NATIONAL EXPERIENCE ON THE APPLICATION OF THE FDES IN NIGERIA

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at the First Meeting of the Expert Group on Environment Statistics held at the Two United Nations Plaza, New York, from 26th -29th March 2014

INTRODUCTION

- The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) is the overall coordinator of the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics in all sectors of the Nigerian economy.
- Under this programme, the Federal Ministry of Environment was given the mandate to coordinate the collation of available statistics in the Environment Sector, working with relevant stakeholders.

INTRODUCTION CONT'D.

To this end, the Ministry has embarked on a number of activities towards the actualization of its mandate. These include identification of about 100 Desk Officers from Federal MDAs and State Ministries of Environment nationwide, organization of a number of technical training workshops for these Desk Officers, and preliminary collation of relevant statistics from the various stakeholders.

The UN Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES)

- The first global Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics was produced by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) in 1984.
- Since then, there had been a number of conceptual and policy developments relevant to environment statistics in consonance with new and emerging environmental issues.
- This prompted the United Nations Statistical Commission to take a decision at its 42nd Session in 2010 towards the revision of the 1984 edition of the Framework.

Development of the UN Revised FDES

- The United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) coordinated the revision of the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES), as well as the development of the Core Set of Environment Statistics for global application, working with experts from various countries across the World, including Nigeria.
- During the revision of the Framework, the Core Set of Environment Statistics was circulated to some pilot countries in both developed and developing countries at varying stages in their development of national environment statistics for comments.

Development of the UN Revised FDES contd.

- Nigeria was selected as one of the pilot countries to validate the draft framework before the opening of the global consultation.
- Comments received from the global consultation were later integrated into the draft document by the UNSD and a final document was produced and submitted to the United Nations Statistical Commission for approval at its 44th Session in February 2013.
- Following the approval by the UN Statistical Commission, it was expected that countries would embark on appropriate strategies to ensure the application of the FDES in their respective Countries.

Strategies for the Application of the FDES in Nigeria

- Strategies for the Application of the FDES in Nigeria include:
- Submission of a Memorandum to the National Council on Environment (May 2013);
- Organization of a National Conference of key stakeholders on the application of the FDES in Nigeria (July/August 2013);
- Establishment of Institutional Structures (National Steering Committee and National Technical Committee);
- National Self-Assessment on priority for environment statistics, capacities and gaps;
- Collation of all available data and methodologies.

Memorandum to the National Council on Environment

A memorandum on the application of the FDES in Nigeria was presented to the National Council on Environment held in Makurdi, Bauchi State, Nigeria on 5th -10th May 2013.

The National Council on Environment is the highest policymaking body on environmental matters in Nigeria.

The Council, which is chaired by the Honourable Minister of Environment, includes Honourable Commissioners of Environment from all States of the Federation, prominent Non-governmental Organizations and representatives of the research and academic community as members.

Memorandum to the National Council on Environment

- The memorandum was meant to gain political support by:
- Informing the Council on the new Framework for the Development of Environment
 Statistics (FDES) produced by the United
 Nation Statistics Division; and
- Stressing the need for Nigeria to join other nations in the utilization of the new FDES for the development of credible environmental data for sustainable development in Nigeria.

Prayers in the Memorandum

The Council was invited to **Note**:

- The importance of environment statistics in decision making for environmental management and sustainable development in Nigeria;
- The need for collaborative efforts by all stakeholders towards the production and timely delivery of credible and relevant environmental data for socio-economic development in Nigeria;
- The approval of the UN Revised Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics by the UN Statistical Commission;
- Nigeria's participation in the Expert Group that produced the Revised Framework; and
- The need for Nigeria to key into the processes leading to the successful application of the UN Revised Framework for the Development of Environment Statistic.

Prayers in the Memorandum And approve:

- That the Federal Ministry of Environment should organize a two day national Consultative Meeting on the UN Revised Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics, with relevant stakeholders at the level of Permanent Secretaries and Directors of PRS Departments in State Ministries of Environment and Federal MDAs;
- That all States should sponsor their participants (i.e. Permanent Secretaries and Directors of PRS Departments from the State Environment Ministries and Agencies) to the two day National Consultative meeting on the UN Revised Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics;
- That the Federal and State Ministries of Environment should map out strategies for the mobilization of necessary financial resources (through appropriate budgetary provision and donation from the user community) towards the development of Environment Statistics at all levels of governance in Nigeria; and
- That the Federal Ministry of Environment should provide the necessary guidance for inter-Agency collaboration and cooperation for the development and exchange of environmental data in Nigeria.

Follow up Actions

□ In line with the decisions at the 9th National Council on Environment held in Makurdi, Benue State from 5th - 10th May 2013, a National Conference on the United Nations revised Framework for the Development of **Environment Statistics (FDES)** was organized to map out strategies for the application of the Framework for the regular production of credible statistics for sustainable environmental management and socio-economic development in Nigeria.



Follow up Actions contd.

Participants at the Conference were Permanent Secretaries and Directors of Planning, Research & Statistics from State Ministries of Environment nationwide, and their counterparts from the relevant Federal MDAs as well as all Heads of Departments/Agencies of the Federal Ministry of Environment. The conference was attended by over 200 participants.





Follow up Actions

- The Conference with the theme "Facilitation of Credible Statistics for Sustainable Environmental Management and Socio-Economic Development" had the following objectives and expected outcomes:
- Popularization of the FDES;
- Identification of MDA's that will be responsible for the generation of relevant statistics for the list of indicators in the FDES according to the thematic areas and in relation to the mandate of the respective MDAs;
- Preliminary assessment of national capacities for the generation of relevant statistics and identification of gaps;
- Establishment of the National Steering Committee on the application of the FDES (Policy/Political level);
- Establishment of the National Technical Committee (operational level); and
- Identification of necessary guidance for the selection of Desk Officers on Environmental Statistics delivery Service.

Participants at the National Conference on the Application of the FDES in Nigeria



PRESENTATIONS

- Presentations at the Conference included:
- Presentation on the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics in all Sectors of the Nigerian economy, by the Statistician General of the National Bureau of Statistics, Dr. Yemi Kale;
- Presentation on the ECOWAS Regional Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics, by Mr. Ajaero Christopher, ECOWAS Programme Officer.
- An overview of the UN Revised Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES), by Mr. P. O. Bankole, Federal Ministry of Environment.

Facilitation of Public Access to the FDES in Nigeria

- To ensure proper dissemination of the FDES, each participant at the Conference was given a CD of the complete document and a print out of the first Chapter of the FDES.
- In essence, the FDES has been widely distributed to all State Ministries of Environment nationwide, Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies, relevant environmental NGOs, and the academia.

Group Work

- The presentations were followed by formation of syndicate groups to discuss the application of the FDES in:
- Agriculture Statistics;
- Climate Change Statistics;
- Energy Statistics; and
- Water Statistics.
- The Terms of Reference for each group were:



Group Work

- The Terms of Reference for each group were:
- Identify the relevant MDAs for the production of the statistics for the thematic group;
- Assess the state of knowledge and present capacity for required data (availability of relevant methodology for data collection, manpower, equipment, etc);
- Assess the type and volume of data currently available under the thematic group;
- Identify the data gaps;
- Propose the way forward to fill the gap;
- Other recommendations for the regular production and management of environment statistics in Nigeria.

Constitution of National Steering Committee and National Technical committee

- The Conference agreed on the modalities for the establishment of a National Steering Committee and a National Technical Committee for the implementation of the FDES in Nigeria.
- The proposed members of the National Steering Committee were:
- Permanent Secretary of Federal Ministry of Environment – Chairman
- Permanent Secretaries of all Federal MDAs -Members
- One Permanent Secretary from each of the six geopolitical zones as Members, namely:

Constitution of National Steering Committee and National Technical committee

- South West Zone Permanent Secretary of Environment from Lagos State;
- South East Zone Permanent Secretary of Environment from Enugu State;
- South-South Zone Permanent Secretary of Environment from Bayelsa State;
- North Central Zone Permanent Secretary of Environment from Plateau State;
- North East Zone Permanent Secretary of Environment from Bauchi State;
- North West Zone Permanent Secretary of Environment from Kano State;

Technical Committees

Members of the National Technical Committee will be technical Officers from the various Ministries, Departments and Agencies involved in the generation of environmental data in Nigeria.

Proposed Work Plan for 2014

- Establishment of Institutional Structures (inauguration of the National Steering Committee and National Technical Committee);
- National Self-Assessment on priority for environment statistics, capacities and gaps;
 Collation of all available data and methodologies.

Funding Mechanisms

- Our sources of funding include annual budgetary provisions by Government (usually very meagre) and support from the UNDP under the UNDP Country Programme.
- Next slide shows the funding support received from the UNDP over the years.
- The UNDP has also pledged to provide the Ministry with some financial support towards the planned activities on the FDES in the year 2014, which is highly commendable.

S/NO	Year	Amount (\$)	Application
1.	2009	USD 30,000	National Assessment of the capacity for the
1			development of environment statistics in Nigeria
2.	2010	USD 15,000	Support for the National Stakeholders' Meeting on
			Environment Statistics
3.	2011	USD 33,700	Organization of Technical Workshop for Desk
	2. 1 Page 18		Officers for Environment Statistics from Federal
	1000		MDAs and State Ministries of Environment
	11000		nationwide.
4.	2012	USD 10,000	Organization of a two-day Consultative Meeting
	1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1		with Desk Officers on Environment (24th -25th July
			2012Statistics
5.	(2013	USD 35,000	Organization of a two day National Conference on
			the application of the UN Revised Framework for
1000			the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES)
			in Nigeria held in Abuja from 31st July -1st August
	No. of Concession, Name		2013.
б.			

CONCLUSION



Thank You for Your Attention