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Economic Commission for Africa

West African Sub-regional Office

National Capacities and Mechanisms for Assessing Progress in the Implementation of Agendas 2030 and 2063: State of play, Challenges and Prospects in West Africa

Draft Report

April 2019

SUMMARY

List of acronyms and abbreviations

Acronym	Meaning
ACBF	Foundation for Capacity Building in Africa
AN	National Assembly
AFDB	African Development Bank
CAPI	Computer assisted personal interviewing
CAWI	Computer assisted Web interviewing
CEA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
REBS	Regional Economic Commission
CIE	Intergovernmental Committee of Senior Officials and Experts of West Africa
NOC	National Steering Committee
CTNE	National Technical Committee for Evaluation
AUC	African Union Commission
DHS	Demographics Health Survey
DNP	Direction Nationale du Pan (National Planning Directorate)
DNSE	National Monitoring and Evaluation System
EDS	Demographic and Health Survey
FCFA	African Financial Community Franc
IAS	Statistical Application Engineers
HDI	Human Development Index
INS	National Institute of Statistics
ISE	Engineers Statisticians Economists
STI	Statistical work engineers
MINEFID	Ministry of Economy, Finance and Development
N/A	Not Available
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
IOM	International Organization for Migration
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
NGO	Non-governmental organization
UN	United Nations Organization
CSOS	Civil society organization
PHS	Public Health specialist
PNDCL	Provisional National Defence Council Law
UNDP :	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
TFP	Technical and Financial Partners

RGA	General Census of Agriculture
RGPH	General Population and Housing Census
HR	Human Resources

List of tables

List of graphs

List of figures

Key Messages

On the basis of a survey of public structures in charge of planning and statistical production in West Africa and a literature review, an analysis of the data collected was carried out in order to identify the challenges and prospects of national capacities and mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the 2030 and 2063 agendas. At the end of the analysis, the following main messages deserve to be highlighted.

At the level of the National Statistical Systems:

- Overall, the National Statistical Systems (NSS) in West Africa are relatively well organized with the NSIs as a central structure with a primary producer role. All countries also have a legal framework for statistical activity. NSS in all countries also have Statistical Master Plans, which are essential strategic planning tools for effective statistical activity. In addition, most master plans include a plan for strengthening statistical production and staff training that builds the capacity of statistical staff.
- In terms of statistical data quality, West African countries have the most significant deficiencies in the regularity and accessibility of statistical data.
- With regard to regularity in particular, on average, 52.3% of the main data collection operations do not respect the prescribed production deadlines. In some countries, the rate of non-regularity exceeds two thirds (2/3) of the main collection operations. For some collection operations, relatively long delays are noted, sometimes exceeding 100% of the prescribed deadlines.
- Given the low level of regularity of major data collection operations in countries, there is a significant risk that a relatively large proportion of the SDG and Agenda 2063 indicators may not be regularly reported, which would compromise the timely and regular reporting. On average in the 10 countries analysed, more than half of the indicators are at risk of not being reported due to a lack of regularity.
- In almost all countries, production structures have significant deficiencies in terms of professional statisticians. 8 out of 10 countries consider that they do not have sufficient statistical professionals to effectively meet the need for statistical production for the monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs, including Agenda 2063. On average, the number of statisticians per 100,000 inhabitants is 2.88 compared to a European average of about 15 statisticians per 100,000 inhabitants.
- National statistical data production and dissemination structures have limited knowledge of new data collection, processing and dissemination techniques (data collection by tablet/smartphone - CAPI- and online data collection using web tools - CAWI-). Of the 10 countries examined, 8 have unsatisfactory knowledge of online data collection using web tools.
- The autonomy of countries in financing statistics is weak. Indeed, in almost all countries, most of the main data collection operations are financed mainly from external resources, giving the impression that statistics are not a priority in West African countries.
- Generally, States' commitments to finance statistics are not respected. This argument is supported by the low disbursement rates of NSO budgets, some of which are below 50% in some years.

- Very few West African countries have statistical development funds, which contributes to increased instability and irregularity in the resources allocated to statistical financing.
- Closing the statistical data gap to ensure that the 232 SDG indicators, including Agenda 2063, are properly reported will require relatively large amounts of funding ranging from 340 thousand to 280 million US dollars depending on the country.

At the level of the institutional monitoring and evaluation system

- After 4 and 6 years of implementation of the SDG and Agenda 2063 respectively, very few countries have formalized through official acts the monitoring and evaluation mechanism of the two Agendas.
- In most countries, 90% of the countries surveyed believe that the current structures that produce the SDG report are the most appropriate. The situation is more mixed with Agenda 2063. Indeed, only 60% of the countries consider the choice of the structure in charge of monitoring-evaluation of this reference framework to be appropriate.
- The frequency of reporting differs from one Development Agenda to another but also from one country to another; this also complicates the production of an integrated and coherent report at the country and regional levels, in accordance with the requirements of the AU/UN Development Framework.
- The schedules of data-producing structures, in particular the INS, and those responsible for producing SDG and Agenda 2063 reports are poorly synchronized; this is not likely to promote up-to-date data to meet the need for report production

I. Background and justification

The Member States of the United Nations (UN) and the African Union (AU) adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in September 2015 and Agenda 2063 in 2013 respectively. These are two (02) ambitious and coherent development programmes that should make it possible to promote real development and improve the living conditions of African populations.

More specifically, the SDGs aim to end global poverty, combat inequality and injustice, and address the effects of climate change. As for the AU's Agenda 2063, its vision is to "build an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, led by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force on the international scene". In terms of coherence, the sustainable development agenda for 2030, which is intended to be more global, strongly integrates the priorities and objectives of the AU's Agenda 2063.

The achievement of the objectives of these two (02) agendas necessarily requires effective monitoring and evaluation, capable of reporting on regular implementation and, above all, of allowing corrective measures to be taken in order to ensure that the objectives set are achieved.

In view of the number of targets and indicators to be monitored and the relatively limited capacity of countries, the African Union/United Nations framework for the implementation of Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Programme to 2030 called for an integrated approach to the monitoring of the two agendas. To this end, technical and organizational initiatives are being implemented at the level of States and Regional Communities to make it effective.

While there is general agreement on this approach, however, it appears that after four and six years of implementation of the 2030 and 2063 agendas respectively, States still face capacity challenges in monitoring and evaluating progress.

Thus, on the recommendation of the 21st meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee of Senior Officials and Experts (ICE) of West Africa, the ECA undertook, through a study, to examine national capacities to meet the monitoring and evaluation requirements of the 2030 and 2063 agendas in West Africa.

The main purpose of the study is to identify the major monitoring and evaluation challenges facing West African states in order to inform and guide policy measures to strengthen national monitoring and evaluation processes for both agendas in West Africa.

The document is structured in five parts as follows: (i) analytical framework and methodology of the study, (ii) SDG and Agenda 2063: objectives and

mechanisms for monitoring-evaluation, (iii) inventory and challenges of national statistical systems, (iv)monitoring and evaluation of SDG and Agenda 2063: inventory and challenges and (v) main challenges and recommendations.

II. V. Analytical and methodological framework of the study

II.1. Reminder of the objectives of the study

General objective

The main objective of this study is to take stock and identify the major challenges related to national capacities for the monitoring-evaluation of the 2030 and 2063 agendas in West Africa.

Specific objectives

The general objective is divided into three (03) specific objectives as shown in the table below:

Table 1: Specific objectives

N°	Specific objectives
1	Analysing national data ecosystems in West African countries to assess their technical, human and financial capacities to monitor the SDGs and Agenda 2063
2	Analysing institutional and organizational capacities, including the legal framework, legislative provisions and policies put in place by countries in the monitoring and evaluation process of both agendas
3	Making proposals for recommendations to strengthen national monitoring and evaluation processes for the SDGs and the AU Agenda 2063.

Source: *Author based on the terms of reference*

Note: for details of the tasks assigned to consultants, see the full TORs in the appendix.

II.2. Work methodology

This document has been prepared on the basis of data collection from public structures in 15 West African countries with the support of ECA country focal points from NSOs and ministries in charge of planning and development. An online questionnaire was administered to the target audiences for this purpose.

The areas covered by this data collection are: (i) the organization of the statistical system in force in the countries, (ii) the quality of statistical data, (iii) the human, financial and logistical capacities, (IV) the institutional arrangements in place in the countries to conduct the monitoring and evaluation process of the SDGs and Agenda 2063, (v) the major challenges of the statistical system and the monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063.

The production of this report was based on the analysis of data provided by 10[1] out of the 15 countries that submitted the information as of 12 April 2019, i.e. an implementation rate of 66.67%[2].

The draft report prepared will be presented to the ad hoc meeting of the West African Group of Experts from 6 to 7 May 2019 in Robertsfield, Liberia, for comments and finalization.

II.3. Difficulties encountered

The conduct of this study encountered a number of constraints and difficulties. These include, in particular:

- **The failure to carry out the pre-test of the questionnaire**: the relatively short time required for the study did not allow a pre-test of the questionnaire to be carried out; this caused some problems of understanding on the part of the focal points;
- **Delay in the countries' response to the questionnaire**: the last questionnaires were received more than two (02) weeks after the original deadline, for one week;
- **The absence of a field survey:** This prevents from obtaining some detailed information that could have better supported some analyses;
- **Insufficient information in the questionnaire**: some countries filled in the questionnaire manually, whereas it had to be done online. The shortcomings also resulted in the failure to comply with some of the instructions given for completing the questionnaire. As a result, some answers appeared imprecise and other important questions remained unanswered. In addition, some inconsistencies were found in the responses, certainly due to the relatively short time available for completing the questionnaire.

II.4. Quality of statistics: dimensions and definitions

One of the dimensions analysed in the NSS is the quality of statistical data. This section provides the framework for quality analysis by defining the concept and its dimensions.

Data quality plays a very important role in a country's development process through its direct influence on decision-making and, in turn, the effectiveness of policies, programmes and the ability of the system to meet objectives. In addition, the quality of data, and in particular their ability to produce reliable

[1] Burkina Faso, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde, Togo, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Niger, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Nigeria

[2] Data from Senegal and Liberia, which arrived during the preparation of the draft report, will be taken into account in the final version.

information, i.e. information that is both accurate (in line with what is actually observed on the ground) and can be processed without error, indirectly influences public policy decisions.

To ensure the quality of official statistics, the development, production and dissemination of official statistics shall be subject to common standards and harmonized methods concerning their scope, concepts, definitions, units and classifications in accordance with internationally agreed statistical principles, standards and recommendations.

International organizations such as Eurostat mainly use six (6) dimensions to define quality. These include relevance, accuracy, timeliness, accessibility, comparability and consistency.

Relevance: it reflects the ability of data to meet current and potential user needs. In other words, it answers the question "Does the information available allow the user to better understand the phenomenon under study?"

Accuracy : it is often equated with accuracy and reliability and refers to the proximity between the estimated value and the actual value that is generally unknown in the population. In other words, it expresses "the extent to which the information correctly describes the phenomenon it should evaluate", i.e. with what precision is the measurement of the phenomenon done?

Timeliness: it takes into account the date of publication of the data in relation to its reference period. It mainly answers the question "Is the information provided current?

Accessibility: it refers to the ease with which statistical information can be obtained from the producer (is the information made available to all users?). It takes into account both the existence of information, the form or medium of access to information and the cost of information to users.

The comparability of statistical information reflects its ability to be compared over time or geographically.

Consistency is ensured when «this information can be successfully cross-checked with other statistical information within a general analytical framework".

III. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Agenda 2063: objectives and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms

After recalling the objectives of each development agenda and their specific monitoring and evaluation framework, this section presents the integrated monitoring and evaluation framework common to both development frameworks.

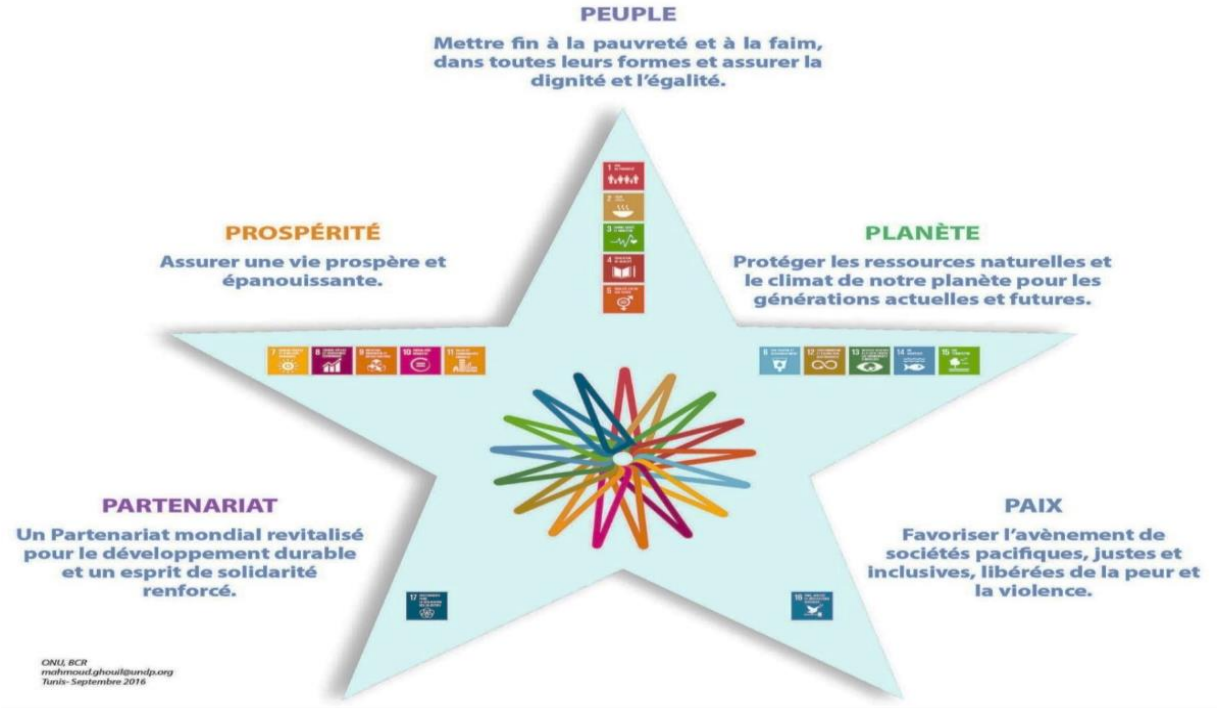
III.1. Agenda 2030

- **Objectives, targets and indicators**

The Programme for Sustainable Development by 2030 was adopted in September 2015 by the 193 Member States of the United Nations. The objective is to ensure sustainable and inclusive economic growth, social inclusion and environmental protection, in a spirit of partnership and peace. It encourages Member States to take the bold and transformative measures that are urgently needed to set the world on a sustainable and resilient path. It therefore aims to leave no one behind.

Agenda 2030 includes an integrated vision of the three dimensions of sustainable development (social, economic and environmental): social integration to ensure the well-being of all, inclusive growth that brings about transformation, employment and productive investment, and environmental sustainability in social and economic policies. It is the new global development framework based on 17 sustainable development objectives broken down into 169 targets and 232 indicators in the areas of the economy, social development and environmental protection.

Figure1: The 17 SDGs around the 5 key areas



Source: *United Nations, Tunis Communication Office, 2016*

- **Framework for the monitoring and review of Agenda 2030**

To support the achievement of results, an integrated monitoring and review framework has been put in place. It aims to make an essential contribution to better achieving the 17 sustainable development goals (SDGs).

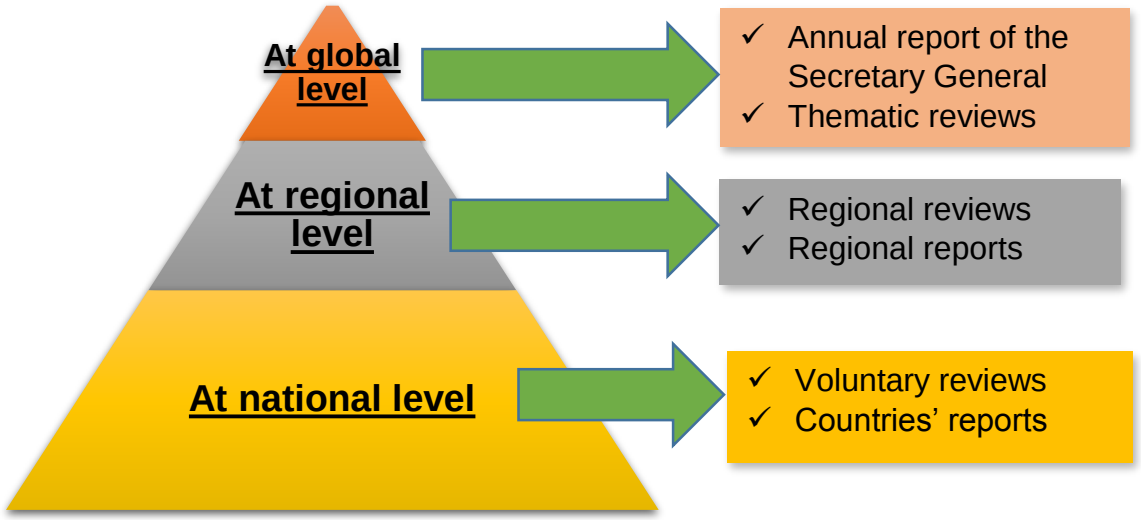
According to United Nations General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015[3], monitoring and review mechanisms should adhere to the following principles:

- Being voluntary and country-led (National ownership)
- Respecting the universal, integrated and interdependent nature and the three dimensions of sustainable development;
- Being oriented towards the longer term and aim to identify the factors for success;
- Being open, inclusive, participatory and transparent to all relevant stakeholders;
- Being person-centred, gender-sensitive, respecting human rights and paying particular attention to the most vulnerable;
- Being evolutionary and adaptive, gradually taking into account country specificities and situations, new methods and existing frameworks and processes;
- Being rigorous, based on scientific evidence, supported by country-led assessments and quality, accessible, up-to-date, reliable data;
- Benefiting from the active support of the UN and other multilateral institutions.

As part of the monitoring and review, it is planned to organize a number of exchange forums based on thematic reviews of national, regional and supranational reports.

[3] Adopting the final document of the United Nations post-2015 summit "Transforming our world: the Sustainable Development agenda to 2030".

Figure 2: Exchange framework on the thematic reviews of Agenda 2030



Source: *Author*

III.2. Agenda 2063

- **Objectives, targets and indicators**

Agenda 2063 is a common strategic framework for inclusive growth and sustainable development. It was adopted in January 2015 by the Conference of Heads of State of the African Union and covers a period of fifty (50) years. It includes seven (07) major aspirations as shown in the diagram below:

Figure 3 : Aspirations of Agenda 2063

Source: *Agenda 2063 Report*

Agenda 2063 is intended to be implemented through five ten-year plans. The first 10year plan focuses on issues relevant to the period while meeting the expected results at the end of 2063. This first plan, built around seven aspirations, includes 20 objectives, 38 priority areas and 248 indicators.

- **The monitoring and evaluation framework**

Agenda 2063 also includes a monitoring and evaluation framework to facilitate its implementation. This framework is organized at the national, regional and continental levels. National structures are the central pillar of the functioning of the overall monitoring and evaluation framework of Agenda 2063. In this context, it is planned to set up high-level inter-governmental teams to manage monitoring and evaluation.

III.3. Integrated framework for the joint monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030

The Agendas 2030 and 2063 based on a broad consultation process, present common aspirations for structural transformation and sustainable development.

In order to ensure that implementation and monitoring take into account all dimensions of these two initiatives, both for convergence areas and for issues that are addressed separately by each initiative, an AU and UN Development Framework was put in place in January 2018. The Development Framework will contribute to strengthening the monitoring and evaluation of the impact of Agendas 2030 and 2063 and will help countries to remove obstacles to implementation.

The Development framework provides for:

- Integrated and coherent reporting by Member States through an annual report on sustainable development in Africa, the African Peer Review Mechanism of the African Union and the United Nations follow-up mechanism;
- Participation in the High-Level Policy Forum for Sustainable Development, including voluntary national assessments;
- Engagement of relevant African Union and United Nations entities in the implementation and reporting of Programme 2030 and Agenda 2063;
- The establishment of national, continental and international, global and integrated data platforms and the development of methods that take into account the relevant indicators defined in the two programmes.

This section recalls that, in addition to specific monitoring and evaluation frameworks, the United Nations and the AU have established an integrated monitoring and evaluation framework. States therefore face many challenges to enable not only monitoring at the country level, but also to promote monitoring and evaluation at the regional and international levels.

IV. State of play and challenges of the National Statistical Systems in West Africa

One of the main principles of the integrated monitoring and evaluation framework is that it should be "based on scientific evidence supported by country-led assessments and quality, accessible, timely and reliable data". This requires a good organization of NSS in order to produce data that meets the quality criteria listed below. In addition to the organization, NSS must have sufficient capacity in human, material and logistical resources and finance. What exactly is the situation in West African countries?

This section analyses (i) the organization of statistical systems in countries, (ii) the quality of the data produced, (iii) the data gap for SDG and Agenda 2063 intelligence and (iv)human, financial and logistical capacities.

IV.1. Organisation of national statistical systems

NSS in West African countries are mainly organized around NSIs that play a role as primary producers. The analysis of the statistical systems of the ten (10) countries surveyed in West Africa shows that the national statistical systems of most countries (9/10) are organized around the National Statistical Institutes (NSIs). These structures act as the main producer by collecting, analysing and making data available to users. Only Guinea Bissau has a statistical system in which the NSO acts as a centralizing body for secondary data. In this system, ministries are autonomous in the production of data and transmit them to the NSO for centralization.

NSS have statistical master plans, which reflect some planning and organization of data collection over time and in accordance with resources.

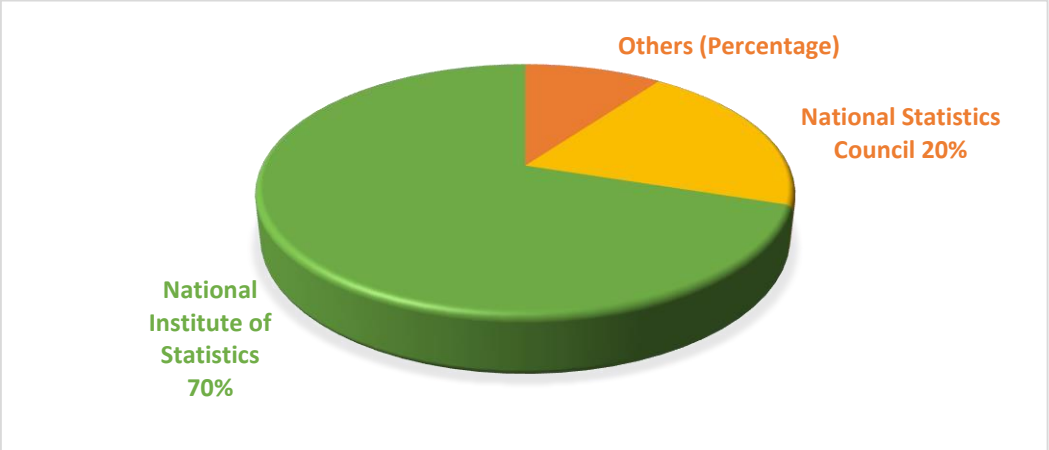
Indeed, all the countries surveyed have a Statistical Master Plan (SMP) which is a strategic planning tool giving the vision, orientations and main actions to be carried out in the medium term. This SSN reference document is a tool for dialogue and advocacy to mobilize funding from the State and its partners for the implementation of its activities.

Also, most countries have a training plan for statistical staff associated with the SMP that builds the capacity of statistical staff. However, there are still a few countries that do not have them. These include Togo.

In addition, all the countries surveyed also have a legal framework governing the statistical sector.

All countries have a quality assurance system to ensure data quality. In 70% of the countries surveyed, quality assurance is provided by the NSI itself; 30% by National Statistical Councils (NSCs) and other structures.

Graph 1: Nature of the body in charge of the quality of the data produced.



Source: *Author, based on survey data.*

IV.2 Analysis of the quality of statistical data

The quality of the statistics was analysed using the following criteria: (i) prerequisites for quality, (ii) assurance/integrity, (iii) regularity, (iv) coherence, (v) accessibility.

IV.2.1. Prerequisites for quality

The two (02) dimensions analysed are the clear definition of the responsibility of each technical actor and the existence in the country of a statistical law passed by the National Assembly.

The analysis of the survey results shows a good level of compliance with the preconditions for the quality of statistical data. Indeed, all countries have a statistical law passed by the National Assembly. As for the definition of the responsibility of each actor, it is appreciable because 70% of the countries find it well defined. However, there is room for improvement for the three (03) countries of Togo, Gambia and Sierra Leone where the definition of the responsibility of each actor was considered average.

Table 2 : Summary of the analysis of quality prerequisites

Country	Responsibility of each defined technical actor	Existence of a statistical law passed by the National Assembly
Burkina Faso	Totally	Yes
Guinea Bissau	Totally	Yes
Cape Verde	Totally	Yes
Togo	Partially	Yes
Ivory Coast	Totally	Yes
Gambia	Partially	Yes
Niger	Totally	Yes

Sierra Leone	Partially	Yes
Ghana	Totally	Yes
Nigeria	Totally	Yes

Source: *Author based on survey data*

IV.2.2. Assurance/ Integrity

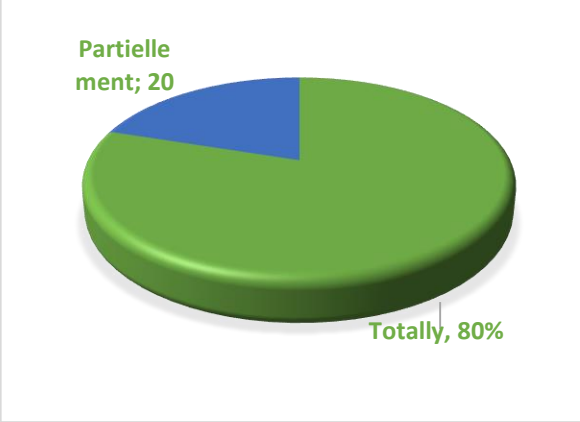
The four (4) criteria analysed in this dimension are (i) the impartial compilation of statistics, (ii) the choice of statistical sources and techniques and dissemination decisions based exclusively on statistical considerations, and (iii) the clear identification of statistical agencies' and services' products and (iv)the requirement for prior notification of major changes in basic data methodology and statistical techniques.

Overall, the assurance and integrity of the statistical system in data production is considered relatively good in the ten (10) West African countries surveyed.

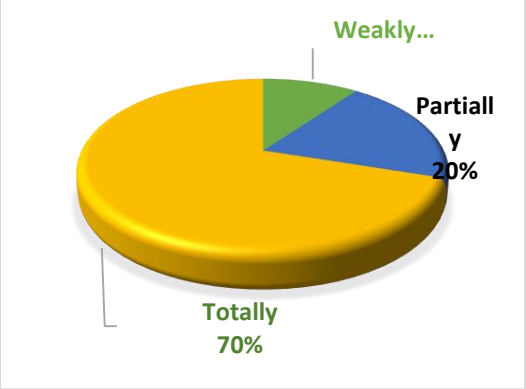
Indeed, for the first two criteria on "the production of statistics in an impartial manner" and "the choice of statistical sources and techniques and dissemination decisions based exclusively on statistical considerations", 100% of countries report full implementation.

As for the criterion "Clear identification of outputs of statistical agencies and services", its application is considered total in 80% of the countries surveyed and average in 20% of the countries (Togo and Côte d'Ivoire). Regarding the criterion "Requirement for prior notification of major changes in basic data methodology and statistical techniques", 70% of the countries surveyed rate its full application as compared to 20% who rate it as average (Gambia and Sierra Leone) and 10% as low (Togo).

Graph 2 : Status of clear identification results of the statistical agencies and services



Graph 1 : Status of the requirements for prior notification of major changes in basic data methodology and statistical techniques



Source : *Author based on survey data*

The detailed situation per country is presented in Appendix 1.

IV.2.3. Regularity of their publication

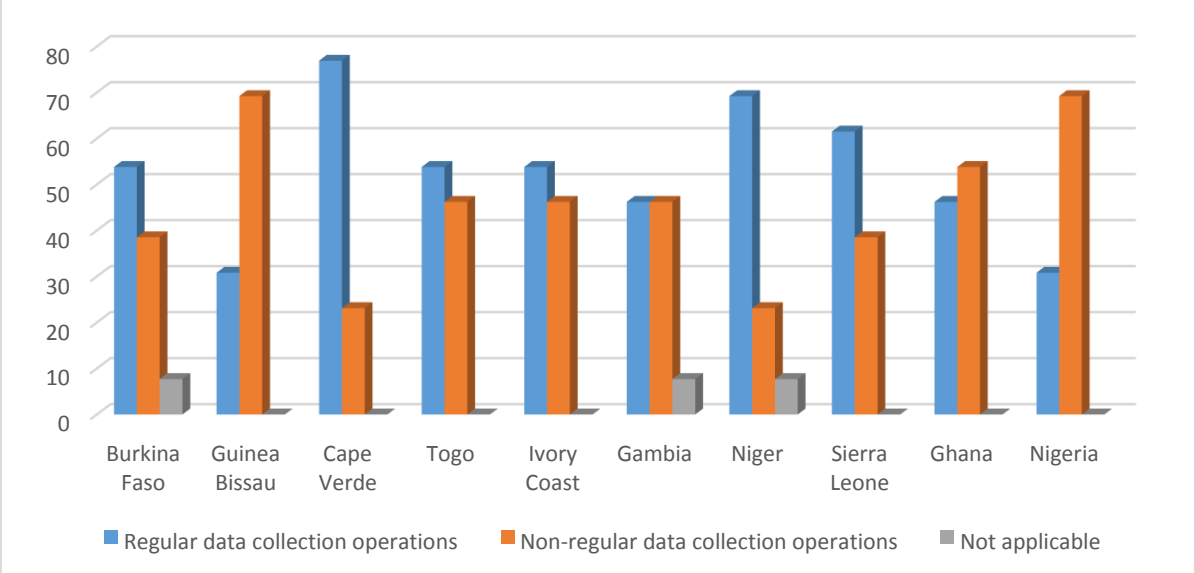
The regularity analysis examines the compliance of the periodicity of the data with the dissemination standards of each of the thirteen (13) main data collection operations.

The level of regularity in carrying out the main collection operations is relatively low for all 10 countries surveyed. Indeed, on average, countries are regular in just over half (52.3%) of the main data collection operations.

The country analysis shows that no country meets the prescribed production deadlines for all thirteen (13) main data collection operations identified.

- The countries with the highest number of data collection operations that do not meet the deadlines are Nigeria and Guinea Bissau. In these countries, more than two thirds (2/3) of data collection operations are not carried out on a regular basis.
- After this first group of countries, Ghana follows, where more than half of the operations do not meet the prescribed deadlines;
- Following these two groups of countries are Togo, Côte d'Ivoire and Gambia, where more than 46% of data collection operations do not meet the prescribed deadlines;
- Burkina Faso and Sierra Leone follow with 38.5% of data collection operations that are not carried out in a regular manner.
- Niger and Cape Verde have the lowest non-regularity rate of 23.1% in the production of the main data collection operations.

Graph 3 : Situation of the regularity of the thirteen (13) main data collection operations per country

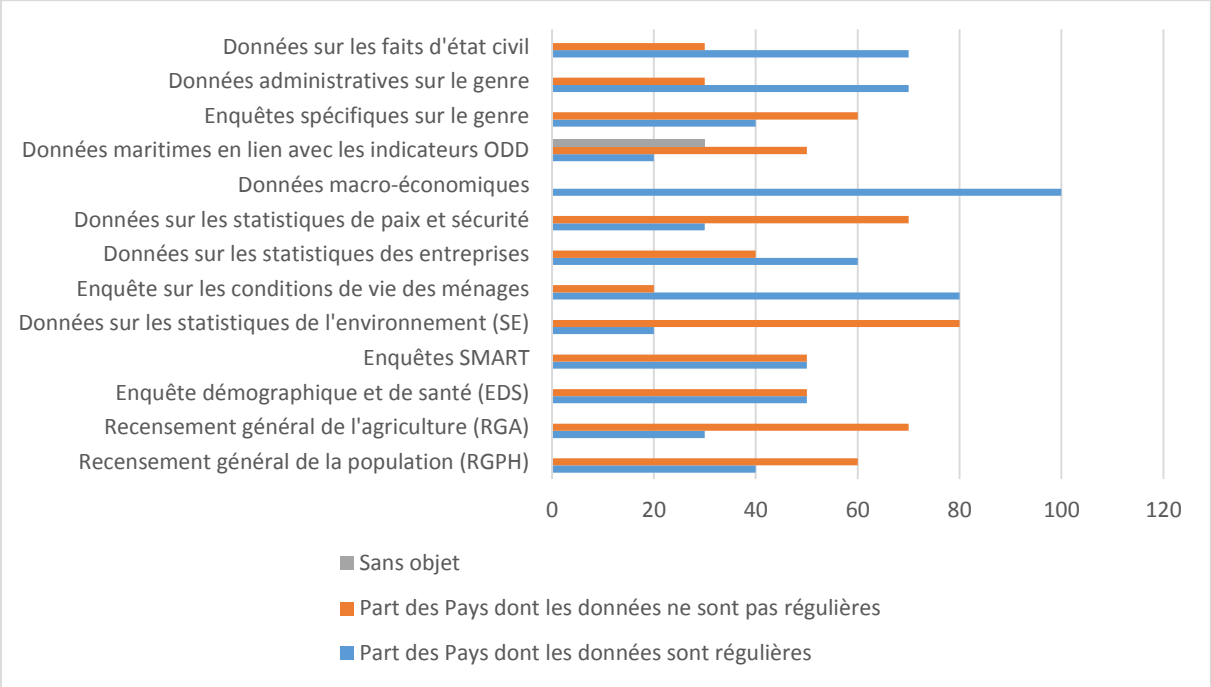


Source: *Author based on survey data*

Analysis of regularity by survey shows that there are several data collection operations for which a significant proportion of countries are not regular in production and dissemination.

In total, it appears that there are 8 collection operations out of 13, or 61.53%, for which more than half of the countries covered by the study do not respect the prescribed regularity deadlines. It is a question of: (i) General Population Census (GPCS), (ii) General Census of Agriculture (GCA), (iii) SMART surveys, (iv) Data on Environment Statistics (SE), (v) Data on Peace and Security Statistics, (vi) Demographic and Health Survey (DHS), (vii) Gender-specific surveys, and (viii) Maritime data related to the indicators.

Graph 4 : Summary of regularity in the production of the main data collection operations



Source : *Author based on survey data*

Exceedance times are relatively long for some data collection operations and in some countries. Indeed, for a number of operations, the time limits for exceeding them are more than half of the life of the operation, making the data obsolete and irrelevant for analysis.

For example, for the RGPH, out of 6 countries that did not respect the 10-year time limit, 2 exceeded it by 5 years or more (33%). These are Côte d'Ivoire and Nigeria.

For the RGA, of the 6 countries that did not respect the prescribed deadline, 90% exceeded it by more than five (05) years. These are Guinea Bissau, Côte d'Ivoire, Niger, Sierra Leone, Ghana and Nigeria.

Concerning the health and demographic survey, which is conducted every five years, four of the six countries that did not meet the deadline exceeded it by five years or more.

The table below details the levels of time overruns by main data collection operations.

Table 3: Level of overruns in the main data collection operations per country (in years)

Main data collection operations	Burkina Faso	Guinea Bissau	Cape Verde	Togo	Ivory Coast	Gambia	Niger	Sierra Leone	Ghana	Nigeria
General Population Census (GPC)	3 à 5	< 2			≥ 5		< 2	< 2		≥ 5
General Census of Agriculture (GAAR)	3 à 5	≥ 5			≥ 5		≥ 5	≥ 5	≥ 5	≥ 5
Demographic and Health Survey (DHS)		≥ 5	≥ 5		≥ 5	≥ 5		< 2		
SMART surveys			1	≥ 3	≥ 3			1	1	
Data on environmental statistics (SE)	≥ 3	≥ 3		≥ 3	≥ 3	≥ 3		≥ 3	≥ 3	≥ 3
Survey on household living conditions								2		≥ 3
Data on business statistics		≥ 3						2	≥ 3	2
Data on peace and security statistics		≥ 3		≥ 3		≥ 3		2	≥ 3	≥ 3
Macro-economic data	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Maritime data related to SDG indicators		≥ 3			≥ 3				≥ 3	
Gender-specific surveys		≥ 3	≥ 3						≥ 3	1
Administrative data on gender							≥ 3			
Data on civil status facts	1	1				1				1

Source: *Author based on survey data*

IV.2.4. Consistency

The criteria chosen to assess consistency are: (i) the consistency of statistics within the same data set; (ii) the consistency of statistics or the ability to reconcile them over a reasonable period of time; (iii) the consistency of statistics or the ability to reconcile them with those from other basic data and/or

other statistical frameworks; and (iv) the clear identification of preliminary or revised statistics.

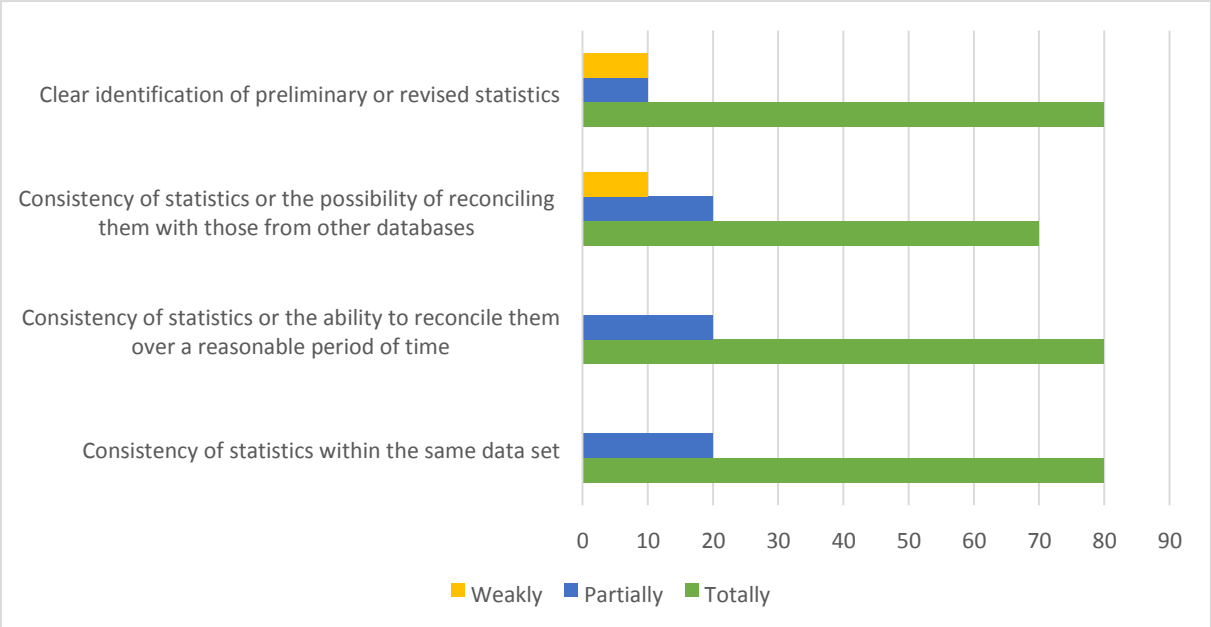
Overall, the "coherence" dimension is satisfactory for the ten countries surveyed.

Indeed, for the first two criteria relating to "the coherence of statistics within the same data set" and "the concordance of statistics or the possibility of reconciling them over a reasonable period of time", 80% of the 10 countries consider them total compared to 20% who consider them average. Both are Côte d'Ivoire and Niger.

As for the criterion on "the coherence of statistics or the possibility of comparing them with those from other basic data and/or other statistical frameworks", 70% consider it total, 20% (Gambia and Niger) consider it average and 10% (Côte d'Ivoire) low.

With regard to the criterion relating to "the clear identification of preliminary or revised statistics", 80% of the countries consider that it has been fully respected, 10% (Togo) partially and 10% (Côte d'Ivoire) slightly.

Graph 5 : Status of compliance with consistency criteria



Source: *Author based on survey data*

The detailed status of the various criteria per country consistency is given in Appendix 4.

IV.2.5. Accessibility

The criteria chosen to assess accessibility are: (i) presentation of statistics in such a way as to facilitate their interpretation and allow meaningful comparisons; (ii) dissemination of statistics according to a pre-announced timetable; (iii) communication of statistics not systematically disseminated to

interested parties upon request, with the exception of confidential data; (iv) availability of documentation on concepts, scope, classifications, bases of registration, sources and statistical techniques used and deviations from internationally accepted standards, principles or good practices; (v) ease of public access to statistics, publications, documents, and other services specifying their tariffs where applicable.

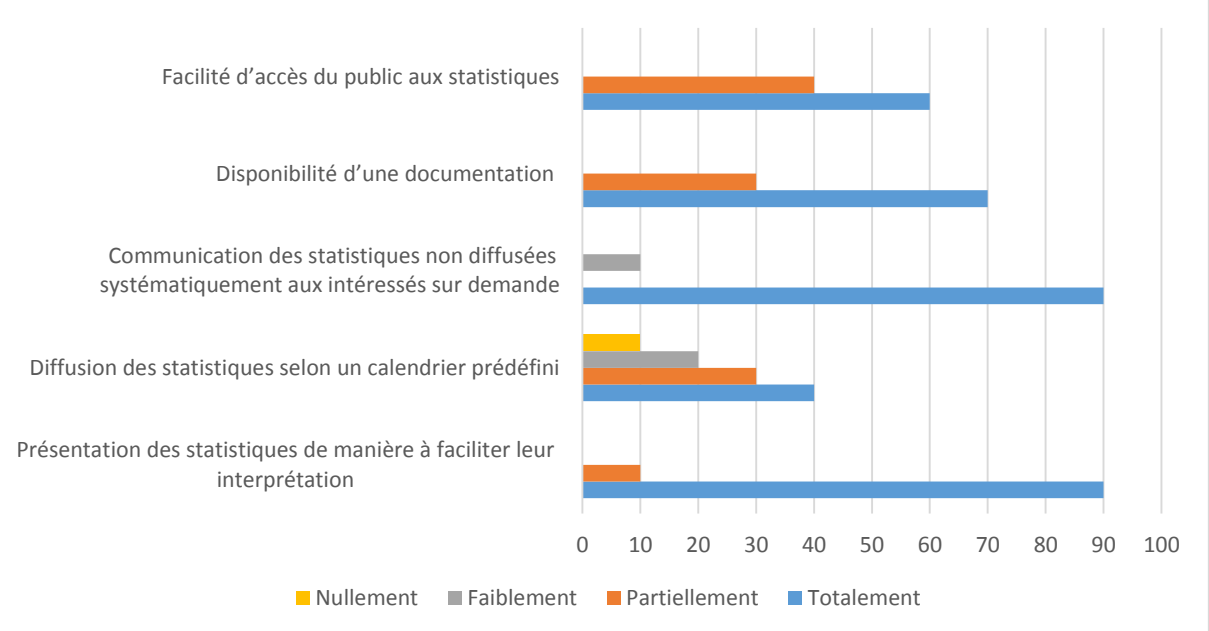
Accessibility is on average overall in the 10 countries studied.

Of the four (04) criteria analysed, two (02) appear weaker for a large number of countries. It is a question of:

- The criterion relating to the dissemination of statistics according to a preannounced timetable. Indeed, for this criterion, only 40% of countries consider it good, 30% average (Burkina Faso, Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde), 20% low (Togo and Côte d'Ivoire) and 10% zero (Gambia).
- The criterion relating to ease of public access to statistics, publications, documents, and other services specifying their tariffs, if any, which 60% of countries consider good against 40% who find it average (Burkina Faso, Togo, Côte d'Ivoire and Gambia).

For the other indicators, between 70% and 90% of countries rate them as good.

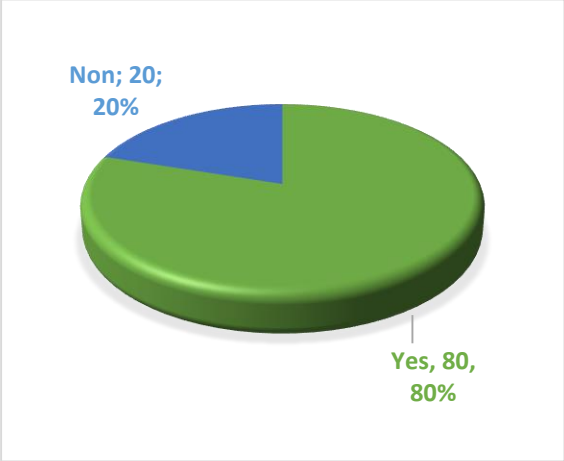
Graph 6: Status of accessibility criteria



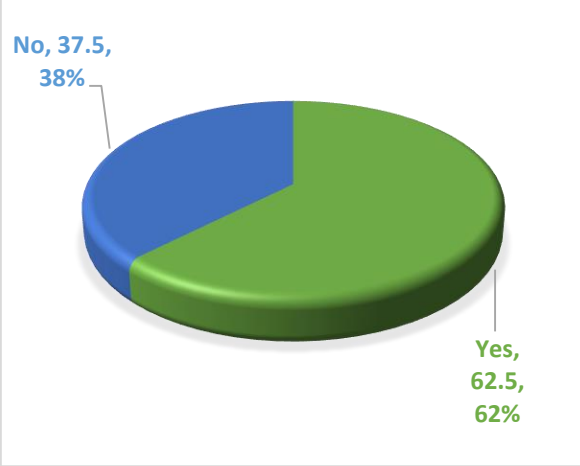
Source: Author based on survey data

In addition to the four (04) accessibility criteria analysed, the availability and functionality of websites for the main sectorial statistics production departments are also examined. Several countries have websites that are not sufficiently updated.

Graph 8 : Situation of website availability for the main sectorial statistics production departments



Graph 7 : Situation of website operationality for the main sectorial statistics production departments



Source : Author based on survey data

IV.3. Analysis of the statistical gap for the indicators information

The analysis of regularity showed that no country meets both the deadlines for the production of statistical data for all thirteen (13) main data collection operations identified. This lack of regularity in the production of data constitutes a risk for the information of the SDGs and Agenda 2063 indicators as well as the production of monitoring and evaluation reports on the basis of updated information. On the basis of the situation of non-regularity by country, the following table gives the statistical availability gap to be filled by each country for each main data collection operation.

On the basis of the regularity situation, some countries have relatively large statistical gaps to fill. Out of the ten countries covered by the evaluation, the countries with the gaps in terms of main data operations to be filled are Guinea Bissau and Nigeria, which will have to ensure the regularity of 9 data collection operations.

Data on environmental statistics (ES) are those where there is the greatest risk of not having up-to-date information in countries. Indeed, 8 out of 10 countries examined do not produce this information within the prescribed deadlines.

The risks of not having information available in time are also important for the General Census of Agriculture (GAAR), data on peace and security statistics, the General Population Census (GPC) and gender-specific surveys.

Table 4: Situation of the statistical gap by country and collection operation

Main data collection operations	Burkina Faso	Guinea Bissau	Cape Verde	Togo	Ivory Coast	Gambia	Niger	Sierra Leone	Ghana	Nigeria	Total country
General Population Census (GPC)											6
General Census of Agriculture (GAAR)											7
Demographic and Health Survey (DHS)											5
SMART surveys											5
Data on environmental statistics (SE)											8
Survey on household living conditions											2
Data on business statistics											4
Data on peace and security statistics											7
Macro-economic data											0
Maritime data related to SDG indicators											5
Gender-specific surveys											6
Administrative data on gender											3
Data on civil status facts											4

Source: *Author based on survey data*

	Non-regular operations
	Regular operations

On the basis of the regularity of the main survey operations, the table below gives the situation of the indicators of the SDGs that may not be able to be filled in.

In some countries, the proportion of SDG indicators that may not be regularly reported is relatively high. It is more than 50% for 5 out of 10 countries surveyed. The country with the largest number of indicators that may not be reported is Guinea Bissau with 155 indicators compared to 56 indicators for Cape Verde. The average is 110 indicators per country.

Table 5 : Status of SDG indicators that may not be reported on the basis of the regularity of the main data collection operations

Indicators	Number of indicators	Percentage
Burkina Faso	117	50%
Guinea Bissau	155	67%
Cape Verde	56	24%
Togo	89	38%
Ivory Coast	135	58%
Gambia	104	45%
Niger	70	30%
Sierra Leone	146	63%
Ghana	101	44%
Nigeria	129	56%
Maximum	155	-

Average	110	-
Minimum	56	-

Source: *Author based on survey data*

IV.4. Analysis of human and financial capacities

This section first analyses human capacities before focusing on the analysis of financial capacities.

IV.4.1 Human capacities

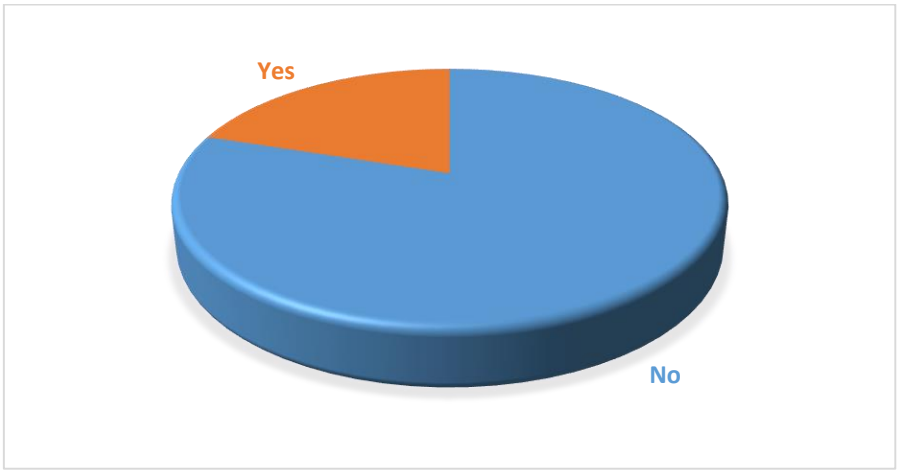
This section examines the number of statisticians in line with the statistical production requirements associated with SDG indicators, the capacity of statisticians to use modern data collection and processing tools, and the need for professional statisticians to monitor SDGs and Agenda 2063.

- **Number of staff in statistics and evaluation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063 in countries**

This analysis aims to determine whether the number of statistical professionals in each country is sufficient to effectively meet the statistical production needs for monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs, including Agenda 2063.

In general, there is a weakness in the number of statistical professionals in the countries. Indeed, out of a total of 10 countries surveyed, 8 believe that they do not have sufficient numbers of statistical professionals able to effectively meet the statistical production needs for monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs, including Agenda 2063.

Graph 9 : Number of staff in statistics and evaluation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063 in the countries

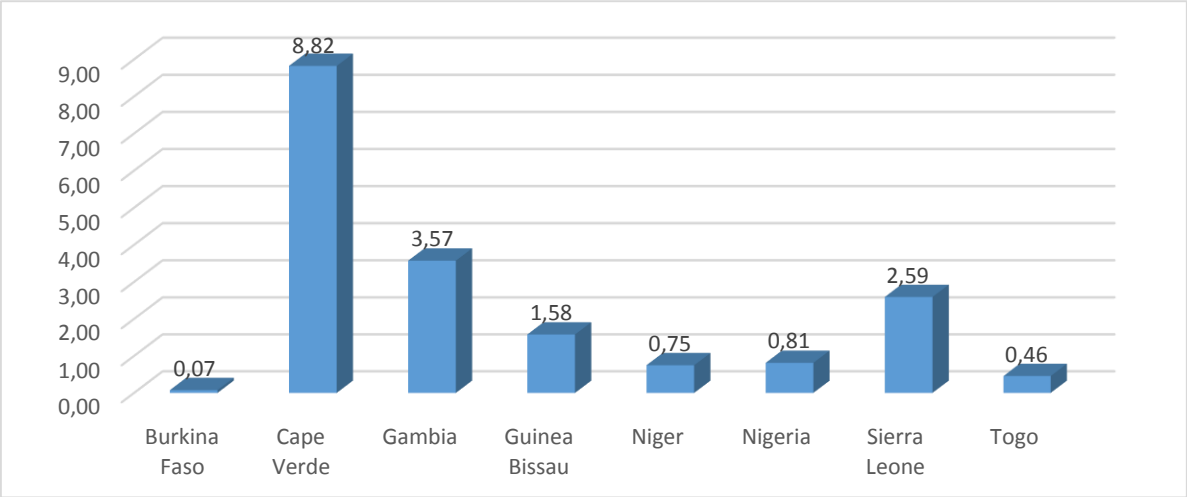


Source: *Author based on survey data*

The analysis of the statistical data confirms the opinions revealed by the survey. Indeed, on average, the number of statisticians per 100,000 inhabitants is 2.88 compared to a European average of about 15 statisticians per 100,000 inhabitants. Cape Verde is the country with the highest pupil-

teacher ratio (8.82/100,000 inhabitants). It is followed by Gambia (3.57 / 100,000 inhabitants). Four countries (Burkina Faso, Niger, Nigeria and Togo) have less than 1 statistician per 100,000 inhabitants.

Graph 10 : Number of statisticians per 100,000 inhabitants per country



Source: *Author based on survey data*

- **Statistician staff skills in modern data collection and processing tools**

Two new collection techniques are analysed at this level. These are data collection with tablets/smartphones in CAPI[4] English and online data collection using web tools in CAWI[5] English.

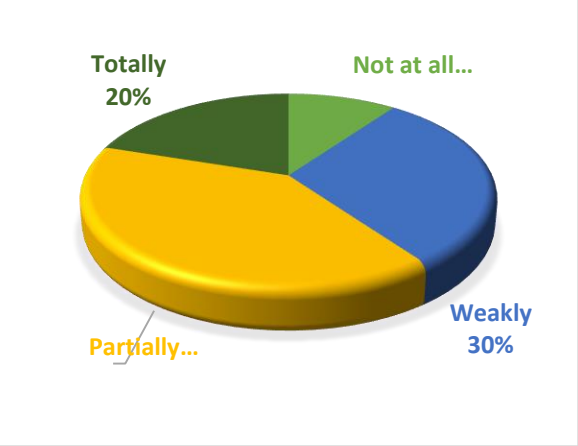
Concerning CAPI, its mastery is relatively average in all the 10 countries analysed. Out of a total of 10 countries, six (06) consider total knowledge in the use of this new technique for collecting, processing and disseminating statistics to be total. The other four countries consider the level of mastery of the CAPI approach to be partial. These are Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Niger and Côte d'Ivoire.

As for the CAWI's control, it appears relatively weak overall. Among the 10 countries surveyed, 1 country (Cape Verde) considers that it has no knowledge at all, 3 countries (Burkina Faso, Gambia and Ghana) have low knowledge and 4 (Côte d'Ivoire, Sierra Leone, Niger and Togo) have knowledge considered partial. Only 2 countries (Nigeria and Guinea Bissau) consider that they have the full knowledge necessary to use CAWI. This situation illustrates that the CAWI approach is not well understood in all West African countries.

[4] **CAPI =** Computer assisted personal interviewing
[5] **CAWI =** Computer assisted Web interviewing

Graph 12 : Status of knowledge in the use of the CAPI

Graph 11 : Knowledge in the use of the CAWI

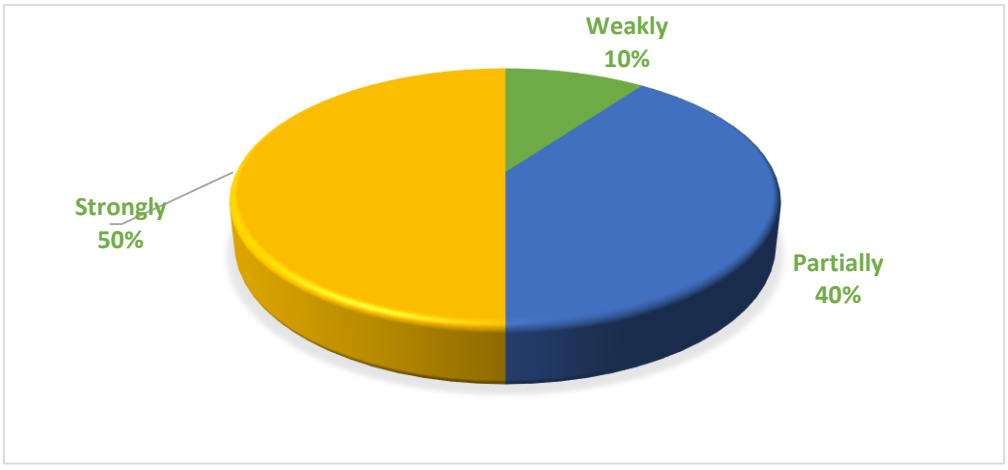


Source: *Author based on survey data*

- **Analysis of the need in terms of qualified human resources to ensure the monitoring-evaluation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063**

Half of the countries consider their qualified human resources capacities to be partial and weak to allow for the consistent monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063. The country that considers capacity weak is Guinea Bissau. Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Niger and Sierra Leone are the countries that judge their capacities in terms of partial human resources.

Graph 13 : Availability of qualified human resources in the NSO



Source: *Author based on survey data*

IV.4.2. Financial and logistical capacities

This part analyses the availability of a fund/budget line, the fulfilment of State commitments, the stability of State resources, the financial gap necessary to cover the monitoring-evaluation of the SDGs, the country's autonomy in financing statistics as well as the analysis of the need in terms of equipment and logistics to ensure the monitoring-evaluation of the SDGs.

- **Provision of a statistical development fund / budget line**

A limited number of countries have a statistical development fund in West African states. Indeed, out of the 10 countries surveyed, only 30%, or 3 countries, have a statistical development fund. These include Burkina Faso[6], Gambia and Sierra Leone[7].

Of these countries, only the Gambia provided information on the amount of the statistical development fund recorded in the table below.

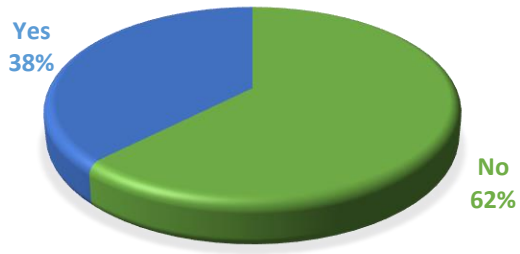
Table 6 : Amount allocated and projected to for the Gambia Statistical Development Fund (US$)

Year	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Amount	68 040	103 710.5	98 561.78	68 040	68 040

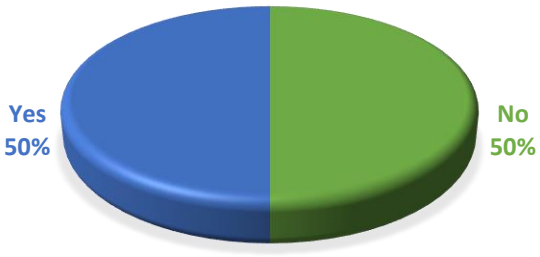
Source: ***Author based on survey data***

With regard to the existence of a budget line allocated to the financing of statistics, some countries have neither funds nor budget lines for the financing of statistics. Out of 7 countries without funds, 3 (Guinea Bissau, Niger and Togo) also do not have a budget line allocated to finance statistics.

Graph 15 : Status of the existence of a statistical development fund



Graph 14 : Situation of the existence of a budget line for financing statistics



Source: *Author based on survey data*

[6] This is a special trust account housed in the treasury

[7]

Among the countries with a budget line, only Nigeria and Cape Verde have reported the amounts shown in the table below.

Table 7 : Amount allocated and forecast for the budget line for statistical development (in US$)

Country	2016	2017	2018	2019
NIGERIA	2 045.1	2 886.0	3 866.0	3 866.0
Cape Verde	-	-	7 415.5	4 042.4

Source: *Author based on survey data*

- **Analysis of financial resources allocated to statistical development**

In some countries, commitments to finance statistics are not being met. Indeed, some disbursement rates for statistical development appear relatively low, as illustrated in the table below.

Table 8: Evolution of the disbursement rates of resources to the NSO by the national budget from 2016 to 2018 (in percentage)

Country	Burkina Faso	Guinea Bissau	Cape Verde	Togo	Cote d'Ivoire	Gambia	Niger	Sierra Leone	Ghana	Nigeria
2016	100	30	ND	81,8	ND	ND	100	ND	ND	100
2017	100	0	ND	68,4	ND	ND	100	ND	ND	100
2018	100	193.3	ND	114.7	ND	ND	21.3	ND	ND	100

Source: *Author based on survey data*

- **Review of the implementation of budgets allocated to statistics**

An examination of the situation in the few countries with available data shows low implementation rates in some years. Indeed, some rates are below the acceptable threshold of 80%.

Table 9 : Evolution of NSO budget implementation rates from 2016 to 2018 (in percentage terms)

Country	Burkina Faso	Guinea Bissau	Cape Verde	Togo	Cote d'Ivoire	Gambia	Niger	Sierra Leone	Ghana	Nigeria
2016	100	100	ND	70,8	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	86.8
2017	101	ND	ND	120,7	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	92.2
2018	100.4	99.1	ND	62.77	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	84.6

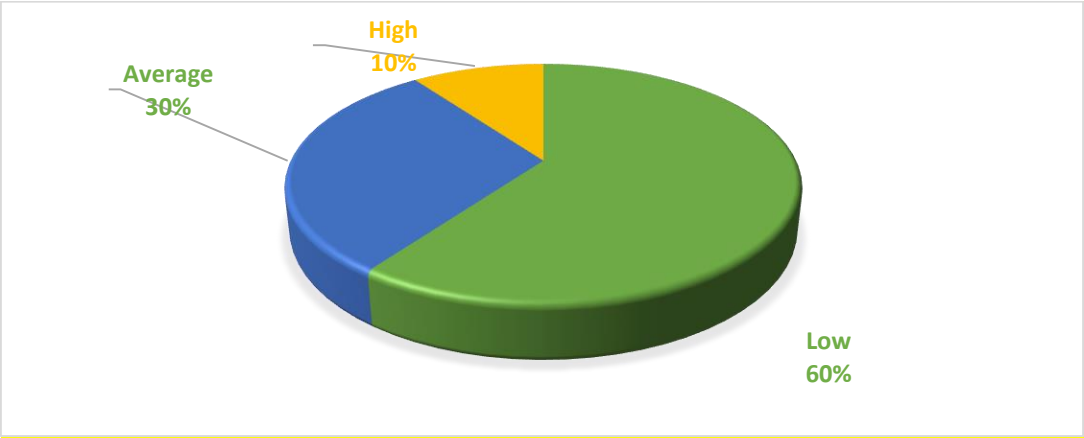
Source: *Author based on survey data*

- **Autonomy of the country in the financing of statistics**

The autonomy of West African states in financing statistics is very low. Out of 10 countries surveyed, autonomy in financing statistics is considered low by 6 countries, average by 3 countries and total by only one. This is due

in particular to the plethora of needs faced by the State. This situation may also illustrate the fact that statistics are not a priority in the different countries.

Graph 16 : Situation of countries' autonomy in financing statistics

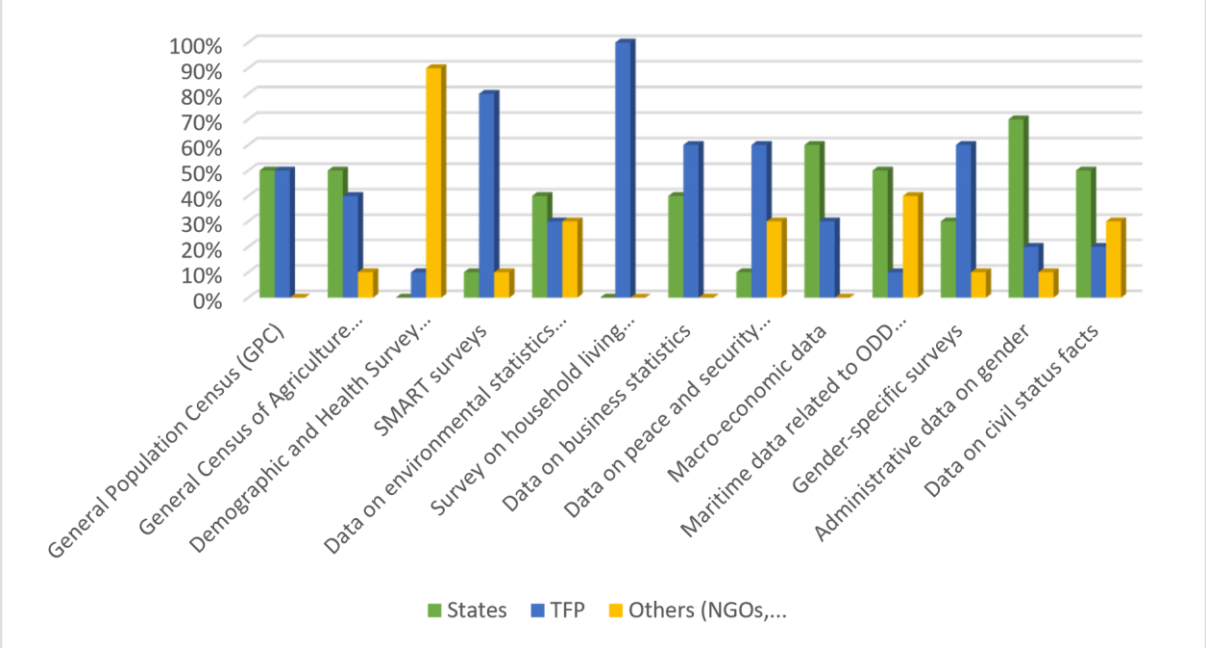


Source: *Author based on survey results*

The analysis of funding by type of survey confirms the low autonomy of West African States in the financing of statistics. Indeed, in seven (7) out of thirteen (13) operations, a larger number of countries emerge where the financing of operations is dominated by TFPs and NGOs.

For example, for the household living conditions survey, funding is dominated by TFPs in 9 out of 10 countries.

Graph 17 : Main data collection operations by main funding sources



Source: *Author based on survey results*

- **Costs of carrying out additional data collection operations to fill the gap in the need for statistics for the monitoring-evaluation of the 232 SDG indicators including agenda 2063**

Closing the statistical data gap to ensure that the 232 SDG indicators, including Agenda 2063, are properly reported will require relatively large needs depending on the country. For example, the amounts vary between $340,000 and $280 million.

Table 10 : Total amount to fill the gap in the need for statistics for monitoring and evaluation of the 232 SDG indicators including Agenda 2063 (in thousands of US dollars)

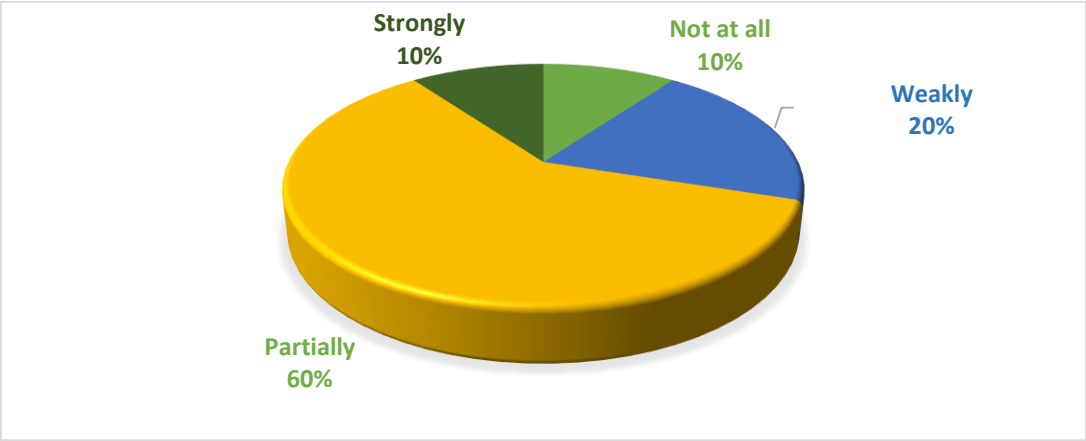
Country	Amount
Burkina Faso	ND
Guinea Bissau	ND
Cape Verde	16 477.7
Togo	511.1
Cote d'Ivoire	ND
Gambia	20 866.9
Niger	4 621.1
Sierra Leone	342.9
Ghana	ND
Nigeria	277 777.8

Source: *Author based on survey data*

- **Analysis of the availability of equipment and logistics to ensure the monitoring-evaluation of the SDGs including Agenda 2063.**

The capacity of West African countries in terms of logistics and equipment will not be able to collect data to ensure the monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs, including Agenda 2063. Out of 10 countries surveyed, country capacity in terms of equipment and logistics was rated as zero for one country, low for two countries, average for six countries, and total for one country.

Graph 18 Status of equipment availability and logistics



Source: *Author based on survey data*

V. V. Monitoring and evaluation system for the monitoring and evaluation of the SDDs and Agenda 2063: Inventories and challenges

This section examines the institutional arrangements in place in each country for the monitoring-evaluation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063, the planning and organisation of reporting, the situation of reporting and concludes with a proposal for an organisational framework and the main challenges**.**

V.1. Institutional arrangements for monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs and agenda 2063

With the exception of Cape Verde, the institutional anchoring of the monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063 is provided by the same ministry and institution, which is likely to promote integrated and coherent reporting in accordance with the requirements of the UN-AU development framework.

Table 11 : Institutional anchoring of monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063 by country

N°	Country	SDG	Agenda 2063
1	Burkina Faso	Ministry in charge of development	Ministry in charge of development
2	Guinea Bissau	Ministry in charge of development	Ministry in charge of development
3	Cape Verde	Ministry in charge of finance	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
4	Togo	Ministry in charge of development	Ministry in charge of development
5	Ivory Coast	Ministry in charge of development	Ministry in charge of development
6	Gambia	Ministry in charge of finance	Ministry in charge of finance
7	Niger	Ministry in charge of development	Ministry in charge of development

8	Sierra Leone	Ministry in charge of development	Ministry in charge of development
9	Ghana	Presidency	Presidency
10	Nigeria	Ministry in charge of development	Ministry in charge of development

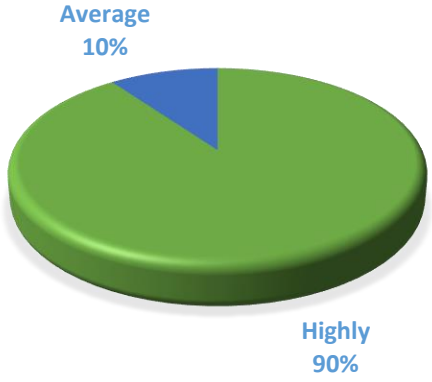
Source: *Author based on survey data*

In most countries, it appears that there is a strong coherence between the SDGs and the areas of intervention of the technical structure in charge of their evaluation. Indeed, 90% of the countries surveyed consider that the current structures that produce the SDG report are the most appropriate. The situation is considered average in Togo.

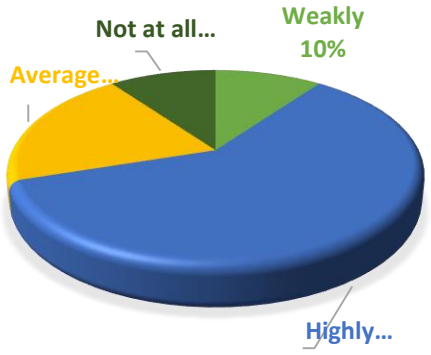
However, for Agenda 2063, depending on the country, some shortcomings remain in the choice of the structure in charge of monitoring and evaluating this reference framework. Indeed, only 60% of the countries consider the choice of the structure in charge of monitoring-evaluation of Agenda 2063 to be appropriate, compared to 20% (Togo and Sierra Leone) who consider it average, 10% (Nigeria) who consider it weak and 10% zero (Cape Verde).

The difference in the assessment of the relevance of the technical structure in charge of monitoring and evaluation between the SDGs and Agenda 2063 could be explained in particular by the fact that in some countries, the two standards are managed by different technical departments.

Graph 19 : Countries' perception of the consistency between SDG and the missions of the structure in charge of producing reports



Graph 20 : Countries' perception of the consistency between Agenda 2063 and the missions of the structure in charge of producing reports

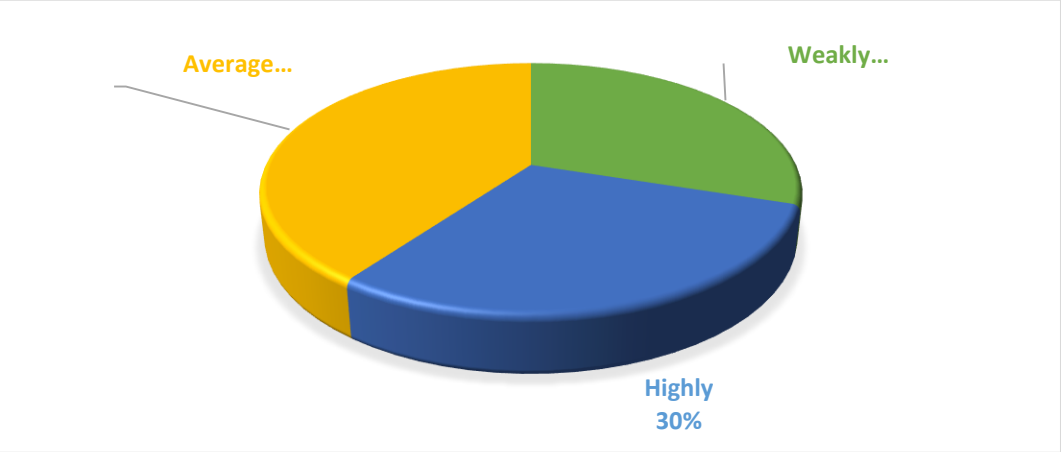


Source: *Author based on survey data*

The institutional framework in place in West African countries for the monitoring-evaluation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063 is weakly defined as a whole. Indeed, out of the 10 countries surveyed, it appears that 30%

consider that the National Monitoring and Evaluation System (DNSE) is well defined and organized, compared to 40% who consider it average and 30% low.

Graph 21: Perception of the national monitoring and evaluation system for the SDGs and Agenda 2063



Source: Author based on survey data

This situation is explained by the existence of conflicts of competence between INS and planning departments, the absence of acts (decrees, laws, decrees, etc.) that organize monitoring and evaluation and the failure to take into account certain structures in the organizational structure.

Compared to the absence of an act organizing monitoring and evaluation, so far, i.e. 4 and 6 years after the adoption of the SDGs and Agenda 2063 respectively, very few countries have formalized through official acts the monitoring and evaluation mechanism of the two Agendas through decrees, decrees, etc. Out of the 10 countries surveyed, only 2 countries (Ghana and Sierra Leone) claim to have set up a monitoring and evaluation mechanism for the SDGs and Agenda 2063 by an official act. This situation can contribute to weakening the process, as in the absence of such actions, actors may not feel committed.

V.2. Planning, organization and status of reporting

- **Planning and organization**

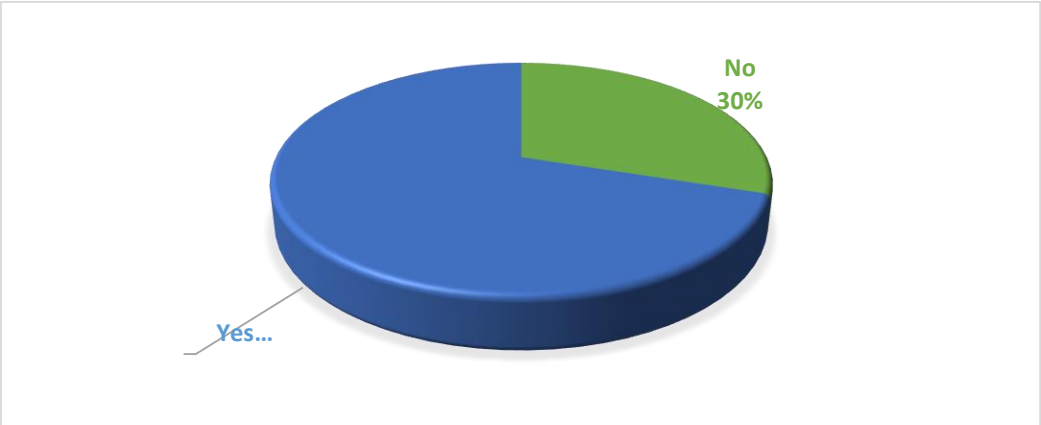
Some countries do not have a document that provides a framework and organizes the monitoring-evaluation of the SDGs and Agendas 2063. The countries that have them also point to weaknesses relating to the identification of actors and their roles, in setting deadlines for data production, information processing, production, validation and dissemination of reports.

Indeed, of the ten (10) countries, 30% do not have a document defining the actors, their role and the deadlines for submitting reports. Of the 70% who claim to have this framing tool, most find it insufficient. Indeed, these framework documents would not sufficiently take into account the actors and

their roles, as well as the deadlines for data production, information processing, production, validation and dissemination of reports.

In some countries, the monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs is integrated into the national development plan. The problem generally encountered at this level is the exhaustive and detailed monitoring of SDG indicators. Indeed, only a few SDG indicators are reviewed and it is not clear that the representation format can help for monitoring at the regional level. Also, the SDG monitoring report continues to be produced and validated outside the monitoring mechanism of the national development plan.

Graph 22 : Existence of a national document recording the ESS

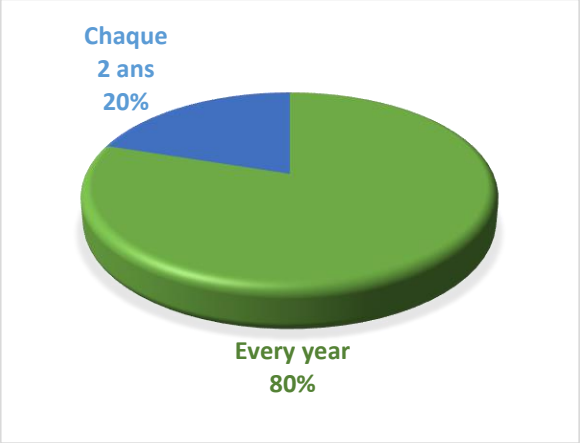


Source: *Author based on survey data*

The frequency of reporting differs from one Development Agenda to another but also from one country to another; this also complicates the production of an integrated and coherent report at the country and regional levels. The planned frequency for the production of the SDG report is annual for 80% of the countries surveyed and biennial for 20% of the respondents. For Agenda 2063, the frequency is annual for 70% of countries, biennial for 10% of countries, triennial for 10% of countries and five-year for 10% of countries.

As a result, most countries are not meeting the reporting deadlines set out in the AU/UN Development Framework. Indeed, according to the countries, the deadlines vary from one to five years, whereas the development framework has defined a harmonized deadline of two (2) years for the production of joint reports.

Graph 24 : Situation of the production periodicities of Agenda 2030

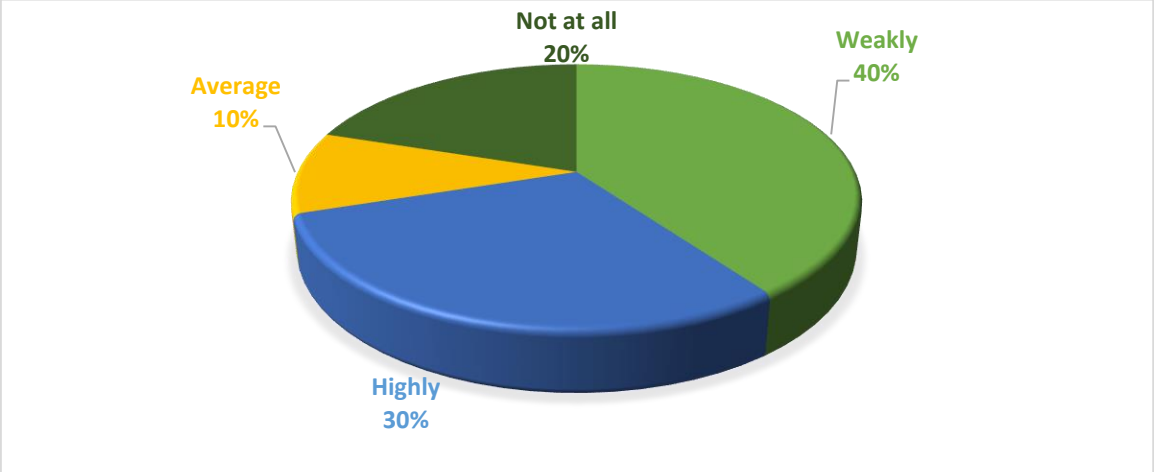


Graph 23 : Situation of the production periodicities of Agenda 2063

Source: *Author based on survey data*

The production schedules of data-producing structures, in particular the NSOs, and those responsible for producing SDG and Agenda 2063 reports are poorly synchronized; this is not likely to favour updated data to meet the need for report production. Indeed, 60% of the countries surveyed consider that the agenda of the structure in charge of SDG reports is weakly and by no means harmonized with that of the NSO and the statistical production sectors.

Graph 25 : Perception of the harmonization of the NSO calendar with the structure in charge of the SDG



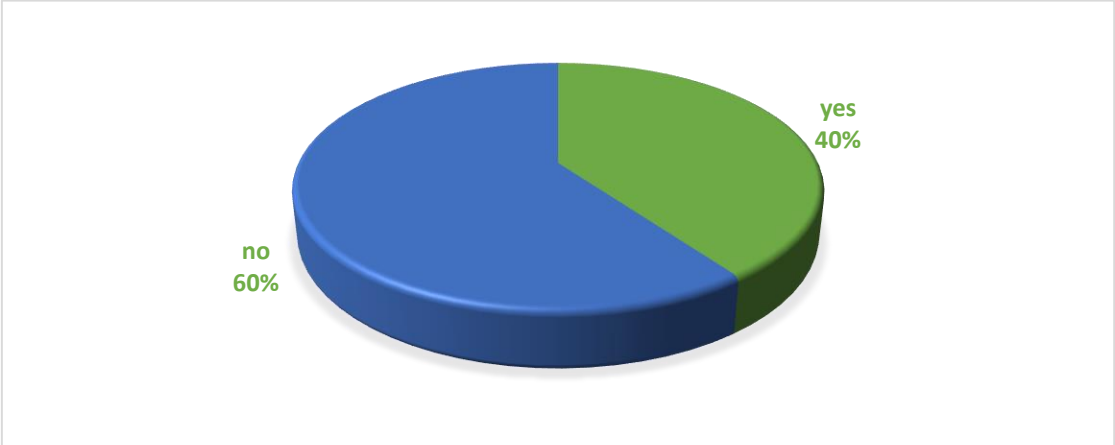
Source: *Author based on survey data*

- **Status of SDG and Agenda 2063 reporting**

More than half of the countries surveyed do not produce a single integrated and coherent report in accordance with the UN-AU development framework. 60% of the countries surveyed continue to produce separate reports for Agenda 2030 and 2063. These are Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Sierra Leone and Nigeria.

However, the survey reveals that of the 6 countries producing the separate reports, only Burkina Faso has not planned an initiative in this direction.

Graph 26 : Situation of countries producing an integrated report of the two agendas

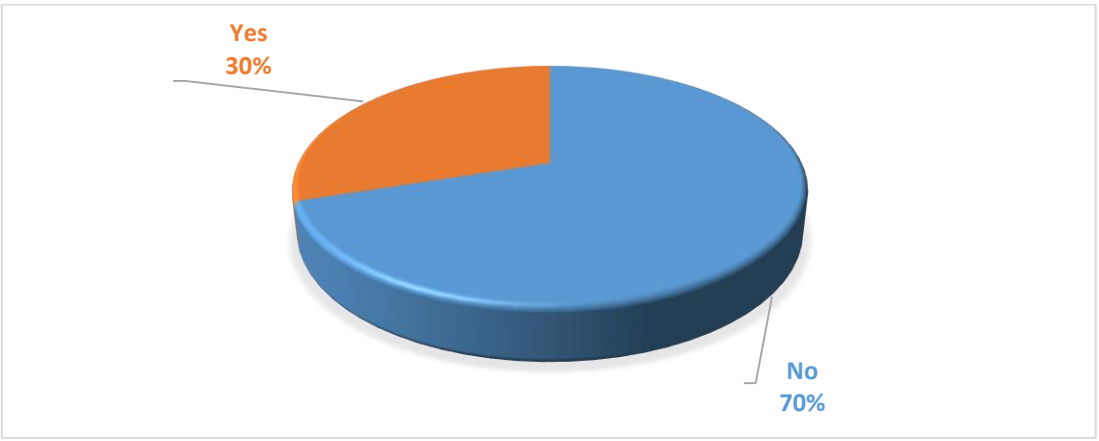


Source: *Author based on survey data*

Unlike Agenda 2063, most countries have produced a monitoring and evaluation report on the SDGs. Over the period 2015-2019, with the exception of Guinea Bissau, all the countries surveyed produced a report on the implementation of the SDGs. Guinea Bissau's failure to produce a report is explained by the fact that the process of aligning the national reference system with the SDGs has just been validated at the technical level.

With regard to Agenda 2063, it appears that only 30% of the countries surveyed drew up a monitoring-evaluation report on this development framework during the period 2016-2018. The failure of the majority of countries (70%) to produce a report can be explained in particular by the unavailability of financial resources and the low level of commitment of development actors.

Graph 27 : Status of production of reports from agenda 2063



Source: *Author based on survey data*

V.3 Proposal for an organisational scheme

After presenting the foundations that justify the organizational architecture, the organizational diagram will be presented in its main functions.

V.3.1. Foundations of the organisational scheme

The appropriate organizational framework for monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063 must be based on the requirements of the UN/AU development framework and best practices in West African and other countries.

The important principles of the development framework to be taken into account in the organizational mechanism for monitoring the two (2) agendas are:

(i) The production of an integrated report for both agendas in order to rationalize the human, material and financial resources available;
(ii) The inclusive and participatory nature of all relevant stakeholders in order to generate interest from all;
(iii) Gender sensitivity and special attention to the most vulnerable in order to involve all the most disadvantaged components of the population;
(iv) Adaptation to national contexts in order to take advantage of the strengths of existing mechanisms and streamline monitoring and evaluation;
(v) Openness to take advantage of environmental opportunities, good practices from other countries and promote regional and international monitoring.

The experience of other countries such as Rwanda and Uganda also provides a number of good practices that could be capitalized upon in the formulation of the organizational framework for monitoring the SDGs and Agenda 2063.

The examination of the Rwanda case reveals a strong involvement of parliament in the monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs. Also, there is a high level of leadership provided by the President of the Republic.

Box 1: Rwanda's experience in monitoring the SDGs

Rwanda has developed a national and subnational monitoring and coordination mechanism to facilitate the integration and implementation of the SDGs.

At the top of the institutional architecture of the SDGs, the National Assembly and the Senate provide overall oversight and require accountability for the implementation of the SDGs.

The government provides strategic direction and approves funding for the priorities of the SDGs. In addition, annual retreats of leaders (Umushyikirano), led by the President of the Republic, are organized to monitor progress in the implementation of progress.

At the sectorial level, coordination is carried out by ministerial clusters that bring together departments representing relevant sectors of the SDGs.

At the district level, coordination is provided by district councils and joint development action forums.

Source: *MDG-Agenda 2063/SDG Transition Report 2016*

In Uganda, the good structuring of monitoring and evaluation can be highlighted. A framework for coordinating the SDGs has been put in place, including a technical and political level. There is also a high level of political representation by the Prime Minister and a good involvement of the various actors.

Box 2: Uganda's experience in monitoring SDGs

To ensure an integrated approach to implementation, Uganda has established a three-tiered SDG coordination framework with political and technical representation.

The SDG Policy Coordination Committee (PCC), a political entity chaired by the Prime Minister, is at the top of the Coordination Framework.

The CCP is supported by two technical committees: the Steering Committee for the Coordination of the Implementation of the SDGs (CSC) and the Coordinating Committee for the Technical Implementation of the SDGs (TCC).

The CSC is chaired by the Head of the Public Service and the Secretary of Government and includes representatives from development partners, civil society organizations and the private sector. This committee meets every four months to review progress and make recommendations to the PCC.

The Coordinating Committee for the Technical Implementation of the SDGs is chaired by the Permanent Secretary of the First Ministry and includes technical officers from public administration, development partners, civil society organizations and the private sector. The committee meets quarterly to review the reports of the Technical Working Groups for consideration by the CSC. The framework is supported by the following five technical working groups on the SDGs: (i) coordination, monitoring and reporting; (ii) data; (iii) planning; (iv) resource mobilization; and (v) communication and advocacy (Government of Uganda, 2016).

Source: *MDG-Agenda 2063/SDG Transition Report 2016.*

V.3.2. Proposed standard organizational diagram

The proposed organizational scheme is based on a number of bodies and authorities as well as actors. The bodies and bodies are constituted by the national technical committee for the evaluation of the 2030 and 2063 agendas, the national steering committee for the evaluation of the 2030 and 2063 agendas, the Council of Ministers and the National Assembly.

The national technical committee for the evaluation of agendas 2030 and 2063:

The CTNE/Agenda 2030 and 2063 will be the administrative and technical body for coordinating and promoting reforms, in support of the CNP/Agenda 2030 and 2063. It is composed of central and decentralized technical structures as well as representatives of the TFPs. It will be mainly responsible for: (i) to carry out the work necessary for the overall monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of Agendas 2030 and 2063, (ii) to prepare voluntary reports and reviews of the implementation of the two (02) agendas.

The national steering committee for the evaluation of the 2030 and 2063 agendas:

The NPC/Agendas 2030 and 2063 will bring together representatives of the government, local authorities, the private sector, civil society and TFPs, under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister. Its missions will be to (i) to supervise the overall implementation of the 2030 and 2063 agendas, using the monitoring and evaluation tools developed for this purpose, (ii) to give guidance to the national technical committee for the evaluation of the 2030 and 2063 agendas, for the conduct of their actions and the development of the products necessary to assess their impact, (iii) to decide on the carrying out of the general or specific studies necessary to further develop the guidelines and (iv) to ensure the proper conduct of the entire monitoring and evaluation process of Agendas 2030 and 2063.

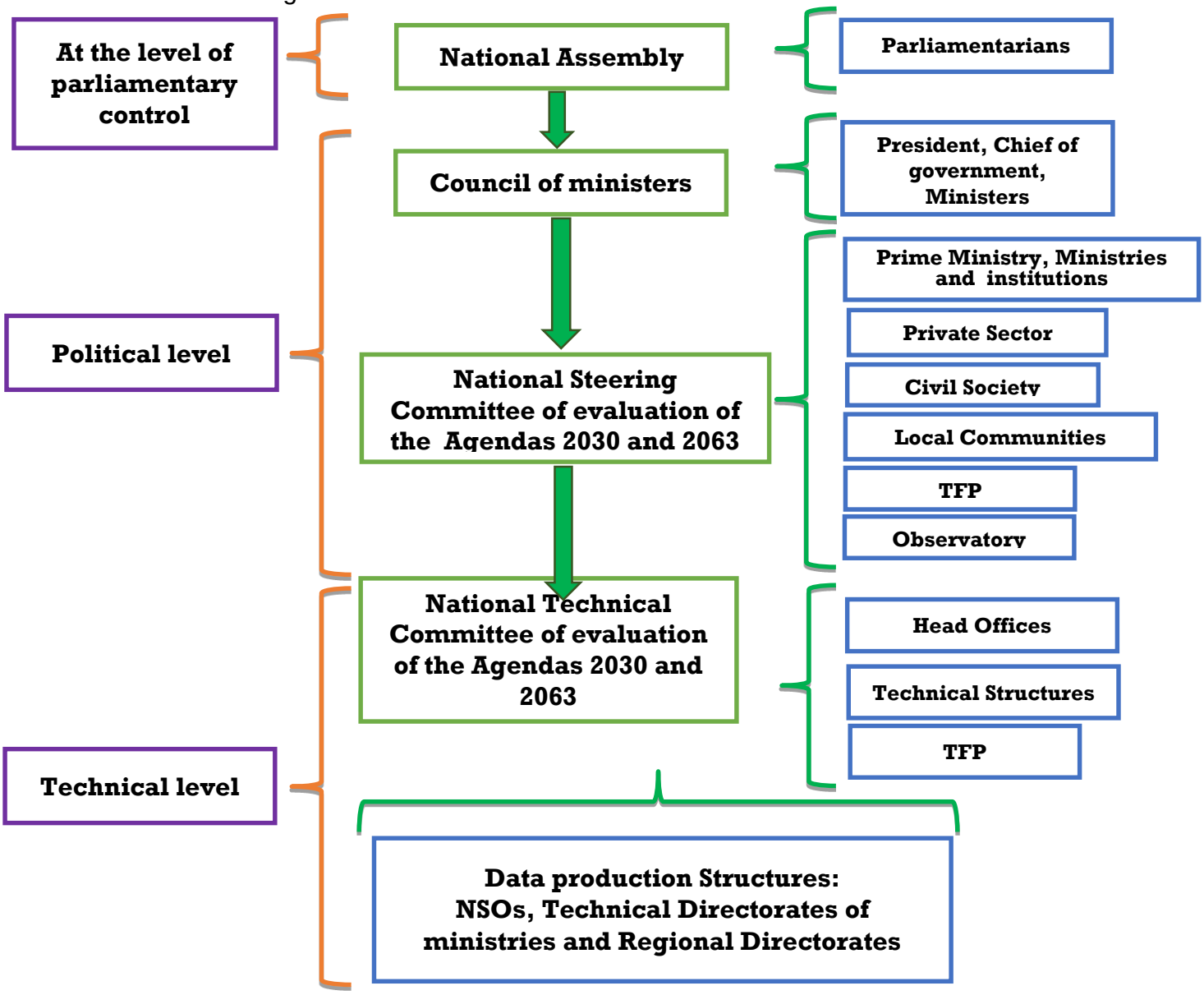
The Council of Ministers:

The Council of Ministers is responsible for providing strategic guidance and approving plans for financing and implementing the monitoring and evaluation of the two Agendas. It adopts the integrated monitoring and evaluation reports of the two Agendas.

The National Assembly:

The National Assembly's mission is to monitor progress and approve plans and budgets as part of the monitoring and evaluation of the two agendas.

Figure 1 : Organizational architecture for monitoring and evaluation of the 2030 and 2063 agendas



Source: *Author*

Note*: depending on the country, this mechanism will be able to integrate harmoniously into the existing national plans and polices.*

VI. Main challenges and recommendations

The challenges to be met include both the organisation of the National Statistical Systems (NSS) and the organisation of the monitoring and evaluation of the two agendas.

VI.1. Challenges related to the organization of National Statistical Systems

In terms of the organization of National Statistical Systems, the main challenges identified relate to the lack of regularity in the production of statistical data, the lack of accessibility of statistical data, insufficient human capacity to ensure data collection and insufficient financial and logistical resources.

Challenge related to the poor regularity in the production of statistical data. The analyses show that a large number of data collection operations are not carried out on a regular basis. As a result, delays in the production of statistical data compared to the prescribed deadlines appear to be relatively long, rendering the available data obsolete or obsolete and continuing to be used.

Challenge related to the weakness in the accessibility of statistical data. In some countries, overall accessibility is considered average. Therefore, although websites are available in most of the countries surveyed, they are characterized by a low level of updating. In addition, the main source of dissemination of a number of data remains physical media (paper version).

Challenge related to insufficient human capacity to ensure data collection to cover the SDG and Agenda 2063 indicators. The survey revealed a shortage of professional staff in the National Statistical Institutes, which will not allow them to provide the necessary data in time for the monitoring and evaluation of the two agendas. In addition, the level of mastery of new methods of data collection, processing and dissemination (CAPI, CAWI) by statistical staff is relatively low overall.

Challenge related to insufficient financial resources and logistics to allow data collection. The autonomy of the various States in financing statistics appeared relatively weak. Indeed, most data collection operations are carried out by technical and financial partners. It also emerged that the State's commitments in terms of financing statistics are often not respected. In addition, in some National Statistical Institutes, implementation rates are relatively low, reflecting, inter alia, difficulties in planning and/or budget absorption.

VI.2. Challenges related to the organization of the monitoring-evaluation of the two agendas.

The challenges related to the organization of the monitoring and evaluation of the two agendas relate to the weakness of the organizational and institutional mechanism, the weakness of the planning for the monitoring and evaluation of the two agendas and the availability of resources.

Challenge related to the weakness of the organizational and institutional system. It is noted that there is no official text setting up the organizational and institutional mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the SDGs and Agenda 2063 in most countries.

Also, in some countries, the structures in charge of producing the two agendas are different. There is also a poor match between the missions of the structures in charge of producing the reports of the two agendas and the monitoring and evaluation missions.

In addition, many countries have not yet internalized some AU/UN development framework requirements for the production of an integrated and coherent report of the two agendas as well as the biennial frequency of production of implementation reports.

Challenge related to weak planning for monitoring and evaluation of both agendas. The analyses revealed that the calendars of the National Statistical Institutes, sectorial departments and structures in charge of producing SDG and Agenda 2063 reports are not synchronized. This situation will not promote the availability of data and timely reporting.

Challenge related to the availability of resources. In the absence of financial resources, the organizational and institutional arrangements put in place are struggling to function.

Table 12 : Main challenges and recommendations

N°	Challenges	Recommendations for action
Challenges related to the organization of National Statistical Systems		
1	Challenge related to the poor regularity in the production of statistical data.	Solve the problem of insufficient financial resources to allow data collection
2	Challenge related to the weakness in the accessibility of statistical data	Improve technical accessibility conditions. Update the websites of NSOs and other data production structures
3	Challenge related to insufficient human capacity to ensure data collection to cover the SDG and Agenda 2063 indicators.	Assess the needs of NSIs for professional statisticians Develop a multi-year plan for the recruitment of professional statisticians. Develop and implement a plan for strengthening the technical capacity of statistical staff, taking into account new approaches to data collection, processing and dissemination.
4	Challenge related to insufficient financial resources and logistics to allow data collection.	Advocate with governments for the fulfilment of statistical funding commitments. Advocate for the creation of statistical development funds to stabilize the funding of data collection operations.

		Strengthen the capacity of NSOs in budget management to improve budget absorption rates.
The challenges related to the organization of the monitoring-evaluation of the two agendas.		
1	Challenge related to the lack of information on several SDG indicators related to governance and security, oceans and seas, education, environment, etc.	Refine by country the list of SDG indicators with risks of non-intelligence Define a methodology and standards for measuring these indicators. Set up unifying databases
N°	**Challenges**	**Recommendations for action**
2	Challenge linked to the weakness of the organizational and institutional system.	Set up in each country a harmonized monitoring and evaluation framework for agendas 2030 and 2063 Integrate the requirements of the AU/UN development framework for integrated and coherent reporting and compliance with the periodicity of reporting.
3	Challenge related to weak planning for monitoring and evaluation of both agendas.	Synchronize NSO and sector structure data production schedules with SDG and Agenda 2063 reporting requirements.
4	Challenge related to the availability of resources.	Pool synergies within the framework of the elaboration of SDG and Agenda 2063 reports with that of the national development reference framework. Set up a specific budget line to ensure the joint monitoring-evaluation of Agendas 2030 and 2063.

Source: *Author*

Conclusion

The purpose of this study was to analyse the capacities and mechanisms of the fifteen (15) West African countries to assess progress in the implementation of the 2030 and 2063 agendas. The aim was to take stock of the capacities of the national statistical systems, the organisation of the monitoring and evaluation system for the 2030 and 2063 agendas, identify the major challenges and propose recommendations for improving the system.

To carry out this analysis, data were collected from the 15 West African countries. Of the 15 countries surveyed, 10 responded to the questionnaire developed for this purpose. The processing of the collected data has led to the following main conclusions.

The analysis of the organisation of National Statistical Systems in the countries surveyed revealed that the majority of NSS are organised around the NSIs that play the role of main producer. NSS has a number of strengths related to the statistical master plan, the existence of training plans for statistical staff and legal frameworks for the statistical function. However, weaknesses have been identified, including the inadequacy of the data quality assurance system.

From the point of view of the quality of the data produced, the most important shortcomings in the 10 countries analysed are perceptible in terms of accessibility and regularity.

On the basis of the analysis of regularity, a relatively large information gap per country was identified to ensure that the SDG indicators and Agenda 2063 are reported.

The analysis of human, financial and logistical capacities also revealed a weakness in the number of statistical professionals in countries, as well as a weakness in capacity in new methods of data collection, processing and dissemination. In the specific case of financial capacity, the analysis revealed a weakness in the autonomy of States in financing statistics. As a result, many countries do not have statistical development funds or a dedicated budget line, which contributes to increased funding instability. With regard to logistical issues, overall countries do not have the capacity to collect data to monitor and evaluate the SDGs, including Agenda 2063.

With regard to the review of the institutional monitoring and evaluation mechanism for the SDGs and Agenda 2063, the weakness of the organizational mechanism, marked by the absence of a text on monitoring and evaluation, was highlighted. The diversity of the structures in charge of monitoring and evaluation, the poor match between the missions of the structures in charge of producing the reports of the two agendas and the missions of monitoring and evaluation.

Also, the requirements of the AU/UN development framework for the production of an integrated and coherent report of the two agendas, as well as the biennial reporting periodicity, have not yet been internalized by the countries.

In view of these shortcomings, a number of challenges have been identified. With regard to the organization of NSS, the challenges relate to (i) the weak organization of National Statistical Systems, (ii) the poor regularity in the production of statistical data, (iii) the weakness in the accessibility of statistical data, (iv) the lack of human capacity, and (v) the lack of financial resources and logistics.

For the monitoring and evaluation mechanism of the SDGs and Agenda 2063, the challenges concern the weakness of the organizational and institutional mechanism, the weakness of the planning for monitoring and evaluation of the two agendas and the low availability of resources.

In view of these challenges, a number of recommendations were made to improve the availability of quality statistical data and ensure effective monitoring and evaluation. In addition, an organizational design that meets the requirements of the development framework and good practices observed in some countries was proposed.

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Appendices:

XV. Appendix 1: Summary of the analysis of insurance and integrity

Country	Compilation of statistics in an impartial manner	Sources and dissemination techniques based on statistical considerations	Clear identification of the outputs of statistical agencies and services	Requirement for prior notice of major methodological changes
Burkina Faso	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally
Guinea Bissau	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally
Cape Verde	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally
Togo	Totally	Totally	Partially	Weakly
Ivory Coast	Totally	Totally	Partially	Totally
Gambia	Totally	Totally	Totally	Partially
Niger	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally
Sierra Leone	Totally	Totally	Totally	Partially
Ghana	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally
Nigeria	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally

Source: *Author based on survey data*

Appendix 2*:* Situation of the regularity of the thirteen (13) main data collection operations per country

N°	Country	Regular data collection operations		Non-regular data collection operations		Countries not concerned		Total
		Number	Share (%)	Number	Share (%)	Number	Share (%)	
1	Burkina Faso	7	53.8	5	38.5	1	7.7	13
2	Guinea Bissau	4	30.8	9	69.2	0	0.0	13
3	Cape Verde	10	76.9	3	23.1	0	0.0	13
4	Togo	7	53.8	6	46.2	0	0.0	13
5	Côte d'Ivoire	7	53.8	6	46.2	0	0.0	13
6	Gambia	6	46.2	6	46.2	1	7.7	13
7	Niger	9	69.2	3	23.1	1	7.7	13
8	Sierra Leone	8	61.5	5	38.5	0	0.0	13
9	Ghana	6	46.2	7	53.8	0	0.0	13
10	Nigeria	4	30.8	9	69.2	0	0.0	13

Source: *Author based on survey data*

Appendix 3: Summary of the regularity in the production of the main data collection operations

N°	Main data collection operations	Regular data countries		Non-regular data countries		Countries not concerned		Total Country
		Nbr	Share (%)	Nbr	Share (%)	Nbr	Share (%)	
1	General Population Census (GPC)	4	40	6	60	0	0	10
2	General Census of Agriculture (GAAR)	3	30	7	70	0	0	10
3	Demographic and Health Survey (DHS)	5	50	5	50	0	0	10
4	SMART surveys	5	50	5	50	0	0	10
5	Data on environmental statistics (SE)	2	20	8	80	0	0	10
6	Survey on household living conditions	8	80	2	20	0	0	10
7	Data on business statistics	6	60	4	40	0	0	10
8	Data on peace and security statistics	3	30	7	70	0	0	10
9	Macro-economic data	10	100	0	0	0	0	10
10	Maritime data related to SDG indicators	2	20	5	50	3	30	10
11	Gender-specific surveys	4	40	6	60	0	0	10
12	Administrative data on gender	7	70	3	30	0	0	10
13	Data on civil status facts	7	70	3	30	0	0	10

Source : *Author based on survey data*

Appendix 4: Situation of compliance with the coherence criteria per country

Country	Consistency of statistics within the same data set	Consistency of statistics or the ability to reconcile them over a reasonable period of time	Consistency of statistics or the possibility of reconciling them with those from other basic data and/or other statistical frameworks	Clear identification of preliminary or revised statistics	Dissemination of revision studies and analyses to the public
Burkina Faso	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally
Guinea Bissau	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally
Cape Verde	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally
Togo	Totally	Totally	Totally	Partially	Weakly
Ivory Coast	Partially	Partially	Weakly	Weakly	Partially
Gambia	Totally	Totally	Partially	Totally	Partially
Niger	Partially	Partially	Partially	Totally	Partially
Sierra Leone	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally
Ghana	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally
Nigeria	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally

Source: *Author based on survey data*

Appendix 5: Situation of the different accessibility criteria per country

Country	Presentation of statistics allowing their interpretation and meaningful comparisons	Dissemination of statistics according to a predefined schedule	Communication of statistics not systematically disseminated to interested parties on request	Availability of documentation on concepts,	Easy public access to statistics, documents, and other services	Do the sectorial statistics production departments have websites?	If so, are the websites regularly updated?
Burkina Faso	Totally	Partially	Totally	Totally	Partially	Yes	No
Guinea Bissau	Totally	Partially	Weakly	Totally	Totally	No	
Cape Verde	Totally	Partially	Totally	Totally	Totally	No	
Togo	Totally	Weakly	Totally	Partially	Partially	Yes	No
Ivory Coast	Partially	Weakly	Totally	Totally	Partially	Yes	No
Gambia	Totally	No, not at all.	Totally	Partially	Partially	Yes	Yes
Niger	Totally	Totally	Totally	Partially	Totally	Yes	Yes
Sierra Leone	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally	Yes	Yes
Ghana	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally	Yes	Yes
Nigeria	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally	Totally	Yes	Yes

Source: *Author based on survey data*

Appendix 6: Table of the number of statistician staff per level and per country

Name of the country	doctors	Statistical engineers - economists	Demographers	Statistical work engineers	Statistical Application Engineers	Technical assistants in statistics	Technical Statistical Officers	Total Total
Burkina Faso	0	27	21	20	0	50	31	149
Cape Verde	0	17	3	17	3	2	6	48
Ivory Coast	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Gambia	0	4	1	10	15	35	12	77
Ghana								0
Guinea Bissau	3	2	1	1	9	0	15	25
Niger	0	58	11	44	3	28	17	161
Nigeria	5	N/A	6	N/A	0	971	595	1577
Sierra Leone	1	6	7	7	4	101	76	202
Togo	0	12	6	3	2	0	13	36

Source: *Author based on survey data*