

Annex A Terms of reference

BACKGROUND

The IHSN (see the Annex) was established in September 2004 following a key recommendation of the *Marrakech Action Plan for Statistics* (MAPS, www.worldbank.org/data/action), which was adopted at the Second Roundtable on Managing for Development Results, held in Marrakech, Morocco, in February 2004. In doing so, the international community acknowledged the critical role played by sample surveys in supporting the planning, implementation and monitoring of development policies and programs.

The ADP (see the Annex) was launched in 2006 as a recommendation of the MAPS, to undertake urgent improvements needed for monitoring the MDGs, by improving survey programs in participating countries. Here again it was recognized that measuring and monitoring development outcomes require timely, reliable, comparable, relevant, and accessible, survey data. But in many developing countries, survey programs rarely provided the necessary flow of reliable, timely, comparable and accessible data. The timing of national surveys was often suboptimal, data collection programs lacked methodological consistency, and existing data often remained largely unexploited.

Nearly eight years after the adoption of the MAPS, the international development community made a commitment to implement a *Busan Action Plan for Statistics* (http://www.paris21.org/sites/default/files/Busanactionplan_nov2011.pdf) at the recent Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, held in Busan, Korea, from 29 November to 01 December 2011. This Action Plan puts a renewed emphasis on improving accessibility of statistics and implementing standards enabling full public access to official statistics.

The evaluation of the IHSN and ADP will draw the lessons learned from over seven years of implementation to enable the main stakeholders to re-focus both the Network and the Program in order to assure continued relevance in the framework of the Busan Action Plan for Statistics.

SCOPE OF THE WORK TO BE PERFORMED

The purposes of the evaluation are to

- (1) Assess the effects/impacts of the IHSN and ADP, and provide guidance on how to improve these effects/impacts;
- (2) Assess the relevance of the IHSN (both the network and the outputs –tools and guidelines included), and provide guidance on how to improve this relevance;
- (3) Assess the extent to which ADP remains relevant to the statistical capacity development agenda including in the framework of the newly approved Busan Action Plan for Statistics;
- (4) Assess the performance of the IHSN/ADP Secretariat (both effectiveness and efficiency) and its technical/financial mechanisms, and provide guidance on how to improve this performance;

The evaluators will reference the internationally recognized standards of evaluation, including but not limited to the “*Sourcebook for Evaluating Global and Regional Partnership Programs*” (World Bank Independent Evaluation Group, January 2007, www.worldbank.org/ieg/grpp) and “*Quality Standards for Development Evaluation*” (OECD/Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Guidelines and Reference Series, 2010, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/19900988>).

The evaluators' assessment shall address at a minimum, the questions noted below. Where appropriate, illustrations of good (or bad) practice/outcomes should be provided either in the body of the evaluation report or in an annex.

Effectiveness, outcomes, impacts and their sustainability

The Evaluation will assess the performance of the IHSN/ADP in achieving its desired results. Doing so, it will consider the global environment in which the programs operate. The Evaluation will make proposals to improve the performance of the programs.

Strategic Focus:

- Did IHSN/ADP reach their objectives?
- To what extent has the IHSN as a network sustained its focus on the original action plan?

Advocacy:

- To what extent has the IHSN/ADP influenced the strategies and programmes of developing countries and development partners?
- To what extent have developing countries and development partners influenced the strategies and programmes of the IHSN/ADP?
- To what extent has the IHSN/ADP contributed to increased coherence of effort at the country level, among local, national and international partners?

Outcomes and Effects on the Ground:

- What evidence is there of the outcomes of the IHSN/ADP?
- To what extent have actions been initiated at the national and the international level that might not have been initiated without the IHSN/ADP?
- To what extent has the IHSN/ADP increased statistical capacity in countries?
- To what extent has the IHSN/ADP improved the availability of key statistical data?
- Are these outcomes and impacts on the ground sustainable?

Monitoring and Evaluation:

- To what extent is the IHSN Management Group exercising effective and independent oversight of the Secretariat?
- To what extent do the IHSN/ADP activities have measurable performance indicators – of outputs, outcomes and impacts?
- How useful are those indicators for assessing the effectiveness of the activities?

Provide guidance on how to improve IHSN/ADP performance.

- How could the IHSN as a network be more effective in producing results – both short- and long-term - at the international level?
- How could the results of IHSN/ADP activities be improved?
- Is the institutional setup of the ADP (and IHSN) adequate?

Relevance: the overarching global relevance of the IHSN/ADP

The Evaluation will assess the extent to which the strategy and focus of the IHSN/ADP are relevant to its partners and their country clients.

- What are the comparative advantages of the IHSN/ADP compared to other global statistical programs and initiatives?
- Is IHSN/ADP focusing on the right things?
- Should IHSN/ADP objectives be reformulated, added or dropped?
- How could IHSN/ADP strategy be improved?

Governance and management of the programs

The Evaluation will assess the governance mechanisms of the IHSN/ADP and make recommendations.

- To what extent does the governance structure of the IHSN/ADP, and the roles played by the IHSN Management Group or the PARIS21 Board contribute to achieving the IHSN/ADP objectives?
- Legitimacy: To what extent do the governance and management structures permit and facilitate the effective participation and voice of the different categories of stakeholders in the major governance and management decisions, taking into account their respective roles and relative importance?
- Accountability: Is accountability clearly defined, accepted, and exercised along the chain of command and control?
- Transparency: To what extent the program's decision-making, reporting, and evaluation processes are open and freely available to the general public?
- Efficiency: To what extent the governance and management structures enhance efficiency or cost-effectiveness in the allocation and use of the program's resources?
- How could the governance and organization better contribute to achieving the IHSN/ADP objectives?

Efficiency or cost effectiveness of the program

The Evaluation will assess the cost effectiveness of the IHSN/ADP and will make proposals to improve the performance of the programs, especially in a context of increasing demand from clients.

- How do actual costs compare with benchmarks from similar programs or activities? Are there obvious cases of inefficiency or wasted resources?
- Were the IHSN/ADP outputs and outcomes achieved in the most cost-effective way?
- What would be the implications of scaling the IHSN/ADP up or down in terms of costs, cost-effectiveness, or efficiency?
- What would be the implications of scaling the IHSN/ADP up or down in terms of organizational infrastructure?
- How do costs affect the results and the sustainability of the IHSN/ADP?

ORGANIZATION, METHODOLOGY AND OUTPUTS

The evaluation will be conducted by an Evaluation Team (composed of the team of consultants listed in Annex 2) which will report to the IHSN Management Group (<http://ihsn.org/home/index.php?q=about/governance>). The IHSN Management Group will:

- agree upon the evaluation criteria and a more precise timetable and process,
- oversee recruitment of the evaluation team, through a tender process managed by the OECD,
- approve the Evaluation Team's inception and final report,
- make themselves available (either in person or via email/telephone) for interviews conducted by the Evaluation Team.

The IHSN/ADP Secretariat is composed of PARIS21/OECD staff (based in Paris) and World Bank staff (based in Washington DC). It will provide support to both the IHSN Management Group and the Evaluation Team, including:

- providing key documents and resources,
- facilitating meetings and contacts with partners, grant recipients and IHSN members,
- providing temporary office space at OECD and the World Bank, as appropriate,
- facilitating access to the OECD and the World Bank video conference facilities.

The Evaluation Team will produce an Inception Report which will describe the evaluation methodology in detail. The methodology should include but not be limited to:

- A desk review of IHSN and ADP key documents including constituencies, grants project documents, project progress and final reports, IHSN Management Group Meetings minutes, presentations, etc.
- A desk review of key IHSN tools and guidelines, including the IHSN Microdata Management Toolkit, the NADA application, selected IHSN working papers, the IHSN Central Survey Catalog, etc.
- Interviews and/or survey questionnaires of IHSN agencies and IHSN partners. Such interviews may include telephone, email, video conference communications, and personal interviews. The following section suggests agencies where personal interviews will need to be conducted.
- Personal interviews with IHSN/ADP Secretariat Staff at OECD/PARIS21 in Paris and at the World Bank, Washington, D.C.
- Assessment in 5 countries of the quality and effectiveness of the ADP support provided and its effects/impacts (Philippines, India, Ethiopia, Niger, Colombia)
- Quantitative methods where feasible.
- Any additional sources of information or procedures to obtain views and feedback on the IHSN and ADP that the reviewer feels to be necessary in order to accomplish the tasks set forth in these Terms of Reference.

The final output of the evaluation is a report written in English and not exceeding 60 pages, excluding annexes. An executive summary will provide an overview of the report, highlighting the main findings, conclusions, recommendations and any overall lessons. The report will include two equal sections: (1) the evaluation per-se, with responses to the questions listed before, and (2) proposed scenario and recommendations for the future.

ANTICIPATED FIELD VISITS

The Evaluation Team will be responsible for organizing and booking its trips, and scheduling its meetings during field visits. The IHSN/ADP Secretariat will provide a list of persons and institutions to visit for each country / organization. Additional meetings can be added by the Evaluation Team. The IHSN/ADP Secretariat will introduce the Evaluation Team to Country/Organization focal points. The rest of the logistics will be supported and sorted by the Evaluation Team directly. The following visits are anticipated:

Washington, DC, USA:

- meet with MAPS Unit, DECDG, LAC/AFR units
- 2 visits: 3 days at the beginning of the evaluation, 2 days at the end

Paris, France:

- meet with the PARIS21 Secretariat/OECD
- 3 visits: 2 days just after contracting; 2 days at the beginning of the evaluation, 2 days at the end

Manila, Philippines / New Delhi , India / Addis Ababa, Ethiopia / Niamey, Niger / Bogota, Colombia:

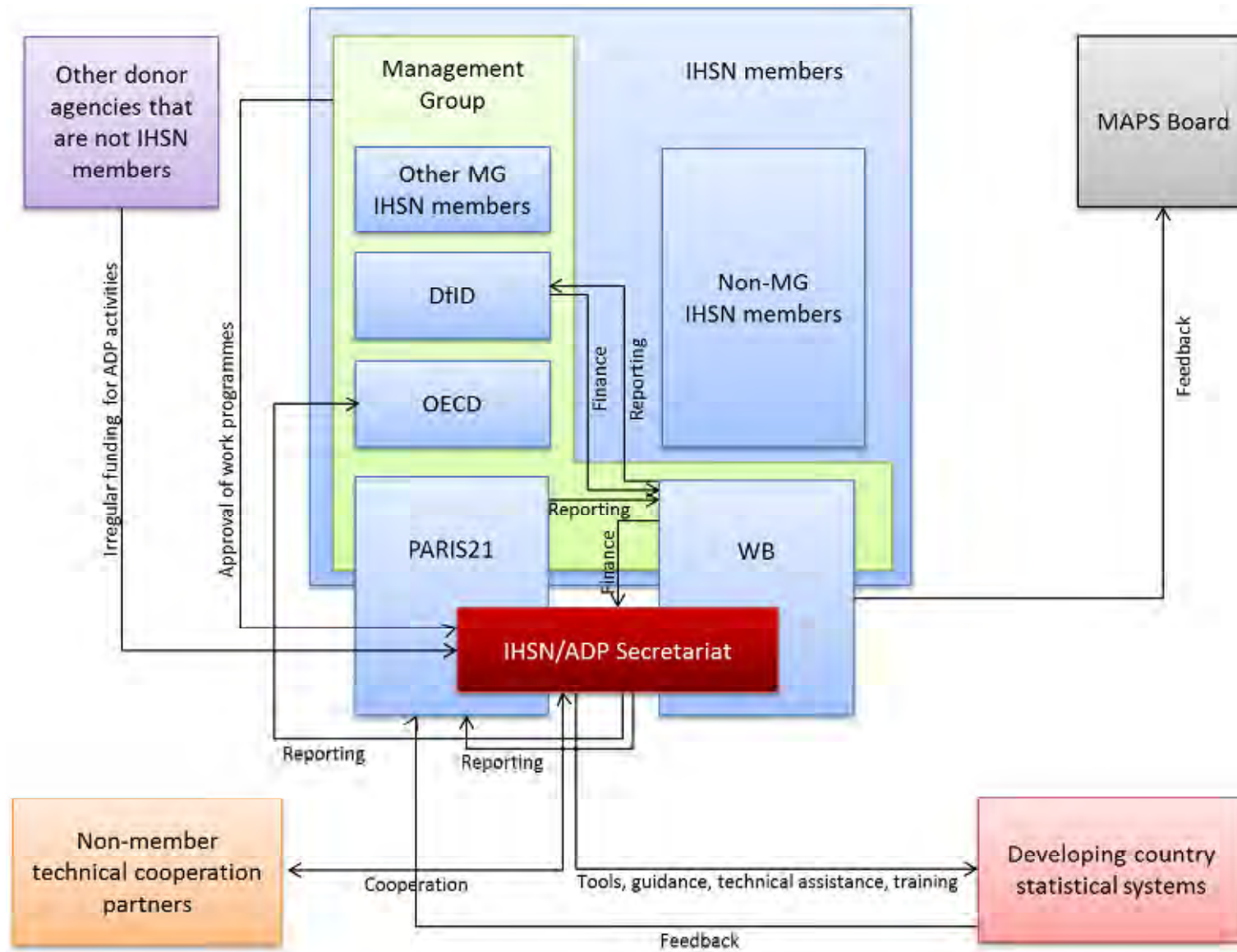
- meet with :
 - o NSO, NSCB, BAS, BLES – ADB in Manila + data users
 - o MOSPI/CC in New Delhi + data users
 - o CSA - ECA in Addis+ data users
 - o INS in Niamey+ data users
 - o DANE in Bogota+ data users
- 5 x 3 days

New York, USA:

- meet with UNSD, UNICEF
- 1 day

In addition, it is anticipated that discussions will take place through video conferences with DFID, UNESCO, WHO, WFP as well as non IHSN members (ICPSR, DDI alliance, UNSIAP, etc.).

Annex B IHSN/ADP organogram



Annex C Case study: Ethiopia

C.1 Description of activities

The Central Statistical Agency (CSA) in Ethiopia has been producing information from surveys, census and administrative records since 1960. It has the mandate to coordinate the National Statistical System of the country and play a leading role in statistical capacity building activities of various ministries, departments and agencies. Since launching its Integrated Household Survey Programme in the 1980s it has carried out 10-15 socio-economic surveys a year at national level.

The CSA was first exposed to the microdata toolkit being developed by the World Bank (WB) in 2005, in the course of a mission carried out by Olivier Dupriez. This fitted in well with their own priorities, as a decision had been made the previous year to invest in documenting and archiving surveys, a decision which was supported by the then Prime Minister. Two training missions were carried out before the launch of the ADP in 2006 which took place in Addis Ababa at a regional meeting. Ethiopia was selected as a pilot country, and by the end of 2006, 28 surveys had been processed using the microdata toolkit.

During this period, ADP provided technical assistance in setting up the Ethiopia National Data Archive (ENADA) and staff were trained in its use. Ethiopia became the first country supported by the ADP to publish its archive on the internet in December 2007.

Various upgrades to the ENADA were installed with external assistance. By 2009, the CSA was able to install NADA version 2.0 without any external assistance. ADP provided the CSA with scanners and photocopiers and equipment and software for CD labelling to facilitate the dissemination of surveys.

From 2006 onwards, the CSA published their backlog of surveys on the ENADA. Around 25 surveys were published in 2006, rising to 40 by mid-2007. By mid-2009 there were over 70 surveys published on the national website and in 2011 this reached 100. The surveys were prioritised so that the most recent surveys were entered first.

During this period, Ethiopia and Uganda have worked together to develop a community of practice in Africa. Staff from the CSA have given presentations at PARIS21 meetings, and at IASSIST in Finland. In 2011 Ethiopia hosted a regional workshop on data archiving.

In 2010, Ethiopia indicated its willingness to be a pilot country for Task 2 of the ADP. This addresses the issue of data quality and will ultimately involve the setting up of a national question bank. The DDG of CSA attended a workshop at OECD in Paris which demonstrated the IHSN question bank and a roadmap was discussed for taking this forward in Ethiopia. An international consultant was provided by ADP to identify the existing standards at CSA.

Two years ago, the CSA established a new directorate for National Data Quality and Standard Coordination. Four documents have been prepared on standard indicators and definitions. A workshop was held in late 2012, funded by ADP which also paid for the printing of the documents. The four documents covered:

- Standard concepts and definitions
- Naming and coding
- ISIC4
- International Labour classifications

The documents were printed and distributed to all regions, by CD and hard copy. CSA is now conducting a desk review of the NSS as to which sectors have agreed standards. These are seen by the CSA as necessary precursors to establishing a national question bank.

The work supported by ADP links in with the Ethiopia Data Quality Assessment Framework (EDQAF) which is supported under the Promotion of Basic Services (PBS) project funded through the World Bank.

C.2 The current status of data archiving and access to microdata

By 2009, the backlog of surveys had been cleared. A system has been put in place for data archiving; manuals and final publications from surveys have to be sent to the ICT department to ensure that surveys are routinely documented. Roughly eleven – twelve national surveys are carried out a year and these are catalogued into the ENADA. Currently there are 105 surveys in ENADA. The process of documenting, archiving and publishing surveys has been internalised, with some ADP guidance, and the CSA has drafted a short guide on this experience that is being finalised for dissemination as an IHSN working paper.

Data users can request access to data using a form on the CSA website. For most users access is free, though organisations and businesses can be asked to pay a fee. Users are requested to sign an agreement which forbids them to sell the data to third parties.

The focus in CSA is now on enlarging ENADA to encompass all the NSS, and on increasing access.

C.3 What impact have the activities of the ADP had?

One stakeholder commented that the IHSN/ADP had brought about a paradigm shift in Ethiopia. The organisation has become more client-oriented and survey documentation has become systematised. The ADP has trained staff in CSA to manage the ENADA, to update the software and is assisting them in the next important task of harmonising and improving data quality. Staff at the CSA were clear that they had benefited greatly from the support given by ADP and IHSN. ADP was seen as a very effective development partner. Their procedures were seen as very straightforward – “working with them is like working with your brother”.

There has also been considerable demand for access to microdata. CSA estimates it has to process more than ten requests for survey data a week. The evaluation team were unable during the short visit to follow up with data users to discuss their experience, and are waiting for the results of preliminary analysis of the request forms to see where the demand arises – from government departments, students or others, from within Ethiopia or externally.

The evaluation was struck by how little the ENADA was known by the international agencies they met with in Ethiopia. Even the secretariat of the Ethiopian Statistical Society seemed not to be fully aware of the potential of the ENADA.

The team was told that the ENADA is helping with the planning of surveys, but have no direct evidence of this. Past surveys can be consulted to understand sample design took place, how non-response was treated and what questions have been used previously. This process has also increased CSA interest in the question bank, and once this is up and running, it should be a useful resource in survey design.

C.4 Particular challenges faced

In the beginning, there was some resistance to the introduction of the system of documentation. This was partly based on an inherent conservatism and reluctance to embrace new technology, particularly when this involved additional work. In some instances there was a reluctance to share information when staff felt that the data had been collected as a result of their own efforts. However, this was addressed through the full commitment of top management.

Although over 100 surveys have been catalogued, it appears that the information in the catalogue may not always be complete. A mission report from 2010 indicates that a review of the surveys catalogued showed that in some cases the variable descriptions were missing, in others the date of data collection is missing. The consultant worked with the archivists to fill in as much of the missing information as possible, but gaps remain. This should not occur with new surveys, if the current protocol is followed.

The processes involved in working with line ministries to coordinate and harmonise surveys have been slow. Decisions have to be made through the National Statistical Council, of which all ministries are members. High level political commitment has been important in the past to make key decisions.

One of the big problems CSA faces is multiple statistical systems and portals, from a number of agencies, which results in duplication of effort. At present FAO has one portal, UNICEF has another, and AfDB produced another portal for dissemination a few months ago. CSA has to comply with these because they come with funding or strings attached, but they need harmonisation. Currently there is no forum prepared to compare and to harmonise these systems. As well as creating considerable work for CSA, this is also confusing for data users.

C.5 Sustainability

The CSA receives all of its recurrent budget and most of its capital budget from government. Budget gaps are filled by development partners, in particular budget shortfalls for specific surveys. Ethiopia currently receives funding for support for statistics through the Promotion of Public Services Programme 3 funded by the World Bank, of USD 27 million over three years, with an additional USD 10 million expected from the Statistics for Results Facility. This is the main source of funding for statistics, but there is also some direct funding from DFID. UNFPA supports the census.

ADP funding has been small in comparison, but it has been focussed on training in survey archiving and also on workshops, where ADP funding has been seen as particularly useful because of its ease in access. However there seems to be adequate funding overall for statistics, provided that the needs for extending the ENADA to the NSS as a whole are adequately included in annual work-plans.

Considerable technical capacity has been built up in the CSA, but this has to be continually renewed and updated both because of improvements in software but more importantly because of staff turnover. Although CSA has internal induction programmes for new staff which include the ENADA software, this tends to be very functional rather than fully equipping new staff to understand the software in any depth. CSA staff see the need for continued capacity building with external support. This would not necessarily have to be funded by ADP, however. There are now a number of regional consultants who could undertake this kind of support if funding were available.

As the ENADA is extended to the whole NSS, there is likely to be an increase in the need and demand for capacity building, as more ministries will require internal capacity to catalogue surveys.

Although some of these training needs could be carried out by CSA staff, unless the CSA is given a clear mandate to undertake this, and funding and staffing to support the process, then funding for external consultants will be necessary.

C.6 Future needs of official statistics

There are two important areas for the ENADA which feature in the CSA's workplan for the future; improving the quality of the survey data in the ENADA and extending the breadth of surveys in the ENADA to include surveys from other organisations in the NSS, and in particular the service ministries. These two areas are interlinked to some extent, as the CSA has begun to work with the ministries of education and rural works as part of the EDQAF to look at harmonising and standardising questions. The PBS programme is providing funding for this, and, as mentioned above, as ministries understand the benefits of both improved data quality but also increasing access to survey data, then there are likely to be considerable demands for capacity building for their staff.

One area which CSA has not yet addressed is the need for anonymisation of their data before it is disseminated. Currently survey data are disseminated in raw form without any effective anonymisation which can lead to questions of confidentiality. These will only increase as and when more ministries are brought into ENADA, and it should be a top priority for CSA to be trained in good practice in this area.

The CSA acknowledges that it could and should do more in terms of advocacy and publicising the availability of survey data on its website and through statistics events in Ethiopia itself. However it is not clear which section within the CSA has the responsibility to undertake this. In the past, where there has been significant progress in new areas of work, this has been in part the result of creating new departments within the CSA – the ITC was created in part to take forward the systematic archiving and dissemination of survey data, and a new department was created in 2010 to address issues of data quality and standards. However, it does not seem appropriate to create a department for this particular activity. An existing department should be given the task of increasing awareness of the survey material available in the ENADA and promoting the demand for this. Staff will also have to be made available to address any increased demand that arises. CSA is currently organising activities for 2013 to mark both the International Year of Statistics and Fifty Years of the CSA which should be an ideal opportunity to promote the availability of data.

C.7 List of persons met

Name	Affiliation
Alemayehu Gebretsadik	Acting Deputy Director, CSA
Aberash Tariku	Director National Statistics Data Quality and Standard Coordination Directorate, CSA
Eleni Kebede	Acting Director for Information System Technology Directorate, CSA,
Biniyam Tadesse	website and database administrator, CSA
Yakob Mudesir Seid	National Technical Manager, FEWS NET, Ethiopia
Zelealem Destaw Bayeleyegn	Manager of the Ethiopian Statistical Association
Raj Gautam Mitra,	Director, Demographic and Social Statistics, Africa Centre for Statistics (ACS)
Andry Andriantseho	ACS
Oumar Sarr	ACS
Issoufou Sfidou Sanda	ACS
Negussie Gorfe	ACS

Ayenika Godheart	ACS
Ato Wondim Mekasha	Country economist, World Bank
Selamawit Mussie	Policy Officer, Statistics Division, African Union

Annex D Case study: India

D.1 The Indian Statistical System

India has one of the largest and probably the most complex statistical system in the world. It is highly decentralised, in line with the constitution, which defines what powers are exercised by the Union and what powers are the responsibility of the 35 States and Union Territories. At the centre of the national statistical system, the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI) is the apex organisation, responsible for compiling many national statistics as well as providing technical leadership by setting standards and by building capacity through training and technical support. Since 2006, the Secretary of MOSPI has also been the Chief Statistician of India (CSI), charged with providing overall leadership to the national statistical system as a whole. The National Statistical Commission, established by Prime Ministerial Order in 2005, provides oversight of the national statistical system. Among other things It is charged with:

- Improving public trust in official statistics;
- Identifying core statistics, which are of national importance and are critical to the development of the economy;
- Evolving national policies and priorities relating to the statistical system;
- Promoting statistical co-ordination throughout the Indian statistical system; and
- Evolving standard statistical concepts, definitions, classifications and methodologies in different areas in statistics and laying down national quality standards on core statistics.

The statistical activities in MOSPI are carried out by: the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), which sets standards and which compiles and disseminates national statistics; and the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), which carries out frequent rounds of the national sample survey (NSS). In the 1950's much of the theory and practice of designing and implementing household surveys was developed in India and the NSSO has been carrying out regular surveys since 1951. Results from the 66th and latest round of the NSS were released in 2012. The NSSO is responsible for its own data processing, which takes place in Kolkata, but the Computer Centre, which comes under the CSO, is responsible for disseminating microdata.

D.2 Description of activities

MOSPI have been disseminating microdata from various rounds of the NSS since 2000, following a new policy introduced the previous year. Data from the various rounds of the NSS, the Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) and the Economic Census (EC) have been disseminated by the Computer Centre on CD-ROMS, with the data provided in ASCII format accompanied by a number of metadata files, including a data dictionary. The data sets were anonymised by removing all identifier variables.

Users of the data were required to pay a relatively small fee and to sign an agreement undertaking:

- To maintain the confidentiality of the unit level data and to take adequate precautions to ensure that the identity of the units will not be disclosed either directly or indirectly;
- To use the data only after understanding the concepts, definitions, design and coverage of the survey and appreciating the limitations and nature of the data and only for obtaining meaningful estimates and results;
- Not to pass on the data to any other person or organisation either wholly or partially with or without profit, with or without commercial purpose; and
- To acknowledge the data source in the research output.

At the end of 2010, the Deputy Director General in charge of the Computer Centre attended a joint ADP/UNSIAP regional meeting in Chiba, Japan, where a presentation was made about the IHSN Microdata Management Toolkit. He then contacted PARIS21 to request help in introducing the Toolkit in India. An initial training course took place in Delhi in March 2011, where 14 Computer Centre staff were introduced to the Toolkit and trained in its use. Following the training the Computer Centre identified 118 data sets from the NSS, the ASI and the EC where both sufficient data and microdata could be identified and work started with the documentation of these data sets.

A follow up visit at the end of September 2011, by Francois Fonteneau and Olivier Dupriez, identified that there was considerable interest in the NADA, but progress with documentation had been slow, mainly because Computer Centre staff were unable to allocate sufficient time to the task. It was agreed, therefore, that ADP would hire three local consultants to help document the backlog of NSS data sets. This was done; they started work at the beginning of 2012 and completed the documentation of all 118 data sets by the end of the year.

The MOSPI Micro Data Archive developed using the IHSN Nada software was launched in April 2012, with data sets being added gradually as the documentation was completed. As of 31 March 2013, 118 data sets had been added to the Archive.

The Computer Centre now has the capacity to document any new NSS data set. This is only done, however, when the NSSO has completed the field work and data processing and has handed over the required files. Once the Computer Centre receives the files from the NSSO, it takes about three weeks to add the metadata to the NADA and to prepare the CDs.

The third ADP mission to India took place in October 2012, this was timed to coincide with the 4th OECD World Forum on Statistics, Knowledge and Policy, where PARIS21 organised a lunch time seminar on “Big data, big time? Statistical capacity building 2.0?”. The mission monitored progress with the ADP activities, organised for DDI documents and STATA programs prepared by the World Bank to be shared and provided detailed quality feedback on the NADA portal and the DDIs themselves.

In addition, a visit was paid to the Open Data unit at the Ministry of Information and Communication Technologies, to promote and discuss how the MOSPI Microdata Archive could be integrated into their framework.

D.3 Current status

Following the work to document the data backlog, the CSO Computer Centre now has the capacity to document any new NSS data set. At present, however, this is only done once the NSSO has completed all the field work and the data processing and hands over the required files. As yet, the NSSO itself does not use the DDI Editor to document surveys as they are being implemented or processed. There are well-established procedures for managing the surveys, but these do not make use of the IHSN tools.

Once the Computer Centre receives the files from the NSSO, it takes about three weeks to add the metadata to the Micro Data Archive and to prepare the CDs. The Computer Centre is also prepared, on request, to provide users who have already purchased micro data sets in the old, pre-2011 format, with the same information in the new, DDI compliant structure. Since all the 118 data sets were only made available on the Micro Data Archive in February 2013, as yet, demand for this service has been limited.

At present, only the surveys managed directly by NSSO are documented using the DDI Editor or included in the Micro Data Archive. In India there are a very large number of other surveys and data sets that could, potentially, be covered. These include surveys designed and implemented by national ministries and other official bodies, in areas including health, education, agriculture and social welfare. Many other official surveys are also carried out in States and Union Territories, in some cases in collaboration with NSSO, but also independently. There is also a large number of research studies, many of which are sponsored and financed by the Government, which are not documented or archived.

D.4 What impact have the activities of ADP had?

India has a very large and active, domestically based, research community, which has extensive experience and expertise in the analysis of survey data. There is also considerable research activity carried out by researchers based outside the country. Since Independence and the start of the national sample survey, there has been a high level of interest in making use of survey data to understand how the welfare and well-being of households has changed and how policy changes have affected decision making and the allocation of resources.

Even before ADP became involved in India, therefore, there was a high level of interest in and a relatively high level of demand for microdata, especially from the various NSS rounds, since these are known to be well managed and reliable sources of data. Before 2011, the Computer Centre was receiving about 250 requests for micro data sets every year, from both institutions and individuals. The actual number of users was likely to be much larger, since institutions were able to make the microdata available to their researchers without having to make any further payment.

Even though the data were disseminated in formats that were not immediately easy to use and which required some additional work to extract files that could then be used for analysis, many users had developed the required expertise and were able to use the data. There is also some evidence that a group of research students were prepared, for a fee, to write computer programs to extract data files that could be read by STATA and other statistical analysis packages.

At the time of the evaluation, therefore, it was not possible to assess the impact of the ADP activities directly. Within the MOSPI Computer Centre capacity has been created and the process of documenting and archiving surveys is now part of the routine management of surveys conducted by NSSO. Since the Micro Data Archive was only launched in April 2012, however and MOSPI only started distributing CDs in the DDI compliant format early in 2013, it is too early to identify any impact on users. Experienced users already have the expertise to use the data provided in the pre-2011 format and new users have yet to come forward in any number.

Box 1. Feedback from users on the new DDI compliant format for the microdata

“The toolkit is much, much better than using the text file to generate the data” Feridoon Koohi-Kamali

“Overall this arrangement for data is a lot more user friendly for researchers who are new to working with NSSO data” Bilal Rafi

“... the new format is terrific and much easier to use and decipher.” Meghana Ayyagari

There is some evidence, however, of the level of interest in the Micro Data Archive. MOSPI keeps records of the number of hits on the Micro Data Archive, although some problem with the NADA software means that they are not able to provide monthly data. Between 25 April 2012 and 15 August 2012, there were a total of 7,626 unique users and 155,084

hits. By 15 March 2013, the number of hits had increased to 280,611. There has also been positive feedback from some users on the improvements in usability made possible by use of the IHSN software (see Box 1).

D.5 Challenges faced

The introduction of the IHSN tools in India faced very few challenges. The policy of making micro data files available for research and analysis was already in place, at least for NSS data, and there was already expertise both on the part of the data provider – MOSPI – and data users. It was MOSPI who approached PARIS21 for assistance initially. The Computer Centre staff found the IHSN software easy to use and well documented. Although a few problems were encountered these were generally resolved. One of the ADP consultants, however, did complain of not getting feedback from the ADP and IHSN Secretariats to issues and recommendations put forward in his final report.

The Computer Centre also reports that working with ADP was very simple. There was no need to sign a Memorandum of Understanding and all financial and administrative issues were handled by the Secretariat in Paris. In general, MOSPI found dealing with ADP much easier than working with other donor agencies.

D.6 Can it be sustained?

MOSPI has both the technical and the financial capacity to maintain the Micro Data Archive and to ensure that all future NSSO surveys are fully documented and archived and data sets are disseminated as required. Perhaps the only concerns are related to the likely increase in demand as and when more users become aware of the archive and the possibility of getting access to microdata sets. There is also the need to expand and extend the capacity as and when other data providers and other data sets are covered by the Micro Data Archive.

One concern, which is not really a problem for ADP, is with the arrangements for paying the charge imposed for data sets. In 2012 for most users this was set at about Rupees 12,000 per CD (about €168). At present, users have to pay this charge directly to MOSPI or send an international money transfer. The Computer Centre would like to introduce the possibility of on-line payment; this would substantially simplify the transaction, especially for users that are not located in Delhi.

Other technical issues in India where further support, training and/or technical assistance might be needed include the following:

- Support for better procedures to anonymise data sets and to reduce the risk of disclosure. While this has not proved to be a problem so far, as the number of users expands the disclosure risk is likely to increase and MOSPI would like to get technical support to develop more robust procedures.
- Some interface between the IHSN software tools and data processing software in use in India such as CS-PRO, for example, would be useful.
- Many of the Indian data sets are very large and will need to continue to be distributed on CDs or DVDs rather than on-line. It will be important to ensure that the IHSN tools continue to support this option.
- Building capacity to use the IHSN tools beyond the Computer Centre will require other staff to be trained. The National Academy of Statistical Administration (NASA) should be involved and support for the development of training material and the training of trainers may be needed.

D.7 Future needs of official statistics

The main concern in India now is to see how the coverage of the Micro Data Archive can be expanded to cover some of the many other data sets that could potentially be included. These include national surveys and censuses carried out by ministries and other agencies as well as the main surveys and other data collection activities carried out in the States and Union Territories. For this to be done, several things will need to happen, including the following.

- Getting agreement from other agencies on the importance of documenting and archiving survey data and metadata. This would need to be coordinated with the National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy established in March 2012 and managed by the National Informatics Centre. Here one concern will be to ensure that the DDI standard is compatible with the Data Catalogue Vocabulary (DCAT) developed by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) and used by the NIC.
- Agreement on what standards should be adopted and used. While DDI is recognised as an appropriate standard its widespread adoption in India would be facilitated if it was already adopted as a standard by the UN Statistical Commission. Both the CSO and the NSC have an important role to play in setting standards for statistics in India.
- Building capacity in the relevant agencies through the activities of NASA and other initiatives.
- Providing technical and, in some cases, financial support to State and Union Territory administrations²⁴. There are a number of mechanisms in place that could provide this support, including the current India Statistical Strengthening Project (ISSP).

There is also some potential for developing a national social science data archive in India to hold research data along the lines of the UK Data Archive, since much of the research data collected in India is financed by the Government. It would be helpful if India was able to get more information on how this had been done in other countries.

While India has the capacity to manage this process without external support, some high-level strategic advice is likely to be helpful as would be the capacity to exchange experiences with other countries in the region and elsewhere.

Other concerns include the need for consultation and discussion about survey design and implementation and the Indian national statistical system would welcome the opportunity to discuss issues with other countries and with international experts on a regular basis. Some current issues of concern in this area include:

- Sample design in terms of efficiency and effectiveness in different circumstances especially for particularly hard to identify and reach groups;
- Improving the sample design to reflect better the geographical location of people and the division between rural and urban areas.
- The anonymisation of data sets, especially when sample sizes are small.

While India has no specific problems with the current management and governance arrangements for IHSN and the ADP, they would welcome opportunities to discuss future priorities and other technical concerns associated with surveys and survey management. It would be preferable if this could be done through existing structures such as the UN Statistical Commission and the Regional

²⁴ The Annex was prepared based on a field visit to India in March, 2013. Subsequently, MOSPI has introduced the IHSN tools to a number of states at a workshop held in June. It is anticipated that MOSPI will follow up with further capacity building on microdata management in states. It is expected that this will take place without the need for further technical support from ADP.

Commissions rather than establishing some new arrangement. Some mechanism for regular consultation on technical issues on the line of the Inter-Sector Working Group for National Accounts may be a possible model.

In principle, India would be willing to pay part of the costs of future technical assistance if needed, although considerable advance warning would be needed to ensure that this was included in the budget process. Some form of cost sharing may be more practicable though.

D.8 Persons met

Name	Affiliation
Mr P.C. Mohanan	Deputy Director General, Computer Centre, MOSPI
Professor T.C.A. Anant	Chief Statistician of India and Secretary, MOSPI
Mr Vijay Kumar	Director General, National Sample Survey Organisation
Dr Pronab Sen	Chairman, National Statistical Commission
Ms Farah Zahir	Senior Economist, World Bank
Ms Maria Mini Jos	Economist, World Bank
Ms Neeta Verma	Deputy Director General, National Informatics Centre
Professor Abhiroop Mukhopadhyay	Associate Professor, Indian Statistical Institute
Mr Jyoti Ranjan Majumdar	Computer Centre, MOSPI
Mr R.P. Thakur	Computer Centre, MOSPI

Annex E Case study: The Philippines

E.1 The Philippines Statistical System

The statistical system of The Philippines is decentralised and, to a large extent, is similar to that of the United States. The National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB) provides overall coordination, sets policies for the statistical system as a whole, spearheads the preparation of the Philippine Statistical Development Program, is responsible for the dissemination of statistical information and undertakes compilation of some statistics, including the national accounts. Data collection, however, is largely the responsibility of a number of different agencies, especially the National Statistics Office (NSO), the Bureau of Agricultural Statistics (BAS), the Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics (BLES) and Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) – the Central Bank. Other agencies have responsibility for the compilation and dissemination of official statistics in their specific areas of responsibility. The Philippines is a subscriber to SDDS and adheres to SDDS Plus. It was identified as one of the original six pilot countries when ADP was first launched in 2006.

E.1 Description of activities

Initially, the development of the ADP in Asia and the Pacific was coordinated through the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP). Progress was limited, however, and, when funds became available through the DGF grant to PARIS21, a regional ADP office for Asia was established in Manila in 2009. The Regional Coordinator – Gaye Parcon – was previously a senior staff member of NSCB.

In total, the Philippines has received 11 missions from ADP, with the first – providing training in the use of the, then, microdata management toolkit – taking place in 2008²⁵. Further training, with the Regional Coordinator providing many of the inputs, took place in 2009 (three courses) and in 2010 (two courses). Formally NSCB consider that their participation in ADP began in 2009.

The NSCB formulates policies on all matters relating to government statistical operations. Coordination of the Philippines Statistical System (PSS) is managed through a series of resolutions approved by the NSCB Executive Board. In August 2010, the Executive Board issued Resolution Number 10, Series of 2010, which enjoined agencies in the PSS to archive and document microdata using international standards²⁶. In 2011, the Executive Board approved Resolution Number 5, Series of 2011, which set out a general policy on the production, release and dissemination of microdata²⁷. The policy provides a guide for all agencies in the PSS in producing, and releasing microdata, taking into consideration confidentiality, user-friendliness, accessibility and timeliness. In particular, agencies that prepare metadata for release are required to set up Microdata Review Panels (MDRP) to review the public-use files (PUF) prior to release. The policy also requires users to sign a terms of use document, it provides for fees to be charged in line with the established pricing policy and it requires agencies to release the PUFs within 6 to 12 months after the final release of the results of the survey or census. In addition agencies are required to include information on the release of microdata in their advance release calendar. It is noteworthy to mention that both resolutions were prepared by the NSCB Technical Staff in consultation with Ms. Parcon and Mr. Fontaneau and was later endorsed by the NSCB Interagency Committee on Statistical Information Management and Dissemination for approval of the NSCB Executive Board.

²⁵ It should be noted that the number of missions is large because support was also being provided to the ADP Regional Coordinator, who is based in Manila.

²⁶ See: <http://www.nscb.gov.ph/resolutions/2010/10.asp>

²⁷ See: <http://www.nscb.gov.ph/resolutions/2011/5.asp>

Before 2009, the PSS did make microdata available to approved users for further research and analysis. The NSO and some other agencies produced a number of PUF's on demand, although there was no standard format and users only had access to limited documentation and metadata. Users reported a number of problems in using these files, especially in relation to comparing data from different rounds of the same survey.

Following the initial training in 2009 and 2010, the NSO, BAS and BLES embarked on a process of documenting surveys and censuses using the DDI format. In October 2009, the NSO launched the NSO Data Archive (NSODA), initially with metadata from 23 surveys. In January 2010, the Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics launched the BLES Electronic Archived Microdata System (BEAMS) with metadata from 27 surveys. The Bureau of Agricultural Statistics launched the BAS Electronic Archiving and Network Service (BEANS) in June 2010 with metadata from 23 surveys initially. All three of the microdata archives are powered by the IHSN NADA software version 3.2²⁸.

E.2 Current status?

The strategic development of the PSS is led by the Philippine Statistical Development Program (PSDP), which covers the period from 2011 to 2017. This was prepared and published by the NSCB in 2012. The documentation and archiving of micro data and the preservation of metadata is seen as an important activity helping to increase user understanding, capacity and trust in official statistics. Chapter 3 (Statistical Information Management and Dissemination) of the PSDP 2011-2017 explicitly identifies the various statistical development programs in the areas of metadata documentation, archiving and microdata/PUF production which are proposed to be implemented in the medium-term.

By 31 March, 2013, the NSO Data Archive had 63 studies documented with data from 1991 to 2010. These include various rounds of the Family Income and Expenditure Survey (FIES), the 2007 census of population and a number of other studies. The 2009 FIES is not yet listed in NSODA, however, although the results of this survey were released in 2011. NSO prepares and disseminates PUFs where possible, subject to users signing an agreement and paying the required fee. In some cases, with trusted users, licensed files are prepared, which are semi-anonymised, with more geographical indicators than in the PUF. In these cases a more restrictive microdata use agreement is signed. At present, all establishment based data sets are considered too sensitive to prepare PUFs or licensed files. NSO is developing a data enclave, which will allow users to access the data in a secure environment, but not to take copies of the microdata away.

The BLES data archive, BEAMS, had 35 separate studies listed. Because BLES only conducts establishment based surveys, no public use files are currently released, although some arrangements can be made on request to provide access to the microdata through carefully controlled conditions. In some circumstances, BLES can prepare special tabulations. They are also considering setting up a data enclave.

At the end of March 2013, the BAS archive, BEANS had 32 studies documented, with data from 2003 to 2011. In line with the NSO policy, BAS provides public use files, licensed files and also has an established data enclave.

In 2013, plans include the launch of two more data archives to include microdata and metadata compiled by the BSP and microdata and metadata belonging to the Food and Nutrition Research Institute (FNRI). NSCB are also planning to launch an integrated data portal, which will provide a single link to the different microdata archives of agencies.

²⁸ This was correct at the time of writing, following a field visit in March, 2013. Subsequently all three microdata archives in the Philippines have migrated to NADA version 4.

E.3 What impact have the activities of ADP had?

While a number of the agencies in the PSS had been preserving microdata and distributing public use files since 2000, all the agencies contacted during the evaluation report that the support from ADP and the use of the IHSN guidelines and software tools has made this process more effective and has improved the service to data users. For example, the NSO indicated that the requests for PUFs have increased considerably since 2010 when NSODA was launched. The NSO also suggested that before 2010 not much attention was given to metadata. The process of documenting surveys and other data sets using the DDI standard has forced staff to pay more attention to documenting what has been done and to being more systematic in ensuring that procedures and processes are properly recorded.

At the same time, data users, even those that have had some experience in using the pre 2010 PUFs report that microdata, while available was difficult to get hold of and required personal contact with specific individuals. The lack of standards for documenting and recording the metadata also meant that comparing microdata between rounds of the same survey was difficult and time consuming. It is hoped to get more feedback from users through the on-line surveys that have now been launched.

In BLES, while PUFs are not produced, the process of documenting metadata and preserving microdata is now part of the routine activities for all surveys and other data collection activities. The process of reviewing the metadata through MDRPs has also led to improvements in survey management.

Many of the same benefits of adopting the IHSN/ADP procedures were also reported by BAS. The process before the IHSN tools were adopted was largely ad-hoc. Users needed to identify what data they needed and also had to ask for the metadata. The use of the DDI standard and the launch of BEANS has resulted in much more attention being given to documentation and has resulted in a much improved service to users.

All the agencies contacted indicated that they found the IHSN software tools easy to use and well documented. When problems were encountered easy access to the Regional Coordinator, who is based in Manila and is known personally to many of the senior staff, meant that these were relatively easily solved. The NSCB, which coordinated all the ADP activities in the country, found that dealing with ADP was simple, the Regional Office or the Secretariat in Paris took care of all logistical concerns.

E.4 Challenges faced

Establishing ADP activities in the Philippines did not face many challenges. It took some time from the initial launch of the Program in 2006 to get activities going, but this was a result of the initial difficulties of working through ESCAP and the limited funding available. With the establishment of the Regional Office in 2009, activities rapidly took off. There was also strong support from the NSCB Executive Board and the two resolutions of 2010 and 2011 provided a good supporting environment for microdata management and dissemination.

The three agencies initially involved in the Programme were all able to build up their expertise and establish sufficient capacity to document the survey data and to publish the metadata on their data archives. It would appear that there are now a critical number of people with the expertise and experience needed, both to use the software and to train new staff in its use. Agencies are able to get advice and support when needed and the Philippines had also been able to provide technical advice to other countries in the region, especially in the installation and use of the NADA software.

The main challenges that are now faced are concerned with broadening the approach to include other agencies and other data sets and in ensuring that the production of public use files keeps up with the survey programme. The NSO, for example, has found it difficult to maintain the 6 to 12 months deadline for producing PUFs, especially for large and complex surveys such as the FIES. At the same time, documentation and archiving is still seen as an activity to be done once the data have been compiled and the survey results produced. It is not yet the case that the procedures are in use throughout the statistical production process. As a result, where changes in data sets are made, for example, because problems have been found at a later date, it is not always the case that the metadata and PUFs are updated to include these.

Another challenge is that of effective data anonymisation, especially for establishment surveys and other data sets based on small samples. BLES, would like to prepare PUFs, but at present is not able to do so, because of the disclosure risk and the commercial sensitivity of much of the data it handles.

There is also a need to improve the process of interaction with data users. At present, users apply on-line, but cannot pay electronically, which makes it difficult for organisations and people based outside the metropolitan centres.

Some agencies, including BAS, have other data portals and databases in place. BAS, for example, has an FAO sponsored CountryStat web-site as well as BEANS. While there is not much overlap between these, since CountryStat is concerned mostly with time series data and indicators, while BEANS focuses on microdata, there are some problems in ensuring that the information presented in both is consistent and that any changes made in one system feed through to the other. At present this cannot be done automatically.

The development of a data archive for BSP presents a number of challenges. There are technical concerns to ensure that the IHSN tools can be used on the BSP internal network and special concerns associated with the disclosure risk for different types of data collected by BSP. Many of these problems are unique to central banks and will need close collaboration with the IMF Statistics Department.

E.5 Can it be sustained?

In principle, the PSS has both the technical and the financial capacity to sustain the process of managing microdata, maintaining the data archives and disseminating public use files. The management of microdata and ensuring that metadata is maintained and made better use of is a core part of PSDP. The statistical system as a whole is committed to maintaining the systems that have been put in place and in gradually expanding their coverage. Increasingly other agencies are looking to become involved as they recognise the value of having a data archive in place.

E.6 Future needs of official statistics

Up to now almost all of the ADP activities in the Philippines have concentrated on Task 1, that is, documenting and archiving existing data. Increasingly though, the PSS as a whole and the individual agencies are looking to see how this can feed back into the design of more efficient and effective surveys and other data processes in the future. At the time of the evaluation, the agencies contacted had not yet seen or made use of the IHSN question bank, although there was interest in this development. There is interest, however in making use of the metadata that is now included in the national data archives as well as international experience, to see how future surveys could be improved and indicators made more consistent. This is seen as an issue for both household and establishment surveys. There will also be a need to ensure that the work on the

question bank is coordinated with other methodological research on surveys, for example from the University of Michigan in the United States.

The Central Bank is also interested in becoming involved and is looking to launch its own Data Archive later this year. This is likely to be an important initiative because BSP will be one of the first central banks in any country to make use of the IHSN tools. There will be a need to ensure that this is linked to and coordinated with the SDDS metadata and the various standards and guidelines of the IMF.

Another area of concern is to ensure that all data users are made aware of the data archives and how they can be used. In line with the PSDP 2011-2017 there is a need to promote the data archives as an important resource and to add new functionalities where possible. One area would be to provide tools for exploratory data analysis and to present data in maps. There is also a need to improve the availability and use of statistics at the local level, helping to build capacity in local government to document, archive and use microdata more effectively.

E.7 Persons met

Name	Affiliation
Mr Candido J. Astrologo	Director National Statistical Information Center, NSCB and ADP Contact Point
Ms Gaye Parcon	Regional Coordinator, Accelerated Data Program Asia
Ms Carmelita N. Ericta	Administrator and Civil Registrar General, National Statistics Office
Mr Valentino C. Abuan	Director Information Resources Office, NSO
Ms Maura Lizarondo	Assistant Director, Bureau of Agricultural Statistics
Mr Jing Jalisan	Chief IT Section, Bureau of Agricultural Statistics
Ms Teresa V. Peralta	Director, Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics
Dr Mario V. Capanza	Director, Food and Nutrition Research Institute
Mr Glenn Melvin Gironella	Senior Science Research Specialist, Food and Nutrition Research Institute
Ms Teresita B. Deveza	Deputy Director, Department of Economic Statistics, BSP
Mr Arnie-Gil R. Hordejan	Monetary and Financial Statistics, Group, DES, BSP
Ms Angela Elaine F. Pelayo	Expectations Survey and Leading Indicators Group, DES, BSP
Ms Junelinda M. Garcia	Expectations Survey and Leading Indicators Group, DES, BSP
Ms Grace M. Medina	Cross Border Transaction Survey Sub-Group, DES, BSP
Ms Susan Napa	Cross Border Transaction Survey Sub-Group, DES, BSP
Ms Rosalie Fernandez	International Transactions Reporting System, DES, BSP
Dr Dalisay S. Maligalig	Principal Statistician, Asian Development Bank
Dr Manju Rani	Senior Technical Officer, WHO Western Pacific Regional Office
Ms Rashiel Besana Velarde	Social Protection Unit, World Bank

Annex F Case study: Niger

F.1 Description of activities

The Institut National de la Statistique (INS) is the coordinating body of the National Statistical System of Niger (NSS). Its mission, as set out in a Decree of September 2004, is to coordinate the NSS, to produce and make available statistics which conform to international standards, to bring together the statistics produced by the various bodies of the NSS and to conserve them, to promote the development of applied research into statistical methodology and to train staff in the collection and analysis of data.

The NSS is governed by a National Statistical Council composed of 9 members. The INS has a Director General and a Secretary General and five technical directorates. Data archiving is the particular responsibility of the Direction de la Coordination et la Développement de la Statistique (DCDS) and the Division de l'Informatique.

The INS was first exposed to the Microdata Management Toolkit in 2005 when the Director of Surveys attended a workshop on KWIK surveys. At the end of the workshop the participants were shown the toolkit. In 2008 the WB sent a consultant to install the NADA. ADP has held three training sessions in Niamey, two in 2007 and one in 2010. The first two workshops were facilitated by external consultants, but the workshop in 2010 was facilitated by an INS staff member, Mme Julienne Aitchedi, along with an ADP consultant from Burkina Faso. As part of the 2010 training course, in which staff from other ministries participated, 14 laptops were provided by ADP to facilitate data archiving. Most of these were distributed to participants in the workshop, but INS kept three for their own use. The Ministry of Education, in collaboration with INS, conducted a training at regional level to document administrative datasets in the field of education (this workshop was conducted without ADP support).

Niger is also one of the few countries which has received assistance under Task 3 of the ADP. Under this ADP provided considerable support with the ENBC (Enquete Nationale sur les Budgets et la Consommation des Menages) 2007. This was a 12 month panel survey (2007-2008), covering around 4,000 respondents, funded by government. ADP paid for the training of three staff in Chile, for 2-3 weeks, in questionnaire design and processing. Of these one has since died but the other two are still in position. Three international consultants came to Niger from Chile at different times, two to help with survey design and one to help with data analysis. The next ENBC will be in 2014, but the same households were included in an agriculture and livelihoods survey in 2011.

F.2 The current state of archiving and access to microdata

The process of archiving past and present surveys began with the first toolkit training workshops, and continued over the years. Some past surveys had been lost but could be retrieved with the help of CEPOD (Centre D'Etudes des Politiques pour le Développement) in Senegal, and then archived. Currently there are 59 surveys on the NADA. The latest of these surveys is dated 2010, and there are ten surveys still to be documented. The evaluation was told that the process of archiving surveys had been institutionalised. However, there was limited activity in 2011-2012 because of the demands of the census. Also, the staff member responsible for maintaining the NADA has been transferred.

Currently INS does not have a policy on access to microdata, nor any capacity in data anonymisation. No microdata is available directly for download in the NADA. There is a form on the NADA to apply for access to microdata, but this is not processed electronically. Instead, applicants are then asked to send a letter specifying exactly what data they want. Many of those who apply do

not follow up with a letter. The INS does not keep track of the number of people applying for access to microdata.

Training in the toolkit was given to a number of sector ministries. This training appears to have had more impact in the Ministry of Agriculture and in Education than in other ministries. In Agriculture, all agriculture surveys were archived between 2006 and 2009. However, two of the three staff trained had left the Ministry, and the remaining trained staff member had not continued with archiving for reasons of resources, and motivation. In the Ministry of Education, the annual education census is archived.

F.3 What impact have the activities of ADP had?

The use of the toolkit has had a major impact on the level of organisation in INS and in sector ministries. Previously, surveys were stored on CDs and often got lost. Now they can be consulted easily when new surveys are being planned. This has happened without any additional cost in time. Line ministries have also appreciated the benefits of better documentation when designing new surveys.

Julienne is now well trained in the NADA and has facilitated training courses outside of Niger, including in Togo. She has also conducted training with the Ministry of Education.

The main impact of ADP activities appear to be on data archiving rather than increasing access to microdata.

INS has found ADP a very flexible partner. They respond quickly to queries and have also been good at financing workshops. INS particularly appreciates the continuity of support through the change of government in 2010, when many of INS's programmes were withdrawn in the short-term. There is currently a question over a 10% balance which ADP has not paid, but INS seems confident that it will be paid at some point.

There seems to have been little impact of the ANADO on improved access to microdata. Access still has to be requested in writing. In fact, the ANADO has not been heavily publicised, except on African Statistics Day, and one staff in the Ministry of Agriculture was unaware of its existence, despite participating in Toolkit archiving activities. However there has been an improvement in on-line information about the surveys available.

F.4 Particular challenges faced

One major issue facing the INS currently is staff capacity to maintain the NADA and manage the archiving process. The only staff member who appears to be working on this is the head of DI, and she is also assisting with training both in Niger and outside.

Many sectoral staff have been involved in training in the toolkit, but the take-up in terms of ministries documenting their own data appears to be very limited. This may in part be due to staff movement both in INS and in the various sectors.

Although one of the staff trained at INS has facilitated training outside of Niger, there does not appear to be much in the way of in-house training, though a fourth workshop for the NSS is being planned. It will be difficult to make much progress with archiving and documentation, particularly in the line ministries, unless INS is in a position to give more support. INS staff have the capacity to train on the toolkit, but this does not appear to be done without ADP support.

F.5 Sustainability

One of the biggest issues with sustainability appears to be staff turnover. This came up with INS and also in meetings with the Ministry of Livestock and the Ministry of Hydrology and Environment. With sector ministries, one or two staff are trained at workshops and they archive surveys during the workshop. However they do not continue the process and then are transferred to other organisations or go for training, leaving no capacity behind to document or archive surveys. This has proved a missed opportunity; the Ministry of Livestock has quite a comprehensive process of price collection and dissemination but there appears to be no systematic archiving along international standards.

Financially, there are indications that INS and the NSS in general is quite dependent on external funding to carry out major surveys. There is no reason why proper documentation and archiving could not be built into the design of large externally funded surveys, but there is no indication that this is happening at present. INS has, since 2011, benefited from a large EU programme, the Programme d'Appui au Système Statistique National et à l'Etat Civil (PASTAGEP) which is providing €19mill to help develop the NSDS, to support the 2012 census and build capacity in the system of civil registration in the country. The 2013 NSDS has been prepared, but INS is waiting for a transfer of funds from the WB to publish it. The evaluation team were told that it could be possible that some funding for training and support to the toolkit and ANADO could be provided through PASTAGEP.

F.6 Future needs of official statistics

There is a need for further training in data analysis. At present, the analysis undertaken by the INS is at a fairly superficial level. They also want more training on areas such as sample size calculation and the use of technology, such as PDAs, in data collection. Need for greater capacity in data analysis was also voiced by several of the line ministries.

The current government in Niger is particularly concerned about measuring governance. The INS has no experience of measuring the success of anti-corruption measures, or assessing ethics, but these are areas of major concern for government. Climate change is another area which is becoming important.

There is concern in Niger over the physical security of data. There have been a number of cases of buildings burning down and data archives being lost. This happened recently with the Ministry of Justice. INS had been enthusiastic about the initiative led by Paris21 to set up an African databank based in South Africa, but this had come to nothing because of lack of funding.

Although there has been considerable effort to include the NSS as a whole in training in the toolkit, there needs to be more follow-up on the part of INS and more staff time dedicated to support to statisticians in line ministries. Data archiving does not appear to be fully institutionalised but rather dependent on workshops.

INS also needs to spend more time on advocacy within the NSS, and creating greater awareness of the ANADO and the availability of microdata. To do this effectively, INS needs a policy on data dissemination and training in anonymisation. These could be carried out by ADP, but should be undertaken with the objective of trying to create a more systemic embedding of data archiving throughout the NSS and improving access to microdata.

F.7 List of persons met

Name	Affiliation
Ibrahima Soumaila	Acting Secretary General, and Director, Directorate of Coordination and Statistical Development, INS
Mme Julienne Aitchedi	Division Informatique, INS
Mme Haoua Omar	Centre de Formation et Perfectionnement, INS
Oumarou Habi	Surveys and Censuses, INS
Issoufou Issiako	Finance and Administration Directorate, INS
Sani Oumarou	Statistics and Demographic Studies. INS
Mahamadou Chekarao	Statistics and Economic Studies, INS
Dr Atté Issa	Director of Statistics, Ministry of Elevage
Dr Ada Nou Danguioua	Directeur de la Programmation, Etudes at Prospective, 3Ns (Niger Nourri Niger)
Bako Mamane	GIS Specialist, Agrimet
Nourou El Hassan	Former Head of Statistics, Ministry of Hydrologique et Environnement
Gondah Neino	Department of Statistics, Ministry of Agriculture
Djabo Mamane	Director of Statistics, Ministry of Education
Bourreima Issa Ibrahim	NIGERINFO focal point, Ministry of Education
Saâdou Bakoye	Deputy Coordinator of Cellule de Suivi de l'Action Gouvernementale
Meeting with representatives of the National Statistical System	

Annex G Case study: Colombia

G.1 Description of activities

DANE

The National Administrative Department of Statistics -DANE- is responsible for the planning, collection, processing, analysis, and dissemination of Colombia's official statistics. DANE's mission is to produce and disseminate strategic statistical information for decision-making regarding the country's economic and social development, and, on the basis of its technical leadership, to regulate the national statistical system (NSS).

DANE has 5 technical directorates. The coordination of data documentation and archiving activities is the responsibility of the Directorate of Statistical Regulation, Planning, Standardisation and Normalisation. Within this directorate there is a team of permanent staff (known as the "ADP team" and funded through DANE's own resources) which is in charge of Toolkit-based documentation of surveys, advocating standardized data documentation in the NSS and facilitating workshops on the Toolkit (in both DANE and the NSS).

DANE requested to join ADP in 2008 following a presentation by the World Bank. A first internal Toolkit training for a limited number of DANE technical staff was held in summer 2008. Following some piloting activities, in 2009 a larger training was held for the directorates of DANE, as well as sensitization workshops in other NSS institutions. From 2009 to 2013, various workshops and survey documentation activities followed (for both DANE and other NSS institutions).

In addition to the above Toolkit activities, a National Data Archive (ANDA by its Spanish acronym) was installed in 2011.²⁹

Moreover, DANE maintains a second online repository specifically for microdata (also using the IHSN's NADA tool). Selected surveys (for which metadata can also be found in the ANDA) are published in this second NADA together with their microdata.

Finally, DANE has developed a virtual training course for the Toolkit, administered and maintained by CANDANE, a statistical capacity building centre within DANE. This virtual course is fully a "DANE product" and was produced independently by DANE, not funded or facilitated by ADP. In this virtual course, audio-visual teaching material on the Toolkit is provided. Signing up for the virtual course is free at present.

DNP

The National Planning Department (DNP) has the mission of defining and promoting the establishment of a strategic vision of the country in the social, economic and environmental sectors through the design, orientation and evaluation of public policies in Colombia. The DNP is also the Colombian agency that leads the activities of monitoring and evaluation of public policies in Colombia. Private consulting firms are hired through competitive process to collect and analyze data on public policies for these evaluations. DNP currently include data documentation as a requirement in the Terms of Reference of its bidding process - recommending the use of the DDI standard and the IHSN Microdata Management Toolkit.

²⁹ The adoption of the DDI standard by DANE and the installation of the NADA were acknowledged positively by an OECD evaluation of the Colombian statistical system.

The DNP has recently begun running workshops in cooperation with ADP consultants for these private consulting firms in order to promote the DDI standard and the Toolkit. The DNP does not currently operate a NADA for the metadata or microdata produced for these surveys, and does not publish its survey documentation on the DANE's NADA.

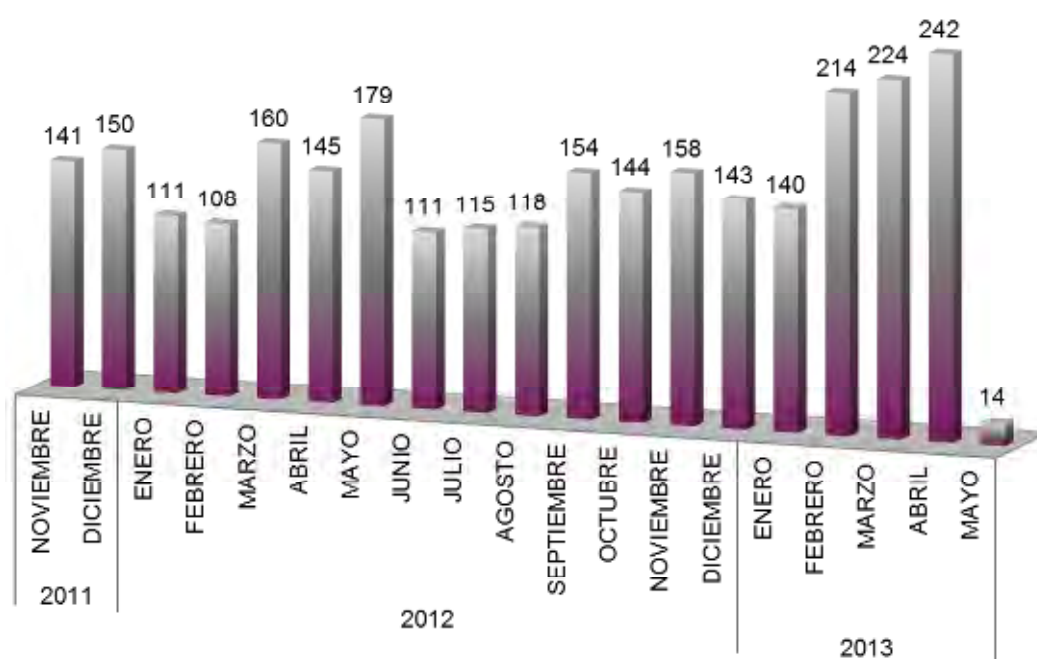
G.2 The current state of archiving and access to microdata

By the time of the evaluation, 45 institutions of the NSS had been trained in using the Toolkit, 130 metadata archives had been produced, and 3 supporting documents had been developed (a Toolkit manual for metadata documentation, a guide for validating and approving metadata produced with the Toolkit, and a protocol of documentation and validation). Data archiving activities have been institutionalized in DANE and are planned and coordinated via an 'annual work plan for metadata documentation'. The objective of providing an integrated solution to metadata documentation in the Colombian NSS features in the country's NSDS (PEN by its Spanish acronym).

The ANDA currently presents 90 of the above-mentioned metadata archives for DANE surveys. The remaining archives are those produced by other NSS institutions. These are not currently presented in the ANDA because they have not yet undergone the necessary validation and quality assurance procedures by DANE. The plan, however, is to upload these archives to the ANDA eventually.

The microdata archive currently provides access to 25 survey datasets. Prior to the installation of this microdata archive, DANE had agreements with other Government entities and the country's major research institutions to provide access to microdata. Making microdata fully accessible to the public was an issue at first, because a law (Ley 79 del 1993) prohibited the dissemination of person-level data. Recent legislation has cleared the path for this, provided the microdata is sufficiently anonymised and the data type has been cleared for publication by a committee (e.g. sample survey data has been cleared). Certain restrictions still apply however, and not all types of DANE data can be made accessible under the current regulations.

The figure below shows the development of access requests for microdata via the online archive. The majority of these requests come from domestic users, but requests from outside the country (US, Europe, Asia...) are also received.



G.3 What impact have the activities of ADP had?

DANE views the main results of ADP involvement as:

- Capacity built in DANE and NSS to use the Toolkit
- Adoption of an international standard (DDI)
- General sensitization in the DANE and NSS to the need for documentation and better harmonisation thereof.
- ANDA and microdata archive available online
- Metadata documented for 130 surveys (90 of those accessible online).
- Microdata available online for 25 surveys
- Loss of institutional memory prevented
- Open availability of metadata has relieved the burden on DANE to assist data users with their enquiries about methodology, etc.

DANE feels that the use of its microdata has increased through the open access policy and the installation of NADA. This notion is confirmed by the download statistics and interviews with major data users in the country. Especially in research institutions, use of DANE data has increased. It is important to note that long-standing agreements preceding the online archive made DANE data available to research institutions prior to the current system, but approval processes were often time-consuming and made the data unattractive, in particular to University students. While the online metadata and microdata archives are well-known among most users, there is mild evidence of researchers that are still unaware of its existence and impact could be further improved by continued promotion in data user communities.

Other governmental and non-governmental data users also feel that access to microdata is now more convenient than before. In particular, the availability of the full survey methodology and all supporting documents was highlighted as a major improvement.

NSS institutions that use the Toolkit to document their statistical data appreciate its contribution to avoiding institutional memory loss (especially in the light of high staff turnover in Colombian Government institutions) and the improvement of internal management of methodological information.

The use of IHSN guidelines and papers by the various data producers in Colombia (other than the ones directly related to documentation/archiving) is low based on the interviews conducted for this evaluation.

G.4 Particular challenges faced

The Toolkit for data documentation and the ANDA were generally well received by DANE, the NSS and data users. These IHSN/ADP tools are widely regarded easy to use and convenient. IHSN/ADP is regarded a very flexible partner, and the cooperation with ADP is characterized by fast and uncomplicated planning and funding arrangements.

The main issues faced with regard to implementation of documentation and microdata dissemination are in the integration of documentation developed by NSS institutions outside the DANE, and in the area of sustainability.

While data documentation inside DANE is well institutionalized, and capacity to use the IHSN/ADP tools is very good, the situation in other NSS institutions is more complicated. Given that the

various members of the NSS are not primarily statistical data producers, the documentation of surveys and other data unsurprisingly takes a more subordinate role than in DANE. Being less of a priority, cases were observed where documentation of a dataset had started during a DANE/ADP workshop, but was never completed later due to other commitments. Also, documentation is not often conducted for surveys other than the ones brought to the Toolkit workshops. The benefits of documentation, while theoretically acknowledged by all NSS members, are less obvious than for DANE given that NSS metadata is not currently published on the ANDA. As a result, documentation in NSS institutions is primarily an exercise for improving internal data management and NSS coordination, but produces no immediate benefits for the clients of these institutions. In fact, it has been mentioned that the internal use of the metadata archives is very limited in some institutions. Several of the respondents met voiced an interest to have their metadata published on the ANDA. It was noted that this would help increase client focus and transparency of NSS institutions. It would presumably also increase the incentive/motivation to carry out documentation activities.

The issue of sustainability is discussed in more detail in the section below.

G.5 Sustainability

As mentioned above, the process of data documentation and archiving is strongly institutionalized in DANE (albeit to a lesser degree in the rest of the NSS). The operation of the ANDA also seemed to work well. Sustainability of ADP achievements are assessed in three ways: knowledge transfer, arrangements for future maintenance, and funding.

In terms of knowledge transfer, the ADP team and other DANE staff are experienced users of the Toolkit, and are able to pass on this knowledge easily. The best example of this is the virtual Toolkit course, which was developed independently by DANE. The regular use of the Toolkit for documentation of new DANE surveys contributes to establishing these technical skills firmly within DANE. In other NSS institutions, capacity was built to a certain degree, but staff turnover and limited application and use of the tools require maintenance arrangements.

The arrangements for such maintenance of skills in the wider NSS are set out in the annual work plan for metadata documentation. Regular workshops for the NSS are meant to ensure the sustainability of capacity. However, it is notable that Toolkit workshops are not currently conducted without the involvement and lead of ADP consultants – despite the availability of Toolkit skills within DANE. This is a concern in terms of sustainability, as it appears that there might perhaps be an unnecessary degree of reliance on ADP involvement. It is understandable that regular ADP participation ensures that DANE is aware of the latest technological developments of the Toolkit and NADA, but ADP involvement would not really be necessary at all training workshops. Likewise, the virtual course, although very comprehensive, is hardly being used, and participant numbers have been low.

In terms of funding, it appears that the funding for documentation activities could be maintained even if IHSN/ADP funding were to decrease. The commitment of DANE resources in this area (e.g. for maintaining the ‘ADP team’ or for developing the virtual course) demonstrate this further. The other ADP partner in Colombia, DNP, also suggested that funding for ADP-type activities could be made available if necessary.

G.6 List of persons met

Name	Affiliation
Jorge Bustamante Roldán	DANE
Nelcy Araque García	DANE
Carolina Gutiérrez Hernández	DANE

Jaime Andres Aguirre Gasca	DANE
Ricardo Valenzuela Gutiérrez	DANE
Marly Johanna Téllez López	DANE
Rafael Humberto Zorro Cubides	DANE
Ana Lucia Martinez Arias	DANE
Paola Fernanda Medina	DANE
Diana Cristina Prieto	DANE
Bernardo Guerrero Lozano	DANE
Jorge Botello	DANE
Daniel Rodriguez Rubiano	DANE
Piedad Urdinola	Universidad Nacional de Colombia
Marcela Ramírez	Departamento Nacional de Planeación
Paul Rene Ocampo	ICBF
Carolina Delgado Torres	ICBF
Rocio Enciso Garzon	ICBF
Jhael Bermudez	ICBF
Claudia Gómez	Profamilia
Marcela Sanchez	Profamilia
Hector Parra	Profamilia
Ana Vega	Profamilia
Jorge Tovar	Universidad de los Andes
Javier Andrés Rubio Sáenz	Ministry of Education
Elsa Nelly Velasco	Ministry of Education
Eliana Rocio Gonzalez Molano	Bank of the Republic (Central Bank)
Carlos Varela	Bank of the Republic (Central Bank)
María Fernanda Reyes	Bank of the Republic (Central Bank)
María Alejandra Hernández	Bank of the Republic (Central Bank)

Annex H List of international agencies interviewed

In addition to the five case studies, the eSurveys, and the personal interviews in PARIS21 and the World Bank, the following agencies and institutions were also consulted (either in person or via phone) for this evaluation:

- AfDB
- Afristat
- Data First
- DDI Alliance
- DFID
- Eurostat
- FAO
- Gates Foundation
- ICF International
- IDB
- IFPRI
- ILO
- MCC
- Nesstar
- OECD
- UNESCO UIS
- UNICEF
- UNSD
- WFP
- WHO
- Various independent ADP consultants

Annex I Report on eSurveys

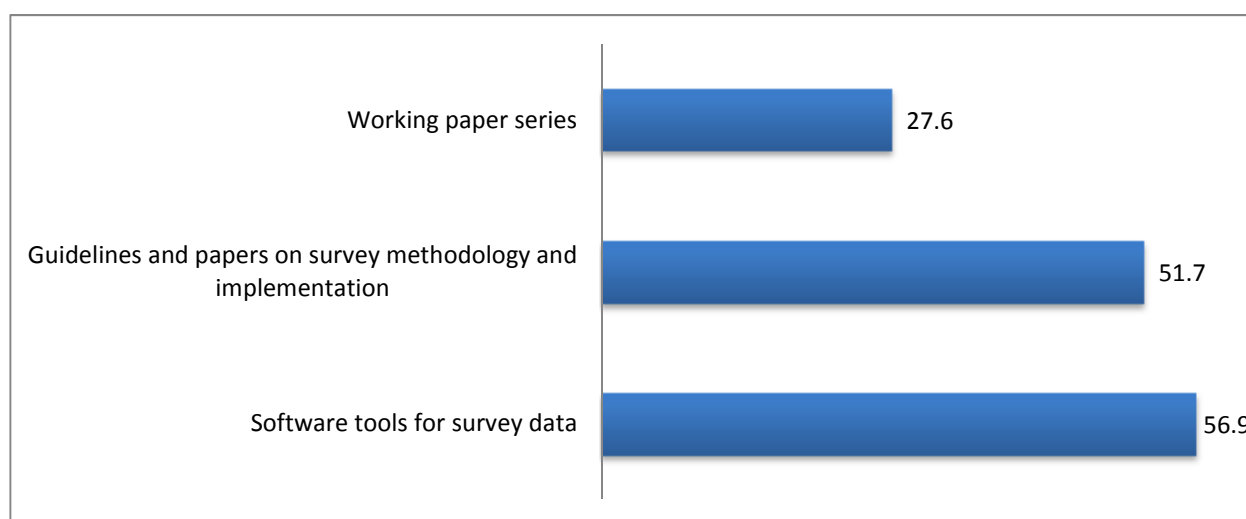
In order to reach as wide and varied a number of actual and potential stakeholders as possible, the evaluation team carried out two electronic surveys, one of producers and the other of users of statistics.

I.1 Data producers

The eSurvey for data producers was sent out to the heads of national statistical offices in 173 low or middle-income countries (copied to ADP country focal points where applicable). The heads of NSOs were asked to answer the eSurvey themselves or delegate this to a senior member of the office's surveys department. 58 responses were received, from producers of official statistics in the following 49 countries: Afghanistan, Armenia, Aruba, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Bermuda, Bhutan, Bolivia, Cambodia, Cameroon, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Macao Special Administrative Region, Costa Rica, Croatia, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, French Polynesia, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, India, Iraq, Jamaica, Madagascar, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Sudan, and Yemen.

I.1.1 Knowledge of IHSN/ADP activities

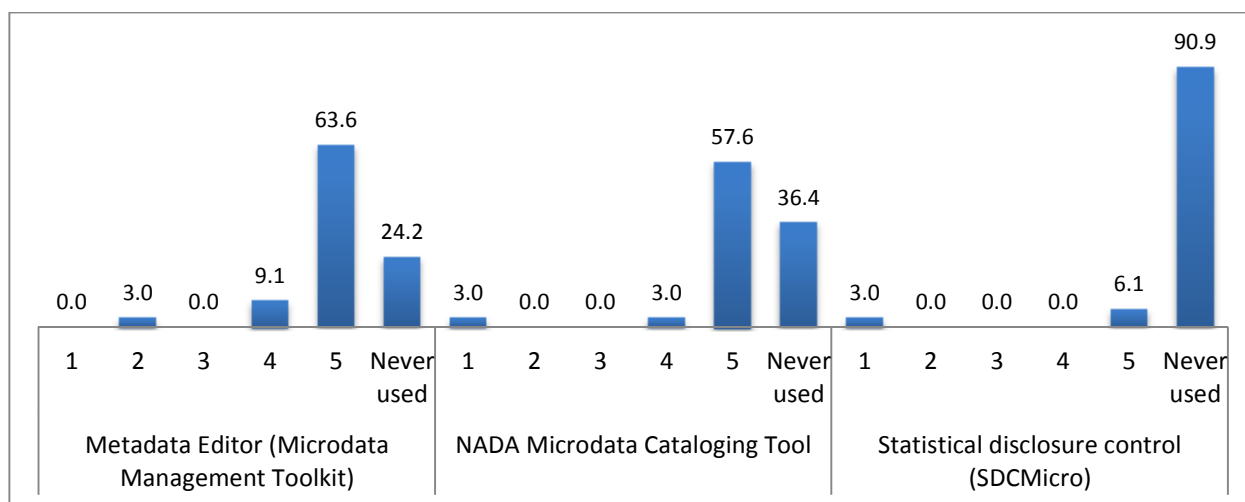
Of the producers of official statistics that answered the survey, 57% knew that the IHSN provides software tools for survey data. 52% of the producers were aware of the IHSN guidelines on survey methodology and implementation. Only 28% had heard of the working paper series.



Source: eSurvey for data producers. Base: All survey respondents (58).

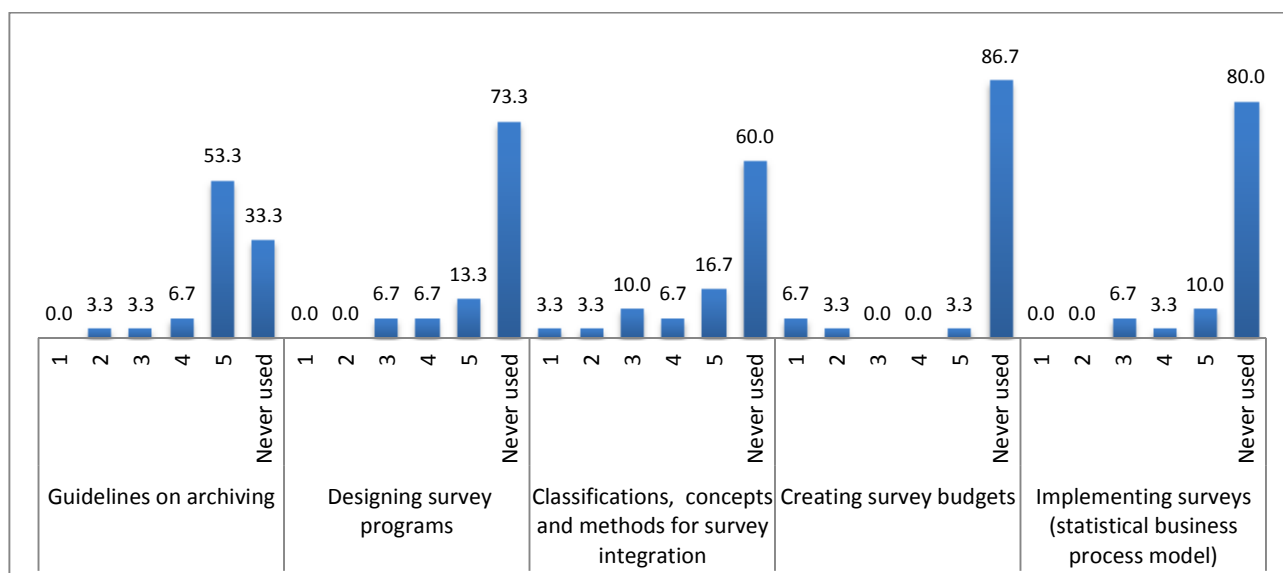
I.1.2 Satisfaction with IHSN/ADP products

Of the 33 respondent institutions that knew of the software tools, very few had used the statistical disclosure control tool (SDCMicro). This can be explained by the fact that this tool was only released shortly before the time of this survey. The metadata editor and NADA had been used by 25 and 21 respondents, respectively. Satisfaction among those that had used the tools was very high, as shown in the figure below. Satisfaction was scored from 1 (tool not useful at all) to 5 (tool very useful).



Source: eSurvey for data producers. Base: Survey respondents that were aware of IHSN software tools (33).

Of the 30 producers that were aware that IHSN produces and/or provides guidelines on survey methodology and implementation, most had only used the guidelines on archiving (usage rates for the other four types of guidelines was below 40%). Satisfaction with the archiving guidelines was very high.



Source: eSurvey for data producers. Base: Survey respondents that were aware of the existence of IHSN guidelines (30).

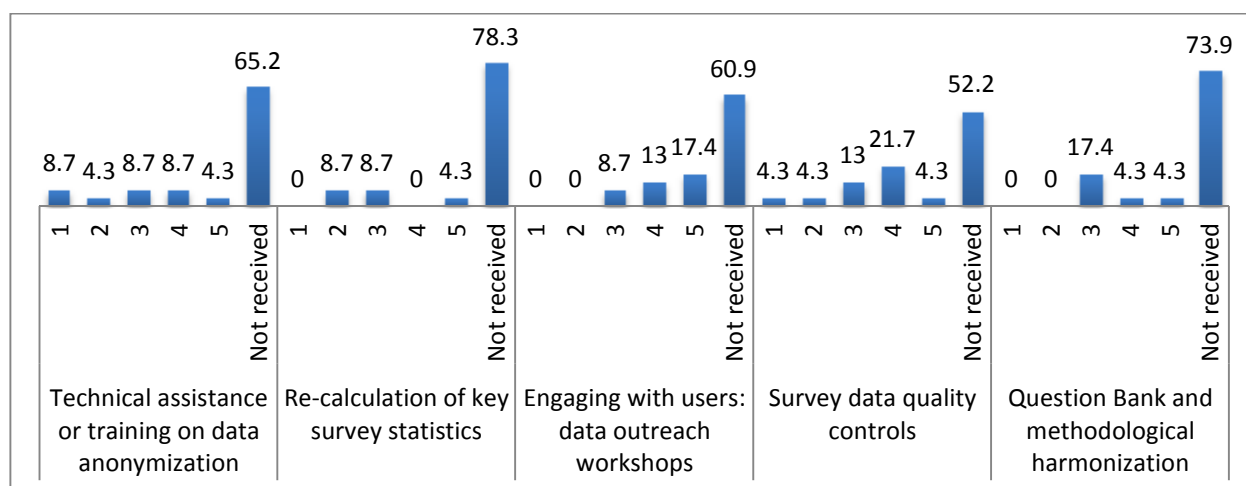
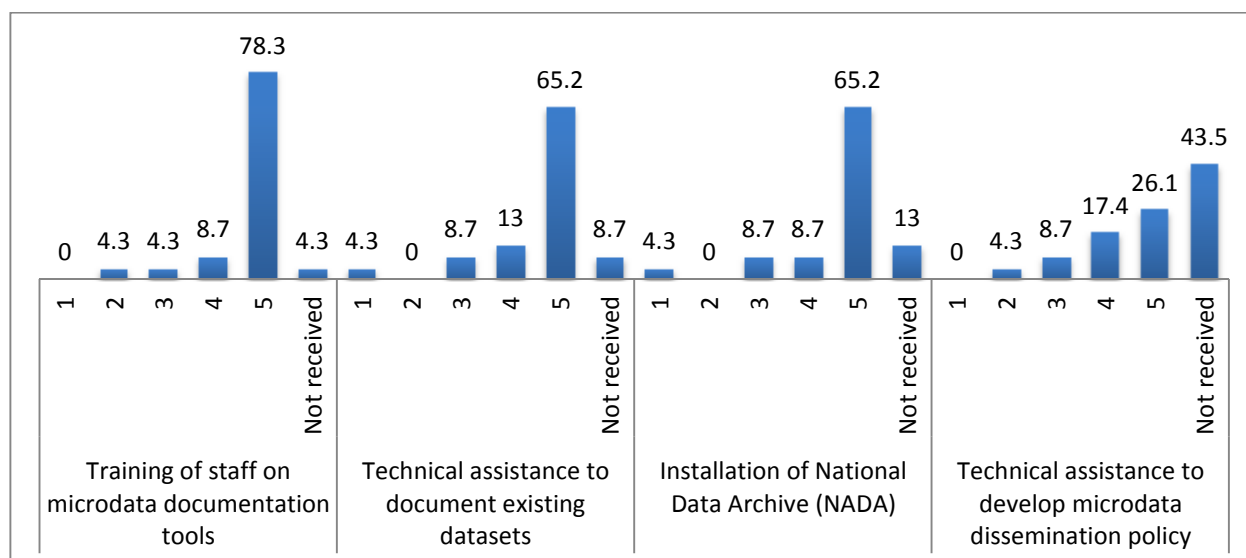
Of the 16 respondent institutions that were aware of the existence of IHSN working papers, 13 had read/used them.

I.1.3 Support received from ADP

Of the 58 respondent institutions, 30 had heard of the ADP and 23 had received some sort of support from ADP. Among these 23 recipient institutions, most had received training on microdata dissemination tools, TA to document existing datasets, and the installation of a NADA. Much fewer respondent institutions had received TA to develop a microdata dissemination policy, training on data anonymisation, re-calculation of key survey statistics, data outreach workshops, data quality controls, or TA on question bank/methodological harmonisation.

Where support had been received by the respondent institution, satisfaction levels were generally high (as shown in the two figures below), with the exception of TA/training on data anonymisation

and the re-calculation of key survey statistics. In these areas, satisfaction levels were not as high, but this needs to be interpreted cautiously given few relevant responses received.



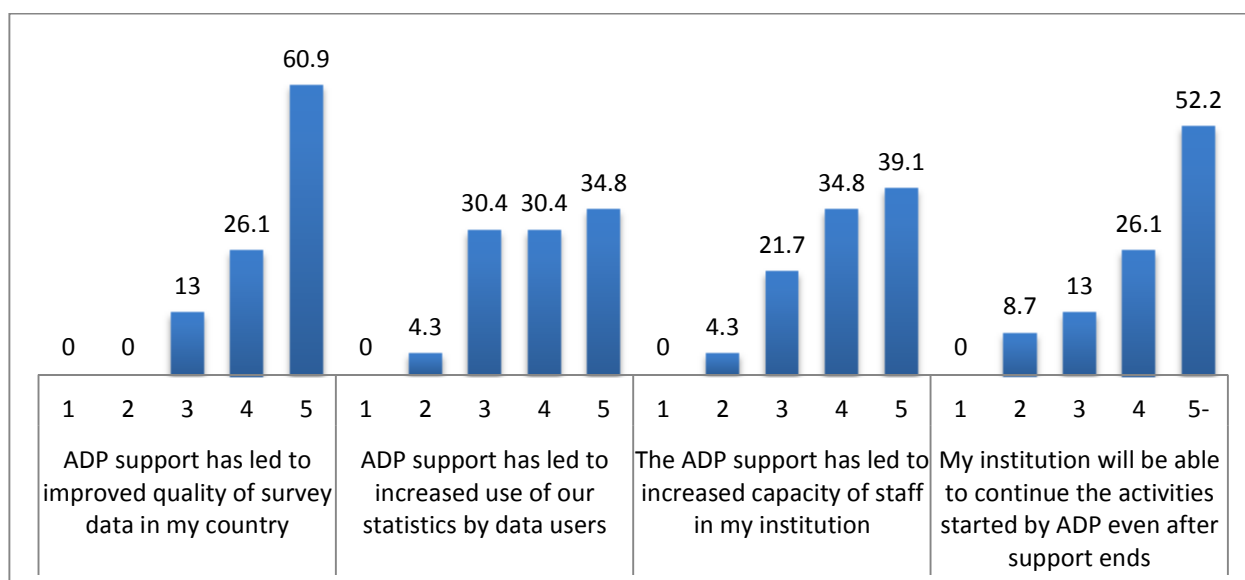
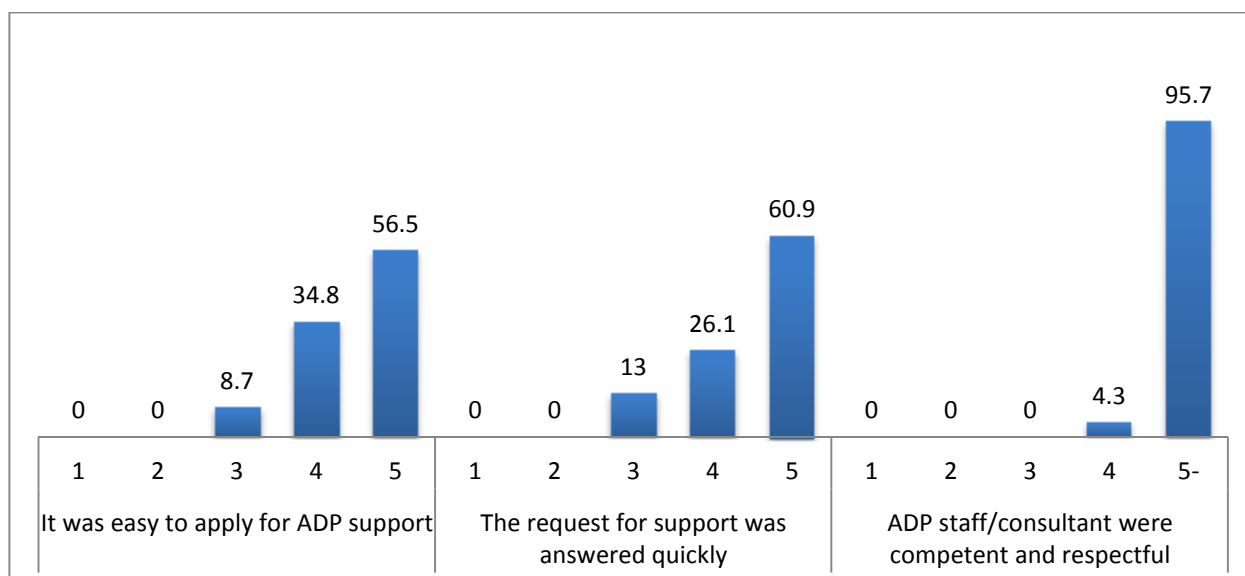
Source: eSurvey for data producers. Base: Survey respondents that had received ADP support (23).

Further to questions about the satisfaction with specific ADP activities, the eSurvey also asked more general questions about the interaction with ADP. Respondents were asked to agree or disagree with the following statements:

- The request for support was answered quickly
- The ADP staff/consultant were competent and respectful
- The ADP support has led to improved quality of survey data in my country
- The ADP support has led to increased use of our statistics by data users
- The ADP support has led to increased capacity of staff in my institution
- My institution will be able to continue the activities started by ADP even after the ADP support ends

Responses were given on a scale from 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree).

As shown in the figures below, applying for ADP support was generally considered a fast and easy process, and ADP staff/consultants were perceived as highly competent. The responses on outcomes and sustainability were more mixed, but still overall positive.



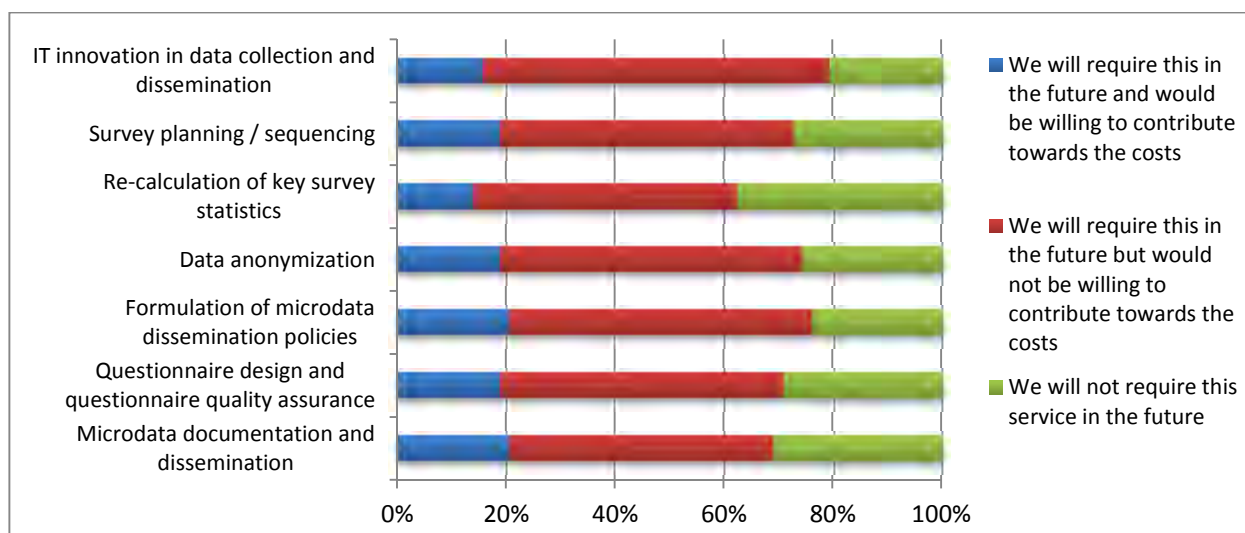
Source: eSurvey for data producers. Base: Survey respondents that had received ADP support (23).

1.1.4 Future need for training/technical assistance

All 58 respondents were asked whether their institution will require training/technical assistance in various areas in the future, and whether the institution would be prepared to contribute towards the cost of such activities.

As can be seen in the figure below, for all of the services mentioned, only 14-21% of respondents see a need in their institution and would be willing to contribute towards the cost. The service for which respondents see the least need in the future is the re-calculation of survey statistics.

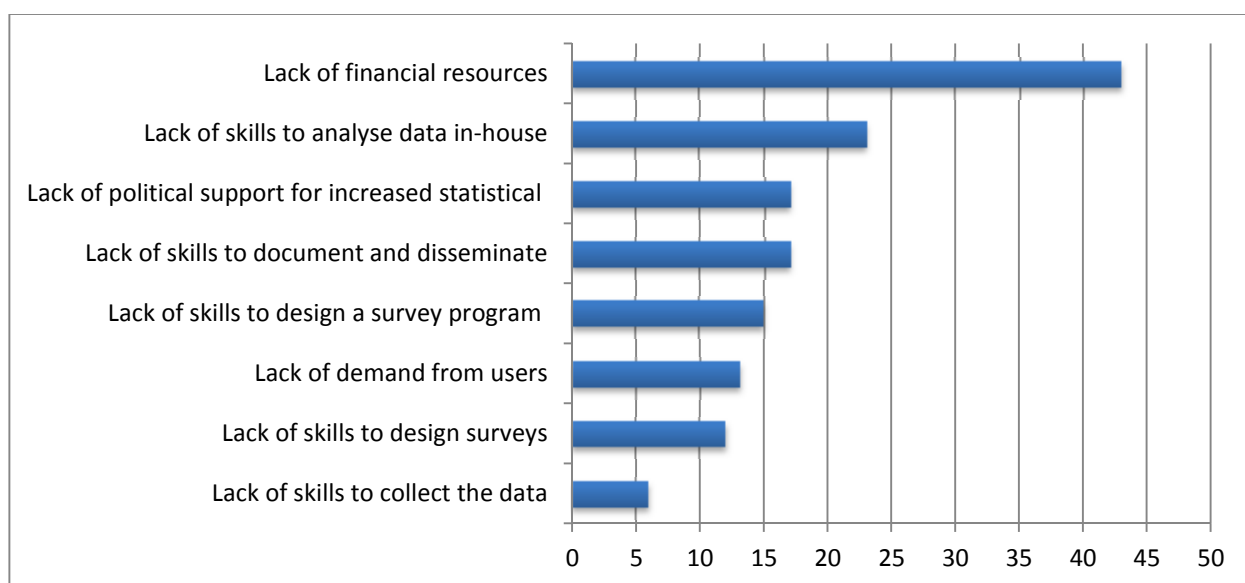
Interestingly, the picture does not change much when the sample is limited to those institutions that have received ADP support. Still, only 13-21% of those respondents would be willing to contribute towards the cost of the various services.



Source: eSurvey for data producers. Base: All survey respondents (58).

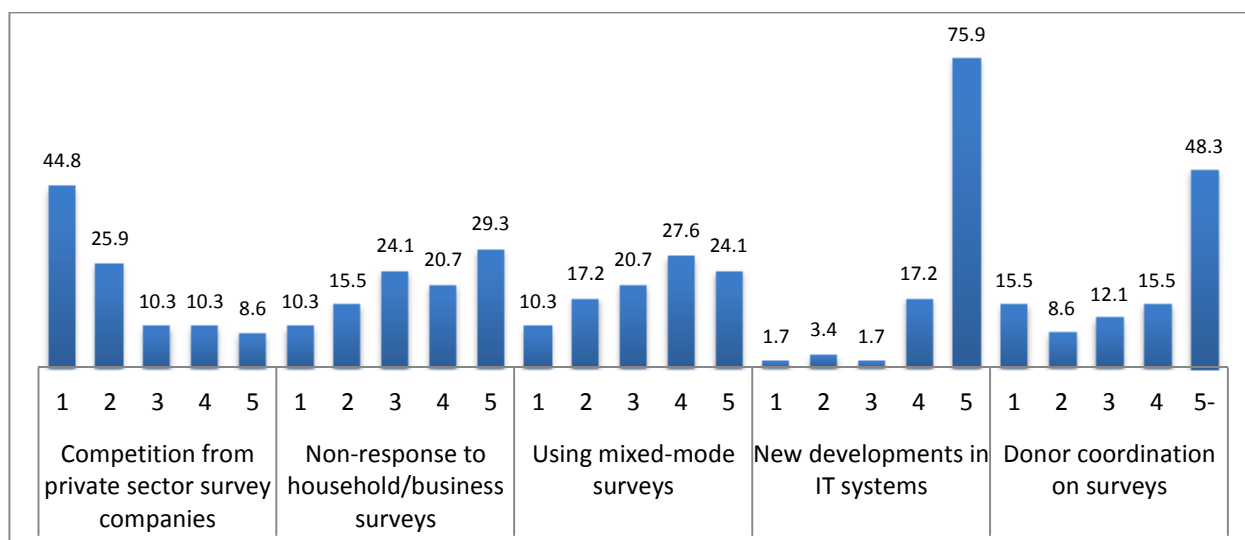
I.1.5 General assessment of challenges now and in the future

Finally, the eSurvey asked producers about the main challenges they face in the area of official household surveys in their respective country. Respondents were presented with 8 different problems, and could select up to three of them as the most important ones. The figure below shows the number of times that a problem was chosen. Of the 58 respondents, 43 stated the lack of financial resources among their top three problems. 23 mentioned the lack of skills to analyse data in-house. 23 mentioned the lack of skills to analyse data in-house.



Source: eSurvey for data producers. Base: All survey respondents (58).

Regarding the future, respondents were asked “On a scale from 1 (not important at all) to 5 (very important), how important do you think the following topics will be for your institution over the coming 10 years?” Responses show that producers of official statistics in respondent countries are less worried about the competition from private sector survey companies, but consider new developments in IT and donor coordination on surveys a very important topic over the coming years.



Source: eSurvey for data producers. Base: All survey respondents (58).

I.1.6 Open feedback

In an optional field for open feedback, some respondents made additional comments about IHSN/ADP:³⁰

- It would have been more useful if the data anonymisation program started before the micro data archiving system so that we would have been able to provide data online to users. Currently we have documented all national level survey and census
- Nous sommes dans la phase d'élaboration de NADA, il est très important de mener cette assistance pour le reste du processus en ce qui concerne l'anonymisation.
- We appreciate the support both technical and Financial from ADP/IHSN and please plead for further support to take our Statistical System to the level that will be comparable with one of the best in the world.
- We have had a little exposure and would like to use it to document our surveys.
- We are more than willing to pay for training, but I'm uncertain how much the cost of training will be, and currently our budget for 2013 is still not approved. However, the training sessions offered by IHSN seems very useful to me.
- We really commend ADP for the assistance provided to our organization.

I.2 Data users

In addition to the eSurvey for data producers, a second eSurvey was conducted among data users. An open invitation for all users of statistics was sent out via various routes: (1) The weblink to the eSurvey for data users was advertised on the websites of IHSN, ADP, and PARIS21. (2) The heads of national statistical offices in 173 low or middle-income countries were asked to forward this survey to all data users in their respective countries. (3) ADP focal points were asked to forward this survey to all data users in their respective countries. (4) Selected international networks of researchers were approached with a request to participate in the eSurvey. The number of responses was overall rather low, so the results should be interpreted with great caution, and certainly cannot claim to be representative in any way.

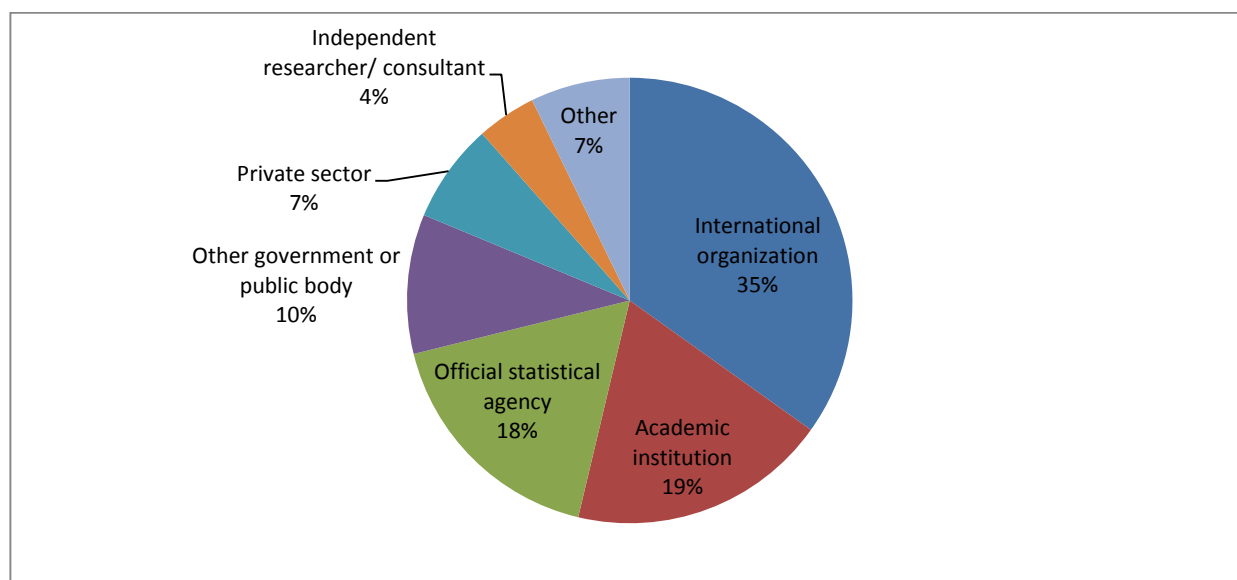
I.2.1 Description of survey respondents

69 respondents that use/work with statistics participated in the survey. Responses were received from data users in Afghanistan, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Burkina Faso, Cambodia,

³⁰ Country names removed from comments where necessary.

Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Djibouti, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Ghana, India, Italy, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Luxembourg, Mali, Montenegro, Namibia, New Caledonia, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, South Africa, State of Palestine, Sudan, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, and Viet Nam. The US with 11 respondents represented the largest number of respondents from a single country.

55% of respondents were male and 45% female. As seen below, most respondents work for an international organisation, academic institution or official statistical agency.

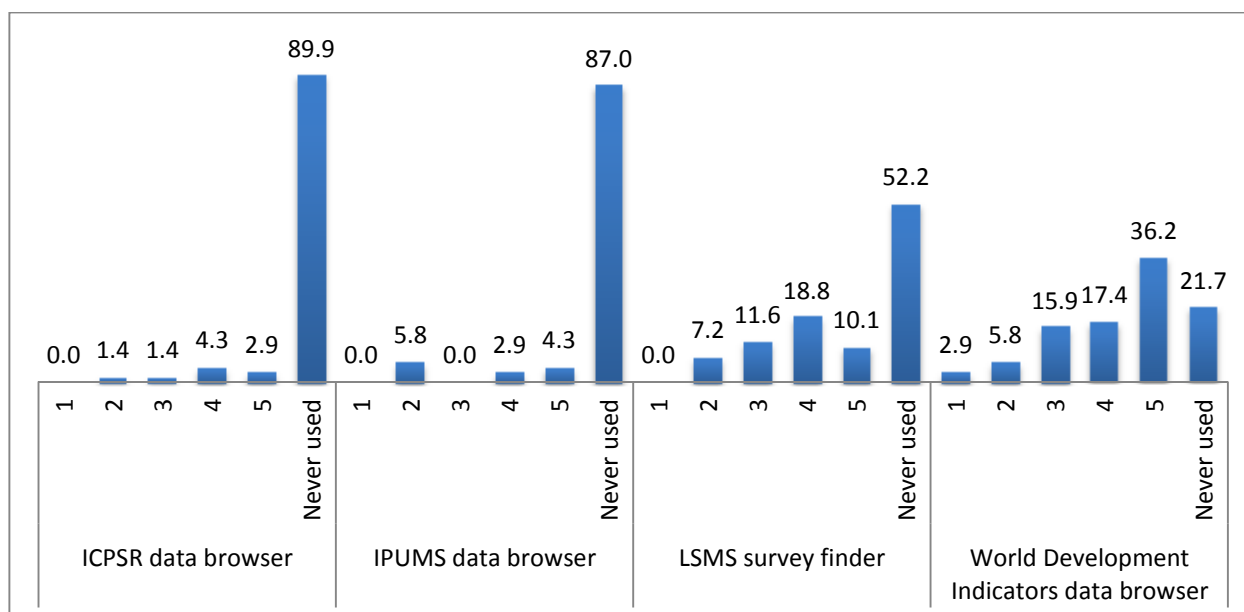


Source: eSurvey for data users. Base: All survey respondents (69).

Of the 69 respondents, the majority (56) are advanced users of statistics, running their own analysis of statistical data (descriptive statistics or regressions and other advanced data analysis). The remainder retrieves/uses estimates from statistical publications only. All 69 respondents use statistics from low or middle-income countries.

I.2.2 Use of non-IHSN online resources

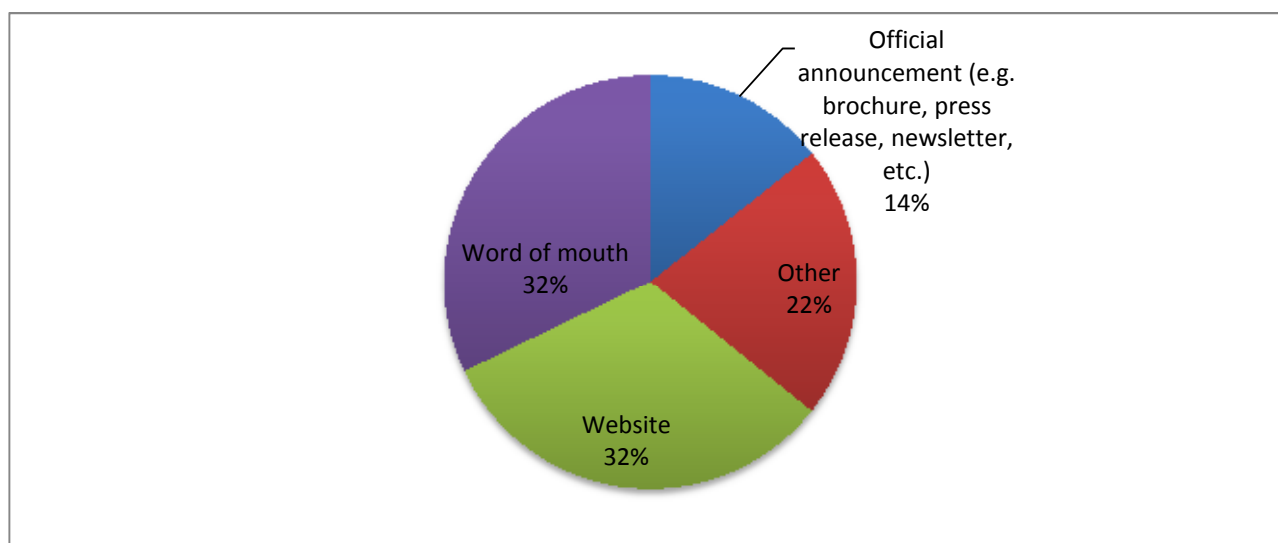
The respondents were asked about their use of and satisfaction with some key non-ADP online resources for statistical data: the ICPSR data browser, the IPUMS data browser, the LSMS survey finder and the World Development Indicators (WDI) data browser. As seen in the figure below, most respondents had never used the ICPSR and IPUMS data browser. Use of the LSMS survey finder was around 50% and satisfaction was at an average level. Use of the WDI browser was relatively high, as was satisfaction with it.



Source: eSurvey for data users. Base: All survey respondents (69).

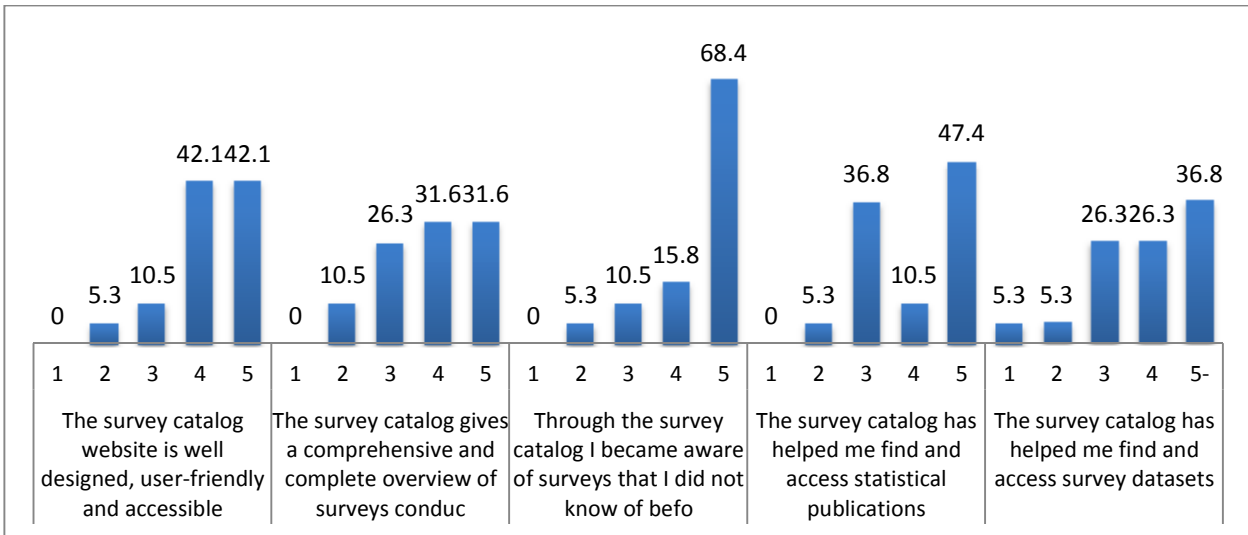
1.2.3 Use of the IHSN central survey catalogue

41% of the data users had heard of the IHSN survey catalogue, and most of those had learnt about it by word of mouth or by finding it on the internet, as shown below.



Source: eSurvey for data users. Base: Survey respondents that had heard of the IHSN central survey catalogue (28).

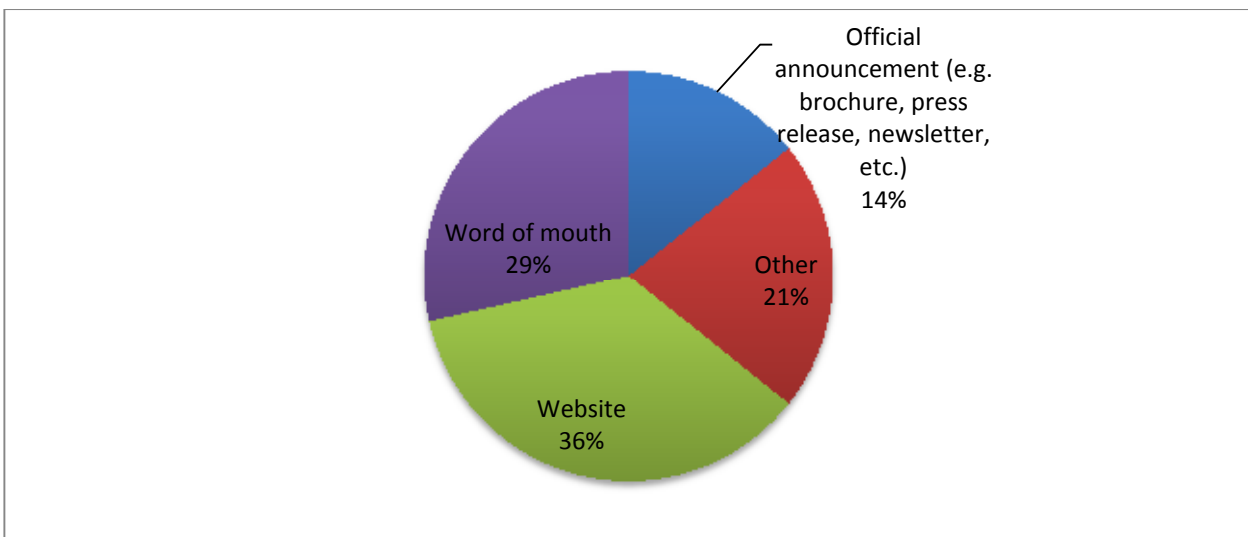
Of these 28 respondents that were aware of the IHSN central survey catalogue, only 19 had ever used it. These 19 respondents were asked about their agreement or disagreement with some statements about its quality (where 1 stands for “strongly disagree” and 5 for “strongly agree”). Responses, as shown in the figure below, indicate that the catalogue was generally considered a useful tool, although there was some criticism about the comprehensiveness/completeness of the catalogue as well as its ability to direct users to statistical publications. It is clear that these results need to be interpreted with caution given the small number of respondents.



Source: eSurvey for data users. Base: Survey respondents that had used the IHSN central survey catalogue (19).

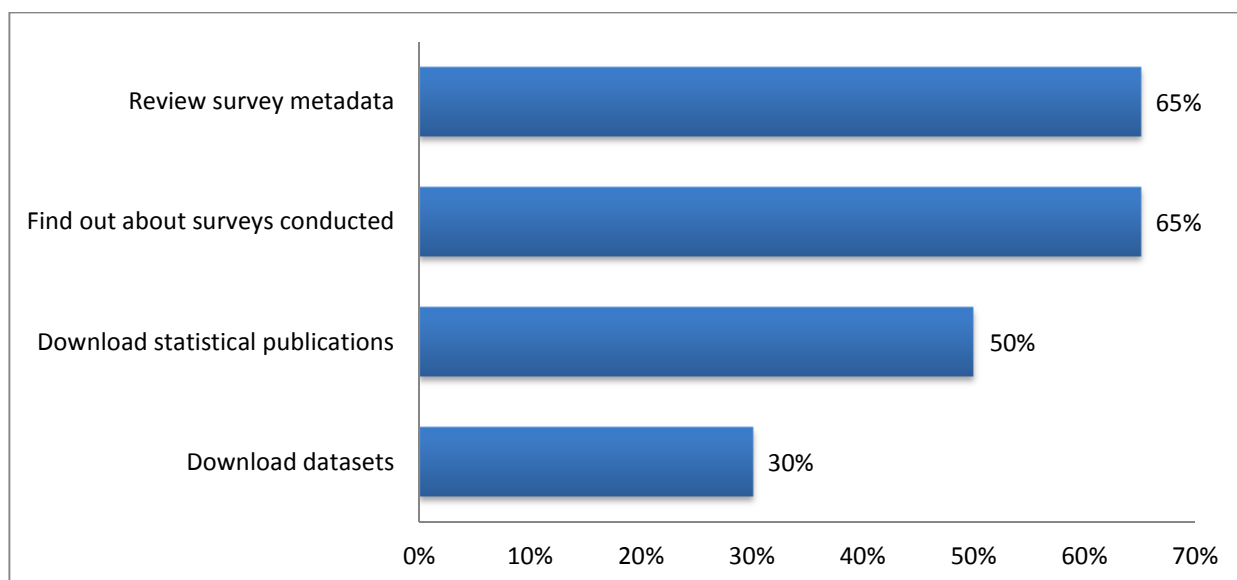
I.2.4 Use of NADAs

Of the 69 respondents, 28 had heard of the existence of one or several NADAs. Most of them had learnt about the NADA by word of mouth or through the internet.



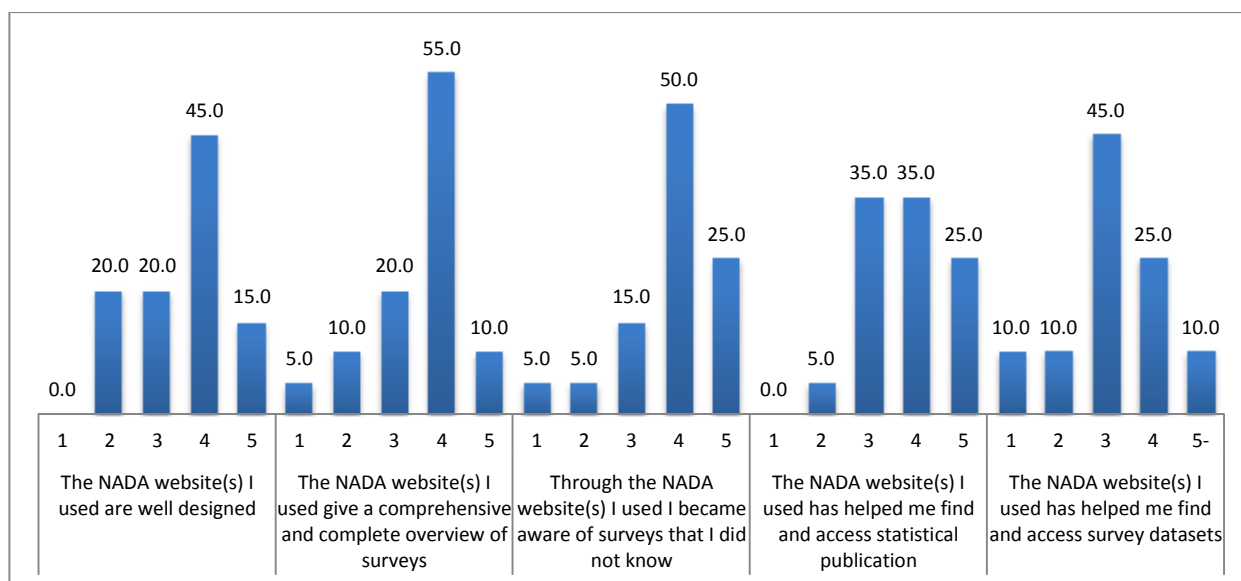
Source: eSurvey for data users. Base: Survey respondents that had heard of a NADA (28).

Of those, 20 respondents had actually used a NADA in the past. The figure below shows what types of use these 20 people had made of NADA. Most had used it to review metadata and find out about surveys conducted. Only 6 persons (or 30% of those that had used a NADA) had actually downloaded microdata from a NADA.



Source: eSurvey for data users. Base: Survey respondents that had used a NADA (20).

The 20 respondents that had used a NADA were asked about their agreement or disagreement with some statements about quality (where 1 stands for “strongly disagree” and 5 for “strongly agree”). Responses, as shown in the figure below, indicate that the comprehensiveness of NADAs was generally considered good, and that it helped make users aware of surveys they didn’t know of before. Access to publications and datasets, as well as design of the tool scored only average satisfaction ratings.



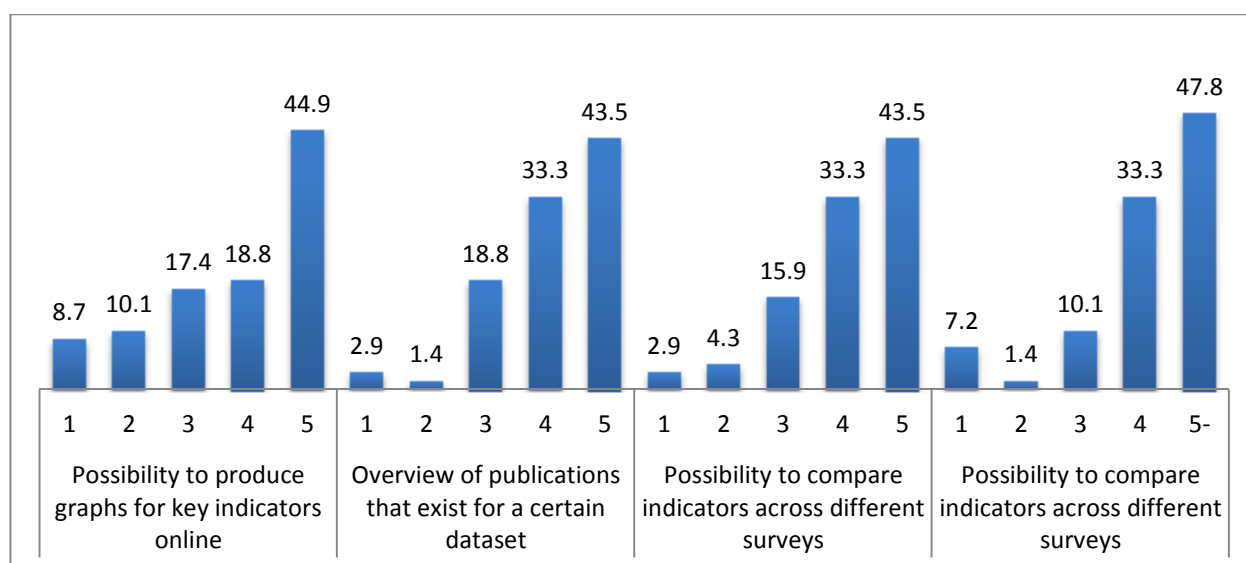
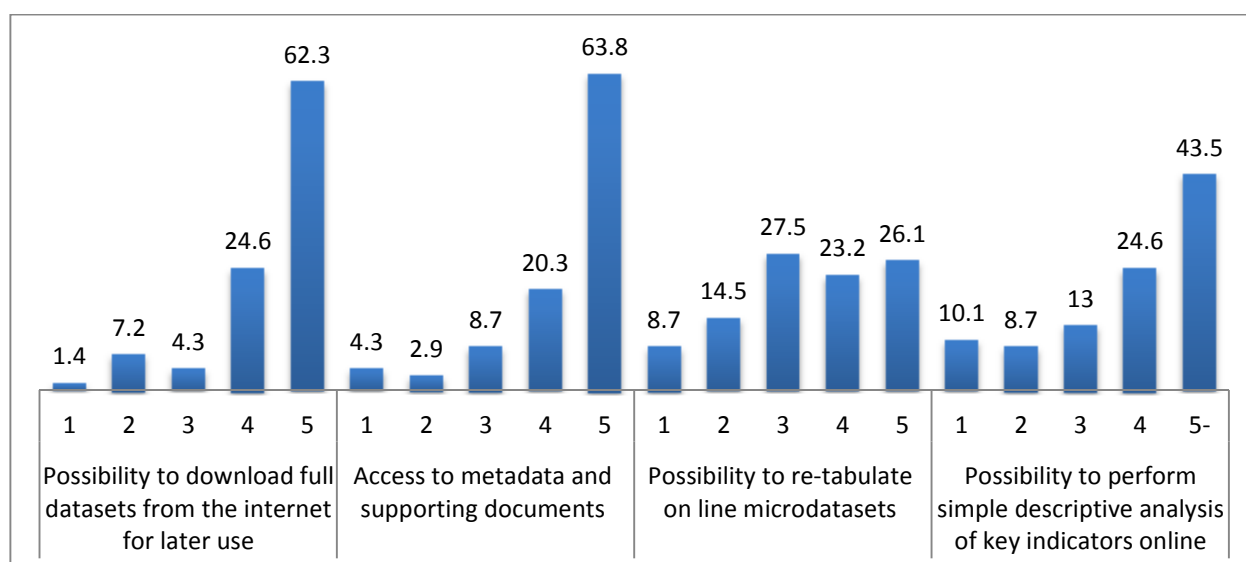
Source: eSurvey for data users. Base: Survey respondents that had used a NADA (20).

I.2.5 User demand for functionality of a survey data online tool

All data users were asked how important they would find eight different functions/services from a website providing access to survey data. The functions were:

- Possibility to download full datasets from the internet for later use in SPSS/Stata/SAS/R/etc.
- Access to metadata and supporting documents (e.g. questionnaires, manuals) for a dataset
- Possibility to re-tabulate microdatasets (without accessing them)
- Possibility to perform simple descriptive analysis of key indicators online
- Possibility to produce graphs for key indicators online
- Overview of publications that exist for a certain dataset
- Possibility to compare indicators across different surveys in a country
- Possibility to compare indicators across different countries

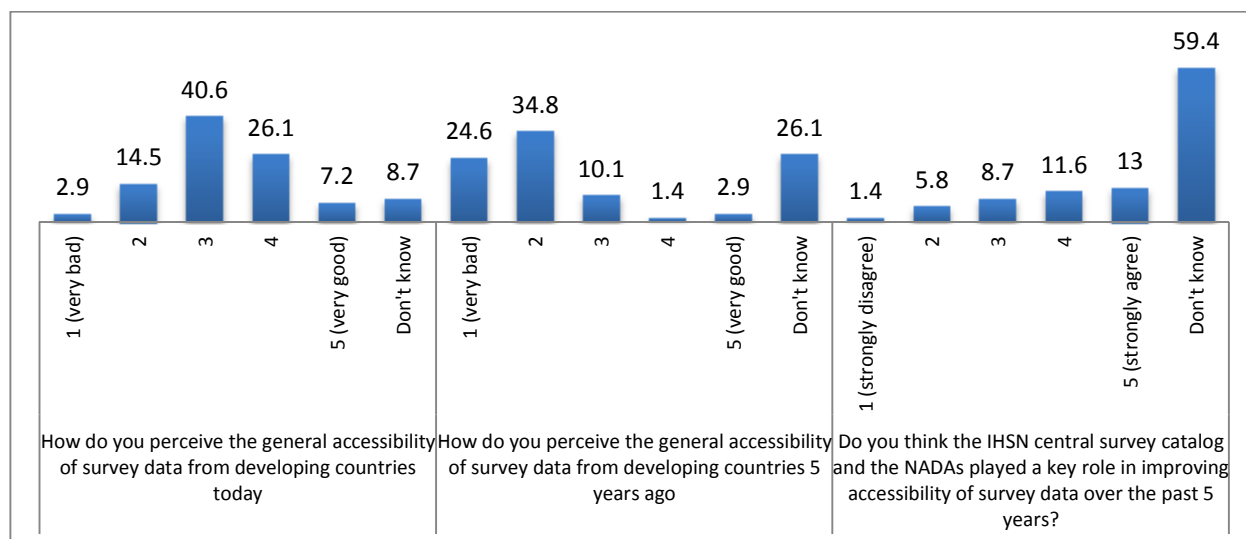
As presented in the figures below, the features most sought-after by respondent users were the possibility to download datasets, access metadata, produce graphs and compare indicators across different surveys.



Source: eSurvey for data users. Base: All survey respondents (69).

I.2.6 Accessibility of survey data and impact of IHSN/ADP

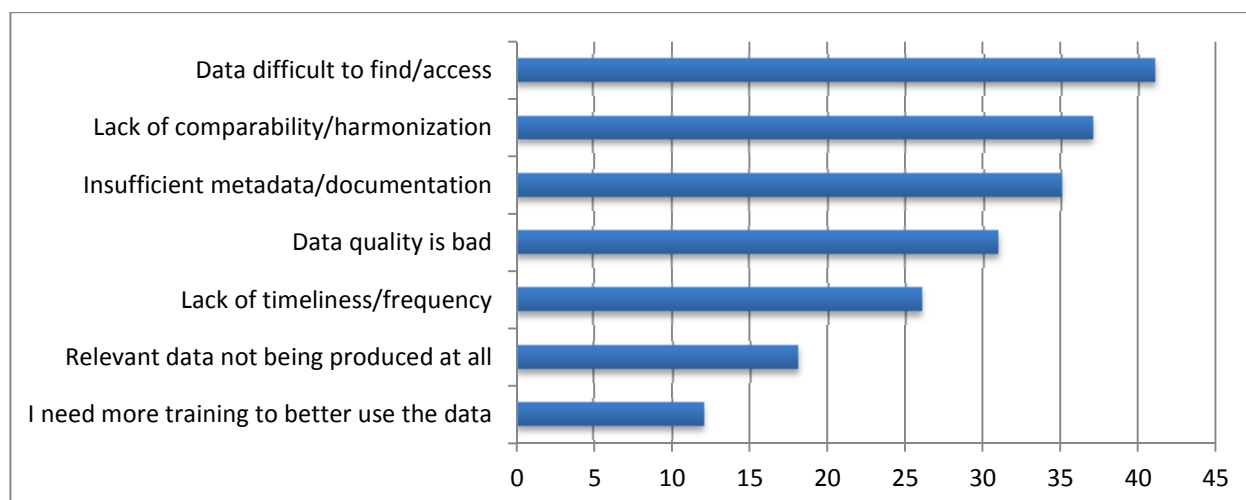
All data users were asked to score the general accessibility of survey data from developing countries today and five years ago on a scale from 1 (very bad) to 5 (very good). The current accessibility was ranked at a mean of 3.2, a clear improvement over the accessibility five years ago, which was ranked at a mean value of 1.9. Furthermore, respondents were asked whether they felt that IHSN/ADP had played a key role in improving accessibility of survey data over the past 5 years. In the light of the above responses on usage and awareness of IHSN/ADP it is unsurprising that most respondents felt they could not answer this question. Among the 28 respondents that did provide a score of agreement, there were mixed perceptions but a slight tendency towards agreement with the statement that IHSN/ADP had played a key role.



Source: eSurvey for data users. Base: All survey respondents (69).

I.2.7 Problems with survey data from developing countries

Finally, data users were asked about the main problems they faced with survey data from developing countries. Respondents were presented with 7 different problems, and could select up to three of them as the most important ones. The figure below shows the number of times that a problem was chosen. Of the 69 respondents, 41 counted the difficulty to find/access survey data among the top 3 problems, making it the most cited problem. Lack of comparability/harmonisation and insufficient metadata/documentation were other problems commonly cited among the top 3.



Source: eSurvey for data users. Base: All survey respondents (69).

1.2.8 Open feedback

Finally, in an optional field for open feedback some respondents made additional comments about IHSN/ADP:

- As regards to NADA, once the database is installed in the country, and a few surveys archived, follow up/monitoring should be increased to ensure that the beast is being fed: e.g. all the archived surveys are being fully documented, new surveys are being added, documentation should take place along the survey process, so when the survey is completed, it can be easily added to the database, without delay; some INS have NADA installed, but the use of the tool is not yet part of their ongoing work. In addition, the objectives of NADA cannot be fully achieved without a strong commitment from the recipient to keep the database up and running.
- I think the IHSN/ADP is a gift to the data curators and data users in developing countries. Although slow, I think definitive progress has been made in data availability and data quality from these countries, with the help of projects like this. Keep up the good work!
- IHSN must organize training on how to harmonize data production and standardization in order to allow cross countries comparison
- IHSN/ADP has made a major contribution to openness and it has not perhaps received the attention and praise it deserves. The quality of the NADA websites varies - and seems to depend on individual initiative and less on institutional commitment. It seems that the efforts of IHSN/ADP have weakened in the last couple of years: hopefully the results of the evaluation will help strengthen the initiative.
- J'espere que l'acces des donnees sera facilitee d'ici peu. On est toujours confronte a une procedure administrastive compliquee, longue/lente pour pouvoir avoir acces a temps reel les donnees dont on a besoin. Bien que certaines donnees peuvent utiliser pour effectuer des analyses par pays ou par regions, le formatage et les travaux relatifs au management des donnees cependant demandent beaucoup de temps et souvent les differentes populations sont toujours maladaptees et non coherentes ainsi que l'echelle de representativite des donnees limitent enormement les opportunités d'analyses comparatives.
- The option of not having adequate disaggregated data was not one of the options, but is maybe one of the biggest problems when looking at data to study disparities and equity.
- This is an excellent program that has done a lot of good for statistical systems by making information available. Without this sort of approach that raises the value of data by showing the latent demand, it's a survey report and on to the next survey. A lot needs to change, but this is a big step in the right direction.