

BUILDING ROBUST COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE PRODUCERS AND USERS OF THE OFFICIAL STATISTICS IN AFRICA

ADEBAYO AGUNBIADE
PROFESSOR OF STATISTICS
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES
OLABISI ONABANJO UNIVERSITY
AGO-IWOYE, OGUN STATE, NIGERIA

PRESENTATION GUIDES



- Background Information
- General Concept of Official Statistics (in Africa)
- National Statistical System
- Producers of Official Statistics
- Users of Official Statistics
- Synergy Between Producers and Users of Official Statistics
- Future Directions

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- ❖ Countries in the world have one or more government agencies (e.g national institutes) that feed decision-makers and other users with a steady flow of information
- ❖ These bulk of data/information are referred to as official statistics. Qualities of Official statistics - objectivity and accessibility
- ❖ Official statistics previous initiatives – SHaSA
- ❖ Challenges of the Initiatives and way forward

Official Statistics

connote the body of
statistical information
produced, validated,
compiled and
disseminated
by Statistics
Authorities;

The general concept of official statistics

- ✓ **“Statistics”**, data required for production of organized statistical information, obtained from censuses and statistical surveys or administrative records;
- ✓ **“Statistical Information”**, any organized quantitative and/or qualitative information obtained from statistical data that facilitates understanding of economic, political, demographic, social, environmental and cultural trends, and of gender and governance etc-related issues



Official Statistics in Africa

- According to Jean Ping Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Statistical information has become a vital and indispensable tool in the regional and continental integration process
- For the moment, quality statistical data produced by the African statistical system is virtually inexistent.
- To remedy this shortfall, the decision-making organs of the African Union took the historic step to call for the elaboration of an African Charter on Statistics, which will serve not only as a legal instrument to regulate statistical activity but also as a tool for advocacy and the development of statistics in Africa.

Some National Statistical Institutes in Africa

- Ethiopia: [Central Statistical Agency](#)
- Kenya: [National Bureau of Statistics](#)
- Nigeria: [National Bureau of Statistics](#)



National Statistical System

The **national statistical system** (NSS) is the ensemble of **statistical** organizations and units within a country that jointly collect, process and disseminate official statistics on behalf of **national** government.

- ❑ The national Statistical system (NSS) comprises of data Producers, Users, Suppliers and Research & Training Institutions.

NSS should be compliant to the following principles

- ❖ **Independence**
- ❖ **Relevance**
- ❖ **Credibility:**
- ❖ **Respondent Relations:**



- uniform standards & classification of items
- consistency of output and comparability of data
- coordination of service and training of personnel in statistics

- Official statistics are collected and produced by **national statistical organisations**
- Production must follow the following process



Production Process

- Specify Needs
- Design
- Build
- Collect
- Process
- Analyse
- Disseminate
- Evaluate

Users of Official Statistics

There are three types of users:

- ❖ **Users with a general interest**
- ❖ **Users with a business interest**
- ❖ **Users with a research interest**



Relevance of Official Statistics

Official statistics **help decision makers develop informed policies that impact millions of people**

It also provides a picture of a country or different phenomena through data, and images

It provides basic information for evaluations and assessments at different levels.

To produce relevant, objective and accurate statistics to keep users well informed and assist good policy and decision-making..

- National statistics offices in African countries should endeavour to develop strong partnerships with academics to raise statistical capability to enhance quality of work from both users and producers of official statistics
- African countries should constantly emphasise on formation of policies that enhance accessibility of official statistics
- National statistics offices in Africa should endeavor to constantly organize workshops/conferences on methodological standards guiding both production and usage of official statistics
- National statistics institutions in Africa should endeavor to establish a network of academics in official statistics whose members will be involved in the design, implementation, delivery and assessment of professional courses for both the users and producers of official statistics



Future Directions

- **One common point for all the users is their need to be able to trust the official information. They need to be confident that the results published are authoritative and unbiased. Producers of official statistics must maintain a reputation of professionalism and independence**
- The statistical system in Africa must be free from interference that could influence their decisions
- Statistical business processes should be transparent and follow international standards of good practice.
- Statistical programs should be on an annual or multi-annual basis by governments in African countries to improve quality of official statistics
- National statistics offices in African Countries should provide a way to judge the performance of the statistical system.

“ Conclusion



The African Statistics System (ASS) organizations, African statisticians and all those operating in the field of statistics at the national, regional and continental levels shall respect the principles enshrined in the Resolution on the fundamental principles of official statistics adopted by the United Nations Commission for Statistics in April 1994.

CONCLUSION SLIDES

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THANK YOU

