



**Partnerships for a Healthy Region (PHR)  
Strengthening Health Workforce in the Pacific (Nursing and Midwifery) (SHWP)**

**Brief 9: Samoa Nursing Regulation Workshop – 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

### Background

The Ministry of Health (MOH) Taskforce and Pacific Leadership Program (PLP) Fellows hosted the Samoa Country Workshop from 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> February 2026, with 68 participants (55 female, 13 male) joining from the MoH Executive Governance, Nursing Council (NC), Samoa Nurses Association, Public Service Commission, National University of Samoa, other key partners, senior nurses and midwives from the district hospitals, health centres and main hospitals, private nurses and a lawyer. This workshop forms part of the Strengthening Health Workforce in the Pacific (SHWP) Program under the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's (DFAT) five-year Partnerships for a Healthy Region (PHR) initiative (2024-2028). The WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing, Midwifery & Health Development at University of Technology Sydney (WHO CCNM UTS) manages the SHWP program, in partnership with South Pacific Chief Nursing & Midwifery Officers Alliance (SPCNMOA). The SHWP Program aims to strengthen Pacific health systems to improve the quality of and access to health care and population health across the Pacific.

### Purpose and Approach

In 2025 and 2026, WHO CCNM UTS, MOH Taskforce and Fellows from the 2025 PLP will facilitate workshops in all 13 countries involved in SHWP. These workshops are led by the PLP Fellows following their 2025 Study Block, to engage national actors and stakeholders in identifying system-level strengths and challenges across education, regulation, service delivery, governance, to establish a common understanding and co-develop and prioritise actions for strengthening nursing and midwifery registration, regulation, and workforce planning through multi-stakeholder collaboration and regional alignment.

### Workshop Objectives

1. To explore and understand the framework for professional regulation
2. To examine and discuss country traffic lights action plan and strategy (SOWN 2020 & 2025)
3. To assess regulatory status against the regulatory framework in order to determine the work priorities
4. To agree on priorities and a plan of action.
5. Collect baseline data for GEDSI and raising awareness of GEDSI principles
6. To review legislation for the regulation of nursing and midwifery



*Workshop Participants with Honourable Minister for Health Va'aaaoa Salumalo Alofipo, Director General for Health June Lui Scanlan, Australian Deputy High Commissioner Simon Dawkins, WHO Representative Dr Wendy Snowdon*

## **Activity 1: Strategic Orientation and Leadership Engagement**

WHO CCNM UTS Team first met with the Director General for Health, Ms. June Lui Scanlan, to discuss the SHWP Program and the forthcoming workshop. A meeting was then held with Samoa Country Taskforce leads, Acting CNOs Fauatea Henry Taylor (PLP 2024) and Taala Logomai Feterika Lualua (PLP 2025) and PLP Fellow facilitators to discuss the meeting objectives and orient the structure of activities. The WHO CCNM UTS, also met with DFAT and WHO officials.



*DG for Health, Acting CNOs, WHO CCNM UTS Team*

The workshop was opened by Honourable Minister for Health Va'aoao Salumalo Alofipo, highlighting the importance of support for strengthening nursing and midwifery in Samoa. Deputy High Commissioner of Australia, Mr Simon Dawkins and Dr Wendy Snowdon, WHO Representative Samoa followed with opening remarks.



*Honourable Minister for Health Va'aoao Salumalo Alofipo opening the workshop*

Acting CNO Fauatea Henry Taylor began the meeting by presenting SHWP's background and context, Samoa's national nursing updates and Traffic Light Action Plan. These Traffic Lights were developed from the State of the World's (SOWN) Nursing Report and amended throughout the workshop to reflect current position and priority actions.



*Acting CNO Fauatea Henry Taylor opening presentation*

An evening event was held for special guests and participants.

## **Activity 2: Review of Regulation**

Ms Karen Cook (WHO CCNM UTS) presented the framework for Health Professional Regulation - the five areas of regulation (*registration, standards and codes, accreditation, complaints, and governance*), and an analysis of the current legislation which structured the day's activities.

Five World-Café rounds were facilitated by PLP Fellows and MOH Taskforce. Participants were grouped into five tables where facilitators ran through gaps, challenges and topic areas, gathering common themes on butchers' paper. Groups were able to have in depth conversations about elements of the regulation framework introduced in the morning. Each tables paper was then fixed on the wall; participants were able to explore other groups thoughts.



*Participants during World Café activity*

Key points and recommendations from each group were fed back by the PLP facilitators for open comments. Participants had fruitful debates about the priority areas for each section, which fed into the workshop recommendations presented.

### **Activity 3: Group Discussion on National Priorities**

Samoa's taskforce priority area for this workshop focused on Continuing Professional Development (CPD). Acting CNO Taala Logomai Feterika Lualua presented how a CPD Framework would benefit Samoa to the group. Discussions about the purpose of CPD, current ongoing CPD practice and how it should serve the workforce going forward were key points.



*Acting CNO Taala Logomai Feterika Lualua presenting CPD*

Participants were then broken into groups and given a section of the draft CPD framework to edit to Samoa's context. These comments were fed back to the larger cohort for open discussion. Debates about what needed to be changed to fit Samoa's current CPD requirements and how CPD should be utilised going forward. These detailed comments will be incorporated into the second drafting of the CPD Framework following the workshop.



*Participants working through draft CPD Framework*

A key highlight of this workshop was an address given by former Chief Nursing Officer, Professor Pele Stowers who gave a history of nursing legislation development in Samoa, and her work in developing the legislation as it stands today.



*Samoa PLP Fellows with Professor Pelenatete Stowers following badge ceremony.*

A special part of this workshop was the honor of Pele presenting the Samoan PLP Fellows with their badges as a sign of leadership and achievement.

### **Activity 4: Review and Key Outcomes**

All workshop outcomes were successfully met through workshop activities. The legislation was reviewed against the 5 regulation framework areas and following consultation and review of the workshop recommendations with the Director General for Health, both Acting CNOs and all workshop participants, the following challenges and recommendations for action were agreed upon.