



Workshop on Environment Statistics,
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The Needs for Environment Statistics and Indicators in African Region

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Scope

- I. Global concerns about environment
- II. Africa's environmental challenges
- III. Responses to the challenges
 - **International conventions; Regional conventions**
- IV. Framework of implementation of the various plans
 - **Agenda 21; JPOI; Action Plan of the Environment Initiative of NEPAD**
- V. List of indicators
- VI. Challenges for Statistics
- VII. Responses to the Statistics Challenges
- VIII. Conclusion and recommendations

I. Global concerns about environment

Major summits under the auspices of the UN:

- Stockholm, 1972
- UNCED, in Rio, 1992,
- Millennium Summit, 2000
- WSSD, in Johannesburg, 2002

And their programmes of implementation:

- Agenda 21
- JPOI
- MDGs

II. Africa's Environmental challenges

Environment Initiative of NEPAD: Combat Poverty and contribute to social development in Africa

1. Land degradation, drought and desertification
2. Wetlands
3. Invasive species
4. Marine and costal resources

Africa's Environmental challenges (cont'd)

5. Cross border conservation of natural resources

6. Climate change

7. Environment Governance

8. Financing

III. Responses to the challenges: International Conventions

Conventions	Focus
United Nations Convention to combat Desertification (UNCCD)	Combat desertification in countries experiencing drought and/or desertification
Ramsar Convention on Wetlands	Wetland conservation and use
UN convention on the law of the sea (UNCLOS)	Conservation and use of marine resources, marine biodiversity
Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Forest (CITES)	International wild life trade

Responses to the challenges: International Conventions (Cont'd)

Conventions	Focus
Convention on Migratory species (CMS)	conserve terrestrial, marine and avian migratory species throughout their range
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)	Greenhouse Gas Emission and other pollutants
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)	Conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity
Basel convention on the control of transboundary movements of hazardous waste and their disposal	Hazardous and other waste

IV. Responses to the challenges: Regional Conventions

Conventions	Focus
African Convention on Nature and Natural Resources, Algiers 1968	Conservation, utilization and development of soil, water, flora and faunal resources
Abidjan Convention, 1984	Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the West and Central Africa
African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN), 1985	Permanent forum on matters of relevance to the environment of the continent.

Responses to the challenges: Regional Conventions (Cont'd)

Conventions	Focus
Nairobi Convention, 1985	Convention for the protection, management and development of the marine and coastal environment of the eastern African region
Lusaka Agreement, 1996	Enforcement Operations Directed at Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora
Environment Initiative, a plan of recovery forming part of the NEPAD, 2001	Creating the social and ecological base on which the NEPAD can thrive.

V. Framework of implementation of the conventions

The international conventions and frameworks for their implementation dictate the need for indicators of inputs, outputs, impacts and outcomes.

- Agenda 21
- MDGs
- JPOI
- Action Plan of NEPAD Environment Initiative

Agenda 21

Chapter 40 of the Agenda 21 entitled "Information for decision making" and Chapter 8 entitled "Integrating environment and development in decision making" highlight the needs for data and indicators at local, national, regional and international level

It also calls upon the UN on the development of indicators of sustainable development

JPOI

The WSSD reiterated RIO Declarations and for the Statistics:

- Call to strengthen national and regional statistical systems relevant to sustainable development policies and Programmes (X, 129)
- Support countries in their effort to collect accurate, consistent and reliable data (X, 133)

Action Plan of NEPAD Environment Initiative

Programmatic area 1: Combating land degradation, drought and desertification: Enhance the support for the implementation of the UNCCD

- Establish an integrated regional information system and promote information sharing on land degradation and desertification control

Programmatic area 2: Conserving Wetlands: Support to Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

- Develop inventory/appraisal, monitoring and assessment.
Data will feed the Global Review of Wetland Resources

Action Plan of NEPAD Environment Initiative

(Cont'd)

Programmatic area 3: Preventing, Control and Management of Invasive Alien Species: Convention on Biological Diversity

Programmatic area 4: Conservation and sustainable use of marine, coastal and freshwater resources

Programmatic area 5: Combating Climate Change in Africa: UNFCCC

Programmatic area 6: Cross-border Conservation or Management of Natural Resources

- Biodiversity, Biosafety and plant genetic resource
- Forest

Action Plan of NEPAD Environment Initiative (Cont'd)

The Action Plan calls for the establishment of a NEPAD Environment Directory: provide links and access for each of the programme area

Recognised the absence of adequate and relevant information as one of the bottlenecks to implement Global and regional environment conventions.

Support therefore the Development of Information Systems and related environmental assessments

V. List of Indicators

- Sustainable Development Indicators for the preparation of ECA's biannual Report on Sustainable Development (by FSSD)
- CSD-ISD: 3rd revised CSD indicators finalized in 2006 by an Expert Group Meeting. 50 core indicators, and a larger set of 96 indicators of sustainable development (by UNSD)
- MDGs (8 Goals, 18 Targets, 48 Indicators)
Goal 7: Ensuring Environmental Sustainability

List of Indicators (Ctd)

MDG Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability

Target 9:

Integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources

- 25. Proportion of land area covered by forest
- 26. Ratio of area protected to maintain biological diversity to surface area
- 27. Energy use (kg oil equivalent) per \$1 GDP (PPP)
- 28. Carbon dioxide emissions per capita and consumption of ozone-depleting CFCs (ODP tons)
- 29. Proportion of population using solid fuels

MDG Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability (Cont'd)

Target 10:

Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation

30. Proportion of population with sustainable access to an improved water source, urban and rural

31. Proportion of population with access to improved sanitation, urban and rural

Target 11:

By 2020, to have achieved a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers

32. Proportion of households with access to secure tenure

VI. Need for statistics

Statistics are needed to:

- better plan for environmental controls and interventions
- quantify and profile the environment problems
- monitor implementation of environmental interventions and programs and measure progress
- measure impact of interventions and programs

Demand for statistics are determined through:

- data user-producer consultations
- policy documents and frameworks

Need for statistics (cont'd)

Need for “good statistics”

Characterized by following:

- Able to meet user needs (in government, business, civil society, academia, regional & international organizations, public)
- Accessible to a broad range of public and private users
- Trusted to be objective and reliable
- Have a breadth and depth of coverage to meet policy needs and inform the public

VII. Challenges for Statistics

There is an upsurge in statistical demand BUT National Statistical Systems are weak:

- Under-resourced and largely uncoordinated
- Data processing, analysis and presentation to users is inadequate
- There are data gaps
- Different definitions, concepts and methodologies
- Lack of timeliness and user-friendly data presentation format

Cont'd

Regional, Sub-regional and national responses:

- Reference Regional Strategic Framework for Statistical Capacity Building in Africa (RRSF)
- National Strategies for the Development Statistics (NSDS)
- Sectoral Strategy for the Development of Environment Statistics
- Mainstreaming Environment Statistics in the National Sustainable Development Strategies (better profile for environment statistics within NSO and line ministries, human and financial resources,...)

Conclusion and recommendations

- Strengthen users-producers dialogue for producers to understand better the users' needs
- Need for data producers to develop sufficient capacity to meet users' needs
- Need for countries (which have not done so yet) to design the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) as the overarching framework for building statistical capacity in countries

Thank You



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