

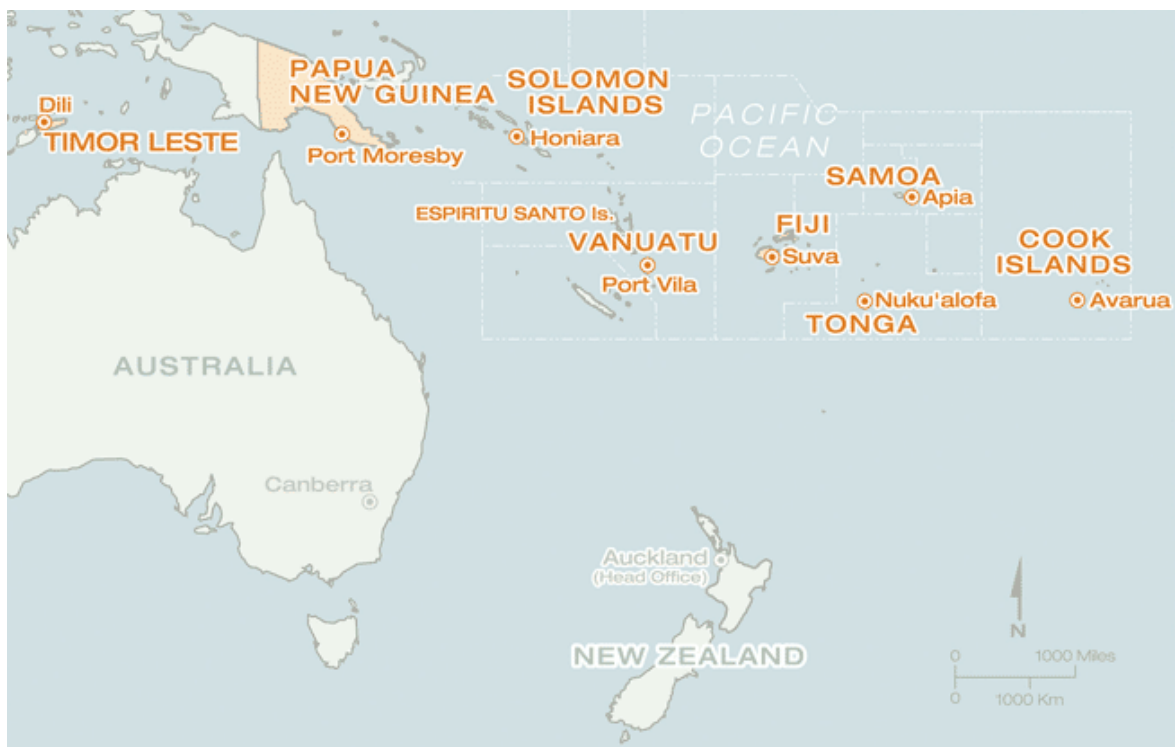


## MODULE 2 WHERE WE WORK

The Fred Hollows Foundation NZ is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to reducing avoidable blindness and vision impairment in the Pacific region, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste

We work towards a world where no one is needlessly blind.

We do this by training, equipping and assisting local eye health professionals to deliver quality eye health services in their own communities.



### Blindness Statistics in the Pacific

- Over 86,000 people in the Pacific are blind
- 70% of avoidable blindness in the Pacific is caused by cataract
- 10,000 more people in the Pacific go blind each year
- Nearly 250,000 have significant vision loss



## The Pacific Region

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The Pacific region where The Fred Hollows Foundation NZ works, covers 11 countries and stretches from Timor-Leste in the west to the Cook Islands in the east with a population of just over 9 million. Health care across the whole region is typified by low per capita spend, a severe lack of health care personnel and inadequate infrastructure and equipment. For the whole population of 9 million, there were only 17 eye doctors compared to over 100 ophthalmologists for 4 million people in New Zealand.

The Pacific has a significant shortage of eye care personnel. Even in the larger and more populous islands, it is difficult for people to access health care. Research in Fiji has found that even for those people living within an hour of an eye clinic at a public hospital the bus fare can be unaffordable, or they do not have the time to travel to such a clinic, particularly when they need a family member to come with them. Those living further away and those living on islands without eye clinics, have no real access to eye care at all.

In order to deliver an adequate level of eye health care, the region will need 92 eye doctors and 370 eye nurses. At present there are only 17 eye doctors and 91 eye nurses who are spread thinly across the many islands. Hollows NZ has established three training centres in Suva (Fiji) in Madang (Papua New Guinea) and in Dili (Timor Leste). Over the next two years, graduates from these centres will double the region's medical staff to 38 eye doctors and 173 nurses.

Graduates from Hollows NZ training centre programs return to their own communities to provide eye care services. This model is much more powerful than setting up services ourselves as every doctor we train could restore the sight of 10,000 people throughout their professional career.

### Quick Facts Comparisons

	New Zealand	Fiji	Papua New Guinea	Timor Leste
Population in million	4.2	0.8	6.3	1.2
Av life expectancy years	81	69	63	61
% population living on less than US\$1 per day	0	26	30	53
Health exp as % of GDP	9.3	3.7	3.2	17.7
Total Exp on Health per capita US\$	2,421	139	29	52
No doctors	8,190	380	275	79
No nurses	33,250	1,660	2,841	1,795

Fred would use the saying

***“Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day.  
Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime”***

This saying has become very much part of our strategy – we train people to help themselves.

## MODULE 2 QUIZ : WHERE WE WORK

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1. Name the three regions where the Fred Hollows Foundation NZ works.
2. Compare the numbers of doctors per 100,000 people in New Zealand, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Timor Leste?
3. How many people are blind in the Pacific?
4. Which country has the highest percentage of people on very low income?
5. What do you think would happen if New Zealand spent the same amount per person on health care as Papua New Guinea?
6. What is the capital of Papua New Guinea and how many people live in the capital?