Every Policy Is Connected (EPIC): Understanding needs
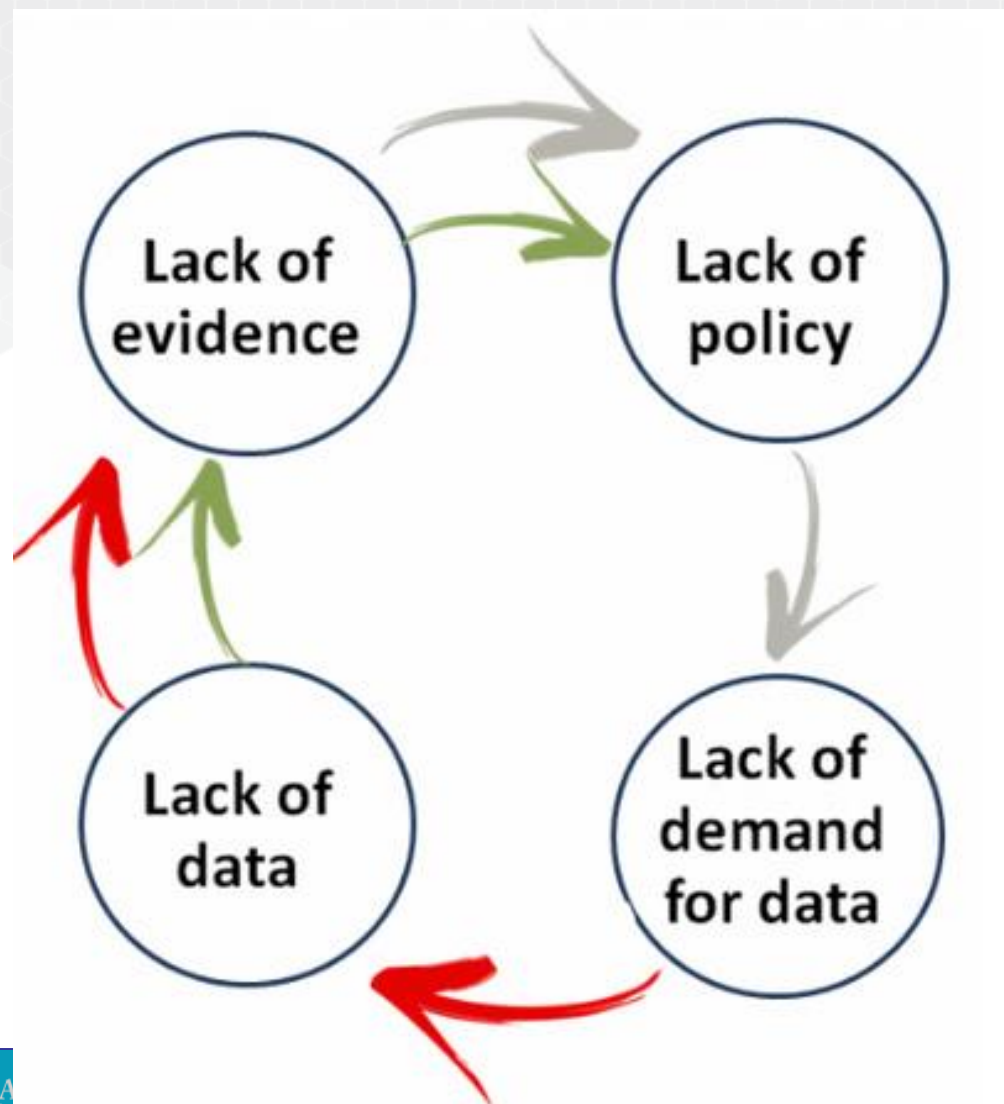
Arman Bidarbakhtnia
UNESCAP
bakhtnia@un.org

The problem: vicious cycle

How to break it?

only

| Stop caring about data | Care about lives and livelihoods | Common language |

only

| Stop caring about endorsed policies | Care about agreed principles | Mutual understanding |

only

| Stop talking about what you know | Find out what you don't know | Holistic |

only

| Don't respond to demands | Understand the needs | Active |

Defining our knowledge space

Development Principles
(Social, Economic, Environmental, Institutional)

Policy-Data Void

Policy

Data

Policy waste

Not monitored (Data Gap)

Monitored (Data used)

Data unused

Data waste

Policy-Data Void
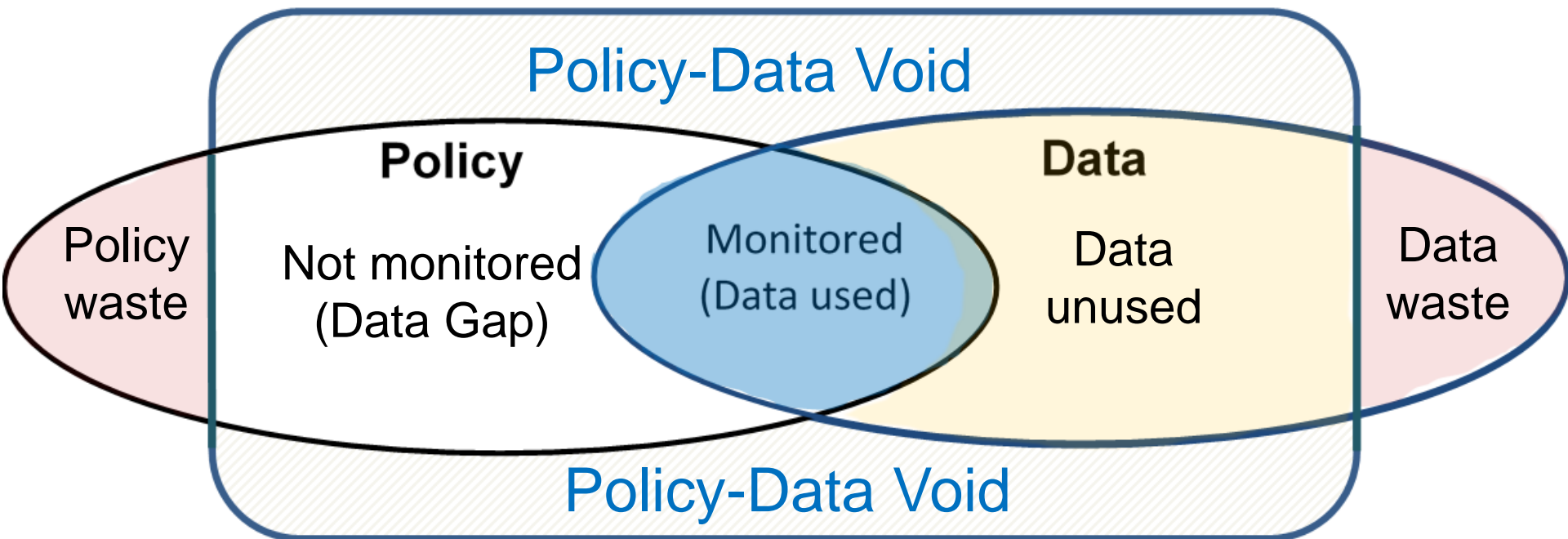
EPIC aims to expand our Knowledge
of knowns and unknowns
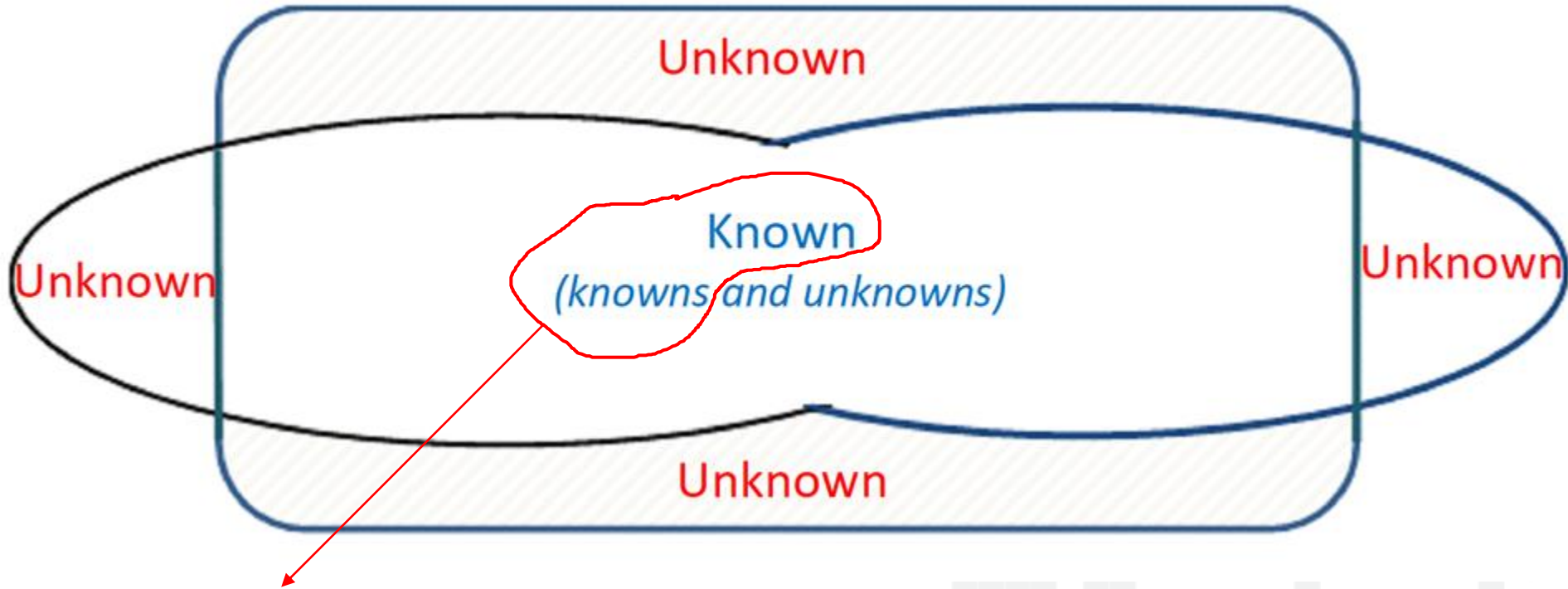
Monitored policy

What is our niche?

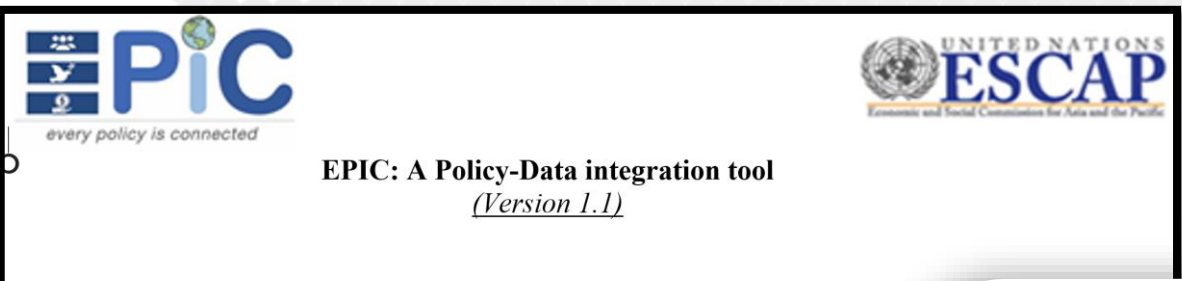National Dev. Priorities *(NDP, UNDAF,...)*

National Indicator framework

Global Development priorities (SDGs)
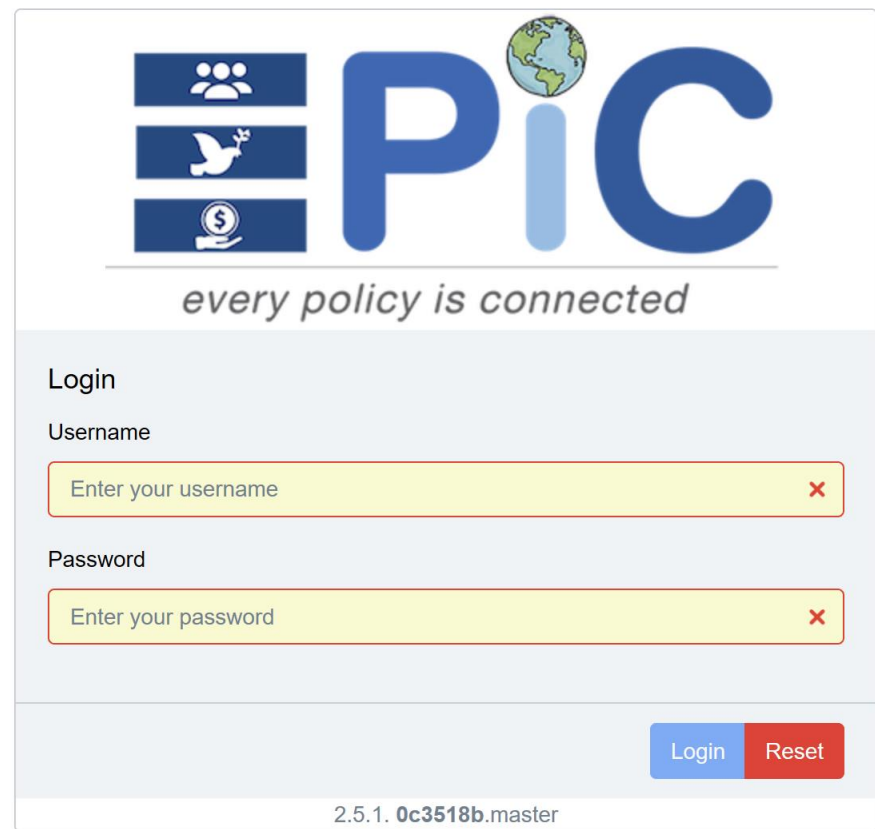
Official Statistics

EPIC tour

What is EPIC?

EPIC: A Policy-Data integration tool
(Version 1.1)

1. Background

Under the auspices of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission
Pacific (UNESCAP) Committee on Statistics, the Regional Steering G

GUIDELINES FOR APPLYING EPIC
July 2018

I.   What is the intended outcome of applying EPIC?

The ultimate aim of policy-data integration tool, EPIC, is to enable the analyst
statistical needs for monitoring policy issues regarding social, economic, enviro
institutional core concepts outlined in a given policy, inclusive of all beneficiary

EPIC
every policy is connected

Login

Username

Enter your username ✕

Password
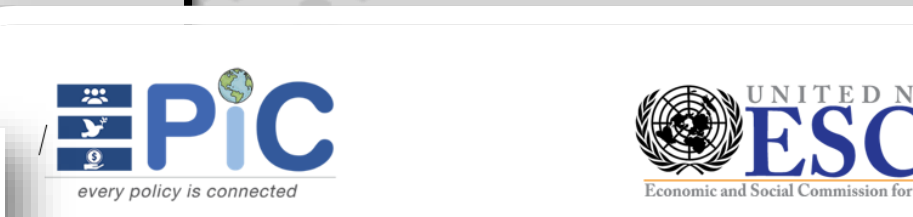
Enter your password ✕

Login   Reset

2.5.1. **0c3518b**.master

Statistics Division
http://www.unescap.org/our-work/statistics

Important Definitions

- ## Core concepts

Social, economic, environmental and institutional *(Access, efficiency, participation*

people-nature harmony, quality, investment …..)

- ## Issues for action

Issues that policy is trying to address through specific actions *(unemployment, quality of education, access to internet ….)*

- ## Target groups

Women, students, informal businesses, rural, coastal areas …

How does it work?

Engage

Create a team

Identify policy docs

Identify indicator sets

Review policy

Identify *issues for action*

Identify *target groups*

Integrate

Map issue for actions on *core concepts*

Recommend additional Issues & target groups

Adopt Indicators

Map issues on *indicator sets*

Adopt indicators & assess alignment

What are outputs?

For policy makers

- ☐ Adequate indicators to monitor policies
- ☐ Recommendation for additional issues for action
- ☐ Recommendation for additional target groups
- ☐ Recommendations for enhancing policy targets

For producers

- ☐ Understand demand for data
- ☐ Understand need for disaggregation
- ☐ Inconsistencies in indicators
- ☐ Understand future demand

For both? **For public?** **For researchers?**

Example

Sector Plan Outcome 2: An increased supply and consumption of competitively priced domestically produced food

Family farming forms the core of smallholder agriculture systems in Samoa. A thriving smallholder family farming sector provides the basis for food security, good nutrition and rural livelihoods. Growing this sector will also promote rural development. Therefore, enhancing smallholder productivity, production capacity and related food supply chain quality and competiveness will be critical for protecting and sustaining food security and nutrition in Samoa.

Increasing farm productivity can improve nutrition in several ways: by boosting fresh food supply for home consumption, by generating income to buy more nutritious food and by

Strategy 2.1: Strengthen research and extension services to support an inclusive, sustainable increase in production and productivity of village/ smallholder agriculture and fish farming.

priced domestically produced food

Family farming forms the core of smallholder agriculture systems in Samoa. A thriving smallholder family farming sector provides the basis for food security, good nutrition and rural livelihoods. Growing this

Planning logic/ logframe for outcome2

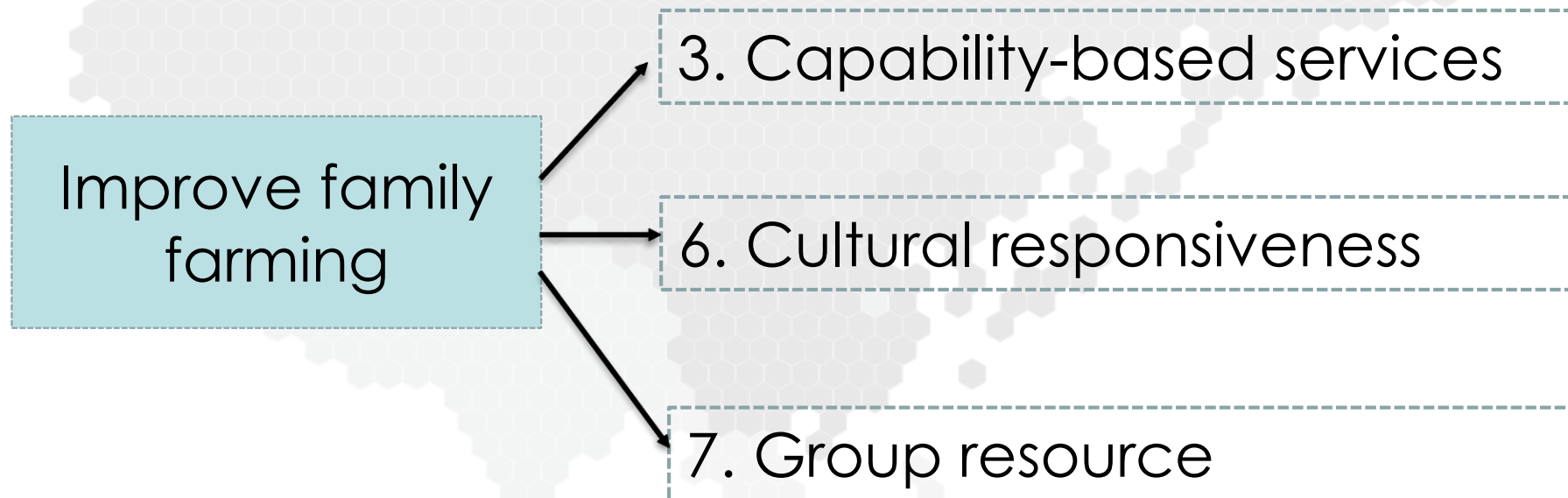| End of Sector Plan Outcome (ESPO)	
ESPO2: An increased **supply** and **consumption** of competitively priced **domestically produced food**.	- Volume and price index of local food products (**crops/livestock/fish**) - Share of local food products in top 10 household food purchases
Intermediate Outcomes	
2.1: Increased farm **production** and **productivity** from adoption of improved **sustainable and resilient farming** practices and **technologies**	- Budget resources for **research and extension services** - Areas planted & production of key food commodities - Yield/factor input for key food commodities - Number of **fish farms** and volume of production
2.2: Increase in **household commercial agriculture and fisheries** activity together with an increased **household income from agriculture and fisheries** activities	- Share of households with agricultural activity mainly for sale - Proportion of income usually derived from agriculture & main purpose of fishing
2.3: Improved **food quality** throughout the **domestic food chain**	- Number of farms using GAP - Estimated **post-harvest losses/wastage** in priority food chains
2.4: Increased **agriculture income and employment generating** opportunities for **women and youth**	- Gender and age disaggregated data on employment/commercial activity in agriculture
2.5: Increased **community awareness and understanding** on production and consumption of **local nutritious food**	- Range of nutritious fruits and vegetables available on farms and in domestic markets - **Dietary diversity** score

What is in the policy?

Issue in the narrative	Issue in the planning logic	Target groups
Family farming		Smallholders
Rural livelihood		Rural population
Food security		
Good nutrition		
Farm production	Farm productivity	Smallholders
Farm productivity	Farm production	Smallholders
	Food quality	
	Resilient farming	
	Increasing income from Agriculture	Household
	……………	

Associate core concepts

Improve family farming

→ 3. Capability-based services

→ 6. Cultural responsiveness

→ 7. Group resource

Related issues/Indicators:

- Literacy and access to media and information
- Multi-generation farming, Language diversity, women participation
- Community-based NGOs

References

Bidarbakht-Nia, A., 2018; "Policy-Data Integration: key to achieving the SDGs for all", UNESCAP, Working Paper Series (SD/WP/07/April 2017).

EPIC: a generic tool for policy-data integration

Connecting policymakers and data producers

Thank You

UNITED NATIONS
ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific