

Pacific Heads of Nursing & Midwifery Meeting

Réunion des directeurs des soins infirmiers et obstétricaux du Pacifique

REGIONAL NURSING ACTIVITIES & UPDATES

Presented by Sr Silina Waqa, Nursing Adviser, SPC

Overview of Presentation

- Background
- Regional Governance
- Capabilities and Skills
- Policies, guidelines
- Data for decision making
- Challenges
- Way Forward



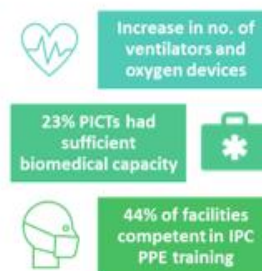
NURSING



IPC



BIOMEDICAL



CRITICAL CARE



DEPLOYMENT



EDUCATION

Country and regional support to date

- Supported 18 out of 22 PICTs

KRAs	ACTIVITIES
KRA1	PICTs owned and led for health Improvement.
KRA2	Capability & skills improved, and action taken
KRA3	Legislation/policy/guidelines implemented and enforced.
KRA4	Innovation, digital & technology in improved effectiveness.
KRA5	Data/stats used for planning and policy making.



Regional Governance

- Facilitating 4th Pacific Heads of Nursing Meeting (PHONM) 2023
- Supported PHONM 2022 meeting
 - Recommendations **EDUCATION, WORKFORCE , LEADERSHIP**
- Regional technical meetings
 - Pacific IPC meeting (PICNet)
 - Pacific Paediatric Association
 - ENT (PENTAG)
 - Oral Health



13th DCS
meeting
2022



3rd
PHONM
meeting
2022



2nd
PICNet
Meeting
2023



5th Pacific
Biomedical
Meeting

Pacific Owned and Led for Health Improvement

- Deployments to address emerging health emergencies and needs:
 - Tuvalu request: 7 nurses deployed to assist nurses in COVID 19, Jan 2023.
 - Vanuatu request: OT nurses to support clinical response team during time of Cyclone Judy and Kevin, April 2023
- Help Desk function ongoing: Requests for assistance include information sharing, technical advice, training, resourcing, advertising & linkages for resource mobilization.



Capabilities and Skills

- Training support in nursing endoscopy, ENT, ophthalmology, paediatrics, and formal training in basic nursing.
- Online Graduate Certificate in Perioperative Nursing (GCPN) for 20 nurses, co-funded with the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS).
- USAID funded America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) project, focusing on COVID-19 Vaccine Response in Fiji, Kiribati, Tonga and Solomon Islands. Support and training for healthcare workers in:
 - Cold chain and vaccine storage
 - Infection prevention and control (IPC)
 - Risk communication and community engagement (RCCE),
 - Data collection and health information system (HIS) reporting



Capabilities and Skills

- The ROC Taiwan funded project on ‘Capacity building in specialized clinical and nursing services for healthcare workers (HCWs) in PICTs’, facilitated through the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS)
 - support in nursing training and sexual and reproductive health.
- IPC - training in PICTs in hand hygiene, surgical site infections (SSIs), and health care associated infections (HAIs).
 - Continued support in development of IPC national guidelines and workplans.
 - Countries supported are Cook Islands, Fiji, Nauru, the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu. This also includes virtual support to 10 countries in the utilisation of an online HAI database.



Legislation, Policies, Guidelines

Vanuatu: Review of

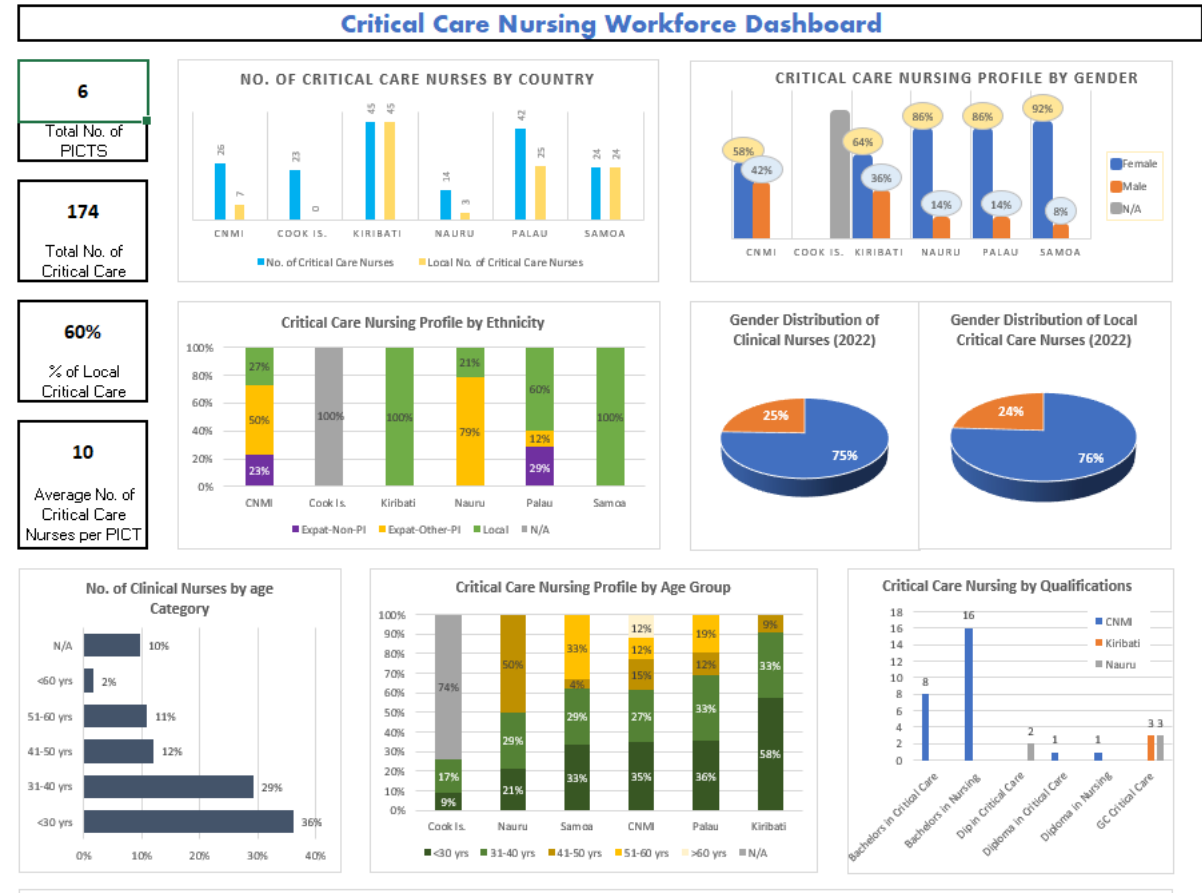
- Nursing strategic framework,
- Nursing Act,

- Organisational Structure for Nursing
- Proposed Nursing Career Pathway



Data for evidence-based planning and policy

- Further data collection on clinical care nursing workforce
- Emphasis on need for country-driven nursing research



Challenges

- Need to strengthen advocacy for nursing leadership.
 - Peer mentoring and formal qualifications to adequately prepare upcoming and potential nurse leaders.
 - Ultimately, formally recognising nursing leadership positions at the national level.
- Continue to progress the development of specialisation pathways in PICTs where applicable (e.g. critical care, intensive care, paediatrics and perioperative).
- Limited support for professional development initiative at country level.
- Limited local investment & recognition to nursing in PICTS.

Recommendations for Government

- Political will for increased investment to nursing including education, workforce, leadership, and research.
- Support PICTs in priority clinical nursing and IPC needs, both regionally and at the national level.
- Ongoing support for workforce strengthening, service delivery and improving quality of clinical, nursing and IPC services.
- Support capacity building and formal education for registered nurses, including strengthening nursing specialisation pathways and ensuring support (such as study time, space, resourcing etc.).

Recommendations for development partners

- Continuous support for nursing education and workforce needs.
- Continuous support for technical and funding assistance to nursing priority areas and needs at both national and regional levels.
- Support to nursing leadership initiatives (training, attachments etc).

Acknowledgment

- Funders – DFAT
- WHO – Technical Assistance
- CNMO in PICTs & Countries in the region
- Project assistance: USAID
- Providers of ongoing education for nurses: ACN and other education providers (FNU)
- The Pacific Community (SPC)

Thank you