

# **VNR AND THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF DATA**

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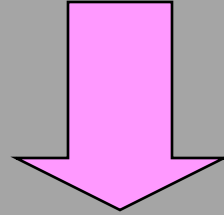
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**ESIBAYENI LODGE**

# **CONTENT**

- COMMON CHALLENGES OF DATA
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# Statistics Matter



***“If you can’t measure it, you can’t manage it”***,

Robert S. Kaplan and David P. Norton, *The Strategy-Focused Organization*, 2001

# THE STATISTICS MATTER

New emphasis on **MANAGEMENT FOR RESULTS** which focuses on performance and the achievement of outputs, outcomes and impacts

- Need to use statistics to inform & monitor progress
- Need to have a responsive **National Statistical System**

## Need for and use of statistical data and information

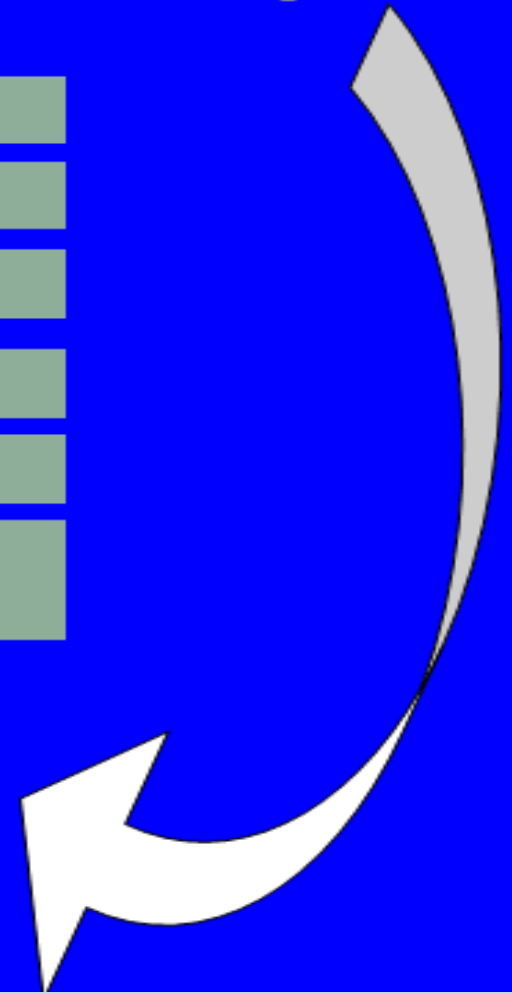
### To inform:

- Public policy design/analysis
- Planning
- Administration
- Monitoring/evaluation
- Governance/accountability
- Public debate and informed choices

Data resources

Harnessed

**National  
Development**



# COMMON CHALLENGES

While SDG monitoring faces common challenges at all levels of government – including timeliness, availability and quality – **local-level monitoring encounters additional complexities:**

- *Lack of Coordination, collaboration, networking and information sharing*
- *Inadequate statistical advocacy*
- *Outdated legal framework, Statistics Act of 1967*
- *Limited evidence and data availability, CSO mainly covers official statistics*
- *Limited disaggregated data and collection,*
- *Inadequate of institutional capacity*
- *Human and financial constraints*
- *Data analysis and reporting*
- *Information dissemination and access*

**TO ADDRESS SUCH CHALLENGES, TAILORED APPROACHES AND TARGETED SUPPORT ARE ESSENTIAL TO ENSURE INCLUSIVE AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDGS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL**

# IMPORTANCE OF DATA IN SDG REPORTING

- Use indicator baseline data to help track SDG performance over time;
- Focus on progress in specific areas to hold public agencies, private sector and other stakeholders accountable for their SDG commitments;
- Design data-directed policies and allocate resources for the SDGs;
- Use data to communicate with other in-country development stakeholders;
- Identify data challenges to improve their statistical systems for sustainability planning;
- Use statistical reports to increase trust in the transparency and utility of official data.

# DATA COMPILATION

## • CENSUSES

- POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS – Preparing for the 2027, EVERY 10 years
- AGRICULTURE CENSUS, 10 years
- Economic Census, 5 Years

## • SURVEYS

- MICS 2021-22, report already out, every three years
- EHIES -2016 (in the field for the 2023 EHIES), every 5 years
- AGRICULTURE ANNUAL SURVEY,
- LFS 2023, every three years
- ANNUAL VAA, Urban vulnerability
- ECONOMIC SURVEY, Price statistics and GDP

## • Administrative Records (Management Inform Systems)

### □ Qualitative assessments (poverty related issues)

- (focus group discussions). Supplement quantitative information



# CHALLENGES

**a) coordinate systems to produce complementary data/information**

**b) combine quantitative and qualitative data**

- For effective SDG localization, it is crucial to enhance partnership and coordination between LRGs and non-state actors, such as academia, CSOs and the private sector.
- Formal intergovernmental mechanisms should be established to facilitate discussion, align priorities and ensure consistency in data collection.

# LEVEL OF DISAGGREGATION

- National level
- Rural / Urban Disaggregation
- Regional level
- Tinkhundla level (Only in Censuses)

# HARNESSING INNOVATIVE DATA SOURCES

- For a comprehensive analysis, local SDG data collection should blend diverse sources to enhance validity and reliability. These sources could include citizen-generated data, artificial intelligence(AI) models, data forecasting and geospatial technologies.
- **SMALL AREA ESTIMATION**
- **MAKING ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS STATISTICALLY PALATABLE**

## Enhanced data platforms and continuous monitoring

- Leveraging initiatives like the UN-Habitat Urban Observatory Model can maximize urban data benefits by reducing data acquisition costs and supporting trend analysis.

# QUALITY ISSUES

- **Data will have quality if they are:**
  - **Relevant**
  - **Consistent in space and time**
  - **Comprehensive**
  - **Accurate**
  - **Disaggregated by important domains**
  - **Timely**
  - **accessible**

# PLANNED ACTIVITIES TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES

- REVIEW NSDS
- UPDATING STATISTICS ACT
- IMPLEMENT NSS
- NATIONAL DATA COORDINATION CENTRE (NDCC)
- MODERNIZATION OF OFFICIAL STATISTICS USING NEW TECHNOLOGIES, GIS (ESRI)
- DATA ACCESS AND DISSEMINATION POLICY
- PARTNERING WITH TRAINING INSTITUTIONS FOR NEW TECHNOLOGIES/  
METHODOLOGIES FOR OFFICIAL STATISTICS (BIG DATA AND AI, SMALL AREA  
ESTIMATION)
- THE FORTHCOMING POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUSES
- TO IMPROVE ACCESS, MoU WITH RSTP
- PLAN FOR DATA INDABA TO INCREASE STATISTICAL ADVOCACY

THANK YOU, SIYABONGA