

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

NSDS 2.0 Guidelines



PARIS 21

Partnership in Statistics for
Development in the 21st Century

Outline

1. Key definitions

- official statistics, national statistical systems

2. Introduction to PARIS21

- mission, programme focus

3. NSDS

- concept, statistical capacity building, value added, country coherence framework , ten fundamental principles

4. NSDS Methodology

- approach, design vs. implementation

5. NSDS Design

- Redefinition of the NSDS permanent steps
- Sequenced steps for NSDS preparation

1. Key Definitions

- **Statistics** – quantitative and qualitative, aggregated and representative information characterising a collective phenomenon in a considered population.
- **Official statistics**
 - ✓ **NSDS Guidelines:** recognized by the state; statistics produced using any public money for or on behalf of the national government.
 - ✓ **UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics:** indispensable element in the information system of a democratic society, serving the Government, the economy and the public with data about the economic, demographic, social and environmental situation.

1. Key Definitions

- **Official statistics (cont'd)**

- ✓ **OECD:** statistics disseminated by the National Statistical System, except those that are explicitly stated 'not official'.
- ✓ **Other definitions:** component of a wider information system supporting a society's decision-making processes; responds to a collective need and are fit for purpose, satisfying as far as possible explicitly agreed quality standards for statistical production processes and outputs.

1. Key Definitions

• National Statistical System

- ✓ **OECD:** ensemble of statistical organisations and units within a country, not only the National Statistics Office (NSO), that jointly collect, process and disseminate official statistics on behalf of the national government.
- ✓ **Other definition:** Institutional arrangements under which operates the NSS vary from one country to another as a result of the country's history and culture.
- ✓ **Kind of continuum:**
 - **Centralised system** – an NSS with a single institution responsible for most of the official statistics
 - **Decentralised by sector** – one national statistical agency and several other autonomous institutions dealing with specialised statistical fields (e.g., agriculture, education, labour, etc.)
 - **For federal states** – aside from having a centralised or decentralised (by sector) organisation at the federal level, there can be, at the member states level, a state autonomous statistical organisation producing official statistics for state needs (e.g., regional decentralisation)

1. Key Definitions

- **National Statistical System (cont'd)**
 - ✓ **Other considerations: Golden rules for official statistics**
 - Rule of law
 - Good governance
 - Accountability
 - Integrity, impartiality and accountability of the NSS personnel are essential to honour citizens' entitlement to public information (official statistics are open data by nature)

2. Introduction to PARIS21

- **PARIS21:** Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century
 - ✓ **Global partnership** of national, regional and international statistical experts and policy makers seeking to improve evidence-based decision making in developing countries
 - ✓ **Works in more than 70 countries** across Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean
- **Mission: build statistical capacity** in developing countries to
 - ✓ Improve the provision, availability and use of high quality data
 - ✓ Foster a dialogue within societies on the use of data for accountability and evidence-based policy making
 - ✓ Promote the well-being of people through contributing to the achievement of national and international development goals

2. Introduction to PARIS21

- **Objective:** Promote **evidence-based policy and decision-making**, by encouraging:
 - ✓ increased demand for and use of statistics by policy makers
 - ✓ capacity development to provide the required data and analysis
 - ✓ strengthened dialogue between the producers of statistics and the users
- **To ensure effective use of resources, both national and international**
 - ✓ through well-planned national statistical systems focused on user needs and integrated into national policy frameworks

2. Introduction to PARIS21

- **Programme focus:** National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS)
 - ✓ Design/formulation
 - ✓ Implementation
 - ✓ Scaling-up support for statistical capacity building
- **NSDS crucial to statistical development:**
 - ✓ Addresses data limitations across whole NSS
 - ✓ Prioritises data needs
 - ✓ Harmonises all national/international programmes
 - ✓ Integrates statistics within policy / budgetary processes
 - ✓ *Takes into account what already exists!*

3. National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS)

- **What is NSDS?**
 - ✓ Provides a **vision for the NSS in 5-10 years** (medium to long-term)
 - ✓ **Coherence framework and action plan** for capacity building and for funding decisions
 - ✓ Emphasizes importance of **coordination arrangements** across NSS and between donors
 - ✓ Highlights importance of **leadership and a well-planned process**

3. National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS)

- **What is the value-added of NSDS?**
 - ✓ Participatory development
 - ✓ Organisational development and management
 - ✓ Statistical Capacity Building best practice
 - ✓ Integrating NSDS into Development Policy Processes

3. National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS)

- **NSDS Breaks the vicious cycle in statistical development:**

Decision-making

based on sectional interests, donor demand, inertia etc.

Weak demand

for data for policy-making. Data not trusted or used.

Donors focus on their own data needs;

Little investment in information systems.

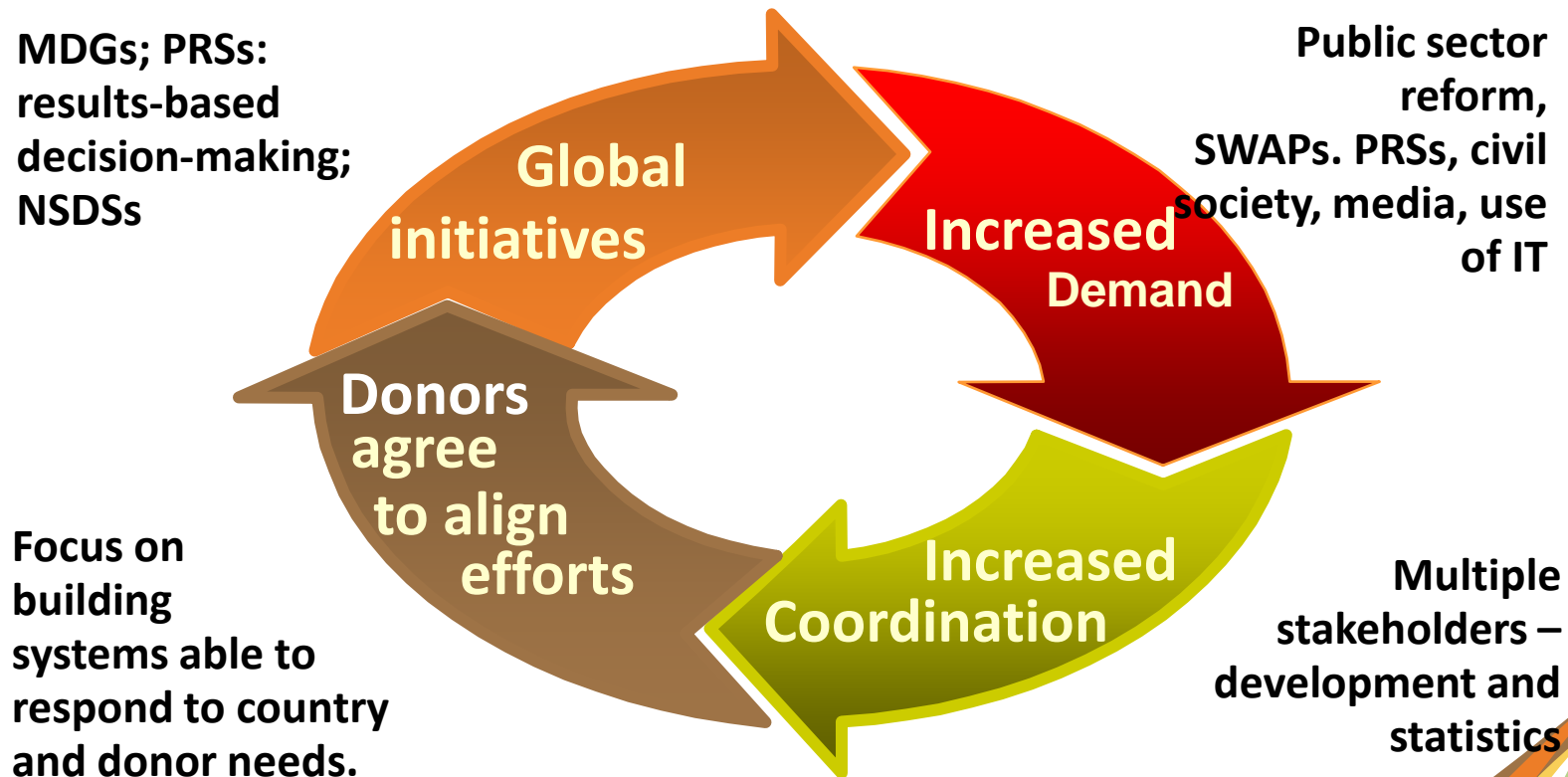
Weak statistics

Limited capacity to generate or analyse data.



3. National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS)

- NSDS turns the vicious cycle into virtuous cycle:



3. National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS)

- **NSDS as a country coherence framework**
 - ✓ Strategic approach to statistical capacity building where countries can place all national and international programmes
 - ✓ International programmes (e.g., International Comparison Programme, Demographic and Health Surveys, and Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys) may be carried out as part of the implementation of the NSDS in line with agreed priorities and the NSDS action plan

3. National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS)

- **NSDS as a coordination mechanism for the NSS**
 - ✓ Encompass all data production, analysis and use
 - ✓ System-wide focus, covers all official statistics, and coordinates all actors in the NSS
 - Line ministries as well as the NSO
 - Users (demand side) as well as producers (supply side)
 - National, sub-national, regional and international needs and programmes

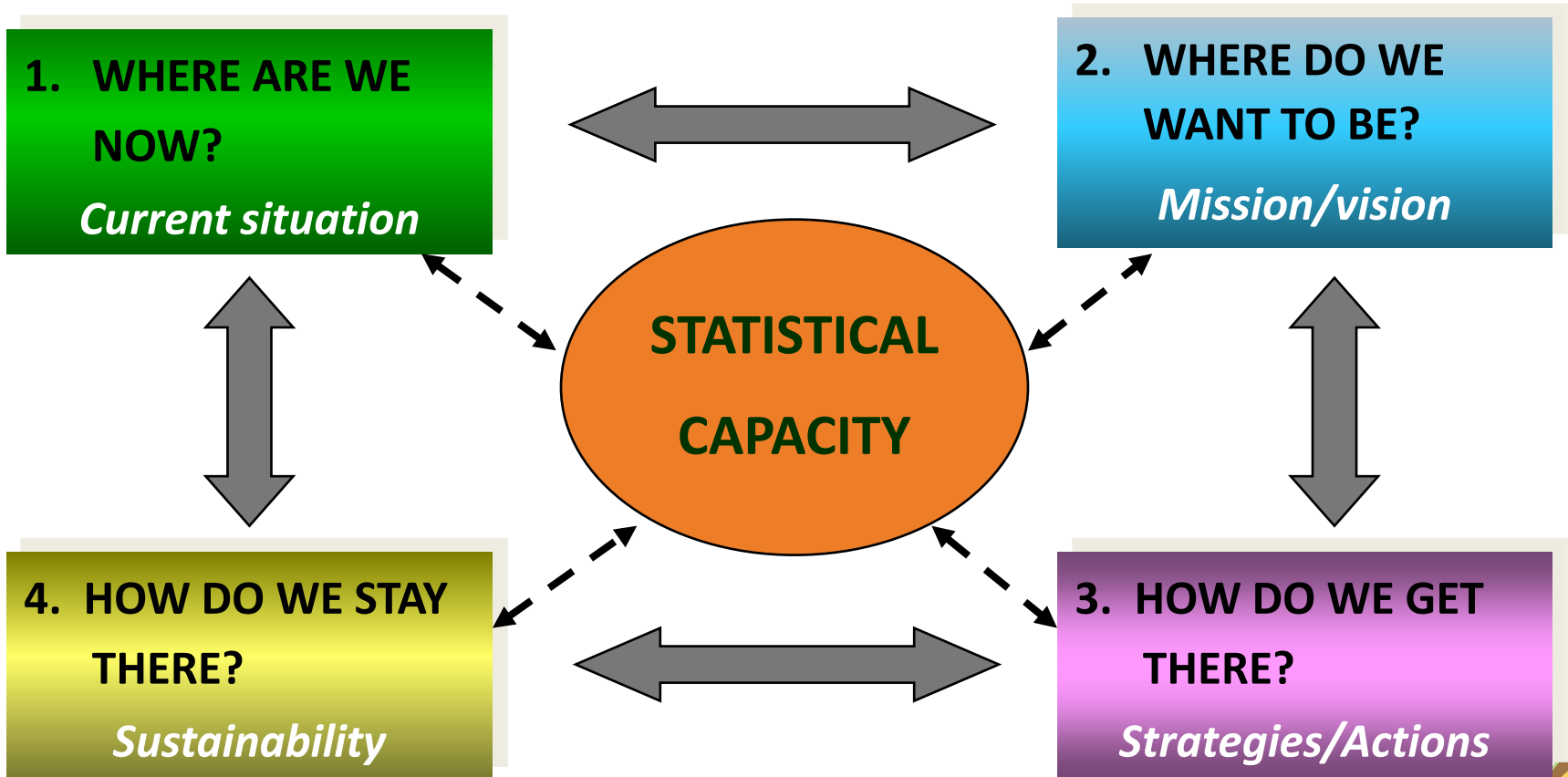
3. National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS)

- **Ten Fundamental Principles for preparing NSDS**
 1. Backed by *political support* and nationally led and owned.
 2. Designed through a sound *methodological approach*.
 3. ***Policy and results-based***: part of the National Development Strategy; meet data users' needs (i.e., government, private sector; NGOs; academia, etc.); provide inputs for results-based decision making.
 4. Takes account **what is in place** and complies with **international commitments**.
 5. Draws on *international statistical standards*.
 6. Covers the *whole NSS*.

3. National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS)

- **Ten Fundamental Principles for preparing NSDS (cont'd)**
 7. Sets out an integrated Statistical *Capacity Building programme*.
 8. *Funded* mainly from national resources (government budget)
 9. Serve as a *coherence framework for external assistance*.
 10. Incorporates *M&E and reporting* mechanisms.

4. NSDS Methodology



4. NSDS Methodology

- **Methodological approach: 4 steps**

- 1. Assessing**

- ✓ Assessment of the overall NSS
- ✓ Detailed diagnosis of the NSS

- 2. Envisioning**

- ✓ Identify the mission of NSO/NSS
- ✓ Strategic vision of the NSS at the horizon of 5-10 years

4. NSDS Methodology

- **Methodological approach: 4 steps (cont'd)**
 - 3. Identifying strategic goals**
 - ✓ Define priorities within the main capacity areas reflecting the strategic goals.
 - 4. Elaborating action-plans**
 - ✓ Translate the strategy into action plans.
 - ✓ Should include a budget and a financing plan.

4. NSDS Methodology

- **NSDS Design vs. Implementation**
 - ✓ **NSDS design** includes:
 - Permanent steps
 - Sequenced steps
 - ✓ **NSDS implementation** includes only permanent steps

5. NSDS Design

- Redefinition of the **NSDS Permanent Steps**
 1. **Managing**
 2. **Committing**
 3. **Budgeting and Financing**
 4. **Advocating**
 5. **Monitoring and Evaluation Reporting**

5. NSDS Design

NSDS Permanent Steps:

1. Managing change; participatory approach and leadership

- ✓ Leadership at the political level
- ✓ Strong leadership at the organizational and operational levels

Weblink: [A. Managing | NSDS GUIDELINES](#)

5. NSDS Design

NSDS Permanent Steps:

2. Committing



Weblink: <http://nsdsguidelines.paris21.org/node/276>

5. NSDS Design

NSDS Permanent Steps:

2. Committing (cont'd)

- Requires **strong and sustained political commitment**
- NSDS a **component of national development strategy** (or revision of the NSDS takes place when the development strategy is prepared)
- All major decisions and reports **approved at a high political level**
- political commitment **sustained to implementation phase**

5. NSDS Design

NSDS Permanent Steps:

3. Budgeting and Financing

- ✓ Costing of statistical activities and a statement regarding the sources of financing
- ✓ Build financing strategy (e.g., medium term expenditure framework, basket funding, etc.)
- ✓ Involve donors at the preparation stage
- ✓ Promote donor coordination to support the NSDS implementation

5. NSDS Design

NSDS Permanent Steps:

4. Advocating

- ✓ Statistical advocacy strategy as a permanent activity with dedicated budget line
- ✓ Set-up communication unit within the NSS
- ✓ Target policy-makers
- ✓ Build commitment among users (i.e., media, NGOs, private sector, academia)
- ✓ Promote statistical literacy among users (e.g, training sessions)

5. NSDS Design

NSDS Permanent Steps:

5. M&E Reporting

- ✓ Signifies a continuous NSDS process
- ✓ Defining indicators to monitor progress
- ✓ Use of M&E as a tool to adjust the strategy (reporting)
- ✓ Two key evaluations: mid-term and final

5. NSDS Design

NSDS Sequenced Steps:

1. Obtain a strong official commitment
2. Understanding
3. Preparing – official commitment, constituency, design team, and roadmap
4. Assessing
5. Envisioning
6. Identifying strategic goals
7. Elaborating action plans

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