



Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) in the Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) – An introduction

Paula Vivili, Public Health Division, Pacific Community (SPC)



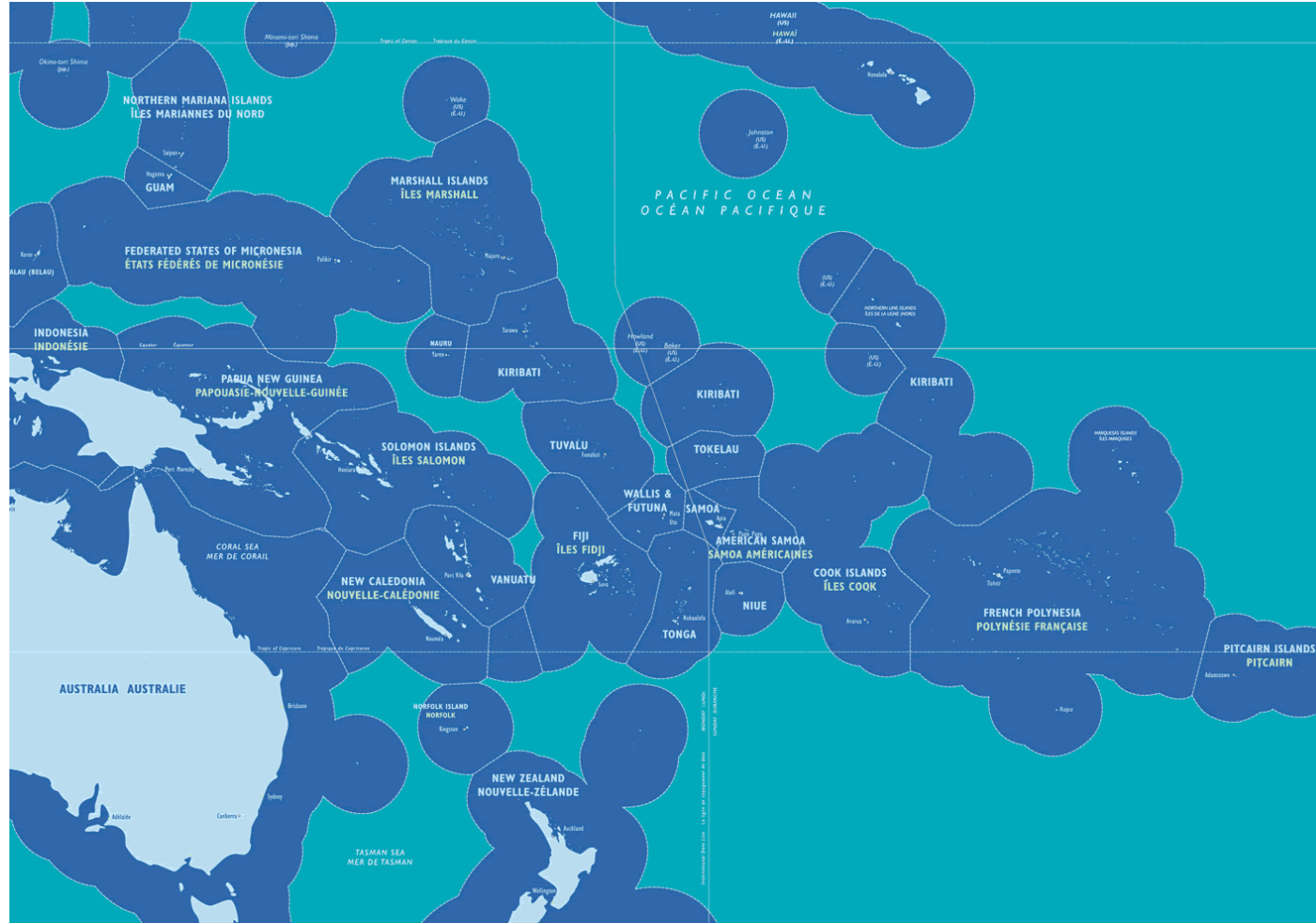
INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND CANCER
A shared agenda for Aotearoa, Australia and Pacific nations

Outline

- Burden of NCDs
- Economic Costs of NCDs
- Pacific NCD Roadmap
- Pacific Monitoring Alliance for NCD Action (MANA)
- Regional Governance
- Desired Outcomes



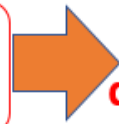
The 'Blue' Continent



INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND CANCER
A shared agenda for Aotearoa, Australia and Pacific nations

NCD Mortality – global

56 millions deaths
worldwide in 2012

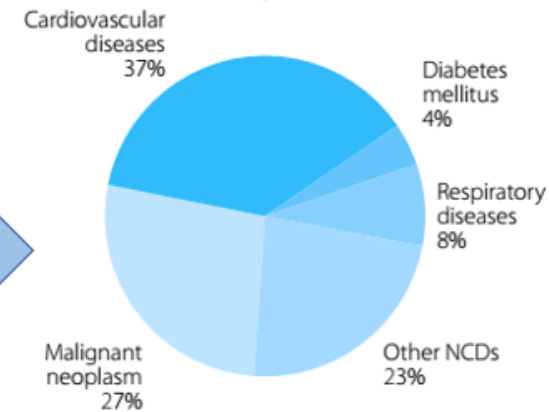
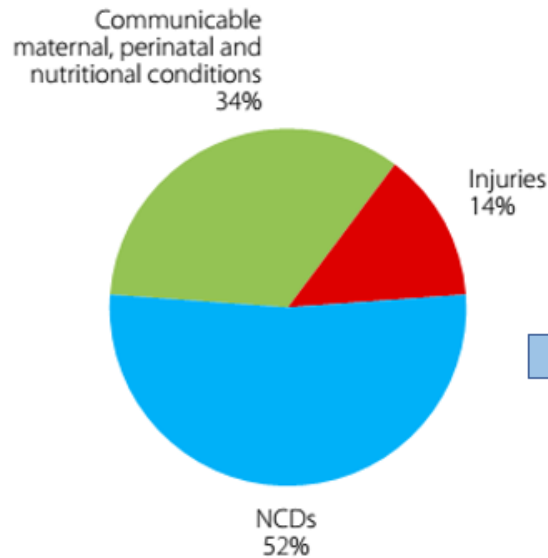


38 millions (67%)
deaths were due to NCD



28 millions (75%)
deaths in LMIC

Proportion of global deaths under the age 70 years by cause of death

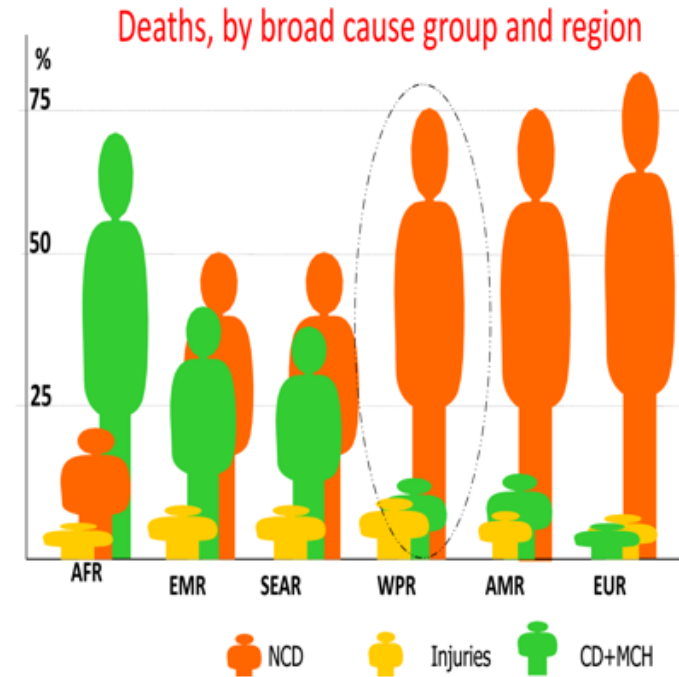
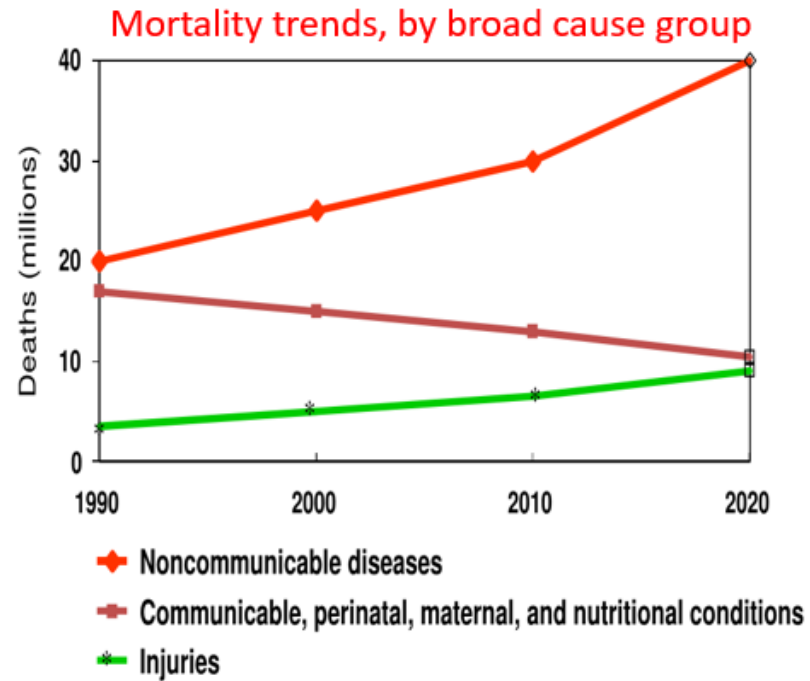


Source: WHO global status report on NCD 2014



INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND CANCER
A shared agenda for Aotearoa, Australia and Pacific nations

NCD Mortality - Regional



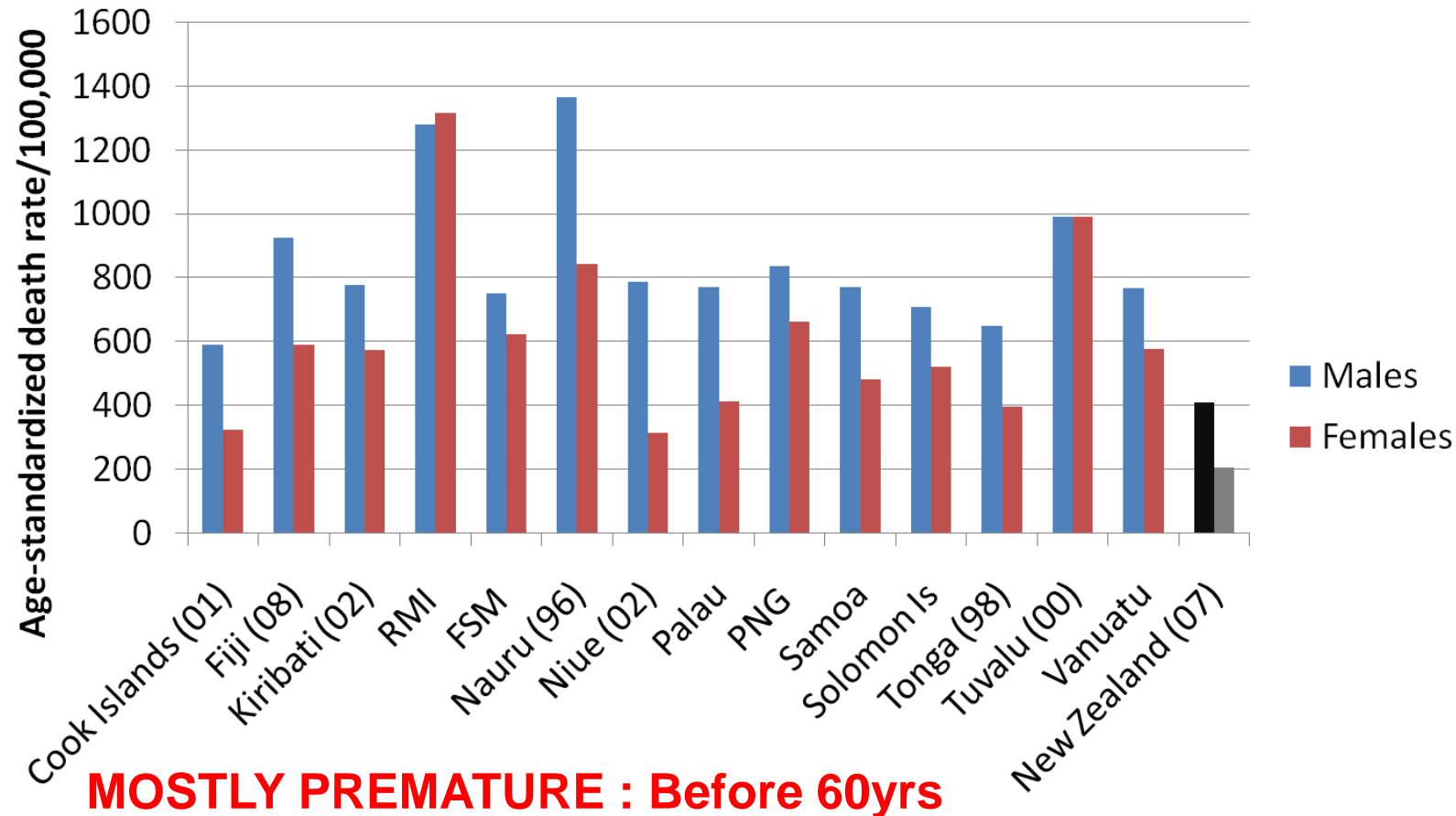
Source: WHO global status report on NCD



INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND CANCER
 A shared agenda for Aotearoa, Australia and Pacific nations

NCD Mortality – selected PICTs

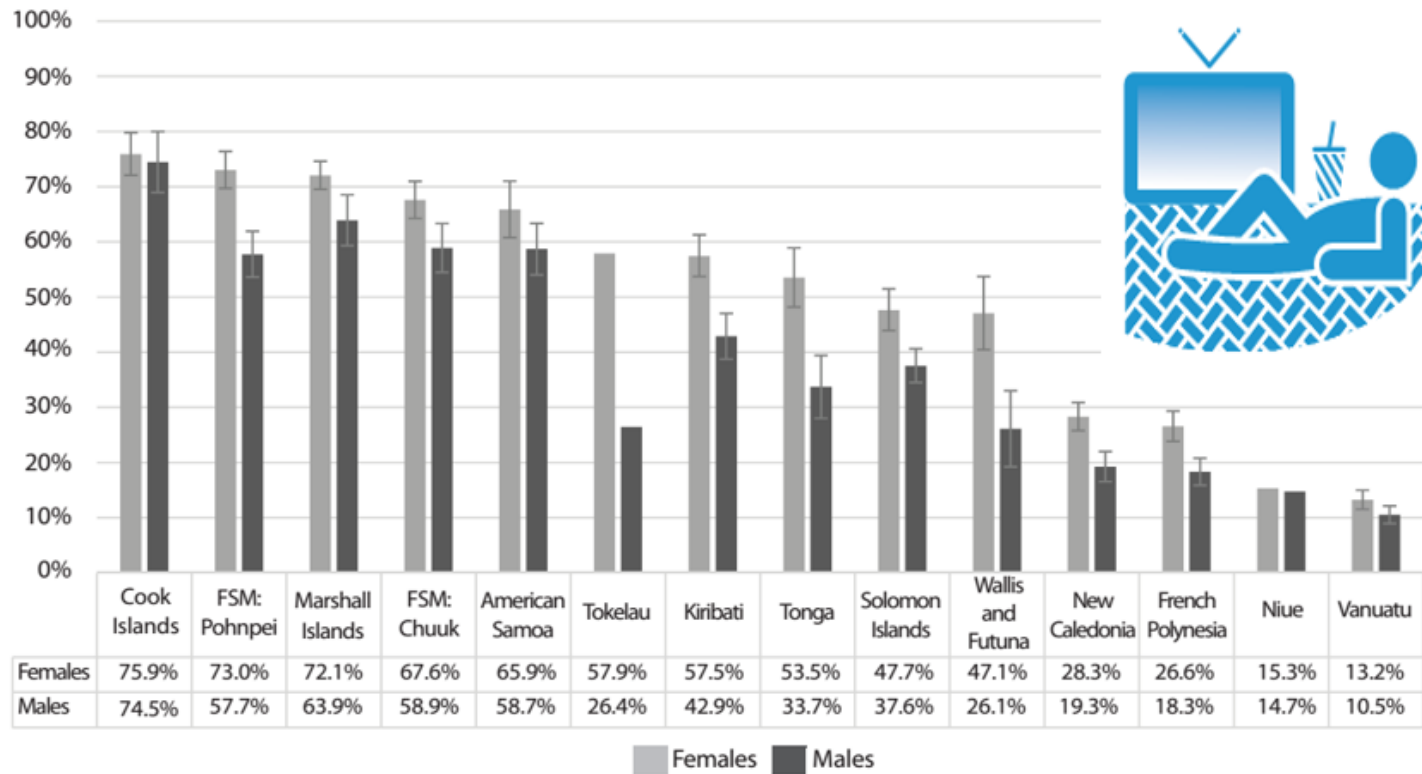
Pacific age-standardized death rate/100,000 from all NCDs



INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND CANCER
A shared agenda for Aotearoa, Australia and Pacific nations

Physical inactivity in PICTs

Physical inactivity, aged 25-64 years



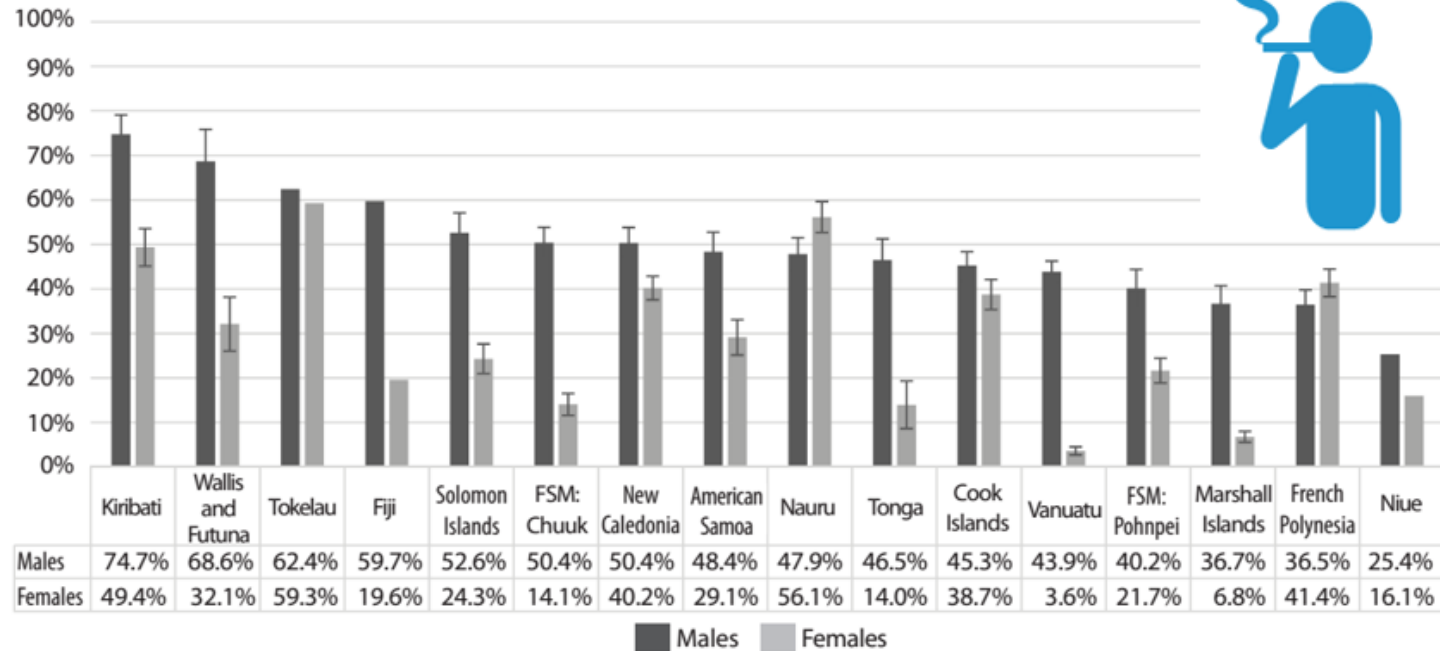
Source: Kessaram et al 2015; WHO STEPS



INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND CANCER
A shared agenda for Aotearoa, Australia and Pacific nations

Smoking in PICTs

Current smokers, aged 25-64 years



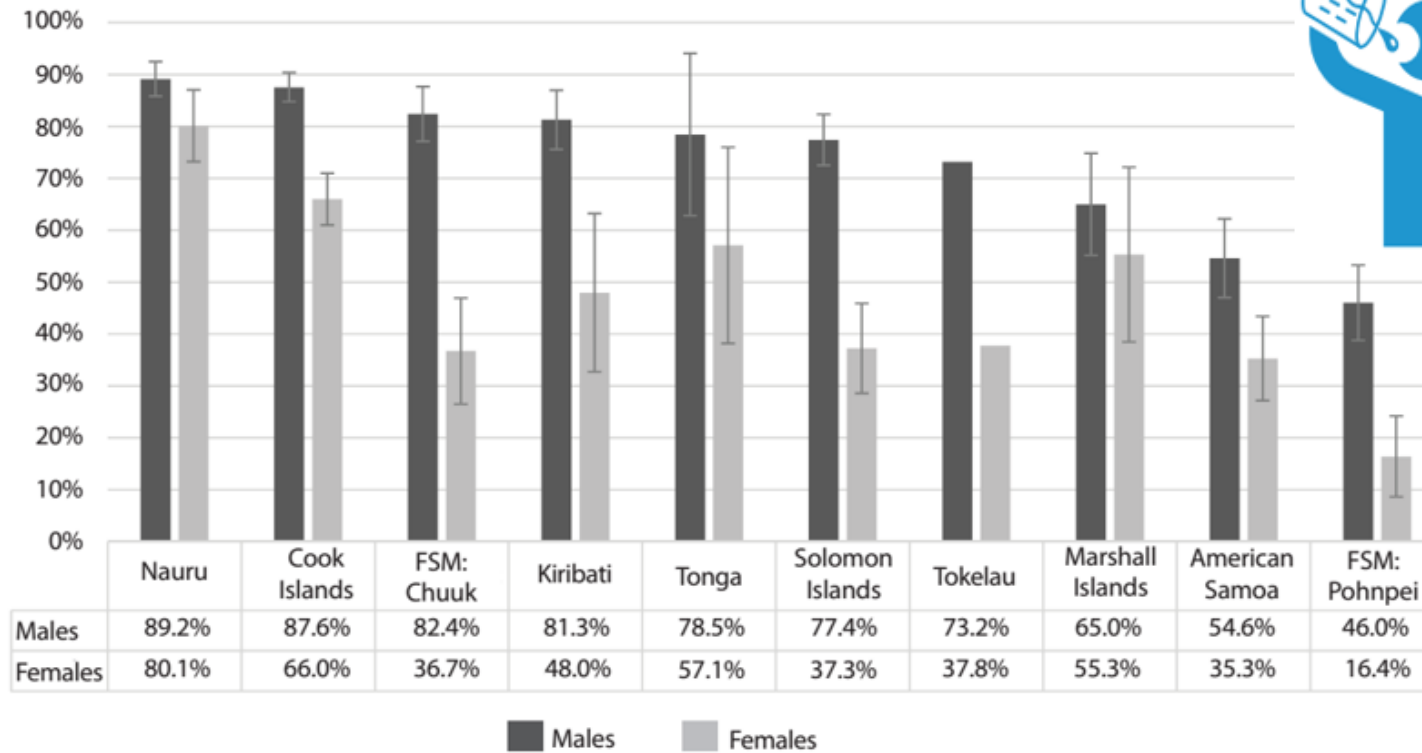
Sources: Kessaram et al 2015; WHO STEPS



INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND CANCER
A shared agenda for Aotearoa, Australia and Pacific nations

Alcohol consumption in PICTs

Current heavy alcohol drinkers , aged 25-64 years



Source: Kessaram et al 2015; WHO STEPS



INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND CANCER
A shared agenda for Aotearoa, Australia and Pacific nations

Overweight and Obesity Prevalence

Ranking	Country	Prevalence (%)
1	American Samoa	94
2	FSM	92
3	Cook Is	92
4	Tonga	92
5	Tokelau	87
6	Samoa	85
7	Niue	84
8	Tuvalu	83
9	Nauru	82
10	Palau	77
	New Zealand	66
	Australia	63



INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND CANCER
A shared agenda for Aotearoa, Australia and Pacific nations

NCD is a major cause of disability and cost to family

- Worsens poverty
 - treatment costs can be a burden to household income
 - women leave work to be carers
 - children leave school to care and/or supplement household incomes
 - Money spent on tobacco is money not spent on other needs

(Not) treating NCDs

- Cancers
 - Chemotherapy (very limited availability)
 - Radiotherapy (mostly not available)
- Cardiovascular Diseases – CABG (not available)
- Diabetes
 - Kidney complications: dialysis (mostly not available / not affordable)
 - Diabetes eye disease complications: treatment limited to laser; surgery not available

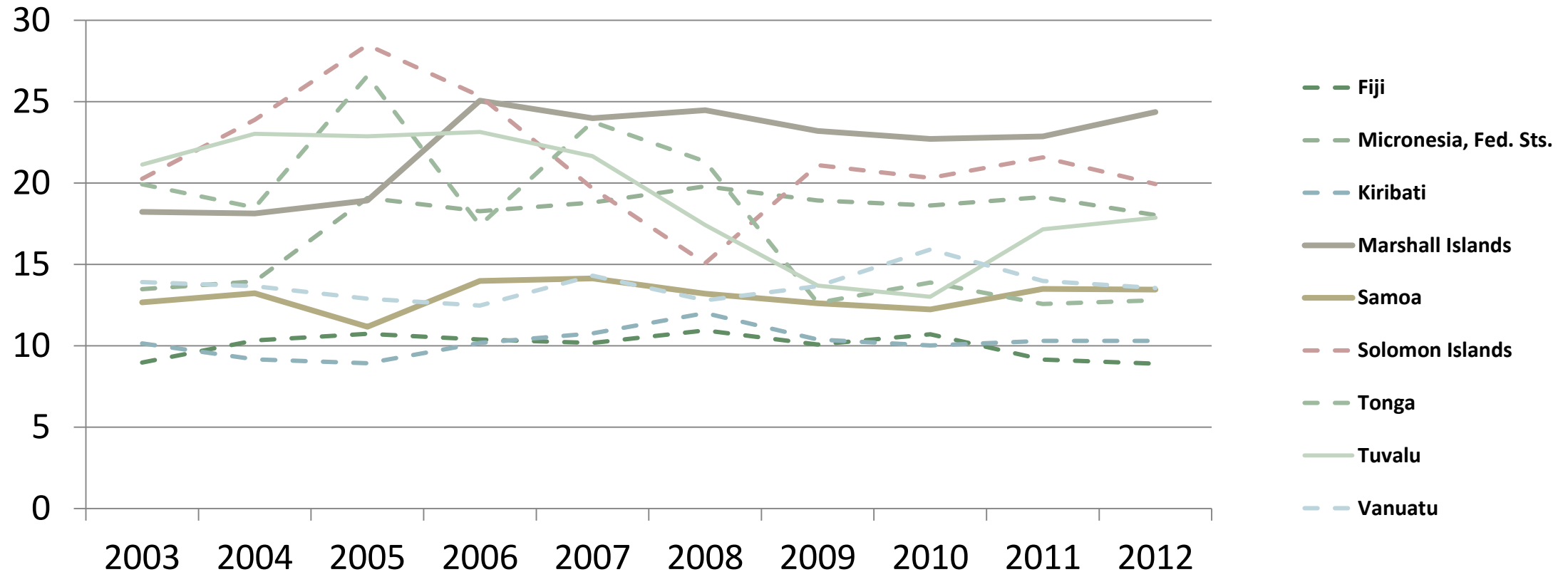


Cost implication to governments is significant

- One PICT already cannot afford to check cholesterol, or generic drugs for all people with high cholesterol.
- Only 1% of the total population can be treated with insulin before the country's total drug budget allocation is used up.
- Dialysis in another PICT costs \$ 38,686 per patient per year in 2010/11, more than 12 times GNI per capita. Around two out of three of the patients had then died within two years



Health expenditure as % of Total Government Expenditure is already high



INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND CANCER
A shared agenda for Aotearoa, Australia and Pacific nations

Pacific Leaders committed to addressing NCDs



INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND CANCER
A shared agenda for Aotearoa, Australia and Pacific nations

Pacific NCD Roadmap

NCD ROADMAP REPORT

Noncommunicable diseases impose large – but often preventable – health, social and economic costs in the Pacific Islands. This report provides a suggested Roadmap for a multi-sectoral approach for a country and regional response to the NCD Crisis in the Pacific.

A background document on preventing and controlling NCDs in the Pacific, circulated June 2014 for consideration by the Joint Forum Economic and Pacific Health Ministers' Meeting, July 2014.



INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND CANCER
A shared agenda for Aotearoa, Australia and Pacific nations

Key Recommendations

- Four key actions all countries in the Pacific can take based on need, and ‘best buys’:
 1. Strengthen tobacco control;
 2. Reduce unhealthy food and drink;
 3. Improve efficiency of existing health dollar;
 4. Strengthen evidence base to ensure resources are used well
- Menu of over 30 other multi-sectoral interventions each country can then also choose.



Progress since 2015

- 12 PICTs increased taxes on tobacco products
 - Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Palau, Papua New Guinea (PNG), Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI), Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, New Caledonia and Wallis and Futuna (W&F).




Tobacco tax as of 2017




	Excise as % of retail price	Total (all) taxes as percent of retail
Cook Islands	64	74
Fiji	30	39
Marshall Islands	0	54
FSM	0	60
Palau	74	74
Tonga	63	67



Pacific Monitoring Alliance for NCD Action (MANA)

- The Pacific MANA Dashboard is a monitoring tool for PICTs to [track progress on NCD-related policies and legislation](#).
- Indicators cover four areas:
 - leadership and governance;
 - prevention;
 - health system response programmes;
 - routine monitoring processes
- Indicators scored by a “traffic light” colour scheme:

	No policy
	Policy under development
	Policy present

Strength of action/implementation:	
	Low
	Medium
	High



Pacific MANA dashboard

Category			Status and strength
Leadership and governance			
	G1a	Multi-sectoral NCD taskforce	☆☆☆
	G1b	National strategy addressing NCDs and risk factors	☆☆☆
	G1c	Explicit NCD indicators and targets	☆☆☆
Preventive policies			
Tobacco	T2a	Tobacco excise taxes	☆☆
	T2b	Smoke-free environments	☆☆
	T2c	Tobacco health warnings	☆☆
	T2d	Tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship	☆☆
	T2e	Tobacco sales licencing	☆
	T2f	Tobacco industry interference	
Alcohol	A3a	Alcohol licencing to restrict sales	☆☆
	A3b	Alcohol advertising	
	A3c	Alcohol taxation	
	A3d	Drink driving	☆☆

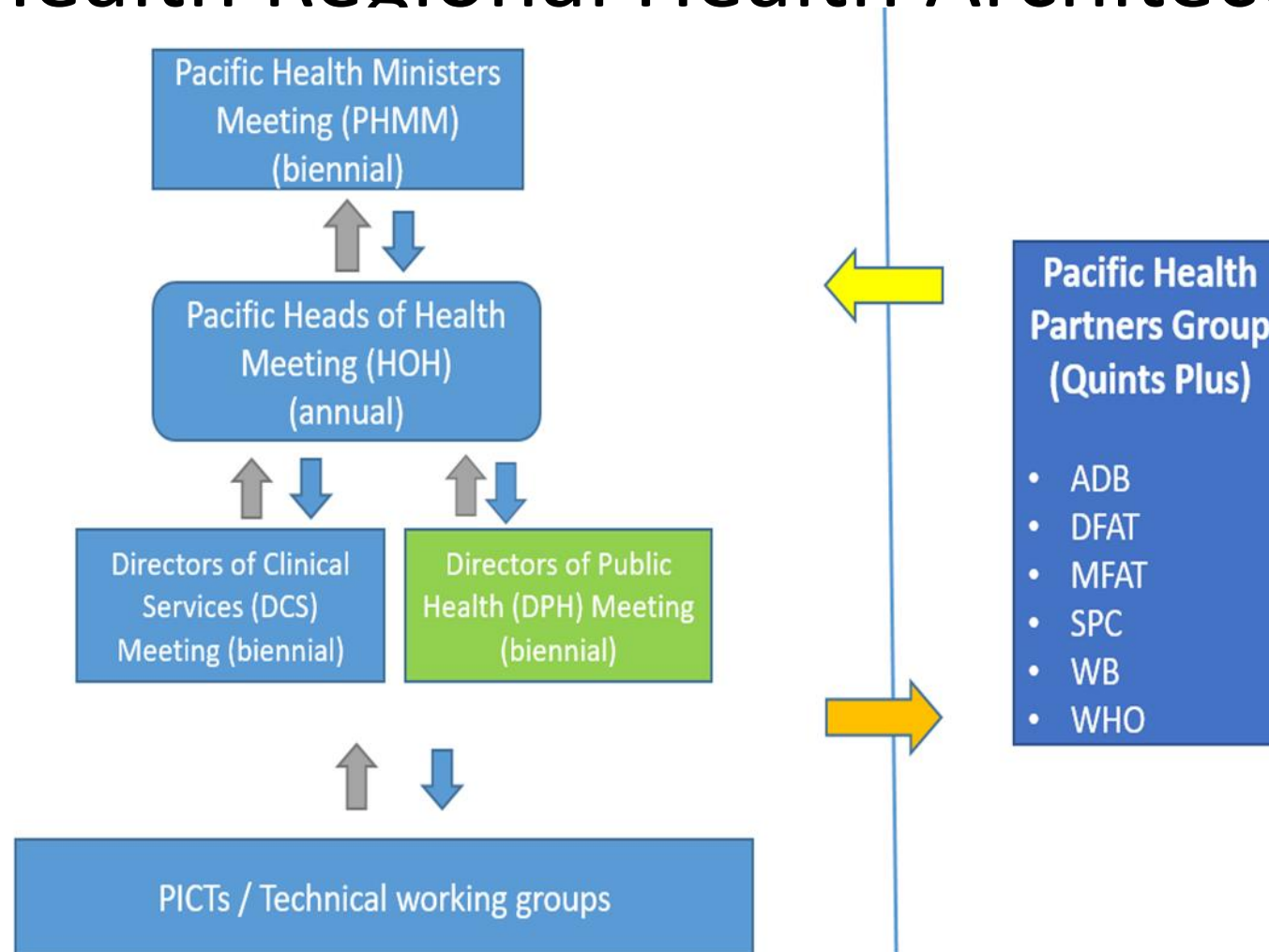


Positive changes are possible

Results for adults aged 25-64 years	2002	2013
Percentage who currently smoke tobacco	40%	27%
Percentage who drank in the past 12 months	29%	17%
Percentage with low levels of activity (defined as < 600 MET-minutes per week)*	49%	20%
Median time spent in physical activity on average per day (minutes) (presented with inter-quartile range)	35	120
Percentage not engaging in vigorous activity	64%	45%



Pacific Health Regional Health Architecture



The Framework for Pacific Regionalism

- Cervical Cancer was one of the identified priorities
- ADB is funding a programme in four Pacific countries that will include HPV vaccinations
- Other countries are encouraged to look at their own national programmes



HPV procurement costs

	Current VII Ceiling Value	Additional increase needed for HPV vaccine
Cook Islands	\$20,000	\$15,000
Fiji	\$725,000	\$450,000
Kiribati	\$110,000	\$75,000
The Marshall Islands*	\$40,000	
Federated States of Micronesia*	\$80,000	
Nauru	\$30,000	\$9,000
Niue	\$10,000	\$1,500
Samoa	\$200,000	\$150,000
Solomon Islands	\$400,000	\$150,000
Tokelau	\$10,000	\$1,500
Tonga	\$90,000	\$70,000
Tuvalu	\$20,000	\$7,000
Vanuatu	\$175,000	\$200,000
Total	\$1,910,000	\$1,129,000

CANCER
Pacific nations

Source: UNICEF Pacific. Suva, Fiji, June 2017.

To treat or not treat? Guiding principles

- Good prognosis in developed countries
- Cure attained with minimal late effects of treatment
- Manageable cost of treatment
- Preferable that treatment be given wholly or mostly in PICTs



Going forward

- Good information and data to be translated to inform better decision making
- Holistic approach to developing a framework for Cancer management
 - focus is what is doable and recognising the similarities and differences in context between PICTs
- Better coordination between the partners involved





INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND CANCER

A shared agenda for Aotearoa, Australia and Pacific nations



INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND CANCER

A shared agenda for Aotearoa, Australia and Pacific nations