The Role of Data in SDG Implementation
And Vice Versa

Amb. Michael Gerber
Swiss Special Envoy for Global Sustainable Development
PARIS 21 Annual Meetings
Bern, 4th April 2018
The Role of Data in SDG Implementation – And Vice Versa

Data revolution

- To support SDG implementation and review
- Lack of data quality, availability, and collection capacity to monitor SDGs
  - Long-term support needed: statistical offices, data quality & evidence base for decision-making
- SDGs as a game changer for data and statistics?
  - Broad scope, ambitious goals and targets
  - Requires us to be MORE accurate, nuanced, innovative, and collaborative
    - “Leaving no one behind” → disaggregated data
      → legal and methodological restrictions
- Lack of resources
SDGs as an opportunity

- SDGs to correct image of data and statistics
  - Targets 17.18 & 17.19
  - 2030 Agenda Outcome Document: Chapter on follow-up and review
    - High-Level Political Forum as main intergovernmental platform for tracking progress
    - 230+ indicators
    - Best practice: Early inclusion of statisticians in the post-2015 process
- Changing perception regarding importance of high quality data and statistics
Stumbling blocks

- Donors moving slowly
- “Political risks”
  → more transparency about progress
- More is not necessarily better
  - More specific support
  - Include all relevant actors
  - Collaboration and joint programmes
- For better capacity development, a modernization process must be launched
Modernization process for capacity development

- Important developments are under way
  - Many actors and groups engaged
  - Vast knowledge and exchange of best practices
  - New approaches emerge

- Switzerland
  - supports PARIS 21
  - supports partner countries
  - engages in the field of big data
The Role of Data in SDG Implementation – And Vice Versa

Thank you for your attention & engagement!

Stay up to date:
www.2030agenda.ch
facebook.com/agenda2030Switzerland
twitter.com/2030AgendaCH