

SUPPORT TO STATISTICAL CAPACITY BUILDING

Sub-Saharan Africa
From Reporting to Collaboration

September 2006

BACKGROUND

- FASDEV, May 2004
- Coordinating Meeting on SCB, Jan-Feb 2005
- PARIS21 Steering Committee, June 2005

BACKGROUND

- Marrakech Action Plan for Statistics, February 2004
- Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, 2005

Light Reporting Mechanism

WHY?

- Know who does what where
- Improve donor harmonisation and collaboration
- Promote “scaling up” of support within overall development assistance
- Identify countries/areas requiring support

Light Reporting Mechanism FOR WHOM?

- Development partners in designing their assistance programs
- NSDS design teams for funding strategy
- National policymakers and planners to formulate action plans for SCB activities

CRS vs. LRS

CRS

- Provides data on new donor financial commitments and disbursements
- Usually excludes statistical components of projects and programmes not separately identified

LRS

- Monitors who is doing what where in SCB
- Includes stand-alone and statistical components of larger projects and programmes

Other Reporting Systems

- UNECE/EUROSTAT for Balkan and CIS countries
- UNECLAC for Latin America and Caribbean
- World Bank/DECDG: Country Statistical Information Database (CSID) – only Bank projects
- IMF – administrative records on IMF Technical Assistance

Light Reporting Exercise

WHO?

- 56 development partners
 - 20 bilateral donors
 - 17 multilateral agencies
 - 3 regional organizations
 - 11 sub-regional organizations
 - 4 statistical training institutes
 - 1 foundation

Light Reporting Exercise

WHERE?

Sub-Saharan Africa

Light Reporting Exercise

WHEN?

Calendar years 2004 and 2005

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WHAT?

- Information on support to Statistical Capacity Building:
 - *Support in collection, compilation, processing and dissemination of official statistics*
 - *Support by development partners directly to countries or through regional/sub-regional organizations*
 - *Excludes support to M&E*
 - *Excludes data use for analysis by partner*

Light Reporting Exercise

WHAT?

Commitments for
projects/programmes active in 2004-
05 – could be longer than 2 years

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HOW?

Questionnaire:

- General information sheet on partner
- Project/program information sheet by beneficiary country/organization on ongoing statistical activities during 2004-05

RESPONSES to LRE

- 51 partners responded
 - 39 support SCB
 - 12 no activities
- 2 partners provided partial information
- 2 partners did not respond

KEY RESULTS OF LRE

- Nigeria, Uganda, Mozambique, Burkina Faso, Angola, Malawi and Tanzania received 40% of commitment value of ongoing projects/programmes
- Key financial partners: World Bank, EC, UK, Norway, AfDB
- 40 SSA countries participating in GDDS
- All countries (except Somalia) benefit from ICP-Africa

KEY RESULTS OF LRE

- 15 countries carrying out stand-alone MICS
- 14 countries participating in MICS-related activities
- 18 countries have introduced DevInfo
- 17 countries received support for household surveys (IES, LSMS, CWIQ)
- 13 countries received support for population censuses

KEY RESULTS OF LRE

- Burkina Faso and Nigeria implementing STATCAPs
- 16 countries received TFSCB grants for design of NSDS
- Shift to budget and sector programs (need to identify statistical needs early in cycle)
- Role of sub-regional organizations growing as vehicle for partners' financing
- Funding to statistical training centres and scholarships decreasing

Interpretation of Results

- LRE represents
 - an inventory of existing activities in support of SCB
 - an estimate of total commitment value of these activities
- Data needs to be verified with development partner and national sources
- More work is necessary to render figures comparable and allow aggregations

Lessons of LRE

There is the need to:

- Continue to raise awareness of SCB
- Promote/advocate importance of monitoring SCB for partners' own use
- Verify information at country level (national sources and local offices of partners' agencies)
- Agree on information to be reported (definitions and questionnaire)

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Discussion Points

What is use of reporting mechanism to development partners?

- management tool for more efficient support; to plan/coordinate TA
- advocacy tool to promote SCB and scale it up
- development of partner strategy to support SCB

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Discussion Points

What is use of reporting process to beneficiary countries?

- identify gaps between statistical needs and actual support
- serve as base in design of funding strategy of NSDS
- supplement GDDS
- assess “outputs/outcomes” of partner support

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Discussion Points

What is use of reporting mechanism to international statistical system and development community?

- monitoring tool of support to SCB
- catalyst to improve CRS
- basis of reflection on an International Strategy for SCB (improve harmonization of partners' activities)

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Discussion Points

How to improve LRM?

- verify results to establish baseline of SCB support by beneficiary country
- place more focus on planned activities in future rounds
- consider lessons learned in pilot round

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Discussion Points

How to harmonize LRM with other donor reporting systems?

- create Task Team, composed of representatives of interested partners
- identify members of Task Team

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Discussion Points

- Task Team -- Main Responsibilities
 - review existing systems
 - address non-technical issues, such as where to house database, who will manage it, and who will cover development and maintenance costs
 - define technical issues to design and monitor web-based database
 - monitor development of web-based database

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Discussion Points

- Duration of Task Team
 - Work over one-year period, including design of web-based database