

Discussion on Data Story

**Inter-agency Meeting on Preparation
for the 2017 SDG Reports**

1-2 March 2017

2016 Data story (note to reader): Improving data quality and availability

- Unprecedented need for data and statistics at all levels (subnational, national, regional and global) for the 2030 Agenda
- *Global monitoring should be based on **comparable and standardized national data** obtained from well-established reporting mechanisms from countries to the international statistical system*
- Need to strengthen data collection and build capacity to address data gaps
 - Coordination function of NSOs and/or other national institutions
 - Facilitating role of international and regional organizations
 - Partnerships with civil society, private sector and academia
 - Adoption of internationally agreed standards
 - Development and integration of new data sources and technologies
 - Integration of geospatial information and statistical data
 - Resource mobilization

Overarching concept for the chapter

- Focus on data innovation and statistical capacity building
- Reflect main outputs of UN World Data Forum
- Refer to Cape Town Global Action Plan as strategic framework for the way forward

The chapter will focus on actual examples of innovations and capacity building initiatives

Proposed Chapter Title

- *UN World Data Forum Tagline:*

***“Harnessing the power of data
for sustainable development”***

Proposed outline

(based on UN World Data Forum thematic areas)

- Introduction
- New approaches to capacity development for better data*
- Innovations and synergies across data ecosystems*
- Leaving no one behind*
- Understanding the world through data*
- Data principles and governance*
- The way forward: Cape Town Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data

* Illustrate with one or two examples

Introduction

- Need to improving data quality and availability for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at all levels
(Reference to 2030 Agenda, including pars. 48 and 76, Targets 17.18 and 17.19, and Addis Ababa Action Agenda)
 - Importance of new data sources to meet needs of decision makers
 - Central role of national statistical systems in generating, disseminating and administering data
 - Need to integrate data and analysis from civil society, academia and the private sector into official statistics

Capacity development

- Integration of statistical capacity building into national planning process
- Measuring outcomes and impacts of statistical capacity building
- South-south cooperation and peer learning
- Focus on demand side and users' capacity
- Statistical capacity building at the local level
- Systemic approach to statistical capacity building: supporting broad statistical ecosystems to deliver SDG measurement
- Partnerships between public and private sectors on SDG data initiatives
- Need to broaden donor base and create financial instruments to support efforts to improve systems for SDG measurement.

Data innovation

- Changing role of NSO's: From data producers to service providers (data as a service)
- Collaboration between NSOs and non-traditional producers of data
- Use of geospatial information to address specific data requirements
- Initiatives to leveraging opportunities and mitigating risks associated with use of big data and new data sources

Leaving no one behind

- Improvements in availability, quality and understanding of disaggregated data on specific groups
- Experiences and challenges in providing access to microdata to ensure that small groups are not left behind, while guaranteeing privacy and confidentiality
- Production and use of SDG data at city/local levels
- Integration of geographical units of analysis (e.g., cities, human settlements, urban/rural areas) into data production and dissemination processes

Understanding the world through data

- Initiatives to connect users with data
 - Empowering citizens to use data to improve their own lives
 - Tailoring data communication strategies to different user groups
 - Provide users with contextual information to understand and assess today's abundance of data from multiple sources
- Improving how data is communicated to policy makers
- Address data-literacy needs of specific groups of users
 - Policy makers
 - Policy advocates
 - Journalists and other “info-mediaries”

Data principles and governance

- Importance of data principles and governance in building trust in data and statistics
 - Role of NSOs and Fundamental principles of official statistics
 - Open data principles
- Pragmatic adoption of data standards in tandem with technology and user needs
- Initiatives to expand existing data principles and standards to non-traditional sources data (e.g., big data)
- Engagement of multi-stakeholder partnerships in developing standards and governance frameworks

Way forward: Cape Town Action Plan

- Capacity building is important for all countries, but especially for developing countries in vulnerable situations.
- Funding and strategic investment of resources on NSS modernization is key to address gaps in technical and institutional capacities
- Key underlying principles:
 - Need to address all aspects of statistical capacity building
 - Importance of trust among data providers, producers and users of statistics under the leadership of NSOs
 - Crucial role of cooperation and coordination among all stakeholders

Box: Description of six strategic areas:

- Coordination and strategic leadership on data for sustainable development
- Innovation and modernization of national statistical systems
- Strengthening of basic statistical activities and programmes
- Data dissemination and use
- Multi-stakeholder partnerships
- Resource mobilization and coordination