



Office of the Council for the
Ongoing Government of Tokelau
Tokelau National Statistics Office

Tokelau National Statistics Office

Statement of Intent

2019/20 and beyond

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Acronyms used and their meaning

AEC	Australian Electoral Commission (Canberra)
AWP	Annual Work Plan
CAPI	Computer-Assisted Personal Interviews
CCA	Climate Change Agency (now: MiCORE)
CPI	Consumer Price Index
CRVS	Civil Registration and Vital Statistics
DDI	Data Documentation Initiative (World Bank)
FTE	Full-time Equivalent
FY	Financial Year
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GF	General Fono
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GVRs	Generic Voter Registration System
HS	Harmonised System
HIES	Household Income and Expenditure Survey
IMTS	International Merchandise Trade Statistics
IPCC	Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change
IRF	International Road Federation
IT	Information Technology
MFAT	(NZ) Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade
MFE	(NZ) Ministry for the Environment
MiCORE	Ministry of Climate, Oceans and Resilience (previously CCA)
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NSDS	National Strategy for the Development of Statistics
NSO	National Statistics Office
OCOG	Office of the Council for the Ongoing Government of Tokelau
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PMU	Planning and Monitoring Unit
PSSC	Pacific Statistics Steering Committee (SPC)
PSSP	Pacific Statistics Support Programme (StatsNZ / MFAT)
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SOI	Statement of Intent
SNZ, StatsNZ	Statistics New Zealand
SPC	(Secretariat of the) Pacific Community
TNSO	Tokelau National Statistics Office
TNSP	Tokelau National Strategic Plan
TSS	Department of Transport and Support Services
TYPSS	Ten Year Pacific Statistics Strategy 2010-2020
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

Executive Summary

This Statement of Intent (SOI) in the annual series sets out what the Tokelau National Statistics Office (TNSO) has achieved over the 2018/19 financial year (FY), for the Office of the Council for the Ongoing Government of Tokelau (OCOG), and for the people in the villages Atafu, Nukunonu and Fakaofu. It also provides an Annual Work Plan (AWP) for the 2019/2020 FY and beyond.

The following were achieved during the July 2018 – June 2019 period:

1. Meeting the capacity building objective by working closely with the Statistics Officer, until her term of pregnancy, February 2019; and exploring options for filling the (temporary) vacancy.
2. Achieving the national communication objective, by the Statistics Adviser consulting with Taupulega in all three Nuku: speaking about Household Income and Expenditure Surveys (HIES), Census, Imports, and Other initiatives. This included encouraging Taupulega to use the Generic Voter Registration System (GVRS) for its elections in January 2020. Seminars on Producing graphs (Apia, Fakaofu), reporting back on Tokelau imports, and analyses from cargo shipping manifests (in Apia, twice) were also given; as were overviews of statistical activities / results to The Administrator and Te Ulu o Tokelau. Further statistical advice and data were provided, upon request from a variety of sources.
3. Publishing four quarterly consumer price index (CPI) calculations, with special attention to the effect of the national policy of steep cigarette pricing and reducing quantities imported to discourage smoking; and to improve price collection in village stores (with a major inter-atoll effort made mid-May 2019).
4. With a consultant sponsored by the NZ Pacific Statistics Support Programme, developing the first-ever Tokelau time series of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for 2006/07 to 2017/18; this included training sessions and further meetings at StatsNZ in Wellington in September.
5. With Finance Department, contributing to the publication *Revenue Statistics in Asian and Pacific Economies* (OECD) for 2006-17. https://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?datasetcode=RS_ASI
6. Refining and populating our system “PC Trade-Green” (by StatsNZ, with SPC input also) for analysing imports, plus exports of recyclables, from January 2014 to December 2018. Cargo shipping manifests continued to be collected from Transport and Support Services.
7. Working closely with NZ Ministry for the Environment (MFE), for developing the first-ever detailed CO₂ emission estimates for Tokelau, to supplement NZ’s Greenhouse Gas Inventory 1990-2017. Significant data input from Finance Department was received. A visit to MFE in Wellington in June initiated the process of documenting to assist future updates.
8. Working with a consultant sponsored by Pacific Community (SPC), and with the head of the Planning and Monitoring Unit (PMU), to develop the first-ever Tokelau National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) 2019-23. Input from Departmental directors and Nuku managers was received, with Taupulega consultation starting in June 2019 (Fakaofu).
9. Training and planning for a second Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) to be held in September/October 2019 using tablets, in a one-off total population survey with SPC.
10. Assisting the Legal Adviser and Court Clerks with analysing annual court statistics for the three Nuku as well as at a National level.
11. Completing a first-ever photo survey of motorised vehicles while residing in Tokelau for 2-3 weeks at a time (Fakaofu: August, Nukunonu: October, Atafu: December 2018); and determining the extent of Tokelau’s road network. This paved the way for participation in the next International Road Federation’s *World Road Statistics (Data 2011-2018)* publication.

12. Monitoring Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as per United Nations (UN) agreed requirements. A tentative start was made with SPC, and some further work was done with PMU and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) also some OECD-UNDP support.
13. Participating in one key international forum: representing small National Statistics Offices (NSOs) at a meeting of the Pacific Statistics Strategy Committee (PSSC) in Nadi, Fiji.
14. Setting up a comprehensive Census Archive (with SPC) under the Data Documentation Initiative (DDI), including data collected and analytical reports published from the Censuses 1996 and 2001 by SPC; and 1991, 2006, 2011, 2016 by StatsNZ. The HIES 2015/16 is also similarly documented. This effort is a major first step in long-term file archiving of work by the previous and incumbent Statistics Advisor, with the latter's eventual departure in mind.
15. Continuing to lobby for ferry passenger analyses to be done, ideally as of Census 2016.
16. Seeking to meet the GF demand that Public Servants relocate to Tokelau: move to Atafu of Statistics Advisor and his family scheduled for 2018, deferred to July 2019, then cancelled.

Despite staffing uncertainty at the time of writing, the Annual Work Plan proposes the following items for 2019/20 and beyond. This is a tall order for a team that comprises nominally 2.3 FTE.

1. Seek to expand the statistics team with a view of capacity building and future proofing.
2. Continue to communicate the results of our statistical collections and analyses to the Taupulega (as our main employers); provide training in the basics of statistics interpretation and their application to policy development; explore data requirements of Nuku and Depts.
3. Improve archiving of TNSO documents including correspondence, data and internal reports, while retaining and updating the <https://www.tokelau.org.nz/Stats.html> public web portal.
4. Give effect to the NSDS 2019-2023 following its own prescriptions. Key to this remains a better cooperation within TNSO and with other departments, notably TSS and IT, and data exchanges with TSS, Health and Education.
5. Continue the calculations and publication of quarterly CPI.
6. Initiate reporting on IMTS using our "PC Trade-Green", Jan. 2014 to Dec. 2018. Informal presentations to TPS and Taupulega took place but no analytical reports have been written.
7. Train three enumerators from each Nuku in Apia and hold a HIES in Tokelau in September/October; analysing the collected data and reporting in 2020.
8. Calculate annual GDP 2018/19 as per consultant's manual, as soon as Government ledger data are available from Department of Finance, and continue contributing to OECD's publication: Revenue Statistics in Asian and Pacific Economies.
9. With MFE, refine the greenhouse gas emission estimates from 1990 to date (annually).
10. Assist in the December 2019 population count, ideally using the Generic Voter Registration System (GVRS) to precede national elections in January 2020.
11. Continue to seek access to ferry passenger data for analysis, from Transport Department.
12. Seek to resurrect the Civic Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) programme, with Departments of Health and of Support Services, and the Legal Adviser.
13. With PMU, MFAT and SPC, further develop and continue monitoring SDGs.
14. Analyse Labour Force Statistics by an external consultant, possibly with PSSP / ILO support.
15. Initiate preparations for the next 5-yearly Tokelau Census, on Tuesday 19 October 2021.

OVERVIEW OF: TOKELAU NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE 2018/19 RESULTS

In the OCOG Statement of Intent 2016-2020, including its Annual Work Plan for 2016/17, “Statistics” feature under “Policy Outcome 4: Be a high performance service provider”; whose indicator is: “Level of methodological sound population and economic statistics available”.

The TNSO Statement of Intent 2018/19 set as main targets the Quarterly CPI, development of GDP, and NSDS. These and additional achievements in the last year can be summarised as follows.

Planned work in the 2018/19 financial year	Result (June 2019)	
Capacity building and future proofing	Statistics Officer further trained until her maternity leave in February; no additional staff appointed	
Communications of results: 2016 Tokelau Census of Population and Dwellings, 2015/16 Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES), and Tokelau Imports 2014-2018	Consultation meetings held with Taupulega in August (Fakaofu), October (Nukunonu) and December (Atafu) during 2-week visits, and again in Atafu and Fakaofu during a roundtrip in May. Also meetings with The Administrator, Te Ulu o Tokelau, and Apia office staff; incidental advice	
Consumer Price Index (CPI)	Four Quarterly CPI calculations performed, three information releases and tables published, plus provisional March 2019 quarter tables	
Gross Domestic Product (GDP) 2006/07-2017/18	MFAT and StatsNZ-sponsored consultant developed a 10-year time series and manual for subsequent calculations (2017/18 provisional)	
<i>Revenue Statistics in Asian and Pacific Economies (OECD) 2006-2017</i>	Tokelau figures with new GDP times series published by OECD	
International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS)	PCTrade in Excel implemented (with StatsNZ); Analysis of draft shipping manifests completed for 2014 to 2018 inclusive (volumes and weights)	
Estimating Tokelau carbon emissions 1990-2017	About 3 kilotonnes p.a., see NZ’s Greenhouse Gas Inventory 1990-2017, April 2019 (with NZ-MFE)	
National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS)	With consultant sponsored by SPC, with SMU and Nuku / departmental inputs: comprehensive draft completed for GF endorsement	
Household Income and Expenditure Survey planning for late 2019	Training course at SPC in Noumea in February; Field plan and questionnaire developed for Computer-Assisted Personal Interviews (CAPI)	
Monitoring SDGs for Tokelau / partnering with other government departments	Tentative initial steps taken with MFAT: Education, PMU, Finance	
Passenger list analysis	TSS not supplying data despite various requests, proposals and meetings	
Statistics Adviser’s relocation further explored	Atafu “not ready”; no longer happening	

Unplanned initiatives and opportunities 2018/19	Result (June 2019)	
Summarising annual court statistics within each Nuku	Fakaofu, Nukunonu, Atafu; National reporting	
Completing a motor vehicle survey in all three villages	Vehicle tables available and compared to imports data	
Estimating length of Tokelau road network	Length of roads was calculated from satellite maps to be 10.039 km (with SPC)	
Pacific Statistics Strategy Committee (PSSC) in Nadi, Fiji, November 2018	Represented small National Statistics Offices (NSOs), presented Tokelau update	
Training for development of a Metadata library for Tokelau surveys, consistent with the World Bank's Data Documentation Initiative (DDI)	HIES 2015/16 and 5-yearly Censuses from 1996 onwards now fully documented for potential on-line publication, with SPC	

Proposed future activities	Timeframe	Support sought
Team development, capacity building	Urgent	Internal: key date 1/10/19
Communications: stats training in Nuku; explore nuku / depts' data requirements	Ongoing	Taupulega/community groups
Archiving	Ongoing	IT Manager, SPC
Implementation of National Strategy for the Development of Statistics	Upon endorsement by General Fono (Oct/Nov?)	All Government Departments and Nuku
Calculation and publication of quarterly Consumer Price Index	Ongoing: quarterly price collection and analysis	Peer review by SNZ, SPC
International Merchandise Trade Statistics: volume and weight, but also financial value	Ongoing analysis of cargo manifests; set up system for invoices soon	Transport and Support Services, Finance data, SPC peer review
Household Income and Expenditure Survey	September/October 2019, analysis throughout 2020	SPC
Gross Domestic Product calculation	Annual updates (October)	Consultant peer review
Estimating greenhouse gas emissions	Annual updates (November)	MFE
Population Count – de jure definition	Late 2019: Pre-elections	SNZ?
Ferry passenger analysis	ASAP, continuous from Population Count	TSS data, SNZ?
Civic Registration and Vital Statistics	Resurrect ASAP	TSS, Health, SPC
Sustainable Development Goal monitoring	Ongoing	Planning and Monitoring Unit, Education; Health, Finance, MFAT; SPC
Labour Force Survey – mining Census 2006-2016 data and HIES 2015/16, 2019	2020	SNZ staff or PSSP-sponsored consultant? ILO?
Prepare for Census 19 October 2021	2021	SNZ

Introduction

This Statement of Intent (SOI) in the annual series sets out what the Tokelau National Statistics Office (TNSO) has achieved over the 2018/19 financial year (FY), for the Office of the Council for the Ongoing Government of Tokelau (OCOG), and for the people in the villages Atafu, Nukunonu and Fakaofu.

It also provides a brief Annual Work Plan (AWP) for the 2019/2020 FY and beyond, to supplement the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) that has now been completed – at least in draft form and awaiting General Fono endorsement. Subsequently it is anticipated that only brief AWP's not detailed SOI's will be updated and monitored annually in future.

SOI for the TNSO have been released in the middle of each calendar year since 2013. Their focus was to build and strengthen local statistical capacity; and to report on and plan for the central provision of statistical services and advice for local decision-making in the Tokelau Public Service.

The annual SOI series was designed to:

- include the priorities of the *Tokelau National Statistics Office Strategic Plan 2009-2013* (TNSO *Strategic Plan*) as well as the Roadmap to the NSDS (2015) which paved the way to the new NSDS (2019-2023);
- reflect the Tokelau National Strategic Plan 2016-2020 (TNSP) and the OCOG Statement of Intent 2016-2020 where “Statistics” features under “Policy Outcome 4: Be a high performance service provider”.

Framework for the Tokelau National Statistics Office

The Tokelau National Statistics Office operates under a tight institutional framework. Its operating policies, best practice principles and a solid legal framework are vital to the success of a statistics system for Tokelau.

Importance of official statistics

Official Statistics are produced by all areas of government. They include surveys, administrative data, and registration records that are available and can be published. It is essential that Tokelau values and uses official statistics, and the TNSO aims to set a high quality standard.

Building Tokelau's collection and use of official statistics can help the Council for the Ongoing Government of Tokelau, as well as the Taupulega (village councils) of Atafu, Nukunonu and Fakaofu to make good-quality, evidence-based decisions on behalf of the people of Tokelau.

The TNSO itself aims to provide high-quality, reliable, and consistent data analysis for policy development, for decision-makers, for the people to Tokelau, and for the international community.

The values of the TNSO are:

- honesty and fairness
- respect for all cultures, beliefs, and the diversity of people
- provision of relevant, high-quality, and timely information
- confidentiality
- professionalism
- transparency
- respect for survey respondents and users.

Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

The Principles are a set of governing values developed by the United Nations to ensure robust and independent statistics from the world's national statistics offices.

The TNSO has adopted and harmonised the 10 Fundamental Principles to Tokelau's unique situation, and will employ them as fundamental policy to the TNSO's statistical activities.

The 10 Principles are:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Relevance, impartiality, and equal access | 6. Confidentiality |
| 2. Professionalism | 7. Legislation |
| 3. Accountability | 8. National co-ordination |
| 4. Prevention of misuse | 9. International co-ordination |
| 5. Cost-effectiveness | 10. International statistical co-operation |

Tokelau Statistics Rules 2013

The Statistics Rules 2013 provide the TNSO the legal mandate to:

- undertake collection
- require compliance
- ensure privacy and confidentiality for respondents
- provide security for data
- ensure the robust, efficient, and quality collection of the information required by Tokelau across all government departments.

The Statistics Rules 2013 also provide:

- legal protection for respondents when they give their information
- a legal mandate to the TNSO to work across departments
- a mandated system of redress, should there be a breach of confidentiality, privacy, security, or trust of the statistics produced by any department in the Government of Tokelau
- a prescription of the role of the National Statistician.

Role of the National Statistician

The National Statistician's responsibilities are to:

- drive the overall performance of statistical activities undertaken by the Government of Tokelau
- coordinate statistical activities across government departments. This includes setting statistical standards; reviewing and commenting on the validity of statistics; monitoring progress and performance; and ensuring that action is taken if results are not achieved
- provide statistical direction to other government departments, build shared ownership of data collection and analysis activities, minimise duplication, and maximise reuse of data
- define and agree on the outputs that departments will work on together
- advise the government on policies, priorities, and the costs / benefits of statistical activities
- manage TSNO staff and budget.

The statutory independence of the National Statistician is a key component of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and the Tokelau Statistics Rules 2013.

Our operating environment

The TNSO operates in a formal, legislated environment: the Statistics Rules 2013 outlined above.

The TNSO *Strategic Plan 2009* expired at the end of the 2013/14 calendar year. It is currently being replaced by a comprehensive, and widely consulted National Strategy for the Development of Statistics. An NSDS can assist the TNSO in becoming an organisation that meets most statistical needs of Tokelau's developing government and international commitments. As described below, this NSDS development process has come to fruition in 2018/19.

The TNSO has control of its own budget; transparent budget management processes will continue to be developed to ensure that the TNSO operates as a reliable and trustworthy government agency. The annual funding appropriation available to the TNSO is insufficient to meet all of the TNSO's objectives. Therefore additional funding needs to be sourced from regional support partners if it is to meet its national and international objectives, and Tokelau villagers' needs.

The Tokelau atolls are very remote from the Apia office and TNSO's transport requirements must be actively managed. Since February 2016, the ferry *Mataliki* schedule provides mostly fortnightly opportunities to travel to and from Tokelau. From March 2018, the Tokelau freight ship *Kalopaga* provided additional means for travel, supplemented by the inter-atoll vessel *Fetu o te Moana* from February 2019. These vessels provide greater opportunity to engage with communities in Tokelau.

Partnering with regional and international statistical agencies

The TNSO is the smallest of the Pacific national statistics offices, with three permanent positions established to date: that of National Statistician (part-time), Statistics Adviser, and Statistics Officer. Yet, the TNSO has an ambitious work programme, and active engagement with regional and international statistical agencies is encouraging a variety of Tokelau statistics to be compiled, that would otherwise have too low a priority to focus on.

Much of TNSO's work is around establishing economic data procedures for determining the level of development compared to other Pacific Island Countries and Territories. Such indicators are required for a range of commitments under international agreements and expectations. Tokelau now has good, comparable data from three consecutive 5-yearly Censuses, the 2015/16 Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES), 7 years of Quarterly Consumer Price Index (CPI), and an 11-year Gross Domestic Product (GDP) time series. Detailed imports data covering 2014 to 2018 are now also available, but limited to weights and volumes, not financial totals. We have estimated greenhouse gas emissions, and are starting to monitor Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The section that follows sets out in some detail what outputs were achieved in 2018/19, in a new format of "Planned/Background/Achieved" subheadings. It is anticipated that in future years the shorter format will be used to provide short Annual Work Plans, centred around the TokSDS. The level of detail in the present report serves to document activities if discontinuity should eventuate.

TNSO's work in the past financial year 2018/19

The 2017/18 Annual Work Plan for the Council for the Ongoing Government of Tokelau, included in the OCOG Statement of Intent 2016-2020, features "Statistics" under "Policy Outcome 4: Be a high performance service provider". The indicator thereof is: "Level of methodological sound population and economic statistics available". The main set targets for 2018/19 were calculating the Quarterly CPI, Tokelau's greenhouse gas emissions, plus the development of IMTS, GDP and NSDS. These and additional achievements in 2018/19 feature below, in a new and easier to interpret format.

TSNO staffing / capacity building

Planned: Achieving a full complement of at least three full-time statistics staff was identified in the "Roadmap to NSDS" as a priority, in order for TNSO to become more effective in delivering on its range of statistical duties.

Not achieved: The only statistician-operator throughout the entire financial year was the Statistics Adviser, assisted until February 2019 by the Statistics Officer (who took maternity leave until July). The National Statistician was present throughout in a non-operational role, in a part-time capacity.

Nevertheless a good level of output was maintained in 2018/19. Major achievements outlined below partly relied on the assistance from sponsored consultants, for NSDS and GDP in particular; and regular support from Pacific Community (SPC), Statistics NZ, and NZ Ministry for the Environment.

Communications

Planned: A major focus in 2018/19 was the communication of results from 2016 Tokelau Census of Population and Dwellings, and 2015/16 Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES); and to present provisional results from our analysis of cargo shipping manifests for imports 2014-2018.

Background: "Why are we doing this?" It is primarily meant to be for the villages' benefit that we are doing all our work, not just to meet international commitments. While we have been so busy collecting and analysing data, the objective of addressing Taupulega had to be postponed until this financial year. Meanwhile a presence was to be maintained on our website, for ease of access. Other opportunities to publicise and promote Tokelau Statistics work were to be taken. In addition the question "How will we operate as a team?" needed to be addressed.

Achieved: The Statistics Adviser held consultation meetings with Taupulega in August (Fakaofu), October (Nukunonu) and December (Atafu) during 2- to 3-week visits to each Nuku. A second round on HIES planning with Atafu and Fakaofu Taupulega took place in May 2019 during a 2-week roundtrip on the *Kalopaga* and *Mataliki*, assisted by the inter-island vessel *Fetu o te Moana*.

The Statistics Adviser also gave group presentations with a focus on Imports to TSS and other Apia staff on 10 July and 17 December 2018. He gave a training seminar on preparing good graphs on 3 August, which was also given to teachers in Fakaofu on 22 August. A presentation on Tokelau was part of the PSSC meeting in Nadi in November, and at the SPC training (twice) on HIES and Metadata in Noumea in February/March. Further individual statistics presentations in Apia were well received by the Administrator of Tokelau on 8 April, and Te Ulu o Tokelau on 6 June 2019.

Additional statistical advice and data were provided, mainly concerning results from Census, HIES, and imports study; about population, health, economy and traffic; upon request from various sources.

Duty travel reports on all Statistics Adviser's missions exist: to Fakaofu (August 2018), Wellington, NZ (September), Nukunonu (October), Nadi, Fiji (November), Atafu (December), Noumea, New Caledonia (February/March 2019), Tokelau (May) and New Zealand (June). Written for managers and for the formal record in the interest of transparency, these reports are available upon request.

Not achieved: Communication within OCOG has remained disappointing, with no team meetings held since March 2017. The new (December 2018) Manager National intended to change this but office meetings have yet to eventuate. Even within the TNSO, communication is extraordinarily poor, with the National Statistician having few interactions with his 2 staff about what they do; and not sharing key information from the SMT mailing list, such as Council meeting documentation.

The National Statistician started consultations on the NSDS in June (Taupulega Fakaofu) but they are unlikely to be completed in Nukunonu and Atafu before the General Fono in July 2019.

The Tokelau website, other than its Statistics page, is effectively dead for lack of input by the IT Manager. Although within-Nuku communication has emerged (in the form of local newsletters), external communication is limited to a Facebook page with random, poor-quality live broadcasts.

Consumer Price Index

Planned: To calculate the CPI for Tokelau and publish an information release and statistical tables for each quarter within the month following the reference period (i.e. in October for 3rd quarter, etc).

Background: The CPI is an important economic indicator that can be used to measure inflation: meaning, how the value of money decreases locally over time. It is thus an indicator of how many goods and services the dollar will buy, and also how the effective value of monetary aid can change.

With the assistance of Statistics New Zealand, the TNSO successfully launched Tokelau's first Consumer Price Index in September 2012. Quarterly CPI reports have been published ever since. A simplified spreadsheet for calculating CPI time series was developed at the Pacific Community in 2016 and was further updated at the 2017 March quarter rebasing. This SPC spreadsheet continues to be the main tool for data collection, analysis and output.

Achieved: Information releases and tables were published on the website and distributed by email on or near 31 July, 31 October, and 31 January. On 30 April (March 2019 quarter) only provisional tables could be published for lack of comprehensive data. Obtaining timely and accurate pricing from the co-op and bulk stores on island, and some from Apia, continued to be challenging. A thorough pricing exercise by the Statistics Adviser throughout Tokelau in May is expected to deliver reliable results in July.

Gross Domestic Product

Planned: To develop a 10-year GDP time series, and manual for subsequent in-house calculation. This plan was the outcome of TNSO participating in an OECD workshop in Nadi in December 2017.

Background: GDP is an indispensable tool for a broad range of analytical and policy formulation purposes. Governments, businesses, trade and labour organizations, academic researchers, journalists and the general public use GDP to evaluate the performance of the economy, to appraise the success of monetary and industrial policies, to explore past trends in production, to forecast future prospects of economic growth, and to carry out international comparisons.

The Tokelau GDP was published for “the first time this century” in February 2017. (This was Provisional 2015/16, as the Teletok annual accounts for that year were not available at the time.)

Achieved: During 2019, StatsNZ sponsored an independent contractor on our behalf, through their Pacific Statistics Support Programme. Dr Anne McAlister was provided with much of the data she needed for this by the Department on Finance, notably the Acting Finance Director Mr Alan Shaw. This resulted in the GDP time series 2006/07-2016/17, delivered in September 2018. A manual was developed in association, and additional training and support of the Statistics Adviser allowed the GDP of 2017/18 to be calculated by TNSO, albeit that the result was tagged “Provisional” for lack of complete confidence (a minor error could not be found) and employment data not being available.

The time series has been published to accompany Tokelau revenue data in *Revenue Statistics in Asian and Pacific Economies*¹ for 2006-17, published by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). Mrs Nive Tauillili represented the Department of Finance in a similar workshop in Nadi in February/March 2019. Updates of Revenue, and Provisional GDP for 2017/18 were delivered for the subsequent issue of the annual OECD publication in print and on-line.

International Merchandise Trade Statistics

Planned: To analyse draft cargo shipping manifests from January 2014 onwards and provide an overview of goods imported and exported over time, using the Harmonised System coding for categories of items.

Background: International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS) are economic statistics whose major uses are to inform economic policy; trade policy, negotiations, and monitoring; infrastructure planning; and input into other economic measures such as balance of payments, and national accounts. Imports for 2014 had been analysed “long-hand” by the Statistics Adviser in 2015-2016. When Statistics NZ provided us with the “PCTrade-Green” system in Excel, analysis of all cargo shipping manifests obtained from TSS could proceed in terms of volume and weights of cargo.

Achieved: The “PCTrade-Green” system in Excel continued to be successfully implemented and further refined, the Statistics Officer completing retrospective entry of detailed shipping manifests for the years 2014 to 2018 inclusive. Some tentative communications have been prepared and presented to stakeholders (including TSS and three Taupulega, The Administrator and Te Ulu). Specific enquiries to stakeholders (staff, consultants, Nuku Manager, MFAT) were responded to. An example is the calculation of Tokelau’s drinking/freshwater needs, not only on the basis of census population of people (and pigs) but also on the amount of cement imported for concrete production.

Not achieved: A formal written report with graphs and summary tables is still to be drafted. Also, we have as yet no method of putting a financial value on the exported items, although this is the format that statistical tables for international comparisons (in USD) must take. The TNSO has continued to investigate options for implementation of IMTS for Tokelau, with the Department of Transport and Support Services (which has sole responsibility for managing the transfer of goods between Tokelau and other countries). A formal proposal to this effect has been discussed but not actioned.

¹ https://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?datasetcode=RS_ASI

Greenhouse Gas inventory

Planned: Estimating Tokelau carbon emissions 1990-2017.

Background: In 2018, NZ Ministry for the Environment (MFE) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Tokelau's Climate Change Agency (now Ministry of Climate Change, Oceans and Resilience, MiCORE). One of the objectives was to work closely together on an inventory of greenhouse gases (GHG) to supplement the NZ mainland emissions. Detailed guidance is available from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and was interpreted for Tokelau application by MFE staff, notably Dr Olia Glade.

Achieved: The IMTS studies that TNSO has conducted to date on fuel imports, and the 5-yearly Census reports, provided a valuable starting point for the calculations. Significant data input from Finance Department was also received. Supplemented by various extrapolations and assumptions, we could help demonstrate that the Tokelau emissions fall below the 0.05% total emissions of NZ (and can therefore be considered negligible). The results have been published as Chapter 8 in NZ's *Greenhouse Gas Inventory 1990-2017*, April 2019 (MFE).

Waste and boating fuel are the biggest contributors to Greenhouse Gases emissions, but current calculations do not take travel between international ports or airports into account; so once we start including ferry voyages Apia-Tokelau that number will change. Total emissions within Tokelau were calculated to be a mere 3 kilotonnes per annum, as visualised on the MFE website:

<https://emissionstracker.mfe.govt.nz/#NrAMBoEYE5lXXMS4BEA5ApgFxQ4AmcfUSAdjwA5Vc4g>

As an atoll nation, Tokelau is at the worst receiving end of climate change. We now also have the *evidence* that we contribute next to nothing to the problem – or as Te Ulu o Tokelau was able to state at COP25 in Poland last December: “since going solar, Tokelau is contributing *half of next to nothing* to the cause of climate change”.

During a June visit to MFE in Wellington, where most of the relevant technical expertise resides, a start was made with documenting the assumptions and Tokelau contributions to the calculations. These are being automated as much as possible for ease of updating, by Mr Chris Bean of MFE.

National Strategy for the Development of Statistics in Tokelau

Planned: To develop a Tokelau National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS).

Background: The NSDS is meant to replace the TNSO Strategic Plan 2009–2013. The Ten Year Pacific Statistics Strategy (TYPPS) 2010–2020 encourages its members to complete an NSDS. In 2015 a consultant, funded by the Paris 21 organisation, developed part 1: an Assessment of the current state of the TNSO and the wider government; plus part 2: a Roadmap for meeting Tokelau's needs. The Roadmap was approved by Tokelau Council. The SPC Director of the Statistics for Development Division, Dr 'Ofa Ketu volunteered to sponsor her predecessor, Dr Gerald Haberkorn to develop an NSDS for Tokelau. He came with excellent credentials, having written the guide for preparing NSDSs for the Paris 21 organisation.

Achieved: Consultations with Departmental Directors took place in August 2018. Based on these consultations, Dr Haberkorn then developed a draft TokSDS, assisted by Tiso Fauola, the Director of the Planning and Monitoring Unit mainly, and by the Statistics Adviser, in February 2019. The

National Statistician and PMU Director were to take the draft to all Taupulega for consultation in June but only Fakaofu was visited then. Adoption by GF in October/November 2019 is anticipated.

Household Income and Expenditure Survey

Planned: To organise, with SPC, a second Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) to be conducted in Tokelau in 2019, using SPC's newly developed shorter questionnaire in Computer-Assisted Personal Interviews (CAPI) using tablet computers.

Background: Since our very first HIES in 2015/16, consumption patterns in Tokelau are likely to have changed considerably. An across-the board pay rise of 10% was implemented for public Servants in 2016. Mobile phones were introduced mid-2017, as was a significant tax increase on cigarettes; cars and other goods are increasingly being imported (the dedicated cargo ship *Kalopaga* was officially launched in March 2018), travel has become more prevalent.

Achieved: A request for Tokelau to be part of the next HIES round using SPC's new methodology was successful, and training was received in February 2019. Field plan and budget were prepared, and the proposal taken to Taupulega for consultation in May 2019 (Atafu, Fakaofu). The draft CAPI questionnaire had already been developed in Noumea, and underwent a field test in Atafu using a tablet. Preparations are being made for holding the 2-week HIES training by SPC in Apia for on-island interviewers and supervisor, followed by the survey proper over about 4 weeks, in September/October 2019. All households will be interviewed this time to allow for reporting by Nuku.

Sustainable Development Goals monitoring

Planned: To coordinate SDG reporting for Tokelau and contribute to the global UN database.

Background: In 2018, an informal start was made in monitoring Tokelau's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that the United Nations agreed to in 2016. There are 169 targets and 132 individual indicators for SDGs, with a subset identified as relevant to Pacific (although any number per 100,000 inhabitants is not so useful for Tokelau...). While indicators on Health, Education and Good Governance are meant to be reported on by the respective departments, the TNSO can play a role in addressing others such as access to clean water, employment, etc. SPC is providing assistance in the process, having initiated a preliminary assessment for the May 2018 meeting of Heads of the Pacific Islands Forum (of which Tokelau is an Associate Member).

Achieved/Not achieved: The SDGs are very diverse and cover all fields of government activity. Working together with MFAT and PMU, and with assistance from the OECD, some contributions were made to the Global Partnership Monitoring. Preliminary discussion was held during the Statistics Adviser's visit to SPC, but at this stage it is difficult to start seeing the trees for the wood – all the more so without a UN-affiliated volunteer in the office (as was the case in previous years).

International cooperation

Planned: Partnering with regional & international statistical agencies (StatsNZ, SPC, OECD, IRF).

Background: As the smallest of the Pacific national statistics offices, TNSO remains heavily dependent on international technical assistance, and on cooperation with other government departments to develop and maintain its statistical outputs. Active engagement with regional and international statistical agencies is encouraging a variety of Tokelau statistics to be compiled, that would otherwise have too low a priority to focus on.

Achieved: One international event provided a good opportunity to put Tokelau in the spotlight as a representative of the small National Statistics Offices: the meeting of the Pacific Statistics Steering Committee (SPC-sponsored, in Nadi, November 2018).

Cooperation with the Pacific Community (SPC) was particularly effective this year, with SPC sponsoring a consultant to draft the NSDS, and inviting the Statistics Adviser to a training course in Noumea, on HIES and on Metadata, respectively. As a result, the archive of previous Censuses is now almost fully documented and awaiting signatures for data sharing agreements.

The HIES course subsequently led to the development of a CAPI questionnaire in the World Bank's Survey Solutions for Tokelau, already tested in the field. As Statistics NZ was unable or unwilling to provide the 2016 Census questionnaire in that format, with the help of SPC it was reconstituted from the published questionnaire. This might provide the basis for the Population Count questionnaire in CAPI, and also for the 2021 Tokelau Census. Reconstitution is not as good as having access to the original; it was time-consuming to prepare / debug; yet it's good to have access to it in this format.

Cooperation with Statistics NZ continued to be productive, especially in the areas of IMTS (through the further development of "PCTrade-Green" by Mr Nick Cox) and GDP (their Pacific Statistics Support Programme sponsored the consultant to develop our 10-year time series and manual).

An unfortunate exception was the lack of continued cooperation with StatsNZ about the Tokelau Census, whose Wellington manager appeared to have closed the door on effective communication - with the Statistics Adviser in particular. In the interest of future joint projects, this is an area that needs fixing whichever way possible, in an open and constructive manner.

Our cooperation across government

Planned: Partnering with other government departments for the benefit of all of Tokelau.

Background: It is essential that we continue to work together with other departments in the Tokelau National Public Service, not only to obtain essential data for statistical analysis and reporting, but also to provide training as required. The draft NSDS aims to encourage this type of cooperation.

Achieved: Cooperation with the Department of Finance has been effective particularly relating to data required for the preparation of GDP, and GHG calculations. This has been mostly at hoc, however, and a more structured approach may be required under the new Director of Finance. Cooperation with Planning and Monitoring Unit is evidenced by the draft NSDS, which in itself aims to achieve better cooperation and coordination within the Public Service. While some cooperation with Departments of Education and the Information Technology Manager exists, there is much scope for improvement, perhaps with guidance from the new Manager OCOG/National, Tino Vitale.

Cooperation with Transport has remained disappointing: a real hiatus given the important and major points of common interests such as shipping, imports and passenger movement. There is no doubt that personalities play a part here, but given various sudden resignations within the TSS department in recent times, perhaps not altogether a TNSO issue. One can only hope for improvement.

Analysis of ferry passenger data

Planned: To analyse how many people are actually benefiting from Tokelau's international vessels *Mataliki* and *Kalopaga*, while maintaining confidentiality around individuals' personal details.

Background: It is plain to see that there are now several times more passenger trips per annum than a few years ago (base year 2014). What we don't know yet is how many unique individuals are traveling between Apia and Tokelau, and what their ages and origins are. Combined with Population Count data, births / deaths, an analysis of passenger data is valuable to emergency preparedness.

Not achieved: Despite various attempts on various fronts, the TSS Department remains unwilling to share its passenger manifests with TNSO, even though on an operational front this would mean no more than simply including tsno@tokelau.org.nz in their internal and official Customs mailing list.

Relocation of Tokelau Public Service to Tokelau

Planned: Statistics Adviser's relocation options to Atafu further explored.

Background: In 2017 General Fono decided that the National Public Service be relocated from Apia to Tokelau, and this was confirmed at General Fono in February 2018. By General Fono of July 2018 an implementation plan was to be presented for relocation of OCOG initially, preferably within 2018. In April 2018, the Statistics Adviser demonstrated a willingness to make that move, upon receiving assurance from the then Acting General Manager National, Seiuli Junior Aleta, that a suitable house in Atafu would be ready for his family to live in by October 2018.

Not achieved: The Statistics Adviser got married to his Samoan partner of two years in September 2018, so that he and his new family would be allowed to live in Tokelau (while avoiding Tokelau Courts offences 22 "Adultery and fornication" and 23 "Unmarried persons living together"). The promised living quarters did not eventuate, although an explorative trip by the wedded couple to Atafu indicated that suitable accommodation might be available in July 2018. But in May it became clear this would not be the case, and the plan to shift to Atafu as a family was formally abandoned.

Unplanned initiatives and opportunities 2018/19 in brief

- *Summarising annual court statistics*

Achieved: Fakaofu (August 2018) and Nukunonu (November), and Atafu (May 2019): analyses, graphs and tables for reporting made available to the Court Clerks, Legal Adviser and her Assistant.

- *Completing a motor vehicle survey in all three villages*

Achieved: Photo survey completed within villages (August-December 2018); comparison to imports data available. Vehicle table published in NZ's *Greenhouse Gas Inventory 1990-2017* (MFE).

- *Estimating length of Tokelau road network*

Achieved: Length of all roads combined was calculated from satellite maps to be approx. 10 km (10,039 metres) with SPC: Mr Luis de la Rua.

- *Attending Pacific Statistics Strategy Committee (PSSC) in Nadi, Fiji, November 2018*

Achieved: Represented small National Statistics Offices (NSOs), presented Tokelau update.

- *Training for development of a Metadata library for Tokelau surveys (with SPC)*

Achieved: HIES 2015/16 and all 5-yearly Censuses from 1996 onwards are now fully documented for potential on-line publication, consistent with the World Bank's Data Documentation Initiative (DDI). Results are awaiting National Statistician's signature for Data Licence Agreement with SPC. In the process, "long-lost" Census reports for 1981, 1986, and 1991 were located and archived.

Plans for TNSO's work in the 2019/20 financial year and beyond

Challenges

The real value of statistics lies not so much in individual observations but in time series, so that trends can be discovered. For this reason it is important that measurements are made to the same standard (such as the exact definition of *de jure population* in the Censuses 2006, 2011 and 2016, and in the 2013 Population Count). Equally important is it that calculations of CPI, GDP, IMTS and GHG continue to the standards set; only the HIES is a major "revised" project planned for 2019.

The draft NSDS requires village consultation and, ideally, adoption by General Fono. Assistance with the Population Count by December 2019 (to precede the 3-yearly elections in January 2020) is also anticipated. The Generic Voter Registration System is ready to be implemented if called upon. The next major event on the statistics calendar is the legally required Census, on 19 October 2021.

For our small team this programme presents many challenges, even if supported by our friends at StatsNZ, MFE and SPC. The importance of capacity building, training and documentation cannot be understated in terms of continuity and future-proofing of Tokelau statistics. The incumbent Statistics Adviser is potentially available in Apia until December 2021. What follows sets out recommended activities over that timeframe, with a focus on further consolidation during July 2019 – June 2020.

Capacity building and documentation

The position of Statistics Adviser (originally on secondment from Statistics New Zealand) was always meant to assist the development of the TNSO, in the hope and expectation that Tokelau nationals could be attracted to be trained and run the office eventually. This has not occurred to date. A Tokelauan was trained for 9 months during 2016/17 in the position of Statistics Officer. However she returned to New Zealand after 9 months, having contributed to CPI and Census. Both are major activities whose processes and products are well documented.

A Samoan was subsequently trained, and contributed greatly to CPI and IMTS. After 8 months she took maternity leave in February 2019, and is due to report back for duty in July. Her IMTS work to date has provided an excellent database from which interim products have arisen (such as PowerPoint presentations). But documentation of methods and write-up of IMTS results 2015-2018 is yet to be tackled, as is comparison to results from the prior, very detailed 2014 imports study.

Knowledge transfer to trainees and into documentation remains a high priority for TNSO continuity. It has been up to the Statistics Adviser to practically run all TNSO operations, effectively also acting as Statistical Analyst by carrying out or overseeing all calculations. The National Statistician was kept informed throughout the year; he was also directly involved with the NSDS, and with the translation into Tokelau language of correspondence and statistics presentations to Taupulega.

Communication and Archiving

In 2018/19, a high level of communicating the results of Statistical Analysis and the value thereof for policy making and monitoring was achieved. It is proposed that such communication to Taupulega, community groups in the Nuku, staff in the Apia offices and at international meetings be continued.

Experience in Taupulega sessions shows that people are eager to hear more statistics but need to learn how to interpret them. Specific training sessions are desirable, but the question is if they will be given priority upon arrival in the Nuku, to warrant all the travel and time out from ongoing work.

TNSO could make a greater effort to explore the data requirements of Nuku and all departments.

Closer cooperation with staff of the Samoa Bureau of Statistics would be desirable at operational level, which is probably subject to contact being made at National/Government Statistician level.

Archiving and shared access of TNSO documents including correspondence, data and internal reports, needs to be improved while retaining and updating the Statistics webpages for public documentation. This requires greater input from the IT Manager, which however continues to be difficult to obtain. Given the IT Manager's infrequent availability in the office and largely ineffective customer support, the Statistics Adviser had continued in a de facto role as computer help desk – however reluctantly, given that it is not his formal brief. IT client needs must be better addressed.

National Strategy for the Development of Statistics– implementation

The draft National Strategy for the Development of Statistics 2019-2023 was completed in February 2019. Consultation with Taupulega in Fakaofu place on 18 June. Consultation in Nukunonu and Atafu is now a high priority, with the intention to seek NSDS endorsement at General Fono soonest.

The next major step will be to give effect to the NSDS, following its own prescriptions. Key to successful implementation remains improving cooperation within TNSO and with other departments, notably TSS and IT, and data exchanges with Finance, TSS, Health and Education.

Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) information is a core economic indicator for Tokelau, and TNSO expects to continue the price collection, analysis, and releases on a quarterly basis for the 2019/20 financial year and beyond. The quality of price collection on the atolls (and some in Apia) could be further improved. Any opportunity should be used in all three atolls to explain the importance of CPI (combined with GDP) as economic indicators for Tokelau. Separating out the effect of cigarette pricing remains valuable in view of the target “Tokelau smoke-free by 2020”.

Note that cigarettes (currently about 14% of expenditure weighting) will no longer be available through the co-op stores by then; individual imports into Tokelau are also seriously restricted.

The HIES planned for 2019 is anticipated to result in detailed expenditure data by Tokelau households. On the basis of this, the basket of goods and services will be able to be reviewed and new weights assigned as necessary. Rebasings the CPI during 2020 would be a desirable outcome.

International Merchandise Trade Statistics

The analysis of shipping manifests for 2014-2018 to date was completed in the computer package PCTrade-in-Excel in 2018/19. The intent is to analyse new manifest data at least quarterly. A further aim is to use the system for simplifying the imports administration, automating the generation of draft shipping manifests, as well as the analysis of what actually gets shipped.

While cooperation with TSS remains challenging, an improvement made is that the National Statistician now receives “Co-signed Manifests” after most vessel departures. These formal documents signed by TSS and Samoa Customs are more reliable than the draft manifests that were obtained previously. However submission at present is erratic (and to tnso@tokelau.org.nz would be preferred), and retrospective data for January-March 2019 are still to be requested/obtained.

The setback remains that the cargo manifests only address weight and volume of shipped items, not financial value. Yet in IMTS, international comparisons are made in US dollars. Consultancy reports by SPC provide some suggestions for compiling quarterly or annual IMTS statistics. However this presumes an effective IT infrastructure for imports to be present, which is yet to be developed (indeed for the Tokelau Public Service as a whole). Working more closely with TSS, IT, the Finance department in Apia and in the Nuku could help resolve this data dilemma.

Another setback warrants a mention: both *Mataliki* and *Kalopaga* now use custom-made, standard containers, and the data contained on the cargo manifests is not as detailed as it used to be. For example, *Mataliki* containers are 5 or 10 foot, of volumes 6 or 12 cubic metres and weighing 3,000 or 6,000 kg, with contents now just classified as “Assorted goods and personal effects”. All the more the reason to consider “Research proposal A” presented to TSS on 17 December 2018 (Appendix).

Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2 in 2019 – Implementation

The proposal to hold a second Household Income and Expenditure Survey was developed at SPC in February 2019, with a field plan and budget. This was discussed in May 2019 with Taupulega in Atafu and Fakaofu, but unfortunately not yet in Nukunonu to date. Tentative support was received for holding the HIES in September/October. This would comprise training local enumerators in Apia for 2 weeks, followed by putting the Survey to effect on-atoll over a 4-week period as per the field plan. Analysing the collected data and reporting would take place in 2020. A revision of the basket of goods and services for CPI; an update of GDP calculations; comparison with the previous HIES; and reporting back to Taupulega (particularly on household income) would follow. Note that rather than a sample, a HIES of *all* households is proposed so results can be separated out for each Nuku.

Gross Domestic Product

GDP is an important economic indicator for Tokelau and should be able to be calculated annually using the manual prepared by the Consultant, ideally with her final input as peer reviewer. The provisional 2018/19 value still needs validating, firstly by finding the small error in the master sheet. Ideally the value would be supplemented by using employment data which are not easily obtained. The existing manual could be used one more time for 2019/20, while applying the updated population estimates from the 2019 Population Count.

From 2020/21 onwards, the spreadsheets will need to be updated and revised if new HIES data are available, for which contracting the same GDP Consultant, Dr Anne McAllister is recommended. Ideally a system would be set up in cooperation with the Department of Finance, to allow for swift and accurate annual updates from then on.

Annual income figures from the Department of Finance and subsequent GDP calculation could continue to contribute to OECD’s annual *Revenue Statistics in Asian and Pacific Economies*.

Estimating Tokelau’s Greenhouse Gas emissions

Greenhouse gas emissions from Tokelau were calculated for this first time in 2018/19, based on a variety of assumptions and estimates. For example, only 9 months’ fuel data were available and upscaled to a calendar year. A start has been made to document the process followed in 2018/19 and to create a guide for repeating and refining the calculations in 2019/20. Further automating the calculations in Excel where possible is paving the way to quick and more accurate annual updates.

On the topic of GHG emissions, New Zealand annually provides its Nationally Determined Contribution. NDCs embody efforts by each country to reduce national emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change. Their target values were originally set rather arbitrarily by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). With good Tokelau emission data, they could be refined. On behalf of MiCORe, the TNSO intends to participate in a Technical Hands-on Training Workshop on NDC Accounting for the Pacific Region in Suva, Fiji, 16-18 July.

Generic Voter Registration System and Tokelau Population Count

GRVS provides permanent reliable records and helps set up electoral rolls as well voter statistics (age, sex) for each region/Nuku. Biometric data, signatures and/or birth certificate/passport photos could be included also if desired. Developed by the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) for use in Pacific countries and Territories, a Tokelau version is available to benefit future elections. In addition, it has potential for links into our largely defunct CRVS system, see below.

GVRs has already been promoted as a useful tool in the Apia and Nuku electoral offices, but interest appears low. Implementation would require relatively complex software installation and training of electoral officers, yet the benefits would be great in terms of transparency and continuity. If used in conjunction with HIES 2019, much of the database could be populated from that survey.

Analysis of ferry passenger data

It is currently unknown how many unique individuals are traveling between Apia and Tokelau, and what their ages and origins are. Combined with Population count data, births / deaths, an analysis of passenger data is valuable to emergency preparedness as well. Dialogue with TSS Department should continue to obtain its passenger manifests. On an operational front this would mean no more than simply including tsno@tokelau.org.nz in their internal and official Customs mailing list.

A method for maintaining confidentiality around individuals' personal data has already been developed, as is a matrix for estimating the number of people residing in Tokelau at any time. Refer to "Research proposal B" (appended), presented to this effect to TSS on 17 December 2018.

Civil Registration and Vital Statistics

Birth registration assigns legal status to an individual: a basic human right. Birth and death data also provide critical statistical information for planning and policy decisions by the Government. The TNSO initially worked together with the Department of Health, Transport and Support Services, and Legal Services but an impasse entered into early 2017 was unable to be broken – or even to be discussed with the main other party.

This remains unfortunate as the New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs is quite willing to supply birth and death records for Tokelauans whose key event took place in New Zealand. Such data would be very valuable indeed, to be able to calculate the yet-unknown life expectancy in Tokelau.

Monitoring Sustainable Development Goals

Sustainable Development Goals are the key global indicators for human and environmental wellbeing. Indicators on Health, Education and Good Governance are meant to be reported on by the respective departments, and the TNSO can play a coordinating role in this; indeed has already tried to so to a degree with PMU, MFAT and SPC. Meeting Tokelau's obligations in this regard is however a complex and time-consuming process.

We could seek greater input from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), ideally restoring their volunteer part-time position in the Apia office in the near future. Many of the SDG indicators could in fact be found by mining the recent Census and HIES reports. But with time at a premium and no direct expertise at hand, the risk is that this will remain a low priority for TNSO.

Analysing Labour Force Statistics

There's a wealth of labour force data hidden in existing HIES and Census reports that cry out for further analysis and dissemination. No Labour Force Survey has been done in Tokelau to date. A proposal was put to StatsNZ in 2017/18, seeking support for a consultant or short-term secondee to mine the existing data with a view of contributing to Tokelau statistics knowledge and interpretation. Taking this back to the villages for disseminating by the researcher would add interest and relevance on both sides, all the more so because of the unique labour divisions in the Nuku. The proposal was shelved for lack of staff but remains of major interest and relevance to Tokelau, and could be resubmitted to StatsNZ for funding from the Pacific Statistics Support Programme (PSSP).

New Zealand universities as well as the University of the South Pacific have been approached to see if any statistics students would be interested in such a project, but no responses have been received. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) should next be approached for assistance.

Early decisions

Within the financial year 2019/20, the period July-September will be crucial for deciding the level of TSNO team composition and its potential support from partner organisations. This will determine our ability to pull off major ongoing activities such as CPI, GDP, GHG and IMTS; and (preparing for) new ones such as HIES, Population Count and ferry passenger analysis in the remainder of 2019.

Appendices

1. TNSO's operating budget
2. Research Proposal A (IMTS financial value)
3. Research Proposal B (Passenger analysis)

1. TNSO's operating budget

The budget Table shows the operational funding we are seeking in the 2019/20 financial year: mostly for travel between Apia and Tokelau; and Samoa-New Zealand.

The main item we are seeking, is funding for the next Household Income and Expenditure Survey as a joint venture with the HIES team at Pacific Community. Computer upgrade is catered for also.

The table does not include baseline expenditure covered by OCOG, such as staff salaries, accommodation and incidental allowances.

Proposed budget Tokelau National Statistics Office 2019/20 in NZ\$

Statistical activity / financial year	(1 July - 30 June)	2019/20 plan: SOI
General Fono attendance: 2 staff, 2 weeks, 3 times/year (@\$1220.00)		\$7,320
Quarterly CPI price collections in Nuku stores: 1 staff, 2 weeks, 4 times/year		\$4,880
Statistics NZ (Census, IMTS, secondments); and MFE (GHG); 2 staff 1 week		\$14,340
Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2019 (joint venture with SPC)		\$57,436
Computer hardware and Professional software (licences MS Office, Acrobat)		\$5,000
Contingency 10%		\$8,898
Total		\$97,874

Research proposal A: Extend calculation of imports volumes and weights to financial value

Background:

A considerable amount of information is available on Tokelau imports and exports, as demonstrated in seminars on 10 July (Apia), 10 August (Fakaofu), 10 October (Nukunonu), 10 December (Atafu) and 17 December (again Apia). Tables and graphs illustrate gross imports, and calculations can also provide nett imports of key items. These have relevance for transport planning and health aspects.

Results to date:

Analysis of stores invoices, and reconciliation with shipping manifests, 2014 – longhand in Excel

Analysis of shipping manifests, 2014-2018, using PCTrade- Green (a StatsNZ Excel application)

Proposed extension:

The shipping manifests provide *weights* and (increasingly less so) *volume* of imports which is not very accurate. Analysis of stores invoices from 2018 onwards could help estimate annual *costs* of the imports trade, providing data for international comparisons and for cash flow predictions.

Objectives of taking on this work:

1. Analysis of invoices for the benefit of TSS in accounting, evaluation and planning
2. Better understanding of flow of materials and funds into and out of Tokelau
3. International comparisons and compliance with international reporting agreements
4. Accurate fuel data can also improve calculations of Tokelau greenhouse gas emissions.

Cooperation sought:

From Department of Transport and Support Services:

1. To continue to provide cargo shipping manifests (as had been done since early 2015); but rather than on an ad-hoc basis, email them routinely to TNSO as ships leave Samoa and Tokelau shores. This could be done by c.c.'ing TNSO in on correspondence between TSS and Nuku transport officers.
2. In addition, routinely provide the invoices issued to the Nuku, particularly concerning cargo for the co-operative and bulk stores. Financial information on additional building materials, vehicles, major supplies to other government departments (Health, EDNRE, Teletok, Energy) would also be desirable

From Finance

3. Payments on invoices (separated by Nuku, TSS and other depts) from Petroleum Supplies Samoa (PSS) and Origin - for the calculation of shipped fuel and gas, as has been initiated in 2018 as part of the GreenHouseGas-Tokelau project

Who will do the work:

TNSO will transparently do the calculations with data made available by TSS and Finance, and disclose progress at any time with them.

Who will get to see the results:

After ensuring no personal or confidential data can be accessed using routine statistical procedures:

1. TNSO – calculation
2. TSS and Finance – opportunity for verification
3. StatsNZ and SPC – Peer review by International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS) experts
4. MFE – detailed data for inclusion in their GHG calculations only
5. Everybody, via TNSO website – summary results and reports, after quality assurance

Underlying legislation:

This project is considered to be in the general interest of Tokelau, beyond departmental boundaries.

Tokelau legislation that would apply is the Statistics Rules 2013: notably the following sections:

4. Interaction with other government departments
6. Duties of the National Statistician
9. Official statistics and coordination
18. Obstruction of the National Statistician.

Conclusion:

Discussed and agreed? at a meeting between staff of the Tokelau National Statistics Office (TNSO) and the Department of Transport and Support Services (TSS), and Department of Finance (Finance),

Apia, 17 December 2018

Research proposal B: Extend PCTrade-Green analysis to include (unique) passengers

Background:

A considerable amount of information is available on Tokelau imports and exports, as demonstrated in seminars on 10 July (Apia), 10 August (Fakaofu), 10 October (Nukunonu), 10 December (Atafu) and 17 December (again Apia). Tables and graphs illustrate gross imports of goods only, but movement of passengers could also be included. This has relevance for transport planning and health aspects and provide good feedback to GF and MFAT on the number of unique users of international services.

Results to date:

A sample of passenger data for mid-December 2017 to mid-February 2018 was received from TSS and analysed in 2018. Anonymised records allowed an overview of trips as well as unique passengers to and from Tokelau: by age, citizenship, and by month or year. Not only does this provide important migration data, it also can assist TSS department with planning its people transport. Note that over this *2-month period* about 1,400 trips took place – about the same number that took place in about *6 months of 2014*. Passenger transport has increased dramatically but not been fully analysed.

In addition, a method has been developed for the calculation of people movements since Census night 2018, which will give us the number of people residing in Tokelau at any time. This would be a very useful number to have at hand in case of emergency, for example. The accuracy of the method will be able to be verified against the population count that is due in December 2019.

Proposed extension:

It is proposed that passenger records are provided by TSS on a routine basis from now on for analysis (2019 data and forward). It is also proposed that data are provided retrospectively to the last Census date (18 October 2018). Then the number of movements can be calculated from this date, in the interest of developing accurate Migration statistics.

Objectives of taking on this work:

1. Inform General Fono: the question around the (unique) number of people benefiting from the new ferry Mataliki was first raised during discussion at GF in July 2017 (not formally minuted)
2. Feedback to New Zealand (MFAT) on the improved quality of life in Tokelau as an effect of their gifting *Mataliki, Kalopaga* and *Fetu o te Moana*
3. Analysis for the benefit of people movement evaluation and planning by TSS
4. Potential means for seeking additional staff / funding to meet increased passenger demand
5. Understanding of migration of people into and out of Tokelau
6. International comparisons and compliance with international agreements.

Cooperation sought:

From Department of Transport and Support Services, as well as Nuku Transport Officers:

To routinely provide detailed shipping manifests about the passengers on board each trip to and from Tokelau. This could simply be done by c.c.'ing TNSO in on correspondence between TSS and Nuku Transport Officers (in both directions).

Who will do the work:

TNSO will transparently do the calculations with data made available by TSS and Nuku Transport Officers, and disclose progress at any time with them.

Who will get to see the results:

After ensuring no personal data can be accessed using routine statistical procedures:

1. TNSO – calculation
2. TSS – opportunity for verification
3. StatsNZ and SPC – Peer review by Migration experts
4. Everybody, via TNSO website – summary results and reports, after quality assurance

Underlying legislation:

This project is considered to be in the general interest of Tokelau, beyond departmental boundaries.

Tokelau legislation that would apply is the Statistics Rules 2013: notably the following sections:

4. Interaction with other government departments
6. Duties of the National Statistician
9. Official statistics and coordination
18. Obstruction of the National Statistician.

Conclusion:

Discussed and agreed? at a meeting between staff of the Tokelau National Statistics Office (TNSO) and the Department of Transport and Support Services (TSS), Apia, 17 December 2018