



National Accounts Workshop for SADC countries

16-19 June 2009, Windhoek, Namibia

Strengthening statistical capacity-building in support of progress
towards the Internationally Agreed Developments Goals in the
Southern African Development Community region

Institutional Issues and Data Sources



Challenges in the Implementation of the SNA

Institutional Issues and Data Sources

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Rationale

Address the institutional issues and data sources :

- Due to NAS as a framework for reconciliation and aggregation of data sources.
- Conducive environment.
- Efficient mechanism and reduce the response burden
- Avoid duplication of efforts
- Long-term solution to NAS compilation, technical training will have a short term and limited effect if the fundamentals are not addressed
- NAS is the primary responsibility of NSO, the other demands of data are still secondary...BUT



Collaboration within NSO

- ❖ Insufficient awareness that NAS as the main objective of the NSOs
- ❖ Lack of adequate of human and financial resources in NAS compilation, in many African countries a small number of professional staff, except for few countries such as Cameroon, Egypt, South Africa, Tunisia, Morocco and Nigeria
- ❖ Lack of visibility of the National Accounts Program at the NSO, in many times a units or a section under a division of the NSO, sometimes without autonomy of budget and resources.
- ❖ High staff turnover, uncompetitive salary.
- ❖ Lack of internal collaboration inside the NSO: the various division inside NSO works separately



Collaboration with other National Agency

- ❖ Sharing of information and financial statement between NSO, Central Bank and Tax revenue Ministry.
- ❖ In some countries, the NSO establish a “mini-centre” of financial statement for companies over a threshold, for example balance sheets of companies over thousand employees, NSO collect directly from companies or collect a copy from the Tax revenues authority or VAT.
- ❖ In several countries, collaboration between users and producers of NAS is almost inexistent.



Data sources: accounting rules

- ❖ Difference between the concept of SNA, on one hand and business accounting, public accounting and surveys, efforts are undertaken in some countries to use the concept of NAS in business accounting and government accounting ex: SYSCOA, OCAM and PCOP
- ❖ Trained surveyor and staff of NSO in business accounting and NAS to generate balance sheet and financial statement from surveys.



Data sources

- Unavailability and low quality of data sources, in particular informal sector, household sector, NPISH and services industries.
- Inadequate human and financial resources to collect and to translate the data sources into NAS, this tasks require well trained national accountants to develop bridge tables.



Recommendation

- Advocacy and raise awareness of the importance of NAS to manager of NAS, minister and government senior officials
- Increased visibility and adequate human and financial resources
- Increased collaboration between NSO, CB and other national agencies user-producers
- Mainstream the NAS concept and classification in business accounting and surveys.



Thank You