



UN
DP

PACIFIC RESULTS REPORT 2020–2021



Photo: David Troeger

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

BRANTV	Barrier Removal for Achieving the National Energy Roadmap Targets for Vanuatu
EU	European Union
FSM	Federated States of Micronesia
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
MCO	Multi-Country Office
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PIC	Pacific Island Country
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
REACH	Rights, Empowerment and Cohesion Project
RMI	Republic of the Marshall Islands
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SPC	The Pacific Community
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
TB	Tuberculosis
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNCAC	United Nations Convention Against Corruption
UNCDF	United Nations Capital Development Fund
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UN Women	United Nations Women
USP	University of the South Pacific
WHO	World Health Organization
WFP	World Food Programme

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Preferred citation: UNDP (2022). *Pacific Results Report 2020–2021*. New York: UNDP.

UNDP partners with people at all levels of society to help build nations that can withstand crisis, and drive and sustain the kind of growth that improves the quality of life for everyone.

On the ground in more than 170 countries and territories, we offer global perspective and local insight to help empower lives and build resilient nations. UNDP cannot guarantee the accuracy of the data included in this work. The boundaries, colours, denominations and other information shown on any map in this work do not imply on the part of UNDP any judgement of the legal status of any territory or the endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries.

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Introduction

UNDP is privileged to partner with Pacific Island Countries and Territory (PICTs) as they strive towards the achievement of national ambitions, regional aspirations, and the Sustainable Development Goals. In 2020–2021, UNDP assisted countries with their immediate responses to COVID-19, recorded progress against many of the targets that were set prior to the pandemic, and supported countries with pandemic recovery plans.

UNDP delivered meaningful results in its strategic priority areas of effective governance, resilience and sustainable development, and inclusive economic growth. Working collaboratively with partner governments, other UN agencies and development partners, we also supported marine and terrestrial protected areas which are essential inputs to the blue economy. Social protection and economic empowerment programmes assisted the human resources that power sustainable development. A number of initiatives in the areas of governance reform (anti-corruption, access to justice, electoral support and parliamentary development initiatives) boosted the confidence of citizens in democracy and the rule of law.

Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the region's strong commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals and their achievement by 2030 is clear. The shock of the COVID-19 pandemic on the global economy has created an opportunity for a “reset”, or a shift away from unsustainable practices to economic growth that preserves and values the environment. The pandemic and the stark realities of climate change have rattled the international system to its core, and there is demand, particularly in the Pacific Islands region, for a sustainable and inclusive green recovery. UNDP is committed to supporting its country partners as they create and implement recovery plans.

UNDP's offer, Rising up for SIDS, will be the centerpiece of its support for PICs going forward. Financing for development and gender are cross-cutting priority areas of the Rising up for SIDS and will ensure the sustainability of its interventions. By providing assistance for digital transformation, climate action and the blue economy, UNDP will ensure that its Pacific country partners are able to rebuild their economies by effectively leveraging their resources and advantages, using ICT to negate the extreme challenges of distance and size.

The results highlighted in this report were made possible by financial support from a wide range of development partners and funds, including the Global Environment Facility (GEF), Green Climate Fund (GCF), Adaptation Fund, Australia, the European Union (EU), New Zealand, India, Japan, Korea, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund. UNDP is very grateful for the trust and confidence of its donors in our work to ensure that every investment in our strategies and programming produces demonstrable results that benefit the people of the Pacific.

This report sets out some of UNDP's major results in 14 PICs¹ in 2020 and 2021. It provides information on the Pacific context and presents an overview of UNDP's work across programmatic areas, highlighting the value it provides to its partners, the scope of projects related to each strategic outcome area, and how UNDP is well positioned to offer timely and targeted assistance to Pacific Island Countries.

¹ The 14 PICs served are the Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

One UN in the Pacific

There are 29 UN agencies present in the Pacific, working together as “One UN” to improve lives and livelihoods. UNDP, the UN system’s development agency, plays an important role in creating an enabling environment for development. Our work focuses on three areas, including sustainable development, democratic governance and peacebuilding, and climate and disaster resilience, and prioritizes national aspirations for human development and achievement of the SDGs. Within the UN system, UNDP also provides operational support, for instance on human resource management, procurement, and administration to several UN agencies and the UN Resident Coordinators’ offices.

UN Pacific Strategy

The UN Pacific Strategy 2018–2022 is the five-year framework for engagement with the 14 PICs. Its priority areas are Climate Change, Disaster Resilience and Environmental Protection, Gender Equality, Sustainable and Inclusive Economic Empowerment, Equitable Basic Services, Governance and Community Engagement, and Human Rights. All UN agencies working in the Pacific contribute to its implementation and have designed complementary strategies to achieve results, consistent with country priorities and their own areas of responsibility. The current strategy is coming to an end and a new five-year strategy will come into effect.

UNDP's work in the Pacific under the Subregional Programme Document for the Pacific Island Countries and Territories (2018-2022) which seeks to strengthen linkages between country, regional and global interventions is also coming to an end. The new Multi-Country Programme Document for the next five years (2023 - 2027), is in alignment with the UN Common Framework draft on Planet, Peace and Prosperity.



Photo: UNDP

UNDP implements the Markets for Change Project with UN Women. The project improves market infrastructure in Fiji, Samoa and Solomon Islands and provides small business support and financial management training to women vendors.



UNDP delivered personal protective equipment (PPE) for the COVID-19 response in partnership with UNICEF and WHO. The smart use of partnerships enables UNDP to provide support to the people who need it at the right time with reduced costs and risks. Photo: World Food Programme

UNDP in the Pacific

Strategic Plan for the Pacific 2018–2022

Within UNDP's global administration, the Pacific is overseen by the Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific with technical support provided by the Bangkok Regional Hub.



Ms. Wignaraja carried out a highly successful virtual mission to the Pacific in June 2021.

The high-level virtual mission, which took place during a period of COVID-19 travel restrictions, demonstrated UNDP's strong commitment to the Pacific. In her discussions with national leaders and members of government, parliaments, civil society and media from around the region, Ms Wignaraja further reaffirmed UNDP's role as a trusted development partner. It was a valuable opportunity for the Regional Director to discuss UNDP's collaboration on national priorities, and convey her understanding of the challenges faced by Pacific governments during the pandemic.

"Where there are challenges and difficult conditions, we see openings to support people and communities to drive change and improve their circumstances. UNDP stands with PICs as they recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and manage the threats of climate change and disasters."

– Ms Kanni Wignaraja
Director, UNDP Regional Bureau
for Asia and the Pacific

OUTCOME

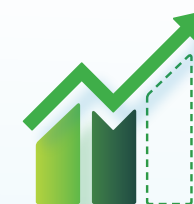
01



**ENVIRONMENT,
CLIMATE CHANGE and
DISASTER MANAGEMENT**

OUTCOME

02



**ECONOMIC GROWTH
and EMPOWERMENT**

OUTCOME

03



GOVERNANCE
related issues

The strategic plan for the Pacific, known as the Sub-Regional Programme Document (SRPD), outlines UNDP's goals to achieve three of the UN Pacific Strategy Outcomes. UNDP's offices in the Pacific work collaboratively to implement the SRPD.

The Pacific Office in Fiji and the Multi-Country Office (MCO) in Samoa, both of which are led by Resident Representatives, are UNDP's two key offices in the region. The Pacific Office in Fiji is a MCO with sub-offices, headed by Deputy Resident Representatives, in the Federated States of Micronesia and Solomon Islands. The MCO in Samoa does not have a sub-office. All offices operate as "One UNDP" to leverage technical resources and contribute to the achievement of the Sub-Regional Programme Document Outcomes.



Photo: UNDP

Pacific Office in Fiji

The Pacific Office in Fiji delivers results in the 3 programmatic areas for 10 countries: the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Palau, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

"We acknowledge that some of the results in this report were achieved during the most challenging circumstances. We are grateful to our dedicated staff, who juggled personal and family crises while performing at the highest level, and for the confidence of our development partners. We remain focused on building resilience and supporting countries as they deal with pandemic conditions and plan for recovery."

— Mr Levan Bouadze
Resident Representative, UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji

North Pacific Office

Following the establishment of a new Resident Coordinator-led UN presence in the Northern Pacific in response to the 2019 Multi-Country Office Review, UNDP opened its North Pacific Office in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) in October 2021. This new sub-office serves FSM, Palau and the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) and is headed by a Deputy Resident Representative, who is also the Country Manager.

Solomon Islands Office

This sub-office, also led by a Deputy Resident Representative and Country Manager, reflects the size and scope of the Solomon Islands Country Programme, which has a strong focus on governance and economic empowerment.



Photo: UNDP

The configuration of UNDP's presence in the Pacific has evolved over time. Operational arrangements are designed to ensure that UNDP is able to respond rapidly to country needs and requests based on knowledge, expertise and proximity. Pacific operations are organized to ensure both responsiveness and coherence.

Samoa Multi-Country Office

The Samoa Multi-Country Office delivers UNDP's programmes in the Cook Islands, Niue, Samoa and Tokelau.

“UNDP’s ability to implement programmes successfully amidst an evolving and prolonged crisis situation, is a testament to the dedication and commitment of our staff. It is also reflective of the strength of the systems in place in UNDP to allow us to respond effectively. Leveraging digital transformation, our staff delivered results under immense pressure, with the help of strategic partnerships.”

— Mr Jorn Sorensen
Resident Representative, Samoa Multi-Country Office



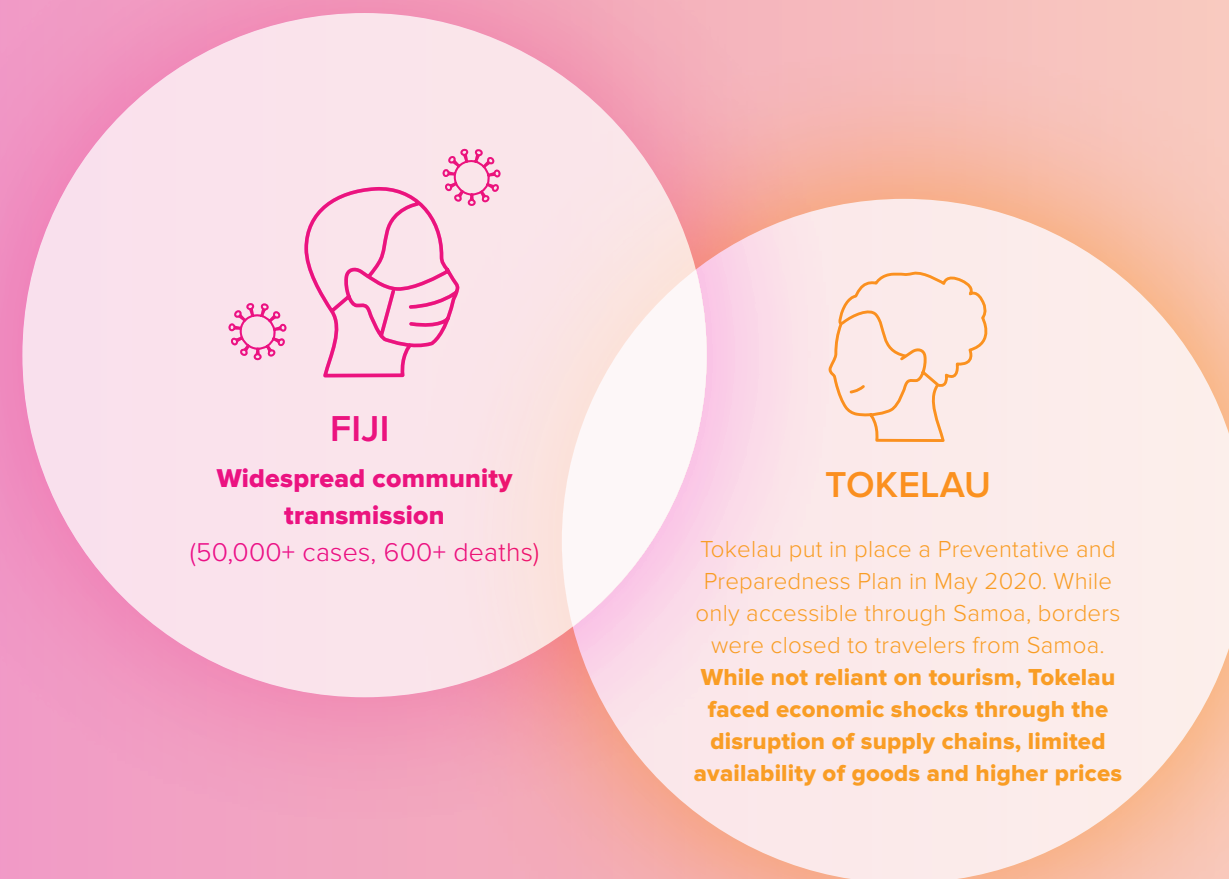
Photo: UNDP

UNDP supported the participation of the Fautasi o Toa (which means “Longboat of Legends” in Samoan), in partnership with the Zita Martel Fautasi Legacy and the EU-UN Spotlight Initiative, in the Vodafone Marist Fautasi Regatta in Apia, Samoa in November 2020. With a crew comprised entirely of women, Fautasi o Toa finished second and promoted gender equality and the importance of ending violence against women and girls. Jorn Sorensen, UNDP Resident Representative, commended the event’s clever use of “traditional sports as a vehicle to address the issue of domestic violence”.

The COVID-19 Context

During 2020, the first wave of COVID-19 in the Pacific saw limited cases in the PICs served by UNDP. While by the end of 2021, PICs—except Fiji—had escaped widespread community transmission, their populations nonetheless suffered greatly from the pandemic’s socio-economic impacts. Border closures led to the loss of jobs and income, shortages of goods, and limited government capacity to provide services. Most countries experienced rapidly increasing poverty

levels, and vulnerabilities were greatly exacerbated. Children were kept out of school, businesses closed and gender-based violence dramatically increased. The repatriation of Pacific people, accustomed to a degree of mobility to and from the larger metropolitan countries of the region, was a significant issue. There was widespread suffering, making clear the need for improved social protection.



Fiji has been, by far, the hardest-hit PIC served by UNDP Pacific in terms of case numbers. The Delta variant took hold in Fiji in late April 2021, resulting in over 50,000 cases and over 600 deaths.

The situation in the Pacific has, like much of the world, been characterized by disruptions and uncertainty. UNDP has been a steady hand, providing support and assistance to countries and communities as they navigate the evolving pandemic.

UNDP's Response to the Pandemic

Most of the response was financed through US\$6.2 million worth of re-programming in consultation with donors. We also mobilized new funds to address the immediate needs of partner countries and responded to the pandemic in four main ways:



Addressing the immediate needs of the health sector

of countries, by procuring and supplying medical consumables and equipment, including PPE kits and cleaning materials for infection control; by providing complementary support, including public health information campaign assistance, the establishment of quarantine and isolation facilities, upgraded lab testing facilities and equipment, and training and equipment for national response teams; and by supporting socio-economic impact assessments.

Ensuring continuity of government

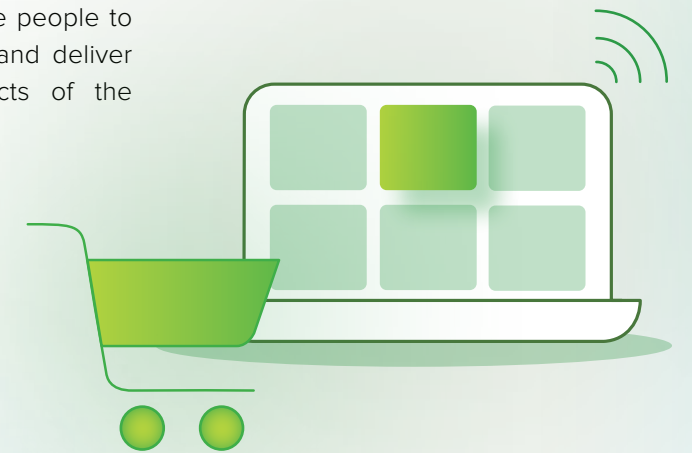
including by providing information, communication and technology (ICT) tools, connectivity and technical advice on revised procedures and business continuity plans.

UNDP strengthened 4 countries (TON, FJI, SOI and VUT) effective oversight functions through UNDP's signature solution of Floating Budget Office to pass annual budgets to deliver public services through provision of digital technologies. UNDP supported independent and neutral budget analysis briefings that were presented to 169 members of Parliament (including 17 women) in 4 Pacific countries, thus informing the budget debate and vote in Parliament.



Supporting livelihoods

to provide counselling and training in alternative livelihoods, distribute food and welfare packages, develop e-commerce solutions to enable people to buy and sell food and goods virtually, and deliver services to address the social impacts of the pandemic.



Supporting green and inclusive recovery

including the development of regional travel protocols and a new border control project that addresses gaps in regional travel standards.



Key Results 2020–2021

Environment

In terms of percentage of Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) that are protected:

Palau is **1ST IN THE WORLD** with

80% 

(or 500,000 km²) designated as a **no-take Marine Protected Area**. UNDP Pacific mobilized resources through its GEF funded project to support work in this area.

Niue is **2ND GLOBALLY** with

40% 

of its **EEZ protected**. The Niue Moana Mahu Marine Protected Area Regulations were passed in April 2020 after four years of development cooperation between Niue and partners, through the Niue Ridge 2 Reef Project, funded by UNDP and the Global Environment Fund.



Both contribute to the achievement of **SDG 14** and the conservation and management of biodiversity.

Seven countries—the Cook Islands, Fiji, FSM, Kiribati, Niue, Palau, Samoa, and Tokelau – **achieved the Aichi Target² of 17 percent for Terrestrial Protection**, while RMI, Tonga and Tuvalu are approaching the target.

UNDP provided significant support for the planning, operationalization, and management of the **Cook Islands' Marae Moana Marine Park** through marine spatial planning and studies on sustainable financing and valuation of marine ecosystem services.

² In 2010, 194 signatories of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity met in Japan to set 20 conservation goals for global biodiversity. Named after Japan's Aichi Prefecture, the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets (also known as the Aichi Targets) were to have been achieved by 2020.

With UNDP support, **Tuvalu Government** increased its annual budget for renewable energy and energy efficiency by about US\$310,000 annually as a commitment on its **100 percent Renewable Energy by 2030**.



UNDP supported **1454 HOUSEHOLDS OF 17 COMMUNITIES** in rural areas of Vanuatu whose level of energy access is increased via village-scale off-grid RE or that benefit from newly adopting EE cook stoves.



RMI established its National Invasive Species Strategy and its Parliament passed Protected Area Network Regulations,



developed with UNDP's assistance, in a **MAJOR BOOST TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND BIODIVERSITY IN 2020**.

THE FIRST BIOMASS GASIFICATION POWER PLANT IN THE PACIFIC began operations in November 2020 in Samoa.



using biomass from invasive species to generate 5 million kilowatts an hour (kWh) of electricity per annum for 33,000 people in 5,000 households.

100 percent of both Tuvalu and Niue, and 85 percent of Palau was **MAPPED USING LIDAR TECHNOLOGY**,



which informs the management of terrestrial and coastal biodiversity by providing high resolution imagery and 3D data for analysis.

Eight countries: the Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu



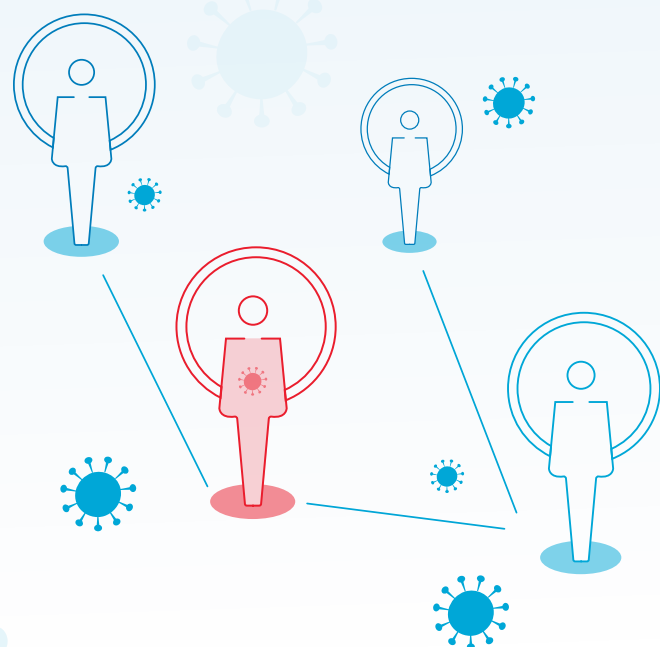
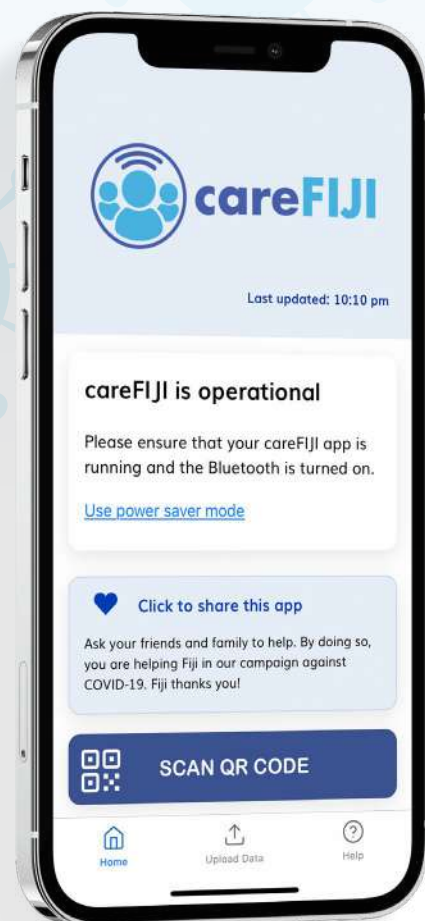
were supported to enhance their **NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTIONS (NDC)**.

Renewable energy remains a national development priority for Tuvalu. UNDP through India Government support contributed to the national target of 100 percent renewable energy in Funaota Island by 2030. Additionally, the Tuvalu FASNETT midterm review confirmed that government budget has been improved to 430,000 AUD (US\$310, 000) annually on Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (REEE) with 2,685 buildings now using low carbon technologies with support from UNDP.

Economic Growth and the COVID-19 Response

The *Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of COVID-19 in Fiji*, released in September 2020, analysed the actual and potential economic losses resulting from the pandemic. The report discussed the pandemic's impact on vulnerable groups and selected economic sectors and proposed a range of policy responses.

Financial inclusion increased by 21 percent across Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu, with 130,000 more adults (47 percent women) gaining access to financial products through the work of the Pacific Financial Inclusion Programme supported by UNDP and the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF). In Tonga, over 3,317 customers in New Zealand and 1,125 customers in Australia are now using the Ave Pa'anga mobile app that facilitates remittance flow.



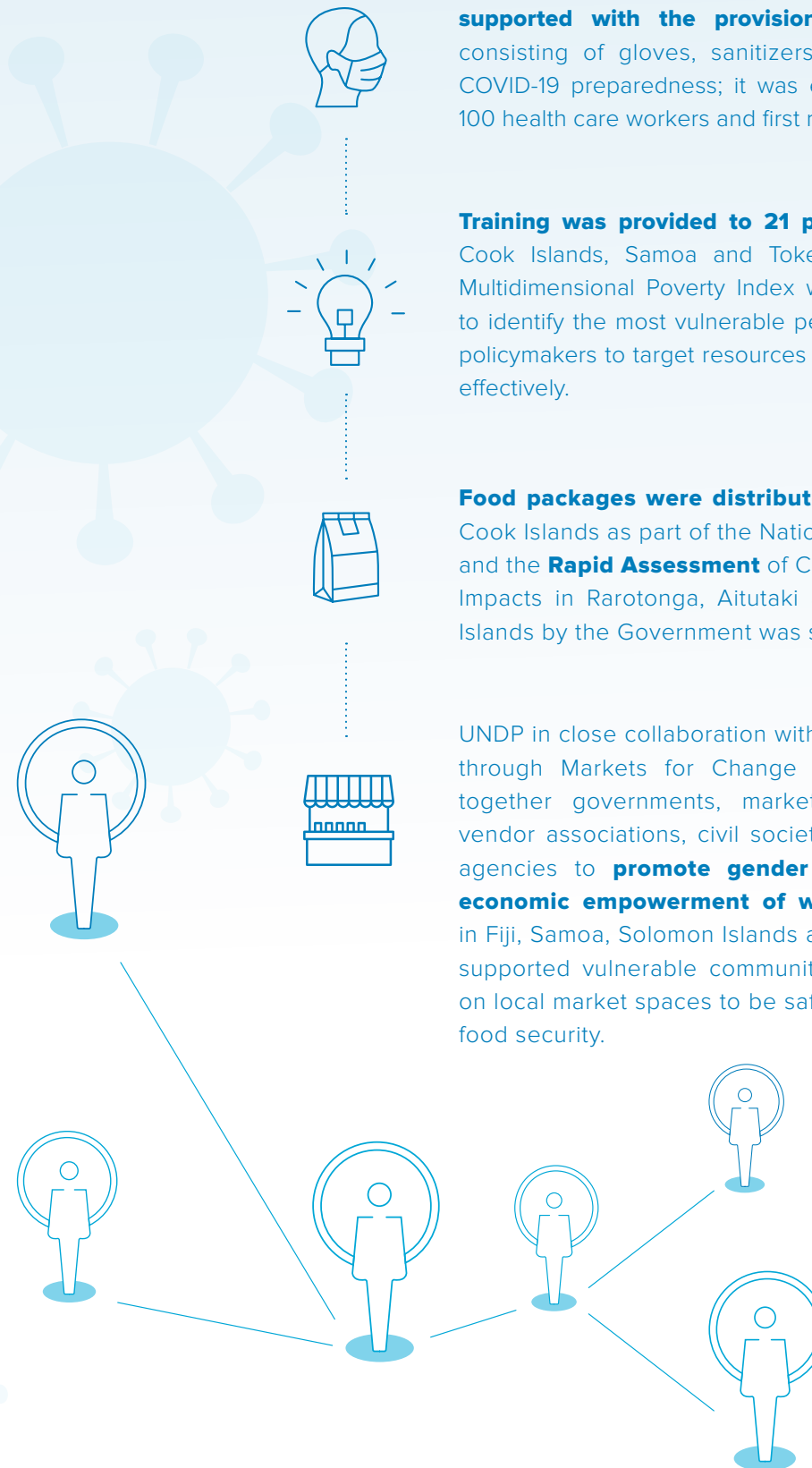
The Pacific Financial Inclusion Programme (PFIP), a joint programme of UNDP and UNCDF, repurposed a portion of its grant to FijiCare, an insurance provider, to support the development of the **careFIJI COVID-19 contact tracing application**. Launched in June 2020, the careFIJI app complements the Fiji Ministry of Health and Medical Services' manual contact tracing efforts. By the end of June 2021, when the PFIP programme ended, the careFIJI app had been downloaded some 400,000 times.

Nauru National **Emergency Services** were supported with the provision of **20,000 PPE kits** consisting of gloves, sanitizers and masks as part of COVID-19 preparedness; it was expected to benefit over 100 health care workers and first responders.

Training was provided to 21 public servants from the Cook Islands, Samoa and Tokelau on the use of the Multidimensional Poverty Index who are now better able to identify the most vulnerable people over time, enabling policymakers to target resources and design policies more effectively.

Food packages were distributed to households in the Cook Islands as part of the National COVID-19 Response, and the **Rapid Assessment** of COVID-19 Socio-Economic Impacts in Rarotonga, Aitutaki and the Northern Outer Islands by the Government was supported by UNDP.

UNDP in close collaboration with UN Women contributed through Markets for Change (M4C) project to bring together governments, market vendors and market vendor associations, civil society organizations and UN agencies to **promote gender equality through the economic empowerment of women market vendors** in Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. The project supported vulnerable communities whose life depends on local market spaces to be safe places, and to support food security.



Governance



Solomon Islands fully committed to digitalization, developing its National Digital Strategy and then establishing the **region's 1st Digital Transformation Authority** in July 2021 with UNDP's support.



1st Virtual Session of a Pacific Parliament was held by the FSM Congress, made possible by UNDP's provision of ICT infrastructure and support for a review of parliamentary procedures during COVID.



Tonga's Resilient Development and Finance Division was established with UNDP support in the Ministry of Finance; women comprised 75 percent of those trained to run this resource mobilization office.



Vanuatu was the 1st country in the world to hold **national elections during the COVID-19 pandemic**. Even with Category 5 Tropical Cyclone Harold, there was the highest voter turnout (69 percent) since 1983 due to intense civic and voter education efforts.



The Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption Conference in Kiribati was facilitated by UNDP and UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime) through the UN Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption (UN-PRAC) Project, resulting in the endorsement of the Teieniwa Vision: Pacific Unity Against Corruption by Pacific Leaders.



National Dialogue on the Prevention of Violence against Women and Girls was sparked by the Spotlight Initiative's 16 Days of Healing virtual campaign in Samoa, which reached 66,000 people on social media, and the Fautasi o Toa women's longboat race, organized to raise awareness of gender-based violence.

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

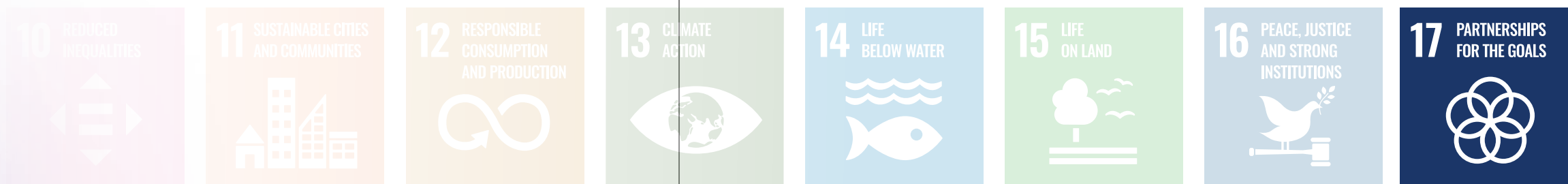


FSM Parliament's historic sitting

Photo: FSM Congress



The 2nd Digital Pacific Conference was co-convened by UNDP and the Samoan Ministry of Communication and Information Technology in November 2020, focusing on digital transformation for e-governance, effective service delivery and inclusive growth, and as an enabler of the SDGs.



Partnerships

UNDP values its partnerships and offers collaborators assurance of its result-orientation, highly skilled human resources, trusted networks, technical expertise, and years of experience in the region. The ability to identify gaps where support is needed and the agility to address evolving situations contribute to UNDP’s profile as a development partner in the Pacific Islands.

Working with Pacific Island Countries



Working closely with the governments of partner countries, UNDP ensures that its programmes address national priorities and support progress towards shared objectives. Engagement is frequent and includes regular consultations with partners, project board meetings, and biannual or annual review meetings. The practice of meeting country partners for high-level annual discussions was reintroduced in 2021. Feedback from countries on the results of the joint cooperation was positive and the next round of Annual Programme Review meetings for 2022 are now taking place.

Funding Partnerships



UNDP has the strong support of a wide range of funding partners, including bilateral and multilateral partners, international financial institutions, development funds, private foundations and development agencies. Donors and development partners in the Pacific included Australia, the European Union (EU), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the Green Climate Fund (GCF), India, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Russia, the United Kingdom (UK), and the Joint SDG Fund. UNDP is appreciative of all its donors and supporters. Partners are crucial to all that we do, and we are very grateful for the financial support that makes our work possible.

Partnerships for Implementation

Working with partners to implement projects and programmes increases accountability, transparency, and credibility and provides access to expert knowledge and human resources. UNDP works closely with members of the Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific (CROP), including the Forum Fisheries Agency, Pacific Islands Forum (PIF), the Pacific Community (SPC), Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the University of the South Pacific (USP).

The Forum Fisheries Agency is UNDP’s implementing partner for the Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management Project. That project supports PICs to effectively conserve, and sustainably manage, oceanic fisheries.

The Fiji MCO collaborates with PIF on public finance management, wherein UNDP provides technical support to the Forum Economic Ministers Meetings (FEMM) and to symposiums for Permanent Secretaries. UNDP and PIF also cooperate to increase public awareness of the importance of a blue-green recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. In December 2021, the Fiji MCO began working cooperatively with PIF on a Work Plan for the Blue Economy and providing technical support for the Blue Pacific Economic

Strategy. The Fiji MCO and the Pacific Community’s Pacific Center for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREEE) supported the UNDP/GEF Barrier Removal for Achieving the National Energy Roadmap Targets for Vanuatu (BRANTV) with capacity-building and a training programme in off-grid renewable energy technology applications for local communities. SPC also executes UNDP–GEF supported projects, including the Regional Ridge to Reef (R2R) Project and the Managing Coastal Aquifers Project. SPC has provided technical support for adaptation projects in Tuvalu and Nauru.

The development of the Nauru National Environment Strategy document, part of the Nauru Ridge to Reef Project, was an opportunity for the Resilience and Sustainable Development Team to work with SPREP and the Nauru Government’s Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment’s Environment Division.

In addition to hosting co-working spaces for innovation, known as the UNDP-USP Innovation Hubs, since 2019, USP has been engaged by UNDP to provide technical support for an access and benefit sharing project in Fiji and an assessment of seaweed in Tuvalu.

Through its COVID-19 response activities, the Samoa MCO established new partnerships with the Cook Islands Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Government of Niue's Ministry of Social Services, the Government of Tokelau's Office of the Council, and the Scientific Research Organization of Samoa, a government entity. These partnerships created a

strong platform for future engagement through the new UN joint programmes on Social Protection, SDG Financing and Support to the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability, and a UNDP project on circular economies.



Photo: UNDP

Working with civil society organizations and communities accelerates progress and encourages ownership.

In FSM, UNDP provides technical support to the Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT) for its projects. UNDP helped formulate its Invasive Alien Species Project.

In Fiji, Nature Fiji, also known as Mareqiti Viti, was contracted by UNDP to facilitate an awareness-raising campaign and develop communications materials for an eradication project in Fiji.

UNDP works with the Samoa National Council of Women (SNCW) on initiatives to Eliminate Violence Against Women and Girls and encourage women's leadership.

Through a close partnership with the Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (PIANGO), UNDP supported open budget consultations, with increased levels of citizen participation, that were documented in Fiji, Kiribati, Solomon Islands and Tonga.

The services of Empower Pacific, a Fijian Civil Society Organization (CSO) that provides psychosocial counselling, were supported and made more accessible as part of the Rights, Empowerment, and Cohesion for Rural and Urban Fijians (REACH) Project, which coordinates service providers from the Fijian government and CSOs.

A total of 12,345 (10,351 female, 1,994 male) beneficiaries accessed legal aid services in two countries including Fiji and Vanuatu.

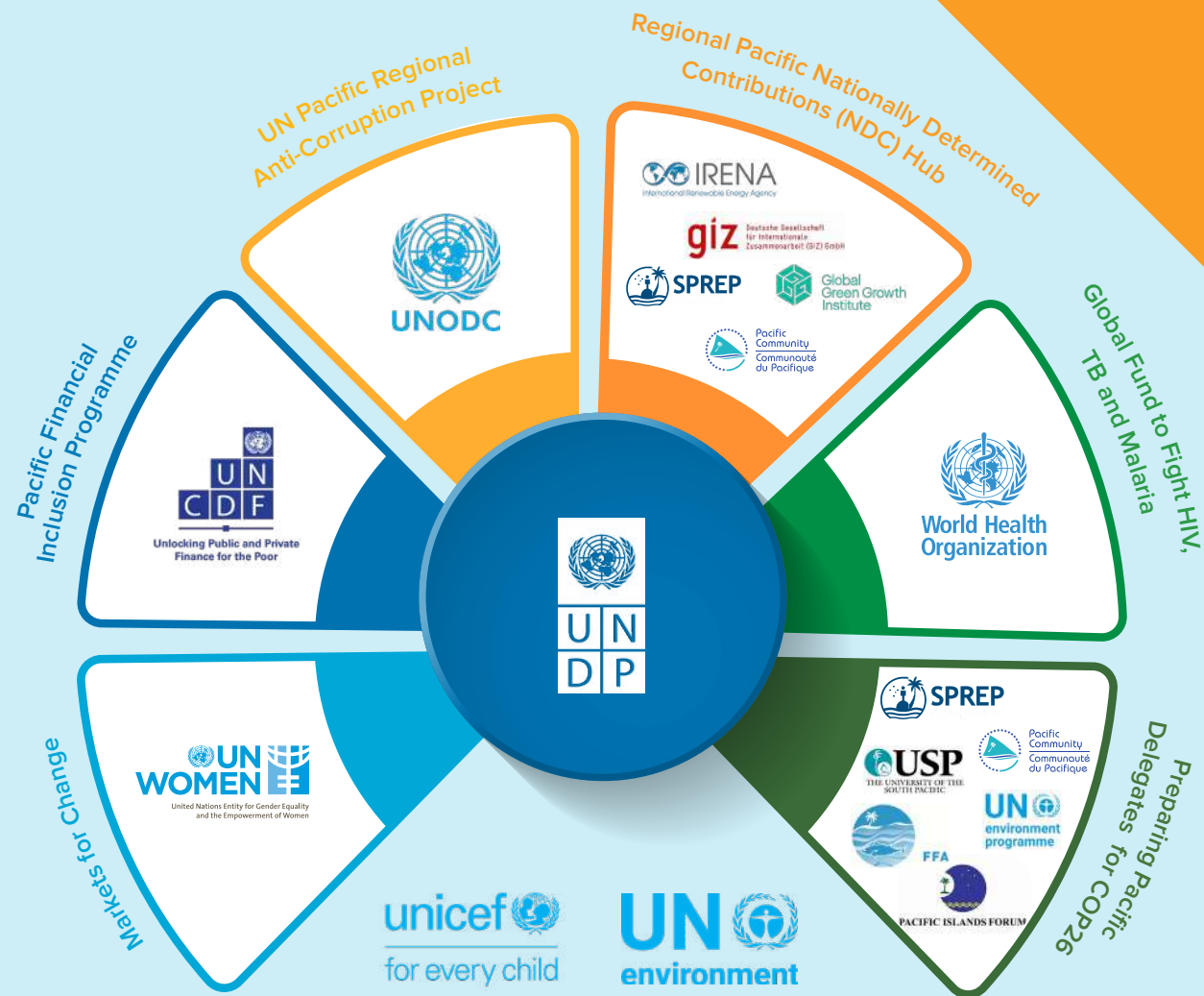
In Tuvalu, work with communities on locally managed marine and community-based conservation areas on all nine atolls ensures that UNDP's projects have sustainable impacts. The Climate Security Project also contributed to the formulation of the Strategic Action Plan (SAP) of the Tuvalu Climate Action Network (TuCAN).



Photo: UNDP

COLLABORATIONS

UNDP works with a wide range of partners



Some cooperation does not involve a transfer of funds, but a great deal of cooperation and exchange of knowledge, advice and ideas for learning and capacity-building. UNDP has worked closely with the World Health Organization (WHO), UN Women, and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) to respond to the pandemic, and regularly cooperates with other UN agencies including the UN Environmental Programme (UNEP) and the UN Capital Development

Fund (UNCDF) in its three main programmatic areas. With technical support from UNDP and UNESCAP, the Governments of Tuvalu, Tonga and Kiribati have established an online National SDG database. This includes the UN Peace-building and SDG Fund which brings together UN agencies, governments, businesses and civil society to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Ways to Collaborate

National ownership and implementation are always prioritized, but, in certain circumstances, countries might prefer a different type of support from UNDP. Multi-Country Programming is another way to deliver cost-effective policy advice and technical assistance from a regional platform. Regional Programmes help countries take collective action or seek shared solutions. The UN also implements Joint Programmes to achieve transformational development results at scale. Some examples of Joint Programmes are the Social Protection Programme for the Cook Islands, Niue, Samoa and Tokelau (with ILO, UNESCAP, UNESCO and UNICEF), Women in Leadership in Samoa (with UN Women) and UN COVID-19 Preparedness and Response in Tokelau (with UNFPA).

UNDP's support for coral reef health also showcases the wide variety of partners that are involved with successful development interventions. The Samoa MCO supported water quality research by New York University in partnership with the Samoan government and Samoan academics to gain insights into the reasons for coral reef decline.

The new UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund for Coral Reefs, which involves a coalition of investors, including UNEP, the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, provides funding to the Fiji MCO.

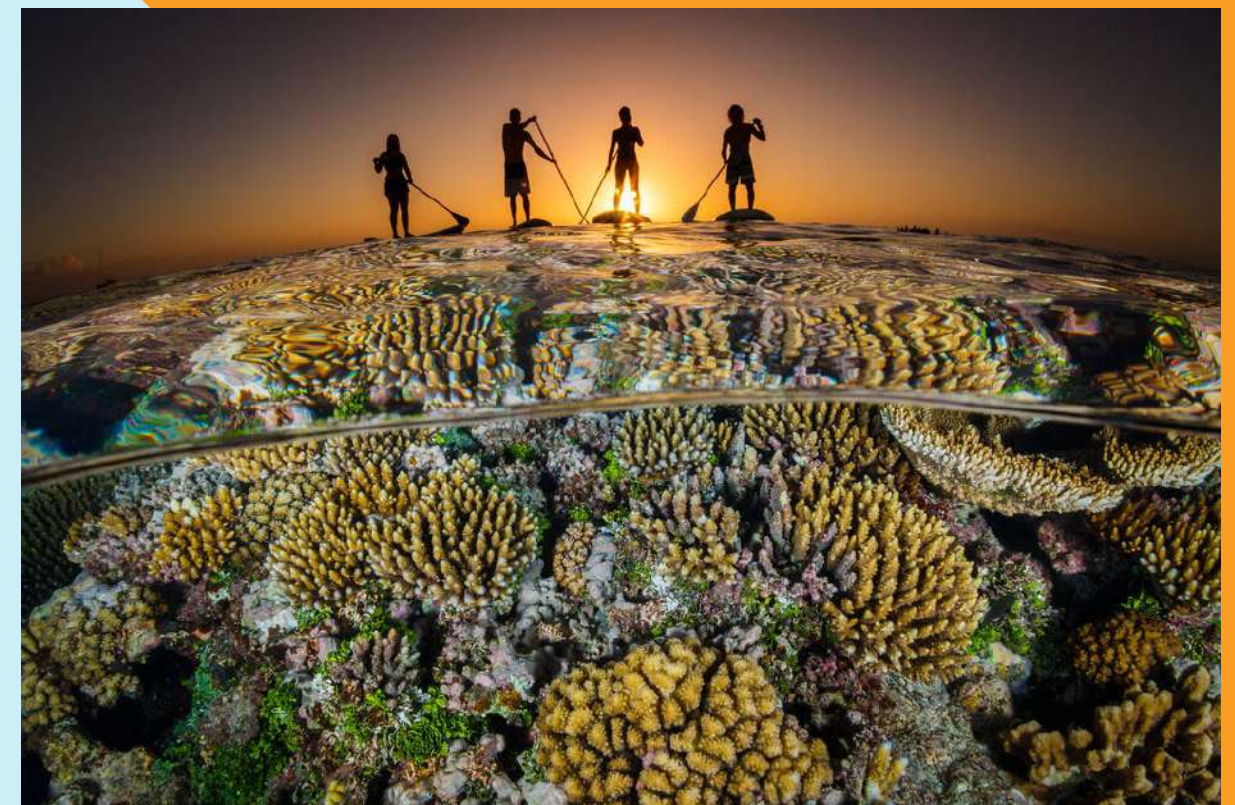


Photo: Grant Thomas

Supporting Sustainable Impacts

Empowering Individuals and Safeguarding Rights

From the HIV and TB patients who receive lifesaving drugs to the women who gain the confidence and skills to run successful political campaigns, UNDP has supported a range of communities. Incarcerated individuals have been able to connect with their families from prison, some for the first time in years, through ICT tools.



Photos: UNDP

UNDP's support made it possible for prisoners to connect virtually with their family members during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Photo: UNDP

Enabling Communities to Prosper

People in remote villages appreciate renewable energy projects, which provide access to electricity that supports livelihoods. Young entrepreneurs, equipped with financial management skills and anti-corruption tools, are able to confidently start green businesses.



Photo: UNDP

(Front, left and right) Filitino Iosefa of Michelle's Store and Talisua Ngg Cho of Ngg Cho Pioneers Company with their cohort for the Youth Business Incubator Programme

Supporting National and Subnational Governments and Service Provision

Parliaments were able to sit, approve budgets (including stimulus packages) and oversee government responses to the pandemic, thereby ensuring stability and continuity of the government. Social protection and psychosocial services were provided with UNDP support.



Photo: UNDP

The three-week REACH mission in Tauvegavega Place, Ba was completed in June 2020. The outreach enabled urban and rural Fijians to access government services and tap into the support of NGOs.



A webinar series was held to promote the role of parliaments during the pandemic.

Contributing to Regional Priorities

UNDP has supported key inputs to the creation and growth of the Blue Economy in the Pacific. In particular, UNDP is implementing several projects that are reinforcing the Pacific's regional priority of supporting the Blue Pacific narrative and the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific. These projects focus on the restoration and protection of marine and coastal ecosystems (R2R projects), adaptation to climate change, improved governance of marine resources and coastal areas (institutional, regulatory, policy and planning) and innovative finance (the Blue Bond and the Global Fund for Coral Reef project in Fiji). Some of the tangible outcomes include the improved capacity of people working in coastal and ocean-related areas, reduced exposure to climate change and disaster risk, improved livelihoods of communities, and the sustainable management of fisheries.



Photo: John Guswei



Photo: Shutterstock

Rising up for SIDS



Rising up for SIDS will be the centerpiece of the next UNDP regional strategy. Essentially a portfolio of complementary assistance available on demand, Rising up for SIDS includes integrated support for Climate Action, Digital Transformation and the Blue Economy, the three areas that are key to the future prosperity of SIDS, with sustainable innovative finance as a key driver. Rising up for SIDS Offer is implemented in each of the three regional programme outcome areas: Resilience and Sustainable Development, Inclusive Economic Growth and Effective Governance. Financing for development and gender are cross-cutting priority areas of Rising up for SIDS, informed by the S.A.M.O.A Pathway which recognizes that SIDS, which are the first to feel the impacts of climate change, have distinct development pressures and needs.

The Samoa MCO has tailored Rising up for SIDS to the needs of the countries it serves, and added two more areas, Circular Economy and Regenerative Tourism. Specific support will be customized to countries' needs and circumstances. The Fiji MCO is carrying out a Rising up for SIDS "sharpening exercise" to guide its future planning, enhance the coherence of its activities, and better deliver on Rising up for SIDS. UNDP is also developing a modular value-adding proposition that countries can access if they would prefer a ready-made suite of solutions. This will be backed up with additional human resources and corporate assets. UNDP is working in all outcome areas to empower women and promote gender equity in Pacific SIDS. For example, in Tokelau, UNDP supported employment and income-generation opportunities for women and youth, including people with disabilities, through value chain development in the recovery of glass waste. Tokelau's national waste management workforce increased by 300 percent, and all new Waste Management Officers are women. In Tonga, UNDP supported the implementation of enhanced gender-informed Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) through the establishment of Climate Promise commitments that include climate finance pathways to enhance mitigation and adaptation.

Climate Action

The PICs have called for climate change to be seen as both a security and justice issue. In addition, the link between ocean action and ocean action has been recognized in the Glasgow Climate Pact. This is a new level of understanding of the impacts of this challenge. UNDP is well-positioned to lead in that area and has already extensively worked on issues around access to, and management of, climate finance.

The Pacific Insurance and Climate Adaptation Programme, a joint programme implemented by UNCDF, UNDP and the United Nations University (UNU) Institute for Environment and Human Security, was launched in December 2020. The Global Fund for Coral Reefs, a joint programme with UNCDF, UNEP and the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office, was launched in September 2020. Work in the area of climate change is intensifying with support from the Global Environment Facility and other bilateral partners.

Funding from UNDP's Climate Promise enabled the provision of support to the Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa and Tonga in 2020 and 2021. This produced a range of very positive results, including the preparation of a draft report on waste management in Kiribati and Palau, a draft M&E Framework for the NDC in Nauru, and a High-Level NDC Financing Pathway Report that will assist Tonga to leverage NDC financial resources.

The Climate Promise also supported the review of the National Determined Contributions 2021, the updating of the Greenhouse Gas Abatement Strategy 2008–2018 to the Low Carbon Development Strategy 2020–2030 for Samoa, as well as the finalization of the Guideline for Enhancing Nature Based Adaptation and Mitigation Action for the Cook Islands.

Blue Economy

In Rising up for SIDS, the Blue Economy is defined as "the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, jobs, and social and financial inclusion, with a focus on preservation as well as restoration of the health of ocean ecosystems."

UNDP already has a wealth of experience relevant to the Blue Economy from the design, implementation and evaluation of its Ridge to Reef portfolio across the Pacific, on which it can build. Given its ongoing collaboration with UNCDF in the development of Fiji's sovereign Blue Bond and the implementation of the Global Fund for Coral Reefs-funded "Investing in Coral Reefs and the Blue Economy" project, UNDP is building expertise in the area of innovative financing.

Countries need well-planned pandemic recovery policies. UNDP in the Pacific will support countries to develop recovery policies that are inclusive, prioritize environmental protection and restoration, and promote human rights and democratic governance. A blue economy transformation could be an excellent opportunity to accelerate a bluer, greener and better recovery.

Gender-related needs in SIDS include increased women's political participation, prevention of gender-based violence, and closing the gender gap and employment and in data. Interventions in the Pacific focus on increasing women's political participation through capacity-building, increasing access to justice for women with disabilities, gender-based violence prevention and responses, and the promotion of women's employment and economic empowerment in the Blue Economy.



Digital Transformation

Progress in this area was accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic as UNDP pushed digital solutions to circumvent restrictions on physical movement. Digitalization has the potential to offset some of the Pacific's main challenges, including size (small populations and small markets), distance (both from major metropolitan areas and from other PICs), limited land-based resources (in some PICs), quality and frequency of basic service delivery, and development status, thereby levelling the playing field for Pacific SIDS. UNDP is already progressing the regional discussion on digitalization policies, frameworks and challenges, and works with partner governments individually to ascertain their level of interest in, and expectations around, digital transformation.



OUTCOME 1

Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Management

Important progress was also made in Samoa via UNDP-supported projects through the building of flood-resilient infrastructure, deepening of river channels, increasing community-level disaster risk preparedness of communities, and enhancing the sustainability of livelihoods of the most vulnerable through providing grants for economic activities.

UNDP supported six Fijian Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management (MRMDDM) community development projects, comprising 4 Community Access Road projects and 2 Water Infrastructure projects, which benefited nearly 800 people.

On the **Blue Economy**, enhanced NDCs were finalized in the Cook Islands, Niue and Samoa through UNDP Climate Promise support. Samoa's second NDC was submitted for COP26 and its new Climate Change Policy 2020–30 was launched. In Niue, UNDP also supported the continued development of the Marine Spatial Plan for the Niue Moana Mahu Large-scale Marine Protected Area.



OUTCOME 3

Good Governance and related issues

In October 2021, Samoa launched the Digital Readiness Assessment (DRA) tool to assist the government to take stock of their digital transformation pathway and to identify priorities and gaps across five pillars: government, business ecosystem, infrastructure, the regulatory environment, and human capacity and people. The DRA will inform the national e-governance and digital transformation strategy.

Kick-Starting Digital Transformation in Solomon Islands

With COVID-19 funding support from UNDP's Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific in 2020, UNDP and the Solomon Islands government began to digitalize state authorities to ensure continuity of government and basic services. Items such as a generator for the remote province of Rennell and Bellona, microwave antennas, laptops, and Zoom licences were procured, and over 120 governmental officials were trained in digital literacy. In 2020, the Ministry of Provincial Government and Institutional Strengthening met with the nine provinces online for the first time, saving US\$311,000 (SBD 2.5 million) compared to an in-person meeting; the savings were then reallocated to the COVID-19 response. UNDP's new Digital Readiness Assessment (DRA) was deployed, the results of which informed the first Solomon Islands National Digital Strategy. The Solomon Islands Digital Transformation Authority was also established in July 2021 as a result of this collaborative work.

UNDP has also rolled out the DRA in Samoa to provide rapid, high-level insights into the country's digital strengths and areas for improvement, and to inform the entry points for digital transformation initiatives and investments going forward.



UNDP Country Manager Berdi Berdiyev (right) explains the digital equipment to the Minister of Provincial Government Institutional Strengthening Rolland Seleso (centre), as UNDP's IT support staff looks on.

Photo: UNDP

Resilience and Sustainable Development Results

Regional priorities addressed by UNDP include improved:

- Disaster preparedness and response
- Access to clean, affordable and reliable energy
- Food security and access to potable water
- Natural resource management in both marine and terrestrial environments



Formal **disaster recovery and preparedness mechanisms** were supported in FSM, Fiji, Palau, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu, helping those countries reduce the economic costs associated with disasters.



The first-ever **Country Preparedness Package (CPP) for Tuvalu**, which includes a Disaster Risk Management Structure, legislation and policies, was developed with UNDP support.



UNDP **built capacity of government officials in disaster risk preparedness** and the management and distribution of disaster response equipment in RMI.



61 participants (57 percent women) in **Gender Equity and Social Inclusion training** for disaster management and climate change in FSM.



A total of **five risk informed community projects** were implemented through the Gov4Res project, with a total of **387 males and 390 females** benefiting from these projects directly.



After Tropical Cyclone Harold, 51,078 people were supported in Vanuatu with **long-term disaster recovery measures**. The Vanuatu Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) was also produced.



The Fiji Government received US\$51,000 worth of **equipment and tools for disaster recovery** after Tropical Cyclone Harold, and cash voucher assistance was provided to 12 villages in Southern Lau.



A 38-foot boat, **search and rescue equipment**, 2 SUVs, a truck for transporting automatic weather stations, mobile high-frequency radios, a generator for the National Emergency Management Office, and 3 mobile storage units were provided to Palau.



UNDP supported 4,945 people (50 percent women) in 15 communities affected by Tropical Cyclone Harold on Eua Island, Tonga with **livelihood rehabilitation to restore food security and quality of life**.



Severe **flooding impacts** in Apia, Samoa in December 2020 were **mitigated by drainage work** through the GCF-funded Vaisigano Catchment Project and the Economy-Wide Adaptation to Climate

Change Project, funded by the GEF Least Developed Countries Fund. Drainage, bridge works, and flood walls planned for 2022–2023 will protect around 26,500 people in 31 villages.

Renewable Energy

In Vanuatu, 18,814 people from 11 communities and Mauna Health Centre have access to clean and sustainable energy through community-scale solar Photo-Voltaic systems (total installed capacity: 28kW).

UNDP strengthened the capacities of local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and community-based organizations in supporting communities in Kiribati with solar energy access and biodiversity conservation through the Small Grants Programme.



Photos: Doreen Leona (top left, bottom), Ian Ieracet (top right)

With enough power provided to the community centre, community activities and participation in community work has been strengthened in Vanuatu. Capacity for storing fish for subsistence use and commercial purposes is improved, and income generated from fees levied on cold storage of fish, water and frozen food has increased.

Fisheries, Food Security and Resilience

Our support for the development of the Coastal and Aquaculture Bill in Nauru (which became law) ensured the accessibility of coastal resources for more than 5,000 people, 50 percent of whom are women.

Pacific Offshore Fisheries Management, a significant regional project, built capacities and management systems to ensure the long-term conservation of tuna stocks. As of September 2020, the four key tuna stocks in the Western and Central Pacific are within biologically sustainable levels.

UNDP rehabilitated 14 wells in FSM's Chuuk State, improving overall water production by 25 percent. This benefited 3,898 people.



Photo: Shutterstock

The Pacific Offshore Fisheries Management Project published *Moana Voices*, an original publication featuring the first-person narratives of Pacific women. Each of the three issues featured the stories of eight women in their own words.

Terrestrial and Marine Protected Areas

The **Niue Moana Mahu Marine Protected Area Regulations** were formalized in April 2020. Community Conservation Reefs – renamed Special Managed Reef Areas – were established by all 14 villages of Niue under IUCN Category VI: Protected area with sustainable use of natural resources.

UNDP supported FSM with the **rehabilitation and formalization of 17,280 hectares within 22 protected areas.**



Niue formalized the establishment of the Nukutulueatama Beveridge Reef Special Management Area, home to the world's highest density of grey reef sharks.

Photo: UNDP

Four states of Babeldaob, Palau have, with UNDP's assistance, **adopted Community Action Plans** and 27 hectares of degraded forests have been restored through the Babeldaob-Koror Regional Urban Development Strategic Plan.



Photo: UNDP



In Tokelau, three incinerators—one per atoll, that can burn up to 300kg per day—were procured through the UNDP GEF Small Grants Programme to safely dispose of medical and biosecurity waste. **The Circular Economy for the Recovery of Waste (CERO Waste) Programme was launched** at

Atafu Environment Week 2021 in Tokelau, which saw 140 men and 100 women take part in a village clean-up. CERO Waste established a waste collection system, provided four shipping containers for waste storage and created youth employment.



Photo: UNDP

The CERO Waste Programme is raising awareness of waste management. Waste containers, which are normally shipped to Samoa, have been stuck on Tokelau due to COVID-19.

Inclusive Economic Growth Results

Capacity-Building and Support for Livelihoods

Countries requested support to:

- Expand income-generation opportunities and improve livelihoods
- Empower farmers and small business owners through education and training
- Promote entrepreneurship and innovation
- Advance digital agendas
- Improve access to social protection and financial services



UNDP developed the **Coconut Sector Strategy** which was endorsed by the Kiribati Cabinet to enhance economic growth and reduce poverty by engaging smallholder coconut farmers with the identification of commercially viable, value-adding opportunities.



Supported the **Youth Koko Initiative** to enhance entrepreneurship among, and profitability for, young farmers in Samoa benefiting more than 100 current and aspiring cocoa farmers.



Facilitated the access of 112 market vendors in Fiji and 132 market vendors in Solomon Islands to **formal financial services, and provided training** in financial literacy, basic financial management and organic farming practices.



Provided agricultural tools and seedlings to the Solomon Islands' Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock to support livelihoods and food security,

boost agricultural productivity, and support local market vendors and farmers during the COVID-19 lockdown period.



Supported 80 market vendors (85 percent women) with training on financial literacy, facilitated the access of 77 people (84 percent women) to financial services, and taught 118 people (92 percent women) technical farming skills to **improve sustainable productivity and income generation in Vanuatu.**



Offered free online training—funded by Japan to tourism and hospitality workers in Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu interested in alternative employment. By July 2021, 3,006 applications were received and 1,172 students were officially enrolled.



Supported Nofotane, a Samoan group of survivors of domestic violence and their families, and female-owned small businesses to produce cotton face masks, which provided them with an income-generation opportunity during the pandemic.



Supported the refurbishment of the Tonga Ministry of Agriculture's Export and Fumigation Facility to assist smallholder farmers and exporters to process and store produce for export.



Supported Women in Leadership initiatives in Samoa. These women now cultivate vegetables, run roadside market stalls of the produce, and sell

clothes made at sewing workshops, empowering them economically while bolstering their independence.

NICHE AREA OF EXPERTISE

Support for Livelihoods and Innovation Building

STRONG KNOWLEDGE

Social Protection, Blue Economy

Digitalization

Digitalization is an enabler of inclusive and equitable growth in SIDS, mitigating their structural disadvantages of remoteness, geographic dispersion and lack of economies of scale. We are promoting digitalization within ongoing and new projects so that everyone can participate in the digital transformation of Pacific societies, and to accelerate results across our priority areas

UNDP's support enabled the **Fiji Consumer and Competition Commission (FCCC)** to carry out digital surveys of over 14,300 people on the prices of basic goods in 2020. In 2021, the FCCC App was developed to enhance price control and customer complaint management systems.

UNDP contributed to the development of a bilingual user interface on the first Samoan e-Commerce platform *Maua App* which resulted in an increase in active customers (57 percent customers and 95 percent active vendors), helping to mitigate local market disruptions caused by COVID-19 related restrictions.

UNDP supported the **uptake and scaling of the digital remittance product *Ave Pa'anga Pau*** from the Tonga Development Bank.

With UNCDF, banks and mobile network operators in Fiji, Samoa and Solomon Islands, UNDP **developed online marketplaces in response to the COVID-19 pandemic**, improving the ability of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) and farmers to reach their customers.



Photo: UNDP

UNDP co-hosted the 2nd Digital Pacific Conference in Samoa to help accelerate SIDS' efforts to leverage digital transformation for effective service delivery and inclusive growth, as an enabler across the SDGs.

The Sustainable Development Goals and Inclusive Economic Growth Policies

In 2021–2022, UNDP contributed to or lead many actions in support of the SDGs and inclusive economic growth policies, for example, UNDP:

Improved the enabling environment for trade and investment and promoted the development of small and micro enterprises through **business incubation and acceleration support** in Tuvalu, while also building the capacity of the Tuvalu Department of Trade to implement growth policies.

Assisted FSM to strengthen its national institutional capacity of gender machinery and capacity for SDG planning and provided technical support for the formulation of the **1st Voluntary National Review on the SDGs and presentation to the UN High-Level Political Forum in 2020**.

Supported the Vanuatu National Statistics Office to design and roll out the **National Strategic Development Plan Baseline Survey** to track progress against national priorities and inform the prioritization of policy interventions to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

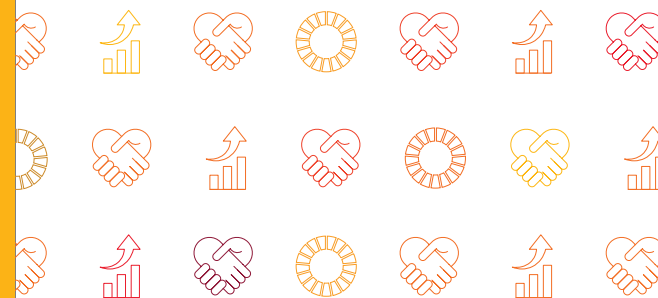
Provided technical support for the development of the **RMI 2020–2030 National Strategic Plan** and partnered with USP to set up an Innovation Hub at the campus in RMI to promote local innovation.

Strengthened institutional capacity for SDG planning in Solomon Islands through the **establishment of SDG working groups to address VNR recommendations** and supported the design of the 3rd National Financial Inclusion Strategy.

In addition:

Some 350 people in five PICs (Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu) participated in **budget consultations and briefings between parliaments and CSOs**. These were the first-ever CSO hearings at the Tonga Parliament. The first Citizen Budget Guide of Tuvalu was drafted in consultation with civil society in 2020.

Income-generating green proposals from households, NGOs/CSOs and existing enterprises for ecosystems-based approaches that underpin flood mitigation efforts within the Vaisigano Catchment Area in Samoa were solicited in 2020. 319 grants with a total volume of US\$2.7 million were approved for projects such as plant nurseries and mixed farming.



Social Protection

Social protection, integral to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, addresses the fact that there are often significant social and economic barriers to improved lives and livelihoods for the most vulnerable persons in society. All of UNDP's work is rooted in the principle of "Leaving No One Behind", and strengthening social protection systems in PICs are critical to help those who are most in need.



National Technical Committees were established as the country coordination mechanisms for the UN Joint Programme for Social Protection in the Cook Islands, Niue, Samoa and Tokelau.



A policy brief on the **Socio-Economic Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic** was prepared for all 14 countries in the Pacific.



UNDP and UNCDF supported two months of free remittances to Fiji on Vodafone's M-PAiSA platform. **Mobile wallet usage more than doubled**, from an average of 11,000 transactions to

25,000 transactions during this period. The value of transactions was around FJ\$8 million, four times greater than the average value of FJ\$2 million.



In Solomon Islands, UNDP supported public health communications with the **production of songs**, and their broadcast on radio, to make **information on COVID-19 more accessible**.

Financial Inclusion

UNDP collaborated with the government of Kiribati to establish the Kiribati National Financial Inclusion Strategy, provided technical assistance for micro-insurance for low-income earners, and supported ANZ Bank to roll out financial literacy training which benefited 9,000 adults (71 percent of them women).

Technical assistance was provided to the Solomon Islands National Provident Fund so that laid-off workers could withdraw from superannuation funds. A rapid prototype was developed with mobile network operators, Bmobile and Our Telekom.



funded over
44 projects

The Pacific Financial Inclusion Programme (PFIP), which closed in June 2021, **funded over 44 projects** which assisted financial service providers to innovate their technology, products, and services in Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu and PNG.

contributed to the
enrolment of
**1.9 million
customers**

The project contributed to the **enrolment of around 1.9 million customers**, the development of National Financial Inclusion Strategies in Fiji, Solomon Islands, Samoa and Vanuatu, and the development of financial education curriculum in three countries.

4 new
initiatives

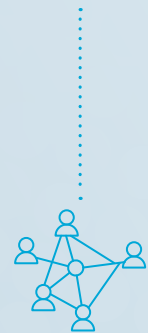
PFIP provided the foundation for four new initiatives, three of which are supported or implemented by UNDP: the Pacific Insurance and Climate Adaption Programme (PICAP), the Pacific Digital Economy Programme (PDEP) and the Coral Reef and Blue Economy Programme.

Effective Governance Results

Support to Parliaments

The following issues were identified by Pacific countries as focal areas:

- Support to parliaments
- Elections
- Anti-corruption
- Access to legal and medical services
- Address gender-based and domestic violence
- COVID-19 response



UNDP supported **capacity-building of parliamentarians** in the Kiribati Parliament during the pandemic through technological solutions.



The Youth Parliament engagement initiative reached around 4,000 Tongans (4 percent of the total population) to promote tolerance linked with the International Day of Tolerance.



The Vanuatu National Parliament adopted and implemented the revised Standing Orders, developed with UNDP support. 146 MPs (7 percent women) and 64 parliamentary staff (47 percent women) benefited from UNDP's online training and discussion forums.



The Parliaments of the Cook Islands, FSM, Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu were supported to develop their own **Business Continuity Plans** and benefited from technical advice and ICT equipment provided by UNDP.



78 two-year **Zoom licences were provided** to the Governments of Niue, Samoa and Tokelau in support of government business continuity.



The FSM Congress was supported to adopt the **first Pacific anti-sexual harassment workplace policy** and provided with information on anti-corruption strategies and right to information regimes.

NICHE AREA OF EXPERTISE

Anti-Corruption, Parliamentary Support

STRONG KNOWLEDGE

Digital Government, Strengthening Subnational Authorities and the Public Service



In May 2021, the **Fiji Parliament sat for the first time in a hybrid manner**, made possible by UNDP's investments in ICT. The hybrid sessions enabled it to approve the annual budget and pass legislation for the upcoming elections in 2022.



In promotion of its **Right to Information regime**, which was supported by UNDP, requests for information held by Vanuatu government agencies increased by 85 percent as of November 2020.



UNDP helped draft the **Nauru Parliamentary Service Act** (2020), passed by the Nauru Parliament in Jan 2021.



Photo: UN

The Speaker of the Fiji Parliament formally acknowledged UNDP's support during his address at the Inter-Parliamentary Union's World e-Parliament Conference 2021. He stated, *"This initiative was due to the successful partnership between the Fijian Parliament, the Government and our development partners of Australia, Japan and New Zealand that was facilitated under UNDP."*

– Fiji Parliament Support Project

Participation, Inclusion and Electoral Support

75 percent of the women candidates for the 2021 general elections in Samoa were supported with training in campaign communications and Samoan oratory. UNDP also supported 66 percent of the 42 women directors of public sector boards with accredited leadership training.

The Vanuatu Electoral Environment Project (VEEP) supported the **introduction of a biometric National ID Card** to support Vanuatu's National COVID-19 Vaccination Strategy; the cards were linked to electoral rolls and voter turnout improved by 37 percent in the May 2021 provincial elections.

UNDP supported the three-member **Electoral Commission in Nauru**, comprised only of women, and the design of the Nauru Specific Civic Curriculum and a civic education campaign, as well as finalization of operational procedures, manuals and codes of conduct for electoral processes.

98 youths (53 percent women and girls) participated in UNDP-supported regional and country-specific **Youth Parliament Sessions** in Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu.

16 leadership development training sessions for 493 women, men and youth participants were delivered in Samoa, resulting in two villages ending discriminatory practices against women married into the villages. Another decided to establish a fund to support tertiary education for its youth from poor and vulnerable households, with women in all villages encouraged to stand for election. One of those women now holds the ministerial portfolio for justice and court administration.

The UNDP-UNESCO Joint Programme, the Samoa Knowledge Society Initiative (SKSI), partnered with the Government and National University of Samoa (NUS) to **establish an e-Governance and Knowledge Society Platform** with two repositories and a digital library.

Accountability and Transparency

All 14 PICs benefited from UNDP's widely circulated technical advisory note **"COVID-19 and Corruption in the Pacific"** in 2021.

Technical assistance for the drafting of **new anti-corruption strategies** was provided to the Cook Islands, FSM and Fiji, and the implementation of existing strategies in Kiribati and Solomon Islands was supported.

FSM's **Freedom of Information Act** was drafted with support from UNDP in 2020.

In Fiji and Samoa, the **first anti-corruption toolkit for women-owned micro, small and medium enterprises** was launched, with training, to raise the awareness of women in businesses and guide them on anti-corruption in the COVID context.

The **Anti-Corruption Toolkit** is being contextualized and adjusted to the policy and legal frameworks of Palau, Samoa and Solomon Islands.

Examinations of **Anti-Money Laundering and Combatting the Financing of Terrorism** of two commercial banks were carried out by the RMI Office of the Banking Commission's Financial Institutions Supervision with UNDP assistance.

UNDP provided technical support to the Kiribati Conference which resulted in the endorsement of the Teieniwa Vision: **Pacific Unity Against Corruption by Pacific Forum Leaders**. Immediately after the conference, Tonga acceded to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption.

21 members of the media in Palau (33 percent women) were trained in **anti-corruption and investigative reporting**, and 17 members of the Palau Chamber of Commerce (53 percent women) were trained on the importance of transparency and having a code of conduct.





Photo: Shutterstock

Access to Justice and Services

UNDP provided technical assistance for the development of the **Samoa Law and Justice Sector Plan 2020–2025**, which fully reflects gender-based and domestic violence as a significant cross-cutting issue.

In Tonga, the Family Protection Legal Aid Centre was supported to develop **online information on Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)**, which has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The capacity of the **Correctional Services Solomon Islands (CSSI)** to provide adequate sanitation facilities for inmates was strengthened with the provision of water tanks for reliable water supply.

UNDP **provided the Fiji Corrections Service with laptops, WiFi devices and data packages for video conferencing**. The facilities enabled scheduled calls between inmates and their lawyers and virtual family visitation. An average of 90 inmates per day use the facilities.

The work of Medical Services Pacific (MSP) and Empower Pacific was supported, enabling them to raise the awareness of 5,237 people about **sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), child abuse and the law**; MSP provided 7,867 psychological and legal aid services (5,155 to women; 2,712 to men), and Empower Pacific reached 571 beneficiaries (55 percent women).

The Spotlight Initiative, with the Samoa Victim Support Group, provided **free helplines for women, children and other vulnerable individuals**, during the COVID-19 State of Emergency in Samoa. During five months in 2020, the helplines recorded 924 calls as compared to 180 for the same period in 2019.

3,467 people in Samoa were assisted with **evacuation to shelters, police assistance, protection orders and welfare assistance** (643 women, 617 men and 2,167 children, including 40 people with disabilities).

UNDP supported the **Office of the Public Auditor in Palau** to review and strengthen the financial systems and processes, related to SDG localization, of five pilot state governments.

In Solomon Islands, a disability sector engagement undertaken with 50 justice sector stakeholders, NGOs, CSOs and government (66 percent women) resulted in an agreement to strengthen cooperation through the **Hibiscus Commitment Statement on Disability Sector Collaboration**.

During the 2019–20 measles epidemic in Samoa, UNDP supported the government to carry out the **National Awareness and Vaccination Campaign Against Measles**, reaching 85 percent of the population. The awareness campaign provided a blueprint for the national awareness and public outreach campaign for COVID-19 in 2020.

World Food Programme COVID-19 charter flights, as part of the Global Fund project, reached FSM, Kiribati, Nauru, Palau, RMI, Tonga and Tuvalu with **life-saving medicines and medical equipment**. More than 1,783 people were reached with HIV/STI prevention programmes and testing services and at least 29 people living with HIV, six multi drug resistant TB patients, and 45 TB patients benefited.

In Solomon Islands, the **Global Fund Project's HIV prevention programmes** reached 4,968 people.

COVID-19 Response

Back-up generators, flood lights, laptops and security cameras were procured and installed to ensure **better monitoring of passengers** arriving in Niue for suspected COVID-19 cases and **safer quarantine**.

In Tokelau, UNDP supported the **establishment of quarantine centres** (including 60 beds) and **isolation facilities** (including 30 beds) in the three atolls, enabling 100 Tokelau repatriates from Fiji and New Zealand to return home safely.

UNDP supported the Government of Tokelau's **COVID-19 communications strategy**. The entire population of Tokelau (around 1,600 people) was reached through mandatory community workshops in the three atolls and radio programmes in the Tokelau language.

Discussions were held with country partners on the support required for the **safe reopening of borders**. A COVID-Safe Border Policy was developed with Fiji, as well as a regional travel framework.

ICT equipment to connect 14 remote hospitals and health centres to the main hospital in Apia, Samoa was procured. This enabled e-health and remote diagnostic capacities. The country's first RT-qPCR machine and 4,000 COVID test kits were also procured.

A partnership with the Samoa Persons with Disabilities umbrella organization, Nuanua O Le Alofa (NOLA), **improved the accessibility of information on COVID-19**. 40 nationally broadcasted and live messages were translated to sign language, and 5,000 pieces of accessible communications materials were distributed.

Peacebuilding, Leadership, Governance and Entrepreneurship training designed for 400 youth from four provinces in Solomon Islands carried out a **Baseline Data Survey to measure the effects of the COVID-19 crisis on daily life**.

Palau was provided with 1,000 medical scrubs, 10 infrared thermometers, assorted PPE supplies, and a cargo van and industrial carts for health providers. Palau was also supplied with HF/VHF radios and its siren systems were operationalized.

UNDP provided 10,000 KN95 masks, 45,000 3-ply medical masks, 35,000 gloves, 1,800 bottles of disinfectants and sanitizers, and 50 beds, as well as a mental health programme, to the **Fiji Police**.

PPE and sanitizers were provided to voters and election officials in the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu so that they could hold elections during the COVID-19 pandemic, and five ventilators were procured with WHO for the Solomon Islands National Health System.

In Fiji, UNDP's integrated government service delivery platform (REACH) assisted government agencies and CSOs to **quickly coordinate and implement the vaccination drive in 2021** on both of Fiji's main islands. 16,542 COVID-19 response integrated services were provided to more than 5,000 Fijians.



Adding Value: Resource Mobilization

UNDP's Advantages

Ability to Access Vertical Funds

Over the past several years, UNDP has secured large amounts of funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The 30 current projects in 12 PICs financed by the GCF, GEF and Least Developed Countries Fund are worth a total of US\$226 million, with co-financing of US\$621 million.

These resources finance both country-specific and regional programmes. Tuvalu's Coastal Adaptation Programme (TCAP), for example, is financed with US\$36 million from the Green Climate Fund and US\$2.9 million from the Government of Tuvalu. TCAP has helped the government to address coastal hazards and create a long-term adaptation strategy. It has also notably built the capacity of both youth and national and local authorities to implement adaptation measures.

One of the key components of the project—large-scale contracting for the construction of coastal protection infrastructure will be undertaken in 2022. As with all projects financed by vertical funds, careful monitoring, adequate oversight and timely reporting are crucial to ensure that the large investments produce sustainable solutions as per agreed timelines.

UNDP in the Pacific has benefited from the recommendations of recent global audits of the UNDP Vertical Funds portfolio to further strengthen its oversight and risk management of GEF and GCF funded projects. UNDP applies its three tier quality assurance system at the Country Offices, the Bangkok Regional Hub and at Headquarters to fully exercise its oversight responsibilities in terms of technical and strategic guidance and financial management during project implementation.

Government Co-Financing

The Addressing Climate Vulnerability in the Water Sector (ACWA) Project in the Marshall Islands supports the Government of RMI to adapt to climate risks, such as drought, which impact the supply of drinking water. ACWA works to improve rainwater harvesting, prevent the contamination of groundwater resources, and strengthen technical capacity around water governance. It is a notable example of effective government co-financing, with US\$18.6 million provided by the GCF (Green Climate Fund) and US\$6.1 million contributed by the Government of RMI for implementation from 2020 to 2027.

The Palau Local Governance Project, delivered from September 2016 to October 2021, is an example of a very successful co-financing arrangement. Palau and UNDP collaborated to enhance the capacity of local government institutions, strengthen the links between all levels of government, raise public awareness of the mandate and services provided by local government, and encourage the participation of women and youth in local government. The Government of Palau provided US\$800,000 for this initiative, with UNDP contributing US\$20,000 per annum and technical assistance to the Bureau of Domestic Affairs and the Ministry of State.

Effective Reporting and Partnership Liaison

UNDP has a robust understanding of the requirements of donors. Results are measured and communicated clearly so that donors can meet their own governance and reporting responsibilities. UNDP ensures that beneficiaries are aware of and appreciate the sources of funding, and how various projects produce results in a geographically large and diverse region.

Resources and Relationships

Working with UNDP makes it easier and faster for countries to access various funding opportunities and technical expertise needed for development. UNDP has human resources on the ground in many countries, strong relationships with key players, deep capacity, and years of experience working in the Pacific. Our ability to amplify the voices of Pacific governments and people in regional and global fora, and our consistent focus working in tandem with other UN agencies and UN Resident Coordinators to include and support those who are left furthest behind, are two other examples of UNDP's comparative advantage.

New Resources and Partnerships

The Government of Japan provided new funds for a Pacific “Floating Budget Office”. UNDP was able to mobilize resources from Japan to support the border agencies of Fiji, Palau and Vanuatu, strengthening capacities and support services, ensuring business continuity, and supporting the national and regional coordination of borders that adhere to COVID-19 public health protocols.

Japan provided US\$954,000 to Samoa in 2021 to implement a COVID-19 preparedness and response project for economic diversification in the agriculture and fisheries sectors with a focus on unemployed women and youth. The UK provided US\$62,691 to strengthen the circular economy to build forward better from COVID-19. US\$230,050

from the UN COVID-19 Response Fund for Tokelau was used to refurbish quarantine and isolation facilities and train medical personnel.

The Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) provided US\$2,621,782 to the Gov4Res Project in 2021, to continue its risk informed approach to the planning, financing and oversight of development. The Australian Government (DFAT) on the hand, continued its support to UNDP towards its climate and disaster resilience work, ensuring effective governance is enhanced in the Pacific, strengthening anti-corruption work, innovative financing initiatives and livelihood recovery efforts.


With UNDP, the **Global Fund** committed to:



supporting 11 PICs with
US\$11.3M
for 2021–2023



US\$2.8M
for anti-corruption
programming in 14 PICs



US\$3M
to increase parliamentary autonomy,
electoral authorities' capacity, and
women's participation in politics in Nauru




US\$3.5M
for electoral
institutions in
Vanuatu



US\$4M
for police
work in Fiji

India, through the UN Fund for **South-South Cooperation**, provided:



US\$1M
for COVID-19 response, which was
used to deliver health support to
Nauru with WHO



Adding Value: Capacity-Building

Building Capacity of Governments and Implementing Partners

Training sessions and workshops ensure that partners have a robust understanding of UNDP's quality assurance policies and procedures. Training on finance, the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer (HACT), and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) was delivered to 35 participants from implementing partner agencies in Fiji in December 2020. Quality assurance elements of HACT were thoroughly explained, as was UNDP's Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Policy (PSEA). A similar training session was delivered virtually to 30 implementing partner participants in Tuvalu in May 2021.

A four-day training course on procurement, accredited by the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply (CIPS), was delivered virtually to 8 participants from Fiji and Tuvalu in August 2021 and to 13 participants from Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Republic of the Marshall Islands and Vanuatu in September 2021. The Introductory Certificate in Purchasing and Supply was awarded to participants who took an examination and completed a work-based assignment. The course ensures that country partners are well-versed in the UN's procurement rules and procedures.

Photo: Michal Pecharado



The Accelerator Lab in Samoa

With 91 labs globally, the Accelerator Labs (or AccLabs) comprise the world's largest learning network focused on development challenges. AccLabs work with national partners to create actionable intelligence and accelerate learning on solutions for priority issues.

The AccLab in Samoa was launched in April 2021. An all-women team, it is focused on strengthening public service delivery in the Cook Islands, Niue, Samoa and Tokelau, with digital transformation and citizen participation as key enablers. The AccLab also organized a series of workshops, on portfolio sense-making, horizon scanning and systems thinking, to drive innovation in the

Samoa MCO. It regularly publishes its learning via blogs, positioning UNDP as a thought leader in the innovation ecosystem.

Recognizing that a robust Civil Registration and Vital Statistics system is needed for Samoa's National Digital Identification Program, the AccLab partnered with the Samoa Bureau of Statistics (SBS) to strengthen the birth registration system. By applying the approach of "sense, explore, test and grow", the AccLab mapped key challenges and offered a portfolio of digital and non-digital solutions to increase the number of birth registrations.



birth



registration



Bureau of Statistics



SBS Management & CEO, Aliimuamua Malaefono (2nd from left) with UNDP Deputy Resident Representative, Verena Linneweber (2nd from right) and Acc Lab staff

Photo: UNDP

South–South Cooperation

In Tuvalu in 2020, a team comprised of representatives from the Ridge to Reef Project, the Departments of Agriculture, Education, Environment, Fisheries and Waste Management, and the Fiji MCO participated in a twinning programme. The programme matched them with the National Trust of Fiji, the Shangri-La Fijian Resort, and the Mamanucas Environment Society. The knowledge shared was contextualized for Tuvalu.

The Right to Information (RTI) Unit of Vanuatu, the Freedom of Information (FOI) Division in the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC), and the New Zealand Ombudsman shared their RTI knowledge and experience through webinars with Micronesia with the facilitation of the UN Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption Project.



Photo: Tuvalu Ridge to Reef Project

Building Capacity and Leadership in Communities

The Women in Leadership in Samoa (WILS) Project, implemented by UNDP and UN Women and funded by the Government of Australia, supports emerging leaders and potential women political candidates. As men are traditionally the decision makers in Samoan villages, the project also aims to turn more men into advocates for gender equality and women in leadership.

The project has had a significant impact on both individuals and local governance systems. For example, on the urging of WILS project participants, Foailalo Village changed its policies to allow women married into the village to participate in committee meetings. Other villages have also changed discriminatory policies and by-laws.

Participants in training sessions reported increased confidence in their ability to participate in government and decision-making. In 2020, 405 people (45 percent female; 54 percent male; 1 percent transgender) from 129 villages were trained. The WILS project also supported four transformational leadership development training sessions for nurses and midwives, and two leadership workshops for aspiring women directors. Formal Samoan oratory, which is essential for campaigning, was taught to 20 of the 23 female candidates for the 2021 general elections. In 2021, 473 people (62 percent female; 37 percent male; 1 percent transgender) from 15 villages were trained under the Village Leadership Development Initiative.



Photo: UNDP

Women from the Safata District participating in the Village Leadership Development Initiative training supported by WILS in 2020.



Photo: UNDP

Villagers in Vanuatu were **trained in the maintenance of solar PV panels as part of the BRANTV project**. Those panels power the refrigerators that keep their catch fresh and sustain livelihoods.

In 2020, the **Women of Excellence Project** developed women's leadership at the community level in Solomon Islands. The aim is to support local leaders to grow into senior national political leaders.

The Accelerator Lab in Fiji has an important role in "sense-making" for UNDP. It also works with communities to provide trial development solutions that can be upscaled and implemented in different settings. The Accelerator Lab has helped numerous communities, including Vusama Village on Fiji's Coral Coast, which was assisted to revive **traditional salt-making**.

Adding Value: Visibility and Communications

Communications staff work closely with management and programme staff to clearly and accurately inform partners, stakeholders, and the public of UNDP's activities and achievements. through the UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji website at www.undp.org/pacific and UNDP Samoa website at www.undp.org/samoa.

Social Media

Social media has helped position UNDP as a thought leader in development in the Pacific, and its use has helped increase access to knowledge generated in the region by UNDP and its partners; we continue to use the platforms to promote the support and partnership of donors, governments, non-governmental organizations (including youth groups), civil society organizations, the private sector, the media and UN agencies and to give visibility to donors for their contribution to UNDP work. The figures below are accurate as of 14 July 2022.

36.6K followers
@UNDP_Pacific

1125 followers
@UNDPSamoa



19.8K followers
UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji

34.7K followers
UNDP in the Cook Islands, Niue, Samoa and Tokelau



12.1K followers
UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji



3.4K followers
@undp_pacific

1.8K followers
@undpsamoa



361 subscribers
UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji

58 subscribers
UNDP Samoa





Substantive Reports

The Fiji MCO published an Annual Report in 2020, its first in four years. In early 2021, the Samoa MCO introduced a Quarterly Newsletter to highlight project activities and results since the beginning of 2021. Communications Officers are also responsible for ensuring that major reports, including the Socio-economic Impact Assessments, are informative, well-presented, and widely distributed. Project and programme reports are often presented, in full or in summary, for public information.



Broadcast Media

Communications and Project Officers ensure that representatives from local, national and regional radio and television stations attend events and are given opportunities to speak with programme implementers and beneficiaries. UNDP staff are always happy to speak with members of the media, and are quick to acknowledge the inputs of donors and development partners to ensure their maximum visibility.



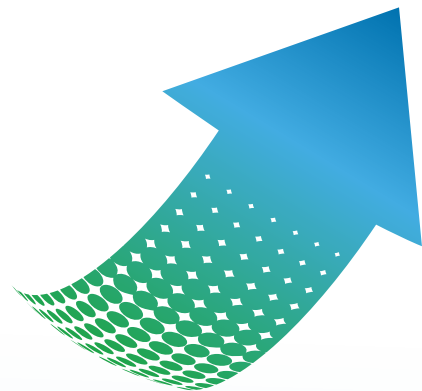
Print Media

UNDP regularly issues press releases and articles for the national and regional print media. These pieces highlight the achievements of various projects and UNDP's role in thought leadership. While not all stories may be picked up by the media, they are posted on UNDP's own website and shared widely on its corporate social media platforms.



Photo: PFIIP/John Rae

Future Focus and Opportunities



One UN in the Pacific

UNDP in the Pacific works closely with the UN Resident Coordinators and other UN agencies as One UN to support the efforts of PIC governments to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The UN Business Operations Strategies for the Fiji and Samoa MCOs, adopted in 2021, guide the operational side of UNDP's interactions with other UN agencies.

UNDP chairs the UN Pacific Strategy 2018–2022 Outcome Groups 1 (Climate Change, Disaster Risk Management and Environment) and 5 (Governance). UNDP implements numerous joint programmes with other UN agencies to deliver the UN Pacific Strategy 2018–2022. As substantive lead and the largest UN agency working in those areas, UNDP will continue to drive progress and promote partnerships to address the region's challenges.

Further Development of Rising up for SIDS

UNDP in the Pacific will create a strategy that integrates the pillars of Rising up for SIDS into the plan for a green recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Digital transformation will underpin all of UNDP's work on Climate Action and the Blue Economy. UNDP's niche will be the application of digitalization so that people's lives and livelihoods are improved.

UNDP will look beyond connectivity and determine how it can add value in areas such as digital inclusion and finance. UNDP will assess the support needed for e-services, including digitally enabled access to justice and government services, build its own capacity in that area, and seek out partners with which it can work to deliver integrated solutions for the PICs.

The need for governance in the digital space will also be addressed. Submarine fibre-optic cables offer unprecedented opportunities for the digital transformation of the Pacific SIDS. The Cook Islands and Niue were connected in mid-2020, and Tokelau is scheduled to follow in 2021–2022.



Photo: UNDP

UNDP will support both the Cook Islands and Niue to maximize the benefits of connectivity through the Manatua One Polynesia fibre-optic cable, which provides them with internet access that is five times faster than broadband. This opens up new opportunities for accelerated socio-economic development.

Operationalization of the North Pacific Office

The new North Pacific Office demonstrates that UNDP is committed to the entire Pacific. UNDP has seen, heard and recognized the distinct needs of the countries of the North Pacific, and is very excited about the speed at which it will be able to work with the North Pacific from the new office in Pohnpei, as well as the opportunities for meaningful new partnerships and potential scope of new collaboration. Gender mainstreaming and integration is another area which is been picked in the Evaluation and we are committed to address this in our new MCPD by dedicating over 20 percent of programme resources.

The North Pacific Office will promote the pillars of Rising up for SIDS, from the way it is set up to its programming and the way its staff will engage with partners. It will promote innovation and spearhead a green recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Risk Management

Risk management is integral to UNDP's programming. Risks, including social and environmental, financial, operational, organizational, political, regulatory, strategic and security are identified and mitigated at every stage of the programme cycle.

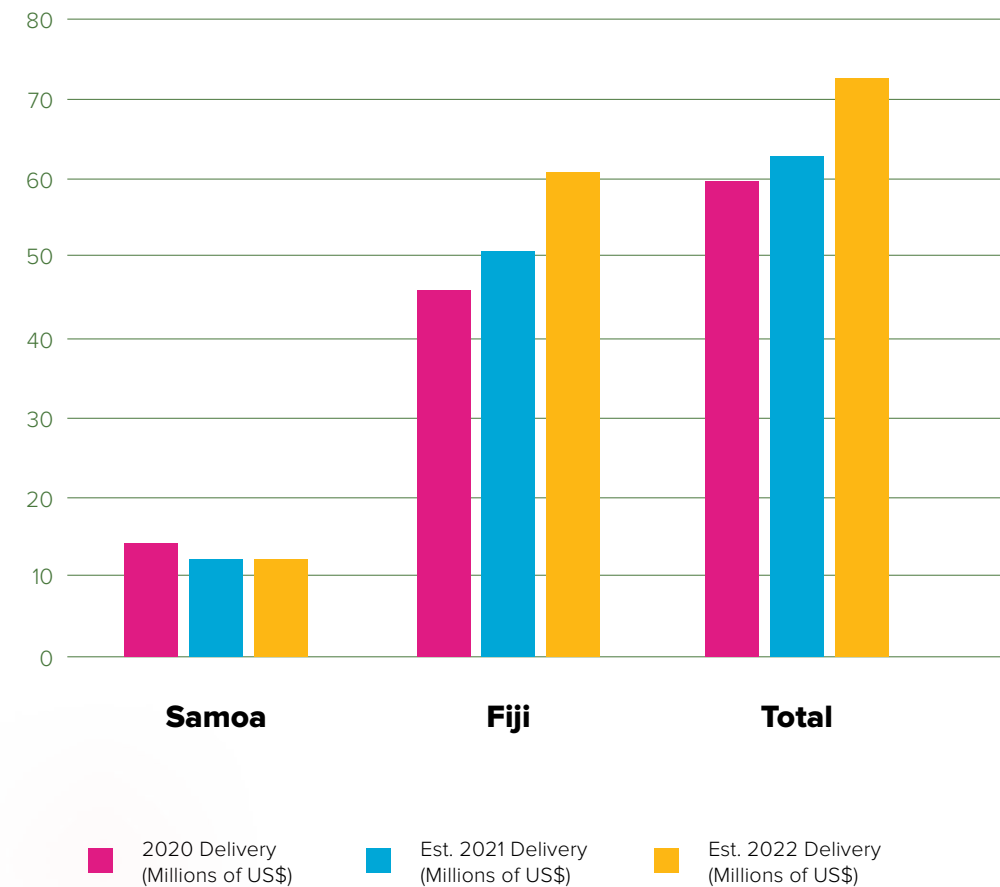
A number of systems, tools and procedures are mandatory in managing risks, such as regular audits, spot checks and macro assessment to evaluate overall Public Finance Management and micro assessments to gauge implementing partners' (IP) ability to manage funds and IP capacity in programming and social and environmental screening.



Financial Summary

The table below shows the annual programme delivery totals for the Fiji MCO and Samoa MCO in 2020 and 2021 and projections for 2022. The figures shown for the Fiji MCO are inclusive of the 10 countries that it covered previously and include the programme delivery of the North Pacific Office in 2022.

Annual Programme Delivery of UNDP in the Pacific



2021 delivery: US\$50,073,030*

*This includes other projects worth US\$416,372 that are not classified under the three outcome areas or Solomon Islands.

Photo: Shutterstock

Fiji MCO

Projects Contributing to Resilience and Sustainable Development, Effective Governance and Inclusive Growth

Programme Delivery of the Fiji MCO

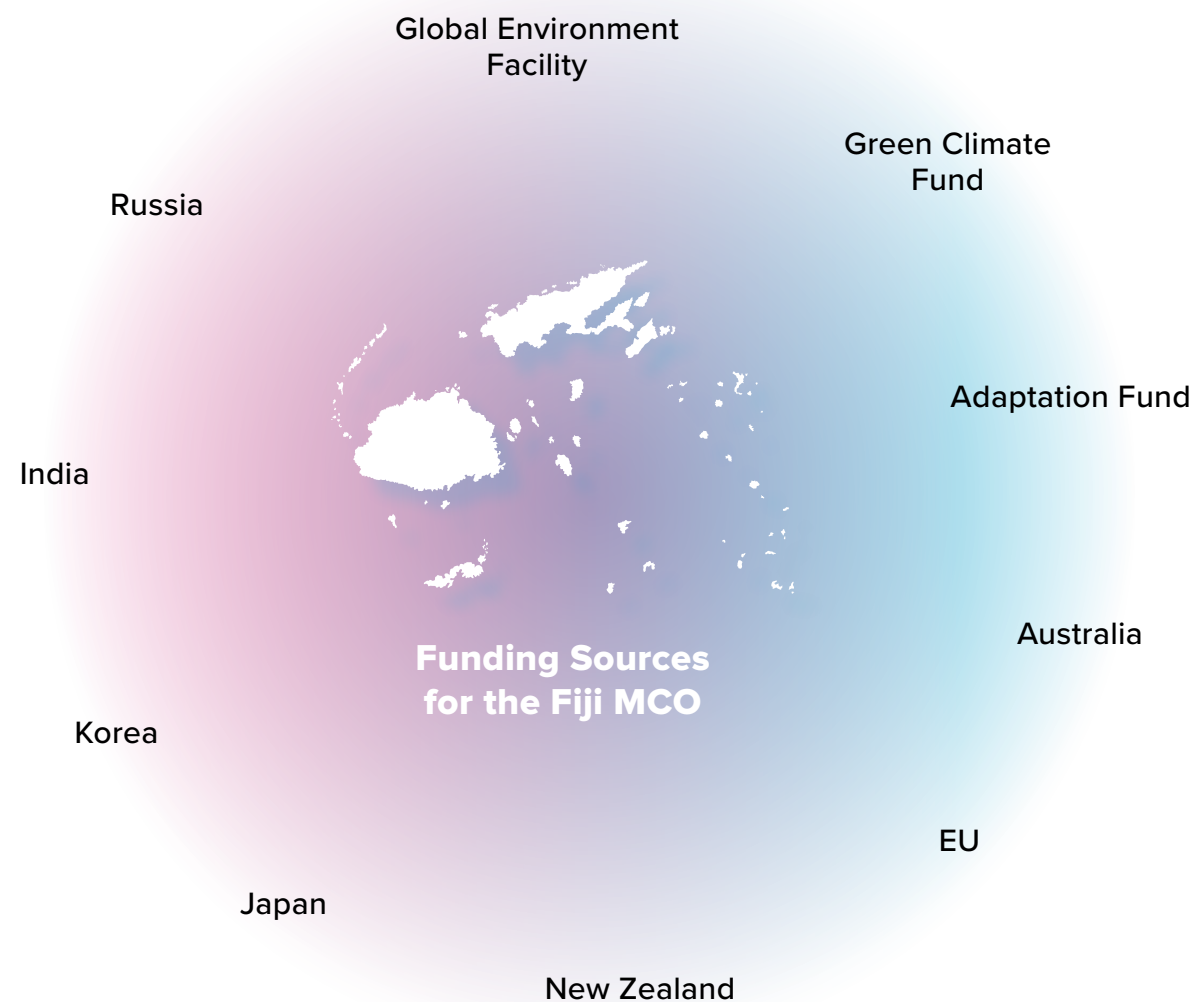
The Fiji MCO delivers results in all three outcome areas but two thirds of its funding is for Climate Action, which is largely from vertical funds. From 2022, much of that funding will be utilized in cooperation with the North Pacific MCO.

Budget/Resources for the Fiji MCO

Ongoing projects: US\$167M

Pipeline for the Fiji MCO

US\$71.6M (A US\$13.5M, B US\$22.4M, C US\$35.7M)



Projects Contributing to Resilience and Sustainable Development	2020 Delivery in US\$	2021 Delivery in US\$
Achieving the 2030 Agenda–Disaster Risk Reduction	137,160	–
Climate Change Finance	–	189,045
Coral Reef	–	170,500
Cross-Cutting Staff/Consultants	–	2476
Deep Dive	–	45,263
Disaster Needs Assessments	–	299,825
Disaster Resilience in Pacific Small Island Developing States	–	293,453
Early Ratification of Kigali Amendment	7,321	50,000
Global and Regional Oceanic Fisheries	634,172	–
Governance for Resilient Development in the Pacific	1,345,310	2,215,891
Pacific Coastal Aquifers	292,830	283,032
Pacific Resilience and Sustainable Development Support	–	407,160
Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific Climate Promise	–	28,108
Pacific Island Oceanic Fisheries	–	808,518
Regional Ridge to Reef–Pacific Island Countries	1,366,540	1,200,000
Resilience and Sustainable Development	3,004,726	–
Resilient Recovery	–	46,853
Solarization of Heads of State Residences in the Pacific	–	182,458
Federated States of Micronesia Biodiversity and Invasive Alien Species	58,566	15,253
Federated States of Micronesia Biodiversity PPG GEF 6	10,000	–
Federated States of Micronesia Disaster Prevention and Mitigation	2,440,250	1,995,461
Federated States of Micronesia Public Sector Buildings Energy Efficiency (MPSBEE)	10,000	75,738
Federated States of Micronesia Ridge to Reef	780,880	593,000
Federated States of Micronesia Third National Communication/Biennial Update Report	48,805	120,000
Fiji HydroChloroFluoroCarbons Phase-Out Management	9015.68	17,000
Fiji Ridge to Reef	1,792,607	1,878,860
Fiji Invasive Alien Species	546,855	295,000
Kiribati Climate Security	–	250,000
Kiribati Enhancing National Food Security	1,109,810	900,000
Kiribati Promoting Outer Island Development on Energy Roadmap (POID-IER) Full Size Project	48,505	179,319
Kiribati Whole of Island Approach to Community Resilience	–	2425
Nauru Ridge to Reef Management, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Protection	344,635	69,244
Nauru Supporting Mainstreamed Achievement of Roadmap Targets on Energy (SMARTEN) Full Size Project	21,377	109,045
Palau Biodiversity and Safeguards–Invasive Alien Species	800,880	550,000
Palau Disaster Preparedness and Improved Infrastructure	3,676,969	3,970,499
Palau National Marine Sanctuary Implementation	–	173,606
Republic of Marshall Islands Climate Security	–	160,000
Republic of Marshall Islands Disaster Preparedness and Infrastructure	1,210,364	780,599
Republic of Marshall Islands Ridge to Reef Project	798,880	585,515
Republic of Marshall Islands Third National Communication and First Biennial Update Report	39,044	7810
Republic of Marshall Islands Water Security Project	195,220	973,833
Tuvalu Climate Security	–	200,000
Tuvalu Coastal Adaptation Project	1,349,350	1,371,909

Tuvalu Ridge to Reef	444,245	276,167
Tuvalu Solar Home Standalone System for Funaota	106,883	–
Facilitation of the Sustainable National Energy Targets of Tuvalu Project (FASNETT)	201,220	1,109,689
Vanuatu Coastal Adaptation Project 2 Project Preparation	–	13,185
Barrier Removal for Achieving the National Energy Road Map Targets of Vanuatu (BRANTV)	300,021	1,330,369
Vanuatu Low Emissions Capacity Building Phase II	99,757	470,800
Vanuatu 3rd National Communication & Biennial Update Report	97,610	220,906
Subtotal	23,594,408	25,810,983

Projects Contributing to Effective Governance	2020	2021
Fiji Access to Justice Project	1,917,028	1,254,264
Pacific Public Finance Management and Governance	706,373	1,100,000
Pacific Parliamentary Initiative Project Phase II	811,631	1,451,739
Rights Empowerment and Social Cohesion (REACH)	–	–
Regional Effective Governance Programme	742,330	272,000
Strengthening Legislatures in the Pacific (SLIP)	538,306	1,167,450
Fiji Parliament Support Project	570,912	500,000
Spotlight Regional Initiative	199,058	639,517
Spotlight Vanuatu	22,314	500,000
Fiji Police Force Support Project	73,347	1,200,000
UNPRAC Phase II (DFAT and UNODC)	496,112	374,857
United Nations Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption Project (UNPRAC)	155,072	620,000
Palau Local Governance	50,033	132,500
Vanuatu Electoral Environment Project - Phase 2	1,121,133	738,180
Western Pacific Integrated HIV/TB Programme	4,092,031	2,964,944
A Malaria Free Vanuatu, contributing good health	605,344	1,025,819
COVID-19 Inclusive Economic Recovery Project	–	183,730
Pacific Anti-Corruption Project	–	620,000
Nauru Elections Support Project	432,229	–
Nauru Accountable & Inclusive Governance (NAIG) Project	–	600,000
Subtotal	12,656,477	14,064,989

Projects Contributing to Inclusive Growth	2020	2021
Blue Economy	–	400,000
Building and Fumigation Facility	302,757	–
Connecting Business Initiatives	–	37,800
Fiji–Investing in Coral Reefs and the Blue Economy (UN JP)	–	170,500
COVID-19 Inclusive Economic Recovery	255,000	255,000
Gender Mainstreaming	–	140,000
Inclusive Growth and SDGs	–	2,022
Pacific Financial Inclusion Programme	2,540,090	764,874
Markets for Change	334,327	30,269
SDGs, Green/Blue Economy, Financing in the Pacific	776,290	291,075
SDG Financing in the Pacific	–	140,899
Police Capacity Building	12,898	–
Kiribati Coconut Sector Development Project	136,407	71,617

Kiribati SDG Localization	10,000	54,625
Kiribati Trade Capacity–Tier 1 Phase 2	411,500	459,864
Tuvalu Trade Capacity Development Phase 2	445,624	244,147
Tuvalu–TIPS Project	465,000	465,000
FSM SDG Localization	28,498	20,000
RMI SDG Localization	29,500	100,000
Nauru SDG Localization	16,000	–
Palau SDG Localization	5,000	27,500
Fiji SDG Localization	50,000	125,000
Fiji: Engaging Youths in Organic Farming	–	–
Fiji Markets (MPTF)	148,560	534,532
Pacific Digital Economy Programme	–	600,270
Private Sector and Livelihoods	26,668	27,000
Regional Pacific Insurance and Climate Adaptation Programme (PICAP)	–	857,538
Solomon Islands Markets	124,730	49,381
Tonga SDG Localization	24,000	34,000
COVID-19 Support to Vanuatu	150,000	40,328
Vanuatu: Engaging Youths in Organic Farming	–	354
Vanuatu Markets	249,832	26,810
Vanuatu National Sustainable Development	281,120	–
Vanuatu SDG Localization	45,000	48,173
Subtotal	6,969,622	5,056,218

Solomon Islands Projects	2020	2021
Strengthening the Electoral Cycle in the Solomon Islands	965,905	479,155
Transparency and Accountability Project	260,242	412,701
Empowering Youth as Agents for Peace and Social Cohesion	738,885	311,206
Enhancing Access to Justice–Paralegal	1,119,902	1,653,675
Inclusive Governance of Natural Resources–PBF 3	981,809	474,673
Support to Solomon Islands Country Coordinating Mechanism–Global Fund	23,634	21,862
Advancing National Development Agenda and the SDGs	574,850	284,485
Solomon Islands Water Sector Adaptation Project	9600	–
Solomon Islands Disaster Risk Management COVID-19	662,578	664,351
Rural Electrification	–	513,184
Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services	–	216,225
Markets for Change	–	125,582
Subtotal Solomon Islands	5,462,988	4,724,468
Grand Total	48,683,495	49,656,658

Samoa MCO

Projects Contributing to Resilience and Sustainable Development, Effective Governance and Inclusive Growth

For the Samoa MCO, about 90 percent of both its 2020/21 resource mobilization and delivery is for Outcome 1 of the SRPD.

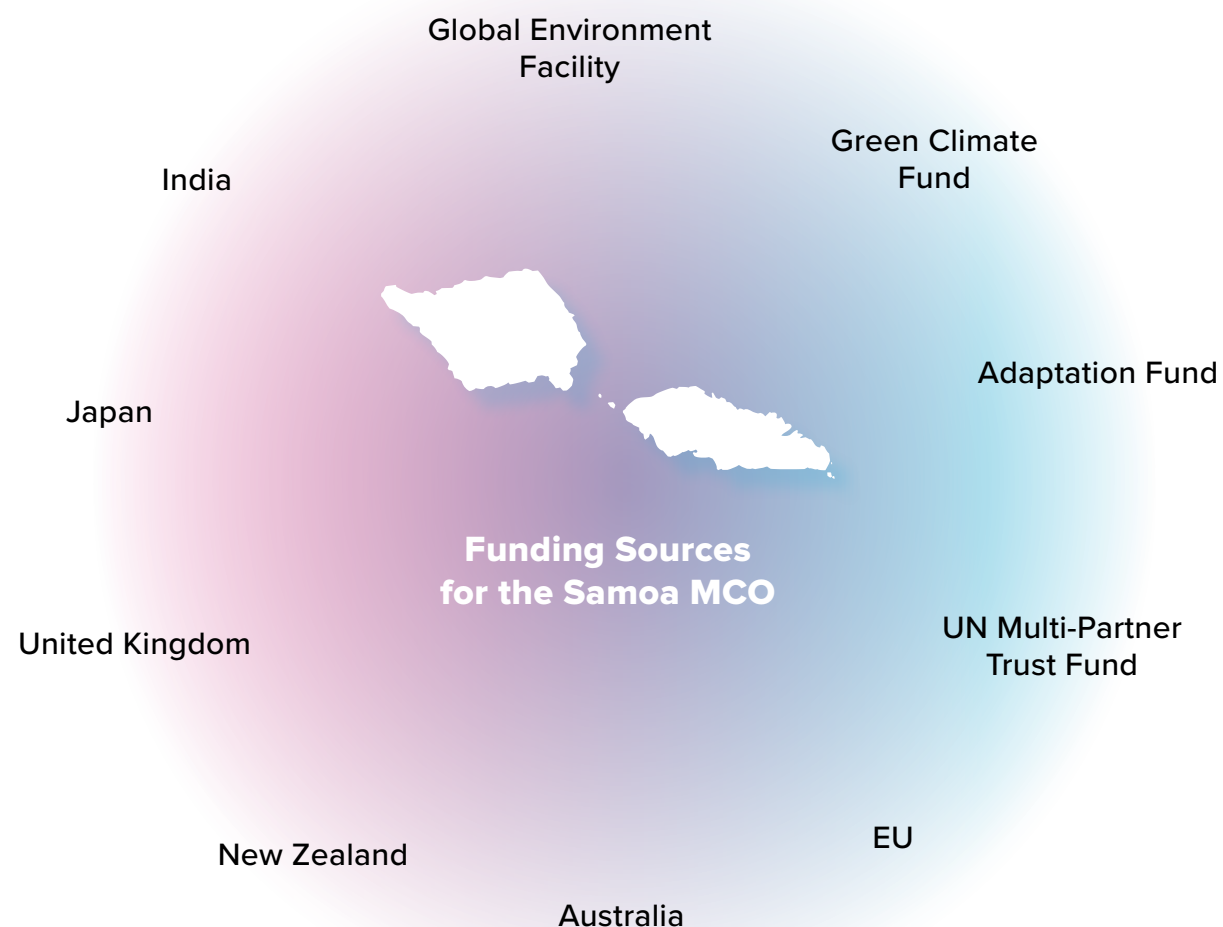
The total budgets of the Samoa projects that were ongoing during 2020/21 is US\$95.4 million. Many of these are projects started well before 2020 and ended during the reporting period, however, so the bulk of spending occurred before 2020/21. Delivery during 2020 (actuals) was US\$15.8 million, with US\$10,323,284 million delivered in 2021.

In addition to delivery via the projects listed, the Samoa MCO also delivered US\$662,541 through

the Samoa Engagement Facility Project and US\$15,550 through the UNDP Accelerator Lab Project.

As of 31 December 2021, the Samoa programme pipeline stood at US\$48.7 million (A: US\$8.7 million, B: US\$2.4 million, C: US\$7.6 million).

The Samoa MCO's funding sources are: the GEF, GCF, Adaptation Fund, Australia, New Zealand, EU, Japan, United Kingdom, India and the UN Multi-Partner Trust Fund. The resource envelope for the Samoa MCO for the CPD cycle is approximately US\$100 million, mostly coming from vertical funds.



Projects Contributing to Resilience and Sustainable Development	2020 Delivery in US\$	2021 Delivery in US\$
Vaisigano Catchment Project	8,021,544	4,555,036
Economy-wide Integration of Climate Change Adaptation	1,037,448	1,031,461
Strengthening Multi-Sectoral Management of Critical Landscapes	238,820	-
IMPRESS Renewable Energy	632,928	293,112
Acceleration Renewable Energies and Energy Efficiency in Niue	136,439	315,187.35
GEF-7 Cook Islands PPG	-	10,553
GEF-7 Samoa PPG	63,963	65,053
Climate Promise	87,102	119,387
Nagoya Protocol	22,856	-
Sixth National Report on Biodiversity in Asia	2,836	-
Third National Communication and First Biennial Update Report	5,669	89,258
Ridge to Reef Approach in the Cook Islands	1,052,958	438,637
Niue Ridge to Reef	941,657	626,651
COVID-19 Preparedness, Response and Recovery	525,873	-
COVID-19 Response Fund for Tokelau	35,940	243,188
COVID-19 Response SkyeEye E-Commerce Solution	10,000	-
RFF Post COVID-19 (CERO Waste)	24,660	128,060
Crisis Response Measles	117,250	-
Subtotal	12,956,943	7,915,582.71

Projects Contributing to Effective Governance	2020	2021
Markets 4 Change	-	5,000
Women in Leadership in Samoa	393,235	259,057
Digital Solutions for Samoa	116,626	1,044
Samoa Digital Transformation Project	-	70,000
Social Protection	182,852	1,042,610
Spotlight Initiative Samoa	246,400	665,724
UNPRPD Cook Islands	-	100,000
UNPRAC Phase III	32,100	165,850
RBAP Country Office Capacity Building	70,061	-
Youth Employment Programme II Initiation Plan	38,505	-
Samoa Knowledge Society Initiative	365,827	124,465
Subtotal	1,445,606	1,338,928

Projects Contributing to Inclusive Growth	2020	2021
SDG Financing Component 1	8,988	46,539
COVID-19 Preparation & Recovery: Economic Diversification in Productive Sectors in Samoa	-	344,142
Sub-regional SDGs Localization	24,803	-
Capacity Support for Enhanced Development Effectiveness	24,495	-
Subtotal	58,286	390,682
Grand Total	14,460,835	9,645,193



United Nations Development Programme

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