

NSDS in Practice

Presentation by
PARIS21

Colombo, Sri Lanka 13-15 December 2005



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Introduction: the NSDS process

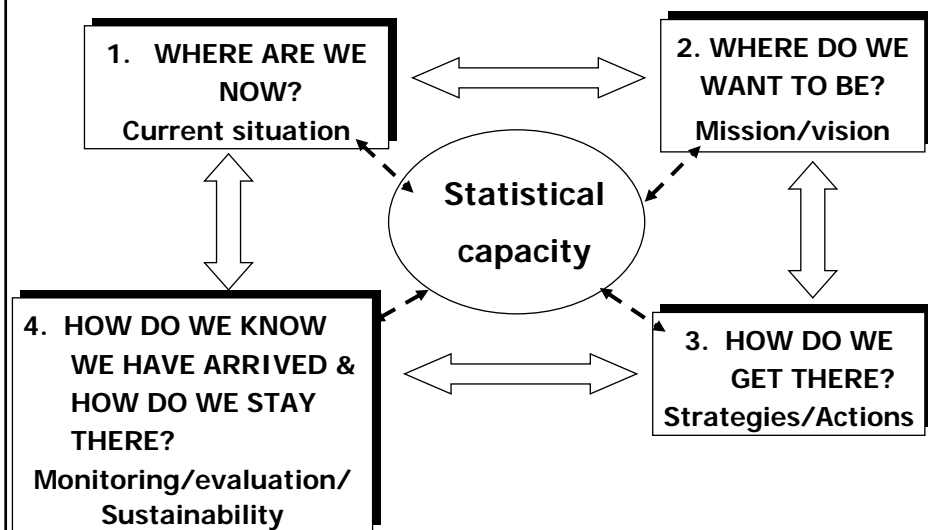
- Process as important as the strategy
- Process an opportunity for **advocacy**
- Can learn lessons from PRS processes:
 - **participatory, inclusive & consensus-building**
- Plans that are **country-specific** and **country-owned**.

“People support what they help to create”

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The NSDS process



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1. Building political commitment and launching the NSDS

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Key outcome: decision & plan to develop an NSDS

Likely to need:

- Successful advocacy, sensitisation, and dialogue with politicians, policy-makers, and decision-makers
- Participation by the managers of the national statistical system in national policy discussions
- Cultivate **champions**

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2. Assessment of the NSS (where we are now?)

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Why assess the NSS?

- A strong strategy is based on assessment of current situation
- In most cases not developing NSDS from scratch
 - existing initiatives for improving national statistics (e.g. SDDS/GDDS)
 - been various assessments using DQAF, etc

Purpose of NSDS will be to build on & extend (leverage from) existing approaches & initiatives to improve existing NSS



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Need to assess:

- **User requirements** for statistical data
- **Availability** of statistics
- **Quality** of statistics

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Institutional factors

- Reviewing the legal and institutional framework
- Linkages and coordination arrangements
- Assessing organisational factors using e.g. SWOT

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3. Vision and action planning

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Visioning

Where do we want to be?

- Agree a **mission** and **vision** statements
- Agree on desired **results**

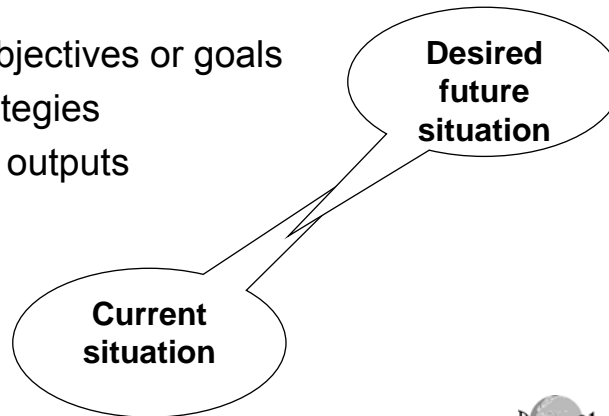
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Action planning

How do we get there?

- Set strategic objectives or goals
- Determine strategies
- Determine key outputs



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4. Funding

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Funding

- Adequate and sustainable funding is crucial
- Integral part of statistical development strategy
- Funding through national budget is key to sustainability
- External funding has to be part of the overall financial assistance
- Some mechanisms...

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External funding sources

- Regional funding?
- Bilateral donors
- WB TFSCB
- WB STATCAP

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TFSCB

- Multi-donor trust fund set up in 1999
- Closely coordinated with PARIS21
- Goal - to help reduce poverty by strengthening the evidence-base for decision making at all levels
- Shared vision with PARIS21

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Focus of TFSCB Activities

- Main objective is to strengthen national statistical systems
- But also allows for regional and global actions where these are justified
- Small grants, maximum of \$400,000 with a maximum implementation period of three years

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TFSCB funded activities can be:

- **Country-specific**
 - NSDS
 - Support for PRSP monitoring
 - Improvement in macro/or sectoral statistics
 - Improvement of statistical infrastructure
 - Training
- **Regional**
 - Workshops, seminars etc, regional coordination.
- **Global**
 - Research, PARIS21 initiatives, etc

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STATCAP

- New WB lending instrument for statistical capacity building
- Designed to be a simple & user-friendly
- Based on a Statistical Master Plan (SMP) for the country
- The SMP is based on the NSDS
- Covers the entire NSS (even if the project is to finance SCB in only one area)

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What will STATCAP finance?

- Improving statistical policy and regulatory framework
- Development of statistical infrastructure
- Upgrading and developing statistical operations and procedures
- Human resource development
- Investment in physical infrastructure and equipment

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5. NSDS Implementation and M&E

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Implementation and M&E

- Translate strategies into a detailed implementation or action plan, including:
 - ❖ What is to be done, by whom and when
 - ❖ Actions to address each strategic issue and to reach goals
 - ❖ Results and outputs to be achieved
 - ❖ Detailed costs, overall budget and a financing plan
 - ❖ Reporting, monitoring and evaluation

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Arrangements for implementation likely to include:

- Managing change
- Management capacity and leadership
- Financial management and procurement
- Engaging and motivating staff

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To recap

An NSDS:

- Addresses data limitations
- Prioritises the use of resources
- Looks across whole NSS
- Integrates statistics within policy processes
- Provides a robust framework and action plan for statistical capacity building
- Acts as a catalyst for change to build confidence and break the vicious cycle

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