



Funded by the
European Union



THE AFRICA-EU PARTNERSHIP
LE PARTENARIAT AFRIQUE-UE

NAMIBIA

Report of the Peer Review of the National Statistical System

June 25-29, 2018



The contents of this report constitute advice and recommendations provided by Directors general or Deputy directors general (the “Peers”) of the African Statistical System (ASS) to their counterparts (“Peer”) from a National statistical system (NSS) of the African Union Member States (the “Reviewed country”) in response to their request for assessment.

“The reviewed countries committed themselves to publish (or allow the publication of) the Peer Review Reports and ensure their discussion among the NSS partners” (see Manual for Peer Reviews of National Statistical Systems in Africa, www.austat.org).

This report (in whole or in part) or summaries thereof may be disclosed by the African Union Commission (AUC) to all structures and bodies of the African Union and members of their staff, and upon their request, to the European Union, other technical assistance providers and donors with legitimate interest, unless the reviewed country objects to such disclosure.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report has been made possible through the European Union-financed “Pan African Statistics (PAS) Programme”. This programme was launched in January 2016 and its first implementation phase runs until mid-2019. The program is led by the Statistics Division of the African Union Commission and managed by Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Union, based in Luxembourg. It is being executed by Expertise France, French Government Organisation based in Paris.

The Pan African Statistics Program (PAS) is meant to assist the African Union Commission in improving its statistical operations, as well as those of the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and the National Statistical Institutes. One of the aims of the PAS is to improve statistical dissemination.



Namibia's Peer Review team

PEERS

Chair:

Mr. Risenga Maluleke, Statistician General for South Africa

Deputy Chair:

Ms Koontse Mokgwathi, Acting Director of Stakeholder Relations
at Statistics Botswana

EXPERT

Mr. Musaemura Guest Charumbira, Key Expert at Expertise France

OBSERVERS

Ms Leila Ben Ali, Head of the African Union Statistics Division (AUSTAT)

Mr. James Whitworth from Eurostat (the Statistical Office of the European Union)

NAMIBIA STATISTICS AGENCY (NSA) CONTACT PERSONS

Mr. Alex Shimuafeni, Statistician General (SG) and CEO of Namibia

Mr. Isak Neema, Executive Data Quality Assurance and National Statistical System
Coordination, Country coordinator for Namibia's peer review

Content

ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|-------|---|
| | 6 |
|-------|---|

FOREWORD

| | |
|-------|---|
| | 7 |
|-------|---|

1

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

| | |
|-------|---|
| | 9 |
|-------|---|

2

RECOMMENDATIONS

| | |
|-------|----|
| | 11 |
|-------|----|

| | |
|--|----|
| 2.1 Organisation and coordination of the National Statistical System | 11 |
|--|----|

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| 2.2 Institutional Environment | 10 |
|-------------------------------------|----|

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| 2.3 Quality | 10 |
|-------------------|----|

| | |
|---------------------------------|----|
| 2.4 Statistical Processes | 10 |
|---------------------------------|----|

| | |
|-------------------------|----|
| 2.5 Dissemination | 12 |
|-------------------------|----|

3

INTRODUCTION

| | |
|-------|----|
| | 14 |
|-------|----|

4

ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE NSS AND OFFICIAL STATISTICAL ACTIVITIES IN NAMIBIA

| | |
|-------|----|
| | 16 |
|-------|----|

| | |
|---|----|
| 4.1 The National Statistical System | 17 |
|---|----|

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| 4.2 Statistical legislation | 17 |
|-----------------------------------|----|

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| 4.3 Statistics Board | 17 |
|----------------------------|----|

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| 4.4 Code of Practice | 18 |
|----------------------------|----|

| | |
|--|-----------|
| 4.5 Strengths and weaknesses of the Namibia Statistical System | 19 |
| 4.5.1 Bank of Namibia | 19 |
| 4.5.2 Ministry of Basic Education, Art and Culture | 19 |
| 4.5.3 Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry | 20 |
| 4.5.4 Ministry of Environment and Tourism | 19 |
| 4.5.5 Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation | 20 |
| 4.5.6 Ministry of Health and Social Services | 21 |
| 4.5.7 Ministry of Industrialisation, Trade and SME Development | 21 |
| 4.5.8 Ministry of Finance | 21 |
| 4.5.9 National Planning Commission | 22 |
| 4.5.10 The Namibian (Newspaper) | 22 |
| 4.5.11 Namibia Broadcasting Corporation | 22 |
| 4.5.12 TELECOM Namibia..... | 23 |
| 4.5.13 The Universities | 23 |
| 4.5.14 GIZ Namibia..... | 23 |
| 4.5.15 UN Agencies | 23 |
| 4.5.16 Meeting with Staff..... | 24 |

ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

| | |
|---|-----------|
| | 25 |
| 5.1 Organisation and coordination of the NSS | 25 |
| 5.2 Institutional Environment | 27 |
| 5.3 Quality | 27 |
| 5.4 Statistical Processes | 27 |
| 5.5 Dissemination | 29 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| ANNEX 1 | |
| FINAL PROGRAM FOR THE WEEK..... | 30 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| ANNEX 2 | |
| PARTICIPANTS TO THE PEER REVIEW | 32 |



Abbreviations

| | |
|------------------|--|
| ASYCUDA | Automated System for Customs Data |
| AU | African Union |
| AUC | African Union Commission |
| COMEXT | External Trade Database |
| CPI | Consumer Price Index |
| CSPro | Census and Survey Processing |
| EUROTRACE | Software for External Trade Statistics |
| GDDS | General Data Dissemination Standard |
| GDP | Gross Domestic Product |
| GIZ | German Development Agency |
| ICD10 | International Classification of Diseases version 10 |
| ICD11 | International Classification of Diseases version 11 |
| IT | Information Technology |
| ITU | International Telecommunications Union |
| MDAs | Ministries, Departments and Agencies |
| MoU | Memorandum of Understanding |
| NDP | National Development Plan |
| NGO | Non-Governmental Organisation |
| NPC | National Planning Commission |
| NSA | Namibia Statistics Agency |
| NSDI | National Spatial Data Infrastructure |
| NSDS | National Strategy for the Development of Statistics |
| NSS | National Statistical System |
| NUST | Namibia University of Science and Technology |
| PAS | Pan African Statistics |
| PMTC | Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission |
| SADC | Southern African Development Community |
| SDDS | Special Data Dissemination Standard |
| SDG | Sustainable Development Goal |
| SG | Statistician General |
| SMS | Short Message Service |
| SQL | Structured Query Language |
| TV | Television |
| UN | United Nations Statistics Division |
| UNESCO | United Nations Educational, Cultural and Scientific Organisation |
| UNFPA | United Nations Population Fund |
| UNICEF | United Nations Children's Fund |
| UNSD | United Nations Statistics Division |
| VNR | Voluntary National Reporting |

Foreword

The peer review of the statistical system of Namibia is the fourth in the current round of peer reviews carried out by the African Union Commission (AUC) as part of Pan-African Statistics Program (PAS). The PAS is a programme of assistance funded by the European Union for a period of 42 months from January 2016. Previously, peer reviews for African countries have been conducted through PARIS21. Under the PAS, it is hoped that 18 countries would have been reviewed by June 2019 (the end of the PAS programme).

These peer reviews are being carried out according to a manual for peer reviews of National Statistics Systems in Africa that was developed under the auspices of AUC and agreed by the statistical authorities of AU member states.





The review of Namibia took place from 25 to 29 June 2018. The peer review team comprised Mr. Risenga Maluleke, Statistician General for South Africa as Chair, Ms Koontse Mokgwathi, Acting Director of Stakeholder Relations at Statistics Botswana as Deputy Chair. However, Mr. Kelvin Molongoana, a Deputy Director General of Statistics South Africa, stood in for Mr. Maluleke on 25 June since Mr. Maluleke was tied down with some government business in Pretoria on that day. Mr. Musaemura Guest Charumbira, Key Expert 3 at Expertise France, acted as expert and assisted the reviewers with the peer review process. Also, in attendance were two observers: Ms Leila Ben Ali, Head of the African Union Statistics Division and Mr. James Whitworth from Eurostat (the Statistical Office of the European Union).

All logistical arrangements and meeting preparations for the review were facilitated by Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA). The bulk of the meetings took place at the NSA headquarters, while a few were held at the premises of the participating organisations. The meetings were held in a very open and transparent atmosphere.

In his welcome remarks, the Statistician General (SG) of Namibia informed those present that the review came at the right time since NSA was in the process of developing its first National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) as well as reviewing the organisation strategic plan. He said it was a good opportunity to be alerted on any shortcomings in their national statistical system. The first Strategic Plan, which NSA has been operating with, was aimed at strengthening the centre (National Statistics Agency) while the NSDS will aim at strengthening the statistical operations in within the National Statistical System (NSS) including Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDA's). In the same vein, other countries could also learn from the good practices that the Namibia Statistical System has adopted.

The Statistician General lamented the decline in resources over the last 3 years due to the Economic meltdown of the Country's economy and how this is negatively impacting statistical development. He mentioned that the intention of the NSA is not to take away statistical functions from the ministries and departments but rather strengthen the coordination of the NSS in-line with the Statistics Act. The SG further explained the mode of operation with the other producers of statistics. To strengthen partnerships and collaboration, NSA enters into Memoranda of Understanding (MoU's) with the various MDA's who gets assistance from the Attorney General's Office. These MoU's spell out the procedures for statistical operations and other issues such data exchange. For example, the tax authorities have strict rules concerning access to individuals tax records mainly due to their legislation

Executive summary

The peer review of the national statistical system of Namibia was carried out during the last week of June 2018. The review was based on discussions with the various players in the statistical system as well as studying some documentations submitted by the Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA). Some websites of various role players also provided additional useful information.

The Namibia Statistical Legislation is modern. It provides all the requisites for a proper statistical system. What is generally lacking is its proper implementation in terms of coordination of the wider NSS. The peer review team has however observed that the current problems are exacerbated by the general decline in resources to the statistics sector and the general government over the last few years. Due to these resource constraints, there is a general freeze on recruitment to fill vacant positions. This has presented a challenge to the NSA management.



The Namibia Statistical System can be described as struggling. The main reason is that the NSA is a young organisation. It was established through the Statistics Act of 2011 as a semi- autonomous agency (taking over from the Central Bureau of Statistics which was a government department). The Agency is the main producer of official statistics in the form of population censuses and some household surveys. Other important areas are the national accounts and price statistics. Other statistics, mainly from administrative sources, are the responsibility of ministries and departments. One of the responsibilities of the NSA is to ensure that the statistical products from these entities meet the required standards for official statistics. Unfortunately, the NSA is currently under-resourced; so, it has not been able to perform this function.

The NSA does not have a NSDS. One is currently being developed. The Agency has been operating based on a Strategic Plan. The first 5-year Strategic Plan expired in 2017. They are now operating based on the second such plan that was launched in 2017. It is pleasing to note that the Agency is efficient in terms of the execution of these plans, despite the constraints.

On another positive note, the NSA is performing well in some areas in economic statistics and household surveys. It may be noted that products like national accounts and CPI are published according to international dissemination standards. The Agency has also excelled in innovative ways of dissemination. They now reach customers using cell phone technology. This is an innovation that should be emulated by other countries on the African continent.

2

Recommendations

2.1 Organisation and coordination of the National Statistical System

RECOMMENDATION 1

The Peer Review Team has observed that there is limited awareness of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, the African Charter on Statistics and International Statistical Institute's Code of Ethics as stipulated in the Statistics Act. These are essential guiding principles for efficient official statistics processing and integrity of the profession.

The NSA is urged to popularise these statistical tools to all statisticians in the wider NSS as a matter of urgency and popularise the national code of ethics that has already been developed by the NSA.

RECOMMENDATION 2

Strengthen the Data Quality Assurance and NSS Coordination department with a view to strengthening the cooperation with statistical units (producer/producer) in the various ministries and departments by holding regular annual meetings as recommended in the Statistics Act.

RECOMMENDATION 3

Improve user/producer consultations as a way of soliciting their inputs in the work program of the NSA as provided for in the Statistics Act.

RECOMMENDATION 4

Engage with all relevant stakeholders on issues of budgeting for statistical activities with a view to alleviating the staff constraints that have been cited across the government sector, in line with the AU Executive Council decision of January 2018 to allocate sufficient budget to statistical development.

RECOMMENDATION 5

The Review Team proposes that the organisational structure of the NSA should be re-visited with a view to reflect a modern development of official statistics in line with best practice, by emphasizing the streams of social and economic statistics, as well as NSDI and NSS coordination.

RECOMMENDATION 6

The NSA should strengthen coordination of NSS including technical support and financing coordination.

RECOMMENDATION 7

Strengthen communication strategies internally to promote a culture of cross-fertilisation of ideas in the NSA, for example through the organisation of joint events and training programmes.

RECOMMENDATION 8

There should be synergies between the NSS capacity building program to be developed by the NSA with the programs developed by the Universities in Namibia.

2.2 Institutional Environment

RECOMMENDATION 9

The Peer Review Team recommends that findings from the employee engagement survey be implemented and disseminated widely internally. This would help lift staff morale that is reported to be at its all-time low in 10 years. The NSA is also encouraged to come up with programs that boost staff morale.

Recommendation 10

The Peer Review Team has observed diminishing financial resources for the NSA, and for the NSS in general, which do affect matters of adequate staffing for the entire system. The Team therefore recommends innovative ways for resource mobilisation.

2.3 Quality

RECOMMENDATION 11

The Peer Review Team noted that no statistics produced outside the NSA are designated as official statistics. The SG is urged to increase the trust in such statistics through his powers outlined under Article 37 of the Statistics Law as a matter of urgency.

RECOMMENDATION 12

The NSA should ensure that cross-consistency checks are performed on outputs from censuses and household surveys as a way of improving the quality of these outputs.

RECOMMENDATION 13

The NSA should consider using multi-dimensional measures of poverty in addition to the current approach of monetary measures.

RECOMMENDATION 14

It is recommended that the NPC and NSA work closely together in the future to avoid use of conflicting data sets in monitoring and evaluation of development plans and delineate role clarity between the institutions.

2.4 Statistical Processes

RECOMMENDATION 15

The reliance on administrative data alone, without regular surveys to cross-check, as an input into national account compilation, could pose serious challenges to the quality of the output.

The Peer Review Team has observed that an annual agricultural survey was last conducted in 2003. Agriculture is a source of livelihood for rural communities and a majority of the population is dependent on agriculture. The Team recommends that arrangements be made to resuscitate this survey as soon as possible.

RECOMMENDATION 16

It is recommended that NSA develop a capacity building program that is coherent, caters for career development and succession planning. It is also recommended to establish a staff rotation system to enable the spread of statistical knowledge across the NSA.

RECOMMENDATION 17

It has been observed that the NSA has a shared responsibility of producing important statistics such as GDP numbers. It is statistically undesirable to involve a major user in the production of statistics that are key for their responsibilities. There is always room for temptation to massage the numbers, which could affect the integrity of the statistics.

It is recommended that the NSA plan to take direct responsibility of producing these key statistical indicators, among others.

RECOMMENDATION 18

The NSA should plan to take responsibility of data collection activities that are being undertaken by the Bank of Namibia on their behalf.

RECOMMENDATION 19

Beyond the NSA sharing their work program with their line Minister, it is recommended that NSA should harmonise all the work programs of the wider NSS for sharing amongst all concerned.

RECOMMENDATION 20

The Ministry of Environment and Tourism is encouraged to work with the Ministry of Home Affairs to complete the partially computerised immigration control system with a view to transmitting data on line for further processing. This would improve on the security of the data.

RECOMMENDATION 21

The NSA is encouraged to take direct responsibility of all household surveys, instead of various institutions carrying out those that relate to their sectors.

RECOMMENDATION 22

The Ministry, in collaboration with NSA, is encouraged to start producing environment statistics using the methodologies developed by the United Nations Statistics Division.

RECOMMENDATION 23

It is recommended that all official statistics producers provide gender disaggregated statistics as far as is possible, with collaboration of the Gender Desk at NSA. The Ministry of Gender should desirably be co-opted in planning stages of all surveys and censuses for purposes of mainstreaming gender issues in the enquiries.

RECOMMENDATION 24

It is recommended that the NSA consider including a Time Use module that has been developed by the UNSD in one of their future household surveys.

RECOMMENDATION 25

It is recommended that the NSA improves technology across the statistical value chain; for example, sampling techniques.

RECOMMENDATION 26

The NSA is urged to operationalise its pricing policy with a view to augment the financial resources of the organisation.

RECOMMENDATION 27

The NSA is encouraged to send its officers for attachments to sister offices in neighbouring countries for study visits, as a way of capacity building in areas where the NSA is lacking capability.

RECOMMENDATION 28

The NSA is urged to strengthen its performance management systems by enforcing performance contracts at all levels within the organisation.

RECOMMENDATION 29

The NSA is advised to create a repository for all data that has passed the test of official statistics. This will enable users a one-stop centre for all relevant development statistics.

2.5 Dissemination

RECOMMENDATION 30

The NSA should provide training and encourage continuous interaction with the media for them to understand statistical concepts to enable them to report statistics accurately.

RECOMMENDATION 31

All those involved in the production and dissemination of official statistics should abide by the provisions of the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and the African Charter on Statistics and the Statistics Act.


3

Introduction

The peer review of the NSS of Namibia was the fourth in a series of African peer reviews to be conducted under the Pan African Statistics Programme (PAS), a programme of assistance for the development of African statistics financed by the European Union. Other reviews so far have been conducted for Mauritius, Equatorial Guinea and Benin. The peer reviews are coordinated by the Statistics Division of the African Union Commission.

The objective of peer reviews is to assist the participating countries to develop their national statistical systems through assessing their current situation benchmarked against the African Charter on Statistics, the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and recommended practices of official statistics.





The methodology for conducting peer reviews is set out in a Manual for Peer Reviews of National Statistical Systems prepared under the auspices of the PAS programme. The main modes of conducting the peer reviews are the following:

- The peer reviews are to be conducted through visits of designated peer review teams to each participating country, with discussions in meetings between the teams, the NSIs and NSS stakeholders.
- The length of the peer review visit to each country shall be five days.
- The peer reviews shall be based on documentation submitted by the country under review, mainly a short description of the NSI and the NSS, Statistics Act and related legal instruments, available statistical policy documents, and a self-assessment questionnaire based on the Eurostat Snapshot tool.
- The peer review discussions and meetings shall involve main producers of official statistics, data providers and main users such as ministries, central bank, research institutions, business organisations, international organisations, the media and any other organisation considered relevant for the country.

The manual further specifies that the peer reviews shall focus on five major themes based on the African Charter on Statistic or the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. The themes are:

- Organisation and coordination of the NSS
- Institutional environment
- Quality
- Statistical processes and
- Dissemination.

Under each theme, a list of issues shall be addressed as specified in the manual. The manual also contains a model agenda for the peer review visits and sets out instructions for the reporting of the peer reviews.

The peer review of Namibia was conducted during the week of 25-29 June 2018 in Windhoek. The documentation for the review was prepared by Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA), which is the lead producer and coordinating authority for statistics in Namibia. The NSA also prepared the itinerary for the week. The authorities identified 16 main producers of official statistics. The Review Team met 7 of these. It was not possible to meet all those that were in the original proposed list for various reasons.

The full list of organisations and persons met by the review team is provided in the annex.

4

Organisation and management of the NSS and official statistical activities in Namibia





4.1 The National Statistics System

The National Statistics System in Namibia comprises statistics producers, respondents, users of statistics, research institutions and training institutions. In terms of statistical production, the statistical system is decentralised. The Namibia Statistics Agency is the central statistical authority and is responsible for major statistical activities such as the population census, some household surveys, the national accounts and price statistics. Statistics based on administrative data are handled by the relevant ministries and departments. The following institutions have been identified as some of the main producers of statistics (besides the NSA): Ministry of Health and Social Services, Ministry of Home Affairs and Immigration, Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry, Ministry of Basic Education, Art and Culture, Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare, Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relation and Employment Creation, National Council for High Education, City of Windhoek Police, Namibian Police, Bank of Namibia, Ministry of Finance, Namibia Tourism Board, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Ministry of Mines and Energy, Ministry of Environment and Tourism and Ministry of Safety and Security. The NSA is expected to coordinate the production of statistics by these entities.

4.2 Statistical legislation

The Statistics Act, 2011 (Act No. 9 of 2011) is the enabling legislation for the National Statistics System of Namibia. The law is generally based on the African Charter on Statistics (Namibia signed in 2016) and the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. The Namibia Statistics Agency is a statutory body established under the Act. The Act empowers among others the Namibia Statistics Agency to collect, produce, analyse and disseminate official and other statistics in the country. It also facilitates the capture, management, maintenance, integration distribution and use of spatial data. The act further empowers the NSA to develop and coordinate the National Statistical System (NSS) and the National Spatial Data Infrastructure as well

as to advise the Minister of Statistics on matters related to official and other statistics. The Act also tasks the NSA to set out standards and policies necessary to ensure production of quality statistics and the subsequent designation of statistics as “official” statistics.

The Act further makes provisions for the development of the NSS whose purpose is the undertaking statistical collections and the compilation, production, analysis and dissemination of official and other statistics. The objectives of the NSS are to build coordinated and sustainable capacity for the collection, production, analysis and dissemination of statistics in accordance with the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics; ensure the protection of the confidentiality of information provided by the respondents and promote the use of statistics for evidence-based planning and decision-making, policy design and for monitoring and evaluation of policies.

4.3 Statistics Board

The Act provides for a Statistics Board. The Board is known as the Board of the Namibia Statistics Agency and its mandate is to administer and control the affairs of the Agency. The Board consists of the Statistician-General who is a member by virtue of his or her office, and six other members appointed by the Minister after consultation with the President. A Board member must possess knowledge and experience in governance, statistics, information technology, spatial data, economics, law or related fields of experience. The chairperson of the Board is appointed by the Minister from members of the Board. A Board member holds office for 3 years and is eligible for reappointment upon expiration of the term of office.

The Board is assisted in its functions by various Committees. These are Finance and Audit Committee, Human Resource and Board Affairs Committee, Strategy and Board Affairs Committee and the Statistics Committee. The Statistics Committee’s role is to ensure NSA and NSS producers meet approved national standards, methods and best practices as set by the NSA.

According to the Statistics Act, the Statistician General is independent in the carrying out of his professional responsibilities. In other words, there is no interference by the Board regarding the dissemination of statistical outputs.

4.4 Code of Practice

Section 34 of the Statistics Act provides for the issuance by notice in the Gazette, by the Statistician-General, a Code of Practice setting out professional and ethical standards applicable to statistical producers. The Code of Practice may impose requirements with respect to any of the following:

- Ethical and professional standards that must be adhered to in the collection, production, analysis and dissemination of statistics
- Measures to ensure the optimum quality and the comparability of official and other statistics
- Measures to minimise unnecessary overlapping or duplication in the collection, production, analysis and dissemination of statistics.

4.5 Strengths and weaknesses of the Namibia Statistical System

The National Statistical System in Namibia has its strengths and weaknesses. As the lead authority, the Agency, faces some challenges hindering production of official statistics. It was established shortly after the Statistics Act was promulgated. Following its establishment, a five-year Strategic Plan was developed. According to documentation availed to the Review Team, emphasis was on strengthening the centre (the Agency itself) before embarking on addressing the co-ordination issues of the wider NSS. The NSA has the second 5-year Strategic Plan that runs from 2017/18 until 2021/22. Under this plan, it is envisaged to strengthen other producers of official statistics. A detailed implementation plan is mapped out with key activities to be implemented. The Strategic Plan is the reference document for Statistics Policy and Data Quality Assurance Framework, Code of Practice and Data Collection and Dissemination Policy. In view of the on-going NSDS preparation, it is envisaged the planned interventions in the wider NSS may further be strengthened.

The Organisational structure of the NSA caught the attention of the Review Team. While support structures (human resources, finance and administration, etc.) are important in supporting the delivery of the organisation mandate, the review team observed that more emphasis has been placed on them leaving the statistical profession somewhat down played.

The Peer Review has taken place at a time when the economy of the country is on a down turn. It was reported that there has been a decline in resources for the public sector at large for the past three years. For the financial year 2017/18, the annual budget of the organisation was reduced. It was cut from N\$133.5 million in 2017/18 to N\$105 million. As a constraint towards the delivery, the organisation is currently experiencing a high vacancy rate of .36 %.... of which, staff complement of 214, only 137 are filled. The Team was further informed that a deliberate decision has been taken across government to freeze recruitment. In general, statistical capacity is low in Namibia. According to The World Bank statistical capacity indicator, has declined over time from 58.9 % (2004) to 56.6 % (2017).

On the positive side, NSA has modernised its technology in most of its processes. The office has gone digital and paperless in the conduction of its processes. All professionals have computing equipment and have access to a reliable internet connectivity. Namibia is also leading when it comes to modern data capture technology; The NSA is well advanced in hand held devices for data capture in the field. It is reported that Namibia is one of the first countries to use this technology on the continent.

A population census is due in 2021. Preparations for this important exercise should be underway. However, due to the resource limitations some of the preparatory activities had to be put on hold. A resource mobilisation for the Census activities is underway.

Despite the limitations enumerated, the NSA has done well in the areas they are currently handling. In the words of the Statistician-General, it is a question of learning to do more with less! For national accounts, quarterly GDP and annual GDP have been released on time, as per internationally recommended time schedules. Monthly and quarterly trade statistics have been produced on time as well as the monthly consumer price index. The Agency intends to implement SNA 2008, for which some external assistance may be required. The Agency also released three survey reports in a timely manner. These are Namibia Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2015/2016, Labour Force Survey 2016, and Namibia Inter-censal Demographic Surveys 2016.

The NSA plays a significant role in Sustainable Goals reporting. As the organisation is at the centre of the data gathering and processing, it is well placed to coordinate the SDG indicator Framework for the country in consultation with the MDA's. The Agency is represented on the National SDG Committee, as well as the National Monitoring and Evaluation Committee coordinated by the Ministry of Economic Planning and the NPC.

The NSA has in place mechanisms for sharing data with other institutions in the wider NSS. This is enabled through (MoU's), that are developed with the assistance of the Attorney General's Office.

Regarding regular consultations with stakeholders as provided for in the statistical law, the NSA is lagging in this area due to inadequate resources.

Regarding training, the NSA makes use of its Data Processing Centre. In addition, the NSA has access to external training centres such as Namibia Institute of Public Administration and Management. The NSA also avails E-learning courses when resources permit. In some cases, employees sponsor themselves to these opportunities. The Agency has also a good working relationship with the local universities. One of the local universities offer training in Official Statistics—probably a first in Southern Africa that could be availed to other countries in the sub-region.

The Agency has introduced two innovations in the field of dissemination. These are the Statistical Mobile Application (also referred to NSA App) as well as the Geoportal. The primary target of the NSA App is the rural community which is not always privy to printed statistical outputs and have challenges accessing statistics on the NSA website. The NSA App enables users to access statistics via mobile devices. **This is a noble achievement that should be replicated in other countries in the region.**

The NSA is required by law to prepare an annual report and audited statement of accounts 3 months following the end of the financial year. Since inception, the Agency has been able to meet these deadlines and statements of accounts have been in good order all along. This is evidence of an Agency operated along sound business ethics as well adherence to corporate governance.


4.5.1 Bank of Namibia

The Bank of Namibia is responsible for Balance of Payments Statistics and Monetary and Financial Statistics. To effectively fulfil their mandate on balance of payments, they obtain trade & national accounts data from the NSA. However, they complained that some of NSA outputs are released when it is too late for their requirements. They put forward a recommendation of being considered as key user and if NSA is able to accommodate their demands of receiving data before official dissemination as they are aware of the confidentiality. The statistical outputs of the Bank and those of NSA feed into the work of the Monetary Policy Committee that meets every other month. There also exists a Statistical Committee that meets on a quarterly basis to discuss pertinent issues when necessary. In addition, there is a Directors' meeting that discusses GDDS and SDDS issues. The Committee comprises the Statistician General, Deputy Governor and Permanent Secretary for Finance.

One issue that caught the attention of the Peer Review Team is data collection of some indicators by the Bank on behalf of the NSA. The Team was informed that the Bank collects data on manufacturing, wholesale and retail data for the NSA. The Bank also collects Real Sector data for themselves and on behalf of NSA. The team was informed that the arrangement dates back when the NSA was still a government department due to limited capacity. However, plans are underway for the NSA to take over the production of the indicators. The Team observed the current arrangement is not in conformity to the African Charter on Statistics as well as the UN Fundamental principles of official statistics. The team further observed that Bank staff, though involved in statistical responsibilities of this nature, have no knowledge of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics or the African Charter on Statistics.

4.5.2 Ministry of Basic Education, Art and Culture

The Head of Management Information System for the Ministry informed the Team that the relationship between NSA and the Ministry is existent and good, despite lack of a MoU. There is a data exchange between the agencies with NSA receiving administrative data on education while the NSA in turn share census and household information with the Ministry. However, the MoU is currently being drafted.



They conduct an annual census of schools twice a year (January and September) to collect data on enrolment, teachers and ages of learners in conjunction with UNESCO. Data entry is done remotely on a web-based system and transmitted to headquarters for editing. This survey is conducted by the Management Information Systems Division. The Literacy Survey, when on is carried out, and is the responsibility of the Adult Education Department.

There are currently no statisticians in the Division. The survey is carried out by 6 staff members, assisted by UNESCO whenever necessary.

The output is Official Education Report.

4.5.3 Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry

Statistical activities at this ministry are conducted under the sub-directorate of Planning and Statistics. There are two members of staff, a senior statistician and a statistician. At the time of the Peer Review, a post-harvest survey was being conducted with the involvement of the NSA.

The following were observed:

- The NSA conducted the National Census of Agriculture in 2013-14 without the involvement of the statisticians at the Ministry of Agriculture. Some of the funding for the census was provided by the Food and Agriculture Organisation. The statisticians were not involved in the planning.
- The statisticians feel isolated and not involved by the NSA.
- Extension officers were involved in data collection with no role clarity between the Ministry and NSA resulting in delayed data collection. The Peer Review Team noted that involving interested parties in data collection sometimes presents challenges as interested parties may be conflicted in the production of statistics by being tempted to “cook” the data.
- There exist an Agriculture Management Information System that is not working properly because it is staffed by IT officers.
- A user/producer dialogue coordinated by the NSA has not taken place for the last 2 years.
- Data on the survey of State Owned Enterprises in Agriculture are not shared with Ministry of Agriculture.
- An agriculture survey was last carried out in 2003. This creates a significant data gap in agriculture sector.

4.5.4 Ministry of Environment and Tourism

Tourism statistics are relatively developed. They conduct employment surveys for the sector, domestic tourism survey and returning residents survey. The tourism satellite accounts were conducted in 2013. Bed occupancy statistics are compiled in association with Namibia Hotel Association.

Their main product is the tourism statistics report based on arrival and departure forms from immigration. The immigration system is partially computerised. The arrival and departure forms are therefore processed manually on a sample basis. From time to time the ministry hires consultants to assist with analysis of these data. At some point, the Ministry engaged the NSA to take over the responsibilities of tourism statistics compilation, but the arrangement was not feasible as NSA has a limited capacity and in accordance of the Statistics Act will strengthen the coordination and cooperation between itself and the Ministry.

The arrival and departure forms are bulky and pose storage problems for the ministry. There is also an added problem of confidentiality with the information on these forms. For the future, all concerned should consider computerising the entry points to eliminate the paper trail.

On the environment side, there is not much development in terms of statistics, save that the ministry prepares a state of the environment report and advise cabinet on important decisions to be taken. Environment issues are taking centre stage in recent times through the STGs and Agenda 2063. The Ministry may wish to consider developing a series of environment statistics.

4.5.5 Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation

Statistical issues in this ministry are handled by the Directorate of Labour Market Services. Within this Directorate lies a Labour Market Information Division. A sub-division headed by a chief Statistician handles statistic, assisted by three statisticians. A Memorandum of Understanding has already been signed with the NSA enabling cooperation in statistical processing. Among others the statisticians are responsible for Child Labour Statistics, informal Sector Statistics. The statisticians need training in statistical software and statistical analysis.

The Ministry produces some informal sector statistics with an organisation called RARRI and Social Security authorities. It is not a regular publication.

The statisticians claim no knowledge of the UN FPOS and the African Charter on Statistics. They are only aware of the Statistics Act of Namibia.

4.5.6 Ministry of Health and Social Services

The Ministry of Health has two divisions that deal with matters of statistics production, namely Health Information System and Health Research.

The Health Research Division works closely with the NSA in the production of statistics. The division is responsible for the Demographic and Health Survey as well as health research. The NSA is closely involved in data analysis, particularly analysis of the Demographic and Health Surveys data.

The Health Information System is mostly involved with processing and analysis of routine data from private and public institutions. Data collection from private institutions does pose some challenges though. They also work closely with Ministry of Home Affairs on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics. Data coding for diseases is based on ICD10 and consideration is underway to introduce ICD11.

Statistical reporting is lagging due to resource constraints. Processing is not yet computerised. The last published statistical Report is for 2013. They are currently working on 2014. However, there are disjointed statistical outputs by subject matter. Examples are PMTC, malaria, etc.

Regarding staffing, it was reported that there are currently no statisticians. The Ministry is being re-structured. The new structure for these divisions provides for 5 statisticians (combined to form the Health Information Research Directorate). These positions are presently vacant. As per current financial resource constraints, these are not likely to be filled any time soon.

4.5.7 Ministry of Industrialisation, Trade and SME Development

The Ministry representative informed the Review Team that they are responsible for many issues. Unfortunately, the statisticians in the ministry are involved in duties outside the area of statistics. Now, there are two statisticians for the whole ministry. The statisticians are frustrated with the system. The Team was further informed that there is no legislation or policy regarding statistics in the ministry. They believe there should be more coordination from the NSA.

The ministry is the supplier of trade data. The software in use for this system is ASYCUDA, EUROTRACE, COMEXT and SQL. However, the trade data are passed on to the NSA for further processing. The Ministry does not release any statistics on these issues.

Other issues that the Ministry handles are:

- Company Registrations
- Business Census. The last such census was carried out in 2009. There is a need for another census, but it is not clear who should handle this. Business Register Project has been in the Strategic Plan but has not been successful.
- Business and Intellectual Property Authority
- Namibia Investment Centre.

It was mentioned that the NSDS process would re-define some of the statistical responsibilities of the Ministry.

4.5.8 Ministry of Finance

The Ministry has statisticians in its various departments. Unfortunately, they are not centrally coordinated. The discussions with the Peer Review Team did not include the Government Finance.

The MoU between the Ministry and NSA has been signed. It will therefore be easier for the Ministry to provide the data that NSA requires more efficiently. The following information is currently being provided to the NSA:

- Registered Taxpayers
- Revenue collection from sales tax system
- Company registration documents

4.5.9 National Planning Commission

The representative from the NPC started by giving a historical background for planning in Namibia. He mentioned that the country is now executing National Development Plan 5 (NDP 5). Besides NDP 5, there are other plans (Vision 2030 and Harambee Prosperity Plan). All these require statistics at the drafting stage as well as regular monitoring and evaluation.

The representative informed the Team that NDP 3 had 900 indicators while NDP 5 has six hundred. The Team found the number of indicators to be on the high side, given the paucity of data in the statistical system. The representative cited some of the major outputs of the SNA that provide data for planning and monitoring:

- Population and housing census that comes once in a decade
- Household Income and Expenditure Survey that is conducted every 5 years
- Labour Force Survey that is conducted on an annual basis.

Given that NDP 5 must be monitored every 6 months, the studies are far from supporting the Monitoring & Evaluation of the plans. He therefore suggested that there must be an adjustment of survey timetable to improve on information availability. In many instances, they must source statistics from international sources to fill the gaps.

The unfortunate scenario, he noted, is that the NSA is incapable of expanding its activities due to resource constraints.

4.5.10 The Namibian (Newspaper)

The Team met a representative of the Newspaper at their premises. The Namibian has a wide circulation.

In his opening remarks, the representative informed the Team that the organisation produces some statistics for internal consumption. The statistics are public complaints, number of newspapers sold (circulation), street sales and SMS data.

As a media organisation, they rely on statistics from the NSA, the Government, Afro-Barometer and health related NGOs among others. He noted that government is the biggest data producer but there are no verifications as to

the authenticity of the data. He went on to say government officials are fond of making statement without supporting statistics. He gave an example of the Minister of Finance claiming the recession was over (and he was supported by the Governor of the Bank of Namibia. However, a few days later the Statistician General released GDP figures that told a different story.

The representative made the following observations:

- Employment data are outdated (2016)
- Poverty data are not trusted mainly because of lack of understanding by some users on definitions used
- inadequate information on land ownership
- NSA should be a repository of data for wider access by users
- Consumer surveys are missing????
- Lack of confidence by some users on some official statistics released

The representative however, acknowledged the Independent status of NSA in the delivery of its mandate.

4.5.11 Namibia Broadcasting Corporation

The presenter resumed discussions by informing the Team that they need statistics by various attributes to enable the Corporation to fulfil its mandate of reaching a network coverage of 100% as per Harambee Plan. Currently, TV network coverage stands at 74.5%. He mentioned that NSA reports are either out-dated or non-existent. One classic query is the timeliness of the monthly CPI which is published by the 15th of the month following the reference period. While this is acceptable by international standards, the Corporation would like to have it by 10th of the month, latest!

The following is a summary of their complaints:

- No information on people with cell phones, access to the internet, ownership of a radio, ownership of TV
- They want spending power by region
- No information on regional GDP
- No information on contribution of broadcasting to GDP
- No small area statistics
- 10 000 sample is not big enough to provide estimates of some of their needs!

4.5.12 Telecom Namibia

Telecom Namibia as a user and producer of statistics. It is also part of the NSDI that is coordinated by the NSA.

On the supply side, they capture cadastral data and share these with the NSA. They supply monthly data on tele traffic to the NSA. These data are also supplied to the International Telecommunications Union (ITU).

The organisation enumerated their frustrations with data as follows:

- Lack of spatial data on population
- Lack of data by income group at locality level
- lack of regular meetings with NSA. So far, there has only been one meeting last year.
- Population projections are only available for major settlements. There are no small area projections.

A research unit within the organisation does some statistical work to fill the gaps, but this is considered insufficient.

4.5.13 The Universities

Three Universities, Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST), University of Namibia and International University of Management met the Review Team. In general, all are users of statistics. They request data from NSA for various uses, including research. The demand for data from NSA is very high, they noted.

NUST compile administrative statistics and provide higher education statistics. Their students make use of data for research projects. Students from this university are also posted for internships at NSA. This is seen as a very good working relationship as it provides the students with relevant analytical work for their country.

The University of Namibia have a course for Diploma in Statistics. They offer programs for after-hours based on training materials developed by the SADC Statistics Unit. In addition, they offer a course in Official Statistics. This is seen as a very useful course that could be developed for wider use in the sub-region as there are not many universities that offer training in official statistics. They also offer specialised courses such as environmental accounting and SPSS.

They recommended that NSA archive data for common access by various users in on central repository.

4.5.14 GIZ Namibia

GIZ Namibia is supporting the SDG process in the country. The organisation has an advisor seconded to the NSA. Since it is recognised that the NSA is the clearing house for statistics and the reference point for the SDG process, the adviser is playing a critical supporting role for the SDG process.

The SDG process involves many ministries and departments in the provision of data and indicators. However, the GIZ representatives noted that the NSA's role of coordinating the various institutions is rather weak. They believe the agency should be fiercer in their leadership role. As an example, a meeting that should have taken place between key agencies (National Planning Commission and NSA) to prepare for an SDG reporting meeting scheduled for New York in July has failed to take place for 3 weeks. This concerns Namibia's commitment in what is termed Voluntary National Reporting (VNR) on progress of SDG compilation in the country. It was reported that only 11 % of the data has been validated. It therefore means that the country will be ill-prepared for the New York meeting.

Another problem that the representatives mentioned was lack of trust in the data and indicators. At some point, the UN hired a consultant who came up with indicators that looked suspicious. It is not known where he sourced the data from. He has since left his job without handover of what he was doing.

To sum up, the GIZ representatives noted that communication and coordination gaps, as well as resource gaps, are compounding problems in the compilation and provision of statistics and indicators.

4.5.15 UN Agencies

The Team met the UN Agencies as a group. These agencies are users of statistical products and provide technical support to the production of statistics.

The UNFPA has provided support to the census, the intercensal demographic survey as well as health and poverty indicators.

UNICEF is providing support in SDG indicators and strengthening of the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics.



These agencies raised issues with the following:

- Statistics from the MDAs are not readily available;
- Small area statistics are not available;
- Poverty indicators are described in monetary terms only and not multi-dimensional;
- GBV data are a challenge;
- The NSA should take responsibility for key sector surveys, not MDAs.

4.5.16 Meeting with Staff

Representatives of staff had an opportunity to share their views on the work situation with the Peer Review Team. Staff in this respect excludes senior management. The following are some of the issues they raised:

- There is no growth opportunity;
- Decline in funding from Central Government is affecting the quality of statistical products
- There is too much reliance on consultancy work without involvement of staff;
- They complained that manual sampling is a problem; They proposed there should be automation in this area of work;
- Statistical reports are not shared internally before they are released to the public;
- There is no staff rotation;
- They complained that there isn't sufficient publicity about statistics; There is no sufficient interaction with the public about statistical outputs;
- The economic statistics division has a program of knowledge sharing amongst staff; It is not the case with other divisions;
- The Data Quality Assurance and NSS Coordination Division is seriously under-staffed;
- There is need for seminars to educate each other;
- There is insufficient training on new technology; This influences quality of outputs;
- There is insufficient training on the program CPro from the US Census Bureau;
- There is lack of knowledge on sampling for qualitative data;

- There is communication breakdown; Information from top management is not flowing smoothly to middle level and junior staff;
- The NSA should operationalise the Pricing Policy as a way of raising additional resources;
- Staff morale is on the decline; One of the possible causes is the differential pay structure between statistical staff and non-statistical staff;
- They complained that though there is an Employee Survey to measure the level of staff satisfaction, nothing is done following the analysis of the survey results.
- They want performance bonuses to be introduced.

5

Issues and recommendations

5.1. Organisation and coordination of the NSS

The Peer Review Team has observed that there is limited awareness of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, the African Charter on Statistics and International Statistical Institute's Code of Ethics as stipulated in the Statistics Act. These are essential guiding principles for efficient official statistics processing and integrity of the profession.

RECOMMENDATION 1

The NSA is urged to popularise these statistical tools to all statisticians in the wider NSS as a matter of urgency and popularise the national code of ethics that has already been developed by the NSA.

RECOMMENDATION 2

Strengthen the Data Quality Assurance and NSS Coordination department with a view to strengthening the cooperation with statistical units (producer/producer) in the various ministries and departments by holding regular annual meetings as recommended in the Statistics Act.

One of the issues that users raised during consultations with the Peer Review Team is user/producer consultations. These consultations are important since they provide users with an opportunity to air their views on quality of statistical outputs from time to time. The consultations provide an opportunity for users to raise issues regarding statistical products currently in place or suggest new collections. Users should not be spectators in the statistical process. Statistical literacy in Africa has improved over the years.

RECOMMENDATION 3

Improve user/producer consultations as a way of soliciting their inputs in the work program of the NSA as provided for in the Statistics Act.

RECOMMENDATION 4

Engage with all relevant stakeholders on issues of budgeting for statistical activities with a view to alleviating the staff constraints that have been cited across the government sector, in line with the AU Executive Council decision of January 2018 to allocate sufficient budget to statistical development.

The newly approved organisation structure for the NSA provides for only one Deputy Statistician General. It further provides for the headship of the economic and social statistics departments at the same level as some departments that serve as support services to the statistical system. This arrangement somewhat dwarfs the statistics profession. The Peer Review Team believes this is out of touch with common statistical structures obtainable elsewhere on the continent and world-wide. As an example, Statistics South Africa has 7 Deputy positions.

RECOMMENDATION 5

We propose that the structure should reflect a modern development of official statistics in line with best practice by emphasizing the streams of social and economic statistics, as well as NSDI and NSS coordination.

In its deliberations with major players in the NSS (in other ministries and departments), the Peer Review Team was alerted of the involvement of development partners in statistical production in some sectors. An example is the recently executed Agricultural Census. It is not known what other assistance has been rendered to other institutions. It is also not known whether this kind of assistance is solicited by the concerned ministries or departments or it was just offered. While these arrangements are helpful, it would be desirable if assistance to the NSS is coordinated at the NSA level.

RECOMMENDATION 6

The NSA should strengthen coordination of NSS, including technical support and financing coordination.

A common problem in statistical establishments is lack of communication amongst the various statistical divisions/units. These units or divisions tend to work in silos. In other words, there is no sharing of knowledge across the organisation. This is not healthy for statistical development.

RECOMMENDATION 7

Strengthen communication strategies internally to promote a culture of cross-fertilisation of ideas in the NSA, for example through the organisation of joint events and training programmes. Another way is to organise regular seminars where each unit/section explains to other what they do.

RECOMMENDATION 8

There should be synergies between the NSS capacity building program to be developed by the NSA with the programs developed by the Universities in Namibia.

5.2 Institutional Environment

Staff at NSA expressed dissatisfaction with some issues on how the department is administered. Among others, they complained that there is no succession plan, as some employees are nearing retirement. They observed that the NSA conducts surveys on staff satisfaction, but nothing seems to be done following such surveys. They are of the opinion it is a waste of resources to carry out these surveys if no action is taken.

RECOMMENDATION 9

The Peer Review Team recommends that findings from the employee engagement survey be implemented and disseminated widely internally. This would help lift staff morale that is reported to be at its all-time low in 10 years. The NSA is also encouraged to come up with programs that boost staff morale.

RECOMMENDATION 10

The Peer Review Team has observed diminishing financial resources for the NSA, and for the NSS in general, which do affect matters of adequate staffing for the entire system. The Team therefore recommends innovative ways for resource mobilisation.

5.3 Quality

RECOMMENDATION 11

The Peer Review Team noted that no statistics produced outside the NSA are designated as official statistics. The SG is urged to increase the trust in such statistics through his powers outlined under Article 37 of the Statistics Law as a matter of urgency.

RECOMMENDATION 12

The NSA should ensure that cross-consistency checks are performed on outputs from censuses and household surveys as a way of improving the quality of these outputs.

Some users believe money-metric measures of poverty tend to be mis-leading. They have no trust in such measures as \$1 or \$2 per day. They argue such measures tend to be misleading.

RECOMMENDATION 13

The NSA should consider using multi-dimensional measures of poverty in addition to the current approach of monetary measures.

Some issues have arisen regarding data sources. In the formulation of National Development Plan 5, some sectors came up with statistics and indicators whose sources are in doubt. There are also instances where some sectors sourced data from international sources. It turned out that some of these data conflicted with data available locally. This creates problems in monitoring and evaluation of development plans.

RECOMMENDATION 14

It is recommended that the NPC and NSA work closely together in the future to avoid use of conflicting data sets in monitoring and evaluation of development plans and delineate role clarity between the institutions

5.4 Statistical Processes

The reliance on administrative data alone, without regular surveys to cross-check, as an input into national account compilation, could pose serious challenges to the quality of the output.

The Peer Review Team has observed that an annual agricultural survey was last conducted in 2003. Agriculture is a source of livelihood for rural communities and a majority of the population is dependent on agriculture.

RECOMMENDATION 15

The Team recommends that arrangements be made to resuscitate the annual Agriculture Survey as soon as possible.

RECOMMENDATION 16

The Peer Review Team observed that there is inadequate capacity building across the NSA.

It is therefore recommended that NSA develop a capacity building program that is coherent, caters for career development and succession planning. It is also recommended to establish a staff rotation system, where applicable, to enable the spread of statistical knowledge across the NSA.

It has been observed that the NSA has a shared responsibility of producing important statistics such as GDP numbers. It is statistically undesirable to involve a major user in the production of statistics that are key for their responsibilities. There is always room for temptation to massage the numbers, which could affect the integrity of the statistics.

RECOMMENDATION 17

It is recommended that the NSA plan to take direct responsibility of producing these key statistical indicators, among others.

The Bank of Namibia are collecting raw data on the real sector and wholesale and retail trade for the NSA. This is however done by officers who have no idea of the provisions of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics nor The African Charter on Statistics. While efforts to maintain confidentiality may be upheld, the fact that the Bank of Namibia staff responsible for collections of key data have not signed the Oath of Secrecy as provided for in the Statistics Act, this is might affect the integrity of the process of official statistics.

RECOMMENDATION 18

The NSA should plan to take responsibility of these activities from the Bank.

RECOMMENDATION 19

Beyond the NSA sharing their work program with their line Minister, it is recommended that NSA should harmonise all the work programs of the wider NSS for sharing amongst all concerned.

Ministry of Environment and Tourism is currently producing Tourism Statistics based on paper records of the immigration department's arrival and departure cards. It is reported that these are quite cumbersome. These pieces of paper contain sensitive information on persons entering and leaving the country. This information could easily get into the wrong hands.

RECOMMENDATION 20

The Ministry of Environment and Tourism is encouraged to work with the Ministry of Home Affairs to complete the partially computerised immigration control system with a view to transmitting data on line for further processing. This would improve on the security of the data.

There is currently minimal statistical production in the field of environment. Issues of the environment and climate change are taking centre stage in statistical development in recent times. Environmental indicators are also in the SDG and Agenda 2063 lists. Economic development is generally leading to environmental degradation. There exists a considerable amount of administrative data pertaining to the environment.

RECOMMENDATION 21

The Ministry, in collaboration with NSA, is encouraged to start producing environment statistics using the methodologies developed by the United Nations Statistics Division.

The Team observed that some Ministries carry out household surveys for their sectors. Household surveys and population census belong to a group and should be the responsibility of the central statistical authority. Household surveys serve as a secondary source of population estimates in between the ten-year population censuses. It is desirable that this responsibility is handled by one authority.

RECOMMENDATION 22

The NSA is encouraged to take direct responsibility of all household surveys, instead of various institutions carrying out those that relate to their sectors.

The Ministry of Gender cited a general lack of gender disaggregated data from most statistical producers.

RECOMMENDATION 23

It is recommended that all official statistics producers provide gender disaggregated statistics as far as is possible, with collaboration of the Gender Desk at NSA. The Ministry of Gender should desirably be co-opted in planning stages of all surveys and censuses for purposes of mainstreaming gender issues in the enquiries.

RECOMMENDATION 24

It is recommended that the NSA consider including a Time Use module that has been developed by the UNSD in one of their future household survey. This survey is another valuable source of data on gender issues.

RECOMMENDATION 25

It is recommended that the NSA improves technology across the statistical value chain; for example, sampling techniques.

It has been observed that the NSA is under-resourced due to the economic downturn that has been observed for at least the past 3 years. This is said to be affecting some of the outputs of the organisation.

RECOMMENDATION 26

The NSA is urged to operationalise its pricing policy with a view to augment the financial resources of the organisation.

RECOMMENDATION 27

The NSA is encouraged to send its officers for attachments to sister offices in neighbouring countries for study visits, as a way of capacity building in areas where the NSA is lacking capability.

RECOMMENDATION 28

The NSA is urged to strengthen its performance management systems by enforcing performance contracts at all levels within the organisation.

RECOMMENDATION 29

The NSA is advised to create a repository for all data that has passed the test of official statistics. This will enable users a one-stop centre for all relevant development statistics.

5.5 Dissemination

RECOMMENDATION 30

The NSA should provide training and encourage continuous interaction with the media for them to understand statistical concepts to enable them to report statistics accurately.

It has generally been observed that most statisticians in the government sector are unaware of the existence of statistical legislation and international documents that govern statistical operations.

RECOMMENDATION 31

All those involved in the production and dissemination of official statistics should abide by the provisions of the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and the African Charter on Statistics and the Statistics Act.

Annex 1

*Final program for
the week*





| Date | Time | Institution |
|-----------|------------------------------------|--|
| 25-Jun-18 | Meeting with NSA Management | |
| | 8:00-9:00 | Discussion of the programme of the peer review visit Discussion of methodology and focus of the peer review |
| | 9:00-10:00 | Description of the Statistical System of Namibia |
| | 10:00-11:00 | Theme 1: Organisation and Coordination of the NSS |
| | 11:00-12:00 | Theme 2: Institutional Environment |
| | 12:00-13:00 | Theme 3: Quality |
| | 13:00-14:00 | Lunch |
| | 14:00-15:00 | Theme 4: Statistical Process |
| | 15:00-16:00 | Theme 5: Dissemination |
| 26-Jun-18 | 8:00-9:00 | Ministry of Environment and Tourism |
| | 9:00-10:00 | Ministry of Finance |
| | 10:00-11:00 | Ministry of Industrialisation, Trade and SME Development |
| | 11:00-12:00 | Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry |
| | 13:00-14:00 | Lunch |
| | 14:00-15:00 | NSA Employees |
| | 15:00-16:00 | Ministry of Basic Education, Art and Culture |
| 27-Jun-18 | 8:30-9:00 | Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relation and Employment Creation |
| | 9:10-10:00 | Bank of Namibia |
| | 10:30-11:20 | Telecom Namibia |
| | 12:00-12:45 | Namibia Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) |
| | 13:00-14:00 | Lunch |
| | 14:00-17:00 | Consolidation of work by the Peer Review Team |
| 28-Jun-18 | 8:00-9:00 | Follow-up meeting with NSA Staff members |
| | 9:00-9:40 | Ministry of Health and Social Services |
| | 9:45-10:20 | National Planning Commission |
| | 10:20-11:30 | Namibia University of Science & Technology University of Namibia & International University of Management |
| | 11:30-12:20 | GIZ (Namibia) |
| | 12:30-13:20 | The Namibian Newspaper |
| | 13:30-14:20 | Lunch |
| | 14:30-15:30 | UNDP & UNFPA |
| 29-Jun-18 | 9:30-11:30 | Peer Review Team –Drafting of Preliminary findings |
| | 11:30-13:00 | |
| | 13:00-14:00 | Lunch |
| | 14:00-16:00 | Meeting with NSA Management |

Participants to the Peer Review

| N° | Name | Surname | Position | Organisation | Email | Phone number |
|----|------|---------|----------|--------------|-------|--------------|
|----|------|---------|----------|--------------|-------|--------------|

25 JUNE 2018

| | | | | | | |
|----|----------------|--------------------|--|-----|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Henok | Immanuel | Manager: Information Technology | NSA | HImmanuel@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 2 | Tuli | Shilamba | Manager: Finance | NSA | TShilamba@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 3 | Doreen | Menjengua | Manager: Human Resource | NSA | DMenjengua@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 4 | Alex | Mudabeti | Manager: GIS & NSDI | NSA | AMudabet@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 5 | Peter | Von Kuhne | Executive: Human Resource | NSA | PvonKuhne@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 6 | Titus | Tsowaseb | Manager: Security | NSA | TTsowaseb@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 7 | Pauline | Chigumbu | Executive: Finance | NSA | PChigumbu@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 8 | Julius | Namoloh | Manager: Logistics | NSA | JNamoloh@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 9 | Tabitha | Mbome | Assistant Company Secretary/ Legal Adviser | NSA | TMbome@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 10 | Otillie | Mwazi | Deputy Statistician General | NSA | OMwazi@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 11 | Iipumbu | Sakaria | Manager: Communications | NSA | ISakaria@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 12 | Daniel | Oherein | Manager: Social Statistics | NSA | DOherein@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 13 | Isak | Neema | Executive: Data Quality Assurance & NSS Coordination | NSA | INeema@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 14 | Otja | Tjipetekera | Senior Data Quality Specialist | NSA | Otjipetekera@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 15 | Hift | Simataa | Acting Manager: SFO | NSA | HSimataa@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 16 | Alex | Shimuafeni | Statistician General & CEO | NSA | AShimuafeni@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |

| N° | Name | Surname | Position | Organisation | Email | Phone number |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--|--|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 26 JUNE 2018 | | | | | | |
| 1 | Abner | Nambahu | Statistician | Ministry of Tourism and Environment | abnernambahu@mef.gov.na | 00264 61 284 42005 |
| 2 | Sem | Shikongo | Director | Ministry of Tourism and Environment | s.shikongo@yahoo.com | 00264 61 2842178 |
| 3 | Elise | Hashikutuva | Deputy Director | Ministry of Tourism and Environment | Elise.hashikutuva@mef.gov.na | 00264 61 2842258 |
| 4 | David | Andrew | System Administrator | Ministry of Finance | David.Andrew@mof.gov.na | 00264 61 2092512 |
| 5 | Kenneth | Haludilu | Acting Deputy Director | Ministry of Finance | Kenneth.Haludilu@mof.gov.na | 00264 61 2092515 |
| 6 | Severus | Kankondi | Statistician | Ministry of Finance | Severus.kankondi@mof.gov.na | 00264 61 2092294 |
| 7 | Penoshinge | Shillifa | Deputy Director | Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare | Penoshinge.Shillifa@mgecw.gov.na | 00264 61 2833114 |
| 8 | Michael | Himavindu | Deputy Permanent Secretary | Ministry of Industrialisation, Trade and SME Development | himavindu@mti.gov.na | 00264 81 1536362 |
| 9 | Stephanus | Sanda | Senior Statistician | Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry | Stefanus.sanda@mawf.gov.na | 00264 61 2087714 |
| 10 | Aino | Shapaka | Statistician | Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry | Aino.shapaka@mawf.gov.na | 00264 61 2087658 |
| 11 | Natangwe | Ambambi | Financial Accountant | NSA | NAmbambi@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 12 | Atanasius | Shaningwa | Senior Management Accountant | NSA | AShaningwa@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 13 | Esther | Elago | Price Statistician | NSA | EElago@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 14 | Paulus | Amweelo | Sectoral Statistician | NSA | PAmweelo@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 15 | Elizabeth | Immanuel | Information Technology Specialist | NSA | Elmanuel@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 16 | Maria | Nanyemba | Sampling Statistician | NSA | MNanyemba@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 17 | Iyaloo | Shalumbu | Software Developer | NSA | IShalumbu@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 18 | Alina | Namupala | Senior Statistician: Demography Statistics | NSA | ANamupala@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 19 | Otja | Tjipetekera | Senior Data Quality Specialist | NSA | Otjipetekera@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 3200 |
| 20 | Raimo | Dengeinge | Acting Director | Ministry of Basic Education, Art and Culture | Raimo.dengeinge33@gmail.com | 00264 81 1242663 |

Annex 2

| N° | Name | Surname | Position | Organisation | Email | Phone number |
|----|------|---------|----------|--------------|-------|--------------|
|----|------|---------|----------|--------------|-------|--------------|

27 JUNE 2018

| | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | Mathew | Haitembu | Statistician | Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relation and Employment Creation | abnernambahu@mef. gov.na | 00264 61 284 42005 |
| 2 | David | Iigonda | Deputy Director | Ministry of Labour, Industrial Relation and Employment Creation | s.shikongo@yahoo. com | 00264 61 2842178 |
| 3 | Sanette | Schulze Strchtrup | Deputy Director | Bank of Namibia | Elise.hashikutuva@mef. gov.na | 00264 61 2842258 |
| 4 | Uazukuani | Uazukuani | Application Analyst: GIS | Telecom Namibia | David.Andrew@mof. gov.na | 00264 61 2092512 |
| 5 | Ester | Nashipili | Service Architecture: Performance | Telecom Namibia | Kenneth.Haludilu@ mof.gov.na | 00264 61 2092515 |
| 6 | Paulina | Amakali | Market Research Analyst | Telecom Namibia | Severus.kankondi2mof. gov.na | 00264 61 2092294 |
| 7 | Jonannes Cooks | Kunamwene | Manager: Marketing Startegy | Telecom Namibia | Penoshinge.Shililifa@ mgecw.gov.na | 00264 61 2833114 |
| 8 | Nico | Mwiya | Manager: Business Planning & Research | | himavindu@mti.gov.na | 00264 81 1536362 |

| N° | Name | Surname | Position | Organisation | Email | Phone number |
|---------------------|------------------|----------------------|--|--|----------------------------|------------------|
| 28 JUNE 2018 | | | | | | |
| 1 | Frieda | Theofelus | Sampling Statistician | NSA | FTheofelus@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 320 |
| 2 | Atanasius | Shaningwa | Senior Management Accountant | NSA | AShaningwa@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 320 |
| 3 | Esther | Elago | Price Statistician | NSA | EElago@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 320 |
| 4 | Paulus | Amweelo | Sectoral Statistician | NSA | PAmweelo@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 320 |
| 5 | Elizabeth | Immanuel | Information Technology Specialist | NSA | Elmanuel@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 320 |
| 6 | Maria | Nanyemba | Sampling Statistician | NSA | MNanyemba@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 320 |
| 7 | Iyaloo | Shalumbu | Software Developer | NSA | IShalumbu@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 320 |
| 8 | Eben | Kahitu | Statistician: Demography Statistics | NSA | EKahitu@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 320 |
| 9 | Nelson | Ashipala | Communication Specialist | NSA | NAshipala@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 320 |
| 10 | Lovisa | Nangombe | Senior GIS Analyst | NSA | LNangombe@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 320 |
| 11 | Enrico | Bezuidenhoudt | GIS Analysts | NSA | Ebezuidenhoudt@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 320 |
| 12 | Linda | Idhogela | Senior Statistician: Labour Statistics | NSA | Lidhogela@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 320 |
| 13 | Essen | Mowa | GIS Analyst | NSA | Emowa@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 320 |
| 14 | Paula | Ingo | Statistician: Survey & Field Operations | NSA | pingo@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 320 |
| 15 | Otja | Tjipetekera | Senior Data Quality Specialist | NSA | Otjipetekera@nsa.org.na | 00264 61 431 320 |
| 16 | Hilma | Nangombe | Acting Deputy Director Health Information System | Ministry of Health & Social Services | hnangombe@gmail.com | 00264 61 2032502 |
| 17 | Emmy-Else | Ndavaetela | Acting Deputy Director: Research Division | Ministry of Health and Social Services | endavaetela@gmail.com | 00264 61 2032630 |
| 18 | David | Mulenga | National Development Planner | National Planning Commission | dmulenga@npc.gov.na | 00264 81 4330776 |
| 19 | E. | Dumeni | Manager: MIS & Research | Namibia University of Science & Technology | edumeni@nust.com | 00264 61 2072303 |
| 20 | Rosalia | Mwalundilange | HOD/ Lecturer | International University of Management | r.mwalundilange@ium.edu.na | 00264 61 4336000 |

Annex 2

| N° | Name | Surname | Position | Organisation | Email | Phone number |
|----|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 21 | Lillian | Pazvakavambwa | Senior Lecturer | University of Namibia | lpazvakavambwa@unam.na | 00264 61 2064713 |
| 22 | Fredericko | Links | Editor/Journalist | The Namibian Newspaper | frederico@namibian.com.na | 00264 82 2334705 |
| 23 | Ailla-Tessa | Iiyambula | NUNV-BCUME III- UNDP | UNDP | aillatessa@gmail.com | 00264 81 8283801 |
| 24 | Hoebtin | Jing | UNV: Demographic Division | UNFPA | hjung@unfpa.org | 00264 81 3882277 |
| 25 | Philomena | Ochurus | Monitoring & Evaluation Officer | UNFPA | ochurus@unfpa.org | 00264 61 204 6283 |
| 26 | Ernst | Mbangula | Research & Evaluation Specialist | UNICEF | embangula@unicef.org | 00264 81 2298118 |



Further information about African Statistics and statistical publications
by the African Union Statistics Division may be obtained from the:

African Union Commission

PO Box 3243

Addis Ababa - Ethiopia

Tel: (251) 115182278 and (251) 115182671

Contact:

austatdivision@africa-union.org

Website: **www.austat.org** or **www.au.int**

*This publication was produced with the financial and technical support of the European Union.
Its contents are the sole responsibility of the AUC's Statistics Division and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.*

