Development of Citizen Generated Data in Uganda

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About UBOS

- Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) is the principal data collecting and disseminating agency responsible for coordinating, monitoring and supervising the National Statistical System (NSS).

- The NSS comprises of the producers (MDAs, CSOs, HLGs), users, suppliers of statistics including research and training institutions.

- In 2006, Uganda adopted the development and implementation of the Plan for National Statistical Development (PNSD) as a strategic approach to produce and develop statistics, currently in the third PNSD implementation.

- UBOS has integrated statistical and data requirements in the country planning, budgeting and reporting framework to support delivery of the development frameworks such as the National Development Plan (NDP III 2021-2025), Vision 2040, and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF 2021-2025) and SDGs.
About CSBAG

- Coalition formed in 2004 to advocate for equitable resource mobilisation, allocation and utilisation
- Operates in 23 districts across the country to promote participatory budgeting, prudent public finance management and a people centred budget
- It has a membership of 100 CSOs operating in 14 regions of the country
Uganda has prioritized investment in development of statistics to ensure evidence-based policy, planning, monitoring and reporting national and international development commitments.

Uganda took a deliberate move to develop data from non-traditional data sources including Citizen Generated Data (CGD) produced by Civil Society Organisations (CSOs).

Under the PNSD framework, UBOS provided technical and financial support to selected CSOs to develop and implement the first strategic plan for statistics from 2007 to 2012 e.g. Development Network of Indigenous Voluntary Associations (DENIVA) in the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Statistics, which process involved;

- Compilation of report on progress of data development by DENIVA Member Organisations (MOs) across the country
- Quarterly progress reporting and presentation on the data work by at the PNSD Inter-Agency Committee meetings
- Participation in statistical capacity building and training processes organised by UBOS
- Inter-Agency progress monitoring visits at DENIVA and participation in Bi-annual review processes of the PNSD
CSBAG MODEL FOR GENERATING CITIZEN DATA
Participatory Budgeting

- It involves organizing and mobilizing communities into Participatory Budget Clubs (PBCs).
- PBC members comprise 20 - 30 members of which 30% are women, PWDs, and Youths.
- PBC members undergo a capacity building training on participatory budgeting, budget monitoring, and service delivery – they learn and understand the budget basics and service delivery units around them e.g. health centres, schools, water points, and community access roads.
- Once trained, the PBCs monitor budget implementation and service delivery - This is jointly done with duty bearers at the service delivery points.
Community Dialogue Meetings

- The purpose of the dialogue is to validate the findings of the PBC monitoring findings.
- Prioritize key service delivery concerns that need to be urgently addressed by duty bearers.
- Key service delivery concerns that needs to be urgently addressed by duty bearers are agreed during the community dialogue meetings.

*PBC of Kibuku Town Council waiting to interact with DHO in Kibuku District during joint monitoring.*
The purpose of the interface meeting is to provide a platform for Duty bearers and citizens to dialogue on the findings of the budget monitoring and service delivery and solicit commitments from duty bearers to address the service delivery gaps and finally.

Headteacher Kakanju Primary School, Bushenyi District, speaking during an interface meeting.
Participatory Budget Club Process
Has this approach been successful?

- Through this approach, CSBAG has been able to achieve an improvement in service delivery at local governments
- Built capacities of a group of vigilant community monitors who have been able to engage duty bearers in different policy influencing spaces e.g. sub county and district budget conference
- Groomed and Empowered citizens to take up positions of leadership especially as councilors who make decisions eg passing district budgets from an informed point of view
- Improved budget transparency as PBCs seek for display of budget information
- Improved downward accountability in the various districts where we work
Change Story - Construction of a Three Classroom Block at Nshaka Primary School, Nyakinoni Sub-county, Kanungu District

- Learners in Nshaka Primary School, Nyakinoni Sub-county, Kanungu District were studying in poor and substandard grass thatched classrooms.

- The poor state of the classroom block was identified by PBCs during quarterly monitoring of service delivery.
Overall challenges encountered by CSOs in producing Citizen Generated Data

- Lack of financial, human and infrastructural resources to support statistical development
- Absence of a designated staff and focal person for statistics
- Change in management and high staff turnover affecting the staff statistical capacity and reversed progress attained in the development and production of statistics
- Lack of continuous technical capacity to support statistical development
- Timely access to information
How to overcome the challenges

- Government organized refresher courses to CSOs – can be annual
- Joint monitoring where possible to enable validation of data generated
THANK YOU