



PARIS21 Cross Regional Workshop

**Agenda 2030 and the SIDS: Strengthening Statistical
Capacity and Readiness**

**OECD Conference Centre, Paris, France
19th – 20th May 2016**

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Advancements and challenges in statistics in SIDS

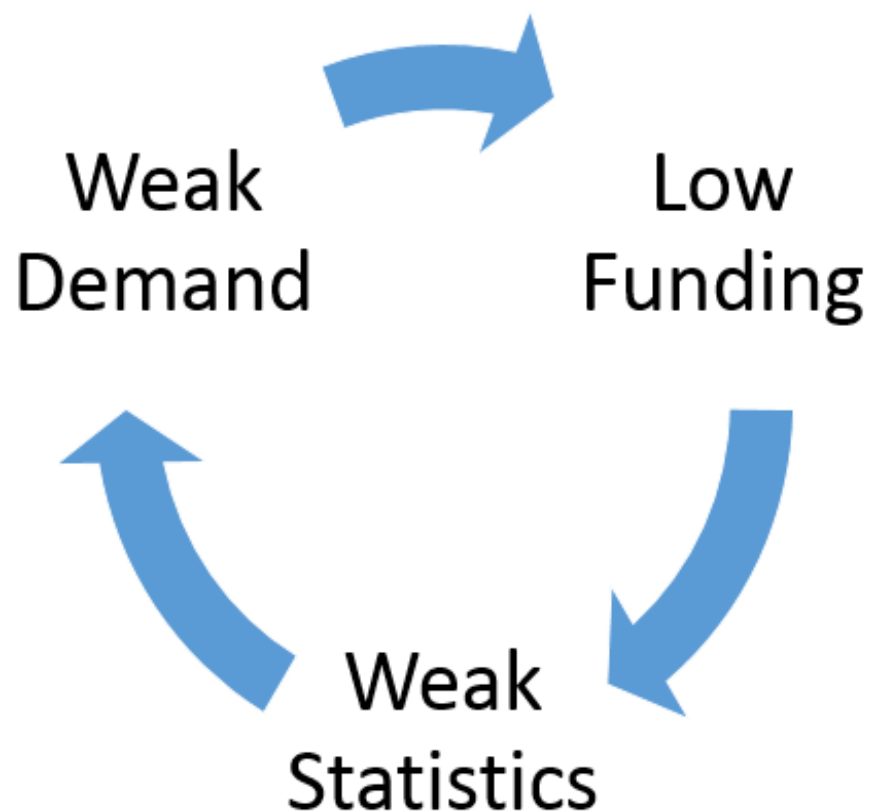
Good practices and areas to build on

National Statistical System

Current Situation

- Uncoordinated NSS
- Does not always meet the demand for statistical information
-MDG, SDG
- Weak statistical literacy in country
- administrative data is of no quality
- Statistics Bill yet to be legislated to improve data sharing
- Limited funding

Vicious Cycle



Strategy for the Development of Statistics



STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

VISION

- TO ACHIEVE STATISTICAL EXCELLENCE FOR AN EVIDENCE-INFORMED COOK ISLANDS

MISSION

- TO DELIVER QUALITY STATISTICAL INFORMATION

CORE VALUES

- Integrity
- Commitment to Excellence
- Accountability and Transparency
- Responsive service delivery
- Collaboration and Inclusiveness

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- Legislation and Policy
- Access, Use and Communication
- Knowledge management
- NSS Coordination
- Institutional and Human Resources Development

PREREQUISITES OF QUALITY

- Legal and Institutional Environment
- Resources
- Relevance

Leadership and Management

It is my pleasure to introduce the Cook Islands Strategy for the Development of Statistics (CSDS). The Cook Islands government is fully committed to developing our national statistical system with the objective of promoting and safeguarding the production and publication of official statistics that 'serve the public good.' Official Statistics is a public good that informs the people of the environmental and socio-economic state of the Cook Islands. It provides the necessary information for encouraging public discussion on current affairs.



The strategy aims to deliver more value from official statistics and the National Statistics System and to ensure the ongoing reliability and relevance of the statistics it produces. More than ever, statistics is going to play a vital role in the development of the Cook Islands. This strategy is designed to make that happen.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of all those that were involved in the design of the Cook Islands Strategy for the Development of Statistics. I would like to thank the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and PARIS21 for the technical advice and the financial support they provided, the members of various government agencies and NGOs that provided their unique insights in the design process and lastly, to the Statistics Office, Ministry of Finance and Economic Management (MFEM) and the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) for leading the whole process.

Leadership and Management

“E taiki-rapa-tu! Ka rama i te marae nui o taku ui-tupuna”

I am pleased to be asked to provide an initial remark to the Cook Islands Strategy for the Development of Statistics (CSDS). This recognises the leadership of the Ui Ariki and Te Aronga Mana to support the wellbeing of the people of the Cook Islands.

Our traditional leaders have a variety of roles in their matakeinanga, being the storehouse of tribal knowledge, genealogy and traditions, acting as guardians of Māori customs, providing leadership and helping resolve disputes. I constantly think about the quality of education our children receive, about the way our elderly are treated, about the availability of jobs for our youth entering the workforce, degradation of our land, depleting marine life and various other issues Cook Islanders are facing today.

These concerns are usually brought to my attention through word of mouth, but I have learned to compliment this by asking for the numbers that is needed to get a clearer picture of these issues. Statistics allows me to make informed decisions about the severity of societal problems and provides direction for action.

Let us look at the state of Te Reo Maori. Having good data on literacy can make the difference between gently encouraging parents in the village to improve their children's school results or approaching the Minister of Education to discuss ways of reversing wide spread language loss in the Cook Islands. Over time, statistics then allows me to keep an eye on the progress made, on whether literacy gets better or not and to hold parents, politicians and everyone involved accountable for the promises of improvement.



Resource Availability

- South-south collaboration
- Utilisation of administrative records
- Integration and synchronising of sectoral data needs, into and with national and regional strategies will reduce duplication of efforts and rationalise resources across governments.
- Large data collections continues reliance on donor

Constraints in the NSS



**POST-2015
DEVELOPMENT
AGENDA: GOALS,
TARGETS AND
INDICATORS**

SPECIAL REPORT



Constraints in the NSS

Certificate in Official Statistics

A course sponsored by Statistics NZ and the Cook Islands Government

Would you like to:

- Understand how to use statistics for policy and decisions
- Know how to do all this according to United Nations principles and local legislation
- Apply your new way of thinking in a project at work
- Be able to perform straightforward statistical analysis
- Gain an internationally accredited qualification in all this?

If you manage staff, do you wish someone in your team could do the above?

Statistics NZ will run the National Certificate in Public Services (Official Statistics) in Rarotonga in 2016. Participation is open to staff from the following organisations in Cook Islands:

- Government agencies and non-government organisations
- Local government
- Other agencies that would benefit from the course.

The course is particularly suitable for staff at middle-management level, as well as analysts or advisors, who need to use or produce statistics for good decision-making on behalf of their organisations.

There is no cost for participants, but you must be fully committed to the 2x2 weeks' full-time availability, and to doing the project work. The participant's employer will be invoiced NZ\$165 for certificate registration.

You can do the course if you have at least good senior high school mathematics/statistics ability and interest. If you have a partial or complete tertiary degree you will probably get even more out of it.

Managers and participants must attend a preliminary meeting in Rarotonga in the second week of July 2016.

The workshop for the first two training modules will take place in July 2016 (18th to 22nd, and 25th to 29th). The workshop for the final two modules will be in October 2016. Between July and October participants will work on a statistics project that has direct relevance to their workplace. The overall time commitment is 6 weeks.

The qualification is registered by the New Zealand Qualification Authority, and is internationally recognised.

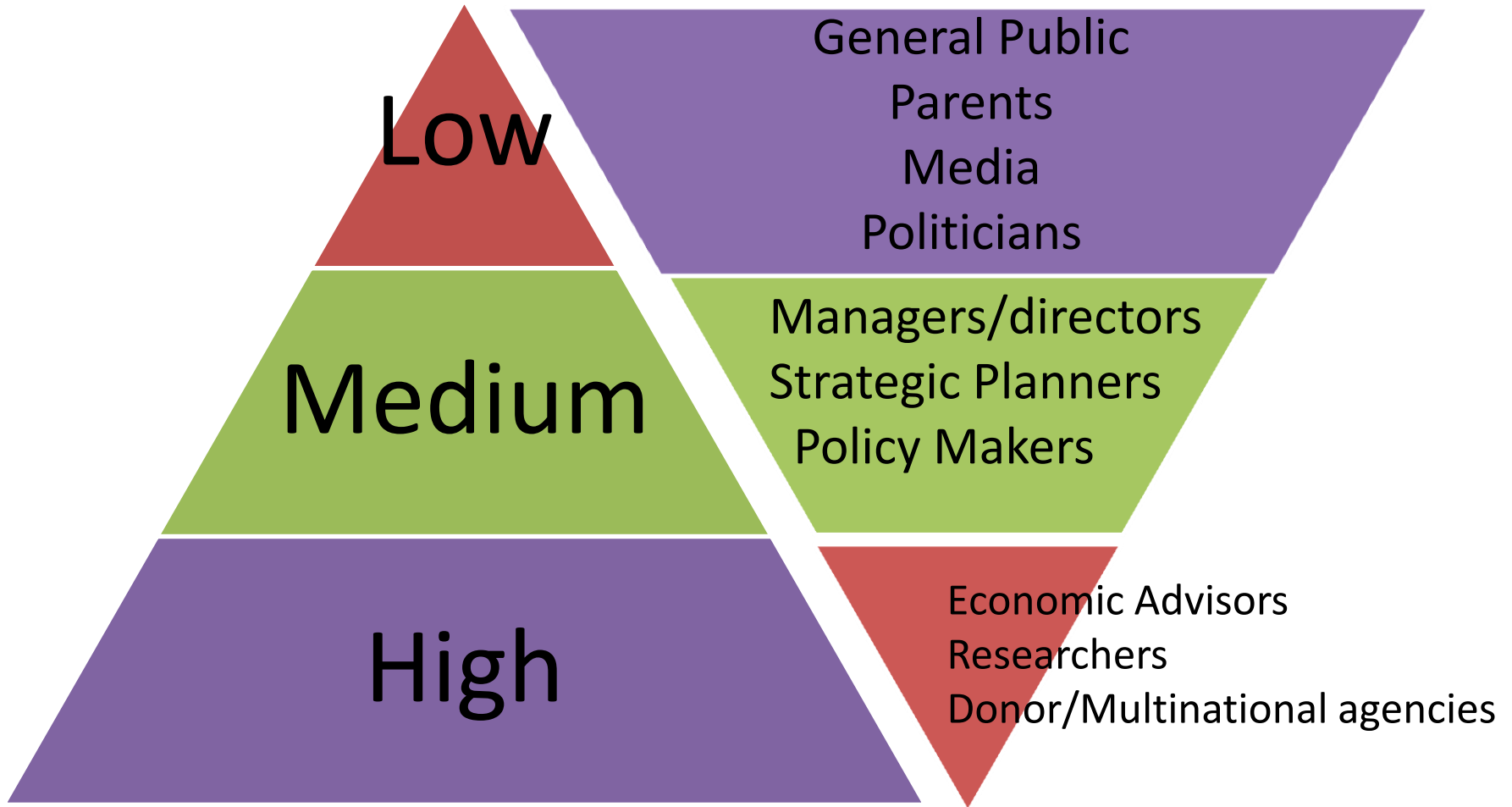


Liz MacPherson (Government Statistician, Statistics New Zealand)



Mr Russell Thomas (Public Service Commissioner)

Statistical Literacy vs User Population



Statistical Literacy & Targeted User Statistical Products

Medium

Census Reports
Demographic Profiles

Constraints in the NSS



COOK ISLANDS STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF STATISTICS

2015 - 2025



SPC
Secretariat
of the Pacific
Community

CSDS Components	Total estimate	Of which: In-kind
Strategic objectives	\$2,126,500	\$25,000
Sustainable economic development sector	\$476,270	\$338,910
Natural resources and environment sector	274,840	\$183,600
Sustainable human and social development sector	439,480	\$439,480
Governance sector	\$375,880	\$375,880
Total	\$3,692,970	\$1,362,870



Thank you