

Pacific Heads of Health

Réunion des directeurs de la santé du Pacifique

Package of Essential Health Services – Tonga

04 April 2019



Presentation Outline

- Universal Health Coverage (UHC)
 - Tonga MOH organisation outcome (2015)
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Package of Essential Health Services (PEHS)
 - pathway to achieving UHC by 2025.

Universal Health Coverage

- Ensuring that all people can **use the promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative, and palliative** health services they need, of **sufficient quality** to be **effective**, while also ensuring the use of these services does not expose the user to financial hardship.



Target 3.8:
Achieve universal
health coverage

Indicator 3.8.1:
Coverage of essential
health services

Indicator 3.8.2:
Financial protection
for all

Package of Essential Health Services (PEHS)

- **Specifies the range of health care services for all Tongans (UHC);**
- **Identifies** facilities, drugs & equipment required to provide these services;
- Describes **how** services can be **accessed** e.g. remote island communities,
 - patient transfers, use of social funds, visiting specialists;
- Defines health system changes required to achieve UHC in Tonga.

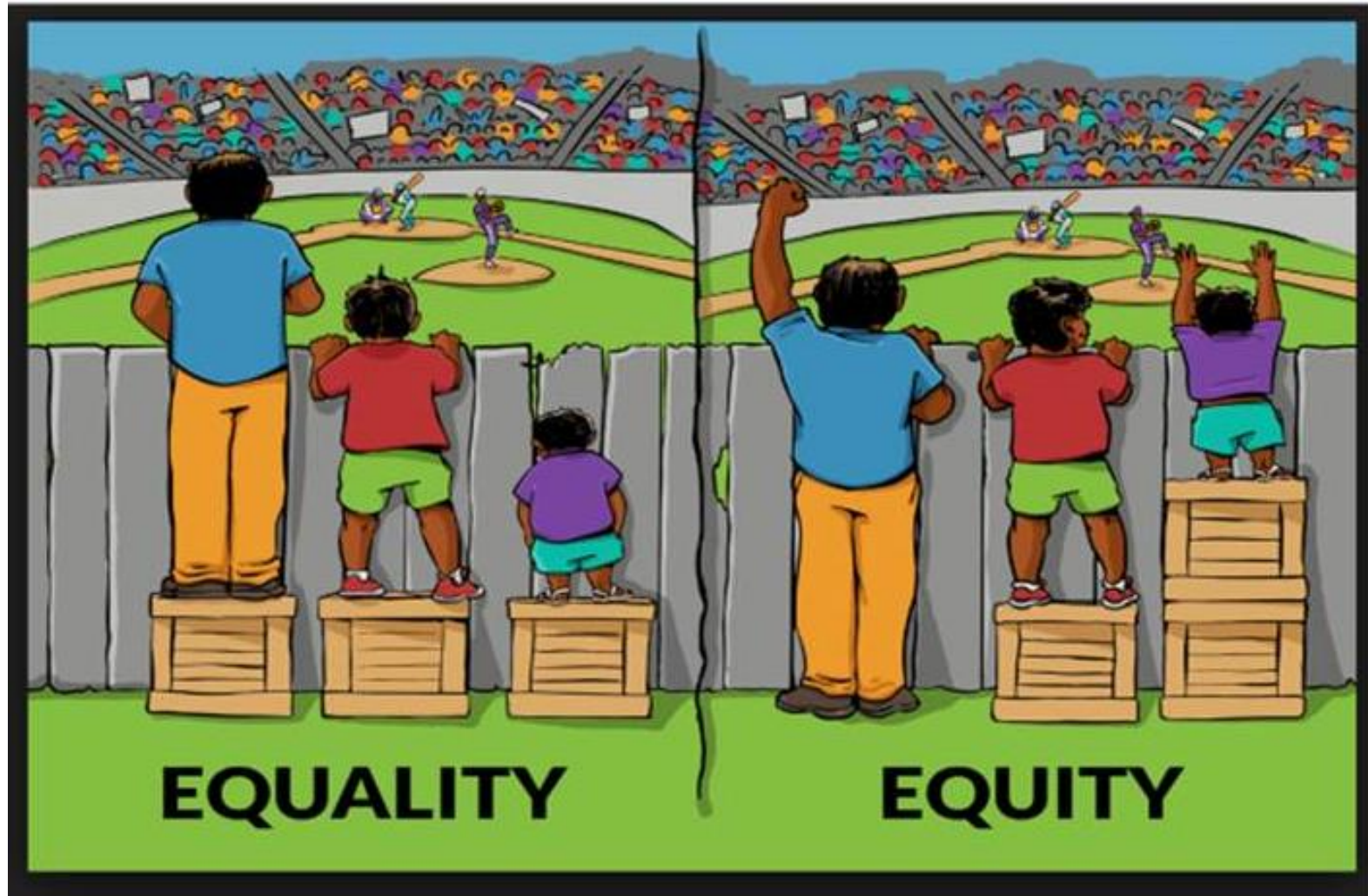
- Provides a snapshot of **current state** of services, **guiding service development**.
 - When agreed standard of services are provided at each facility, then next incremental benchmarks will be set, allowing a planned, sustainable, equitable and ongoing improvement in the approach to health service delivery in Tonga.

UHC and PEHS in Tonga

‘What’ and ‘How’

- **Criteria for inclusion, i.e. how we decide which health care services will be in the package?**
 - Burden of disease
 - Cost-effectiveness of the services i.e. value for money
 - Supply-side readiness to deliver the services?
 - Ability to ensure quality of care?
 - Country capacity to pay for PEHS?
- **Equity:** people not **missing out** on care
e.g. because of who they are, where they live, indirect costs associated with seeking treatment and care etc.





Improving equity is part of Tonga's commitment to UHC in the National Health Strategic Plan, 2015-20. What does it mean?



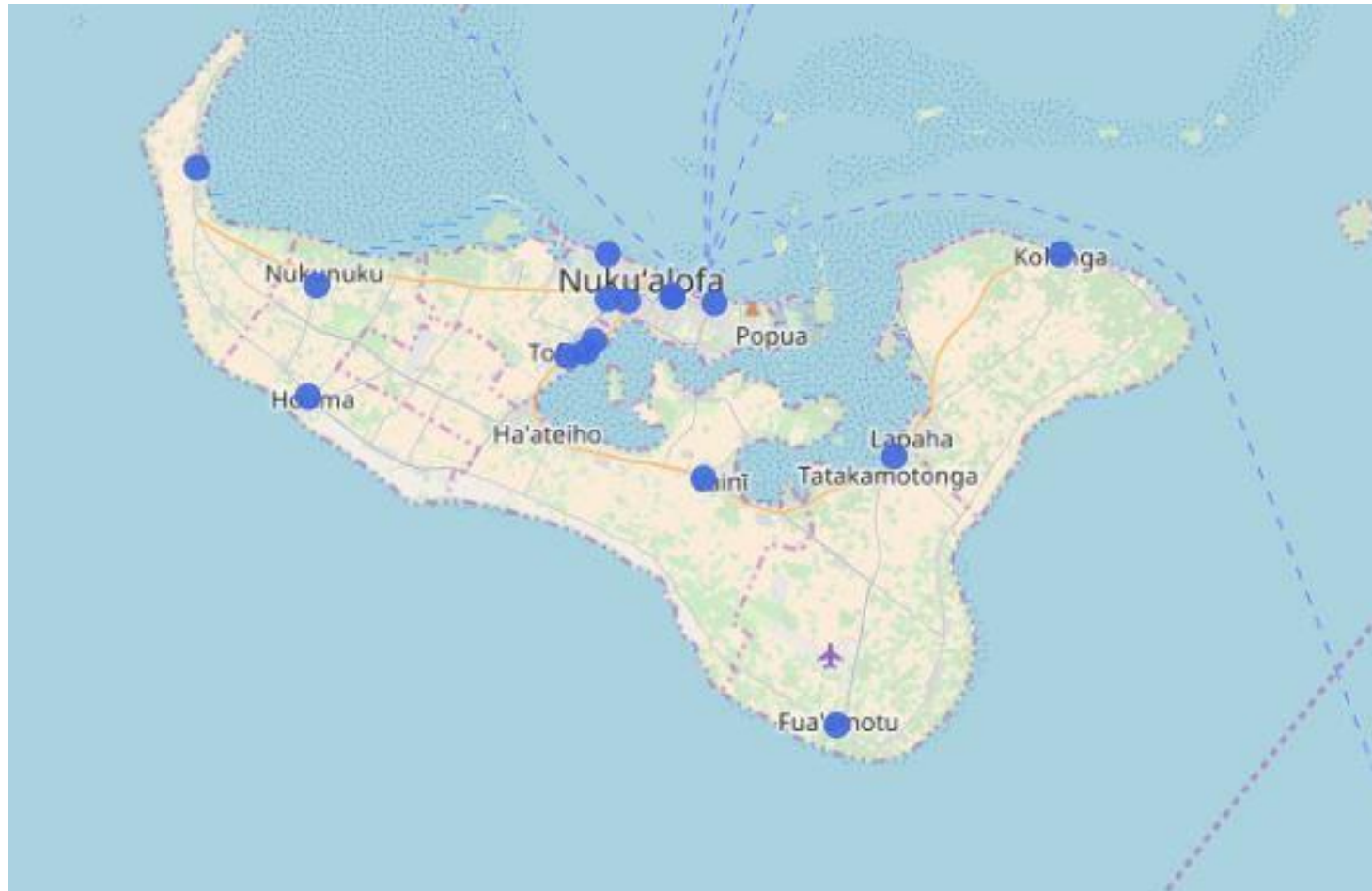
12 + 1 domains of essential health services

- General clinical services
- Maternal, newborn health and family planning
- Child health and immunisation
- Mental health
- Rehabilitation services
- Communicable diseases
- SGBV / Violence against women and children
- NCD prevention and management
- ENT and Eye Care
- Diagnostic (laboratory and imaging) services
- Oral health services
- Environmental health
- Health promotion

	Description of Essential General Clinical Services	NC	R-NC		CHC	R-CHC-	E CHC/ super C	Niua E&R-CHC		Public H		E. C. Hosp	H. C. Hosp	V. C. Hosp	V. N R Hosp
1.	Out-patient clinics: assessment, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of common medical conditions and referral of patients as required¹ is available		Yellow		Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow				Green	Yellow	Green	Green
2.	Assessment and basic management of accident and emergency appropriate to level of care and referral as required		Red		Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow				Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green
3.	Short-term admission of patients with acute conditions requiring observation/treatment or awaiting transfer		Yellow									Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green
4.	IV (intravenous) antibiotic treatment and fluid replacement is available		Red		Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow				Green	Yellow	Green	Green
5.	Suturing and dressing of wounds is available		Red									Green	Yellow	Green	Green
6.	Selection and organisation of patients for visiting medical and dental clinics is undertaken				Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow				Green	Yellow	Green	Green
7.	Pharmacy dispensing and counselling in line with Essential Medicine policies/guidelines occurs		Yellow		Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow				Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green

-  An **empty box** means that the intervention is not available at that level of facility and that it is not a priority under the PEHS to make it available. (For example, there are obviously no plans to perform surgery at a Level 3 facility).
-  **Red:** signifies that the intervention is not currently provided at this facility level, however it is a priority to provide this within the next 7 years as part of UHC.
-  **Yellow/amber:** signifies that these interventions are currently provided **in part**, but more work needs to be done to ensure consistent availability of the service.
-  **Green:** signifies that these interventions are consistently provided at that facility

Expansion of services offered to improve productivity of larger, strategically located CHCs and NCs on Tongatapu (and ease demand on Vaiola Hospital OPD)

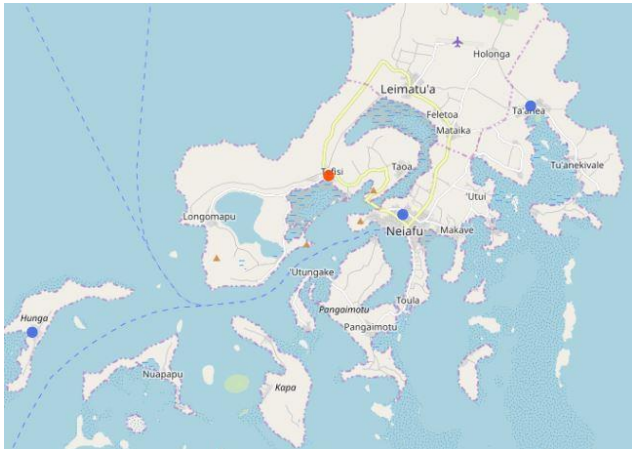


Enhancing access to services in remote communities



Remote / extended CHCs in **the Niuas**

- Likamonu
- Tu'akifalelei



Vavau

- Remote NC: Hunga



Ha'apai

Remote NC: Kauva, Uiha

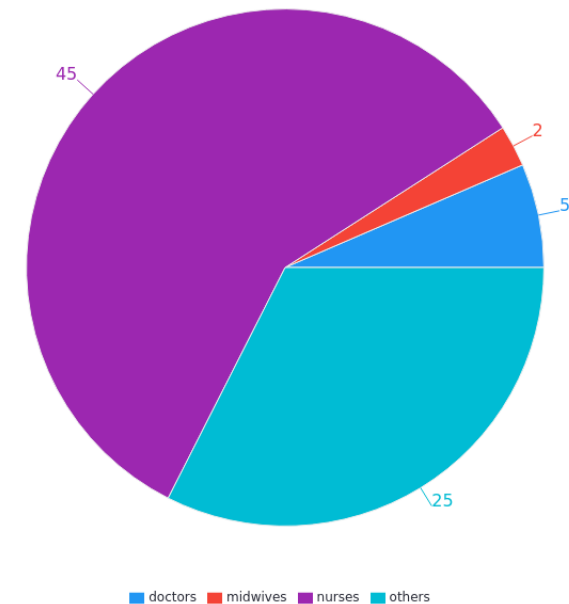
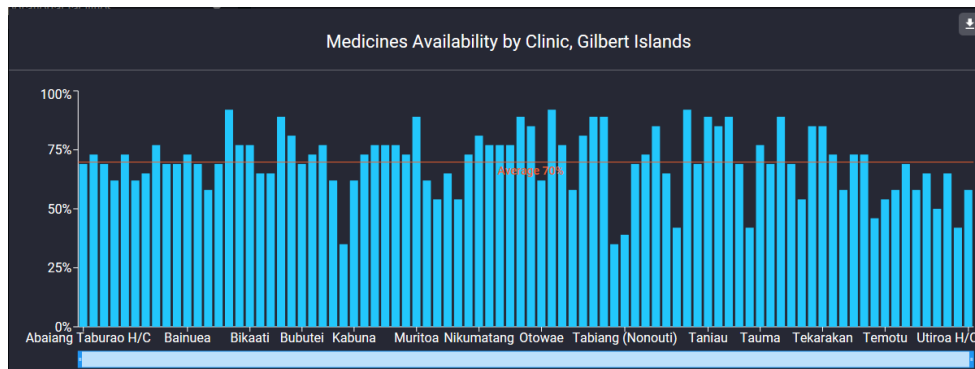
Remote CHC: Nomuka, Ha'afeva

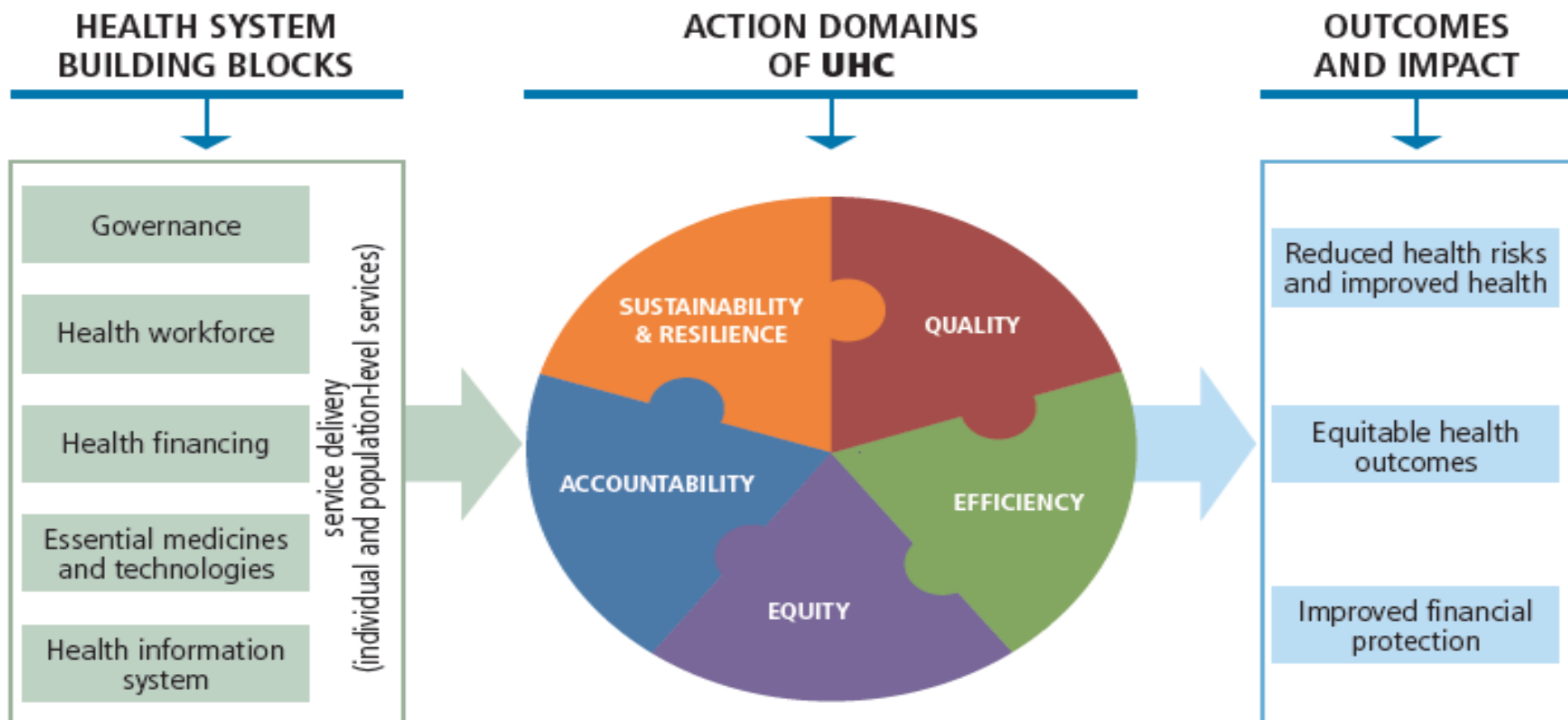
Aspects of the health system that needs to be strengthened

- Leadership and governance
- Legislation, regulation, policies and guidelines
- Health workforce – pre-service and in-service training
- Essential medicines and technologies
- Infrastructure
- Telemedicine
- Systems to support the model of care in remote locations

Monitoring progress of implementation

- Routine data collections
 - Case load
 - Burden of disease
- Tupaia
 - Service readiness and availability





QUALITY

- Regulations
- Effective, responsive services
- Individual, family and community engagement

EFFICIENCY

- Health system architecture
- Incentive for appropriate provision and use of services
- Managerial efficiency and effectiveness

EQUITY

- Financial protection
- Service coverage and access
- Non-discrimination

ACCOUNTABILITY

- Government leadership
- Partnerships
- Transparent monitoring and evaluation

SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE

- Public health preparedness
- Community capacity
- System adaptability and sustainability

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**PHC / UHC
RECOMMENDATIONS**

RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNMENTS

Governments may consider:

- Strengthening leadership and political alliances for primary health care:
 - To include other sector leaders into primary care modernization plans and work cross-sectoral, for example to include the educational sector and work closely with health promoting schools to empower the next generation for being more responsible for their own health.
 - To ensure that primary health care is embedded in all other government policies including the respective financial resource allocations (health in all policies).
 - To continue raising awareness and increasing the level of health literacy of institutional and political partners, as well as individuals and communities.
- Strengthening health workforce for primary health care:
 - To implement a retention policy with incentives for the right staff to be at the right place with the right skill mix
 - To reorient health workforce curricula towards a more comprehensive approach, balancing clinical services and skills with preventive approaches and practices, taking into account the cultural and social determinants of the Pacific
 - To develop a continuing medical education program for all primary health care professionals to acquire and maintain comprehensive skills and that includes a systematic peer review system
- Strengthening the capability to plan and monitor for changes in the way primary health care is delivered
 - To invest into a health information system on primary health care level

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

Development partners may consider:

- to continue supporting support Pacific island countries in their efforts to modernize primary health care by advocating for health in all policies.
- to continue advocating, together with their health sector counterparts, for more investments into primary health care and its workforce development.
- to support developing a program of collaboration in primary health care between Pacific island countries, allowing for example regular exchange of experiences in the implementation of the various ongoing modernization plans and concepts.
- to encourage and fund more research and evaluation work in primary health care in the Pacific that can support effective advocacy and leadership efforts.