

# PREVENTION AND PROTECTION AGAINST BIRD FLU

Bird Flu is not currently present in any Pacific island country or territory. To keep it that way it is important to make sure it does not gain entry into our country and if it does, to rapidly eradicate it.

Infected migratory wild birds could bring in the virus but many experts now believe that humans illegally bringing live birds, meat, feathers, eggs or other bird products from countries that already have bird flu represents a more direct and greater risk for the entry of bird flu into the Pacific Islands.

The best way to ensure that people protect themselves, their families and chickens against bird flu is to make sure they are alert to the dangers, and aware of actions to take and behaviours to follow.

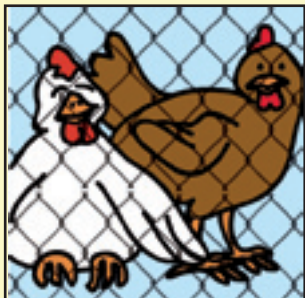
The following are some key actions the public should know to prevent and protect themselves against the bird flu virus.

## KEY ACTIONS PEOPLE CAN TAKE:



### REPORT

- Observe birds closely. Report unusual sickness or death among poultry, wild birds and other animals immediately to the authorities.
- Report to authorities any suspicious activities, such as chickens or chicken products or fighting cocks being brought over a border or ships bringing animals onto shore or trading animal products with villagers.
- Report and seek treatment immediately if you have fever after contact with sick birds.



## SEPARATE

- Keep new poultry stock apart from old stock for 2 weeks.
- Keep poultry, their water and food away from wild birds.
- Keep each species of domestic birds separate from each other.
- Keep poultry away from human living areas. Keep poultry away from children.
- Keep sick poultry away from healthy poultry. Burn and bury dead birds safely. Wear gloves if possible.



## WASH

- Wash hands often with running water and soap (or ash if soap not available) often, especially after touching birds, before eating and before and after food preparation.
- Make sure anyone who has touched dead birds washes themselves with soap and water.
- Wash clothes, footwear, vehicles and cages with soap or disinfectant.



## COOK

- Take special care when preparing and cooking chicken and eggs. Where possible, avoid handling sick or dead chickens or their eggs.
- Cook chicken and eggs thoroughly. Avoid eating uncooked or half-cooked chicken or eggs.