

Workshop on “Improving Data Dissemination and Use in Pacific Island Countries”: Official Project Launch

Workshop information

Date	5 to 7 November, 2018
Location	Tanoa International Dateline Hotel, Nuku'alofa, Tonga
Host	Government of Tonga
Participants	Government Statisticians and representatives from national statistical agencies of: Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu
Facilitators	Statistics for Development Division, Pacific Community (SPC)
Donor	World Bank through the Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building
Contact	Michael Sharp (michaels@spc.int)

Background

The project titled “Improving data dissemination and use in the Pacific Island countries” is funded by the World Bank, through the Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building, and implemented by SPC’s Statistics for Development Division (SDD) in partnership with SPC Members. The project will run until the end of 2019.

There are three overarching components to the project, including:

- i. *Establishing the Pacific Data Library*: preservation, documentation and anonymization of microdata to facilitate low-risk dissemination in accordance with formal terms of use.
- ii. *Standardisation of census and survey datasets*: development of guidelines to construct harmonised census and survey datasets to populate comparable indicators and to facilitate secondary data analysis.
- iii. *A new sampling strategy for small-island Pacific states*: development of guidelines to improve the efficiency of sampling in small island states in order to balance the conflicting demand for more cost effective data collection while producing high quality disaggregated development statistics.

Each component of the project includes opportunity for participating member countries to be involved in capacity enhancement activities, which will generally cover sample design, and microdata curation, standardisation, analysis and dissemination.

Workshop objectives

The Workshop is designed to provide a high level introduction of the project to Government Statisticians and representatives from national statistical agencies. Particular attention will be given to Components 1 and 2 to ensure that participants are sufficiently briefed in order to make informed decisions throughout the project, particularly surrounding microdata preservation and documentation.

Upon completion of the workshop, we anticipate that each participant will have a rounded understanding of the objectives of the project and the importance of data preservation and documentation. We hope to receive commitment from each participant to formally deposit microdata

and associated metadata to the Pacific Data Library for their long-term preservation. We anticipate to set out a timeline for the next steps of the project, including participation in statistical capacity building initiatives and broadening the project scope beyond core national statistics via engagement of line ministries and non-government organisations in order to provide solutions to ensure long-term preservation and documentation of their microdata. We will also obtain participants feedback on data liberation and to brief participants on the policies and protocols that will be established under the project for low-risk and transparent microdata dissemination.

The meeting agenda is provided below.

Workshop agenda

Time	Item	Facilitator
Monday, 5 November 2018		
10:00	Opening prayer	Epeli
10:05	Welcome remark	Viliami
10:10	Welcome remark and introduction to the workshop and agenda	Ofa
10:20	Round table: introduction by Participants	All
10:30	<i>Morning tea</i>	
11:00	Introduction to the project titled "Improving Data Dissemination and Use in Pacific Island Countries"	Mike
11:30	Round table discussion: NSOs sharing experience in microdata storage, preservation and documentation - Experience from Samoa and Vanuatu	Ofa, Junior (Samoa) and Vanuatu (Rara)
12:30	<i>Lunch</i>	
13:30	Data preservation and curation	Scott
14:30	Data stocktake	Mike
15:00	<i>Afternoon tea</i>	
15:30	Processes involved from data deposit through to data dissemination	Scott
16:30	<i>Workshop close</i>	

Tuesday, 6 November 2018		
09:00	Tonga Statistics Day and project launch	TDOS
12:30	<i>Lunch</i>	
13:30	Data deposit, use and dissemination policy - SDD MOU - Terms of use - Data license agreement	Ofa and Scott
14:30	Policy and protocols for data deposit, anonymization and dissemination	Scott
15:00	<i>Afternoon tea</i>	
15:30	Workshop example: data deposit through to dissemination - Example of the Tokelau 2015 HIES	Scott
16:30	<i>Workshop close</i>	

Wednesday, 7 November 2018		
09:00	Opening prayer	Viliami
09:10	Microdata harmonisation	Mike
09:40	Round table discussion: experiences in data access requests and sharing	Ofa
10:30	<i>Morning tea</i>	

11:00	Data liberation	Mike
11:30	Round table discussion: data liberation	Ofa
11:30	Monitoring and evaluation: citations	Mike
12:30	<i>Lunch</i>	
13:30	Sampling in small island states	Mike
14:00	Next steps and follow up actions	Mike
15:00	<i>Afternoon tea</i>	
15:30	Closing remark and thanks	Ofa
15:45	Farewell to Government Statistician of Fiji	Epeli
16:30	<i>Workshop close</i>	