

Governance beyond the National Statistical System

Arab Thematic Conference on

Agile and Resilient National Statistical Systems



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Advantages of sound Governance and Coordination

Coordination: within a system, activities, responsibilities, command and control structures are synchronized, harmonized and, when appropriate, integrated

The **advantages** of a coordinated NSS are the following:

- **Efficiency** and **synergies** of operations by avoiding overlapping efforts, duplication of work and reducing the response burden through data sharing
- **Effectiveness** by addressing demands for statistics in an organized and timely manner through the capability to jointly produce expected outputs
- **Quality, coherence, comparability** and **accessibility** of official statistics within and across statistical domains through the harmonization of methodology, classifications and dissemination channels
- Develop a corporate **identity**, and secure **trust** in Official Statistics (branding)

Delineation of the National Statistical System



National Statistical Office (NSO):

- Main producer of Official Statistics
- Professionally independent body
- Coordinates the development, production and dissemination of statistics within the NSS
- Not to be assigned responsibilities or getting instructions conflicting with the Principles

Other Producers of Official Statistics (OPOS):

- Operate in compliance with the Statistical Law and adopted standards
- Professionally independent entities within their respective ministries and public agencies
- Responsible for their assigned activities in the statistical programmes

Administrative data sources and other non-traditional data sources (secondary data sources):

- Secondary data is primarily collected for non-official statistical purposes, in general by a public authority implementing an administrative regulation or a private company for management/commercial purposes
- The authority that supplies the secondary data to producers of official statistics and the unit to which the data relates (observation unit) are different: third-party data

GA Resolution on the SDG Indicator Framework (A/RES/71/313)

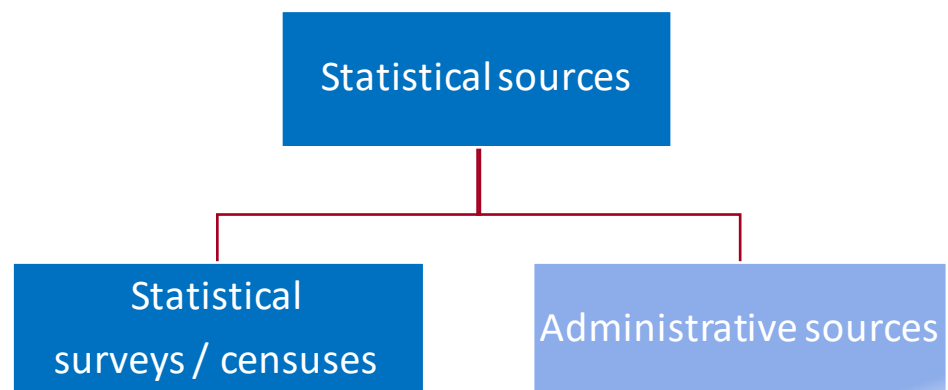


- **Official statistics** and data from national statistical systems (NSS) are the **basis for the SDG indicator framework**
- All activities of the NSS to be conducted in full adherence to the **Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics**
- **National statistical offices are the coordinators of the NSS**
- NSS to explore ways to **integrate new data sources** to satisfy new data needs of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Acknowledge the **Cape Town Global Action Plan** for Sustainable Development Data that promotes and supports the transformation of national statistical systems

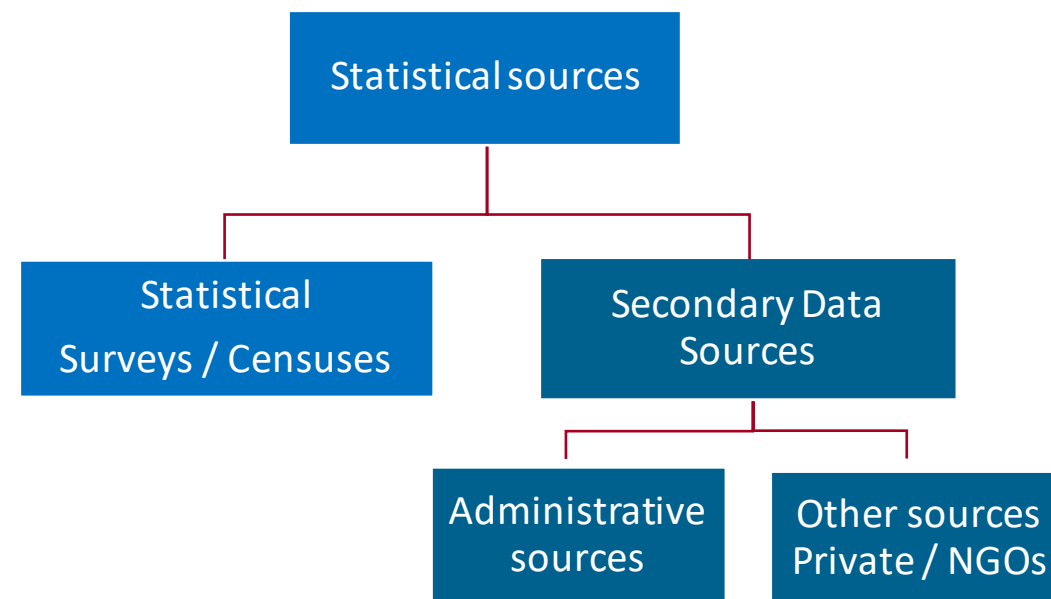
Traditional and New Data Ecosystem



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Traditional Data Ecosystem



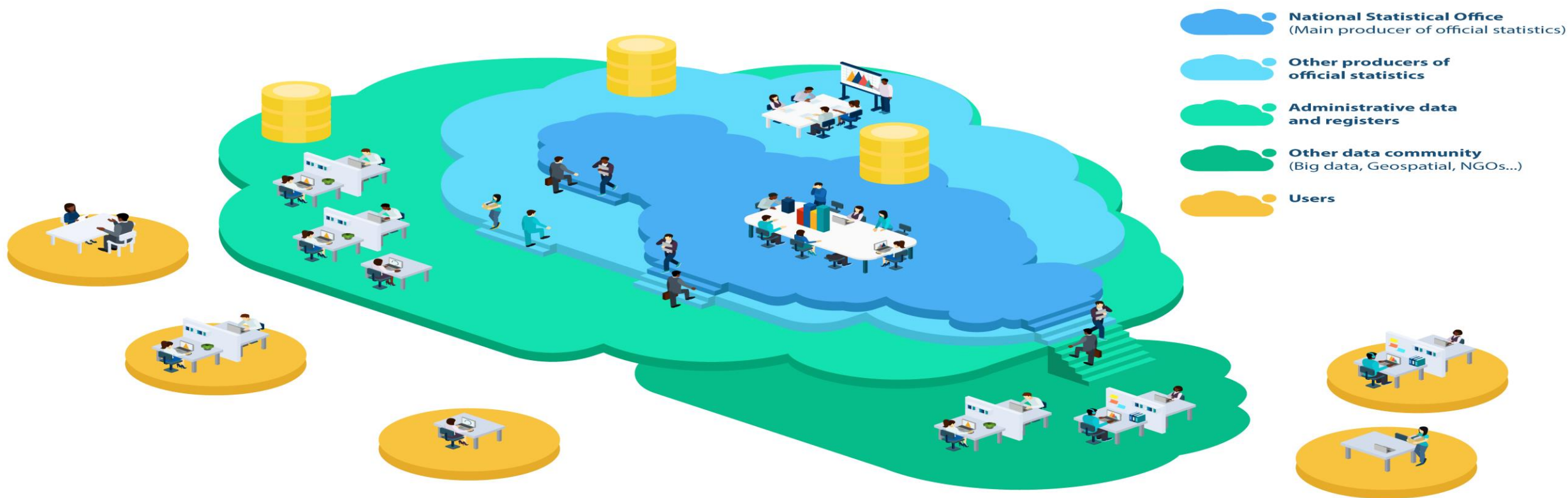
New Data Ecosystem

The Data Ecosystem



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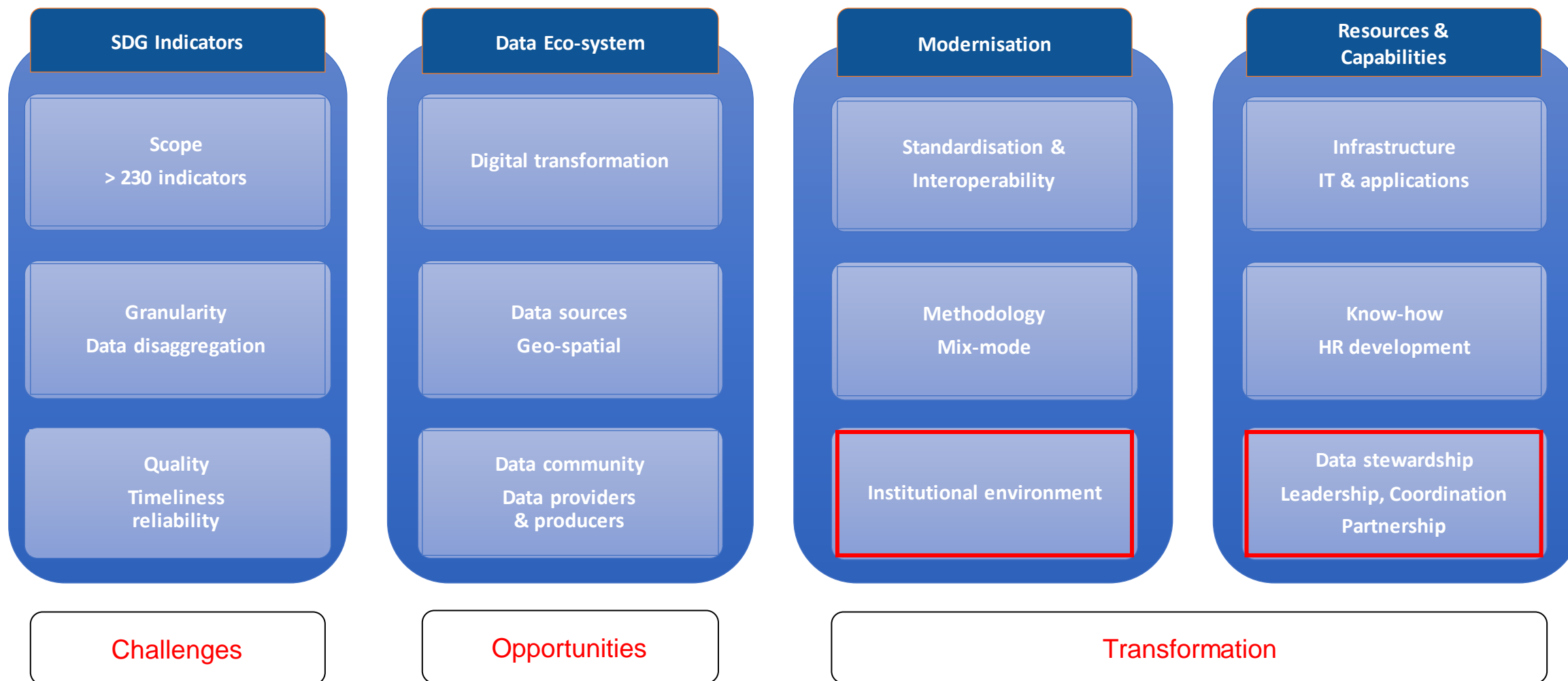
The entire network of data collectors, data producers, data analysts and other data users that directly or indirectly collect, process disseminate, analyze and/or otherwise consume data and associated services within a specified country or region



NSS Challenges and Opportunities



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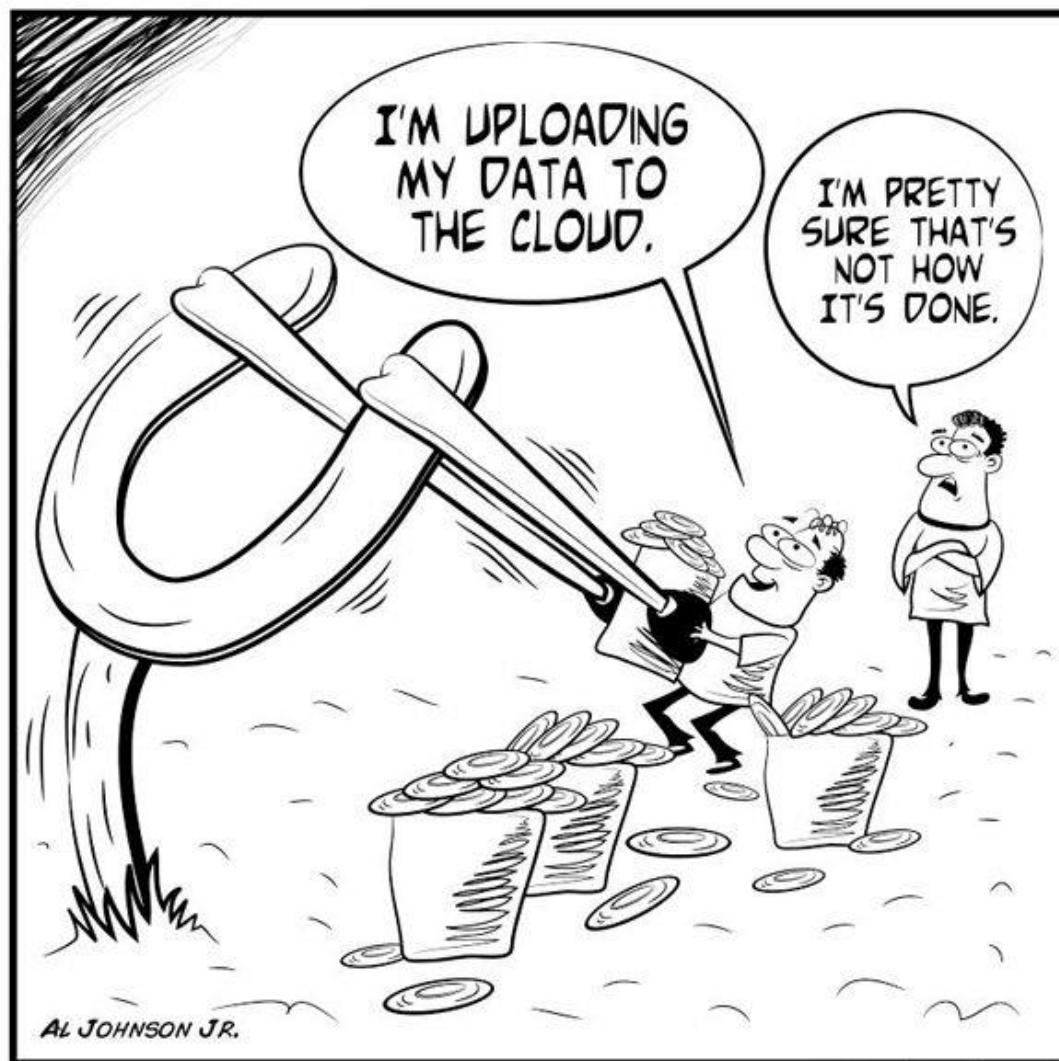
Data Stewardship is an approach to Data Governance that is accountable for enabling the development, processing, storage, and fitness-for-purpose of data in the interest of the entire data ecosystem or a smaller constituency thereof

- Data Stewardship is in general operating **in service of**, rather than in control of the data ecosystem
- Data Stewardship is not about getting/transferring ownership on data from custodian organizations, but rather sharing and collaboratively improving across the data ecosystem governance, data interoperability and production processes, know-how and technology, literacy and communication
- **Data Stewardship, if embedded in the mandate of the Chief Statistician should ultimately honour citizens' entitlement to public information**

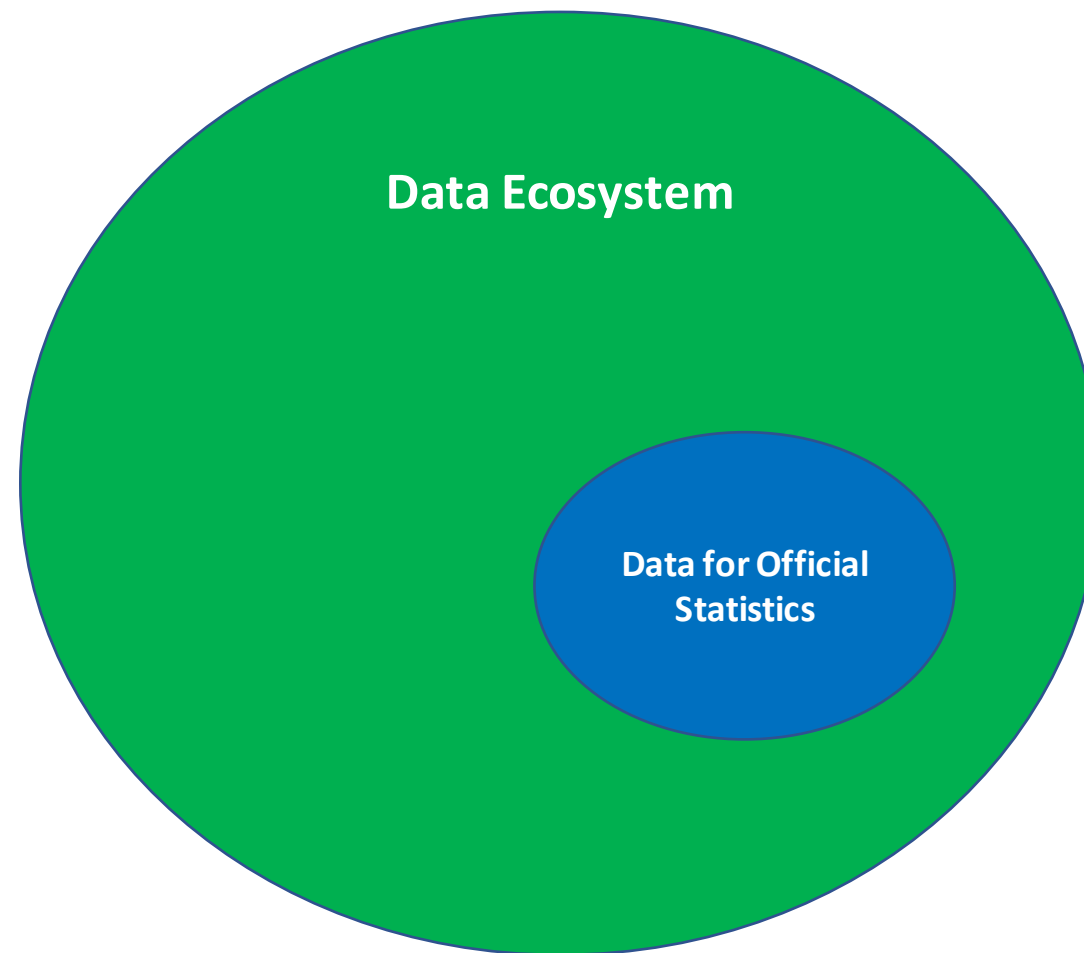
Data Stewardship and Data for Statistical Purposes /1



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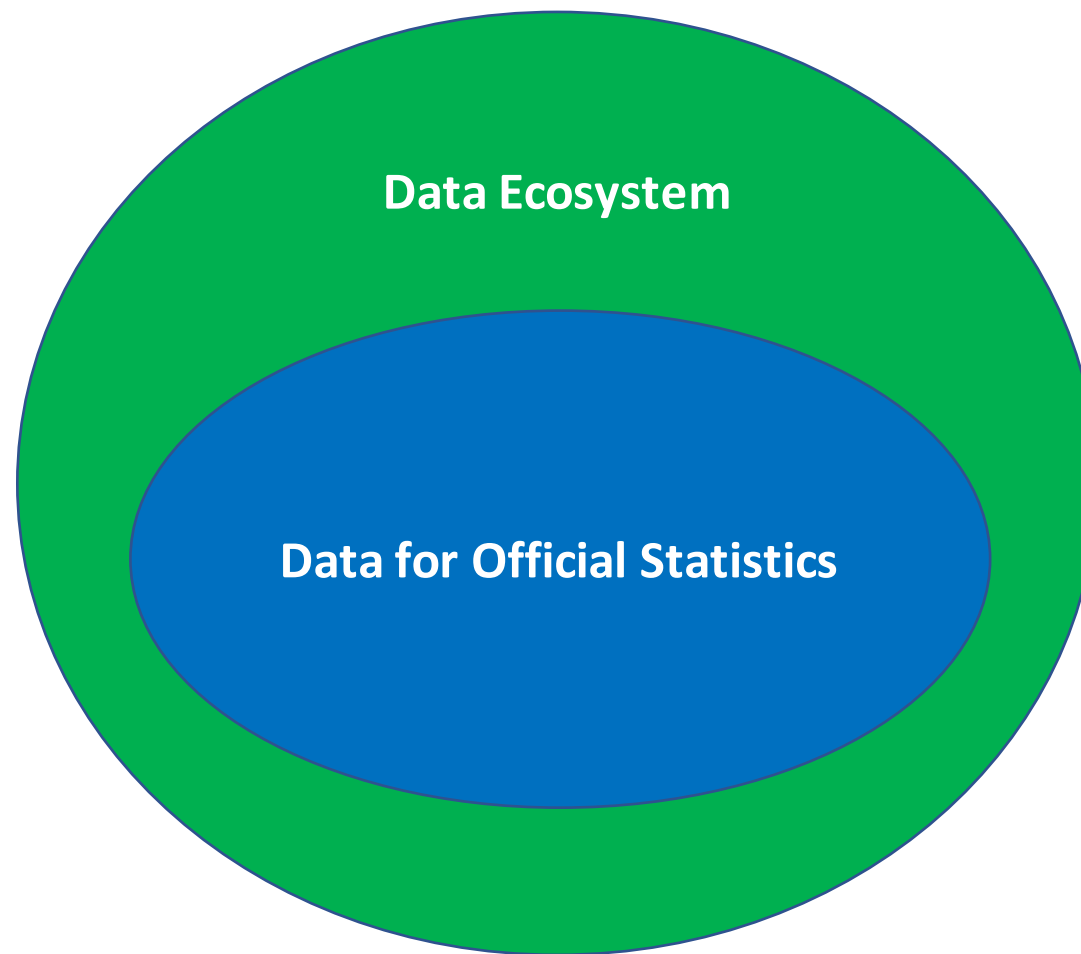
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Data Stewardship and Data for Statistical Purposes /2



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From Authority to Stewardship in Statistical Legislation



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Authority

National Statistics Office [NSO]

- The National Statistical Office is **led** by the Chief Statistician

Other Producers of Official Statistics [OPOS]

- The Chief Statistician **may issue standards and guidelines** to be applied across the National Statistical System for the development, production and dissemination of official statistics

Administrative data/statistics producers (third-party public data)

- If providers of administrative data plan to develop a new data collection or carry out a major revision in their data collection or processing ... they shall **consult** the NSO ...

Third-Party private data (Big Data)

- The Chief Statistician **may promote** the use of standards, terminology, classifications and technology applied in official statistics among public and private data providers and operators (data ecosystem)

Stewardship

Impediment to Data Stewardship [within the administration]



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Absence of horizontal
governance and authority

Lack of data literacy

Lack of adequate digital
infrastructure to manage
large volumes of data

Resistance of the
administration to break silos

National Data Strategy: The Foundations



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Transforming government's use of data to drive efficiency and improve public services:

- Fitness-for-purpose: the quality of the data is sufficient, available, accessible, interoperable, reusable, resilient ...
- Data skills: developing and maintaining skills across the administration and agencies that are needed to acquire, process and analyse data
- Centralised and/or federated system that allows the deployment of common infrastructure, technology and services
- Data sharing: promote the data exchange and access
- Data Ethics: lawful, secure, fair, ethical, sustainable and accountable

National Data Ecosystem

Privacy and Data Protection Commissioner / Officer

- Privacy and Data Protection Act
Governs personal data collected, processed and/or shared by public and private operators
- Public Information access Act
Governs the procedure which ensures free access to and right to reuse information held by public authorities
- Archiving Act
Rules the procedure for archiving data of national interest
- Data Ethics



National Statistical System

Chief Statistician

- UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics ([A/RES/68/261](#))
- UN National Quality Assurance Framework ([UN-NQAF](#))
- Regional Statistics Code of Good Practices
- National Legal Framework and/or national code of practices
- Other Guidelines, Methodology and Technology applying to the NSS and [promoted beyond the NSS](#)

Thank you for your attention!



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For questions and comments:

Gabriel Gamez | Inter-regional Adviser

Organisation and Development of NSS | Statistics Division
Department of Economic and Social Affairs | United Nations
2 UN Plaza | Room DC2-1656 | New York, NY 10017, USA
Email: gamezg@un.org



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

