

# Sub Regional Training Course on Sampling Methods for Producing Core Data Items for Agricultural and Rural Statistics

13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> August 2018, Suva, Fiji

## COOK ISLANDS



### Cook Islands Geographic

- The Cook Islands is a nation in the South Pacific, with political links to New Zealand.
- Its 15 islands are scattered over a vast area.
- The largest island, Rarotonga, is home to rugged mountains and Avarua, the national capital.
- Population: 17, 459 (2016)
- Total Land Area: 236 km<sup>2</sup>
- Land Use: Agricultural land – 8.4%, arable land – 4.2%, permanent crops – 4.2%, Forest – 64.6%, others – 27%
- GDP by sector – Agriculture 5.1%, Industry 12.7%, Services 82.1%
- GDP by capita (PPP) - \$9,100 (2005), \$16,700 (2016)



# Cook Island Map



## Type of Methodology Used

- Questionnaires
- Face to face interviews
- Train the trainer and supervisors
- Train the enumerators
  
- The 2011 Agriculture Census was a complete enumeration conducted jointly with the 2011 Census of Population and Dwellings.



# Rationale

- Need for more, better, cheaper and faster statistical data on agriculture production;
- Data can inform national policy design and implementation, improve market efficiency and support research;
- AgINTEL lays the foundations for the creation of an efficient agricultural statistical system;
- Tool to implement many of the new methods developed by Database Designer integrated with the Policy designer and statistician;
- Improve evidence-based decision making for poverty reduction, increased food security, sustainable agriculture and rural development;

Sampling Frame for households actively engaged in agriculture activities were not available. Resources, budgets, staff, transport available to Population Census could be used for Agriculture census. Less burden on the households.



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# Special Consideration

- National implementation and alignment with national priorities;
- The information obtained can help farmers identify efficiencies that lead to higher productivity and profitability, lower input costs, and optimized fertilizer use;
- The more a farmer knows about his/her farm, the better their opportunities to strengthen supply chain relationships.
- Data help farmers eliminate volatility and risk which is beneficial not just to the grower but also to the supplier – so the supplier is more apt to work with that farmer on a long-term basis. At the same time, the data allows the producer to work with the supply chain to help enterprises and retailers increase the transparency of their produces;

A question included in the Population Census is used to filter or determine households for Agriculture Census, given that not all households are actively engaged.



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# Constraints

- Giving false data;
- Understanding why data is collected;
- Don't bother or not in support in sharing information;
- Under staff to collect data;
- Time consuming, poor communication, transport facilities;
- No subsistence in data collecting;
- Implementing new methodology and technology to meet emerging data needs;

Training time frame was too long for enumerators since same enumerator for Population Census is used for Agriculture Census.



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# Plans for Improvement

Base on the current data collecting is more focus toward the "**Market**" output (supply).

For improvement:

- Shift data collecting toward " **Holding** " and identify gaps (supply and demand), opportunities, etc.
- Later stages will shift data collecting toward " **Enterprise** " and identify gaps (supply).
- A definitive document which identifies and prioritizes future work needed to improve the agricultural statistics system;
- Enable target farmers to develop sustainable statistical systems for production and dissemination of accurate and timely agricultural and rural statistics, comparable over time and across;
- Produce a proposal for future work in capacity development.

Agriculture Census to be conducted every 10 years still utilising the Population Census but recruit separate interviewers.



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# Thank you

