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Regional initiatives

**Documents for the Information of the Committee on
Statistics on item 3 of the provisional agenda ****

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Part I

Regional programme improvement of the economic statistics in Indonesia¹

BPS Statistics Indonesia

Economic statistics coverage (production, distribution, services, and national account):

I. Statistics of production focus on

A. Agricultural Census 2013

(a) Preparation:

1. The preparation has been done through several pilot studies and stake holders' discussion since 2011.
2. Census of agriculture in Indonesia has been conducted 5 times (1963, 1973, 1983, 1993, and 2003). The 6th census will be conducted in 2013.
3. Cover all population of agricultural enterprises and households engaged in agricultural sectors (food crops, horticultural crops, estates crops, livestock, fisheries, and forestry) in all provinces (33), districts/municipalities (497), villages (78000), around 800000 census blocks in Indonesia.

(b) Future Improvement and Expectation

1. To collect all potencies of agricultural sector, the 2013 agricultural census will cover all households, activities, and establishments, which at least partially involve in agriculture businesses, regardless their sizes, large or small. In addition to previous agricultural censuses, the 2013 will census agricultural activities run by social, religious, cultural, and education communities as well.

2.

COMPARISON TO PREVIOUS AGRICULTURAL CENSUS		
Details	2003	2013
Household identification	Household listing without prior information	Household updating based on 2010 Population Census Database
Complete enumeration content	Less variables covered	More variables covered
Enumerator	Individual	Team
Result	No user assurance	User assurance (university scholar have made agreement to use the Agricultural Census Result for their research)

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3. Socialization and campaign will be intensified during the census year
4. Consultation with wide broad of stake holders will be added
5. It is expected that the 2013 Agricultural Census will improve the coverage of census and give foundation for advancing the Indonesian agricultural Sector.

B. Rice production estimate

(a) Until 2011, BPS Statistics Indonesia regularly disseminates the forecast and realization of rice production 3 times a year. Since 2012, due to concern from some users, the 1st forecast (in February) is not released to public anymore. The current data for rice production is generated from the regular survey of rice productivity per hectare and the Ministry of Agriculture administrative data for area harvested

- (b) Future improvement
 1. Acceleration of food crops statistics acquisition.
 2. Sampling methodology improvement of Productivity Survey
 3. Improvement of questionnaires and enumeration manuals
 4. Updating of land real acreage
 5. Conducting Non household rice consumption survey
 6. Updating wet paddy to dry un-husked paddy conversion
 7. In cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Home affair, Agency for the Assessment and Application of Technology, developing new integrated system of National Rice Statistics

C. Manufacturing Survey for production, wages, and price indexes

- (a) Large and Medium manufacturing (dominance in value added)
 1. Problems of low and late response rates still hunt the completeness of production data from large and medium manufacturing sector. However, in term of monthly/quarterly production index of manufacturing sector, the statistics is better and improved.
 2. Future improvement: develop common business register, improve communication and relationship with establishments, integrate all surveys targeted to manufacturing sector, and utilize the statistical law if necessary
- (b) Small and cottage manufacturing/handicrafts (dominance in number and workers)
 1. The low value added, enormous number of units, location, migration, and mutation of small and cottage manufacturing/handicrafts need further consideration

2. Future improvement: utilize the results of Economic Census and rural village potential (*PotensiDesa*) survey, integrate all surveys targeted to establishments (STKU), and do periodical integrated survey.
- (c) Wage Index
1. Until 2011, the manufacturing wage index was published monthly together with farm and construction wages. However, due to low and late response rates, since 2011, the manufacturing wage index monthly dissemination was dropped off from monthly released.
 2. Future Improvement: to integrate with the current manufacturing production survey
- (d) Manufacturing factory price index
1. Until now, to proxy manufacturing production price index, the wholesale price index is used, specifically by combining wholesale price and volume of production.
 2. Future improvement: to integrate with the manufacturing production survey

II. Statistics of national account

- A. Currently, the Indonesian GDP base year is 2000. The hybrid of NSA 1968 and 1993 is still used. Concern of the Indonesian Statistical Society: the changing of GDP database should be done in comprehensive manner, considering that most the required databases have been available, accurate, and independent.
- B. To control the quality data, besides considering and developing Supply-Use Table, the GDP production and expenditure approaches are handled by different directorates.
- C. Indonesia hasn't disseminated income and green GDP approaches.
- D. Future improvement:
- (a) Changing base year from 2000 to 2010 and from hybrid NSA1968/1993 to NSA2008. Expect the input data for GDP will improve in the future, such as Producer Price Index, consistency among data of production and consumption activities.
 - (b) Supply-Use Table and data quality: Will be used to consolidate a huge amount data from many different sources.
 - (c) Explore the possibility of developing GDP by income approach and green GDP.

III. Statistics of distribution and services:

- A. Foreign trade
- (a) Unmatched data between trading partners and unrecorded foreign trade
 - (b) Current and Future Improvements:

1. Data consolidation among countries, specifically within ASEAN and major trading partners.
 2. Consider estimating the unrecorded foreign trade regularly, such as do special survey within Indonesian waterways, remote, and border areas
 3. Plan to measure the differences between foreign trade at CIF (Cost, Insurance, and Freight) and FOB (freight on board) approaches.
- B. Tourism, domestic trade, transportation, and other service activities
- (a) Inbound and outbound comparison, flow of border tourism/people
 - (b) Flow of goods among islands, provinces
 - (c) Land transportation statistics, specifically non-rail road activities
 - (d) Under-coverage of other service activities
 - (e) Future improvement
 1. Prepare discussion and future action with stake holders and users of tourism statistics regarding inbound/outbound and people movement in countries' borders
 2. Prepare discussion with stake holders, users and possibility to do special and regular surveys of domestic flow of goods and land transportation (non-railroad). Common Business Register is needed.
 3. To develop other service statistics, deep discussions with other data providers and users are needed. Some information of service activities, in fact, covered by social statistics data collection system. Further assessment and additional effort will be prepared.
- C. Price statistics
- (a) Indonesia has not have producer price index yet
 - (b) In addition to GDP, population, areas, and Human Development Index, the Construction price index is also the main indicator to disburse central government fund to local governments (33 provinces and 497 regencies/municipalities)
 - (c) The current Laspeyres Formula gets difficulty to follow the dynamic and volatility of commodity prices.
 - (d) The ability of the farmers' term of trade in measuring the welfare of farmers
 - (e) Future Improvements:
 1. With the help of the World Bank, BPS-Statistics Indonesia has run special program, called CERDAS (Change and Reform for the Development of Statistics) since 2010 to improve its output. One of the product lines is the producer price index (PPI). In addition to that, fortunately, IMF and ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics)

are actively help our effort to develop PPI, by doing training, sharing experience, and consulting BPS staff in Indonesia and overseas; using IMF and ABS funds.

2. To improve the Spatial Construction Price Index, we consider improving communication with the local governments regarding budget data and measuring the commodity weights in each province/municipality/regency by doing special survey that included the commodity price coefficient of variation and taken care the seasonality.
3. To have index that accurately represent the price movement, several modifications of Laspeyres and Paasche formulae have been exercised that approaching the superlative, ideal Fisher formula.
4. To have farmers' term of trade that better in indicating the change of farmers' welfare, we are exercising to include production level (demand or supply sides).

Part II

Annexes of the Regional Strategic Plan for the Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific

Note by the secretariat

I. Proposed monitoring framework

Outcome	Proposed monitoring indicators
Outcome A: Enhanced public awareness of the value of civil registration and vital statistics systems, and actions taken to remove barriers to registration at all levels.	Number and proportion of countries within Asia and the Pacific that have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Developed national advocacy strategies for civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) targeting diverse audiences and stakeholders and focusing in particular on communities, marginalized groups and remote populations; Develop national communications strategies and outreach to women and underserved groups; Developed multi-sectoral national actions place that include strategies to identify and remove barriers to registration, in particular to those that impede access by persons from marginalized groups; and Included civil society and non-Governmental Organization (NGO) representation on national CRVS coordination committees.
Outcome B: Sustained political commitment to support the development and improvement of civil registration and vital statistics systems.	Number and proportion of countries within Asia and the Pacific that have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Issued a high-level declaration on the importance of CRVS for all individuals; Conducted a comprehensive multi-stakeholder assessment of CRVS systems; and Developed a prioritized multi-sectoral national action plan to improve CRVS systems detailing commitments required to implement those plans.
Outcome C: Sufficient and sustainable investments towards incremental improvements in civil registration and vital statistics systems.	Number and proportion of countries within Asia and the Pacific that have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Analyzed the business processes within CRVS systems with a view to identifying options for enhanced cost-effectiveness as well as resource gaps; and Allocated adequate national financial resources for the implementation of CRVS multi-sectoral national action plans.
Outcome D: Improved and strengthened policies, legislation and implementation of regulations for civil registration and vital statistics systems.	Number and proportion of countries within Asia and the Pacific that have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Assessed compliance with international legal frameworks and standards through multi-stakeholder reviews of CRVS legislation; Included reform of legislation and regulation in multi-sectoral national action plans; Implemented legislative and regulatory reform, in line with international legal frameworks and standards; and Ensured linkages with related national strategies such as National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS), development strategies and sectoral plans.

Outcome	Proposed monitoring indicators
Outcome E: Improved availability and quality of legal documentation for all individuals.	Number and proportion of countries within Asia and the Pacific that have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Improved the capacity of the civil registration system to issue legal documentation on appropriately evidenced vital events; Harnessed the capacity of hospitals, health centers, religious institutions and schools that can play significant roles in registering vital events; Enhanced the capacity of CRVS systems to issue legal documentation of a high quality, including the information required to establish an individual's nationality; and Increased national capacity to assure the safe and secure long-term management and archiving of legal records.
Outcome F: Increased capacity of countries in Asia and the Pacific to record, compile, analyze and disseminate complete and reliable statistics on vital events.	Number and proportion of countries within Asia and the Pacific that have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Expanded infrastructure availability, quality and equitable distribution, especially in poorly serviced areas and population groups; Enhanced CRVS human resource availability and distribution; Provided training and skills enhancement covering key aspects of CRVS, covering all aspects of vital events (including cause-of-death) recording, data reporting, compilation, archiving and analysis; Improved the completeness of birth registration in line with a nationally determined target; Improved the completeness of death registration in line with a nationally determined target; Improved the quality of cause-of-death certification and coding, in line with international standards as defined by the World Health Organization (WHO); and Developed and tested, in collaboration with academic and research institutions, innovative and efficient methods and tools for accelerating the improvement of CRVS systems.
Outcome G: Mechanisms established for effective coordination among key stakeholders within civil registration and vital statistics systems.	Number and proportion of countries within Asia and the Pacific that have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Established a representative and functioning multi-sectoral committee responsible for CRVS coordination; Held regular and productive meetings of the national CRVS coordination committee; Assigned to the national CRVS coordination committee, oversight of the implementation of the multi-sectoral national action plan; and Issued regular updates on improvement progress and report, where relevant, back to the National Statistical Council.
Outcome H: Increased capacity of countries in Asia and the Pacific to effectively use vital statistics.	Number and proportion of countries within Asia and the Pacific that have: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Included vital statistics derived from civil registration systems in national statistical, health and development plans for planning and monitoring purposes; Made available in the public domain, within one year of the end of the reporting year, the reports of numbers and distribution of total births and deaths by age and sex; Made available in the public domain, within two years of the end of the reporting year, reports of the major causes of death by age and sex at national and sub-national levels; and Reported up-to-date vital statistics to United Nations agencies, including the Statistics Division, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNSD) and WHO.

II. Rapid self-assessments of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics systems in Asia and the Pacific

1. As of November 2012, 34 countries in the Asia-Pacific region have assessed their civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) systems, using the rapid self-assessment tool developed by University of Queensland's Health Systems Information Knowledge Hub (HISHub) and the World Health Organization (WHO).²

2. The rapid self-assessment tool consists of 25 questions, grouped into 11 areas, about the functioning of the CRVS systems of a country. For each question, one of four possible scenarios can be selected; each scenario being assigned with a numerical value from zero to three (0-3) indicating how well the systems functions in this aspect. Summing the values from the 11 areas provides an overall score for the functioning of the CRVS systems in a country.

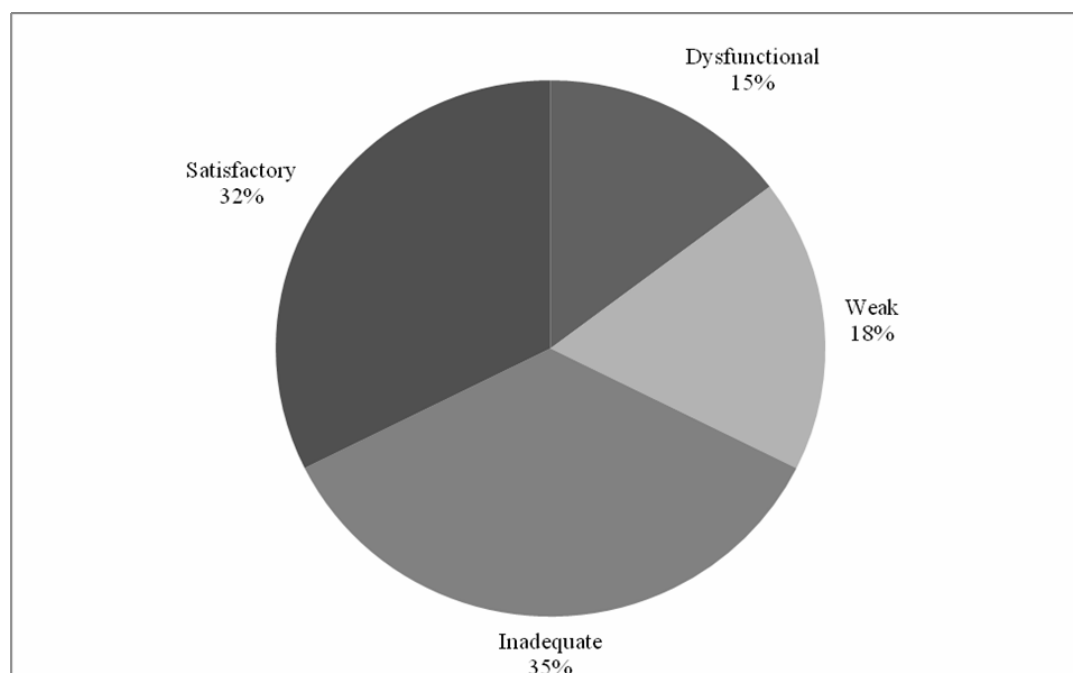
A. Overall results

3. The overall scores from the 34 countries in Asia and the Pacific, which have undertaken the rapid self-assessment are transformed in Figure 1 into percentage scores, and on this basis classified as either: dysfunctional (<34 per cent); weak (35-64 per cent); functional but inadequate (65-84 per cent); and satisfactory (85-100 per cent). The overall scores range from 7 per cent to 96 per cent.

4. This result reveals the wide variations of CRVS systems in Asia and the Pacific, including that less than one-third of countries in the region have satisfactory systems that require minor adjustments.

Figure 1.

Overall Rapid Assessment score of 34 Asia and the Pacific countries



² *Rapid self-assessment tool*: WHO and HISHub (2010). "Rapid assessment methods for vital statistics systems", University of Queensland: HISHub Working Paper Series, No. 2.

5. The rapid self-assessment results by area (see Table 1) can be utilized to guide and mobilize support for a more detailed, comprehensive assessment³ of CRVS systems and the development of national action plans to improve the systems.

6. The following sections provide a summary of the results of rapid self-assessments by area.⁴

Table 1.

Averages of 34 country rapid self-assessment results conducted in Asia and the Pacific by area

Area No.	Rapid self-assessment results by area	Average (max. =3)
1	Legal Framework	2.28
2	Registration Infrastructure	2.40
3	Organization and Function of VS systems	1.83
4	Completeness of Birth and Death Registration	2.17
5	Data Storage and Transmission	1.95
6-9	<i>Quality of Cause of Death Data; ICD Compliance, Practices and Training</i>	1.91
6	<i>ICD Compliance</i>	1.96
7	<i>Practices Affecting the Quality of Cause of Death Data</i>	1.88
8	<i>ICD Coding Practices</i>	2.39
9	<i>Coder Qualification and Training</i>	1.42
10	Data Quality and Plausibility Checks	1.70
11	Data Access, Dissemination and Use	2.44

B. Legal framework

7. The findings of the rapid self-assessments demonstrate that most countries, which completed the assessment, have in place adequate and enforced legislation on civil registration, stating that registration of births and deaths is compulsory. Only 9 per cent of countries mentioned that their legislation requires amendment, whilst 18 per cent of countries reported that the legislation exists but it is not enforced. However, one country mentioned that there is no law that makes it obligatory to register births and deaths.

³ *Comprehensive assessment tool*: WHO and HISHub (2010). "Improving the quality of birth, death and cause-of-death information: guidance for a standards-based review of country practices", University of Queensland: HISHub Working Paper Series, No. 1.

⁴ The 11 areas of the WHO/HISHub Rapid Self-Assessment tool have for the present overview been condensed to 8. The area's entitled 'ICD compliance', 'Practices affecting the quality and cause of death data', 'ICD coding practices' and 'Coder qualifications and training' have been combined into one area entitled 'Quality of cause of death data; ICD compliance, practices and training'.

8. Twenty-one countries reported that medical establishments are obliged to report all vital events within a given time period. However, in 6 per cent of countries, regulations exist, but not all medical establishments report the events. Only three countries reported that regulations cover public medical establishments exclusively; whilst in 24 per cent of countries there is no regulation at all.

C. *Registration infrastructure*

9. Seventy-nine per cent of countries consider that there are sufficient places where citizens can register births and deaths, and only 5 countries reported that urban areas are better covered than rural areas. However, 17 countries consider that necessary supplies and equipment are widely available, while 38 per cent of countries reported that supplies are generally available everywhere, but there are widespread shortages of equipment.

10. All registrars have received adequate training in 50 per cent of the countries. 41 per cent of countries consider that the training is insufficient, and skills and knowledge are largely acquired on the job. However, three countries provide no training, with negative effects upon the functioning of civil registration.

D. *Organization and function of vital statistics systems*

11. In terms of collaboration, the countries in the region still face many challenges. In 35 per cent of countries, there is little interagency collaboration, with the various agencies functioning independently, resulting in problems such as duplication of work and inconsistencies in the estimates derived from vital statistics issued. However, 14 countries mentioned that although there is no formal interagency committee, the agencies involved have regular meetings to identify and resolve problems.

E. *Completeness of birth and death registration*

12. In 68 per cent of the countries, a recent evaluation (in the last 10 years) showed that completeness of birth registration was 90 per cent or higher. The remaining 11 countries reported that completeness of the birth registration is less than 90 per cent. Very similar results were obtained when the completeness of death registration was assessed. Only 56 per cent of countries reported that a recent evaluation (in the last 10 years) showed that completeness of death registration was 90 per cent or higher. The remaining 15 countries reported that the completeness of death registration was lower than 90 per cent.

F. *Data storage and transmission*

13. The transmission of birth and death records from local and regional offices to a central storage in the capital city varies significantly in the region. 29 per cent of countries have the capacity to transmit all information electronically from local to regional offices, and then to a central office. However, 13 countries still use paper copies, which are sent from local offices to the regional office and processed there for electronic transmission to the central office. The remaining 11 countries only process the records at the central office or rely completely on paper copies throughout the system to transfer birth and death records to a central storage facility.

14. In 53 per cent of countries, there is an agreed schedule for reporting to the central office, with reporting deadlines taken seriously and closely monitored – it is rarely necessary to send out reminders. Whilst in nine countries, the schedule is not strictly adhered to and there is little effort by the central office to encourage more timely and regular reporting.

G. *Practices affecting the quality of cause of death data; International Classification of Diseases compliance, practices and training*

15. Sixty-five per cent of countries state that the cause of death must be indicated on the death certificate according to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), and can only be certified by a medical doctor. Whilst, 11 countries, state that cause of death must be indicated, but only under broad categories, and may be certified by non-medical officials.

16. Only in 24 per cent of countries, are all medical students are introduced to the ICD during their studies, and are taught how to certify cause of death and correctly complete the medical death certificate.

H. *Data quality and plausibility checks*

17. In 44 per cent of countries, checks on overall levels of fertility and mortality derived from the vital statistics data are made routinely by calculating rates and comparing these over time; rates are also compared to data derived from other sources, such as censuses and surveys. However, in nine countries, no specific checks are routinely carried out for data quality and plausibility of birth and death statistics.

18. In addition to checking the stability of patterns in cause of death over time, the proportion of ill- defined and unknown deaths is routinely monitored, and the age and sex patterns for major causes of death are checked for plausibility in 32 per cent of countries. However, 12 countries do not carry out consistency and plausibility checks routinely on data for cause of death.

I. *Data access, dissemination and use*

19. Seventy-one per cent of countries publish annual data on births and 71 per cent publish annual data on deaths by all three disaggregations (sex, age and geographical or administrative region). Six countries are not able to publish annual statistics on birth, and seven countries do not publish annual statistics on death.

20. The delay between the reference year and the time when detailed national statistics on cause of death, classified by sex and age, are made available to the public is less than two years for 71 per cent of countries. In six countries, it was reported that the delay is five years or more.

21. Data on births, deaths, and causes of death are utilized in 74 per cent of countries for socioeconomic planning and for monitoring the health status of the population, including the use of data on cause of death for public health purposes. In two countries, data from the civil registration and vital statistics systems are not routinely used for policy and programme purposes.

III. Development partners

Partner	Mandate and contribution for the Regional Strategic Plan
Asian Development Bank	<p>The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is a development finance institution with the vision of “An Asia and Pacific Region Free of Poverty” and a mission to help its developing member countries (DMC) reduce poverty and improve living conditions and quality of life by focusing on three complementary strategic agendas: (i) inclusive growth; (ii) environmentally sustainable growth; and (iii) regional integration.</p> <p>ADB is also engaged in monitoring the progress of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) in the Asia Pacific region in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). With regard to regional initiative on improving CRVS systems in the Asia Pacific region, ADB has been partnering with ESCAP and other development partners and has supported various activities such as regional forum and training workshop and assessments of the CRVS systems in selected countries under the ESCAP/UNDP/ADB regional MDG program. As member of the drafting group it is contributing to the development of the Regional Plan and organizing committee for the High Level Meeting in December 2012. ADB aims to provide limited support through technical assistance to selected DMCs to undertake comprehensive assessments and preparing national action plans for improving the CRVS systems and strengthening capacity to implement some recommendations to improve these systems.</p>
Australian Bureau of Statistics	<p>Through its membership on the ESCAP Committee of Statistics, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) is committed to advocating for and supporting where possible the strengthening of statistical information and sharing of the same within Asia and the Pacific. One plan of this work focuses on improving CRVS. A key goal of this work from the ABS perspective is to assist National Statistical Offices (NSO) in target countries to build their capacity to provide support and leadership in terms of vital statistics and to strengthen their role in CVRS. ABS has critical skills in data collection, collation, management and analysis skills relating to economic, environmental and social statistical information including CRVS.</p> <p>ABS's contribution to the Regional Strategic Plan can be seen through: (i) joint support (with HISHub) of an ABS out posted officer to provide technical assistance to target countries for another two years; (ii) participation in the Statistical Capability Working Group proposed at the 7-8 May 2012 meeting of partners; (iii) engaging (advocating) with NSOs in the target countries to strengthen their commitment to and involvement in improving CRVS; (iv) undertaking capacity building activities to more broadly strengthen NSOs in the region; (v) partnering with HISHub; and (vi) participation at the December 2012 High-level Meeting on the Improvement Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific.</p>
Health Metrics Network	<p>A committed partner to the Asia Pacific regional plan, the Health Metrics Network (HMN) is a global partnership focused on strengthening country health information systems. HMN is actively pursuing a regional agenda to strengthen country health information systems.</p>

Partner	Mandate and contribution for the Regional Strategic Plan
International Organizations for Migration (Asia and the Pacific Regional Office)	<p>HMN is the global focal point for the United Nations Commission on Information and Accountability for Women's and Children's Health (CoIA) for CRVS and has a current priority focus on CRVS. With its technical and financial resources, HMN works with regional partners to support country CRVS strengthening, including: (i) tools; (ii) capacity building; (iii) innovation; and (iv) resource mobilization. HMN is currently supporting innovative CRVS initiatives in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand.</p> <p>The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is an intergovernmental agency committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. Founded in 1951, it has 146 member states and an annual operating budget of close to \$1 billion. Its 5,400 staff works in over 100 countries worldwide. As the leading international organization for migration, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: (i) assist in meeting the growing operational challenges of migration management; (ii) advance the understanding of migration issues; (iii) encourage social and economic development through migration; and (iv) to uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.</p> <p>IOM works on capacity building for migration management to facilitate global mobility with security. In relation to the supporting the Regional Strategic Plan, IOM can apply technical expertise (identity solutions, data management, infrastructure/IT capacity, personal identification and registration system and developing security documents), research, cooperation and operational assistance to States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders in order to help improve civil registration and vital statistics as part of implementation solutions to build national capacities and facilitate international, regional and bilateral cooperation.</p>
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	<p>The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) is mandated to promote and protect the enjoyment and full realization, by all people, of all rights established in the Charter of the United Nations and in international human rights laws and treaties. The mandate includes: (i) preventing human rights violations; (ii) securing respect for all human rights; (iii) promoting international cooperation to protect human rights; (iv) coordinating related activities throughout the United Nations; and (v) strengthening and streamlining the United Nations system in the field of human rights. In addition to its mandated responsibilities, OHCHR leads efforts to integrate a human rights approach within all work carried out by United Nations agencies. OHCHR aims to contribute to the Regional Strategic Plan through the provision of technical expertise.</p>
Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century	<p>The Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21) is a global partnership that seeks to improve the statistical capacities in developing countries to produce and use better statistics. PARIS21 focuses its work on promoting and assisting countries to prepare National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS), a system-wide strategic planning process. PARIS21 does not work on CRVS per se but on the overall management of national statistical systems (e.g., strategic planning, co-ordination). PARIS21 emphasizes the need to incorporate all statistical operations into NSDS. As such, PARIS21 will advocate the mainstreaming of programmes targeting the improvement of CRVS into NSDS in order to: (i) ensure national</p>

Partner	Mandate and contribution for the Regional Strategic Plan
Plan International	<p>ownership; and (ii) increase the probability of mobilizing resources and ensuring sustainability.</p> <p>Plan International aims to achieve lasting improvements in the quality of life of deprived children in developing countries, through a process that unites people across cultures and adds meaning and value to their lives, by: (i) enabling deprived children, their families and their communities to meet their basic needs and to increase their ability to participate in and benefit from their societies; (ii) building relationships to increase understanding and unity among peoples of different cultures and countries; and (iii) promoting the rights and interests of the world's children.</p> <p>Plan International is interested in supporting the Regional Strategic Plan and it has over a decade of experience of addressing barriers to birth registration in partnership with governments and other bodies. It also has documentation of what works and materials for promoting birth registration.</p>
Regional Coordination Mechanism Thematic Working Group on Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women (Asia-Pacific)	<p>The Asia-Pacific Regional Coordination Mechanism Thematic Working Group on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (TWG-GEEW) was established as part of the Asia-Pacific United Nations Regional Coordination Mechanism on 19 February 2008. The work of the TWG-GEEW complements that of the other five Thematic Working Groups established in 2005 as part of a reformed regional Thematic Working Group structure. The goal of TWG-GEEW is to ensure a coordinated UN system approach to promoting gender equality and women's empowerment in the Asia-Pacific Region. The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and ESCAP co-chair and act as the joint secretariat of TWG-GEEW. It currently has 27 members and meets at least quarterly.</p> <p>The indicative Annual Work Plan 2011-2012 was endorsed by the TWG-GEEW at its 17th Meeting on 2 September 2011. It addresses four areas of work: (i) advocacy/campaigning; (ii) gender mainstreaming; (iii) outreach to stakeholders; and (iv) policy makers and capacity development. The priority themes include Gender and HIV/AIDS, to end violence against women and Gender Statistics. UN Women co chairs the Working Group on Gender Statistics along with the ESCAP Statistics Division.</p>
Royal Thai Government (Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Public Health and the National Statistics Office)	<p>Ministry of Interior – Under the Department of Provincial Administration, the Bureau of Registration Administration is the national authority responsible for directing, coordinating, aggregating, processing and supervising the registration functions and population database throughout Thailand. Since 1996, when the Ministry of Interior provided nation-wide online electronic birth and death data directly to the vital statistics management process of the national public health system, among other things, the quality of vital statistics in Thailand has greatly improved.</p> <p>Ministry of Public Health – The Ministry of Public Health has responsibilities for compilation, coding cause of death to ICD statistical processing, and publication of vital statistics. After a restructure in 1993, the vital statistics function has been conducted by the Health Information Centre, Bureau of the Health Policy and Strategy, the Office of the Permanent secretary of the Ministry of Public Health.</p> <p>NSO – The NSO is the statistical information centre of the country. Beyond producing statistics, its responsibilities include: (i) promoting</p>

Partner	Mandate and contribution for the Regional Strategic Plan
Secretariat of the Pacific Community	<p>and developing government statistical activities; (ii) compiling statistics from other statistical agencies; (iii) coordinating and directing technical aspects of all statistical projects of government agencies; (iv) cooperate with, participating in the coordination of the work of foreign states or international organizations; and (v) issuing periodicals and publishing statistical data.</p> <p>With regards to the Regional Strategic Plan, the Royal Thai Government is able to promote the sharing of technical knowledge, expertise and resources across Asia and the Pacific, as well as sharing its own.</p> <p>The region's policy-makers and analysts depend on having access to timely and accurate demographic, economic and social indicators to support their work, and our Statistics for Development Programme (SDP) aims to strengthen the capacity of national statistical systems and social and economic planning agencies to supply this data.</p> <p>The SDP's 'core business' is to provide technical assistance and training. There is a strong emphasis on helping Pacific Island Countries and Territories establish good data collection systems. We also seek to improve the quantity and quality of data, indicators and reports being published in the region. SDP and its national partners undertake a range of data collection activities (e.g. censuses, demographic health surveys and household income and expenditure surveys). Dissemination and utilization of data has continued to improve through the successful Pacific Regional Information System and Population Geographic Information System projects.</p> <p>Along with HISHub, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community's (SPC) SDP serves as a focal point for the Brisbane Accord Group (BAG) and the Pacific Vital Statistics Action Plan (PVSAP). BAG was established at to coordinate, facilitate and support investments in the region through collaborative activities. The overarching aim of the PVSAP is to assist Pacific countries to understand the critical importance of vital statistics on births, deaths and causes of deaths and to improve their availability, accuracy and use. The PVSAP also focuses specifically on helping countries to improve the completeness of registration of births and deaths and to improve the quality and reliability of data on causes of death through a range of strategies and linked activities.</p>
Statistics Division, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs	<p>Recognizing that the development of vital statistics is contingent on a complete and accurate civil registration system, the Statistics Division, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNSD) has focused closely on the development of vital statistics systems. UNSD develops international statistical standards and guidelines for CRVS, and publishes them as the <i>Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System</i>. It also produces methodological and technical manuals to assist countries in generating reliable and accurate vital statistics. Through the <i>United Nations Demographic Yearbook</i> data collection system, UNSD regularly collects, compiles and disseminates official vital statistics, while monitoring the development of CRVS for countries worldwide.</p> <p>UNSD will contribute to the development of Regional Strategic Plan by: (i) ensuring its compliance with international statistical standards; and (ii) offering technical assistance or undertake capacity building activities for national statisticians and civil registrars in the region to provide support for the implementation of such international standards and guidelines.</p>

Partner	Mandate and contribution for the Regional Strategic Plan
United Nations Children's Fund	<p>The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) is mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to advocate for the protection of children’s rights, to help meet their basic needs, and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential. Article 7 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child accords the right to be registered at birth by the State within whose jurisdiction the child is born. Birth registration strengthens children’s access to legal protection and social services, and supports the implementation of national legislation on minimum ages, including for child labour, child recruitment and child marriage, and is invaluable to family tracing efforts. By documenting the relationship between child, his or her parents and place of birth, registration facilitates the acquisition of nationality by birth or descent, helping to prevent statelessness. As specified in the 2008 UNICEF Child Protection Strategy, UNICEF’s main actions for supporting birth registration include: (i) legal and policy reform; (ii) civil registry strategic planning; (iii) capacity building and awareness-raising; (iv) the integration of birth registration into other services, such as health and education; and (v) community-based registration and social mobilization campaigns. In relation to the Regional Strategic Plan, most of UNICEF’s Country Offices in the Asia and Pacific region are working on strengthening birth registration, and are also beginning to improve the registration of child adoptions. In coordination with other partners, some are also supporting assessments of civil registration systems, and may be able to support planning and implementation of national and regional strategies. Furthermore, through a partnership with the European Union, UNICEF will focus on the strengthening of normative and regulatory frameworks, and improving the operations of access to birth registration in Myanmar and Pacific Island Countries.</p>
United Nations Development Programme (Asia-Pacific Regional Centre)	<p>The United Nations Development Programme’s (UNDP) Asia-Pacific Regional Centre (APRC) provides technical and policy advice to its Country Offices. The APRC builds partnerships and promotes regional capacity building initiatives, which allow UNDP, governments and other development partners to, identify, create and share knowledge relevant to development challenges. Its broad areas of works cover: (i) democratic governance; (ii) energy and environment; (iii) crisis prevention and recovery; and (iv) poverty reduction and human development with an overarching effort to achieving the MDGs.</p>
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	<p>ESCAP is the regional development arm of the United Nations and serves as the main economic and social development centre for the United Nations in Asia and the Pacific. Its mandate is to foster cooperation between the 53 members and 9 associate members. It supports Governments of the region in consolidating regional positions and advocates regional approaches to meeting the region’s unique socio-economic challenges in a globalizing world.</p> <p>The ESCAP resolution 67/12 on improvement of CRVS in Asia and the Pacific positions the ESCAP secretariat to take a central role in implementing the Regional Strategic Plan and the broader regional initiative to improve CRVS systems. It places ESCAP as the focal point for coordination amongst development partners operating in the region, and between development organizations and countries, sharing or providing access to technical expertise and resources, and for monitoring and reporting on progress.</p>

Partner	Mandate and contribution for the Regional Strategic Plan
United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Bangkok Office)	<p>The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) works to create the conditions for dialogue among civilizations, cultures and peoples, based upon respect for commonly shared values. It is through this dialogue that the world can achieve global visions of sustainable development encompassing observance of human rights, mutual respect and the alleviation of poverty, all of which are at the heart of UNESCO'S mission and activities. The broad goals and concrete objectives of the international community – as set out in the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs – underpin all UNESCO's strategies and activities. Thus UNESCO's unique competencies in education, science, culture and communication and information contribute to the building of peace, the eradication of poverty, sustainable development and intercultural dialogue.</p> <p>Within this context, UNESCO actively promotes cultural approaches to development interventions, and specifically the use of culturally and linguistically appropriate methodologies and information materials. Beside capacity-building activities on birth and citizenship registration, UNESCO has piloted a programme in Thailand for the development of audio clips and animation cartoons on why birth registration is important and how to register a child at birth. These materials have been developed in 8 minority languages to reach the most vulnerable populations. Geographic information system mapping has also been used to understand the cultural, social and economic situation in target areas of interventions.</p>
United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women	<p>The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) is a global champion for women and girls. UN Women was established to accelerate progress on meeting their needs worldwide. Created by the United Nations General Assembly in July 2010, UN Women became operational on 1st January 2011, and supports United Nations Member States as they set global standards for achieving gender equality, and works with governments and civil society to design laws, policies, programmes and services needed to implement these standards. It stands behind women's equal participation in all aspects of life, focusing on six priority areas: (i) increasing women's leadership and participation; (ii) ending violence against women; (iii) engaging women in all aspects of peace and security processes; (iv) enhancing women's economic empowerment; (v) making gender equality central to national development planning and budgeting; and (vi) increasing coordination and accountability across the United Nations system for gender equality.</p>
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	<p>The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has a Global Strategic Priority for 2012-13 of securing birth registration; profiling and individual documentation based on registration for persons of concern which include refugees and asylum-seekers, internally displaced persons and stateless persons. The United Nations General Assembly has entrusted UNHCR with a mandate relating to the identification, prevention and reduction of statelessness and the protection of stateless persons. As part of its Mandate to prevent statelessness, UNHCR works with Governments, Regional Organizations, UNICEF, UNFPA, Plan International and other partners to try that all persons of concern are registered at birth.</p>

Partner	Mandate and contribution for the Regional Strategic Plan
United Nations Population Fund	<p>A number of UNHCR's Country Offices are already working on birth registration and, in consultation with the Regional Coordinator's Office, Thailand and the Bureau for the Asia-Pacific may be able to support country assessments, plans or implementation. UNHCR has experience of providing technical assistance to States in respect of their nationality and birth registration laws, as has extensive operational experience in respect of registration of the populations of concern. UNHCR has been contributing to the development of the Regional Plan and participates in the Organizing Committee, Drafting Committee and the Communications and Advocacy Committee.</p> <p>The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is an international development agency that promotes the right of every woman, man and child to enjoy a life of health and equal opportunity. In addition to carrying out programmes on sexual and reproductive health and gender aspects, UNFPA works on major population issues (ageing, migration...) and their interrelations with development processes. The availability of population statistics is essential in that perspective and UNFPA activities can include at country level the strengthening of statistical systems in order to make it possible to monitor demographic trends and to integrate population dynamics into development planning. As an important component of population statistics, vital statistics are therefore of high interest to UNFPA. They also provide stakeholders with the best source of information on maternal mortality or prenatal sex selection that are important areas of work for UNFPA.</p> <p>UNFPA is interested in contributing to the Regional Strategic Plan, particularly through supporting activities at regional level, where technical expertise in statistics and demography is available. Financial resources for activities at country level (assessments) can also possibly be mobilized from the budget of UNFPA Country Programmes, providing these activities are aligned with the priority areas of these Programmes.</p>
University of Queensland, Health Information System Knowledge Hub	<p>HISHub works to increase the critical, conceptual and strategic analysis of key Health Information System (HIS) issues relevant to the Asia Pacific region with the aim to inform policy thinking and practical application at the national, regional and international levels. To carry out this mandate HISHub conducts research in most areas of HIS development, develops tools and resources that can assist countries improving their systems, teaches short courses on HIS and CRVS. HISHub also undertakes technical assistance to countries in the areas of Vital Statistics improvement and conducts CRVS assessments in a holistic manner, including causes of death analysis, death certification and ICD training, medical records reviews, death distribution and verbal autopsy methods. HISHub knowledge resources and publications are widely disseminated and used by partner agencies and countries to influence practice and thinking at national, regional and international levels.</p> <p>HISHub aims at supporting the Regional Strategic Plan as an academic partner and as a source of technical advice for strengthening health information and CRVS systems.</p>

Partner	Mandate and contribution for the Regional Strategic Plan
World Health Organization	<p>WHO is the directing and coordinating authority for health within the United Nations system. It is responsible for: providing leadership on global health matters; shaping the health research agenda; setting norms and standards; articulating evidence-based policy options; providing technical support to countries; and monitoring and assessing health trends. With regard to CRVS, WHO's mandate is to provide technical assistance wherever possible and play a coordinating role to bring all stakeholders together, to take action, and to follow up and remain accountable for sustainable progress. WHO provides CRVS technical support for careful, realistic, multi-stakeholder and focuses strategic planning and management processes that are country-led with recommendations made and follow up to build on existing infrastructure and steer countries towards meeting international standards in a holistic manner. WHO has been partnering with ESCAP and other agencies to: undertake comprehensive CRVS assessments; facilitate training in CRVS; assist countries in developing strategic plans for CRVS improvement; and address priority actions identified in the region. WHO has assisted with convening and launching the Asia eHealth Information Network (www.aehin.org) and the Pacific Health Information Network (www.phinnetwork.org) in collaboration with other partners to provide peer-to-peer technical assistance in strategic areas pertaining to CRVS – including: policy and legal frameworks; mechanisms for coordination and governance; implementation of standards; and guidance and training materials. WHO is taking a convening role for countries in the region in order to incorporate and align efforts of all United Nations agencies for the improvement of CRVS. WHO shall also provide consultative support on key areas requested, such as collection and utilization of essential data elements from CRVS from multiple agencies to create reliable information for decision making across the health sector.</p>

IV. Annex 1.

The development partners of the initiative for the Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Asia and the Pacific



Part III

Improving accuracy of vital statistics using administrative data¹

I. Overview

Vital statistics are compiled based on the births, deaths, marriages and divorces reported to local administrative offices (city/gu office or eup/myeon/dong office) by an individual in accordance with the Statistics Act and the Supreme Court laws on vital events related to registering family relations.

With both economic and social development, as well as with the heightened education and living standards of Korea, reports of vital events are made within the mandated period in most cases. The content in the reports are also found to be quite satisfactory.

KOSTAT has been working on improving the efficiency and accuracy of vital statistics through collecting administrative data, which serve as the basis for vital statistics, and by enhancing the actual reporting system.

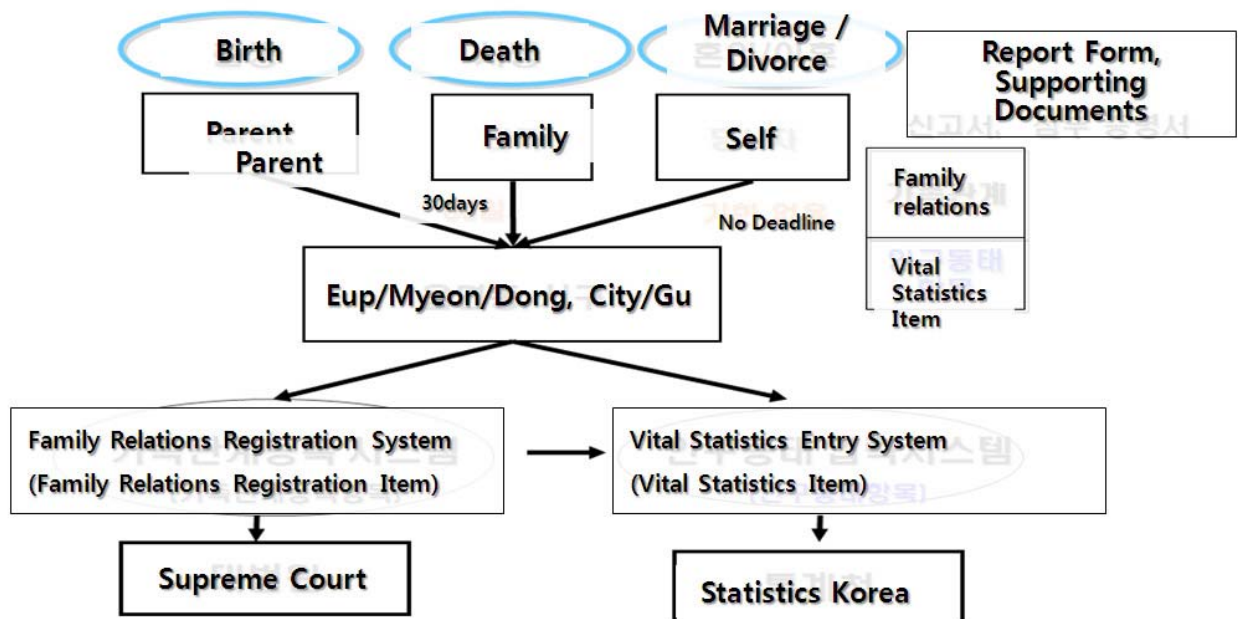
II. Major activities

The reported data in the past (when the importance of vital statistics was less emphasized) contained only basic and incomplete information on vital events, and thus it possessed little statistical value. However, with the announcement of the Statistics Act and the Rules on Vital Statistics in 1962, the Korean government began to invest much more effort when it came to improving vital statistics. In particular, the forms used to report family relations, along with the vital statistics survey questionnaire, were standardized in 1970. In 1997, local administrative offices, where reports on vital events were filed, began to directly enter data into the system. This greatly reduced the time required to process the data.

Beginning in January 2003, KOSTAT developed and distributed a new system for entering vital statistics in accordance with the "Laws on Registering Family Relations" and with the "Rules on Vital Statistics Survey". Under this system, individuals report vital events to a local administrative office (eup/myeon/dong or city/gu) in specified forms. After this, the official working in the local office downloads the family relations registration items file from the Supreme Court family relations registration system into the "vital statistics entry system". Finally, he or she then enters the reported information. Data entered into this system then goes under a data editing process to check for duplicates and/or omissions. Also, with the addition of abandoned babies, infant deaths, and other data, vital statistics are compiled.

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Registration System and Compiling System for Vital Statistics



In addition to this, deaths statistics and causes of deaths statistics are compiled based on death report forms and death certificates which are filed by individuals as mandated by the Statistics Act and Laws on Family Relations Registration.

However, in cases where the cause of death cannot be identified due to insufficient information entered by medical facilities, administrative data are used. This became possible in 2000 when we first obtained the National Health Insurance Data. For the former data containing insufficient information, phone calls were made to individuals who reported data in order to update this incomplete data, or they were excluded from statistics altogether.

For the release of causes of deaths statistics for 2010, we obtained 21 types of administrative data from 13 agencies. The administrative data we obtained from the agencies for a particular year cover a total of 16 months. This corresponds to the 12 months of the year requested, along with the additional four months in the following year, to include the reports made past the legal deadline.

Type of Administrative Data and Its Use in Vital Statistics

Last Updated	Collected Data (Agency Providing Data)	Information in Data	
		# of Deaths	Causes of Deaths
'99	Cremation Reports Data (Local governments)	○	○
	Maternal and Child Health Reports Data (local governments)	○	○
'00	Health Insurance Data (National Health Insurance Corp)		○
	Cancer Register Data (National Cancer Center)		○
'01	Infectious Disease Deaths Data (Center for Disease Control)		○
	Occupational Health and Safety Insurance Data (Korea Worker's Compensation and Safety Service)		○
'02	Medical Care Data (National Health Insurance Corp)		○
	AIDS Deaths Data (Center for Disease Control)		○
	Suspicious Deaths and Investigation Data (National Police Agency)	○	○
	Suspicious Deaths Autopsy Data (National Forensic Service)	○	○
'03	Tuberculosis Deaths Data (Center for Disease Control)	○	○
	Traffic Accident Deaths Data (National Police Agency)	○	○
'05	Industrial Accidents Data (Occupational Health & Safety Research Institute)		○
'07	Suspicious Deaths Autopsy Data (National Forensic Service Branch)	○	○
	Central Emergency Medical Center Check-in Data (National Medical Center)		○
	Resident Number of the Deceased (Ministry of Public Administration and Safety)	○	
'08	Suspicious and non-suspicious deaths final investigation data (National Police Agency)	○	○
	Suspicious and non-suspicious deaths final investigation data (Costal Guard)	○	○
	Military Deaths Data (Ministry of National Defense and Headquarters of Military Units)		○
'09	Deaths without friends or family (local governments)	○	○
	Swine Flu Forensic Data (Center for Disease Control)		○

III. Major outcomes

With the improved reporting system, we were able to assess whether time-lines could be enhanced by analyzing different properties of reported data, and then taking into account the share of unreported data. Subsequently, we refurbished the system for compiling statistics and then designed ways to speed up the time frame wherein this data needed to be released. In particular, we enhanced the work process between local governments and KOSTAT to allow for data to be compiled on a monthly basis, so that monthly data could be released by the end of the following month. We also reduced the time needed to release yearly data by 3 months so that tentative and/or questionable data could be released by the end of February in following year.

As a result, beginning in 2008 we compiled and released birth statistics based on the number of newborns born monthly that were filed, and likewise the marriage and divorce statistics by the number of monthly marriages and divorces, also based on filed reports. In other words, we released vital statistics on a monthly basis. For tentative yearly results, we reduced the time needed to release data by 3 months, from May to February, and thereby fulfilled user demands for timely data.

Moreover, we included delayed reports on vital events in our vital statistics so as to improve the accuracy and to apply global standards. We also reorganized the time frame to expand the scope of data release as demanded by the users.

As for death related statistics, we used administrative data collected from local governments and the National Police Agency to include the number of infants, without family and friends, as well as the number of suspicious deaths omitted from the death reports. In 2009, we were able to make up the omitted data on 866 deaths which accounted for 0.4% of all deaths.

Similarly, for causes of deaths statistics when the cause of death could not be determined due to missing information, errors, or missing death certificates, we obtained death related administrative data in order to discover the type of deaths and the health history of the deceased. This supplemented 38.8% of the data in 2009.

Consequently, with the use of administrative data in compiling statistics, we were able to alleviate response burdens, reduce discrepancies in the number of deaths with similar statistics taken from other agencies, and prevent confusions among data users.

IV. Implications and future plans

By introducing the vital statistics survey system linked with the family relations registration system in a web environment, the efficiency and accuracy of compiling vital statistics in Korea was greatly enhanced. Moreover, workloads were reduced when entering this vital data at local administrative offices, and data were less likely to go missing or to be duplicated.

While most of death related administrative data are being obtained by KOSTAT, we are continuing to identify new death related administrative data, expand items of data currently imported, and discover additional data that is still in need of obtaining.

There are problems with birth and death certificates provided by medical facilities which individuals must attach when reporting vital events, as they cannot be utilized as statistics due to the lack of the standardization of their contents. We believe we can overcome this issue by developing a comprehensive database of births and deaths, and by improving the data production system for health related statistics that go into compiling birth and death statistics.

In addition to supplementing the number of deaths and causes of deaths, we must enhance the use of administrative data by reviewing the applicability of this data where health and death statistics are concerned using a system of comparison analysis. For an assessment of death properties, and for an in-depth analysis linking administrative data with vital statistics (births, marriages and divorces), we plan to explore new administrative data and to request the obtaining of additional items contained within currently imported data.

Part IV

Modernization of statistical information systems¹

I. Outline

The government of Japan is engaged in the “Optimization of Operation Systems for Statistical Work”, which is a business transformation project aiming at providing the public with user-oriented statistical data and integrating the statistical information systems of different ministries. As an action plan to implement this, “The Optimization Plan of Operations and Systems for Statistical Work” was developed in March 2006, and under this action plan the “Inter-Ministry Information System for Official Statistics” (hereafter referred to as the “IMISOS”) was launched in April 2008 to integrate the statistical information systems of different ministries into single system to be shared by ministries. This system consists of 13 sub-systems including major systems such as “The Portal Site of Official Statistics of Japan” (“e-Stat”), which is a one-stop-service for disseminating statistical information of all ministries or “The Portal Site of Government Online Surveys” (“e-Survey system”) which enables survey respondents to obtain questionnaires, fill them out and send their answers via the Internet.

II. Orientation of Approaches in the National Master Plan

The Master Plan Concerning the Development of Official Statistics (hereinafter referred to as the “Master Plan”), which was approved by the all ministers in the Cabinet as a Cabinet Decision in 2007 and aims to promote comprehensive and systematic measures concerning the development of official statistics, states that the following action should be implemented based on the Optimization Plan:

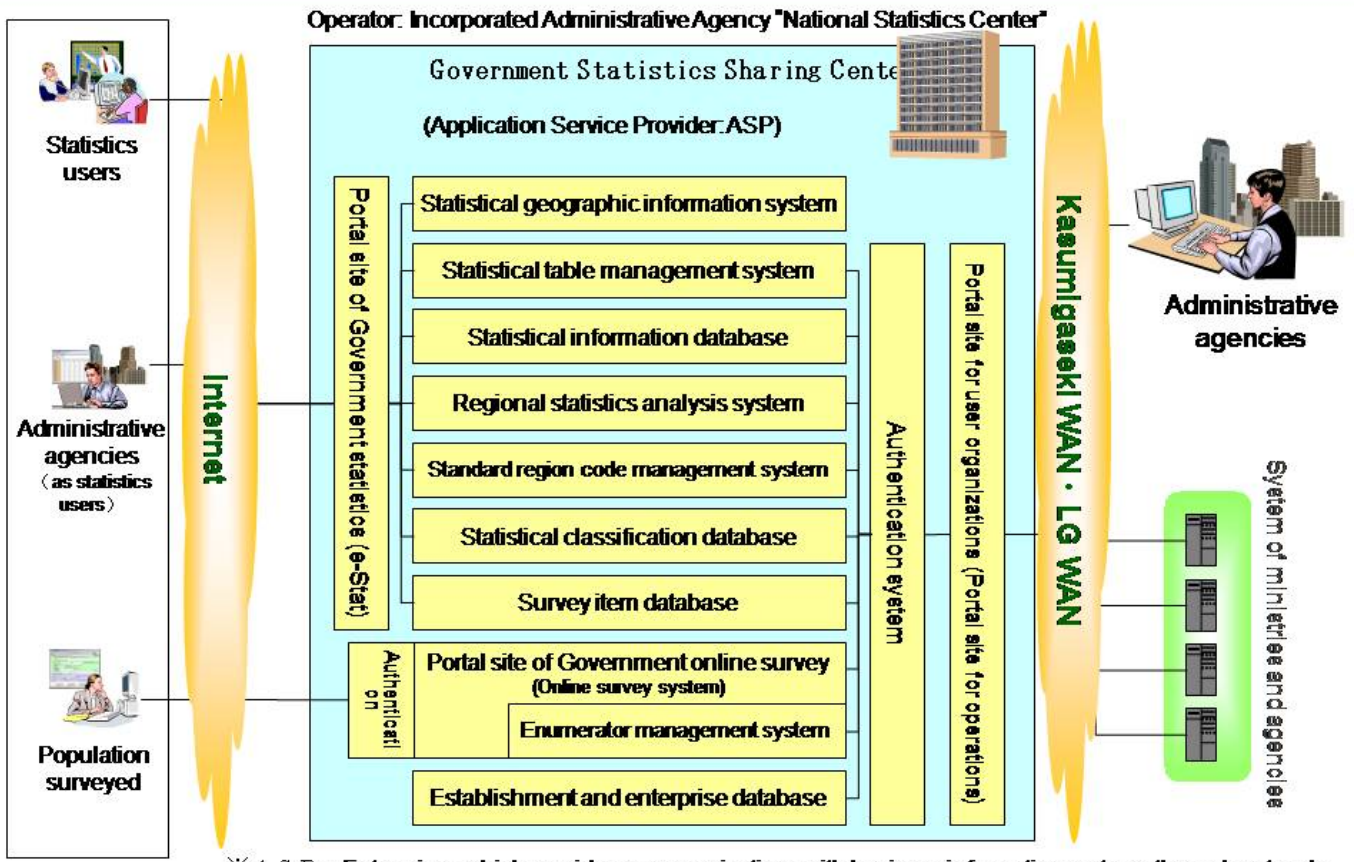
- The sharing and provision of data between the office and ministries will be promoted through the use of the “IMISOS” operated and managed by the Statistics Center.
- Through the creation of implementation evaluation reports for the Optimization Plan, follow-ups regarding the progress of various approaches based on the Optimization Plan will be steadily implemented every fiscal year, plus the various issues related to the Optimization Plan and the sharing system will be accurately evaluated, and reexaminations of the Optimization Plan will be carried out as necessary.

III. Main Achievements in 2011

The “IMISOS” provided and shared the data of different ministries. 485,000 statistics tables are registered in the system as of 31 March 2012 and the number of visitors amounted to about 5.1 billion in FY2011 under efforts to promote the usage of the system. Furthermore, based on the results of implementation evaluation reports for the Optimization Plan for 2010, the necessary follow-ups were made to encourage ministries to promote the Optimization Plan more intensively.

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Outline of Inter-Ministry Information System for Official Statistics



※ASP: Enterprises which provide user organizations with business information systems through network.

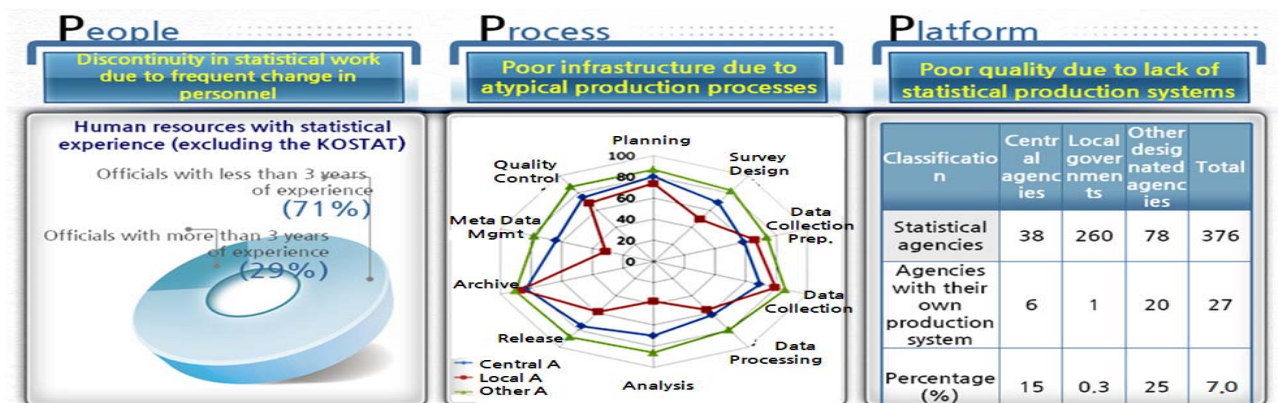
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Part V

The Nara Statistical System: A Generic Statistical Information System for Producing and Managing Official Statistics¹

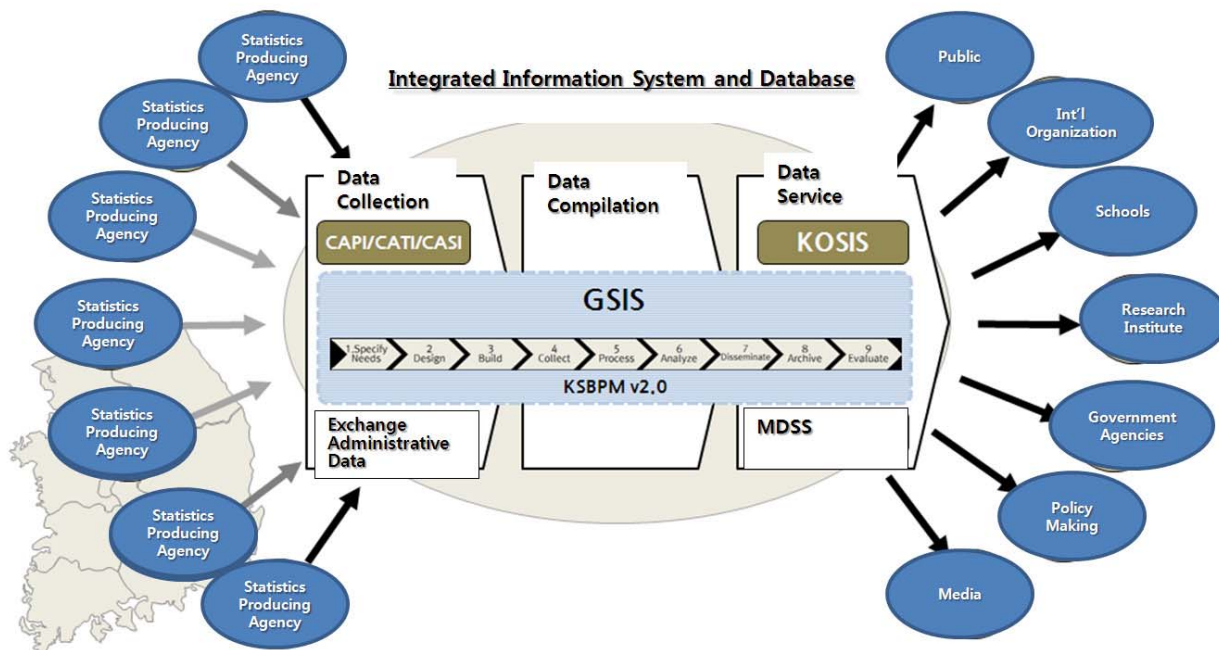
I. Overview

Based on a survey conducted by the KOSTAT to establish strategy for advancement of official statistics production and management, out of 380 organizations producing official statistics, only 7% had own servers and 70% of statistical workforce had less than 3 years of statistical experiences (excluding KOSTAT).



With Korea's decentralized statistical system, the KOSTAT is currently working on developing the Nara Statistical System – a generic statistical information system- in order to manage official statistics more efficiently and to standardize data production process.

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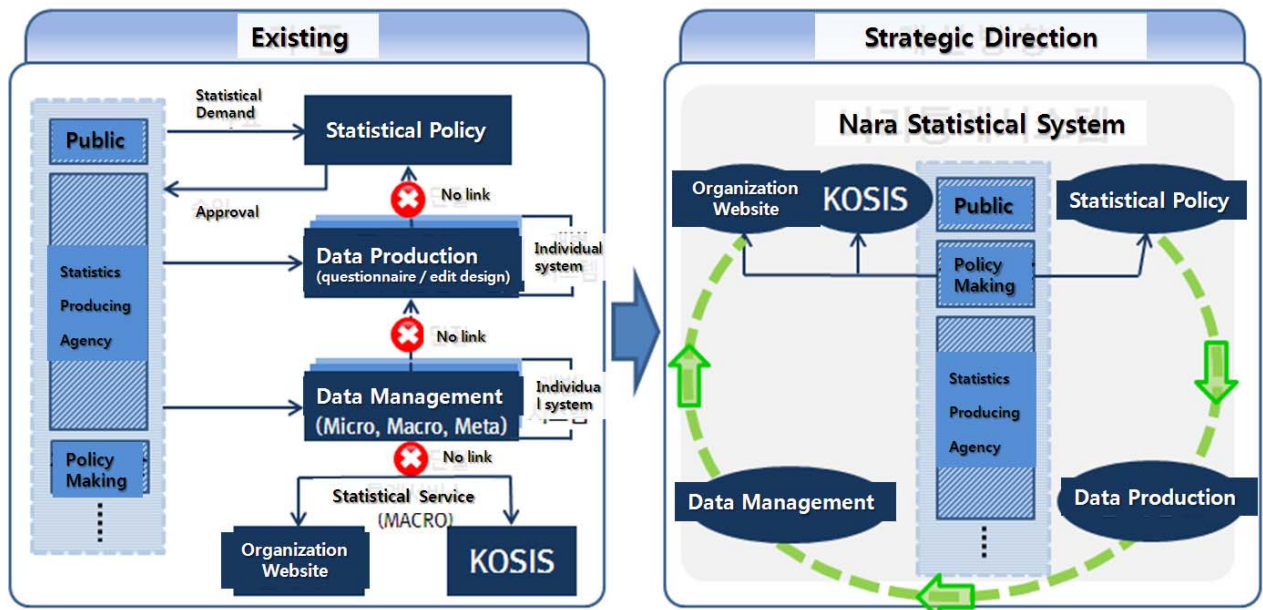
As shown in the above image, our goal is to develop a centralized data production system (data collection, compilation and release) while keeping the existing decentralized system where different organizations are responsible for conducting surveys and managing data.

The Nara Statistical System is a generic statistical information system which standardizes all data production processes from planning to data collection, analysis and data management thereby improving overall quality of official statistics and establishing a low cost but highly efficient data production system. It is subject to be used by over 380 organizations (central administrative agencies, local governments and research institutes) responsible for compiling official statistics.

II. Major activities

A. Establishing a common infrastructure and integrated system

The Nara Statistical System is a generic statistical information system for a common use among statistics producing agencies. For its development, the KOSTAT has invested extensive efforts and research into informatization strategy planning and infrastructure. The system offers an integrated service which combines statistical policies, data production and statistical meta information to account for the interconnected nature of statistical business.



The Nara Statistical System consists of 4 parts: Statistical Policy, Data Production, Statistical Meta Management and Nara Statistical Portal. We validated the system's web compatibility and accessibility as well as any weaknesses via our e-Government framework and adhered to web standards, so that it is composed of international standard systems that can be exported abroad.

In the Statistics Policy part of the system, we redesigned policy business processes for integrated management of statistical policy work. As a result, businesses involving statistical demands, approval, quality and review (the main responsibilities of the KOSTAT Statistical Policy Bureau) can be shared and exchanged over the system.

In Data Production, we developed a system to handle statistical planning, design, data complication, data processing and data analysis. Under this system, each statistics producing agency can manage their micro and macro data. Also, it has become easier for the agencies to release data as the system is linked to the KOSTAT data release system.

In Statistical Meta Management, statistical meta information are integrated and managed. By providing standardized basis for statistical items and classification, the system allows comparison analysis across statistical items, and meta information can be utilized in taking surveys.

In the Nara Statistical Portal, users (statistical supervisors, working level staff, managers, system administrators, etc.) have different accessibility to the system so that statistics producing agencies can conduct business related to statistics policy, data production, and statistical meta information management. Also, there is a search function based on an integrated search solution.

B. Developing a system based on a standard processor model for data production

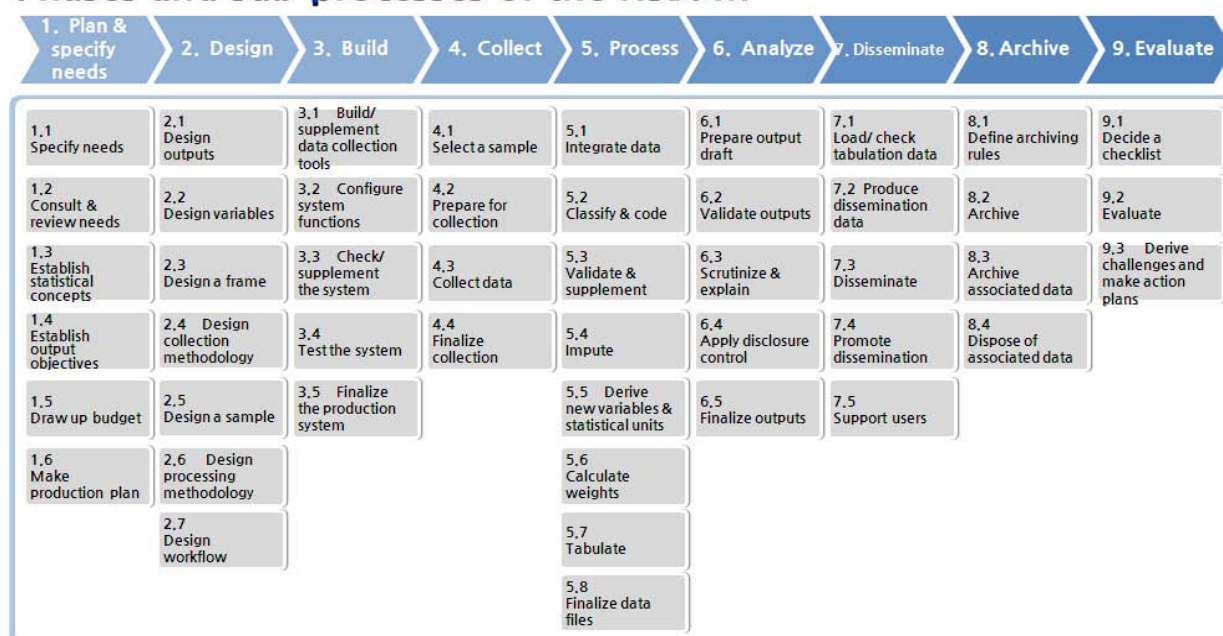
Under a decentralized statistics producing system, production and management of official statistics are faced with limitations due to lack of standardization across data production processes among agencies and many agencies do not have its own data production system. In order to overcome these limitations, it is imperative to establish a standardized data production process and build an infrastructure with system resources to support surveys.

Since standardization of data production is a prerequisite for systematic management and operation of official statistics, it was important to define a data production business process for decentralized environment. Therefore, we studied international informatization trends (i.e. GSBPM, SDMX, GSIM, DDI) to apply them to our Nara Statistical System.

The KOSTAT designed the Korea Statistics Business Process Model (KSBPM) composed of 9 phases with 47 sub-processes. This follows the GSBPM designed by the OECD with some modifications to meet the Korean environment. Hence, the official statistics production system was developed based on the KSBPM.

As the Nara Statistical System was developed based on the KSBPM for all parts of data production process from planning to generating reports, it minimizes the discrepancies in statistical experiences and know-hows across data producing agencies.

Phases and sub-processes of the KSBPM



Moreover, we designed the system to allow for comprehensive analysis on the items and classifications for each survey (i.e. number of times each survey item was used, items currently used in surveys) by storing and managing all information that were used or derived in the process of producing data in the statistical meta management system.

For efficient management of the Nara Statistical System, we designed a monitoring system to manage survey under operation and to support the system so that system resources (eg. HW/SW) can be utilized effectively.

C. Providing various systems to support data production

The Nara Statistical System contains various features to support data production including sampling, register management, HRM of enumerators, Survey homepage design, statistical quality management. We have developed the system with integrated security measures (i.e. controlled user access to the system) so that the system is stable for use by many agencies.

Furthermore, the Nara Statistical System is linked with the Korea Statistical

Information Service (KOSIS) and Micro Data Service System (MDSS) where Korea's major statistical information are provided to the public. This feature not only improved efficiency of the business process but also reduced time and cost to a great extent.

III. Major outcomes

The generic statistical information system was developed to promote the advancement of official data production and management. Designed in accordance with the standardized procedures, we anticipate a significant cost saving at the national level as the system was built to strengthen data quality and prevent duplicate statistics. Moreover, the managers of statistics production agencies can conveniently and efficiently manage their data in the system.

A. Saved time and cost with standardized common system

With the generic statistical information system for common use among statistics producing agencies, we anticipate a significant cost saving related to development of statistical information system (for survey management, data analysis and report generation) and its maintenance and repair. From time saving associated with standardized statistical processes, we expect about 24 billion KRW of economic benefit each year.

We minimized the potential for similar or duplicate statistics by allowing agencies to have a common access to the system which integrates formerly dispersed statistical information. Also, data quality could be improved as the system allows for various data analysis functions.

B. Established a low cost but highly efficient data production system and enhanced official statistical quality

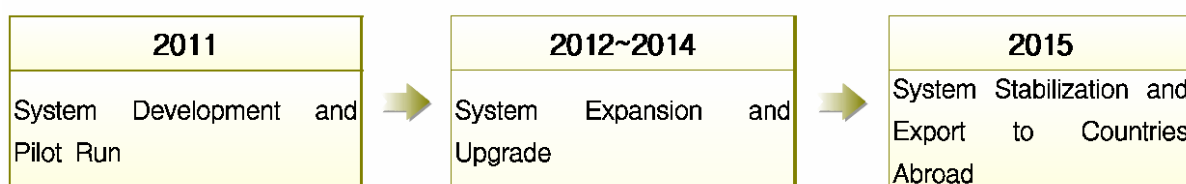
With standardized business procedures and knowledge service to support data production, we were able to improve data productivity. Also, we enhanced official statistical quality by streamlining data production window linking statistical policy and statistical meta systems and monitoring data production processes. Furthermore, we developed data production system which could respond in a timely manner to

emerging statistical demand under rapidly changing economic and social environment.

IV. Implications and Future Plans

The Nara Statistical System is expected to create an official statistical governance by enhancing data production capability, minimizing a chance of similar or duplicate surveys with common use of data and preventing budget waste when individual agency has to build own system. Therefore, by streamlining all statistical business processes, the Nara Statistical System can greatly improve convenience and efficiency of statistical business.

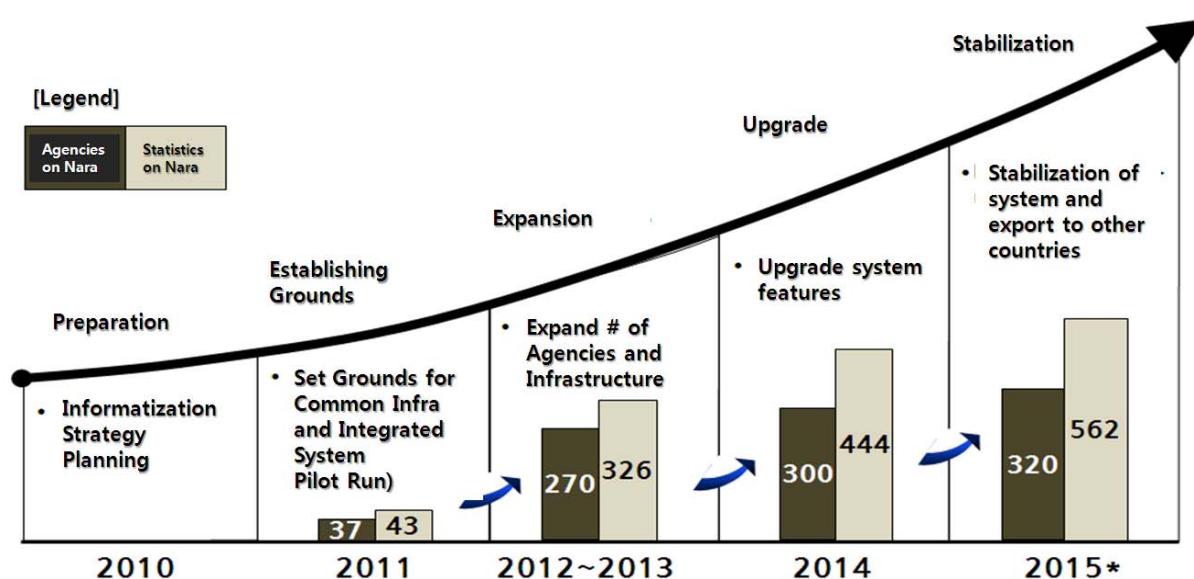
The development of the Nara System will continue through 2015. The KOSTAT is sparing extensive efforts to support its development by expanding server resources and developing additional features.



Statistics producing agencies of Korea will utilize the Nara Statistical System for all processes related to data production (i.e. data collection, data editing, data analysis, data search, tabulation, etc.). By linking statistical policy and statistical meta information management into an integrated system, statistical producing agencies can conduct their businesses in a more convenient way.

For this, the KOSTAT is striving to implement the Nara Statistical System on over 560 official statistics by 2015.

Yearly Development Plan for Nara Statistical System



Part VI

Sri Lankan Experience in Statistical Capacity Building: 2009-2011¹

Department of Census and Statistics

I. Introduction

The Department of Census and Statistics, Sri Lanka recently carried out a Statistical capacity building project during the period of 2009 - 2011. During this period all capacity buildings were carried out under this project. The key elements of the STATCAP Project were (i) Organizational Development; (ii) Statistical and IT Infrastructure and Client Service; (iii) Data Development; (iv) Physical Infrastructure; and (v) Project Management. This report briefly reviews achievements of this project.

II. Background and objectives

The Department of Census and Statistics is the central hub with the responsibility for collection, compilation, analysis and dissemination of a wide variety of statistics compiled, based on censuses, surveys of business establishments, household surveys and data generated by administrative processes. The Central Bank of Sri Lanka and statistical units in the other line Ministries and Departments are important players in the National Statistical System.

However, in the past DCS experienced various difficulties in performing its core duties due to inadequacy of resources and infrastructure facilities. One main difficulty was not having its own building to house all its 16 divisions. Under this scenario, construction of a building for DCS and professional development through training and consultancies and Statistical/IT infrastructure were mainly focused on.

It was the first time DCS implemented a Project of this nature. Nevertheless, amidst various difficulties and challenges DCS was committed to accomplish all elements of the STATCAP Project to get the maximum benefit of it and in return, to contribute its best services to the GOSL in informed decision making for development of the country.

III. Project Output

A. Formation of Project Working Committee

The Project Working Committee was formed in December 2008, which was headed by the Director General of the DCS. The role of the working committee was to make recommendation on implementation of the project at department level. Agenda for the Project Steering Committee were prepared based on recommendations taken at these meetings. The composition of the Working Committee was as follows:

¹ Authored by Amara Satharasinghe. The present document has been reproduced without formal editing. The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations.

B. Formation of Project Steering Committee

The Project Steering Committee was formed on December 2, 2008. Although initially the Steering Committee was headed by the Director General, DCS, this was later headed by Deputy Secretary to the Treasury.

C. Formation of other Committees

Several other committees as set out below were formed to assist the PMU for implementation of the project.

1. Major Project Procurement Committee
2. Technical Evaluation Committee for the Major project Procurement Committee
3. Minor project procurement Committee
4. Technical Evaluation Committee for the Minor Procurement Committee
5. Functional Coordination Committees
 - (a) Sample Survey Coordination Committee
 - (b) Training and Research Coordination Committee
 - (c) Coordination Committee on improving National Accounts Statistics
 - (d) Coordination Committee on improving use GIS for statistical activities
6. Cabinet Appointed Procurement Committee (CAPC) for the building
7. Technical Evaluation committee CAPC for the building
8. Review committees for consultancies
 - (a) Improving Agricultural Statistics
 - (b) Development of web-based Library Catalog
 - (c) Development of a Computerized Registry of Industries
 - (d) Preparation of ICT Plan for the Department
 - (e) Improving National Accounts Statistics
 - (f) Upgrading the Training Division of the Department

IV. Outcomes of key elements of the STATCAP Project

A. Organizational Development

Several measures were taken to improve the statistical system through effective leadership, particularly among other data collection agencies with coordination among all players in the National Statistical System. Some of the measures that were taken are given below

1. Formation of National Data Committee (NDC) – As per the activities prioritized in the Operations Manual of Public Sector Capacity Building Project under DCS component, NDC was formed and is in operation since 27th October 2010. The NDC is chaired by, Deputy Secretary to the Treasury. Composition of the NDC is given below:

(a) Members are appointed for a period of one year. In addition to these members representative of other organizations (Ministries/Departments etc.) are invited to attend the meetings when the need arises. The NDC generally meets once in two months. Some of the important activities carried out by this committee so far are given below.

- (i) A MOU was prepared for obtaining tax data for DCS from IRD for compilation of National Accounts.
- (ii) Various issues on health sector statistics were discussed and a Sub Committee with the co- chairmanship of Deputy Director General, Ministry of Health and a senior Director of the DCS has been appointed to study and report to the NDC on improving Health statistics of Sri Lanka.
- (iii) A concept paper on preparation of an Official Statistical Plan for Sri Lanka has been prepared and on approval of the MOFP preparation of OSP will commence.
- (iv) A draft revised Statistical Ordinance to further empower the DCS is being reviewed and will be discussed with MOFP for implementation. The revised Statistical Ordinance was prepared by a committee consisting of senior officers of the DCS appointed by the Director General of the DCS.

2. Formation of Coordination Committees - In order to further improve inter divisional coordination, 04 Functional Coordination Committees were formed within the department, namely (i) Sample Survey Coordination Committee ; (ii) Coordination Committee on using Geographic Information Systems for Statistical Works, (iii) Coordination committee on Training and Research; (iv) Coordination Committee on Improving National Accounts Statistics. TORs have been prepared for all these committees and these committees are now in operation.

3. User Education Programmes - In order to promote the user-producer interaction, a series of user-producer seminars and user education programmes were planned for planners, journalists, international organizations etc. Out of it, two programmes were conducted for University students and staff on data dissemination policy of the DCS. Implementation of this series will be continued.

4. User Needs Survey - A User needs survey was conducted with the assistance of a consultant introduced by the World Bank.

5. Procedural Manuals – Methodologies and other procedures of data collection activities (surveys) had been documented. Those manuals were included into CDs.

B. Statistical/IT infrastructure Procurement of Equipment (hardware/software/furniture)

Most of the urgently required essential statistical infrastructure equipment were procured and had helped to improve the efficiency of the department. Data entry has been decentralized and thereby the department is now able to reduce the data processing time of surveys conducted by the department.

Portable Data Assistants (PDA) has been introduced for price collection, so that without paper work, enumerators can key in price data at the outlets into the database through the PDA. Online edit checks have also been introduced to minimize the data entry errors.

District Offices too have been provided with the necessary furniture, hardware etc. Major items purchased include computers, printers and multimedia projectors.

With the purchase of these goods including software, hardware, furniture etc, DCS has been strengthened to carry out its statistical activities effectively. For example, data entry can be further decentralized and with that, time required to release statistics can be reduced significantly.

C. Data development

Data development was achieved through consultancies and training extended to the staff and relevant external personnel. Required consultancies and training were identified by consulting the Heads of Divisions of DCS. These requirements were reviewed by a committee appointed by DG, DCS and prepared the draft Training and Consultancy plan accordingly. This plan was then reviewed by another committee chaired by DG, DCS. After making necessary adjustments these plans were then submitted to the Working Committee which scrutinized and recommended same for approval of the Steering Committee. Accordingly, the Steering Committee approved this plan which was then submitted to the World Bank for its clearance. MOFP approval was also obtained for the Training Plan.

Number of training programs planned under STATCAP project is 181; where 6 for 2008, 60 for 2009, 75 for 2010 and 40 for 2011. Of these, 55 were not implemented due to several reasons including Visa issues, not granting necessary clearances, cancellation of the programs by the relevant training institutes etc. Accordingly, 126 training programmes were implemented during the project time period. Out of these, number of programmes implemented in the 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011 were 4, 38, 50 and 34 respectively.

Training was provided not only for DCS staff, but also for other institutions, as well. Overall, 1,482 officers of DCS and 124 officers of other organizations were trained under this Project. The total number trained throughout the project was 1,606, i.e., 148 in 2008, 484 in 2009, 550 in 2010, and 424 in 2011.

V. Summary of achievements

No	Outcome
1	Piling work of the much needed building for the DCS was completed
2	Following Six technical consultancies were completed: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Improving National Accounts b. Improving Agricultural Statistics c. Development of a Web – Based Library Catalogue d. Development of a Computer Based Business Register of industries e. Preparation of ICT plan for the DCS f. Upgrading the Training Division of the DCS
3	Business Register of industries running on a computer network consisting of five desktop computers and one server is in effect
4	A Web-Based Library Catalogue is in place
5	Web-based learning management system is in place
6	Conference Room is equipped with latest audio/video system
7	<p>Altogether 126 (63 local and 63 Foreign) training programmes were organized. Total number of staff trained is 1,482. Number of staff members trained abroad is 296. Training opportunities were provided to all levels of staff members. However, special attention was given to train middle managerial level officers below the age of 50 years.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. 52 percent of the DCS staff were trained at least in one subject area b. About 69 percent of the technical staff trained in at least one subject area c. 114 officers of other ministries, departments were also trained d. Special on-the training programme was organized in Philippines on preparing Regional Accounts e. Four programmes in the field of demography for 53 staff members were conducted f. Thirteen programmes in the field of Economics/National Accounts for 175 staff members were conducted g. Six programmes in the field of Geographic Information Systems for 46 staff members were conducted h. Sixteen programmes in the field of IT for 16 staff members were conducted i. Thirteen programmes in the field of English language skills for 13 staff members were conducted j. One programme in the field of Library management for 3 staff members was conducted k. Seventeen programmes in the field of Management for 254 staff members were conducted l. Six programmes in the field of Project management for 60 staff members were conducted m. Forty Eight programmes in the field of General Statistics for 499 staff members were conducted n. Two programmes in the field of Training management for 14 staff members were conducted o. List containing all relevant particulars of staff members trained under the project has been published in the staff log in page of the DCS website. <p>While the knowledge gained through this training is already being used effectively in the day to day work, benefits of mainly focused training on Statistics could be assessed at the end of the current census in progress.</p>
8	Overall physical progress of 68.8 percent was achieved. Without building component it was 77.4 percent
9	Overall financial progress was 34.1 percent. Without building component it was 47.2 percent.

No	Outcome
10	National Data committee was formed <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. A sub committee was formed to improve education statistics b. A sub-committee was formed to improve health statistics c. The procedure was set to obtain administrative data for compilation of national Accounts Statistics. Waiting for necessary approvals for implementation d. A concept paper was prepared on preparation of Official Statistics Plan
11	Conducted two user education programmes benefitted by university students, and users of statistics
	Conducted a user needs assessment study for providing better services for users of statistics
12	Much needed goods were purchased worth of Rs 114.7 mn <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. These goods include computer hardware, software, furniture etc. b. District offices were also strengthened by providing necessary items to them c. Agriculture Division which is to undertake census of agriculture 2013 was furnished d. Administration division was provided with furniture and IT equipment e. A computer lab was setup at the training division f. Cartography and Census division were provided with GIS software which essential for census data dissemination g. 20 Digital Display units were purchase for data dissemination at Head Office divisions and district offices

VI. Conclusion

Project had two main components: Construction of a building and improving capacity of staff through training consultancies and necessary Statistical/ICT infrastructure. Building was completed up to the point of completing piling.

Project was implemented during 2009 – 2011. Project became effective in October 2008. The 14th Census of Population and Housing was to be conducted in 2011. Therefore, timing was slightly disturbing for effective implementation of such a project. Staff got fully involved with census works from 2010 and some from 2009.

Retaining a Procurement Specialist was not an easy task as their recruitment terms and conditions are governed by the Management Circular No. 37 and 37(i) and they are not satisfied with the terms and conditions stipulated there. Amidst, DCS experienced many difficulties in releasing officers, reserving places, getting necessary approval, obtaining VISA.

Three year period is not sufficient for training and consultancies for a project of this nature, specially at a time DCS has its main role to perform in 2011/2012, i.e. carrying out Census of Housing and Population covering the whole island after 30 years.

Nevertheless, DCS achieved a lot from this project. It has been possible to achieve an overall physical progress of 68 percent and without building component it is 78 percent. Overall financial progress of 34.1 percent has been achieved. Without building component it is 47.2 percent.

Most of the necessary hardware, software, furniture etc. were purchased. Staff, particularly young staff of the DCS has been trained on

their statistical activities. We should now start seeing the results of knowledge gained through training, consultancies etc.

Until recently, one major barrier for DCS staff in using the DCS library was access, as the divisions of DCS are located in different places. Now under the project a web-based library catalog has been setup. Therefore, no matter where the staff is, from anywhere they will have access to some vital information thorough the internet. Web based Learning Management System and computerized Business Register of industries are new hitech products developed under the project.

As this was the first project of this nature ever implemented by DCS, DCS staff was able to gain lot of knowledge on project implementation.
