

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


19–20 May 2016, Paris

## Session 3: Support for statistical capacity development in SIDS

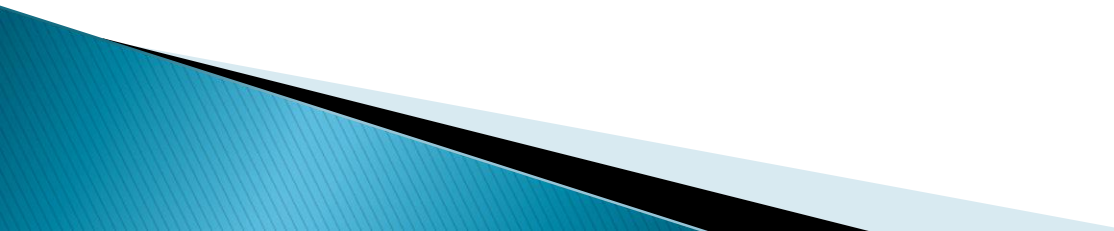
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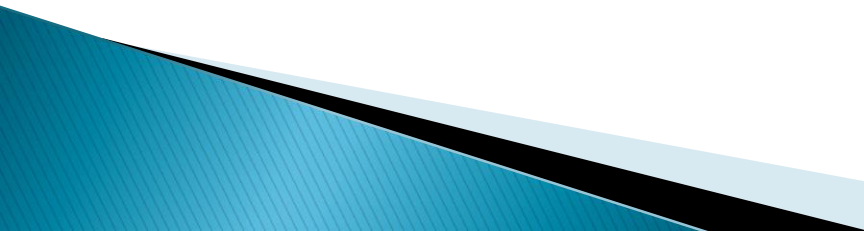
# IMF–PFTAC in the Pacific

- ▶ PFTAC covers 16 PICs;
  - ▶ Statistics focus is primarily national accounts, but also some TA on Government Financial Statistics (GFS) & Balance of Payments (BOP);
  - ▶ TA currently provided by 2 resident advisors at PFTAC, plus short-term experts.
  - ▶ Japanese-funded HQ-run TA in GFS & BOP has just ended; being taken over by PFTAC.
  - ▶ Collaborate with SPC, ABS, SNZ, World Bank, and participate in PSSC.
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# The challenge

- ▶ Demands for statistical monitoring & reporting in SIDS is already high relative to capacity, skills, resources. 2030 agenda and SDGs will overwhelm capacity in the Pacific.
  - ▶ How can countries try to meet demands?
    - Increase NSO resources—limited scope;
    - Limit demand by ruthless prioritization—essential;
    - Increase efficiency and effective capacity of existing resources—significant scope for improvement, with assistance.
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# How can TA providers help?

- ▶ **Resourcing.** Limited scope for capacity supplementation in smallest PICs. But preference is clearly for capacity building.
  - ▶ **Prioritizing.** Donors and TA providers can help prioritize across sectors and within sectors, both regionally and at national level, balancing country priorities with donor priorities. But in Pacific we struggle to do this well nationally or regionally. Need to do this better with new mechanisms
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- ▶ **Capacity.** Increasing capacity & efficiency:
  - Better collaboration in areas of overlap among TA providers, in design, planning & implementation of TA (e.g. HIES);
  - More focus on use of admin data as low-cost, high quality alternatives to surveys or duplicate collection (e.g. national accounts, health, educ'n);
  - Possible pooling of national resources in some areas of stats, to maximize regional capacity, & South-South collaboration.
  - More use of small, focused workshops to improve efficiency of TA & training delivery (e.g. national accounts workshops in North Pacific states).

Thanks