

Annex IV _PSSC-12 Agenda 3.1

| TYPSS Objectives | TYPSS Activity Focus | PFTAC + IMF Strategic Plan | Activity | In train/ completed in 2015/16 | Planned for 2016/2017 |
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| Objective 1 Pacific island countries and territories have the technical capacity (either in-house capacity or through timely accessible technical support), to manage and implement all core statistical collections, including key administrative databases, as required by national development plans, including national strategies for the development of statistics (NSDS). | Activity Focus 1.1 Support to core (ongoing) collections | The overall objective is to help members develop more timely and reliable macroeconomic datasets based on enhanced source data. This support is undertaken within the framework of the regional TYPSS. | | | |
| | Activity Focus 1.2 Support in integration, quality and increased use of administrative stats (largely for economic statistics) | | <i>All PFTAC activities as listed under Objective 1 also support 2.1 Capacity building.</i> | National accounts and price statistics technical assistance (TA) Cook Islands – further TA was conducted to improve estimates of GDP by production and to train the new NA compiler, mainly in the benchmarking process and the use of VAT data. Annual tax data are set to be used to assist in rebasing the accounts in due course. Fiji – further assistance was provided in the development of Supply and Use tables (SUTs). Additionally, earlier identified errors in the production estimates were corrected and discrepancies between national accounts and external sector statistics were resolved. Aggregates from the 2011 SUTs now align with government finance statistics (GFS). Work to | PFTAC's new baseline budget for Phase V provides scope for only one statistics advisor, who will continue to focus on improving real sector statistics. To cover the essential elements of the workload previously covered by two such advisors (one of whom retired end-April), greater use will be made of short-term experts. Alongside ad hoc and specific training and supplementation work in the smaller PICs, the main focuses of the work will be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) making use of tax and other administrative data to supplement or replace existing surveys and old models (ii) Rebasing; most of the PICs base years are now around 10 years old, meaning that existing constant price estimates are based on now inaccurate weights by economic activity |

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| | | | | <p>produce quarterly GDP estimates continues</p> <p>Kiribati – progress was made in incorporating budget data, public corporations financial accounts and data from NEPO, and estimates for 2014 were produced; future use of VAT data in GDP estimates is anticipated.</p> <p>PNG – review of, and amendments to the work plan PFTAC previously helped to devise with the NSO. Advice was provided to the ABS consultants posted in July on the use of tax data to estimate GDP by production and corrections were made to results derived from the HIES.</p> <p>Niue – PFTAC provided NA and also BoP supplementation as in previous years to produce the latest estimates. Broad and substantive improvements were made to estimates from 2008 onwards, in particular on the government side. Consumption tax data for use in GDP estimation were received at the end of the last mission and are set to be incorporated in future estimates</p> <p>Samoa – both PFTAC advisors conducted a preliminary review of proposed estimates of GDP by expenditure, which are at an advanced internal stage. PFTAC recommended the NSO publishes annual estimates initially and ensures these are firmly</p> | <p>(iii) Improved use of HIES data, crucial for informal production and household expenditure estimates. In some countries little analysis has taken place of latest HIES results, let alone usage, while in others improvements and corrections are needed.</p> <p>Subject to securing additional funding, it is hoped that a second long-term advisor will be appointed in November, but specializing in government finance statistics rather than national accounts. In the meantime, in the post-JSA vacuum, GFS missions have been scheduled for the Cook Islands, Fiji, FSM, Palau, RMI, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, to be staffed by short-term experts.</p> <p>TA provision on external sector statistics is expected to be more limited in the post-JSA world. For the coming financial year, PFTAC has scheduled missions to the Cook Islands, Nauru, PNG and Tonga, in agreement with IMF HQ and based on statistical need rather than IMF membership (only the Cook Islands is a non-member in this group). A national accounts mission to Niue is also scheduled, during which time some BoP work will be undertaken. Further discussions with IMF HQ, PFTAC donors and other regional TA providers will be required to assess what level of ESS provision can be provided and under which (coordinated) modalities.</p> |

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| | | | | <p>reconciled with production before looking to produce quarterly estimates</p> <p>Solomon Islands – much work was carried out to rebase GDP by production from 2004 to 2012. Methods were improved for the informal sector and various substantive errors were identified in historical series. At least one further mission will be required to complete the task.</p> <p>Tonga – prior work on the use of income and consumption tax data was significantly advanced. A much more comprehensive data set now held by the NSO was analyzed and processed to form estimates of GDP by production that should replace outdated value-added ratio methods in due course, after further refinements have been made</p> <p>Tokelau – PFTAC provided its first ever TA while in Apia. Both advisors worked with government officials to set out an initial approach to producing the first GDP estimates for over 30 years, using mainly government accounting data.</p> <p>Tuvalu – remote work was conducted with the visiting NA compiler which focused on guiding/supplementing the compiler in processing government accounts and national provident fund</p> | |

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| | | | | <p>data to produce preliminary GDP estimates for 2013 and 2014.</p> <p>A course was held in PNG for local participants and also statisticians from Fiji, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu, which focused on the use of HIES data and the techniques involved in rebasing the national accounts which is important to maintain the accuracy of economic growth measures.</p> <p>A follow-up course was held in Pohnpei for the Northern Pacific countries (Marshall Islands, Micronesia, and Palau) which continued to focus on building staff capacity, and improving the methodology by introducing additional data sources including the results of recent business surveys. These courses enable these countries to reach their next milestones by removing existing methodological deficiencies and moving towards more up-to-date base years for their constant price measures.</p> <p>A third course was hosted in Fiji where PFTAC combined with the SPC to train regional price statisticians on two important aspects of index compilation—quality adjustment and item substitution. An on-going problem throughout the region has been the lack of a simple index compilation program which compilers can use and understand so PFTAC provided training on an index compilation program developed by the IMF and now used in a number of countries in</p> | |

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| | | | | <p>other regions which it is hoped will help address this issue.</p> <p>External Sector Statistics The JSA project concluded in mid-2015; PFTAC has continued to provide limited assistance in the region on BoP to IMF non-members, including specific missions to the Cook Islands and Nauru, where methods were improved and latest estimates were produced, as well as basic BoP work in Niue while on NA missions.</p> <p>Government Finance Statistics Again, the JSA project concluded in mid-2015, which had focused on improving GFS in the Melanesian countries, after which TA provision was put on brief hiatus. Until then, missions were conducted in Fiji, Solomon Islands, PNG, and Vanuatu, including work to adjust methods in line with GFSM 2014 and to publish annual estimates. Further assistance was also provided to the northern countries (FSM, Palau, and RMI).</p> | |
| | Activity Focus 1.3 Support to social statistics | | | | |

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| Objective 2 Pacific island countries and territories are producing the agreed core of statistics across key sectors including but not restricted to economics, population, CRVS, education and health, as required by their national plans and agreed-upon regional and international reporting frameworks as required by the national development plans, with timely analysis and dissemination of results to national users | Activity Focus 2.1 Support to NSO capacity building efforts | | | | |
| | Activity Focus 2.2 Improved analysis and dissemination of statistics | | | | |

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| Objective 3 All countries and territories have in place some form of national statistics strategy or plan in line with their national development strategies | Activity Focus 3.1 NSDS design and implementation | | | | |
| | Activity Focus 3.2 Development of national statistical priorities | | | | |

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| Objective 4 National level statistics stakeholders are advised on an ongoing basis about emerging statistical tools and systems, processes for effective data analysis, communication and quality assurance and Pacific interaction and proposed responses to international statistical standards | Activity Focus 4.1 Core statistical systems ¹ | | | | |
| | Activity Focus 4.2 Added value in analysis and reporting ² | | | | |
| | Activity Focus 4.3 Added value in decision-making ³ | | | | |

¹ Outputs proposed by Friend of the Chair (Note: no Outputs were included in the Phase II Interim Activity Plan)

² Outputs proposed by Friend of the Chair (Note: no Outputs were included in the Phase II Interim Activity Plan)

³ Outputs proposed by Friend of the Chair (Note: no Outputs were included in the Phase II Interim Activity Plan)

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| Objective 5 National and regional statistics governance is functioning effectively | Activity Focus 5.1 Statistics advocacy support (regional level) | | | | |
| | Activity Focus 5.2 Statistics advocacy support (national level) | | | | |
| | Activity Focus 5.3 TA inputs are in line with country and territory priorities, transparent and are delivered efficiently across the region | | | | |
| | Activity Focus 5.4 Pacific leaders receive recommendations about priorities for statistical collections at national and regional level with accompanying data about resource and technology requirements | | | | |
| | Activity 5.5 TYPSS Phase II operates in a coordinated and efficient manner with the best use being made of available technical assistance and informed progress assessment being made available to PSSC | | | | |