them and issuing their first birth certificates at the beginning of 2021.
- 30 supervision visits in Kiribati, 11 in Solomon Islands and 67 in Vanuatu were conducted to improve the quality of Primary Health Care (PHC) services provided during the first 1000 days of life; in Kiribati, 66% of the facilities that were visited twice have improved.



OUTCOME 5: Governance and Data/MIS

- In Fiji, 18 of the 22 youth entrepreneurs who attended business integrity training registered their businesses.
- The first-ever Anti-Corruption Toolkit for Women-Owned Micro, Small and Medium Businesses was produced and launched in Fiji; this was followed by training for women entrepreneurs in Fiji and Solomon Islands.
- Fiji's first nationwide public integrity and anti-bribery campaign was held to empower and increase the compliance of around 50,000 public servants and 82 institutions.
- 30 staff of the Fiji Bureau of Statistics received technical support for the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) planned for 2021.
- Vanuatu and Kiribati were supported through the completion of preparatory activities for the Population and Housing Census (PHC) and both countries successfully conducted their enumeration phase in December 2020.



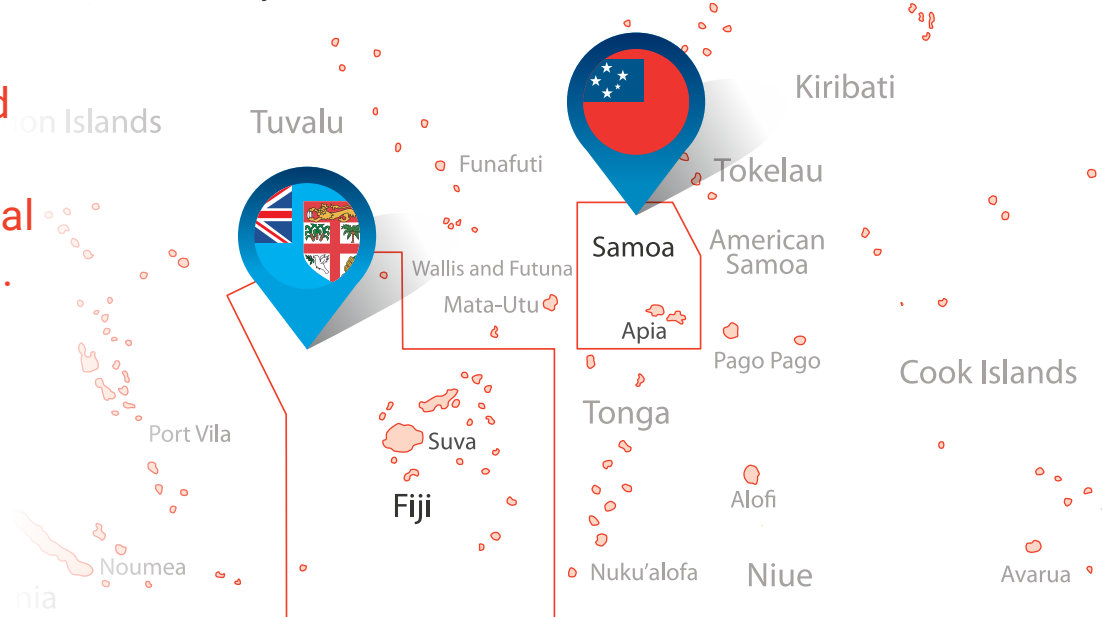
UN PACIFIC STRATEGY

OUTCOME 2: Gender Equality



By 2022 gender equality is advanced in the Pacific, where more women and girls are empowered and enjoy equal opportunities and treatment in social, economic and political spheres, contribute to and benefit from national development, and live a life free from violence.

Countries: Fiji, Samoa





Snapshot of Support from the Pacific Partnership

UN Women and UNDP address the social and economic aspects of gender equality through the Markets for Change (M4C) Project.

M4C has been primarily funded by the Government of Australia since its inception in June 2014 and has focused on Melanesian countries. In 2018, Canada joined the project as a funding partner. M4C has contributed greatly to the development of marketplaces in rural and urban areas of Fiji, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu. With support from the Pacific Partnership, the M4C Project has expanded in scope to include Samoa, the first Polynesian country to be part of the project, and to include the government station of Vunisea in Kadavu, southern Fiji.

The M4C project has benefited hundreds of rural and urban women market vendors in Fiji and Samoa since June 2020. The expansion of the M4C Project with Pacific Partnership funding has 1) empowered more women in the Pacific in terms of representation and decision-

making in marketplace associations, 2) provided more women with access to sustainable livelihoods, 3) improved the work environment and conditions for more women market vendors, 4) expanded more women's knowledge of health and safety issues, disaster preparedness, and resilience, 5) improved women's access to mechanisms to prevent discrimination in the workplace, and 6) provided improved access to services for those who are facing gender-based violence (GBV).



Selected Key Impacts

Planned Expansion to Samoa: The design for expansion into Samoa was completed following extensive consultations with stakeholders, including government, market vendors and market management. A country proposal and plan were drafted.

Expansion to Vunisea Market, Kadavu, Fiji: The reach of the M4C Project extended to Vunisea on the island of Kadavu, a rural maritime area frequently impacted by severe tropical cyclones.

Partnerships: Australian Aid, Government of Canada, Government of Fiji (Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry for Local Government), Food and Agriculture Organization, Suva City Council

Innovation: The COVID-19 pandemic requires vendor farmers to consider new ways of doing business. The training that M4C provided in organic farming and value-adding is an example of how the project encourages creativity and innovation.

Sharing of Best Practice: The project included field visits with attendees from several government ministries. M4C provides mentoring in addition to training, which creates opportunities for the market vendors to learn from each other and form supportive networks of women who can take action themselves.

South-South Knowledge Exchange: The project applies lessons learned at one market to the operation of the others. As of 2020, the project assisted markets in Fiji, Vanuatu, Samoa, and Solomon Islands.



Principles of Partnership in Action:



Mutual Accountability: Partners' comparative expertise is leveraged for the various activities. Both partners are accountable for the success of the project as a whole.



Collaboration and Complementarity: The M4C project works in partnership with the Suva City Council to improve standards at Vunisea Market. The Council's Market Manager has expertise in hygiene and food handling.



Transparency: All partners are responsible for reporting, both to each other and to the Partnership, on the details of their contributions.



Openness to Learning: In order to plan the expansion to Samoa, there have been extensive consultations with government. The M4C Project appreciates that there may be some modifications needed to their approach to deliver the best possible results in Samoa.



Mutual Respect: This is upheld by the sharing of costs and the joint contribution of resources to the M4C Project.



Photo: ©UNWOMEN



Key Results by Output

OUTPUT 2.1:

Strengthened capacity of rural and urban women market vendors to claim their rights through participation and leadership in Market Vendor Associations (MVAs) in markets in Fiji and Samoa/Tonga

- Forty Vunisea Market vendors (15 women and 25 men) attended and contributed to the M4C Inception Meeting, providing their unique and context-specific perspectives. Their presence was an important step in creating the vital link between citizen engagement in Kadavu and project delivery, governance, social inclusion and empowerment.
- Market vendors at Vunisea established the interim Market Vendors Association Executive Committee, composed of 4 women and 1 man, which started work on the development of governance and legislative structures to ensure that the marketplace association is inclusive.

- The International Day of Rural Women was celebrated in Vunisea, Kadavu for the first time, with the theme “Building rural women’s resilience in the wake of COVID-19”. The crucial role of rural women as “resilience champions” was highlighted by attendees including H.E Jonathan Curr, New Zealand High Commissioner to Fiji, Ms. Sandra Bernklau, Country Representative of UN Women Fiji Multi-Country Office, UNDP representatives, Fiji Government representatives, service providers, and rural women vendor farmers.

OUTPUT 2.2:

Strengthened market vendors’ financial and business skills

- A Market Business Fair brought financial, agricultural, and social service providers to the Vunisea Market to provide information, create awareness, and deliver services to the market vendors. The Fair proved to be a valuable opportunity for the rural maritime vendors to interact with mainland service providers and learn about the different products on offer. The vendors opened

new bank accounts, made investment choices, organised their tax identification numbers, and received health checks. Forty-six new bank accounts were opened with Westpac (16 converted to mobile banking); 107 new accounts for mobile phone-based money transfer services were opened with Vodafone; 46 new investment accounts were opened with Unit Trust of Fiji and Fijian Holdings; and 45 tax identification number registrations were made with the Fiji Revenue and Customs Service. Vendors also benefited from training on basic financial management.

- Kadavu was badly affected by Tropical Cyclone Harold, which hit in April 2020. Most vendor businesses were still trying to recover after food gardens and houses were devastated. In some instances, vendors had stopped selling altogether at the Vunisea Market in order to focus on recovery. To support their efforts and assist with income generation, the M4C Project provided basic farming tools and dry seeds to 145 market vendors (107 women, 38 men).
- 112 market vendors (90 women, 22 men) were trained in business skills and the principles of organic agriculture and value-adding.



- 248 market vendors (129 women, 119 men) began practicing business fundamentals and record-keeping.

OUTPUT 2.3:

Increased capacity of local government and market management to adopt gender responsive market by-laws, policies, plan, and budgets for the provision of a safe and secure rural market in Vunisea, Kadavu, Fiji

- The Suva City Council strengthened its administration of the Vunisea Market. Several meetings and consultations, including with the Kadavu Provincial Administrator's Office, were held to discuss governance, operations and market management. Gender responsiveness was at the forefront of the discussions. Representatives of the Suva City Council also led a scoping of training needs for COVID-19 response and safe, hygienic food handling.



Photo: ©UNWOMEN



Photo: ©UNWOMEN





Photo: ©UNWOMEN

- Basic cleaning supplies were provided to improve market hygiene and ensure that the market could remain safely operational in COVID-19 pandemic conditions. Supplies for green waste management were handed over to the Vunisea Market Manager to facilitate and encourage proper waste disposal.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) and various COVID-19 information and awareness materials were provided to the market vendors. Temporary tents were provided for social distancing purposes and also served to cater for the increasing number of market vendors selling at the market.

OUTPUT 2.4:

Marketplace infrastructure is more resilient to disaster and other risks, including pandemics and climate change

- An infrastructure assessment of Vunisea Market was conducted in coordination with the Suva City Council and the market vendors. The results were used to guide a review of the market infrastructure plans. Plans have been drafted to ensure that the physical market is more gender-responsive, safer, accessible, and more resilient to disaster risks and climate change.



Performance Assessment of Outcome 2 Activities

The following assessment is based on the stated objectives of the UNPSF. Claims are substantiated by the results reported on the preceding pages and media coverage and UN communications on M4C.

Development Impact: Demonstrated. The UNPSF support for M4C is able to show development impact, as is evidenced by



the number of women and men vendor farmers who have benefitted from training, infrastructure support, and empowerment activities. There are many testimonials from women market vendors in Kadavu who have recognized that their livelihoods have been enhanced through M4C support. This is evidence that indicates the value of this support and may justify greater investment.

Coherence: Demonstrated. The M4C Project is jointly implemented by UN Women and UNDP, with the support of the UN Resident Coordinators' Offices, and adheres to "Delivering as One" standards. The NZ-funded component of M4C

builds on the successes that the project recorded in its first four and a half years. M4C demonstrates that joint programming leverages the strengths of different UN agencies to deliver results. While it is a UN Women project, and that agency has expertise in gender equality, collaboration with UNDP, which has a very strong inclusive growth programme, strengthens M4C.

Cooperation: Demonstrated. There are many internal and external stakeholders that worked well together and contributed in their areas of expertise. The supply of seeds by FAO is one example of this. Another example is the fact that Suva City

Council conducted the training for vendors on safe food handling.

Reduced costs and risks: Demonstrated. The inputs required for the design phase in Samoa were contributed by both UNDP and UN Women. The use of resources from both agencies distributed risks and costs. The cost of the high-level trip to Vunisea was also borne by both agencies, who advocated for the project in communications with their own contacts and government partners. The communications for the project were prepared by both agencies.



Photo: ©UNWOMEN



Photo: ©UNWOMEN



In the Words of the Beneficiaries



"I was overwhelmed with joy when we were informed that the UN would be assisting market vendors in Vunisea as part of COVID-19 and Tropical Cyclone Harold response..... we have been facing a lot of difficulties selling at Vunisea Market because the current market building had sustained damages during Tropical Cyclone Harold. Thank you for thinking of us the rural market vendors here in Kadavu."
- Mrs. Setaita Bainivalu of Namalata, Kadavu, Fiji. Mrs. Bainivalu sells at the Vunisea Market to contribute to her family's income, and her business was affected by Tropical Cyclone Harold.

"I'm happy that we will now have ample space to sell our produce with the additional new tents. These tents will help us, continue to practice social distancing, while still being sheltered from the hot sun and rain."- Ms. Silvia Ovaova of Vukavu Village, Kadavu, who has been selling at the Vunisea Market for five years.



Saini Vatuloka, a cooked food vendor at Vunisea market in Kadavu.
Photo UN Women/Iliesa Ravuci

Ms. Saini Vatuloka, a 35-year-old from Namalata Kadavu. Ms. Vatuloka has been a cooked food seller at Vunisea market for over 5 years. *"I was fortunate to attend the safe food handling training that was organized by the Market for Change (M4C) project"* Ms. Vatuloka said.

"The training has taught me about the proper attire for when I am cooking and serving my customers. I have learnt how to minimize the spread of COVID-19 in the marketplace. I believe that, through the engagement of the Markets 4 Change project, people in Kadavu will realize the important services we provide as market vendors trading at Vunisea Market."

The safe food handling training was supported by M4C in partnership with the Suva City Council's Health Department. The initiative was part of the project support toward the Fiji Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.





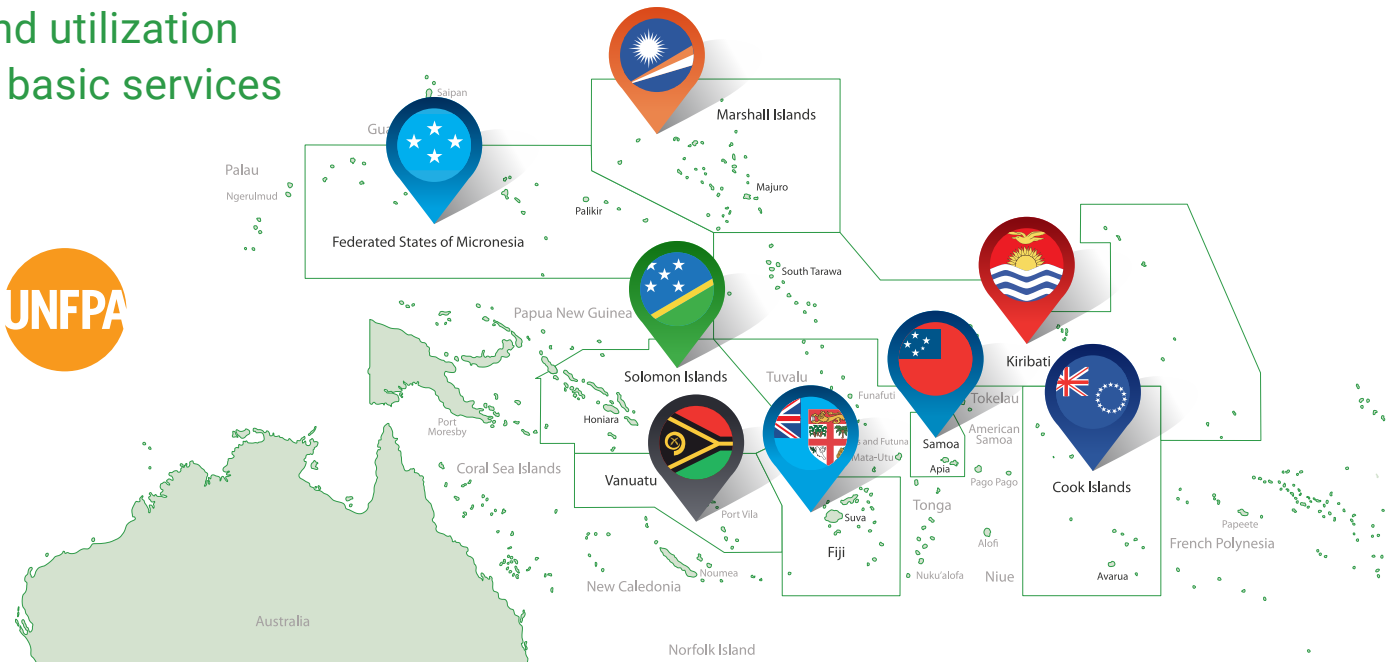
UN PACIFIC STRATEGY

OUTCOME 4: Equitable Basic Services



By 2022, more people in the Pacific, particularly the most vulnerable, have increased equitable access to and utilization of inclusive, resilient and quality basic services

Countries: Cook Islands, Federation States of Micronesia (FSM), Fiji, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), Samoa, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu





Snapshot of Support from the Pacific Partnership

In cooperation with Pacific government counterparts, UNICEF and UNFPA worked to enable improvements in the quality and delivery of key services. Activities addressed a range of health education and early childhood issues in Cook Islands, Fiji, FSM, Kiribati, RMI, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

Children, youth, and their caregivers in the Pacific benefitted from birth registration and initiatives to improve healthcare in the first 1000 days of life, immunization, Early Childhood Development (ECD) and Early Childhood Education (ECE) activities, and support for sexual and reproductive health and rights. Given the urgency of the COVID-19 response, the attention of governments was largely focused elsewhere, and implementing partners needed to advocate very strongly for the importance of safeguarding young children’s health and promoting healthy reproductive choices for adolescents.



Selected Key Impacts

10 Year Early Childhood Development (ECD) Workplan: The Pacific Regional Council for ECD, for which UNICEF is the Secretariat, developed a plan to support PICs with their ECD policies and costed action plans. This built on priorities in education, health, social welfare, and other social services, while strengthening synergies across sectoral interventions.

Raised Profile of Early Childhood Education (ECE): UNICEF has built capacity at the national level for analysis and sub-sector planning on ECE to ensure the inclusion of ECE in broader education sector planning processes in Solomon Islands and Tonga.

Over 10,000 Unregistered Children Identified: The identification of 10,661 unregistered children aged 0-17 in Samoa is a significant achievement. The registration of those children this year will ensure that they are able to access and benefit from government services.

Partnerships: Ministries of Health, Ministries of Education, National Statistics Offices (NSO), Youth to Youth in Health (YTYIH), Pacific Regional Council for ECD, Pacific Regional Education Framework (PacREF)

Innovation: In FSM, funding for Outcome 4 was re-allocated to a regional initiative to train healthcare workers, including those on remote islands. The “Health Care on Air” radio broadcasts detailed COVID-19 response protocols for health workers.

Best Practice: FSM included Early Childhood Development (ECD) in its national response to the 2019 SDG Voluntary National Review. The inclusion of ECD underscored the fact that ECD investments help fulfill multiple SDG targets.

South-South Knowledge Exchange: Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu have exchanged knowledge in the process of revising their Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) legislation.



Principles of Partnership in Action:



Mutual Accountability: While partners are responsible for the leadership of specific activities, they are also accountable for the success of the project as a whole.



Collaboration and Complementarity: This is upheld in work on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS), which involves interconnected policies and practices across government.



Transparency: This is displayed by the partners as they share best practices in health promotion, nutrition, newborn care, and comprehensive sexuality education in the Pacific.



Openness to Learning: The use of radio to make continuing education accessible to healthcare workers was a clever response to the challenges of delivering messaging efficiently over a large area.



Mutual Respect: Partners respect each other's mandates and independence. The knowledge and expertise that each partner contributes is valued.



A baby is being immunized in Solomon Islands. Photo: PFIP/John Rae



Key Results by Output

OUTPUT 4.1:

Increased and improved utilization of integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) and Rights information and services by adolescents and youth (across the development nexus) and improved access to comprehensive sexuality education (also known as Family Life Education) for in-school youth, with a special focus on very young adolescent girls



RMI Honourable Minister of Health, Bruce Bilimon at the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) Training. Photo: UNFPA Pacific

- In FSM, 30% of facilities have staff trained in Adolescent and Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health (AYSRH), surpassing the target of 25%. Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) training was conducted for health workers in Pohnpei State. National guidelines for youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services will be complete by the end of 2021, and school-based family life education is being operationalized.
- In RMI, 24% of facilities have staff trained in AYSRH. A national MISP was carried out and a MISP Action Plan for SRH and GBV was developed. RMI is on track to complete the development of national guidelines for youth-friendly sexual reproductive health services by the end of 2021, and is in the process of operationalizing school-based comprehensive family life education that meets international standards.
- In Solomon Islands, the Health Facility Readiness and Service Availability (HFRSA) assessment revealed that 64% of public health facilities are currently providing AYSRH services, though only 21% of facilities have staff trained in AYSRH. Solomon Islands is also in the process of operationalizing school-based comprehensive family life education and is working to strengthen out-of-school sexuality education for youth.



OUTPUT 4.2:

Improved service delivery in newborn care and nutrition, and improved health promotion and messaging on nutrition and newborn care, in FSM, Kiribati, Vanuatu, and Solomon Islands

- In FSM, funding was re-purposed to train health workers on COVID-19 response through radio broadcasts.
- In Kiribati, thirty supervision visits were conducted to improve the quality of Primary Health Care (PHC) services provided during the first 1000 days of life. 66% of the PHC service facilities that received two supervision visits were found to have improved. Communication and social mobilization plans for newborn care and nutrition were finalized.
- In Solomon Islands, 11 supervision visits were conducted to improve the quality of Primary Health Care (PHC) services provided during the first 1000 days of life. Healthcare workers were trained in high-impact nutrition interventions and newborn care, and communication and social mobilization plans for newborn care and nutrition were developed.

- In Vanuatu, 67 supervision visits, designed to improve the quality of Primary Health Care (PHC) services for the 1000 days of life, were carried out. This led to an improvement of service quality in 55 per cent of health facilities supervised in Vanuatu. Communication and social mobilization plans for newborn care and nutrition were finalized.

OUTPUT 4.3:

Improved service delivery and demand for immunization in FSM, RMI and Fiji

- UNICEF provided Fiji with a compressor for a national walk-in cooler so vaccines can be properly stored.
- Where data is available, immunization coverage of children below 1 year of age on Diphtheria, Pertussis, and Tetanus 3 increased in FSM, decreased in RMI, and decreased in Fiji, though Fiji exceeded the global coverage target of 90%.
- Fiji, FSM and RMI did not experience any national level stock-out of the measles vaccine.

OUTPUT 4.4:

Early Childhood Education (ECE) analysis and planning conducted in targeted countries and Early Childhood Education- in-service training pilot, review and scale-up planning conducted in targeted countries

- In Solomon Islands, a diagnostic workshop on ECE Policy was conducted. Strategies for ECE were identified at the workshop and are being integrated in the National Education Action Plan (NEAP), which is currently under development.
- In Tonga, an ECE diagnostic tool was contextualized, and ECE Teacher Guidance and competencies linked to the new curriculum were recently developed. A national “Training of Trainers” session was conducted, and the roll-out of training of ECE teachers is underway.



OUTPUT 4.5:

Improved enabling environment and support for a multi-sectoral approach and investment in Early Childhood Development at the country level

- In FSM, UNICEF is providing support to government to improve multi-sectoral coordination for young children. Investments in Early Childhood Development (ECD) are embedded in the national response to FSM’s 2019 SDG Voluntary National Review.
- The Government of FSM started the ECD Policy planning process with technical guidance from UNICEF and leadership by the SDG Taskforce under

the Department of Resources and Planning. Preparatory activities support the development of both national and state-level costed ECD Action Plans, which will bring together services and programmes for young children in areas such as health, nutrition, education, and social protection.

- In Cook Islands, discussions on ECD support are ongoing.





Performance of Outcome 4 Activities

The following assessment is based on the stated objectives of the UNPSF. Claims are substantiated by the results reported on the preceding pages, the contents of UN communications, and media coverage.

Development Impact: Demonstrated though Output 4.3 on Immunization recorded mixed results. There is evidence of positive results in the areas of Adolescent and Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health (AYSRH), primary healthcare services in the first 1000 days of life, Early Childhood Development (ECD), Early Childhood Education (ECE), and birth notifications and registrations. Training sessions on COVID-19 response delivered via the radio to healthcare workers in FSM had an impact. The value of support for Outcome 4 is clear and may justify greater investment.

Coherence: Demonstrated. Support for equitable basic services is jointly delivered by UNFPA and UNICEF, with the support of the UN Resident Coordinators' Office, and adheres to "Delivering as One" standards. This initiative leverages the experience of the MFAT-funded Pacific Region Sexual and Reproductive Health Programme that was



Photo: UNFPA Pacific

completed in 2020. UNFPA's expertise lies in sexual and reproductive health, while UNICEF's mandate is to save children's lives and help them fulfill their potential through adolescence.

Cooperation: Demonstrated. Both UNFPA and UNICEF have been promoting multi-sectoral coordination on nutrition, reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health, CRVS, and ECD. This has been well-received, and FSM, Kiribati, RMI, Samoa, Solomon Islands, and

Vanuatu are at various stages of setting up inter-ministerial and multi-stakeholder committees that foster synergies and efficiencies across those typically siloed programmes.

Reduced Costs and Risks: Demonstrated. By working together, UNFPA and UNICEF have reduced their administrative, coordination, and transaction costs and risks to improve efficiency. Future resource mobilization will be facilitated through the regional networks that have been established.



In the Words of the Beneficiaries



"I am very thankful to UNFPA and MFAT for their support in strengthening our national Youth Friendly Health Services (YFHS) programme. We now have copies of the Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health (AYSRH) flip chart printed for all the health facilities across the country and have started distributing these.

It is often difficult to initiate discussions on sensitive topics, but with this job-aid, nurses and midwives will be able to easily guide discussions with young people and improve interactions and counselling on sexual and reproductive health issues. We are also excited that 11 YFHS corners across the country will be refurbished. This will help young people feel more welcome and comfortable and encourage them to access sexual reproductive health services," said Nancy Pego, Programme Manager with the Ministry of Health and Medical Services in Solomon Islands.

"It is so convenient, especially for the rural health centres where radio is the most used form of communication. The radio segments are on Fridays, which is even better, as those are our bookwork days. There are three of us in the Public Health Department here in this facility, and we just listen to the sessions while doing our bookwork," says Vasiti Naio, a Public Health Nurse stationed at the Wainibokasi Health Centre in Fiji. She was speaking about the "Health Care on Air" radio broadcasts.

"The MISP training provided a good opportunity for me to have good interaction with our primary health colleagues who are working on family planning and HIV/STI. It's important for me as a midwife to be better equipped to respond during a humanitarian crisis. This training should be ongoing for all health workers. For example, in an emergency when responding to GBV survivors, we just treat their wounds, but we do not offer things like contraceptives." shared Ms. Mary Victor, a midwife at the Pohnpei State Hospital in FSM.



MISP training participants in the Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia. Photo: UNFPA Pacific



Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (ASRHR) training of health workers in Makira, Solomon Islands. Photo: UNFPA Pacific



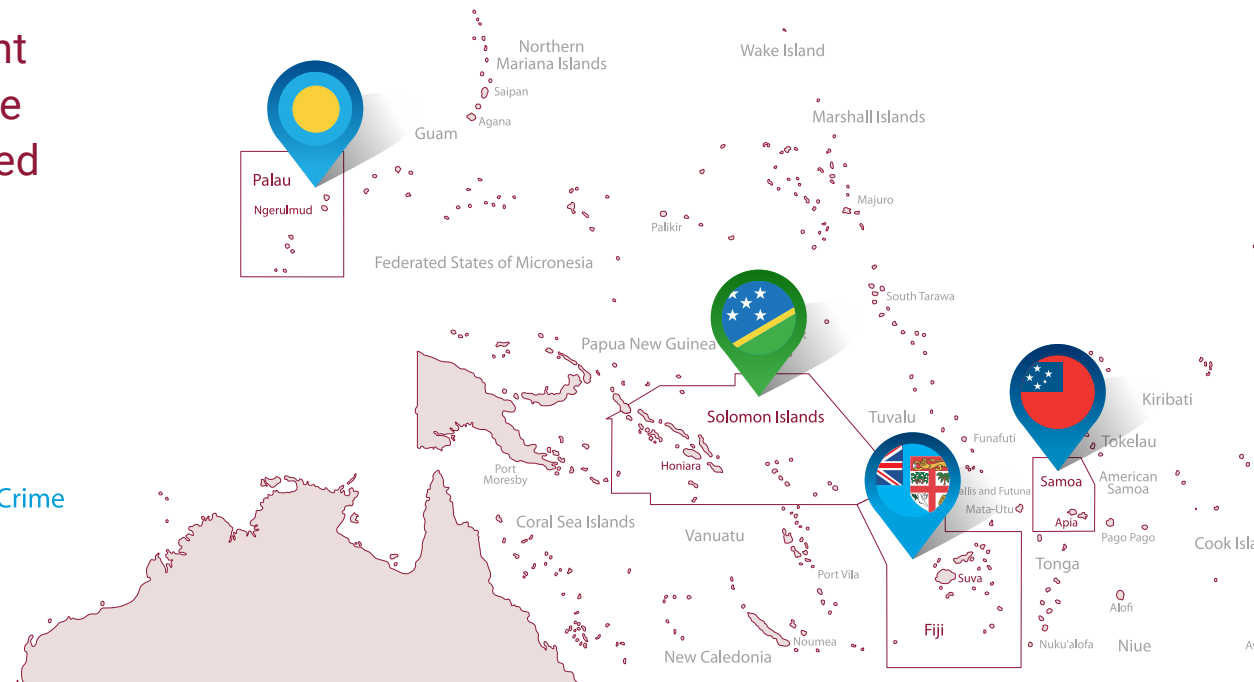
UN PACIFIC STRATEGY

OUTCOME 5: Governance



By 2022, people and communities in the Pacific will contribute to and benefit from inclusive, informed, and transparent decision-making processes; accountable and responsive institutions; and improved access to justice.

Countries with Governance Activities: Fiji, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands





UN PACIFIC STRATEGY

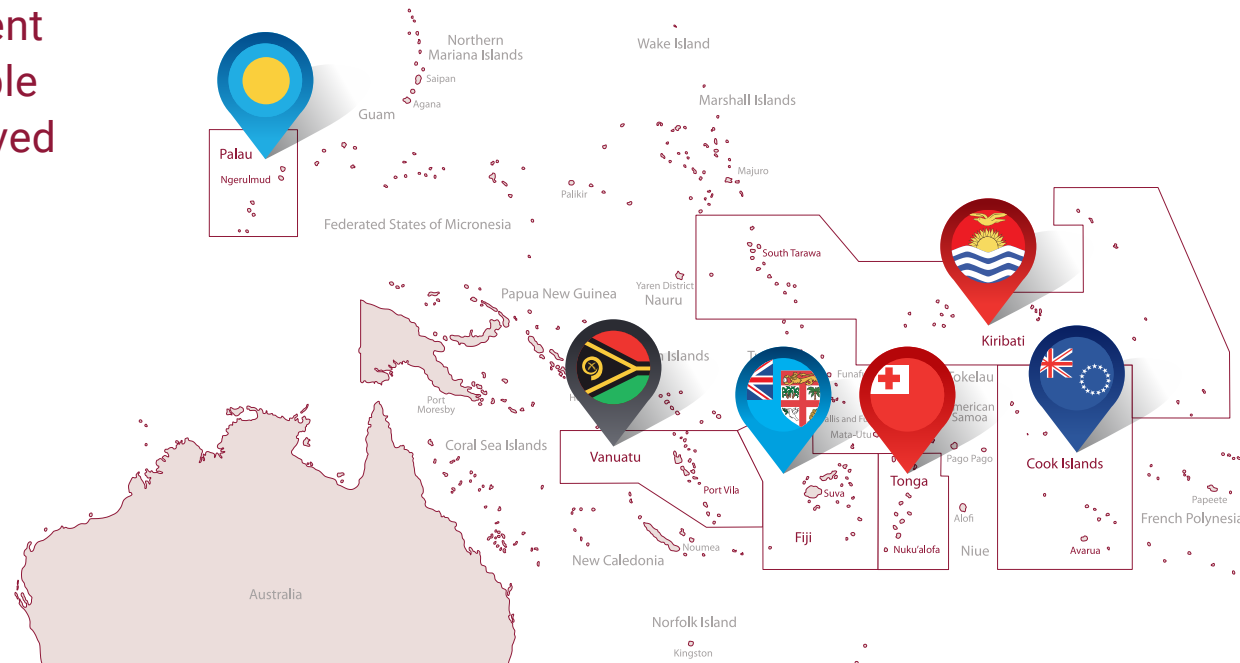
OUTCOME 5: Data/MIS



By 2022, people and communities in the Pacific will contribute to and benefit from inclusive, informed, and transparent decision-making processes; accountable and responsive institutions; and improved access to justice.

Countries with Data/MIS Activities:

Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Palau, Tonga, Vanuatu



unicef 
for every child



Snapshot of Support from the Pacific Partnership

Work in support of good governance is delivered through the well-established United Nations Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption (UN-PRAC) Project. Pacific Partnership-supported activities, implemented with multiple state and non-state actors, promote the Right to Information and take a creative approach to anti-corruption measures.

In support of Outcome 5 related to the availability of data, UNICEF and UNFPA focus on strengthening the collection and utilization of data for evidence-based decision making. The Population and Housing Census (PHC) in Cook Islands, Kiribati, Tonga and Vanuatu, and the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) Cook Islands, Fiji and Vanuatu are supported. The Pacific Partnership support for data and MIS will ensure methodological alignment with international standards so that high quality disaggregated population data is available for activities such as monitoring the SDGs and developing effective humanitarian responses.

Multiple Indicator Survey Cluster (MICS) data collection team in the field collecting updated data for the Government of Fiji. Photo: UNFPA Pacific.



Selected Key Impacts

Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) and Population and Housing Census (PHC): While this work is led by UNICEF, UNFPA contributes technical support on the Sexual and Reproductive Health components and provides input to the Domestic Violence module. That collaboration of two agencies with different expertise and mandates adds value to data collection exercises, producing very useful findings. For example, the MICS and PHS combined can provide data for up to 40 indicators of the 132 Pacific SDGs, and provides the denominator for an additional 45.

Anti-Corruption Training and Support for Women and Youth:

Steady progress in this area was achieved. The promotion of business integrity and anti-corruption measures created an enabling environment for trade and business to flourish. The first-ever Anti-Corruption Toolkit for Women-Owned Micro, Small and Medium Businesses was also produced. Extensive capacity building for women entrepreneurs and youth was undertaken in Fiji and Solomon Islands.

During this reporting period, a total of 3,235 people (1,792 women and 1,443 men) from the Pacific were equipped with knowledge and practical tools at a range of anti-corruption activities and events.



Partnerships: New Zealand Public Service Commission, New Zealand Ombudsman, Australian High Commission in Suva, Australian Information Commissioner, Australian Public Service Commission, Brisbane Accord Group Partnership (Australian Bureau of Statistics, World Health Organization (WHO), Pacific Civil Registrars Network (PCRN), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Bloomberg Data for Health, Fiji National University (FNU), Queensland University of Technology (QUT), Global Health Advocacy Incubator), Cook Islands Statistics Office (CISO), Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption (FICAC), Fiji Ministry of Health and Medical Services, Pacific Anti-Corruption Journalists Network, Pacific Community (SPC), Pacific Islands News Agency, Pacific Youth Forum Against Corruption (PYFAC), Vanuatu National Statistics Office (VNSO).

Innovation: Fiji, Solomon Islands, Samoa and Palau have benefitted from creative approaches to the promotion of business integrity among young entrepreneurs. Activities and workshops are implemented in partnership with business associations, the Pacific Youth Forum Against Corruption (PYFAC), and youth networks.



Photo: UNDP Office in Fiji

In addition, Vanuatu and Kiribati deployed new technology in the form of Computer-Assisted Personal Interviews (CAPI) during their 2020 census enumeration. They also used a remote Data Management System (DMS) which allowed them to monitor data collection in real time. They will be able to release disaggregated data in 2021 for program and policy development.

Sharing of Best Practice: With UN-PRAC's facilitation, Vanuatu shared its Right to Information knowledge and experience with the Federated States of Micronesia.

South-South Knowledge Exchange: UN-PRAC has been facilitating progress through policy advice, knowledge-sharing and promotion of South-South cooperation. The technical and advisory approach to promoting RTI in the Pacific is anchored on the values of South-South cooperation and regional partnerships, including collaborations with the New Zealand Ombudsman and the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner.



Photo: UNDP Office in Fiji

Principles of Partnership in Action:



Mutual Accountability: This is evidenced by the promotion of and support for partnerships, as well as commitment to the *Teieniwa Vision*. The region's collective pledge to combat corruption is expected to be adopted by all 18 Pacific Islands Forum Leaders (including the 14 PICs working with UN-PRAC) at the Pacific Island Leaders Forum in February 2021.



Collaboration and Complementarity: This is demonstrated by the development of coherent anti-corruption messaging, anchored on both UNCAC and SDG 16, in several countries.



Transparency: Anti-corruption work is rooted in the promotion of the principles of transparency, accountability, openness and integrity by all implementation partners.



Openness to Learning: All partners work towards increasing awareness of the impacts of corruption. Implementers also promote the importance of collecting, storing, and using clean data, and liaise with countries to find solutions to data/MIS-related challenges they face.



Mutual Respect: Partners' respective inputs are equally valued, and the human resource and technology constraints and context in each country are considered and understood.





Key Results by Output

OUTPUT 5.1.1:

Right to Information (RTI) regimes considered, enhanced or operationalized

- FSM and the Solomon Islands benefitted from support to establish a RTI regime. Training webinars were delivered with the support of the New Zealand Ombudsman, the Australian Information Commissioner's Freedom of Information Division, and Vanuatu's RTI Unit. Two extensive reviews of FSM's Freedom of Information (FOI) Bill were conducted in cooperation with experts from the Australian Information Commissioner's Freedom of Information Division and the New Zealand Ombudsman. UN-PRAC also updated its publication, "Status of the Right to Information in the Pacific Island Countries". Related activities are further being scaled up in several PICs.

- In Vanuatu, following UN-PRAC's earlier support to the RTI Policy, RTI Act 2016, and the establishment of the RTI Unit, RTI requests for information held by government agencies increased by 85% as of November 2020. However, the oversight mechanisms are still weak, and data on appeals and information requests filed, granted or denied remains lacking.

OUTPUT 5.1.2:

Active youth engagement in integrity initiatives

- Youth were empowered through intensive support for business integrity strengthening. This support accounted for the corruption implications of the COVID-19 pandemic and the role of the private sector in socio-economic recovery. An outcomes statement was released by Youth Entrepreneurs Council of Fiji with a strong commitment to business integrity and follow-up actions.

- Fiji, Palau, Solomon Islands and Samoa benefitted from activities that promote business integrity for young entrepreneurs, implemented in partnership with institutions, business associations, and networks, such as the Pacific Youth Forum Against Corruption. The Palau Youth Entrepreneurs Commitment Statement was adopted. The Fiji Youth Entrepreneurs Council also launched the Outcome Statement.
- In Fiji, 18 out of 22 youth entrepreneurs who attended business integrity training registered their businesses in October 2020 in cooperation with the Registrar of Business.
- UN-PRAC facilitated an online webinar, attended by more than 40 participants, on making integrity a priority for youth engaging in sport. This was delivered in partnership with the Fiji Ministry of Youth and Sports, Fiji National Sports Commission, Voices of the Athletes Champions, and the Fiji Association of Sports and National Olympic Committee. An Integrity and Sport for Pacific Youth Toolkit is being developed.



OUTPUT 5.1.3:

Media oversight over management of public resources increased and of better quality

- A partnership was established with the Pacific Islands News Association (PINA) to build the capacities of journalists to identify and report on corruption. UN-PRAC and PINA produced the following six regional webinars for the Pacific media through the Pacific Anti-Corruption Journalists Network (PACJN): (1) Anti-Money Laundering Knowledge Sharing Session; (2) Whistleblower Protection; (3) Health Procurement; (4) Public Reporting and Access to Information; (5) Corruption Risks in Public Procurement and Oversight Mechanisms used in Response to COVID-19; and (6) Pre-United Nations Special Session of the General Assembly (UNGASS) on Anti-Corruption Briefing for the Media: Teieniwa Vision and Pacific Vision in the UNGASS.

OUTPUT 5.1.4:

Integrity and compliance measures introduced in selected sectors

- Fifty-thousand public servants from 93 institutions in Fiji were reached by the first-ever nationwide public sector integrity and anti-bribery campaign, formally launched on International Anti-Corruption Day in 2020. Designed to decrease the number of public servants engaging in bribery, the campaign also aimed to improve confidence in the civil service, improve transparency, accountability, and service delivery, and contribute to the development of integrity and compliance measures. Training is planned to be undertaken for more than 900 public servants from 7 institutions by June 2021.

OUTPUT 5.1.5:

Strengthened internal control mechanisms, ethics and compliance in sectors with predominantly women-owned/ managed businesses.

- In Fiji, the first-ever Anti-Corruption Toolkit for Women-Owned Micro, Small and Medium Businesses was produced to raise awareness of corruption issues amongst women in business. Its launch was followed by training for women entrepreneurs in Fiji and Solomon Islands. In partnership with Palau’s Chamber of Commerce, the Anti- Corruption Toolkit for Palau’s Women Entrepreneurs was developed and training was conducted.



The following are the Outcome 5 outputs that are related to data and MIS.

OUTPUT 5.2.1:

Planning and advocacy for Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) conducted in targeted countries.

- Fiji and Vanuatu were supported with the initial steps of planning for MICS in 2020. They were introduced to the methodology, the oversight mechanism, and the structures required for a participatory process. Both countries considered the national context with UNFPA and UNICEF.



- In Fiji, the MICS project was paused for around six months due to the COVID-19 pandemic and disasters. The implementation of Fiji MICS resumed in August 2020 with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between UNICEF and the Fiji Bureau of Statistics.
- The Fiji Bureau of Statistics (FBoS) benefitted from capacity-building support. In addition, the Fiji Ministry of Health collaborated with FBoS to undertake the design and planning phase of the MICS in 2020.
- In Vanuatu, MICS advocacy and planning (including survey design, budget development, setting of timelines, and the development of questionnaires) was progressed mainly through virtual meetings involving the local survey team and the MICS team. The Director General of the Ministry of Health expressed his strong support for the planned 2021 Vanuatu MICS, and the Ministry of Health is partnering with the Vanuatu National Statistics Office (VNSO) to mobilize government resources to cover the funding gap.
- In Cook Islands, there were initial talks on MICS with the National Statistics Office in 2020.



Fiji Bureau of Statistics Chief Executive together with UNICEF Pacific Representative and UNFPA Pacific Deputy Representative at the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey at Fiji TV Breakfast show. Photo Credit: UNFPA Pacific.

OUTPUT 5.2.2:

Survey personnel in targeted countries received MICS technical support/training on survey design, data processing, and further analysis and dissemination.

- The FBoS received expert assistance for the MICS, including technical support (to better understand data needs, their role in the data collection process, and special considerations in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic) and capacity building support related to data analysis and utilisation.
- FBoS and national stakeholders were encouraged to form partnerships. FBoS collaborated with the National Statistics Office and the Ministry of Health and Medical Services, both of which are major beneficiaries of the data collected. FBoS will consult with other stakeholders as it progresses with its preparations.
- 30 FBoS staff received technical support and training on survey design and the collection of data using CAPI for the MICS.

OUTPUT 5.2.3:

Census. Planning and advocacy for census, followed by technical support in key areas of implementation including questionnaire, design, data processing, analysis and dissemination.

- Kiribati and Vanuatu were supported by UNFPA to complete their preparatory activities for the Population and Housing Census. Both Governments prioritized efforts on the upcoming 2021 PHC despite the additional funding constraints and emerging data demands related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Kiribati and Vanuatu both successfully conducted their enumeration phase in December 2020. They used an online real-time Field Work Monitoring System designed for remote quality control of coverage and data collection.
- UNICEF, UNFPA, and SPC collaborated to provide technical support for the MICS, leveraging their respective expertise to provide partner countries with comprehensive assistance that addresses all aspects of the MICS and related exercises undertaken by partner countries.



Pacific Island Forum Leaders at the launch of the *Teieniwa Vision* in Tarawa, Kiribati in February 2020. Photo: UNDP Office in Fiji.



Performance of Outcome 5 Activities

The following assessment is based on the stated objectives of the UNPSF. Claims are substantiated by the results reported on the preceding pages, the contents of UN communications, and media coverage.

Development Impact: Demonstrated. UN-PRAC has worked on a range of anti-bribery measures and has succeeded in mainstreaming anti-bribery messages across public and private sector activities in PICs. The preparations that have been made for the MICS in Fiji and Vanuatu are well-advanced.

Coherence: Demonstrated. Steady progress on Pacific Islands Countries (PICs) regional commitments and efforts to become more effective, transparent, and accountable is noted. The *Teieniwa Vision*, the region's collective pledge to combat corruption, is supported by UNPSF activities.

Cooperation: Demonstrated. The closely integrated and coordinated approach between UNDP and UNODC proved essential to tackling the corruption challenges and maximizing development impact in the Pacific. Pacific Partnership support served to promote collaborations focused on data collection and analysis, including those between National Statistics Offices (NSOs) and stakeholders.



Reduced costs and risks: Demonstrated.

The capacity built and the systems developed in support of Vanuatu's and Kiribati's PHC remain with SPC. The tools will be available to help other countries rolling out their censuses in 2021 and 2022. Therefore the Pacific Partnership's investment in support of PHC will result in greater-than anticipated returns; it will ultimately assist many more countries than the original four. Pacific Partnership work in the area of anti- corruption also involves many partners, thereby diffusing risks.



MICS enumerators crossing rivers and streams to collect data and information. Photo: UNFPA Pacific.

In the Words of the Beneficiaries



"The past three days refreshed our resolve to pivot with integrity in our business to adapt, maintain and uphold better business practices and to be more diligent about dealing with corruption," said Ms. Moira Solvalu Johns, reflecting on a three-day Business Integrity for Youth Entrepreneurs Workshop, hosted by the United Nations Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption (UN-PRAC) Project from 16-19 September in Nadi, Fiji.

At the same meeting, the Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption (FICAC)'s Manager Corruption Prevention Ms. Kolora Naliva stated that *"one agency alone cannot fight corruption, the participation of civil society and the private sector are of paramount importance."*

According to Mr. Abdul Hussain, Programme Officer for Maternal, Reproductive Health, and Gender at Fiji's Ministry of Health and Medical Services, *"MICS is very important for Fiji since most of our survey indicators have not been assessed for a long a period now. It will provide a baseline for the health status of population in Fiji and the indicators will assist in program planning to meet the health needs of women and children"*.

Partnerships

The Pacific Partnership is New Zealand's commitment to working with the United Nations to support the sustainable development of PICs. It is much more than a donation and well wishes; it is a promise of financial backing for a strategy and plan than has been developed in collaboration with Pacific countries. It is a commitment to establishing relationships with all organizations interested in the sustainable development of PICs. It is also the manifestation of the shared vision of New Zealand and the United Nations, a vision for a more inclusive, equitable, and prosperous Pacific, a region that is "leaving no one behind"².

This report has presented some of the outputs of the Pacific Partnership in its first year, has identified how the five principles

of partnership have been demonstrated³, and has shown that the UNPSF has met its objectives in each outcome area. This section provides a brief analysis of the partnerships that have been established, or further developed, as a result of the Pacific Partnership's activities. It also makes some recommendations relating to the Pacific Partnership itself.



UNPSF as an Exemplar

The UNPSF can be itself be regarded an indicator of the success of the Pacific Partnership. Focused on recording progress towards Outcomes 2, 4, and 5 of the UN Pacific Strategy, it is the "moving part" of the Partnership.

The public, government, development partners, and civil society organisations have come to associate the Pacific Partnership, and the two partners, New Zealand and the UN, with the activities financed by the UNPSF.

It is therefore essential that the activities implemented under the Pacific Partnership are carefully designed and planned, implemented to the highest standards, and create the positive and lasting impacts that are needed. The UN is honored by the trust of the Government of New Zealand, and is confident that, with its broad expertise and depth of experience, it is well-placed to harness New Zealand's investment to increase the rate of progress toward the achievement of the UNPS and the 2030 Agenda.

² "Leaving No One Behind" is the vision of the United Nations Pacific Strategy 2018-2022.

³ Organisations participating in the Global Humanitarian Platform agreed to the Principles of Partnership. The UNHCR statement to that effect is found at <https://www.unhcr.org/5735bd464.pdf> and globalhumanitarianplatform.org.



It is hoped that the Pacific Partnership will inspire other development partners to support the UN's regional strategy, which is a more cost-effective and efficient way of driving progress across the PICs. It stands in contrast to supporting individual countries national development plans, or using a single implementing agency with resources, expertise, and advantage in limited areas.

Promoting the Concept of "One UN"

The Pacific Partnership contributes to the embedding of the "One UN" approach to development. While the UN agencies have distinct mandates, they are all part of the UN Joint Country Team and work to implement the UN Pacific Strategy. The Pacific Partnership sees UN agencies working efficiently in concert to record progress towards each outcome.

By taking the "One UN" approach, the participating UN agencies operate efficiently as part of whole, rather than as discrete development actors. Each agency contributes its own expertise, experience, and resources to the joint UN effort.

This approach has many benefits for partner countries with limited resources to manage development assistance.

Strategic Communications

Strategic discussions between New Zealand and the United Nations that advance the partnership at the high-level are noted in the next section on Governance and Financial Management. While narrative reports are submitted as evidence of progress, the Pacific Partnership also requires a professional communications plan that promotes the UNPSF financing modality.

The United Nations agencies funded by the UNPSF acknowledge New Zealand in their communications, including on social media (Facebook and Twitter) and in press releases and articles. New Zealand's support is also acknowledged at all events and activities.

Communications are an essential aspect of the development partnership. Visibility adds value to the collaboration and will possibly encourage other development partners to invest in the region, or in the specific outcomes of the Pacific Strategy.

Visibility also ensures that New Zealand's taxpayers are appropriately acknowledged for their investment in the development of the Pacific.

Facilitating Partnerships Around the Region

The Pacific Partnership is designed to help create an enabling environment for sustainable development, a space in which there are ongoing opportunities for public, private, and civil society actors to learn, share expertise, and recognize that there is not one development actor or government agency with all the answers.

The Partnership promotes the idea that any initiative can benefit from collaborations which introduce new perspectives and resources. The UNPS outcomes funded by the Pacific Partnership all involve cooperation with country partners and civil society.

The Fund notably aims to complement the work of regional organizations, including members of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific (CROP). In time, it is expected that the private sector may also become involved.



Photo: UNDP Office in Fiji

This report has named over 20 partners that have contributed to the results of the UNPSF. For Outcome 2, there are more than six partners, there are nine for Outcome 4, and Outcome 5 benefits from the support of 12 main partners.

The UN-PRAC project, which delivers results for Outcome 5, is an example of how the Pacific Partnership promotes collaboration. UN-PRAC brokered new regional partnerships and knowledge exchange on public service excellence with the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC) and the Public Service of the

New Zealand Public Service Commission. It works with the Pacific Anti-Corruption Journalists Network (PACJN) and Pacific Islands News Agency (PINA) to deliver effective training to the media, and with the Pacific Islands Law Officers Network (PILON) on the issue of whistleblowing in the Pacific.

UN-PRAC implementers have observed, over the years, the importance of strong support from partners. Through the Pacific Partnership and UNPSF, they have been able to develop more close collaborations.



Looking Ahead

The UNPSF, has shown, in its first year of operations, that the partnership modality an effective way to mobilize New Zealand's investment. It has also demonstrated that a multi-partner trust fund for a regional strategy can be a success. The long-term success of the Partnership's investment in the United Nations Pacific Strategy will depend, however, on the extent to which partnerships between UN agencies and other development actors improve efficiency, create cost-savings, and increase sustainability in the years to come.

Through its investment in "One UN" through the Pacific Partnership, New Zealand has signaled its strong support for the achievement of the regional development outcomes set out in the UN Pacific Strategy. The United Nations is honored to have earned the trust of the Government of New Zealand.



Challenges and Opportunities

The three main challenges in UNPSF's first year of operations were the COVID-19 pandemic, disasters, and the slow operationalization of the Pacific Partnership and the UNPSF.

COVID-19 Pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic caused a tremendous economic downturn throughout the region. The Pacific Island Countries, heavily dependent on tourism, imports, fisheries, and remittances, were already vulnerable. The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated inequalities that created or intensified existing social problems.

The impacts of the pandemic posed an unparalleled challenge to programme implementation in 2020. While the region was largely insulated from widespread

community transmission, UN agencies had to manage delays, adjust work plans, and adapt projects to accommodate travel restrictions and partner government prioritization of national COVID-19 responses.

Decreased Access to Basic Services

Access to essential services in partner countries was hampered by the COVID-19 pandemic. For instance, the delivery of essential services during the first 1000 days of life, including immunizations, was hindered by the reassignment of health personnel to COVID-19 response.

The COVID-19 pandemic also negatively impacted work to improve service delivery and promote health and proper newborn care and nutrition in FSM, Kiribati, Vanuatu, and Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a downward trend in immunization coverage, reports of increasingly poor diets, and significant supply chain disruptions for vaccines, PPE, and biomedical equipment. The COVID-19 pandemic also necessitated temporary restrictions on working hours for non-essential civil servants, contributing to a decrease in birth registration coverage of newborns in some countries.



Choosing to Delay or to Adapt

In many cases, project implementers had a choice: delay implementation or change the type of assistance or delivery mode through which assistance was provided.

The Federated States of Micronesia and Tonga postponed the implementation of their Population and Housing Census as a result of the pandemic. The planning phase of the MICS was delayed in Vanuatu and Fiji. As a result of COVID-19 restrictions and social distancing requirements, the implementation of the survey activities was delayed by at least six months.

Remote support was offered to Vanuatu and Kiribati to continue with their census activities. However, the delivery of that virtual support was negatively impacted by poor connectivity and the lack of availability of staff in partner countries. Work priorities of staff were changed as countries required data to inform their COVID-19 responses.

Anti-corruption activities, such as the nationwide public integrity campaign in Fiji, were adapted to address some of the impacts of the pandemic. Extensive business integrity work was designed



Health officer in Kadavu facilitating COVID 19 awareness session to the market MV. ©UNWOMEN

in response to emerging corruption risks assessed as most harmful to the socioeconomic development of PICs.

Increased Reliance on ICT

The COVID-19 pandemic challenged project implementers to increase their use of ICT tools. The pandemic was a driver in the use of technology for remote capacity building and quality control. For example, in the case of PHC in Kiribati and Vanuatu, computer-assisted personal interviews

(CAPI) were used and contributed to better quality results. CAPI eliminate human error in the recording of responses and enable countries to analyse their findings quickly after the completion of fieldwork.

Other Outcome Areas used virtual meetings and workshops to continue the implementation of activities.





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Increased Local Leadership

Travel restrictions encouraged the UN to foster local leadership and stewardship of various programmes. For example, UNICEF and UNFPA supported government-led multi-sectoral committees on nutrition, Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) and ECD so that Pacific governments can own, manage and mobilize resources for programmes that support children, women, and families.

The M4C Project, which provides leadership and business training to women market vendors, aimed to help women deal with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Vendors were trained in value-adding and in personal financial management. The M4C Project also provided tents that expanded the market space so that social distancing could be practiced. As Vunisea is the only market in Kadavu, the assistance provided there by the M4C Project will benefit rural farmers and vendors throughout the island province.

Severe Tropical Cyclones and Disasters

The challenges associated with severe tropical cyclones mainly impacted the implementation of the M4C programme. Tropical Cyclones Harold (01/04/20 - 11/04/20) and Yasa (11/12/20 - 24/12/20) greatly disrupted activities. The Government Station of Vunisea and the Vunisea Market building were impacted by the storms. There were challenges in travelling to Kadavu after the disaster events, as well as delays in securing approvals, as government attention was focused on more severely impacted areas.

Tropical Cyclone Ana (26/01/21-05/02/21) also impacted the implementation of MICS activities in Fiji. It caused a small delay in the commencement of training and increased costs as changes were made to the sampling areas and field personnel. In order to continue with planned work, the UN maximized the use of remote and digital support, including Zoom workshops and weekly monitoring by phone and email.

As it is expected that the frequency of severe weather events will increase, the Partnership must have disaster-resilient plans for all its outcome areas.



Delays in Operationalizing the Pacific Partnership and the UNPSF

The UNPSF was announced in June 2020. Partners were excited to start work as soon as possible, but agreement on the specific parameters and expectations of the Pacific Partnership required several discussions.

Those discussions were crucial to ensure that the UNPSF, the first multi-partner trust fund, homegrown in the Pacific, was set up properly. Five UN agencies and the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO) had to agree, via the Resident Coordinator's Office, on the documents required for the fund transfer process.

In addition, there were fund applications required at the agency level to ensure that necessary project documents, budgets and work plans were appropriated and internally approved. Funds were received by the UN in September, which decreased the 2020 implementation period by about 3 months.



©UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji.

There were also questions around the proposed management of the UNPSF. The main challenge was the need to establish clear processes. It was also important to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the various partner agencies. The operationalization of the "One UN" approach required an investment of time, but will also yield positive returns for all.

The UNPSF Operations Manual, which is being finalized, describes the governance structure and the operating principles, guidelines, and procedures for the daily operations of the UNPSF. The Operations Manual is therefore expected to ease coordination, reduce obstacles and improve implementation.



Lessons Learned

The Pacific Partnership was tested, and ultimately strengthened, by the challenges of its first year. For a new funding mechanism, set up in the midst of a global pandemic, it has performed remarkably well.

Lessons for the Pacific Partnership

It would have been helpful to have the parameters of the UNPSF, including roles, accountabilities, and Standard Operating Procedures, in place during the first three months of the Partnership.

Periodic reviews of the organization and operating procedures of the UNPSF should be carried out to keep the Partnership on track.

The UN is very grateful for New Zealand's support for its "One UN" reform. The Partnership's implementing agencies will streamline and continuously improve their collaboration to sustain a strong and cohesive New Zealand-UN Partnership.

Lessons of the Pandemic

The prolonged COVID-19 pandemic will continue to present new and unexpected challenges. The UNPSF has learned that its Risk Management Matrix should be regularly updated and its list of risks, and risk treatments, should be expanded.

Project implementers should design their activities so that they are risk- resilient, for example by designing for two different implementation scenarios.

Project implementers recognize the need for flexibility, based on their experience working in pandemic conditions. They have learned that it is best to design projects that can be altered for relevance.

A good example of this is the anti-corruption work that was adapted to reflect the new risks to business integrity that resulted from the pandemic's impacts.

It is also clear that programme implementation was able to continue, despite the pandemic, in cases where local civil society organisations (CSOs) are involved.

One positive impact of COVID-19 restrictions is the increased involvement and greater ownership of national partners. In RMI, UNFPA successfully partnered with Youth to Youth in Health, a local NGO for young people, with leadership from the Health Ministry. The same strategy will be utilized in FSM.



Photo: UNFPA Pacific/Chewy Lin



Photo: UNFPA Pacific/Chewy Lin

Project Implementation Lessons

UNFPA and UNICEF have deemed that it is crucial to provide direct, face-to-face support to some partners. Since MICS is being conducted for the first time across the region, UNICEF’s technical guidance throughout the entire process is key to ensuring that quality data is obtained from a reliable and credible process.

Pacific Governments have highlighted the need for the UN to take an approach that lessens the burden of data collection on countries. By making this a key component

of the Pacific Partnership, UNPSF alleviates that pressure and supports progress in this area that would have otherwise likely been halted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lastly, implementers appreciate the importance and value of learning from the evaluations of similar projects. Such evaluations can help identify opportunities for improved practice and implementation within the Pacific Partnership. For example, the final project evaluation of the MFAT-funded Pacific Region Sexual and Reproductive Health Programme (which covered 5 countries in the Pacific over a 6-year programme implementation period)

was completed in 2020 and, unfortunately, the achievement of results was found to be weak. The DFAT-funded Transformative Agenda also underwent a midterm review, which echoed many of the suggestions for improvement. Given these two findings, UNFPA implemented a system-wide restructuring, covering the management of programme indicators, monitoring systems and capacity enhancement. The changes made have already begun to show positive impacts. This learning that UNFPA was able to apply should serve to strengthen the results of the Pacific Partnership.



Governance and Management

In establishing the Pacific Partnership, New Zealand and the United Nations have shown their support for the development aspirations of PICs. The Partnership recognizes that the depth of experience, and the wide-ranging expertise, of the group of UN agencies in the Pacific can be effectively leveraged to produce tangible and sustainable development results for those countries faster than the any one development partner could.

The success of the Partnership depends on the management of the UN Pacific Strategy Fund. The actual mobilization of programme financing requires a well-run UNPSF. Clear processes and a robust governance framework will enable the UNPSF to meet the expectations of both partners and beneficiaries.



Governance

The governance of the UNPSF is set out in an oversight framework, designed to facilitate efficient and transparent decision-making, as well as streamlined allocation processes. The framework also clarifies the lines of accountability.

UNPSF Steering Committee

The Steering Committee is informed and guided by the principles of partnership, including mutual accountability, collaboration, complementarity, transparency, openness to learning and mutual respect.

It provides overall strategic direction to the UNPSF and is co-chaired by the Resident Coordinators (RCs) of the Samoa and Fiji Multi-Country Offices (MCOs).

The Steering Committee also includes the fund contributor, which is currently New Zealand (represented by the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade) and participating UN Organizations (currently UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNODC, and UN Women), which are referred to as PUNOs. The MPTFO/Administrative Agent and the Fund Secretariat are ex-officio members of the Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee governs the UNPSF with the support of the Secretariat, which provides technical, operational, and administrative support to the Pacific Partnership.

Steering Committee Meetings

The Fund held Steering Committee meetings in June and November 2020. Both contributed to enhancing the coherence and harmonization of the programme. The follow-up actions resulting from those meetings led to greater efficiency in the structure of the partnership, as well to expanded consultations on the Monitoring Framework.

Operations

UNPSF Secretariat

The UNPSF Secretariat advances the Pacific Partnership and provides a wide range of support.

The Secretariat has a Head, based at the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator, Fiji Multi-Country Office, and technical officers at both the UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Fiji and at the Samoa Multi-Country Office. These staff members focus on data management, results and reporting, partnership, development finance, communications and advocacy.



(L-R) UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji Resident Representative, Levan Bouadze; Commissioner of Fiji Police Force Brigadier General Sitiveni Qiliho; and New Zealand High Commissioner to Fiji, H.E. Jonathan Curr during the signing in June 2020. (Photo: New Zealand High Commission to Fiji)

The Participating UN Organizations (PUNOs) assume full programmatic and financial accountability for the funds transferred to them by the Administrative Agent, in accordance with its regulations, rules, policies and procedures, including fiduciary standards.

Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO) Administrative Agent

The Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO) Administrative Agent is responsible for Fund design and set-up, maintenance of the Fund account, receipt of donor contributions, and disbursement of funds upon instructions from the Steering Committee. The MPTFO Administrative Agent is also responsible for the provision of periodic consolidated reports.

Financial Report

Consolidated Annual Financial Report of the Administrative Agent for the UN Pacific Strategy Fund for the period 1 January to 31 December 2020

Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office
Bureau for Management Services
United Nations Development
Programme

GATEWAY:  <http://mptf.undp.org>

31 May 2021

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

United Nations
Development
Programme



United Nations
Population Fund



United Nations
Children's Fund



United Nations Office
for Drug and Crime



United Nations Entity for
Gender Equality and the
Empowerment of Women



CONTRIBUTORS



Government of
NEW ZEALAND

Definitions

Allocation: Amount approved by the Steering Committee for a project/programme.

Approved Project/Programme: A project/programme including a budget, etc., that is approved by the Steering Committee for fund allocation purposes.

Contributor Commitment: Amount(s) committed by a donor to a Fund in a signed Standard Administrative Arrangement with the UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office), in its capacity as the Administrative Agent. A commitment may be paid or may be pending payment.

Contributor Deposit: Cash deposit received by the MPTF Office for the Fund from a contributor in accordance with a signed Standard Administrative Arrangement.

Delivery Rate: The percentage of funds that have been utilized, calculated by comparing expenditures reported by a Participating Organization against the 'net funded amount'.

Indirect Support Costs: A general cost that cannot be directly related to any particular programme or activity of the Participating Organizations. UNDG policy establishes a fixed indirect cost rate of 7% of programmable costs.

Net Funded Amount: Amount transferred to a Participating Organization less any refunds transferred back to the MPTF Office by a Participating Organization.

Participating Organization: A UN Organization or other inter-governmental Organization that is an implementing partner in a Fund, and has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the MPTF Office for a particular Fund.

Project Expenditure: The sum of expenses and/or expenditure reported by all Participating Organizations for a Fund, irrespective of which basis of accounting each Participating Organization follows for donor reporting.

Project Financial Closure: A project or programme is considered financially closed when all financial obligations of an operationally completed project or programme have been settled, and no further financial charges may be incurred.

Project Operational Closure: A project or programme is considered operationally closed when all programmatic activities for which Participating Organization(s) received funding have been completed.

Project Start Date: Date of transfer of the first instalment from the MPTF Office to the Participating Organization.

Total Approved Budget: This represents the cumulative amount of allocations approved by the Steering Committee.

US Dollar Amount: The financial data in the report is recorded in US Dollars and due to rounding off of numbers, the totals may not add up.



Table of Contents

Introduction	52
1. Sources and Uses of Funds	53
2. Partner Contributions	54
3. Interest Earned	54
4. Transfer of Funds	55
5. Expenditure and Financial Delivery Rates	56
6. Cost Recovery	58
7. Accountability and Transparency	59
8. Direct Cost	60



Introduction

This Consolidated Annual Financial Report of the UN Pacific Strategy Fund is prepared by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office) in fulfillment of its obligations as Administrative Agent, as per the terms of Reference (TOR), the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the UNDP MPTF Office and the Participating Organizations, and the Standard Administrative Arrangement (SAA) signed with contributors.

The MPTF Office, as Administrative Agent, is responsible for concluding an MOU with Participating Organizations and SAAs with contributors. It receives, administers and manages contributions, and disburses these funds to the Participating Organizations. The Administrative Agent prepares and submits annual consolidated financial reports, as well as regular financial statements, for transmission to contributors.

This consolidated financial report covers the period 1 January to 31 December 2020 and provides financial data on progress made in the implementation of projects of the UN Pacific Strategy Fund. It is posted on the MPTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/UP100>).

The financial data in the report is recorded in US Dollars and, due to rounding off of numbers, the totals may not add up.



Photo: UNDP Office in Fiji



2020 Financial Performance

This chapter presents financial data and analysis of the UN Pacific Strategy Fund using the pass-through funding modality as of 31 December 2020. Financial information for this Fund is also available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY, at the following address: <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/UP100>.

1. Sources and uses of funds

As of 31 December 2020, 1 contributor deposited US\$ 6,407,000 in contributions and US\$ 19,609 was earned in interest. The cumulative source of funds was US\$ 6,426,609.

Of this amount, US\$ 6,041,197 has been net funded to 5 Participating Organizations, of which US\$ 1,683,590 has been reported as expenditure. The Administrative Agent fee has been charged at the approved rate of 1% on deposits and amounts to US\$ 64,070. Table 1 provides an overview of the overall sources, uses, and balance of the **UN Pacific Strategy Fund** as of 31 December 2020.

Table 1. Financial Overview, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

	Annual 2019	Annual 2020	Cumulative
SOURCES OF FUNDS			
Contributions from Donors		6,407,000	6,407,000
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income		19,609	19,609
Interest Income received from Participating Organizations		-	-
Refunds by Administrative Agent to Contributors		-	-
Fund balance transferred to another MDTF		-	-
Other Income		-	-
Total: Sources of Funds		6,426,609	6,426,609
USE OF FUNDS			
Transfers to Participating Organizations		5,962,206	5,962,206
Refunds received from Participating Organizations		-	-
Net Funded Amount		5,962,206	5,962,206
Administrative Agent Fees		64,070	64,070
Direct Costs: (Steering Committee, Secretariat, etc.)		78,991	78,991
Bank Charges		28	28
Other Expenditures		-	-
Total: Uses of Funds		6,105,295	6,105,295
Change in Fund Cash Balance with Administrative Agent		321,314	321,314
Opening Fund Balance (1 January)		-	-
Closing Fund Balance (31 December)		321,314	321,314
Net Funded Amount (Includes Direct Cost)		6,041,197	6,041,197
Participating Organizations' Expenditure (Includes Direct Cost)		1,683,590	1,683,590
Balance of Funds with Participating Organizations			4,357,606

2. Partner Contributions

Table 2 provides information on cumulative contributions received from all contributors to this Fund as of 31 December 2020.

The **UN Pacific Strategy Fund** is currently being financed by **1** contributor, as listed in the table to the right. Table 2 below includes commitments made up to 31 December 2020 through signed Standard Administrative Agreements, and deposits made through 2020. It does not include commitments that were made to the fund beyond 2020.

3. Interest Earned

Interest income is earned in two ways: 1) on the balance of funds held by the Administrative Agent (Fund earned interest), and 2) on the balance of funds held by the Participating Organizations (Agency earned interest) where their Financial Regulations and Rules allow return of interest to the AA. As of 31 December 2020, Fund Earned interest amounts to US\$ 19,609.

Details are provided in Table 3. ▶

Table 2. Contributors' Commitments and Deposits, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

Contributors	Total Commitments	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2019 Deposits	Current Year Jan-Dec-2020 Deposits	Total Deposits
Government of NEW ZEALAND	6,407,000	-	6,407,000	6,407,000
GRAND TOTAL	6,407,000	-	6,407,000	6,407,000

Table 3. Sources of Interest and Investment Income, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

Interest Earned	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2019	Current Year Jan-Dec-2020	Total
Administrative Agent			
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income		19,609	19,609
Total: Fund Earned Interest		19,609	19,609
Participating Organization			
Total: Agency earned interest			
GRAND TOTAL		19,609	19,609

4. Transfer of Funds

Allocations to Participating Organizations are approved by the Steering Committee and disbursed by the Administrative Agent. As of 31 December 2020, the AA has transferred US\$ 5,962,206 to 5 Participating Organizations (see list below).

4.1 Transfer by Participating Organization

Table 4 provides additional information on the refunds received by the MPTF Office, and the net funded amount for each of the Participating Organizations.

Figure 1: Transfers Amount by Participating Organization for the period of 1 January to 31 December 2020

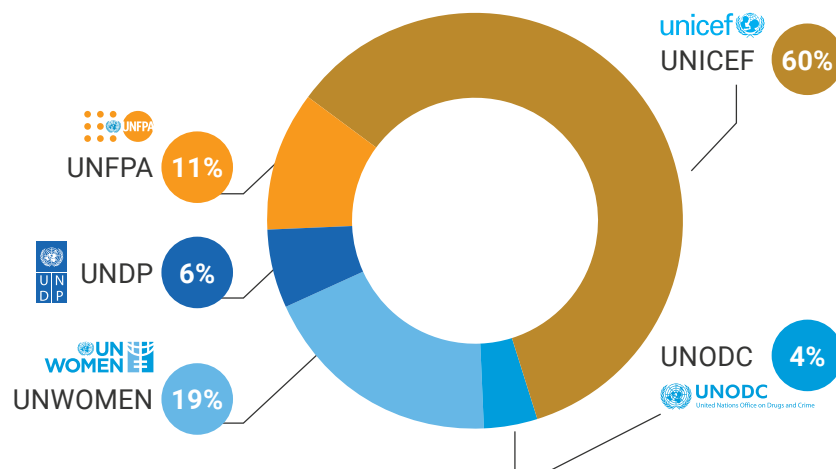


Table 4. Transfer, Refund, and Net Funded Amount by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

Participating Organization	PRIOR YEARS AS OF 31-DEC-2019			CURRENT YEAR JAN-DEC-2020			TOTAL		
	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded
UNDP				372,587		372,587	372,587		372,587
UNFPA				646,465		646,465	646,465		646,465
UNICEF				3,585,577		3,585,577	3,585,577		3,585,577
UNODC				224,027		224,027	224,027		224,027
UNWOMEN				1,133,549		1,133,549	1,133,549		1,133,549
GRAND TOTAL				5,962,206		5,962,206	5,962,206		5,962,206

5. Expenditure and Financial Delivery Rates

All final expenditures reported for the year **2020** were submitted by the Headquarters of the Participating Organizations. These were consolidated by the MPTF Office.

Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization. They are reported as per the agreed upon categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. The reported expenditures were submitted via the MPTF Office's online expenditure reporting tool. The 2020 expenditure data has been posted on the MPTF Office GATEWAY at <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/UP100>.

5.1 Expenditure Reported by Participating Organization

In **2020**, US\$ **5,962,206** was net funded to Participating Organizations, and US\$ **1,670,029** was reported in expenditure.

As shown in table below, the cumulative net funded amount is US\$ **5,962,206** and cumulative expenditures reported by the Participating Organizations amount to US\$ **1,670,029**. This equates to an overall Fund expenditure delivery rate of **28** percent.

The agencies with the three highest delivery rates are: UNODC (96%), UNDP (80%) and UNFPA (28%)

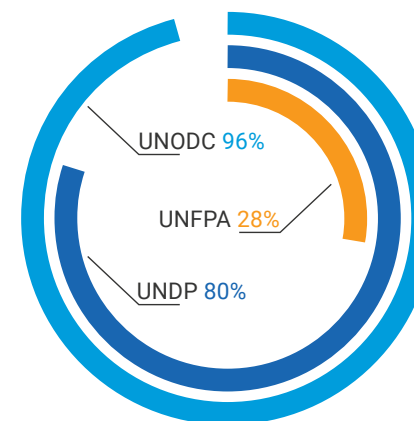


Table 5.1. Net Funded Amount, Reported Expenditure, and Financial Delivery by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

Participating Organization	Approved Amount	Net Funded Amount	EXPENDITURE			Delivery Rate %
			Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2019	Current Year Jan-Dec-2020	Cumulative	
UNDP	372,587	372,587		299,759	299,759	80.45
UNFPA	646,465	646,465		183,746	183,746	28.42
UNICEF	3,585,577	3,585,577		795,956	795,956	22.20
UNODC	224,027	224,027		215,864	215,864	96.36
UNWOMEN	1,133,549	1,133,549		174,705	174,705	15.41
GRAND TOTAL	5,962,206	5,962,206		1,670,029	1,670,029	28.01

5.2 Expenditure by UN Pacific Strategy Outcome

Table 5.2 displays the net funded amounts, expenditures incurred and the financial delivery rates by UN Pacific Strategy Outcome

Figure 2: Cumulative Net Funded Amount and Expenditure with Breakdown by Sector

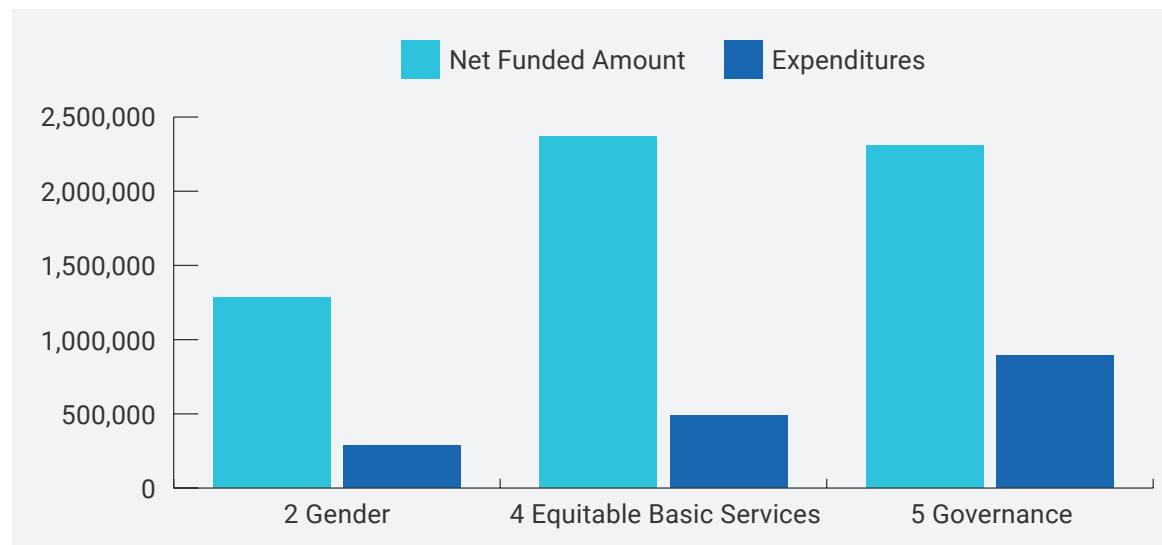


Table 5.2. Expenditure by UN Pacific Strategy Outcome, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

Country/Sector	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2019		Current Year Jan-Dec-2020		TOTAL		Delivery Rate %
	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	
UNITED NATIONS							
2 Gender Equality			1,282,109	289,513	1,282,109	289,513	22.58
4 Equitable Basic Services			2,370,913	488,395	2,370,913	488,395	20.60
5 Governance			2,309,183	892,121	2,309,183	892,121	38.63
UNITED NATIONS TOTAL:			5,962,206	1,670,029	5,962,206	1,670,029	28.01
GRAND TOTAL:			5,962,206	1,670,029	5,962,206	1,670,029	28.01

5.3 Expenditure Reported by Category

Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization and are reported as per the agreed categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. In 2006 the UN Development Group (UNDG) established six categories against which UN entities must report inter-agency project expenditures. Effective 1 January 2012, the UN Chief Executive Board (CEB) modified these categories as a result of IPSAS adoption to comprise eight categories. All expenditure incurred prior to 1 January 2012 have been reported in the old categories; post 1 January 2012 all expenditure are reported in the new eight categories. See table below.

2012 CEB Expense Categories

1. Staff and personnel costs
2. Supplies, commodities and materials
3. Equipment, vehicles, furniture and depreciation
4. Contractual services
5. Travel
6. Transfers and grants
7. General operating expenses
8. Indirect costs

Table 5.3. Expenditure by UNDG Budget Category, as of 31 December 2020 (in US Dollars)

CATEGORY	EXPENDITURE			Percentage of Total Programme Cost
	Prior Years as of 31-Dec 2019	Current Year Jan-Dec 2020	Total	
Staff & Personnel Cost (New)	-	336,767	336,767	22.48
Supplies, commodities and materials (New)	-	4,237	4,237	0.28
Equipment, vehicles, furniture and depreciation (New)	-	14,376	14,376	0.96
Contractual Services (New)	-	218,608	218,608	14.60
Travel (New)	-	86,116	86,116	5.75
Transfers and Grants (New)	-	651,915	651,915	43.52
General Operating (New)	-	185,784	185,784	12.40
Programme Costs Total	-	1,497,804	1,497,804	100.00
¹ Indirect Support Costs Total	-	172,225	172,225	11.50
TOTAL	-	1,670,029	1,670,029	

¹ Indirect Support Costs charged by Participating Organization, based on their financial regulations, can be deducted upfront or at a later stage during implementation. The percentage may therefore appear to exceed the 7% agreed-upon for on-going projects. Once projects are financially closed, this number is not to exceed 7%.



6. COST RECOVERY

Cost recovery policies for the Fund are guided by the applicable provisions of the Terms of Reference, the MOU concluded between the Administrative Agent and Participating Organizations, and the SAAs concluded between the Administrative Agent and Contributors, based on rates approved by UNDG.

The policies in place, as of 31 December 2020, were as follows:

- **The Administrative Agent (AA) fee:**
1% is charged at the time of contributor deposit to cover services provided on that contribution for the entire duration of the Fund. In the reporting period US\$ **64,070** was deducted in AA-fees. Cumulatively, as of 31 December 2020, US\$ **64,070** has been charged in AA-fees.
- **Indirect Costs of Participating Organizations:**
Participating Organizations may charge 7% indirect costs. In the current reporting period US\$ **172,225** was deducted in indirect costs by Participating Organizations. Cumulatively, indirect costs amount to US\$ **172,225** as of 31 December 2020.

7. ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

In order to effectively provide fund administration services and facilitate monitoring and reporting to the UN system and its partners, the MPTF Office has developed a public website, the MPTF Office Gateway (<http://mptf.undp.org>). Refreshed in real time every two hours from an internal enterprise resource planning system, the MPTF Office Gateway has become a standard setter for provides transparent and accountable trust fund administration services.

The Gateway provides financial information including: contributor commitments and deposits, approved programme budgets, transfers to and expenditures reported by Participating Organizations, interest income and other expenses. In addition, the Gateway provides an overview of the MPTF Office portfolio and extensive information on individual Funds, including their purpose, governance structure and key documents.

By providing easy access to the growing number of narrative and financial reports, as well as related project documents, the Gateway collects and preserves important institutional knowledge and facilitates knowledge sharing and management among UN Organizations and their development partners, thereby contributing to UN coherence and development effectiveness.

8. DIRECT COSTS

The Fund's governance mechanism may approve an allocation to a Participating Organization to cover costs associated with Secretariat services and overall coordination, as well as fund level reviews and evaluations. These allocations are referred to as 'direct costs'. In the reporting period, direct costs charged to the fund amounted to US\$ 78,991. Cumulatively, as of 31 December 2020, US\$ 78,991 has been charged as Direct Costs.

Table: Direct Costs

Participating Organization	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	Delivery Rate
UNDP	78,991	13,561	17%
TOTAL:	78,991	13,561	17%







**UNITED NATIONS
PACIFIC**



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