

Communique of the 12th Pacific Statistics Steering Committee Meeting

Heads of national statistical organisations (NSOs) in the Pacific, together with development partners, met on June 1 – 2 in Lautoka, Fiji at the 12th Pacific Statistics Steering Committee meeting.

Discussions covered a wide range of issues of common interest. Key outcomes from the meeting included:

1. Acknowledgement of the significant progress that continues to be made across the region in strengthening the range, quality and timeliness of official statistics. In particular, participants noted the progress made in civil registration statistics; the incorporation of new data sources in statistical systems; and the innovative use of new technologies in enhancing the availability and usefulness of statistics in policy making—for example, in the recovery from cyclone Pam in Vanuatu.
2. Agreement on measures to strengthen the implementation of the Ten Year Pacific Statistics Strategy (TYPSS). These include refinement of a statistical framework for monitoring and evaluating statistical capacity development in countries across the region; and initiation of an assessment of the scope for adopting standardised regional methods, tools, and data management in for major data collections.
3. Agreement on actions to support monitoring and implementation of the sustainable development goals (SDGs) and SAMOA pathway agreed in 2014. The meeting focused in particular on supporting the implementation process agreed by regional leaders, including through taking stock of the adequacy of existing data collections and establishing clear statistical priorities.
4. Agreement on the importance of measuring disability for public policy and endorsed the Washington Group, recognising the use and potential of existing census and surveys.

The 12th PSSC meeting in Lautoka, Fiji was chaired by the Vanuatu Government Statistician, Simil Johnson, Nauru Government Director of Statistics, Ipia Gadapu and Cook Islands National Statistician, Taggy Tangimetua.

For further information, please see www.typss.org or www.facebook.com/pacificstats/