



“to be the leader in providing relevant, quality statistics for the benefit of Samoa”

# SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

Overview of Statistical Developments and  
Innovations  
2011 - 2013

Supported by an Institutional Strengthening Project  
Funded by AusAID/NZAID under PSIF  
Managed by *VINSTAR*



# Samoa Strategy for the Development of Statistics Vision and Mission Statements

## **Vision:**

*An efficient statistical system providing relevant, quality statistics for the benefit of Samoa.*

## **Mission:**

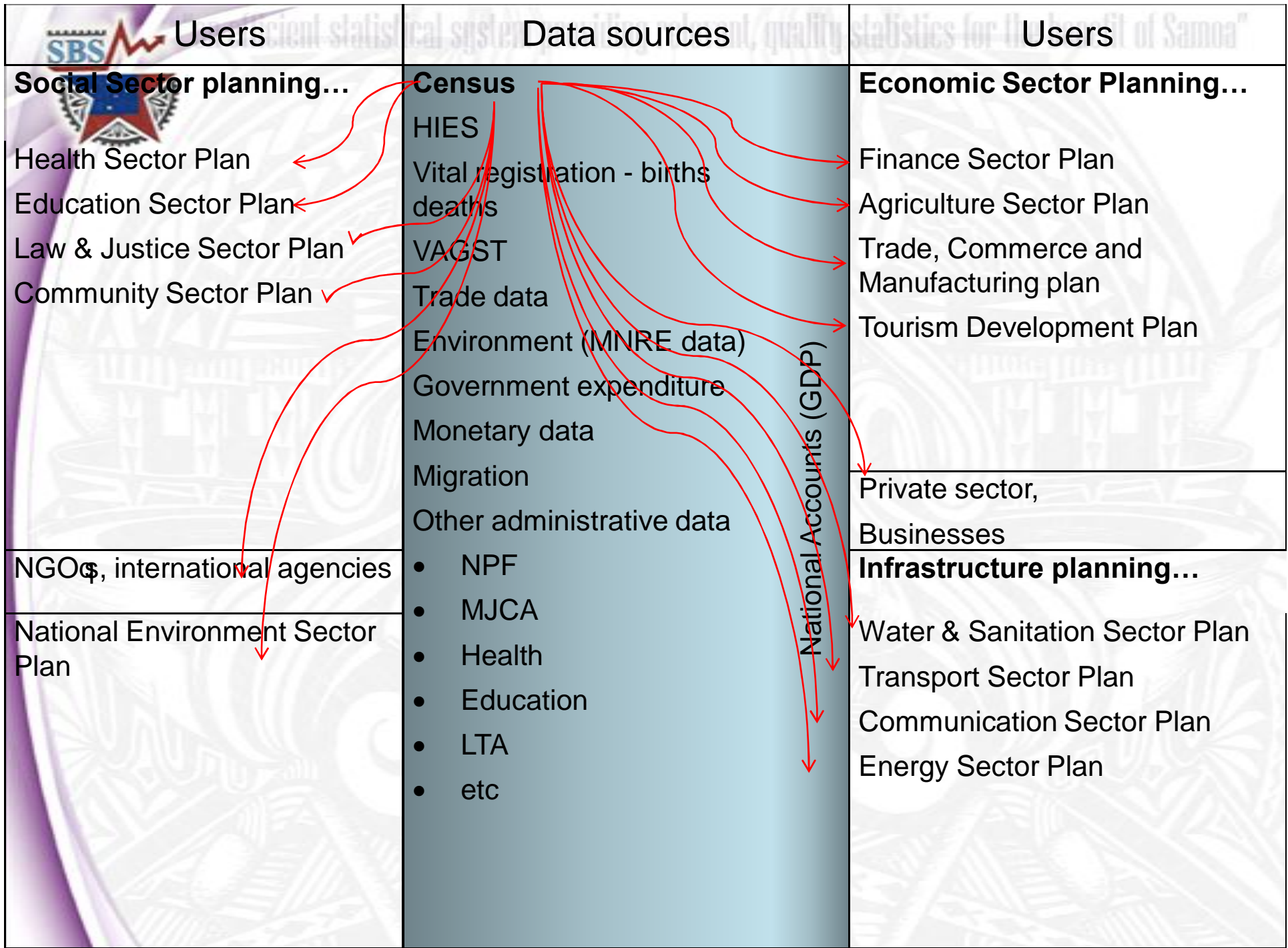
*To create a comprehensive statistical system, through effective partnerships, that delivers relevant, quality statistical information and services that help users make informed decisions and track progress.*



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# Using & Linking Statistics

- ▣ Statistics is central to all activities in Samoa
- ▣ The links between different types of statistics with individual sectors is illustrated in the following slides relating to
  - Population Census
  - Vital registration of births, deaths and marriages





### Health data and information

- ✓ Causes of Death;
- ✓ Mortality and Fertility;
- ✓ Life Expectancy;
- ✓ Infant, child, maternal mortality;
- ✓ Communicable and non-communicable diseases
- ✓ Specialist health topics: HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, cancer, diabetes,

### Population Information

- ✓ Inter-censal population Information;
- ✓ Births, deaths;
- ✓ Estimated resident population
- ✓ Population projections;

### Economic Information

- ✓ Population growth
- ✓ Ageing and economic impact;
- ✓ Sub-regional growth and impact

### Social Information

- ✓ Ageing population and planning
- ✓ Education and community planning
- ✓ Child and parental programs

**Births data**

**Deaths data**

**Causes of death data**

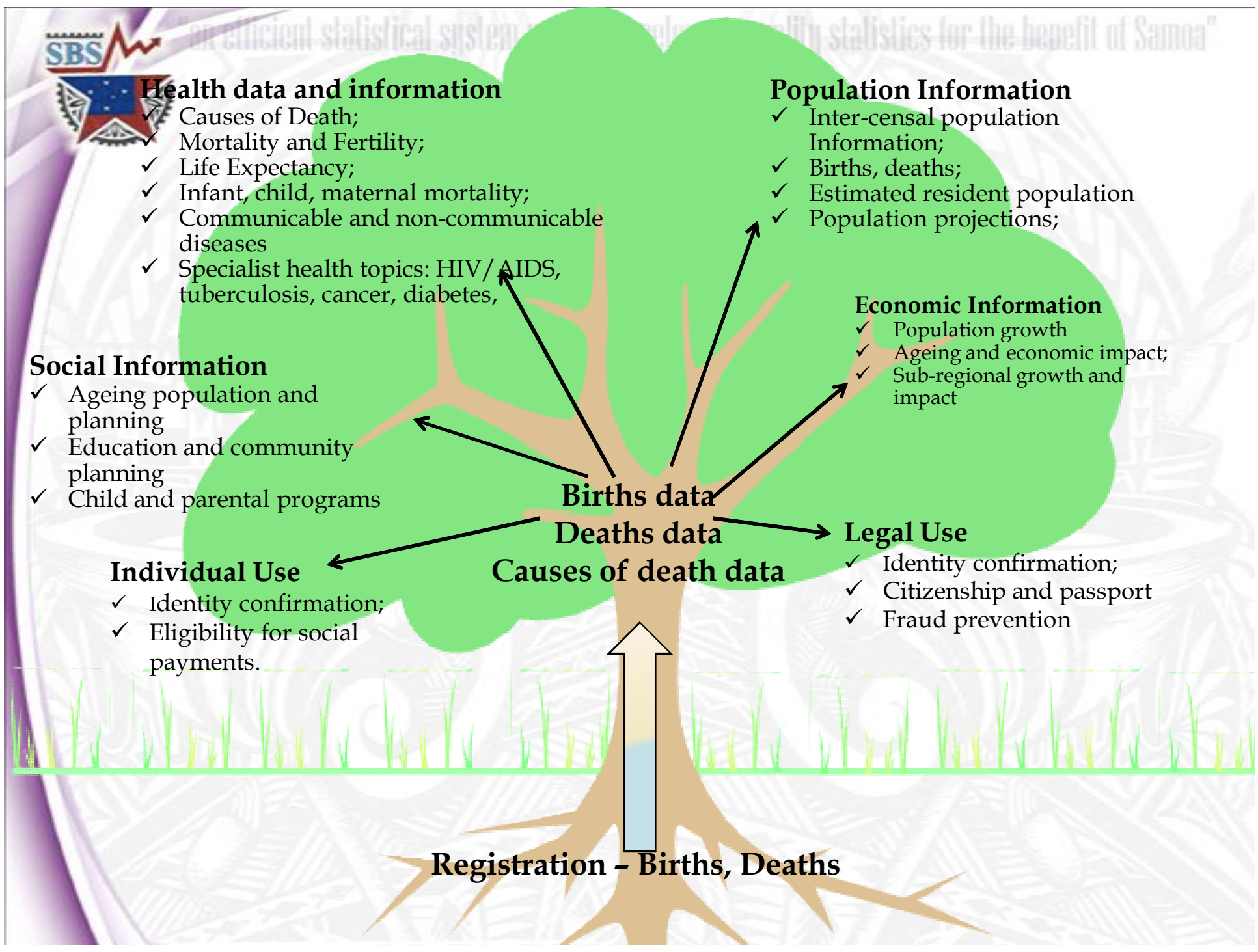
**Legal Use**

- ✓ Identity confirmation;
- ✓ Citizenship and passport
- ✓ Fraud prevention

**Individual Use**

- ✓ Identity confirmation;
- ✓ Eligibility for social payments.

**Registration - Births, Deaths**





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# Organisational Management and Capacity Developments

- Samoa Strategy for the Development of Statistics approved in August 2012
- New Statistics legislation approved to bring legislative framework up-to-date
- Organisation structure improved with establishment of IT Division, appointment of HR and web-master positions & increase in statistical positions
- Human Resource Management, HR Development Plan & Performance Management Systems developed and documented
- Corporate Planning Guidelines developed & used in preparing 2012 -2016 SBS Corporate Plan
- Records management systems reviewed & changes being implemented
- Corporate services operational guidelines compiled & available for staff
- Training in leadership and management for all senior staff
- Training and capacity building programme instituted for all staff



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# Statistical Services

## Economic & Finance Statistics

- ▣ CPI rebased using 2011 Census and 2008 HIES
- ▣ Trade data compilation updated with new PCTrade software and trade data reporting improved
- ▣ National accounts rebasing to 2009 base-year; almost complete
- ▣ Government Finance Statistics upgraded from 1985 to 2001 (current) international best practice
- ▣ 2013/14 Household Income and Expenditure Survey currently being undertaken
- ▣ Development of comprehensive Business Survey Framework underway in cooperation with MCIL
- ▣ Handbook/guidelines now available on economic statistics linking national accounts, trade, CPI & GFS data to support capacity building of staff
- ▣ Statistical methodologies and processes strengthened and improved, supported by capacity building for staff



# Statistical Services – Census, Social & Environmental Statistics

- ❑ Census/survey methodologies and processes strengthened and improved; including use of scanning, GPS, & mapping
- ❑ Migration data reporting, compilation & analysis improved and trends better understood
- ❑ Labour Force and Transition to Work Survey completed
- ❑ New statistical indicators introduced into Abstract of Statistics
- ❑ Operations handbook for socio-economic statistics and guidelines for compiling migration & other socio-economic statistics compiled & in use with staff
- ❑ Environmental statistician appointed and development of statistics started
- ❑ Capacity building for staff on new systems, processes, & statistics quality ongoing





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# Statistical Services

## Births, Deaths & Marriages Registration

- ❑ IT Hardware & software for BDM registration services upgraded
- ❑ Back-up systems put in place to secure data, recovery of data lost in 2010 crash
- ❑ Civil Registration and Vital Statistics cross agency working group established to coordinate registration improvement and information development across government agencies
- ❑ Operational manual & guidelines for BDM systems compiled and now available for staff reference and training
- ❑ Policy on conservation & access to BDM records put in place
- ❑ Public awareness programme underway; especially focused on birth registration and cause of death information
- ❑ Training provided on BDM legislation and improved processes



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# Statistical Services Statistics Dissemination

- ▣ Dissemination policy & strategy in place
- ▣ Web-site redesigned and improved
- ▣ Release dates for statistics published on web-site in advance for information of users
- ▣ Style Guide introduced and being used in the compilation of statistical reports
- ▣ Statistical Abstract expanded, redesigned & published; including new indicators
- ▣ Extensive training program ongoing focusing on improving reporting, writing and analysis skills of staff in all Divisions



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## Statistics IT Systems and Processes

- ▣ IT Division established; ACEO IT & Web-master appointed
- ▣ Five year IT Strategy developed and being implemented
- ▣ New IT equipment and software procured & installed; including BDM Apia & Savaii offices
- ▣ BDM software upgraded
- ▣ Improvements to SBS web-site
- ▣ Capacity building ongoing through formal and informal training & attachments



## Way Forward

- HIES to be completed and results published in 2014
- Labour Force Survey results to be published in 2014
- DHS scheduled for 2014
- Business Activity Framework & Survey planned for 2014/15
- Next Population Census scheduled for 2016
- All operational manuals and guidelines to be maintained and used as training tools for all staff
- Research & Analysis capacity in SBS to be established to strengthen dissemination, outreach and use of statistics by stakeholders
- SSDS to be reviewed and updated
- Training and capacity building to be continued for staff development



## Way Forward

- Additional TA resources will continue to be needed for specialist technical tasks & analysis; e.g. to assist in carrying-out:
  - CPI weights update from 2013 HIES
  - Poverty/ hardship and vulnerability analysis from 2013/14 HIES
  - Development of Environmental Accounts
  - Extension of GDP indicators and development of other short term economic lead indicators
- More modern, flexible system for BDM registration to be initiated within the next five years;
  - new system to be integrated with the developments in the health management information system so that information can flow easily between the health and BDM systems.



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# Samoa Bureau of Statistics

Fa'afetai Lava

to all

Our Development Partners  
and Stakeholders