Uganda’s National Training experiences: using the StaTact tool and lessons learned

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Introduction
Experience Using the StaTact Tool
Lessons Learnt
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Introduction

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research in collaboration with the UN Statistics Division conducted a national StaTact Training for the Uganda National Statistical System from 11\textsuperscript{th} to 12\textsuperscript{th} June 2019 at Fair Way Hotel in Kampala-Uganda.

Participants:
The Training attracted 30 participants from Ministries, Departments and Agencies within the National Statistical System. The participants comprised of both producers and users of statistics produced in the National Statistical System.

Facilitators:
The training was facilitated by a team of staff from UNITAR and UNSD.
Overview of the StaTact Tool

The StaTact used during the training is a web based tool that facilitated short term multi stakeholder action planning on different problems identified.

The StaTact GAMSO and GSBPM are the main analytical frameworks that were used by participants for assessing current situation, identifying key stakeholders and discussing possible solutions.

In addition, StaTact Tool offers online avenues for collaboration, discussion and follow–up within the working groups before and after the workshop as well as visualization of the action plans.
Using the StaTact Tool

The trainees were divided into smaller task force that handled the different identified bottlenecks to the NSDS implementation in Uganda:

- **GAMSO (Governance)**: was used by the task force to identify institutional issues that need to be dealt with as a task force. Appreciating the environment under which the NSDS is implemented

- **GSBPM (Data Ecosystem)**: looked at the process weakness, root cause and propose solutions / action plans

- Business cases of the issues where linked to different SDG indicators in trying to see how addressing such issues would Leverage a given SDG Goal/ Target / Indicator.
The training in Uganda focused on addressing a number of bottlenecks in implementing the National Strategy for Development of Statistics (PNSD II). The problem Areas covered include:

i. Existence of Data Gaps
ii. Weak legal framework
iii. Weak process of institutionalizing the function of statistics within MDAs
iv. Inadequate Attention Given to Administrative Data
v. Weak Capacity for Statistics Interpretation and Analysis
vi. Limited Access to Data
vii. Inadequate Application of technology to Statistical Activities
viii. Insufficient Capacity Development
ix. Inadequate Disaggregation for some indicators / statistics
Example of a Task Force Work

Screen shots of the work of the taskforce on: inadequate disaggregation of some statistics / indicators
Inadequate Disaggregation for some indicators / statistics
Inadequate Disaggregation for some indicators / statistics

- Title: Stage 2: Leverage SDGs
- Business case: Improved tools for detailed capture of police crime statistics in terms of sex, disability status, time and cause would greatly inform the justice process, policy formulation and actions that improve the overall security of the country.
- Status: Open

Restated business case:

- Define the primary SDG indicators by selecting the most suitable indicator that is relevant to your problem. This is done in order to leverage and localise the SDGs to make an even stronger business case.
Inadequate Disaggregation for some indicators / statistics

- SDG Indicators
  - 16.1.3 - Proportion of population subjected to (a) physical violence, (b) psychological violence and (c) sexual violence in the previous 12 months
  - Data Source: Police crime report

- Relevant SDGs
  - 16.1.2 - Conflict-related deaths per 100,000 population, by sex, age and cause
  - Data Source: Uganda Police Force crime data
Inadequate Disaggregation for some indicators / statistics
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase</th>
<th>Sub-phase</th>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Primary Agency</th>
<th>Other Agencies</th>
<th>Causes of problems</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strategy and leadership</td>
<td>Define vision</td>
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<td>Inadequate technical capacity to identify and integrate all the variables into the tools</td>
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<td>Govern and lead</td>
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<td>Capability development</td>
<td>Plan capability improvements</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Uganda Police Force</td>
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<td>Uganda Police Force</td>
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<td>Ministry of Internal Affairs</td>
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Inadequate Disaggregation for some indicators / statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Manage data suppliers</th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Uganda Police Force</th>
<th>Low awareness and appreciation for data disaggregation</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manage finances</td>
<td></td>
<td>Uganda Bureau of statistics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manage human resources</td>
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<td>Ministry of Internal Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manage IT</td>
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<td>Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manage buildings and physical space</td>
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<td>Uganda Registration Services Bureau</td>
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<td>National Environmental Management Authority</td>
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Inadequate Disaggregation for some indicators / statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Stage 4: Data ecosystem (GSBPM)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business case</td>
<td>Improved tools for detailed capture of police crime statistics in terms of sex, disability status, time and cause would greatly inform the justice process, policy formulation and actions that improve the overall security of the country.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Restated business case</td>
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<td>Status</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Open" /></td>
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<td>Learning center</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="GSBPM" /></td>
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Select root cause for the areas of highest priority

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<tr>
<th>Primary Process</th>
<th>Root Cause</th>
<th>Solution</th>
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Inadequate Disaggregation for some indicators / statistics

Select root cause for the areas of highest priority

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary Process Weakness</th>
<th>Root Cause</th>
<th>Solution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Police crime report</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design variable descriptions</td>
<td>Limited appreciation and knowledge on the need for disaggregated data</td>
<td>1. Awareness creation to key decision makers and producers of data</td>
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<tr>
<td>Build collection</td>
<td>Low awareness and appreciation for the need of valid data</td>
<td>5. Assignees:</td>
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<td>Infrastructure and low level of</td>
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Inadequate Disaggregation for some indicators / statistics

Title: Stage 5: Action plan

Problem: For the purpose of compiling crime statistics, Tools/Templates used by police to record crimes are short, not following a clear structure with non-mutually exclusive categories

Indicator of achievement: Reduced incidence of all forms of violence and related death rates

Target: 3% reduction of incidence of all forms of violence and related death rates

Business case: Improved tools for detailed capture of police crime statistics in terms of sex, disability status, time and cause would greatly inform the justice process, policy formulation and actions that improve the overall security of the country.

Restated business case:

Status: Open
The live group discussions made it easy to receive contributions from the different members within a task force. This allowed the task force to agree on systematic solutions for different issues on time.

The National Statistical System - NSO, MDAs & HLGs are major implementers of the NSDS and therefore their participation in the task force discussions was very vital.

Achieving real solutions for existing bottlenecks in the implementation of the National Strategy for Development of Statistics require a better understanding of the root causes.
Challenges

- Poor internet connectivity slowed down the full participation of some members especially when all trainees logged onto the StaTact page.

- For some of the bottle necks of NSDS in Uganda, it was not quite easy relating it to a specific SDG indicator.

- Follow up with the participants and other stakeholders in the Statistical System became a challenge as no training materials were shared with members. The link shared failed to open and when we gave feedback no solutions were reached.

- The training time was not very sufficient for some sessions which affect the learners absorption.
Recommendations

- There is need to invest more on internet connectivity in preparation for StaTact training using the Web based tool.

- Bottlenecks that are not directly related to the data production process may not have to be linked to specific SDG indicators.

- For future engagement on StaTact Tools, the facilitators should share all relevant materials with participants before leaving the workshop facility.

- The different training sessions should be made commensurate to the amount of knowledge to be given out.
Thank You