

Regional Training Course on the NSDS
9-12 December 2014, Chiba, Japan

NSDS: Data Annex

Planning and Costing Data Collection
For Monitoring Country Priorities



PARIS 21

Partnership in Statistics for
Development in the 21st Century

Why the NSDS Data Annex?

- “Give me six hours to chop down a tree and I will spend the first four sharpening the axe.” (Abraham Lincoln)
- Spend time put the edge on your plan by sharpening the Data Annex

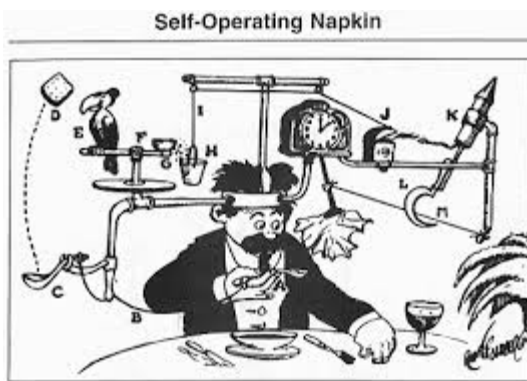
By looking at your policy priorities and the data needs required then deciding how and when to measure, you will be able to avoid shortfalls in funding; data gaps and smooth reporting.

The Data Annex is a process training that will guide the planner in:
Survey Planning and Costing



What is the process?

- Conceptual Framework
- Logical Frameworks
- Planning statistical operations
- Budgeting: Estimates vs. Cost Accounting



Avoid developing strange contraptions for measuring

Conceptualize Process

1. Conceptual frameworks can help in standardizing processes among various interests.
2. Conceptual frameworks should standardize definitions and concepts used by a community.
3. Decide on relevant frameworks and then consider training key contributors to the Planning process

Conceptual Frameworks

- GSBPM: Generic Statistical Business Process Model
- MTEF: Medium Term Expenditure Frameworks

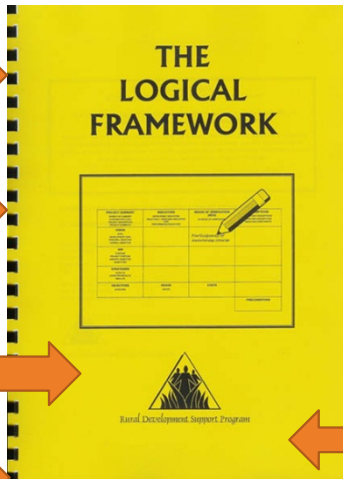
General Process Flow



1. Review policy documents and Measurement Indicators cited.



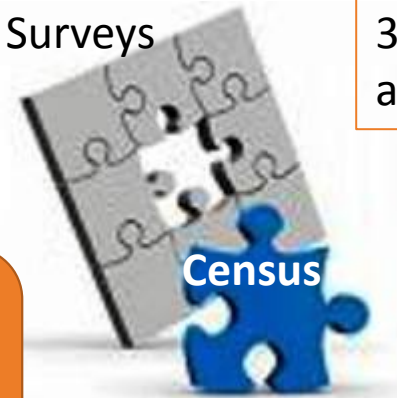
Health Sector



2. Develop a national log frame for review and consultation

Surveys

3. Develop a survey plan and consultation



4. Estimate survey cost (Bottom-up)



Compile into the NSDS

Once you have a plan and an estimated budget then you can provide the annex in the NSDS.

Use this for sector consultation and getting survey specific funding commitments.

NSDS Survey Planning Tools

- Desk work tool (Survey Planning Checklist and Guidelines)
- Input tool (Currently an Excel Spreadsheet)
 - Versatile log frame template tab
 - Planning and scheduling tab
 - Estimation (Costing Tab)
 - Budget Tool for survey management
- Output
 - National Data Annex consisting of: Log frame and survey plan
 - Statistical operation (survey) funding sheets and specifications
 - Post log frame and survey plan on your web site
 - Share this metadata with the IHSN for international reference
 - Express costs in **per household expenditure (surveys) and per person expenditure for censuses**. This helps in comparability and also future planning and referencing.

1. Review policy documents

- Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRSP)
- Sector monitoring strategies
- Be aware of sector programs even if they are not national
- International funding monitoring priorities
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Logical Frameworks

“Where initiated by the developing country, transparent, country led and country level **results frameworks** and platforms will be adopted as a common tool among all concerned actors to assess performance based on a manageable number of output and outcome indicators drawn from the development priorities and goals of the developing country.

Providers of development cooperation will minimise their use of additional frameworks, refraining from requesting the introduction of performance indicators that are not consistent with a countries' national development strategy

Busan Action Plan for Statistics

Logical Frameworks

- Consolidate sector plans in terms of measurement indicators
- Look at reasonableness and attainability of measuring the indicator
- Look at statistical power issues (Geographic domains)
- Attribute indicator to survey and methodology
- IHSN Question Bank preparation
- Medium to build consensus on the framework (including from funding agencies)
- Practical Exercise
- Identify data gaps

Planning

- Starting with the Log Frame
- Plan the census first and prioritize
- Identify the international agency well ahead of time and make sure that there is agreement
- Check on sample size issues and estimation power of indicators with experts
- Undertake a sensitivity analysis: Check various scenarios
- Identify gaps in the data record
- Consider new technologies

Estimation vs. Budgeting

- First! This is not a budgeting exercise. The NSDS is an exercise in estimating costs required by the statistical system. A tool for robust estimation is required to combine with the proper advocacy tools to seek funding.
- Budgeting a survey is the process of planning the specific survey (within a budget allocation)
- It can be reviewed frequently and used to measure and control actual expenditure

Estimation vs. Budgeting

An **estimate** comes first and is generally a broad, big picture total sum used in cost/benefit analysis and strategic decision making prior to committing to a course of action.

A **budget** is developed after the decision to commit is made and is generally far more detailed, broken into time periods and used to empower, control and account for operational decisions made during the actual implementation of the strategic decision.

The NSDS is an instrument to enlist financial commitments. After the Commitments then a budget would be produced.

Estimation

- Most of the estimation work is “guesstimating”
- We want to find a middle ground and compute reliable expenditure estimates based on a bottom up approach
- These should compare with a top down approach based on historical data or an expenditure baseline
- Will need to account for technological innovations in the costing plan. This should be a separate plan and costing exercise.

Estimate

- Evaluate in two ways (this will help validate)
- Top Down:
 - Historical and main cost components (top down)
 - Historical: Separate out direct domestic costs; institutional overheads and external technical assistance
 - Census per person costs and survey per household costs
- Bottom up:
 - Need sample sizes; disaggregation and cluster size and time in the field
 - Look at enumerator costs; transport costs; training and data processing

Estimate Evaluation

- In the end, your estimation methods should not short change the priority ends. If you are scrambling for further commitments after the estimation and allocation then there was likely something wrong with the estimation.
- Always evaluate the estimation technique and adapt to new realities and determinant costing structures. This is a dynamic process.