

## **Message from the Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Samoa Bureau of Statistics**

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The Government of the Independent State of Samoa is fully committed to the development of official statistics. The Samoa Strategy for the Development of Statistics (SSDS), 2011-2021, aims to provide the best quality statistical information to support the Strategy for the Development of Samoa. Importantly it also lays out the path for the development of statistics across the whole system of official statistics in Samoa.

On behalf of the people of Samoa, I would like to thank our development partners, especially the government of Australia for supporting this important development financially. I also extend my thanks to PARIS21 and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community for offering their technical expertise which was of great assistance in the completion of this document.

I congratulate Samoa Bureau of Statistics and all members of the National Statistical System (NSS) who have provided their inputs in the preparation of the ***Samoa Strategy for the Development of Statistics 2011-2021(SSDS)***.

As Prime Minister and the Minister for Samoa Bureau of Statistics, I consider the SSDS an important process and document for good governance. I expect that through the SSDS, the allocation of resources for statistics activities will be rationalized. I also expect that the statistical indicators needed to monitor the ***Strategy for the Development of Samoa (SDS)*** and the MDGs will be available regularly and on a timely basis. More importantly our stakeholders should benefit from the outputs of the SSDS in the development of the social and economic conditions of our communities.

I therefore encourage all government agencies, private sector and civil society to participate and cooperate actively in the implementation and updating of SSDS. Also, I encourage all our development partners to include the SSDS in their development assistance programme for the next ten years.

Samoa Bureau of Statistics is in full support of and is dedicated to strengthening the NSS as a whole in making the SSDS implementation a success.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi'. The signature is written in a cursive style.

Hon Tuilaepa Lupesoliai Sailele Malielegaoi

**(PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR SAMOA BUREAU OF STATISTICS)**