Technical capacity building
between national statistical offices
SEEA examples

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Slides inspired by a talk given at the UN by Pernilla Trägårdh,
SCB and Irene Tuveng, SSB

Statistiska centralbyrån
Statistics Sweden

Statistisk sentralbyrå
Statistics Norway

What we do

- SCB and SSB institutionalized work in technical capacity building in the 1980's and 1990's, specific departments

- Main funders are the Swedish and Norwegian government

- Demand driven cooperation in focus

- Main goal: Development of the national statistical capacity

- Long term cooperation on country level

Business model
Institutional co-operation in statistics

Colleagues working with colleagues builds trust for effective cooperation

- Capacity differs between northern Europe versus many other countries - but **statistical products and tasks are the same**, international standards and quality in focus - main goal to contribute to better statistics

- No predefined solutions but **joint solutions** to problems and challenges; finding and arranging data in meaningful aggregates

- A common challenge is the essential contacts with the **users, experts as well as society in general**

Experiences with exchanges on environmental accounts (short time missions under the long term commitments)

- Environmental expenditure
- Environmental taxes and subsidies
- General SEEA
- Air emission accounts
- Material flow accounts
- Water accounts

Cooperating countries (Sweden)

Period 2002-2012:

- Azerbaijan (EPEA)
- Armenia (SEEA)
- Jamaica (EPE stats)
- Macedonia (SEEA, SEEAW)
- Bosnia & Herzegovina (EPEA)
- Serbia (SEEA)
- Ukraine (SEEA)
- Bolivia (SEEAW)
- Guatemala (SEEAW)

2013:

- Burkina Faso (SEEA)
- Moldova (EPEA)
- Bosnia & Herzegovina (water statistics, EPE statistics)

2014:

- Serbia (air emissions accounts)
- Albania (SEEA)
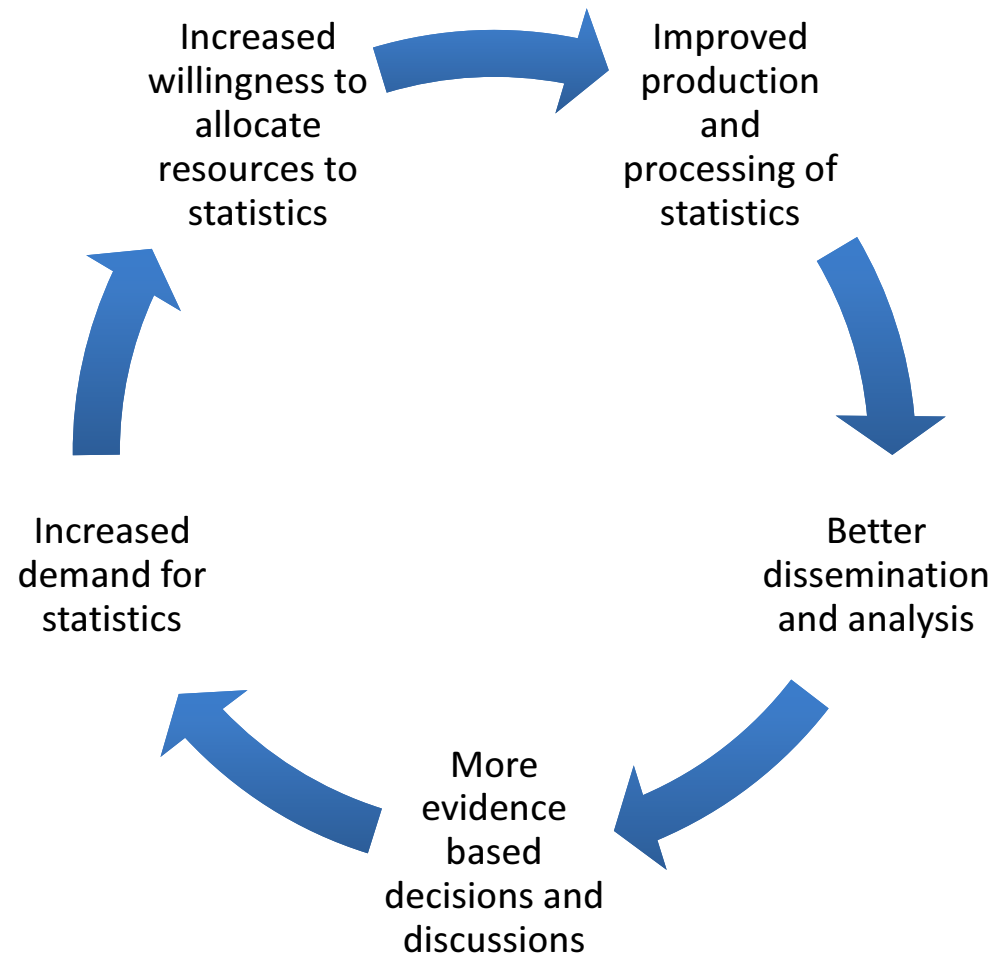- B&H, Moldova (EPE)
- Burkina Faso (tbd)

Cooperating countries (SEEA, Norway)

- NBS China (WB-IMF-Nordic Council funded project to set up GHG-inventory and related energy statistics/accounts)
- Mongolia and to the SPECA-countries at a conference in Azerbaijan
- Estonia
- "Measuring Green Economy" assessment project in Viet Nam, Malaysia, Mongolia and Bhutan

Lessons learned

1. A step to go from surveys to more integrated 'models' using data from different sectors (staff needed prepared to take this step)

2. A step to initiate the communication with the policy side and user side; (macro perspective takes time to grasp and will not solve all issues)

3. Accounts can be simple – but tend to look and feel really complex when you start.(Many accronyms, many different topics)

The positive circle of statistical development

Conclusions

- Capacity building is possible and cooperation is useful

- We need to help each other: Try to inform others if you go out on missions so that we can avoid double work and use each others experiences

- Make sure the cooperation also gets down to calculating the numbers – this is how you get the experience that can feed the statistical system and describe society