



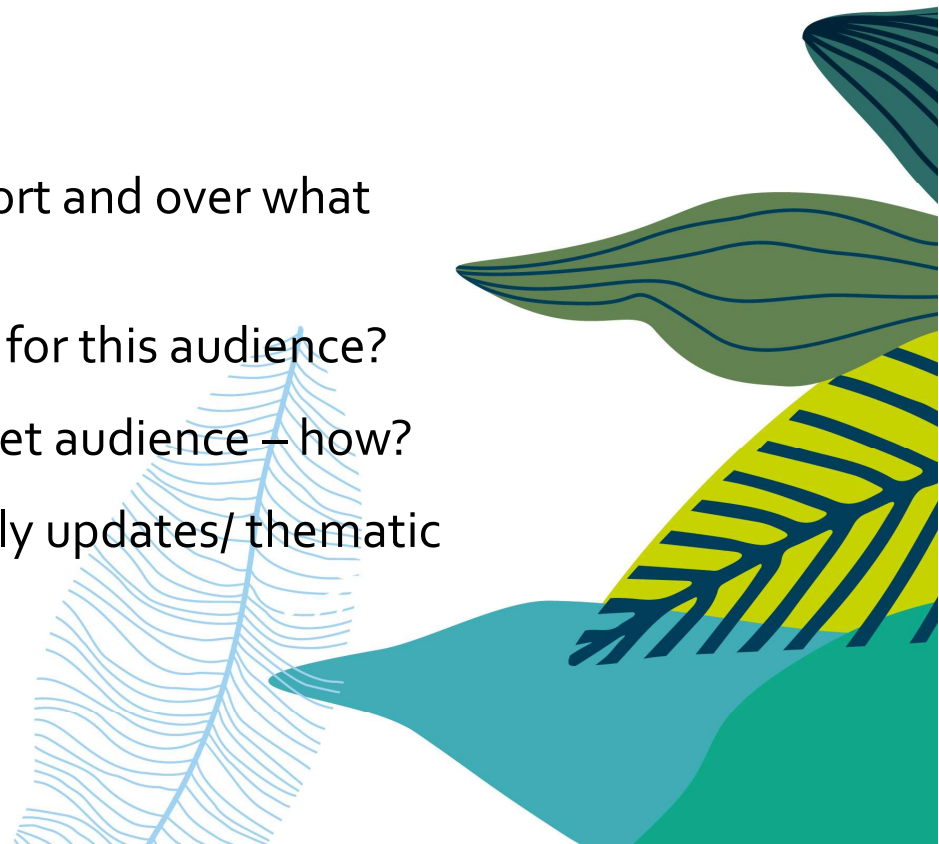
# Annual Reporting Overview

Cate Sumner

*Session 13, 9 March, 2023*

## Overview of Session

- Why publish Annual Reports?
- Who is the Audience?
- Who collaborates in producing an Annual Report and over what time period?
- What should be included in the Annual Report for this audience?
- Communicating the Annual Report to the target audience – how?
- Other means of communicating data – monthly updates/ thematic overviews





## Pacific Judicial Development Programme: 2011 Court Baseline Report

MAY 2012



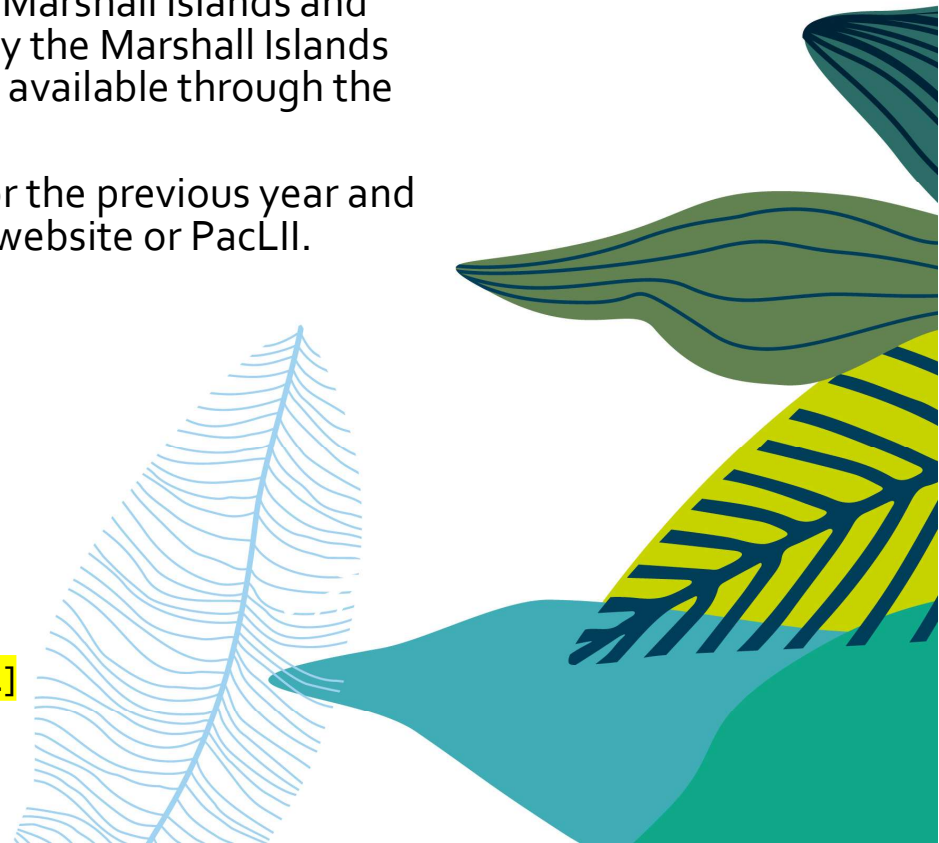
## 2020 Court Trend Report

MAY 2021



# Overview of Annual Reporting in the Pacific: 2011 to 2021

- In the baseline year of 2011, only the judiciaries of the Marshall Islands and Vanuatu published an annual report each year and only the Marshall Islands judiciary produced an Annual Report that was publicly available through the court's website or PacLII.
- In 2022, eight judiciaries published an annual report for the previous year and almost all of these were available through the court's website or PacLII.
- The judiciaries are:
  - FSM
  - Kiribati
  - Marshall Islands
  - [Niue]
  - Palau
  - PNG
  - Vanuatu
  - Tonga [Note: Does not yet appear to be publicly available.]





## Why publish Annual Reports?

Policy developments in the Pacific and globally suggest that judicial annual reports could be strengthened to provide evidence that courts are demonstrating the principles contained in their Mission and Vision Statements, namely:

the delivery of justice that is fair and  
accessible to all



# Why publish Annual Reports?

## Foreword from the Chief Justice

### Introduction

It is a necessary part of a democratic society to retain an independent judicial system that upholds and applies the rule of law. This report shows that the people of Niue can have confidence in the working of the judicial system. Especially given the challenges of Covid 19 it has been necessary to change the workings of the Courts. This has provided challenge, opportunity, learnings and both positive and negative impacts.

As always, there is room for improvement and this report has identified a number of challenges that the Niue Courts have faced now for some time and will need to address.

In part due to Covid 19 the Court has not produced a report since 2019. This report provides the people of Niue with an indication of the work carried out by their Court from 2019 to 2022.

This report is essential for a number of reasons:

- a. It is an opportunity for the Court to provide the people of Niue with some understanding of the work that is undertaken by the Court, including the way justice is delivered in Niue, who makes those decisions, and how the system is supported by the administration.
- b. The collection and analysis of data over a number of years allow the Courts to evaluate their performance year by year by identifying trends and recognizing challenges in order to set realistic and appropriate Court performance standards.
- c. The report also promotes accountability and transparency of the Judiciary.

My expectation is that going forward, the report is produced annually.



*The Judiciary is responsible for progressing areas that needs more development and is obliged to continue support the fundamental principles of equity and fairness while protecting the dignity and rights of our people. I also hope that this 2021 reflection will contribute to the wider conversation beyond the courts and stimulate discussions that would strengthen the justice system of Vanuatu, resulting in improved service delivery to the Republic of Vanuatu.*

-Honorable Chief Justice Vincent Lunabek of Vanuatu

*Extract from Vanuatu Courts Annual Statistics 2021*



*Again, as we begin a New Legal Year, we join together and reflect on the workloads and performances of the courts in the past legal years and look back to the good things, the bad things and the challenges Vanuatu Courts have gone through in respect to the work of the courts, the development of the law in general and all other developments in our society as to how the laws impacted on the life of our people and Vanuatu as a nation. We must then reflect back on these achievements, values, strengths and weaknesses. We must stand and continue with our vision of:*

*“A judiciary that is independent, effective and efficient, and worthy of public trust and confidence, and a legal profession that provides quality ethical, accessible and cost-effective legal services to our people and is willing and able to answer the call to public service”*

*-Honorable Chief Justice Vincent Lunabek of Vanuatu*





## Who is the audience?

- Citizens
- CSOs
- Government Ministries
- Parliament
- Court staff and judges



## Annex Cook Island Indicators



### Indicator 1: Clearance Rate

The result against this indicator is obtained by dividing all cases finalised in a year by cases filed.



### Indicator 2: Average Duration of a Case

The result against this indicator is obtained by totalling the days for each case from the date the case is filed to the date it is finalised and then dividing this by the number of cases finalised.



### Indicator 3: Percentage of Appeals

The result against this indicator is obtained by dividing the number of cases appealed to a higher court by the number of cases finalised in the level of court jurisdiction from which the appeal is made.



### Indicator 4: Overturn Rate on Appeal

The result against this indicator is obtained by dividing the number of appeal cases in which the lower court decision is overturned in whole or in part by the total number of appeals.



### Indicator 5: Percentage of Cases that are Granted a Court Fee Waiver

The result against this indicator is obtained by dividing the number of cases that are granted a court fee waiver by the total number of cases filed.



### Indicator 6: Percentage of Cases Disposed Through a Circuit Court

The result against this indicator is obtained by dividing the number of cases finalised through a circuit court by the total number of cases finalised.



### Indicator 7: Percentage of Cases Where a Party Receives Legal Aid

The result against this indicator is obtained by dividing the number of cases where a party receives legal aid by the total number of cases filed.



### Indicator 8: Documented Process for Receiving and Processing a Complaint That is Publicly Available

To show results against this indicator a documented process for receiving and processing a complaint should be accessible to the public.



### Indicator 9: Percentage of Complaints Received Concerning a Judicial Officer

The result against this indicator is obtained by dividing the number of complaints received concerning a judicial officer by the total number of cases filed.



### Indicator 10: Percentage of Complaints Received Concerning a Court Staff Member

The result against this indicator is obtained by dividing the number of complaints received concerning a court staff member by the total number of cases filed.



### Indicator 11: Average Number of Cases Per Judicial Officer

The result against this indicator is obtained by dividing the total number of cases filed by the number of judicial officers.



### Indicator 12: Average Number of Cases Per Member of Court Staff

The result against this indicator is obtained by dividing the total number of cases filed by the number of court staff.



### Indicator 13: Court produces or contributes to an Annual Report that is publicly available in the following year

This indicator is demonstrated through the publication of an annual report in the year immediately following the year that is the subject of the annual report.



### Indicator 14: Court Services Information

Information on court services that is publicly available.



### Indicator 15: Publication of Judgments

Court publishes judgments on the Internet (through PacJII or their own website).

## What should be included: Cook Island Indictors

- Trend data – **3-5 years** if possible
- For each Cook Island indicator there may be three narrative sentences or points that the court may wish to set out:
  1. If your court has developed time standards or a performance goal for that indicator then this is presented.
  2. The performance for the last year is mentioned and its relationship to the goal and the trend over the last 3-5 years is elaborated.
  3. An explanation of reasons contributing to a particular performance result and how the court intends to address this.



## How is it produced?

- Publication of an Annual Report each year.
  - A strategic presentation of a sub-set of the data that the court leadership will be reviewing regularly throughout the year (15 Cook Island indicators)
- Start small with trend data and expand over time as resources allow.
- Collaborate with other organisations.
- Look at how your colleagues in other jurisdictions are changing Annual Reports over time.
- Seek feed-back at regular intervals.



## Communicating Annual Reports to target Audiences?

- State of the Law/ Opening Law Year Annual Address
- Annual Report launch
- Distribution of Annual Reports to key stakeholders
- 1-page thematic updates and Court User/ Multistakeholder discussions
- Monthly Updates – Fiji ODPP example





# Communicating Annual Reports to Target Audiences?



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## Media Centre

- Media Centre
- DPP's Speeches
- Media Updates
- Press Releases
- Gallery



*Court Reporters at the Suva High Court*

### Media Updates

Any request for updates on any media issue must be directed to the Media Liaison Officer (MLO) either by email at [odpp.media@gmail.com](mailto:odpp.media@gmail.com) or telephone at +679 3211563.

Enquiries to individual ODPP officers will be directed to the MLO.

#### January 2023 Media Updates

- [ODPP SERIOUS CRIME \(NON-SEXUAL VIOLENCE OFFENCES\) STATISTICS DECEMBER 2022](#)
- [ODPP RAPE AND SEXUAL OFFENCES STATISTICS DECEMBER 2022](#)





	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Cook Islands	No Annual Report.	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.justice.gov.ck/">http://www.justice.gov.ck/</a>	Annual Report 2016/2017 finalised but cannot be accessed by the public	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	No Annual Report
Federated States of Micronesia	No Annual Report	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report produced but it is not published on the FSM Judiciary or Paclli websites	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://fsmsu.premecourt.org/">http://fsmsu.premecourt.org/</a> and <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://fsmsu.premecourt.org/">http://fsmsu.premecourt.org/</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://fsmsu.premecourt.org/">http://fsmsu.premecourt.org/</a> and <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://fsmsu.premecourt.org/">http://fsmsu.premecourt.org/</a> and <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://fsmsu.premecourt.org/">http://fsmsu.premecourt.org/</a> and <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://fsmsu.premecourt.org/">http://fsmsu.premecourt.org/</a> and <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://fsmsu.premecourt.org/">http://fsmsu.premecourt.org/</a> and <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	No Annual Report
Fiji	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	No Annual Report
Kiribati	No Annual Report	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a> and <a href="http://kiribatijudiciary.gov.ki/">http://kiribatijudiciary.gov.ki/</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a> and <a href="http://kiribatijudiciary.gov.ki/">http://kiribatijudiciary.gov.ki/</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a> and <a href="http://kiribatijudiciary.gov.ki/">http://kiribatijudiciary.gov.ki/</a>	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a> and <a href="http://kiribatijudiciary.gov.ki/">http://kiribatijudiciary.gov.ki/</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a> and <a href="http://kiribatijudiciary.gov.ki/">http://kiribatijudiciary.gov.ki/</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a> and <a href="http://kiribatijudiciary.gov.ki/">http://kiribatijudiciary.gov.ki/</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a> and <a href="http://kiribatijudiciary.gov.ki/">http://kiribatijudiciary.gov.ki/</a>

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Nauru	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	Annual Report 2016/2017 finalised but cannot be accessed by the public.	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	No Annual Report
Niue	No Annual Report	Department of Justice Annual Report 2011/2012 can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	High Court Land Division Annual Report 2012/2013 can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	High Court Annual Report 2013/2014 can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	High Court Annual Report 2014/2015 in draft format but not finalised.	High Court Annual Report 2015/2016 – 2018/2019 can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	High Court Annual Report 2015/2016 – 2018/2019 can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	High Court Annual Report 2015/2016 – 2018/2019 can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	High Court Annual Report 2015/2016 – 2018/2019 can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	No Annual Report	No Annual Report
Palau	No Annual Report	No Annual Report	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.palausupremecourt.net/">http://www.palausupremecourt.net/</a> and <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.palausupremecourt.net/">http://www.palausupremecourt.net/</a> and <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.palausupremecourt.net/">http://www.palausupremecourt.net/</a> and <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.palausupremecourt.net/">http://www.palausupremecourt.net/</a> and <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.palausupremecourt.net/">http://www.palausupremecourt.net/</a> and <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.palausupremecourt.net/">http://www.palausupremecourt.net/</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.palausupremecourt.net/">http://www.palausupremecourt.net/</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.palausupremecourt.net/">http://www.palausupremecourt.net/</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://www.palausupremecourt.net/">http://www.palausupremecourt.net/</a>



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PNG (National and Supreme Courts)	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/">https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/">https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/">https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/">https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/">https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/">https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/">https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/">https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/">https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/">https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/">https://www.pngjudiciary.gov.pg/</a>
Republic of the Marshall Islands	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://rmicourts.org/">http://rmicourts.org/</a> and <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://rmicourts.org/">http://rmicourts.org/</a> and <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://rmicourts.org/">http://rmicourts.org/</a> and <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://rmicourts.org/">http://rmicourts.org/</a> and <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://rmicourts.org/">http://rmicourts.org/</a> and <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://rmicourts.org/">http://rmicourts.org/</a> and <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://rmicourts.org/">http://rmicourts.org/</a> and <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://rmicourts.org/">http://rmicourts.org/</a> and <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://rmicourts.org/">http://rmicourts.org/</a> and <a href="http://www.paclii.org">www.paclii.org</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://rmicourts.org/">http://rmicourts.org/</a>	Annual Report can be accessed at: <a href="http://rmicourts.org/">http://rmicourts.org/</a>
Samoa	Ministry of Justice and Court Administration Annual Report 2010/2011 on Parliament website	Ministry of Justice and Court Administration Annual Report 2011/2012 on Parliament website	Ministry of Justice and Court Administration Annual Report 2012/2013 on Parliament website	Ministry of Justice and Court Administration Annual Report 2013/2014 can be accessed at: <a href="https://www">https://www</a>	Ministry of Justice and Court Administration Annual Report 2014/2015 can be accessed at: <a href="https://www">https://www</a>	Ministry of Justice and Court Administration Annual Report 2015/2016 can be accessed at: <a href="https://www">https://www</a>	Ministry of Justice and Court Administration Annual Report 2016/2017 can be accessed at: <a href="https://www">https://www</a>	Ministry of Justice and Court Administration Annual Report 2017/2018 can be accessed at: <a href="https://www">https://www</a>	Ministry of Justice and Court Administration Annual Report 2018/2019 can be accessed at: <a href="https://www">https://www</a>	Ministry of Justice and Court Administration Annual Report 2019/2020 can be accessed at: <a href="https://www">https://www</a>	No Annual Report

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