Title
Every Policy is Connected (EPIC)

Purpose
The Every Policy is Connected (EPIC) tool facilitates a user-producer dialogue between data producers and data users to identify data needs for a national policy or sector plan. Once data needs are identified, including disaggregation levels, a monitoring and indicator framework for the national policy or sector plan is developed. Application of the tool can also provide insights on missing issues for future improvements in policy documents.

What aspect of the National Statistical System is strengthened by this tool?

- Integration of statistics development with national development policies and plans (Declaration commitment a)
- Development of national monitoring frameworks and indicator sets (Declaration commitment b)
- Expanded use of official statistics for evidence-based policymaking and transparent governance (Declaration commitment h)

What part of the regional Collective Vision and Framework for Action does this tool support?
Action area A: Engaging users and investing in statistics

Experiences to date
Samoa led the piloting of the EPIC tool with a focus on 14 sectoral plans including environment, health, education, finance, agriculture, etc. during 2018 to 2020. In 2021, Samoa fully implemented a new version of the tool develop a comprehensive indicator framework for its tourism policy. In 2019, Samoa shared their experiences and lessons learned in piloting the EPIC tool at the 63rd session of the UN’s Commission on Status of Women (https://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/csw63-2019/official-meetings#expert-panel-2).

Armenia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand tested the tool on women’s economic empowerment policies during a regional workshop in 2018 and the Philippines undertook a comprehensive application of the tool on the Philippines Magna Carta of Women. The tool was also applied to gender equality policies at national workshops in Armenia and Viet Nam in 2019.

Where can I find more information?

- Every Policy is Connected Homepage: https://www.unescap.org/our-work/statistics/EPIC
- Every Policy is Connected video
- Asia-Pacific Stats Café – link to Café scheduled for 6 May 2021: TDB

• Policy-Data integration: the key to achieving the SDGs for all (2018) Working Paper series

• Progressing Women’s Economic Empowerment: enhancing user-producer engagement for policy responsive data and effective data-driven policies (2018) Blog

• Connecting policymakers and data producers (2018) Blog