

**Friday 27 February 2015 Seminar:
The Development of an indicator framework for the post-2015 development
agenda: Towards a nationally owned monitoring system for the SDGs
United Nations Headquarters in New York**

**Panel 1: Designing an effective national monitoring framework for
development decision making**

1. Background

Uganda has developed its second National Development Plan. Experience from the ending NDP indicated that MDG indicators were a subset of the NDP indicator list. Therefore, monitoring country performance in achieving the MDGs implicitly measured government's performance on its overall objective of poverty reduction and national transformation.

Designing a national monitoring framework is therefore a prerequisite for any country that has a clear vision and development objective. It avails an opportunity of consolidating outputs and outcomes as well as reporting within government and among its partners. The shift to the Sustainable Development Agenda like the MDGs requires that a country puts in place a sound monitoring framework which guarantees regular assessments and comparison across time and space.

2. Country ownership

To ensure efficiency and effectiveness, the monitoring framework should be integrated in the overall government strategy, investment planning and reporting processes. It should provide for effective coordination and must complement the national medium term expenditure framework and policy processes.

Politically, the design of SDG monitoring framework should be country led and owned at all levels of governance in the country;

3. Inclusiveness of process

Stakeholder engagement is key as it broadens depth of understanding and input to selected indicators particularly alignment to policy frameworks.

Inclusiveness of potential key actors in government, private sector, training institutions, Local Governments, Policy Makers, Civil Society Organisations and Development Partners is pertinent.

4. Alignment of the SDG monitoring framework with the national M&E framework.

The design of the SDG monitoring framework should be aligned to the context of the national development framework, policies, and medium term expenditure framework.

5. Reporting

The indicators should be easy to report on sub national, national, regional and global achievements. Thus architecture for the institutional arrangements for global SDG monitoring should be integrated in the overall government monitoring framework.

6. Comprehensiveness of the monitoring framework

It should be comprehensive and must embrace broad spectrum of international, regional and national indicators. They should form part of the input to the Management Information Systems in key sectors.

7. Evidence based framework

Monitorable indicators must be supported by quality data and information from existing and new areas within the confines of the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) for evidence based policies and decisions. The design process should involve identification of baseline data and available data for all indicators, as well national capacity to provide and meaningfully use the data and statistical information.

8. Leadership and management of the monitoring framework

The design of the SDG monitoring framework in Uganda is the responsibility of the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, which is currently charged with MDG reporting and monitoring economic trends in the country. The Statistics Office, Office of the Prime Minister - the Institution incharge of government business and other key lead agencies that generate

data and statistical information for reporting on the SDGs would equally be engaged in the indicator dialogue.

Key issues to consider:

- i.** Design process should ensure country ownership and support of policy makers.
- ii.** Inclusiveness through stakeholder engagement in the design process (public, private and specialised groups) at difference levels of governance.
- iii.** Alignment of the SDG monitoring framework with the national M&E framework.
- iv.** Comprehensiveness of the framework (covering a broad spectrum of international, regional and national indicators),
- v.** Clarity of reporting frameworks at national, regional and global level.
- vi.** Evidence based monitoring framework of the country NSDS, and
- vii.** Leadership and management of the monitoring framework.