Meeting the data challenge: National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDSs)

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PARIS21 Secretariat

Marrakech Action Plan for Statistics (MAPS)

MAPS aim:
“to mainstream strategic planning of statistical systems and prepare national strategies for the development of statistics for all low-income countries by 2006.”

Integrate statistical development within PRSs and national development plans.

Existing statistics strategy (Anglophone SADC countries)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Time span</th>
<th>Political</th>
<th>Funding</th>
<th>User partners</th>
<th>Hip</th>
<th>Sector coverage</th>
<th>Cost (US$)</th>
<th>Funding Impl.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Botswana</td>
<td>2003/4</td>
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<td>yes</td>
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<td>partial</td>
<td>partial</td>
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<td>Swaziland</td>
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<td>?</td>
<td>?</td>
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<td>partial</td>
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</tbody>
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Value added of NSDS approach

Merges best practice and builds from:
- UN Fundamental Principles, and guiding principles for good practices in technical cooperation for statistics
- Existing statistical improvement processes (such as GDDS)
- Inclusive, participatory development processes (e.g. for Poverty Reduction Strategies in developing countries)
- Best practice in organisational development and management
- Lessons learnt from strategic planning, including from SADC region

NSDS design and implementation

Some Essentials

- High level political support and leadership
- Well planned process (“road map”) to NSDS design
- Identifying user needs and data gaps and weaknesses
- Reviewing existing statistical production and analysis; capacity, legal and institutional framework and coordination arrangements
- Agreeing on desired results, building on what already exists and is in progress, e.g. GDDS improvement programmes
- Setting priorities and strategies
- Change management processes
- Engaging and motivating staff
How can PARIS21 help? (1)

Advocacy:
- Role of statistics in development
- Need for strategic planning
- NSDS as a coherence framework for statistical capacity building

Range of advocacy materials

How can PARIS21 help? (2)

- Resource mobilisation:
  - Increased levels of funding
  - Donor programs supporting and complementing national statistical plans
- Technical as well as financial assistance:
  - Briefing of consultants
  - Role for more developed NSSs

(3) NSDS Documentation

NSDS Essentials
Making the case
Guide to designing an NSDS
Guide to implementation
Knowledge Base
www.paris21.org

How can PARIS21 help? (4)

Regional Programmes
- Baseline assessments
- Regional workshops
- Advocacy at country level
- Facilitating technical and financial support
- Consolidating partner efforts
- Reporting on progress

PARIS21 REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NSDS INCEPTION</th>
<th>NSDS DESIGN</th>
<th>NSDS IMPLEMENTATION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advocacy</td>
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<td>Baseline assessment</td>
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<td>Regional workshop (road map)</td>
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<td>Facilitating road map funding</td>
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<td>Facilitating technical assistance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strengthening partnership</td>
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Lesson learning

- Guidelines developed from experience
- Parallel processes to use and review NSDS
  making links to policy frameworks and using tools for assessing the status of statistics:
  - Incorporate lessons learnt and feed back
  - Revise design guide and develop guide to implementation
- NSDS approach must learn from country experiences:
  - Addressing constraints, blockages
  - Making links to policy frameworks and using tools for assessing the status of statistics