

The UN in the Pacific

Notes on the data

Data caveat – configuration typologies and recording practices are not fully uniform across the three Pacific RC-led MCOs. The figures should therefore be read as the best available validation against information provided by UN entities – not as a fully standardized, system-wide dataset.

Presence is thinner than it looks – In Micronesia, most presences are project-based – often single individuals rather than representational offices. Only WHO and IOM in FSM are standalone offices; everything else is a sub-office of the Multi-Country Offices (MCOs) in Suva or Apia – which typically cover 14–16 countries/territories each.

Coverage arrangements are diverse and complex – In the Northern Pacific, most agencies cover Kiribati and Naoero from their Suva MCOs. IOM covers Palau, RMI, FSM, Kiribati, and Naoero (no active projects in Naoero); UNDSS covers FSM remotely from the Philippines. UNDP North Pacific in FSM covers all five Micronesian countries yet remains a sub-office of Suva. UNICEF has sub-offices in Kiribati and FSM.

Classification note – Cases where an entity's in-country presence consists of a single staff member who performs a representational role are counted as "Physically present (representational)", even though no formal country office exists.

RC SYSTEM SNAPSHOT: COUNTRIES IN THE PACIFIC

RESIDENT COORDINATORS (RCs) AND UNCTS IN THE PACIFIC

Source: DCO (2026)



4

RCs in post

With >>



48

Core + Noncore
RCO Staff

Coordinate >>



70

UNCT
Representatives

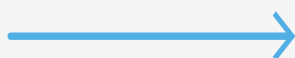
COUNTRY-LEVEL UN EXPENDITURES IN THE PACIFIC COUNTRIES (2024)

Source: CEB/DESA (2024)

Total Expenditure (Hum + Dev)

361.4m

US\$



Development Expenditure

307.3m

US\$

15%

85%



Hum

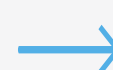


Dev

GLOBAL AND COUNTRY LEVEL DEVELOPMENT POOLED FUNDS IN THE PACIFIC

Source: MPTFO (2025)

297m

US\$ Committed to
date

225m

US\$ Expenditure to
date

- Papua New Guinea UN Country Fund

- Papua New Guinea UN Country Fund II



21.9M

US\$
approved
to date

PACIFIC SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

Source: UNINFO

Strategic Priorities

SP 1:

PLANET: Ensuring
Inclusive
Resilience to
Shocks, Disasters
and Climate
Change.

No. of
Outcomes

16

SP 2:

PEOPLE:
Ensuring
Prosperity,
Inclusivity and
Well-being for all

18

SP 3:

PROSPERITY:
Promoting
Inclusive and
Sustainable
Economic Growth

18

SP 4:

PEACE: Ensuring
Peace Human
Rights, Gender
Equality and
Participation

25

PAPUA NEW GUINEA COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

Source: UNINFO

Strategic Priorities

SP 1:

EQUALITY
FOR
WOMEN
AND GIRLS.

No. of
Outcomes

1

SP 2:

GOVERNANCE,
PEACE AND
SOCIAL
COHESION.

1

SP 3:

INCLUSIVE
HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT

1

SP 4:

SUSTAINABLE
ECONOMIC
TRANSFORMATION

1

SP 5:

ENVIRONMENT
AND CLIMATE
CHANGE

1

UNSDG country engagement modalities today in Pacific countries and territories

Thicker/clearer borders

		Physically present (representational)			Physically present (project personnel)			Physically present (UN/RCO/Government-hosted)			Non-resident / EOD (RO, SRO, HQ)			Other (not specified)			Data not available			Entity not in country																										
		UNSDG Entities																												IFIs		Non UNSDG														
Year of Implementation		FAO	IFAD	ILO	IOM	ITC	ITU	OCHA	OHCHR	UN DESA	UN DPPA	RECs	UN PBSO	UN WOMEN	UN-HABITAT	UNAIDS	UNCDF	UNCTAD	UNDP	UNDRR	UNEP	UNESCO	UNFPA	UNHCR	UNICEF	UNIDO	UNOCT	UNODC	UNOPS	UNRWA	UNV	WFP	WHO	WIPO	WMO	IMF	World Bank	IAEA	UN Tourism	UPU	IMO	UNU	UNITAR	Other Non-UNSDG Entities		
Papua New Guinea	2024, 2029																																												UNDSS	
Fiji	2023, 2028																																													ICAO, UNIC
Solomon Islands	2023, 2028																																													ICAO, UNIC
Tonga	2023, 2028																																													UNIC, UNOOSA
Tuvalu	2023, 2028																																													UNIC
Vanuatu	2023, 2028																																													UNIC
Kiribati	2023, 2028																																													UNIC, UNDSS, UNOCHA, ADB
Marshall Islands	2023, 2028																																													UNIC, UNDSS, UNOCHA, ADB
FSM	2023, 2028																																													UNDSS, UNIC, UNOCHA, ADB
Naoero	2023, 2028																																													UNDSS, UNIC, UNOCHA, ADB
Palau	2023, 2028																																													ICAO, UNIC, UNDSS, UNOCHA, ADB
Cook Islands	2023, 2028																																													ICAO, UNIC
Niue	2023, 2028																																													ICAO, UNIC
Samoa	2023, 2028																																													ICAO, UNIC
Tokelau	2023, 2028																																													ICAO, UNIC

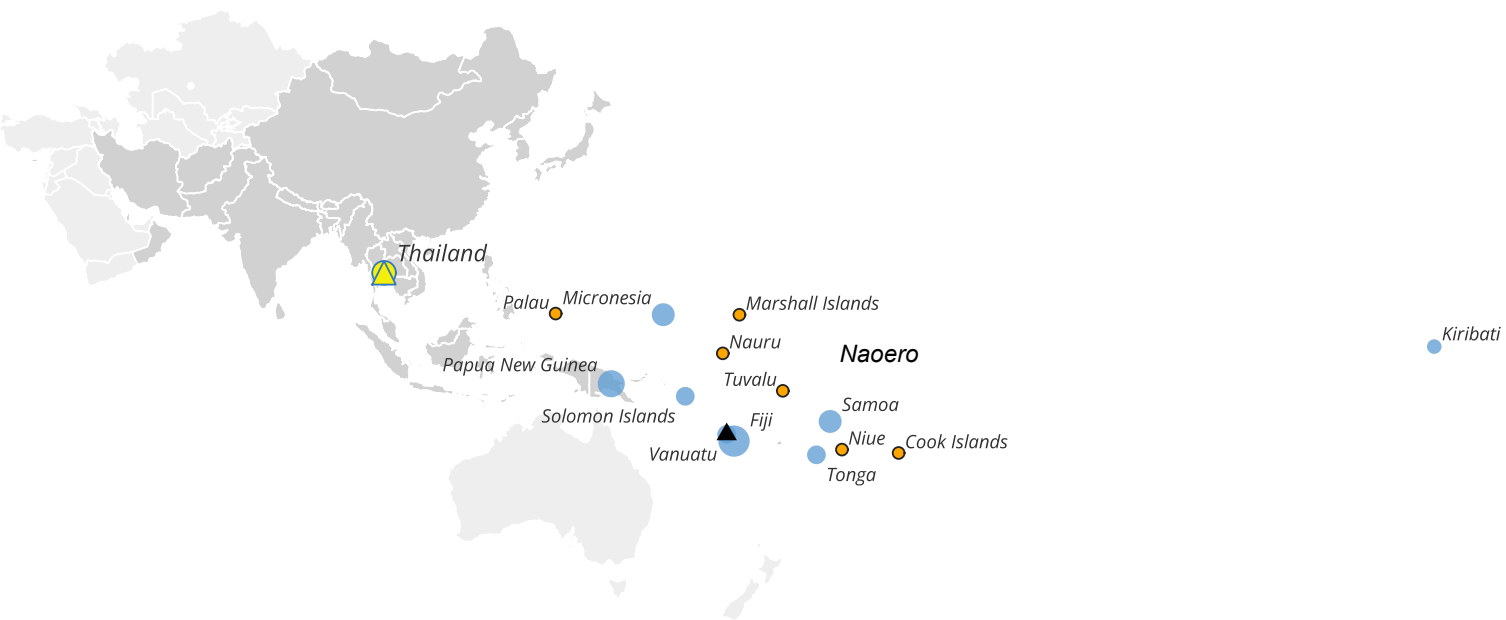
Source: Reported by Resident Coordinator Offices (RCOs) on behalf of UN Country Teams.

*: Refers to the relevant UN Regional Economic Commissions (UN ECA, UN ECE, UN ECLAC, UN ESCAP, UN ESCWA), as applicable.

The Pacific | UN entities maintain 67 physical presences across 14 countries and territories.

Total # Physical Presences

67



Country	# Physical Presences		
	UN Secretariat	Agencies, funds & programmes	Total
Fiji	6	18	24
Papua New Guinea	5	11	16
Samoa	4	2	6
Micronesia (FSM)	0	6	6
Solomon Islands	0	4	4
Vanuatu	0	4	4
Tonga	0	4	4
Kiribati	0	3	3
Tuvalu	0	0	0
Naoero	0	0	0
Palau	0	0	0
Marshall Islands	0	0	0
Cook Islands	0	0	0
Niue	0	0	0
Total	15	52	67

Key regional configuration insights


DCO Regional Office


REC HQ


REC (sub) Regional Office


UN Entity Presence


No Presence

- 67 physical presences are maintained across 14 countries and territories.
- Fiji anchors the region with 24 physical presences, followed by Papua New Guinea (16), Samoa (6), and Micronesia (FSM) (6). All four host Resident Coordinators.
- Agencies, funds & programmes constitute 78% of the footprint (52 presences).
- Eight countries have at least one physical presence, while six countries / territories have none.
- Regional Economic Commission (UN ESCAP) has its hub in Thailand, supported by Sub-regional office in Fiji.