

Education Department (Tuvalu), SPC and UNICEF partner to enhance stakeholder capacities on usage of Education Management Information System (EMIS) data for improved planning, monitoring and decision making in Tuvalu



A five-day workshop, hosted by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in Tuvalu, was completed in Funafuti, Tuvalu between January 22nd and January 28th, 2016. The capacity building workshop was conducted with technical support from the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) - Statistics for Development Division and the Educational Quality and Assessment Programme (EQAP) and UNICEF. The workshop was organized and supported by the Achieving Education for All in Tuvalu Programme (AEfATP), funded by Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

The overarching goal of the workshop was to enhance country capacity on using TEMIS education data in decision-making, planning, monitoring and evaluation with a particular aim to increase the statistical literacy, reasoning and thinking of decision makers at the Ministry as well as the school level.

Permanent Secretary, Education, Youth and Sports, Mrs. Puaita Tuati, officially opened the workshop and urged all participants 'to move forward to analyze and interpret the education statistics and indicators that is reported from TEMIS and other sources to help us deliver our roles better – both at the Ministry and school levels'. Through the workshop, she also hoped for participants to build their 'analytical and planning skills to improve and monitor the quality of education we deliver to our children in Tuvalu'.

The workshop that spanned over five days had two main components - the first three days was focused on training approximately **36** from all nine islands in Tuvalu, including head teachers, teachers, ICT teachers, clerks and EdDep programme officers on using EMIS data for planning, monitoring and decision making. The last two days of the workshop was focused on building capacities of approximately **21** master trainers', mostly ICT teachers and clerks in schools. They were trained to better use the EMIS system, improve school based record keeping and stock management and

subsequently improve quality of data reporting. The trainers have now acquired the necessary skills to roll out the same training to all schools in Tuvalu, on behalf of the Education Department.

The outcomes of the workshop were effectively achieved as expected. The participants were trained on the concepts and calculation of TEMIS indicators for better policy and planning, better understood the relevancy of data in educational policy and planning and in relation to international and regional educational commitments such as Sustainable Development Goals (SDG4) and the Pacific Education Development Framework (PEDF). Participants also understood the importance of evidence-based planning to deliver against national policy priorities articulated in the Tuvalu Education Strategic Plan (TESP III) and school level priorities included in their annual school improvement plans. Participants were also introduced to importance of data across cross-cutting themes such as disabilities, gender, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in schools as well as education in emergencies. The Tuvalu National Statistics Office was invited to engage with the participants on gender and education, while UNICEF supported with the other cross-cutting themes.

The workshop concluded with a discussion with the Education Department on the roadmap for stakeholder engagement strategy in Tuvalu, key priorities for the EMIS facility in Tuvalu and possible areas of technical support by SPC and other development partners. We wish to congratulate the Education Department for recognizing and acting on the need to use of data and information to drive change and results and for equipping its stakeholders with important knowledge and tools to analyse the state and performance of education to children in Tuvalu.