



MOA PRESENTATION ON AGRICULTURAL SECTOR STATISTICS PLAN IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, STATISTICS AND PO
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT A

Presentation Outline

- ▶ Introduction
- ▶ ASSP Status & Progress to date (ST)
- ▶ Key Observations & Challenges from Assessment for MT< Consideration
- ▶ Other Issues Affecting Implementaion
- ▶ Recommendations
- ▶ Conclusions

Introduction

- ▶ Agric. Sector is amongst those in which a Sector Plan was developed following the National Strategy for the Development Statistics (NSDS)
- ▶ In following the sector approach, an assessment of the agricultural sector done by a Sector Statistics Committee which drew its membership from MoA Departments and its parastatals
- ▶ Agric. Sector Statistics Plan (ASSP) has been developed and to date it awaits a budget to facilitate its implementation
- ▶ However, activities that do not require a budget are being done e.g. ASSP presentation was made before stakeholders, including sector Executive Management on the 31st august 2016. This was done in collaboration with Stats Botswana



ASSP Status & Progress to date

The short term plan to facilitate the signing of the ASSP document and implementation thereof

ACTIVITIES	ACCOUNTABILITY	2016	COMMENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate the finalization and signing of the ASSP by MoA and Stats Botswana 	DARSPD-PAM	31/03/17	Pending
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalize the editing of the ASSP document in line with Vision 2036, NDP11, Revised Policy on Agric. Development, SDGs (including the action plan) 	DARSPD-M&E	31/12/16	The whole document has been reviewed and updated accordingly.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate sensitization of staff on NSS, ASSP and what is expected (sensitization to be done in collaboration with Stats BW) 	DARSPD-M&E		On going activity



Key Observations & Challenges from Assessment

- ▶ The following are the **prioritized key observations/challenges** that were made by the assessment on the state of statistics in MoA by Statistics Botswana, AfDB Consultant in collaboration with agric. sector (the ASSP Committee); these are still relevant to date
- ▶ ***Advocacy for statistics is inadequate due*** to the following:
 - lack of an advocacy program loaded with tools and appropriate messages
 - inadequate skills and staffing for advocacy,
 - inability to exploit existing structures to advocate for statistics and inadequate support and guidance on advocacy from Statistics Botswana.

As a result of the above, statistics is inadequately provided for in terms of resource allocations



ASSP Status & Progress to date - MT to LT Cont'd

- ▶ **Organizational development - the staff numbers and critical skills are inadequate.**
 - MoA Stats Division is headed by Stats Botswana seconded statistician and two of its staff. MoA does not have a Statistician.
 - While there is a recurrent budget for surveys and censuses, there is no dedicated budget for the collection and management of administrative data in the departments.
 - IT infrastructure is also inadequate especially for handling administrative data;
- ▶ **Statistical coordination - coordination in statistical production is poor within the agriculture sector.** In particular, various departments and agencies compile a lot of administrative data in an uncoordinated manner. Coordination between the agriculture sector and other sectors is none existent. However, coordination with Statistics Botswana is good;

Other Issues Affecting Implementation

- ▶ Restructuring and change in Management - Recent reorganization and change in leadership has affected commencement of implementation
- ▶ Budget challenges - no budget has been made for implementation of ASSP as yet
- ▶ The sector do not have skilled staff in terms of Statisticians as yet, dependent on Stats Botswana collaboration



Recommendations

- ▶ **MoA to recruit a Statistician to work closely with counterparts from Stats Botswana**
- ▶ **Departments to allocate a percentage of its budget for data collection to facilitate ASSP implementation**
- ▶ **Use of ICTs to modernize information management**
- ▶ **Develop and standardize tools & methods to improve quality of data**
- ▶ **Develop and implement advocacy program for Statistics**
- ▶ **Coordinate collection of Statistics across agencies amongst key players in the sector**



Conclusions

- ▶ Initiatives to improve quality of statistics long overdue; hence NSDS is welcome as it will assist us to conform to international standards, classifications and guidelines
- ▶ There is therefore need to build capacity across sectors and agencies for improved Statistics and coordination of such is vital for efficiency and sustainability considerations
- ▶ Establishing and Aligning sector systems to NSS vital in moving forward
- ▶ *Establishing sector coordinating mechanisms also key in implementing ASSP*



Thank you for your attention!