# African Conference: Transformative Agenda for Official Statistics

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## Session 4: Capacity Building and Training

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# **TRANSFORMING OFFICIAL STATISTICS TO SUPPORT THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA**

# **THEME: Capacity Building and Training**

**LIBREVILLE, GABON, NOVEMBER 2015** 

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## **INTRODUCTION**

With the end of the MDGs comes a program and with the birth of SDGs comes a world development plan:

- Development planning has become a requirement for the entire world
- Such planning must inevitably include the "3PBME" chain (Prospective-Planning-Programming-Budgeting-Monitoring and Evaluation)
- It is primarily based on statistics, which explains their high importance, given the advent of SDGs, whose 17 goals and 169 targets were adopted by the UN in September 2015

Hence the need to produce the required statistics.

# CARTOGRAPHY OF THE ISS

GEOGRAPHIC LEVEL	ORGANIZATIONS/STRUCTURES
World	- United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD)
	- International Statistical Institute (ISI)
Continent	- Eurostat, AfDB, UN System
	- African Centre for Statistics (ACS)
	- African Training Centre, etc.
Region/Sub-region	- Statistics leadership (ECOWAS, ECCAS)
	- Statistics committee (WAEMU)
	- AFRISTAT, AFRITAC, etc.
Country	NSS/NSO or NSI, training schools, universities
Administrative region	Regional offices (RD, Antennas, Cells, etc.)

#### • WORLDWIDE

- 2015: end of MDG program
- Birth of SDGs, which require development planning
- The 3PBME chain (Prospective-Planning-Programming-Budgeting-Monitoring and Evaluation)
- **Reliable, relevant and timely statistics are the backbone of this chain.**



- AFRICAN CONTINENT Conducive environment:
  - Political commitment to development planning
  - Institutional framework Law, African Charter of Statistics, African Statistics Day, etc.
  - **Development of the statistics culture** *Agenda 2063, the CAP on SDGs, etc.*
  - Technical commitment through:
    - SHaSA for harmonization
    - ASSD to promote production fields

# **II-STATISTICS PRODUCTION**

- FACTORS OF PRODUCTION
  - Statistics have become consumer goods.
  - Their production follows the production principles for all goods.
  - The factors of production are:
    - Raw materials (data obtained through direct collection or from secondary sources, including "BIG DATA")
    - ✓ Human resources (professionals and support staff)
    - ✓ Material and technical resources (data processing, mobility, communication, etc.)
    - ✓ Financial resources (compensation, procurement of consumables, miscellaneous services)

# **II-STATISTICS PRODUCTION**

- CURRENT SITUATION
  - Data:
    - Surveys and censuses: main sources
    - Administrative sources often not exploited because they are inadequate
    - Introduction of BIG DATA
  - Human resources:
    - Professionals (statisticians, demographers and computer specialists):
      - Trained in specialized institutions
      - Trained in universities
    - Support staff:
      - Managers (HR, Logistics, Finance)
      - Others (geographers, legal experts, communicators, etc.)
    - Qualified staff is very insufficient:
      - In the Ivory Coast, out of 217 NSI employees, there are 55

# **II-STATISTICS PRODUCTION**

#### CURRENT SITUATION

- Material and technical and resources:
  - Computer tools (equipment, software, etc.)
  - Means of communication and transport
  - Various consumables
  - Necessary maintenance services
- These resources are generally insufficient or obsolete compared with the rapid progress of ICTs
- Financial resources:
  - Texts and the Charter require the creation of statistical holdings
  - Financial resources are largely insufficient
  - Low capacity for mobilizing financial resources: For the Ivory Coast, 0.1% of the national budget estimated at 6,000 billion CFAF (10 million euros) is allocated to the NSS

## **III-POST-2015 NEEDS**

- STATISTICS PRODUCTION
  - Enormous statistics needs:
    - 17 goals with 169 targets, almost 500 indicators, including 1/3 that must be created
  - Very short timeframes of less than 3 months
  - Global requirements
  - Need for a specific orientation in the SNDS relative to strengthening the capacities of the NSS (initial and continuing training and creation of an Internal Training Center)

## **III-POST-2015 NEEDS**

- CAPACITY REINFORCEMENT NEEDS/MAIN ORIENTATIONS -The main topics are:
  - Initial training of statisticians, demographers, and other support staff
  - Employment training for academics and other staff assigned to management, communication, etc.
  - Training in administration and statistical law, along with IT and data communities
  - Training on developing human resources policies that include an attractive salary grid and career profile
  - Training on project budgeting, financial resource mobilization and management
  - Training on the production of statistics from secondary sources, including BIG DATA

## **III-POST-2015 NEEDS**

- CAPACITY REINFORCEMENT NEEDS/MAIN ORIENTATIONS
- **MECHANISMS AND INSTRUMENTS:** 
  - The consolidation of institutional frameworks
  - A human resource policy (with healthy competition, adequate salaries, a career profile, an initial and continuing training plan)
  - The leadership (central body for national coordination, national statistics authority)
  - The administrative supervision of the NSS, which must be at least a State Minister
  - The national mobilization of financial resources for statistics
  - The continuation of all activities begun since 2000
  - The functioning of 2 continental structures
  - Peer review

## CONCLUSION

We must remember that Africa began its data revolution in the last decade:

- With the Africa Symposium on Statistical Development (ASSD) and the SHaSa
- Africa's will to produce statistics on its own is real and demonstrated
- But to make this legitimate dream a reality, the continent must acknowledge the need of reinforcing its capacities in terms of:
  - human resources
  - production of reliable, relevant and timely statistics, etc.
  - effective management of the resources at its disposal
  - mobilization of resources
  - etc.
- The saying "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime" applies to the continent



# FOR YOUR KIND

