



The first 20 years of the  
journey towards the vision of  
**Healthy Islands in the Pacific**





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# Abbreviations

EPI	Expanded Programme on Immunization
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GDP	gross domestic product
HOH	Heads of Health of Pacific countries
NCD	noncommunicable disease
MCH	maternal and child health
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
PIHOA	Pacific Island Health Officers' Association
PHMM	Pacific Health Ministers Meeting
PHC	primary health care
PICs	Pacific island countries and areas
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
STEPS	STEPwise Approach to Surveillance
UHC	universal health coverage
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAPI	United States Affiliated Pacific Islands
WHO	World Health Organization

## Executive summary

**Twenty years ago in Fiji, the Pacific health ministers declared their vision of Healthy Islands in the *Yanuca Island Declaration*. They envisioned Healthy Islands where:**

- children are nurtured in body and mind,
- environments invite learning and leisure,
- people work and age with dignity,
- ecological balance is a source of pride, and
- the ocean which sustains us is protected.<sup>a</sup>

This report reviews progress towards that vision and the effort to craft a way forward.

### ► The role of Healthy Islands

Healthy Islands has remained an inspirational vision for health ministers and senior officials across the Pacific. Some countries have applied the Healthy Islands vision to their health policies and have reported great success in settings such as villages and schools. However, there have been difficulties in bringing the approach to scale across the Pacific. Healthy Islands has played a significant role in energizing the approach to noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) by supporting

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