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UNDP Fiji Multi-country Office 2007 Annual Report

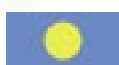
Northern Mariana
Islands



Republic of Marshall Islands

Guam

Palau



Federated States of
Micronesia



Nauru



Kiribati
Gilbert
Islands

Kiribati
Phoenix
Islands

Kiribati
Line
Islands

Papua
New Guinea



Solomon
Islands



Tuvalu

Tokelau



Vanuatu

Wallis &
Futuna

Samoa

American Samoa

Cook
Islands

Niue

Fiji Islands



Tonga



New Caledonia

Australia

New Zealand

2007

ANNUAL

REPORT



FIJI MULTI-COUNTRY OFFICE

"We will seek to grow our programme to be in line with global resource allocations trends of a 20/80 split between core and non-core, to be reached by 2010.

We will employ a more focused approach to service delivery resulting in the provision of enhanced assistance, detailed analysis, and comprehensive support, and will reflect the commitment to strengthening partnerships."

ACRONYMS

APLF	Asia Pacific Leadership Forum	MPs	Members of Parliament
CDB	Convention on Biological Diversity	NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action
CDL	Container Deposit Legislation	NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy Action Plan
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women	NICE	National Initiative on Civic Education
CROP	Council of Regional Organizations	NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
CSFT	Civil Society Forum of Tonga	NZAID	New Zealand Agency for International Development
CSO	Civil Society Organization	PGSP	Provincial Government Strengthening Project
EPR	Extended Producer Responsibility	PIC	Pacific Island Country
EU	European Union	RMI	Republic of Marshall Islands
FSM	Federated States of Micronesia	UNCBD	United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity
GEF	Global Environment Facility	UNCDF	United Nations Capital Development Fund
HIV/AIDS	Human Immuno Deficiency Virus/Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome.	UNDEF	United Nations Democracy Fund
ICT	Information & Communications Technology	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development	UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
ILO	International Labor Organization	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
IWRM	Intergrated Water Resources Management	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
LDC	Least Developed Countries	UNV	United Nations Volunteers
MCO	Multi Country Office	USP	University of the South Pacific
MDG	Millennium Development Goal	V4D	Volunteerism for Development
		WTO	World Trade Organization
		WMO	World Meteorological Organization

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UNDP

1. FOREWORD



Mr Richard Dictus,
UNDP Resident Representative

2007 was the year of many challenges and opportunities for UNDP in the Pacific. We have scaled up our support to the Pacific through policy advice and capacity building of national counterparts in such key areas as poverty reduction, attainment of the Millennium Development Goals, democratic governance and human rights, environment and climate change.

Whether its work on MDG-based policies and national reports in Kiribati and Tuvalu; financial literacy training in the rural communities of Vanuatu; strengthening democratic institutions in Fiji, Marshall Islands and Nauru; or post-tsunami recovery

efforts in the Solomon Islands – UNDP's programmes are always developed in partnership with stakeholders and consistently enjoy strong national ownership. Our activities are geared towards immediate tangible results – such as our efforts at the grassroots level and many others – be it policy frameworks assessments to tackle climate change or strengthening parliamentary services – also bring about long-term capacity development. Just as in the years before, we consider strong national ownership and donor partnerships to be key prerequisites for leveraging UNDP's global and regional expertise in order to produce sustainable development results on the ground.

The establishment of joint UN offices throughout the Pacific is an unprecedented effort that will boost UN's consolidated support to improving the lives of remote communities. Never before have so many UN agencies pulled together to "deliver as one" across so many countries.

In strengthening UNDP's operational presence in the Pacific, a key highlight of the year was opening of the fully-fledged Sub-office in Solomon Islands. Looking forward, in partnership with other UN agencies we are planning to further expand the network of joint presences in the region. The establishment of joint UN offices throughout the Pacific is an unprecedented effort that will boost UN's consolidated support to improving the lives of remote communities. Never before have so many UN agencies pulled together to "deliver as one" across so many countries. In the last year, these efforts have been coupled with strong management results as our total programme delivery exceeded US\$ 10 million mark, with additional US\$ 8 million in the form of operational support to other UN(DP) organizations in the Pacific.

UNDP is proud of its accomplishments in the Pacific in 2007. But many more results can be achieved in the years to come if we are to move the Pacific forward in addressing its development priorities. We are grateful for your trust and confidence in the United Nations Development Programme and look forward to partnering with you in future.

Mr Richard Dictus,
UNDP Resident Representative

2. OVERVIEW: UNDP'S KEY PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

The UNDP Multi-country programme for Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu, is an overarching strategy tool governing programme activities of UNDP Fiji Multi-country office. The Multi-country programme for 2008-2012 was developed under the auspices of United Nations Development Assistance Framework in the Pacific, and approved by UNDP Executive Board. Key programmatic priorities and results are aligned as follows:

Multi-country Programme Outcome Area 1: Poverty Reduction and Millennium Development Goals

1.1	Pacific Island countries' national policies and sustainable development strategies that are aligned with MDGs, linked to national budgets and based on strengthened national statistical systems focusing on poverty indicators
1.2	Trade mechanisms, private sector partnerships and employment generation policies are sustainable and equitable
1.3	National policies and plans for HIV and AIDS are evidence-based and inclusive

Multi-country Programme Outcome Area 2: Good Governance and Human Right

2.1	Pacific Island countries demonstrate and uphold the Forum Principles of Good Leadership and Accountability, protect human rights, and make available mechanisms to claim them
2.2	Decentralization of governance and participatory decision making are enhanced

Multi-country Programme Outcome Area 3: Crisis Prevention and Recovery

3.1	Disaster risk management and management of responses to humanitarian crises are effective and integrated into all forms of development
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Multi-country Programme Outcome Area 4: Environment and Sustainable Management

4.1	Environmental sustainability mainstreamed into regional and national policies and planning frameworks
4.2	Pacific communities effectively manage, and sustainably use their environment and natural resources

3. POVERTY REDUCTION & MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS



UNDP's poverty reduction programmes in the Pacific are oriented towards assisting PICs strengthen their capacities for designing and implementing strategies to achieve equitable growth and human development. Through services such as policy analysis, costing and capacity assessments and support to increase institutional capacities, UNDP assists countries to put in place national MDG-based policies, targeted actions and resource frameworks.

To this effect, in 2007 UNDP supported publication of national MDG reports in the Solomon Islands and Tuvalu. These reports are helping to inform evidence-based policy choices in those countries. Ongoing work on national MDG reporting in Kiribati, Marshall Islands and Palau, as well as the recently finalized Social Development Policy and Corporate Plan in Tuvalu, should help to further strengthen national planning and poverty reduction strategies across the Pacific. Looking forward, MDG-based planning and budgeting efforts would be underpinned by enhanced national aid management systems in the Solomon Islands, Kiribati and Tuvalu, where we have already identified partnership opportunities.

'Upstream' policy advice and technical assistance by UNDP were complemented in 2007 by a renewed focus on financial sector assessments in a number of countries considering ways to develop financial literacy at the community level, and improve access to financial services for the poor. The assessments have been conducted in partnership with UNDP Pacific Centre and UNCDF in Vanuatu and Solomon Islands, and in Kiribati and Tuvalu. In the Marshall Islands, capacity development at the communities level is undertaken through support to local handicraft marketing strategies.

Throughout the year in review, UNDP increased its commitment to facilitating inclusive globalization. In Vanuatu and the Solomons. We partnered with other international organizations (including UNCTAD, WTO and the World Bank) to promote the Integrated Framework for trade and pro-poor policy. This seeks to support the countries' integration into regional and global markets through the removal of supply-side constraints to their international competitiveness, improvements to international and regional trade policy, and trade capacity building.

In the area of HIV/AIDS, the last in a series of four regional Leadership workshops for Pacific island countries was completed. There was participation from 13 government and CSO representatives, including the media, academia, UN agencies, religious organizations and trade unions thus strengthening the actors' capacity to design and implement national and regional strategies to tackle HIV/AIDS.

Box: National MDG Reports

UNDP has been helping PICs to prepare national reports that seek to mobilize for the MDGs through advocacy, and measure progress towards their attainment. In 2007, UNDP supported finalization and publication of national MDG reports in the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. In both instances, the emphasis was on national ownership as well as accurate benchmarking of progress. Reports were prepared in close collaboration with the governments concerned. The national MDG report for the Marshall Islands has also been finalized. Publication is awaiting final consultations with national stakeholders, including the government and civil society groups. Similar work is ongoing in Kiribati and Palau. It is hoped that national MDG reports will lead to better policy analysis, a sharper focus on priorities, clearer target-setting and, ultimately, improved national economic and social policies.

4. DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

UNDP's strategy in promoting Democratic Governance is geared towards assisting PICs to strengthen their governance institutions and mechanisms to enable more equitable distribution of public resources. Leveraging programming design, oversight, monitoring and evaluation, and using the Human Rights Based Approach to Programming, UNDP's Governance programme portfolio includes activities for parliamentary strengthening, civic education, local governance, and conflict prevention and recovery.

For parliamentary strengthening, our 2007 programmes focused on national capacity development with a view to effective parliamentary services and administration, to allow parliaments to more effectively perform their constitutional roles of oversight, legislation and representation. Among the year's high points were external evaluation of existing (first-generation) parliamentary support programmes in Fiji, Solomon Islands and RMI, feasibility assessment of the second phase programmatic engagements with respective legislatures, and preparatory assistance projects in Kiribati and Nauru. The latter also included orientation workshops for members of newly elected parliaments in those countries.

Enhanced participation and capacity of Island communities in the formulation and implementation of economic and social programmes was the intended outcome of UNDP's work in local governance. To this end, in 2007 in the Solomon Islands, policy-making and resource management capacities were enhanced through organizational restructuring of the Ministry for Provincial Government and Institutional Strengthening, and the establishment of basic data management systems. In Kiribati and Tuvalu, the local governance projects achieved significant progress in enabling better service provision at community level. Leadership training in both countries strengthened the framework for planning of financial and administrative services.



While continuing to strengthen governance institutions at national and sub-national levels, UNDP remains committed to increasing the capacity of CSOs in monitoring and advocacy, and empowering local organizations to articulate community rights and influence policy-making. Through our programmes in Tonga, civil society organizations provided small grants to support MDG-related initiatives, and local district workshops were held as a means of integrating civic education into the school curriculum. A civic education campaign is being launched in Fiji in a collaborative effort between international development partners facilitated by UNDP.

Finally, a new programme in conflict prevention and recovery has been launched in the Solomon Islands. It encapsulates the capacity development needs of the Ministry of National Unity, Peace and Reconciliation, while new opportunities for joint programming on Youth have been identified.

Box: NICE Project in Fiji

People in Fiji will become better informed about how they can contribute to building a better nation, thanks to the National Initiative on Civic Education (NICE) project. The three-year project is a joint partnership between the national authorities of Fiji, NZAID and the European Commission. It is facilitated by UNDP. Its purpose is to advance civic rights awareness and information on national governance, and civic responsibilities building, and participation in national governance through municipality and national elections in Fiji. Specific activities initiated in 2007 included: establishment of a national network of civic education interest groups and individuals, and development and communication of civic education and voter education messages. NICE will also encourage participation by the various communities in the country's democratic systems, institutions and processes.

5. ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT



Protection and regeneration of the global environment and natural resources asset base for sustainable human development is one of the major goals of UNDP's assistance in the Pacific. Where countries cannot work alone in addressing environmental issues such as climate change and land degradation, we assist them through sharing best practices, providing innovative policy advice, and linking partners through projects.

To this end, throughout 2007 the UNDP Fiji MCO helped Pacific Island Countries formulate integrated approaches that improve resource management and foster strategic partnerships in environmental protection and environmental governance. Intergovernmental environment agreements and policies are translated into action at the national and community levels.

We have worked with 10 PICs in strengthening legal and institutional frameworks for sustainable development and addressing gaps in environmental legislation. In partnership with the Global Environment Facility (GEF), UNDP assisted these countries with assessing the current state of their environment (in relation to climate change adaptation, mitigation, biodiversity conservation, sustainable land management), and implementing agreed strategies from such assessments, identifying national capacities to manage natural resources, and developing capacity to meet obligations to multilateral environment agreements.

Effective water governance considerations were also incorporated into national sustainable development frameworks. Efficient and equitable water resources management and water supply and sanitation service delivery increased in PICs. The regional mechanism for implementation of the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) project was agreed to by national and regional partners (governments, CROP agencies and UNEP).

Replicating best practices previously established in Kiribati, UNDP has extended funding for Solid Waste Management programmes from Kosrae to other states of the FSM. The approach is to establish a Container Deposit Legislation (CDL), which incorporates the principles of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and Product Stewardship, where leverage occurs from capturing high value of recovery of most of resource component through assigning monetary value using a deposit system. New programmes using this approach were also conceptualized for Vanuatu, Fiji and RMI.

In sustainable energy services, efforts increased towards enabling access to electricity, environmentally sustainable transportation, and cleaner/affordable fuels at both national and community levels. In line with national development priorities, new sustainable energy projects were conceptualized for Kiribati, Vanuatu, Tuvalu, Fiji and Tonga.

Box: Post-tsunami assistance in the Solomon Islands

On 2 April 2007 a massive earthquake and subsequent tsunami devastated western parts of the Solomon Islands. UNDP was among the first international development partners on the ground to assist the Government undertake the coordinating role for recovery activities, and enhance two-way communication between national and provincial authorities. Our multi-faceted post-tsunami assistance included: developing a Recovery Action Plan, providing assistance with the establishment of national and provincial (Choiseul and Western) coordination councils, technical advice, support to the collection and collation of damage assessment data, coordination of the overall UN response, and support for transparent monitoring and reporting systems. Improving resilience to extreme events, such as natural disaster, is vital, and UNDP continues to assist the Government of the Solomons Islands with its disaster risk management activities. various communities in the country's democratic systems, institutions and processes.



UNDP's focus in FSM is on facilitating processes and providing technical advisory services that improve small business development and trade in products from local micro-enterprises in order to increase income generation and sustainable livelihoods development. UNDP also provides support to enable FSM to meet its obligations to global agreements, and integrate these in national development planning and policy.

2007 activities included a Sub regional MDG workshop organized by UNDP Pacific Centre in Pohnpei, as well as a local poverty initiative with a microfinance component. The latter resulted in expanded opportunities for income generation and livelihoods for the disadvantaged. With regard to the Environment, UNDP's Solid Waste Management project facilitated collection of over 1.5 million cans in the state in the first months of 2007.





As with other development partners, UNDP supports Fiji's earliest return to representative democracy. A major project undertaken last year was the National Initiative on Civic Education (NICE). This is being implemented over three years by UNDP in conjunction with NZAID and the European Union. It complements the In-schools civic education project implemented by the Ministry of Education and UNDP with funding support from NZAID. Both programmes aim to facilitate civic rights awareness and information on national governance, civic responsibility building and participation in national governance.

Other ongoing projects in Fiji focused on Improving the Management of Solid Waste, a concept for recycling PET bottles and aluminum cans through the development of a Container Deposit Legislation (CDL). UNDP carried out validation and needs assessment mapping, gaps identification, donor roundtable and resource confirmation, demonstration site identification, stakeholder mapping and planning workshops for identified focus groups.

On the Environment, UNDP also worked closely with bottle companies such as Natural Waters of Viti Ltd (FIJI Water) and Coca Cola Amatil Limited in implementing the activities of source company deposit legislation and social responsibility policy where a recycling and management framework was established and adopted by the consumer community.



UNDP's project on Strengthening Decentralized Governance achieved significant progress in enabling better service provision at the community level and 'MDG profiling' of outer islands. This will contribute to further strengthening national counterpart capacities for effective service provision. In furtherance of Democratic Governance, an orientation workshop was conducted for Members of Parliament following last year's elections to help them better understand legislative, representative and oversight roles, and various other parliamentary processes and procedures.

As part of MDG-based policy support and capacity development, the UNDP started work on the country's National MDG report and the preparatory assistance project on strengthening aid management systems in Kiribati. Both programmes are meant to provide baseline assessment and systems support to the design and implementation of the country's new National Development Plan effective from 2008.

On the Environment, the country has finalized a National Adaptation Plan for Actions that will help Kiribati respond to the challenges of climate change by identifying key capacity gaps and capacity development strategies. Additional opportunities have also been identified for strengthening national capacities in sustainable land management.



UNDP's flagship project here supports strengthening the capacities of the national legislature (Nitijela). In 2007 the project recorded another successful year of improving effective and efficient parliamentary services, and boosting the legislature's oversight and law-making roles. Following parliamentary elections at year-end, UNDP completed an orientation workshop for the Senators (including newly elected ones) with a view to facilitating public expectations of the legislators' representative, legislative, and oversight roles.

In the Environment sector, UNDP started work on the Laura Integrated Water Resource Management and Development Plan on Majuro Atoll, where the urban capital is located. The plan will ensure connection of all households to community water tanks; implementation of a sewerage monitoring collection and disposal system; and development of solid waste collection.





Since the latter part of 2006, UNDP and the United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF) have established a partnership to support constitutional reform in the country. This resulted in the successful completion of the Constitutional Convention in April. The programme is ongoing and, since mid-2007, has been complemented by activities in support of the national legislature.

Also during the year, the UNDP facilitated two consultancies: the Small Business Incubator Feasibility Study, and the Trust Fund Review, which will be followed up in 2008. Finally in 2007, UNDP and the Government initiated preparatory measures for the establishment of UNDP's first in-country presence in Nauru, scheduled for opening in 2008. The latter will also represent the interests of partner UN agencies (UNFPA and UNICEF).



The programmatic partnership between UNDP and national stakeholders has intensified on two main levels:

- (i) Strengthening national capacities to use MDG-related development indicators for policy design, where final preparations have been put in place for completion of the country's first MDG report; and
- (ii) Enhancing capacities for environmentally sustainable management through multi-stakeholder participation in National Capacity Self-Assessment, Second National Communications and Sustainable Land Management project and partnership proposals.

In 2007 UNDP also commenced preparations for the official opening in 2008 of its first in-country UN presence in Palau.



Last year was historic in the 30-year partnership between Solomon Islands and the United Nations. This was marked by the substantial increase in UN presence in the country, and establishment of the first-ever dedicated UNDP Deputy Resident Representative function to oversee the organization's activities and operations in Honiara. This has added strong momentum to UNDP's programmes in the country.

With regard to Poverty reduction and MDGs, UNDP has continued to provide policy support to the national authorities through publication of the National MDG report in 2007; launch of the Integrated Framework for Trade Facilitation; and preliminary assessment of requirements for effective aid management systems in the country. We have also completed financial sector assessment (in partnership with UNCDF), and assisted with the expansion of public access to the Internet, thereby further empowering people in rural and remote communities.

In Democratic Governance, the UNDP's ongoing project in the national Parliament has met all performance indicators for strengthening parliamentary services and functions, while feasibility of Phase II of the project has been assessed. Furthermore, the UNDP bolstered national policy-making and resource management capacities through organizational restructuring of the Ministry for Provincial Government, and establishment of basic data management systems. Also completed is a basic design for replication of UNDP's pilot project in decentralization in the Isabel Province in a larger-scale Provincial Government Strengthening Project (PGSP).

The key capacity development area for the Environment and Sustainable Management in 2007 was support for post-tsunami recovery and enhanced Disaster Risk Management. In addition, UNDP throughout the year supported to completion important government-led exercises such as the National Capacity Self-Assessment, and National Adaptation Plan of Actions projects. It also assisted with programme design and partnership building in sustainable land management.



UNDP work in Tonga focused on Democratic Governance, Poverty Reduction and Environmental Management.

Continued support in capacity building was provided for the Civil Society Forum of Tonga (CSFT). Civil society organizations made available small grants in support of MDG related initiatives in various communities. Familiarization workshops were held in three local districts to facilitate integration of civic education into the school curriculum.

In relation to the Environment, the Tongan Government approved the National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan (NBSAP) and the Third National Report to the CBD, which were prepared with UNDP's support. The NBSAP identifies strategies and programmes for the conservation of biological diversity.



The principal highlights of UNDP's work in Tuvalu were strengthening of the partnership with Government, and active preparations for the United Nation's first ever in-country presence. This will be established by UNDP in 2008 in partnership with other UN agencies (UNFPA and UNICEF).

In terms of specific programme activities, in the area of Poverty Reduction and MDG alone, the year was marked by such high-profile events as the launch of the National MDG report, and completion of the Tuvalu Social Development Policy & Corporate Plan. This was followed by a preparatory workshop for planners to facilitate MDG-based planning. In addition UNDP, in partnership with UNCDF, completed financial sector assessment that should inform the next series of programme interventions.

UNDP continued institutional strengthening support in local Governance, where our ongoing activities achieved significant progress in enabling better service provision and planning frameworks for financial and administrative services. In 2007 these activities were complemented by assistance to the national legislature (orientation workshop for MPs) and publication of the CEDAW report following consultations with a wide range of national stakeholders.

Finally, in Environment and Sustainable Management, UNDP and the Government partnered successfully in assessing critical requirements for capacity development. Specific policy frameworks finalized in 2007 were: National Capacity Self-Assessment, National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan and National Adaptation Plan of Actions. Strong progress was also recorded in identifying partnerships and co-financing opportunities in sustainable land management.



While there were ongoing projects in Poverty reduction, Governance and Environment in the course of the year, the main new element of UNDP's activities in Vanuatu is the newly launched programme on Integrated Framework for Trade Facilitation. This seeks to enhance benefits from the country's participation in inclusive international trade and globalization.

Among other activities, the UNDP-UNDEF Active Citizenship project commenced its implementation in 2007, with support from Transparency International Vanuatu for civic education workshops in the provinces. To expand access to, and utilization of information and communication technologies by people living in remote areas, UNDP also assisted Vanuatu in preparing national e-strategies to enable increased use of ICT to achieve the MDGs. Meanwhile, the Vanwoods Project (microfinance) is progressing to self-sufficiency, and its potential role for expanding financial literacy in rural Vanuatu is being studied.

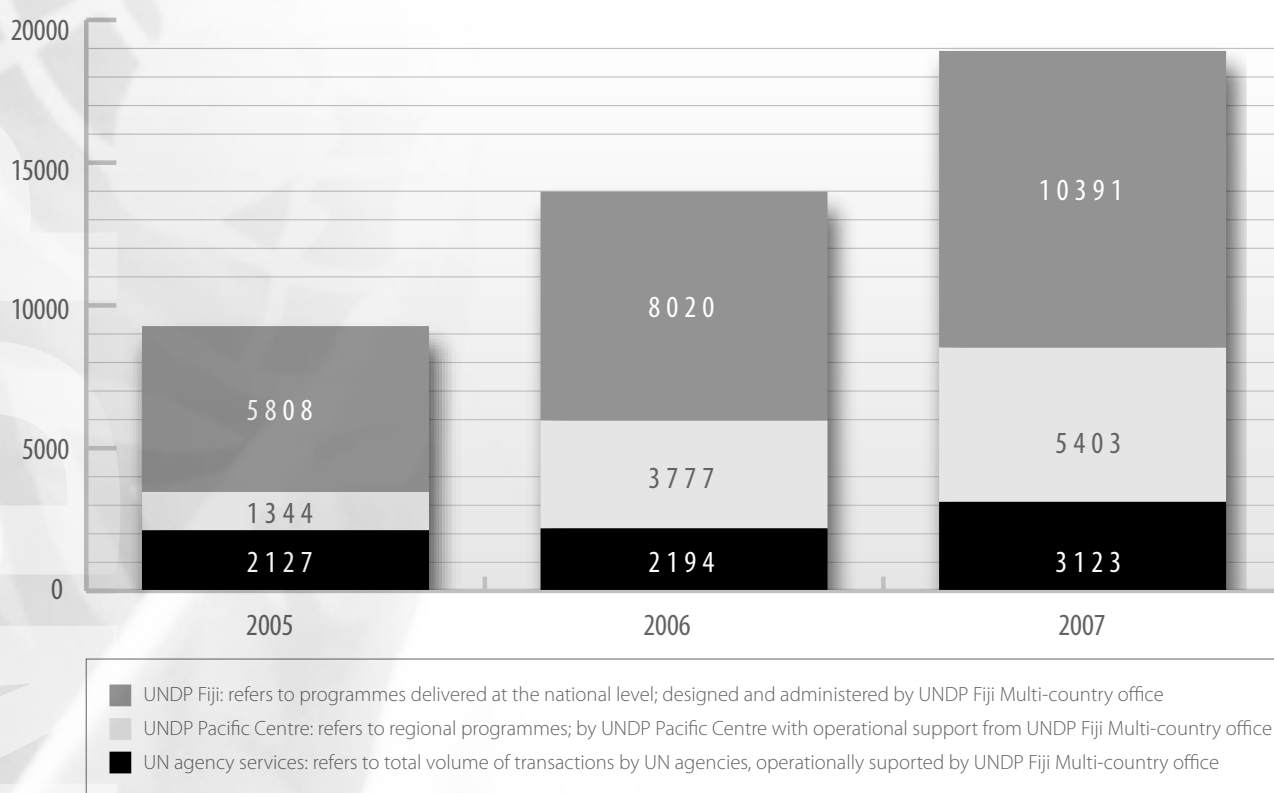
With regard to the Environment, UNDP increased application of temporary tabus in coastal, marine and terrestrial environments in several communities in Vanuatu. Inter-village committees have been established and indigenous peoples are involved in every aspect of the project.

7. MANAGEMENT RESULTS

In 2007 UNDP Fiji Multi-country office carried on successful business re-engineering, initiated in 2005-2006, to further increase operational efficiency and streamline internal processes, while simultaneously improving business transparency and accountability for results. Managerial focus on, and investments in the operational infrastructure have allowed MCO to effectively absorb 36% volume increase in 2007 alone (or two-fold increase from 2005), maintaining quality standards of work.

Today we are one of the most efficient field operations of a multilateral agency, with operational presence in two countries (Fiji and Solomon Islands) and active project portfolio across all 10 PICs. Furthermore, MCO's main operations also provide financial and administrative support to the UNDP Pacific Centre, as well as to a number of Fiji-based UN agencies. Such strong business capability serves as an effective platform for further expansion of UNDP's presence in other PICs where it is envisaged that MCO's smaller satellite offices will serve as Joint presences, combining interests of UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF¹.

UNDP Programme Delivery and Agency Services, 2005-2007 (in USD thousands)



¹ In addition to UNDP's Sub-office in Solomon Islands, which facilitates joint UNDP-UNFPA-UNICEF presence in the country, UNDO-led joint UN presences will be opened in 2008 in Nauru, Palau and Tuvalu.

Further to overall strengthening of programme delivery infrastructure in the Pacific, the list of specific management results in 2007 that will be leveraged in the years to come includes:

- Operational support to government implementing agencies in PICs, including, training and capacity building on procurement and financial services, as well as facilitation of annual audits;
- Continued provision of agency services to UN organizations directly serviced by UNDP, as well as harmonization of common services with all other UN agencies based in the Pacific;
- Introduction of service standards in the form of Management Service Agreements and codification of internal business processes ('desktop procedures' and internal control frameworks);
- Further improvement of gender balance in MCO human resources, with the ratio of women in professional positions increasing to 57 per cent.

Internally in UNDP, the Fiji Multi-country office is ranked among the best performers in the Asia Pacific region and globally, in terms of inter-office knowledge sharing, and in the attainment of learning results.

8. UNV IN THE PACIFIC



The UNV Programme facilitated the 2007 International Volunteers Day (IVD) events in Suva City on 5 December. Up to 22 volunteer-involving organizations participated, and over 1,000 people marched through downtown Suva. The theme for 2007 IVD was *'Volunteers Make Things Happen'*. UNV Fiji produced an IVD Media Kit and DVD, and two brochures promoting V4D and the UNV Programme in the Pacific.

UNV Volunteer Assignments: During 2007, 15 International UNV Volunteers and 3 National UNV Volunteers served in countries covered by the MCO. Four UNV assignments were fully funded from Korea and Japan, eight were funded under UNDP projects at the national level, and two by the UNDP Pacific Centre. Assignments were spread across Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Nauru, Republic of Marshall Islands, and Kiribati.

Areas served included health, democratic governance, environment, gender, crisis prevention and recovery, administration, and programme management. Currently the UNV Programme has National UNV Schemes in Fiji, Tonga, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands. It is anticipated that Schemes will also be established in Kiribati, Nauru, Palau, Federated States of Micronesia and Republic of Marshall Islands during 2008.



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