



Experiences and challenges in analysing survey data to monitor SDG Target 2.1 in Samoa

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Outline

- ❑ Samoa and the SDG monitoring process
- ❑ Constraints
 - Institutional
 - technical
- ❑ Process
- ❑ Results
- ❑ Conclusion and recommendations



Background: Samoa and SDG monitoring

- The work on linking National Goals to the SDGs began in 2015
- Samoa Bureau of Statistics played the coordinating role in consulting sectors to assess what data was already available.
- As the importance of SDG's continued to increase and awareness grew, Samoa also repositioned itself to create the Samoa National SDG Task Force chaired by Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- Samoa worked with all sectors to identify indicators from respective sector plans and mapped those indicators to Samoa's national priorities and SDG's using the EPIC tool.
- SDG 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 were adopted as part of national monitoring process and 2020 VNR

In 2019: Samoa became the first PIC to report on both indicators

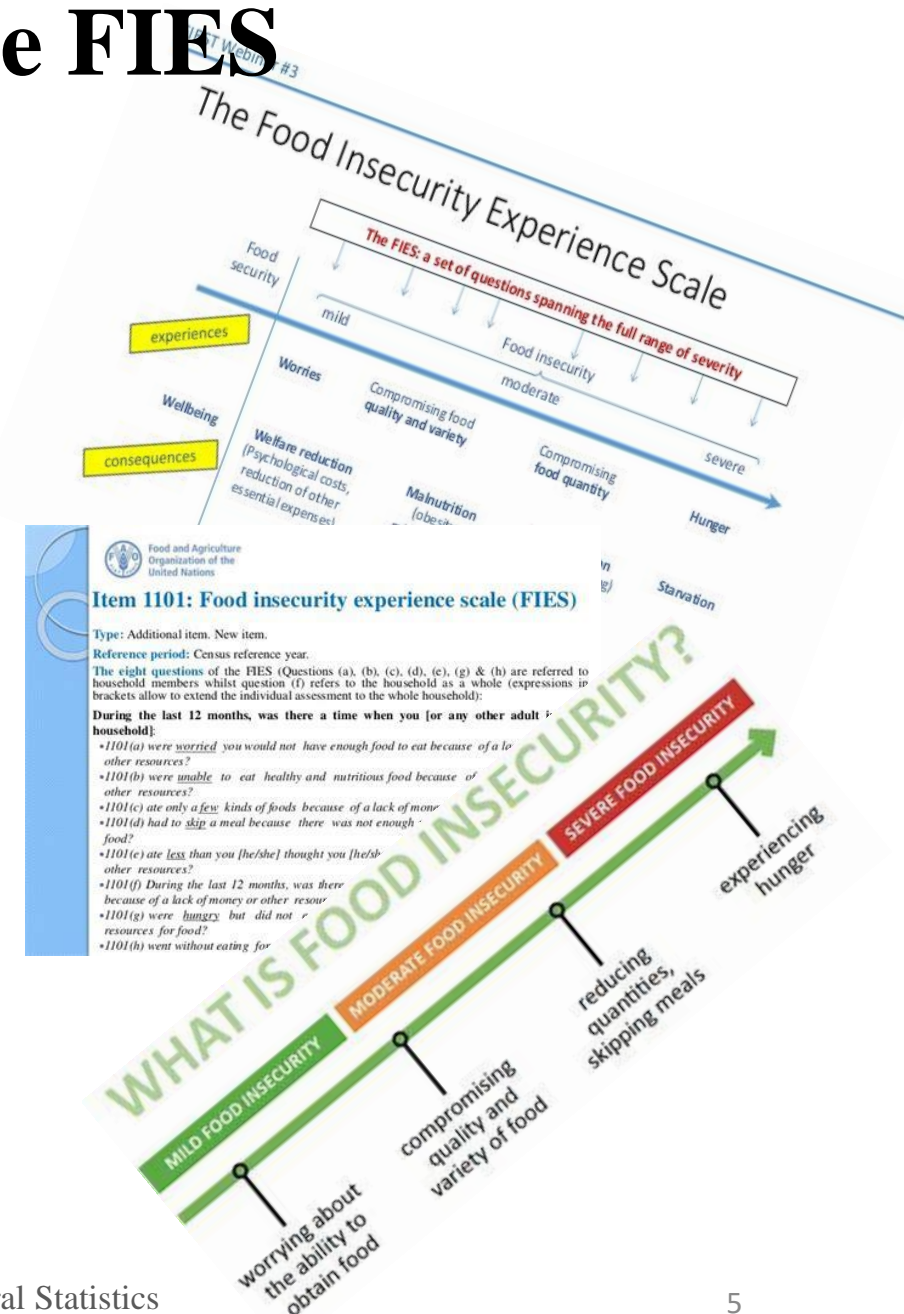
Institutional constraints



- ✓ HIES 2018 was the 5th of this kind of survey and is conducted about every 5 years (1997, 2002, 2008, 2013, 2018)
- ✓ About 25 full time SBS staff and about 60 enumerators collecting data intermittently over a 12 months period.
- ✓ Collection being performed each quarter over 12 months is very costly for government.
- ✓ Because of capacity gaps not addressed, CAPI could not be used as preliminary planned → delays in having data ready for analysis.
- ✓ Initial reluctance in incorporating FIES questions for fear of political backlash if FIES results came back with high food insecurity in Samoa which is contrary to local context.

Technical constraints – inclusion of the FIES

- ✓ FIES questions have not been included before in any surveys in Samoa. New to Samoa
- ✓ Difficulty in contextualizing concepts and definitions of FIES questions for the Samoan situation
- ✓ Hard to gauge attitudes and cultural behaviors of Samoans towards food and having enough or not enough of it
- ✓ Finding the right words in Samoan language to convey the intended meaning of FIES questions
- ✓ Not being able to interview all individuals of household 15+, head of household or a responsible adult responds on behalf



Process



- Main risk
 - Lack of time and resource available to perform the analysis
 - Challenges with data quality
 - Availability and access to the data
- Innovation:
 - Capacity building through a FAO Technical Cooperation Program project: one staff from SBS received an in-depth side by side training
 - Development of a country profile on food security and food consumption patterns in Samoa

[Samoa country profile](#)

Results - Main achievements



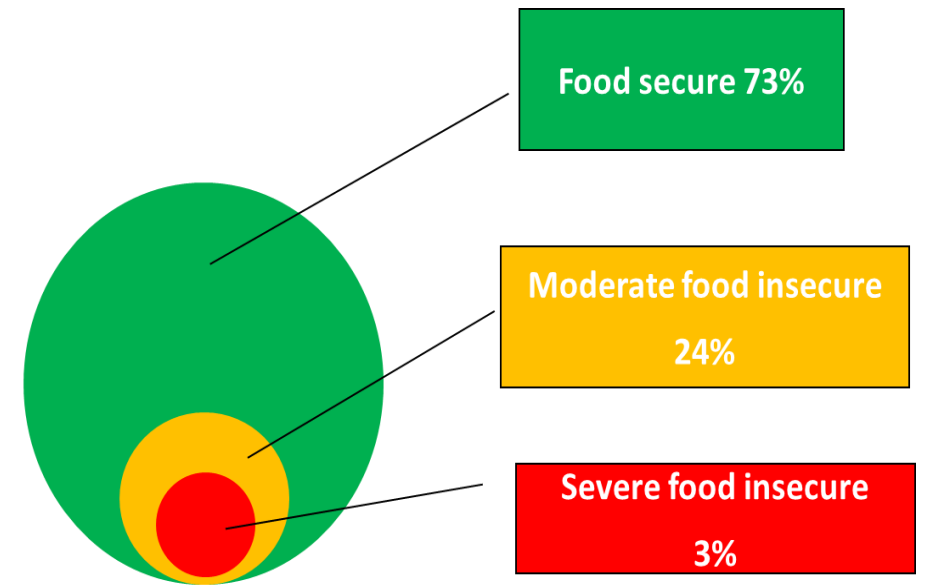
- Samoa is the first PIC to report timely on both SDG Target 2.1 indicators
- Food data have been analyzed to derive indicators on food security and nutrition patterns at national and for groups of populations
- The food insecurity experience scale performs relatively well in Samoa, only question related to healthy food was excluded from the analysis
- Results presented and discussed during a dissemination workshop with all stakeholders
- Country profile on food security and nutrition patterns in Samoa for advocacy
- One national staff fully trained for further strengthening of South-South collaboration

Results – food security and consumption pattern in Samoa

SDG 2.1.1: Less than one person out of twenty is undernourished in Samoa



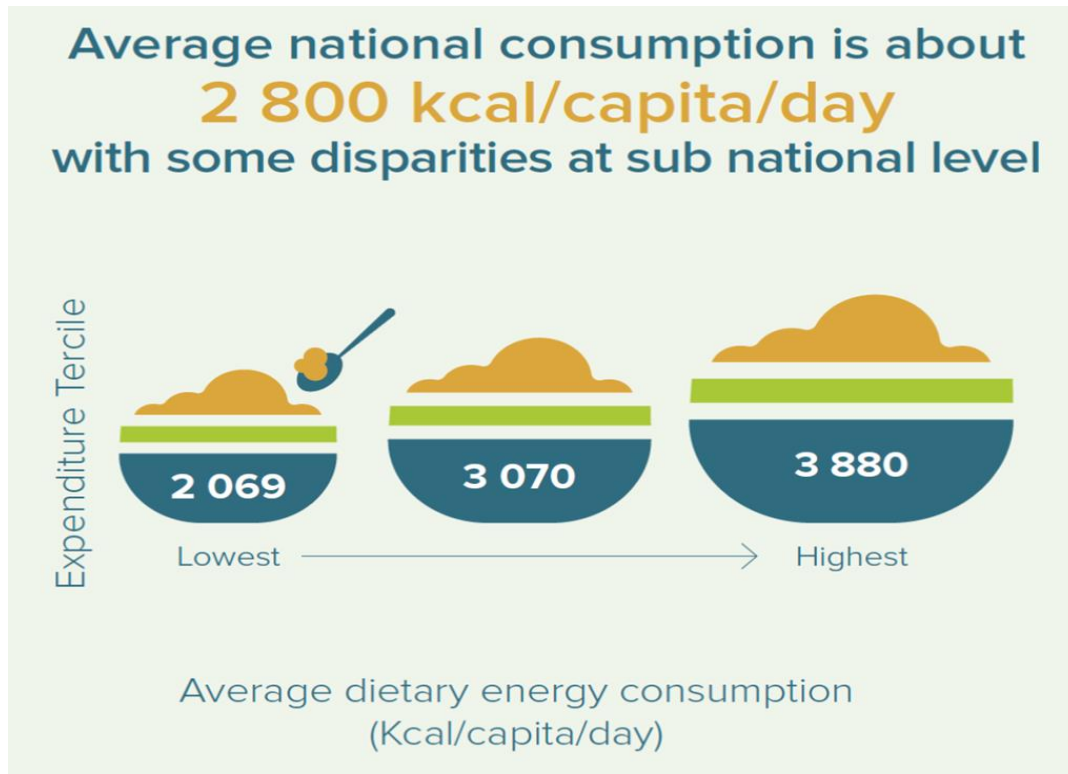
SDG 2.1.2: about one person out of four is not having regular access to safe and nutritious food, even if they were not necessarily suffering from hunger



Results – food security and consumption pattern in Samoa

Rich households consume almost twice the amount of dietary energy than poorer households

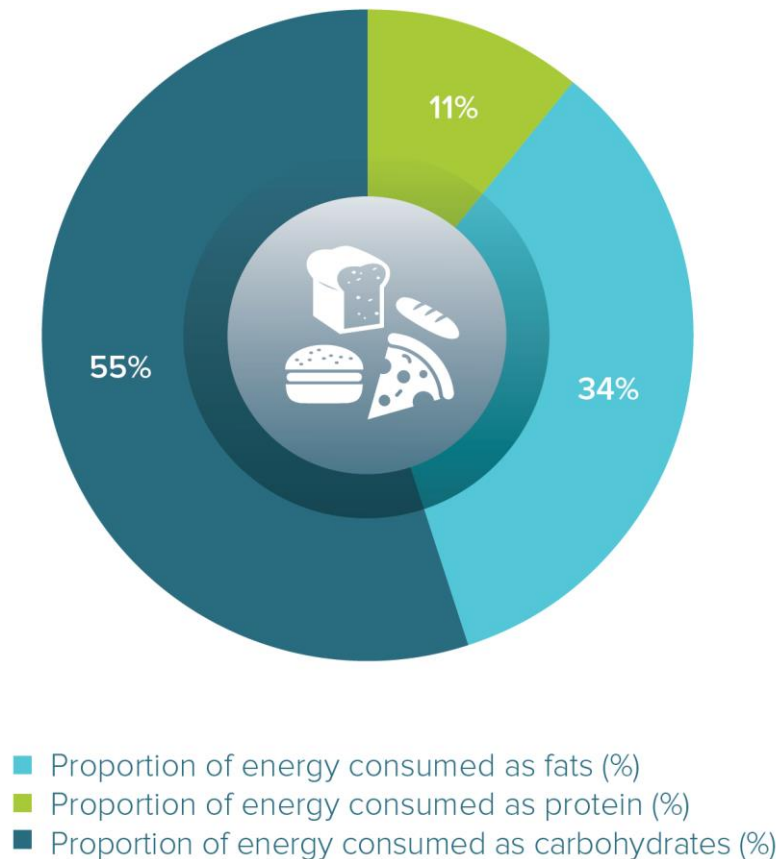
Moderate food insecure people access food of lower quality compared to food secure people



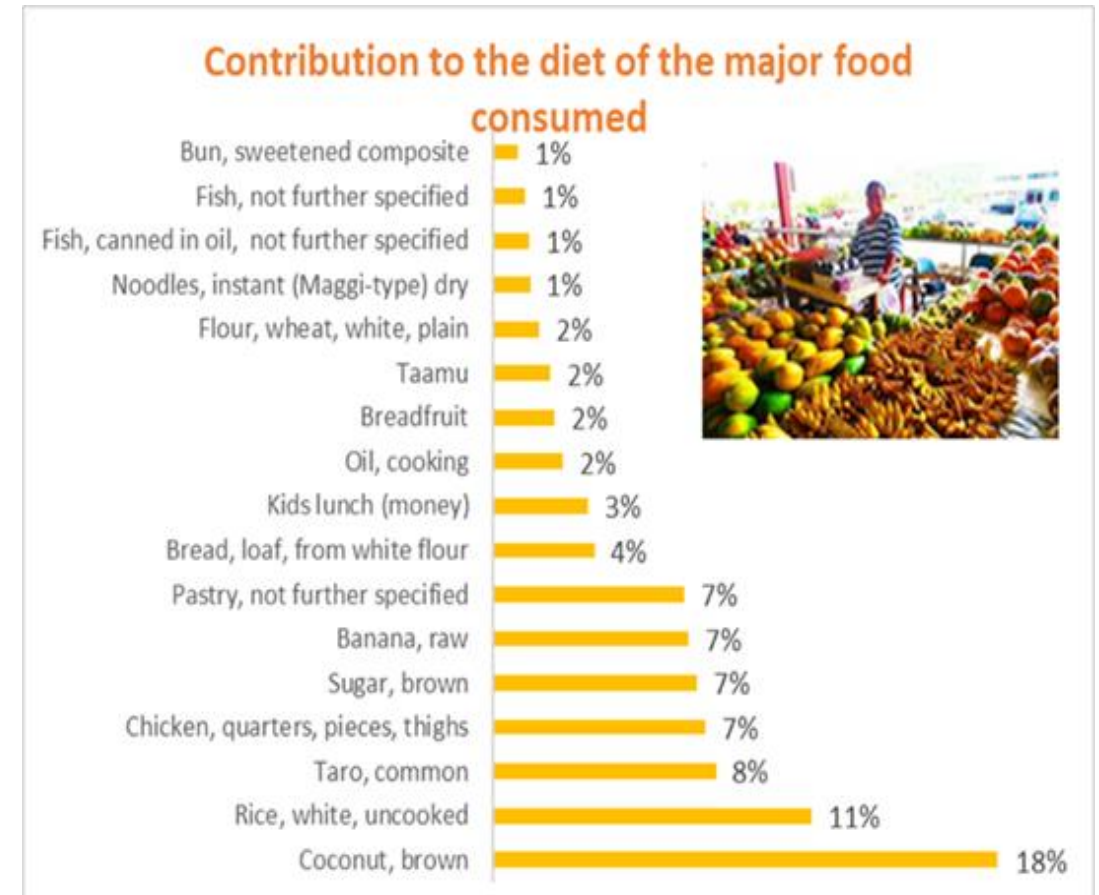
	Dietary energy consumption	Cost of 1000kcal
Food secure	2868	2.35
Moderate food insecure	2836	1.90
Severe food insecure	2544	2.15

Results – food security and consumption pattern in Samoa

Diet too rich in fats and too low in carbohydrates

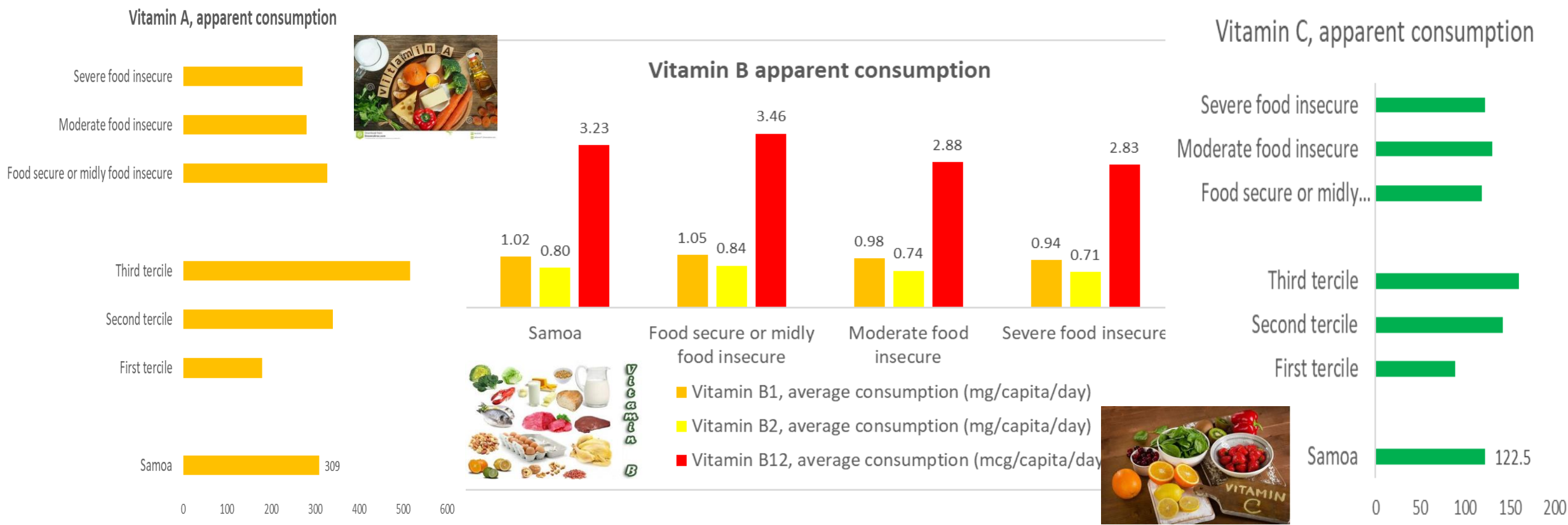


Only 13 food items contribute to 80% of the dietary energy consumed



Results – food security and consumption pattern in Samoa

Except for vitamin C, lower average consumption of vitamins in food insecure or poor households



Conclusion and recommendations

- **Recommendations (technical)**

- Improvement of the survey instrument and use of CAPI for future HIES
- Include FIES on future survey and interview on household level not individual
- Support the establishment of technical working group in the Pacific who have hands on experience with food security indicators to assist other PICs.

- **Points to Note**

- Time allocated to this activity (important)
- Resources allocated to this activity
- There are new approaches to the data collection for HIES diary being proposed by WB that will potentially reduce costs and respondent burden but may impact continuity of reporting.

Thank you!



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