

Why is there a disparity in the levels of technical and institutional capacity reached by national statistical offices (NSO) in Latin America and the Caribbean?

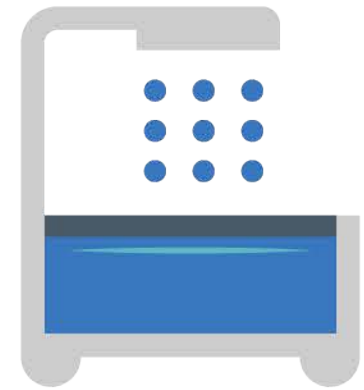
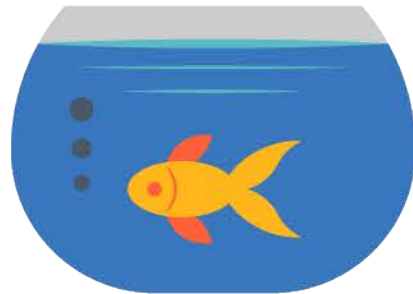
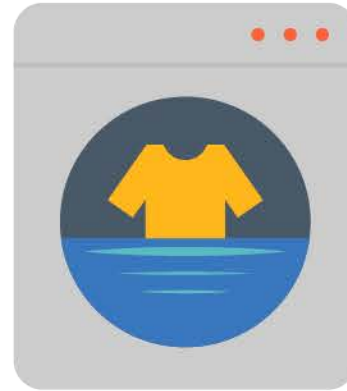
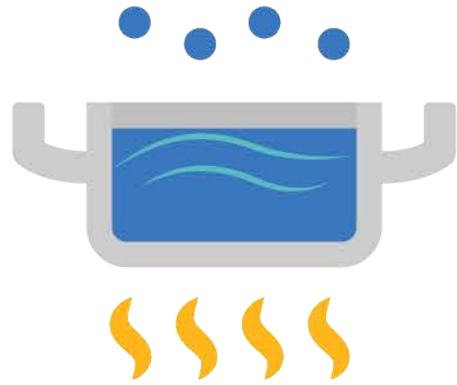


Who wants to know? The Political Economy of Statistical Capacity in Latin America

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Distribution of market share among the major technology players. IT, ITC and ITC in 2013 are 25% and 75% percent respectively. Further change in the market share distribution of the market will be determined by a number of other factors of the IT market players.

Share of market activity

Changes in the activity of the active and passive market is uncertain. Established positive trends in various market segments.

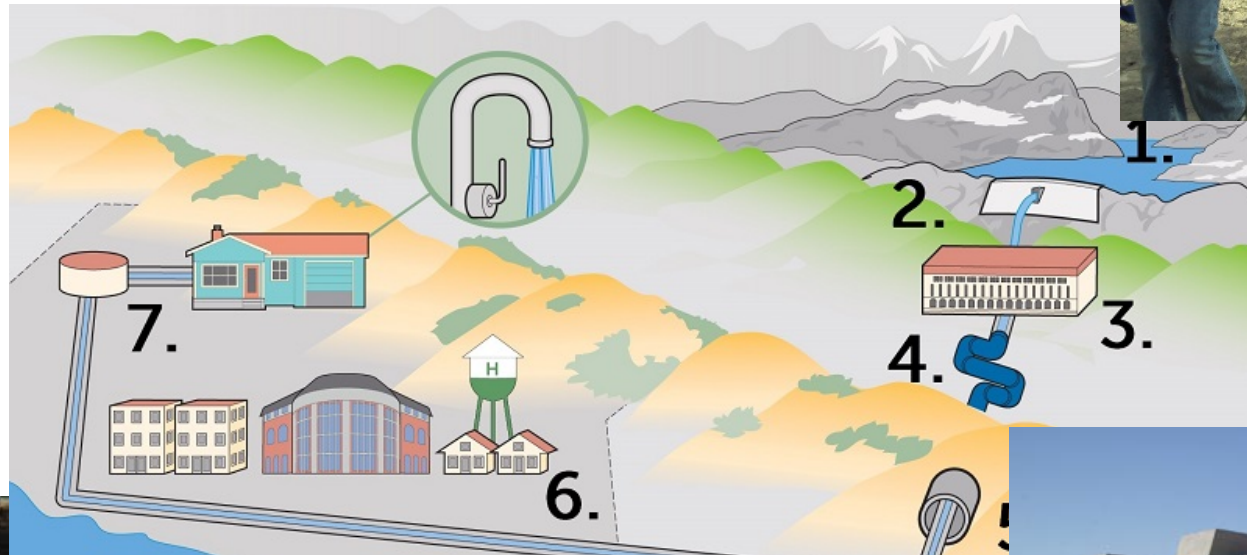


Projected sales of main products in 2013



Positive market share





Who Wants to Know?

The Political Economy of Statistical Capacity in Latin America

Special meeting: "NSOs Professional Independence: Threats and Responses" September 18th, 2018. Paris, France.



Content



Conceptual and methodological framework



Findings



Recommendations



The book analyzes the political economy of statistical capacity applying the capacity of the State conceptual framework to the study of

National Statistical Offices (NSO)

The study of capacity in State institutions focuses on two relevant dimensions:



Resources



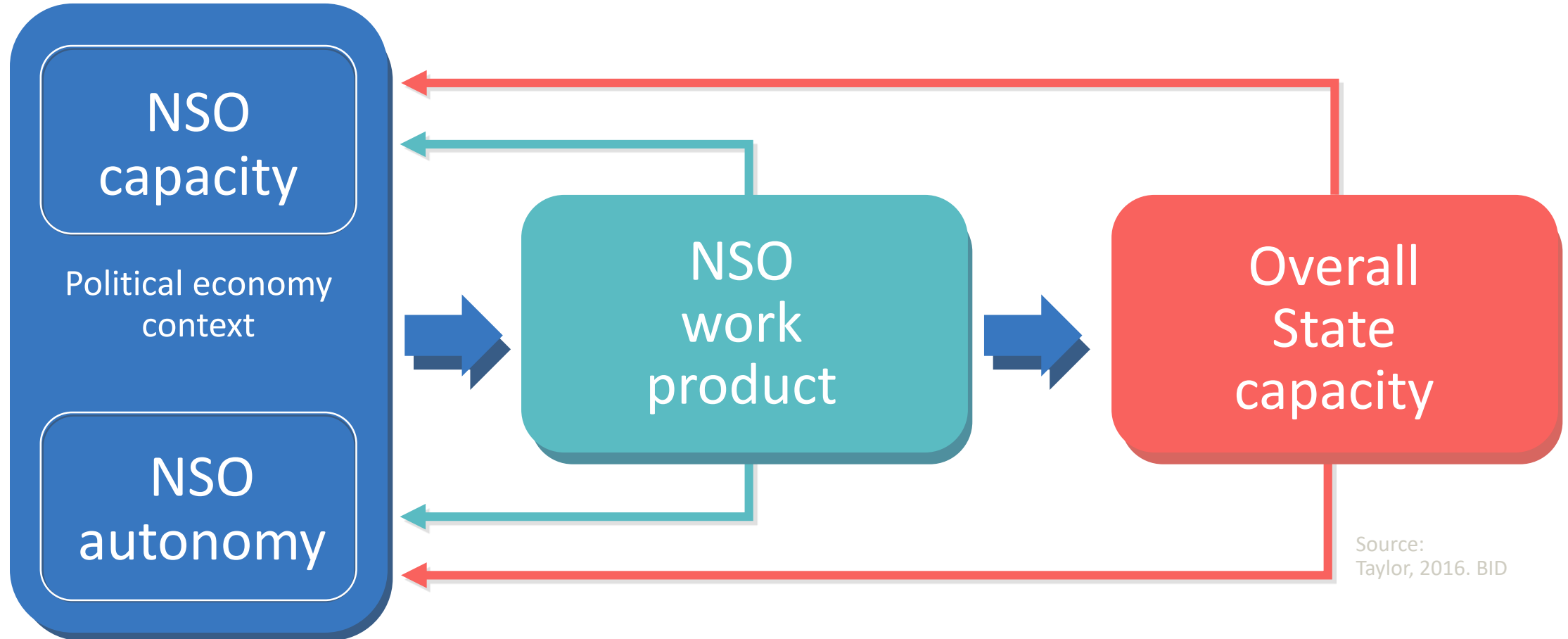
Autonomy

To study NSOs it is necessary to add another dimension:



Coordination

Conceptual map of the impact of the NSO on Overall State capacity



Source:
Taylor, 2016. BID

In general the level of development of a national statistical office is correlated to the level of development of the country.



The NSO is understood in the context of the State it is part of.

But its technical specialization can turn it into an island of efficiency with a higher development level than the rest of the State.



Mexico

Dominican Republic

Guatemala

El Salvador

Colombia

Ecuador

Brazil

Peru

Bolivia

Argentina

Three levels of analysis



Common historical processes



Political economy factors



Institutionality and agency



Common Historical Processes



Emergence of developmentalist States in the 60s and 70s



Demand for better quality social policies



Decentralization processes that require data with higher geographical disaggregation

Common Historical Processes



The democratization processes and their greater demand for transparency in the 80s and 90s



Economic crisis in the 80s which negatively hit the region and weakened its bureaucracies (-)



Fiscal reforms in the 90s that reduced the number of, and the resources available to statistical offices (-)

Political Economy Factors



The existence of technical areas in the State that require statistics to carry out their functions



International demand and the availability of resources from international cooperation

Political Economy Factors



Fulfil the requirements to be part of an international organization



Sustainable Development Goals

Political Economy Factors



The effects of economic and political crisis



Users outside of government are very relevant



The role of the president of the country

Institutionality and Agency



The NSO builds coalitions outside of the State to increase its relevance to others



Make use of international networks to reinforce the NSO with knowledge and resources

Institutionality and Agency



Managers and bureaucrats exploit opportunities to promote a better institutional framework



Managers and bureaucrats use their statistical knowledge to become essential

Recommendations



Promote the modernization of legal frameworks. **Obsolescence-free.**



Improve the use of administrative records. **The original “Big Data”.**



Encourage alignment to international standards. **They are an endorsement.**



Promote dialogue among data producers and users. **The supply has to be aligned to the demand.**

Recommendations



Promote transparency



Increase data dissemination



Strengthen a **culture of statistics (data literacy)** that encourages the creation of a critical mass of data users outside of the government

Challenges



New technologies



Adoption of innovations



Consolidate the coordinating role of the National Statistical Office in the national statistical system

Key message



Demand for information is fundamental



Users are essential



Demand has to be stimulated

A large, dense crowd of people is gathered for a protest or demonstration. The crowd is diverse in age and appearance. Many individuals are holding up signs and banners. In the upper left, a large white banner with the word "BASJIA" is visible. In the center, a white rectangular box with a black border contains the text "LONG LIVE STATISTICS!". Other visible signs include "NO LINAZO", "Expulsion of Government", and "CLASS WARRIORS". The background shows a city street with trees and buildings under a clear sky.

LONG LIVE STATISTICS!

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