

# **NSDS in Asia-Pacific: Lessons learnt and opportunities for integration**

**Workshop on Strategic Planning for Agricultural and  
Fisheries Statistics for the Pacific Island Countries  
5-8 October 2015**



**PARIS 21**

Partnership in Statistics for  
Development in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

# Outline

1. Overview of NSDS in Asia-Pacific
2. Lessons learnt in developing NSDS
3. Approach to mainstream sector statistics in the NSDS
4. 2015-2016 NSDS work in Asia-Pacific

# 1. Overview of NSDS in Asia-Pacific

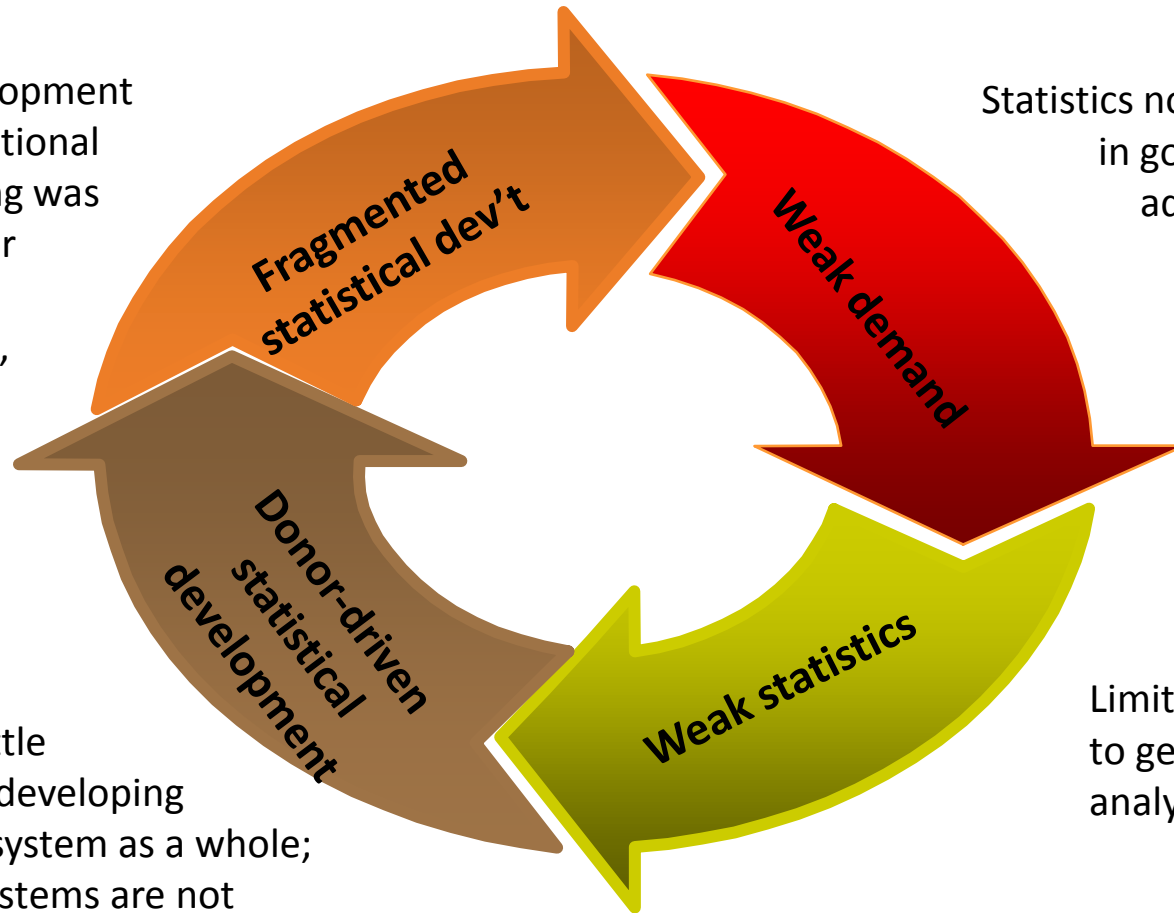
- Provides a **vision for the NSS in 5-10 years** (medium to long-term)
- **Coherence framework and action plan** for capacity building and for funding decisions
- Emphasizes importance of **coordination arrangements** across National Statistical System (NSS) and between donors
- Highlights importance of **governance, leadership, and coordination** within the NSS

# 1. Overview of NSDS in Asia-Pacific

## NSDS breaks the vicious cycle in statistical development

Statistics development feeding into national decision-making was based on sector interests, donor demand, etc.

Donors focus on their own data needs. Little investment in developing the statistical system as a whole; information systems are not integrated nor harmonized.



Statistics not used optimally in governance, public administration and development. Trust on data is lacking or weak.

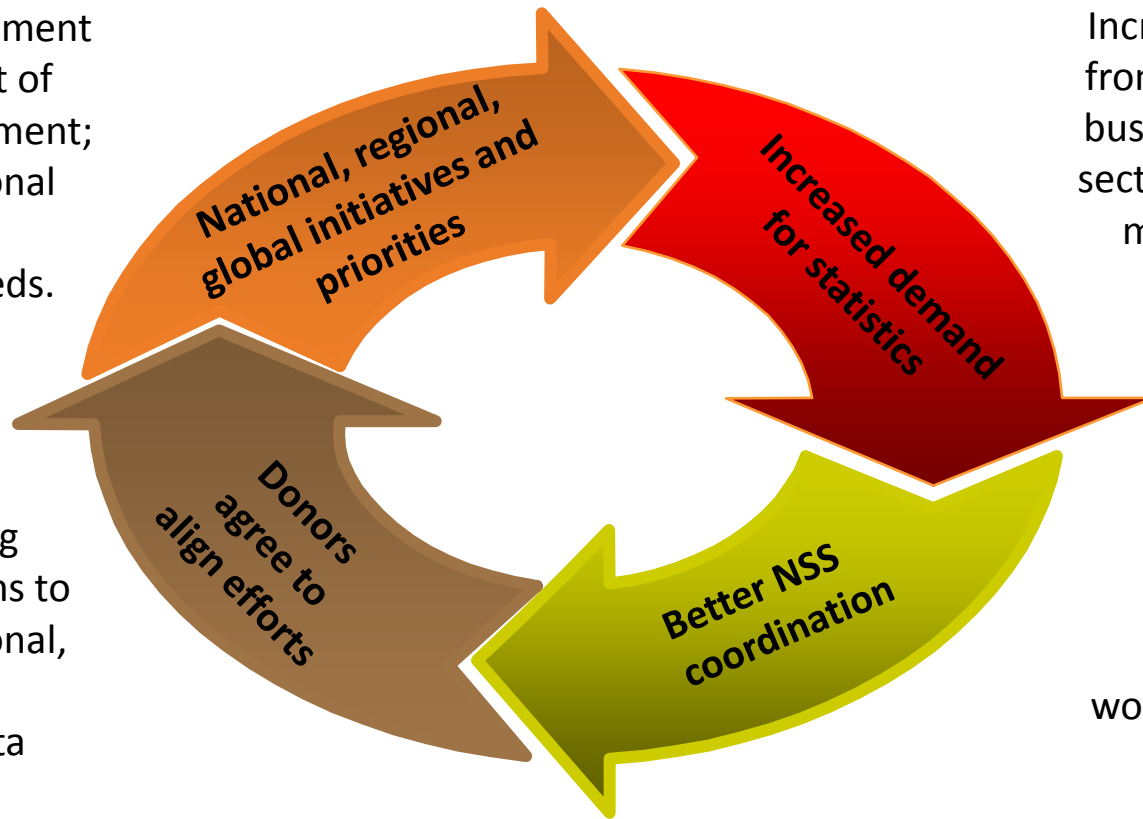
Limited capacity to generate or analyse data.

# 1. Overview of NSDS in Asia-Pacific

## NSDS turns the vicious cycle into virtuous cycle

Statistics development integrated as part of national development; responds to regional and international development needs.

Focus on building statistical systems to respond to national, regional, and international data requirements.



Increased demand from Government, businesses/private sector, civil society, media, regional/international community

Multiple stakeholders working together.

# 1. Overview of NSDS in Asia-Pacific

## 1. Status of NSDS in Asia-Pacific (36 countries) <sup>1/</sup>

- Implementing NSDS – 42% (14)
- Designing an NSDS – 25% (9)
- Planning an NSDS – 22% (8)
- Not planning an NSDS yet – 11% (5)

## 2. Status of NSDS globally (109 countries)

- Implementing NSDS – 51%
- Designing an NSDS – 24%
- Planning an NSDS – 20%
- Not planning an NSDS yet – 5%

1/ These countries are considered IDA, low-income and lower middle income countries.

# 1. Overview of NSDS in Asia-Pacific

## 3. Status of NSDS in Pacific

- Implementing NSDS (4) – **Samoa (recently had a mid-term evaluation of NSDS), Vanuatu, Cook Islands, PNG**
- Designing an NSDS (3) – **Fiji, Tonga, Solomon Islands**
- Planning an NSDS (3) – **Tokelau (end of 2015), Tuvalu, Timor-Leste (2016)**

## 2. Lessons learnt in developing NSDS

### NSDS has:

- Transformed how NSS is managed, organized, and coordinated
- Strengthened advocacy on statistics at the highest policy level, across ministries
- Broadened dialogue and engagement with data users (e.g., media, civil society, academe)
- Facilitated better funding for statistics (i.e., MDGs)



## 2. Lessons learnt in developing NSDS

**In Pacific, there is still limited coverage of sector statistics:**

**4 countries** currently implementing and **3 countries** currently designing NSDS or strategic statistical plan, **have some strategies on agriculture statistics and other broad sector areas (economic, social, environmental)**

## 2. Lessons learnt in developing NSDS

- Only major statistical activities (survey, census) are included
- Issues are raised regarding data quality, availability, capacity, gaps but often no specific strategy to address them on a sector level
- Funding for agriculture statistics is limited to Census of Agriculture, livestock census, national agricultural survey, and major crop surveys
- Administrative data sources rarely addressed
- Coordination and data sharing arrangements among data producing agencies still weak
- Standardization, harmonization of data rarely addressed

## 2. Lessons learnt in developing NSDS

### What needs to be improved in the NSDS:

- Identification of key national indicators in the NSDS
- Alternative sources of statistics other than surveys and censuses (e.g., administrative data)
- Strengthening of sector and subnational statistical systems (i.e., better integration in the NSDS)
- Resources for NSDS implementation including on sector-specific statistical concerns

### 3. Approach to mainstream sector statistics in the NSDS

- Review of National Development Plans to **identify key indicators**
- Roadmap preparation – **organize sector working groups** to oversee development of statistical strategies for specific sectors (example of Pacific NSDS formulation)
- **Country training on NSDS to include sector concerns** (i.e, FAO to be invited to present SPARS as a module)
- **In-depth assessment of sector statistics** that would feed into NSDS design (i.e, joint missions in the conduct of assessments/reviews, inclusion of assessment of agriculture sector in NSS assessments)
- **Formulate satellite sector statistics strategy consistent with NSDS**

## 4. 2015-2016 NSDS work in Asia-Pacific

- Countries designing (or planning to design) NSDS:
  - 2015: Afghanistan, Cambodia, Fiji
  - 2016: Timor-Leste, Tuvalu
- Mid-term assessment and/or updating of NSDS:
  - Samoa finalized its NSDS assessment in Q2 2015
  - Vietnam – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2015
  - Lao PDR, Maldives, Philippines – 2016
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Regional NSDS Training Course for Asia-Pacific countries – 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2015

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