Regional Course on Statistical Business Registers:
Making a Business Case for an Operational
Statistical Business Register

26 – 30 January 2015
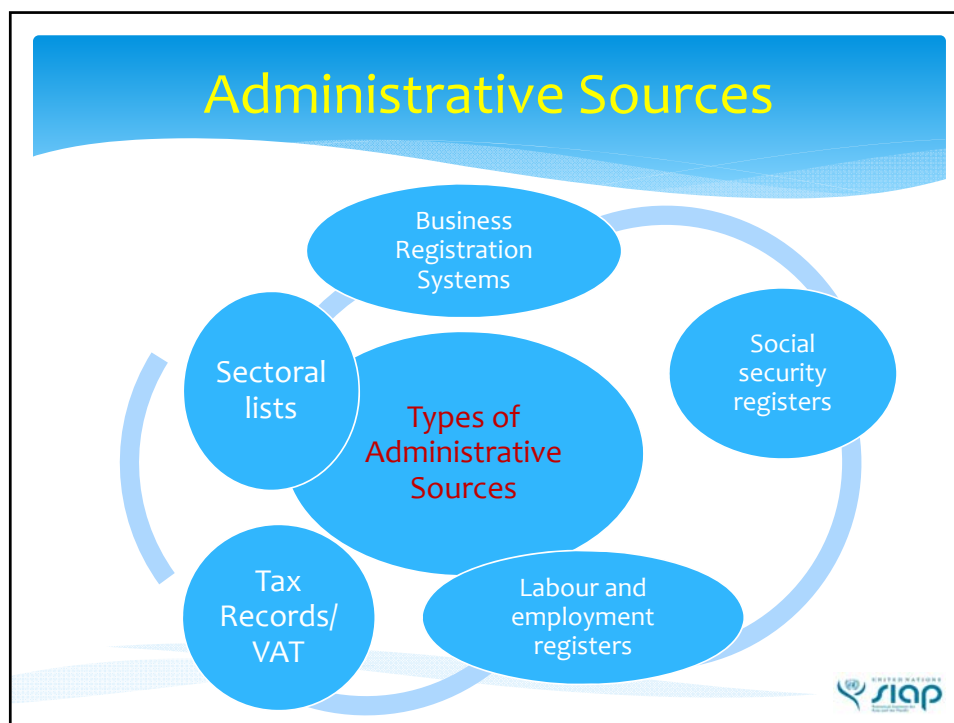Sungkai, Perak, Malaysia

Typologies of Potential Data Sources

UNITED NATIONS
SIAP
Statistical Institute for
Asia and the Pacific

Types of Data Sources for SBRs

* Administrative Sources
* Statistical Sources
* Others

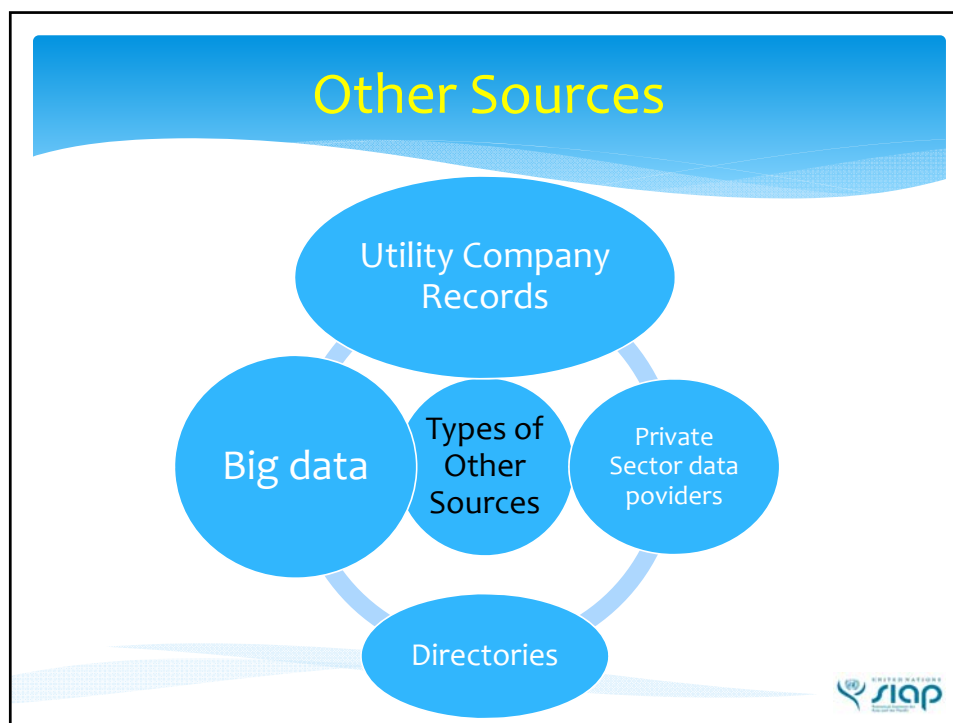*Recommendation*: Create and maintain SBR primarily using administrative sources

SIAP

Administrative Sources

Business Registration Systems

Social security registers

Sectoral lists

Types of Administrative Sources

Tax Records/ VAT

Labour and employment registers

Statistical Sources

* Statistical surveys
  * Feedback surveys
  * SBR Improvement surveys
  * Profiling
* Business/ economic censuses
* Sample surveys

4

Other Sources

Utility Company Records

Big data

Types of Other Sources

Private Sector data poviders

Directories

Group Discussion

* Discuss advantages and disadvantages of each data source for statistical business registers.

* Give examples of when you would recommend a specific source and explain why you would recommend this.

Administrative Sources

Cost advantage over surveys

Free if sourced from government

Few staff required

Reduction in respondent burden

Frequent Statistics production at no extra cost to businesses

Why use administrative data?

Complete coverage of target population

Eliminate survey errors Reduced non-response

Accurate estimates of sub-populations

Increased quality of SBR

Access to up-to-date information

Timeliness of data compared to surveys, Location, Activity codes, Dates

Administrative Sources

* Confidentiality issues regarding data sharing;

* Differences in definitions of variables in statistical and administrative systems eg turnover for VAT &Non-VAT

* Timeliness i.e tax calander vs SBR cycles, lags in births and deaths;

* Matching data from different sources in absence identifiers;
    * Priority sources.

Administrative Sources

Quality and other issues

* Building knowledge of data sources
* Transition from administrative to statistical data
    * Expected records, valid formats for variables, coverage, plausibility of variables
* Cross-check with other registers