



Towards Sustainable Statistical Capacity Building : Uganda's Experience

By

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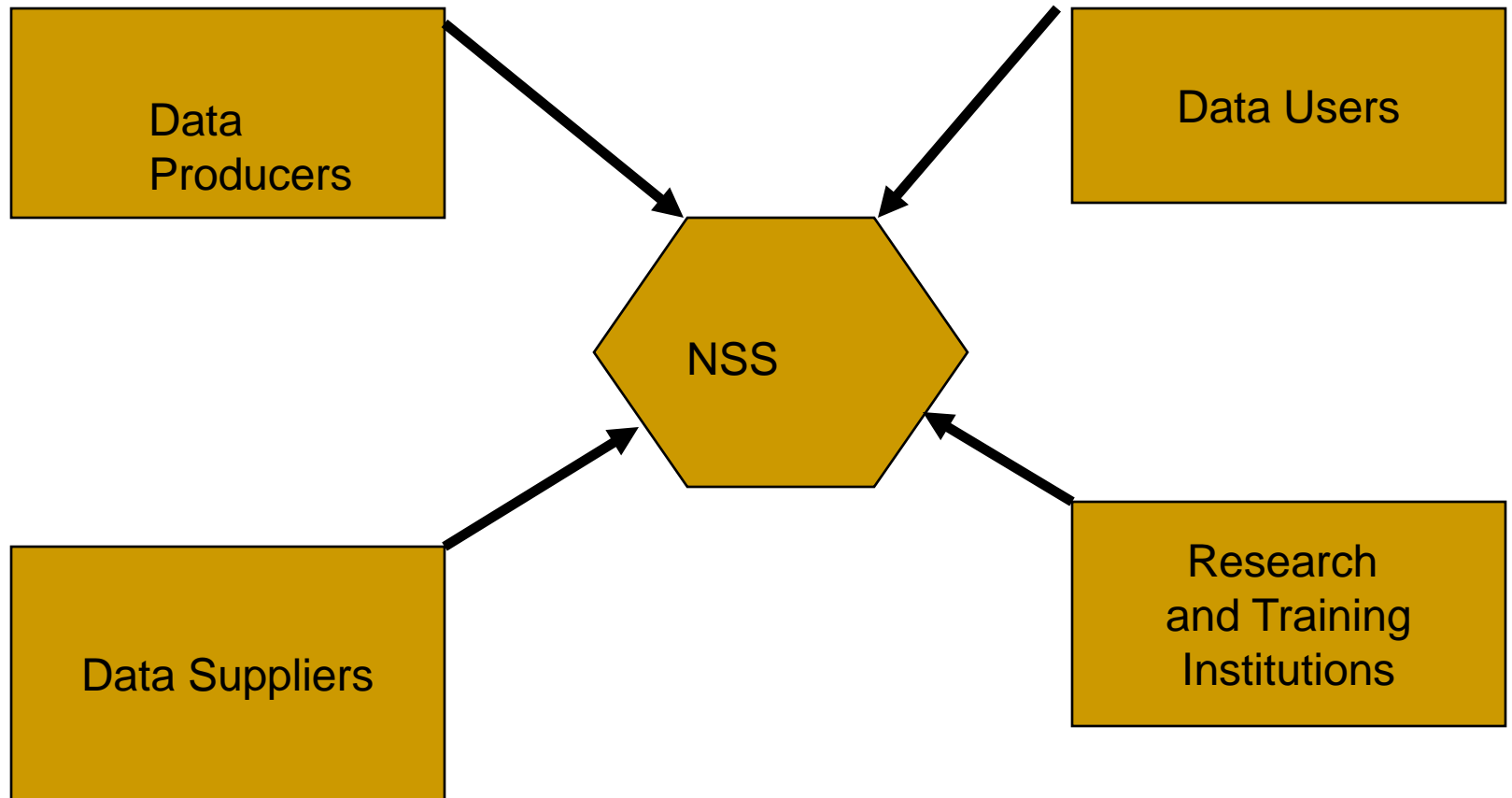
Executive Director

Uganda Bureau of Statistics (UBOS)

Background

- UBOS was established by the UBOS Act No. 12 of June 1998
 - UBOS is responsible for developing, coordinating and maintaining the National Statistical System (NSS)
 - Statistical capacity building is desirable for all stakeholders in the NSS to ensure production and use of good quality data to anchor policies and to monitor development at all levels
 - UBOS is responsible for building the capacity of the stakeholders involved in the NSS
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National Statistical System (NSS)



Statistical Capacity Building Elements

- Human Resource Development through training (hard skills)
 - Equipping staff handling statistics (tools & infrastructure)
 - Exposure of staff handling statistics through mentoring and attachment (soft skills)
 - Exposure of students majoring in statistics through internship
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Capacity Building at National Level

- Targets-UBOS, Sector Ministries, Research Institutions, and Civil Society Organisations
 - Capacity building efforts have been extended through;
 - Training;
 - Workshops
 - Committees (Producer-Producer, Producer-User,etc..)
 - Very often stakeholders request for technical support
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National Level—Cont...

- UBOS collaborates with the Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics (ISAE) to train stakeholders at national level
 - UBOS developed a Plan for National Statistical Development (PNSD) and one of its aims is to strengthen national capacity to produce, analyse and use reliable statistics
 - Under the PNSD sector-wide monitorable indicators were developed to track progress of statistical production and strengthening of the NSS
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Local Government Level

- UBOS established a Directorate for District Statistics and Capacity Building (DDS)
 - The DDS is responsible for statistical capacity building at the local government level
 - For effective intervention in the 93 Higher Local Governments (HLGs), the Directorate collaborates with 7 universities
 - Makerere University
 - Islamic University in Uganda, Mbale
 - Mbarara University of Science and Technology
 - Ndejje University
 - Uganda Christian University, Mukono
 - Kumi University
 - And Gulu University
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Local Government Level—Cont...

- Capacity building activities in the local governments include;
 - ❑ Conducting capacity assessment studies
 - ❑ Developing of training of modules
 - ❑ Training of HLG staff using the developed training modules
 - ❑ Facilitating semi-professional staff handling statistics to obtain qualifications (certificates and diplomas)
 - ❑ Implementing the mentoring and attachment programme
 - ❑ Equipping staff of local governments handling statistics
 - ❑ Facilitating production of Annual District Statistical Abstracts
 - ❑ Supporting dissemination of data in local governments
 - ❑ Promoting use of uniform methodologies and standard definitions of statistical concepts
 - ❑ Promote use of GIS systems in the local governments

Challenges In Capacity Building

- Limited resources
 - Understaffing of offices responsible for statistics and for capacity building
 - Limited funding making it difficult to sustain statistical activities
 - Reliance on donor funding (in Uganda DFID, WB, and EU main donors for capacity building)
 - Limited coordination of stakeholders in the NSS
 - Staff Attrition - trained staff leaving for green pastures!!
 - Lack of control/influence of staff of other agencies by the National Statistical Office
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Conclusion

- Statistical capacity building is needed to:
 - Enable all stakeholders involved in the NSS to acquire expertise to determine their data needs and priorities
 - Enable staff handling statistics acquire knowledge to collect, interpret and disseminate information to support planning and monitoring of national development
 - Coordinated statistical capacity building is an important precondition for the sustainability of development initiatives
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Thank You
