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# Contraceptive uptake in the Pacific

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# Outline

- Introduction
- Global and regional (Pacific) progress with contraceptive uptake
- Unmet need for family planning by age, marital status and intention to use
- Factors contributing to unmet need
- Using CYP to monitor FP uptake
- Proposals for strengthening uptake FP



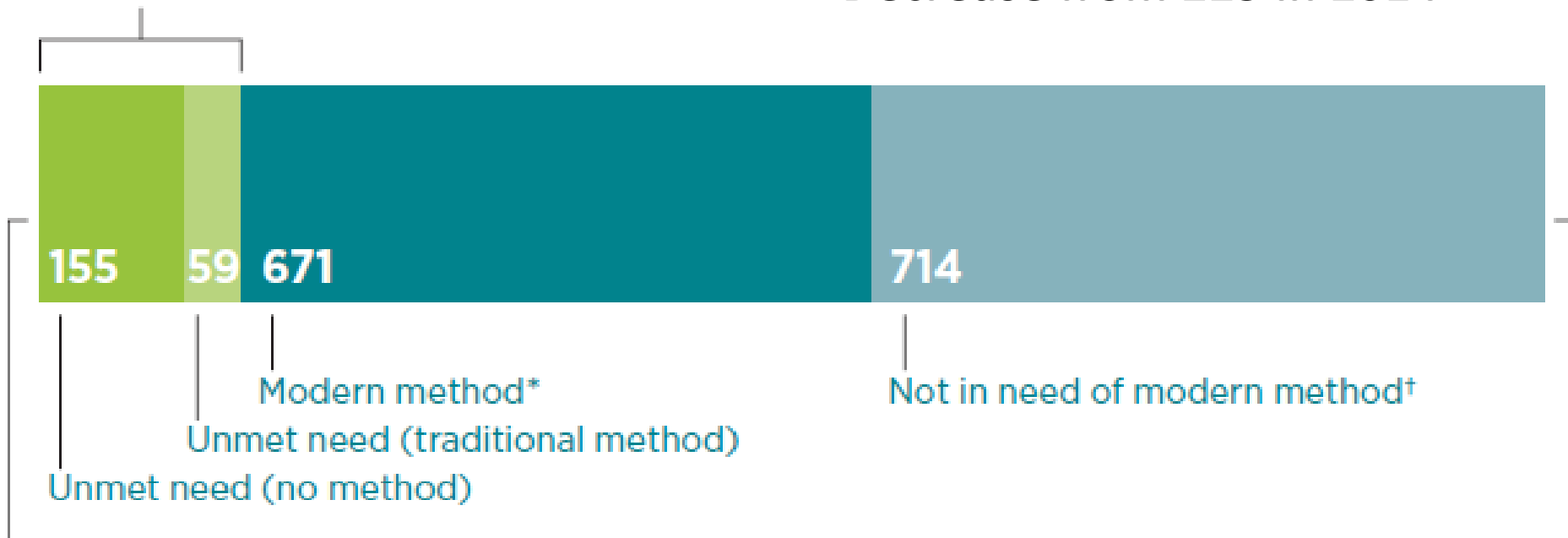
# Why is it important to focus on FP?

- Investing in family planning is investing in the health and rights of women and couples
- Gains through this investment are critical to the success of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

# Contraceptive need and use

**In developing regions, 214 million women want to prevent pregnancy but are not using modern contraception.**

**214 million women with unmet need    Decrease from 225 in 2014**



**1,600 million women of reproductive age, 2017**

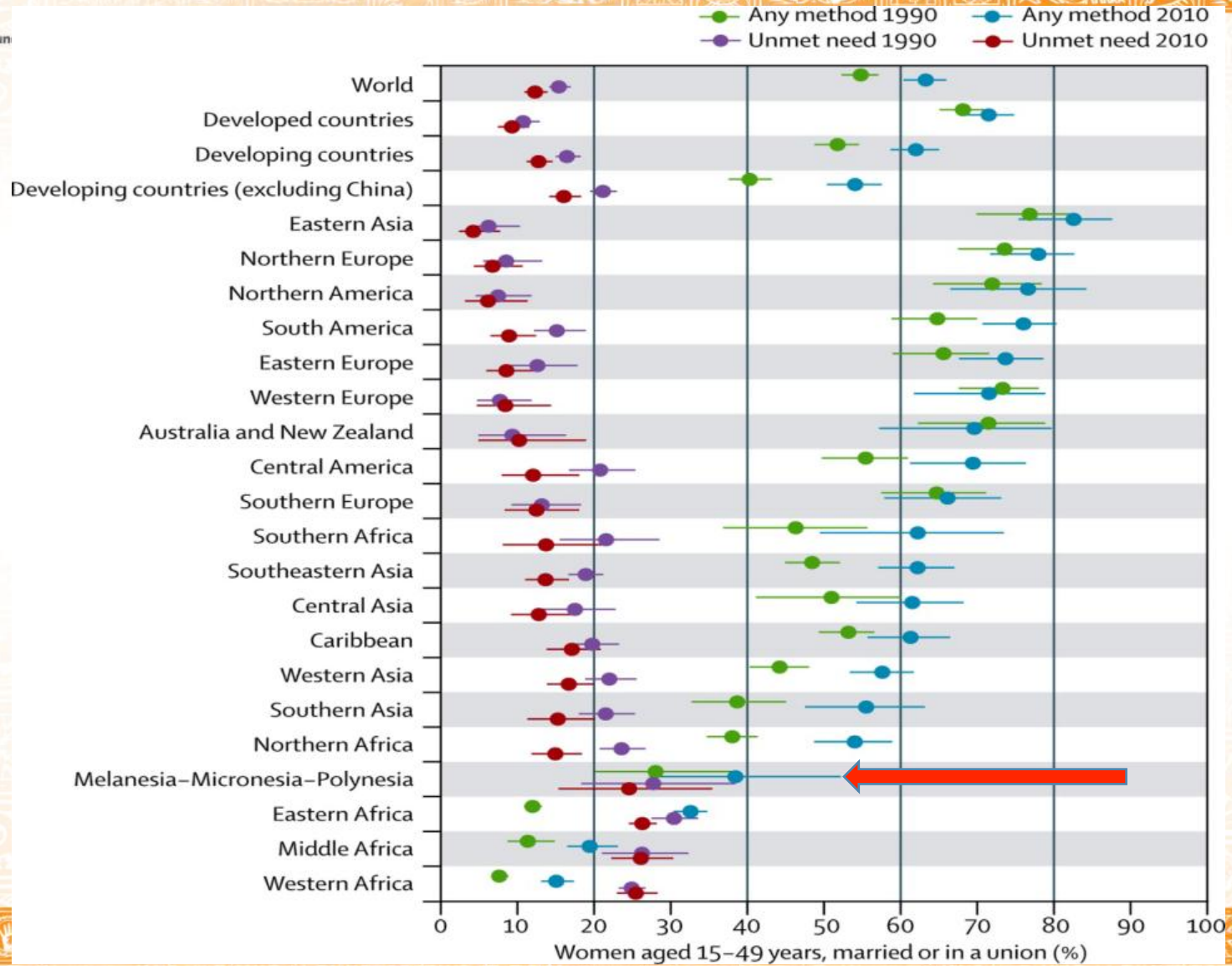
Source: [unmet-need-for-contraception-in-developing-countries-factsheet.pdf](https://www.guttmacher.org/sites/default/files/factsheet/unmet-need-for-contraception-in-developing-countries-factsheet.pdf)

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# Global CPR and Unmet need trends



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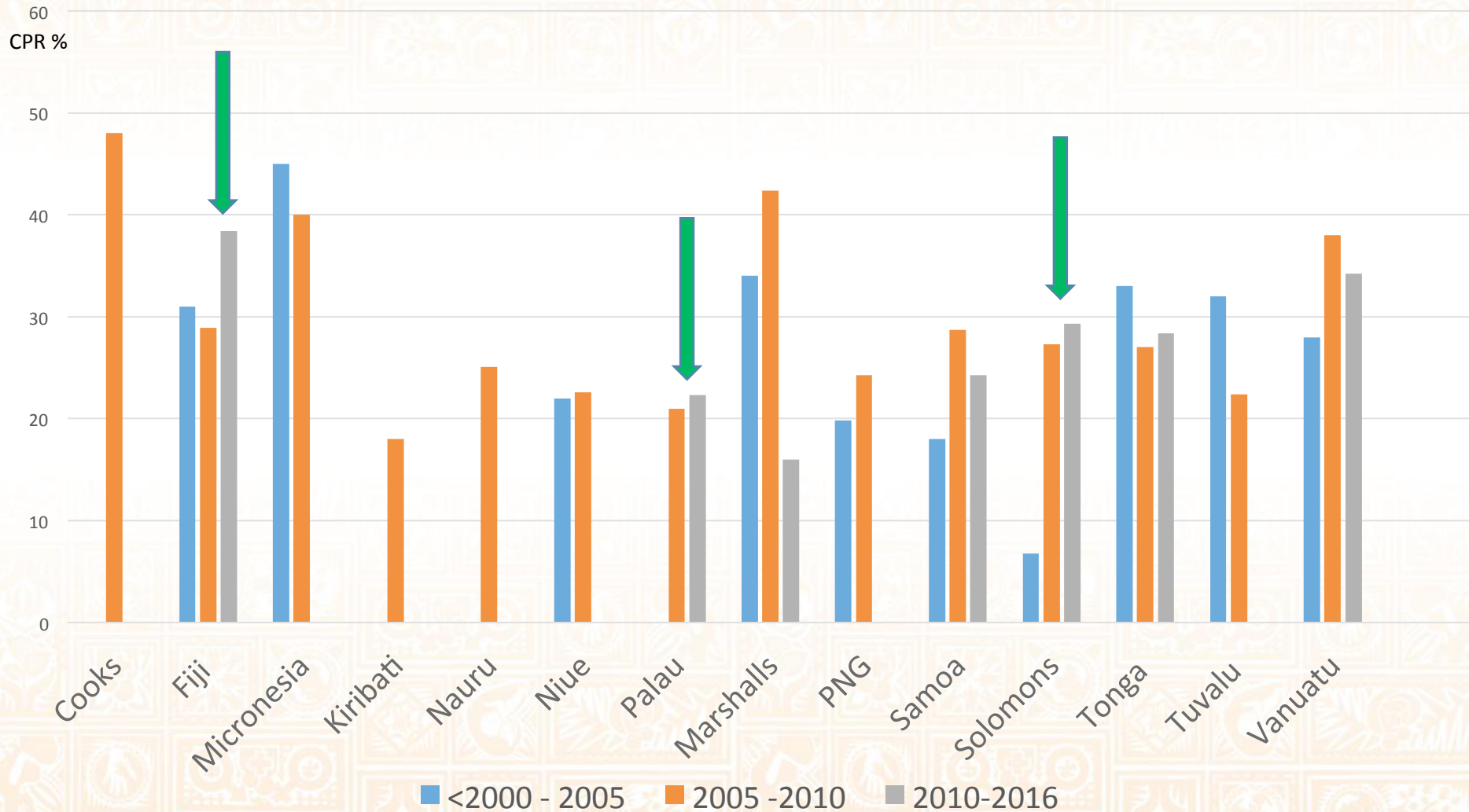




# Trends in CPR



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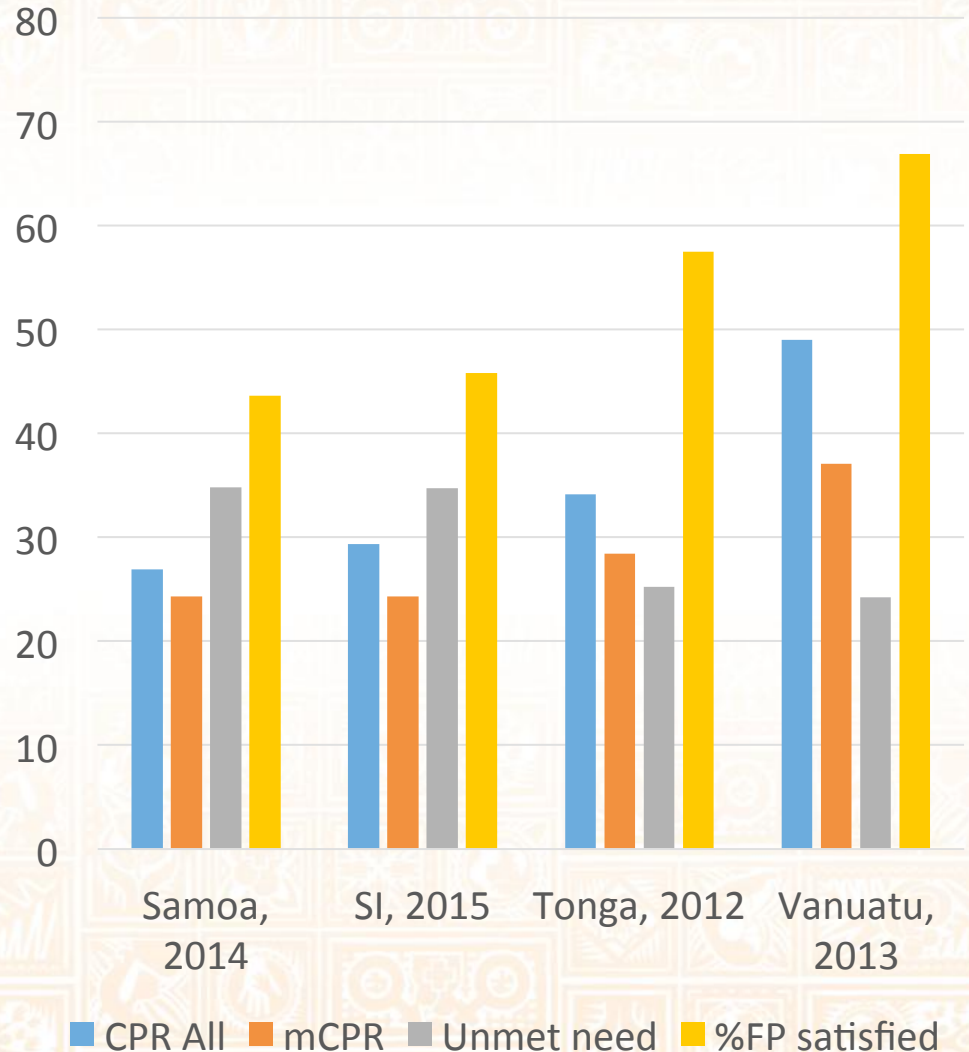




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# CPR, Unmet need for Family planning & % women satisfied with FP methods

- Proportion of women of reproductive age (aged 15-49) who have their need for family planning satisfied with modern methods
- Reflects voluntarism and informed choice
- Emphasizes the imperative to satisfy individuals' and couples' own choices regarding to number and timing of children
- Does not require setting contraceptive prevalence nor fertility targets





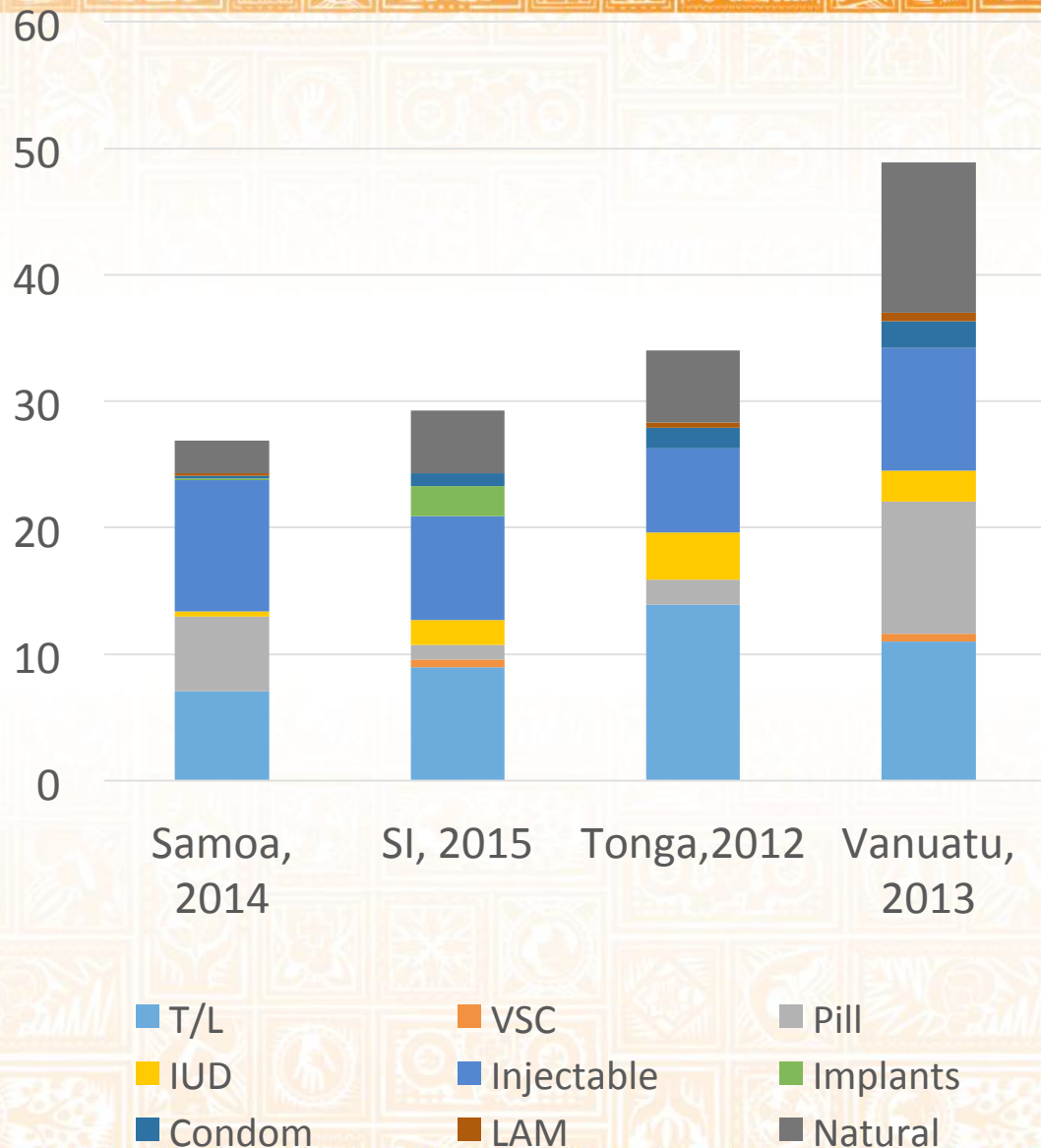
# Method Mix



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- All Pacific countries offer at least three types of modern contraception at the primary health level and method mix improves at higher levels to > 5 methods - as well as emergency contraception, male and female condoms.

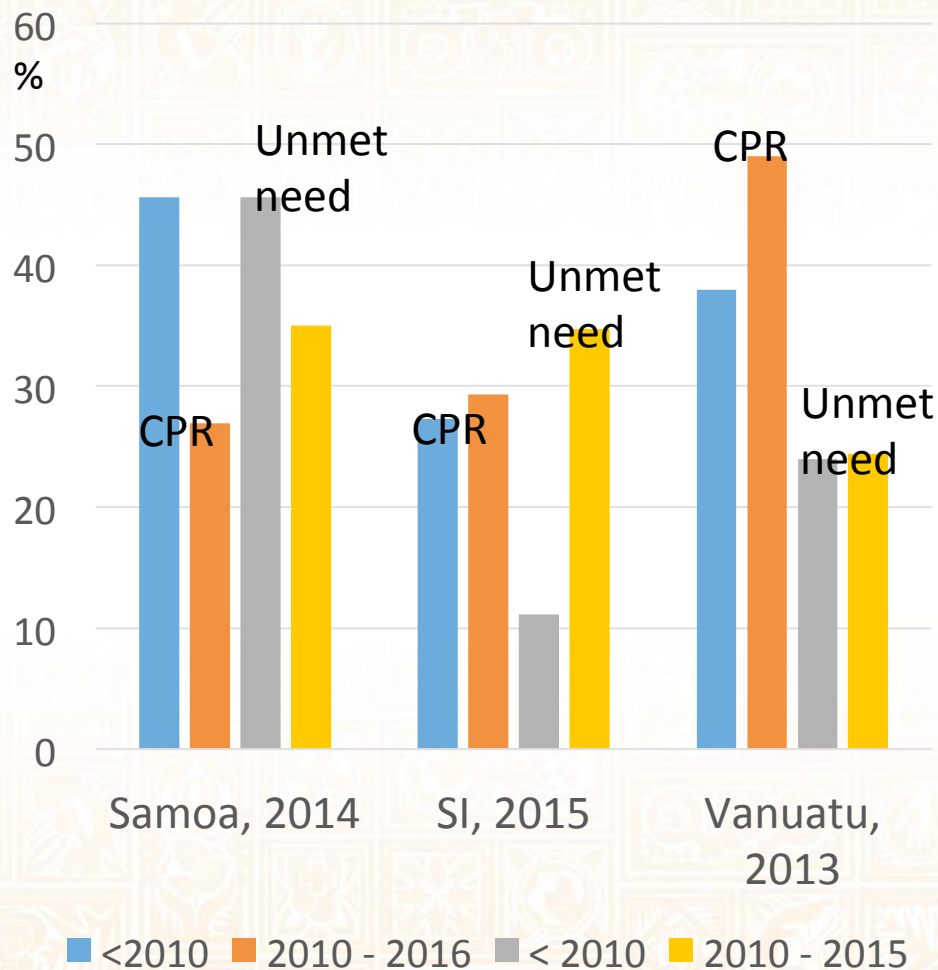
2013 Pacific Regional ICPD Review report



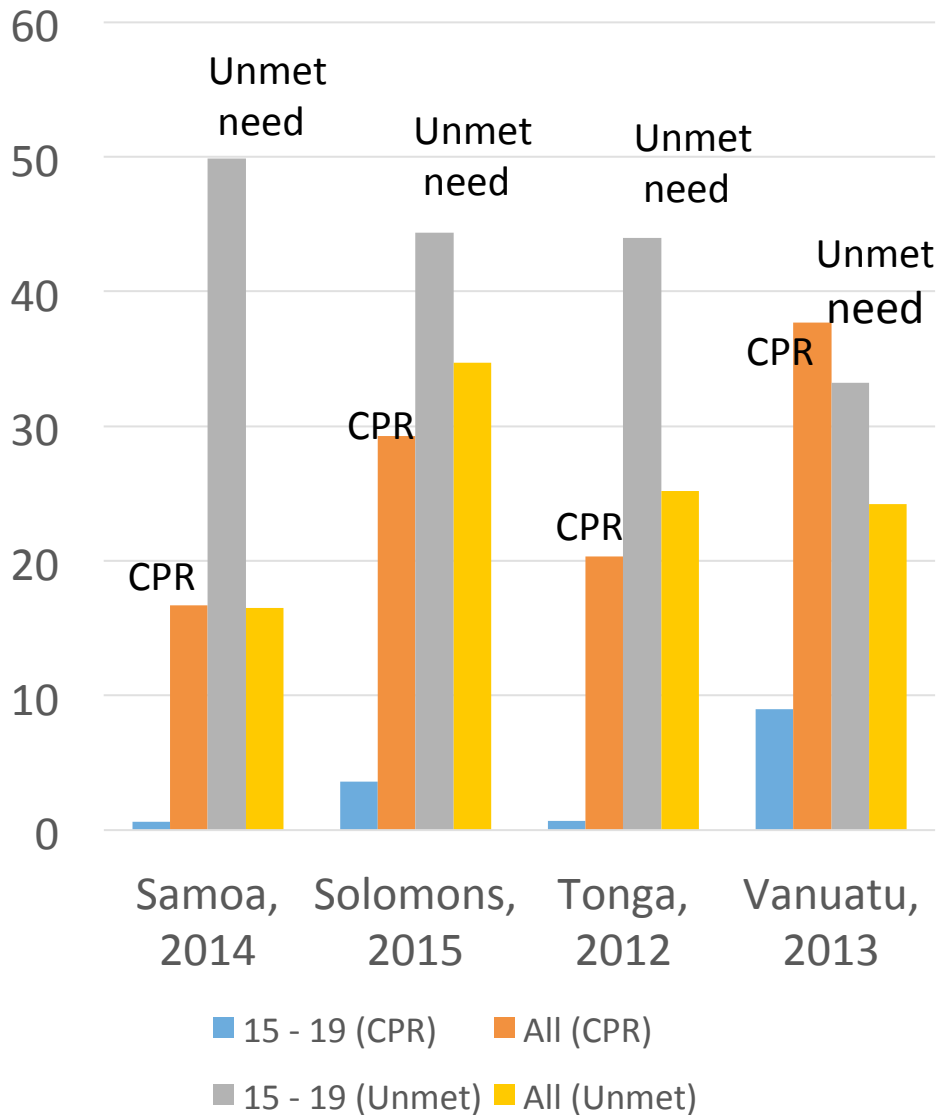


# Trends in CPR and Unmet need for FP

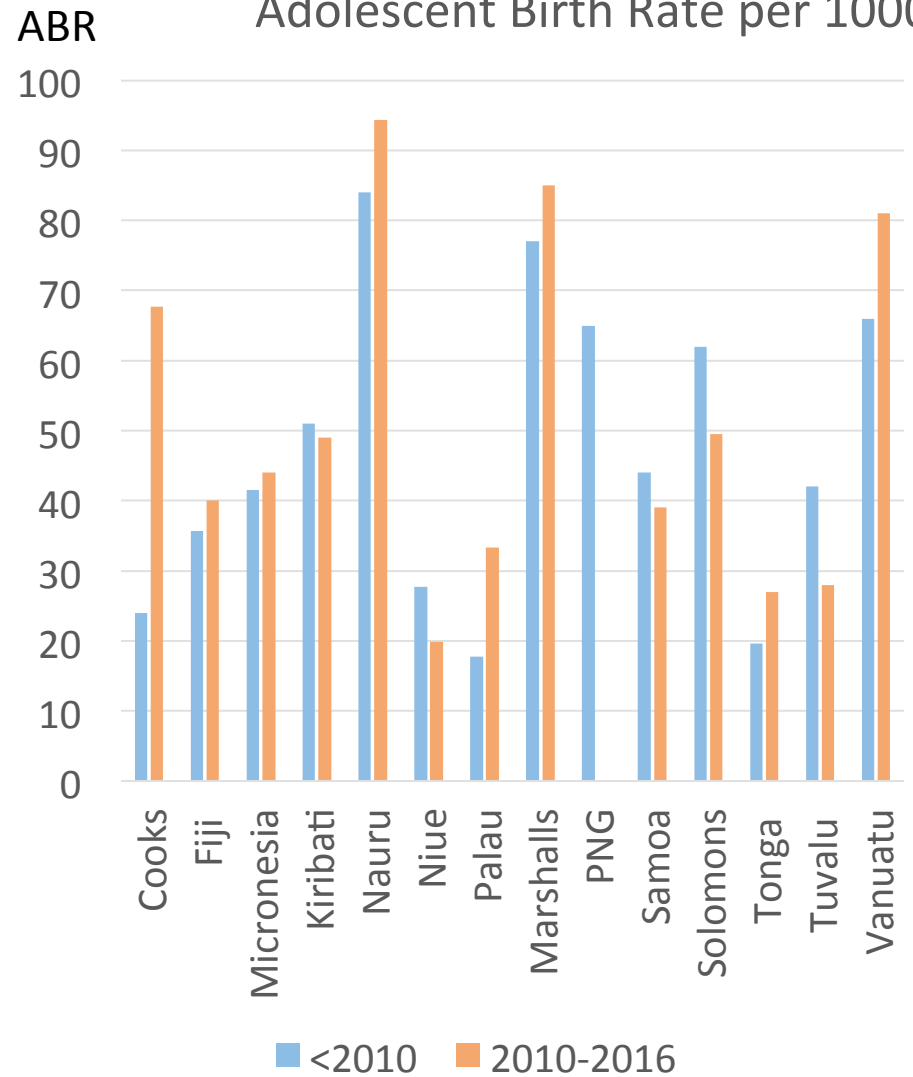
- Only 3 countries had 2 data points for unmet need for FP
- Expected inverse relationship however:
  - Both CPR and unmet need decreasing in Samoa
  - Both increasing in SI
  - No change in Vanuatu despite increase in CPR
  - Unmet need remained unchanged in Vanuatu



Comparison between CPR & Unmet need for All women and 15 – 19 age group



Adolescent Birth Rate per 1000

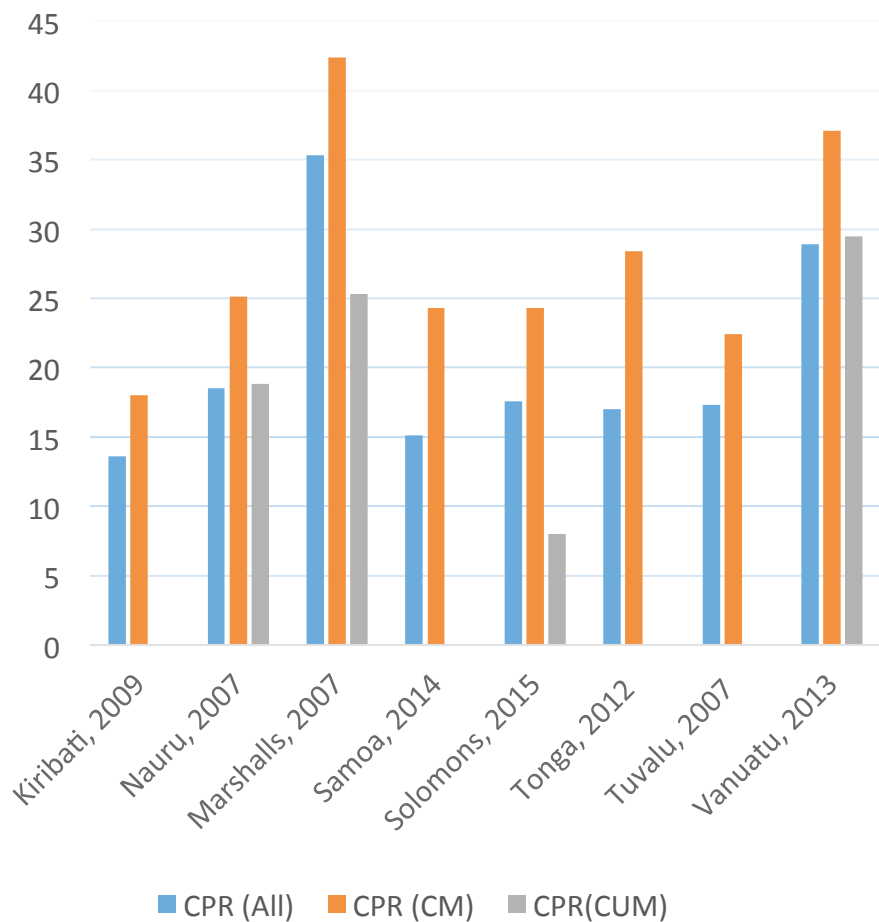


Increasing ABR trend in 8 countries

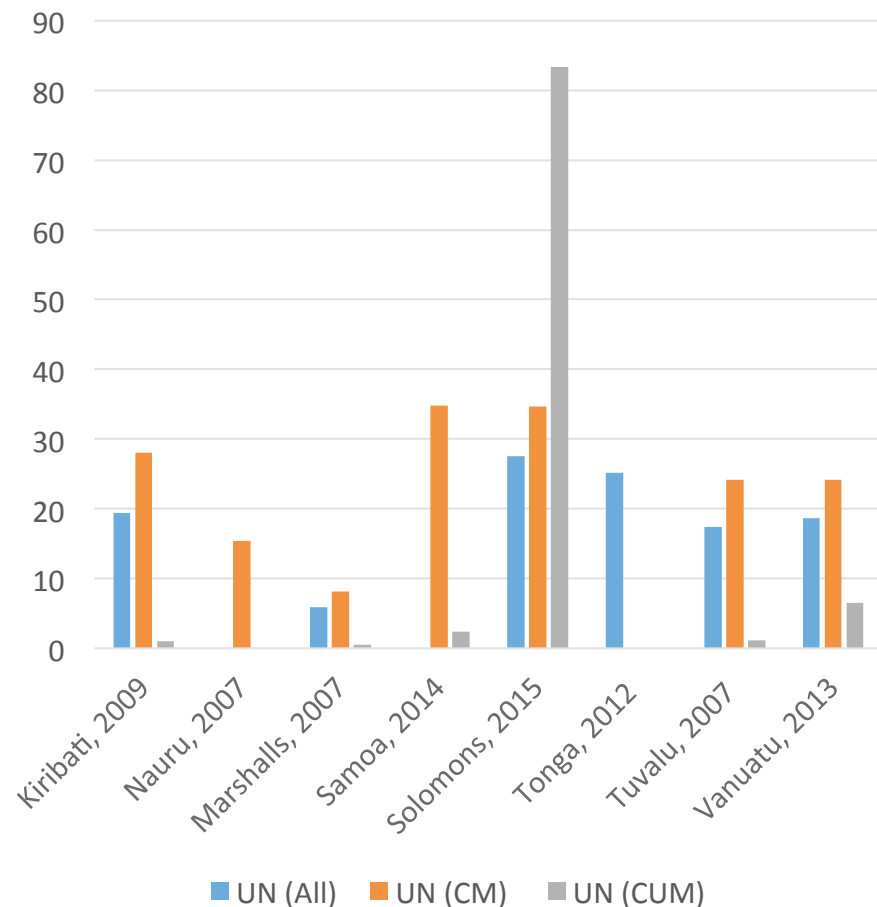
<http://www.spc.int/nmdi/>

# CPR and Unmet need disaggregated by marital status

## CPR disaggregated by marital status



## Unmet need for Family Planning disaggregated by marital status

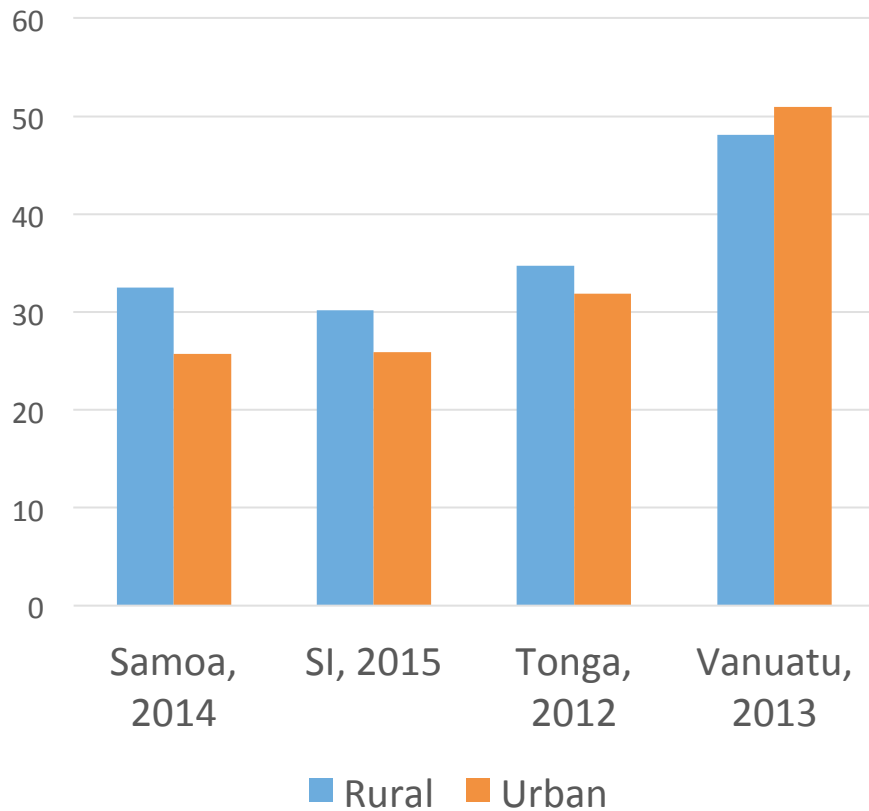


CM: Currently married; CUM: currently unmarried

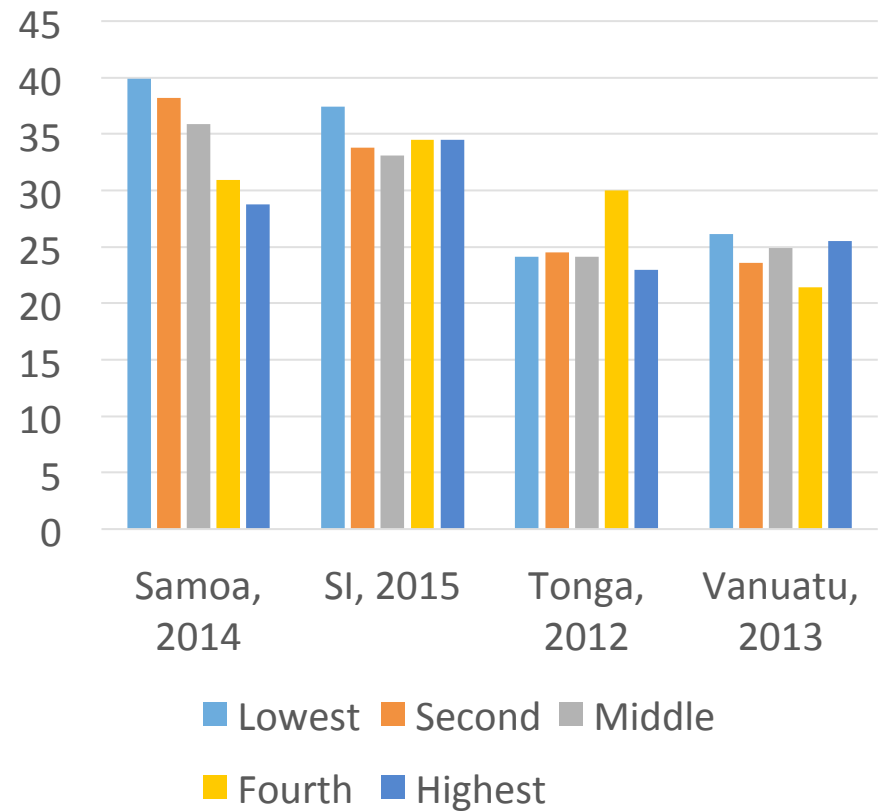


# Unmet need for family planning disaggregated by residence and wealth quintile

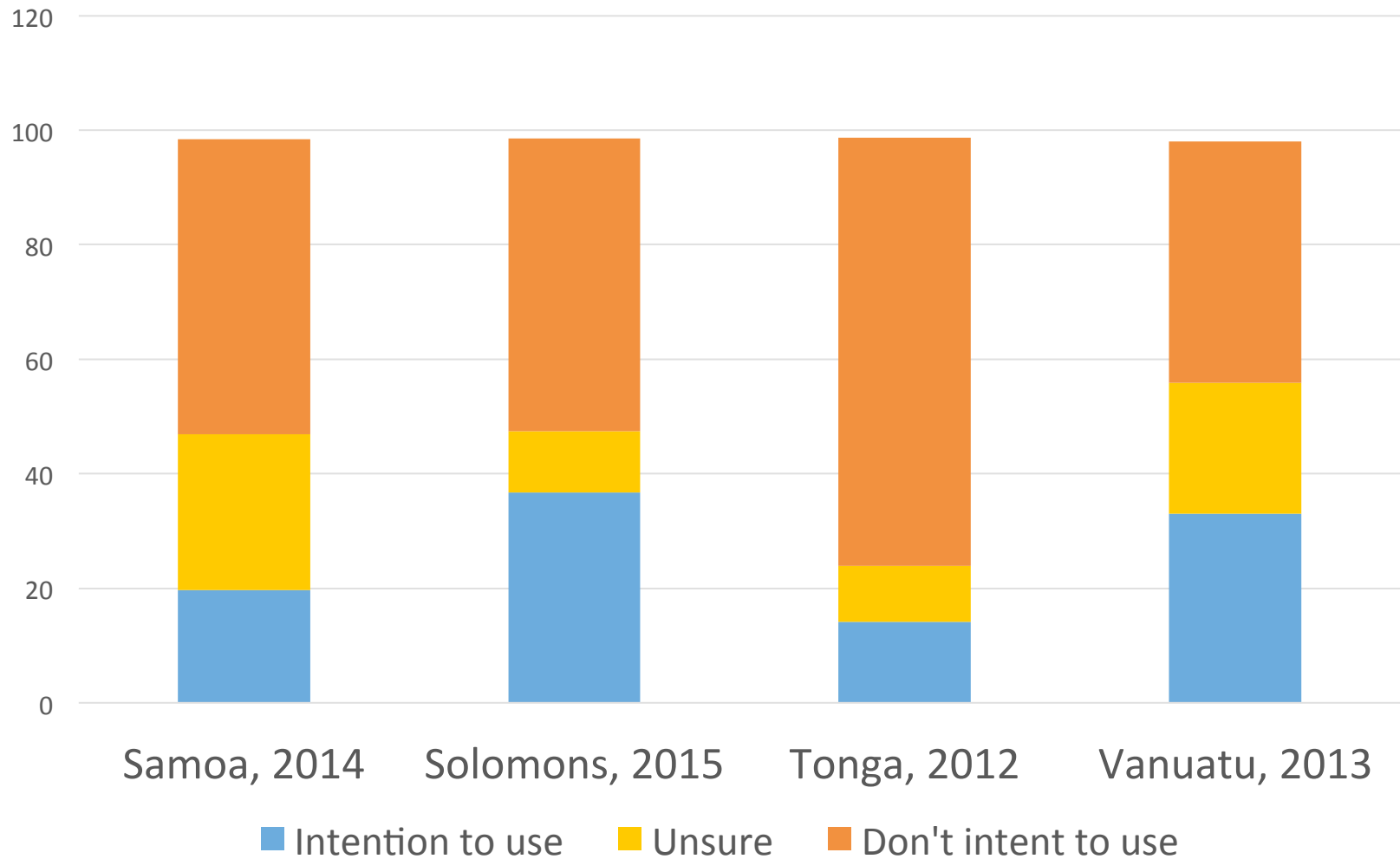
Unmet need disaggregated by Urban & Rural residence



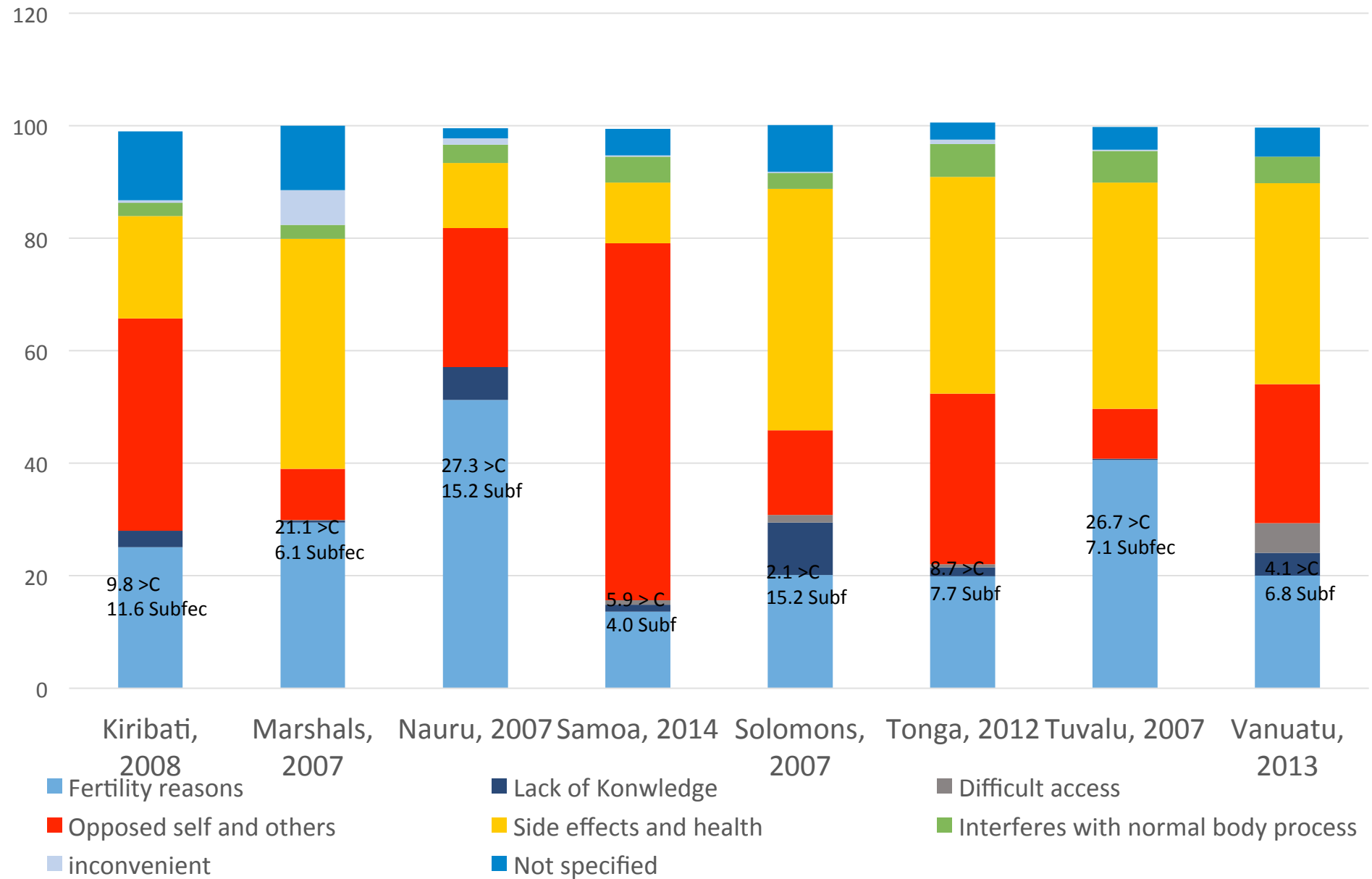
Unmet need disaggregated by wealth quintile



# Intention to use family planning



# Reasons for not intending to use family planning method

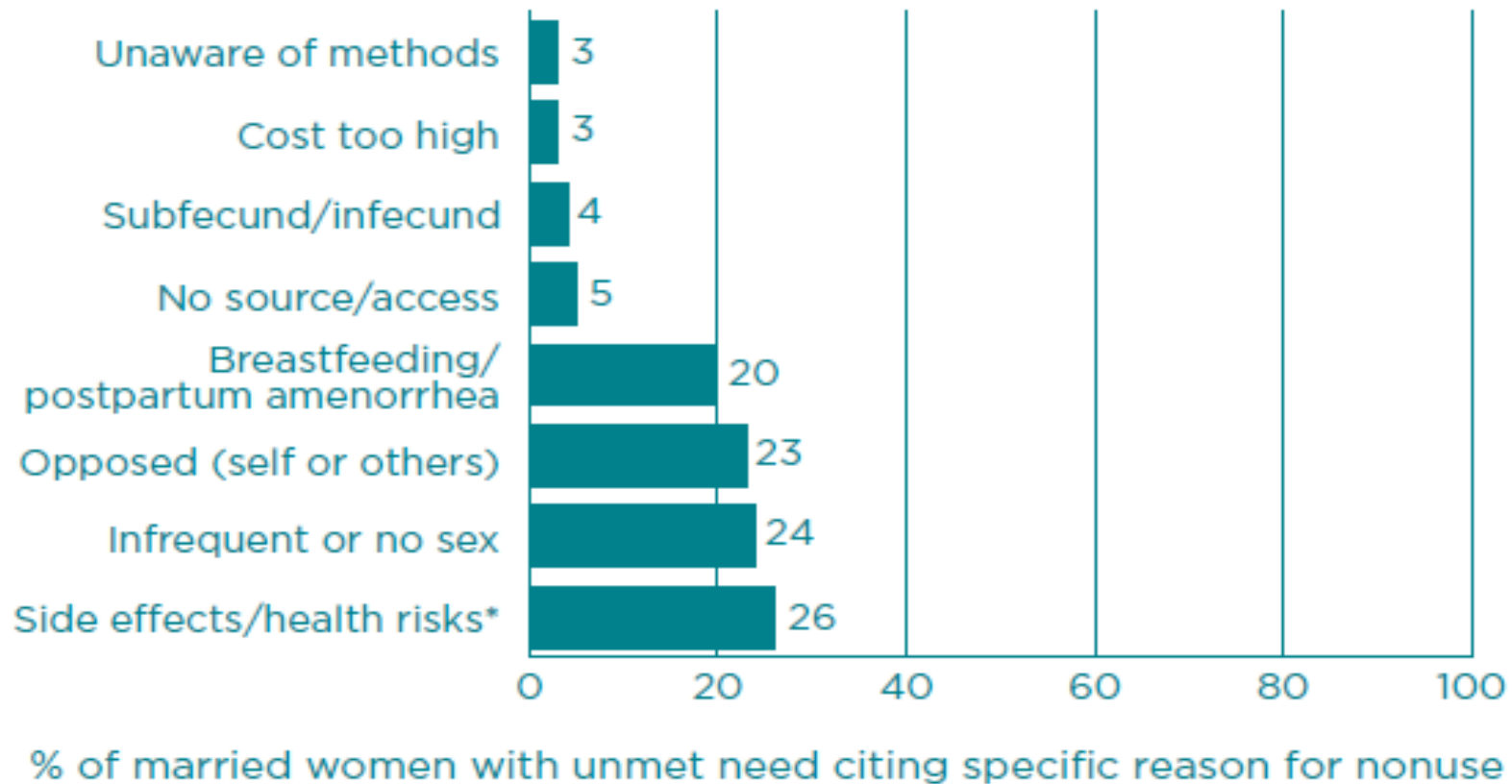


Sources: Country DHS reports

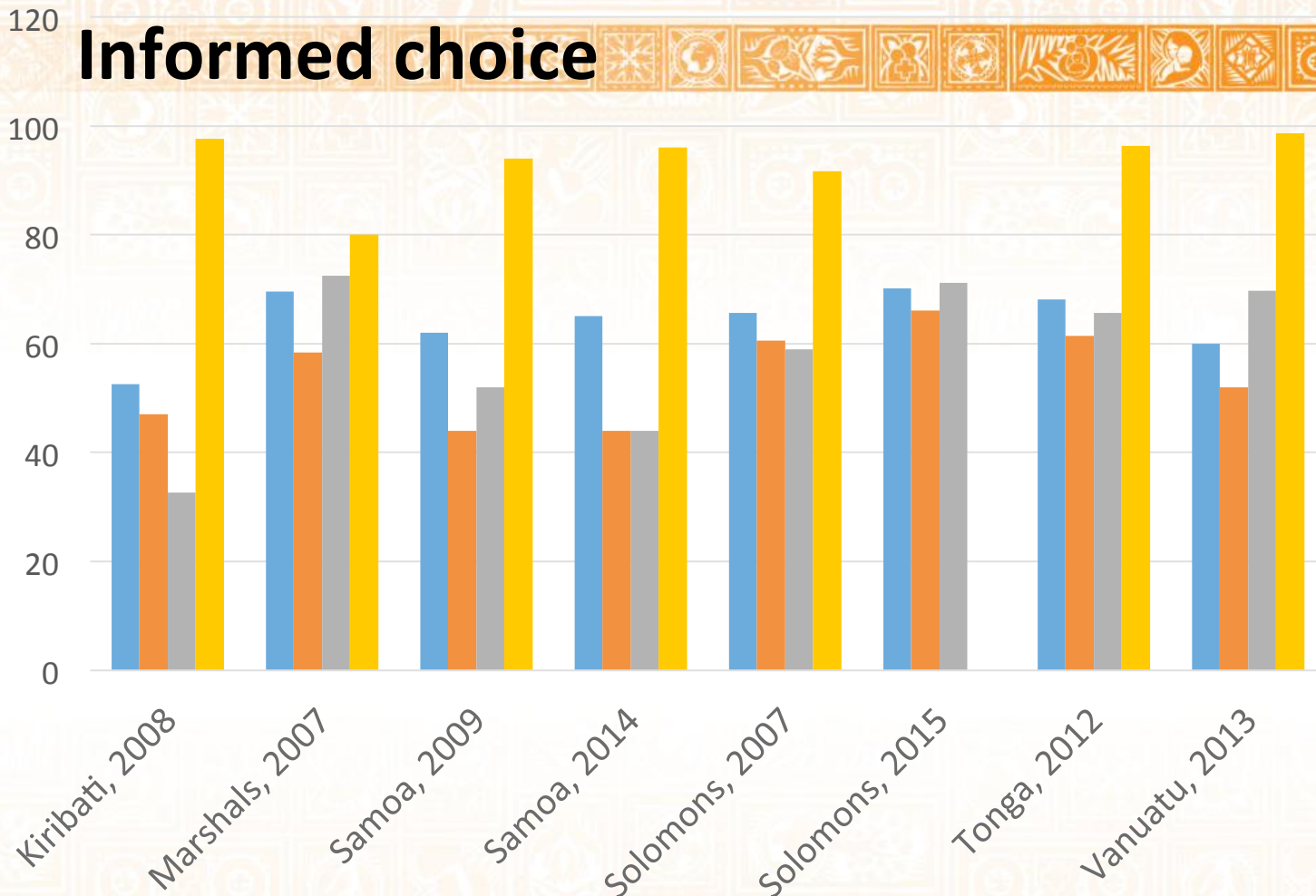


# Reasons for unmet need

**In developing countries, married women's reasons for not using contraception despite wanting to avoid pregnancy predominantly fall into four categories.**



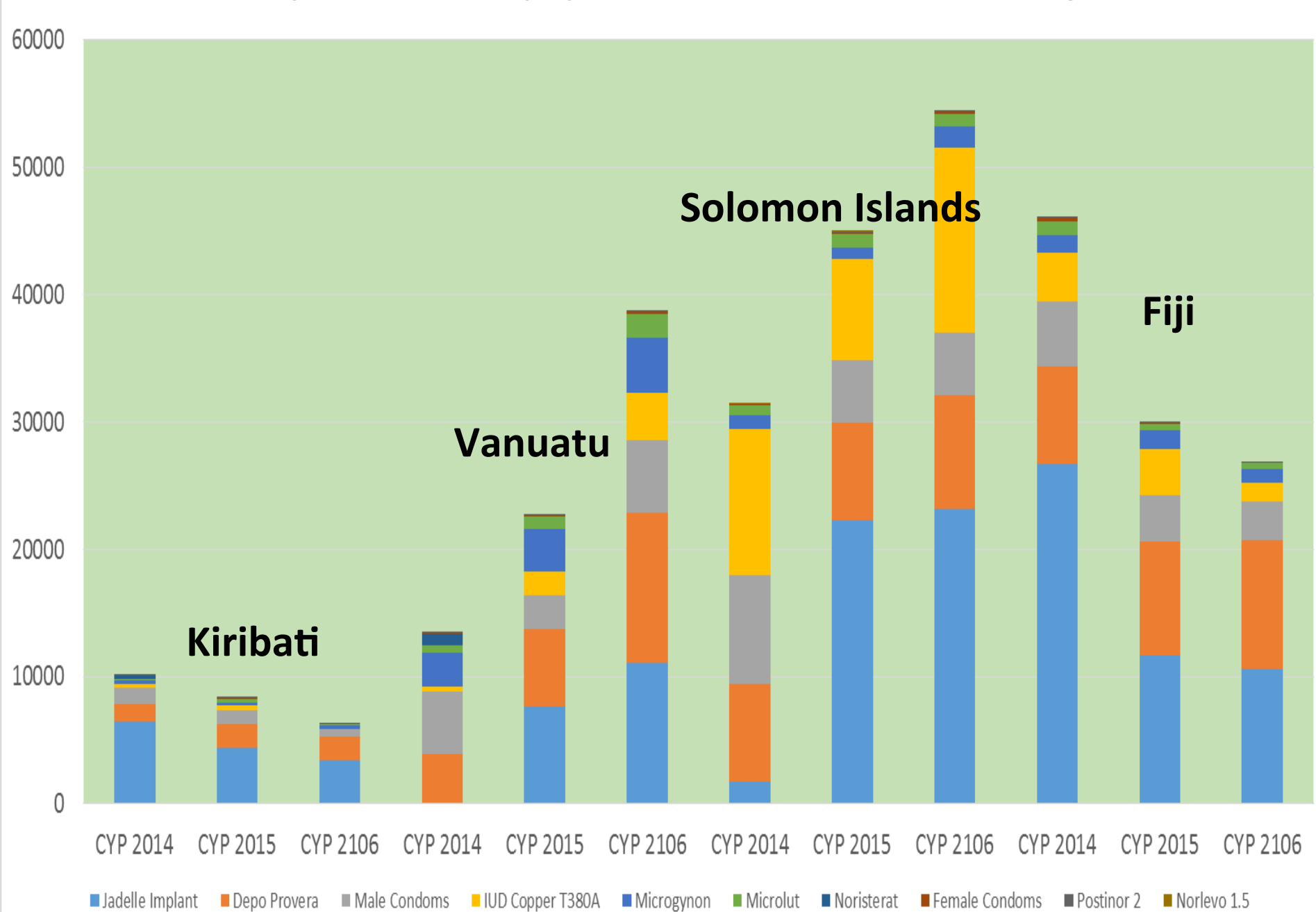
# Informed choice



WHY?

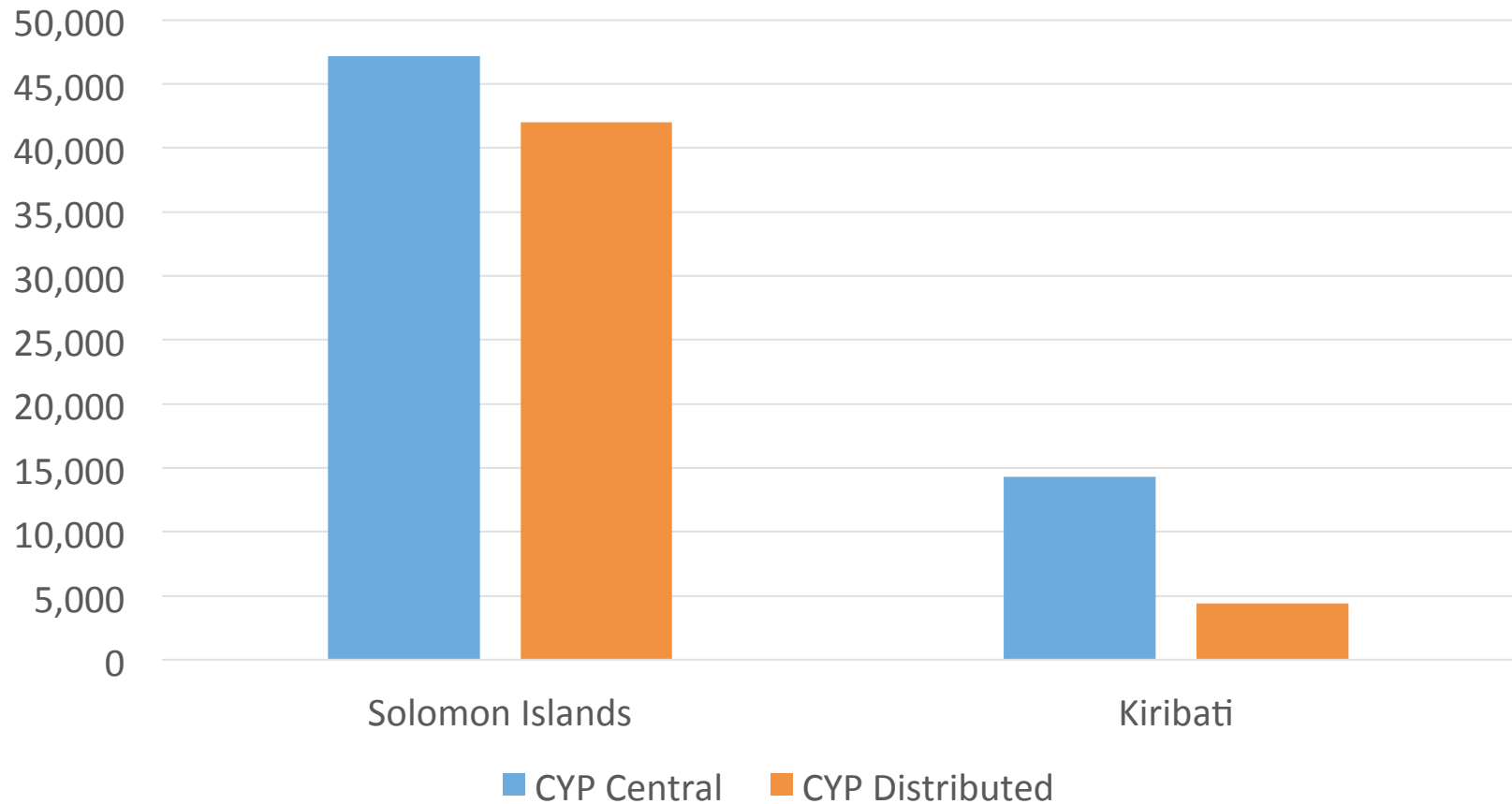
- Informed about SE
- Informed what to do in presence SE
- Information provided by HW of other methods that can be used
- Informed that sterilisation is permanent

Couple of Years Protection (CYP) 2014-2016 for Kiribati, Vanuatu, Solomons and Fiji





# Comparing Jadelle distribution and insertions for Solomon Islands and Kiribati since 2014



## Removal rates

Country	Insertions	Removals	Proportion removals
Solomon Islands	12,000	~300	2.5%
Kiribati	1,254	751	60%

- Removal rates in Kiribati cause for concern
- Women requesting removal should be immediately offered another method – otherwise increase # with unmet need
- Importance of closely monitoring programmes and acting on undesired trends

# Myths and misconceptions regarding Jadelle

- Satellite antenna that will be used to track people down
- Moves round the body and will kill
- Causes cancer
- Can cause abortion – a couple came requesting jadelle thinking it would aid abortion but unfortunately pregnancy continued and the birth outcome uneventful.
- Not used overseas, it is rubbish sent over for us to use here.





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# Strengthening programs Zero unmet need for Family Planning

- Understanding root causes of unmet need for FP is vital to effective family planning programme
  - Access and cost do not seem to be the main reasons for unmet need for family planning on most Pacific countries
  - Need to better understand reasons for opposition to family planning use by clients and families
  - To what extent does preference for large families, misconceptions and inadequate information on contraceptive choices impact on uptake of services?
  - Does conscious objection play a role in access to services by certain categories of women – adolescent, sexually active unmarried women?
  - Provider perspectives regarding barriers to effective contraceptive use





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# Strengthening programs Zero unmet need for Family Planning

- Need to strengthen counselling and information for women accessing family planning services on how modern methods work, the side effects and health risks and benefits associated with each method, and how to switch methods
  - Poor-quality counseling and delivery are barriers to initiation and sustained use of FP
- As demand for family planning increases programs need to satisfy both existing unmet need, but also the growing number of users of family planning methods
  - What are the feasible and acceptable interventions that will enable providers respond to their clients' individual needs
  - Address key programmatic challenges: HR, RHCS, quality assurance, monitoring etc.



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# Strengthening programs Zero unmet need for Family Planning

- Whilst respecting the right of women and men to choose when, how many children to have, our responsibility is to make them aware of the risks associated with having pregnancies “too soon, too frequently, too many and too late”
- Encourage male involvement in family planning and increased communication among couples regarding their contraceptive needs
- Strategies for Reaching Rural Communities, those left behind – adolescents, women with disabilities





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## In conclusion

“For women to reach their full potential and be more economically productive, they must be able to exercise their right to decide for themselves whether, when or how often to have children. Upholding this right will lead to improvements in health and produce an array of benefits: greater investments in schooling, greater productivity, greater labour-force participation and eventually increased income, savings, investment and asset accumulation.”

Late Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin, UNFPA Executive Director (1949-2017)



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# Thank you



# Sources of Information

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- SPC National Minimum Development Indicator Database.  
[http://www.spc.int/nmdi/materna\\_lhealth](http://www.spc.int/nmdi/materna_lhealth)
- National, regional, and global rates and trends in contraceptive prevalence and unmet need for family planning between 1990 and 2015: a systematic and comprehensive analysis.  
[http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(12\)62204-1/fulltext](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(12)62204-1/fulltext)
- <https://www.guttmacher.org/fact-sheet/adding-it-up-contraception-mnh-2017>