



COORDINATION WITHIN THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEMS

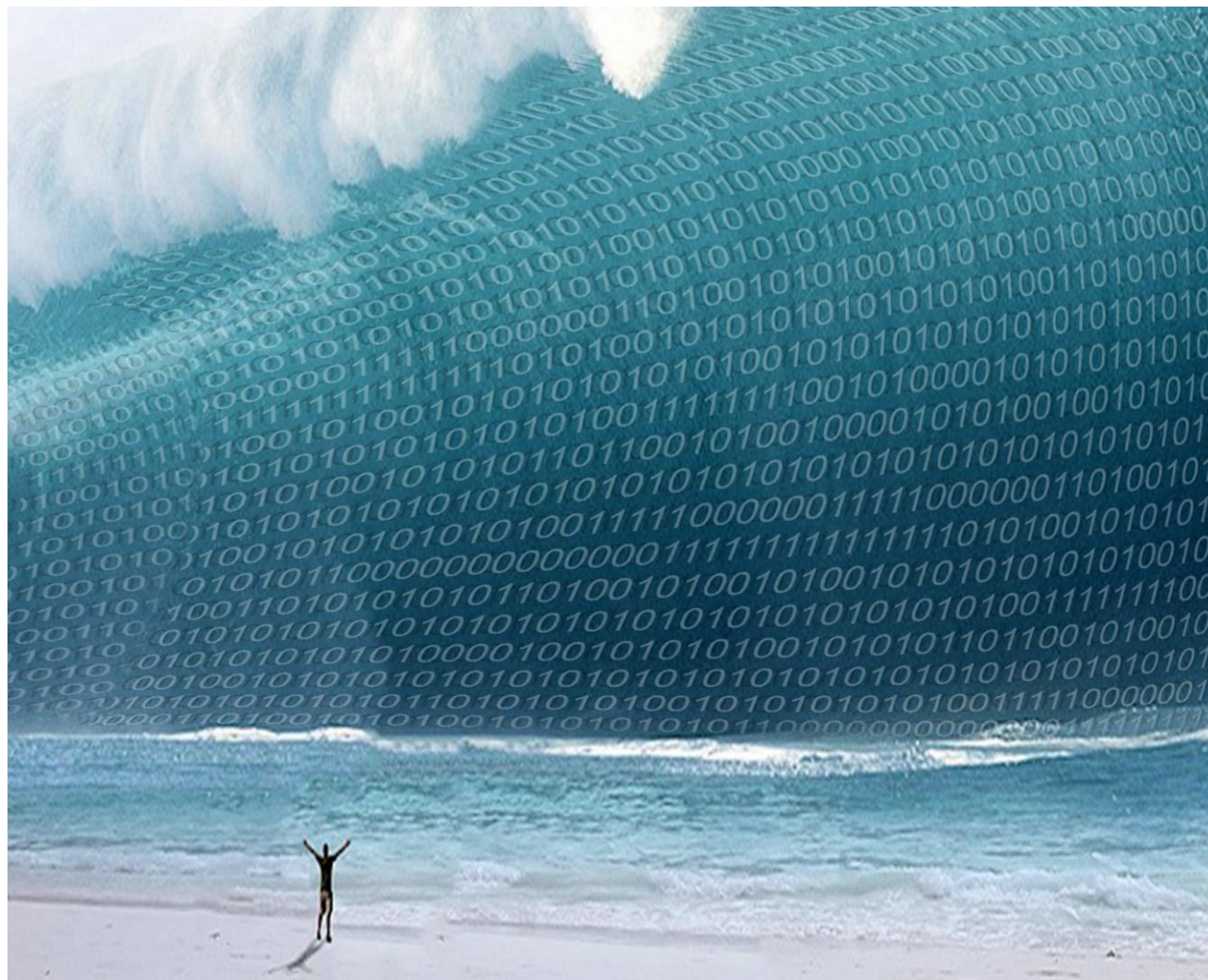


Official Statistics and National Statistical Systems

Main Concepts and Principles

Online Workshop
15 – 17 June 2021

Data – Statistics/Indicators - Knowledge

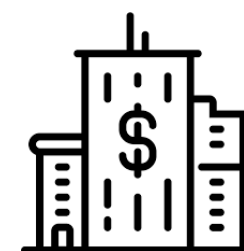


- 90% of the data in the world today has been created in the last two years
- But data is raw information that does not speak to most of the users
- Statistics convert raw data into knowledge

From Data to Statistics and Indicators ^{/1}



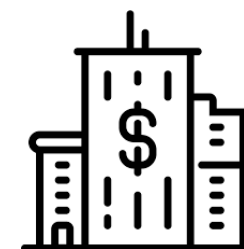
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From Data to Statistics and Indicators ^{/1}



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Value of Official Statistics



- UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics ([A/RES/68/261](#))
- *Regional Statistics Code of Good Practices (e.g., African Charter)*
- UN National Quality Assurance Framework ([UN-NQAF](#))
- National Statistical Legislation
- International Guidelines, Methodology and Nomenclatures

Generic Models: GAMSO and GSBPM

GAMSO - Generic Activity Model for Statistical Organizations [governance]

Strategy and Leadership

Activity area

Capability Development

Corporate Support

GSBPM - Generic Statistical Business Process Model [producción]

Specify the needs

Design

Build

Collect

Process

Analyse

Disseminate

Evaluate

Phase of the process



UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

adopted by the General Assembly in 2014 (A/RES/68/261)



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- Principle 1 Relevance and impartiality of and equal access to official statistics
- Principle 2 Professional standards, principles and ethics of official statistics
- Principle 3 Accountability and transparency of official statistics
- Principle 4 Prevention of misuse of official statistics
- Principle 5 Sources of official statistics
- Principle 6 Confidentiality of official statistics
- Principle 7 Legislation on official statistics
- **Principle 8 National coordination of official statistics**
- Principle 9 Use of international standards
- Principle 10 International cooperation in statistics



UN National Quality Assurance Framework

Level A: Managing the statistical system

Principle 1: Coordinating the national statistical system

Principle 2: Managing relationships with data users, data providers and other stakeholders

Principle 3: Managing statistical standards

Level B: Managing the institutional environment

Principle 4: Assuring professional independence

Principle 5: Assuring impartiality and objectivity

Principle 6: Assuring transparency

Principle 7: Assuring statistical confidentiality and data security

Principle 8: Assuring commitment to quality

Principle 9: Assuring adequacy of resources

Level C: Managing statistical processes

Principle 10: Assuring methodological soundness

Principle 11: Assuring cost-effectiveness

Principle 12: Assuring appropriate statistical procedures

Principle 13: Managing the respondent burden

Level D: Managing statistical outputs

Principle 14: Assuring relevance

Principle 15: Assuring accuracy and reliability

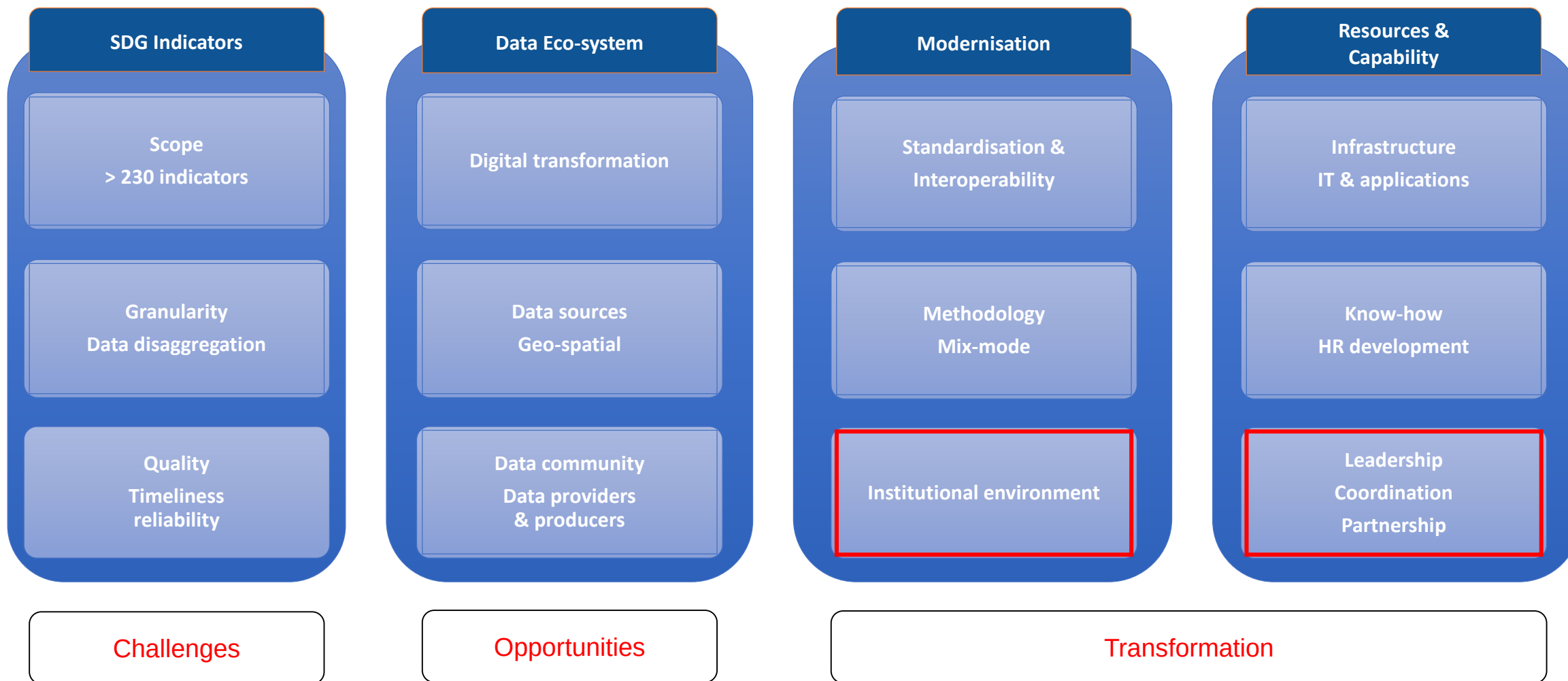
Principle 16: Assuring timeliness and punctuality

Principle 17: Assuring accessibility and clarity

Principle 18: Assuring coherence and comparability

Principle 19: Managing metadata

NSS Challenges and Opportunities



GA Resolution on the SDG Indicator Framework (A/RES/71/313)



- **Official statistics** and data from national statistical systems (NSS) are the **basis for the SDG indicator framework**
- All activities of the NSS to be conducted in full adherence to the **Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics**
- **National statistical offices are the coordinators of the NSS**
- NSS to explore ways to **integrate new data sources** to satisfy new data needs of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Acknowledge the **Cape Town Global Action Plan** for Sustainable Development Data that promotes and supports the transformation of national statistical systems

Definition of official statistics

Definition of Official Statistics:

- Statistics produced in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics by a national statistical office or by another producer of official statistics mandated by the national government or certified by the National Statistical Office

Explanatory Notes:

- Official statistics are produced and disseminated in compliance with the respective national statistical legislation and are identified as such in the national statistical programmes.
- All statistics produced by a national statistical office are assumed to be official aside from those explicitly stated by the national statistical office as not official.

Delineation of the National Statistical System



National Statistical Office:

- Main producer of Official Statistics
- Professionally independent body
- Coordinates the development, production and dissemination of statistics within the NSS
- Not to be assigned responsibilities or getting instructions conflicting with the Principles

Other Producers of Official Statistics (OPOS):

- Operate in compliance with the Statistical Law and adopted standards
- Professionally independent entities within their respective organizations
- Responsible for their assigned activities in the statistical programmes

Administrative data sources and other non-traditional data sources (secondary data sources):

- Secondary data are primarily collected for non-official statistical purposes, in general by a public authority implementing an administrative regulation or a private company for management/commercial purposes
- The authority that supplies the secondary data to producers of official statistics and the unit to which the data relates (observation unit) are different: third-party data

Definition of Data Ecosystem

Definition of Data Ecosystem:

- The entire network of data collectors, data producers, data analysts and other data users that directly or indirectly collect, process disseminate, analyse and/or otherwise consume data and associated services within a specified country or region

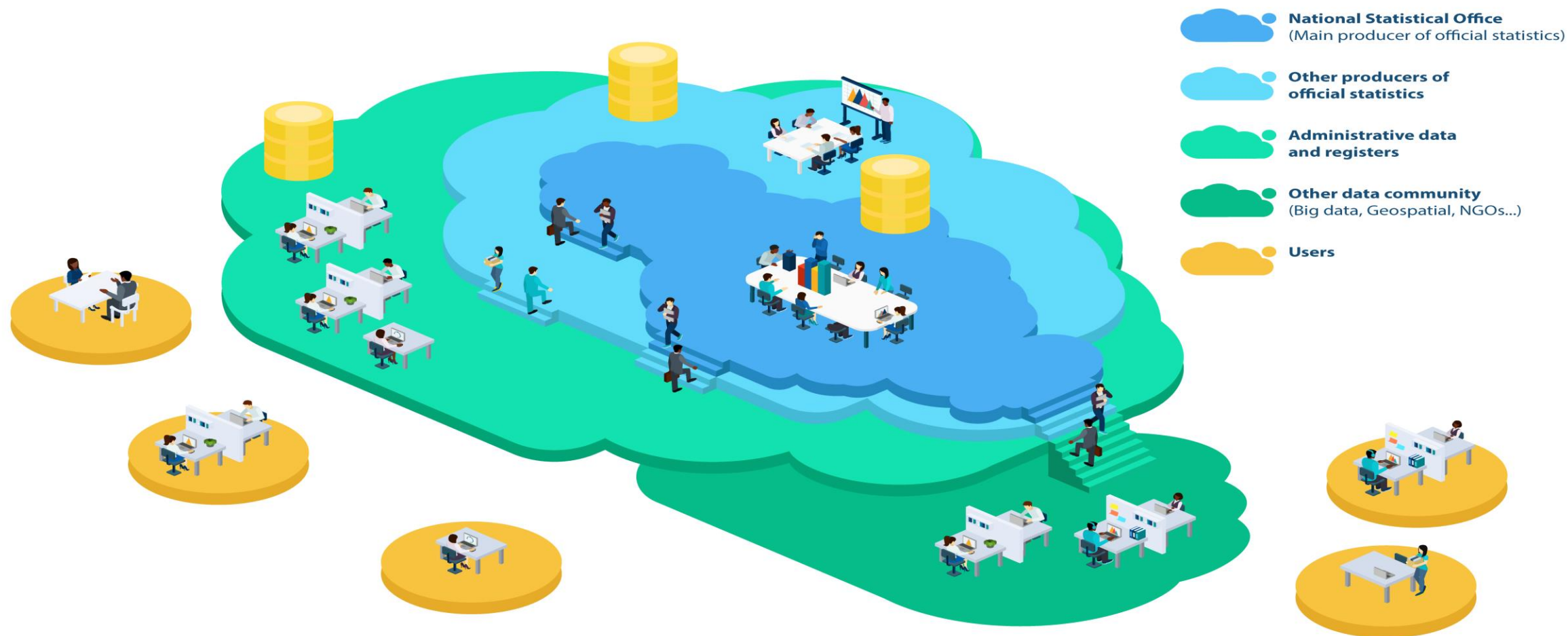
Explanatory Notes:

- The data ecosystem within a country is broader than the national statistical system because it includes all producers of data not simply those producing official statistics, and it includes all users of data

Delineation of the National Data Ecosystem



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Chief Statistician



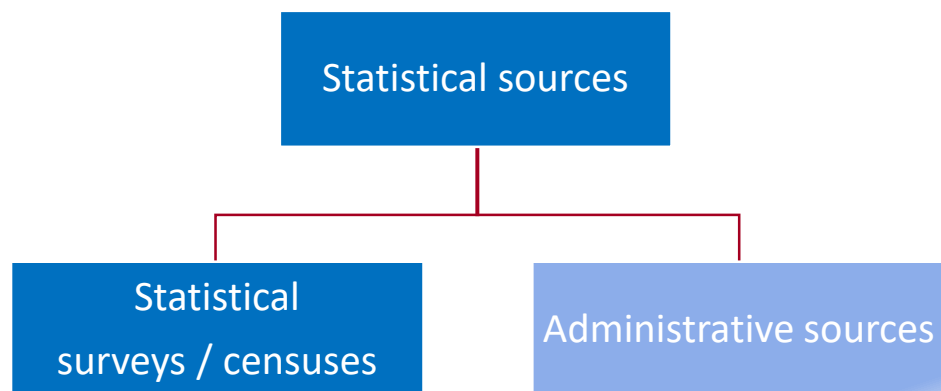
- **Highest Statistical Authority** and executive manager of the NSO
- **Mandate cannot be terminated** for any reasons compromising the implementation of the Law and the Principles
- Fosters and monitors the **compliance of all producers of official statistics** with the Law and the Principles
- **Submits to the Government the statistical programmes** after consultations with the Statistical Council and other producers
- **Issues standards and guidelines for the entire NSS** on the development, production and dissemination of official statistics
- Promotes the use of official statistical standards and classifications **beyond the NSS** (e.g. admin. data and Big Data through partnerships and dialogue)



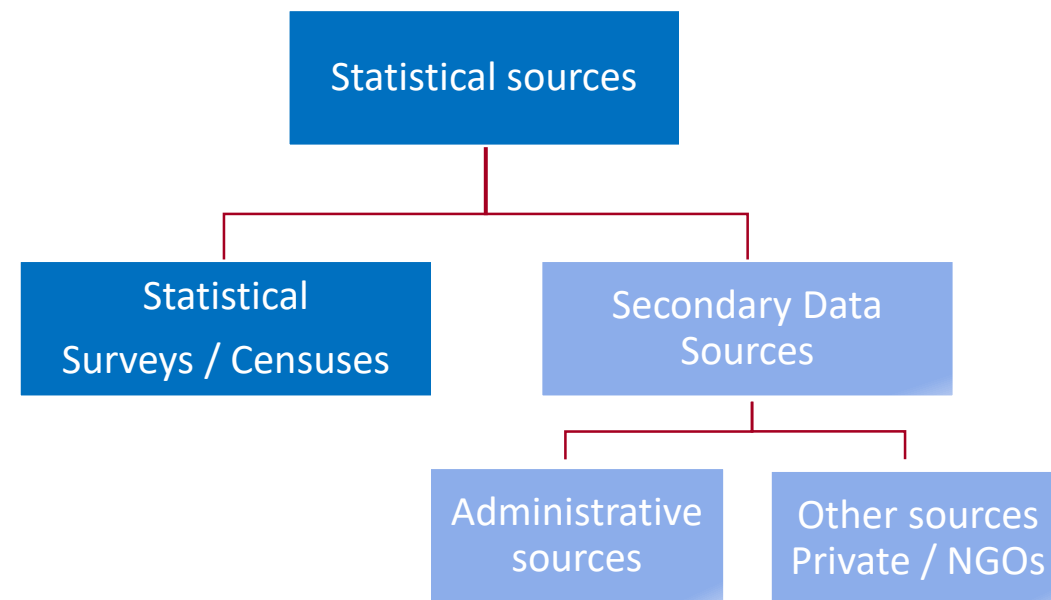
Mandate for Data Collection

- Data for the production of official statistics may be drawn from **all type of sources**, be they statistical surveys (primary sources) or other sources (secondary sources)
- Producers of Official Statistics choose the data sources based on professional considerations and in particular with regard to **quality, costs and the burden on respondent**
- Producers of Official statistics are allowed by national legislation to use **administrative records for statistical purposes**
- Producers of Official Statistics have the **sole responsibility for deciding on the methods and procedures for the collection, processing and storage of data sources**

Traditional and New Data Ecosystem



Traditional Data Ecosystem



New Data Ecosystem

Advantages of Secondary Data sources

Costs: statistical surveys and censuses are expensive to conduct and process (human and financial resources)

Response burden: using secondary data sources reduces the burden on respondents and allow more frequent data collection

Coverage: secondary data sources could offer a better coverage of the target population and allow the production of reliable information for small-area and small population group

Timeliness: secondary data might be faster to process than primary data (e.g. survey data)

... But Secondary Data has also some limitations

- The main purpose of the initial data collection is not the same
- Units and definition of variables may be different to official statistical concepts: e.g., household, enterprise, market/non-market, public/private, employment ...
- The reference period (e.g., financial year) may not coincide with the statistical one
- Missing data and other quality issues are often not documented
- The holder of secondary (non-traditional) data may refuse to give access to or transfer the requested information to official statistical authorities
- IT systems and software are different and do not allow data transfer or data access

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Memorandum of Understanding with data providers

Establishing MoUs with data providers (secondary data sources) is a good practice.

MoUs should contain at least these elements:

- Legal basis (law, statistical programmes...)
- Description of the purpose of the data transfer/data access
- Detail description of data covered including frequency and timeliness
- Quality standards and quality reports
- Technical standards
- Cooperation mechanisms for improving the adequacy of the data with statistical requirements (consultation and partnership mechanisms)
- Contact persons ...



Confidentiality

- Individual data/micro-data from natural and legal persons held by Producers of Official Statistics are to be **strictly confidential and used exclusively for statistical purposes**
- **The principle of confidentiality applies to all data sources**, be they statistical surveys (primary sources) or secondary data sources (e.g. administrative records).
- Statistical confidentiality is **guaranteed in the Statistical Law**



Thank you for your attention!



For questions and comments:

Gabriel Gamez | Inter-regional Adviser

Organisation and management of NSS | 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

