

# Importance of Census

**The fundamental purpose of the census at a glance:**

- **Provide the facts essential to government for policy-making, planning and administration.**
- **Decision-making that facilitates the development of socio-economic policies -enhance the welfare of the population.**
- **Provides important data for the analysis and appraisal of the changing patterns of rural/urban movement and concentration, the development of urbanized areas, geographical distribution of the population according to such variables as occupation and education, as well as the socio-economic characteristics of the population and the labor force.**
- **Aids in the decision-making processes of the private sector. Population size and characteristics influence the location of businesses and services that satisfy the needs of the target population.**
- **Population censuses also constitute the principal source of records for use as a sampling frame for the household surveys during the years between censuses.**

- **Preparers of Census Data-** Fiji Bureau of Statistics, Fiji's official National Statistics Agency.

- The responsibility of providing reliable, timely and relevant statistics lies with the Fiji Bureau of Statistics (FBoS).
- Sources of data- business ,households and organizations.
- Census in Fiji- every 10 years. The recent ones are 2007 and 1996 census.

- **Users of Census Data**

- Central and local government
- Interest and representative groups
- Businesses
- Local community
- Ethnic groups
- Students
- Media

# **Ministry of Strategic Planning, National Development and Statistics**

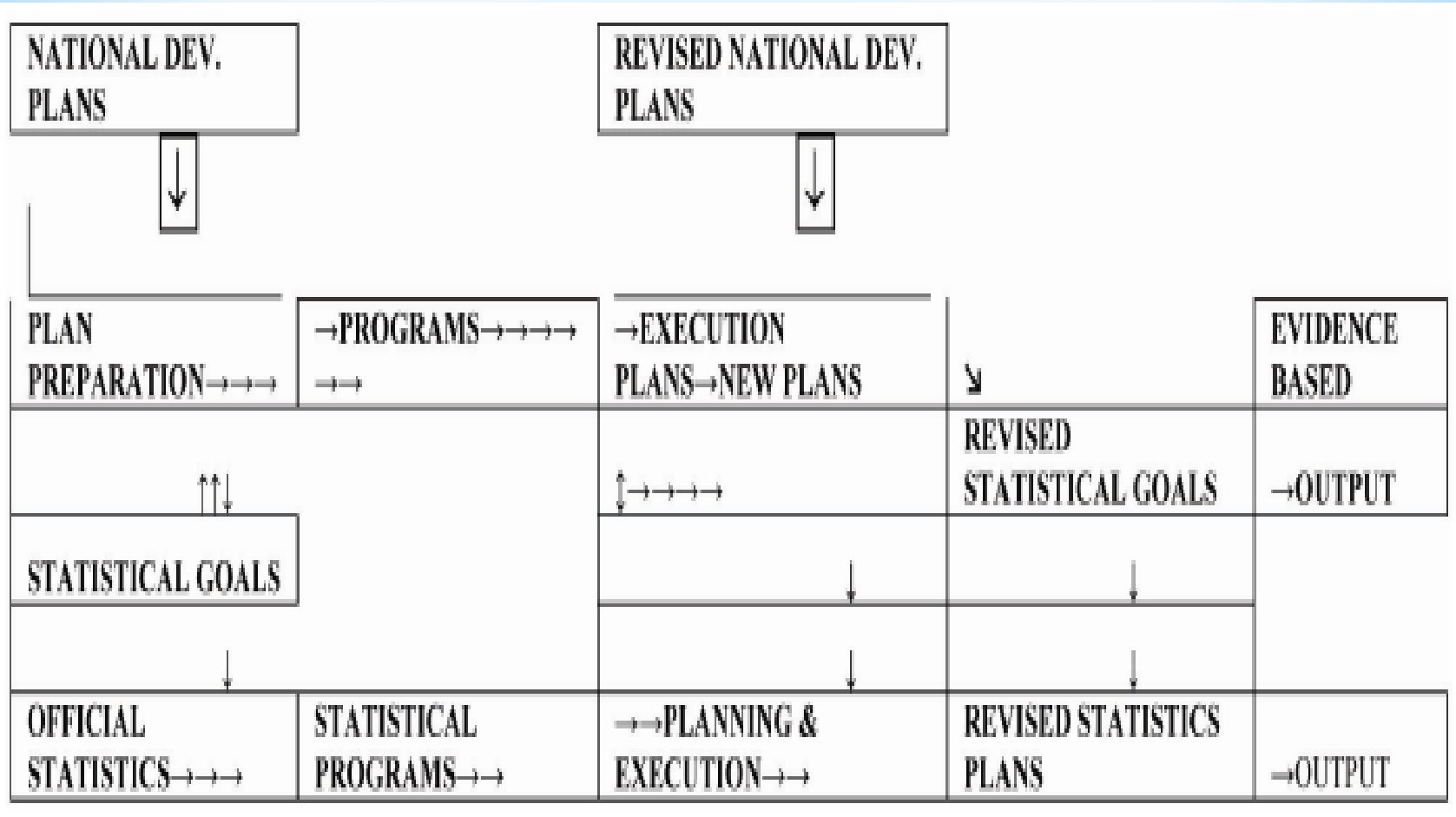
- **Government's planning arm: ensures better coordination of national development efforts through the effective formulation, implementation and monitoring of Government initiatives and forward looking socio-economic planning, statistical analysis and advice.**

## **How do we Use the Census Data**

- **Development planning purposes**
- **Estimation of levels and variations in population and housing characteristics**
- **Estimating sources of labour force**
- **Identifying the role of women and their economic and social standing**

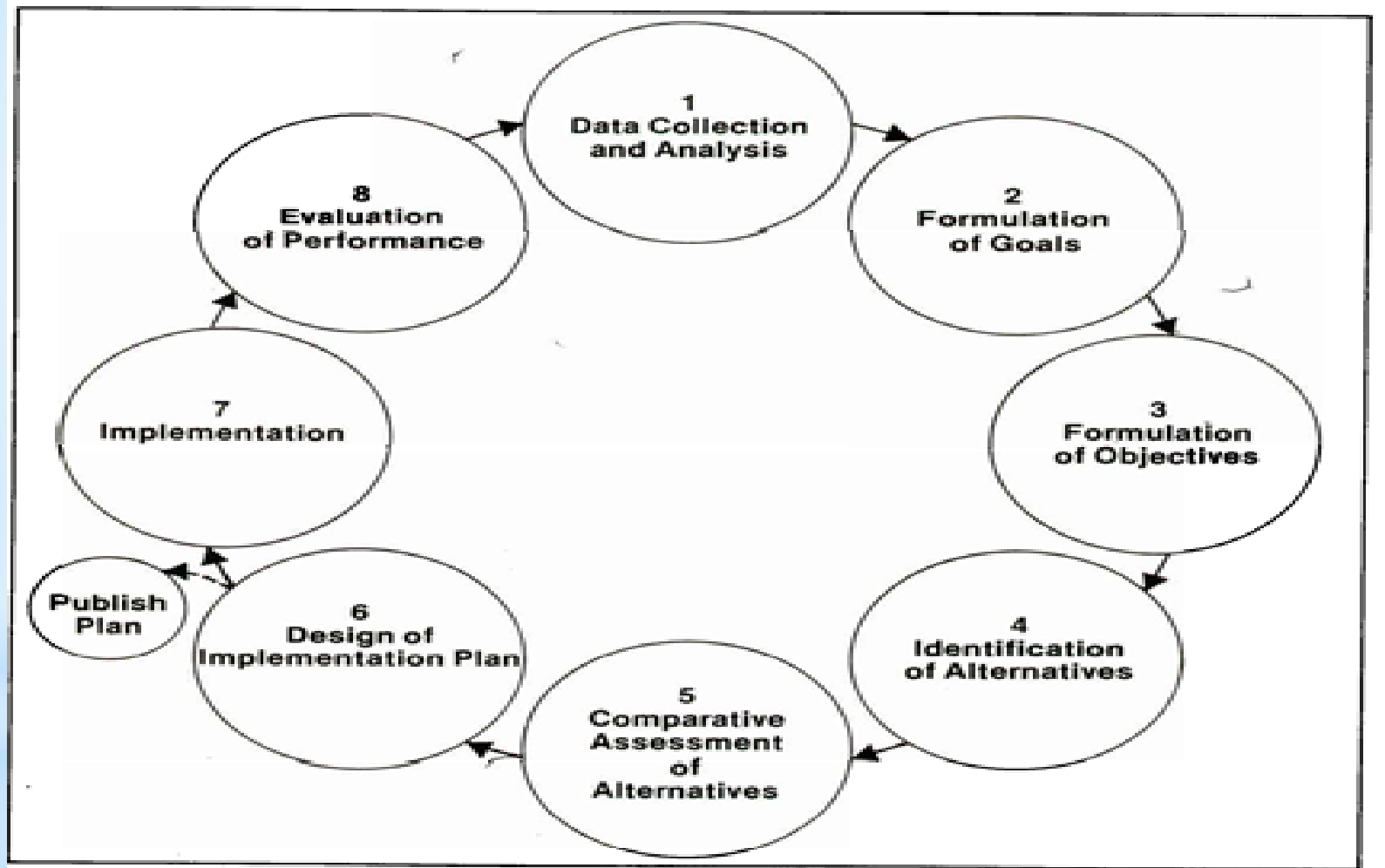
- **Learning about special population groups**
- **Use for research purposes**
- **Use for economic purposes**

**National development requires a well organized statistical system allowing planners to work on the broad set of statistical indicators that are indispensable for the development and improvement of planning. In order to involve the statistical system in the planning and delivery of the designed and desired statistical data, there is need to link statistical planning and national goals as shown in the diagram below:**



Adapted from Journal of Sustainable Development: The Role of Statistics in National Development with Reference to Botswana and Nigeria Statistical Systems, [www.ccsenet.org/jsd](http://www.ccsenet.org/jsd)

# Statistics in Local Planning Process





<b>Economic Policy Formulation</b>	<b>Social Policy Formulation</b>
Macroeconomic aggregates (GDP, GNP, Capital Formation, External transactions, input/output coefficients, etc).	Education
Consumption data (Government & Private)	Health Indicators
Investment Expenditure (Government & Private)	Population Characteristics
Import and Exports	Sanitation and Water Supply Indicators
Prices and Inflation	Cultural and Immigration Flows
Industrial Production and Indices	Religion & Human Rights indicators
Energy and Power production/ consumption	Public order indicators
Agricultural and raw Material Production	
Transportation & Communication Indicators	
Government Services	
Housing & Finance	
Interest Rates & Exchange Rates	
Banking & Finance	

# Statistics in Planning

Statistics provides an understanding of the indicators related to youths such as :

- 1) Distribution of Youths
- 2) Education attainment /literacy level/drop out rate/ primary, secondary and tertiary completion rate
- 3) Gender
- 4) Access to Health facilities/ knowledge of HIV AIDS
- 5) Youth employment to population ratio
- 6) Level of youth participation/responsiveness to political process
- 7) Percentage of disabled youths



# Statistics in Planning

## Planning Activities include:

- 1) Development of a youth employment strategy**
- 2) Formulating strategy to improve learning outcomes at each level of the education system**
- 3) Developing strategy to improve the literacy levels of young people, with a focus on school-leavers with little or no literacy, providing them with financial literacy and livelihood options in the informal sector**
- 4) A strategy to give opportunities to young people to engage with their communities by providing support for volunteer activities through non-governmental organisations**
- 5) A strategy to improve the lives and livelihoods of disabled young people based on identifying, measuring and achieving specific targets in relation to literacy, access to health care, education attainment, mobility and the capacity to earn an independent livelihood**

