Census
Re-Boundary

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Outline

• Concept & uses
• Census boundary history
• Current framework – Census boundaries
• The need to revise
• Tonga Statistical Geography framework
• Challenges
• Wrap-up
Census Boundaries

• Zonal division of the land area of Tonga.

- Organize and monitor data collect
- Sampling in surveys
- Locating households
- Location-based analysis
- Data dissemination – maps, infographics
1956: 11 Sub-Districts, 203 Eas Niuafo’ou & Tafahi included to Niuatoputapu district.

1966: 5 Districts, 9 Sub-districts, 136 EA (village)

1976: New demarcation

1986: Similar framework

1996: Average block size of 50

2006: 442 census blocks maps

2011: Household GPS collection & field monitor

2016: Arial images

CENSUS BOUNDARY HISTORY
Census block map
Current framework - structure

- Census blocks has an average of households 50
- Total of 640 blocks
- 166 villages
- 23 districts
- 5 island divisions
Current framework – Coding system

7-digit code: 4101010

- Island Division
- Census block
- District
- Village
The need to revise

• Too large and too small census block size
• Improve efficiency and accuracy during data collection
• Unclear census block boundaries
• Data demand at semi-village level (eg. Pahu, Fanga, etc)
Too large blocks size
Fuzzy boundaries
Tonga Statistical Geography Framework

- Census unit average of 20-30 households
- Maintains the boundaries of village, district and island division
- Delineates new census block boundaries
- Census block 383
- Census unit 754
Tonga Statistical Geography Framework – coding system

7-digit code: **1101011**

- Island Division
- District
- Village
- Census Unit
- Census block
Challenges

• Delineating clear cut boundaries
• Limited data availability
• Difference between pre-existing boundaries amongst sources
• Fuzzy boundaries at semi-village level
• Meeting data demand at semi-village
• Restrictions due laws and policies
Wrap-up

• Boundaries revision is based on limited existing data and local consultation.
• Such frameworks needs to be standardized at all level.
• Changes at village & district level may need policy interventions and collaboration with relevant ministries.