PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CAPACITY SCREENING TOOL

Background – Capacity Screening I

- Capacity Screening I (CS-I) conducted in Mar 2013.
- CS Tool (questionnaire) developed to collect overview information from countries on capacities and gaps relating to the production of the Core Set of Economic Indicators.
- CS-I Tool consisted of 5 sections:
  1. Technical cooperation
  2. Institutional setting
  3. IT and Human resources
  4. Statistical infrastructure
  5. Core set
Session Objective

- To share and discuss the recommendations by the Task Force on the Review of the Capacity Screening Tool in preparation of the 2nd Capacity Screening Exercise which is proposed to be conducted in 2017.

CS II – General Recommendations

- Two Key Purposes:
  
  (a) Update/monitor progress on the status on the capacities to produce economic statistics  
  
  (b) Identity the barriers to developing capacity and producing the Core Set  

- Minimal changes to CS Tool to maintain comparability with CS-I.  

- Expand CS Tool to capture additional information on barriers/challenges.
CS II – General Recommendations

- Leverage on SDDS/GDDS metadata for information on data quality.
- CS Tool not appropriate for capturing “User Perspective”.
- Reword/Re-order some of the questions to improve clarity.
  - E.g. Qns on advocacy are somewhat ambiguous – if the reply is “No”, does it indicate a problem or could it mean all is well and so, additional advocacy is not necessary.

CS II – Technical Cooperation Section

- Reformulate this section to more fully capture technical assistance needs.
  - Objective: To assess if a country needs to be a recipient of technical assistance organised under the RPES, or is able to close any gaps using its own plans and resources.
- Introduce a “soft” evaluation of the RPES.
CS II – Institutional Setting Section

- Additional questions proposed:
  - Whether there are systems in place that allow for data sharing and coordination among data producers.
  - Whether there are plans to introduce Statistical Laws if none exist; and if so, when.
  - Whether the NSDS is linked to a country’s National Development Plan; updates on NSDS; whether funding is in place to implement those parts relating to economic statistics.
  - Whether data repository/data banks exists; whether they are governed by clear regulations.

CS II – IT and HR Section

- Propose to remove section on IT and HR in CS-II.
- Data collected not useful or comparable due to differences in size and complexity of economies, and statistical system/organisational structure.
- To capture IT & HR capacity issues under “Barriers to Production of Core Set” – a new sub-section of the Core Set Section.
CS II – Statistical Infrastructure

- Include additional questions:
  - On the scope, completeness and quality of Business Registers, as well as, challenges preventing their sharing
  - Whether countries have internal capacities to conduct Key Collections (e.g. Labour Force Survey, Enterprise Surveys); whether the Key Collections are supported by external partners/donors.

- Remove questions that are less relevant
  - Metadata format/quality standards
  - Key data collection of which: National accounts and Balance of payments.

CS II – Core Set Section

- Expand section to capture information on “Barriers to Production of the Core Set”.

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CS II – Coordination Section (New)

- Create a new section on “Coordination”
  - To obtain information on the list of national and sub-national agencies responsible for production and dissemination of the Core Set (moved from cover page to the new section)
  - To capture extent of contribution by sub-national statistical agencies
  - To move Sub-section 2.3 ‘National statistical coordination’ here.

CS II – Process, Products & Dissemination

- Capacity screening conducted triennially.
- Updates on substantive or important capacity changes to be reported at annual Steering Group Meetings.
- To consider developing regional/national dashboards if resources allow.
- To consider disseminating the CS results at higher ministerial levels including ministries responsible for NSOs in national governments.
Thank You

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