

**Global Preparatory Seminar for the United Nations
World Data Forum
Guilin China
7-9 September 2016**

Planet

People

Prosperity

Can Public Data be Private?

**Dr Pali Lehohla
Statistician-General
South Africa**

Outline

- Mandate for Official Statistics
- Policy Developments and Statistics
- Knowledge Systems and Official Statistics
- Cognitive Map of Knowledge from official statistics
- Statistics as a conduit of trust what is the unfinished business
- Questions

Context of Statistical development

Political statistics

- End of 2nd World War 1944
- Eurostat is born (1953)
- Establishment of the European political cooperation (1970)
- Lagos Plan of Action and MIP for Africa (1980)
- End of the Cold War (1991)
- Beijing Conference (1995)
- Birth of G20 (1997)
- Millennium Declaration and birth of MDGs (2000)
- African Union Constitutive Act (2002)
- Financial & economic crisis (2008)
- Lisbon Treaty signed (2009)
- BRICS established 2011

Statistical politics

- Creation of the UNSC in (1947)
- Framework for national accounting (1947)
- A Handbook of Statistical Organisation 2nd Edition (1980)
- HDI (1990)
- Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (1994)
- IMF (G&S) DDS (1998)
- PARIS21 (1999)
- MDG measurement (2000)
- National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (2001)
- Marrakesh Plan of Action (2004)
- GIVAS (2009)
- Global Pulse (2010)

Sustainable Development Goals and The World of Data and Statistics

Current State of State Systems (Five elements)

1. Political and Legislative Mandates

- Executive (Cabinet and President)
- Parliament

2. Judicial mandates

- Judiciary

3. Citizenry mandates

- Regular Mandate Refresh
- Civil Society engagement

4. Public Finance mandates

- Auditor General
- Public Finance Management

and more recently

5. Rights Based mandates

- Human Rights Commission,
- Public Protector etc.

Statistics are facts about the state. Their absence is less governance and less statehood

Current State of State Systems (Five elements)

1. Political and Legislative Mandates

- Executive (Cabinet and President)
- Parliament

2. Judicial mandates

- Judiciary

3. Citizenry mandates

- Regular Mandate Refresh
- Civil Society engagement

4. Public Finance mandates

- Auditor General
- Public Finance Management

and more recently

5. Rights Based mandates

- Human Rights Commission,
- Public Protector etc.

Statistics are facts about the state. Their absence is less governance and less statehood

Mandate for Official Statistics as a Knowledge System

Global

Continental

National

Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics
(United Nations adopted 10 principles)



African Charter on Statistics
(African Union adopted 6 principles)



Statistics Act (Act 6 of 1999)
Statistical production
Statistical coordination

Policy and Statistics

Global

Continental

National

Policy Agenda: SDGs
(Sustainable development Goals)

Policy Agenda: Vision 2063
(African Integration Agenda:
Long term perspective of
Africa's development)

Policy Agenda: NDP
(National Development Plan:
Long-term perspective of
SA's development)

Policy, Statistics and decision-making

For USE in

Planning
(baseline information for NDP)

Monitoring & Evaluation
(measuring development and impact)

Policy development
(increasing rationale for making decisions for better policies)

Decision-making
(decision making in government, subnational, business & the public)



Increased knowledge, understanding and use by the leadership, citizens and state

The Knowledge Society and Official Statistics

Knowledge Society:

- Is a well informed Society in fact, that should become increasingly better informed
- In a complete knowledge society, all the knowledge of the world will be:
 - available to everyone
 - available everywhere
 - available simultaneously
 - available freely

Pre-conditions

- Non-technological infrastructure should first be upgraded
 - Literacy
 - Promotion of use
 - Promotion of access
 - Basic freedoms

Forms of Knowledge

Knowledge as information

- Semantic form and irrespective of empirical validity or pragmatic relevance

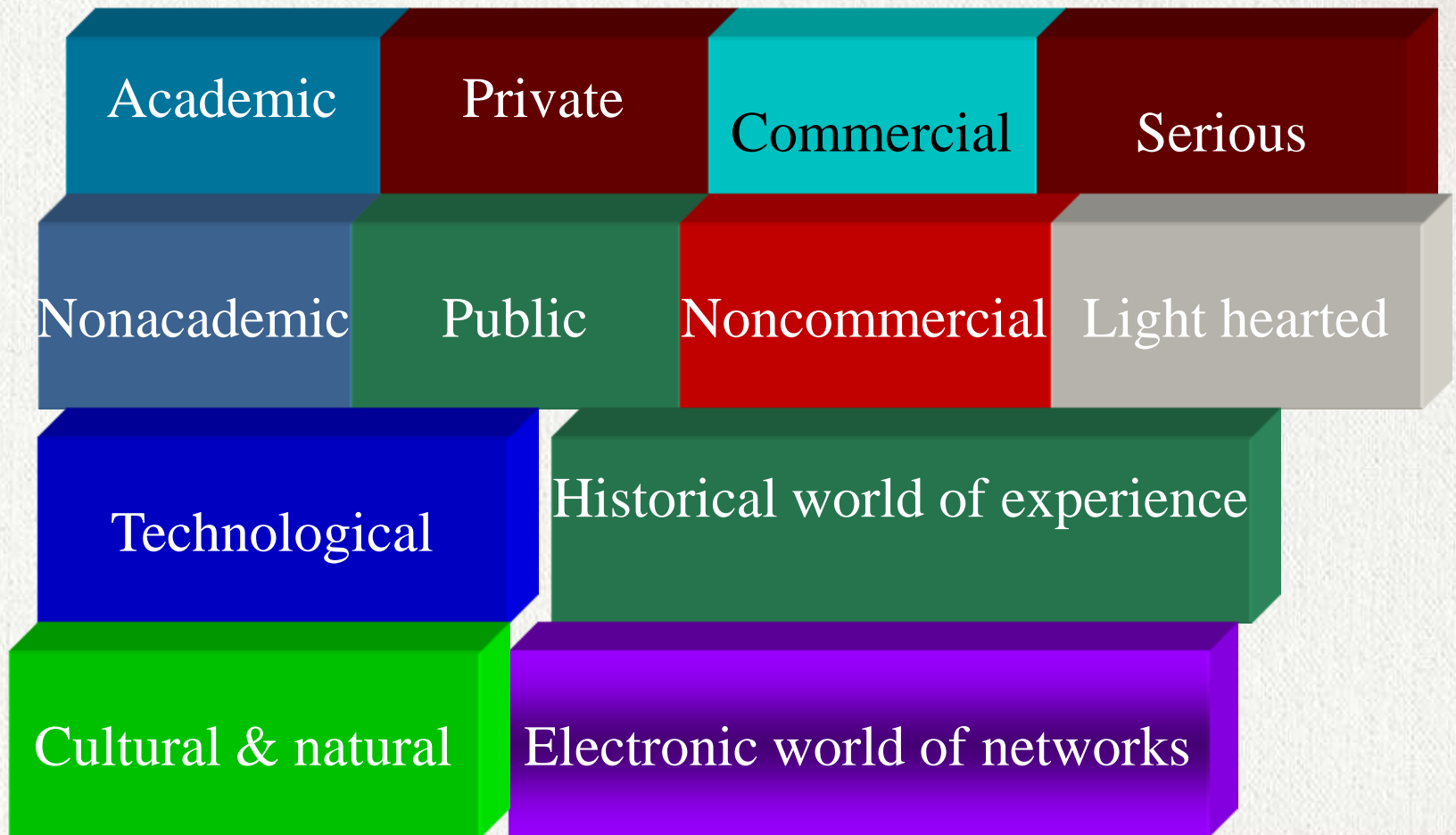
Knowledge as understanding

- Scientific knowledge as opposed to trivia in entertainment even amateur epistemology & public relations maneuvers

Knowledge as insight, competence and authority

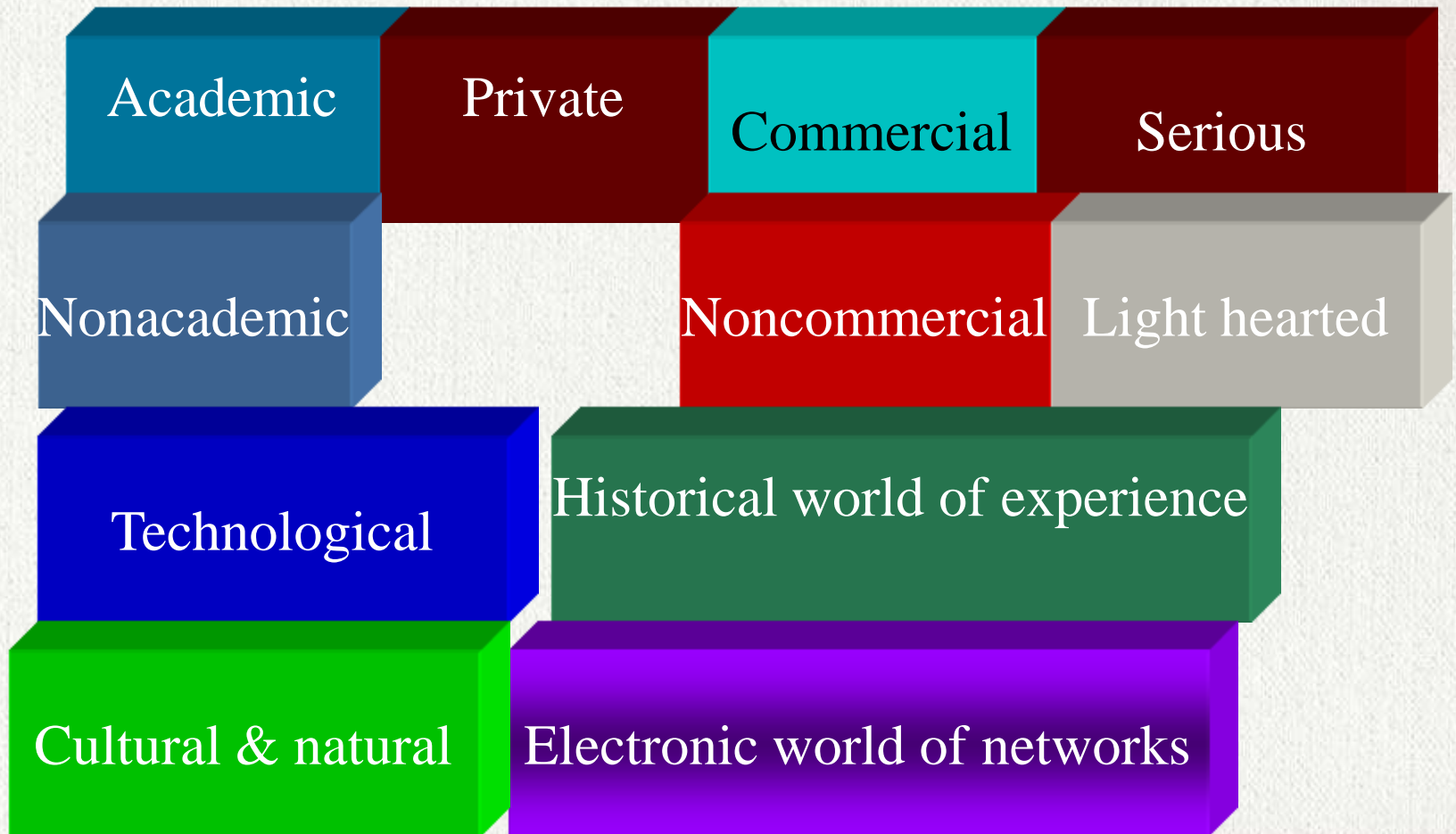
- selected, activated and applied: implying applying specific rules of preference and creating added value (Bhor & Einstein)

Cognitive Map of the knowledge society as an aid to orientation



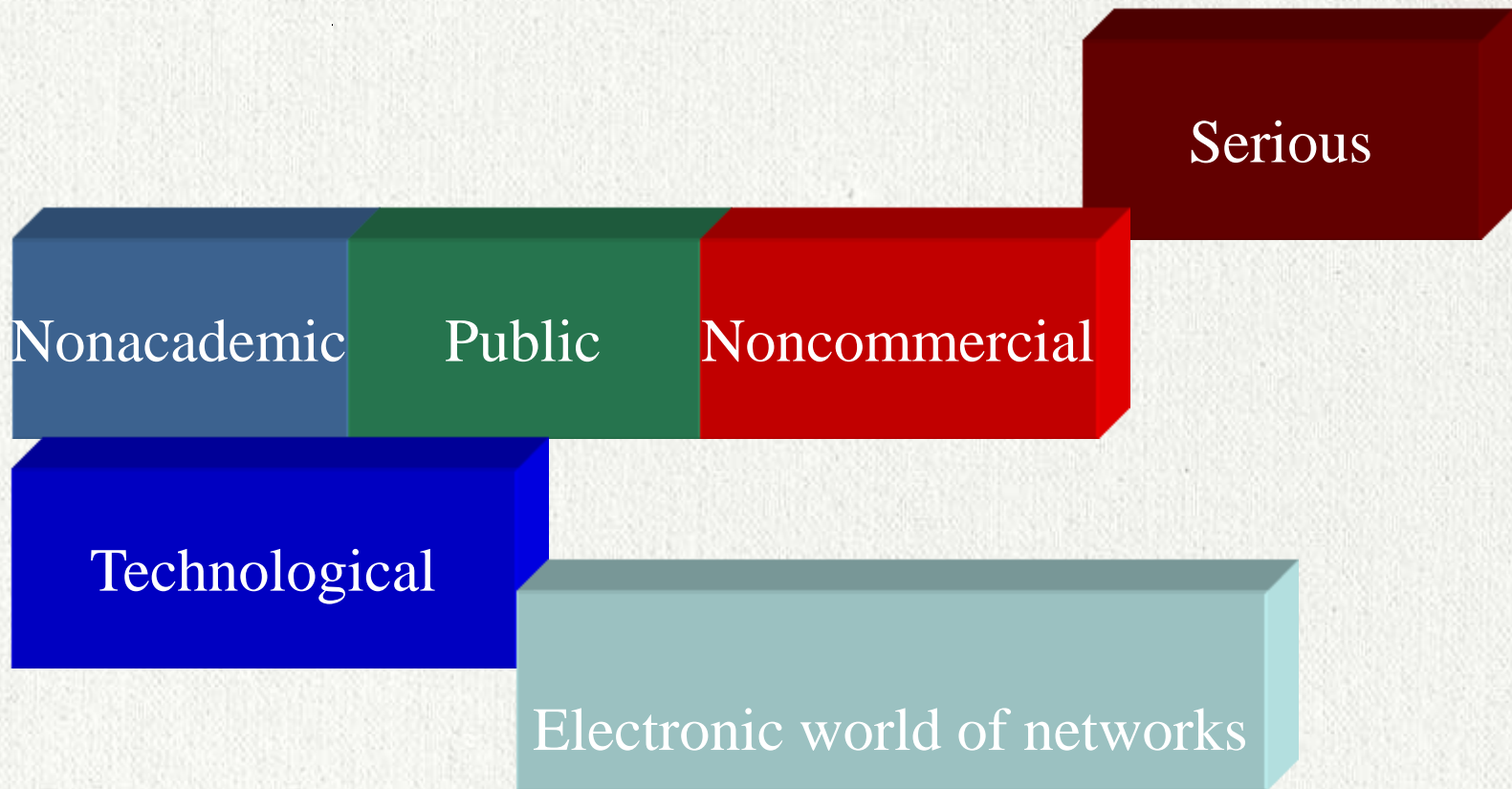
Cognitive Map of the knowledge society

For Other Data interests

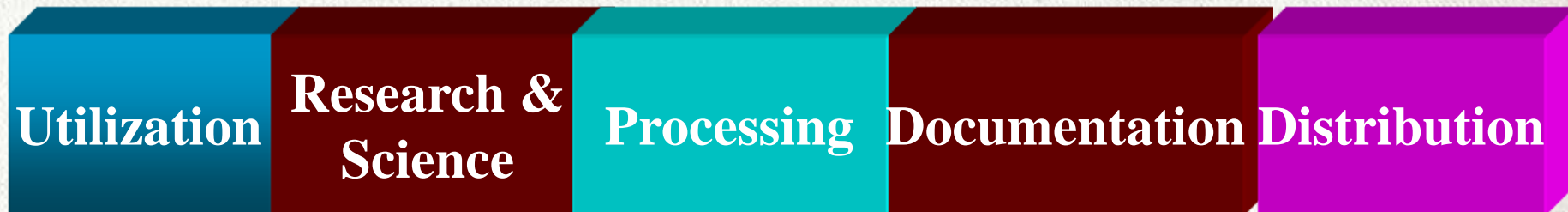


Cognitive Map of the knowledge society

For Official Statistics



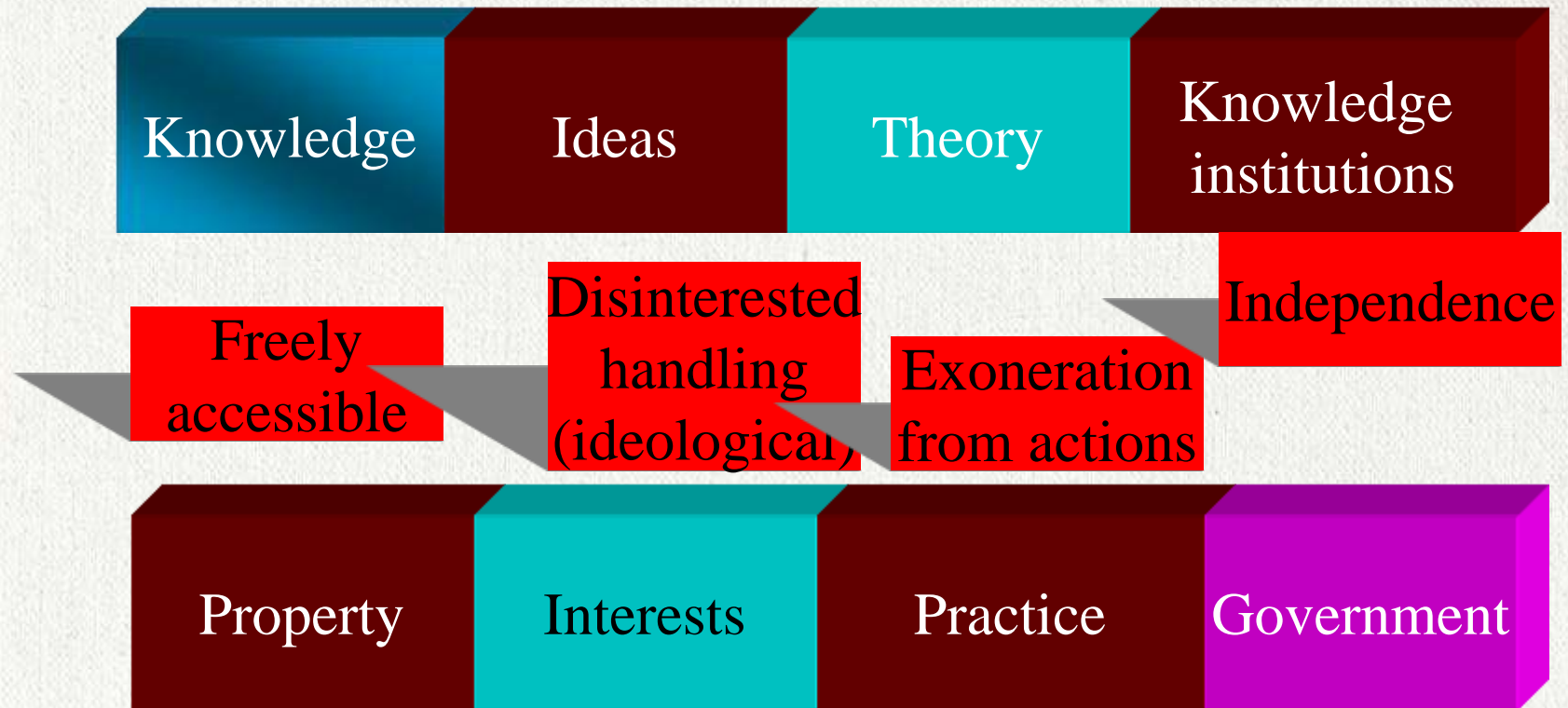
Social Division of knowledge from an official statistics perspective



**Social Division of knowledge
from an academia perspective**



Order Policy of Knowledge & the Need For Separation



Positive Contributions of Official Statistics

- Basic information on society
- Informational service as arise from legal rulings
- Raising information levels for the information society
- Provides orientation aids
- Supplement other info services
- Knowledge base for counter information
- Statistical advice for government

Knowledge Deficits of Official Statistics

- Unavoidable knowledge gaps e.g. the future
- Intentional ignorance e.g. where there should be stats but none exist
- Limited partial knowledge
- Legalised knowledge errors e.g, definitions & standards poverty
- Inherent limits of statistical information: By its nature it can't deliver insights

Handlers of information & Risk Profile

- **Blind** (mailman not allowed to read)
- **Discreet** (butler knows but no comment)
- **Anonymous** (statistician notes mass data)
- **Mechanical** (politicians)
- **Participatory** (scientist excited by theory)
- **Interventionist** (knowledge = power)

Competency Profile & Risk Management

- No insight understanding intervention
- Insight understanding no intervention
- Understanding no insight intervention
- Insight intervention no understanding
- Insight understanding no intervention
- insight understanding & intervention

What Makes Official Statistics Useful

Nonacademic **Purposive**

Public **Accessible**

Technological **Adaptable
portable**

Serious

**Resolve Life
Problems**

Noncommercial

Legal monopoly

Electronic world of networks

**Can be
Managed in a virtual world**

Statistics as a conduit of trust

And the future business



Implementing **statistical geography** as a deliberate strategy for transforming the national development information landscape;



Strengthening **coordination mechanisms and compliance** in order to optimise informatics efficiency and effectiveness;



Embrace **data revolution** in order to ease the methods of doing business by dramatically changing the capabilities of information collection, access, analysis, use, retrieval, storage and archiving, thereby increasing and deepening our knowledge basis;



Creating a **state-wide statistics service** through professionalising, training and deployment; and



Establishing **institutional arrangements and protocols** that will lead and deliver a professional and sustainable National Statistics System.

Preconditions of The Knowledge Society and Official Statistics

Knowledge Society:

- Is a well informed Society in fact, that should become increasingly better informed
- In a complete knowledge society, all the knowledge of the world will be:
 - available to everyone
 - available everywhere
 - available simultaneously
 - available freely

Pre-conditions

- Non-technological infrastructure should first be upgraded
 - Literacy
 - Promotion of use
 - Promotion of access
 - Basic freedoms

State of State Systems (Five elements)

1. Political and Legislative Mandates
 - Executive (Cabinet and President)
 - Parliament
2. Judicial mandates
 - Judiciary
3. Citizenry mandates
 - Regular Mandate Refresh
 - Civil Society engagement
4. Public Finance mandates
 - Auditor General
 - Public Finance Management

and more recently

5. Rights Based mandates
 - Human Rights Commission,
 - Public Protector etc.

Future State of State Systems(the sixth element)

1. Political and Legislative Mandates

- Executive (Cabinet and President)
- Parliament

2. Judicial mandates

- Judiciary

3. Citizenry mandates

- Regular Mandate Refresh
- Civil Society Engagement

4. Public Finance mandates

- Auditor General
- Public Finance Management

and more recently

5. Rights Based mandates

- such as Human Rights Commission,
- Public Protector etc

6. START: Statistics for Transparency Accountability Results & Transformation

- with state facts for evidence based state leadership, craft and management
- with the use of science

Questions

- Should data collected by proprietary agencies be private?
- Is the public claiming their space of information being power?
- Are public resources of data and statistics organised appropriately or are they self serving?
- What measures should society take to remedy the situation?
- Should the Secretary General of the United Nations establish the Global Partnership for Data for Sustainable Development as proposed in his Synthesis Report in order to address global use, access and equity challenges that technology, finance, data and statistics may bring about?

The

UN-WORLD DATA — FORUM

CAPE TOWN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE

16 - 18 January 2017

Cape Town, South Africa

 Statistics
South Africa



-Conference rooms-

JAN
16-18

Auditorium: Main Plenary with translation services

PAX

1500

4x Meeting Rooms:

Breakout (Theatre seating)

- Head table
- Wireless microphones
- Computer and
- Projector

PAX

100

PAX

200

4x Meeting Rooms:

Breakout (Theatre seating)

- Head table
- Wireless microphones
- Computer and
- Projector

-auditorium: Plenary-



-Plenary: Infrastructure-

8 seats and 8
microphones

Head table



Lectern with 1 wireless
microphone

Lectern



Wi-Fi connectivity
for all delegates &
Wired LAN for
redundancy (12)

Wi-Fi & LAN

LCD Screens

2x LCD Screens



Headphones

Headphones for each
participant and for the
head table



-Plenary: Infrastructure-

Simultaneous interpretation from and into English and French

Interpreters



Online audio and video recording

AV Recording



WebEx and teleconference

Webex

IT Support

Adequate professional team will be available to operate and troubleshoot all IT infrastructure and equipment



Real time streaming



-media/Conference room-

