Implementation of the FDES: NAP and ESSAT Reporting Templates

Session One: Environment Statistics Toolbox

Sixth Meeting of the Expert Group on Environment Statistics, New York

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Outline

- FDES implementation tools, guidance and reporting templates
- Uses and examples
- Issues to discuss

Guidance tools and reporting templates

1. **Blueprint for Action, 2013** (adopted at 44 Session of Stat. Comm.)

2. **ESSAT**, with 3 parts:

   2.1 Introduction (key concepts)

   2.2 Part I (institutional setting)

   2.3 Part II (data and statistics)

   ESSAT reporting template (pre-set sections: 1. purpose, 2. rationale, 3. Env. Policies, 4. Collaboration/institutions, 5. Organizational issues, 6. Stakeholders and FDES topics, 7. summary of env. Stats, 8. data gaps, 9. priorities to improve)

3. **NAP template** (1. background and justification, 2. objectives, 3. stakeholders, 4. ESSAT summary, 5. Outputs/activities e.g. six following pillars, 6. Workplan, 7. Budget, 8. Next steps, 9. Annex – ESSAT)

NAP Activities
with six priorities from 2013 Blueprint for Action

1. Methodological: harmonize definitions and classifications
2. Capacity building: training incl. GIS
3. Inter-institutional collaboration
4. Networking
5. Resources: IT & HR
6. Advocacy

ESSAT Part I

- Organization: Interinstitutional work group/steering group
  - Law, Budget, Formalized MoU, Producer – user talks, FDES implementation, Dissemination: from yearbooks to advanced web/map service tools
- Uses: National policies support, SDG, SEEA
- Trends: HR, IT, other resources: increasing, decreasing, steady
- Participation in EGES, regional groups, Assistances/training, Pillars
- Key/priority components and topics

ESSAT Part II

- Map and assess data sources for basic set: availability/gaps, quality, relevance, etc.
  - Tier 1 - High priority and relevance to most countries and have a sound methodological foundation (core set) (100 statistics)
  - Tier 2 - Require more time, resources or methodological development (200 statistics)
  - Tier 3 - Require significant methodological development (158 statistics)
- Excel template with options prefilled according to the BSES
  - If needed can be changed, are they adequate, should these be developed further?
- Self-assessment challenges:
  - Resources; lacking methods, poor quality, inaccessibility

Purpose of ESSAT and NAP

- The *purpose of the ESSAT* is to assist countries in both developing their environment statistics programmes and collecting their own data on the environment, and to assess the state of environment statistics and the needs for their development at the national level consistent with the scope of the FDES 2013.

- The *National Action Plan sets out* the progress needed and relevant actions to strengthen environment statistics to provide high quality data to aid decision makers in developing national environmental policies and environmental management strategies.

ESSAT and NAP

Left box:

1.   Purpose
2.   Rationale
3.   Environment Policies
4.   Collaboration and Institutional Structures
  4.1 Legal Framework
  4.2 National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) or Sector Strategic Plan for Environment Statistics (SSPES)
  4.3 Coordination within the National Statistical System/Cooperation

6.   Stakeholders and FDES Topics
7.   Summary of available environment statistics
8.   Data Overlaps and Data Gaps
9.   Priority future activities to improve environment statistics

Annexes

Right box:

1.   Background and justification
  1.1   Justification
  1.2   National and international environment policies
  1.3   Other related initiatives
2.   Objective of the national plan
3.   Stakeholders
4.   Environment Statistics Self-Assessment (ESSAT) Summary
  4.1   Data summary
  4.2   Institutional needs
  4.3   Organisational needs
5.   Outputs and activities
  5.1   Impact
  5.2   Outcome
  5.3   Outputs and activities
Objective 1: Inter-institutional collaboration: Improve collaboration, coordination and awareness of key players across all stages of statistical production and dissemination
Objective 2: Methodological development and dissemination of know-how
Objective 3: Capacity building and technical assistance
Objective 4: Investing in physical infrastructure
Objective 5: Human resource development and management
Objective 6: Networking
Objective 7: Resource mobilization and advocacy
6.   Workplan
7.   Overall budget
8.   Next Steps
9.   Annex 1: Environment Statistics Self-Assessment (ESSAT)

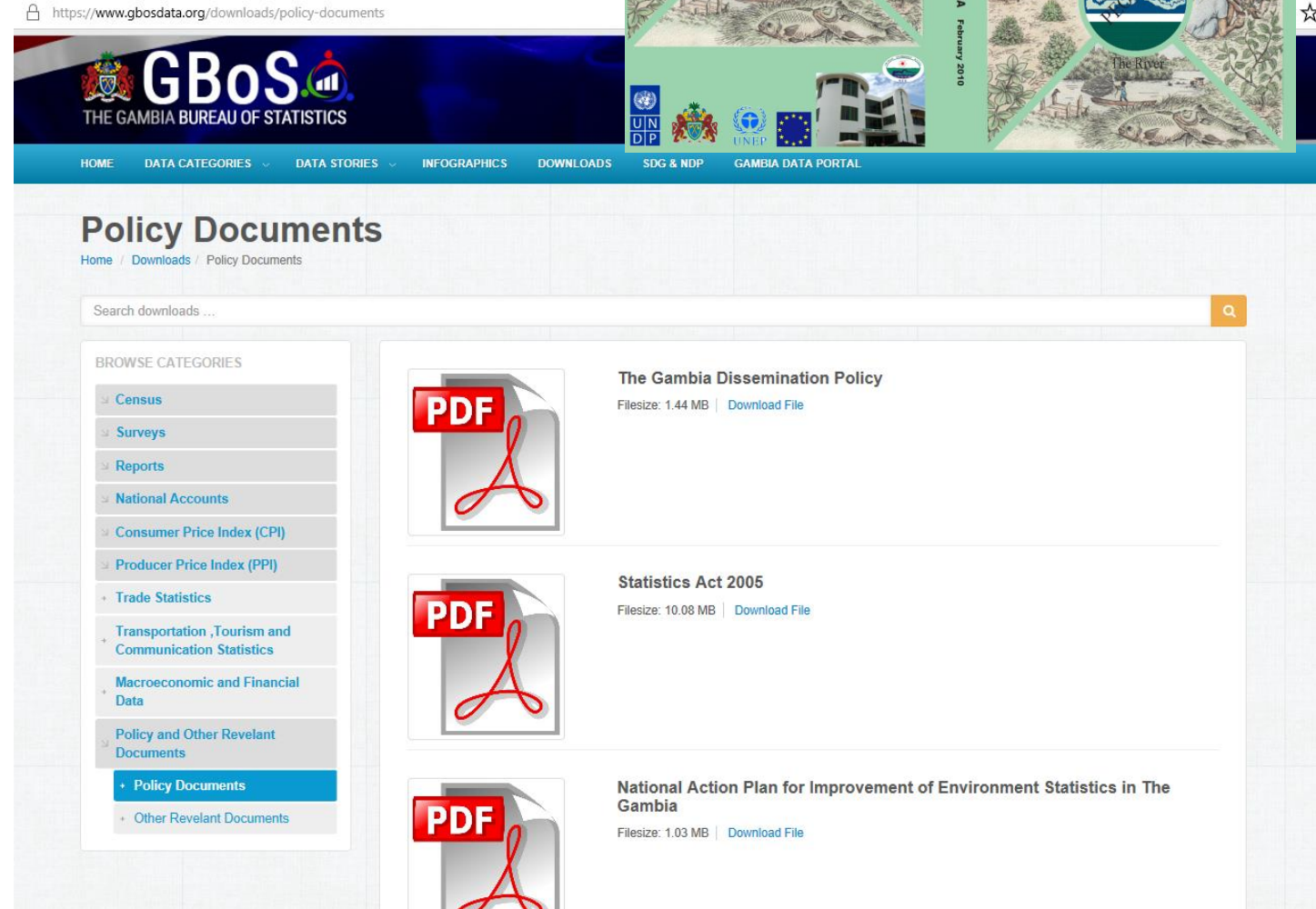# Countries conducting or initiating Environment Statistics Self-Assessment Tool (ESSAT)

Hungary

Bahamas
Dominican Rep.
Jamaica

Botswana
Burkina
Faso
Burundi
Cabo Verde
Egypt
Ethiopia
Equatorial
Guinea
Gambia
Kenya

Madagascar
Mauritius
Namibia
Rwanda
Tanzania
Togo
Uganda
Zambia
Zimbabwe

Indonesia
Philippines
Mongolia

Brazil

Colombia
Ecuador
Suriname
Venezuela

ESSAT https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envstats/fdes/essat.cshtml
Available in all official UN languages and Portuguese

The Gambia assessment and NAP

- First mission done in Feb. 2018, detailed assessment of environment statistics followed (key stakeholders, key data sources, priorities and next steps

- NAP: key issues and stakeholders summarized, huge shopping list of costed actions, next steps

- Draft Compendium (not as rich as Env. Report, key stats show for ex. 50% loss of mangroves)

- Mission 2 under preparation

The Gambia: Priorities for developing env. statistics

From the information obtained during the assessment (by the Technical Working Group), the following activities were identified as priorities for improving environment statistics and as feasible for the National Action Plan:

- The establishment of a functioning **environment statistics unit** with adequate and sustained resources within GBoS should be investigated.

- Several stakeholders are engaged in data collection and would benefit from **short-term trainings from GBoS** on areas such as questionnaire design, data collection, analysis, graphics and visualization.

- There is a need to sensitize the Heads of Units of the stakeholders on the role of data in decision making and planning.

- GBS can provide assistance with sampling and survey preparation for ad hoc surveys conducted by stakeholders.

- In order to strengthen networking arrangements GBoS environmental statistician is encouraged to attend the International Statistical Institute World Statistics Conference in 2019, including preparation of a paper on the activities to strengthen environment statistics in The Gambia.

- There is a need to enhance data harmonization in the area of **land use/land cover statistics**.

- GBoS to work towards building capacity in the area of **Big Data management** in order to harness the big volume of data being produced and to harness data from non-conventional sources such as GIS/remote sensing.

Namibia assessment and NAP

- First mission last year, second is under preparation

- State of environment report planned with FDES structure

- Namibia has conducted a Second National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2013-2022. Biodiversity conservation is a key area of work for the Ministry.

- Namibia Statistics Agency holds the mandate for coordination of statistics in Namibia, under the Statistics Act 2011.

- There is currently no co-ordination mechanism in place for environment statistics. The convening of environmental stakeholders in the national workshop for environment statistics under the DA10 Programme was the first meeting of environmental statistics stakeholders.

- A Working Group on Natural Capital Accounting meets quarterly under the Ministry of Environment.

- Resource Mobilisation for Biodiversity Project is just completed (natural capital accounting). Included is the TEEB country study which identifies and values ecosystem services in Namibia.

Namibia
Priority Activities to improve environment statistics

From the information obtained during the assessment, the following activities were identified as priorities for improving environment statistics and as feasible for the National Action Plan:

- To incorporate environment statistics, including the compendium into the State of Environment Report
- To incorporate environment statistics into the National Capital Accounts Working Group
- Provide guidance to stakeholders on requesting data and enabling data sharing among institutions
- Facilitate the sharing of the FDES e-learning materials and development f of an online forum for environment statistics
- Capacity development for NSA and MoE staff on GIS related training for environment statistics
- Advocate for environment statistics within the National Strategy for Development of Statistics
- Advocate for environment statistics with the 2nd Phase of the ResMob project with GIZ.

Issues to discuss

- UNSD prepared two templates, there is need for more country experience before finalizing/recommending on UNSD's website
- Ultimate goal is to have recommended/standardized templates for all countries
- Link to bigger picture of information needs
- Improve contents and linkages between the two reports
- Will more countries apply the templates and provide feedback? Can we record countries' use of them?
- How can we encourage other countries to test them? Through the ENVSTATS newsletter?
- Do Regional Commissions and other agencies use them?