

**International Workshop on CountryData:  
Sharing Best Practice in the Dissemination of National Development Indicators**

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
29 July – 2 August 2013

**Annotated Agenda** (Updated 17 July 2013)

**Background**

This workshop will promote best practice in dissemination of national development indicators, including the MDGs through country practice presentations and demonstration of key tools in dissemination, metadata management, exchange (especially through the SDMX standard), communication and promotion of these indicators.

This event builds on previous workshops conducted in the region and internationally in the area of national development indicators (including the MDGs); like the “[Regional capacity building workshop on writing metadata for development indicators](#)” organized by ECA/AfDB and the [MDG capacity building](#) and [Regional dissemination and communication workshops](#) organized often in partnership by UNSD, the UN regional commissions (ECA, ECE, ECLAC, ESCAP, and ESCWA) and other international organizations.

This workshop also incorporates the second in a series of four international workshops planned as part of the UNSD-DFID Project on “Improving the collation, availability and dissemination of national development indicators, including MDGs”. The first workshop entitled; “[CountryData: Technologies for Data Exchange](#)” brought together the 11 National Statistical Offices (NSO) to understand the theoretical basis, specific standards and common tools underpinning SDMX (Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange) for data exchange of national development indicators.

The agenda for this workshop is therefore organised as follows;

**MONDAY, 29 July**

**Introduction & review**

UNSD to briefly refresh on the topics covered in the last [workshop](#), discuss project progress and introduce the workshop programme. Invite opening statement from the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) African Centre for Statistics (ACS) and the African Union Commission.

**Getting more out of the National Statistical System – Better coordination**

This session will concentrate on the importance of greater coordination across the National Statistical System (i.e. between different data producer institutions, Government ministries, departments and agencies); with a focus on NSO leadership to improve the way national development indicators are consistently and appropriately described across the NSS, shared and communicated to users. FAO who work across the NSS will be invited to present here. Country presentations and facilitated general discussion will follow.

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**TUESDAY, 30 July**

**How do we build the pyramid? - Strategies for better metadata management**

This session will concentrate on strategies for better metadata management and how metadata can be better collected, organised and structured for users; including regular adherence, management and review of common terminology, international standards and other best practice. Country presentations and facilitated general discussion will follow.

**Ways to engage users better and promote the stuff we do**

This session will concentrate on the most effective ways to engage users and promote the use of national development indicators for decision making, advocacy etc. UNICEF who have experience in this area will be invited to present here. Country presentations and facilitated general discussion will follow.

**WEDNESDAY, 31 July**

**To choose or not to choose one figure? - Reconciling national data**

This session will concentrate on the issue of potential national discrepancies where different observation values exist for the same indicator in any given year. This is usually due to multiple sources existing in that year measuring the same indicator. The session asks the extent of the issue in countries; whether an authoritative figure is chosen in any instance; how these decisions are made; and how to communicate multiple observations to users. Country presentations and facilitated general discussion will follow.

**National versus international data - A strategy for reconciliation**

This session will concentrate on one of CountryData's purpose which is to identify and explain discrepancies between national and international series for the same indicator.

**THURSDAY, 1 August**

**Demonstration & sharing of key dissemination tools**

The sessions will demonstrate and provide practice on such tools as DevInfo repository for data dissemination and registry for data exchange on the SDMX standard, and other tools (subject to confirmation).

**Demonstration & sharing of key dissemination tools**

(Continued)

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**FRIDAY, 2 August**

**Conclusion & next steps (including post-2015 agenda)**

This session will concentrate on the wider application of SDMX to NSO operations and the issues with managing DSDs, import and export mechanisms etc.

**Wrap-up and review**

This session will bring the workshop to a close and include a Q&A session.