

# Governance of the Pacific Vital Statistics Action Plan 2011-2014

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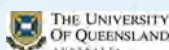


## Development of the Pacific Vital Statistics Action Plan

- In 2010 the HIS Hub at UQ convened a meeting in Brisbane of a number of agencies concerned with improving vital statistics in the Pacific region.
- From this meeting the Brisbane Accord Group (BAG) was established with the aim of
  - providing strategic and technical support to countries around vital statistics improvements,
  - providing a more coordinated response from partner agencies, and
  - to ensure partner agencies' support to SPC, where forthcoming, is compatible with SPC implementation of the Ten Year Pacific Statistics Strategy.
- The Pacific Vital Statistics Action Plan was subsequently developed by this group at their second meeting

## The Brisbane Accord Group (BAG)

- Partners include University of Queensland HIS Hub, SPC, UNFPA, WHO, UNICEF, PHIN, ABS and the Queensland University of Technology.



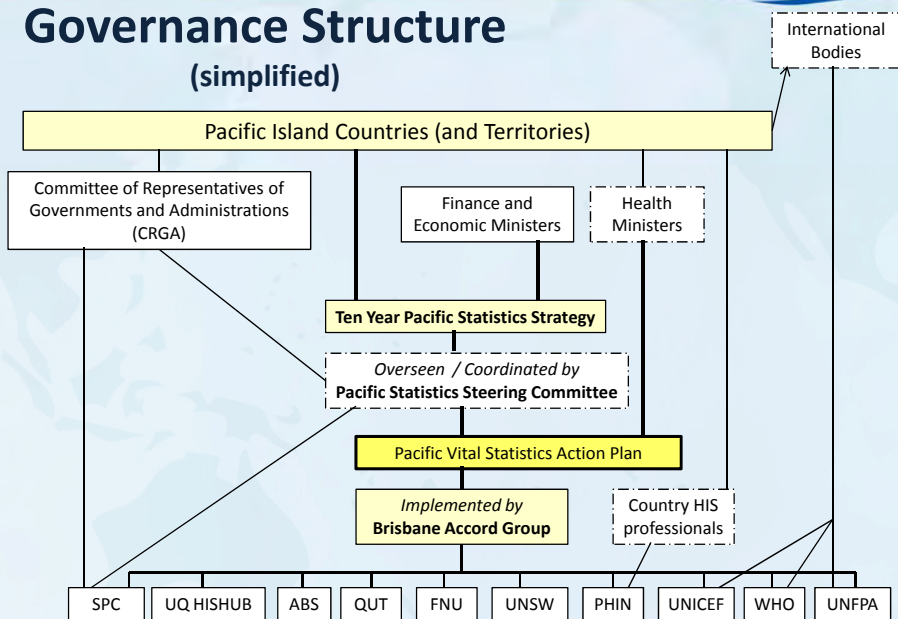
## The Pacific Vital Statistics Action Plan 2011-2014

- The overarching aim of the plan is to assist Pacific countries to improve their statistics on birth, deaths, and cause-of-death through routine collections and thereby provide decision-makers with the evidence needed for effective planning.
- The plan sits under the framework of the Ten Year Pacific Statistics Strategy (TYPSS) 2011-2020.

## The Ten Year Pacific Statistics Strategy (TYPSS)

- The TYPSS has been endorsed by all PICT statistical agencies as well as both SPC's 40th CRGA meeting and subsequent Ministerial conference, and Pacific Islands Forum Secretariats' Finance and Economic Ministers Meeting (FEMM) in October 2010.
- Coordination and oversight of the implementation of the Strategy is the responsibility of SPC and the Pacific Statistics Steering Committee (PSSC)
- PSSC is comprised of six Pacific Island government statisticians and four representatives from financial and technical partners (AusAID, ADB, UNFPA and University of the South Pacific (USP)).

## Governance Structure (simplified)





## **The Pacific Vital Statistics Action Plan 2011-2014**

- The plan is:
  - IMPLEMENTED by both COUNTRIES and BAG AGENCIES
  - SUPPORTED (with financial and Technical assistance) by ALL BAG agencies
  - SPC and UQ HIS Hub act as the focal point
- The process:
  - Support countries to develop plans based on a systematic assessment
  - Provide TA and support to assist countries to meet the goals and targets in their plans



## **Governance Strengths**

- A clear structure that links the plan directly back to countries (and a broader range of interested agencies through the PSCC)
- Mandate for engagement and relationships at multi levels of country systems
- Regular mechanisms for review (within BAG and with countries)
- All partners bring both technical skills and regional knowledge to the table
- Commitment by partner agencies to a set of guiding principles in the implementation of the plan.



## Principles of the BAG Group

The following principles have been established by the BAG partners in relation to the operation of the plan and BAG activities under this arrangement.

- The **scope** of BAG activities is limited to **births, deaths and cause-of-death**.
- **Technical assistance** by partner agencies related to improving vital statistics in the Pacific **will be coordinated** through BAG.
- **Technical assistance** to countries **should be requested by the countries themselves** through country planning processes
- A coordinated approach to Technical assistance is essential to make the most out of the available resources, and **assistance provided in one area should not be to the detriment of others** – a coordinated approach is essential.



## Principles of the BAG Group

- **Progress** with the initiative **needs to be reported regularly** to regional governance structures, such as the six monthly Pacific Statistics Steering Committee which oversees the implementation of the Ten Year Pacific Statistics strategy, as well as the biannual Pacific Health Ministers' meeting.

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