



Transformative Agenda for Official Statistics

A collaborative initiative for the modernisation and integration of statistics



2nd Joint Session CoDG/StatCom-Africa
26-28 November 2015, Libreville, Gabon



Transformation: drivers – challenges - opportunities

- 2030 Agenda and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals
- Development and implementation of integrated statistical frameworks and accounting systems (2008 SNA / SEEA / ...)
- Emerging demands for more cross-cutting, timely, desegregated, geo-referenced data
- Alternative data sources (administrative data, Big Data , ...)
- Innovative technology for data collection, storage, sharing, processing and dissemination
- Budgetary constraints and limitation of burden on respondents
- Competitors on the «market»



Existing mechanisms – initiatives - drivers

- UN-ECE High-Level Group on the Modernisation of Official Statistics
- UN-ESCAP Strategic Advisory Body for the Modernization of Statistical Production and Services in Asia and the Pacific
- UN Global Working Group (GWG) on Big Data for Official Statistics
- 2063 African Agenda and Data Consensus
- ISFP-StatCan
- MoU Group on Statistics (UN and Multilateral Development Banks)
- Other national, (sub-) regional and global initiatives and programmes ...



Development of a Transformative Agenda

Global Conference January 2015, New York

- High-level consultation of Heads of National and international Statistical Organisations
- Conclusions focusing on the components of a Transformative Agenda organised around 5 thematic areas

Statistical Commission 46th session March 2015, New York

- Recognised the need for modernising and strengthening the national, regional and global statistical systems
- Acknowledged the progress achieved through various regional and national initiatives for the modernisation of official statistics
- Supported the implementation of the proposed Transformative Agenda for Official Statistics



Objectives

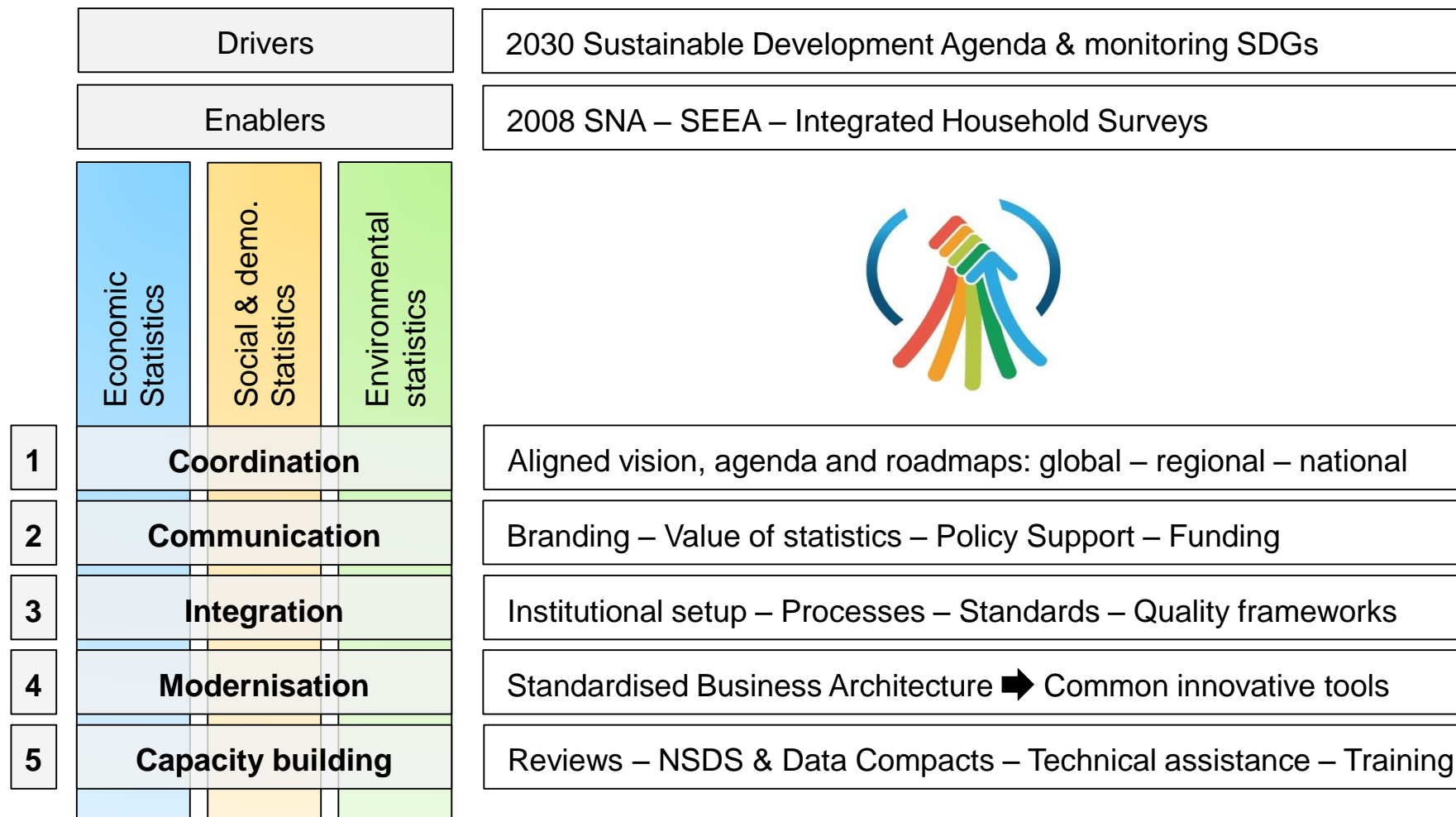
- Promote and advance in a collaborative way the implementation of the transformation and modernization of global, regional and national statistical systems



- Develop and share common vision, business goals and architecture, IT tools and statistical standards and methodology enabling international and regional cross-fertilisation (plug-and-play)

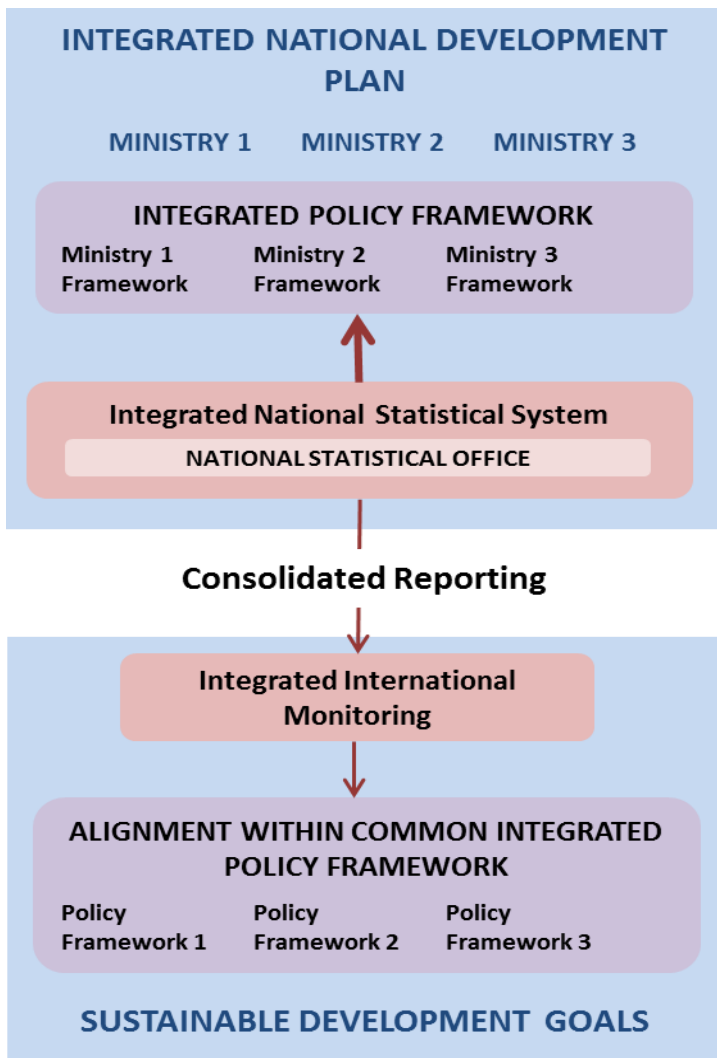


Five cross-cutting thematic areas

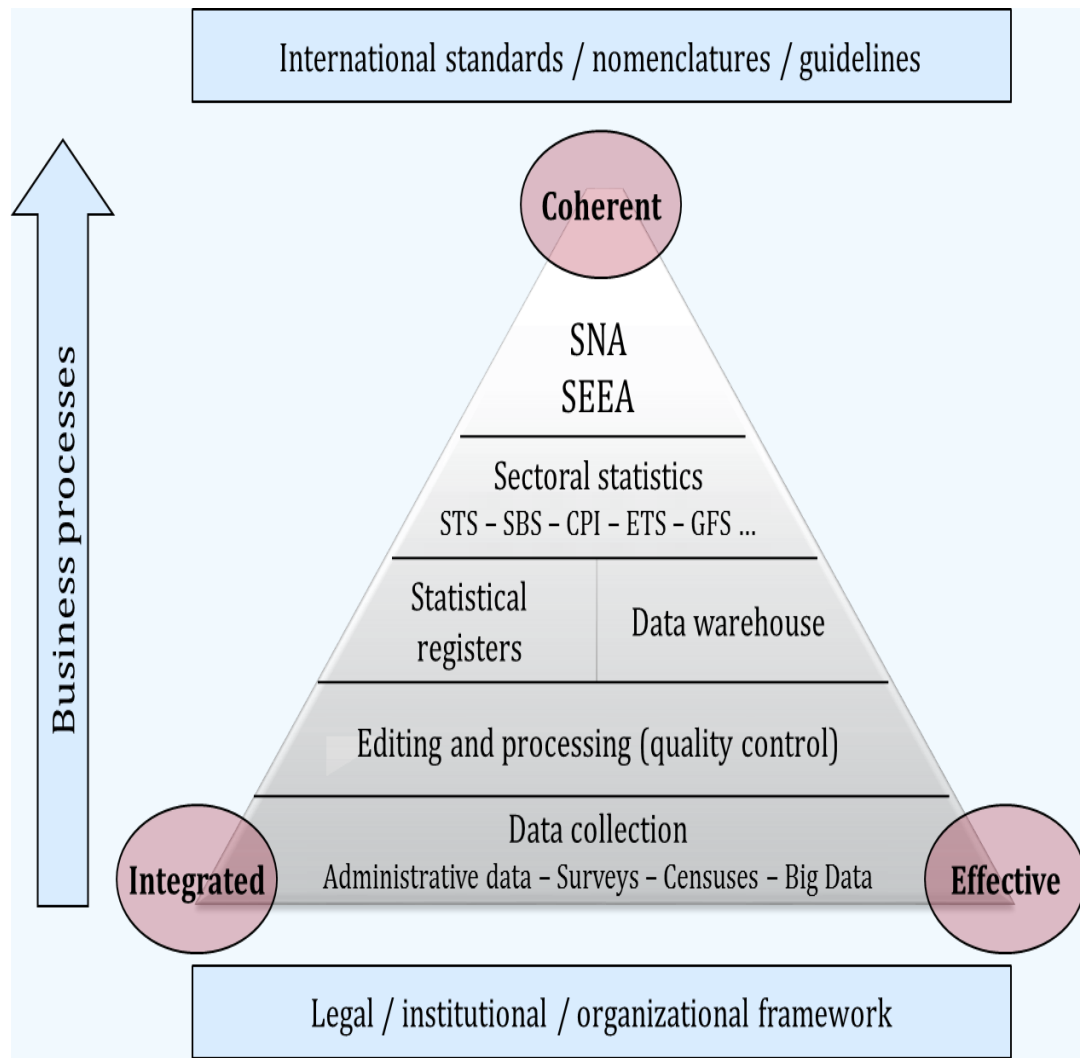




Drivers



Enablers





Thematic area 1:

Coordination at and between global, regional national statistical systems

- Fostering collaborative mechanisms and initiatives at and between global, regional and national levels for a smooth transformation of official statistics leaving no body behind
- Facilitating the set-up of broad collaborative partnerships with the data communities, users and the geo-spatial community
- Coordinating the development and mainstreaming of integrated statistical standards
- Supporting initiatives for the development and implementation of common innovative tools, techniques and methods
- Aligning technical cooperation activities (assessments and NSDS)
- Reducing the duplication in international data collection and reporting



Thematic area 2:

Communication and advocacy

- Branding official statistics and advocating for the development of sound institutional and organisational frameworks for national statistics in compliance with the UN Fundamental Principles
- Raising awareness on the value and comparative advantages of official statistics and eventually mobilising additional resources and support for the transformation and modernisation of statistic
- Broadening the communities of users and improving statistical literacy by making statistics user-friendly and accessible through modern communication technologies, including social media
- Sharing best practices, creating thematic communities across national statistical systems and building broad partnerships with the data communities, users and stakeholders



Thematic area 3:

Integrated statistical systems for data collection, processing and dissemination

- Sustaining the development and implementation of sound institutional and organisational guidelines for national statistical systems
- Promoting the comparability and consistency of statistical deliveries through the development of cross-cutting organisational units at national statistical agencies dealing with methodology, programming, quality assurance, data collection, dissemination ...
- Participating and contributing to various global and regional initiatives for mapping and streamlining statistical production processes aiming at improving efficiency and effectiveness
- Supporting a more systematic exploitation of administrative data for statistical purposes and reflecting on global and regional arrangements for the access to Big Data



Thematic area 4:

Innovation and modernization through standards-based statistical business architecture

- Enhancing gradually the standardization of production processes within and across national statistical systems aiming at sharing and re-using innovative tools and technologies (plug-and-play)
- Supporting the development and application of the Common Statistical Production Architecture (CSPA)
- Promoting the establishment of common national data and metadata portals and mainstreaming SDMX standards
- Harnessing the innovative and transformational power of ICT and mobile devices for georeferenced data collection and data visualization
- Implementing the open data concept and exploring practices of cloud computing for official statistics and research purposes



Thematic area 5:

Capacity building and training

Investing in sustainable development of statistical capacity:

- Managerial courses on change/project management
- Technical courses for statistical staff; e-learning opportunities
- Improving coordination of support by bilateral and multilateral partner organizations

Broadening technical skills and knowledge base to enable:

- Adjustment of the institutional and organizational framework of official statistics
- Reorganizing and re-engineering production processes
- Adapting to fast evolving technological environment



Next steps and the way forward /1

Series of (Sub-) regional Conferences

Dec. 2015 – Sept. 2016

- Targeting heads of national and (sub-) regional statistical systems/organisations
- Taking stock of various (sub-) regional and national initiatives for integrating and modernising statistical systems
- Shaping the collaborative initiative for a Transformative Agenda to the (sub-) regional contexts and expectations
- Countries to steer the events with substantial time assigned to group discussions (5 thematic areas)

- African Conference, 20-21/11/15
- Arab Conference, 10-12/02/16
- America Conference, May 2016
- Asia-Pacific Conference, June 2016
- Conference for EECCA countries Sept. 2015 (?)



21-22 November 2015

African Conference for a Transformative Agenda /1

Co-organised by:

- African Development Bank (AfDB)
- Statistics Canada (StatCan)
- UNSD

With the support of:

- African Centre for Statistics (ACS/ECA)
- African Union (AU)
- Eurostat



21-22 November 2015

African Conference for a Transformative Agenda /2

Organised back-to-back with:

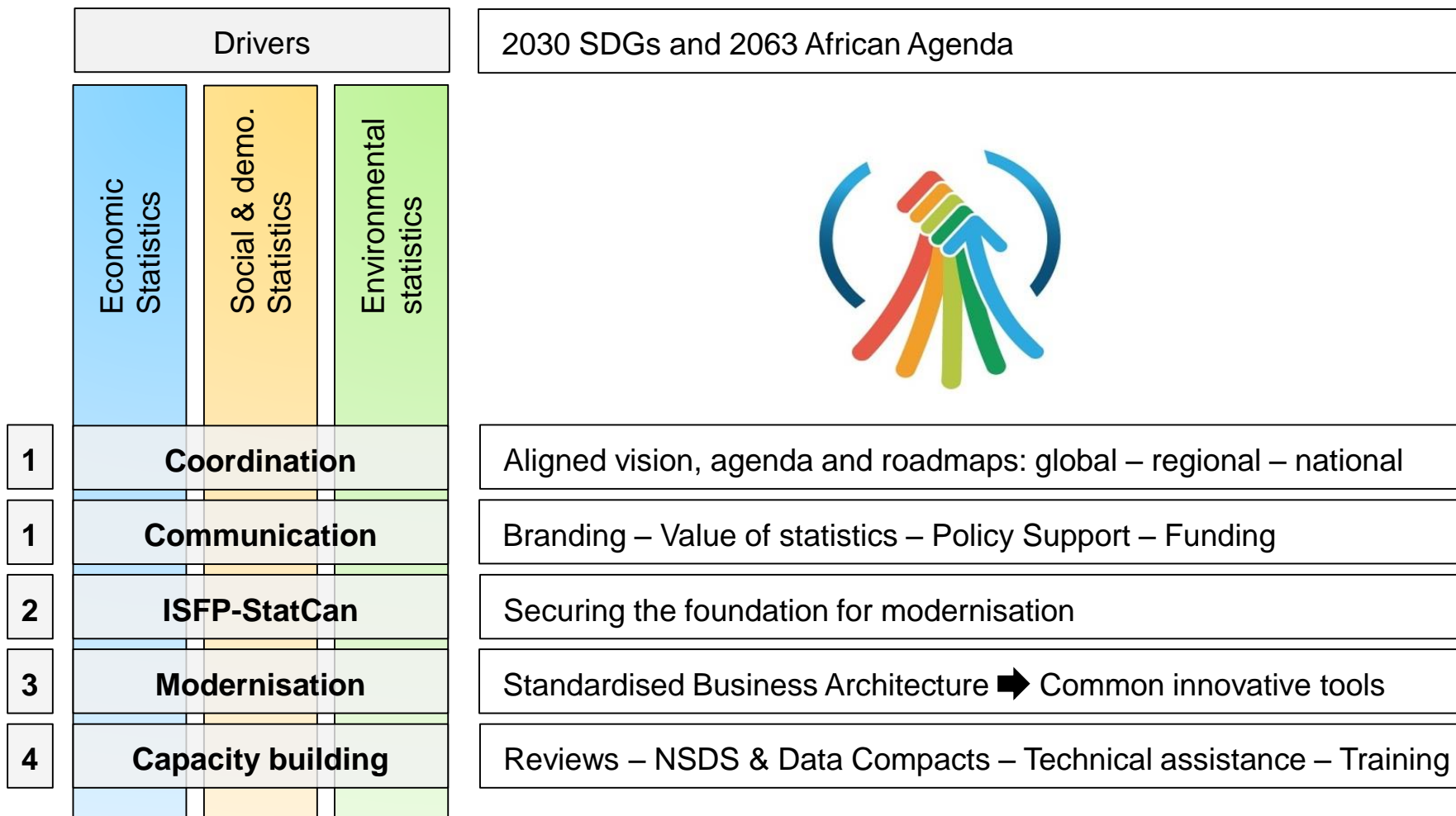
- 11th African Symposium for Statistical Development (ASSD)
- 2nd Joint Session of the CoDG/StatCom-Africa

International Statistical Fellowship Programme (ISFP):

- Financed by the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada
- Implemented by Statistics Canada
- Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean
- Share knowledge and good practices with and among statisticians on institutional arrangement, organisational structure and management of national statistical offices



African Conference for a Transformative Agenda /3





Next steps and the way forward /2

Reports to the Statistical Commission and regional statistical committees

- 2016: Interim report
- 2017: Final report, including concrete proposal for the implementation of the Transformative Agenda

Guidance

- High Level Group on Coordination, Partnership and Capacity Building (Under the UN Statistical Commission)
- Regional Statistical Committees
- Regional Transformative/Modernisation Steering Committees



Transformative Agenda
For Official Statistics

For questions and comments:

Gabriel Gamez | Inter-regional Adviser

Transformative Agenda | Statistics Division

Department of Economic and Social Affairs | United Nations

2 UN Plaza | Room DC2-1518 | New York, NY 10017, USA

Email: gamezg@un.org | Tel: +1-917-367-5443 | Cell: +1-646-944-3735

