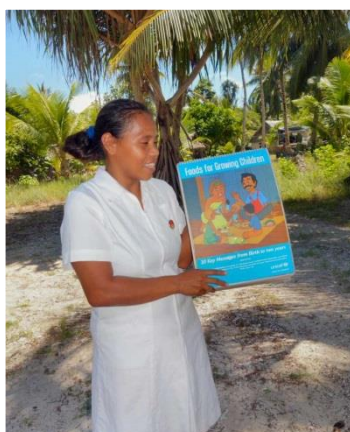


2015
UPDATE

A SNAPSHOT OF WATER AND SANITATION IN THE PACIFIC

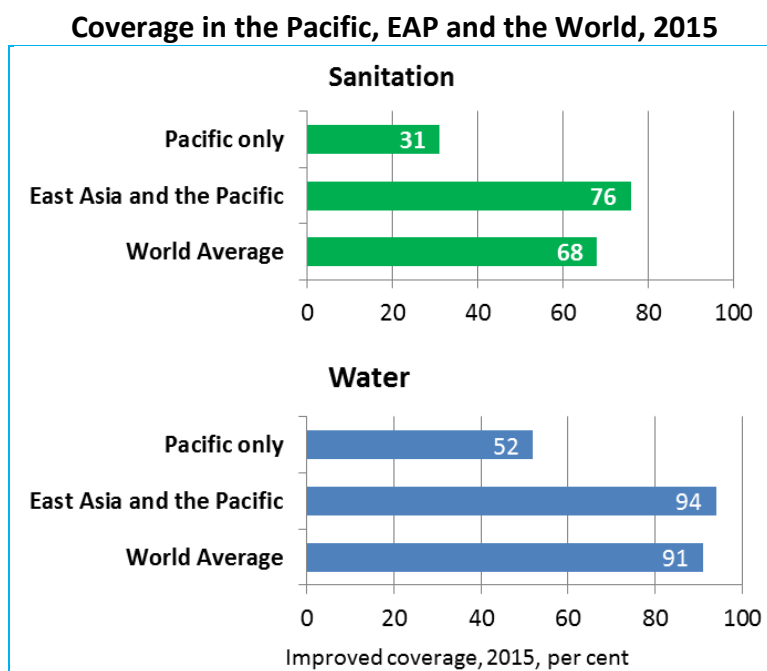
2015 SUB-REGIONAL ANALYSIS AND UPDATE



Overview

Improved water and sanitation coverage in the Pacific sub-region is very low

- The Pacific sub-region, consisting of 14 Pacific island countries and Papua New Guinea, has a much different water and sanitation profile than the East Asia and Pacific (EAP) region as a whole
- In the Pacific sub-region, both sanitation and water coverage is far below the East Asia average
- At 31 per cent in 2015, sanitation coverage is nearly the same as Sub-Saharan Africa, and lower than any other region in the world
- At 52 per cent, water coverage is lower than all other regions in the world
- The rate of progress in the Pacific is stagnant, with minimal gains made since 1990; no other region has registered slower progress over the last 25 years
- The Pacific sub-region as a whole did not achieve either the sanitation or water MDG targets in 2015



Water and sanitation systems in the Pacific are highly vulnerable

- The freshwater resources of Pacific island countries are threatened by population growth, urbanisation, and changing land-use patterns, like other countries in the EAP region.
- Island nations are further threatened by the impacts of climate change: sea level rise can cause seawater intrusion into aquifers, while increased temperatures and changing rainfall patterns affect groundwater recharge and the viability of critical rainwater harvesting systems.
- The increasing frequency of extreme weather, such as tropical depressions and cyclones, pose additional threats to overall water security.

Information about this Snapshot

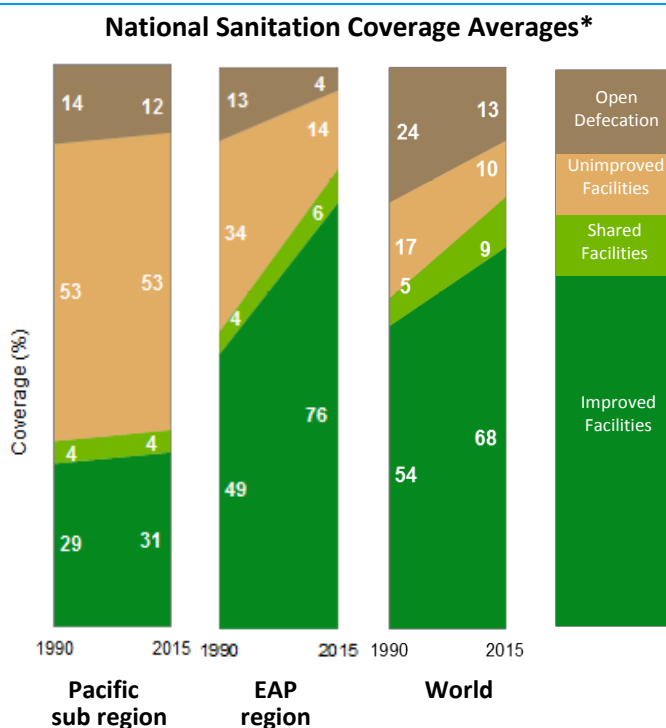
- This snapshot is produced by the UNICEF Regional Office for East Asia and the Pacific.
- The 15 Pacific sub-region countries covered in this snapshot are: Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands (Republic of), Micronesia (Fed. States of), Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. This sub-region is different from the MDG region of Oceania, which consists of more countries.
- Unless otherwise indicated, data in this snapshot is from the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP) 2015 dataset, the latest available.
- See last page for full citations and credits, and for JMP definitions of improved water and sanitation coverage

Sanitation

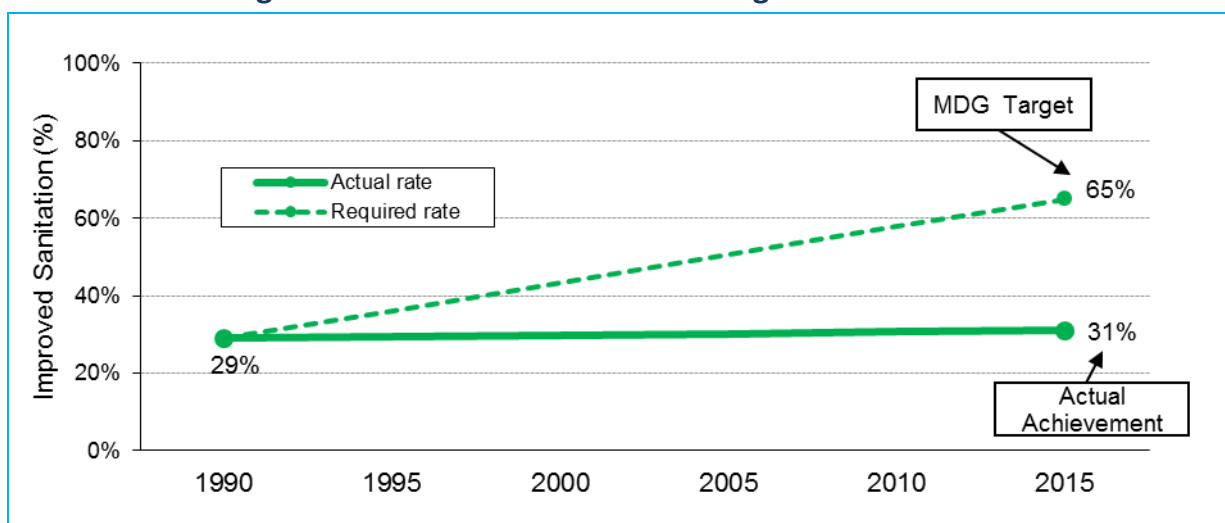
Sanitation Trends: Pacific, EAP and World Comparison

- Progress is stagnant in the Pacific sub-region since 1990 (only 2% increase in improved sanitation coverage)
- This rate of progress is slower than any region in the world
- At 31 per cent, the Pacific sub-region is just one point ahead of the Sub-Saharan Africa region, which has the lowest level of improved sanitation in the world
- Open defecation rates are high in the sub-region, especially in Solomon Islands (54%), Kiribati (36%)

*Population-weighted averages of national sanitation coverage, 1990 and 2015, by sub-region, region and world

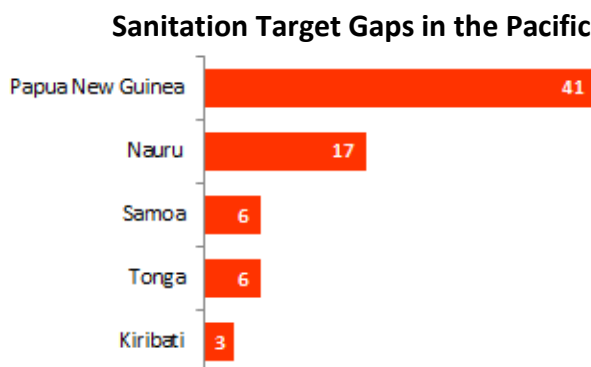


The Pacific sub-region missed its MDG sanitation target



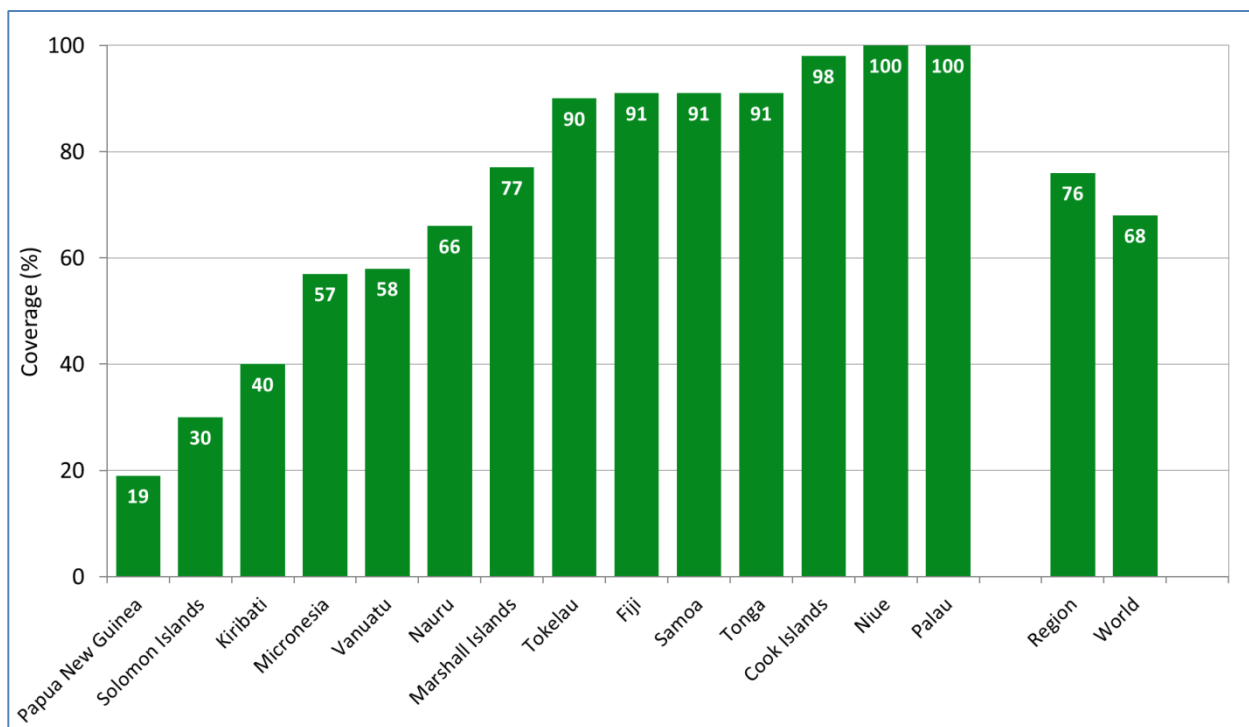
- The sub-region missed its target by 34 percentage points
- This gap is larger than for any other region in the world
- Five Pacific countries are in the limited or moderate progress JMP categories, with target gaps as shown

Percentage point gap between national MDG target and actual 2015 coverage



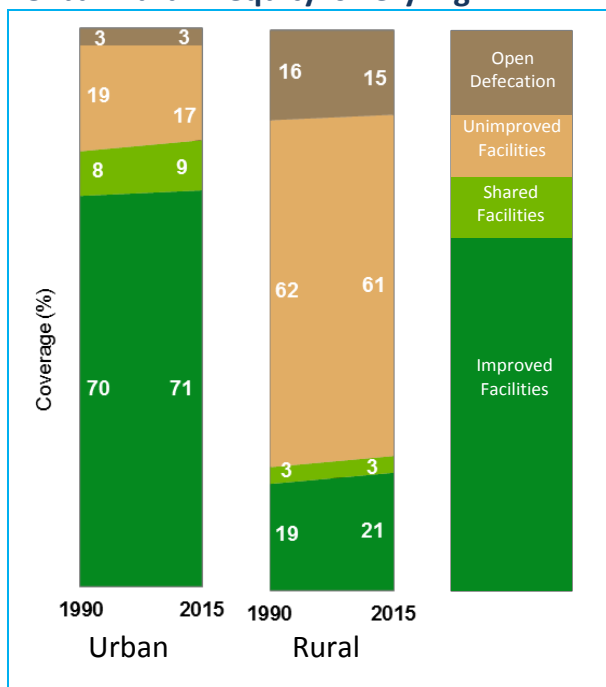
Sanitation Inequities

Sanitation coverage varies greatly from country to country

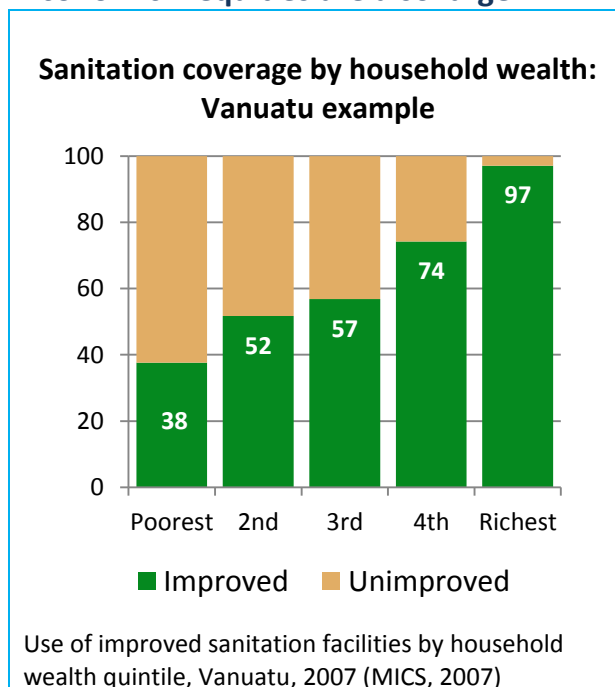


Sanitation coverage in Pacific countries, 2015, with EAP and World comparators

Urban-rural inequity is very high



Economic inequities are also large



Other examples of sanitation coverage inequity in the Pacific

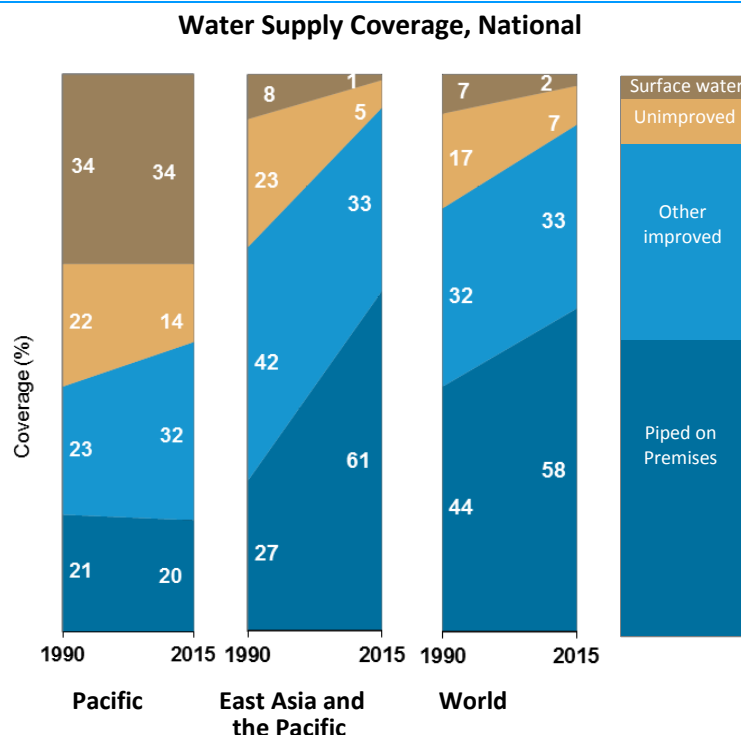
Tuvalu:	Open defecation is much more common in the Outer Islands (7.3%) than on Funafuti (1.5%) (DHS, 2007)
Vanuatu:	More people use improved sanitation facilities in some regions (e.g. Shefa at 72%) than others (e.g. Malampa at 38%) (MICS, 2007)

Water

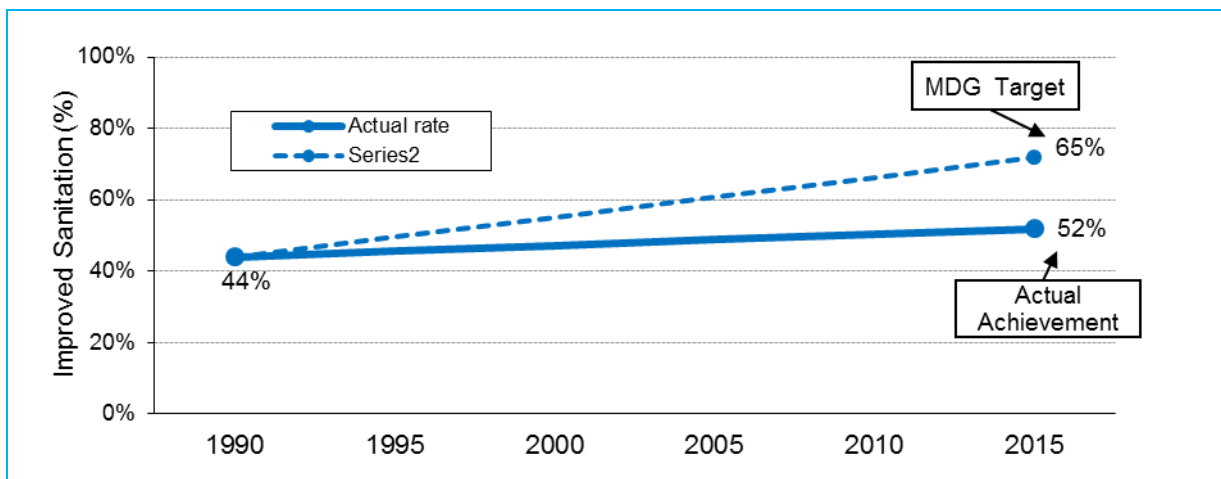
Water supply coverage is low and progress is stagnate

- Water coverage in the Pacific sub-region is lower than in any other region in the world, at just 52 per cent
- Water coverage has increased by just 8 per cent from 1990 to 2015, a lower rate than most other regions
- The proportion of people with piped water on the premises has actually decreased in the sub-region, the only place in the world where that has happened

*Population-weighted averages of national water coverage, 1990 and 2015, by sub-region, region and world



The Pacific sub-region missed its MDG water target



- The Pacific sub-region missed its water target by a wider margin (13 percentage points) than any other region in the world
- In the case of water, this is mainly because of poor progress in Papua New Guinea*

*Papua New Guinea has a large population relative to the sub-region as a whole and thus significantly affects sub-regional weighted averages (see more on pg. 7)

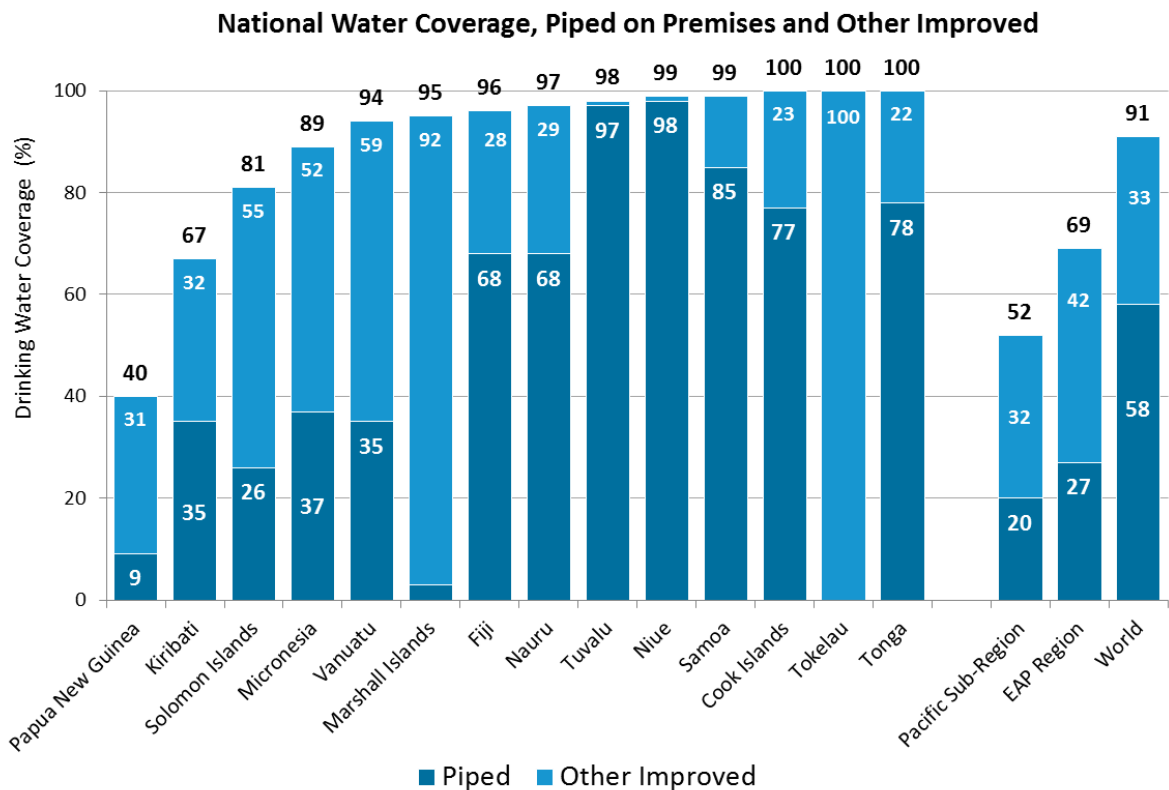
Water Target Gaps in the Pacific



Gap between the required coverage in 2015 if country were on-track, and actual 2015 coverage (%) for Pacific off-track and insufficient progress countries.

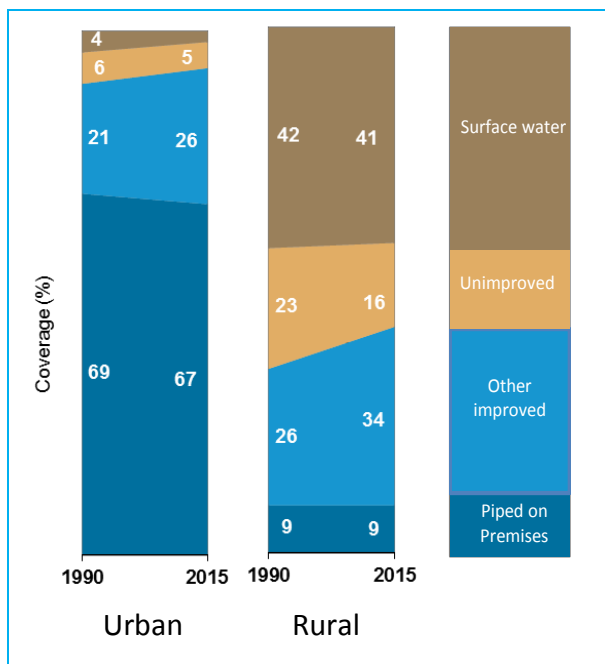
Water Inequities

Improved and piped water coverage varies greatly from country to country

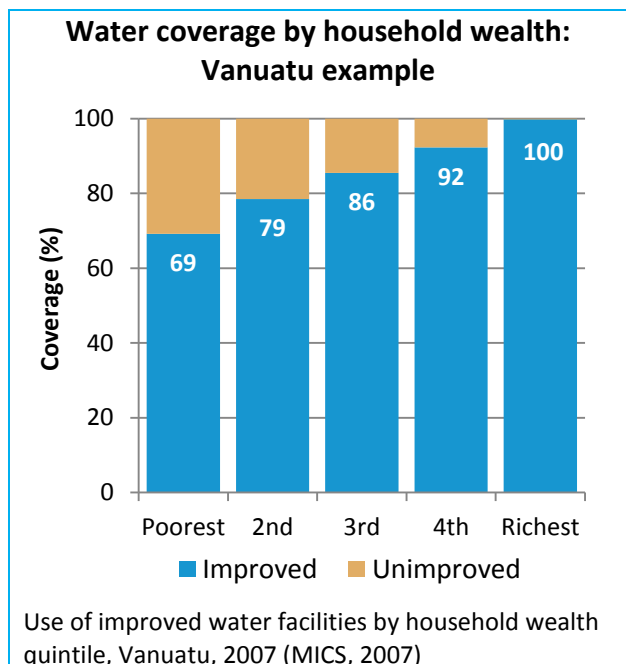


Water coverage in Pacific countries, 2015, with Sub-Region and World comparators. Piped data not available for Tokelau. No 2015 data available for Palau.

Urban-rural inequity is high



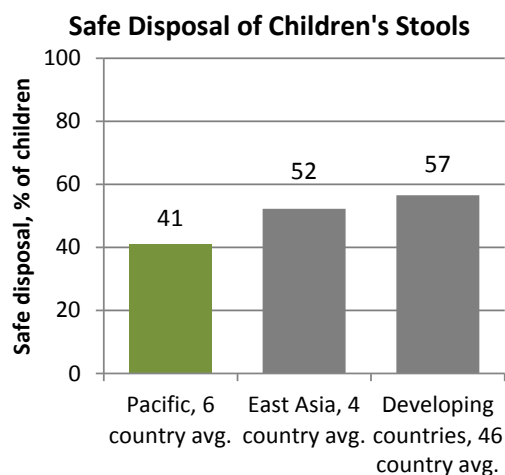
Household wealth influences coverage



Hygiene Practices: Disposal of children's stools

- One indicator of hygiene practices in households is whether or not children stools (faeces) are disposed of safely (put in a toilet or buried)
- In the Pacific, safe disposal of stools is less common than in East Asia and in developing countries generally

Percentage of children whose stools are disposed of safely according to the latest Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS), unweighted average of 6 countries in the Pacific compared to 4 countries in East Asia and the developing world average (see page 8 for a list of these countries)



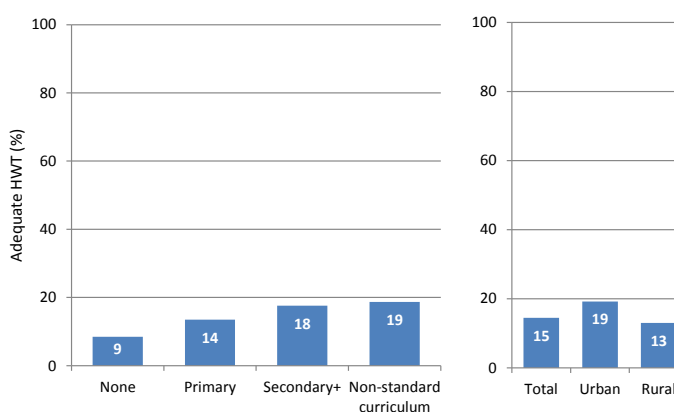
Household Water Treatment: Vanuatu example

- In Vanuatu, appropriate* household water treatment is uncommon at 15 per cent, far lower than the East Asia average of 60 per cent
- Treatment is slightly more prevalent in urban areas and among higher education levels

* Appropriate treatment methods include boiling, bleaching/chlorinating, filtering, and solar disinfecting

Source: Vanuatu MICS 2007

Water Treatment by Education Level and Rural/Urban



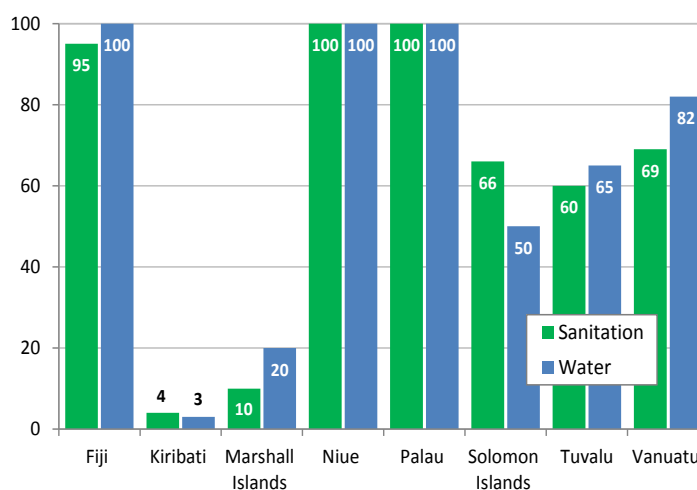
WASH in Schools

- Access to water and sanitation in schools varies among Pacific countries with available data (see sources last page)
- School water systems are highly vulnerable: for example, most schools in Tuvalu depend entirely on rainwater harvesting

Percentage of schools with sanitation facilities, national and 19 country region average (no data for 8 countries), 2013

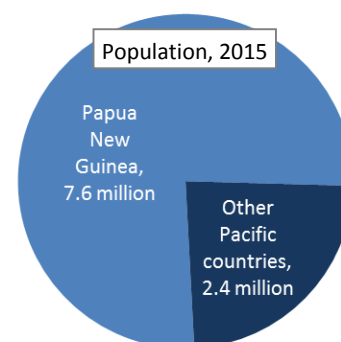
Source: *Advancing WASH in schools monitoring*, 2015, UNICEF

Sanitation and Water in Schools



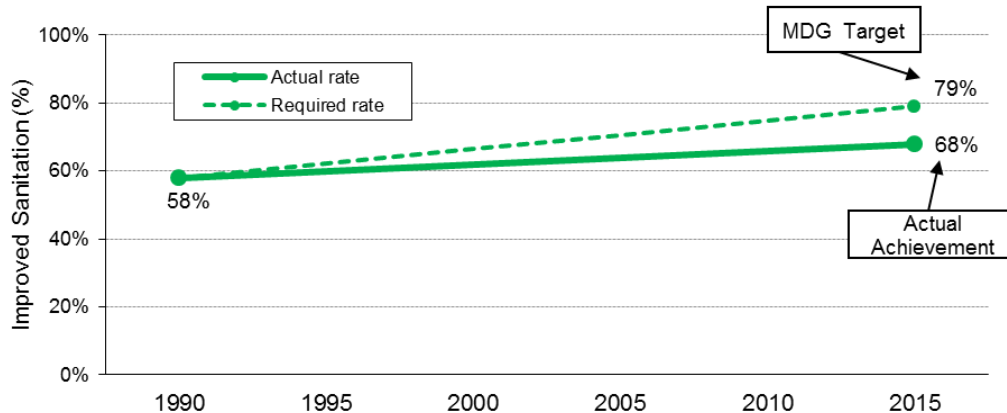
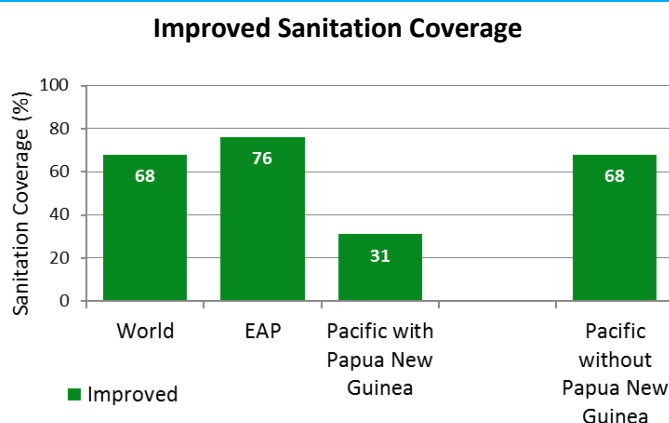
Focus on Pacific Island Countries excluding Papua New Guinea

- Papua New Guinea has a large population relative to its neighbours, representing 76 per cent of the sub-region as a whole
- Due this large relative population, and its low water and sanitation coverage levels, Papua New Guinea tends to affect overall sub-regional weighted averages disproportionately
- Analyzing the remaining 14 remaining Pacific Island Countries in the sub-region as a group results in a somewhat different picture of water and sanitation coverage



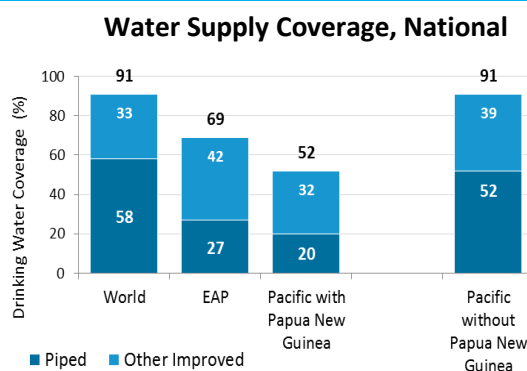
Sanitation: higher levels but target was missed

- Sanitation coverage in the Pacific sub-region not including Papua New Guinea is 9 points lower than the East Asia and Pacific region as a whole, and much higher than the Pacific sub-region
- However, because of the poor rate of progress since 1990 in many Pacific countries, the sub-region without Papua New Guinea did not meet its MDG sanitation target



Water: on-track

- The sub-region without Papua New Guinea has exceeded the water coverage levels in the EAP region as a whole, meeting the MDG target
- Rural-urban disparities are also less pronounced, with a gap of only 10 percentage points
- However, freshwater resources are extremely vulnerable in the Pacific due to climate variability and change



Sources and Notes

Main dataset: *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation: 2015 Update* (with supplemental data from wssinfo.org), from the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation

JMP data for the Pacific sub-Region is less extensive than for some other regions, but has improved to the point where the publication of this snapshot is now possible

Country-specific DHS data: from published Demographic and Household Surveys available at measuredhs.com, from USAID and national statistics bureaus. DHS studies available for Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Solomon Islands, Samoa and Tuvalu (and for Cambodia, Indonesia, Philippines and Timor-Leste used for comparison purposes on page 6).

Country-specific MICS data: from published Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys available at childinfo.org, from UNICEF, other UN agencies and national statistics bureaus

Information on climate change and freshwater resources from: Falkland, A. (2011). *Report on Water Security and Vulnerability to Climate Change and Other Impacts in Pacific Island Countries and East Timor*. For the Pacific Adaptation Strategy Assistance Program, Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, Australian Government

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Acknowledgements

UNICEF thanks Greg Keast, who developed and produced this snapshot under the guidance of Chander Badloe, UNICEF East Asia and the Pacific. Thanks also to Marc Overmars, UNICEF WASH Chief, Suva; Brooke Yamakoshi, UNICEF Suva; Dr. Rokho Kim, Environmental Health Specialist – Division of Pacific Technical Support, WHO; and Kamal Khatri, Water Services Coordinator SPC/SOPAC.

UNICEF acknowledges the financial support from DFAT for making this 2015 update possible.

JMP Definitions of Improved Water and Sanitation Coverage

Improved drinking water: piped household water connection located inside the user's dwelling, plot or yard; or other improved drinking water sources including public taps or standpipes, tube wells or boreholes, protected dug wells, protected springs, rainwater collection.

Improved sanitation: facilities likely to ensure hygienic separation of human excreta from human contact, including the following: flush/pour flush to piped sewer systems, septic tanks or pit latrines; ventilated improved pit latrines; pit latrines with slabs.

Water and Sanitation Coverage Data, Pacific Sub-Region

Country estimates, 1990 and 2015

Country	Year	Total Population (x 1,000)	Sanitation				Drinking Water				
			Improved	Unimproved (%)			Improved (%)			Unimproved (%)	
				Shared	Other Un-improved	Open Defecation	Total Improved	Piped on Premises	Other Improved	Other Un-improved	Surface Water
Cook Islands	1990	18	-	-	-	-	100	-	-	0	0
	2015	21	98	-	1	1	100	77	23	0	0
Fiji	1990	728	57	3	35	5	86	57	29	11	3
	2015	893	91	5	4	0	96	68	28	2	2
Kiribati	1990	71	28	5	10	57	50	26	24	50	-
	2015	106	40	7	17	36	67	35	32	33	-
Marshall Islands	1990	47	65	10	17	8	92	3	89	8	-
	2015	59	77	12	4	7	95	3	92	5	-
Micronesia	1990	96	19	-	72	9	91	-	-	2	7
	2015	104	57	-	33	10	89	37	52	4	7
Nauru	1990	9	66	31	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	11	66	31	0	3	97	68	29	3	-
Niue	1990	2	-	-	-	-	99	98	1	1	-
	2015	1	100	-	0	0	99	98	1	1	-
Palau	1990	15	46	-	54	-	90	90	0	10	-
	2015	21	100	-	0	0	-	-	-	-	-
Papua New Guinea	1990	4,158	20	4	60	16	34	12	22	23	43
	2015	7,632	19	3	67	11	40	9	31	18	42
Samoa	1990	163	93	6	1	0	89	74	15	11	0
	2015	193	91	6	3	0	99	85	14	0	1
Solomon Islands	1990	312	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2015	584	30	-	16	54	81	26	55	12	7
Tokelau	1990	2	45	2	53	-	90	-	-	10	-
	2015	1	90	5	5	-	100	-	-	0	0
Tonga	1990	95	94	1	5	-	99	-	-	1	-
	2015	106	91	1	8	-	100	78	22	0	0
Tuvalu	1990	9	73	6	16	5	90	90	0	10	-
	2015	10	-	-	-	-	98	97	1	2	-
Vanuatu	1990	147	-	-	-	-	62	18	44	31	7
	2015	264	58	20	20	2	94	35	59	1	5
Region	1990	5,872	29	4	53	14	44	21	23	22	34
	2015	10,006	31	4	53	12	52	20	32	14	34

Source: *Progress on Drinking Water and Sanitation: 2015 Update* (with supplemental data from wssinfo.org), from the WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation

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