



The Role of Statistical Classification in Data Integration

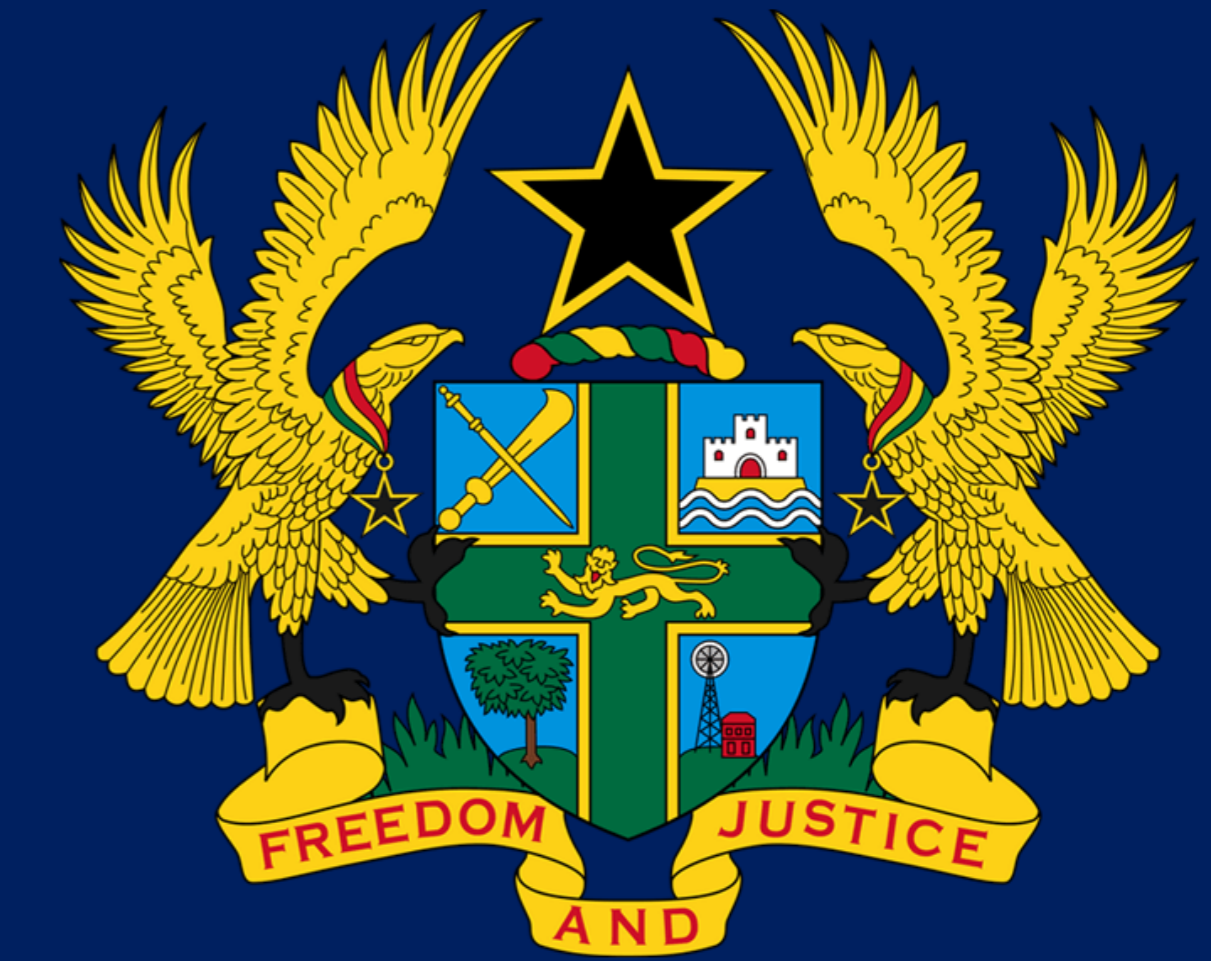
*UN First Webner of the International
Statistical Classification*

by

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The Gap

- Thank you, Julian Chow for taking us through the 143 approved International classifications.
 - Running through: demographic and social statistics, economic statistics, environmental statistics, etc
- **ONLY 59% adapt or use ISIC (2023 review cycle survey).**
 - With many countries, still using older versions e.g ISIC rev.3
- Anecdotally, I there say that some countries use these classification as matter of international recommendations and requirements, without internalizing it.
- But the question is, do we need these statistical classifications in the production of statistics in the various countries?. YES

The use for International Classifications, ensures....

- Quality statistics with high precision
- Effectively compare like variables, overtime and within time: crosssectional and panel data points.
 - Exhaustiveness and Mutual exclusivity in definition
 - Ensures repetitiveness of statistical experiment
 - Assess actual changes
- Dovetailing into assessing the effectiveness of policies and programs overtime
- In short, CL ensures the production of quality national statistics for evidence based decisions and in effect provide the basis to assess the effectiveness of national policies and programs
- For NSOs, as pointed by the fundamental principles, this provides the basis for official statistics

So do we need Classifications for data integration?- within and Outside the NSO

- NSOs are the focal point for official statistics and the coordinator of the national statistical system. To ensure data integration, there is need for other statistics producing agencies to use the same classifications as the NSOs
- Without Unique classifications. It is difficult to:
 - Compare statistics across various national producers and users
 - Merge and use statistics across various producers
 - Understand the metadata of the various producing agencies
 - Ensure exhaustiveness and mutual exclusivity in definitions for data integration
- Anecdotally, it can be a critical limitation to the **use of administrative data**
- But the classification has to be international in nature, or have correspondence with international classifications, particularly the UN to ensure international usage and integration **(Just spoke about)**

So how do we enhance the adoption and use of international statistical classifications in various countries

- As the focal point for official statistics and the coordinator of the national statistical system, NSOs should
 - Advocate for the use of these classifications. Letting members know the critical importance of these classification
 - Train members of the national statistical system on the applications of these classifications
 - For instance, in Ghana we trained some key data producers on ISICrev.4 and as we adopt rev.5 in the 2023 economic census to producer the Business Register, The Ghana NSO intends to train more producers on Rev 5
 - More importantly, the NSO should adopt the use and update regularly to the latest classifications, since latest versions reflects modern trends and structural changes

From Previous Sessions ...

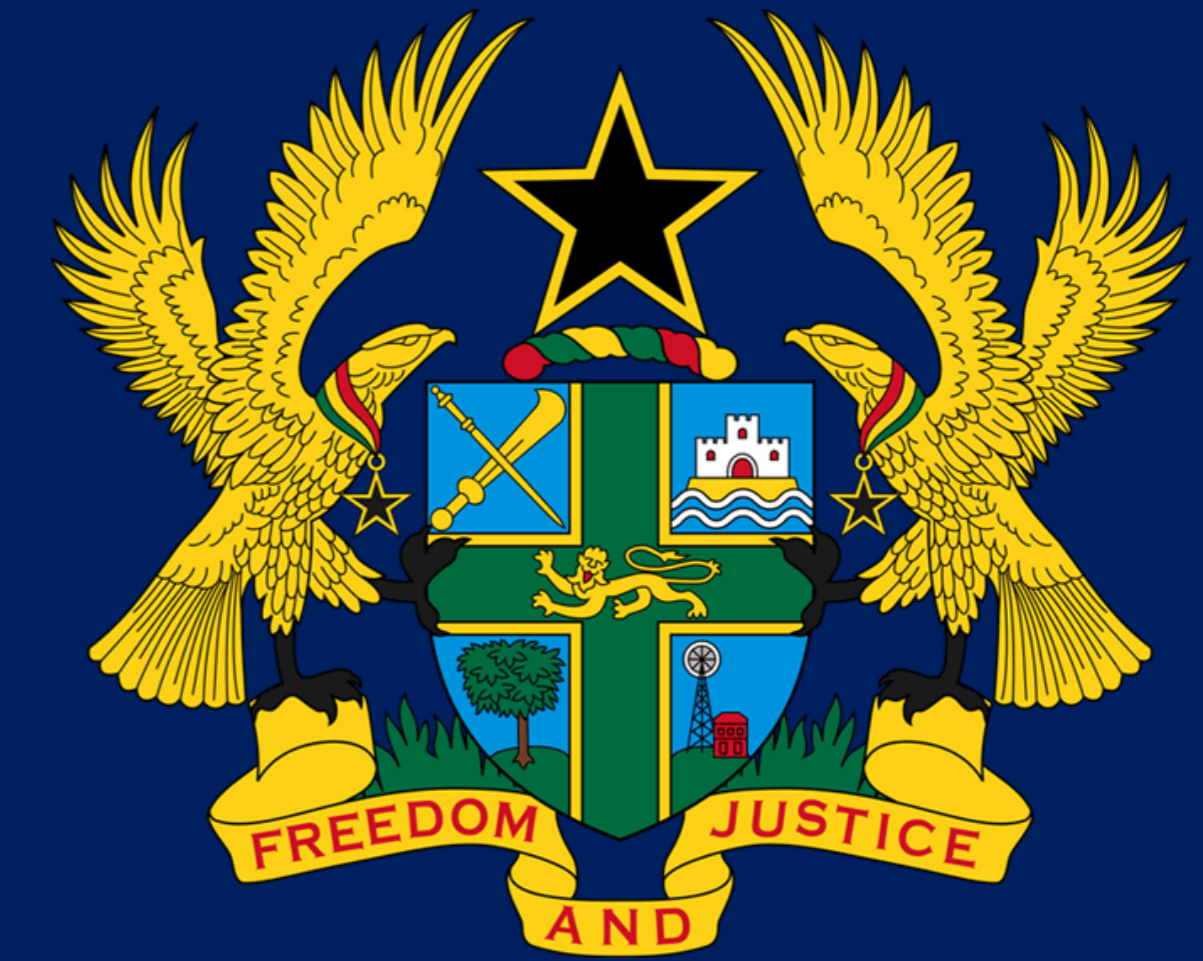
- Coy said Canada is implementing the Integrated Business Statistic Program (IBSP) to leverage and operationise stands right from the survey design stage to dissemination.
 - To maximum use of administrative data
 - **Full benefits can be assured by harmonizing conceptual framework**
- Nilima pointed out that the pacific island nations cannot adopt modern international classifications because:
 - Lack capacity regarding number of staff and the expertise
- A clear variation in adoption, adaption, and use across developed and developing countries

Question is:

- How can various countries enhance the use of the 143 family of International classification to foster data integration?
 - Considering the significance of its use in data integration, both nationally and internationally as has been pointed out
- So then:
 - Which institutions or structures can facilitate the deployment of these classifications?
 - How will they implement it?
 - Do they have the mandate?
 - Can they institutionalize the process and seek its internalization in the institutions of data producers and users in the countries?
 - What role can the UN play to enhance the use of classification in various countries to facilitate data integration?

**Thank you for your
attention**

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