



United Nations Statistics Division

Arab Conference

Transformative Agenda for Official Statistics



United Nations Statistics Division

5-7 April 2016, SESRIC, Ankara, Turkey



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 (2015) and 47th (2016) sessions

- 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

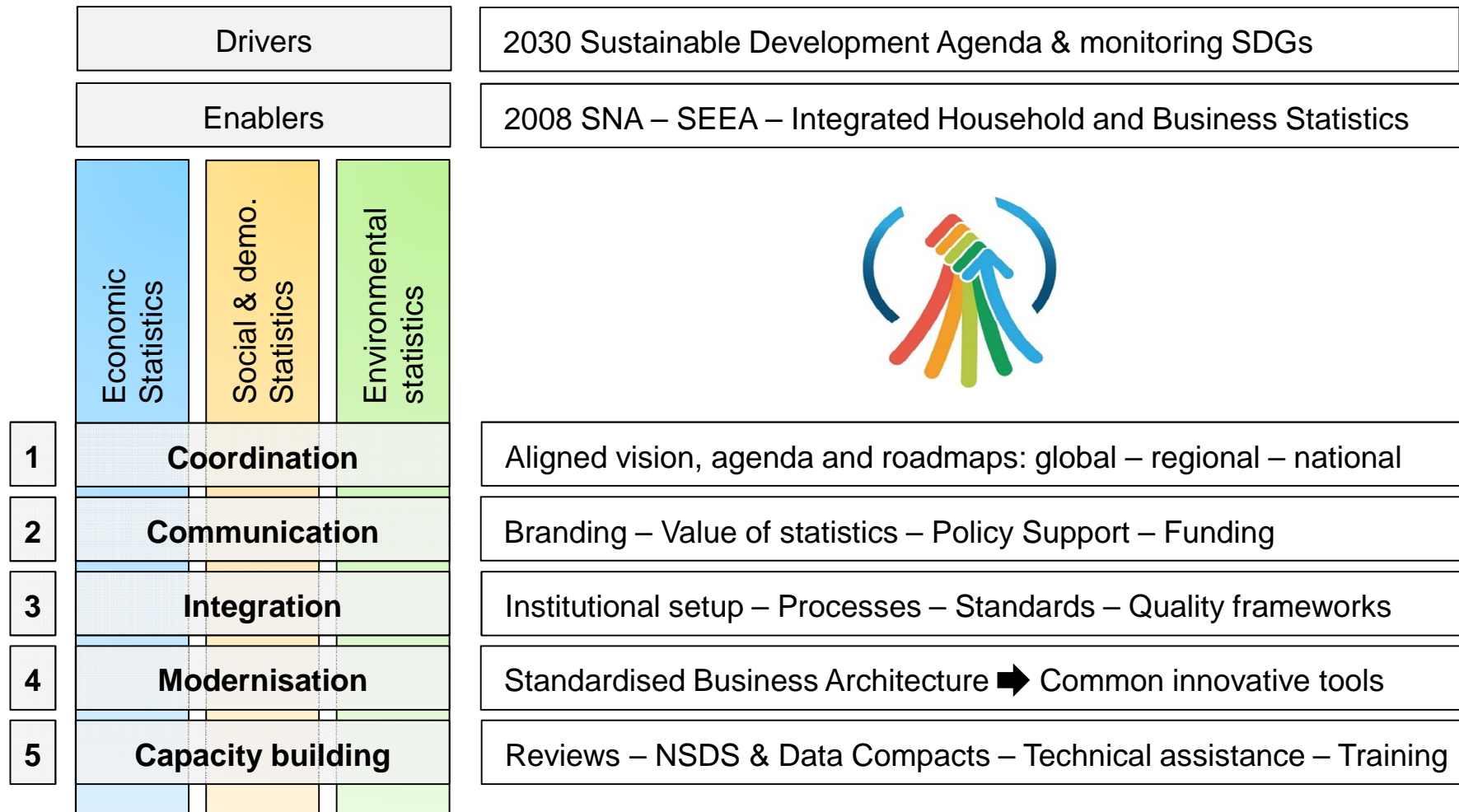
- Promote and advance in a collaborative way the implementation of the transformation and modernization of global, regional and national statistical systems



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



Five cross-cutting thematic areas





Considerations for thematic area 1:

Coordination at and between global, regional national statistical systems

- Strengthen **institutional mechanisms and initiatives** at and between regional and national levels and report to UN Statistical Commission
- 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**
- Implementing **global, regional and national roadmaps/action plans** on transformation and modernization (using common assessments and NSDSs)



Considerations for 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
- Mobilising **high level political support** for **the value of official statistics** through the transformation and modernisation of statistics
- Broadening the communities of users, improving **statistical literacy** and strengthening **data accessibility** through modern communication technologies, including social media
- Sharing best practices through thematic **communities of practices** based on **partnerships with the data communities, users and stakeholders**



Considerations for thematic area 3:

Integrated statistical systems for data collection, processing and dissemination

- Sustaining the development and implementation of sound **organisational and management guidelines** for national statistical systems
- Promoting **professionalization of statistical services** through the development of **specialised organisational units** at national statistical agencies dealing with methodology, programming, quality assurance, data collection, dissemination ...
- **Mapping and streamlining statistical production processes** aiming at improving efficiency and effectiveness
- Supporting a **systematic exploitation of administrative data** and **use of Big Data** for statistical purposes through multi mode and multi source data collection methodology



Considerations for thematic area 4:

Innovation and modernization through standard-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



Considerations for thematic area 5:

Capacity building and training

- Assessing the institutional, organizational and technical readiness of national statistical systems to move to the next level of maturity in regards to modernisation
- Providing recommendations in national strategies (e.g. NSDS) and related roadmaps for the transformation of statistics and assisting countries in their implementations
- Complementing existing technical training at regional and global level with e-learning courses on change management and innovative collection, processing and dissemination tools
- Exploring opportunities for pooling human resources and information technology within and across national statistical systems



Next steps and the way forward /1

Series of (Sub-) regional Conferences

Dec. 2015 – Oct. 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
- Tailoring 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, 5-7/04/16

- AP Conference, 27-29/06/2016

- Caribbean Conference, August 2016

- Latin America Conference, Sept. 2016

- EECCA Conference, Oct. 2016



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 drafting and implementing national and regional roadmaps on the Transformative Agenda for official statistics

Guidance

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