



COORDINATION WITHIN THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEMS



Governance and Coordination of National Statistical Systems

Mechanisms and Tools

Online Workshop
15 – 17 June 2021

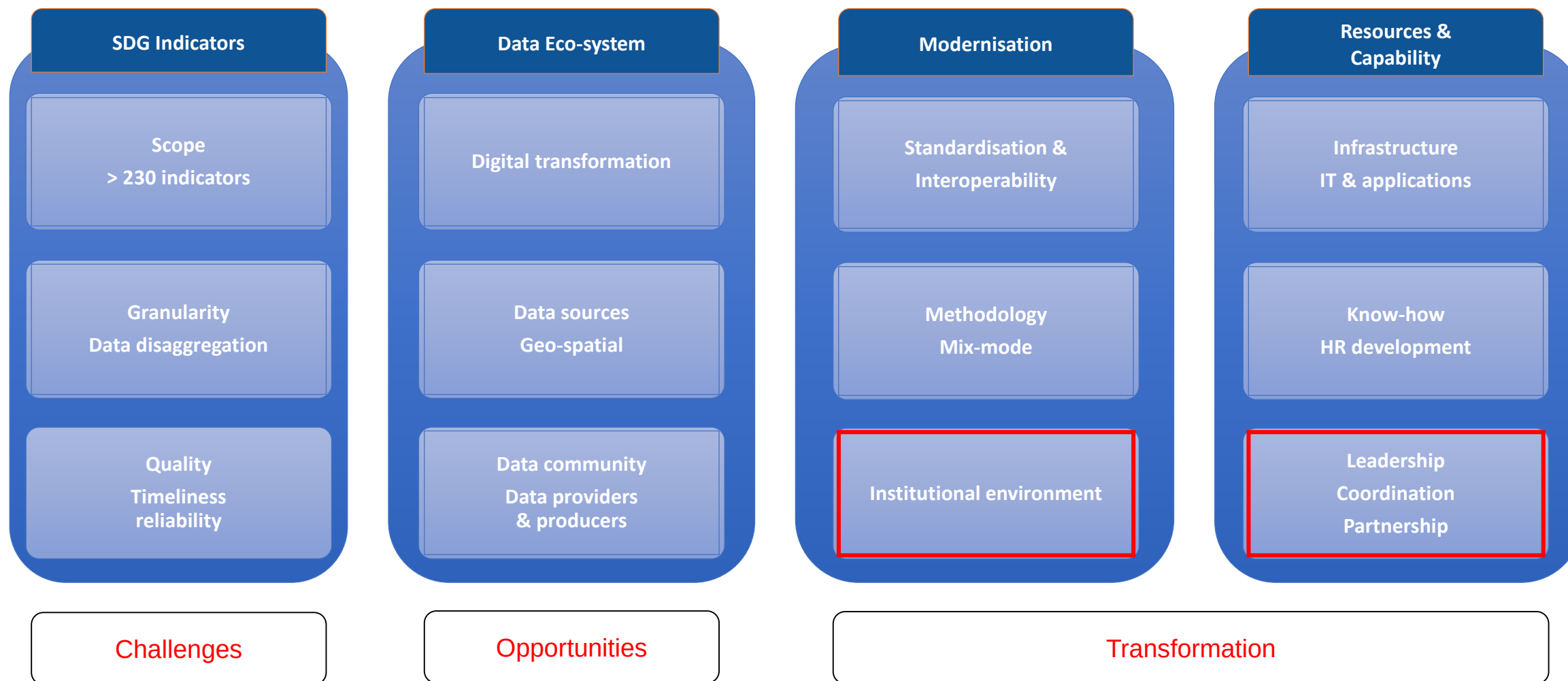
Advantages of sound Governance and Coordination

Coordination means that, within a system, activities, responsibilities, command and control structures are synchronized, harmonized and, when appropriate, integrated

The **advantages** of a coordinated NSS are the following:

- **Efficiency** and **synergies** of operations by avoiding overlapping efforts, duplication of work and reducing the response burden through data sharing
- **Effectiveness** by addressing demands for statistics in an organized and timely manner through the capability to jointly produce expected outputs
- **Quality, coherence, comparability** and **accessibility** of official statistics within and across statistical domains through the harmonization of methodology, classifications and dissemination channels
- Develop a corporate **identity**, and secure **trust** in Official Statistics (branding)

NSS Challenges and Opportunities



Principles and Resolutions for Coordination

- **Principle 8 - UN Fundamental Principles for Official Statistics (UNFPOS):**

Coordination among statistical agencies within countries is essential to achieve consistency and efficiency in the statistical system



- **General Assembly Resolution on the SDG Indicator Framework (A/RES/71/313)**

National statistical offices are the **coordinators** of the NSS, ... all activities of the NSS to be conducted in full adherence to the **Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics**



UN National Quality Assurance Framework (UN-NQAF)



Principle 1 - Coordinating the national statistical system

- Requirement 1.1: A **statistical law establishes** the responsibilities of the members of the national statistical system, including its coordination. Its members are identified in a legal or formal provision
- Requirement 1.2: There are a **body and mechanisms for the coordination** of the national statistical system for activities at the local, national, regional and international level
- Requirement 1.3: There is a mechanism for considering statistics produced outside the national statistical system and, if appropriate, for those statistics to become official
- Requirement 1.4: There is a **national plan or programme** for the development and production of official statistics.

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

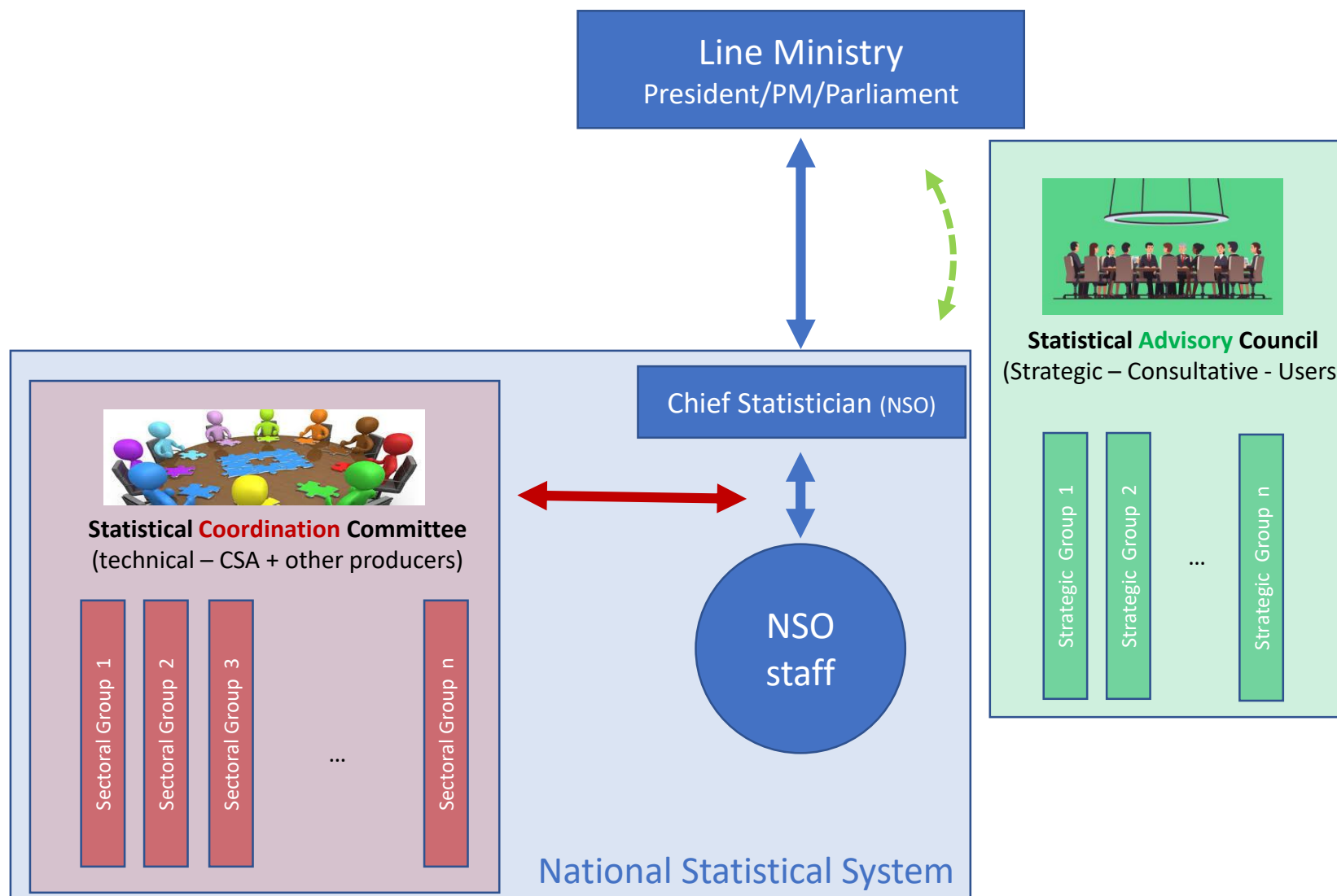
Administrative data sources and other non-traditional data sources (secondary data sources):

- 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

Governance of the NSS Main Model presented in the Handbook (endorsed by UNSC 2021)



United Nations
Statistics Division



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 of official statistics (OPOS)
- 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)



Statistical Advisory Council



- Main user **advisory body** (no controlling functions)
- Broadly represents user and data communities **within and outside the government** (not producers of official statistics)
- Advises NSS and government - **opinions and reports are public**
- Allows users to provide **input regarding their needs** and on implementation of the statistical work programme, including indicators
- Provides opinion on the **programmes and their implementations** from a user perspective
- **Chief Statistician member ex officio**, and other producers of official statistics may be invited depending on the agenda items.

Statistical Coordination Committee



- Coordination Committee consisting of representatives of all **producers of official statistics** in the country
- Members are the **chiefs/heads of entities producing official statistics** in public agencies and administrations (not users of official statistics)
- The Committee is **led by the Chief Statistician**
- The Committee may set up ad-hoc or permanent **technical and sectoral groups** in support of the development, production and dissemination of statistics
- The activities of the Committee include discussion, review and **coordination** of statistical programmes, dissemination and communication policy, technology as well as statistical methodology and standards to be applied

Coordination instruments within the NSS ^{/1}

- National statistical programmes are the main coordination instruments of the NSS
- National statistical programmes to be used for the budget appropriation
- The programmes cover the entire NSS, including development, production and dissemination of SDG indicators
- The programmes to be developed jointly with the Statistical Advisory Council (What?) and the Statistical Coordination Committee (How?)
- The programmes to be submitted by the Chief Statistician to the relevant government body/executive board for approval



Coordination instruments within the NSS ¹²

Multiannual statistical programme (Master plan, NSDS):

- Strategic development of NSS
- Vision and priorities

Annual statistical programme:

- Programme of work
- Operational translation of multiannual programme (development)
- List of producers of official statistics and their respective deliveries
- List of major surveys, and other data sources (administrative), registers ...



Other Coordination instruments within the NSS (and beyond) /1

The Handbook also proposes:

- Coordination through data acquisition, collection and sharing
- Coordination through methodology, technology and standards
- Coordination through dissemination and communication of official statistics
- Coordination through quality assurance and branding (trust)
- Coordination through international cooperation and capacity building



Other Coordination instruments within the NSS (and beyond) ¹²

Building up a corporate identity and common pride of being statisticians

- Coordination through recruitment of statisticians to work with other producers of official statistics, and in particular head of statistical departments
- Coordination through pooling and rotation of statisticians between the NSO and other producers of official statistics
- Training programmes covering all statisticians whether at NSO or at other producers of official statistics



Thank you for your attention!

For questions and comments:

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