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PAPP  
Pacific Agriculture Policy Project



# PACIFIC STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN FOR AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERY STATISTICS (P-SPAFS):

## OUTCOME DOCUMENT FOR THE FIRST MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

### Overview

The following document records the key conclusions and outcomes of the Pacific Strategic Action Plan for Agricultural and Fishery Statistics (P-SPAFS) first technical working group (TWG) meeting. The meeting was held on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of April in Lami, Fiji. The meeting was co-organised by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Pacific Community (SPC) and was attended by the seven members of the Technical Working Group from the Cook Islands, Samoa, Vanuatu, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, FSM and Tonga.

The overall objective of the TWG was to gain guidance on the structure, coverage and steps for development of the P-SPAFS. This objective was achieved over the course of the two days. Specific achievements included:

1. ToR for the Working Group finalised and agreed upon.
2. Roadmap for the P-SPAFS including activities and timelines for development and endorsement of the P-SPAFS was agreed upon and finalised
3. The vision, mission and objectives of the P-SPAF was agreed upon
4. The Secretariat of the TWG received detailed advice on suggested activities under the agreed upon objectives
5. Timelines, scope and coverage of the P-SPAFS was agreed upon and finalised

Each session of the agenda was designed to address a specific question on the Roadmap for the P-SPAFS and a zero draft of the strategy itself. This document provides the key conclusions and agreements for each session.

### Conclusions and agreements from the sessions

#### Session 1: Welcome and Introduction

- Participants were reminded of the background work conducted so far and also the ultimate objective of the P-SPAFS i.e. evidence based policy in the agricultural and fishery sectors.
- The agenda and specific objectives of the TWG were presented and participant introductions conducted.

## Session 2: ToR for the TWG

### **Key conclusions/agreements**

*This session looked at the proposed wording of the ToR in the Roadmap for the P-SPAFS with the objective of agreeing on the roles and responsibilities of the TWG members. The following agreements were made:*

- Change wording from 'endorsement' of documents by TWG members to 'clearance' since they don't have the mandate to formally endorse documents prepared through this working group.
- Combine points on how documents will be cleared to include the responsibility of sharing documents with national colleagues.
- Add wording on timeliness of responses from the TWG

**Outcome:** TOR for TWG finalised and cleared by TWG with amendments

## Session 3: Vision, Mission & Objectives of the P-SPAFS

### **Key conclusions/agreements**

*This session looked at the proposed vision, mission and objectives of the P-SPAFS in order to agree on the wording and intention behind the words. The following agreements were made:*

- Remove the word 'sustainable' from natural resources. The goal is to support sustainable natural resource use but we will collect info on sustainable and unsustainable practices.
- It is ambitious to cover users and producers. Users and producers are not working well together currently BUT it is the appropriate way forward. 'If we don't try when will it happen?'
- There are also some promising signs of coordinated working: (e.g. current HIES methodology, working groups on post disaster needs assessment, example of Samoa, (the fact that we are all in this meeting) where this is beginning to work.
- Integration of agricultural statistics into the national statistical system is a valid objective but further discussion is required on specifically how that would be achieved.
- Separate objective on capacity building is good as it highlights the importance and also fits with Ten Year Pacific Statistics Strategy (TYPSS) and Global Strategy to improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics (GS).
- Should add the word 'sustained' to the capacity building objective to show we're looking at long term capacity building (even though unlikely to be long term technical assistance per se).

Additional points:

There was some discussion/questions around how to deal with countries which don't have a NSDS for objective B and how countries will sign-up to activities. How activities will actually be implemented at national level. This discussion was continued in Session 6.

There was also discussion on the title of the Strategy and whether it should include fisheries or not. Agriculture in FAO terms includes fisheries but given the importance of fisheries in the Pacific it was ultimately decided that fisheries should stay in.

**Outcome:** Vision, Mission and Objectives accepted with amendments

## Session 4: Duration and coverage of P-SPAFS

### **Key conclusions/agreements**

*This session looked at the proposed timeframe & phasing of the Strategy, the topics it will cover and also the countries which would be included. The following agreements were made:*

#### Timing

- 10 yrs is appropriate.
- Preparatory phase to end in 2017 is appropriate followed by 3 phases of three years. The preparatory phase will tie in with the end of PAPP and Phase I of the GS. Phase II of the GS will focus on implementation (hence fit nicely) although there is likely to be some overlap between GS phase I and II.
- Review will need to be in built at the end of phases to further elaborate the activities.

#### Coverage of topics

- The following sectors will be included in the scope of the strategy:
  - Crop, livestock, forestry, fisheries, aquaculture
  - Include land use and land tenure
- They will support work happening on the following thematic areas:
  - Food security, disaster risk management, sustainable natural resource management/environment
- The group considered if handicrafts and agro-processing should be included and indeed fisheries activities of the non-household sector. It was determined that the core set of indicators would largely determine the depth that we go into for these areas.

#### Countries to be included

- All SPC PICTs to be included (23 incl. PNG and East Timor)
- Activities will be regionally focused (e.g. applicable to significant number of PICTs not individual countries)
- No fixed groups. Activities and national level engagement will be on a case by case basis

Additional points: Discussion again turned to how countries will determine what they do and what they sign up to actually implement. This question was not entirely resolved. The initial activities will be based on existing workplans so it is not relevant for the preparatory phase however there will need to be a system- through the governance system of the P-SPAFS- for this to happen.

**Outcome:** Timing, coverage of topics and inclusion of countries was agreed with some remaining questions on how countries will opt in or out of specific activities.

#### Session 5: Objective A- Data collection

##### **Key conclusions/agreements**

This session looked at the specific activities proposed for objective A with the following agreements made:

- The proposed approach of establishing a core set of indicators based on stated data demands at international (e.g. SDGs), regional (e.g. NMDIs) and national (e.g. sector plans and policies) levels was approved as a desirable approach since it would ensure data needs of users were being met.
- The group believe that by building principally on existing data collection mechanisms- the principal activities proposed for this objective- that this would support alignment with TYPSS and GS activities.
- It was noted that this approach would help meet key data requirements of countries but obviously not all for each individual country.
- Suggested amendments to this indicator was to include an activity on new collection mechanisms (as determined by core indicators). This may include production data.
- Other activities which were noted for inclusion under the other objectives:

- Produce training manuals and guides on using the ag + fishery modules of the PHC
- Conduct training for enumerators on ag module for PHC
- Provide training for farmers on data collection
- Build on existing Pacific regional 'south-south' /intra-regional cooperation

**Outcome:** Agreed objective activities with amendments. Agreed on the suggested approach for determining data needs and deriving a core set of indicators to guide collection activities.

#### Session 6: Integration into the NSS

##### **Key conclusions/agreements**

*This session looked at the specific activities proposed for Objective B in the zero draft of the P-SPAFS. The following agreements were made:*

- Discussed that legislation activities are likely to be more around the access to and use of data than collection since most PICTS have the statistics act in place.
- Agreed that the activities were fine as proposed.
- Agreed that P-SPAFS will not support the development of national level agricultural statistics strategies where they do not exist- the focus is on strengthening agriculture statistics in other relevant strategies e.g. NSDS (or equivalent) and Ag Policies and Plans
- Discussed that P-SPAFS activities/implementation should seek to ensure P-SPAFS is considered in the development of agricultural plans and strategies as well as NSDS for integration activities.
- It was agreed that advocacy events on the P-SPAFS and ag stats more generally were absolutely critical for getting countries to participate and implement activities of the P-SPAFS. This related to earlier discussions around how to get countries to implement at national level.
- There was some discussion about what 'fully integrated' (wording of the objective) means. It was agreed that it is focused on coordination within the statistical system and doesn't mean we are working towards centralization of statistics activities or indeed changing roles and responsibilities of different agencies.

**Outcome:** Activities agreed with no amendments

#### Session 7: Objective C, Dissemination & use

##### **Key conclusions/agreements**

*This session looked at the specific activities proposed for Objective C in the zero draft of the P-SPAFS. The following agreements were made:*

- The proposed activities were agreed upon with some additions/amendments:
  - Work on websites to be done regionally *and* nationally
  - Additional support should be brought in to expand on specific communication activities to be included into the activity plan for Preparatory Phase and Phase I.
  - Broaden wording on HIES factsheets (remove reference to agriculture only)
  - Additional activity on support to GIS maps
  - Amend activity on data access policies to include MoAs as well as NSOs.

Additional points:

This discussion highlighted a couple of areas which are not being addressed by the strategy which we should perhaps consider for the future (perhaps future reviews of the P-SPAFS). This included ag and fisheries trade statistics- noted that a lot is happening in this area already but there may in the future be need for further support on integration. Biosecurity data for example and food balance sheets were highlighted as for possible consideration in the future.

**Outcome:** Objective activities agreed with amendments.

#### Session 8: Objective D- Capacity building

##### **Key conclusions/agreements**

*This session looked at the specific activities proposed for Objective D on capacity building. The following agreements were made:*

- Activities agreed with the following amendments:
  - Make sure activity lines reflect training activities of GS
  - Include training of farmers (possibly through secondary schools and further education colleges and extension services)
- Change wording to specify using e-learning as a delivery methodology
- Use TYPSS skills audit to inform development of curricula
- Additional activities on establishing technical working groups of producers prior to ag censuses and surveys (i.e. as was done for HIES)
- Include attachments to governments for support prior to running censuses and surveys
- Split activity DA3 to better clarify capacity building activities on use of data

**Outcome:** Objective activities agreed with amendments.

#### Session 9: Roadmap

##### **Key conclusions/agreements**

*This session looked at the draft Roadmap document, particular the timing and activities proposed for the finalisation of the P-SPAFS. The following agreements were made:*

- It was agreed that since the P-SPAFS fits under GS and TYPSS it was only necessary to get actual endorsement from the agricultural side hence the heads and ministers of agriculture and forestry (HOAFS/MOAFS) meetings will be our main goal for endorsement of the P-SPAFS.
- Other events for advocacy and awareness raising (both for P-SPAFS and ag stats more generally) were:
  - TYPSS PSSC, Forum of Economic Ministers Meeting (FEMM), Council of Regional Governments and Administrations (CRGA), Heads of Planning and Statistics (HOPS), Melanesian Spearhead Group (MSG) Polynesia Leaders Group (PLG) regional events, PAPP Steering
- National level events not to be conducted but some activities could be done at national level around Statistics Day activities.
- The question was asked if we need a separate communication strategy. The opinion of the group was that a communication specialist from FAO could input into communication and advocacy activities in the activity matrix but a separate plan might not be necessary.
- Communications to include:
  - Materials/events around world statistics day (20 October 2016)
  - 1 pager for information prior to endorsement
  - Information on the PAPP website

**Outcome:** Roadmap document finalised following further additions on activities for endorsement.

#### Session 10: Wrap up

Throughout the TWG various issues for discussion came up which were then 'parked' for future consideration in upcoming sessions. These included:

- The title of the strategy?
- How to connect with the wider group of stakeholders?
- How deeply fishery statistics should be integrated into the P-SPAFS?
- How can we support national level co-ordination?
- Should handicrafts and agro-processing be included?
- How will individual countries commit to specific activities?
- What activities should be done for endorsement of the P-SPAFS, particularly by ministries of agriculture, forestry and fisheries?

It was agreed that all of these areas were addressed to a satisfactory degree in the discussions and the outcomes of those discussions are integrated into the conclusions and agreements from each session.

Objectives of the TWG were reviewed and the TWG agreed that the following objectives had been met.

- Finalise the ToR for the Working Group
- Finalise timeline and activities for development of the P-SPAFS in the Roadmap
- Agree on vision and key objectives of P-SPAFS roadmap
- Agree on timelines, topic and country coverage of P-SPAFS
- Received guidance on specific activities under the objectives.

Annex 1: Participant List

Name	Title	Country	Organisation	Email	Sex
TWG members					
Marlyter Silbanuz	Deputy Assistant Secretary, Agriculture Unit	Federated States of Micronesia	Department of Resources and Development	<a href="mailto:msilbanuz@fsmrd.fm">msilbanuz@fsmrd.fm</a>	F
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Secretariat & facilitators					
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	Strategy activities				
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## Annex 2: Agenda

### **Pacific Strategic Action Plan for Agricultural and Fisheries Statistics: First Working Group 11-12 April 2016, Suva, Fiji**

#### **Agenda and Session Plan**

**Overall objective:** To gain guidance on the structure, coverage and steps for development of the P-SPAF.

**Specific objectives:**

6. Finalise the ToR for the Working Group
7. Finalise timeline and activities for development of the P-SPAF as outlined in the Roadmap
8. To agree on the vision and key objectives as drafted in the zero draft of the P-SPAF
9. To agree on the short, medium and long term timelines of the strategy and topic and country coverage
10. To provide guidance on the activities to support the objectives as drafted in the P-SPAF

**Mode of delivery:**

Each session will be organised with the following elements:

1. Brief **presentations** to provide **context**/background to discussions. Where applicable the presentation should include with 2-3 key discussion points. TWG members will be asked to be prepared to speak on areas relevant to the discussions or provide presentations.
2. **Group discussion** on the topic plus additional relevant issues for discussion
3. **Conclusion** and **preliminary agreements** from the session established. The draft agreements will be reviewed again and endorsed by the group on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day. For session 5,6 and 7 effort should be made to prioritise essential and wish list activities.

The Group will be provided with two core background documents as a basis for discussions: the draft Roadmap for development of the P-SPAF and the zero draft of the P-SPAF. TWG members will be given time to review these documents prior to the TWG meeting and will be expected to be familiar with their contents.

There will be a high level of flexibility over the timings of the sessions to respond to the required amount of engagement deemed appropriate by the group. There should also be a process for parking some discussions and ensuring they are addressed at the end of the session or day. The assigned chair for each session will be responsible for guiding the discussion along productive lines. The chair should also record the key agreements at the end of the session. This will be our record instead of having a rapporteur.

<b>Day 1: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016</b>	
09:00-09:30	<b>Session 1: Welcome and introductions</b> (Chair-Patrick Arioka) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introductory words on the objective of the two days (Allan Nicholls)</li><li>• Reminder of rationale for PSPAF (evidence based policy making) (Patrick Arioka)</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participant introductions (Patrick)</li> <li>• Presentation of the agenda + admin (Anna)</li> </ul>
09:30-10:30	<b>Session 2: ToR of the TWG (Chair- Patrick Arioka)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft ToR for the TWG in the Roadmap (Anna Fink)</li> <li>• Discussion on roles and responsibilities</li> <li>• Agreement on final wording of ToR</li> </ul>
	<i>Objective: To finalise the ToR of the TWG and establish shared expectations of the roles and responsibilities of the group in the room.</i>
10:30-11:00	<b>Tea break/Group photo</b>
11:00-12:00	<b>Session 3: Vision, Mission &amp; Objectives of the P-SPAF (Chair- Patrick Arioka)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outcomes of the October Workshop (Patrick Arioka)</li> <li>• Process of developing Vision/Objectives of the P-SPAF (David Marshall)</li> <li>• Group discussion on Vision/Objectives of the P-SPAF</li> <li>• Conclusion and preliminary agreements.</li> </ul>
	<i>Objective: To gain agreement on suggested amendments to the drafted vision/objectives of the P-SPAF</i>
12:00- 13:00	<b>Session 4: Duration and coverage of P-SPAF (Chair- Patrick Arioka)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TYPSS duration &amp; phases (Simil Johnson)</li> <li>• GS duration/phases (Allan Nicholls)</li> <li>• Proposed P-SPAF duration/phases (David Marshall)</li> <li>• Discussion on duration of P-SPAF (incl. short, medium and long term phases)</li> <li>• Conclusion and preliminary agreements on duration</li>   <li>• Inclusion of fisheries in the P-SPAF (Michael Sharp)</li> <li>• Inclusion of aquaculture in the P-SPAF (Wesley Garofe)</li> <li>• Sectors to be included based on objectives (David Marshall)</li> <li>• Discussion on coverage (e.g. crops, natural resources, food security etc).</li> <li>• Conclusion and preliminary agreements on coverage</li>   <li>• Pacific islands included under GS (Allan Nicholls)</li> <li>• Proposed inclusion of countries in regional strategy (David Marshall)</li> <li>• Discussion on country coverage</li> <li>• Conclusion and preliminary agreements on country coverage</li> </ul>
	<i>Objective: Gain agreement on timelines and topic and country coverage of the P-SPAF.</i>
13:00-14:00	<b>Lunch break</b>
14:00-14:30	<b>Session 4: Continued if required</b>
14:30-15:30	<b>Session 5: Objective 1- Data collection (Chair- Simil Johnson)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data collection activities relevant to ag and fisheries in TYPSS (Simil Johnson)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data collection activities highlighted in the October Workshop (Edith Fa'aola)</li> <li>• Data collection activities in Kiribati strategy (Takena Redfern)</li> <li>• Proposal for process of aligning and harmonising data collection activities (David Marshall)</li> <li>• Discussion on activities and process for alignment</li> <li>• Conclusion and preliminary agreements for data collection activities</li> </ul>
	<i>Objective: gain agreement on the expected key activities for objective one on data collection and most importantly the process for ensuring data collection mechanisms meet international, regional and national data requirements</i>
15:30-16:00	<b>Tea break</b>
16:00-17:00	<b>Session 5: Continued</b>
<b>Day 2: Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2016</b>	
09:00-09:15	<b>Recap and outcomes from Day 1 (Patrick Arioka)</b>
09:15-10:00	<b>Session 6: Objective 2- Integration (Chair Edith Fa'aola)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integration of SPAR into Agriculture Policy (Edith Fa'aola)</li> <li>• Integration of SPARs into NSDS (Allan Nicholls)</li> <li>• Discussion on appropriate activities for strengthening institutional support for agricultural statistics</li> <li>• Conclusion and agreement on priority actions for Objective 2.</li> </ul>
	<i>Objective: To identify the key activities for ensuring agricultural statistics is properly coordinated within the national statistical system.</i>
10:00-10:30	<b>Session 6: Objective 3-Dissemination &amp; use (Chair- Edith Fa'aola)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data dissemination activities under TYPSS (Simil Johnson)</li> <li>• Data dissemination and use activities (FAO- Allan/Alessandro)</li> <li>• Discussion on areas for strengthening, areas not being addressed</li> <li>• Conclusion and agreement on priority actions for Objective 3.</li> </ul>
	<i>Objective: To identify the key activities for promoting accessibility of stakeholders to data, whether they're successful and what areas still need to be addressed. This will help review and revise the activities for this work in the Concept Note.</i>
10:30-11:00	<b>Tea break</b>
11:00-11:30	<b>Session 6: Continued</b>
11:30-13:00	<b>Session 7: Objective 4-Capacity &amp; use- (Chair- Marlyter Silbanuz)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Challenges to use of data in policy making (Patrick Arioka)</li> <li>• Activities on use through SAP (Alessandro)</li> <li>• Discussion on the scope/breadth/role of activities on use in the strategy</li> <li>• Conclusion and agreement of priorities for data use</li> </ul>
	<i>Objective: To agree on priority activities for supporting data use and agreement on the scope of activities under this objective.</i>
13:00-14:00	<b>Lunch break</b>
14:00-15:00	<b>Session 8: Road map (Chair-Simil Johnson)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roadmap document, milestones and advocacy (Anna Fink)</li> <li>• Group discussion key milestones/timelines and approach for high level endorsement of strategic action plan</li> <li>• Conclusion and preliminary agreements</li> </ul>

	<i>Gain advice on suitable fora for endorsement/promotion of the plan and agree on key milestones.</i>
15:00-16:00	<b>Session 9: Wrap up</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Key outcomes and resolutions from the TWG agreed upon/endorsed by the TWG (Led by Chair/Vice Chair)</li></ul>
	<i>To record the key agreements and discussions of the meeting, particularly in regards to presenting for session 8.</i>