

Pacific Heads of Health

Réunion des directeurs de la santé du Pacifique

Implementation of the Pacific NCD Roadmap: Progress, challenges, and future directions

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The Solomon Islands

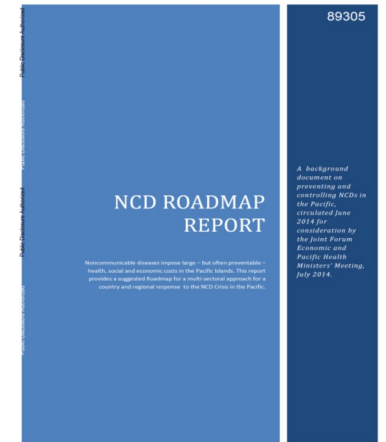
On behalf of Pacific island countries and territories



Current situation

- Pacific continues to face NCD crisis and impact on health, social and economic development.
- Premature mortality and disability increase cost, lost workforce and productivity.
- MANA Dashboard has been used since 2018, to monitor progress on Pacific NCD Roadmap implementation and prioritise national actions.
- Pacific Legislative Framework for NCDs endorsed by PHMM in 2022 to scale up the Roadmap actions.
- Despite some progress, actions have been slow!

75% NCD Mortality in the Pacific



MANA Dashboard

Rating	Description
 	Not present
 	Under development
 	Present
Strength of action/implementation	
★	Low
★★	Medium
★★★	High



The future we want to see



'Healthy Island Vision/Pacific Leaders 2050 Vision/SDGs'

'Pacific people live long, healthy, resilient and productive lives'

To reduce premature mortality from NCDs by one third by 2030

'Scaled up NCD Roadmap Action in a 'whole of government and whole of society'

No single intervention
can halt or reverse the
NCD crisis

Governance

Policy/legislation

Accountability

Capacity/skills

Active
collaboration

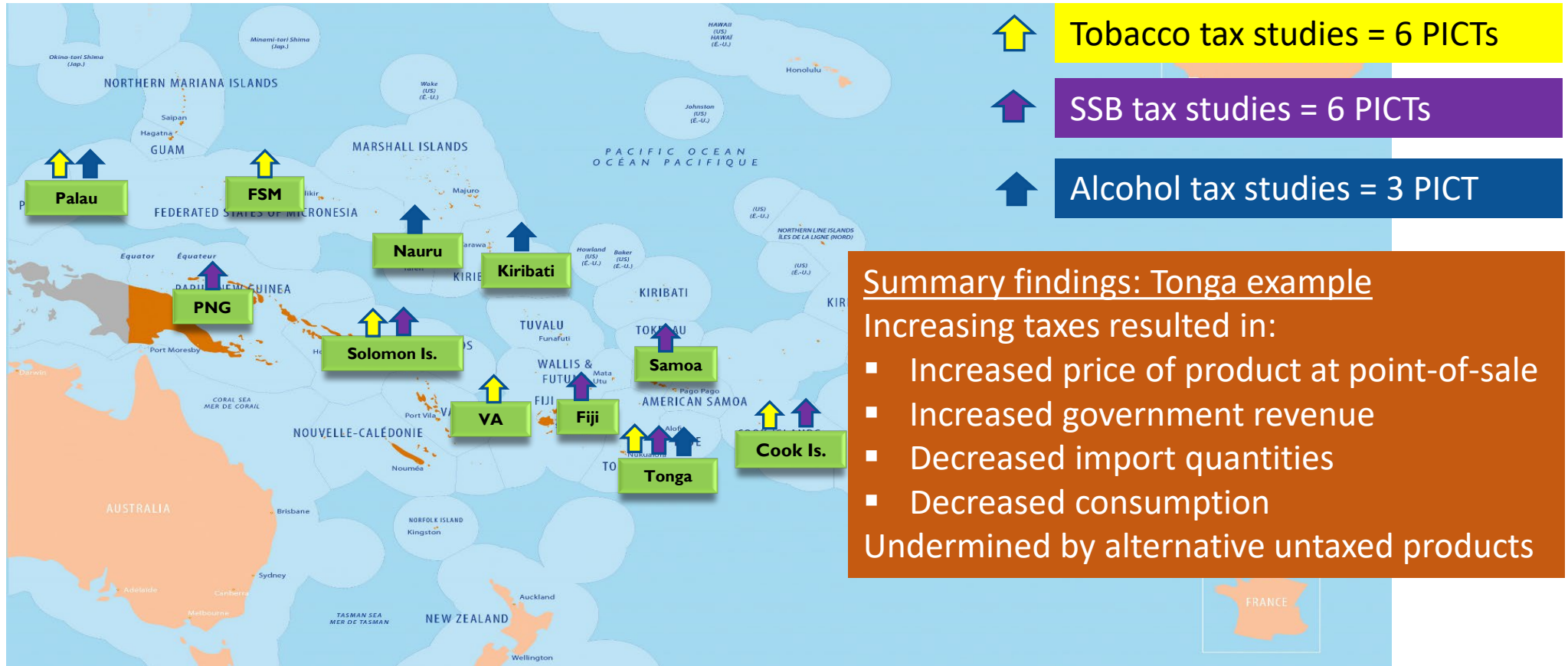
Innovation

Regional progress example: Unhealthy foods and drinks

	American Samoa	CNMI	Cook Islands	FSM	Fiji	FP	Guam	Kiribati	Nauru	Niue	New Caledonia	Palau	PNG	RMI	Samoa	Solomon Islands	Tokelau	Tonga	Tuvalu	Vanuatu	W&F	Total PICTs 2018	Total PICTs 2019-20	Total PICTs 2021-22
F1. Reducing salt consumption	Red	Green	Green☆☆	Green☆☆	Green	Green☆	Green☆	Green☆☆☆☆	Green☆	Green☆	Green☆☆	Green☆	Green	Green☆☆☆☆	Green☆☆☆☆	Green☆	Yellow	Green☆	Green☆	Green	Green	15	16	18
F2. Trans-fats	Red	Green☆	Green☆	Red	Green	Yellow	Red	Red	Yellow	Green	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Green☆☆	Green☆☆	Red	Red	Green☆	Green☆	Red	Red	0	6	8
F3. Unhealthy food marketing to children	Red	Red	Green☆☆☆☆	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Red	Green☆☆☆☆	Red	Green	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Green☆☆	Green☆☆	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	2	5	5
F4. Food fiscal policies	Yellow	Yellow	Green☆	Green	Green☆	Green☆	Red	Green☆☆	Green	Green☆☆	Green☆	Yellow	Yellow	Green☆☆	Green☆☆	Green☆☆	Red	Green☆☆☆☆	Green☆☆	Green☆☆☆☆	Green☆	14	15	15
F5. Healthy food policies in schools	Green☆	Green	Green☆	Red	Green☆	Yellow	Green☆☆	Green☆	Green☆☆	Green☆☆☆☆	Green☆	Green☆☆	Green	Green☆☆☆☆	Green☆☆☆☆	Yellow	Green	Green☆☆☆☆	Yellow	Green	Green	11	14	16
F6. Food-based dietary guidelines	Yellow	Yellow	Green☆☆	Green	Green☆☆	Green☆☆	Green☆☆	Green☆☆	Yellow	Green☆☆	Green☆☆	Green☆☆	Red	Red	Green☆☆	Green☆☆	Yellow	Green☆☆	Green☆☆	Green	Green	13	13	14

Changes/progress in 2021-22

Example: Impact on taxation



Example: Engaging CSOs and Youth to combat NCDs in the Solomon Islands

- ‘Wellness NCD Alliance’, (churches, communities, women association, the media, city council and youth).
- Governance structure, constitution, **roles and responsibilities**, priorities and funding mechanism.
- **Positive outcomes:** improved advocacy, awareness, collaboration, and community participation. E.g.,
 - ✓ Youth actively engaging in NCD efforts through **peer-to-peer education** using **creative arts and media communication skills**.
 - ✓ Improved **knowledge, community participation, advocate for behaviour and policy change**
 - ✓ Strengthened efficiency and effectiveness through **whole of government and society**



Why urgent action is needed now

Disproportionate investment and action:

- Crisis impact on economic development.
- Reduced # of PICTs that have functioning multi-sectoral NCD committee in 2022, to drive NCD plan implementation.
- Investment and actions are still disproportionate given the scale of the problem.

Escalating challenges on NCDs prevention:

- Commercial and environmental determinants continue to increase.
- Implementation and enforcement are still weak in most PICTs.

Emerging issues affecting NCDs management services:

- Natural disasters and other competing priorities continue to be a challenge as resources are being diverted away from the attention of NCDs.
- Cross cutting issues e.g., NCD into MCH, SRH, and CD are not being prioritised

Data gaps:

- Surveys are not scheduled regularly.
- Most data are collected but never reported or reported after long delays that make them challenging to use for planning and decision making for intervention.



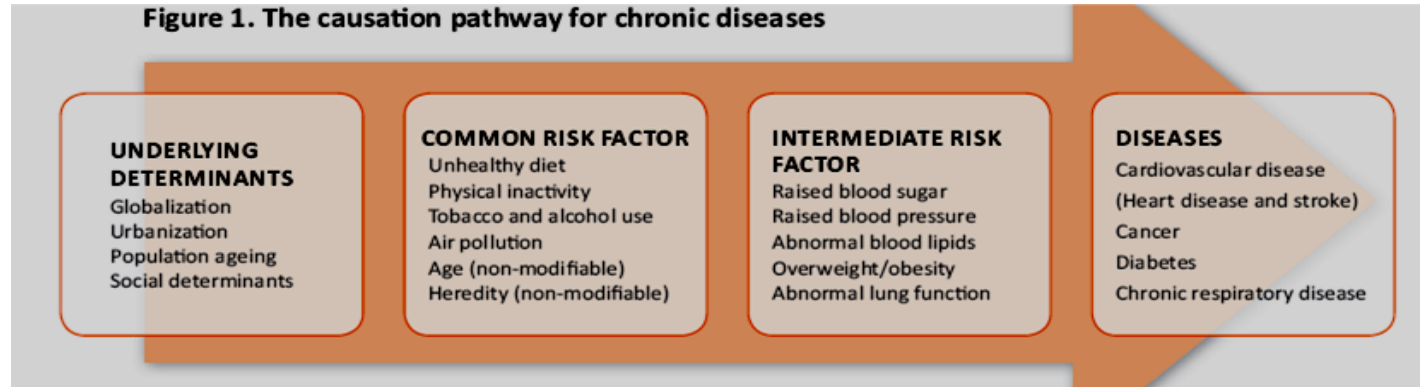
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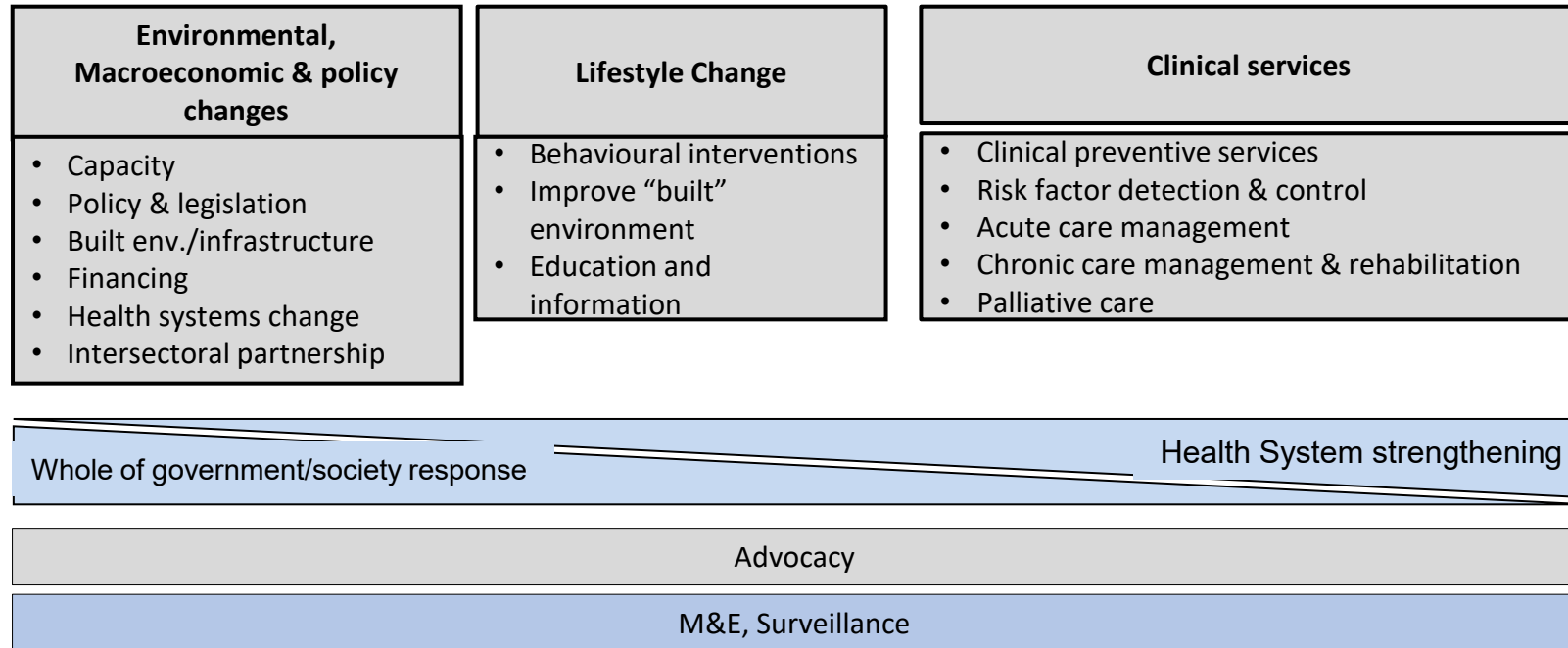
'Whole of Government and Whole of Society'

NCD FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

Figure 1. The causation pathway for chronic diseases



- Multiple factors (inside and beyond the health sector) are driving the rise in NCDs.
- Pacific NCD Roadmap clearly identified recommendations of each sector but require scaling up actions at national level.
- While health sectors can take lead in some aspects, there are many interventions that require collaborative actions with non-health sectors.



Proposed recommendations for governments

Pacific Heads of Health are invited:

To take leadership role in:

1. Governance

- Revitalising **multisectoral national NCD committee** to drive implementation and enhance collaboration with different sectors and stakeholders to address the root causes of NCDs in a holistic ‘whole of government, whole of society and health in all policies approach’.

2. Management services

- Further improving **primary health care services** through investment and building capacity for **early detection and management** of NCDs as well as linking with other **cross-cutting** programs such as MCH, SRH, and infectious diseases.

3. Health promotion

- Ensuring NCD prevention and health promotion **resources are innovative, user-friendly and available** for all target populations for utilisation.

4. Accountability

- Strengthening accountability through monitoring, evaluating, and assessing impact and trends of NCDs **for policy, planning and decision making**.

Proposed recommendations for governments

Pacific Heads of Health are invited:

To collaborate with non-health sectors in:

1. Policies and legislation

- Further strengthening **fiscal policies** through increased tax on unhealthy products particularly tobacco, alcohol, and SSBs to reach the recommended taxation targets, and utilizing tax revenue for health promotion.
- Prioritising and addressing **national and regional gaps on NCD policies and legislation** (*see annex 1*), for example, regulation on marketing of unhealthy products, tobacco industry interference etc., through implementation of the endorsed Pacific NCDs Legislative Framework and other related frameworks.

2. Behaviour change intervention

- Creating **innovative health promotion interventions** using technology and media communication to inspire behaviour change targeting different population groups.

To endorse:

1. MANA indicators

- The proposed **amendments of MANA Dashboard indicators** (*annex 2*) recommended by the PICTs' national NCD focal persons to improve monitoring for policy development, planning and decision making.

Proposed recommendations for development partners

Development partners are invited:

- To **support PICTs** in scaling up actions on NCD prevention through development and implementation of NCD policies and legislation, health promotion for behaviour change, and NCD management services.
- To **advocate for and invest** additional technical and budgetary resources to effectively monitor, evaluate and strengthen accountability mechanism in addressing NCDs at national and regional level.

Thank you!