

## Promoting Nutritious Food Systems in Pacific Islands Agricultural-Nutrition-Income Nexus Regional Action Plan

Impact aims	<b>Reduction of NCDs and increased income from agri-food value chain development programmes</b>
<b>Key Innovations/ Critical Success Factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ <b>Policy and governance:</b> Political buy in &amp; will; Good governance and leadership (NCDs are preventable and reversible); Mainstreaming nutrition sensitive agriculture into national development policies and plans (e.g. Fiji 2017-2021); Policy coherence and coordination; Promoting and supporting bottom up approaches/ community participation and ownership; Women’s empowerment and leadership; Enforcement of regulations/standards; Translating policies into action plans and tracking outcomes; Providing incentives/ dedicated budget for agriculture and agriculture &amp; value chain development;</li> <li>▶ <b>Research and product development:</b> Profiling bioactive components in Pacific local food crops and fisheries; Validating the link between local foods and improved health (NCDs); Identification of priority value chains for investment; Supporting enforcement of food safety standards for improved market access for traditional foods &amp; products; Monitoring and evaluation; Creation of new / improved products;</li> <li>▶ <b>Education and Outreach:</b> Communication and marketing strategy; School feeding / nutrition programmes; Use of local champions; Seamless link between primary, secondary and tertiary curriculum; Food technology /science/ Engineering capacity; Community food &amp; health projects/ success stories</li> </ul> <p><b>Partnerships:</b> Multi-sectoral collaboration; Public-private-producer-community partnerships; Inclusiveness (Gov/NGO/Private Sector/communities/religious groups)/women/youth); Use of existing local resources and mechanisms; Promote data sharing/ joint action;</p>

### Policy and governance – Strategic drivers of success

Action	Partners involved	Stakeholder Targeted	Resources Required	Timeframe	Method of Verification
1. <b>Consolidate and strengthen national food and nutrition coordinating mechanisms and build linkages with regional food and nutrition governance coordinating mechanisms and align with international commitments</b>	Multi-sectoral national food and nutrition councils/committees; Regional agencies (CROP – PIFS, SPC, SPREPP, USP); International agencies – FAO, UNDP, UNICEF, WHO	Policy makers at local, national, regional levels	Finance (national / regional budget); human resources (HR)	1-3 years	ToR; Membership list; Reports of meetings of leaders of national and regional committees;  No. of joint actions/ decisions implemented.



<p><b>2. Recognise role of traditional foods for health, nutrition and incomes in regional &amp; national policies, plans and budgets (e.g. low fat, % local root crops / starchy fruit(e.g. breadfruit flour substitution, regulatory framework)</b></p>	<p>Multi-sectoral national food and nutrition councils/committees; Regional agencies (CROP – PIFS, SPC, SPREPP, USP) International agencies – FAO, UNDP, UNICEF, WHO</p>	<p>Policy makers at local national, regional level</p>	<p>Finance; HR</p>	<p>1-3 years</p>	<p>Policy statements from regional agricultural ministerial forums and regional coordinating FNS and health agencies;</p> <p>% increase in budgetary allocation for regional joint actions &amp; reports of interventions;</p> <p>Results of laboratory analyses / studies;</p> <p>Health impact stories.</p>
---	--	--	--------------------	------------------	---

**Research and product development – Integrate science with traditional knowledge**

Actions	Partners involved	Stakeholders	Resources required	Timeframe	Method of verification
<p><b>1. Analysis of bioactive content of priority food commodities (crops and marine resources e.g. taro leaves, sea cucumber)</b></p>	<p>Universities &amp; research facilities (e.g. USP, Scientific Research Organisation - Samoa); Medical universities / training and research facilities; Ministries of Health; Food and Drug Agencies; Regional &amp; international agencies (e.g. SPC; WHO)</p>	<p>Policymakers (e.g. Ministries of Agriculture &amp; Health) SMEs, CSOs/CBOs (e.g. METI –Samoa, WIF – Fiji), policy makers, farmers/fishers, consumers</p>	<p>Laboratory Equipment and Supplies; financing</p>	<p>1-4 years (Bioactive compound specific)</p>	<p>Publications;</p> <p>No. of certified products:</p> <p>Reports of consumer surveys/ perceptions ( increase in consumer awareness / confidence in local food products)</p>



<b>2. Showcase impacts and scale-up successful community based joint initiatives that strengthen the linkage between agricultural and VC development and improved nutrition &amp; incomes</b>	University collaboration (e.g. USP, University of Cambridge, SPC); Ministries (e.g. Agriculture, Health, Economy) medical facilities; Development partners (e.g. AUSAID, CTA, IFAD)	Policymakers, SMEs, CSOs/CBOs (e.g. METI –Samoa, WIF – Fiji, Kastom Gaden Association – Solomon Islands), communities, farmers, private sector	Financing (e.g. seed funding for proof of concept); HR	1-4 yrs	Impact stories
---	---	--	--	---------	----------------

**Education and Outreach - NCDs are preventable and reversible: Invest in local value chain development**

Action	Partners involved	Stakeholder Targeted	Resources Required	Timeframe	Method of Verification
<b>1. Develop training materials and resources (profiling local foods and nutrient and health value) contextualized to each country (in local language) and the region</b>	Ministries (e.g. Agriculture, Health, Education, Women); NGOs, community groups, farmers organisations; regional & international organisations	Trainers, facilitators, NGOs, youths, farmers, women	Expertise, partnership, funding	Immediate to long term (1-4yrs)	Training materials/ packages, tools; usability and user feedback



<p><b>2. Train agronomists (e.g. soil health)/ food scientists, technologists / engineers</b></p>	<p>Universities (e.g. USP, NUS, SINU); governments; development partners</p>	<p>Extension agencies, Farmers' organizations, CBOs; SMEs; laboratories / research facilities</p>	<p>Teaching and research facilities; financing; HR</p>	<p>1- 4 years</p>	<p>No. of scholarships &amp; amount of funding mobilised;</p> <p>No. of graduates / technicians/ engineers trained;</p> <p>Improved production /processing techniques/ facility designs;</p> <p>Improved quality of local foods (fresh and processed)</p>
<p><b>3. Awareness and marketing campaigns - strengthen social networks / promote social responsibility and mobilise stakeholders for joint action in the dissemination of information</b></p>	<p>Ministry communication Units (e.g. MoH; MoA; MoE);</p> <p>Mass media (TV, Newspaper, Radio stations);</p> <p>Farmers' organisations, CSOs, SMEs (e.g. social media campaigns)</p>	<p>General public</p>	<p>Funding, Group mobilization for collective action, HR (communication experts)</p>	<p>Immediate to long term (1-4yr)</p>	<p>No. of people responding to information and taking collective action; reports on change in NCD stats, agriculture / production and trade stats, market surveys,</p>



**Partnerships – Build coalitions for success**

Action	Partners involved	Stakeholder Targeted	Resources Required	Timeframe	Method of Verification
<b>1. Strengthen public /private /producer/ community partnerships</b>	Regional Farmers’ organisations (e.g. PIFON); CSOs, CBOs, private sector (e.g. PIPSO, Chambers of Commerce); Bankers’ association(s).	SMEs, community leaders, policy makers, farmers, fishers	HR, financing	1-4 yrs	# partnerships # agreement, # joint initiatives # meeting reports
<b>2. Showcase successful joint initiatives at national and regional events (e.g. CROPS meeting, Pacific Week of Agriculture)</b>	All partners	SMEs, CSOs, policy makers, farmers/fishers, consumers	Financing	Biannually	Impact stories; reports

**NEXT STEPS**

**1.0 Policy**

- Draft ToR for national multi-sectoral coordinating mechanisms and M&E framework for tracking progress against national, regional and international commitments;
- Develop an evidence-based paper in support of the role of traditional foods in improving nutrition outcomes in the Pacific.
- Support stakeholder consultations (online and face-to-face) and finalise the drafts

**2.0 Research and Development**

- Support analysis of bioactive components in priority commodities (crops & marine resources) and use results to mobilise additional funding (e.g. CTA/IFAD/PIPISO pilot study)
- Promote and provide support to scaling up community based agriculture and nutrition projects (e.g. CTA/IFAD/PIPISO project)





- Mobilise funding to support agro-based SMEs to access technical and business advice to innovate and “grow their business” and promote the lessons (e.g. CTA/IFAD/PIPSO Innovation Grants)

### 3.0 Education and Outreach

- Develop at least one draft regional training manual to standardise processing of local food crops (e.g. root crops flour); a collaboration between local communities and university researchers. Pilot test and translate.
- Develop promotional material showcasing the nutritional value of local foods; engage regional champions.
- Mobilise funding for scholarships to support tertiary level training in key areas; food science, technology, engineering.

### 4.0 Partnerships

- Working in partnership with stakeholders, design a business model for strengthening public/private/producer/community partnerships in support of the development of local ‘nutrition sensitive’ value chains.
- Work closely with CROP agencies to showcase success stories at key events (e.g. Pacific Week of Agriculture 2019)

