

## Statistics for Development Division (SDD)

### 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference of Heads of Planning and Statistics (HOPS6)

(Noumea, New Caledonia, 03–05 October 2023)

#### SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Working paper 1 – Update on current state of Pacific statistics and progress on outcomes since HOPS5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recognise the positive progress made in Pacific statistics development since 2017 and commend national statistics systems, development partners and donors for their efforts to achieve this.</li> <li>2. Note that statistical systems in the Pacific still perform poorly by world standards, with incomplete and infrequent data sources and lack of foundational infrastructure.</li> <li>3. Direct SPC to work with the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and Forum members to seek an active discussion of the state of statistics and necessary response, at the Forum Economic Ministers' Meeting (FEMM) in 2024.</li> </ol>
Working paper 2 – Strategic Framework for Pacific Statistics 2022–2030	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Approve the Strategic Framework for Pacific Statistics 2022–2030 as the guiding compass for statistical development in the region;</li> <li>5. Promote implementation of the strategic framework by all Pacific Island countries and territories, donors and development partners and encourage support to be channelled to the five key focus areas;</li> <li>6. Thank statistics leaders and stakeholders across the Pacific for their strong contributions to the development of the strategic framework through the evaluation of the Ten-Year Pacific Strategy for Statistics (TYPSS) 2011–2020, consultation on drafts and discussions at regional meetings;</li> <li>7. Note the work underway by SPC, countries and partners to implement the strategic framework; and,</li> <li>8. Endorse the SPC Statistics for Development Division Business Plan 2022–2026.</li> </ol>
Working paper 3 – Pacific Census – Lessons Learnt	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. Note the progress made on the implementation and development of CAPI through the work programme of SPC. The enhanced use of technology and innovative approaches can improve census operations and outcomes. Use of CAPI has simplified data collection, enabled the opportunity to better assess data quality, and provided more timely availability of results.</li> <li>10. Note the importance of ensuring appropriate lead-up times allocated to census preparation and include plans to undertake a household listing, proper pre-testing of questionnaires and testing of procedures as part of a pilot census prior to census enumeration phase.</li> </ol>

	<p>11. Note the importance of having an inclusive, consultative approach when conducting such huge national exercise so all parties involved are aware of their key responsibility areas towards expected outcomes.</p> <p>12. Recommend that post-enumeration surveys be undertaken to ensure user confidence in the census data quality in the 2030 round of censuses.</p>
Working paper 4 – 2023 Action Plan for Pacific Civil Registration and Vital Statistics	<p>13. Acknowledge the range of activities being carried out across the Pacific by members of the Brisbane Accord Group to strengthen civil registration and vital statistics as detailed in the annex, in particular work by the Pacific Community on cause-of-death reporting, and system interoperability and data sharing.</p> <p>14. Endorse the Brisbane Accord Group’s Action Plan for Civil Registration and Vital Statistics 2023–2026.</p> <p>15. Encourage stronger collaboration across country-level agencies and partner agencies to improve civil registration completeness, and to ensure civil registration data can be used for statistical purposes.</p>
Working paper 5 – Regional Cause of Death Coding Approach	<p>16. support ongoing initiatives to establish a Regional Coding Support Team that would provide technical support to countries (as needed) in coding of causes of death and facilitating south–south, peer-to-peer training and mentorship.</p> <p>17. promote the concept of a regional approach to cause-of-death coding support to all Pacific Island countries and territories, donors and development partners.</p> <p>18. note the work underway and the next steps to be taken towards a regional coding support approach.</p> <p>19. thank the Brisbane Accord Group for their contribution to date towards strengthening cause-of-death certification and coding across the Pacific.</p>
Working paper 6 – The Pacific Data Hub and the Regional Dissemination Strategy: Achievements, reflections and the path ahead	<p>20. Note the significant progress in establishing and scaling up the Pacific Data Hub as a regional data dissemination platform.</p> <p>21. Ask SPC to revise the Regional Data Dissemination Strategy to allow for developments since 2019 including COVID-19 and consistency with the Strategic Framework for Pacific Statistics (2022–2030)</p> <p>22. Encourage member engagement in the Pacific Data Hub, particularly the PDH.stat indicator database and PDH Microdata Library as mechanisms to improve access to timely aggregate indicators and micro data sets that are critical for evidence-based decision making.</p>
Working paper 7 – The Pacific Roadmap for Gender Statistics	<p>23. Endorse the Pacific Roadmap on Gender Statistics and recommend its adoption by governments and development partners in the Pacific region.</p> <p>24. Encourage Pacific Island governments to reflect on the performance of their gender statistics production and use and begin or continue work towards enhancing the production and use of gender data, in line with national priorities.</p>
Working paper 8 – Progress and Future of Regional Planning and Statistics Governance	<p>25. Note the progress and lessons learnt on hosting of regional statistics governance meetings.</p> <p>26. Discuss and consider options proposed in this paper on the future arrangements of HOPS meetings, including reaffirming its role and priorities and options on anticipated future needs in relation to the</p>

	<p>regional planning landscape (including the 2050 Implementation Plan) and whether a separate subgroup is needed for planners.</p> <p>27. Approve the updated TORs for the HOPS, Pacific Statistics Standing Committee (PSSC), the Pacific Statistics Methods Board (PSMB) and the Donor and Development Partner Group (DDPG).</p>
Working paper 9 – Pacific Statistics Strategic Capability Framework	<p>28. Provide feedback on the key focus areas that have been identified to date and the proposed principles and action areas; and share their views on what has worked and what hasn't in the past through facilitated group discussions in the HOPS session.</p> <p>29. Agree that the Pacific Statistics Steering Committee should monitor progress through a standing agenda item on capacity development outcomes, outputs and activity levels.</p>
Working paper 10 – Modernisation of Official Statistics	<p>30. Encourage PICTs to undertake “modernisation maturity assessments” and collaborate on the adoption of key standards supporting modernisation of official statistics.</p> <p>31. Endorse the development of a high-level “Pacific Roadmap for the Modernisation of Official Statistics”.</p>

### Interactive sessions: request of members

Information Paper 1: Strengthening Pacific Planning and Collaboration for coherent national, regional and international reporting	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. discuss several open-ended questions on strengthening Pacific planning and collaboration for coherent national, regional and international reporting as specified on the ‘way forward’ section.</li> <li>2. deliberate in considering the open questions on how the HOPS platform may better meet the needs of planners in the future.</li> </ol>
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