

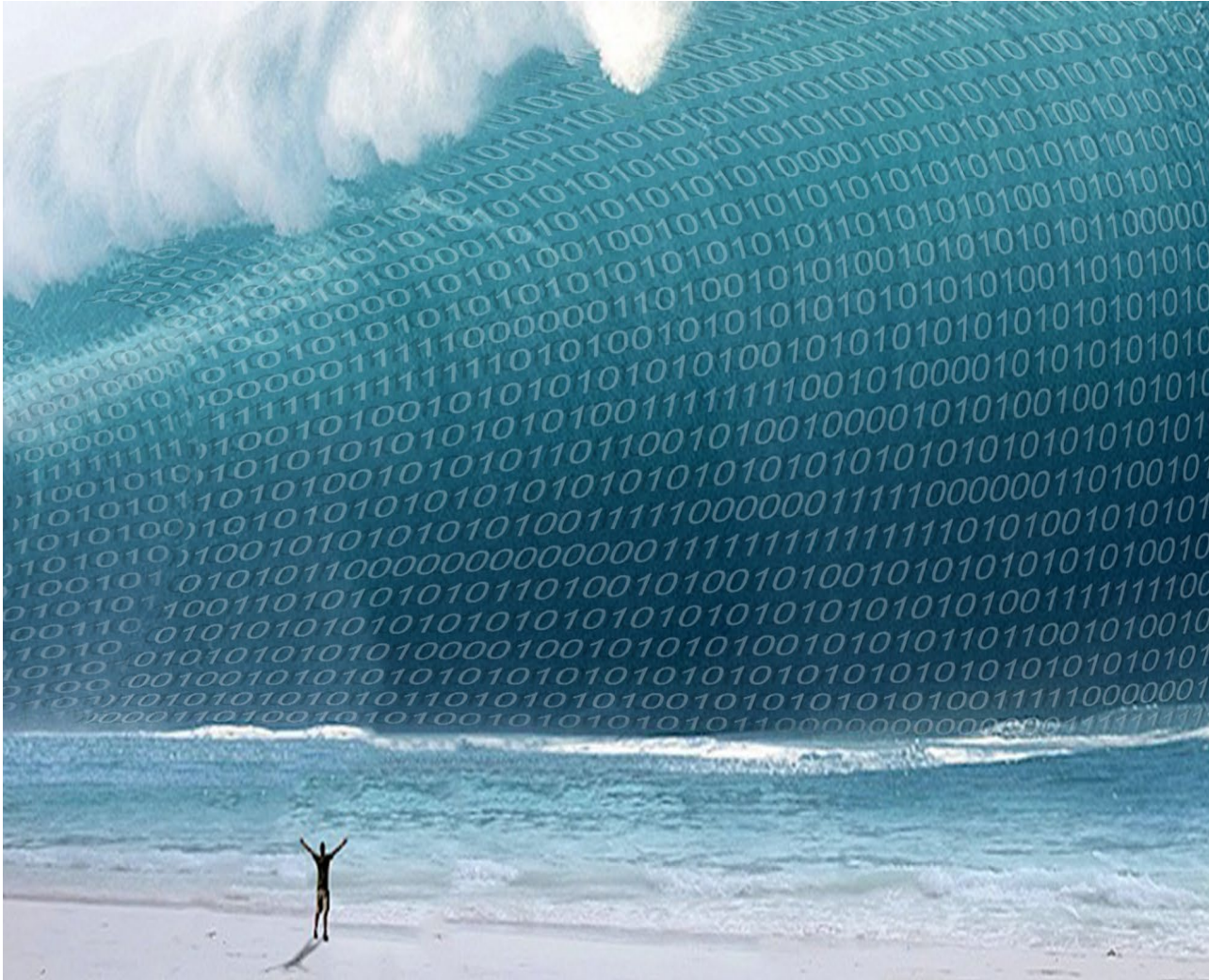
**Sound Institutional and Organizational Frameworks for  
Official Statistics**

*Chapters III – V of the updated Handbook of Statistical Organization*

**Thematic Conference for Africa:  
Managing a Statistical Organization in Times of Change**

7-9 2019 – Pretoria, South Africa

# Data – Statistics - Knowledge



- **90% of the data** in the world today has been **created in the last two years**
- But data is **raw information** that does **not speak** to most of us
- **Statistics** convert raw data into **knowledge**

# From Data Sources to Users



high voltage





# From Data to Statistics and Indicators (GSBPM)

Specify Needs	Design	Build	Collect	Process	Analyse	Disseminate	Evaluate
1.1 Identify needs	2.1 Design outputs	3.1 Build collection instrument	4.1 Create frame & select sample	5.1 Integrate data	6.1 Prepare draft outputs	7.1 Update output systems	8.1 Gather evaluation inputs
1.2 Consult & confirm needs	2.2 Design variable descriptions	3.2 Build or enhance process components	4.2 Set up collection	5.2 Classify & code	6.2 Validate outputs	7.2 Produce dissemination products	8.2 Conduct evaluation
1.3 Establish output objectives	2.3 Design collection	3.3 Build or enhance dissemination components	4.3 Run collection	5.3 Review & validate	6.3 Interpret & explain outputs	7.3 Manage release of dissemination products	8.3 Agree an action plan
1.4 Identify concepts	2.4 Design frame & sample	3.4 Configure workflows	4.4 Finalise collection	5.4 Edit & impute	6.4 Apply disclosure control	7.4 Promote dissemination products	
1.5 Check data availability	2.5 Design processing & analysis	3.5 Test production system		5.5 Derive new variables & units	6.5 Finalise outputs	7.5 Manage user support	
1.6 Prepare business case	2.6 Design production systems & workflow	3.6 Test statistical business process		5.6 Calculate weights			
		3.7 Finalise production system		5.7 Calculate aggregates			
				5.8 Finalise data files			



# Value of Official Statistics



- **UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics** ([A/RES/68/261](#))
- **Regional Statistics Code of Good Practices**
- **National Statistical Legislation**
- **Statistics Quality Assurance Framework**

# African Charter on Statistics <sup>1</sup>

adopted by the African Union in Feb. 2009, entered into force in Feb. 2015

## **1# Professional independence**

- Scientific independence
- Impartiality
- Responsibility
- Transparency

## **3# Mandate for data collection and resources**

- Mandate
- Resource Adequacy
- Cost-effectiveness

## **2# Quality**

- Relevance
- Sustainability
- Data sources
- Accuracy and reliability
- Continuity
- Coherence and comparability
- Timeliness
- Topicality
- Specificities
- Awareness-building

# African Charter on Statistics <sup>12</sup>

adopted by the African Union in Feb. 2009, entered into force in Feb. 2015

## 4# Dissemination

- Accessibility
- Dialogue with users
- Clarity and understanding
- Simultaneity
- Correction

## 5# Protection of individual data, information sources and respondents

- Confidentiality
- Giving assurances to Data providers
- Objective
- Rationality

## 6# Coordination and Cooperation

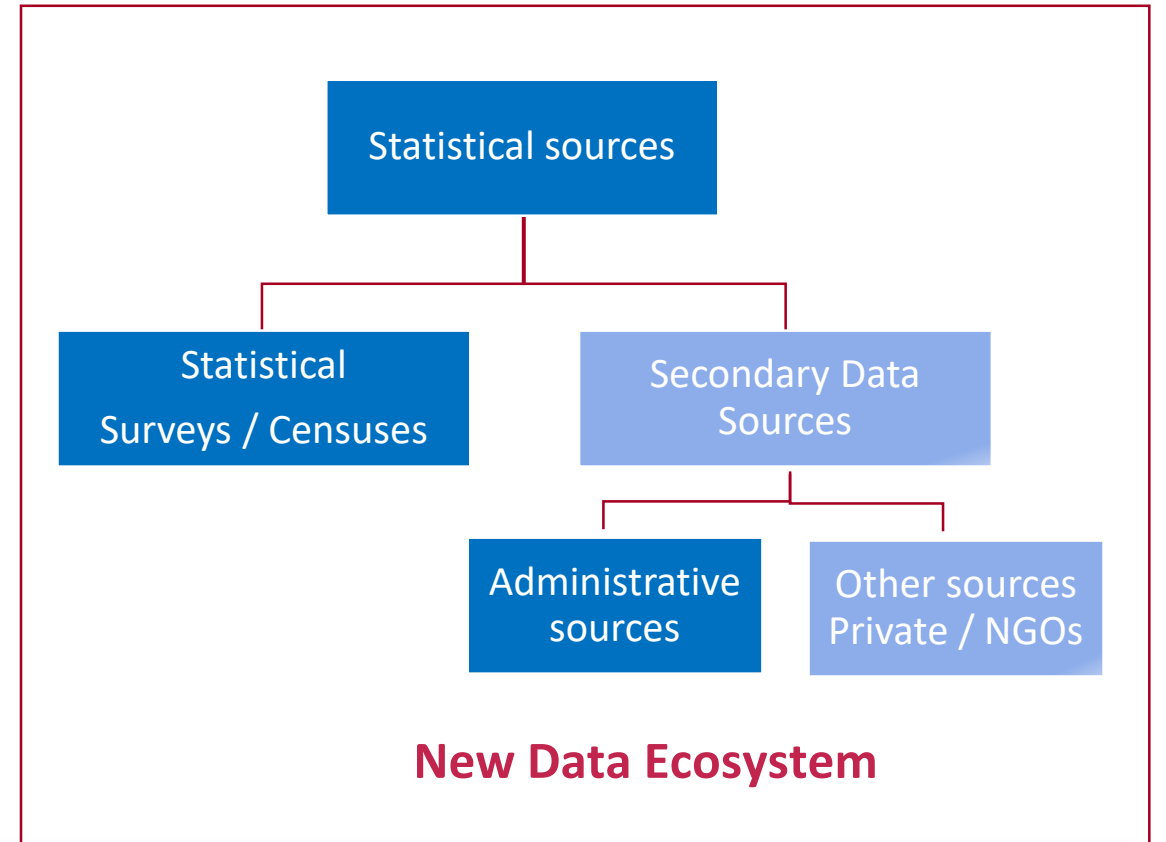
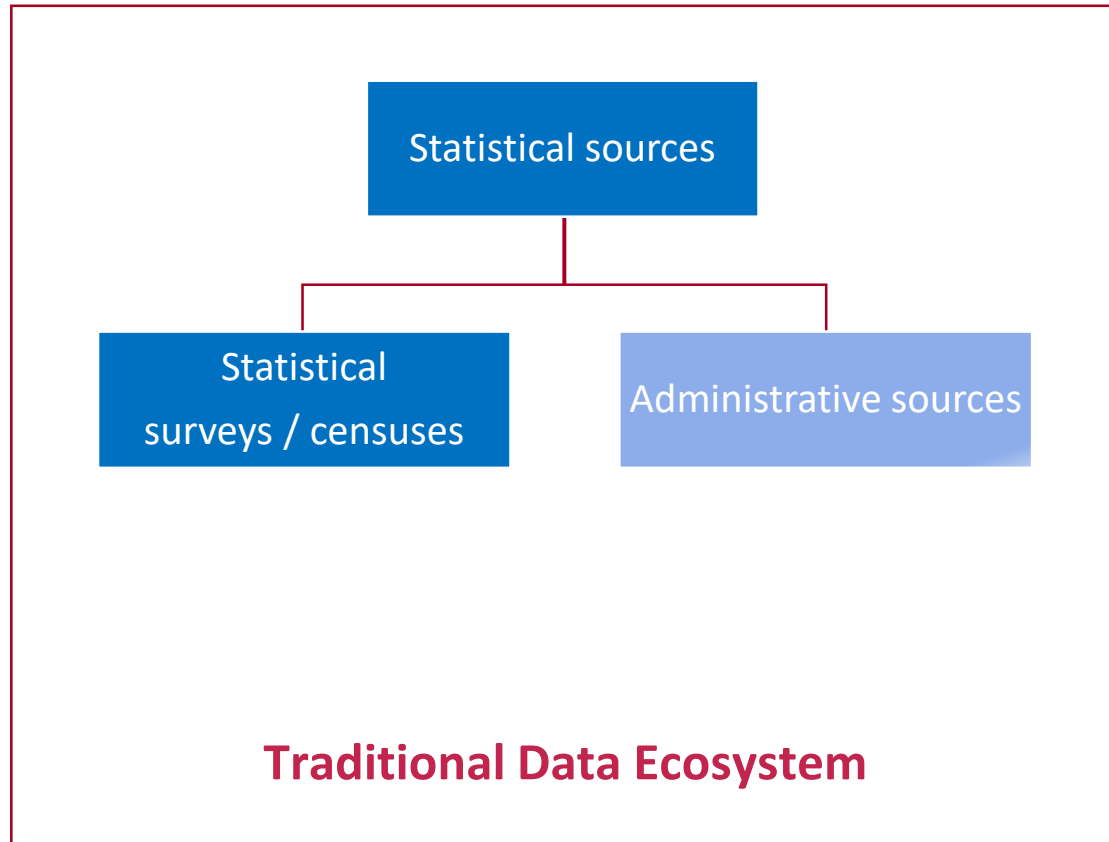
- Coordination
- Cooperation

# GA Resolution on the SDG Indicator Framework (A/RES/71/313)

- **Official statistics** and data from national statistical systems (NSS) are the **basis for the SDG indicator framework**
- All activities of the NSS to be conducted in full adherence to the **Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics**
- **National statistical offices are the coordinator of the NSS**
- NSS to explore ways to **integrate new data sources** to satisfy new data needs of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Acknowledge the **Cape Town Global Action Plan** for Sustainable Development Data that promotes and supports the transformation of national statistical systems



# Traditional to New Data Ecosystem



Sound Institutional and Organizational Frameworks

# Chapter III – Basis of Official Statistics

**Chapter III provides a common basis for understanding what should be covered by the designation of official statistics:**

- Introduction
- UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics
- Other ethical principles and standards (e.g. African Charter)
- Legislative frameworks

# Chapter IV – National Statistical System [NSS]

**Chapter IV provides a description of the national statistical system and its governance, programmatic and coordination mechanisms and tools:**

- A. Introduction
- B. Structure of the NSS
- C. Models of NSSs
- D. Coordination of the NSS
- E. National Statistical Council / Executive Board
- F. Multiannual (e.g. NSDS) and annual planning and priority setting
- G. Branding Official Statistics
- H. Financing the NSS

**Chapter IV was identified by the Organizing Committee as high-priority for Africa**

# Chapter V – National Statistical Office [NSO]

## Chapter V covers the key features of an NSO:

- A. Introduction
- B. Vision and goals of the NSO
- C. NSO as an organization
- D. Statistical Business Architecture
- E. Governance and leadership
- F. Capability
  - Planning and development
  - Implementation
  - Monitoring

**Capability means the ability to combine capacities or production factors - tangible and intangible – to perform or achieve certain actions/outcome**

# National Statistical System [or Producers of Official Statistics]

## National Statistical Office:

- Main producer of Official Statistics
- Professionally independent body
- Coordinates activities for the development, production and dissemination of statistics within the NSS
- Not to be assigned responsibilities or getting instructions conflicting with the Principles



## Other Producers of Official Statistics:

- Operate in compliance with the Law and adopted standards
- Professionally independent entities within their respective organizations
- Responsible for their assigned activities in the statistical programmes



# Chief Statistician

- **Highest Statistical Authority** and often the executive manager of the NSO
- **Mandate cannot be terminated** for any reasons compromising the implementation of the Law and the Principles
- **Fosters and monitors the compliance of all producers of official statistics** with the Law and the Principles
- **Issues standards and guidelines for the entire NSS** on the development, production and dissemination of official statistics
- **Promotes the use of official statistical standards and classifications beyond the NSS** (e.g. admin. data and Big Data through partnerships and dialogue)



# Coordination instruments within the NSS and beyond /1

- **National statistical programmes cover the entire NSS**, including development, production and dissemination activities related to the SDG indicators
- National statistical programmes **to be used for the budget appropriation**
- The programmes to be submitted by the Chief Statistician to the Government / Executive Board for **approval**

## **Multiannual statistical programme:**

- Master plan, NSDS
- Strategic development of NSS
- Vision and priorities

## **Annual statistical programme / Work Programme:**

- Annual operational translation of multiannual programme
- List of producers of official statistics and their respective deliveries
- List of major surveys, and other data sources (administrative), registers

# Mandate for Data Collection

- Data for the production of official statistics may be drawn from **all type of sources**, be they statistical surveys (primary sources) or other sources (secondary sources)
- Producers of Official Statistics choose the data sources based on professional considerations and in particular with regard to **quality, costs and the burden on respondent**
- Producers of Official statistics are allowed by national legislation to use **administrative records for statistical purposes**
- Producers of Official Statistics have the **sole responsibility for deciding on the methods and procedures for the collection, processing and storage of data sources**

# Confidentiality

- Individual data/micro-data from natural and legal persons held by Producers of Official Statistics are to be **strictly confidential and used exclusively for statistical purposes**
- **The principle of confidentiality applies to all data sources**, be they statistical surveys (primary sources) or secondary data sources (e.g. administrative records, big data).
- **Statistical confidentiality is guaranteed in the Statistical Law**

# Memorandum of Understanding with data providers

**Establishing MoUs with data providers (secondary data sources) is a good practice.**

**MoUs should contain at least these elements:**

- **Legal basis (law, statistical programmes...)**
- **Description of the purpose of the data transfer/data access**
- **Detail description of data covered including frequency and timeliness**
- **Quality standards and quality reports**
- **Technical standards**
- **Cooperation mechanisms for improving the adequacy of the data with statistical requirements (consultation and partnership mechanisms)**
- **Contact persons ...**





## Questions and comments

Publicly available drafts of the Handbook on Statistical Organisation can be found at:

<https://unstats.un.org/wiki/display/HSO/Handbook+Statistical+Organization>

Please provide inputs to:

[statistics-handbook@un.org](mailto:statistics-handbook@un.org)

You may wish to contact me also after the event:

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## Issues for discussion

1. What are the main incentives for strengthening the institutional and organisational frameworks of your respective NSSs?
2. What challenges and deterrents have you faced/do you expect to face in improving the institutional and organisational frameworks of your respective NSSs?
3. Have you identified in your group some success stories new initiatives or best practices related to the theme of session 1? Please explain shortly.
4. What kind of support is missing from bilateral and multilateral partners in that respect?
5. Is there anything important that seems not to be covered in the handbook and/or was not discussed in session 1?