SUPPORTING THE ROLE OF NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEMS IN OPEN DATA INITIATIVE AND ENCOURAGE NATIONAL STATISTICAL OFFICES TO EMBRACE THE OPEN DATA INITIATIVE:

Harmonising National Statistical System to Leverage Statistics Production and Dissemination in an Open Data Environment

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INTRODUCTION

- The President of Ghana (Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo) who is also a Co-chair of UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Advocacy Group, made this statement at the 2017 Africa Open Data Conference in Accra, Ghana made this statement:

    *"If we in Africa are to emulate them and be an integral part of **the ongoing data revolution**, there is the need firstly for us to require **the owners of data** to **make them available** in ways that are **useful to all potential users**"*

- The Minister for Communications also made a stated that:

    *"we will soon review the legal framework on telecommunication to remove any bottlenecks in **promoting open data** and lead the effort to **sensitise, promote and encourage access to and use of open data**"*

GOVERNANCE LEVEL

- Executive commitment and support

- New Statistical bill & Right for Information bill are in parliament for consideration and approval

- Reviewing Telecommunication Legal Framework to embrace open data initiative

- Inauguration of 15-member inter-ministerial SDGs implementation committee, led by the Minister for Planning

- Re-activate National Advisory Committee of producers and users of statistics (NACPUS)

- Approved National Statistical Development Strategy Version 2 2017 – 2021(support by PARIS21
    - NSDS2 - Advisory Steering Committee
    - NSDA2 - Technical Steering Committee

- In a process of developing Communication and Dissemination Policy/Strategy for NSS (being support by PARIS21)

NSS PARTICIPATING MDAs

	Core	Associated
1	Ghana Statistical Service	Ministry of Trade and Industry
2	Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources	Ministry of Communications
3	Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations	Office of the Head of Civil Service
4	Ministry of Health/ Ghana Health Service	Judicial Service
5	Ministry of Education	Energy Commission
6	Births and Deaths Registry	
7	Registrar-General's Department	
8	National Communication Authority	
9	Ministry of Water Resources, Works and Housing	
10	Ghana Police Service	
11	National Road Safety Commission	
12	Environmental Protection Agency	
13	Ghana Immigration Service	
14	Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Creative Arts	
15	Ministry of Food and Agriculture	
16	Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection	

NSS MANDATE

- In Ghana, NSS has no legal backing, GSS is tasked to co-ordinate and collaborate with MDAs and other Organisations.

- NSS ensures uniformity of direction, methods and processes of official statistics

- NSS in Ghana comprises:
  - The Ghana Statistical Service;
  - Individuals;
  - Institutions; and
  - All others who have a role to play in the production and use of statistics

- NSS component are: data users, data producers, and data suppliers

NSS REFORMS

- Increased the participation from ten to sixteen and also added 5 associate members

- Funding from World Bank, the ten participating RSIMs are being resourced (training, equipment, surveys etc.)

- Improved data collection and data dissemination

- Improved engagement with journalists and also training in data journalism

- Educational sponsorship to Masters level

- Upgrade ICT infrastructure to enable data exchange and storage. Currently, all microdata sets are available on GSS National Dada Archive website and are accessible and downloadable for free and re-use

- GSS conducted a User Satisfaction Survey 2016 (79.2 percent of users believe that it is easier accessing official statistics and statistical products, and 93.5 percent of the users of census and survey data sets find them either **very useful or useful**

THE NATIONAL DATA ROADMAP

- In April 2107, the GSS organised the National Data roadmap forum with support from the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data (GPSDD). The forum discussed innovation ways to fill Ghana data gaps and propose a number of key areas of concern that required immediate attention:
  - Addressing data gaps
  - Encouraging data use
  - Strengthening the data ecosystem
- To address these concerns require involvement of stakeholders from various disciplines and capacities, hence 12 work streams were formed.

WORK STREAMS

- Administrative Data
  - CRVS & National ID
  - Education & Health
  - Employment
  - Food and Agriculture & Environment
  - Government, Peace & Security

- Financial and Economic Statistics

- Gender data/Statistics

- Spatial Data

- Communication & Dissemination (including Open Data)

- Policy & Enabling Environment

- Big Data (eg. Telecommunication data, social media, financial data etc.)

LIMITATION

- Inconsistencies in data and statistics release calendar

- Established standards and requirements of Administrative data

- Enforcement and responsibility of data sharing

- Quality assessment framework for official statistics

- Framework and maturity level measurement for ODI
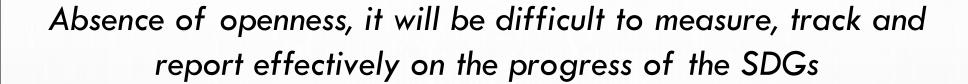
- Sustainable Funding/Sponsorship

THE WAY FORWARD

- Passing the New Statistical bill into law which will recognise the NSS as a legal entity to operate

- Develop data governance policy and framework

  - Data quality assessment and assurance

  - Data communication and dissemination

  - Open data policy

- Partnerships and engagement

- Sustainable funding

- National Enterprise Resource planning Platform for MDAs

Absence of openness, it will be difficult to measure, track and report effectively on the progress of the SDGs

THANK YOU…