

FAST FACTS

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MDGs Acceleration Framework

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Acceleration Framework (MAF) provides a systematic way for countries to develop their own action plan to pursue their MDG priorities, based on existing plans and processes.

It also helps governments to focus on disparities and inequalities, two of the major causes of uneven progress towards achieving the MDGs, by particularly responding to the needs of the vulnerable.

The MAF is expected to build upon existing country knowledge and experiences, as well as policy and planning processes, and to help the development of country-level partnerships, with mutual accountability of all partners, towards the efforts needed to reach the MDGs by 2015.

Following the demand from countries, UNDP, in collaboration with the UN System organizations in the Pacific region, has been supporting the development of MDG accelerated Action Plans in Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

MDG ACCELERATION FRAMEWORK

Tonga

- Total allocated resources: US\$140,000
- Implementing Agencies: Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Tuvalu

- Implementing Agencies: Ministry of Education.

Vanuatu

- Total allocated resources: US\$360,000
- Implementing Agencies: Office of the Prime Minister, Ministry of Health.



Tongans working to fight NCDs. Every day people fill the national stadium for an afternoon of exercise. Credit: Sheryl Ho/UNDP.



A short play on good versus bad food being performed at the launch of the national days for the MDGs and NCDs in Tonga in 2012. Credit: Sheryl Ho/UNDP.



Tonga: Reduce the prevalence and incidence of non-communicable diseases

Tonga's latest MDG report 2010 noted the country's steady progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals indicators. Despite this, the report recognized the extremely high incidence of non-communicable diseases, such as obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular diseases, as the pressing and alarming issue in Tonga.

The Government of Tonga has chosen to address the MDG target 6.C, particularly focusing on reducing the incidence of non-communicable diseases through:

1. Increasing local food supply for affordable nutritious food options;
2. Creating income-generating opportunities for vulnerable groups for more healthy diet and lifestyle;
3. Providing curative health-services and improving risk factor screening;
4. Reviewing legislation and policies related to alcohol, tobacco, food and physical activity; and
5. Advocating for healthy lifestyles.



Tuvalu: Improve Quality Primary Education

Tuvalu has made significant progress in education over the past decade and with the MAF, is likely to be able to achieve the MDG 2: all children will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling. To achieve the target, Tuvalu has identified the gaps in a low passing rate of the National Year Eight Examination.



Tuvalu is focusing on primary education as their Acceleration Framework Plan. Credit: UNICEF Pacific.

Addressing the identified bottlenecks to achieve the target, Tuvalu has set out the four areas to improve:

1. Teacher professional standards;
2. Implementation of outcome-based curriculum;
3. Literacy and numeracy proficiency; and
4. Institutional capacity of the Ministry of Education



Vanuatu: Improve Reproductive Health

The government of Vanuatu has chosen to focus on improving reproductive health (MDG 5.B) with emphasis on reducing the adolescent birth rate (MDG Indicator 5.4), especially in rural areas, and reducing the unmet need for family planning (MDG Indicator 5.6).



Priority for Vanuatu is improving reproductive health. Credit: UNICEF Pacific.

The latest Vanuatu MDG report that was released in 2010 found a high adolescent birth rate compared to the Pacific region and the rest of the developing regions as well as a lack of access to family planning in certain areas. Vanuatu aims to achieve the target through:

1. Strengthening and improving delivery of quality family planning services;
2. Establishing school-based family life education; and
3. Increasing access and use of youth friendly space.

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