

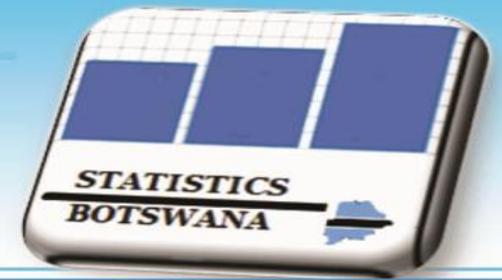
ENSURING DATA QUALITY INSPITE OF COVID 19, KEY ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

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Presentation Layout

1. Definition of quality
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What is Data Quality

- Two meanings
 - Fitness for use
 - Defined in terms of dimensions of quality as per Data Quality Assurance Framework
 - ✓ Prerequisites of quality
 - ✓ Credibility
 - ✓ Comparability and Coherence
 - ✓ Methodological soundness
 - ✓ Accuracy,
 - ✓ Timeliness and Punctuality
 - ✓ Accessibility
 - ✓ Interpretability
- Measuring data quality levels can help organizations identify data errors that need to be resolved and assess whether the data is fit to serve its intended purpose.



Why Data Quality

- Poor quality data can have significant negative business consequences for companies and poor development and implementation of policies, programmes in the public and non- governmental sectors
- Poor-quality data is often pegged as the source of operational delays, inaccurate analytics and ill-conceived business strategies and implementation of projects in general.
- Data can only be said to be new Gold if it has quality

Statistics Botswana Sources of Data

- a. Population and Housing Census, Census of Agriculture
 - Conducted every ten years to collect information on population outlook, housing situation, education, mortality, agricultural situations in the country, census maps among others.
- b. Household Surveys
 - Periodicity varies,
 - Part of the Intercensal programs of surveys to support decision making and development agendas
- c. Administrative Data and Business surveys
 - Data generated by other data producers for their administrative purposes and analysed by Statistics Botswana (mostly ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs)): e.g. Health, education, tourism, crime statistics, BURS and other businesses



Data Collection and related activities During COVIC 19

- a. Quarterly Multi-topic Survey
- b. Monthly prices data collection
- c. Administrative records and business surveys
- d. Botswana AIDS Impact Survey V
- e. 2021 Population and Housing Cartography mapping exercise
- f. Preparations for the 2021 Population and Housing Census



Key Issues and Challenges

- Botswana like other countries affected by COVID 19 resulting in world economic turndown due to commissioned lockdowns, hence statistics for evidence based decision making (policies, programs and projects) has become more critical.
- The ability to produce and disseminate these data has now become a real challenge calling for a shift in how we do things; and thus putting more pressure on SB now, more than ever before
- Limited funding for statistical operations, movement restrictions, closing of some businesses, etc. has greatly disrupted the SB data provision abilities/capabilities. These resulted in general delays in dissemination of statistics and;
 - ✓ Scaling down or shortened questionnaire and thus losing on details
 - ✓ Postponement of some projects, e.g. Population and Housing Census
 - ✓ Changing modes of data collection
 - ✓ Low response rates
 - ✓ Methodological challenges
 - ✓ Reluctance by the public and businesses to respond
 - ✓ Use of imputation methods for missing data



Examples of Measures to Ensure Quality

- Promoting use of technology to collect data, e.g. CAPI, telephones, and CAWI methods
- Explore partnerships with the private sector and harness the use of other data sources e.g. big data
- Explore freelancing data collection method to minimize movements
- Strengthen partnerships with the private sector to harness other data sources such as Big Data and new technologies
- Fast track the implementation of the Botswana Strategy for Development of Statistics to address data quality and advocacy issues among others and focus on
 - Automation of data collection processes and systems in sectors to facilitate interfacing of systems for purposes of data sharing.
 - Implementation of Data Quality Assessment Framework to improve and ensure availability of quality secondary data
 - Promote use of standards, methodologies and best practices
 - Encouraging sectors to make budget provisions for statistical operations



Conclusion

- COVID 19 has highlighted potential of all data producers to design and produce innovative and cost effective solutions to meet the needs of Statistics Botswana
- Emerging technologies are growing rapidly globally resulting in reduction in the cost of producing data
- National Digital infrastructure and systems needs to be expanded and interfaced. (e.g. MIS for all NSS entities)
- Building of sample frame for digital data collection from Households and businesses (e.g. phone numbers and email addresses for households Heads;
- There is need, now, more than ever, for Statistics Botswana to collaborate with all data producers and strengthen the use of secondary data for statistical purposes. This will also be a platform to shared resources



THANK YOU!

