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This report summarizes the findings of the 2007 Republic of the Marshall Islands Demographic and Health Survey (RMIDHS) implemented by the Economic Policy, Planning and Statistics Office (EPPSO). The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) was the executing agency for the project. The Government of the Marshall Islands provided financial assistance in terms of in-kind contribution of government staff time, office space, and logistical support. The project was funded jointly by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), and New Zealand Agency for International Development (NZAID). SPC was responsible for sample design, preparing the overall project plan and budget, train EPPSO staff in project planning and implementation management, providing data processing support, and compiling the full DHS report.

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The 2007 Republic of the Marshall Islands Demographic and Health Survey (2007 RMIDHS) was one of four pilot DHSs in the Pacific under the Asian Development Bank/Secretariat of the Pacific Community (ADB/SPC) Regional DHS Pilot Project. The primary objective of the survey was to provide up-to-date information for policy-makers, planners, researchers and program managers to use in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of population and health programs in the country. The survey was intended to provide key estimates of the demographics and health of the country. In addition, the content of the survey was expanded to include questions on disability and gender-related violence.

The findings of the 2007 RMIDHS are very important for measuring the achievements of family planning and other health programs. To ensure better understanding and use of these data, the results of the survey should be widely disseminated at different planning levels. Different dissemination techniques will be used to reach different segments of society.

The 2007 RMIDHS is the result of an earnest effort put forth by different individuals and organizations. Conducted under the ADB/SPC Regional DHS Pilot Project, with technical assistance provided by Macro International Inc. and SPC, the survey was implemented by EPPSO. We acknowledge with much gratitude the generous financial support provided by ADB and the Australian International Assistance Bureau, enabling EPPSO to undertake this survey, and we are particularly thankful to the Secretary of the Ministry of Health, Ms Justina Langidrik, who chaired the Steering Committee, which offered guidance on the implementation of the survey from planning right through the preparation of this report.

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