

National Statistical System Peer Review

Uganda Experiences

A Presentation at the workshop on peer review Mechanisms for NSOs in OIC member Countries

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2. Background to the peer reviews
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Mission of the Uganda Peer Review

1. To foster compliance of sectors to Uganda Code of Practice
2. Prepare indicators for certification as official statistics
3. Transform capacity of sectors to produce quality statistics.
4. Establish critical requirements for successful peer reviews.
5. To prepare for International peer review(s).

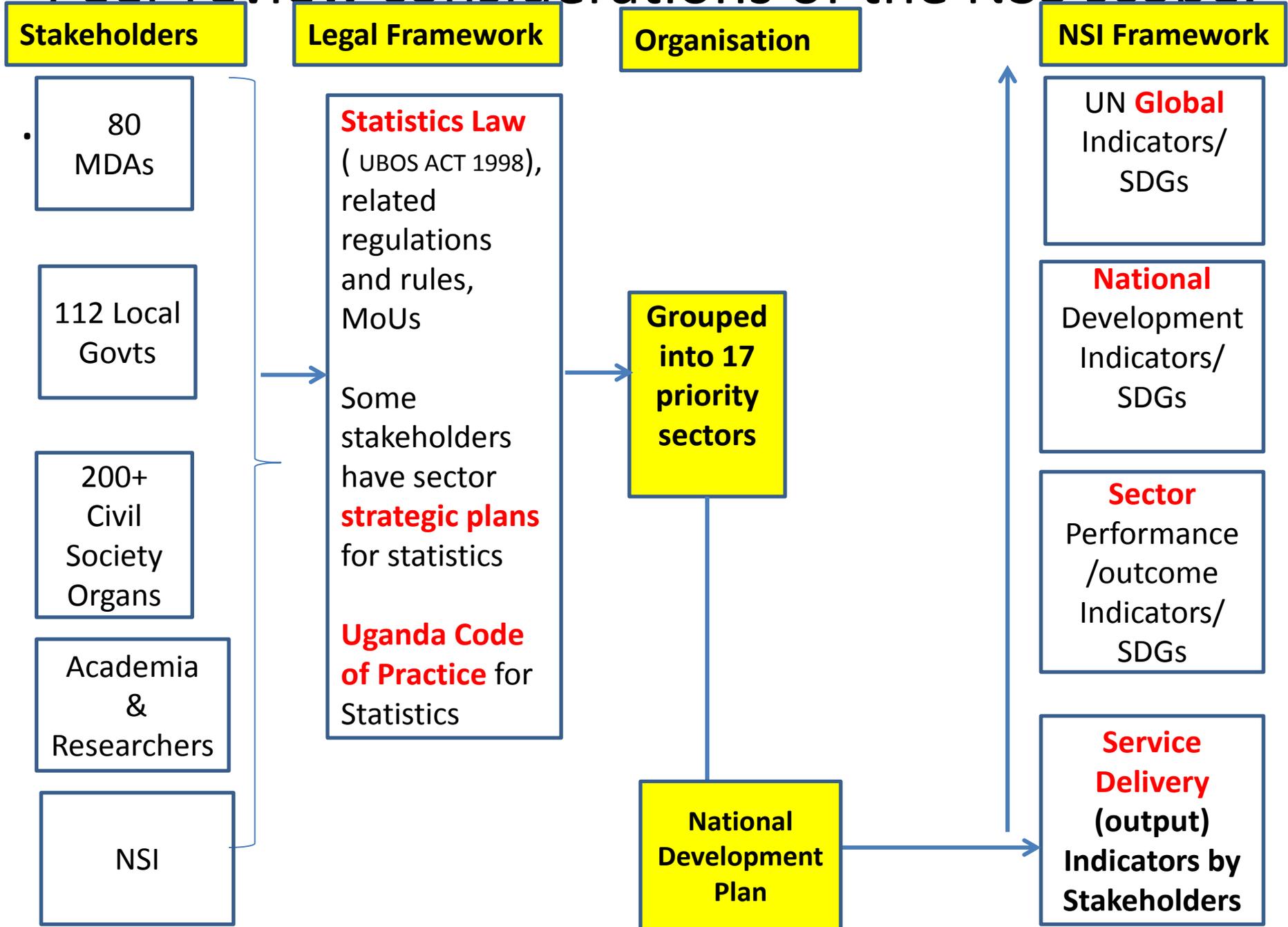
International Peer Reviews

- Review coverage:
 - a. Compliance of the NSI to a Code of Practice.
 - b. Evaluate NSI coordination roles and mechanisms used.
 - c. Assess administration , governance and technical capacity .
 - d. Alignment of statistical legal framework with international principles & recommendations.
 - e. The medium & long term strategic plans in place.
 - f. Statistical production against international standards .
 - g. NSS service to users, funding and sustainability aspects.
 - h. Investigate transferable best practices for capacity building.
 - i. Establish areas for reform to strength compliance.
 - j. Establish critical benchmarks for successful future reviews

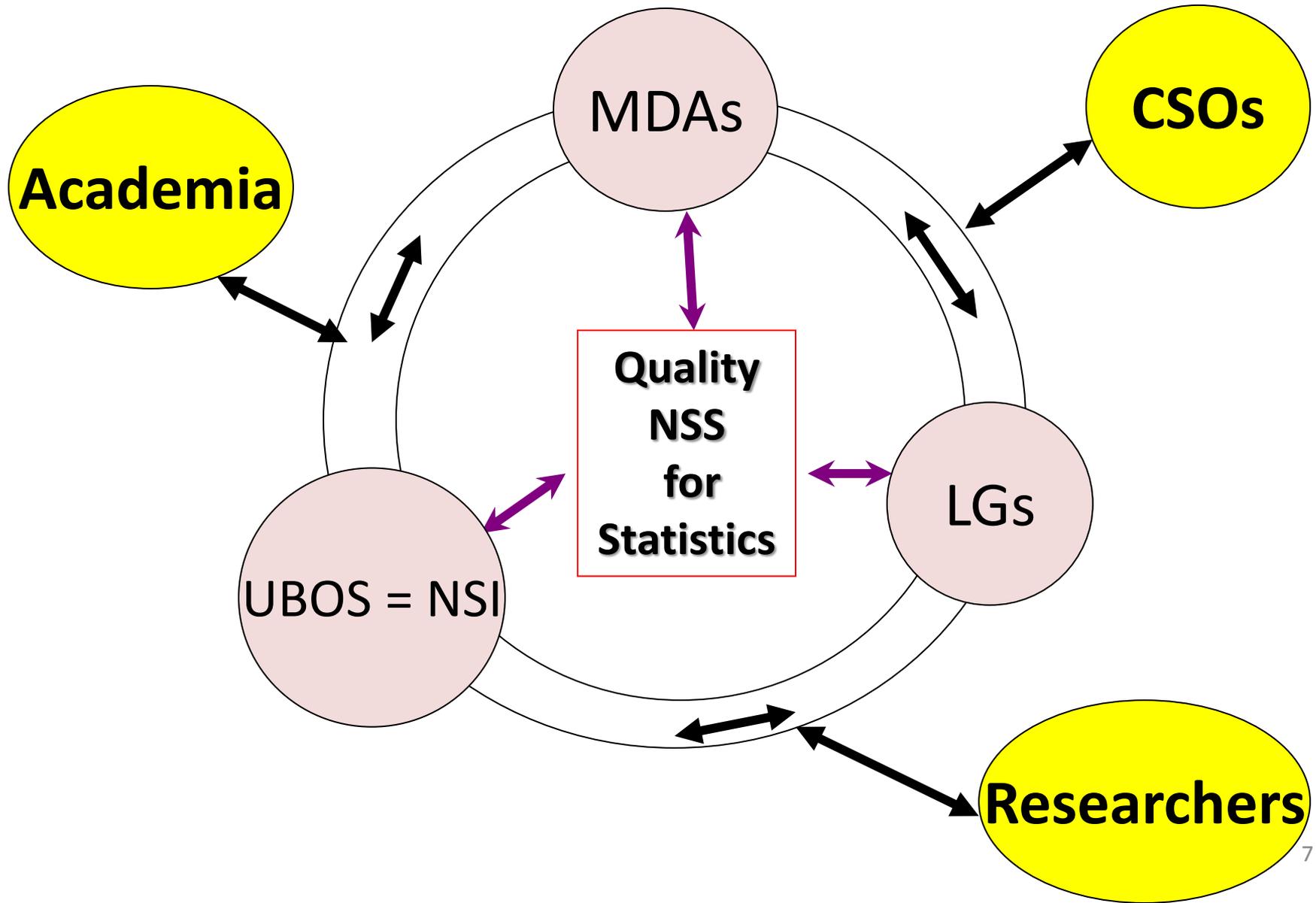
Background of the Uganda Peer Reviews

- **Reviewed quality frameworks including;**
 - a. IMF quality guidelines,
 - b. European Statistical System(ESS) code of practice
 - c. Uganda statistics Code of Practice,
 - d. South African Quality Assessment Framework(SAQAF)
 - e. African Charter for statistics
 - f. UN Fundamental Principals of Official Statistics.
- **Developed a customized quality review procedure;**
- **Conducted quality self assessments in sectors to guide peer reviews**
- **Undertake internal peer review on a pilot scale.**

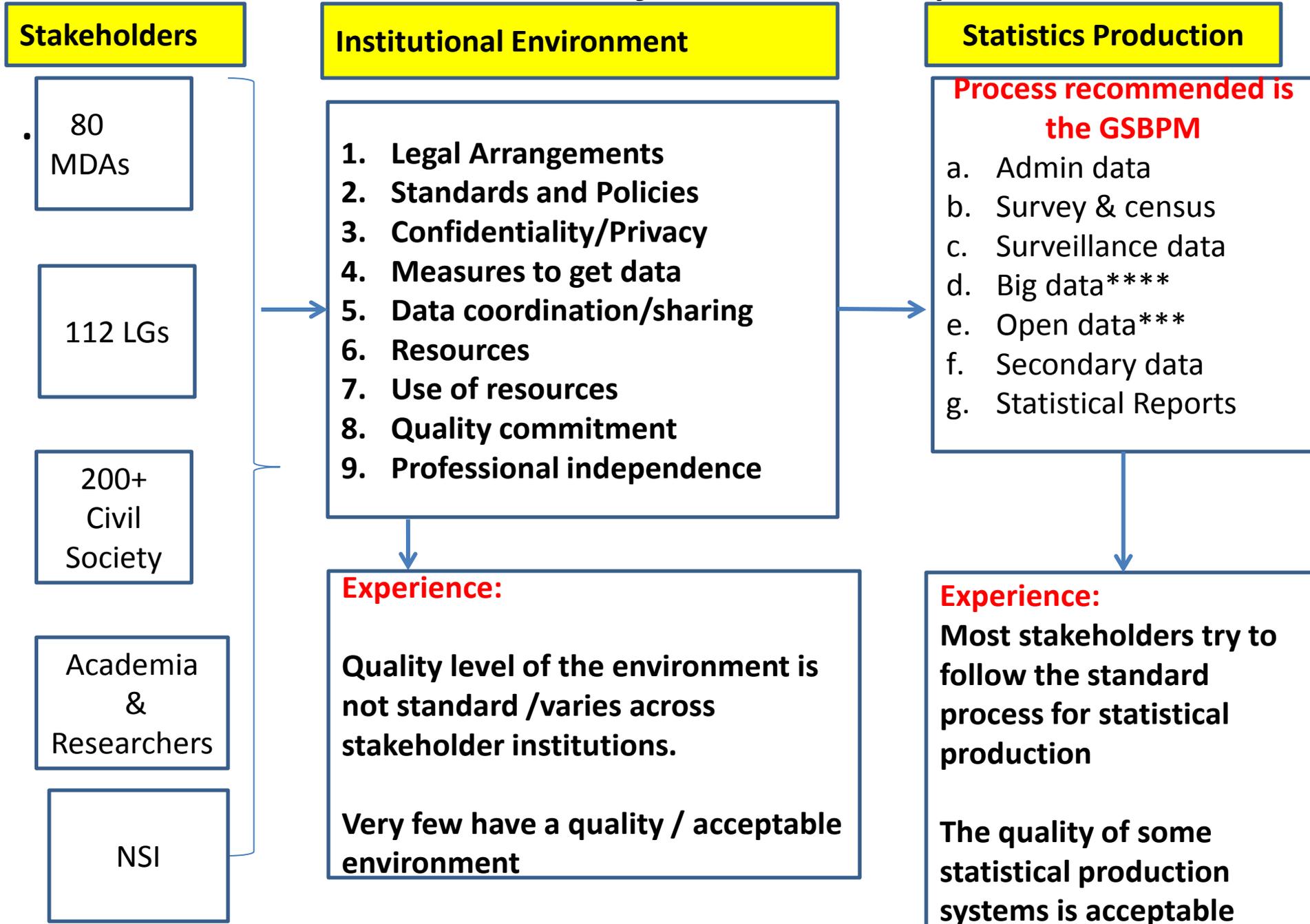
Peer review considerations of the NSS scope.



Decentralized Inter-Sectoral Coordination



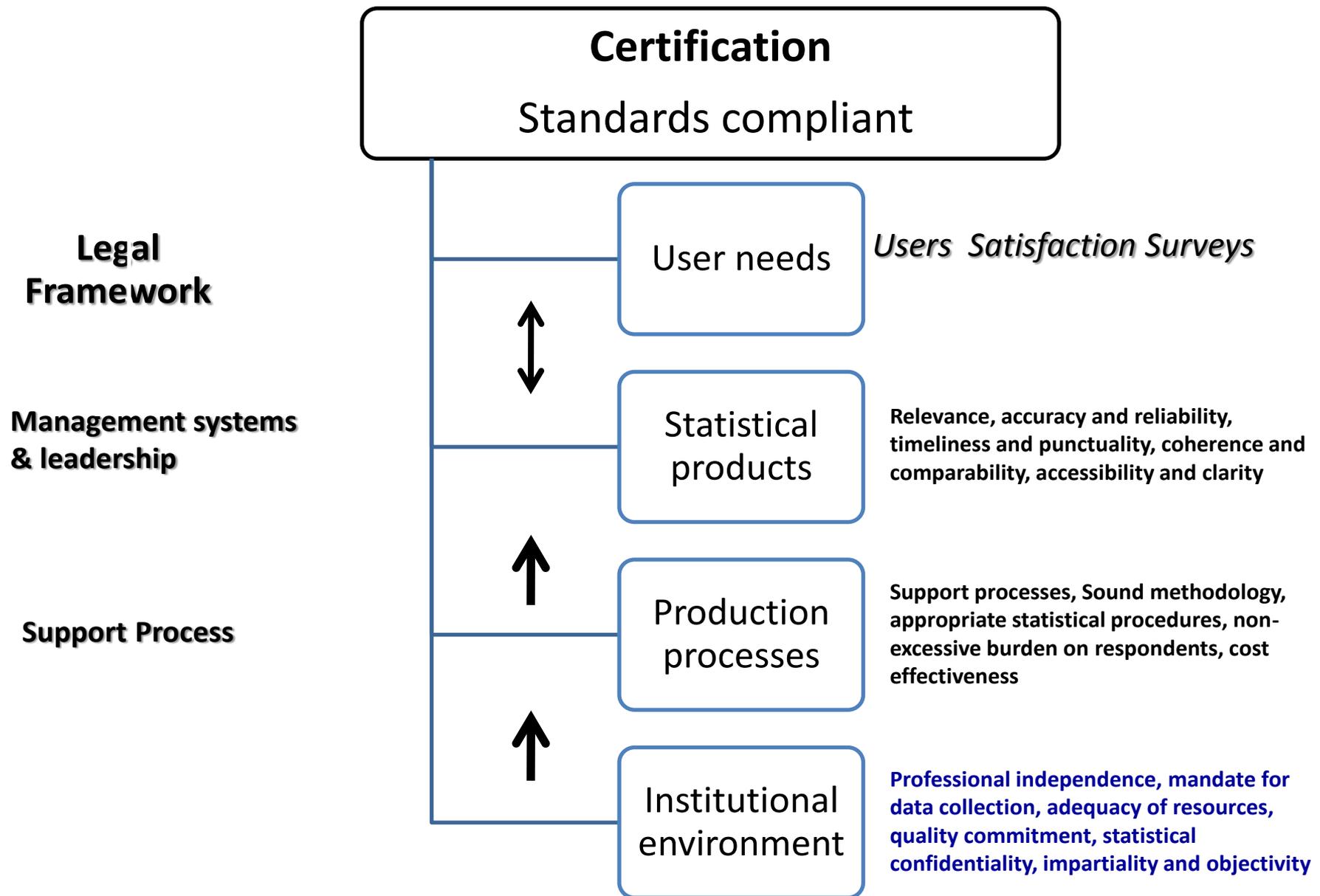
Peer Review of Major NSS Components



Uganda type of Peer Review

- A local internal peer review of NSS at sector level customized along;
 - a. The principles of the Uganda Statistical Code of Practice
 - b. The principles of ESS Code of Practice
 - c. The scope of the global assessment reviews
 - d. The scope of the African/Paris 21 reviews

Uganda Sectoral Peer Review Coverage



Uganda NSS Peer Review Continuum

Data sources

Compilers

Users

Coordination

Confidentiality

Feedback

Legal Frameworks

Code of Practice used

Standards & Guidelines

Approved Documentation

Efficiency & Effectiveness

Quality Audits

Feedback system

1. Involvement,

2. Users' charter

3. User needs observed

a. Relevance,

b. Accuracy,

c. Timeliness,

d. Accessibility,

e. Interpretability.

4. User satisfaction

Peer Review Experiences

The NSS is decentralized into sectors.

A Sector is a Min-NSS

Peer review is conducted at sector levels.

At the start, 3 sectors identified for peer review as indicated below.

3-Sectors

Police

NSI

Central Bank

3 Indicators

Crime Rate

Crop Area statistics

Broad Money

Peer review is intended to ensure that sector indicators are certified as official statistics.

Certification is awarded if compliance of the sector is 75% and above

Peer Review Experiences

Conducted in 3 MDAs long production and dissemination of an indicator

3-Sectors

NSI

Police

Central Bank

3 Indicators

Crop Area statistics

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Broad Money

Identified **15 Experts** (some are retirees) & Terms of references

Assessment tools/annexes designed & had a 3 day Preparatory Training, sectors included

Gave a 7 days notification for sectors to prepare the requirements for a successful process

NSI facilitated the 3 review teams

Requirements

1. Sector Technical team (5 MDA staff) to support the review process
2. **Approved** documents on statistical management.
3. Facilitation of the internal team(NSI funded the external teams)
4. Identification of key users to be visited by the experts.
5. User satisfaction information
6. Venue to conduct peer review for **a period of 3 days**

Peer Review Process Experiences

Conducted in 3 MDAs long production and dissemination of an indicator

3-Sectors

NSI

Police

Central Bank

3 Indicators

Crop Area
statistics

Crime Rate

Broad Money

Terms of
references
during the
3 days

- a. Adherence to the timelines provided by the NSI
- b. Conduct a launch meeting between experts and MDA technical persons.
- c. Detailed review of all available/provided documentation
- d. Conduct participatory-interactive consultations
- e. Conduct discussions with selected users of the statistics
- f. Assess quality of the data process/collection tools/statistical output
- g. At the end of each day, discuss any emerging issues.
- h. Expert team to provide feedback to the MDA during preparation of report.
- i. Completed report shared with the MDA for authentication and adoption

Peer Review Process Experiences

3-Sectors

NSI

Police

Central Bank

3 Indicators

Crop Area
statistics

Crime Rate

Broad Money

Approved
Documentation
needed

1. Completed self assessment checklist (Annex 1) and the Institutional Environment Assessment report
2. Legal frameworks(Constitution, Act of parliament, Charters, fundamental Principles)
3. International standards used to generate the indicator
4. Practical guidelines- if any, i.e. on conducting survey, data collection, data editing, measurement of error, imputation, weighting, coding, etc.
5. Uganda standards 942 & 943
6. Minutes of meetings/resolutions/agreements (all types, section meetings, user-user meetings, producer –user meetings)
7. International agreements on the indicator used by the sector.
8. Press releases, supplements/advertorial, related to the Indicator , etc.
9. Dissemination reports
10. Policies (archiving, dissemination, quality, etc.)
11. Performance/progress/workshop reports
12. Statistical Codes of practices, if different from the Uganda Statistics Code of Practice - US 942
13. Chart(s) of accounts
14. User needs identification/ consultations report
15. User satisfaction report
16. Future medium and long-term Improvement plans
17. Activity implementation work plans(NSDS/PNSD, SSPS, Annual work-plans)
18. Statistical Rules and procedures
19. Survey clearance report(where applicable)
20. Quality assurance review reports
21. Concept paper/note the guided development of the indicator
22. Monitoring &Evaluation reports
23. Research reports related to the indicator
24. Publications of the indicator(abstract, reports, thematic papers, journals, etc.)
25. The dataset used to compile the indicator
26. The tabulation plan used to compile the different aggregates of the indicator
27. The set of relevant questionnaires and instructions manual.
28. Metadata on the indicator
29. Adapted/adopted list of definitions guiding the production of the indicator
30. Advocacy materials,
31. Newspaper supplements
32. Human Resource manual and related HR policies
33. National Development Plan

Peer Review Process Experiences

3-Sectors

NSI

Police

Central Bank

3 Indicators

Crop Area statistics

Crime Rate

Broad Money

Coverage
(in 3 days)

Institutional Environment

1. Legal Arrangements
2. Standards and Policies
3. Confidentiality/Privacy
4. Measures to get data
5. Data coordination/sharing
6. Resources
7. Use of resources
8. Quality commitment
9. Professional independence

Production Process

- a. Specify need
- b. Design
- c. Collection
- d. Processing
- e. analysis
- f. Dissemination
- g. Archiving
- h. Evaluation

Statistics Quality

- a. Relevance
- b. Accuracy
- c. Accessibility
- d. Timeliness
- e. Coherence
- f. Methodology
- g. Interpretability
- h. Impartiality
- i. User satisfaction

Challenges

CHALLENGE	Very Significant	Significant	comment
a) <u>Time constraints</u> for the completion of the Peer Review procedures	X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Actual Data could not be checked. b. User consultation was not possible. c. Funds also limited the time provided
b) <u>Availability of documentation</u> with respect to statistical processes		X	Not adequately reliable due to lack of required approval/authentication. In some areas there was no documentation at all.
c) <u>Complexity of questions</u> asked in the Peer Review process			Questions were simple following a wave of self assessments and consultation
d) Number of <u>human resources</u> required to complete Peer Review process			Human resource required was available and adequate
e) <u>Methodological knowledge of human resources</u> needed in terms of Peer Review processes			Human resource involved had adequate methodological knowledge
f) <u>Participation status of users</u> (such as media representatives, NGOs, etc) attended to the Peer Review meetings	X		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Users were to participate but the Time constraint limited the opportunity to organize for their participation during the reviews. b. To a limited extent, users were represented by at-least one person on the team of review experts. c. The funds were much limited.
g) <u>Participation status of producers</u> (such as other national authorities) attended to the Peer Review meetings		X	The team of experts were solicited among local producers of the statistics. Experts from other nations were not involved as it was an internal pilot review.
h) Level of <u>transparency / objectivity</u> by the respondents			Respondents were highly objective because of the sensitization provided by the NSI on the benefits of being reviewed
i) <u>Financial resources</u> to facilitate meetings, movement, etc of the Peer Review process		X	The experts and technical persons involved were high level and the NSI required much more than available to conduct the pilot review process
j) <u>Concentration of the experts & Technicians</u> on the review process		X	Concentration was divided and review was affects as Experts are employees with KRAs elsewhere at their work places.

Findings of the Pilot Peer Review

1. In the three sectors covered , compliance with the Uganda Statistics Code of Practice is between 50-80%.
2. The NSS is decentralized and sectors have different capacity levels for production of quality statistics in their jurisdictions. Some sectors are below the standard compliance capacity.
3. Several indicators need more documentation(evidence) to qualify for certification as official statistics.
4. The Peer review tools were reliable to measure compliance to the set standards.
5. Adequate Preparation lead to high level transparency and objectivity of reviewees.
6. Adequate time, financial resources and documentation are critical requirements for a successful peer review.

Lessons

1. In a decentralized NSS, peer review of the NSI only, is not adequate to provide a complete picture on the quality of the NSS.
2. If Peer reviews do not assess the quality of the datasets, review findings may be incomplete.
3. Sectors within the NSS require tailor-made improvements to enhance capacity for compliance with the Uganda Code of Practice for statistics.
4. There is need for Uganda to participate in international review as reviewer and reviewee.
5. Uganda should be ready for international peer review after internal peer review of the 17 sectors.

I Thank you