

SECRETARIAT OF THE PACIFIC COMMUNITY

REGIONAL MEETING OF HEADS OF PLANNING & HEADS OF STATISTICS (HOPS)
(Noumea, New Caledonia, 17-21 September 2007)

Future directions for evidence-based decision making in the Pacific

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

MEETING AIM, APPROACHES AND EXPECTED OUTCOME

The general purpose of regular regional meetings organised by SPC technical programs is of a governance nature, where program managers and their staff report back to our membership on activities undertaken on their behalf since the last such meeting, where they seek feedback on program performance and achievements, and look for guidance on future activities.

Acknowledging the growing importance our membership places on strategic evidence-based decision making, we decided to add a second strategic objective to this year's Regional Heads of Planning and Heads of Statistics meeting, in articulating future strategic directions for statistics in the Pacific island region, as they pertain to policy development and planning.

Three main approaches will be used:

- Review the contributions made by the Statistics and Demography Programme (SDP) of SPC and development partners to statistical development in the region since the last meeting (Sessions 2-5);
- Review the growing importance of cross-cutting issues, as well as the emergence of new priorities (Session 6); and
- Develop priority future regional directions, through lessons learnt from recent statistical development experience and refinements of the results of the March 2007 meeting on the *Future of Statistics in the Pacific* (Session 7).

In terms of tangible outcomes from this meeting, we expect to develop a strategic blueprint for statistical development in the Pacific island region for the coming 5 – 10 years, outlining key thematic and operational priorities, and identifying commensurate implementation strategies.

Tuesday, 18 September 2007

4. Data Utilisation

8:00-8:45	Data Utilisation	WP 4.1
8:45-9:30	SDP Collaboration with other SPC programmes	WP 4.2
9:30-10:00	<i>Health Break</i>	

5. Training/Capacity Building

10:00-10:45	Statistical Training	WP 5.1
10:45-11:15	Solomon Islands Statistical Development Project	WP 5.2
11:15-12:00	Project Team Management and Planning	WP 5.3
12:00-13:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>	

6. Cross Cutting Issues/New Priorities

13:00-14:30	Indicators for monitoring human development (with SPC Human Development Programme)	WP 6.1
14:30-15:00	<i>Health Break</i>	
15:00-16:15	Poverty and Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) (with UNDP)	WP 6.2
16:15-17:15	Strengthening NSDS-based decision-making (PIFS)	

Wednesday September 19, 2007

(continuing from previous day: 6. Cross Cutting Issues/New Priorities)

8:00-9:30	Population and Development (UNFPA)	
9:30-10:00	<i>Health Break</i>	
10:00-11:30	Economic Statistics (with PFTAC)	WP 6.3
11:30-12:00	Status Report on PIFS-SPC <i>Benchmark Study</i> (PIFS)	
12:00-13:00	<i>Lunch Break</i>	

7. Future Directions

- 13:00-13:45 “*Lessons Learned*” (Secretariat)
The first of two back-ground briefing notes for Session 7 prepared by the Secretariat, this paper draws from Sessions 2-5, consolidating main lessons learned from SDP activities in recent years, to inform discussions on future directions of statistical development in the Pacific island region. **WP 7.1**
- 13:45-14:30 Report on *Future of Statistics in the Pacific Meeting* , March 2007 (Secretariat)
Representing the second background-briefing note for this session, this paper provides an overview of the main outcomes of this meeting. **WP 7.2**
- 14:30-15:00 *Health Break*
- 15:00-17:00 Working group sessions
Objective: six working groups to review key outcomes and recommendations emanating from Sessions 2-6, as well as from two background briefing notes prepared for this session, with the view to develop future strategic directions for statistical developments, inclusive activities and projects, in the Pacific island region.
Working groups will comprise of national heads of Statistics and Planning, observers from development and other partner agencies as well as SDP and other SPC staff. Depending on numbers and interest, two groups may be formed for some topics:
- Group 1: NSO Institutional Issues
 - Group 2: Statistical Master Plans
 - Group 3: Economic Statistics
 - Group 4: Data collection
 - Group 5: Data analysis/interpretation/utilization
 - Group 6: Data dissemination

Thursday, 20 September 2007

- 8:00-8:30 Working groups: consolidation of working group presentations to plenary
(where more than one group covered a topic: groups to consolidate their findings)
- 8:30-9:30 Working groups report to Plenary on their recommendations
- 9:30-10:00 *Health Break*
- 10:00-12:00 Working groups report to Plenary on their recommendations (cont)
- 12:00-13:00 *Lunch break*
- 13:00-14:30 Plenary – Concluding session 1: Review working groups’ recommendations
- 14:30-15:00 *Health Break*
- 15:00-17:00 Plenary – Concluding session 2: Develop priority future regional directions

18:00-21:00 Statistics and Demography Programme Barbeque

Friday, 21 September 2007

8. Fishery Statistics

- 8:00-8:30 Overview of the domestic tuna industry in the region and recent changes
- 8:30-9:00 The importance of adjusting to change in the collection of economic and trade statistics - new products forms, treatment of locally based vessels etc
- 9:00-9:40 The treatment of fisheries in national accounts - results of the Gillett and Lightfoot study **IP 1**
- 9:40-10:00 Health Break*
- 10:00-10:40 The treatment of fisheries in national accounts in Micronesia - case studies and issues
- 10:40-11:20 Recent initiatives to improve the estimates of value added by tuna fishing and tuna processing in the region. **IP 2**
- 11:20-12:00 Agency/Observer Statements
- 12:00-13:00 Lunch break*
- 13:00-14:00 Agency/Observer Statements (*continued*)

9. Summary Report

- 14:00-16:00 Meeting Report & Adoption of Recommendations

September 05, 2007