

## MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

**TO :** Representatives of Governments and Administrations of Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Timor Leste **No. :** 15/31

**FILE :** PRO 127/2 **DATE :** 31 August 2015

**SUBJECT:** **WORKSHOP ON STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES STATISTICS FOR THE PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRIES, NADI, FIJI, 5 - 8 OCTOBER 2015**

1. I am pleased to announce that the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the UN is hosting a joint workshop on “Strategic Planning for Agriculture and Fisheries Statistics in the Pacific Island Countries” from 5-8 October 2015 in Nadi, Fiji.

### WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

2. The workshop will take stock of the current situation of agricultural and fisheries statistics in the Pacific with a view to developing a shared vision on scope and coverage of a proposed Pacific Strategic Plan for Agricultural and Rural Statistics. It will also share the latest methodological developments brought out by FAO with the framework of the Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics and the World Programme of Census of Agriculture 2020 which will relate to the period 2016-25. Recent work carried out by Pacific countries on agricultural and fisheries statistics will also be presented.

### BACKGROUND

3. The availability and quality of statistics on agriculture, forestry, livestock and fisheries have been declining globally at the same time as data to inform policies on food security, sustainable livelihoods and national development is increasingly in demand.
4. The Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics (GS) initiative is the outcome of an international effort endorsed by the UN Statistical Commission and is implemented in the Asia Pacific region by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). The GS aims to rebuild the capacities of statistical systems producing agricultural statistics to meet the core and emerging data requirements and to monitor the sustainable development goals.

5. Implementation of the GS in Asia Pacific is guided by a Regional Action Plan (RAP) for Asia and the Pacific (RAP) with an initial target to reach 20 countries by 2017. Since 2013, considerable experience has been gained and lessons learnt on the implementation of the RAP in Samoa and Fiji. However, it is recognised that within the resources of the GS it may not be possible to reach out to all countries in the Pacific by 2017.
6. The overarching framework for statistics work in the Pacific Islands is provided by the Ten Year Pacific Statistics Strategy (TYPSS). The emphasis of the TYPSS is on employing regional solutions to address national statistical development challenges. There are significant areas of overlap between the goals of TYPSS and the GS but despite this, agricultural statistics remains a weak area for many Pacific countries.
7. In this context FAO and SPC are convening this workshop so that Pacific islands can be aware of the latest methodological developments in agricultural statistics globally and within the Pacific. Furthermore, a consultation will be held with Pacific islands on the establishment of a Pacific Strategic Plan for Agricultural and Fisheries Statistics, which would enable Pacific Islands to benefit from greater technical assistance, research and capacity building on agricultural statistics in the longer term.

#### **DATES**

8. The workshop on Agricultural and Fisheries Statistics is to be held from 5 - 8 October 2015.

#### **VENUE**

9. The meeting will be held in Nadi, Fiji Islands with details to be provided in due course.

#### **PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

10. The provisional agenda for the workshop is attached as **Annex 1**.

#### **WORKSHOP SPONSORS/ORGANISERS**

11. The workshop is co-funded by the European Union funded Pacific Agriculture Policy Project (PAPP) implemented by SPC and the technical assistance component of the Regional Action Plan for the Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics being implemented by FAO.

#### **PARTICIPANTS**

12. The workshop is aimed at senior technical staff within Ministries of Agriculture and Fisheries and National Statistics Offices who are responsible for the planning and management of collection of agricultural and fisheries statistics. Resource persons from other relevant agencies and development partners will also be invited directly by SPC and FAO to the meeting.

#### **NOMINATION OF PARTICIPANTS**

13. Two participants are invited from each country:
  - One participant from the national statistics office/bureau for statistics;
  - One from the ministry responsible for either agriculture or fisheries.
14. All nominations should be sent directly to Ms LaTanya Gwilliam, SPC PAPP Project Assistant copying Ms Anna Fink, SPC PAPP Agricultural Statistician **by 11 September 2015** with a copy of the nominee's passport biodata. The nomination form is provided in Annex 2.

## TRAVEL AND FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

15. The workshop organisers will provide the following for nominated participants:
- i. A return air ticket on economy class by the most direct and economical route to Nadi, Fiji Islands. All tickets must be used as issued or authorised by the organisers. Any other extra costs or fees will be at the participant's cost.
  - ii. An allowance at SPC rate to cover food and accommodation for the nights spent in transit to and from Nadi, Fiji Islands on the basis of the travel itinerary provided by the organisers. Receipts and boarding passes must be presented when collecting your allowance.
  - iii. An allowance at SPC rate to cover incidentals in Nadi, Fiji Islands according to applicable rates established by the organisers. Again, boarding passes are also collected for the release of this allowance.
  - iv. The workshop organisers will be responsible for reservation and payment of hotel rooms for sponsored participants. Names of participants should be sent **by 11 September 2015** (No. 13) for early confirmation of room reservations. No payment will be made to participants who wish to stay elsewhere unless approved by the organisers. Any extra costs occurred will be at the participants cost. Non-sponsored participants are asked to make their own hotel bookings at any of the authorised hotels or other hotels of their choice.
16. Participants transiting in other cities en-route to Nadi or from Nadi should make their own arrangements for accommodation and airport transfers which should be in the range of allowances set by the organisers.
17. In order to facilitate communications, agreement is sought for the workshop organisers to correspond directly with intending participants once their nominations are received. Unless we are advised otherwise, we will assume that this arrangement is acceptable. **All participants are required to submit all inward and outward boarding passes as well as accommodation receipts in transit to and from Nadi. Please ensure to keep all travel documents.**

## ACCOMMODATION

18. The workshop organisers will be responsible for reservation and payment of hotel rooms in Nadi, Fiji for sponsored participants (No. 14 – iv).

## LANGUAGE

19. The meeting will be conducted in English.

## VISA REQUIREMENTS

20. Participants should ascertain with their travel agents the requirements for a visa to enter Fiji Islands including those required for transit travel. Note that passports must be valid for six months for entry into Fiji Islands.

## INSURANCE

21. It should be noted that SPC does not insure participants whilst attending and travelling to and from the workshop, and will not be responsible for any expenses arising out of sickness, injury, other disability, or loss of life.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

22. Enquiries for further information on the workshop should be addressed to:

***Ms Anna Fink***  
Agricultural Statistician  
Pacific Agriculture Policy Project  
Land Resources Division  
Secretariat of the Pacific Community  
Private Mail Bag, Suva, Fiji Islands  
Tel: (689) 3379 421  
Email: [annaf@spc.int](mailto:annaf@spc.int)

23. Enquiries on workshop logistics (accommodation, travel etc.) should be addressed to:

Ms LaTanya Gwilliam  
Project Assistant  
PAPP – Land Resources Division  
Secretariat of the Pacific Community  
Private Mail Bag, Suva, Fiji Islands  
Tel: (679) 3370 733 Ext: 35423; Direct: +679 3379 423  
Email: [LaTanyaG@spc.int](mailto:LaTanyaG@spc.int)

24. Proposals for technical contributions or technical clarification should be addressed to:

Allan Nicholls  
Coordinator  
Regional Secretariat for Asia and the Pacific  
Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics  
39, Phra Arthit Road, Bangkok 100200, Thailand  
Tel: (662) 697 400 Ext. 4165 Fax: (662) 697 4445  
Email: [Allan.Nicholls@fao.org](mailto:Allan.Nicholls@fao.org)



**Cameron Diver**  
Deputy Director-General

Attach.

Original text: English

**ANNEX 1****TENTATIVE AGENDA**

<b><i>Day 1: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2015</i></b>	
08:30-09:00	<b>Registration</b>
09:00-09:30	<b>Opening session</b>
09:30-10:30	<b>Session 1: Statistics for Pacific Agriculture Policy Making</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pacific context and demand from agricultural policy for statistics (SPC)</li> <li>• TYPSS and agricultural statistics</li> </ul>
10:30-11:00	<b>Tea break</b>
11:00-12:30	<b>Session 2: Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An overview of the Global Strategy for Agricultural and Rural Statistics (FAO)</li> <li>• Capacity assessment framework for the Global Strategy and findings of the FAO 2011 baseline survey (FAO)</li> <li>• Experience of capacity assessment in FSM (FAO)</li> </ul>
12:30-13:30	<b>Lunch break</b>
13:30-15:00	<b>Session 2: (ctd.)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guidelines to conduct In-depth Country Assessments</li> <li>• Guidelines on Strategic Plans for Agricultural and Rural Strategies</li> <li>• GS implementation experience in the Pacific (Samoa and Fiji)</li> </ul>
15:00-15:30	<b>Tea break</b>
15:30-17:00	<b>Session 3: Pacific strategic plan for agricultural and fisheries statistics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion on proposed regional level plan for agricultural and fisheries statistics</li> </ul>
<b><i>Day 2: Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2015</i></b>	
09:00-10:30	<b>Session 4: Assessing Country Capacity to produce agriculture and fisheries statistics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction and training on completing abridged country assessment questionnaires</li> </ul>
10:30-11:00	<b>Tea break</b>
11:00-12:30	<b>Session 5: Linkage between NSDS and SPARS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrating agriculture into National Statistical Systems (FAO)</li> <li>• Linkage between National Statistics Development Strategies (NSDS) and SPARS</li> <li>• Pacific country experience in development of NSDS</li> </ul>
12:30-13:30	<b>Lunch break</b>
13:30-15:00	<b>Session 6: Global developments in agriculture and fisheries statistics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Global strategy research outputs and methodologies (FAO)</li> <li>• Introduction to AGRIS (agriculture integrated survey concept) (FAO)</li> </ul>
15:00-15:30	<b>Tea break</b>
15:30-17:00	<b>Session 7: Regional development in agriculture and fisheries statistics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dissemination of statistics/POPGis (SPC)</li> <li>• Use of Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (SPC)</li> <li>• Household income and expenditure survey for agriculture and fisheries statistics (SPC)</li> </ul>

<b>Day 3: Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2015</b>	
09:00-10:30	<b>Session 7 (ctd)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of household income and expenditure surveys (HIES) for agriculture and fisheries statistics (SPC)</li> <li>• HIES for food security analysis (FAO)</li> <li>• Population census for agricultural and fisheries statistics (SPC/FAO)</li> </ul>
10:30-11:00	<b>Tea break</b>
11:00-12:30	<b>Session 8: Agricultural census as the main pillar of agricultural statistics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New features of the FAO World Programme of Census of Agriculture 2020</li> <li>• Agriculture Census in FSM (FSM)</li> <li>• Experience of agricultural census in another Pacific island (TBD)</li> </ul>
12:30-13:30	<b>Lunch break</b>
13:30-15:00	<b>Session 9: Fisheries statistics in the Pacific</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update on guidelines for fisheries and aquaculture statistics (FAO)</li> <li>• TBD</li> </ul>
15:00-15:30	<b>Tea break</b>
15:30-17:00	<b>Session 10: Roundtable on Pacific regional strategy for agricultural and fisheries statistics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group discussion, format TBD</li> </ul>
<b>Day 4: Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October</b>	
09:00-10:30	<b>Session 10: Draft roadmap to Regional Strategy for agricultural and fisheries statistics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group discussion, format TBD</li> </ul>
10:30-11:00	<b>Tea break</b>
11:00-12:30	<b>Session 10 (ctd)</b>
12:30-13:30	<b>Lunch break</b>
13:30-15:00	<b>Concluding session:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conclusions and recommendations for regional strategy for agricultural and fisheries statistics</li> </ul>



**NOMINATION FORM**

**Meeting Title:** Workshop on Strategic Planning for Agriculture and Fisheries Statistics for the Pacific Island Countries  
**Venue:** Nadi, Fiji  
**Date:** 5 – 8 October 2015  
**Organiser:** SPC-LRD Pacific Agriculture Policy Programme (PAPP) and FAO

**PART 1: To be completed by or on behalf of Governments- Administrations and/or Organisations**

**Name & Title of Supervisor (form should be endorsed by Supervisor)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title/Designation</b>	
<b>Approval &amp; Signature</b>		<b>Date</b>

**Department-Ministry-Organisation**

<b>Name of Department-Ministry-Organisation</b>		<b>Address</b>	
<b>Phone No.</b>	<b>Fax No.</b>	<b>E-mail</b>	

**Name & Title of Representative or Meeting Participant**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title/Designation</b>	
<b>Address &amp; Contact details (if different from above)</b>		<b>E-mail</b>

**PART 2: To be completed by the Participant**

<b>Full Name of Representative/Workshop Trainee</b>		<b>Personal Details</b> <b>It is a requirement that copies of the bio-data pages of your passport be submitted together with this form.</b>	
<b>Phone No. or Mobile:</b>	<b>Fax No.</b>	<b>E-mail</b>	
<b>Person to contact in case of any Emergency:</b>		<b>PLEASE: give full details- name, phone, fax and e-mail:</b>	
<b>Special dietary requirements (if any)</b>		<b>Name to appear on Name Tag:</b>	

**PLEASE FAX OR EMAIL YOUR COMPLETED FORM ASAP TO THE SPC SECRETARIAT, SUVA, FIJI.**

**Fax No. (679) 3370 021. For further information, please phone/email: [annaf@spc.int](mailto:annaf@spc.int) Tel: (679) 3370 733 ext: 35421 or [Latanyag@spc.int](mailto:Latanyag@spc.int) Tel: (679) 3370 733 ext 35423**