Set-up of Sub-National Statistical Systems. The case of Kenya

Cross regional workshop: Shaping sub-national statistical systems to meet requirements of the SDGs, Paris-France

James T. Gatungu
KENYA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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Outline

- Existing administrative arrangements between national & sub-national systems
- Role of sub-national strategic plan for the development of statistics on sub-national data
- Data collected
- Data dissemination and use
- Major challenges
- Way Forward
Existing Administrative Arrangements

The Constitution of Kenya 2010

Article 176 of The Constitution created a decentralised system of government.

~The legislature and political arms of government devolved to 47 political and administrative counties

~Kenya therefore has two levels of government and is divided administratively into 47 distinct counties
Existing Administrative Arrangements

The Constitution of Kenya 2010

Statistics is a shared function (Fourth Schedule)

National:

- Economic policy and planning
- National statistics and data on population, the economy and society generally

Counties:

- County planning and development, including
  (a) statistics

The county statistics should ideally be a sub-group of the national statistics. However, we have not yet put in place a mechanism to consider the county statistics as presented as being ‘official’
Role of sub-national strategic plan (SP)

Except at the national level, most strategic plans developed focus on the respective institutional mandates with minimal or no reference to statistics.

To raise the profile of statistics, Kenya has embarked on the NSDS process.

- The Strategic plan for KNBS and Strategic Plan for Agriculture and rural Statistics (SPARS) for the agriculture sectors have been published

- Preparation of the Sub-national Sector Statistics Plans (SSPs) for other sectors and four pilot counties is ongoing
Role of sub-national strategic plan (SP)

In relation to SDGs, the SPs are:

- important in entrenching the sub-national systems (county governments) as providers of official data given the enormous demand for data for SDGS

- crucial in provision of sub-national (and disaggregated) data particularly in the spirit of ‘leaving no one behind’.

- A good instrument to lobby for resources to meet the data needs for the SDGS in a cost benefit manner
Data collected

The counties are mandated under the fourth schedule of the constitution to collect statistics for use in their county planning and development.

However, these excludes macro statistics.

– The national government may however allow the county government to collect some of the data that is a national function on their behalf.
Data Dissemination and Use

- All counties develop County Integrated Development plans (CIDP) that present data as part of a resource allocation requirement.

- Data is usually disseminated through the CIDPS and websites.

- Some counties have advanced dissemination platforms that are integrated with GIS while some do not have any elaborate data dissemination system.

- The data collected by the counties is basically for use in their own county planning and development.
Major Challenges

• Weak Statistics Act
  - The current Act (2006) does not cover the devolved system, therefore the process of integrating counties as part of the Statistical System is not yet complete

• Non-prioritization of statistics at the sub-national level
  - no budget line for statistics

• Lack/inadequate statistical capacity at the sub-national level to collect, compile, analyze and disseminate statistics

• Quality of statistics produced

• No clear structure on flow of information between county and national government particularly for sectors whose functions have been devolved.
Way Forward

• We have embarked on the revision of the Statistics Act to be in line with the Constitution 2010
• Embarked on production of county statistics abstract, jointly with the 47 county governments
• Fast track the NSDS process and completion of the Sector Statistics Plans
• Strengthen the capacity of the sub-national system to collect, analyze and disseminate official statistics through capacity building
• Facilitate the county governments to establish representative sampling frames
END

THANK YOU