INDEPENDENT SUBREGIONAL PROGRAMME EVALUATION

Pacific: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu

EVALUATION PERIOD: 2018-2022

COUNTRY PROFILE

Population
2.5 million people (2020)

Population growth
89% (average) 2020

Official Development Assistance
9.7 billion 2010-2019

Land area
65,219 Km²

Exclusive economic zone
16,690,832 Km²

HDI category: 5 countries high
3 medium
1 low

HDI

PROGRAMME OUTCOME AREAS

Outcome 3

Outcome 2

Outcome 1

Expenditures in USD millions

Fiji
Samoa
Solomon Islands
Vanuatu
Pacific Centre (PC)
Tuvalu
Republic of Palau
Micronesia, Federated States of
Marshall Islands
Kiribati
Cook Islands
Niue
CONCLUSIONS

1. UNDP projects deliver effective and successful results, but higher, outcome-level results are limited.
2. UNDP achieved notable results in sustainable and inclusive economic development and successfully partners with other United Nations agencies.
3. Governance and community engagement programmes show promise, especially elevating women in political roles.
4. UNDP’s comparative advantage in resource mobilization and operations makes it a sought-after collaborator in the Pacific region.
5. Gender programme results are promising, especially financial independence and opportunities in traditionally male-dominated work.
6. The Fiji and Samoa multi-country offices implemented the Subregional Programme Document as two parallel programmes with limited coherence and synergy.
7. Monitoring and evaluation practices are variable.
8. Stakeholders are pushing for more regional mechanisms involving the Council of Regional Organizations of the Pacific agencies to improve capacity.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR UNDP

1. UNDP should be more coherent and targeted to reach goals in climate change mitigation and disaster risk reduction.
2. Governance work should be more strategic, including taking advantage of the large youth population and expanding digitalization.
3. Governance programmes should focus on areas where UNDP has a comparative advantage and can draw on experience from work in similar settings.
4. Continue to improve the integration of gender across its programmes, especially in governance.
5. Ensure coherence across multi-country offices with regular programme-level meetings.
6. UNDP should consolidate the number of small-value projects in the Pacific.
7. Ensure that its monitoring and evaluation resources are commensurate with the size of its portfolio.
8. UNDP should reconfigure its model for capacity development, building on the role regional organizations can play.

ABOUT THE INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OFFICE
By generating evaluative evidence, the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) supports UNDP to achieve greater accountability and facilitates improved learning from experience. The IEO enhances UNDP’s development effectiveness through its programmatic and thematic evaluations and contributes to organizational transparency.

ABOUT ICPEs
The IEO of UNDP conducts Independent Country Programme Evaluations (ICPEs) to assess UNDP’s performance at the country level. These evaluations support the formulation of a new UNDP country programme strategy in facilitating and leveraging national efforts to advance inclusive and sustainable development.