Status of Samoa’s Ocean Account
‘PILOT’ Project

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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
Work Initiated by UNESCAP 2018
Mission in Feb & Apr 2019
Scoping Study Report (3 possible pilot projects)

1. Sustainable Development of the Tourism Industry
3. Strengthening monitoring of national and sector development indicators

Preferred option - # 1 Development of a Tourism Satellite Account (TSA)
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

TSA Work & Expected Results

- Develop a “test’ TSA – using available data
- Conduct a small-sample survey of the relevant industry sectors
  - Provide estimated “tourism factors” (e.g. tourism accounts for 40% of the value of transportation)
  - Include other questions on:
    - Water and Energy used
    - Land occupied
    - Quantity of solid waste produced by establishments
- Link tourism factors & estimates of water, energy and waste to SEEA accounts to provide intensities of tourism relative to other economic sectors.
- Collaborating with IUCN on marine spatial planning & with Conservation International in developing data for Samoa’s Ocean Health Index
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 !!!