



Official statistics and regional collaboration for SDGs in Asia-Pacific

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STATISTICS

Outline of presentation

- Official statistics: scope, actors, mechanisms and systems
- Impact of global development agendas on official statistics
- Regional collaboration and the Collective Vision for Advancing official statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



STATISTICS



Official statistics: Scope, actors, mechanisms and systems



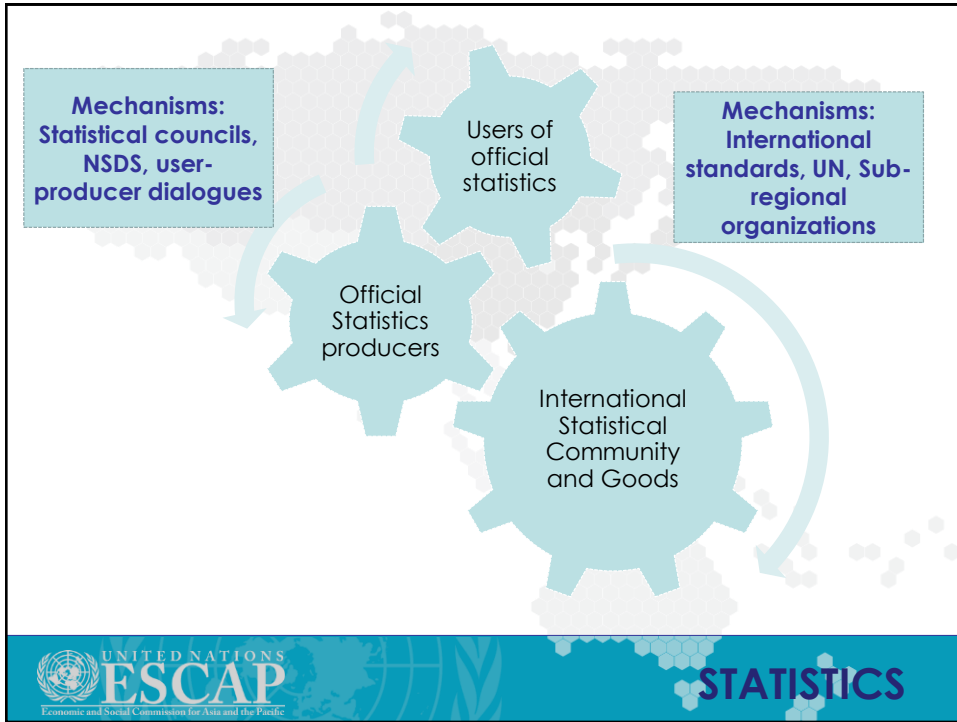
What are official statistics?

Definitions:

- Statistics; not the same as data
- Official statistics; not the same as statistics

Differentiating factors:

- Fundamental principles (endorsed by the GA in 2013)
- Purpose of collection/production, code of conduct for storage, processing and dissemination



Components of a national statistical system

- Legal framework
- Strategic planning
- Advocacy for the improvement of NSS
- Coordination among agencies of NSS
- Engagement between data users and producers
- Modernization of statistical organizations
- Quality assurance and dissemination policies
- Human resources and skills
- Statistical infrastructure
- Data sources

- *What are the priority areas for the development of official statistics in your country?*
- *How did you overcome challenges in these areas?*



What do leaders of NSSs in Asia-Pacific say?

- Ensuring establishment of legal framework and its implementation
- Affirming NSO's coordinating role
- Increasing investment in statistics (financial and political)
- Standards-based modernization of statistical business processes for

Integrated statistics

(Standards-based Modernization

Business process-related standards

GSBPM: defines and describes statistical business process, not dependent on domains

GSIM: Reference framework of information objects

GAMSO: extends GSBPM to cover activities that need to support statistical production

Technical standards

DDI: Standard for information describing statistical data - more particularly survey data

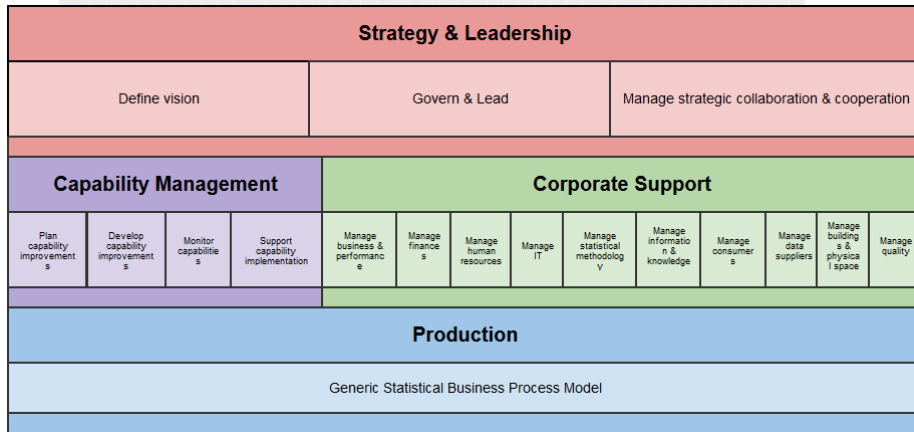
SDMX: Standard on mechanisms and processes for the exchange of statistical data and metadata among statistical organizations

GSBPM

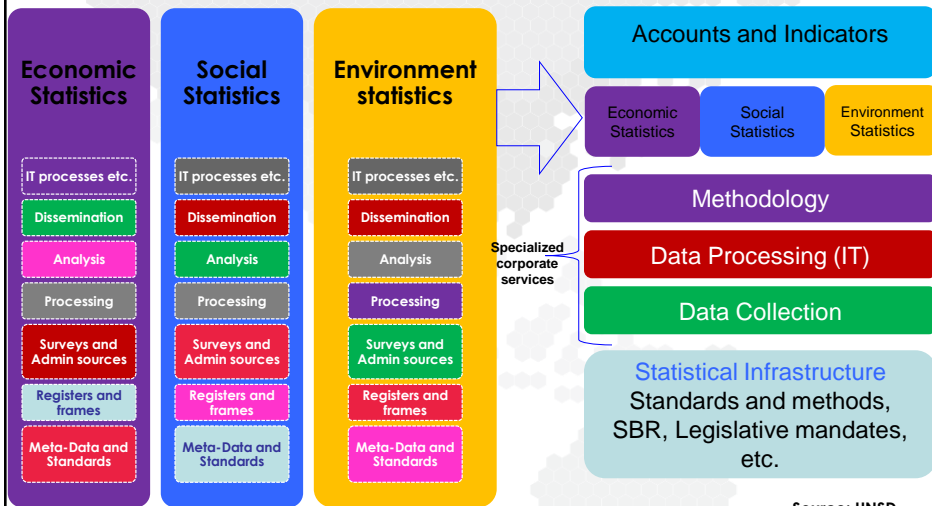
Quality Management / Metadata Management							
1. Specify Needs	2. Preparation and development of statistical methodologies	3. Build necessary instruments for enforcement	4. Data collection	5. Data processing	6. Analyse	7. Dissemination	8. Evaluate
1.1 Determine needs for information and necessary results	2.1 Definition and development of the methodology for collecting data and conducting survey	3.1 Build data collection instrument	4.1 Selection of final population/sample	5.1 Integration of data collection	6.1 Statistical analysis of results	7.1 Design and production of dissemination products	8.1 Gather evaluation inputs
1.2 Consult & confirm needs	2.2 Defining a framework and methodology for the sample selection	3.2 Build instruments for data collection	4.2 Preparation of data collection	5.2 Control, editing and data correction	6.2 Quality control results	7.2 Management of published disseminated products	8.2 Conduct evaluation
1.3 Establish output objective, analysis and testing possibilities	2.3 Development of methodology for data processing	3.3 Configure workflows	4.3 Primary data collection	5.3 Imputation and weighting	6.3 Detailed analysis and interpretation of data publishing	7.3 Promote dissemination products	8.3 Agree action plan
		3.4 Testing instruments for data collection and data processing	4.4 Overtaking data from administrative and other secondary sources	5.4 Production of derived variables	6.4 Protection of confidential data	7.4 Manage user support	



Generic Activity Model for SOs



Integrated Statistics Architecture



Source: UNSD



Impact of the global development agendas on official statistics

MDGs: Compact agenda with a focus social policy issues

- National statistical capability not a purpose in and of itself
- Donor emphasis on social data collection activities, e.g. MICS, DHS, etc.
- Environment indicators mainly based on international modelling
- Economic statistics not in focus

SDGs: Comprehensive agenda with a cascade of goals, targets and indicators

- Three pillars: social, environmental and economic
- Core element of a data revolution
- Statistics development as a central part of means of implementation (Targets 17.18 and 17.19)—availability, quality (especially timeliness) and disaggregation

Unprecedented attention to national capacity also challenges official statistics

- Scope of data, statistics and analysis required for SDGs points to the need for expanding data producers and sources
- NSOs faced with the question of redefining their role as quality assurers and information providers

Particular challenges: Scope of legal framework, code of practice, NSO's standing in government hierarchy and resources

***Regional collaboration and
Collective Vision for Advancing official statistics
for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development***

Asia-Pacific, a case of diversity

- From 1.4 billion people in China to 11,000 in Tuvalu
- Highly developed countries, Least Developed countries, Small Island Developing States and Landlocked Developing Countries
- Statistical systems range from highly centralized to decentralized-- thousands of staff to just a handful

Diversity also reflected in 'Readiness' for SDGs

- No country has data available for all suggested indicators
- Preliminary estimates suggest huge gaps
- In the Pacific, countries are still lacking the capacity to produce some Tier 1 indicators

Country	Availability
Pakistan	35 per cent of targets
China	25 per cent of indicators
Mongolia	26 per cent of indicators
Rep. Korea	50 per cent of indicators
Japan	60 per cent of indicators

A-P Statistics Development Agenda comprises 2 strategic goals

- 1) Ensure all countries in the region by 2020 have the capacity to produce an agreed basic range of population, economic, social and environment statistics; and
- 2) Create a more adaptive and cost-effective information management environment for national statistical offices through stronger cooperation.

“Collective Vision” proposing to extend the strategic goals of the Asia-Pacific statistical community

- ...By 2030, the national statistical systems of the Asia-Pacific region have transformed to supply the statistical evidence necessary for progress monitoring and integrated policy analysis, and leveraged these for effective 2030 Agenda implementation

Principles of the “Collective Vision”

- Building on existing commitments
 - Regional & global initiatives
 - Sub-regional initiatives
 - National commitments on statistics & SDGs
- Adding value to national action
 - Development of “public goods” that benefit groups of countries
 - Sharing expertise and experience
- Adaptable to national progression
 - Action to transform the building blocks of the national statistical system

“Collective Vision” has 5 action areas

...with signposts, collaborative activities and stakeholder responsibilities:

- A. *User engagement and investment in statistics*
- B. *Fundamental principles for official statistics and strengthened national statistical systems*
- C. *Integrated statistics and innovation*
- D. *Modernizing statistical business processes*
- E. *Skills and human resources*

Group discussion

- 5 groups by action areas
- Reference document: Signposts by action area
- Short presentation to Plenary (after lunch)

Your inputs will be provided to the leaders of NSSs to support their deliberations on the Collective Vision at the fifth session of ESCAP CST (14-16 December).

Given the current formulation of signposts:

1. Any comments on the content of the Collective Vision?
2. What are the collaborative activities (regional or sub-regional) that can support national efforts in reaching the signposts?
3. What in particular can statisticians, planners or UN teams do to implement the Collective Vision?

