



Strengthening Anti-Corruption, Transparency and
Accountability in Pacific Island Countries

‘Pacific Anti-Corruption Project’

FINAL REPORT SUMMARY & ANNEXES

PHASE 1

JULY 2021 – JUNE 2022



Introduction

This summary report provides an overview of the progress of the Pacific Anti-Corruption Project from July 2021 to June 2022. It first provides background information on corruption in the Pacific region and the objectives and outputs of the project. It then details progress on delivery of activities, impacts and key results before reflecting on lessons learned, providing recommendations for the next phase of the project, and presenting six annexes:

1. Stories of change
2. Voices of change
3. Images and photographs
4. Event attendance
5. Table showing progress against targets under Output 1
6. Table showing progress against targets under Output 2.

Background

Corruption and other transnational financial crime remain issues of critical concern in the Pacific region affecting development and threatening peace, security, and stability at national, regional, and international levels. Transparency International's 2021 Global Corruption Barometer, which surveyed 6,000 citizens across 10 Pacific Island Countries (PICs), found that 32% reported paying a bribe recently to receive public services, 61% believed corruption is a significant problem in government, 56% believed it is getting worse, and only 18% believed that corrupt officials face appropriate consequences.¹ Likewise Australia's Lowey Institute identifies the growing impact of transnational crime in the region and suggests that corruption remains a critical challenge to governance and development.² Specifically regarding money laundering, and terrorist and proliferation financing, Financial Action Task Force analysis finds that although 52% of assessed jurisdictions have adequate laws and regulatory structures, only 9% are substantially effective, and suggests that corruption is the second largest money laundering threat after drug trafficking.³ Transparency International New Zealand also highlights the links between corruption and money laundering concluding that preventive and investigative systems are insufficient and ineffective in the region. Recommendations include greater collaboration and commitment between national financial system actors and improved cross-border cooperation, regional initiatives, and inter-agency networks.⁴

The Pacific Anti-Corruption Project

While UNDP's work in the initial phase of the project has already helped spotlight many corruption-related issues in the region, lack of institutional capacity and lack of systematic demand for accountability by non-state actors remain challenges for effective anti-corruption reforms and action.

¹ See: <https://www.transparency.org/en/gcb>.

² Drug trafficking in the Pacific Islands: The impact of transnational crime (February 2022) Available at: <https://www.loweyinstitute.org/publications/drug-trafficking-pacific-islands-impact-transnational-crime>.

³ Report on the State of Effectiveness and Compliance with the FATF Standards (April 2022). Available at: <https://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/recommendations/Report-on-the-State-of-Effectiveness-Compliance-with-FATF-Standards.pdf>.

⁴ Corruption and Money Laundering in the Pacific: Intertwined Challenges and Interlinked Responses (May 2022). Available at: <https://www.transparency.org.nz/blog/corruption-and-money-laundering-across-the-pacific/>.



The Pacific Anti-Corruption Project responds to these institutional and societal challenges in two ways:

Output 1: Key public sector organizations and officials can systematically implement improved accountability frameworks aimed at tackling corruption through greater transparency and oversight.

Output 2: Citizens' access to information and oversight by non-state actors is improved.

The project's initially agreed primary target countries were Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu. However, despite the limited implementation timeframe and COVID-19 operational challenges, the project managed to expand, to the maximum extent possible, its offer of technical assistance and policy and legislative advisory services regionally to 14 PICs – Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

Through upstream policy and institutional work and by demonstrating good practices, tools and models, the project has improved national and regional institutional efforts across 14 PICs to record, report and respond to corruption. Through activities with young people, students, communities and CSOs it has also demonstrated the benefits of the Right to Information (RTI) as an anti-corruption tool. Overall, these activities have contributed to Agenda 2030 including SDG 16, the Teieniwa Pacific Unity against Corruption Vision and – through high-level and community-level advocacy and technical knowledge and capacity-building – implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC). Addressing financial crime and strengthening law enforcement has delivered wider benefits in terms of reducing global security threats from international crime and criminal financial transactions.

With a focus on advocacy and forging sub-regional and regional knowledge exchange, the project has capitalized on UNDP's standing and strategic positioning in the region, its network of field offices, its prior experience, and its current and past partnerships. Within seven months, all targets have been by far exceeded, reliable strategic partnerships have been developed, and all activities have been delivered in a very cost-effective manner. The project, which has quickly developed high visibility across the region, has set new standards for anti-corruption and RTI advocacy and knowledge exchange, and the UK is strategically now well positioned on this agenda in the Pacific.

Output 1

Under the first output, activities have been framed around regional peer-to-peer cooperation and knowledge-sharing and supporting the capacities of the criminal justice system and other institutions (prosecution, judiciary, financial intelligence units etc.) to better detect, investigate and prosecute cases regarding misuse of public funds and related financial crimes. At the end of the Phase 1, planned to conclude in March 2022 but extended until June 2022, the programme delivered targeted trainings and developed knowledge products, including tailored manuals and guidelines based on specific needs of relevant agencies. These products are designed to enhance knowledge and skills for better detection, prosecution and adjudication of anti-corruption and combating financial crimes in the Pacific.

The programme kicked off in August 2021, with needs assessments in four PICs (Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu) and consultations with regional organizations which resulted in a coordinated action plan relevant and responsive to national and regional requirements.



Based on this outreach and analysis, the programme involved local and international experts delivering a comprehensive master-level Pacific anti-corruption knowledge sharing programme, which included training events, bilateral consultations, and the development of knowledge products. In addition, high-level national and regional policy makers (including at the Pacific Islands Forum, an inter-governmental organization working to enhance cooperation between countries and territories of the Pacific) were engaged throughout the implementation of the project, resulting in increased attention, recognition, authority, and agency in the media as well as in government. As part of this process, and to ensure quality, relevance and coordination of efforts, direct consultations were also conducted with the Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG) and the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC), a government financial intelligence agency. The project also engaged in consultations facilitated through the APG's Annual Forum on Technical Assistance and Training (TA&T), and APG's Donors and Providers group (a voluntary group of APG members and observers which aims to provide technical assistance and advisory services in the region). As well as building the profile of and recognition for the project and important partnerships, these consultations were instrumental in obtaining additional information and validating the TA&T needs for PICs other than the four countries initially targeted. The project has continued to engage with APG and AUSTRAC as part of ongoing coordination and will be participating in the upcoming APG Plenary and Pacific TA&T forums at the end of July 2022 to ascertain and align the needs of Pacific jurisdictions with the capacity-building efforts to be provided in the Phase 2 extension of the project.

Knowledge sharing events and bilateral consultations

Between 28 October 2021 and 20 May 2022, 230 officials and staff (144 male and 86 female) from 45 key public and private sector organizations in 14 PICs benefited from 16 knowledge sharing events. Initially, four events, including bilateral consultations with Solomon Islands, Samoa and Tuvalu (10, 12 and 19 November, respectively) which were unable to attend the 28 October regional event) focused on informing and validating the project's approach, and a subsequent series of 11 seminars and workshops addressed topics that included intelligence-led disruption of corruption (9 December 2021), stakeholder analysis and management (9 February 2022), parallel financial investigations and asset recovery (9 March 2022), evidence-based national risk assessments (NRAs) (17 March 2022), training for Designated Non-Financial Businesses & Professions (DNFBPs) (17-18 May 2022) and a whole-of-society approach to anti-corruption (19-20 May 2022). Separately, 10 participants were funded to attend FICAC's inaugural Financial Investigations Training (2 May 2022). This comprehensive programme includes 13 modules with a focus on in-depth investigation processes and the project's involvement assured complementarities and engagement with a new set of public and private sector institutions.

Across all events and topics, typically only around half of participants indicated they had prior knowledge of the subject matter and the events proved successful in filling identified knowledge gaps. At the event aimed at raising awareness of parallel financial investigations and exploring regional challenges, for instance, 88% of participants indicated they would use the learning in the future. Likewise, at the event aimed at better equipping PICs to develop NRAs, and which also introduced dedicated resource material developed by the expert team, the 82% gave a positive response.



The programme also responded to emerging needs. When, for example, feedback confirmed that information sharing between law enforcement and other agencies was challenged in many jurisdictions, the programme responded with an event focused on stakeholder analysis where 91% of respondents indicated they would use the learning in the future, and at a related two-day follow-up event addressing a whole-of-society approach this figure was 95%.

The private sector also benefited. The event for DNFBPs (e.g., lawyers, legal professions, accountants, real estate agents) informed and empowered industry associations to help members and affiliates identify suspicious transaction indicators and other corruption risks and report to regulators to feed into national AML efforts. At this event, participant feedback indicated that 96% of respondents would use the learning in the future. Aside from boosting individual learning, the event also increased engagement between Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption (FICAC), the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) and the DNFBP sector in Fiji.

Bilateral consultations and case study discussions, which flexibly responded to individual country requests for technical and advisory assistance, supplied legal, technical, advisory, and analytical support to Solomon Islands Director of Public Prosecutions (comparative analysis on corruption offences and related national laws). Strategic support was also provided to the commencement of the process for preparation of a National Anti-Corruption Strategy (NACS) in Fiji, and bilateral consultations were organized between FICAC and Solomon Islands Independent Commission against Corruption (SIICAC) which is expected to result a formal agreement between the two organizations in July 2022. This will further boost regional peer-to-peer cooperation and knowledge exchange. Initial discussions were held towards supporting the implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy in the Cook Islands which is currently being prepared. Potentials for further support will be explored in the next phase of the project.

In addition, case study submissions were received for expert review from Cook Islands, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu. Aside from the value of filling specific gaps in knowledge and analysis identified by the jurisdictions concerned, these activities fed naturally into providing policy advisory support and provided high-level impact.

Overall, professionals at over 45 relevant institutions proved receptive to the regional events and bilateral consultations, engaged enthusiastically, and expressed the desire for a continuation of the programme. Leveraging UNDP's networks and strategic positioning, its internal anti-corruption technical expertise and tried-and-tested advisory services, and complementarities with related ongoing initiatives, the project, which got off to a fast, coordinated, and well-informed start, has proven to be flexible and responsive in improving needs-based technical knowledge among public and private sector organizations to allow more effective identification of and implementation of responses to corruption. Methods and practices that have worked, or not, regarding detection, investigation and prosecution have been discussed and shared within and among national jurisdictions, building relations and knowledge sharing between individuals and jurisdictions. Regional and national challenges and opportunities have been identified, and resources, alternative strategies, and the relevance and usability of anti-corruption legislation discussed. Importantly, all participants have enthusiastically agreed to continue interactions and improve information-sharing.



Guidelines, manuals, and other knowledge products

Five knowledge products have been produced incorporating expert input and feedback from the knowledge sharing events:

- Intelligence-led Financial Disruption of Corruption: A Guide for Practitioners
- National Risk Assessment (NRA) Handbook: A Guide for Practitioners
- The Prosecution of Corruption: A Guide for Practitioners
- Parallel Financial Investigations: A Guide for Practitioners
- Corruption Investigation Handbook: A Guide for Practitioners

All knowledge products are being currently edited and finalized and will be distributed among the Pacific institutions/professionals in the upcoming period. As part of ongoing discussions, needs requirements have also been mapped regarding new and/or revised knowledge products. For example, a guideline on typologies of suspicious transaction report (STR) indicators for the DNFBP sector is under consideration for Phase 2 of the project, for instance, and the project plans to partner with AUSTRAC to organize a session on this topic at an AUSTRAC workshop in August 2022 in Canberra. A series of case studies on conviction and non-conviction-based asset forfeiture (money laundering and related predicate crimes) is also being considered along with guidelines to support prosecutors in Solomon Islands and law enforcement investigators across the region. In addition to supporting current and future events and codifying and assuring sustainability of knowledge exchange delivered through project activities, the publications expand the influence of the project beyond event participants and immediate beneficiaries to provide a knowledge base for future expert mentoring and ensure sustainability of the knowledge produced.

Output 2

Under the second output, activities focused on strengthening government and civil society knowledge of the value to sustainable development of RTI and open government. The project has also promoted the exercise of RTI and provided innovative digital solutions to promote proactive disclosure of government information. This has been complemented by activities to influence citizen's attitudes to exercise RTI as an important anti-corruption, transparency, and accountability mechanism by engaging in advocacy and awareness about the values for civil society and the private sector of open data and public information. The project engaged with a mixture of implementing partners from academia, students' organizations, and civil society.

With attention paid to ensuring complementarity with existing regional and national anti-corruption efforts, activities implemented in partnership with the University of the South Pacific (USP) and the University of the South Pacific Students Association (USPSA) resulted in anti-corruption and RTI advocacy and outreach to over 50,000 individuals across the region, largely young people. As well as improving voice, knowledge and engagement among young people, this unprecedented youth mobilization, which has included a focus on digitalization and the power of digital transformation, has had a positive influence on current policy makers and helped develop sound foundations for the next generation. In addition, a small grants scheme empowered civil society in two PICs to address RTI in the context of procurement, social services, and community outreach with two awardees committing to sustaining results beyond the project's lifetime.



The USP and USPSA partnership

The USP partnership included six activities:

1. A comparative analysis of best RTI and open data practices in 20 countries around the world identified innovative tools for replication and opportunities for improved RTI. The analysis was used in subsequent project activities and for advocacy with governments and other stakeholders (8-10 December 2021).
2. Online and face-to-face surveys in Fiji, Vanuatu and Tonga targeting students, young people, women entrepreneurs, and people with disabilities received 1,152 responses providing a unique insight into current knowledge, awareness, practices (KAP) and priorities regarding RTI.
3. A private sector needs assessment focused on women entrepreneurs in Fiji, Vanuatu and Tonga resulted in further insight into RTI KAP and priorities from a commercial perspective and supported the identification of a critical service area for activity 6, below, to address.
4. Building on learning from previous surveys, focus group analysis and evaluation conducted during a hybrid face-to-face and virtual workshop involving 443 students increased understanding of young people's RTI KAP and priorities and participant's knowledge and engagement, and provided the opportunity to develop training material and the training of trainers (ToT).
5. A hybrid workshop involving 166 women and young entrepreneurs that also built on previous project learning, shared knowledge, and provided participants with the opportunity to address the issue in their own terms and express their own ideas and priorities to further inform future activities (March 2022).
6. Exploiting learning from activities 4 and 5, following a one-month development, prototyping and training period, a collaborative IT-focused hackathon (17 May 2022) engaged five student teams in pitching innovative digital RTI tools. The event resulted in two selected citizen-friendly digital prototypes addressing food control and management which were showcased at a subsequent event.

Activities were underpinned by a four-day ToT development event which ensured consistency, quality and coherence of messaging and allowed academic and practitioners to share knowledge and engage in dialogue (23-24 November and 30 November-1 December 2021). Thirteen USP teaching staff and PhD students were involved, along with representatives from the Pacific Community (SPC).

The USPSA partnership included seven activities:

1. Five virtual workshops led and facilitated by academics from USP who attended the project's ToT event increased knowledge and awareness among 2,000 students from across the region on the values and practical application of RTI and open data for the advancement of public integrity, transparency, and accountability (February to March 2022).
2. A creative arts competition on RTI in the Pacific, with attractive cash prizes, promoted RTI activism among youth and students in the Pacific (11 March 2022). Winning material posted on USPSA, UNDP and UK High Commission's social media accounts, along with an introductory RTI video and informative posters, received over 52,000 views.



3. The Pacific Regional Leaders Dialogue, instigated, developed, and delivered by USP students, brought RTI and related issues, including the importance role young people in accelerating progress, to the attention of high-level regional officials including Tuvalu's Minister for Justice, Communications and Foreign Affairs and the Secretary General of Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) (26 May 2022). The widely reported, high profile event involved 835 participants.

Project research and survey results indicate that there is significant need to increase RTI awareness among citizens and considerable enthusiasm and ability regarding the matter, particularly among students and young people. Overall, project activities have taken RTI and the anti-corruption agenda to a new level across the region and added further momentum to the growing Pacific RTI movement. The Pacific Regional Leaders Dialogue in particular set new standards for giving youth voice in the region along with access to the highest levels of national and regional political leadership, including the PIF. In terms of impact, this event was probably the most significant of all project activities as it both enthused and empowered youth, and vividly presented their concerns to important decision makers and paved way for more structured policy-decision making impact of youth in the Pacific.

More broadly, the project has successfully implemented a highly responsive approach, identifying needs, collecting feedback, and building capacity to support subsequent activities, as well as disseminating international good practices. Social media has been exploited for visibility as well as knowledge sharing to good effect, and digital tools focused on RTI have been developed demonstrating the importance of innovation and a focus on user needs and abilities. Project activities have had impact beyond immediate beneficiaries (e.g., workshop participants) and delivered potential new opportunities for partnerships and coalitions, with influential organizations such as the PIF and SPC.

The small grants scheme

Following a competitive selection process, grants (US\$20,000 for single country proposals and US\$40,000 for proposals covering two or more PICs) were awarded to four CSOs:

1. Fiji Council of Social Services (FCOSS) piloted, developed, and validated an innovative RTI platform and diagnostic tool (KACIVAKA) which promotes open data and increased access to public information, and allows FCOSS affiliates to gauge and highlight opportunities to improve disclosure of public information, particularly regarding communities lacking access and agency. Subsequently, government agencies were engaged to share results, outline key gaps in public information, offer suggestions and invite feedback (14 June 2022).
2. Following two knowledge sharing, development and production workshops, Integrity Fiji engaged with officials from the Fiji Procurement Office to raise RTI awareness through a public exhibition of traditional art that included music, poetry and dance, and digital creativity employing video and social media (26 March 2022).
3. Aspire Network was deregistered and UNDP and FICAC agreed that the production the documentary for Fiji to be finalized by FICAC directly. Representatives from UNDP and the British High Commission in Suva (BHC) previewed a segment of the documentary on 6 July 2022 at FICAC premises, whereby the FICAC Commissioner elaborated on the concept of the documentary and plans for its finalization and launch. The documentary is expected to be finalized by the end of the month. Aspire did not start producing the documentary for Vanuatu due to the deregistration.



4. Hearts of Hope (Solomon Islands) improved participation and strengthened anti-corruption, transparency, and accountability by delivering 20 community anti-corruption awareness workshops involving 1,260 participants, predominantly the elderly, youths, women and children, and people living with disabilities (3-12 January 2022).

Again, overall, project activities on the ground demonstrated and built significant demand and enthusiasm for anti-corruption initiatives, including those relating to RTI and the potential and practical benefits of technological innovation. Engaging officials as well as community members, the project resulted in community members more actively collaborating to access and share information about RTI and its importance as one element of citizens' rights and responsibilities and well as an anti-corruption tool.

Lessons learned

- In developing effective anti-corruption reforms and action, low institutional capacity, and low demand for accountability by non-state actors remain challenging.
- Project research and consultations with authorities have confirmed that every PIC has deficiencies in its anti-corruption framework. As these often vary between the jurisdictions, targets and strategies need to be tailored to national needs and there should be sufficient flexibility in the technical assistance and support so that new windows of opportunities can be seized effectively.
- Major barriers to mitigating corruption include weak institutional structures, processes, and leadership, limited public and institutional understanding of the threat corruption presents to sustainable development and national, regional, and international security, and a lack of resources and interactions between government, the private sector and civil society at large.
- Significant demand exists among officials (and other groups such as DNFBPs) for increased technical knowledge and peer interactions.
- Strong institutions are required to prevent and address corruption as it is often systemic and requires a comprehensive approach across all pillars and institutions of governance.
- Direct/bilateral country-based support to address identified needs and interest has been in demand. This can provide valuable openings to deliver high-level advice and advocacy.
- Capacity building and knowledge exchange need to be flexible and responsive and consider the fact that those corrupt actors are constantly changing their modes of work.
- As national institutional frameworks and policies vary, international and regional commitments – including Agenda 2030 and the SDGs, the Teieniwa Pacific Unity against Corruption Vision and UNCAC – provide valuable frameworks for anti-corruption work. A focus on these commitments ensures validity and boosts regional and international cooperation. New important initiatives such as the 2050 Pacific Strategy should also be exploited for promoting good governance with focus on anti-corruption and right to information.
- Guidelines, manuals, and other knowledge products provide an effective means of supporting sustainability of knowledge.



- RTI and open data deter corruption by increasing government integrity, transparency, and accountability. They are also important tools for increasing public participation and improving governance and public integrity more broadly. Better informed and empowered citizens help shape better government policy beyond anti-corruption and RTI initiatives.
- RTI may initially appear relatively technical and abstract, but the benefits and importance are easily communicated and understood, including at the community level.
- Specific groups (e.g., women-owned enterprises) have specific anti-corruption and RTI interests. Recognizing and responding to these interests yields benefits in terms of communications, learning uptake and sustainability. This is also an important entry point for promoting gender equality in the Pacific, including in the business sector.
- Key challenges to improved RTI include operationalizing existing legal frameworks and oversight, building political will to provide resources, training, and capacity building initiatives for public officials, and increasing public awareness.
- Students and young people have proven to be energetic, able, and articulate. The Pacific Regional Leaders Dialogue demonstrated a powerful route to achieve policy impact and buy-in from the highest-ranking officials and politicians.
- High-level events (such as the Pacific Regional Leaders Dialogue) significantly boost the project's visibility and status and provide opportunities to extend youth policy-making influence and advocacy, expand partnerships and build networks.
- Cooperation with regional bodies such as PIFS, SPC, AUSTRAC, the Pacific Financial Intelligence Community (PFIC) and the Asia Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG) has boosted project visibility, credibility and access to information and expertise. This cooperation is also instrumental for forging regional cooperation.
- Challenges and risks associated with capacity gaps, knowledge gaps and efficiency emerge in working with civil society which need to be monitored closely and addressed quickly.
- Although the COVID-19 pandemic has limited opportunities for face-to-face events, which can have important benefits for partnerships and innovation, virtual and especially hybrid events have demonstrated how large numbers of people across different countries can be reached efficiently and economically.
- Social media has been shown to be an effective advocacy and communications tool in a region where the population is dispersed across a large geographical area.
- Risks such as political developments (e.g., Solomon Islands) and natural phenomena (e.g., Tonga) require flexibility and rapid decision-making. The application of adaptive management techniques and prompt adjustments have proven critical for success and continued relevance.

Recommendations

- Leveraging international, regional, national, and sub-national partnerships and networks developed and investments made, along with research findings and lessons learned in the initial phase of the project, the follow-up activities of the project need to remain focused on anti-corruption policy advisory support, strengthening institutional capacities including through knowledge-sharing, production of knowledge products, and direct mentoring and bilateral country support.



- Target institutions to continue to span across a wide range of stakeholders including but not limited to anti-corruption commissions, attorney general, ombudsman and prosecution offices, financial intelligence units, the judiciary, police and law enforcement agencies, relevant ministries, and public service commissions.
- Regional knowledge-sharing and regional and international cooperation to continue to be fostered and strengthened. The partnerships with PIFS, SPC, APG, AUSTRAC, PFIC need to be sustained and deepened. It is recommended for new opportunities for partnerships to be sought to include UK agencies, institutions and organizations dealing with anti-corruption issues and financial crime.
- Public service capacity gaps to be specifically addressed while working simultaneously with non-state actors (civil society and private sector) on RTI and anti-corruption issues, with sustained specific focus on youth.
- Building on the momentum created during the initial phase of the project, continued focus is needed on the values of RTI and open government to sustainable development.
- The project needs to continue to provide technical and innovation assistance for improved exercise of RTI through a fresh training programme to be extended to a wider set of civil society groups (e.g., CSOs, business federations, women's groups, people with disabilities).
- The work around codifying and disseminating knowledge to continue through the production of knowledge products and be extended into e-learning modules for interactive, online delivery based on the feedback gathered in the initial phase. This will increase application of knowledge provided during and derived from training, ideally with a well-established organization assuming ownership.
- The design of innovative digital solutions to support regular and proactive disclosure of government information in partnership with USP and USPSA to continue, and government input on the supply side to be further facilitated.
- Students and young people to continue to lead RTI and anti-corruption advocacy in a structured manner and seek continued high-level support for incremental positive and impactful long-term changes.
- Specifically, the RTI movement initiated by students and young people at USP and USPSA to be further supported to develop into a structured body through the creation of a Regional Youth Advisory Body on Good Governance. This will facilitate dialogue between youth and regional bodies and inform regional policy discussions through inter-governmental bodies such as PIFS.
- The deficiencies in systematic demand for accountability to be addressed through more active and more effective involvement of youth and other sectors in promoting RTI and influencing regional policy dialogue.
- Building on the prototyping of RTI digital tools during the initial phase, it is recommended for the project to continue exploring and exploiting the potential of technology and innovation for sustainable and cost-effective public access to information and open government.
- Given the success of the Pacific Regional Leaders Dialogue in achieving policy impact and buy-in from the highest-ranking officials and politicians, further high-level, high-profile events to be organized.



Annexes

Annex 1. Stories of Change

Unprecedented Pacific youth mobilization on anti-corruption and right to information for systemic change

Background

In many Pacific Island Countries (PICs) corruption is an everyday occurrence. Transparency International's 2021 Global Corruption Barometer, which surveyed 6,000 citizens across 10 Pacific Island Countries (PICs), found that on average one third had paid a bribe in the previous year to access a public service, a higher rate than any other region surveyed. Worryingly, a similar proportion of respondents reported that in the same period they or someone they know had experienced demands from officials for sexual favours in exchange for essential government services, and across the region, around a quarter of respondents had been offered bribes for their electoral votes.

The future of young people is particularly at risk from this corrupt behaviour. With 60% of the Pacific population under 25 years of age, the negative impact of corruption on sustainable development will fall on their shoulders most heavily. Likewise, with young people set to become their nations', and the region's political and business leaders, if corruption is not identified and countered, a socially and economically unhealthy norm will find root in the next generation. If the Pacific region is to grow and prosper, young people need to be informed about the detrimental consequences of corruption and the importance of integrity. Ideally, they are also given voice and agency to take responsibility for the future, which is theirs.

Youth-focused project activities

The UK-funded 'Pacific Anti-Corruption Project' has therefore worked with students and young people on anti-corruption and Right to Information (RTI) initiatives. Project research work in Fiji, Vanuatu, and Tonga with young people (and women in business and people with disabilities) has established current awareness and practices and determined recommendations on the preferred methods, tools, and platforms to improve access to official information and combat corruption. One headline result from an online survey implemented by the project with 865 respondents indicated that more than half had little or no idea of their national RTI framework.

Subsequent virtual, face-to-face and hybrid workshops, implemented in partnership with the University of the South Pacific (USP) and the University of the South Pacific Student Association (USPSA), involved over 2,000 students and women entrepreneurs from across the Pacific region in knowledge sharing, and discussion and problem-solving sessions. A creative arts competition promoted RTI activism among youth and students and motivated students to engage creatively in RTI and anti-corruption advocacy, and a digital technology focused hackathon brought together groups of interested students to develop innovative RTI solutions on issues that had been identified to be of specific relevance (food control and management). In addition, the Youth ACT project implemented by Integrity Fiji raised awareness about corruption and bribery through creative arts (e.g., songs, videos, and posters on the theme of anti-corruption) and improved public information regarding public procurement by engaging in an innovative partnership with Fiji's Ministry of Economy's Procurement Section.



The most significant event, however, which set new standards for youth engagement and advocacy across the region, was the Pacific Regional Leaders Dialogue held on 26 May 2022. The event, which very importantly was instigated and organized through USPSA by students and young people themselves, focused on three main themes – RTI policy and the regulatory and institutional framework, the benefits and challenges of enhanced RTI, and the role that young people can play in accelerating progress – and was attended by more than 835 participants face-to-face and virtually across the region, including the highest levels of political leadership: Tuvalu’s Minister for Justice, Communications and Foreign Affairs, the Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Forum, and the Commissioner of the Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption, for example.

Evidence of change

In terms of ‘direct’ influence (a contribution to a specific change) the project has informed and empowered a large number of educated and potentially influential young people regarding the importance of RTI, the negative impact corruption has on sustainable development, and how young people in particular can identify and combat it. Critically, it has also connected young people to current political leadership and the wider community and allowed them to voice their concerns and advocate for action. The President of USPSA says: “USPSA is proud to be working with UNDP to foster Pacific cooperation and give young people in the Pacific region voice on very important governance issues. The timeliness of this RTI advocacy is a reflection of the strong commitment by our youth leaders to fulfil the 2030 Agenda, specifically SDG 16 in support of building a peaceful, just, and inclusive societies through the promotion of good governance. In addition to interest from large number of youths, state and non-state actors have shown interest in participating in further RTI related activities and its promotion.”

The project has also raised the visibility and importance of RTI beyond youth beneficiaries and engaged non-youth actors. An Associate Professor at USP says: “The awareness of and advocacy for RTI by various stakeholders ranging from youths to women entrepreneurs has been phenomenal but we need to train a new cohort of trainers to extend activities across to the Pacific region and design new workshops with different levels of RTI strength. The RTI subject also needs to be contextualized for different groups such as people with disabilities.”

In terms of ‘indirect influence’ (a contribution to wider changes) the project has informed and empowered Pacific youth to engage positively in areas beyond RTI and anti-corruption. This has benefits for future political engagement particularly relating to sustainable development. Philip Manakako from the Integrity Unit at the Secretariat at the Solomon Islands Prime Minister’s Office and a member of the Pacific Youth Forum Against Corruption (PYFAC) says: “Corruption affects young people to fully participate as an agent of change to provide solutions to the many problems that we have in our societies, including corruption.” Kevin Henry, a publications officer at Vanuatu’s Right to Information Unit and a member of PYFAC says “What’s good about being a young person is that you’ve got that power and an energy in you to do something different. But you have to step up to do that.” Louisa Miller, Social Entrepreneur and founder of Young Entrepreneurs Fiji says, “If we can reach out and develop our young people to be resilient, unbreakable and uncompromising, I say that nations within the Pacific region will rise against all odds.”

Young people are also an important route to communications with other communities. Tarusila Bradburgh, the Partnership and Coalition Facilitator at Australia Pacific Training Coalition (APTC) and a PYFAC coordinator, says: “I see Pacific youths taking a very active role in making sense of what our leaders say on a regional or global level and translate that back to



their community. Let's help them convene, take action on issues and share the great work they have been doing in region."

In summary, the 'Pacific Anti-Corruption Project' has had massive impact among Pacific youth, reaching out to more than 50,000 people in creating an unprecedented demand for RTI from young people, and successfully facilitating the communication of this concern, and advocacy for positive change, to national and regional political leadership and more widely in communities. In fact, just one year of project activities have been so influential that the term 'a movement' is now applied to youth demands for RTI in the region.

As a result of the impact of the project, Pacific youth are now demanding to have a structured Pacific Youth Advisory Body on Good Governance affiliated to PIFS to contribute to the high-level policy discussion on good governance with focus on anti-corruption and right to information.

As a result of extended right to information policy advocacy, UNDP was approached in early July 2022 by SIICAC to revive the discussions for adoption of Right to Information Law in the Solomon Islands. This dialogue will continue, and UNDP will explore opportunities for legislative and technical support.

The work on right to information, with focus on youth, is complementing the work by UNDP Pacific through the United Nations Pacific Anti-Corruption Project (UNPRAC) funded by the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) as well as the complementary work by UNDP in Solomon Islands under the project 'Transparency and Accountability for the People of Solomon Islands - The Project for Strengthening the Capacities to Combat Corruption (TAPSCCC)' funded by the Government of Japan. Synergies, cross-fertilization and partnerships are ensured whenever possible for maximized impact.

Fostering progress under complex circumstances in Solomon Islands and forging regional partnerships between the Independent Commissions against Corruption of Solomon Islands and Fiji

Background

Solomon Islands, consisting of six large and over 900 small islands with a population of 653,000 spread over 1,000km in Melanesia. With around 80% of its land area covered by forest and more than 75% of its labour force engaged in subsistence agriculture and fishing, a GDP per capita of \$2,337 (current US\$) places it as a lower middle-income country in the World Bank's classification, and corruption is reported to be a major issue.⁵ Solomon Islands are ranked in the middle range of most corruption-related indexes, including the 2021 Corruption Perception Index of Transparency International (73 out of 180 countries)⁶, the 2021 Trace Bribery Risk Matrix (102 out of 194 countries).⁷

⁵ Sources: <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.CD?locations=SB> and <https://datatopics.worldbank.org/world-development-indicators/the-world-by-income-and-region.html>.

⁶ Source: <https://www.transparency.org/en/countries/solomon-islands>

⁷ Source: <https://www.traceinternational.org/trace-matrix>



Those numbers indicate a high level of corruption yet a situation where the right anti-corruption systems and capacities can bring about significant change. Although this comparative data and global indexes do not paint a detailed picture of corruption in Solomon Islands, their relatively consistent ranking places Solomon Islands in the average of Southeast Asia and the Pacific region on control of corruption indicators.

Transparency International's 2021 Global Corruption Barometer for the Pacific records that 97% of Solomon Islands respondents (one of the largest exporters of tropical wood globally) report that corruption is a big problem in government, and 90% report the same for business.⁸

Solomon Islanders rank corruption as the third overall concern which affects their daily life, after the unemployment and cost of living and they perceive it to have an impact on their equal access to opportunities (in terms of both education and employment). They also consider that corruption has a direct and negative effect to the economic development and natural resources people rely on for livelihoods. To this end, Covid-19 related concerns, actual as they are today, rank only after corruption, according to the UNDP Perception Survey conducted in mid-2020.⁹

In 2019, the UNDP's Conflict and Development Analysis noted that "Concerns about rampant corruption, which is unequivocally associated with poor governance and the breakdown of transparent and accountable traditional and parliamentary authority, is the major concern of Solomon Islanders, female and male, from all walks of life"¹⁰ Similar perceptions were measured throughout UNDP Perception in 2018, where employment and job opportunities were the most commonly identified concerns by respondents in all provinces, except Makira-Ulawa where corruption was the most common response. Overall, corruption was ranked as the second top challenge for Solomon Islands by respondents to the survey.¹¹

Solomon Islands, a relatively poor and corruption-prone PIC, also finds itself on a sharp edge of regional geopolitics and has also been affected by internal instability and riots, further adding to the complexities of addressing the existing and newly emerging corruption challenges.

With the aim to remedy the adverse effects of the corruption Solomon Islands joined the UN Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) in 2012. In line with its international obligations, it initiated the drafting of a National Anti -Corruption Strategy (NACS) in 2015 which was endorsed in 2017. In November 2019, NACS, in compliance with the Anti-Corruption Act of 2018, after a successful inclusive and consultative process has been revised, guided by the Prime Minister's Office with the technical support of UNDP. In parallel, it set to review its integrity legal and institutional framework. The Strategy was drafted concurrently with other legislation, including the Electoral Act and the Anti-Corruption Act 2018. The Prime Minister and Governor General in their address on the International Anticorruption Day in 2019, emphasized the fight against corruption as a paramount priority for the country and a key condition for the realization of the National Development Plan 2016-2035.

⁸ Source: <https://www.transparency.org/en/news/gcb-pacific-2021-survey-people-voices-corruption-bribery>.

⁹ UNDP Perception Survey, to be released in October 2020

¹⁰ UNDP Conflict Development Analysis Report, Solomon Islands, June 2019

¹¹ UNDP Peacebuilding Perception Survey, May 2018



The legislation also foresaw the establishment of the Solomon Islands Independent Commission Against Corruption (SIICAC). Its work however has been affected by numerous practical challenges which impacted the effectiveness and performance. These include i. lack of effective leadership, ii. low utilization of institutional coordination mechanisms, iii. lack of capacities and knowledge across the relevant integrity institutions involved in addressing corruption to ensure respect of international standards and international best practice; and iv. lack of financial and human resources within integrity institutions including for example the delayed recruitment of professional and technical staff of SIICAC, which is still ongoing Institutions. Additionally, the institutions struggle with the lack of available data on occurrences and perceptions of corruption. To this end, it has been of paramount significance to address these challenges through an integrated approach inclusive of provision of comprehensive and multi-pronged policy support and capacity-building across institutions (including to SIICAC, the Office of Public Prosecutions, the police, the Financial Intelligence Unit, the Office of the Ombudsman etc), in tandem with supporting civil society to ensure awareness and demand for proper checks and balances system.

The UK-funded 'Pacific Anti-Corruption Project' has made important contributions to:

- Supporting Solomon Island institutions, systems, and mechanisms to function more efficiently and effectively to ensure that it is better able to prevent and tackle corruption and improve implementation of the Agenda 2030 and SDGs, with a focus on SDG 16 targets.
- Building a more aware, more open, and stronger civil society and youth to be able to advocate for improved anti-corruption results and demand progress on exercise of the right to information, thus contributing to improved security and stability in the region in times of complex political and security developments in the region.

Project activities in Solomon Islands

Out of the 14 PICs engaged in the Pacific Anti-Corruption Project, Solomon Islands has been a significant partner. Under Output 1 – Key public sector organizations and officials able to systematically implement improved accountability frameworks aimed at tackling corruption through greater transparency and oversight – Solomon Islands was involved in initial human and institutional capacity needs assessment, and six officials (including from the Office of Public Prosecutions, the FIU and the Office of the Ombudsman) participated in the project's validation process. Similar numbers of officials, including from Solomon Islands Independent Commission Against Corruption (SIICAC), participated in the project's Disrupting Corruption: Stakeholder Management webinar, 11 participated in the Parallel Financial Investigations & Asset Recovery and the Parallel Financial Investigations & Asset Recovery webinars, and two from the Office of the Ombudsman took part in the Evidence-based National Risk Assessment (NRA) webinar.

Specific to Solomon Islands, the project provided mentoring and bilateral consultations to provide anti-corruption policy advisory services to the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, including legal technical, advisory, and analytical support through comparative analysis on corruption offences and related laws.



Discussions are ongoing regarding the signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for institutionalized and structured cooperation and knowledge sharing between Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption (FICAC) and SIICAC, and a handbook is being developed to support prosecutors in the Solomon Islands in their adjudication of corruption cases.

Under Output 2 – Improved citizens’ access to information and strengthened oversight by non-state actors – students from Solomon Islands joined other young people from across the Pacific as part of a series of workshops organized by the University of the South Pacific (USP) and the University of the South Pacific Students Association (USPSA) to investigate and understand the importance of RTI among Pacific Islands youth. In addition, Hearts of Hope Windows and Orphans Family Organization, a Solomon Islands CSO, was funded as part of the project’s Small Grants initiative to deliver 20 community anti-corruption awareness workshops in East and West Malaita province which reached 1,260 participants.

Evidence of change

The initiative has strengthened anti-corruption, transparency, and accountability in Solomon Islands by both improving government officials’ skills, knowledge, and ability to connect regionally and internationally, and empowering community members to fight corruption and raise awareness by practising transparency and accountability in their communities.

In terms of ‘direct’ influence (a contribution to a specific change) Solomon Island officials report enhanced personal and institutional knowledge. The Director of the Office of Public Prosecutions, for example, says: “We have shared and saved training materials to our public folder and used the legal opinion provided to us to prepare our submissions for review of the Act and engage successfully with stakeholders.” She adds: “In advocating for a review of the Solomon Islands Anti-Corruption act, we made use of the legal opinion provided by UNDP technical experts. We are using the workshop materials and knowledge gained from the evidence based national risk assessment workshop to provide directions to investigators. The training and materials on asset management are helpful in drafting our asset management plan.”

Likewise, the Deputy Director from the Office of Public Prosecutions says: “I am content with the current project and looking forward to more assistance in terms of training and increased understanding.” He adds: “One important point I have learned from the experts is that in dealing with corruption-related offences and other offences that are difficult to prove, alternative legal options are sometimes better. That is to say, we can often deal with these matters using other laws.” In addition, a Prosecutor from the Solomon Island Police Force reports: “I have applied my new knowledge to cases received from investigation branches. However, sometimes corruption charges need more evidence because of the environment and lack of logistic support as well as knowledge.”

At the community level, civil society has been empowered to work creatively and with high visibility on right to information, especially regarding government procurement, social services and community outreach, and Hearts of Hope is currently seeking funding independent of the project to continue activities. Project workshops improved participation by groups currently experiencing barriers to involvement, particularly women, youth and people living with disabilities, and enhanced citizens’ understanding about basic democratic principles, the Anti-



Corruption Act, and the role and functions of the Solomon Islands Independent Commission Against Corruption (SIICAC). The Program Director at Hearts of Hope says: “People in the two constituencies that we have covered are more knowledgeable and more ready to work with the Solomon Islands Independent Commission Against Corruption, as per its duties and responsibilities.”

As mentioned above, UNDP was approached in early July 2022 by SIICAC to revive the discussions for adoption of Right to Information Law in the Solomon Islands. This is also an indication of renewed institutional commitment for continued legislative and policy reforms for creating an enabling environment for anti-corruption.

In terms of ‘indirect influence’ (a contribution to wider changes) and particularly at a time when national and international tensions are high (in fact the Hearts of Hope initiative was delayed by the late 2021 unrest), the project has facilitated regional institutional knowledge exchange and built and maintained professional connections internationally and across the region for government officials. Director of the Office of Public Prosecutions says: “The workshop on stakeholder management allowed us to develop submissions for review of the Act and to engage other stakeholders on the discussions for review.” The Manager of the Solomon Islands Financial Intelligence Unit says: “Thanks to the workshop on stakeholder management, we have now started to reach out to stakeholders in a way that we have not done in the past. This is an improvement.” He adds: “Now that the borders are starting to open up it would be good if future anti-corruption workshops are facilitated face-to-face or in person.” At the community level, in Malaita – the province which has been central to unrest – the Program Director at Hearts of Hope says: “This was new knowledge for the people of this country where years of corruption has prevented development and equal access for social services.”

In summary, by building the capacity and regional connectivity of government officials and civil society, the Pacific Anti-Corruption Project has directly and indirectly contributed to strengthening Solomon Islands’ ability to function more effectively and maintain relative stability through better governance.

The upcoming signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation (MOU) between FICAC and SIICAC is an important measurement of success in terms of progress towards institutionalized regional cooperation, knowledge-sharing and creating sustainable partnerships. The support to the implementation of the MOU would be another important milestone and measurement of progress.

The implementation of these efforts has been closely coordinated with the UNDP Office in Solomon Islands and their complementary anti-corruption work under the project ‘Transparency and Accountability for the People of Solomon Islands - The Project for Strengthening the Capacities to Combat Corruption (TAPSCCC)’ funded by the Government of Japan as well as the work undertaken by UNDP Pacific through the United Nations Pacific Anti-Corruption Project (UNPRAC) funded by the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT). With clearly recognized contribution from the Government of UK, Solomon Islands’ anti-corruption institutional and human capacities have been strengthened which is clearly corroborated with the evaluations and feedback from the knowledge-sharing sessions (presented under ‘Voice of change’ below). In times of significant geopolitical turbulence in the Pacific, the country is also now better placed to be more resilient to crisis and better connected to support continued anti-corruption reforms and enhanced compliance



with international commitments. Inter-institutional and regional synergies, cross-fertilization and partnerships have been ensured whenever possible for maximized impact.

Annex 2. Voices of change

In order to gauge effectiveness of the initial phase of the Pacific Anti-Corruption Project, a survey was circulated to a range of stakeholders just before the completion of the first phase in June 2022. Some of the responses informed and corroborated the Stories of Change given in Annex 1.

Twenty-two responses were received, and selected responses are summarised below:

Cook Islands Police Force

A senior police officer from the Cook Islands Police has applied tools learnt from webinars for staff to gain a deeper understanding. He believes that the public sector needs to know more about the different types of corruption, and that the judicial system, particularly Justices of the Peace, should be trained so that when cases come before them, they have better knowledge. He says: “We have a current case where a person was charged for corruption and suspended. The case has still not been dealt with, but the person had been reappointed while the case is adjourned.” He also says: “I am happy that corruption is being addressed and talked about. I also think the wider consequences must be considered.”

Republic of the Marshall Islands Financial Intelligence Unit

The Manager at the FIU at Marshall Islands says that he has been using the knowledge from the trainings in his daily office duties and states: “Greater understanding is required of the work that government agencies need to do to ensure corruption is minimized and transparency and accountability is enhanced in the public sector.”

Solomon Islands Senior Official

A Solomon Islands Senior Official states: “I must say 2021 and 2022 have been some of the most challenging years given COVID with much of the programme and events conducted through online platforms. Hopefully with the regional borders now opening, we can have UNDP technical specialists working together with stakeholders on the ground in each country.”

Solomon Islands Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions

The Director of the Office of the DPP Solomon Islands says: “We have shared and saved training materials to our public folder and used the legal opinion provided to us to prepare our submissions for review of the Act and engage successfully with stakeholders.” She adds: “In advocating for a review of the Solomon Islands Anti-Corruption act, we made use of the legal opinion provided by UNDP technical experts. The workshop on stakeholder management allowed us to develop submissions for review of the Act and to engage other stakeholders on the discussions for review. We are using the workshop materials and knowledge gained from the evidence based national risk assessment workshop to provide directions to investigators. The training and materials on asset management are helpful in drafting our asset management plan.”

The Deputy Director from the Office of the DPP says: “I am content with the current project and looking forward to more assistance in terms of training on the project and understanding it”. He adds: “One important point I have learned from the experts is that in dealing with corruption-related offences and other offences that are difficult to prove, alternative legal



options are sometimes better. That is to say, we can often deal with these matters using other laws.”

Royal Solomon Islands Police Force

A Prosecutor from the Royal Solomon Island Police Force states: “I have applied my new knowledge to cases received from investigation branches. Sometimes corruption charges need more evidence because of the environment and lack of logistic support as well as knowledge.”

Solomon Islands Financial Intelligence Unit

The Manager of the Solomon Islands Financial Intelligence Unit says: “Thanks to the workshop on stakeholder management, we have now started to reach out to stakeholders in a way that we have not done in the past. This is an improvement.” He adds: “Now that the borders are starting to open up it would be good if future anti-corruption workshops, trainings and seminars are facilitated face-to-face or in person.”

Solomon Islands Hearts of Hope (CSO)

The Program Director at the Hearts of Hope Widows and Orphans Organization says: “People in the two constituencies that we have covered are knowledgeable and ready to work with the Solomon Islands Independent Commission Against Corruption, as per its duties and responsibilities”. He adds: “This was new knowledge for the people of this country where years of corruption has prevented development and equal access for social services.”

Nauru Financial Intelligence Unit

The Supervisor of the FIU in Nauru says: “I attended the sessions, but my take is that there is still lack of understanding of corruption in the region because jurisdictions are marginalized by geographical location and a lack of ability to follow the proceeds of crime. It is important to be realistic and practical in such matters.”

Papua New Guinea Financial Supervision Unit

According to an Analyst at PNG’s Financial and Supervision Unit (FASU) such trainings should be conducted among local Police Investigators. He says: “Learning from this training has assisted in police investigations, but it’s important to have the investigators involved understand the importance of parallel investigations.” He adds: “More awareness on corruption is needed in government departments.”

Tonga Office of the Ombudsman

The Director of Investigation at the Office of the Ombudsman says: “This knowledge has helped me consider the legal framework when looking at an investigation.” He adds: “We are looking forward to incorporating more access to information in our systems.”

Tuvalu Office of the Attorney General

A Crown Prosecutor at the Office of the Attorney General’s Office says: “More funding should be provided for stakeholders to get practical training on how to deal with issues related to corruption. As a prosecutor, we need more training on how to handle corruption cases, especially if it involves ministers or parliament members. We are prone to unlawful dismissal by them if the case continues and we need to work out how to ensure that the cases can proceed without officers being afraid of losing their jobs.”



Vanuatu Financial Intelligence Unit

A financial Analyst at the Vanuatu Financial Intelligence Unit says: “I participate in domestic cooperation and coordination in sharing of information on corruption related cases and the knowledge shared from the training was very useful and has contributed to the fight against corruption in Vanuatu.”

University of the South Pacific Students Association

The President of USPSA says: “USPSA is proud to be working with UNDP to foster Pacific cooperation and give young people in the Pacific region voice on very important governance issues. The timeliness of this RTI advocacy is a reflection of the strong commitment by our youth leaders to fulfil the 2030 Agenda, specifically SDG 16 in support of building a peaceful, just, and inclusive societies through the promotion of good governance. In addition to interest from large number of youths, state and non-state actors have shown interest in participating in further RTI related activities and its promotion.”

University of the South Pacific

An Associate Professor at USP says: “The awareness of and advocacy for RTI by various stakeholders ranging from youths to women entrepreneurs has been phenomenal but we need to train a new cohort of trainers to extend activities across to the Pacific region and design new workshops with different levels of RTI strength. The RTI subject also needs to be contextualized for different groups such as people with disabilities.”

Fiji Police Force

A crime officer from Fiji Police Force says: “I have utilized the learnings as part of everyday work and the knowledge gained has enabled me to identify and engage other stakeholders. However, my most important learning related to networking with other stakeholders, exposure to high level dialogues and interaction with international facilitators who shared real life experiences.”

Fiji Revenue and Customs Service

The Audit Manager at the Fiji Revenue and Customs Service states: “Engagement with the Pacific Anti-Corruption initiative has brought about a new approach towards stakeholder engagement at the office. More engagements of a similar nature would definitely help in identifying gaps and capacity building.”

The Deputy Director at the Fiji Revenue and Customs Service says: “Knowledge shared during the trainings were used straight away in a current case where the Police and FFIU were involved. Otherwise, one of the important things that I took away from my engagement with the project was that we should all respect other law enforcement agencies, and never forget that working for the people we serve and not our organization.”

CLCT Integrity Fiji (CSO)

The Executive Director at CLCT Integrity Fiji says: “We have been using the anti-corruption social media materials and expressive arts that were funded by the project in our outreach. We now use creative methods to reach out to young people and citizens across Fiji. We are grateful for this platform. Our Integrity Fiji brand has been greatly enhanced. We have also linked up with other grant recipients like FCOSS and USPSA and this has been great for our young people.”



Fiji Council for Social Services (CSO)

The Executive Director at FCOSS says: “We have rolled out diagnosis working with government agencies on open data and in the next few months we might be able to raise funds separately to continue parts of the initiative.”

Fiji Law Society

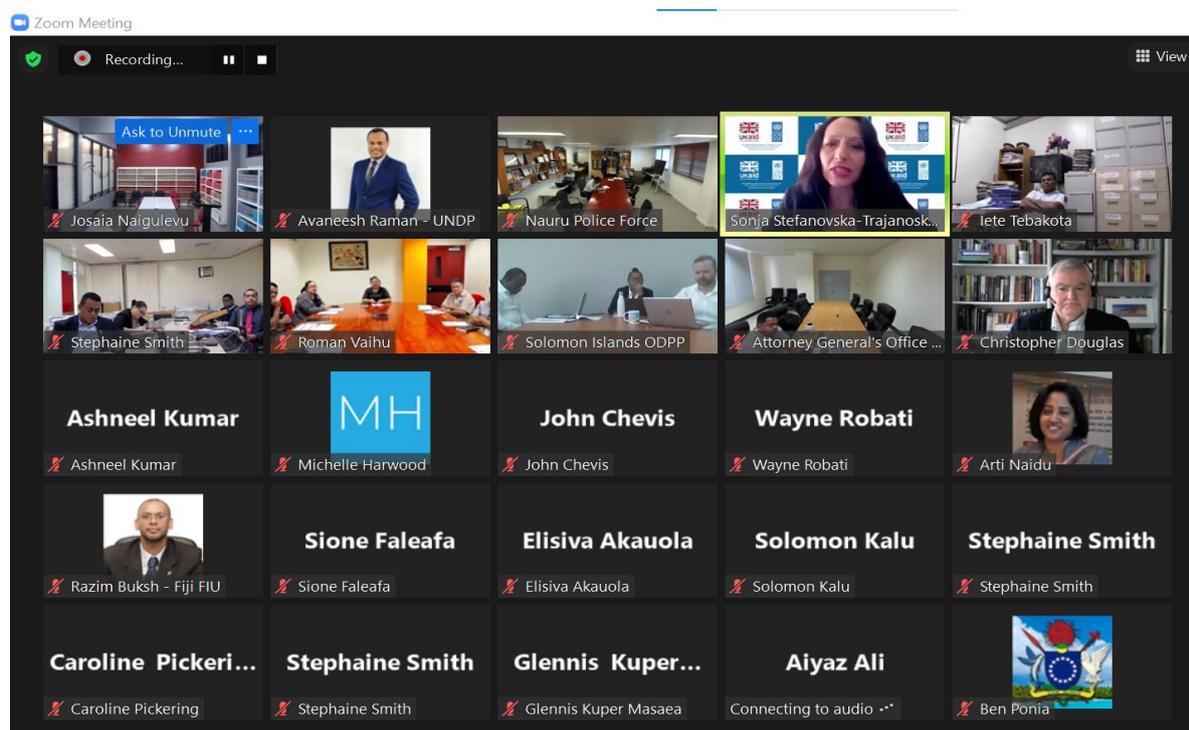
A Secretariat Officer from the Fiji Law Society says: “One of the most important things I have learned from the Anti-Corruption Project is in identifying corruption you must speak up when needed or when you know something is wrong.”



Annex 3. Images and photographs



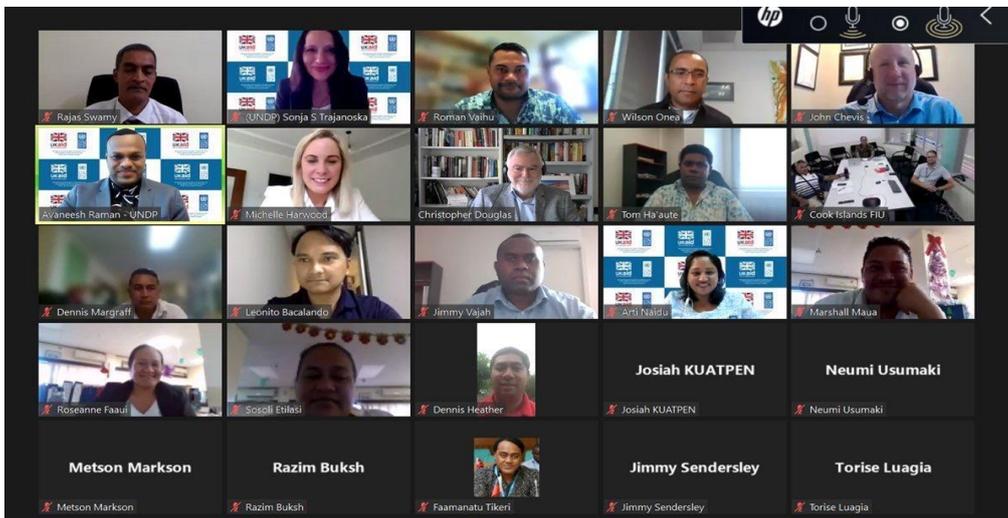
1: Publicity flyer for the event, used primarily online (e.g., for social media).



2: Screenshot of validation seminar 'Addressing Corruption in the Pacific' on 28 October 2021.



3: Publicity flyer for the event, used primarily online (e.g., for social media).

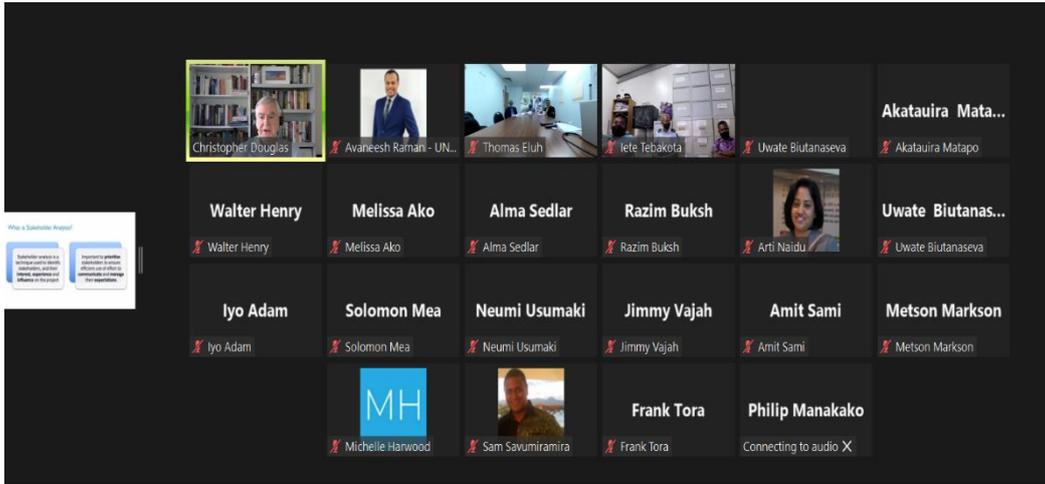


4: Screenshot of High-Level Pacific Virtual Knowledge Exchange Event on 9 December 2021.





5: Publicity flyer for the event, used primarily online (e.g., for social media).



6: Screenshot of Disrupting Corruption: Stakeholder Management Webinar on 9 February 2022.



7: Publicity flyer for the event, used primarily online (e.g., for social media).

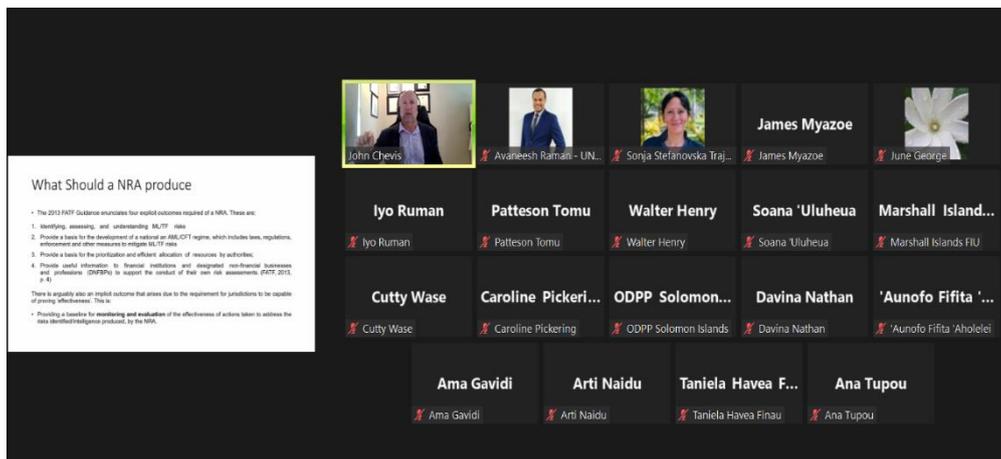
Benefits of a Parallel Financial Investigation

- proactive approach as it identifies the proceeds of the crimes currently under investigation for seizure/restraint
- ensures competent authorities uncover and identify all the participants in a criminal enterprise

8: Screenshot of Parallel Financial Investigations Webinar on 9 March 2022.



9: Publicity flyer for the event, used primarily online (e.g., for social media).



10: Screenshot of Evidence Based National Risk Assessment Webinar on 17 March 2022.





11: Publicity flyer for the event, used primarily online (e.g., for social media).



12: Participants at the Corruption Prevention Training for DNFBCs held from 17-18 May 2022.



13: Publicity flyer for the event, used primarily online (e.g., for social media).

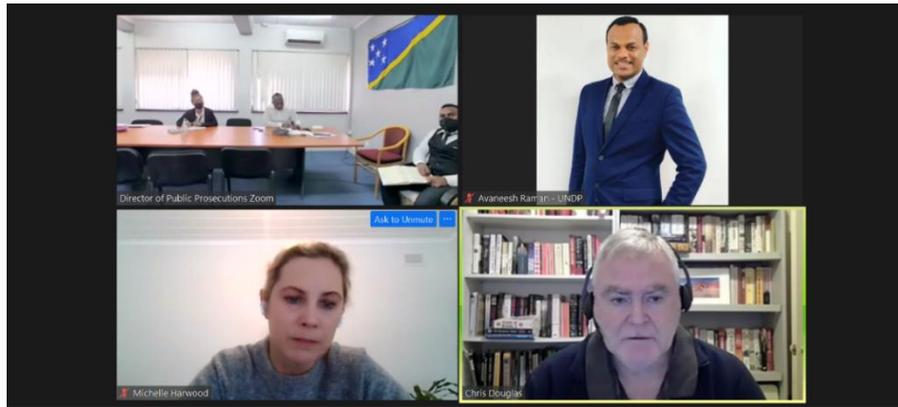


14: Participants with their certificates at the closing of **Stakeholder Management Workshop: Whole-of-society Approach to Anti-Corruption** held from 19-20 May 2022.

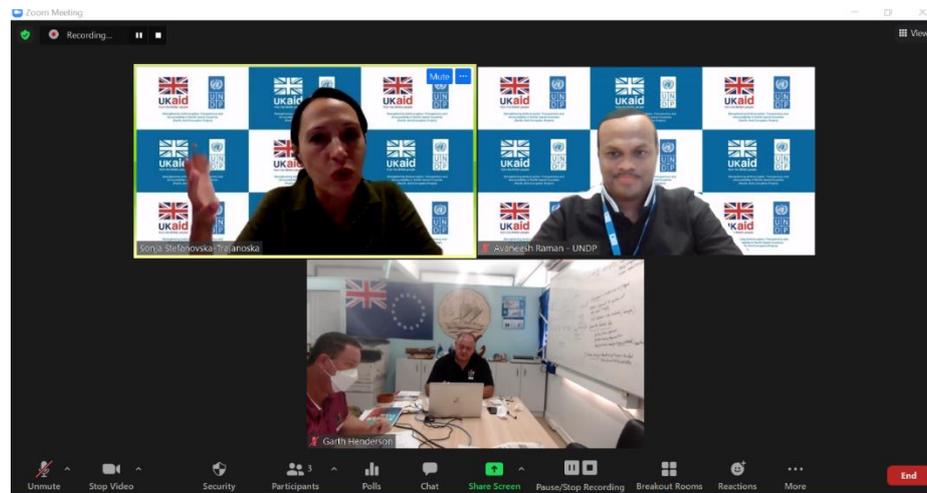
FINANCIAL INVESTIGATIONS TRAINING
held at Level 9, Suvavou House on 2-7 May 2022

www.ficac.org.fj

15: Participants at the launch of the inaugural Financial Investigations Training by FICAC on 2 May 2022.



16: Zoom call between consultants & Office of the DPP Solomon Islands on 13 May 2022.



17: Zoom call with the Cook Islands Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) on 27 April 2022.



18: Youth & Women Entrepreneur's participated at the face-to-face event on RTI advocacy at the USP Laucala Campus.



RTI HACKATHON

UKaid from the British people

USP THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC

UNDP

Join in and witness live 5 USP student teams pitch their innovative ideas on digital tools for RTI in the Pacific with the arterial aim to make information easily available and accessible in the Pacific.

Date: 17 May 2022
Time: 9.15am
Venue: USP Smart Classroom

zoom https://usp-fj.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Yx1zSenSQ1CwtBiQyh6Ekw

An activity funded under the UNDP Project Strengthening Anticorruption, Transparency and Accountability in Pacific Island Countries ("Pacific Anti-Corruption Project").

19: Publicity flyer for the RTI Hackathon event, used primarily online (e.g., for social media).

UKaid from the British people

USP THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC

UNDP

Date: Wednesday 15 June 2022
Venue: FSTE SMART Classroom, USP Laucala Campus
Time: 9.00am to 11.00am

Showcasing Right to Information (RTI) Citizen-Friendly Digital Prototypes

Thematic Area: Food Control & Management

Presentation by: USP STEM Teams

An activity funded under the UNDP Project Strengthening Anticorruption, Transparency and Accountability in Pacific Island Countries ("Pacific Anti-Corruption Project").

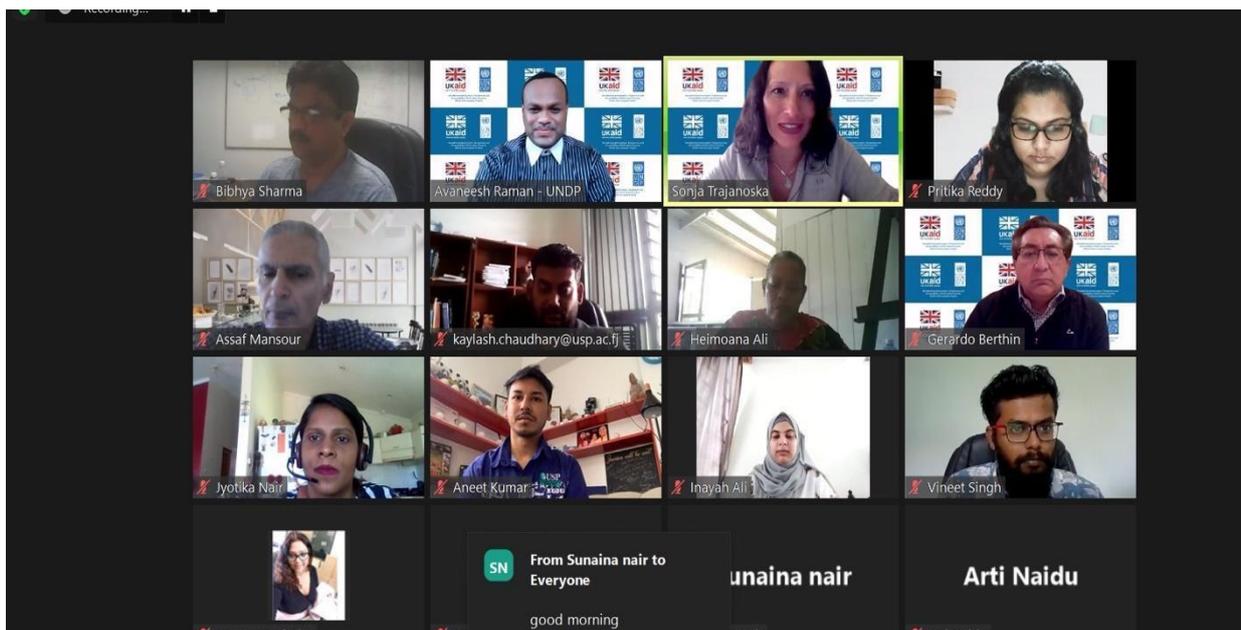
20: Publicity flyer for the RTI event, used primarily online (e.g., for social media).



21: UNDP staff with University of the South Pacific staff and students at the launch of the RTI digital citizen friendly prototypes on RTI.



22: Publicity flyer for the event, used primarily online (e.g., for social media).



23: Screenshot of Training of Trainers on RTI on 27 November 2021.



24: Screenshot of Training of Trainers on RTI on 27 November 2021.



Right to Information

15 February 2022

UNINews

USP students advance RTI knowledge

Pacific virtual – Students at the University of the South Pacific (USP) kick-started the learning programme series on Right to Information (RTI), which will deliver 10 workshop sessions to students over a month connecting 14 USP campuses in 12 Pacific Island countries (PICs) virtually.

The RTI workshop series is organised by the USP Students Association (USPSA) in partnership with the UN Development Programme (UNDP) under its project ‘Strengthening anti-corruption, transparency and accountability in the Pacific Island Countries (Pacific Anti-Corruption Project)’ funded by the UK Government.

At the launch ceremony of the RTI workshop series, Mr. Aneet Kumar, Deputy Secretary General, USPSA said that the workshop introduces the concept of Right to Information and outlines links to transparency, accountability, openness and integrity.

“Students will learn those concepts in the context of international standards and commitments including The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), Agenda 2030 and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with focus on the SDG 16. It will help build resilient economies across the Pacific, especially as our economies recover from the effects of COVID-19,” added Mr Kumar.

Right to Information is an integral part of the fundamental right of freedom of expression, as recognised by Article 19 of UDHR, which encompasses the freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

USP Vice-Chancellor and President, Professor Pal Ahluwalia, who welcomed students and distinguished guests at the launch of the series, expressed the University’s appreciation and gratitude towards the great collaboration that has brought the event to fruition.

Professor Ahluwalia urged, “We all have a role to play as custodians of the Pacific in nurturing our students to recognise the characteristics of good governance and as such our USP academic programmes aspire to foster in our students a commitment to high ethical principles and standards.”

Prior to the workshop, USP academics developed their expert knowledge through the Train the Trainer Session on Right to Information provided by UNDP in partnership with USP and USPSA last year. Over the four sessions of knowledge exchange conducted from 23 November -1 December 2021, they were trained on the values and practical application of right to information and open data for the advancement of public integrity, anti-corruption, transparency and

Professor Pal Ahluwalia
Vice-Chancellor & President

Shaping Pacific Futures

responsibility. The trainers will now facilitate the workshop series on Right to Information.

USPSA President and Chair of the USP Student Council, Mr. Mani Mate, who was part of the earlier training emphasised, “USPSA is proudly taking the lead of this important initiative, contributing to strengthening the Pacific anti-corruption movement. I believe students will deepen and expand their academic interest, knowledge and skills through the workshop and further their study on RTI.”

“The Pacific Anti-Corruption Project which is aimed at strengthening anti-corruption, transparency and accountability in the Pacific Island countries aligns with key regionalism agendas and frameworks. For our students and youths in the region, such projects have a rippling effect across the university’s multi-campus structure, contributing towards the life-long learning experience of a diverse student population,” added Mr. Mate.

His Excellency, Mr. Thomas Coward, British High Commissioner to Solomon Islands and Non-Resident High Commissioner to Nauru said, “I am so glad we are working in partnership with the University of the South Pacific through UNDP to deliver this series of workshops to support students to increase their knowledge of RTI. This important work makes a difference. It helps to root out corruption. It helps ensure resources go to where they are needed. It also helps drive more inclusive, informed and transparent decision-making processes, and ensure that governments are more accountable and responsive to their citizens.”

Under SDG 16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, all PICs made a commitment to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

Mr. Lovén Bouadzé, Resident Representative of UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji highlighted that the right to information was a precondition to achieving progress on sustainable development and therefore, an important target under SDG 16.

“It is encouraging to see students learn this important aspect for sustainable development. It is our commitment to providing knowledge transfer opportunities like this workshop to students as future experts to contribute to accountable and inclusive governance in the Pacific,” said Mr Bouadzé.

The launch ceremony was followed by the first session of the RTI workshop with students participating virtually from four USP campuses in Solomon Islands, Nauru, Niue and Kiribati.

Ranked amongst the TOP 10% of Universities in the World

by the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2022.

www.usp.ac.fj

Shaping Pacific Futures

www.usp.ac.fj

25: USP Alumni News feature on “USP Students advance RTI knowledge”.



26: Successful culmination of the USPSA RTI Workshop on 11 March 2022.



27: Winner of the RTI Creative Arts Competition receiving a certificate from Ms. Nicola Noble from the British High Commission, Suva at the USP Laucala Campus on 11 March 2022.



28: Group Picture at the Opening of the Inaugural Right to Information Pacific Regional Leaders Dialogue at the USP Laucala Campus on 26 May 2022.



29: Group Picture at the Closing of the Inaugural Right to Information Pacific Regional Leaders Dialogue at the USP Laucala Campus on 26 May 2022.



KACIVAKA SCORECARD

FOR OPEN DATA AND ACCOUNTABILITY CAPACITY

RELEASED: MARCH 2022

NORTHERN DCOSS REPRESENTATIVES' DIAGNOSIS OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES' OPEN DATA AND ACCOUNTABILITY CAPACITIES:

- **Agencies Diagnosed:**
 Department of Social Welfare
 Ministry of Health and Medical Services
 Ministry of iTaukei Affairs
 National Disaster Management Office
 Ministry of Youth and Sports
- **Field Analysis Undertaken At:**
 Qelemumumu settlement, Labasa, Macuata
 Vulovi community, Labasa, Macuata
 Yaroi village, Savusavu, Cakaudrove
 Vativa village, Wailevu West, Cakaudrove
 Votua village, Lekutu, Bua
 Cogea Village, Wainunu, Bua
- **Dates of Diagnosis:** 15 January—15 February 2022
- **Enumerators:** 6 Savusavu, Bua and Labasa DCOSS members

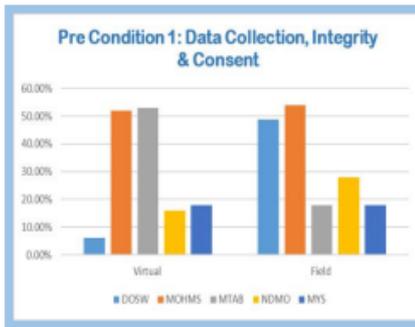
Section 1: General Overview of Open Data and Accountability Capacities Scores Across Agencies



The above agencies were rated against three categories of pre conditions as follows:

1. Data collection, integrity and consent
2. Connections, Coordination and Services
3. Relationships and Community Capacity

The diagnosis involved a virtual and a field assessment.



- Issues of data collection, integrity and consent were rated higher during the field assessments across most agencies.
- This may suggest community's confidence in agencies processes are higher when face to face engagements are conducted.
- MOHMs consistent scoring across the virtual and field assessments and DoSW's contrasting scores across the two assessments suggests the need for standardisation.
- Sharing of best practices on data collection, data integrity and consent across agencies may augur well for government departments.

30: Screenshot of the Kacivaka Scorecard for Open Data and Accountability.



KACIVAKA SCORECARD

About the KACIVAKA PROJECT

KACIVAKA is the iTaukei word for announce or proclaim of which this FCOSS project is aiming to foster in promoting open data and increased access to public information, particularly to support wellbeing at every level.



Forecasted Outcome

The Kacivaka Project supported by UNDP and the UK Government is FCOSS attempt to raise the awareness of the values of improved right to information and access to information for achieving development outcomes, including in countering corruption, fostering integrity and accountability in line with SDG 16 and UN Convention Against Corruption.

Objectives:

It will do this by consolidating the values of open data and public information with community generated data on issues of access and vulnerability in order to develop a citizens' diagnostic tool or platform.

The project has two major activity thrusts:

- a) the convening of an Access and Agency Forum 2021 and the
- b) piloting of a **Kacivaka Diagnostic Tool** in the northern division by community leaders through the District Councils of Social Services.



The KACIVAKA PROJECT is funded and supported by the UK Government and the UNDP Project, Strengthening Anticorruption, Transparency and Accountability in Pacific Island Countries ("Pacific Anti-Corruption Project").

Co-Creation & Rollout of Kacivaka Tool : At A Glance

- At the three day **Access and Agency Forum** held in **December 2021** and attended by representatives from the SG's office, Digital Fiji, Ministry of Communications, Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of iTaukei Affairs, Ministry of Health along with members of the FCOSS networks from the four divisions, participants were able to create the Kacivaka Diagnostic Tool.
- After deliberations and discussions around the current legal framework (mainly the **Information Act**), other policies and standards around access to information and effective humanitarian action; including the Accountability to Affected Population principle participants identified preconditions for improving public's access to information in the following categories:

1. **Data collection, integrity and issues of consent**
2. **Connections, Coordination and Services**
3. **Relationships and Community Capacity**

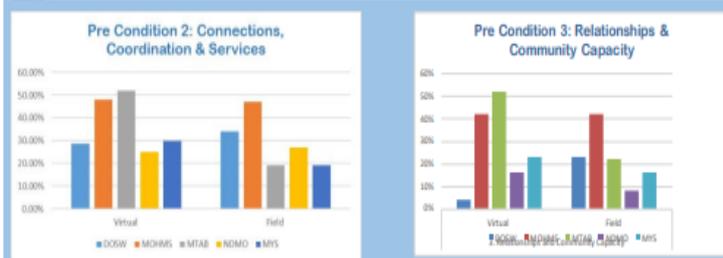
- Participants working in mixed groups decided for each category, a list of measures would be applied that can either be gauged VIRTUALLY or assessed based on FIELD VISITS made by agencies to their communities. Thirdly, all of these are then rated from 5 (highest) to 0 (lowest).
- The diagnosis tool/survey was tested at the Access and Agency Forum by participants which included government officials on five government agencies chosen by the participants
- In January 2022, FCOSS transferred the tool online onto the KoBo Toolbox which is an open source suite of tools for data collection and analysis used in previous surveys conducted by DCOSS networks across Fiji's four administrative division.
- The transfer allowed rural based members of Labasa, Savusavu and Bua DCOSS to participate in a refresher training and the rollout of the diagnosis survey of the five agencies listed in this scorecard. The agencies were chosen by the enumerators.

Fiji Council of Social Services, 256 Waimanu Rd, Suva. / 679 3312649
fcssresearch@gmail.com / fcsscoordination@gmail.com

31: Screenshot of the Kacivaka Toolkit for Open Data and Accountability.



KACIVAKA SCORECARD



- Only one agency scored above 50% in this category. This may be due to the fact that the assessments were conducted in the northern division where issues of digital connectivity are a challenge.
- None of the agencies assessed scored above 50% in the field assessment where enumerators assessed both virtual and physical accessibility of communities to information on services, coordination mechanisms and community engagement strategies.
- On top of consistently low scores across all agencies for both the virtual and field assessments, DoSW and NDMO's below 10% ratings are a cause for concern in this category.
- Very low scores were recorded against queries on vernacular IEC materials and agency capacity building plans for digital literacy. It should be noted that these tasks fall within the mandates of MTA and Ministry of Communications respectively.

32: Screenshot of the Kacivaka Scorecard for Open Data and Accountability.



33: Publicity flyer for the Youth ACT Workshops used primarily online (e.g., for social media).



34: A youth member of Integrity Fiji sharing her experiences during the Youth ACT workshop at Tanoa Plaza held on 14 December 2021.



35: A youth member of Integrity Fiji sharing his experiences during the Youth ACT workshop at Tanoa Plaza on 14 December 2021.



36: Integrity Fiji youths at the Youth ACT Production Workshop held at the Uprising Beach Resort, Pacific Harbour on 17 December 2021.



37: Integrity Fiji youths at a brainstorming session during the Youth ACT Production Workshop held at the Uprising Beach Resort, Pacific Harbour on 17 December 2021.



38: UNDP and BHC teams at the Youths 4 Integrity “Ignite a Flame” launch event on 26 March 2022.



39: Community Advocacy on Anti-Corruption in one of the provinces in Solomon Islands (3 January 2022 to 12 January 2022).

Annex 4. Event attendance and bilateral consultations

Validation seminar addressing corruption in the Pacific – what has been tried, what has worked and what else might be done? 28 October 2021

Jurisdiction	Agency	Level of Representation	Number of Attendees
Cook Islands	Cook Islands Police Force	Acting Police Commissioner	1
	Financial Intelligence Unit	Head of FIU	2
		Senior Investigator	
	Cook Islands Anti-Corruption Committee	Senior Member	1
Fiji	Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption	Manager Investigations	6
		Chief Investigators	
		Principal Legal Officers	
	Fiji Financial Intelligence Unit	Director	2
	Fiji Police Force	Manager Policy & Compliance	3
		Manager Major Crime Unit	
		Senior Investigators	
Nauru	Nauru Police Force	Police Commissioner	3
		Senior Police	



Solomon Islands	Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions	Director	4
		Deputy Director	
Principal Legal Officers			
	Police Prosecutions Directorate	Police Prosecutors	2
Tonga	Office of the Ombudsman	Ombudsman	5
		Director of Investigations	
	Office of the Attorney General	Crown Counsel	2
	Transaction Reporting Authority	Senior Analyst	1
	UNDP Tonga	National Coordinator	1
Vanuatu	Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions	Director	1
	Vanuatu Government	Principal Policy Analyst Governance & Leadership	1
TOTAL ATTENDEES			35

High-Level Pacific Virtual Knowledge Exchange Event: 'Intelligence-Led Financial Disruption of Corruption' 9 December 2021

Jurisdiction	Agency	Level of Representation	Number of Attendees
Cook Islands	Financial Intelligence Unit	Head of FIU	2
		Senior Investigator	
	Cook Islands Customs Service	Customs Officer	1
Federal States of Micronesia	Office of the Attorney General	Assistant Attorney General	1
Fiji	Fiji Financial Intelligence Unit	Director	1
Kiribati	Public Service Office	Deputy Secretary	2
		Director	
Nauru	Financial Intelligence Unit	Director	1
	Nauru Government	Legal Drafter	1
Papua New Guinea	Financial Analysis & Supervision Unit (FASU)	Director	1
	UNDP Office	Adviser	1
Republic of the Marshall Islands	Office of the Banking Commission	Manager FIU	1



Samoa	Audit Office	Senior Auditors	4
Solomon Islands	Financial Intelligence Unit	Director	2
	Central Bank of Solomon Islands	Manager Intelligence Division Supervisor	1
Tonga	Office of the Ombudsman	Director Investigations	1
Tuvalu	Office of the Attorney General	Senior Officials	3
Vanuatu	Financial Intelligence Unit	Senior Analysts	2
TOTAL ATTENDEES			25

Pacific Virtual Knowledge Exchange Event: Disrupting Corruption: Stakeholder Management Webinar 9 February 2022

Jurisdiction	Agency	Level of Representation	Number of Attendees
Fiji	Fiji Financial Intelligence Unit	Director	1
	Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption	Investigators, Legal Team	5
Cook Islands	Cook Islands Police Force	Senior Investigators	3
Solomon Islands	Solomon Islands Independent Commission Against Corruption	Director	2
	Solomon Islands Public Prosecutors Office	Prosecutors	3
	Solomon Islands Financial Intelligence Unit	Manager	1
Papua New Guinea	Papua New Guinea Independent Commission Against Corruption	Director	4
	UNDP	Program Manager	1
Vanuatu	Vanuatu FIU	Analyst	1
Republic of the Marshall Islands	Republic of the Marshall Islands Banking Commission (FIU)	Manager	1
Nauru	Nauru Police Force	Investigator	1
Tuvalu	Tuvalu Office of the Attorney General	Prosecutor	1
TOTAL ATTENDEES:			24



Pacific Virtual Knowledge Exchange Event: ‘Parallel Financial Investigations & Asset Recovery: Corruption Proceeds’ Webinar

Jurisdiction	Agency	Level of Representation	Number of Attendees
Fiji	Fiji Financial Intelligence Unit	Director, Manager & Analyst	3
	Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption	Investigators, Legal Team	3
	Fiji Police Force	Senior Investigators	3
Cook Islands	Cook Islands FIU	Director & Analyst	2
Solomon Islands	Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions	Senior Prosecutors	4
	SIICAC	Director	2
	Office of the Ombudsman	Senior Officials	4
	Solomon Islands Financial Intelligence Unit	Analyst	1
Nauru	Nauru Police Force	Investigators	8
	Office of the Solicitor General	Prosecutor	1
	Department of Justice & Border Control	Prosecutor	1
	Nauru Financial Intelligence Unit	Director	1
Papua New Guinea	FASU	Supervisor	1
	Papua New Guinea Independent Commission Against Corruption	Senior Official	1
Tonga	Office of the Attorney General	Senior Prosecutors	5
	Royal Tonga Police Force	Investigators	3
Vanuatu	Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions	Director	1
	Vanuatu FIU	Analyst	1
Republic of the Marshall Islands	Office of the Auditor General	Senior Auditors	5
	Republic of the Marshall Islands Banking Commission (FIU)	Manager	1
Tuvalu	Tuvalu Office of the Attorney General	Prosecutor	1
TOTAL ATTENDEES:			52



Pacific Virtual Knowledge Sharing Webinar: Evidence – Based National Risk Assessment (NRA) 17 March 2022

Jurisdiction	Agency	Level of Representation	Number of Attendees
Fiji	Fiji Financial Intelligence Unit	Supervision Manager + Compliance Analyst	2
Cook Islands	Cook Islands Financial Intelligence Unit	Director & Analyst	3
Tonga	Office of the Attorney General	Prosecutors	3
	Royal Tonga Police Force	Investigators	3
Republic of the Marshall Islands	Office of the Auditor General	Senior Auditors	3
	Republic of the Marshall Islands Banking Commission (FIU)	Manager	1
	Trust Company of the Marshall Islands	Director	1
Solomon Islands	Office of the Ombudsman	Senior Officials	2
Nauru	Nauru Police Force	Investigators	3
TOTAL ATTENDEES:			21

Corruption Prevention Training for Designated Non-Financial Businesses and Professions (DNFBP) 17-18 May 2022

Agency	Designation (Job Title)
Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption (FICAC)	Principal Corruption Prevention Officer, West
	Manager Corruption Prevention
	Principal Corruption Prevention Officer
Fiji Law Society	Legal Counsel and Business Support
Fiji Law Society: Pacific Chambers	Principal
Fiji Law Society – Council Member	Principal: Samuel Ram Lawyers
Real Estate Agents Licensing Board (Real B)	Registrar
	Samuel Ram Lawyers: Council Member, Fiji Law Society F9:F10
Dorine Charan Real Estate	Real Estate Agent
New Door Real Estate	Real Estate Agent
Property Experts	Real Estate Agent: Managing Director
Capital Realtors	Real Estate Agent
Propmate Real Estate	Real Estate Agent
Ernest & Young	Manager: Tax, Accounting, Compliance & Reporting
BDO	Director Audit & Assurance Services
PWC	Manager: Tax and Business Advisory Services
KPMG	Risk & Compliance Officer
Legal Practitioners Unit	Legal Officer
Legal Practitioners Unit	Legal Officer



Fiji Law Society	Secretariat
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Stakeholder Management Workshop: Whole-of-society Approach to Anti-Corruption 19-20 May 2022

Jurisdiction	Agency	Designation (Job Title)
Fiji	Fiji Revenue and Customs Authority (FRCS)	Principal Auditor
		Deputy Director Intelligence, Compliance & Investigation
		Chief Customs Officer: Compliance & Investigation, West
		Chief Customs Officer: Compliance & Investigation, Suva
		Manager Risk Assessment & Financial Intelligence
		Senior Customs Officer
	Transnational Crimes Unit	Team Leader, TCU, Nadi Airport
		Field Officer, Investigations
	Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption (FICAC)	Manager Investigation
		Principal Corruption Prevention Officer, West
		Senior State Counsel
		Manager Corruption Prevention
		Senior Corruption Prevention Officer
		Chief Investigator
		Chief Investigator
		Senior Corruption Prevention Officer
		Senior Corruption Prevention Officer
		Training & Public Relations Officer
		Manager Investigations: North/West
		Investigator
	Fiji Police Force	Senior Investigator, Organised Crime Unit
		Investigator, Organised Crime Unit
		Crime Officer
		Manager: Major Fraud Unit
		Senior Investigator
		Crime Sergeant
		Legal Officer
		Crime Officer
		Crime Officer
	Crime Corporal	
Vanuatu	Vanuatu FIU	FIU Analyst
		FIU Staff
Solomon Islands	Solomon Islands FIU	Senior Analyst – DNFBPs / Cash Dealers & NPOs
		Financial Intelligence Analyst/Investigator
		Manager Intelligence Management Division
	Solomon Islands ICAC	Director General
	Solomon Islands DPP	Senior Official
	Solomon Islands Office of the Ombudsman	Director of Legal Services
	Solomon Islands DPP	Legal Officer
	UNDP Solomon Islands	Deputy Program Officer
Solomon Island DPP	DPP	
Solomon Islands Office of the Ombudsman	Office of the Ombudsman Senior Official	



Tonga	Tonga Police	Detective - Serious Organized and Transnational Crime Unit, Tonga Police
	Office of the Attorney General, Tonga	Assistant Crown Council
Republic of the Marshall Islands	Republic of the Marshall Islands	Police
Nauru	Department of Justice and Border Control, Nauru	Director for Human Rights
		Senior Public Legal Defender
Kiribati	Kiribati Public Service Office	Senior Official

Bilateral Consultations: Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Fiji

Date of Session	Jurisdiction	Institutions Represented
10 November 2021	Solomon Islands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ UNDP Solomon Islands ❖ Solomon Islands FIU ❖ Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions ❖ Office of the Ombudsman <p>Apologies were received from the Solomon Islands Independent Commission against Corruption (SIICAC)</p>
12 November 2021	Samoa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ UNDP Samoa ❖ Samoa Public Service Commission ❖ Ministry for Public Enterprise ❖ Samoa Audit Office
19 November 2021	Tuvalu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 5 representatives from the Office of the Attorney General in Tuvalu (Senior Crown Counsels & Crown Counsels)
Case Study Submission Discussions		
17 December 2021	Fiji	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption (FICAC) representatives
24 January 2022	Tuvalu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Office of the Attorney General
31 January 2022	Cook Islands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Cook Islands Financial Intelligence Unit
1 March 2022	Solomon Islands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions



Annex 5. Table showing progress against targets under Output 1

Indicator(s)	Baseline	Milestones	Target	Progress at June 2022	Assessment of overall progress
Number of sub-regional institutional knowledge exchange events and/or secondments organized (travel restrictions permitting) between Pacific anti-corruption/integrity institutions for sharing of lessons learned and good practices on anti-corruption between at least 2 PICs.	(2021) – Sub-regional and regional knowledge-sharing is taking place in a fragmented way and mostly relies on international practices. UNDP has been playing a major role in forging sub-regional and regional knowledge-sharing.	Exchange meetings workshops held (3)	2 PIC anti-corruption institutions/April 2022 (5)	<p>Institutional knowledge exchange was initiated between two anti-corruption institutions from two countries, namely FICAC and SIICAC on sharing practical experiences and lessons learned. All standing orders from FICAC were shared with SIICAC for organizational learning and to capitalize on established anti-corruption institutional practices in Fiji.</p> <p>A draft MOU is in place, awaiting further review from FICAC for subsequent finalization.</p> <p>Secondment arrangements between the two anti-corruption commissions were not possible due to COVID-19 travel restrictions. FICAC supported SIICAC in initial induction programme in May 2022.</p> <p>Bilateral sessions with Cook Islands and Tuvalu initiated to provide support on their respective National Anti-Corruption strategies.</p> <p>Papua New Guinea ICAC participated in webinars upon invite and shared some practical challenges and some best practices in relation to corruption investigations.</p> <p>Overall good progress, with some delays due to lack of responsiveness</p>	<i>Exceeded the target</i>



				<p>from SIICAC and also the developments in Solomon Islands which saw some shifting of priorities.</p> <p>Despite the delays in signing of the MOU between FICAC and SIICAC, there is sustained commitment, and the MOU is expected to be signed in July 2022.</p>	
<p>Number of specialised trainings and related programmes designed and rolled out to criminal justice systems stakeholders (police, prosecutors, judges, financial intelligence units) involved in detection, investigation, Prosecution and adjudication of cases regarding misuse of public moneys and related financial crimes and other corruption issues.</p>	<p>(2021) - Some Pacific criminal justice stakeholders are highly capable but expertise is not consistent across all levels specifically in relation to capacities for detection, investigation, and prosecution of financial and corruption-related crimes.</p>	1	4	<p>7 regional knowledge exchange events covering a total of 230 participants (144 males; 86 females) from 14 PICs</p> <p>Additional 10 participants supported through the FICAC financial investigations trainings</p> <p>Secondment arrangements and/or direct in-person country and regional support by the UNDP team and international experts was not possible due to COVID-19 travel restrictions.</p> <p>By June 2022, the project cumulative target has been exceeded by 3 additional specialised trainings which included two face-to face technical trainings.</p>	<i>Exceeded the target</i>
<p>Number of trainings delivered to address organizational weaknesses within the criminal justice sector and individual criminal justice institutions in relation to investigating financial crimes.</p>	<p>(2021) - Some organizational weaknesses may have been addressed but streamlining and updating of procedures is needed.</p>	2	3	<p>Three additional bilateral consultations/knowledge events held with Solomon Islands, Cook Islands and Tuvalu on specific case study submissions reflecting specific country organizational weaknesses and challenges.</p> <p>Secondment arrangements and/or direct in-person country and regional</p>	<i>Exceeded the target.</i>



				<p>support by the UNDP team and international experts was not possible due to COVID-19 travel restrictions.</p> <p>The production and related training on guidelines, manuals and other knowledge products reflected below, is cross referenced as it aims to help address organizational weaknesses in the Pacific jurisdictions.</p> <p>Policy advisory and technical support provided to FICAC to initiate multi-stakeholder national anti-corruption strategy.</p> <p>By the end of June 2022, the overall target has been exceeded by provision of additional 3 bilateral consultations/knowledge events involving 5 PICs, or an expected aggregated total of 7 bilateral sessions for the duration of the initiation phase.</p> <p>Sessions organized with Nauru were postponed due to poor internet connectivity and the session with Tonga was postponed due to the impact of the volcano.</p>	
<p>Criminal justice system organizational procedures revised/streamlined/revamped in 1 PIC to improve efficiency and meet the international standards and practices.</p>	<p>Existing operational procedures to be reviewed.</p>	<p>December 2021 (draft)</p>	<p>Final</p>	<p>Organizational issues are being addressed through a number of knowledge products to be made available to all 14 PICs. To date, 5 handbooks have been drafted, edited, and designed:</p>	<p><i>Exceeded the target</i></p>



				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intelligence-led Financial Disruption of Corruption: A Guide for Practitioners • National Risk Assessment (NRA) Handbook: A Guide for Practitioners • Corruption Investigation Handbook: A Guide for Practitioners • The Prosecution of Corruption: A Guide for Practitioners • Parallel Financial Investigations: A Guide for Practitioners <p>In addition, on-going support is being provided to the Office of the DPP in Solomon Islands for the provision of expert views and legislative advice in relation to alignment with international standards of some specific provisions of the Solomon Islands Anti-Corruption Act 2018 (SIACA) and the Penal Code with the definition of “Public official” in the new section 4a of SIACA.</p> <p>The advice confirmed that there were some shortfalls in the SIACA in relation to the requirements of UNCAC, most notably the drafting of a defence to bribery and corruption charges that would make prosecution of these offences extremely difficult. The discussions are ongoing.</p> <p>The UNDP Pacific Office team engaged in a bilateral discussion with the Cook Islands Anti-Corruption Commission on</p>	
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				<p>27 April 2022 to discuss progress in relation to their National Anti-Corruption Strategy (NACS) and offered technical assistance and support towards implementation of the NACS. Similar support has also been offered to Tuvalu.</p> <p>By the end of June 2022, an aggregated total of 5 knowledge products have been produced for the duration of the initiation phase. The finalization of these knowledge products is planned to be accompanied with more trainings beyond June 2022.</p>	
Improved capacities to detect, investigate financial and/or other corruption-related crimes reported in at least 1 PIC	Baseline to be established	In progress	Capacities considerably improved compared to baseline	<p>Initial knowledge has been assessed via evaluation forms after respective regional knowledge-exchange events.</p> <p>A survey was circulated to the beneficiaries of training and technical and advisory support from PICs to assess the level of improved knowledge and capacities to detect and investigate financial and/or other corruption-related crimes.</p> <p>The feedback from evaluations of events held is very positive indicating relevant targeting of institutions, innovative and useful contents, and overall satisfaction with the quality and relevance of the training provided.</p> <p>A survey was circulated to the beneficiaries of training and technical and advisory support from PICs to assess the level of improved knowledge</p>	<i>Achieved</i>



				and capacities to detect and investigate financial and/or other corruption-related crimes. The outcome of the Survey indicates improved knowledge and capacities compared to baseline.	
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Annex 6. Table showing progress against targets under Output 2

Indicator(s)	Baseline	Milestones	Target	Progress at June 2022	Assessment of overall progress
Number of PICs provided with innovative prototype tools for proactive disclosure of information and/or access to government information	While government institutions tend to have websites, there is great variation in data availability and approaches/tools for access to information. Vanuatu’s RTI Unit is leading on regional efforts.	/	2 PICs	<p>3 prototype tools, 3 PICs</p> <p>Letter of Agreement signed with the University of the South Pacific to develop and roll-out the innovative prototype tools for proactive disclosure of information and/or access was successfully executed with two citizen friendly digital prototypes launched before end of June 2022</p> <p>Surveys conducted to gather information on current awareness and practices on the Right to Information and collect ideas for preferred methods/tools for access to information.</p> <p>In one critical service delivery, Food Control & Management, 2 RTI citizen friendly digital prototypes developed in three PICs - Fiji, Vanuatu and Tonga.</p> <p>Based on the survey findings and recommendations, two digital tools have</p>	<i>Exceeded the target</i>



				<p>been developed and prototyped in June 2022</p> <p>Additional Kacivaka Diagnostic Tool on RTI developed and tested by FCOSS</p>	
<p>Number of people engaged/consulted in proposing their preferred model/prototype for access to information in one critical service delivery area (e.g., health, social sector etc.)</p>	<p>UNDP has been working to improve the enabling environment and provide technical advice for policy reforms for introduction of RTI regimes. Only sporadic efforts have been made to address the demand side.</p>	50	150	<p>1,054 respondents (671 male and 383 female) engaged by USP in surveys, focus groups and consultations.</p> <p>Number of attendees at the Showcasing RTI Citizen Friendly digital prototypes event held on 15 June 2022: 29 (17 male – 12 female), 33 attendees at the RTI Hackathon event held on 17 May 2022 (20 male, 13 female).</p> <p>FCOSS under the CSO grants engaged in broad consultative process on development of an innovative tool in a critical service delivery area. More than 100 people have been engaged by FCOSS in initial consultations for development of the digital tool.</p>	<i>Exceeded the target</i>
<p>Number of private sector entities benefiting from awareness and training activities on the values of open data/access to information</p>	<p>While the private sector is increasingly proactive in integrity and anti-corruption, its potential is not sufficiently tapped. There is a need to increase recognition of the values of transparency,</p>	15, of which at least 1/3 owned by women	30 of which at least 1/3 owned by women	<p>Approximately 250 women and potential women entrepreneurs were involved in information needs mapping/ assessment of private sectors, focused specifically on women-owned enterprises and subsequent workshops facilitated by USP.</p> <p>Output 3: Information needs assessment of the private sector, in particular women entrepreneurs in Fiji, Vanuatu, and Tonga.</p>	<i>Exceeded the target</i>



	<p>accountability, and open data to unleash business innovation, job creation and development, especially post COVID-19.</p>			<p>From Fiji, 99 women entrepreneurs (85 central region, 11 western region, 4 northern region) were engaged, and 31 from Vanuatu.</p> <p>Output 5 focused on RTI: Workshops for Women and Youth Entrepreneurs in the Pacific and targeted specific groups in Fiji, Tonga, and Vanuatu both face to face and virtually.</p> <p>A total of 166 youths and women entrepreneurs registered for the workshop of which about 103 participants attended face-to-face and 93% were female and 7% male.</p>	
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