



Informing a Data Revolution

COUNTRY REPORT ON BURUNDI



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Abbreviations

AFRISTAT	Economic and Statistical Observatory for Sub-Saharan Africa
CNIS	Conseil national d'information statistique (National Council for Statistical Information)
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
ECCAS	Economic Community of Central African States
GPRS	Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy
IDR	Informing a Data Revolution
ISTEEBU	Institut de Statistiques et d'Etudes économiques du Burundi (Burundi Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies)
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
NSDS	National Strategy for the Development of Statistics
NSS	National Statistical System
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SHaSA	Strategy for the Harmonisation of Statistics in Africa
SMDX	Statistical Data Meta Data eXchange
STCS	Standing technical committee for statistics
TFP	Technical and financial partner

Introduction

The aim of this country study is to contribute to research that answers the call for “a data revolution” launched in 2013 by the high level panel established by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to provide recommendations on the post-2015 international development agenda, following on from the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The aim is “to ensure that the statistical information necessary to eliminate poverty and monitor the progress of development is available to the right people, at the right time and in the right format.”

With a view to the adoption and launch of a new development programme by the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015, the project must draw up a road map for a data revolution by July 2015. PARIS21 therefore chose a multi-phase approach that includes questionnaires to be completed by certain countries, country studies like the one carried out in the Burundi, workshops and other fora.

This report was drafted following the data revolution workshop organised by the Burundi Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (ISTEEBU) in Bujumbura, Burundi from 25th to 26th September 2014, with support from PARIS21. It includes an updated version of the draft report prepared at the end of the PARIS21 mission to Bujumbura, from 3 to 16 August 2014, as part of the “Informing the Data Revolution” (IDR) project, financed by a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The draft report was studied and approved at the national workshop.

Therefore, after the in-depth country study phase and the PARIS21 questionnaire sent to the ISTEEBU in June 2014, this workshop constitutes the last phase of research on the issue of the data revolution in the Burundian statistical system.

Let us remember that during the in-depth country study, interviews were conducted based on the questionnaire appended with (i) multiple national actors from the government, Parliament, the private sector and civil society; and (ii) several technical and financial partners. The aim was to evaluate the country’s statistical system in its current state as well as in terms of future needs in order to make a list of everything that the national statistical system will need to participate in this data revolution.

The attendance of all of these actors and their active participation in the debates is a clear indication of their support for the PARIS21 initiative as well as the approach chosen for the data revolution.

The workshop participants recognised that, given the current state of the national statistical system, which lacks the capacity to properly monitor the implementation of the MDGs, if the situation does not improve, or in other words if the data revolution is not put into effect, Burundi’s national statistical system (NSS) will face the same difficulties in monitoring the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals¹ (SDG) which are supposed to replace the MDGs beyond 2015.

After the introduction, this report is broken down into two main parts: I. The workshop, including proceedings and recommendations; and II. The updated report composed of six chapters that cover the National Statistical System, an evaluation of the main agencies in charge of producing data, managing the statistical process, interaction with the international statistics community, the

¹ Sustainable development is defined as “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”

development of the national statistical system over the next five years and participating in the data revolution.

1. WORKSHOP

1.1. Workshop proceedings

Following the opening of the workshop by Mr Nicolas Ndayishimiye, Director General of the ISTEERU, and the introductory speech by Mr Trevor Fletcher from PARIS21, the workshop continued with presentations and debates on (i) the draft report of the country study, (ii) the directions of the IDR Road Map document, (iii) the Road Map Declaration and (iv) the use of innovations to achieve the Data Revolution.

The first presentation, by PARIS21 consultant Luc Mbong Mbong, discussed the country-study report. After examining this and exchanging points of view, the participants adopted the report and requested that it be amended to include the recommendations. This has been done in part I.2.

Then, Mr Trevor Fletcher made presentations on (i) the IDR activity report; (ii) the preliminary results of the country studies; (iii) how innovation can help to move from data to political action, particularly in low-income countries; (iv) the IDR Road Map and (v) the Declaration on the IDR Road Map for the data revolution. These presentations gave rise to questions from participants and, following the debates, the participants approved the Road Map and the Declaration on the IDR Road Map. All of the presentations were handed out to the participants.

Following the adoption of the recommendations and a word of thanks from Mr Fletcher, the Director General of the ISTEERU closed the workshop.

1.2. Recommendations

From 25th to 26th September 2014 in Bujumbura, Burundi, the Burundi Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (ISTEERU) held a workshop to validate the country study on the statistical data revolution.

Attendees included representatives from public administrations, Parliament, the private sector and civil society, as well as the Technical and Financial Partners.

The Burundi Government was delighted that Paris21 organised this workshop on the data revolution in Bujumbura. Moreover, the government adheres to the processes outlined in the data revolution road map and will continue to support this. Burundi remains on standby for the implementation of this project.

The workshop participants adopted the Burundi report presented by Mr Luc Mbong Mbong, Senior International Consultant for Paris21, subject to the following recommendations being taken into account:

1. To the government of Burundi:

- a. Make the construction of a modern building to house the ISTEERU a top priority, to provide a modern working environment;
- b. Assess the degree to which the 1st generation NSDS has been implemented, in order to improve the next NSDS;
- c. Perform an assessment of human resources in order to determine the capacities of available personnel and see if the ISTEERU's organisational structure will enable fulfilment of the National Statistics System goals, with a view to ensuring that the quality of human resources can match the quality of the data;

- d. Train and seek to retain qualified managers by creating a working environment which encourages qualified personnel to stay, through motivation and training in particular;
- e. Set up a coalition which will support the National Statistical System for the data revolution;
- f. Create internal financing mechanisms to ensure the long-term existence of statistics-related activities;
- g. Use administrative data and plan detailed analyses of the data already produced, both at the central and decentralised level, to increase the volume of data produced;
- h. Use information and communication technologies to collect, process and disseminate the data as part of innovations;
- i. Organise ongoing surveys to meet the needs of users;
- j. Conduct a sociological study to properly analyse the problem of the lack of a statistics culture.

2. To the Technical and Financial Partners/International Community:

- a. Provide financial and technical support for the implementation of the data revolution and the road map;
- b. Solicit involvement from all actors in the elaboration of the 2nd generation NSDS in order to strengthen the partnership.

3. To producers and users

- a. Set up a coordination mechanism between producers and users to meet the needs of users, particularly those in the private sector, the media and civil society;
- b. Solicit involvement from all actors in the elaboration of the NSDS in order to strengthen the partnership;
- c. Conduct ongoing surveys and research to meet the needs of users.

4. To PARIS21

- a. Support the ISTEERU for the elaboration of the 2nd generation NSDS;
- b. Encourage the other countries to subscribe to the road map.

The Rapporteurs

1. Merline Nimenya
2. Janvière Kamwenubusa

2. UPDATED COUNTRY REPORT

2.1 – The National Statistical System

In Burundi, as in most Sub-Saharan African countries, it is widely accepted and recognised that statistics have an important role to play in the management and implementation of development policies. And yet, can we assert that statistical data have always been used to elaborate these policies and monitor their implementation? Several questions are worth raising, where the issue of statistical data is concerned, particularly on the eve of 2015, the deadline set for the MDGs. These questions include:

- What is the role of the National Statistical System (ISTEEBU and related sectoral units)?
- In what environment are the country's statistics produced?
- Are statistical sources reliable? What is their relationship with the statistical production units?
- Do the statistical production units have sufficient resources (human, financial, equipment and materials) to truly fulfil their role?
- Why are national statistical data not always used by national and international actors, even when they already exist?
- Why are certain users so reticent about using the statistical data produced and why do they sometimes prefer to take on the role of producer or use data produced outside of the NSS?
- Why does the absence of a statistical culture in the country persist even though all producers and decision-makers recognise that this is one of the factors hindering statistical production and limiting sound management of the economy?

2.1.1 Use and recognition of the importance of statistics in the national development policy

Burundi is working hard to improve the use of statistics in the elaboration and implementation of its development policy which is part of the Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy (GPRS). In order to highlight its importance, the expected results and milestones are expressed as figures (used as indicators) chosen for monitoring and evaluating the GPRS and MDGs.

2.1.2 State of the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) or of the development plan for the national statistical system

The country adopted a National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) for the 2010-2014 period, the cost of which was estimated at 58.43 billion Burundian francs. ***The implementation of this strategy was compromised from the start by a significant shortfall of 43.38 billion Burundian francs, which denotes a certain reticence on the part of the State, identified as one of the risks.***

2.1.3 Legal mandate for statistics-related activities

The legal and regulatory framework for statistics-related activities in Burundi is established by (i) Act n° 1/17 of 25 September 2007 on the organisation of Burundi's statistical system and (ii) subsequent application laws including: (ii₁) decree n° 100/58 of 18 March 2008 on the creation, attributions, composition and functioning of the National Council for Statistical Information (CNIS); (ii₂) decree n° 100/59 of 18 March 2008 on the reorganisation of the Burundi Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (ISTEEBU) which became a public administrative body managed by a directorate-general; (ii₃) decree n° 100/261 of 31 October 2013 on the introduction of the *visa statistique* (statistics validation certificate) and the ethical review of statistical surveys and biomedical and behavioural research in

Burundi; and (ii₄) ministerial decree n° 540/1643 dated 25 November 2013 on the procedure for obtaining a *visa statistique* for statistical surveys.

However, it is worth noting that this legal and regulatory framework will need to be updated in light of the African Charter on Statistics adopted on 3 February 2009 and the Strategy for the Harmonisation of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA) adopted by African Heads of State and Government.

2.1.4 Organisation, coordination and management of the National Statistical System

Article 4 of Act n° 1/17 of 25 September 2007 provides for the following composition of the national statistical system:

- the National Council for Statistical Information (CNIS);
- the Standing Technical Committee for Statistics (STCS), for which the ISTEERBU acts as the secretariat;
- the Burundi Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (ISTEERBU);
- the departments in charge of producing statistical data, attached to ministerial departments and public and semi-public organisations;
- the national schools and institutions dispensing training in statistics and demographics.

It also sets out the duties of each NSS component. In this regard, Article 7 of the Act stipulates that “the ISTEERBU is the overseeing body for the technical coordination of activities relating to the National Statistical System in Burundi.”

2.2 – Assessment of the main agencies in charge of elaborating the data

The set-up of sectoral departments is underway, and those already in place are struggling to be operational due to a lack of resources. The ISTEERBU is in charge of producing most statistical data, along with certain units such as the Bank of the Republic of Burundi and the Ministry of Agriculture. The following analysis is based on the situation at the ISTEERBU and in the departments which the mission visited.

2.2.1 Human Resources

Generally speaking, the Burundian NSS has a low headcount and qualified personnel make up no more than half of the whole. The human resources policy aims to gradually overcome the NSS’s staff shortage, particularly within the statistical departments of sectoral ministries. The ISTEERBU has created a continuing professional development programme which runs over five years.

2.2.2 Equipment and infrastructure

The issue of equipment and infrastructures within the NSS is an important one, at both the central and sectoral levels. It is safe to say that the infrastructures at the NSS’s disposal, and particularly those of the ISTEERBU, are no longer suited to its mission.

Where computer equipment is concerned, most of the computers used have reached their limits and need to be replaced. A computerisation master plan is currently being developed. The ISTEERBU has its own website (www.isteerbu.bi).

With regards to buildings and facilities, the building which currently houses the ISTEERBU's headquarters is no longer functional and is unsuitable for statistical work. **The construction of a building for the ISTEERBU's headquarters should be a top priority to support the NSS.**

2.2.3 Financial resources

The financial resources available to the NSS are highly insufficient. The low amount of internal resources allocated to statistics-related activities could jeopardise production, and is not enough to sustain it. Practically all fixed asset-related expenses and close to 20% of the budget's operating expenses are financed by external resources.

2.2.4 Commitment to quality

The NSS does not yet have a quality assurance framework. The ISTEERBU is aware of this weakness and has therefore committed to elaborating the National Quality Assurance Framework. This work is being carried out with support from Statistics Canada.

2.2.5 Relations with the data users

The NSS does not have any formal framework and processes for communication with users. The low level of interaction with users largely explains why their current and future needs are not taken into account in the planning of statistics-related activities. It is worth indicating that without regular communication with the users the NSS runs the risk of becoming the sole consumer of its own products, which would not be helpful for policy formulation and decision-making. The absence of a statistics culture at the user level and, more importantly, at the decision-maker level has been noted as one of the factors hindering statistical production.

2.2.6 Access to statistics and data

The NSS understands that statistical products are public property, whereas individual data must be protected in accordance with the provisions of statistical legislation. In addition to the NSS's publications, the ISTEERBU regularly publishes data on its site. Some interlocutors have nevertheless pointed out that this site alone is not enough and that economic information must be disseminated to the entire population, including those without internet access. On this point, the media was identified as being an important vector for data dissemination. Three points which have often been criticised during interviews are the failure to respect production deadlines, the absence of a publication schedule, and the absence of a regular publication of metadata.

2.2.7 Developing partnerships

The ISTEERBU has demonstrated its capacity to develop partnerships, including with non-governmental agencies and universities. The areas covered by partnerships over the last three years are (i) the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of data and (ii) the archiving of data and assessment of the statistical process. The absence of a partnership in the communication sector is to be highlighted as a weakness in this area, because the NSS is depriving itself of a significant vector for dissemination (see 3.3).

2.3 – Management of statistical processes

2.3.1 Relations with the data suppliers

The NSS uses a vast network of data suppliers. The coordination of relations with information suppliers is not yet effective because the ISTEERU has not yet finished setting up the statistical departments in all sectoral ministries. Eventually, the aim is to reduce the burden which statistical surveys place on data suppliers, by harmonising the schedules and relevant statistics-gathering questionnaires amongst other steps.

2.3.2 – Managing statistical processes

For the moment, the management of data processes does not systematically comply with international standards. That is why the ISTEERU is working on creating a National Quality Assurance Framework that will, amongst other things, show what needs to be done at each step of the process in order to obtain better quality data. Wherever possible, the country is trying to follow, and sometimes adapt, international recommendations within its country, and its AFRISTAT membership means that where quality is concerned, it can work with a high enough level of confidence.

2.3.3 Dissemination

The issue of data dissemination is crucial if the Burundian NSS wishes to build regional, national and international partnerships. Without a sound dissemination policy, the statistics produced cannot all reach the various users, including national decision-makers, within the appropriate time frames. At this stage, the ISTEERU has not yet adopted a standard format for data dissemination and, due to the absence of a partnership with the media as explained previously, the reach of NSS dissemination is very limited.

2.3.4 Archiving and granting access to microdata

The lack of an archiving and metadata system is penalising the Burundian NSS. This situation must be corrected, as any information collected is not necessarily stored securely. This situation is depriving the country of part of its memory.

2.4 – Interaction with the international statistical community

2.4.1 Managing donor assistance

On average, donors provide more than 80% of the financing for the country's investment spending, and its surveys and censuses. Some of the main statistical operations carried out with the help of such financing include the general population census in 2008, the "Multisectoral Indicators Cluster Survey" (MICS) in 1995/2000, 2005 and 2010, the perception of poverty survey in 2004, the 1-2-3 survey in 2005 and 2007, the Standardised Questionnaire on the Basic Indicators of Well-being (QUIBB) in 2002 and 2006, the demographic and health survey (EDS) in 2010, and the survey of households in 2014.

The data collected during all of these surveys are a treasure trove of basic information that has not been fully exploited and the NSS is seeking analysis and thematic-study support in order to do so. This is one of the priorities of the data revolution, insofar as this work will enable the reconstitution of part of "the country's history".

2.4.2 Participating in the International Statistical System

The Burundi NSS works closely with the International Statistical System. As it does not yet have a national quality assurance framework, this cooperation with international organisations enables it to

benefit from the various types of support available in terms of ensuring compliance with international standards and norms.

Moreover, it is worth highlighting Burundi's participation in major regional, continental and global initiatives such as the set-up of the COMESA Harmonised Consumer Price Index, the International Comparison Programme (ICP) for Africa in 2005 and 2011, and the elaboration of the African Strategy for the Implementation of the 2008 System of National Accounts (SNA).

Burundi is a member of AFRISTAT and as such it benefits from this institution's methodological advances in various statistics-related areas (national accounting, price statistics, informal economy, etc.).

2.5 – Development of the National Statistical System over the next 5 years

The NSS's development over the 2015-2019 period will be established in NSDS II. The aim will be to improve relations between the links making up the NSS, and to strengthen Burundi's role and position as a link in the statistical system of the regional economic communities (ECCAS, COMESA), the African statistical system and the International Statistical System.

In keeping with this, the country has just ratified the African Charter on Statistics and is preparing to participate in the continent-wide project to implement the Strategy for the Harmonisation of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA).

The NSDS II will need to take into account the future challenges the International Statistical System will face, including the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the post-2015 SDGs and their targets. SDG n°17 has two targets which cover data, monitoring and accountability. Target 17.18 aims, by 2020, to enhance capacity building support to developing countries to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, geographic location, etc. Target 17.19 aims to build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development by 2030.

List² of the Sustainable Development Goals proposed by the United Nations Open Working Group at the 68th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, September 2014

- | |
|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation10. Reduce inequality within and among countries11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development |
|---|

² This new list of SDGs replaces the one dated 2nd June 2014 which was included in the draft report

The SDGs and their targets include new themes (for example: climate change, environment) to which the Burundi NSS will need to attach great importance when it comes to collection, processing and analysis.

2.5.1 Priorities for the new statistics

User needs will have to be met in the most appropriate manner while taking into account new requirements and particularly the SDGs. The main focus areas selected by the ISTEERU for the next five years are demographic and social statistics, economic statistics, multi-domain statistics and environment statistics. To this end, the ISTEERU plans to place a high priority on:

- NSS coordination, the quality commitment guarantee, and the management of statistical norms where data quality improvement is concerned;
- the accessibility and distribution policy, data preparation, IT infrastructures for accessing the data; and
- metadata documentation, the accessibility and distribution policy, the administration of data where improving the use of data is concerned.

2.5.2 Priorities for statistical capacity building

As regards statistical capacity building, the main priorities over the next five years can be broken down as follows:

- for skills/tool development: needs identification, strategic planning and data processing;
- for staff training to develop new aptitudes and skills: needs identification, processing and analysis;
- where information and communication technologies are concerned: processing, analysis and archiving.
- in terms of statistical infrastructures: the classifications for different types of statistics, the sampling frame for the survey of households, and the database structures.
- to improve NSS coordination and management: the set-up of a formal process and a coordination structure for the NSS, the establishment of a career framework for statistical personnel and the elaboration of directives or protocols for data exchanges.

2.5.3 Using innovations

Besides the implementation of all statistics-related legislation and the elaboration and implementation of the NSDS II, which are very important activities to undertake, high-priority innovations over the next 5 years include:

- the widespread use of androids for collecting survey data
- thematic analyses using data from the surveys carried out by the ISTEERU
- data dissemination via SMS
- use of the SDMX (Statistical Data Metadata eXchange) system for data storage and
- procurement of powerful computers.

2.5.4 Priorities for statistics-related financial assistance

The financial assistance will be spent on the following as a priority:

- funding the elaboration and implementation of the NSDS II
- funding the construction of the ISTEERU headquarters
- buying powerful computers and statistical software
- training managers
- ensuring the wide use of androids for data collection
- the BurundiInfo and IMIS databases
- capacity-building for the Standing Technical Committee for Statistics
- the fourth general population and housing census coupled with the general agricultural census
- training managers on data analysis and processing techniques
- training on dissemination techniques
- training on modern tools for data archiving and storage.

2.5.5 Priorities for technical assistance

The NSS requires PARIS21 to provide technical assistance with the following:

- final assessment of the NSDS I
- assistance with drafting the NSDS II and
- advocating with the Technical and Financial Partners (TFP) to finance the implementation of the NSDS II

2.6 – Participation in the data revolution

2.6.1 How can the country contribute to it?

First, we must seek to understand what the data revolution involves. This question was widely debated during the mission in the field. Some thought that in order for a data revolution to take place, the main problems faced by the National Statistical System on different levels had to be solved, such as:

- the legal and regulatory framework;
- human, material and financial resources;
- relations between the suppliers of basic data and data-processing units;
- relations between the NSS and users/decision-makers;
- relations between the NSS and the international and regional statistical systems.

But these problems are not new. Although the solutions imagined aim to ensure reliable, quality production in a timely fashion, they can only form the basic prerequisites and are insufficient to allow a true data revolution to take place.

To carry out this revolution, actors, a guideline and well-defined goals are essential. The revolution in preparation and must not be improvised, because national actors need to take full ownership of the phenomenon. The shortage or sometimes complete lack of reliable data to monitor the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) during the 1990-2015 period and to properly record the levels to which the main targets were achieved is without a doubt one of the catalysts of this revolution. This data revolution must therefore be seen as a calling into question of our actions as soldiers of development recruited from amongst the government, the Parliament, the private sector and civil society.

The revolution itself aims to transform the current state/situation where the data produced are not always used effectively to improve the well-being of the populations. It aims to establish a system whereby these data enable transparent management and a fair distribution of resources. **The data revolution must therefore be at the heart of good governance and responsibility for this falls upon the local, national and international actors of this governance.**

Granted, there have been catalysts, including the current inability of the national statistical system to monitor the implementation of the MDGs, but this is not enough. A number of elements are required in order to truly establish and properly conduct this revolution. These conditions are prerequisite for the data revolution but are certainly not sufficient in and of themselves:

- creating an environment which is conducive to the production of data, guaranteed by an appropriate legal and regulatory framework;
- ensuring the ISTEEDU coordinates statistics-related activities effectively;
- providing the NSS with sufficient human, material and financial resources. In this respect, it is worth highlighting that the NSS's lack of internal resources and heavy dependence on external resources (approximately 80%) are two major handicaps hindering the strategic planning of statistics-related activities;
- training human resources in order to build the capacities of the NSS's various units;
- creating structures to foster dialogue between basic data providers, NSS and users, and using a participative approach when necessary;
- respecting international concepts, norms and standards;
- developing public-private partnerships;
- developing partnerships with the media to improve communication about surveys and other statistical products as well as disseminating their results;
- setting up databases with the possibility of facilitating access by a wide audience.

The data revolution itself will occur through an **improvement in the statistics culture** which will enable the various actors to adopt the statistics reflex in their work (deliberation, decision-making, forecasting, etc.). Training has a major role to play in instilling a culture of statistics, and a suggestion has been made to include statistics in the training programme of most professions.

The different segments of governance (State, Parliament, private sector and civil society) must form **a coalition for the data revolution by supporting the NSS, its current products and new statistics.** In order to do this, they must recognise that statistics – when they are reliable, which is at the heart of the debate over the independence of the NSS – are tools which reveal the results of their activities and help with decision-making, forecasting, steering, as well as monitoring and evaluation. Statistical data also play an arbitration role, as they sanction the achievements of each actor, who as we know, must be accountable.

By placing statistical data back at the centre of the issue of good governance, we can get all national actors to agree and, consequently, recognise that statistical data have the power to support good governance and that, as a result of this, they contribute to establishing a peaceful democracy. There is no doubt that any actor in national governance who stubbornly refuses to use statistical data has a hidden agenda, in other words their actions lack transparency and this is the total opposite of good governance.

The major concern at this stage is getting the data revolution operational within the country. The actors are identified so now the task is to define the modus operandi. The following steps can be taken:

Step 1. Creation of the coalition at the national level: here, there is indeed a leadership problem.

- Step 2.** It is the responsibility of the ISTEERU's Director General to lead this coalition, which must include (i) actors from the public sector (high-level managers of ministries and public bodies, the central bank, the public media, etc.), (ii) leaders of Parliament (National Assembly, Senate), (iii) the private sector (leaders of chambers of commerce and industry, agriculture, commercial banks, private media, etc.), (iv) civil society (NGOs, etc.), and (v) technical and financial partners.
- Step 3. National coalition actions in favour of the data revolution:** the coalition must ensure that it works in a transparent manner without seeking to take the place of existing State or private bodies. It must advocate and undertake effective actions to ensure that all of the conditions necessary to carrying out the data revolution are in place. As an example, it must take action to ensure that the NSS budget is compatible with its mission, at all the levels where this budget is established and examined; it should also be involved in monitoring the implementation/execution of the budget to ensure that the resources requested are in fact made available to the NSS and that the NSS delivers the various products in the required formats and within the established time frames. Other examples concern the coalition's activities with regards to the use of school and health mapping, which is often ignored/set aside when it comes to (i) allocating budgetary resources to the priority sectors of health and education and deciding on the set-up of new infrastructures in the different regions of the country.
- Step 4. The national coalition must establish itself as a link in the international coalition for the data revolution.** As such, it must work to advance this revolution at the level of the regional economic communities and at the continental and international levels. First, Burundi must send a strong signal, such as a Declaration, to the international community. Next, the country will have to participate in all activities initiated by the international community to further the data revolution agenda.

2.6.2 The needs of the country for this participation

The data revolution must be understood as an important initiative aiming to (i) fill the gaps observed during the 1990-2015 period devoted to the MDGs and (ii) better prepare for monitoring and evaluating the SDGs. It must be acknowledged that if nothing is done, the only guarantee we have today is that the NSS will continue to be unable to deliver reliable indicators on the implementation of the post-2015 development goals.

Notwithstanding the technical benefits the country will gain from this initiative, committing to this revolution must be a political act. It is therefore important for the country's participation to be decided as the result of ownership of the initiative being taken at the national level.

Where Burundi is concerned, immediate needs include the elaboration of a 2nd generation National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS II) by involving all of the actors of the NSS and the members of the coalition for the data revolution. Then, it must advocate boldly to ensure all the necessary conditions described in section 6.1 are in place.

The NSDS II that will be elaborated will have to take into account the results and recommendations stemming from the data revolution workshop. It will need to specify what the requirements for the data revolution are in the short, medium and long term.

Appendices

Appendix 1. Goals of the Burundi IDR workshop

Appendix 2. Agenda of the Burundi IDR workshop in Bujumbura from 25th to 26th September 2014

Appendix 3. List of the institutions and people participating in the workshop

Appendix 4. List of the institutions and people met with during the in-depth country study

Appendix 5. Informing a Data Revolution (IDR) Project: Questionnaire – List of discussion points

Appendix 6. References

Appendix 1. Goals of the Burundi IDR Workshop

1. General aims of the meeting

- Obtain feedback from the country / agreement on the report's conclusions
- Obtain feedback from the country / agreement on the directions of the IDR Road Map
- Reach an agreement in principle for the country to approve the Declaration on the IDR Road Map
- Obtain from the country the most useful innovations to achieve the Data Revolution

Presentation of the report and the conclusions of the IDR 4.2 study. Feedback session to gather comments on the report

This should be focused on a certain number of questions to be chosen from among the following (depending on the time available) – the questions can be refined.

a) Questions based on the study

- Future needs in external assistance and support – main fields?
- Needs in terms of innovation over the next five years – what fields should be the focus?
- Developing and building national capacity – how to do it? In which fields in particular?
- Meeting new needs in statistics – what challenges will come with the SDGs and how should they be addressed?
- Governance of the international statistical system – what changes need to be made?
- The use of new types of data – What new types of data does the ISTEERU imagine using in the next five and ten years?
- New partnerships in related areas
- (managing, collecting, analysing, disseminating, archiving) Processes – are these key fields for improvement?
- Resources (equipment, personnel, financing) – what are the main needs?
- National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) – changes needed? When and how?

b) Specific questions raised in the IDR country study

- Financial resources – to what extent does the national statistical system (NSS) currently rely on donor support? How much (in absolute value, % of the total budget) comes from donors compared to the State budget? In which domains is donor support concentrated?
- To what extent are the current levels of financial resources available to the NSS insufficient (or sufficient)?

c) Questions concerning the workshop conclusions with a view to elaborating Burundi's NSDS II:

- Do we need new surveys and how can a 2010 or 2015 baseline be established?
- Do we need to pay closer attention to data quality?
- What role should new and leading-edge technologies play, particularly in data collection?
- To what extent are lack of human and financial resources significant constraints and what can be done about this?
- How can we create and disseminate disaggregated data?
- What should be done to make data more accessible, understandable and useable?

- How can good data be best used as a powerful tool to ensure transparency, accountability and good governance?
- How should the role of the private sector, both a user and producer of data, be improved and is it necessary to improve coordination between the government and non-governmental actors?

d) General questions

- Innovation – main areas of interest – delivery (gaps in data) or dissemination?
- Is there a problem of missing data within sets?
- Are the ISTEERU's data accessible?
-

[Presentation 4.3 of Innovations](#)

If possible, meeting participants should suggest innovations that would be the most useful to Burundi, in order to meet the main challenges identified in the country report.

Appendix 2. Agenda of the Burundi IDR workshop in Bujumbura from 25 - 26 September 2014

25 Sept. 2014					SESSION CHAIR
9.30 am	1	Opening	Welcome address	ISTEEBU DG	
			Introduction	Trevor Fletcher (TF) PARIS21	
10 am	2	Study conclusions	Presentation of the conclusions and recommendations of the study report	Luc Mbong Mbong (LMM)	ISTEEBU DG
11 am		<i>Coffee break</i>			
11.30 am	3	Discussion regarding the study	Gathering of the participants' feedback/agreement on the conclusions of the report	Luc + participants	IDEC
1 pm		<i>Lunch break</i>			
2.30 pm	4	IDR activity report	Presentation of the IDR project's progress report	TF, PARIS21	UNICEF
3 pm	5	The country studies	Presentation of the summary of the results of all IDR country studies	TF, PARIS21	UNICEF
3.30 pm		<i>Coffee break</i>			
4 pm	6	Innovation/Modernisation	TF, Presentation of the innovation works by PARIS21	PARIS21	ISTEEBU DG
5.30 pm		<i>End</i>			
26 Sept. 2014					
9.30 am	7	Declaration on the IDR Road Map	Presentation and seeking of an agreement on the Road Map Declaration	TF, Luc + participants	AfDB
10 am	8	IDR Road Map	Presentation of the summary of the IDR Road Map report: consideration and adoption of the key points in the IDR Road Map document	TF, Luc + participants	AfDB
11 am		<i>Coffee break</i>			
11.30 am	9	IDR Road Map: discussion	IDR Road Map: alignment with national priorities	TF, Luc + participants	ISTEEBU DG
12.30 pm	10	Closing session.			ISTEEBU DG
	10.1		Presentation of recommendations	Rapporteurs	
	10.2		Speech by PARIS21	TF	
	10.3		Closing speech	ISTEEBU DG	

Appendix 3. List of the institutions and people participating in the workshop

N°	Institutions / Names	Position	Contact
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Appendix 4. List of the institutions and people met with during the country-study mission

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N°	Institutions / Names	Position	Contact
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Appendix 5. Informing a Data Revolution (IDR) Project: Questionnaire – List of discussion points

Organisation:.....

Address:.....

People met with

N°	Last name and first name:	Position	Telephone	Email
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				

Questions		Answers
N°	Heading	
A.	Entire National Statistical System (NSS)	
A.1	How much have statistics been used and how important are they considered to be in national policy development	
A.2	Status of the national strategy for the development of statistics (NSDS) or the plan for development of the national statistical system	
A.3	Legal mandate for statistics-related activities	
A.4	Organisation, coordination and management of NSS	
B.	Evaluation of the National Statistical Institute (NSI)	
B.1	Effectiveness of NSI personnel	
B.2	Adequacy of the equipment available to the NSI	
B.3	Adequacy of the budget available to the NSI	
B.4	Commitment to quality	
B.5	Relationship with data users	
B.6	Providing access to statistics and data	
B.7	Developing partnerships	
C.	Managing and implementing statistical processes	
C.1	Relationship with statistical data suppliers	
C.2	Managing data processes	
C.3	Disseminating data and statistics	
C.4	Archiving and storage of data and metadata	
D.	Interaction with the international statistics community	
D.1	Managing assistance received from donors	
D.2	Participating in the International Statistical system	
E.	Developing the national statistical system over the next five (5) years	
E.1	Priorities for new statistics	
E.2	Priorities for statistical capacity building	
E.3	Other priorities	
E.4	Using innovation	
E.5	Priorities for financial aid for statistics	
E.6	Priorities for technical assistance	
F.	In your opinion, how should a revival of statistics happen in your country?	

F.1	At the level of basic information providers	
F.2	At the national statistical institute and the industry statistics department level	
F.3	For data users	
G.	Other useful remarks	

Appendix 6. References: (R1 to R6: documents on the ISTEERU website)

- R1. Act n° 1/17 of 25 September 2007 on the organisation of Burundi's statistical system
- R2. Decree n°100/58 of 18 March 2008 on the creation, attributions, composition and functioning of the National Statistics Council (NSC)
- R3. Decree n°100/59 of 18 March 2008 on the reorganisation of the Burundi Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (ISTEERU)
- R4. Decree n° 100/261 of 31 October 2013 on the introduction of the *visa statistique* (statistics validation certificate) and the ethical review of statistical surveys and of biomedical and behavioural research in Burundi
- R5. Ministerial decree n° 540/1643 of 25 November 2013 on the procedure for obtaining a *visa statistique* (statistics validation certificate) for statistical surveys in Burundi
- R6. National Strategy for the Development of Statistics 2010- 2014
- R7. Sustainable Development Objectives (articles online)
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