African Conference:
Transformative Agenda for Official Statistics

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Session 3:
Securing foundations to modernization and integrated statistical systems

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Setting up a Professional Services Unit
Case of Uganda Bureau of Statistics

Ben Paul Mungyereza – Executive Director

African Conference on Transformative Agenda for Official Statistics
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Outline

Introduction
UBOS mandate and framework
Why PSU
PSU products and market potential
Risk mapping and assumptions
Other implementation issues
Conclusion
About UBOS

- Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS) was formerly the Statistics Department in the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (MFPED)
- UBOS was established by an Act of Parliament - UBOS Act 1998
- UBOS plays a dual role in the development and maintenance of the National Statistical System (NSS):
  1. **UBOS is the principal agency responsible for collecting, processing, analyzing and disseminating official statistics;**
  2. **UBOS is also responsible for coordinating, monitoring and supervising the National Statistical System.**
UBOS is responsible for among others, the development of the NSS - collection, analysis and publication of statistical information, and all matters incidental to the foregoing which are considered relevant.

Sect.3 (2)(a) (iii) mandates UBOS to provide guidance, training and other assistance as may be required to other users and providers of Statistics and to do all things necessary or incidental or conducive to the objects of the Bureau.
UBOS Institutional Framework

UBOS is governed by a board of directors (BOD) - the policy making organ that provides policy and strategic direction to the organization.

The current NSDS 2013/14-2017/18 covers 23 Ministries Departments and Agencies of Government – it aims among others, at ensuring the long term sustainability of the NSS by securing funding for priority data production, analysis and dissemination.

Further, the NSDS provides for Infrastructure development since most MDA’s have inadequate statistical and supportive infrastructure. A PSU once put in place would be instrumental in supporting the required infrastructure within the MDAs.
Why the PSU

To provide technical guidance to the NSS in a more organized manner

To separate the core business of UBOS and the adhoc requests that come up when the annual plans have been completed

To create an incentive for staff of UBOS as they get engaged in the PSU projects

Provide refresher courses for UBOS staff
Why the PSU cont’d...

- To develop talent in analytical work within the organization
- To boost professional linkages with other institutions
- To absorb retired yet knowledgeable staff from UBOS
- To increase statistical products at almost no cost to the UBOS
Possible Product Segmentation for the PSU

- Training Needs Analysis
- Develop Course Materials
- Deliver Courses
- Knowledge Creation

- Statistical Needs Assessments
- Statistical Planning
- Metrics, Standards & Best Practices
- Implementation Strategy
- M&E

- Training & Capacity Devt

- Training Facilities
- Hire of Conference Room
- Hire of Training Rooms

- Technical Assistance

- Advisory Services
- Consultancies
- Short Term Attachments
- Hand Holding
- Joint Ventures
“Contact-us centre”
- Main, central point of contact to UBOS
- Toll-free access, centralized email response

Advisory services
- Custom solutions packaged for clients
- Facility rental

Project management other custom services
- Technical assistance
  - Capacity building (training, mentoring, attachment and exposure)
  - Custom tabulation
  - Custom surveys
  - Custom analysis
Market Potential

The rapid assessment reveals that there is a high demand for Data and other Statistical Services provided by UBOS especially from:

- NGOs and civil society Organizations
- International agencies
- Private companies/private sector
- Individuals
- Private sector establishing business in Uganda
- Government Ministries, Departments and agencies
- Local Governments
- University Students and other academic institutions
- Researchers
- Public sector
- Other data producing agencies with limited capacities
Possible Competencies

- GIS
- Economic Policy Analysis
- Statistical Analysis
- Finance and Accounting
- Population and Demographic Analysis
- Information Technology
Risk Mapping

a) Market Risk
• Demand for PSU services in the market and the competitiveness of PSU price

b) Competitive Risks
• More established firms that provide services similar to the PSU

c) Technology & Operational Risks
• Technological changes and the need to partner and benchmark from similar institutions that have succeeded in the past like Statistics Canada

d) Financial Risks
• Assumption is that PSU pre-finances a big percentage of the assignment before the client pays

• The need for UBOS to provide seed money and subsidy to facilitate the smooth operation of PSU until such a time when it is self-sustaining.

e) Buy-in risks – within and without
Support for PSU Development

UBOS benefited from the ISFP programme financed by the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada and implemented by Statistics Canada

Supported the Bureau to finalise the Business Plan for the establishment of the PSU

Refined the objectives, outputs & Outcomes
Financial viability in the long term

Three year project

- First year, “Pilot”

PSU in UBOS Old structures not currently fully used

- Report to the Deputy Executive Director, Statistical Production and Development.

Re-use 2014 Census equipment
## Schedule to establish PSU

### Activity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>2015-16</th>
<th>2016-17</th>
<th>2017-18</th>
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<tr>
<td>Approval of the Project Plan</td>
<td>Q1</td>
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<td>Staffing of PSU manager</td>
<td>Q2</td>
<td>Q2</td>
<td>Q2</td>
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<td>Staffing of other PSU positions</td>
<td>Q3</td>
<td>Q3</td>
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<td>Entebbe facility fit-up</td>
<td>Q4</td>
<td>Q4</td>
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<td>Year 1 Pilot</td>
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<td>Assessment of Pilot</td>
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<td>Additional PSU staffing, as necessary</td>
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<td>Expanded services, Year 2 and 3</td>
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<td>Project close out</td>
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**Note:**
- Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4 represent quarters of the year.
- The schedule is from 2015-16 to 2017-18.
Develop capacity when to say “no”

- Cede all low-quality statistics to others, not within scope of PSU
- Decide which topics are off-limits
  - e.g. public opinion polling
Conclusion

UBOS is taking forward the development of the PSU

There is support from the BOD and it will start operating in FY 2016/17

Appreciation to Statistics Canada for the support
THANK YOU