



SAMOA



Status of Samoa's Ocean Account 'PILOT' Project

Forum of Experts on SEEA Experimental Ecosystem Accounting 2019
26-27 June 2019
Glen Cove, New York, USA

Prepared: Mose Topeto
Principal Environment Statistician
Samoa Bureau of Statistics
mose.topeto@sbs.gov.ws



System of
Environmental
Economic
Accounting

Outline

- ▣ Samoa Overview
- ▣ Ocean Accounts Background
- ▣ Current Status
- ▣ Way Forward



Samoa Overview



- ▣ Island in South Pacific—bet lat. 13° & 15° south and long. 168° & 173° west
- ▣ 2 main islands & 8 smaller islands
- ▣ Population <200,000 people
- ▣ Land area ~2,830 km² (1,100 square miles)
- ▣ Popu. density 69 people/km²
- ▣ EEZ 120,000 km²
- ▣ GDP of ~5.5 mill US 2018
- ▣ GDP/capita ~\$4,453 US /person
- ▣ Climate: Wet & Dry seasons



Ocean Accounts Background



- ▣ **Work Initiated by UNESCAP 2018**
- ▣ **Mission in Feb & Apr 2019**
- ▣ **Scoping Study Report** (3 possible pilot projects)
 1. **Sustainable Development of the Tourism Industry**
 2. Maritime Spatial Planning, National Ocean Strategy development and Monitoring
 3. Strengthening monitoring of national and sector development indicators
- ▣ **Preferred option - # 1 Development of a Tourism Satellite Account (TSA)**



Current Status

- ✓ **Tourism Satellite Accounts Project**
 - Nothing for Samoa but Tourism industry is one of the main pillars of Samoa's economic development apart from remittances
 - TSA will estimate the tourism industry contribution to economy by estimating the value of industry sectors (e.g. transportation, food & hospitality, manufacturing) that is attributable to tourism
- ✓ **Linkages to Ocean Accounts**
 - Tourism growth requires resources & have ecological impacts
 - Tourism requires resources provided by the ocean (clean water & natural ecosystems)
 - Tourism activities – affect the ocean (waste production & impacting its ecosystem)



Way Forward cont'd



Leading & Responsible Ministries

- **STA** - Samoa Tourism Authority
- **SBS** - Samoa Bureau of Statistics
- **MNRE** - Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
- Support from UNESCAP

Agreement

- Pilot using SBS ready available data (e.g. GDP & National Accounts data)
- Long term - SBS to lead



Thank You !!!