



Custom analysis extract of:

UNGASS - National Composite Policy Index (NCPI) 2007

Asia and Pacific

Palau

COUNTRY:

Palau

Name of the National AIDS Committee Officer in charge:

Johana Ngiruchelbad

Postal address:

PO Box 6027; IA Business Centre, Room 1, Koror, Palau 96940

Tel:

+680 488 1757

Fax:

+680 488 3115

E-mail:

moh_has@palaunet.com

Date of submission:

31/01/2008

:	Organisation	Ministry of Health
:	Name/Position	Johana Ngiruchelbad/Administrator HIV Program
:	<p>Respondents to Part A</p> [indicate which parts each respondent was queried on]	A.I / A.II / A.III / A.IV / A.V
:	Organisation	Ministry of Health
:	Name/Position	Regis Emesiochel/Finance Officer
:	<p>Respondents to Part A</p> [indicate which parts each respondent was queried on]	A.I / A.II
:	Organisation	Ministry of Finance/Office of Statistics
:	Name/Position	Rhinehart Silas/Planning Analyst
:	<p>Respondents to Part A</p> [indicate which parts each respondent was queried on]	A.I / A.II

:	Organisation	Ministry of Finance/Office of Statistics
:	Name/Position	Visia Alonz/Planning Analyst
:	<p>Respondents to Part A</p> [indicate which parts each respondent was queried on]	A.I / A.II
:	Organisation	Ministry of Commerce and Trade
:	Name/Position	Russel Masayos/Chief Div. of Labour
:	<p>Respondents to Part A</p> [indicate which parts each respondent was queried on]	A.I / A.II
:	Organisation	Ministry of Commerce and Trade
:	Name/Position	Helena Yoichu/Employment Service Officer
:	<p>Respondents to Part A</p> [indicate which parts each respondent was queried on]	A.I / A.II
:	Organisation	Ministry of Education
:	Name/Position	Deborah Nagata
:	<p>Respondents to Part A</p> [indicate which parts each respondent was queried on]	A.I / A.II / A.III
:	Organisation	Immigration
:	Name/Position	Joe Giramur/Head of Immigration
:	<p>Respondents to Part A</p> [indicate which parts each respondent was queried on]	A.I / A.II / A.III
:	Organisation	Catholic Schools
:	Name/Position	Cisca B Blailes/Director
:	<p>Respondents to Part B</p> [indicate which parts each respondent was queried on]	B.I / B.II / B.III / B.IV
:	Organisation	Micronesian Youth Services Network & VOICES
:	Name/Position	Imelda B Nakamura
:	<p>Respondents to Part B</p> [indicate which parts each respondent was queried on]	B.I / B.II
:	Organisation	Council of Chiefs
:	Name/Position	Dilmei Olkeriil/Executive Director
:	<p>Respondents to Part B</p> [indicate which parts each respondent was queried on]	B.I / B.II / B.III / B.IV
:	Organisation	Parent-Teacher Association
:	Name/Position	Simeon Skilang/Chair
:	<p>Respondents to Part B</p> [indicate which parts each respondent was queried on]	B.I / B.II / B.III / B.IV

:	Organisation	Red Cross
:	Name/Position	Miriam Chin/Director
:	<p>Respondents to Part B</p> [indicate which parts each respondent was queried on]	B.I / B.II / B.III / B.IV
:	Organisation	Youth Group
:	Name/Position	Gustap E Salii
:	<p>Respondents to Part B</p> [indicate which parts each respondent was queried on]	B.I / B.II / B.III / B.IV
Position:	Full time/Part time	Full time
Position:	Full time/Part time	Full time
Position:	Full time/Part time	Full time
Position:	Full time/Part time	Full time
Position:	Full time/Part time	Full time

1. Has the country developed a national multisectoral strategy/action framework to combat AIDS?

Yes

IF YES, period covered:

2000-2005

1.1 How long has the country had a multisectoral strategy/action framework?

7

1.2 Which sectors are included in the multisectoral strategy/action framework with a specific HIV budget for their activities?

Health:	Strategy/Action framework	Yes
Health:	Earmarked budget	No
Education:	Strategy/Action framework	Yes
Education:	Earmarked budget	No
Labour:	Strategy/Action framework	No
Transportation:	Strategy/Action framework	No
Military/Police:	Strategy/Action framework	No
Women:	Strategy/Action framework	Yes
Women:	Earmarked budget	No
Young people:	Strategy/Action framework	Yes
Young people:	Earmarked budget	No
Agriculture:	Strategy/Action framework	No
Finance:	Strategy/Action framework	No
Human Resources:	Strategy/Action framework	No
Justice:	Strategy/Action framework	No
Minerals and Energy:	Strategy/Action framework	No
Planning:	Strategy/Action framework	No
Public Works:	Strategy/Action framework	No
Tourism:	Strategy/Action framework	No
Trade and Industry:	Strategy/Action framework	No

IF NO earmarked budget, how is the money allocated?

Based on planned activities most of which are funded by external donors (CDC, Global Fund, HRSA) money is allocated through the Ministry of Health

1.3 Does the multisectoral strategy/action framework address the following target populations, settings and cross-cutting issues?

a. Women and girls:	Yes
b. Young women/young men:	Yes
c. Specific vulnerable sub-populations:	Yes
d. Orphans and other vulnerable children:	No
e. Workplace:	No
f. Schools:	Yes
g. Prisons:	No
h. HIV, AIDS and poverty:	No
i. Human rights protection:	No
j. Involvement of people living with HIV:	Yes
k. Addressing stigma and discrimination:	No
l. Gender empowerment and/or gender equality:	No

1.4 Were target populations identified through a process of a needs assessment or needs analysis?

Yes

IF YES, when was this needs assessment /analysis conducted? Year:

1999

1.5 What are the target populations in the country?

Adult Palauan women and men, youth, men who have sex with men, adult male and female foreign workers, substance abusers, people with TB, healthcare workers, persons living with HIV and general public

1.6 Does the multisectoral strategy/action framework include an operational plan?

No

1.7 Does the multisectoral strategy/action framework or operational plan include:

a. Formal programme goals? :	Yes
b. Clear targets and/or milestones? :	No
c. Detailed budget of costs per programmatic area? :	No
d. Indications of funding sources?:	No
e. Monitoring and Evaluation framework? :	Yes

1.8 Has the country ensured “full involvement and participation” of civil society in the development of the multisectoral strategy/action framework?

Moderate involvement

IF NO or MODERATE involvement, briefly explain:

There are regular meetings with Non government organisations including Red Cross, Women's Groups and faith based organisations. Due to the small population and lack of resources outside government the main work on the strategy was done by the government.

1.9 Has the multisectoral strategy/action framework been endorsed by most external Development Partners (bi-laterals; multi-laterals)?

Yes

1.10 Have external Development Partners (bi-laterals; multi-laterals) aligned and harmonized their HIV and AIDS programmes to the national multisectoral strategy/action framework?

No

IF SOME or NO, briefly explain

There are no external HIV/AIDS programs in the country

2. Has the country integrated HIV and AIDS into its general development plans such as:

- a) National Development Plans,
- b) Common Country Assessments/United Nations Development Assistance Framework,
- c) Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers,
- d) Sector Wide Approach?

No

3. Has the country evaluated the impact of HIV and AIDS on its socio-economic development for planning purposes?

No

4. Does the country have a strategy/action framework for addressing HIV and AIDS issues among its national uniformed services such as military, police, peacekeepers, prison staff, etc?

No

5. Has the country followed up on commitments towards universal access made during the High-Level AIDS Review in June 2006?

No

5.1 Has the National Strategic Plan/operational plan and national AIDS budget been revised accordingly?

No

5.2 Have the estimates of the size of the main target population sub-groups been updated?

No

5.3 Are there reliable estimates and projected future needs of the number of adults and children requiring antiretroviral therapy?

No

5.4 Is HIV and AIDS programme coverage being monitored?

Yes

(a) IF YES, is coverage monitored by sex (male, female)?

Yes

(b) IF YES, is coverage monitored by population sub-groups?

Yes

IF YES, which population sub-groups?

by age, antenatal women, prison inmates, substance users, TB clients

(c) IF YES, is coverage monitored by geographical area?

Yes

IF YES, at which levels (provincial, district, other)?

state, hamlet

5.5 Has the country developed a plan to strengthen health systems, including infrastructure, human resources and capacities, and logistical systems to deliver drugs?

No

Overall, how would you rate strategy planning efforts in the HIV and AIDS programmes in 2007 and in 2005?

2007: 8

2005: 5

Comments on progress made in strategy planning efforts since 2005:

2005 no major planning effort other than routine review of current plan was done, in 2007 planning for the update of the strategic plan was initiated

1. Do high officials speak publicly and favourably about AIDS efforts in major domestic fora at least twice a year?

President/Head of government : No

Other high officials : No

Other officials in regions and/or districts : No

2. Does the country have an officially recognized national multisectoral AIDS management/coordination body? (National AIDS Council or equivalent)?

Yes

2.1 IF YES, when was it created? Year:

1990

2.2 IF YES, who is the Chair?

Name: Joe Giramur

Title/Function: Head of Immigration/Co-chair NAC

2.3 IF YES, does it:

have terms of reference? :	No
have active Government leadership and participation? :	Yes
have a defined membership?:	No
include civil society representatives? (*):	Yes
include people living with HIV?:	No
include the private sector?:	Yes
have an action plan?:	No
have a functional Secretariat? :	No
meet at least quarterly?:	Yes
review actions on policy decisions regularly?:	No
actively promote policy decisions?:	Yes
provide opportunity for civil society to influence decision-making?:	Yes

(* If it does include civil society representatives, what percentage?

50%

3. Does the country have a national AIDS body or other mechanism that promotes interaction between government, people living with HIV, civil society and the private sector for implementing HIV and AIDS strategies/ programmes?

No

4. What percentage of the national HIV and AIDS budget was spent on activities implemented by civil society in the past year?

5 %

5. What kind of support does the NAC (or equivalent) provide to implementing partners of the national programme, particularly to civil society organizations?

Information on priority needs and services :	Yes
Technical guidance/materials:	No
Drugs/supplies procurement and distribution :	No
Coordination with other implementing partners :	No
Capacity-building :	Yes

6. Has the country reviewed national policies and legislation to determine which, if any, are inconsistent with the National AIDS Control policies?

No

Overall, how would you rate the political support for the HIV and AIDS programmes in 2007 and in 2005?

2007: 5

2005: 5

1. Does the country have a policy or strategy that promotes information, education and communication (IEC) on HIV to the general population?

Yes

1.1 IF YES, what key messages are explicitly promoted?

Be sexually abstinent:

Delay sexual debut:

Be faithful:

Reduce the number of sexual partners:

Use condoms consistently:

Engage in safe(r) sex:

Greater acceptance and involvement of people living with HIV:

Greater involvement of men in reproductive health programmes:

1.2 In the last year, did the country implement an activity or programme to promote accurate reporting on HIV by the media?

Yes

2. Does the country have a policy or strategy promoting HIV-related reproductive and sexual health education for young people?

Yes

2.1 Is HIV education part of the curriculum in

primary schools? : No

secondary schools? : Yes

teacher training? : No

2.2 Does the strategy/curriculum provide the same reproductive and sexual health education for young men and young women?

Yes

2.3 Does the country have an HIV education strategy for out-of-school young people?

No

3. Does the country have a policy or strategy to promote information, education and communication (IEC) and other preventive health interventions for vulnerable sub-populations?

No

IF NO, briefly explain:

very small population and low prevalence and illegal prostitution make targeting vulnerable sub-populations difficult.

Overall, how would you rate policy efforts in support of HIV prevention in 2007 and in 2005?

2007:	8
2005:	8

4. Has the country identified the districts (or equivalent geographical/ decentralized level) in need of HIV prevention programmes?

No

IF NO, how are HIV prevention programmes being scaled-up?:

Due to low prevalence and small population not relevant

Overall, how would you rate the efforts in the implementation of HIV prevention programmes in 2007 and in 2005?

2007:	9
2005:	8
2007:	8
2005:	5

Comments on progress made in the implementation of HIV prevention programmes since 2005:

Additional staff employed in 2007

1. Does the country have a policy or strategy to promote comprehensive HIV treatment, care and support? (Comprehensive care includes, but is not limited to, treatment, HIV testing and counselling, psychosocial care, and home and community-based care).

Yes

1.1 IF YES, does it give sufficient attention to barriers for women, children and most-at-risk populations?

Yes

2. Has the country identified the districts (or equivalent geographical/decentralized level) in need of HIV and AIDS treatment, care and support services?

N/A

3. Does the country have a policy for developing/using generic drugs or parallel importing of drugs for HIV?

No

4. Does the country have access to regional procurement and supply management mechanisms for critical commodities, such as antiretroviral drugs, condoms, and substitution drugs?

Yes

4.1 IF YES, for which commodities?:

ARVs, condoms

Overall, how would you rate the efforts in the implementation of HIV treatment, care and support services in 2007 and in 2005?

2007: 9

2005: 8

Comments on progress made since 2005:

Improved access to drugs through Global Fund, improved pharmacy consultation and improved case consultation

5. Does the country have a policy or strategy to address the additional HIV- or AIDS-related needs of orphans and other vulnerable children (OVC)?

N/A

1. Does the country have one national Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) plan?

No

4. Is there a functional M&E Unit or Department?

No

IF NO, what are the main obstacles to establishing a functional M&E Unit/Department?

Small population and limited resources (human and others)

5. Is there an M&E Committee or Working Group that meets regularly to coordinate M&E activities?

No

6.3 Is there a functional Health Information System (HIS)?

National level : No

Sub-national level (*): No

6.4 Does the country publish at least once a year an M&E report on HIV, including HIV surveillance data?

No

7. To what extent are M&E data used in planning and implementation?

0

What are the main challenges to data use?

No functioning HIS and no M&E unit

8. In the last year, was training in M&E conducted

At national level? : No

At sub-national level? : No

Including civil society? : No

Overall, how would you rate the M&E efforts of the AIDS programme in 2007 and in 2005?

2007: 2

2005: 2

Comments on progress made in M&E since 2005:

only very little M&E activity at HIV program level

1. Does the country have laws and regulations that protect people living with HIV against discrimination? (such as general non-discrimination provisions or provisions that specifically mention HIV, focus on schooling, housing, employment, health care etc.)

Yes

1.1 IF YES, specify:

general non-discriminatory laws are in place in Palau

2. Does the country have non-discrimination laws or regulations which specify protections for vulnerable sub-populations?

No

3. Does the country have laws, regulations or policies that present obstacles to effective HIV prevention, treatment, care and support for vulnerable sub-populations?

Yes

3.1 IF YES, for which sub-populations?

Sex Workers: Yes

Migrants/mobile populations : Yes

IF YES, briefly describe the content of these laws, regulations or policies and how they pose barriers:

Prostitution is illegal in Palau and non resident workers require HIV clearance prior to arrival and if found HIV (or selected other infectious diseases) positive they will be deported.

4. Is the promotion and protection of human rights explicitly mentioned in any HIV policy or strategy?

No

5. Is there a mechanism to record, document and address cases of discrimination experienced by people living with HIV and/or most-at-risk populations?

Yes

IF YES, briefly describe this mechanism

People need to use the existing legal system. There is a subsidised legal service to assist people.

6. Has the Government, through political and financial support, involved most-at-risk populations in governmental HIV-policy design and programme implementation?

Yes

IF YES, describe some examples

PHASAG (Palau HIV AIDS and STI advisory group) is a group that represents community and government agencies. Currently there is representation of women's groups and youth representative. There are obstacles for participation of other groups due to legal and cultural and confidentiality issues.

7. Does the country have a policy of free services for the following:

HIV prevention services :	Yes
Anti-retroviral treatment :	Yes
HIV-related care and support interventions :	Yes

IF YES, given resource constraints, briefly describe what steps are in place to implement these policies:

Palau depends heavily on outside sources for funding for all the above services.

8. Does the country have a policy to ensure equal access for women and men, to prevention, treatment, care and support? In particular, to ensure access for women outside the context of pregnancy and childbirth?

Yes

9. Does the country have a policy to ensure equal access for most-at-risk populations to prevention, treatment, care and support?

Yes

9.1 Are there differences in approaches for different most-at-risk populations?

No

10. Does the country have a policy prohibiting HIV screening for general employment purposes (recruitment, assignment/relocation, appointment, promotion, termination)?

No

11. Does the country have a policy to ensure that AIDS research protocols involving human subjects are reviewed and approved by a national/local ethical review committee?

Yes

11.1 IF YES, does the ethical review committee include representatives of civil society and people living with HIV?

No

IF YES, describe the effectiveness of this review committee

All research involving human subjects has to be reviewed and approved by the Institutional review board (IRB) which is a government body.

12. Does the country have the following human rights monitoring and enforcement mechanisms?

- Existence of independent national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, including human rights commissions, law reform commissions, watchdogs, and ombudspersons which consider HIV-related issues within their work: No

- Focal points within governmental health and other departments to monitor HIV-related human rights abuses and HIV-related discrimination in areas such as housing and employment: No

- Performance indicators or benchmarks for compliance with human rights standards in the context of HIV efforts: No

- Performance indicators or benchmarks for reduction of HIV-related stigma and discrimination: No

13. Have members of the judiciary (including labour courts/employment tribunals) been trained/sensitized to HIV and AIDS and human rights issues that may come up in the context of their work?

No

14. Are the following legal support services available in the country?

Legal aid systems for HIV and AIDS casework: No

Private sector law firms or university-based centres to provide free or reduced-cost legal services to people living with HIV: No

Programmes to educate, raise awareness among people living with HIV concerning their rights: No

15. Are there programmes designed to change societal attitudes of stigmatization associated with HIV and AIDS to understanding and acceptance?

Yes

IF YES, what types of programmes?

Media : Yes

School education : Yes

Personalities regularly speaking out : Yes

Other:: Yes

Overall, how would you rate the policies, laws and regulations in place to promote and protect human rights in relation to HIV and AIDS in 2007 and in 2005?

2007: 7

2005: 5

Comments on progress made in promoting and protecting human rights in relation to HIV and AIDS since 2005:

More community education on human rights

Overall, how would you rate the effort to enforce the existing policies, laws and regulations in relation to human rights and HIV and AIDS in 2007 and in 2005?

2007: 7

2005: 5

Comments on progress made in enforcing existing policies, laws and regulations in relation to human rights and HIV and AIDS since 2005:

More awareness in community and government, more participation of community groups and more geographical coverage.

1. To what extent has civil society contributed to strengthening the political commitment of top leaders and national policy formulation?

3

2. To what extent have civil society representatives been involved in the planning and budgeting process for the National Strategic Plan on AIDS or for the current activity plan (e.g. attending planning meetings and reviewing drafts)

4

3. To what extent are the services provided by civil society in areas of HIV prevention, treatment, care and support included

a. in both the National Strategic plans and national reports?: 3

b. in the national budget?: 0

4. Has the country included civil society in a National Review of the National Strategic Plan?

Yes

IF YES, when was the Review conducted? Year:

2007

5. To what extent is the civil society sector representation in HIV-related efforts inclusive of its diversity?

3

List the types of organizations representing civil society in HIV and AIDS efforts:

Red Cross
Council of Chiefs
Catholic Schools
Faith based group
Women's group
Youth group

6. To what extent is civil society able to access

a. adequate financial support to implement its HIV activities?:	3
b. adequate technical support to implement its HIV activities?:	3

Overall, how would you rate the efforts to increase civil society participation in 2007 and in 2005?

2007:	6
2005:	3

Comments on progress made in increasing civil society participation since 2005:

More active participation from PHASAG members, increased number of members, increased variety of organisations represented. More active contributions from a wide range of organisations since 2005

1. Has the country identified the districts (or equivalent geographical/decentralized level) in need of HIV prevention programmes?

No

1. Has the country identified the districts (or equivalent geographical/decentralized level) in need of HIV and AIDS treatment, care and support services?

No

IF NO, how are HIV and AIDS treatment, care and support services being scaled-up?:

Palau has currently three case of HIV/AIDS

Overall, how would you rate the efforts in the implementation of HIV treatment, care and support services in 2007 and in 2005?

2007:	8
2005:	7

Comments on progress made in the implementation of HIV treatment, care and support services since 2005:

Improved mechanism for procurement of ART

2. What percentage of the following HIV programmes or services is estimated to be provided by civil society?

Prevention for youth :	25-50%
Prevention for MSM :	<25%
Counselling and Testing :	25-50%
Clinical services (OI/ART)* :	<25%
Home-based care :	<25%

3. Does the country have a policy or strategy to address the additional HIV and AIDS-related needs of orphans and other vulnerable children (OVC)?

N/A

Uniting the world against AIDS