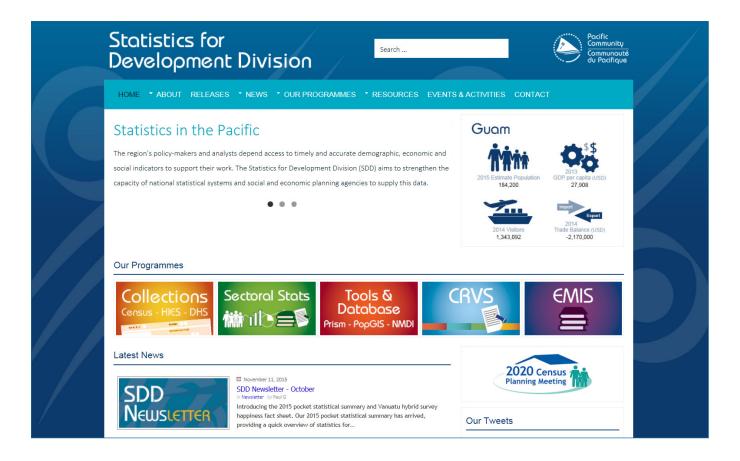
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Introducing our Statistics for Development Division (SDD) refresh website and the 2020 round of censuses.



The new look of the SDD website

One of our goals this year was to refresh the SDD website. After initial discussions on what the new site should deliver, a site plan was developed to reflect the full range of work done within SDD, as well as the resources provided by SDD.

A new site was set up using the latest version of Joomla, and a modern, responsive base template was installed, which was then customised to our new design. We wanted a cleaner layout with a more logical navigation structure, which we think we have achieved. All content was reviewed and revised, including providing updated information about all of the SDD programmes.

The 'Resources' section contains our document library, as well as videos from SDD and our partners. The site went 'live' on on December 1st and can be accessed

at: www.spc.int/sdd. Please have a look around the site and provide us with any feedback through the contact form.

2020 round of censuses

A planning meeting for the 2020 round of population and housing censuses (the decade 2015-2024) in the Pacific was held in July 2015. Lessons learned in executing the 2010 round of censuses (the decade 2005-2014) were incorporated in planning for the 2020 round of censuses. The two main outcomes of the meeting were that countries made 26 recommendations towards improving the next round of census taking, and countries agreed on core and supplemental questions covering various topics. Questions on non-traditional census topics such as information and communications technology (ICT) access and use, agriculture and fisheries, gender and

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2020 Census Planning Meeting participants

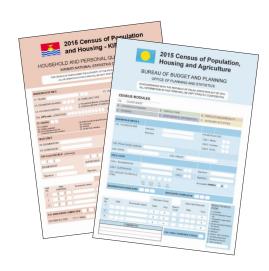
disabilities were considered as core in this round of censuses. Many of these topics were recommended by the United Nations Statistical Commission, and by other specialised organisations. For example, detailed labour force questions were recommended by the International Labour Organization (ILO), while core questions on disability were recommended by the Washington Group.

Standardising the 2020 census questions and processes across the Pacific contributes towards one of the objectives of the Pacific Ten Year Statistics Strategy, to standardise census/survey operations and procedures. This allows direct comparison of census results across countries, within and outside the Pacific. In addition, standardising enables Pacific countries to develop and retain technical expertise, and to assist one another through south-south collaborations.



Palau 2015

The Palau census, conducted in April 2015, was the first Pacific census in the 2020 round of censuses, which was followed by Kiribati in November 2015. In 2016 four Pacific countries will conduct their censuses: Niue in September, Tonga and Samoa in November, and Cook Islands in December.



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Useful links:

www.spc.int/sdd

National Minimum Development Indicators (NMDI) database: www.spc.int/nmdi