



Virtual Event 15-18 June  
2020  
**2020 Asia-Pacific  
Statistics Week**

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## **Reviewing National Statistics System of Nepal in the New Federal Structure**

Action Area B. Assuring Quality and Instilling Trust in Statistics (SB1)

Presenter:

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# Background

- Beginning of the Statistics System of Nepal after the first Population Census in 1911
- The Census Act 1951: Operation of the fifth Population Census 1951/53
- The first Statistics Act ( 1958): Regulated and legitimized statistical activities in the nation - establishment of CBS as the sole custodian of official statistics
- CNSP (2000): To reorient/restructure NSS- incremental reform in NSS
- NSDS: recently approved-to update and improve statistical activities within the NSS





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# Background

- New Statistics Act: under the consideration of Parliament
- CBS: Conducting censuses (NPC/NSCA/CME/NEC) and periodic surveys (NLSS/NLFS/NMIS)
- Ministries and their agencies: MoHP (NDHS), MoAD (CAS), CBoN (HBS, PS & BoP)
- Nepal: Transitional Phase (Unitary to Federal)-Three tiers of Government





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# Objectives

- Review national statistical system of Nepal within the new federal structure
- Suggest way forward to strengthen it





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# Methodology

- Reviewed national and international study reports and articles (mainly NSDS)
- Reviewed statistical act and regulation, constitutional and contemporary legal provisions, current national and international issues
- Discussion with the experts
- Author's empirical ideas
- Descriptive argumentation to explain the subject matter





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# Prevalent Issues

- CBS still as the nucleus of the system for the 761 newly constituted governments (as per the federal structure)
- Absence of well-coordinated, proactive and competent statistical system
- NSC (1988) as the apex body of the NSS: Inadequate and incomplete
- Issues of data quality and standards by the lower governments
- Lack of inter agency/level coordination
- Realization of their facilitating roles
- Issues of international standards and classification; and the FPOS (UN)
- Lack of structure for networking, sharing of data and best practices, cooperation and coexistence





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### Prevalent Issues

- Lack of institutional set up within the province
- Issues of strengthened statistical units/capacity building/career development of the lower structures (development plans and projects)
- Issues of Physical/statistical infrastructure/financial resources and equipments (throughout the layers of gov)
- Lack of integrated and updated data profile (common platform to supply/use the data)
- Issues of National, provincial and local level indicators for the SDGs
- Updating of Statistical Act as per the New Constitution





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# Way Forward

- Inclusive restructuring of NSC
- Transformation of CBS to NSO
- Deployment of trained and skilled HR to NSO and other statistical agencies/units
- Exchange of expertise services
- Implementation of Survey Clearance System (timely and quality data/respondents' burden)
- Design of IT based NDP integrating quality data and indicators
- Strengthening NAS with its institutional capacity (quarterly as well as sub-national level GDP)







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# Way Forward

- Admin. records and CRVS, historical pictorial information and research reports should be integrated with MIS
- Big Data: Statistical System
- Publication, dissemination and transmission: Traditional as well as improved digital medium
- Statistics Act-Statistical rules and regulations-Other acts and regulations
- Designated Statistical System: Eliminate duplication/maximum use of scarce resources
- Statistical Calendar and Advance Release Calendar: Timely operation of census and surveys and result dissemination





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# Way Forward

- NSO: Coordination with the national/international stakeholders- monitor the progress achieved for national development goals and SDGs
- National Statistics Training and Research Centre: Train statistical human resources, users and private sectors
- Conclusion: Review of NSS for well-coordinated, functional and strong statistical system





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# Thank You!

