Regional Initiatives

Pacific Food Summit

Dr Temo K Waqanivalu, WHO
On behalf of FSPWG
Healthy Island Vision

The 'Yanuca Island Declaration on Health in the Pacific in the 21st century' in 1995 endorsed, ‘Healthy Islands’ as a place where:

- children are nurtured in body and mind
- environments invite learning and leisure
- people work and age with dignity
- ecological balance is a source of pride
- the ocean which sustains us is protected.
Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy lifestyle.

— World Food Summit, 2009
Case for Action

• Pacific Health
  – 75% of death (many premature) from Noncommunicable Disease (NCD) like Heart Disease and Diabetes
  – Some of the highest rate of diabetes (47%) and obesity (75%) in 25 – 64yrs old
  – Micronutrient deficiency remains a problem: iron deficiency anaemia in 19-60% of preschool children, 12-54% of non-pregnant women and 19-57% of pregnant women
Case for Action

• Food Threats
  – 40% of the 9.7 million people in the Pacific suffer from food-related hunger and disease
  – Between 6.5% and 11.4% of all children in the region do not receive enough nutritious food and thus, suffer from hunger

• Climate Change
  – Threats to food security
The Call for Action

  - Called for a Food Summit with representatives from Health, Agriculture, Trade and Finance.

  - recognized food security as an issue of increasing importance and called on all countries to maintain open markets and, where possible, to increase the production and supply of healthy food.

- Further supported in 2009 by Ministers of Agriculture, Forum Trade Ministers Meeting in June 2009.
Action at regional level: Multi-agency working group

- FAO, GHI, PIFS, SPC, WHO, Vanuatu Govt
- Chaired by WHO to
  - support national food summits,
  - develop a draft framework for action on Food Security and;
  - plan for Pacific food Summit
- Unique and effective cooperation between agencies
  - Operated under one logo
- FAO, the Global Health Institute (Sydney), PIFS, SPC, UNICEF and WHO
Action at country level

- National Food Summits
  - 2009: Samoa, Vanuatu, Fiji, Cook Islands
  - 2010: Kiribati, Federated States of Micronesia
- Draft Framework for Action
Objectives Achieved

- Reviewed threats to food security in the Pacific and best practice for improving food security.
- Finalized and agreed on a Framework for Action on Food Security and Summit outcomes.
- Agreed on a process for advocating the Framework for Action to Pacific Forum Leaders and National Governments and funding related activities.
Pacific Food Summit
Port Vila, Vanuatu 21-23 April 2010

- Landmark meeting of over 170 participants from
  - 20 Pacific Island Countries & Areas
  - Multiple sectors - Trade, agriculture, health
  - Multiple regional and national food security related agencies
  - Food industry representatives
  - Academics, community representatives, faith-based organisations & consumer groups
Framework for Action on Food Security in the Pacific

Themes

• Leadership and Coordination
• Regulatory frameworks, enforcement and compliance and public private sector collaboration
• Enhanced and sustainable production, processing and trading of safe and nutritious local food
• Protect infants and vulnerable groups
• Consumer empowerment and mobilizing partners
• Food security information systems
• Enhanced land tenure systems and land-use policies, energy, transport, education and communication systems to underpin food security
Summit commitments

- Action at the Regional Level:
  - provide leadership and coordination role
  - supporting members in developing and implementing national plans

- Action at a national level:
  - developing and strengthening national implementation plans;
  - strengthening a multi-sectoral approach to national food security policy; and
  - identifying national champions for food security.
Summit Commitments

• Private sector, civil society and faith-based organisation:
  – working with PICs to implement areas requiring their input and support.
  – integrate where appropriate, the Framework for Action with other actions to improve food security

• International organization action:
  – integrating the Framework for Action with other actions to improve food security globally.
To Pacific Forum Leaders:
August 2010

- Draft Framework for Action on Food Security
  - reported through and endorsed by Pacific Plan Action Committee
  - tabled at the Small Island States (SIS)
  - tabled by Vanuatu Prime Minister at the forum leaders retreat
- Endorsement included in the Communiqué from the Leaders
Recommendations

• Global recognition and support for regional initiatives
• Strengthen capacity of multiple agencies for country support
• Mobilisation of resources to implement the framework
• Website

www.foodsecurepacific.org