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# Survey of NSOs “Cape Town Global Action Plan Implementation Review” –Preliminary Results –

3 October 2021

# Objective of the survey

- Building on past rounds of the Survey of National Statistical Offices (NSOs) during COVID-19 and other surveys conducted during this period, this questionnaire aims to:
  - Monitor progress on strategic areas of the Cape Town Global Action Plan
  - Explore financing needs of NSOs to inform the **Clearinghouse for Financing Development Data** and the **World Bank's Global Data Facility**
  - Identify new statistical priorities as a result of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic
  - Accelerate actions towards the SDGs



# Structure of the survey

## **Pillar 1: Capacity Development**

1. Coordination and strategic leadership on data for sustainable development
2. Innovation and modernisation of national statistical systems
3. Strengthening of basic statistical activities and programmes, with particular focus on addressing the monitoring needs of the 2030 Agenda
4. Dissemination and use of sustainable development data
5. Multi-stakeholder partnerships for sustainable development data

## **Pillar 2. Financing needs**

1. Basic information about the institution
2. Past and current budget situation
3. Future budget
4. Off-budget support



# Implementation of the Survey

- **Mode:** Computer Assisted Web Interviewing (CAWI), programmed in Survey Solutions.
- **Time frame:** Launched on 6 August 2021; questionnaire accepted through to the 15 September 2021.
- Questionnaires sent to 195 NSOs, 101 responses received.



# Pillar 1: Capacity Development



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# Resource bottlenecks

The majority of NSOs indicated that they are currently facing **shortages in financial resources and IT infrastructure.**

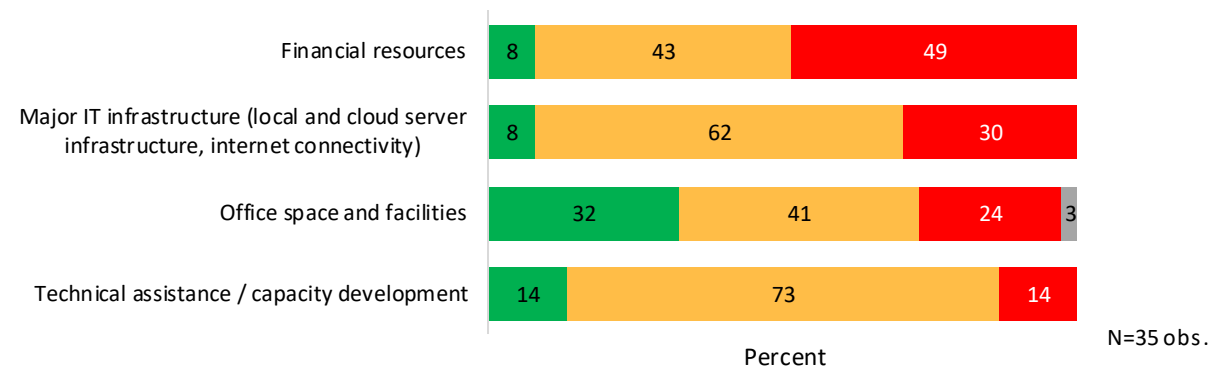
This was especially the case in low and lower middle-income countries:

- Nine in every 10 NSOs in this group reported shortages in financial resources and IT infrastructure
- 49% of NSOs in this group reported severe shortage in financial resources
- 30 % reported severe shortage in major IT infrastructure.

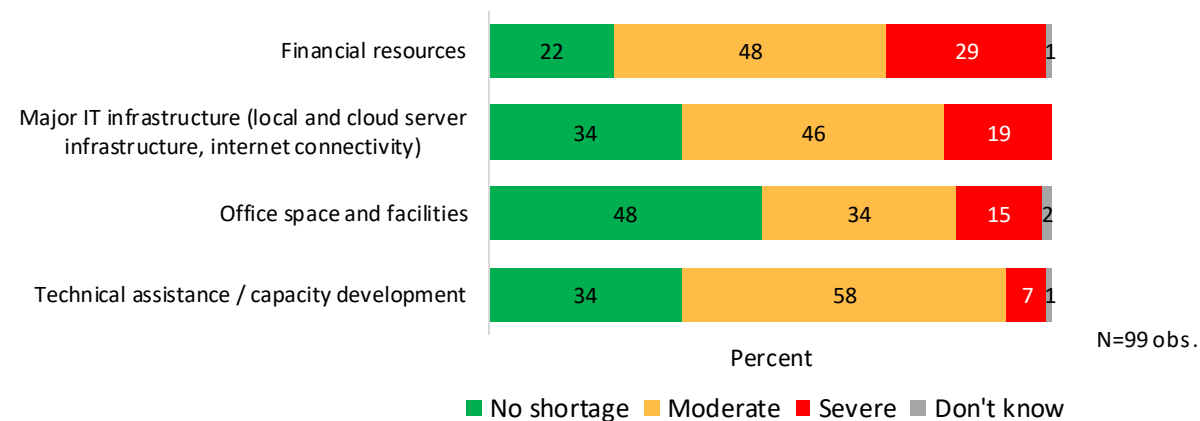
There is also unmet demand for technical assistance and capacity development

Does your organization currently face a shortage in the following resources to respond to demand for statistical outputs?

## Low and lower middle-income countries



## All countries



Source: Preliminary results from the Cape Town Global Action Plan Implementation Review. Global survey of National Statistical Offices. Implemented by Paris21, UNSD and the World Bank, 2021.



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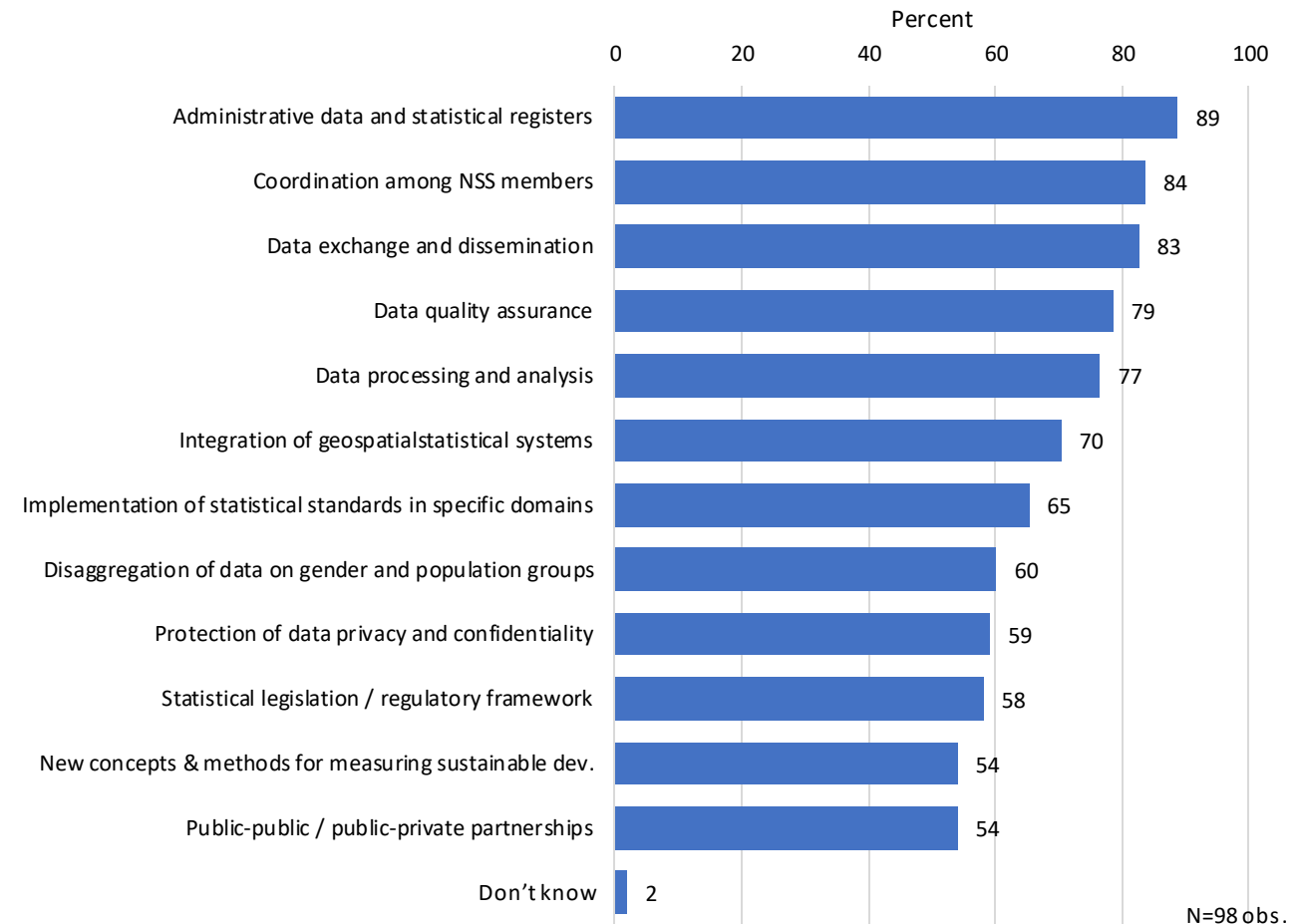
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To modernize the National Statistical System, what are the priority areas where the NSO plans to invest is capacity development over the next three years?

# Priority areas for NSS capacity development

Overall, the **use of administrative data and statistical registers** is the area of capacity development most frequently identified as a priority for investments, followed by **coordination among NSS members and data exchange and dissemination**.

However, when looking into the detailed data, **coordination of NSS is the most common priority among low and lower-middle income countries**.



Source: Preliminary results from the Cape Town Global Action Plan Implementation Review. Global survey of National Statistical Offices. Implemented by Paris21, UNSD and the World Bank, 2021.



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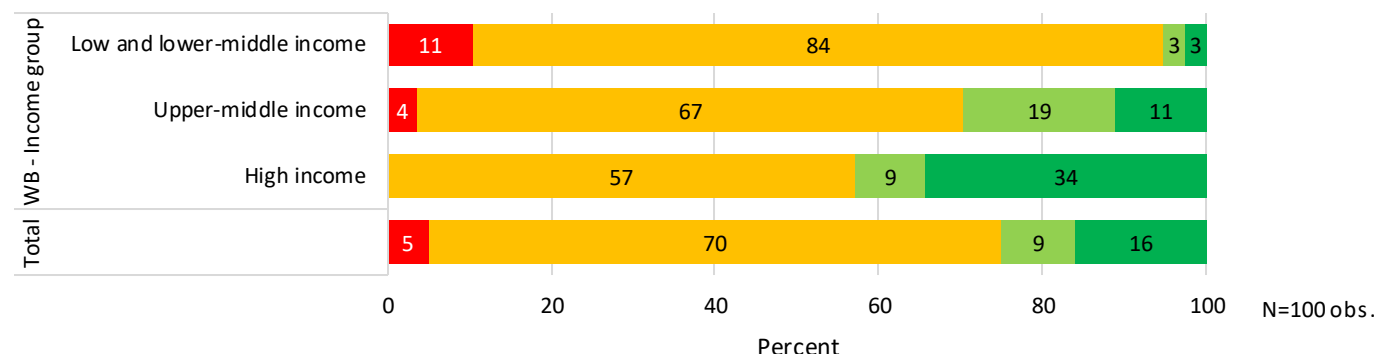
# Opportunities to improve coordination with partners

Only **6%** of the NSOs in **low and lower-middle income countries** consider that coordination capacity of the NSO with partners inside the NSS is satisfactory (either because it has improved, or it was already satisfactory), as opposed to **43% of NSOs in high income countries**.

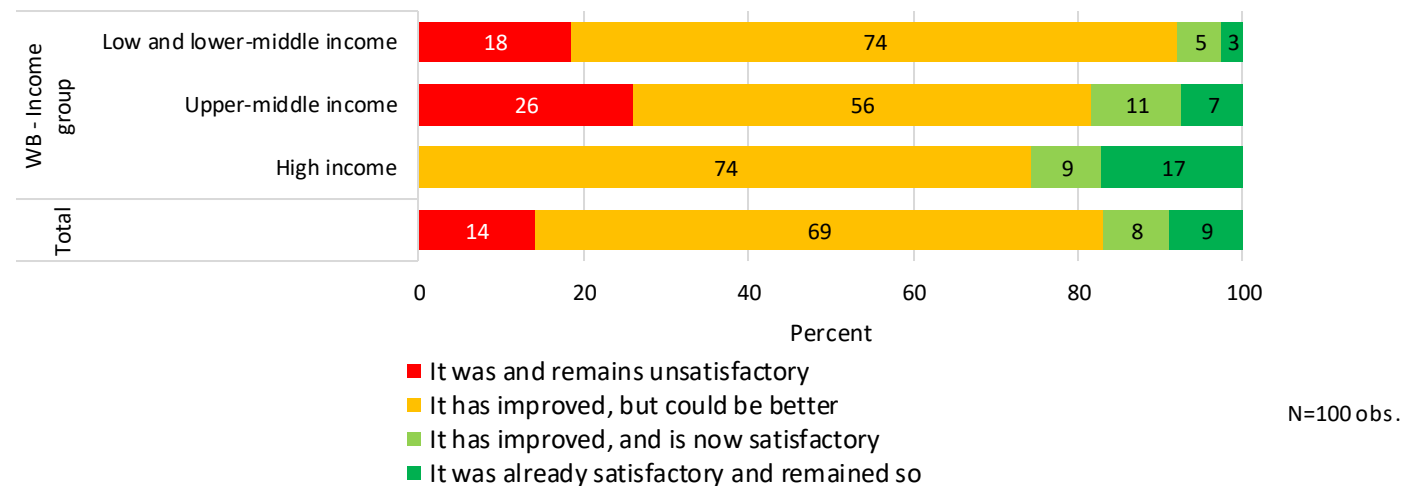
**18% of NSOs in low and lower middle-income countries, and 26% of NSOs in upper middle-income countries,** consider that coordination with partners in the wider data ecosystem remains unsatisfactory.

## Coordination capacity of the NSO over the last three years:

### With partners inside the NSS (e.g., line ministries)



### With partners in the wider data ecosystem (e.g., private sector or academia)



Source: Preliminary results from the Cape Town Global Action Plan Implementation Review. Global survey of National Statistical Offices. Implemented by Paris21, UNSD and the World Bank, 2021.



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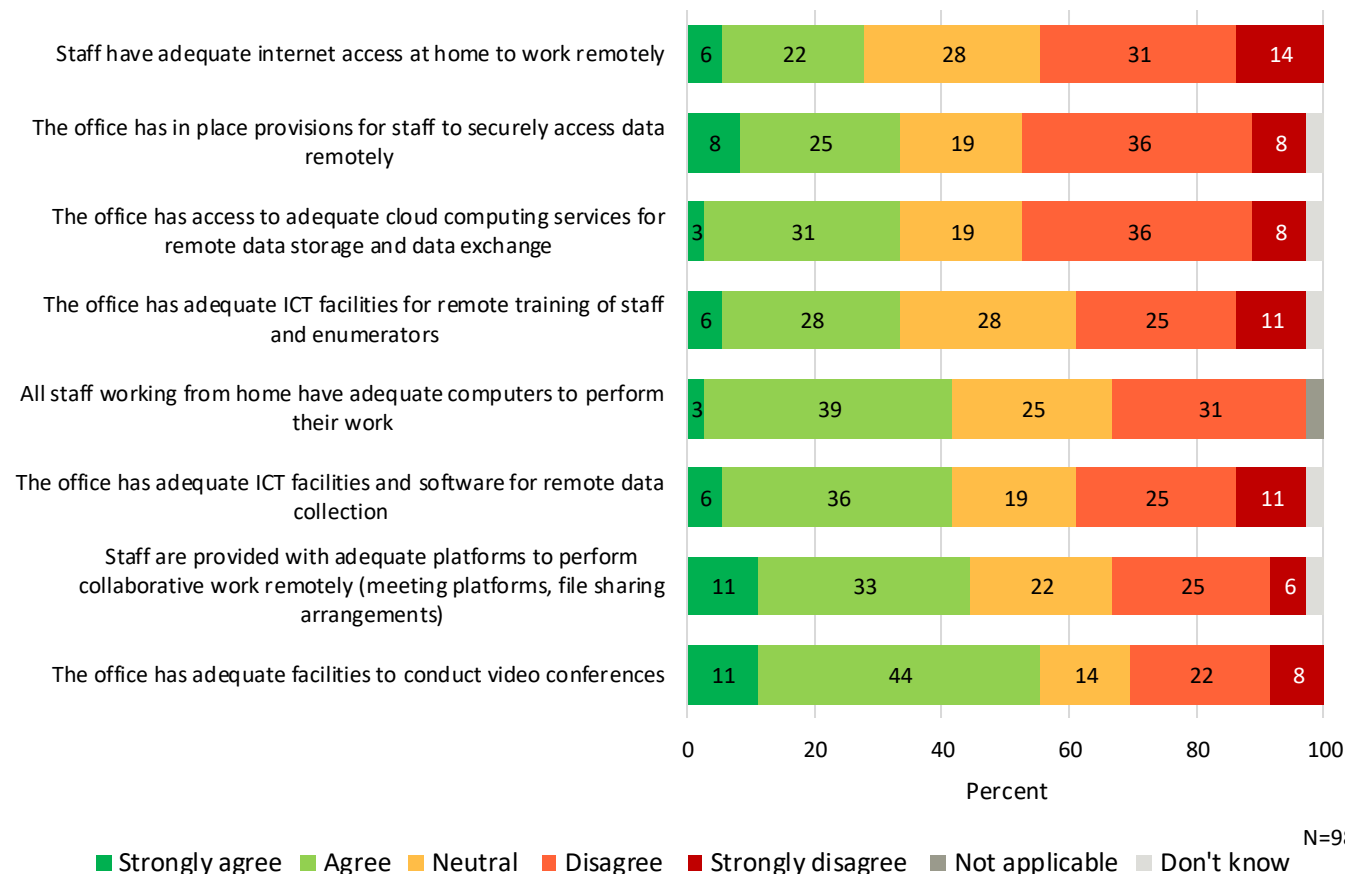
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# ICT readiness during COVID-19 pandemic

The most common challenges in this area refer to connectivity issues and remote data processing capabilities:

- 45% of NSOs signaled that the **staff did not have adequate internet access at home to work remotely**
- 44% of NSOs don't have in place provisions for staff to **securely access to data remotely**
- Similarly, 44% of NSOs lack adequate **cloud computing services for remote data storage and data exchange**



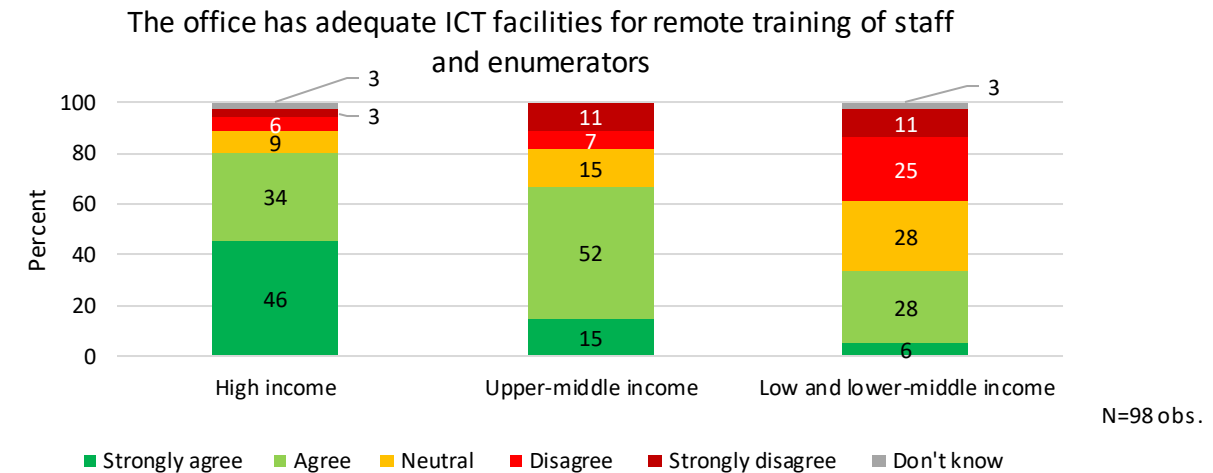
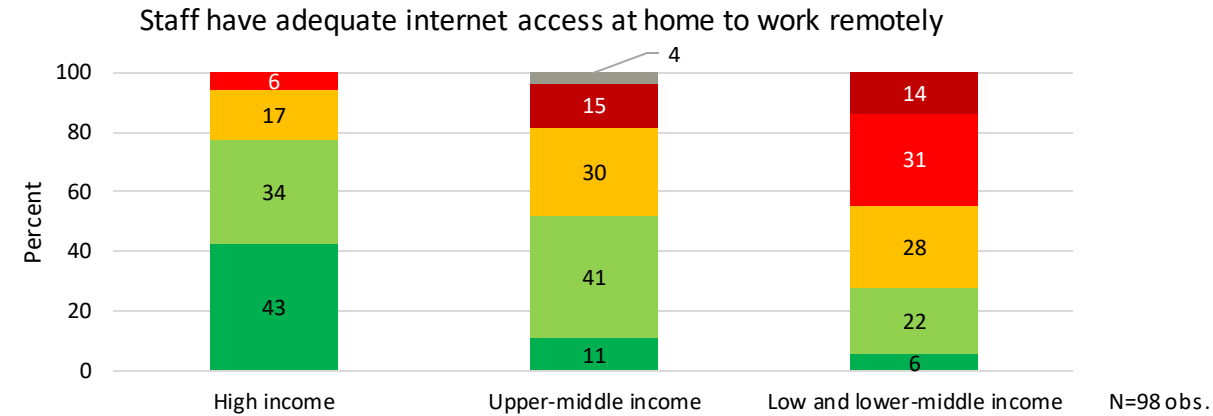
Source: Preliminary results from the Cape Town Global Action Plan Implementation Review. Global survey of National Statistical Offices. Implemented by Paris21, UNSD and the World Bank, 2021.

# The digital divide

There are marked differences in ICT-readiness of NSOs across income levels.

Issues around adequate internet access at home and adequate ICT facilities for remote training of staff and enumerators are more pronounced in low and lower-middle income countries, where more than one third of NSOs reported inadequate access

## Information and Communication Technology (ICT) readiness during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Source: Preliminary results from the Cape Town Global Action Plan Implementation Review. Global survey of National Statistical Offices. Implemented by Paris21, UNSD and the World Bank, 2021.

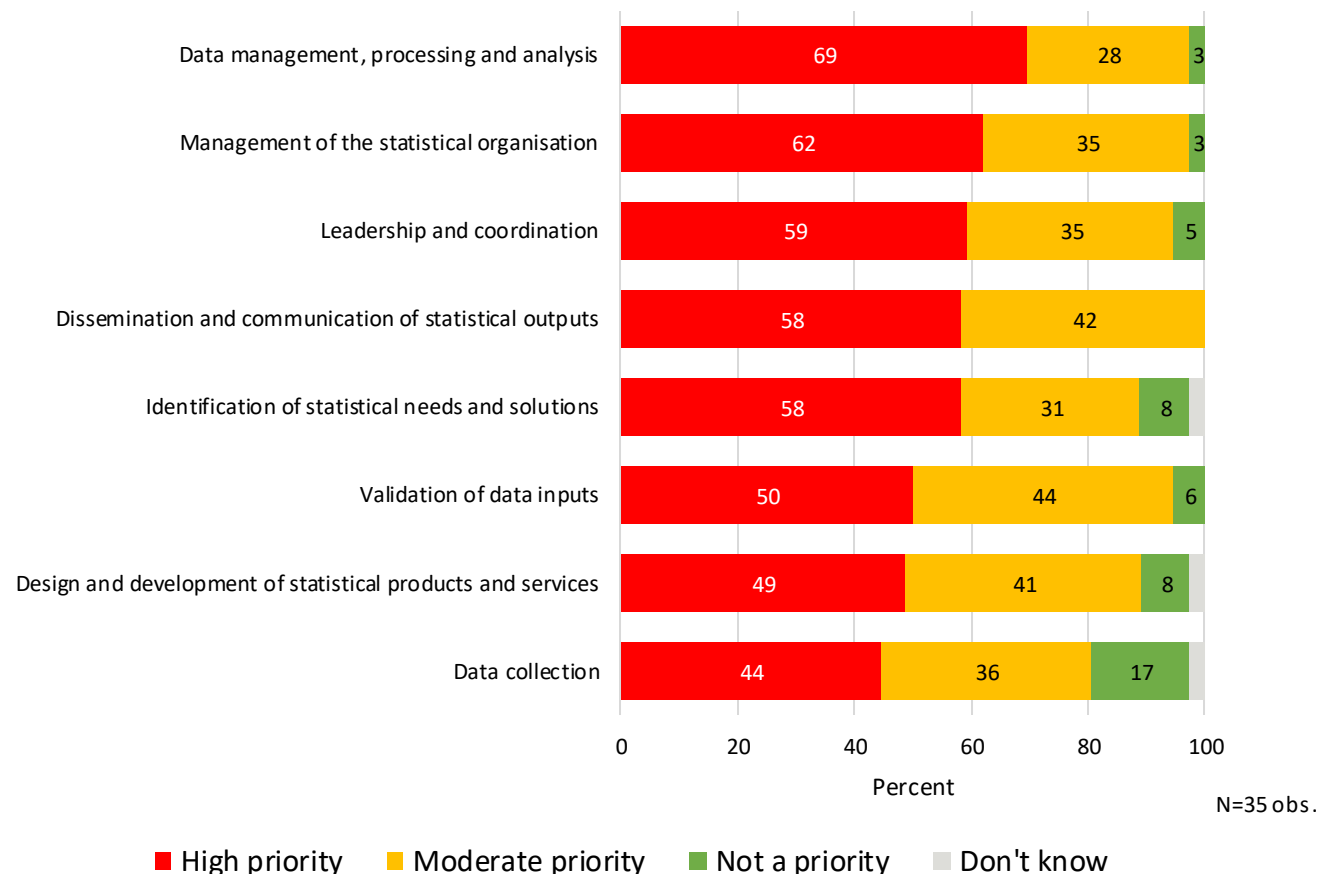
# Priority areas of training

More than two thirds of NSOs in low and lower middle-income countries indicated **data management, processing and analysis** as a high-priority area of training.

This was followed by the need for training on **management of the statistical organization** and on **leadership skills and coordination**.

All NSOs in low and lower middle-income countries indicate that training in **dissemination and communication of statistical outputs** is a moderate or high priority.

Priority for the following areas of training for your organization  
Low and lower middle-income countries



Source: Preliminary results from the Cape Town Global Action Plan Implementation Review. Global survey of National Statistical Offices. Implemented by Paris21, UNSD and the World Bank, 2021.

# Pillar 2: Financing Needs in IDA countries



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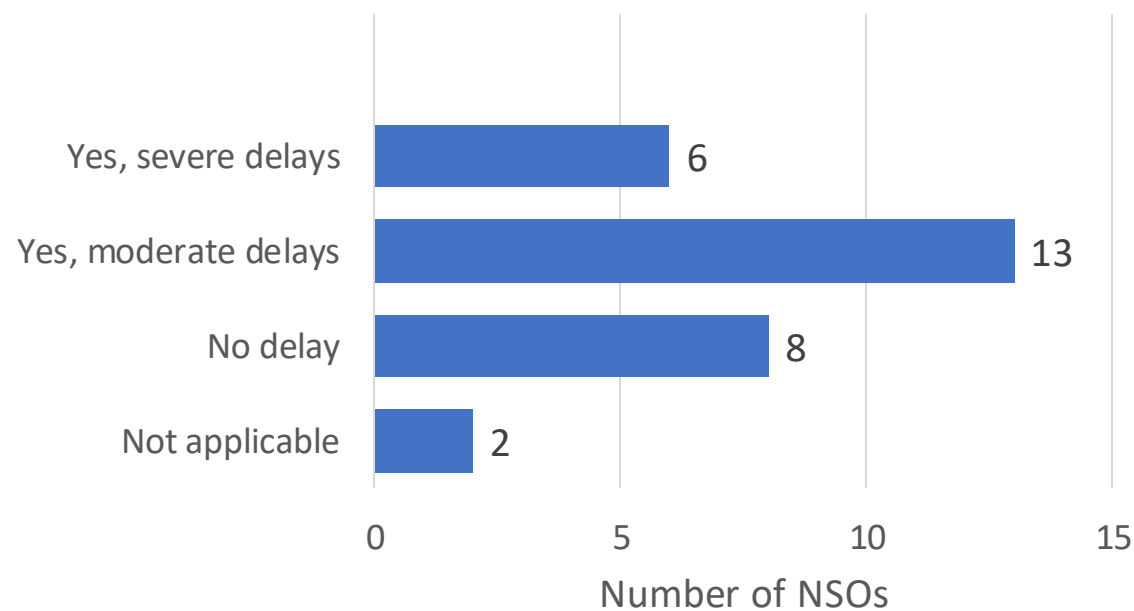
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## Financing opportunities in IDA countries – Shedding light on what is needed in recipient countries

### Delays in NSOs funding

- The majority of respondents (all IDA countries) experience either moderate or severe delays in budget disbursement in 2021.
- Those delays affected their work plan implementation.

Severity of delays in budget disbursements affecting ability to implement NSO workplans in IDA countries



N=29, all respondents are IDA countries

Source: Preliminary results from the Cape Town Global Action Plan Implementation Review. Global survey of National Statistical Offices. Implemented by Paris21, UNSD and the World Bank, 2021.



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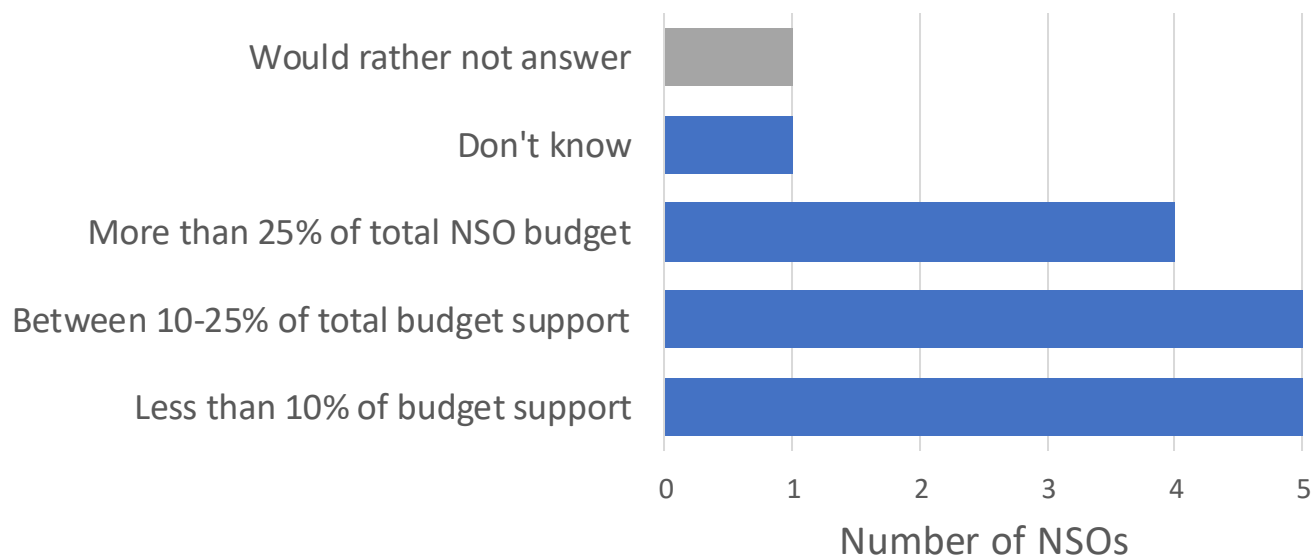
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## Financing opportunities in IDA countries – Shedding light on what is needed in recipient countries

### Importance of on-budget support from development cooperation providers

9 out of 15 IDA countries answering the survey indicated that more than 10% of their budget comes from external support.

How important was the on-budget support you received from development cooperation providers in the last fiscal year?



N=16, all respondents IDA countries

Source: Preliminary results from the Cape Town Global Action Plan Implementation Review. Global survey of National Statistical Offices. Implemented by Paris21, UNSD and the World Bank, 2021.



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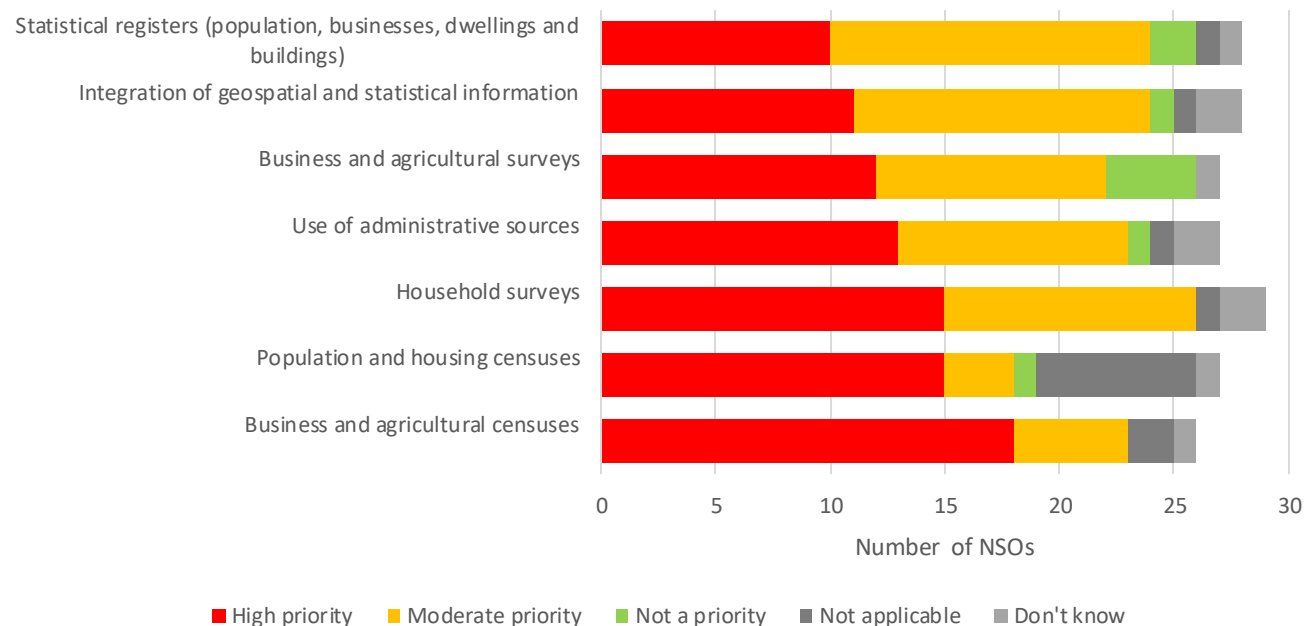
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## Financing opportunities in IDA countries – Shedding light on what is needed in recipient countries

### Expected funding shortages in statistical production programmes

- Most IDA countries expect highly **significant funding shortages in business and agricultural census programmes** in the next three years, followed by **population censuses and household surveys**.
- Less severe funding shortages are expected by this group of countries in programmes related to statistical registers, integration of geospatial and statistical information, and business and agricultural surveys.

What statistical production programmes will face the most significant funding shortages in the next 3 years?



N=29, all respondents IDA countries

Source: Preliminary results from the Cape Town Global Action Plan Implementation Review. Global survey of National Statistical Offices. Implemented by Paris21, UNSD and the World Bank, 2021.



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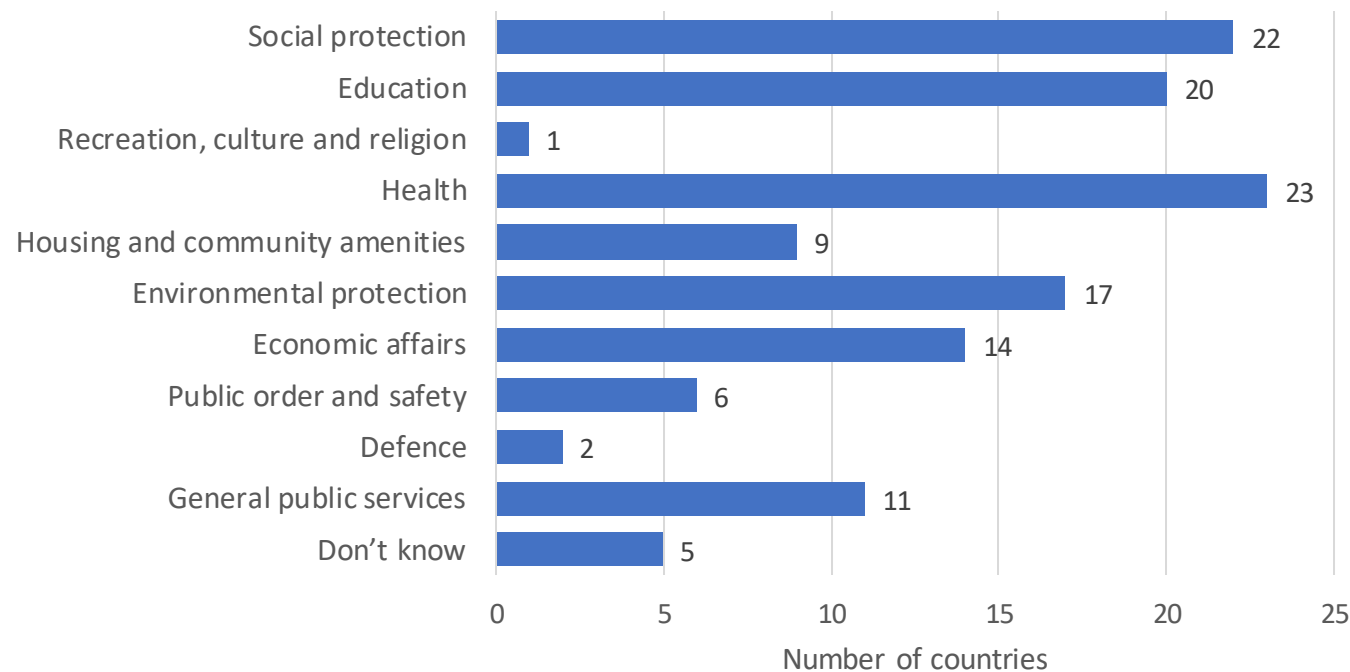
# Financing opportunities in IDA countries – Shedding light on what is needed in recipient countries

## Need for support by sectors

23 out of 31 NSOs in from IDA countries identified the **health sector** is among their top-5 priorities for on-budget external support for the production of statistics.

Over 20 IDA countries also included the **Education and Social Protection** sectors among their top-5 priorities for on-budget external support for the production of statistics.

Policy sectors where on-budget support from development cooperation providers is needed with top priority to produce statistics over the next 3 years.



N=31, all respondents IDA countries

Source: Preliminary results from the Cape Town Global Action Plan Implementation Review. Global survey of National Statistical Offices. Implemented by Paris21, UNSD and the World Bank, 2021.



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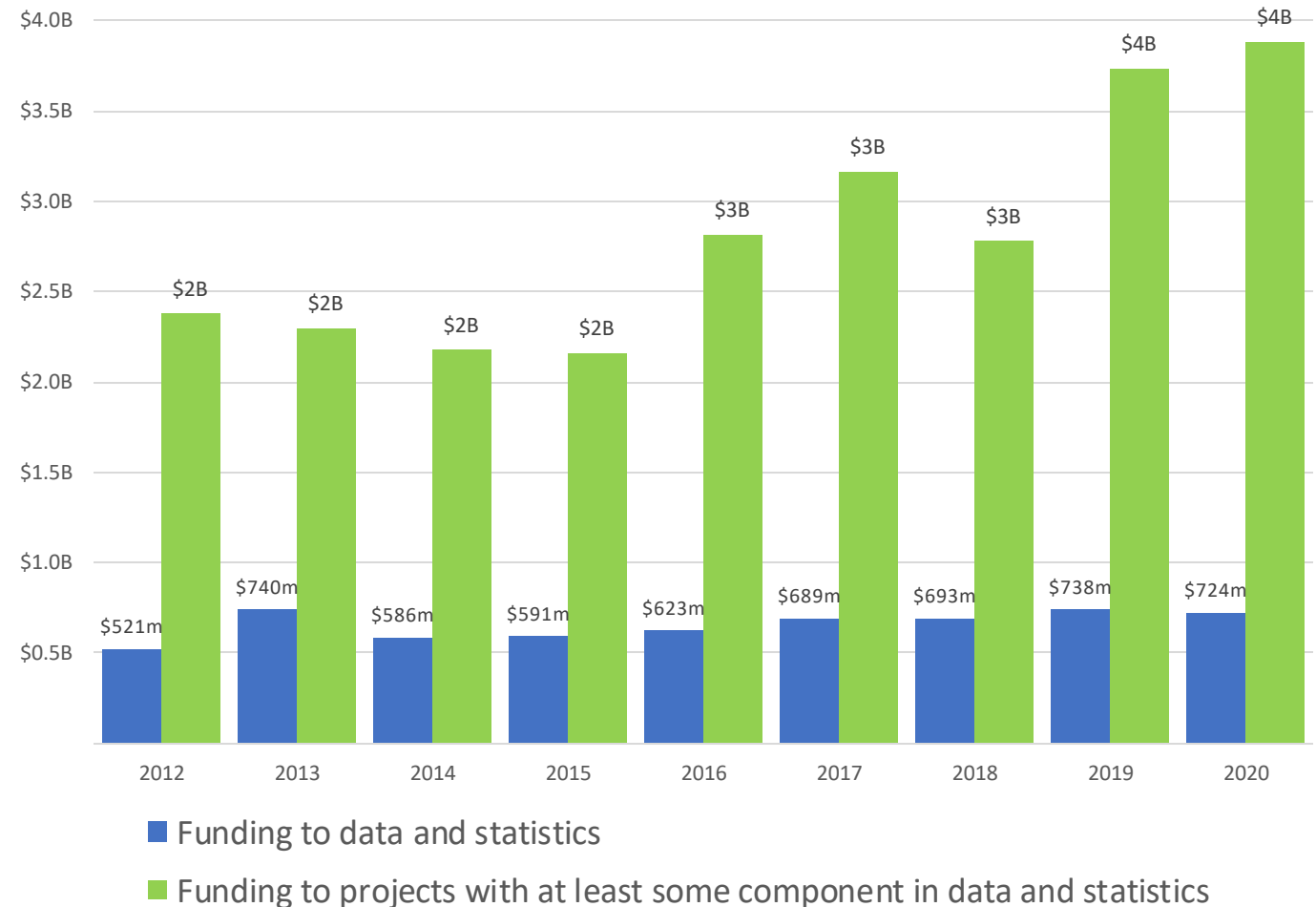
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## The state of financing to statistics and data – A new perspective

# Global external funding to data

- In 2020, support to projects with at least one component related to data and statistics has risen considerably and on an upward trend (at least 70% increase between 2015-2019)
- Meanwhile, support to core statistical activities remains stagnant, with estimated value of 724m USD in 2020.
- A large share of the partial support to data and statistics is multi-sectoral (over a third of projects are labelled multisector)
- With support to statistics and data becomes mainstreamed across sectors, National Statistical Systems are facing challenges to coordinate data production and strengthen data use.



Source: Partner Report on Support to Statistics 2021



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**In the spotlight: Malawi, Niger, Gambia and Rwanda**

## Understand better the decision-making processes behind financing to statistics and data

PARIS21 conducted budget data and qualitative interviews with all sectoral entities in four pilot countries (Malawi, Niger, Gambia and Rwanda)

- ✓ Financing to data and statistics is increasingly multi-sectoral
- ✓ Coordination of sectoral entities in the NSS remains a challenge
- ✓ Public Health is a central area of strategic investment and capacity development
- ✓ Gender data is regarded as very important crosscutting element of modern data collection efforts



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