

# Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs)

Teachings and the way ahead

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# What are Non-Tariff Measures?

- Excerpt from the Export Guide of Virgin Coconut Oil

## 3.2.1 Australia

### a. Hygienic and quality requirements

- Requirement to be clean and free of contaminant seed, soil, animal and plant debris and other biosecurity risk materials
- Extraneous residue limit (DDT), 1 mg per kg, for edible vegetable oil
- Maximum level of natural toxicants (Erucic acid), 20,000 mg per kg, for edible oil
- Requirement to use permitted processing aids and food additives

### b. Testing

- Microbiological Analysis
- Chemical analysis

### c. Packaging

- Each consignment of goods to be packed in clean and new packaging

## 3.2.2 European Union

### (1) Virgin coconut oil as food

#### a. Hygienic and quality requirements

- Maximum level of contaminants
  - Metal, 0,10mg per kg wet weight for oils
  - Sum of dioxins (WHO-PCDD/F-TEQ) 0,75  $\mu\text{g}$  per g fat, for vegetable oils and fats
  - Sum of dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs (WHOPCDD/F-PCBTEQ) 1,25  $\mu\text{g}$  per g fat, for vegetable oils and fats
  - Sum of PCB28, PCB52, PCB101, PCB138, PCB153 and PCB180 (ICES – 6) 40 ng per g fat, for vegetable oils and fats
  - Benzo(a)pyrene 2,0 $\mu\text{g}$  per kg, for coconut oil intended for direct human consumption or use as an ingredient in food
  - Sum of benzo(a)pyrene, benz(a)anthracene, benzo(b)fluoranthene and chrysene 20,0 $\mu\text{g}$  per kg, for Coconut oil intended for direct human consumption or use as an ingredient in food

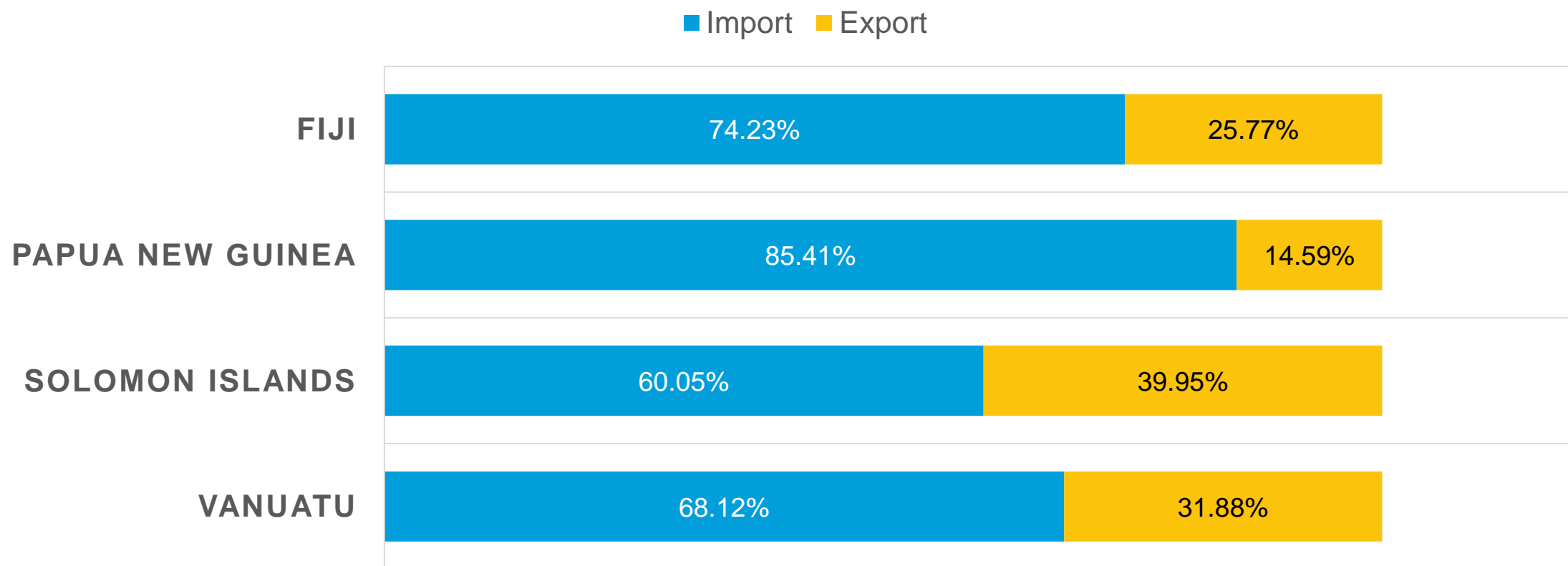
# Overview

	Fiji	Papua New Guinea	Solomon Islands	Vanuatu
Cut-Off Year	2021	2017, 2021	2021	2021
Regulations	79	<u>195</u>	64	73
NTMs	388	<u>795</u>	388	<u>276</u>
Agencies	25	33	16	17
Sources	<u>Centralized</u>	Decentralized	Decentralized	Decentralized
Data Publication	O	X	O	O

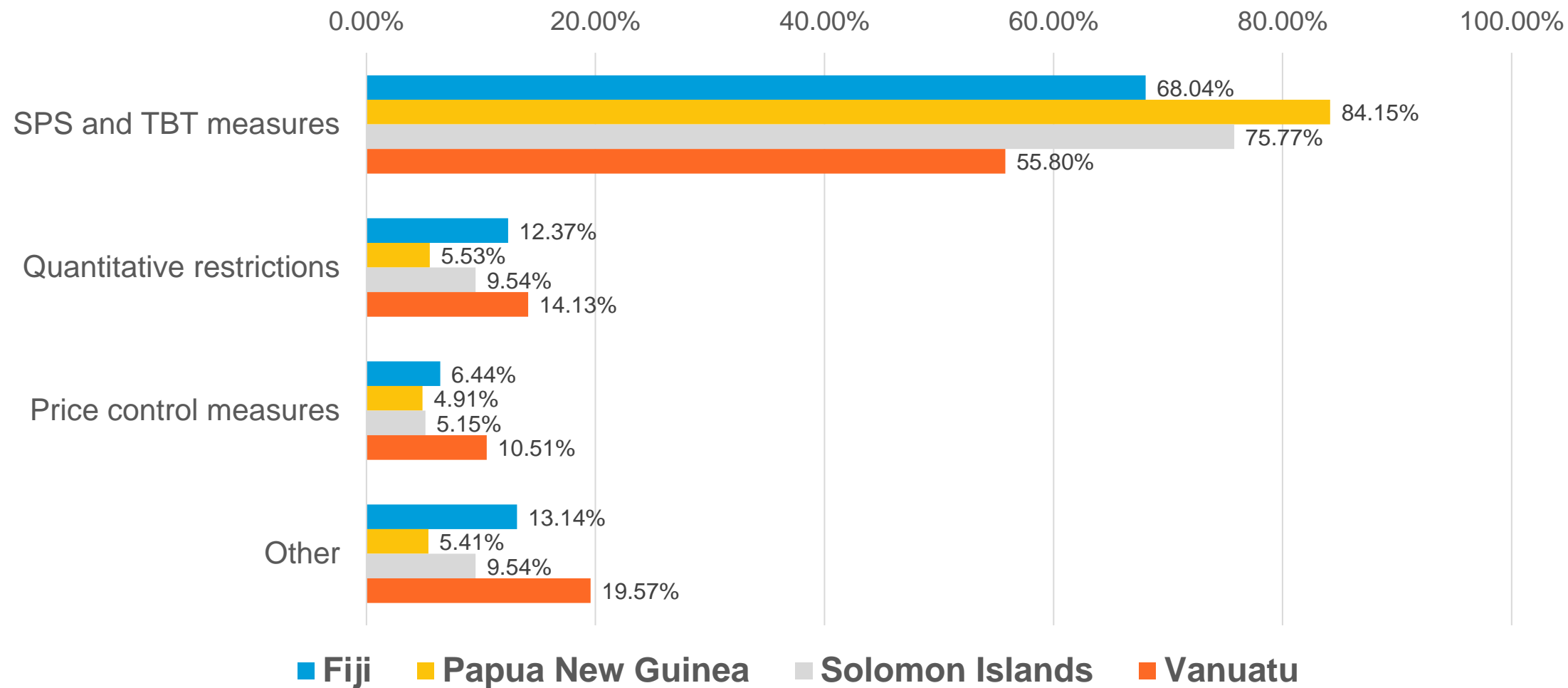
# TRAINS

- When frozen beef goes from Vanuatu to Solomon Islands,  
What are the requirements of Solomon Islands?

# Share of Import and Export Measures



# Share of Measure Types



# Teachings

1. Most regulated sectors are common.  
→ Seek regulatory cooperation.
2. Least regulated sectors are different.  
→ Learn from others.
3. Several regulations are outdated.  
→ Update the regulations.

# 1. Most regulated sectors are common.

Fiji	Papua New Guinea	Solomon Islands	Vanuatu
<u>Animals, animal products, plants and plant products</u>			
Specific types of food	Specific types of food	Fish	Alcoholic beverages
Hazardous substances and wastes	Telecommunication equipment		

(Counting based on the number of regulations)

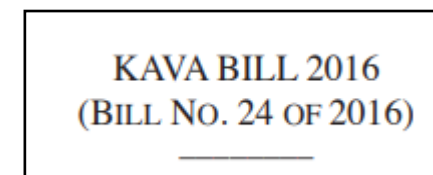
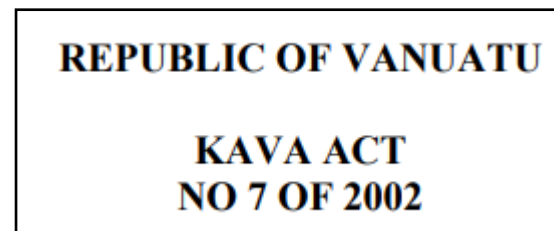
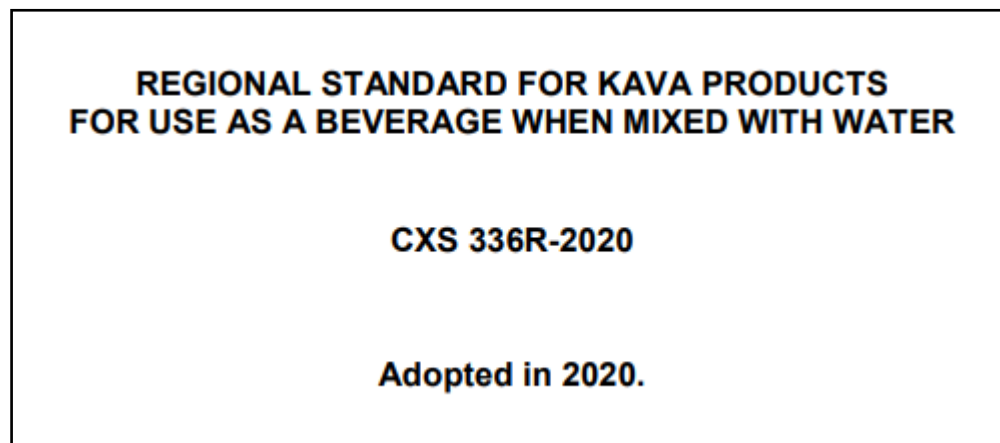


# 1. Seek regulatory cooperation.

- Similar regulations allow easier export and import, lowering the cost of compliance. Also, they can strengthen the MSG's negotiating position.
- Harmonization with international/regional standards, Equivalence, Mutual recognition.

# 1. Seek regulatory cooperation.

- Kava as an example



In a milestone move for its emerging kava industry, [the Solomon Islands today launched its National Kava Quality Standard](#) and a Kava Industry Working Group (Kava IWG) with the support of the Australia and New Zealand funded Pacific Horticultural and Agricultural Market Access Plus (PHAMA Plus) program.

## 2. Least regulated sectors are different.

	Fiji	Papua New Guinea	Solomon Islands	Vanuatu
Cultural artefacts	X	O	O	O
Electrical appliance (e.g., energy efficiency of refrigerators)	O	X	O	O
Telecommunication equipment	O	O	X	O
Land Transport (e.g., safety of used cars)	O	O	X	O
Hazardous substances and wastes	O	O	X	X
Specific types of food	O	O	O	X
Metrology	O	O	O	X
Plastic bags	O	X	X	?

## 2. Learn from others.

- Is this a missing hole?
- How do other countries regulate this sector?
  - Substance and format of regulations

## 2. Learn from others.

- Specific types of food as an example
  - Fiji, Solomon Islands Schedules – Papua New Guinea AQC, PQC

### **FOURTEENTH SCHEDULE**

*(Regulation 36 (1))*

[FOOD SAFETY ACT 2003](#)

FOOD SAFETY REGULATIONS 2008

**STANDARDS ON MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS**

***SUPPLEMENT*** to the Solomon Islands Gazette

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2010

S.I. No.70

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[Legal Notice No. 154]

**PURE FOOD (FOOD CONTROL) REGULATIONS 2010**

**ELEVENTH SCHEDULE**

*(Regulation 64(8))*

**STANDARDS ON CEREAL AND CEREAL PRODUCTS**

### 3. Several regulations are outdated.

- Pesticides Regulations as an example

<b>Fiji</b>	<b>Papua New Guinea</b>	<b>Solomon Islands</b>	<b>Vanuatu</b>
<b>Pesticides Regulations 1971</b>	<b>Environmental Contaminants (Pesticides) Regulation 1988</b>	<b>Safety at Work (Pesticides) Regulations</b>	<b>Pesticides (Control) Act 1993</b>
<i>Commenced on 17 September 1971</i>	<i>Commenced on 6 September 1988</i>	<i>Commenced on 1 January 1983</i>	<i>Commenced on 16 March 1998</i>
<i>Last updated on 10 November 1972</i>		<i>Presumed to be last updated in 1984</i>	

# 3. Update the regulations.

- Reflect new types of pesticides, new scientific findings, etc.
- Together as a region?

Versions of this Act		
<b>Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996</b> (Viewing now)	as at 05 October 2023	<a href="#">Print/Download PDF (1.5MB)</a> 
<b>Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996</b>	as at 24 August 2023	<a href="#">Print/Download PDF (1.5MB)</a> 
<b>Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996</b>	as at 01 November 2022	<a href="#">Print/Download PDF (1.5MB)</a> 
<b>Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996</b>	as at 01 July 2022	<a href="#">Print/Download PDF (1.5MB)</a> 
<b>Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996</b>	as at 12 April 2022	<a href="#">Print/Download PDF (1.5MB)</a> 
<b>Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996</b>	as at 28 October 2021	<a href="#">Print/Download PDF (1.5MB)</a> 
<b>Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996</b>	as at 01 April 2021	<a href="#">Print/Download PDF (1.4MB)</a> 

# The way forward

1. Consider how to
  - 1) Seek regulatory cooperation
  - 2) Learn from others
  - 3) Update the regulations
  
2. Conduct measure-level analysis
  
3. Continue data improvement and update
  
4. Review the regulation publication system
  - Published?, Up-to-date?, Consolidated?, Comprehensive?, Centralized?



# Thank you!

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# Prevalence Ratio

- The average number of NTMs affecting an imported product.

Fiji	Papua New Guinea	Solomon Islands	Vanuatu	World (118 countries)
3.08	4.05	3.57	3.44	3.13

# Thank you!





	Fiji	Papua New Guinea	Solomon Islands	Vanuatu
Cultural artefacts	X	O	O	O
Metrology	X	O	O	X
Electrical appliance (Energy Efficiency)	O	X	O	O
Telecommunication equipment	O	O	O	O
Land Transport (e.g., used cars)	O	O	X	O
Pesticides	O	O (outdated)	O	O
Animal Feedings	O	O	X	X
Hazardous substances and wastes (Basel..)	O	O	X?	X
Fertilizers	X	O	X	X
Plastic bags	O	X	X	X
Sea Transport (e.g., ships)	X	X	X	X
Publications	X	O	X	O
Consumer items (e.g., toothpaste)	O	X	X	O
Specific food	X	O	O	X

# Frequency Index / Prevalence Ratio

- The frequency index provides the share of products affected by one or more NTMs.
- The prevalence ratio captures the average number of NTMs affecting an imported product.

	Frequency Index	Prevalence Ratio
Fiji	61%	3.08
Papua New Guinea	45%	4.05
Solomon Islands	99%	3.57
Vanuatu	39%	3.44
World (118 countries)	54%	3.13