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## 2018 PSSC MEETING

### DOCUMENT N° 4:

# DONOR AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS GROUP (DDPG) 2018 MEETING

## SUMMARY

Prepared by the  
Statistics for Development Division (SDD)  
of the  
Pacific Community (SPC)

**October 2018**

Pacific Community (SPC) Headquarters: Noumea, New Caledonia. Regional Offices: Suva, Fiji;  
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<b>Pacific Statistics Donor and Development Partners Group (DDPG)</b> <b>Inaugural Meeting</b>  <b>Friday 31 August – Brisbane, Australia</b>	
<b>Attendees</b>	<p><b>Donors and Development Partners:</b></p> <p>SPC SDD (Secretariat): Ofa Ketu’u, Michael Sharpe                      ABS (2018 Chair): Marie Apostolou, Kara Williams, Andrew Knott                      DFAT: Dylan Roux                      IMF PFTAC: David Kloeden, Barend de la Beer                      SNZ (also representing NZ MFAT): Janette Ingram-Seal                      UNESCAP: Chris Ryan                      UNFPA: Sandra Paredes                      UNICEF: Stanley Gwavuya                      USP: Rup Singh                      World Bank: Kristen Himelein, Taufik Indrakesuma</p> <p>Not present: ADB, FAO, ILO, UNDP, WHO</p>
<b>Summary of action items</b>	<p><b>The following action items were agreed from the meeting:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. SDD to share with all members the presentations delivered during the meeting.</li> <li>ii. SDD and ABS to draft “key themes” emerging from the meeting and circulate to members for their comment (this document).</li> <li>iii. SDD to revise the “Pacific Regional Statistics Partnership Program” document before circulation to PSSC members, following input from all DDPG members. All members are therefore requested to send comments to Director of SDD (Ofa) with an update on their work/funding plans by 14<sup>th</sup> September.</li> <li>iv. SDD to review the draft Five-Year National Collection Schedule – DDPG members felt that it needed to be more realistic relative to national capacities, and to follow a better sequence.</li> <li>v. SDD to only provide direct technical in support of HIES and Population Census with priority given to smaller NSOs. TA requests for support to other collections should only be provided on a full cost recovery basis or through partnership with other development partners.</li> <li>vi. Chair for 2018 (ABS) to present the “key themes” from the 2018 DDPG Meeting to PSSC on 1-2 November to present and maintain a coordinated approach. This would carry across to HOPS and PSSC meetings.</li> <li>vii. DFAT to chair the 2019 DDPG Meeting at the same time next year. Chair to rotate alphabetically thereafter.</li> <li>viii. SDD to consider convening an additional meeting for the DDPG (possibly virtual).</li> </ol>
<b>Meeting purpose</b>	<p>To discuss ways to enhance coordination between donors and technical partners supporting Pacific statistics and agree on action items ahead of the PSSC Meeting in Nadi Fiji in November 2018.</p>
<b>Agenda and Key Documents</b>	



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**Donor and Development Partners Group (DDPG)**  
**Meeting Agenda**  
**Friday 31<sup>st</sup> August, Stamford Lounge**  
**8.30am - 1.00pm**

**Theme: Partnerships - Opportunities and Challenges**

08.30 – 08.45	Opening remarks and introduction	Marie Apostolou (Chair)
08.45 – 9.15	Presentation: Pacific Regional Statistics Partnerships Program (PRSP)	Ofa Ketuu Michael Sharp
9.15 – 10.15	Brief presentation followed by discussion on household and social surveys support (areas for support, opportunities for collaborations, challenges and emerging issues)	Kirsten Himelein Stanley Gwavuya Sandra Paredez Chris Ryan
10.15 – 10.30	Morning Tea	
10.30 – 11.30	Brief presentation followed by discussion on economic statistics support (areas for support, opportunities for collaborations, challenges and emerging issues)	Kelvin Watson David Kloeden Maire Apostolou
11.30 – 12.30	Long-term capacity and capability building and resource mobilisation plan for PRSP	Dylan Roux Rup Singh
12.30 – 12.50	How can we make this partnership work better?	Michael Sharp
12.50 – 13.00	Closing remarks	Marie Apostolou
13.00	Lunch	

**Presentations**

Already send by Michael on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

## **Key themes**

### **Opportunities for coordination and collaboration:**

#### **Importance of coordination:**

There was a shared understanding from the meeting on the importance of donors and development partners coordinating with each other to best support NSOs and statistical development in the Pacific. This follows recommendations from the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Heads of Planning and Statistics in Noumea in November 2017, that a Donor and Development Partner Group be established to facilitate inputs into statistical governance in the Pacific and enable better coordination of resources and support between the many donors and development partners in the region<sup>1</sup>.

HOPS also agreed that SPC, as an intermediary between its Member States and Development Partners, would convene an annual meeting of the DDPG in coordination with the timing of the PSSC, HOPS and ABS Leadership Forum meetings<sup>2</sup>.

It was noted that this meeting was the first such formal meeting of donors and development/technical partners who support the regular data collections/productions in the Pacific region. It was noted that coordination between donors and technical partners and the support they provide must be aligned to national statistics priorities set by Pacific countries and their National Statistical Systems.

#### **Enhancing the DDPG partnership:**

The meeting acknowledged that the Pacific Regional Statistics Partnership Program document was a positive step towards enhancing coordination. For this document to be useful, partners will need to regularly update their content.

Other ideas for coordination included reinvigorating the Google calendar currently used by development partners (ABS, PFTAC, SNZ and SPC) to share information about mission scheduling and opportunities for any collaboration on economic statistics. This could be expanded to also include social statistics activities and key regional meetings. This would in effect act as the implementation plan for the Pacific Regional Statistics Partnership Program.

In the first instance, to facilitate greater coordination the DDPG meeting agreed to:

- Update the Pacific Regional Statistics Partnership Program document before circulation to PSSC members, following input from all members. All members are to send the DDPG Secretariat, via the Director of SDD (Ofa Ketu'u) an update on their work/funding plan by 14 September 2018.
- Continue support for the Regional Statistical Methods Board as a technical body. The next meeting of the Board will take place in person in Nadi ahead of the PSSC meeting (30-31 October 2018).
- IMF PFTAC to circulate shared calendar.

### **Challenges and emerging issues:**

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<sup>1</sup> Source: 2017 HOPS 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting Report

<sup>2</sup> Ibid

**Sequencing of Censuses and Surveys:**

The meeting noted that the current Five-Year National Collection Schedule (see attached within the Pacific Regional Statistics Partnership Program document), includes a very full schedule of surveys alongside the 2020 Round of Censuses of Population and Housing over the next five years. The programme looks particularly crowded over the next 2-3 years.

There are a number of cases in which HIES are scheduled ahead of Censuses of Population and Housing. The meeting noted that international best practice is to run a Census first to provide the frame from which to sample for HIES.

In collaboration with countries, SPC SDD will develop a plan to identify gaps in assistance and if needed, prioritise (see next point).

**Prioritisation of assistance:**

The meeting agreed that there is a far greater demand for support to strengthen statistics in the Pacific region than there are resources available. SPC SDD has forecast a total of USD208 million to fund all scheduled surveys for the next five years (2019-2023). PNG and Fiji together account for 68 percent of the total budget.

It was acknowledged that development partners can play a very important role in responding to and supporting countries key statistical priorities at a national level, while looking for complementary opportunities for supporting international reporting obligations.

**Resourcing System Leader Role**

SDD informed the meeting that it takes a considerable amount of time and resources for SDD to play the role of a system leader well. Currently this function rests with the Director of SDD supported by her administration staff. With the increasing work-load in and around the system-leader role this function needs to be better resourced going forward.

**Next steps for the DDPG:**

The meeting agreed there was no need for a formal Terms of Reference to outline the DDPG's role.

- The meeting Chair will rotate each meeting. ABS chaired this meeting and DFAT agreed to Chair the next, likely in 2019 following the ABS Pacific Statisticians Leadership Forum.
- As 2018 DDPG Chair, the ABS will report to the PSSC Meeting in November on the outcomes from this inaugural DDPG meeting. In the spirit of coordination, the DDPG was encouraged to present to the PSSC meeting as one group, with one paper (with individual agency reporting covered in the Pacific Regional Statistics Partnership Program document).
- As DDPG Secretariat, SDD will consider an additional meeting for the DDPG, either virtual or back-to-back with an existing meeting (e.g. PSSC).