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DEVELOPMENTS IN ECONOMIC STATISTICS

Samoa Bureau of Statistics
Public Consultation
29 January 2014
TATTE Building



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CONTENT

- Merchandise Trade
- Agricultural Statistics
- Update on the progress of the HIES
- Consumer Price Index
- International Comparison Programme
- Way Forward



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MERCHANDISE TRADE

- Electronic Link – online extraction of the raw data from the ASYCUDA system from MfR
- Availability of trade statistics in excel and pdf format
- Analytical quarterly report is produced and distributed to users and is also available on the website.



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AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

- 2009 Agricultural Census
 - Analytical report written in – house
- Provide technical advice:
 - Questionnaire design
 - Survey methodology
 - Training
 - Sampling
 - Analysis



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HOUSEHOLD INCOME & EXPENDITURE SURVEY 2013 / 2014

- Objectives
 - To obtain expenditure weights, review the ‘basket of goods and services’ and other useful data for the revision of the consumer price index
 - To gather information for the analysis of hardship and incidence of poverty throughout Samoa.
 - To supplement the data available for use in compiling official estimates of household accounts in the systems of national accounts



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HIES FIELDWORK

- It is conducted in 4 rounds
- Round 1 : 22 April – 18 May 2013
- Round 2: 22 July – 17 August 2013
- Round 3: 21 October – 16 November 2013
- **Round 4 : 17 February – 15 March 2014**



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INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

- ISCO – International Standard Classification of Occupation Rev 4
- ISIC - International Standard Industry Classification Rev 4
- PCOICOP - Pacific Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose 2012



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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

“ What is the CPI?

“The CPI is an indicator of the health of the economy in Samoa

“Measures inflation

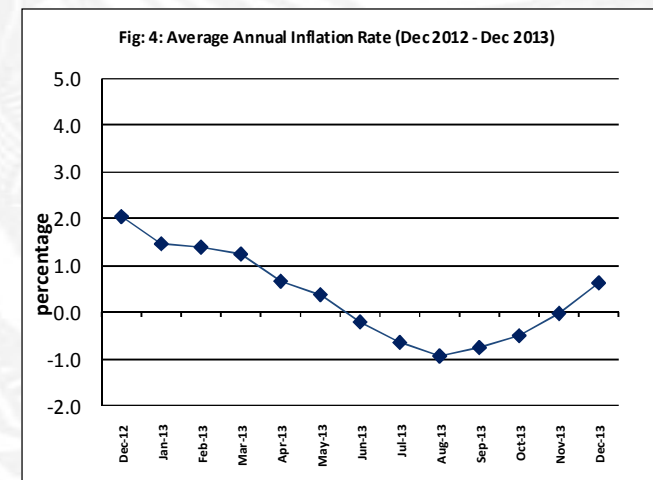
“Measures the change in prices for a fixed basket of goods and services

“ What does the CPI consist of?

“187 items from 75 different outlets

“19 items of which are from the Local markets and fish market

“ 800 price quotations per month





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Our Role

- “ Accurate and efficient price collection
- “ Compilation of data
- “ Tabulation
- “ Analysis and report writing
- “ Dissemination

How is it done?

- “ Weekly price and volume collection from local markets
- “ Monthly price collection from outlets
- “ Monthly CPI report release
- “ Monthly Local Market Survey Report





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Key Developments in the CPI

“CPI rebased in 2010 using the latest data collected from the HIES 2008

“Improvements in Data Collection

“Imputations

“Substitutions

“Improvements in Methodology to better reflect current situation

“Local market restructure (close of Fugalei market)



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INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON PROGRAM (ICP)

- “ ICP is a worldwide statistical initiative to collect comparative price data and estimate Purchasing Power Parities (PPP's) of the world economies
- “ WHY PPP'S?
 - “ PPP's allow relative price comparisons between countries using one common currency.
 - “ Comparisons are made in real terms and provide a better base for comparison than exchange rates.



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INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON PROGRAM (ICP)

- “ WHAT ARE PPP’S USED FOR?
 - “ All global economic indicators use PPP’s (MDG indicator for poverty)
 - “ International comparisons of National Accounts
 - “ Deflator for National Accounts



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WAY FORWARD

- Complete HIES fieldwork
 - Poverty assessment
 - Consumer Price Index Re-base
 - Extend CPI coverage to Savaii
 - Geometric Mean
 - Seasonal Variation
 - Inputs to National Accounts
- Improve PC- Trade System for trade reporting
- Agricultural Statistics
 - Participation in the Global Strategy for the Improvement of Rural and Agricultural Statistics
 - Agriculture Survey 2015
- Continue coordination with all data providers in government ministries, private sector, NGO's



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FAAFETAI LAVA