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WHO in the Pacific 2014–2015



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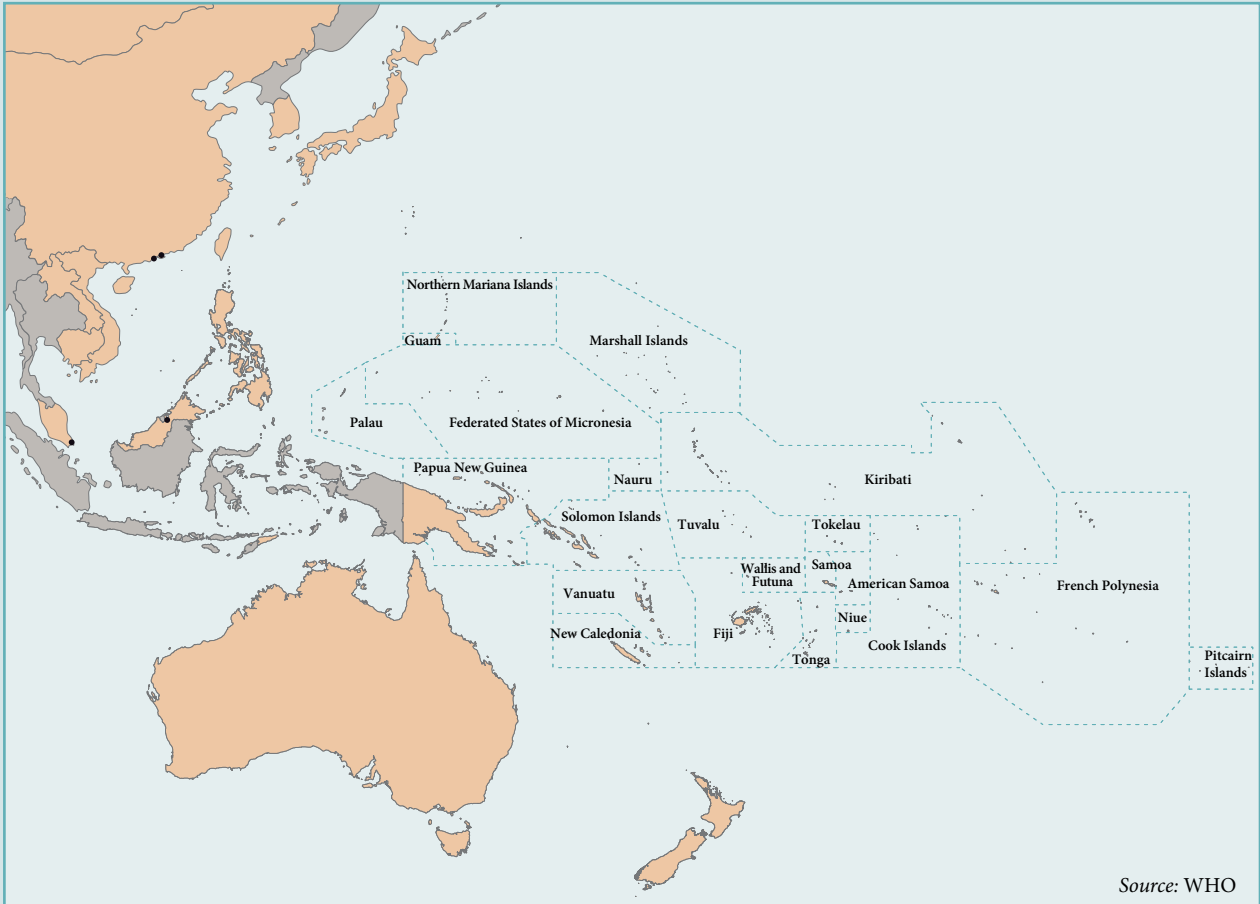
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Pacific island countries and areas



Abbreviations

C-POND	Pacific Research Centre for the Prevention of Obesity and NCDs
COP21	21st Conference of Parties
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Australian Government)
DPS	Division of Pacific Technical Support
DRM-H	disaster risk management for health
ERP	expert review panel
EVM	effective vaccine management
FJN+	Fiji Network for People Living with HIV
FNU	Fiji National University
GEF	Global Environment Facility
Global Fund	The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
GSHS	Global School-based Student Health Survey
GYTS	Global Youth Tobacco Survey
IHR	International Health Regulations (2005)
IPV	inactivated polio vaccine
MANA	Pacific Monitoring Alliance for NCD Action
MDR-TB	multidrug-resistant tuberculosis
mhGAP	Mental Health Gap Action Programme
NCDs	noncommunicable diseases
NPEHA	Northern Pacific Environmental Health Association
PacELF	Pacific Programme to Eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis
PEN	Package of Essential NCD Interventions for Primary Health Care in Low-Resource Settings
PIHOA	Pacific Island Health Officers' Association
PIMHnet	Pacific Islands Mental Health Network
POLHN	Pacific Open Learning Health Net
PSSS	Pacific Syndromic Surveillance System
RMNCAH	reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SIA	supplementary immunization activity
SIDS	small island developing states
SPC	the Pacific Community
STEPS	STEPwise approach to NCD risk factor surveillance
STI	sexually transmitted infection
TB	tuberculosis
UHC	Joint health coverage
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
US CDC	United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
WISN	workload indicators of staffing need
WHO	World Health Organization
WSP	water safety plan

Foreword

The health of Pacific islanders has improved in recent decades, with both child survival and life expectancy increasing overall. However, the increasing burden of noncommunicable diseases, the high prevalence of communicable diseases and the harmful impact of climate change are taking a growing toll on the health and economies of the Pacific.

Improving health outcomes in Pacific island countries and areas has been a priority for me as the Regional Director for the Western Pacific. Unique health challenges coupled with the demographics of the Pacific – 3 million people spread across vast expanses of ocean – mean that WHO must tailor its support for the health and well-being of Pacific islanders.

We embarked on a plan to restructure the way WHO works in the Pacific by establishing the Division of Pacific Technical Support (DPS) in 2010. The division facilitates WHO's three levels of support – headquarters, regional and country – across priority technical programmes to 21 Pacific island countries and areas.*

Innovations and new ways of working have been crucial in responding to the specific health needs and challenges in the Pacific. This report shares achievements from 2014 and 2015, with a view towards continuing the WHO reform process to serve Pacific island countries and areas even better in the future.



Shin Young-soo, MD, Ph.D.
Regional Director for the Western Pacific
World Health Organization

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