



Coordination mechanisms for capacity building in economic statistics and national accounts in Africa

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Statistical Commission

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African Development Bank

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Instruments for coordination

❑ Principles

- African Charter on Statistics (adopted in 2009)
- Regional Statistics Policies
- National Statistical Legislations (Acts)

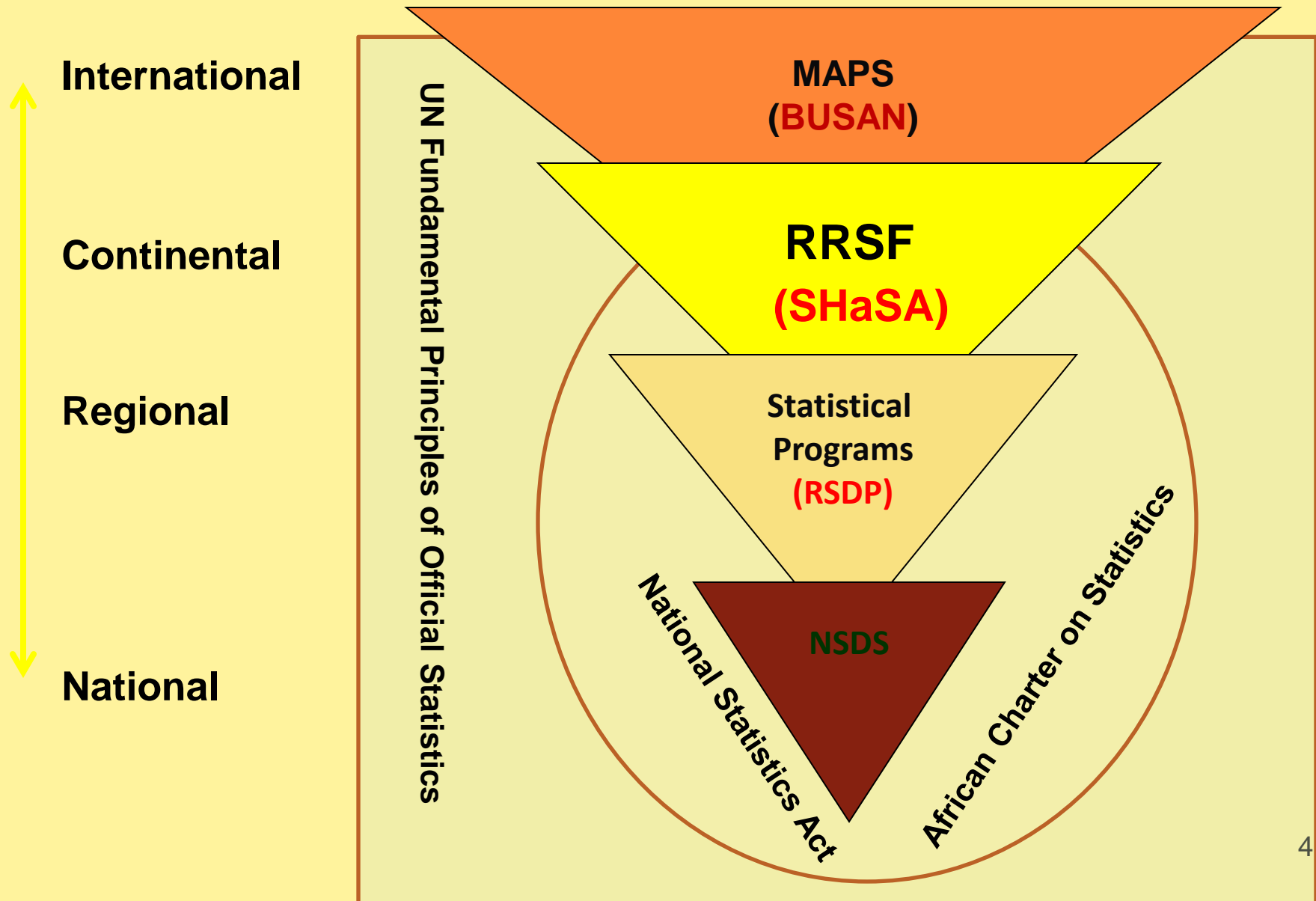
❑ Frameworks

- Reference Regional Strategic Framework (RRSF) for Statistical Capacity Building in Africa (2007) for implementation of
 - Marrakech Action Plan for Statistics (MAPS) in Africa
 - Busan Action Plan (2011)

❑ Strategies

- Strategy for Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA) (2011) – to provide harmonized reliable statistics for the design & implementation, as well as monitoring & evaluation of integration & development policies
- Regional Statistical Development Plans (RSDPs) to support regional integration agendas
- National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS)

Statistical development – vertical alignment





Statistical Governance and Coordination

- A number of organs have been set up to promote statistical governance and coordination in Africa
 - ***Statistical Commission for Africa (StatCom-Africa)***
 - ***Committee of Director General (CoDGs)***
 - ***African Statistical Coordination Committee (ASCC)***
 - ***African Symposium on Statistical Development (ASSD)***
 - ***National Data User–Producer Committee***
 - ***African Contact Group on Enhancing Collaboration to Improve Statistics for the Post 2015 Development Agenda***
 - MOU for MDBs & UN (Africa Statistics contact group)
- Their membership comprises of representatives from the relevant institutions in member countries, regional and sub-regional organizations as well as international organization including the UN.

Regional Programs

Regional initiatives with governance & coordination mechanisms

- International Comparison Program (capacity building in National Accounts and Prices)
- Action Plan to Improve Sustain Agriculture, Food Security and Rural Statistics
- Regional strategy for the implementation of the 2008 SNA
 - African Group on National Accounts
 - Continental Steering Committee

Others

- Population censuses under the African Symposium for Statistical Development (ASSD) – country led initiative but supported by pan-African institutions.

In the pipeline

- Civil registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS)
- 2020 Population census under the ASSD

Governance Structure

Regional Level

- Regional Steering Committee
- Regional Implementation Secretariat

Sub Regional Level – RECs

- Regional Implementation Secretariats

National Level

- National SCB Committee
- In some cases national Coordinator
- In some cases TWG

Activities under National Accounts

Regional & Sub-Regional Level

- Country assessments of the status of implementation of 2008 SNA in SADC, COMESA, ECOWAS and UMA countries:
 - Assessment report for SADC countries done in 2015
 - Assessment report done for COMESA and Anglophone ECOWAS countries done in October 2015
 - Assessment for Francophone ECOWAS and UMA to be done in third quarter 2016
- Training workshop on development of implementation plans for 2008 implementation done for SADC countries in conjunction with UNSD in 2015
- Training workshops on Supply and Use Table construction done for SADC, COMESA and Anglophone ECOWAS countries in 2015 and 2016

Activities in national accounts

National Level

- Various country driven TA
- Peer reviews
- Re-basing of GDP



Constraints & Challenges

Despite the remarkable progress in African statistical systems over the past decade, three main fundamental challenges still exist – especially in the area of economic statistics:

- Source data - currently heavily reliant on surveys
- Weak and inadequate legal & organizational frameworks (incl. IT & legal infrastructure);
- Shortage of statistical manpower & skills to meet the ever-increasing demand for economic statistics;
- Persistent for increased financial resources for statistical development & activities
- Poor coordination among the main actors (TA providers)

Way Forward

What can be done to assist countries to effectively & efficiently improve their national accounts and supporting economic statistics in order to respond to all the data demands?

- Put in place **a regional strategy for harmonized integrated economic statistics & national accounts**
- Develop a **statistical capacity building program** on economic statistics that is embedded in the NSDS
 - **Establish** a harmonized integrated economic statistics & national accounts programme.
 - **Advocacy** for timely & reliable economic statistics using the ASSD platform
- Review the **statistical legislation** for easy access to administrative data
- **Promote** the use of administrative data

Way Forward

- **Coordinated & coherent** support
 - Entry for support => a harmonized integrated economic statistics & national accounts programme.
 - Share programs/schedule of planned activities
 - Pooled resources to support generation of economic related data
- **Enhance capacity** of, including using existing structures (AFRITACS, STCs, AFRISTAT, etc)
- Set up a **governance structure** which includes donors and TA providers



High 5 priority agenda



Thank you