

Capacity Building of National Statistics Offices in the Context of Data Revolution: Experience from the Philippines¹

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Background

National statistics systems need to be modernized in order to address the demands due to the post-2015 sustainable development agenda.

Modernization requires culture change.

National statistics offices should lead this.

Proceedings of the Global Conference on a Transformative Agenda for Official Statistics provide excellent material on this topic.

Challenges

- technical and other skills of NSS officials and staff
- appreciation of statistics by high level officials
- dearth of graduates from universities to NSS

Current environment in the Philippines

- a national research and training institute
- a regional training institute
- active and supportive professional societies
- academe collaboration through coordinating and technical committees
- universities with strong academic programs in statistics and other related disciplines

Strategies to strengthen/transform current environment

- short term and long term capacity building programs
- data revolution framework to include professional societies, academe, research institutions and the private sector
- capacity building for offices under the Office of the National Statistician
- programs for senior government officials and policy makers for appreciation of SDGs monitoring
- institution of statistics programs in distance learning mode while enhancing academic programs in residential mode
- culture change in PSA

- All these strategies shall be included in an updated NSDS and MTEF for the Philippines and a clear monitoring and evaluation plan for SDGs within the framework for data revolution.

- Thank you!