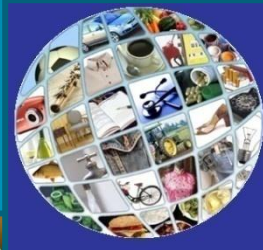




[01.05]

Linking Pacific Islands



7TH Technical Advisory Group Meeting
September 17-18, 2012
Washington, DC

Background

Pacific Islands: Special Case

- ☐ Data is being collected through calendar year 2012
- ☐ Only prices are being collected
- ☐ Only household consumption item prices are being collected
- ☐ GCL items do not figure to any meaningful extent in the Pacific Product List

- ☐ There is no formal plan at this stage to provide expenditure data
 - ☐ There may be an opportunity to use exiting HIES data
- ☐ Without expenditure data, basic headings will all get the same weights

Coordination and Participating countries

- ☐ Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) coordinates activities with funding from AusAID
- ☐ All 21 Pacific Islands countries and territories are participating
 - ☐ 20 of 21 provided data for March and June 2012

Activities and technical Assistance

- ☐ Four workshops were planned to discuss the validation process and provide software for ICP 2011 (two were already conducted)
- ☐ Conducted a series of country visits and regional centers to broaden ICP data collection

Data collection and current status

Price Surveys and Item List

- ❑ Price surveys are conducted quarterly using Price Collection Sheets
- ❑ Where ICP items are similar to CPI items, countries have agreed to collect ICP prices at all outlets that are currently sampled for the CPI
 - ❑ It is not proven feasible to engage in a broader price collection for this round of the ICP except in a small number of cases such as the Solomon Islands
 - ❑ A number of countries are also relying heavily on their CPI to provide ICP prices
- ❑ ICP software kit and established ICP methodologies are being used

Current Status

- ❑ **Adjustment of Prices and Calculation of Annual Averages** are not yet given attention due to finalizing March and June Data validation
- ❑ Only preliminary **PPPs for Household Consumption** have been calculated, as part of Quaranta analysis
- ❑ No specific **National Accounts** activities will be conducted

Conclusion

Linking Approach in Brief

- ❑ Linking of the Pacific to other regions will rely on an overlap of countries rather than an overlap of products
 - ❑ Fiji is participating in both the Pacific ICP and the Asian region ICP, and New Zealand and Australia are participating in both the Pacific ICP and the non-European OECD PPP/ICP

Next Steps

- ❑ Focus for 2012 is **Data Collection**, ensuring the highest quality
- ❑ Expect to seek guidance from the TAG for the technical details on linking matter

For detailed status of participation in the Pacific ICP and list of items, please refer to the note:
[01.05] Planned Approach to Link the Pacific Islands to the ICP



Thank You