



Tanoa Waterfront Hotel, Lautoka, Fiji Islands
1st – 2nd June, 2016

PSSC-12 Agenda 9.4

Meeting Paper Title: Gender Statistics

1. Purpose of Paper

To share information on regional activities to improve the collection and compilation of gender statistics.

2. Introduction / Background

2.1. The Social Development Programme (SDP) of SPC is implementing the Progressing Gender Equality in the Pacific 2013-2018 (PGEPP) programme, funded by the Commonwealth of Australia. Through this funding SPC has increased support for PICs in implementing gender mainstreaming across government and monitoring progress towards achieving gender equality.

2.2. The SDP Gender Statistics Advisor works closely with the Statistics for Development Division and National Statistics Offices (NSOs) mainly through:

- Participating in technical working groups and forums for household surveys as well as providing technical support in other areas such as gender analysis of education statistics;
- Preparing gender profiles from household surveys and compiling statistics for reports to monitor progress for the implementation of national gender equality policies; and
- Preparing and delivering user-friendly materials to increase capacity of NSOs, national gender departments/offices and gender mainstreaming focal points across government to improve gender statistics literacy and dissemination.

2.3. The Gender Statistics Advisor provides assistance to national gender focal points across PIC governments for 'gender specific' monitoring and evaluation and associated progress reporting as part of gender mainstreaming mentoring, training and technical assistance. This is to ensure that policy, planning and reporting processes use sex disaggregated data and gender statistics at all stages of the development, implementation and review processes. This work relies on a responsive NSO and broader NSS with a mandate to collect, compile and

disseminate gender statistics (through legislation, corporate plans, annual reports or statistical development strategies).

2.4. The Gender Statistics Advisor works closely with the gender team in SDP to assist PICs mainstream gender equality and the empowerment of women across plans, policies, programs etc across the whole of government. The Gender Statistics Advisor also provides technical assistance for broader SDP programme activities such as supporting PICs to produce sex-disaggregated cultural industries statistics and data analysis for youth policy frameworks. SDP publications are available online in the SPC digital library in the gender collection¹, and these outputs can be grouped as:

- **Policy briefs:** Such as 'transforming power relations: equal status of women and men at the family level in the Pacific' released for International Women's Day; 'how to create effective charts for sex disaggregated education data' used for SDD education statistics training workshops/attachments;
- **Progress towards gender equality:** 'gender equality: where do we stand?' publications for Cook Islands, Solomon Islands (and more in the pipeline)
- **Gender profiles:** Palau HIES 2013/14 Gender Profile;
- **Guides and tools:** 'guide to gender statistics and their presentation' and the companion Excel workbook with chart templates to use.

3. Key Developments

3.1. Since PSSC-11 the following key developments are relevant for Heads of NSOs attention:

3.2. **Country Gender Statistics Action Plans:** Countries are working with SDP and SDD to finalise country gender statistics action plans, to inform SPC and regional agency work and activity plans for the next two years; notably the support provided to countries by the Gender Statistics Advisor. The gender statistics action plans contain key objectives for both official statistics and statistics derived for gender policy monitoring and evaluation.

3.3. **Gender statistics in the NMDI:** SDP and SDD is providing support to countries to collect, compile and disseminate the tier 1 indicators from the UN Minimum Set of Gender Indicators; as yet very little progress has been made on disseminating these statistics through the NMDI internet portal.

3.4. **2020 Round Population and Housing Census Planning:** Providing country focal points ongoing support for consultations on national questionnaire contents including proposed standard outputs for work (paid and unpaid) and employment.

¹ <http://www.spc.int/DigitalLibrary/HDP/Collection/Gender>

3.5. **Sustainable Development Goals:** informing and participating in regional meetings; for example the information paper prepared for the recent UNESCAP workshop on 'sex-disaggregated data for the SDG indicators in Asia and the Pacific: what and how?'.

3.6. **UN Expert Group on Gender Statistics:** attended meeting in late 2015 to discuss final revisions to the sustainable development goal indicators, review progress in the UNSD global gender statistics programme and the technical working groups looking at thematic areas such as time use and family violence statistics.

3.7. **Summary of in-country activities:** Over the last six months:

- **Training/capacity building in gender statistics:** Tonga, Palau, Solomon Islands, Cook Islands, FSM
- **Training/capacity building in progress reporting for gender equality:** Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Cook Islands, Marshall Islands
- **Training/capacity building in data analysis for gender statistics:** Palau (HIES data analysis workshop), Solomon Islands, Cook Islands

4. Key Recommendations

4.1. **PIC gender statistics:** SPC assist countries to ensure the UN Minimum Set of Gender Indicators (tier I) are available and updated on NSO websites; first priority to make sure next round of Census outputs (tabulation report and summary indicators) include the UN Minimum Set.

4.2. **Gender statistics focal point members of PSSC technical working groups:** include gender statistics as one of the cross cutting components of Phase 2 of the Ten Year Pacific Statistics Strategy (TYPSS) in the main areas of generating demand for official statistics, increased focus on data analysis and dissemination and definitions and standards. This would be achieved through gender statistics representatives as members of various technical working groups reporting to the PSSC.