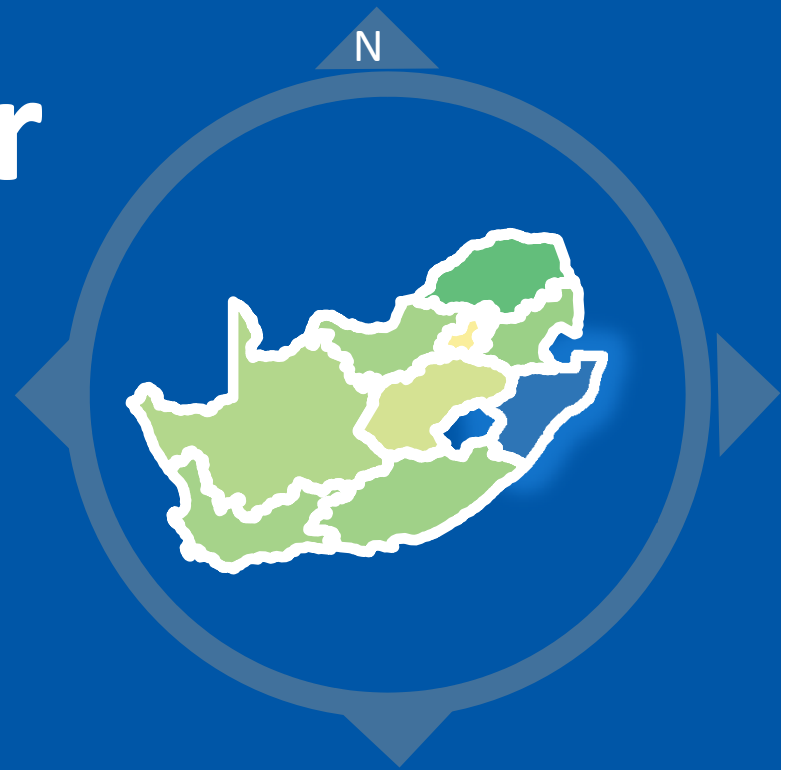


# Foundations for Success: *Enabling NSOs*

Libreville, Gabon – 3 -5 July 2017

Desmond Booysen  
Statistics South Africa





The South Africa I know, the home I understand

## We are

A national government department

Accountable to the minister in the Presidency, National Planning

Mandated to **collect information to produce official statistics**

## We adhere to

Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

(United Nations adopted 10 principles)

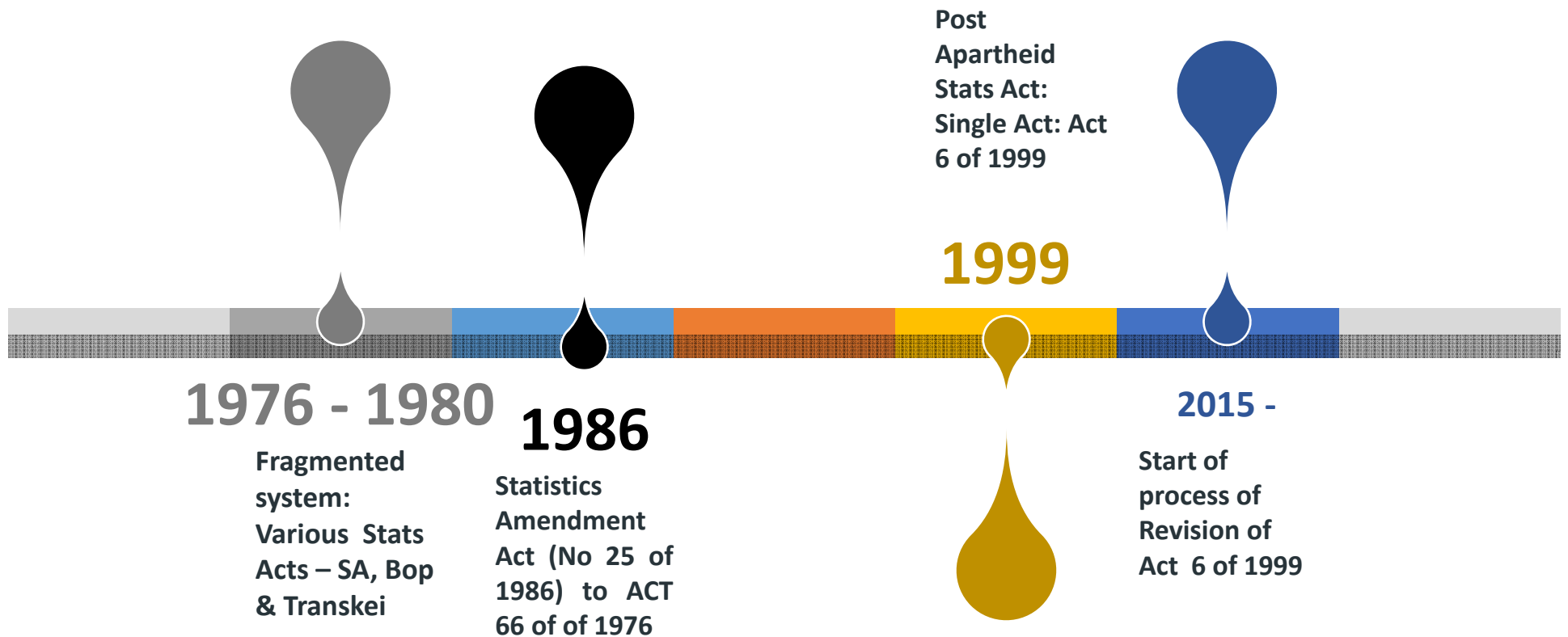


African Charter on Statistics

(African Union adopted 6 principles)



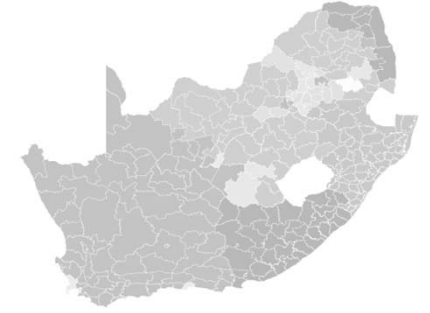
# Revisions in last 40 Years





***The Statistics Act (Act 6 of 1999) help SA bridge an Apartheid Past and become one of the most recognised and trusted Institutions within the South African information landscape***

# Statistics Act



## Purpose of the Act

To advance planning, production, analysis, documentation, storage and dissemination of official and other statistics

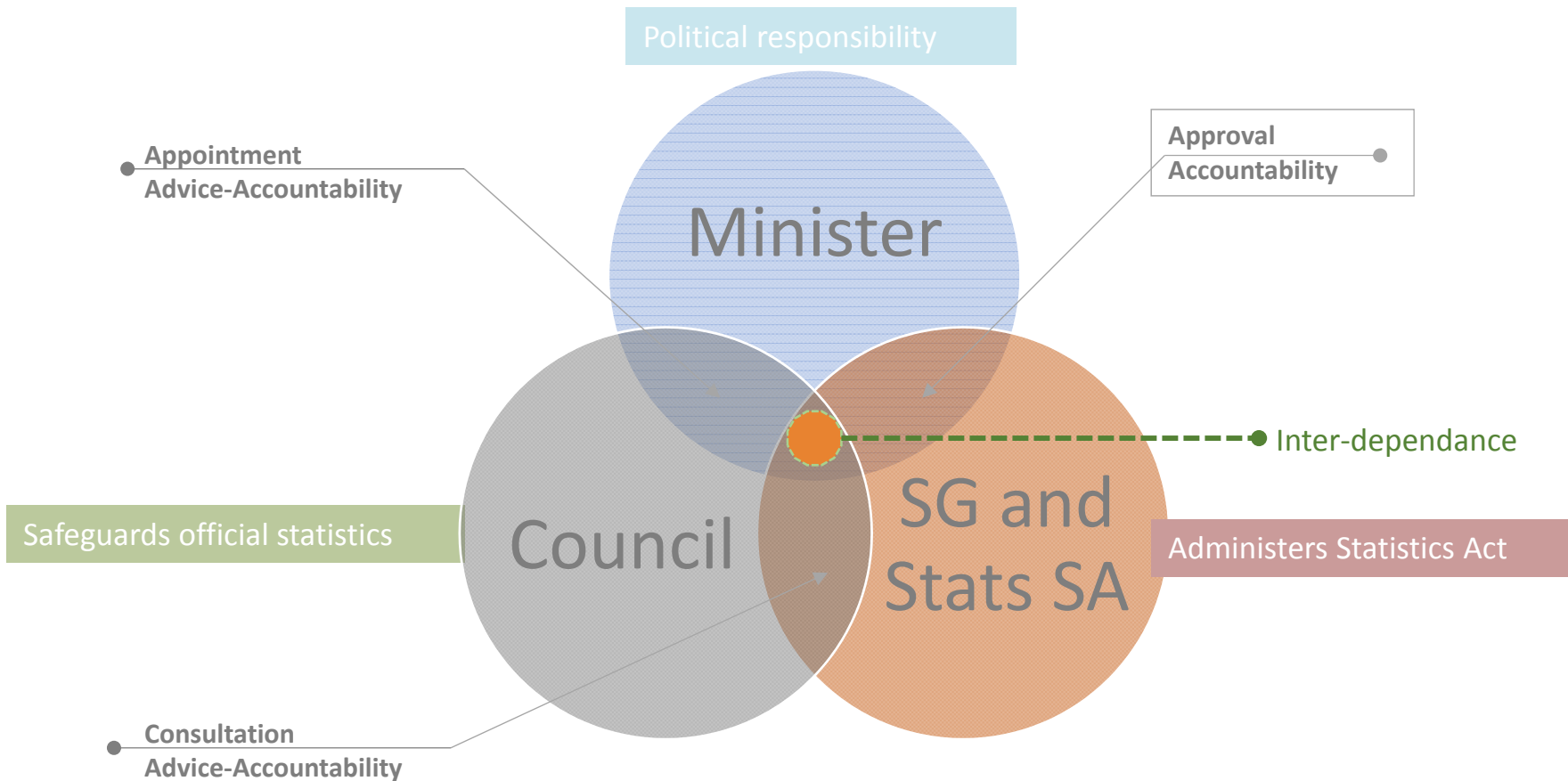
1. Statistical production
2. Statistical coordination

## Defines duties, powers and relationships of

1. Minister
2. Statistician-General (also head of Stats SA)
3. Statistics Council
4. Outline responsibility of other Ministers/Heads of Organs of State (Section 14)

# Statistics Act

## Outline of the relationship between stakeholders



# Outline

- i. The purpose of the Act (Sec 2)
- ii. The purpose of Official Statistics & Statistical Principles (Sec 3)
- iii. Status of Stats SA (Sec 4)
- iv. Duties and powers of the minister (Sec 5)
- v. Duties and powers of the SG (Sec 7)
- vi. Duties and powers of Council (Sec 13)
- vii. Statistical Coordination among organs of state (Sec 14)
- viii. Confidentiality & disclosure (Sec 17)

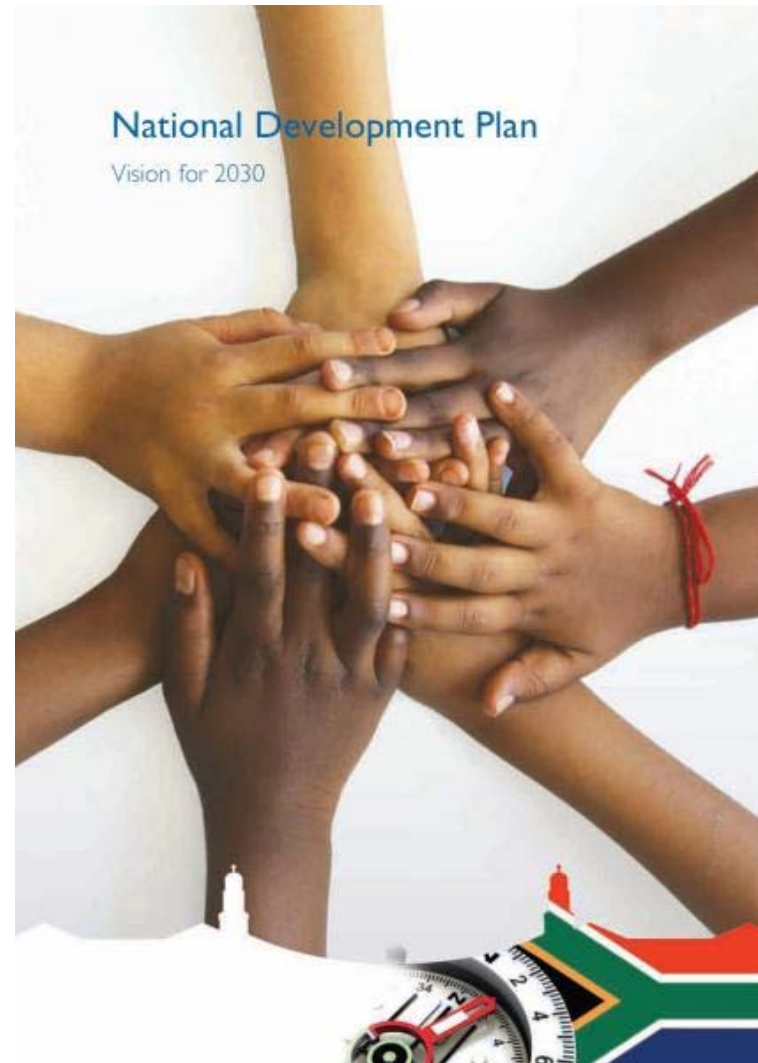
FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF OFFICIAL STATISTICS	AFRICAN CHARTER ON STATISTICS	STATISTICS ACT
<p><b>Principle 1.</b> Official statistics that meet the test of practical utility are to be compiled and made available on an impartial basis by Official statistical agencies to honour citizens' entitlement to public information.</p>	<p><b>Principle 1:</b> Professional independence</p>	<p><b>Advancement of optimal use of official statistics:</b> Section 7 (2) (g) (i) Section 3 (2) (a) – (g) Section 3 (1) Utility of data Section 3 ((2) Impartial dissemination</p>
<p><b>Principle 2.</b> Trust in official statistics, the statistical agencies need to decide according to strictly professional considerations, including scientific principles and professional ethics, on the methods and procedures for the collection, processing, storage and presentation of statistical data.</p>	<p><b>Principle 1:</b> Professional independence  <b>Principle 2:</b> Quality</p>	<p>Section 3 (2) (c) Section 7 (1) (e) (i) and (vi) Section 7 (2) (e) and (g)</p>
<p><b>Principle 3.</b> To facilitate a correct interpretation of the data, the statistical agencies are to present information according to scientific standards on the sources, methods and procedures of the statistics.</p>	<p><b>Principle 4:</b> Dissemination:</p>	<p>Section 3 (2) (c)</p>
<p><b>Principle 4.</b> The statistical agencies are entitled to comment on erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics.</p>	<p><b>Principle 1:</b> Professional independence  <b>Principle 4:</b> Dissemination</p>	<p><b>Review</b> Section 14 (8) (a) and (b)</p>
<p><b>Principle 5.</b> Data for statistical purposes may be drawn from all types of sources, be they statistical surveys or administrative Records. Statistical agencies are to choose the source with regard to quality, timeliness, costs and the burden on respondents.</p>	<p><b>Principle 2: Quality</b>  <b>Principle 3:</b> Mandate for data collection and resources</p>	<p><b>Mandate for data collection and resources:</b> Section 2 (e) (i) –(ii)  <b>Quality:</b> Section 5 (3) (a)-(c)</p>



FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF OFFICIAL STATISTICS	AFRICAN CHARTER ON STATISTICS	STATISTICS ACT
<p><b>Principle 6.</b> Individual data collected by statistical agencies for statistical compilation, whether they refer to natural or legal Persons, are to be strictly confidential and used exclusively for statistical purposes.</p>	<p><b>Principle 5:</b> Protection of individual data, information sources and Respondents</p>	<p>Section 17 - Confidentiality Section 3 (2) (a) – (g)</p>
<p><b>Principle 7.</b> The laws, regulations and measures under which the statistical systems operate are to be made public.</p>	<p><b>Principle 3:</b> Mandate for data collection and resources</p>	<p><b>Mandate for data collection and resources:</b> Section 2 (d) (i) and (ii) Section 7 (3) (g) (i) and (ii) – Gazette rules</p>
<p><b>Principle 8.</b> Coordination among statistical agencies within countries is essential to achieve consistency and efficiency in the Statistical system.</p>	<p><b>Principle 6:</b> Coordination and Cooperation</p>	<p>Section 7 (2) (i) – Liaison with other countries and their NSOs with regard to statistical matters</p>
<p><b>Principle 9.</b> The use by statistical agencies in each country of international concepts, classifications and methods promotes the consistency and efficiency of statistical systems at all official levels.</p>	<p><b>Principle 2:</b> Quality</p>	<p><b>Quality:</b> Section 14 (6) (a) to (c) – Advise on standards, classifications and procedures to promote quality and comparability</p>
<p><b>Principle 10.</b> Bilateral and multilateral cooperation in statistics contributes to the improvement of systems of official statistics In all countries.</p>	<p><b>Principle 6:</b> Coordination and Cooperation</p>	<p>Section 7 (2) (i) – Liaison with other countries and their NSOs Section 14: Coordination of NSS Section 2 (e) (i) and (ii) – Liaison with regional and international organisations about standards, classification, etc.</p>



# Agenda 2063



**Slide 10**

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**DB2**

Can we map the icons for SDGs against that of the 14 outcomes (NDP) MTEF

Desmond Booysen, 6/29/2017

# We need to adapt to current challenges and opportunities

High demand for statistical information (e.g. SDGs)

Demonstrated use of evidence for decisions

Inadequate supply: information, quality and skills gap

Value-chain arrangements for organising and managing

facts about the state:

*Inputs, Outputs, Outcomes and Impact*

Governance and institutional arrangements

Emerging priorities: Data revolution

Demystifying statistics



# Data sources

## Population Census

- Stats SA has a 10 yearly Census of population.

## Household and Business Surveys

- Stats SA also conducts household and business surveys.

## Administrative datasets

- Stats SA collates a range of administrative data sets (mining, energy, revenue services, UIF).

## Demographic Data

- Population projections benchmarked to the Census every 10 years and adjusted annually using births, deaths and migration data.

## Civil registers

- Health and vitals data (births and deaths) is collected via administrative datasets.

## Organic Data

- Naturally occurring data from sources such as mobile phones, social media, internet searches and traffic cameras (this is work for the future)

# Challenges

# Existing data sources cannot match the need





*Increasingly we see socially-relevant data that belong to citizens, being controlled by the private sector*





*Need to **collaborate** with the private sector and civil society for the public good*

# Challenge of coordination

## Challenge experienced

### Coordination needs Trust and Technical Leadership:

#### Act inadequate, e.g.

- NSS is not explicitly mentioned in the Statistics Act, 1999 leading to challenges at securing compliance by organs of state with their obligation to co-operate in the production of official statistics.

## Proposed Solution

- Need to provide expert advice and prove your “technical superiority” as leader
- Quality of own work has to speak for itself and be above reproach
- Build technical capacity, skills and expertise across the organisation first
  
- Once the concept of the NSS is in the law, the NSO does not have to convince their partners to co-operate since it is in the law and there was a public discussion on the subject.
- Moreover if the Act states the way the coordination has to take place, at least for the most part, then there is no need for MOU’s and thus the coordination is more efficient

# Challenge of coordination

## Challenge

## Proposed Solution

- If moreover, the Act states which tools of coordination are going to be used, then the coordination becomes even more efficient. Standards, methods, classifications, frames and so on are some of these tools.

It is within this context that we approach legislative reform to the Stats Act of 1999

# Legislative Reform

2015



## Consultation Outcomes: Statistical Geography

1

Users demand that policy outcomes be reported both in time and space (i.e. geographic location)

2

### State of geographic information

Current state of geographic information is that it is:  
Fragmented, &  
Lack common standards on geospatial information

3

### Recommendations made include

Create mechanisms to ensure compliance to geospatial standards  
Review the Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) Act, Municipal Structures Act and Statistics Act to ensure alignment  
Review Income Tax Act to ensure that valid physical addresses are a requirement for businesses and enterprises

# Legislative Reform (2)

2016



## Consultation Outcomes: Coordination & Compliance

1

The Statistics Act to specify the instruments available to the SG and Minister responsible for statistics to coordinate statistical planning, production and reporting

2

Allow the SG to specify what statistical planning and reporting instruments will be used  
Allow the SG to coordinate statistical production (i.e. obtain permission on who produces what)

3

Decentralised system of statistical production to continue in line with statistical standards as set out by the SG

4

Statistical production to be incubated in existing M&E units where functional statistics units do not exist

5

Empower the SG to guide departments w.r.t compliance & specify consequences for non-compliance

# Legislative Reform (3)

2016



## Consultation Outcomes: Institutional Arrangements & Protocols

1

Principles of Official Statistics” is adopted and implemented by all SANSS members (i.e. not only Stats SA)

2

Empower the SG to specify the institutional arrangements and protocols to coordinate the SANSS (i.e. specify rules of engagement)  
Describe remedial action(s) available to the SG to enforce compliance

3

Make provision for a SANSS governance structure and describe its role & limitations  
Empower the SG to issue rules on matters pertaining to statistical production and use

4

Require all statistical work in the SANSS to be free of political interference  
Describe the relationship between the SG, Minister(s), **Organs of state and other producers**, and the Statistics Council

5

Provide new institutional arrangements that eliminate an organ of state being both a referee & player in the SANSS

# Legislative Reform (4)

2016



## Consultation Outcomes: State-wide statistical service

1

Create a state-wide statistical service (SSS)

2

The SSS to consist of professional statisticians and SSS to be governed by a professional code of ethics

3

The SSS to service the capacity needs of the SANSS

4

Officials in the SSS will be professionally accountable to the SG and administratively by their respective DGs/HoDs

5

The SSS professionals to be supported by a statistics institute to build statistical capacity and capability



# Legislative Reform (5)

2016



## Consultation Outcomes: Data Revolution



Revised Statistics Act to encourage the use of non-traditional data sources



Revised Statistics Act to specify the quality criteria for both traditional and non-traditional data sources



Ensure that big data used for M&E are compiled in a scientific manner



Encourage data sharing among organs of state

Encourage the formation of public, private, & civil society partnerships on data



Promote innovative methods to fill data gaps that exist



Thank You