



COSTED EVALUATION PLAN - DRAFT

For the 7th Cycle Multi Country Programme for Pacific
Island Countries and Territories 2023-2027 (MCPD7)

Abstract

This costed, multi-year evaluation plan describes and budgets for all evaluative activities that will be undertaken over the duration of the MCPD7 and constitutes a commitment for UNFPA Pacific Sub Regional Office. The plan constitutes the basis for planning, prioritizing, costing, mobilizing resources, and funding of all evaluative activities. The evaluation plan will support the implementation of the evaluation function at UNFPA and the Evaluation Office will report on its implementation to senior management and the Executive Board. It contains important information related to the MCPD7 and evaluative activities including: main areas of programme support, evidence utilized in the design of the costed plan, evaluative activities and their purpose, partners, time frames, and level of financial resources needed. The audience of this document is the PSRO M&E Unit, APRO, the PRC, UNFPA Executive Board, and stakeholders and partners in the Pacific.

Costed Evaluation Plan: Pacific Island Countries and Territories	
Programme Cycle:	7 th Cycle – 2023 -2027
Evidence utilized in the design of the costed plan	<p>As per the UNFPA Evaluation Policy 2019, this Multi Country Costed Evaluation Plan has been developed following an assessment of the existing evaluative evidence, knowledge base and consultative exercises outlined below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The UNFPA Pacific Sub-Regional office has completed an evaluation in every cycle. However, with the 2019 Global UNFPA evaluation policy, we are now only required to do an evaluation once in every 2 cycles, or 1 in every 10 years. 2. Thus, since a full Multi-Country Programme Evaluation was completed in 2022, the penultimate year of the 6th Sub-Regional Programme, the evaluation plan for the MCPD7 2023-2027 has replaced the need for an end-of-programme evaluation with thematic evaluations. 3. These thematic evaluations would conduct in-depth assessments of the key areas of investment, to see if we are making a systemic impact towards achieving the SDGs. We would need to explore the in-depth thematic issues to better inform our theories of change and fine tune our future programme to accelerate the achievement of results, given we have only 8 years left to the SDG target timeframe of 2030. 4. The Evaluation of the 6th Cycle Sub Regional Programme for Pacific Island countries and Territories 2018-2022 was conducted in 2021-2022 by an external evaluation team which also included a young emerging evaluator in accordance with the UNFPA Evaluation Policy 2019 and the UNFPA Evaluation handbook 2019. The evaluation highlighted the importance of investing in new resources in its monitoring and evaluation infrastructure at PSRO level in Suva, Fiji, and further invest new resources in monitoring and evaluation at country office level. 5. The evaluation of the United Nations Pacific Strategy (UNPS) 2018-2022 was also conducted during 2021-2022 by a team of independent evaluation experts. The UNPS evaluation emphasized that the UNCT should strengthen its overall M&E infrastructure. Given the enormity of challenges in this area and the need for much stronger coordination, the whole enterprise of improving the M&E system in the Pacific region will benefit for a systematic review of the challenges and options undertaken jointly by the three RCOs with the blessing of the UNCT. This exercise could comprise an assessment of all key components of the M&E infrastructure, including coordination, data aggregation mechanisms, UN Info system, use of indicators, baselines, targets, etc. 6. An evaluability assessment of the 6th Cycle Sub Regional Programme for Pacific Island countries and Territories 2018-2022 was conducted in November 2019 by an independent team of 2 consultants. The assessment recommended UNFPA should: continue supporting existing efforts on developing a full-fledged PM&E function by ensuring a more systematic and comprehensive approach; keep developing existing partnerships and ensure a stronger support in PM&E matters, more transparency and participation at all levels; and ensure the implementation process is adequately carried out by promoting demand-driven Knowledge Management function, establishing a more flexible policy and norms for fund management to achieve results and to build IP capacity on Results Based management. 7. The independent review of the “Support for Upscaling Jadelles Roll-Out in the Solomon Islands 2016-2019 was carried and finalized in May 2020. The review highlighted programming issues and proposed that the programme’s Theory of Change be reviewed to consider gaps in programming for any future programme design and stressed that monitoring, reporting and learning should be strengthened, with additional support from UNFPA PSRO.

	<p>8. The end of programme evaluation of the Pacific Sexual and Reproductive Health Programme (PRSRHP) 2014-2020 was conducted by an independent consultant in September 2020. The evaluation outlined the need to continue implementing programmes like PRSRHP, PSRO would need to develop an MEL institutional culture and ensure sound MEL systems, products, tools, and capacity are developed and embedded in the organization, as well as used to strengthen MEL among Ministries and IPs.</p> <p>9. The Mid-Term Review of the Transformative Agenda for Women, Adolescents and Youth in the Pacific: Towards Zero Unmet Need for Family Planning for the period 2018-2022 was conducted in 2020. The review highlighted that the Monitoring and evaluation framework be revised to ensure that the results indicators are included and measurable; that relevant FP data can be collected and reported by the MOH Health Information Systems (HIS); and that the strategic interventions are allocated indicators to ensure advancement of these activities. It outlined that some indicators may require national tailoring to accommodate differences in SRH data currently collected by the country-level HIS.</p> <p>10. This MCPD7 and its costed evaluation plan also take into account findings and recommendations of the recent global and thematic evaluations such as “Evaluation of UNFPA support to the prevention, response to and elimination of gender based violence and harmful practices 2012-2017”, Formative evaluation of UNFPA support to adolescents and youth Evaluation of UNFPA support to gender equality and women's empowerment (2012-2020) and “Developmental evaluation of results-based management at UNFPA 2019” conducted by the Evaluation Office.</p> <p>11. The costed evaluation plan also takes into account the guidelines provided in the UNFPA Quadrennial Budgeted Evaluation Plan 2022- 2025 in line with the UNFPA Strategic Plan 2022-2025 and UNFPA Evaluation Strategy 2022-2025 to enhance the use of evaluations.</p> <p>12. To roll out the costed evaluation plan, UNFPA will consider partnerships with major PICT stakeholders, including government departments, civil society organizations, academia and research institutions, among others, to ensure the credible and timely country-led evaluations as listed below. In addition, UNFPA will also engage in partnerships to enhance the evaluation capacities of young evaluators and also support the national evaluation capacity development (NECD) through establishment of voluntary organizations for professional evaluation (VOPE) .</p> <p>13. In addition, other training activities to build in-country capacities of both UNFPA field staff and implementing partners have been incorporated into the plan, including trainings that are in line with the NECD initiative, as well as towards achieving increased national evaluation capacities to help countries monitor their programmes and plans to achieve the SDGs, as per UNFPA’s IEO intentions for the Decade of Evaluation.</p>
MCP areas	<p>The 7th Multi country Programme for the Pacific Island Countries and Territories is premised on the acceleration towards zero unmet for family planning, zero preventable maternal deaths and zero gender based violence through programmatic interventions around the following six integrated output areas: 1 – Strengthening Policy and Accountability around SRH/GBV; 2 – Enhancing quality of care and services; 3 – Improving Gender and Social norms; 4 – Addressing population change and data; 5 – Managing the Humanitarian context; and 6 - Enhancing adolescent and youth SRHR</p>

Exercise title and type	Purpose of the Exercise	Start and end date (Month, Year)	Estimated Cost USD	Source of Funding	Key partners when conducting the exercise	Is it a joint exercise ?
Evaluations						

Exercise title and type	Purpose of the Exercise	Start and end date (Month, Year)	Estimated Cost USD	Source of Funding	Key partners when conducting the exercise	Is it a joint exercise ?
Evaluation of UNFPA PSRO Support to Building statistical capacity in selected PICTs	To assess whether the support provided was relevant, effective, sustainable and had added value in 4 PICTs (Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands and Vanuatu). The activity has been ongoing for at least for the past 2 cycles. With the emergence of new data collection technology, increasing demand for more data to measure the SDGs and a high staff turnover in PICTs national statistics offices, it would be appropriate to ascertain the impact of these training, identify good practices and lessons learned for future programming.	September – November 2026	50,000	Regular and Other Resources	National Statistical Offices and Ministries of Health, Education and Women, SPC	Yes
Evaluation of UNFPA PSRO Support to in-school and out-of-school CSE/FLE in selected PICTs	To assess whether the support provided was relevant, effective, sustainable and had added value. The evaluation of this activity is critical to assess lessons learned along the way and make improvements to strengthen program PME support in consideration of the BCC monitoring and evaluation guidance that has been adopted in some PICTs	July – September 2025	50,000	Other Resources	Ministries of Health and Education in PICTs	No
Evaluation of the Pacific Regional UNSDCF 2022-2027	To assess the performance of the cooperation framework in terms of its relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and coherence; and also assess the overall coordination and joined up efforts of the UN system to establish if indeed the ‘whole has been greater than the sum of the parts’. It will also identify lessons learned arising from the evaluation process to help design the next cooperation framework, including its governance and management structure.	October 2026 - June 2027	10,000 (UNFPA Contribution)	Regular Resources	All Key Stakeholders and development partners in the region including PICT government and non-government partners, FBOs and CSOs	Yes
Evaluation of the UNFPA PSRO Humanitarian Programme	To assess the performance of the programme in terms of relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability and coherence. Focus will be on the extent to which the UNFPA response has yielded rapid and timely evidence to support decision-making in fast-changing humanitarian contexts.	July – September 2025	60,000	Other Resources	Humanitarian stakeholders in the region – UN agencies, PICT governments, NDMOs	No
Meta-synthesis of UNFPA PSRO’s evaluations 2008-2022	To assess all previous evaluation reports by UNFPA PSRO with a view to identify lessons learnt around the key evaluation criteria, inform the scope for the above-mentioned thematic evaluations, and other areas of importance to UNFPA such as leaving no one behind, national ownership, south-south and triangular cooperation and monitoring systems	March - June 2025	20,000	Regular Resources	UNFPA APRO	No
Evaluative activities (not evaluations)						

Exercise title and type	Purpose of the Exercise	Start and end date (Month, Year)	Estimated Cost USD	Source of Funding	Key partners when conducting the exercise	Is it a joint exercise ?
Pacific Regional Evaluation Training Series by UNEDAP Asia Pacific;	To keep abreast of emerging issues and developments on evaluation focusing on various topics offered by the inter-agency evaluation body based in Bangkok.;	2025	3,000	Regular Resources (APRO)	United Nations Evaluation Development Group for Asia	Yes
APEA Evaluation Workshops, Webinars and Conference	To learn about emerging issues on evaluator's competencies and the professionalization of evaluation. To learn and be updated on improvements in the theory, practice, and use of evaluation across the Asia-Pacific region.	2026	90,000 8 countries (x 2 implementing partner participants + 1 UNFPA staff per country) @ 3,750 per pax	Regular Resources	UNFPA APRO, UNRCO Fiji, and APEA	Yes
Participation in the Pacific UNSDCF Data Monitoring and Evaluation Group and MCO Cluster M&E sub working group	Our participation as part of M&E working group to provide technical assistance, quality assurance and guidance to the Results/Outcome Groups and monitoring, evaluation and reporting on the UNSDCF implementation; as well as support to the government(s) in VNR reporting within the UN system and monitoring and reporting of SDGs	2023-2027	5,000 (UNFPA contribution)	Regular Resources	All UN Agencies in the Pacific	Yes
International Program for Development Evaluation Training (IPDET)	To provide participants (both UNFPA and IPs) with a solid foundation in evaluation, options to explore and specialize evaluation topics of interest and a space to exchange and network with the IPDET alumni	2023-2027 (once a cycle)	10,000	Regular Resources/ IPDET Scholarship Grant	Implementing partners, UNFPA Field Staff	No

Exercise title and type	Purpose of the Exercise	Start and end date (Month, Year)	Estimated Cost USD	Source of Funding	Key partners when conducting the exercise	Is it a joint exercise ?
Asia Pacific Regional RBM Training for CO and SRO M&E focal points	This face-to-face training on various RBM topics will provide an opportunity to learn about recent developments in the organization to move towards the adaptive management, to collectively reflect and discuss changes towards RBM systems and practices and alignments to the SP 2022-2025, build technical knowledge and skills required for strengthening adaptive management practices in COs, learn from peers and share experiences in addressing challenging or piloting innovative RBM topics/interventions.	2023-2027 (once a cycle)	9,000 (3 x field staff @ 3,000 per staff)	Regular Resources	UNFPA APRO	No
Virtual training on effective management of evaluations organized by UNFPA HQ	To participate in the online evaluation training organized by UNFPA Evaluation Office	2023	-	NA	UNFPA PSRO, APRO, EO	No
Results Based Management Training or National and Regional Implementing Partners and Stakeholders	To build national RBM capacity in PICTs by strengthening management effectiveness, efficiency and accountability by defining realistic expected results, streamlining program management process; monitoring progress toward the achievement of expected results, integrating lessons learned into management decisions and reporting on performance indicators linked to outputs, outcomes and impact.	2023-2027	60,000	Regular Resources and Other Resources	APEA, UNFPA PSRO, UNFPA APRO	Yes
National Evaluation Capacity Development in PICTs	To support PICTs in establishing a network and or an evaluation society to promote the critical role of evaluation in achieving the SDGs and to build national evaluation capacity in PICTs including that of young and emerging evaluators (YEEs)	2023-2027	15,000 (UNFPA contribution and other funds to be raised)	Regular Resources/ Other Resources	APEA, UNFPA PSRO, UNFPA APRO, Fiji Evaluation Society (FES), EvalYouth Pacific, Asia and Global, APC Hub, UNICE, SPC,	Yes