



Intervention by Ms. Peseta Noumea Simi
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We have heard this morning key messages from the panelists which converge on the centrality of statistics in the monitoring of the SDGs given that statistics add value to the political discussion involved. Furthermore there has been an underscoring of the importance of the close collaboration between the national statistics offices and other key stakeholders. Therefore a clear governance structure for monitoring with the national statistics offices playing a key role.

The panelists have focused on the importance of statistics in the monitoring process however my presentation will reflect the importance of other issues and how we have considered these from the perspective of SIDS including my country Samoa.

Challenges	<p>Common challenges include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some SDG indicators were not relevant for Pacific Islands or unable to be measured – need to contextualize and localize. Determines basis for prioritization based on need. • human and institutional capacity constraints – asking for TA to assist with localisation • lack of ownership and political will – inclusive process will promote ownership and commitment • lack of awareness and engagement of stakeholders – ensure early open consultative process with all stakeholders • lack of alignment with global and regional actions, • insufficient resources and capacities of resource implementation, • lack of baseline data and capacities to collect and analyse data, etc. • challenge of disaggregation of data if we are to ensure that no one is left behind and that we inculcate the importance of inclusivity • more efforts are needed to strengthen development partner coordination and to strengthen aid effectiveness tracking • Accessing public sources of finance is a persistent challenge for us. We are often told that our projects are too small to be funded. Other times, we are blocked by burdensome application and reporting requirements. Addressing these barriers must be an integral part of partnership arrangements.
Good practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is strong and consistent political and technical leadership articulating clear and strategic plans linked to regional and national resourcing using existing regional and country mechanisms, institutions and systems. • Developing national and regional roadmaps for the

	<p>implementation of the SDGs. The Pacific SDGs Roadmap is intended to guide the delivery of the directives of Pacific leaders, and outlines the steps to set regional priorities and indicators; integrate regional reporting and coordination mechanisms; assist member states requesting support to embed the SDGs into national planning; and identifying key elements for the successful implementation of the SDGs in the Pacific.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focused on mainstreaming the SDGs into national development strategies and plans, budgets and monitoring and evaluation frameworks. • Mapping the common goals and commitments across the SDGs, <i>SAMOA Pathway</i> and <i>Framework for Pacific Regionalism</i> provides a solid starting point to confirm the region's development priorities, especially in relation to transboundary issues (for example, Oceans, Climate Change, ICT, fisheries and trade). At the same time, member states are mapping national development priorities to the SDGs¹, and this work will inform the regional indicators to cover common priority issues at the national level where regional actions can improve delivery, monitoring and reporting
<p>Concrete actions to strengthen institutions and capacities for monitoring</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The establishment of a national/regional SDG taskforce and use of regional peer review process to assist and strengthen country level reporting and national voluntary reporting at the HLPF. • Building and sustaining capacity in the development of statistical systems including data collection/analyses and utilization • Focus on deepening aspects of utilization of statistics such as properly analysing aspects of growth – inclusivity, vulnerable groups in society, social protection, etc. and the determination of the use of qualitative vs quantitative data • There is value in Tracking at both country level and regional level – where there are gaps at country level can be addressed at regional level. Builds solidarity of regional members towards successful implementation • Approaching the implementation of the SDGs using 'nexus thinking' so that there is recognition of the synergies – strengthens sectoral linkages for implementation and resource sharing