



CHAPTER 22

Local Statistics Development

Introduction

The development of local statistical system is crucial in the attainment of the Philippine Statistical System's (PSS's) goals. Over the past years, the exigency of local level statistics has increased tremendously, as legislators, researchers, as well as private organizations, among others, rely on more locally-disaggregated data. These data, sourced from surveys, censuses, administrative forms and registers, are generated by various regional/provincial line agencies (R/PLAs) and local government units (LGUs).

With the commitment of the Philippines to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as to the 0-10 point Socio-economic Agenda of the administration and the *AmBisyon Natin 2040*, the engagement of the R/PLAs and LGUs are necessary particularly in identification of areas which are constantly left behind. Local-level statistics produced by the R/PLAs and LGUs will help in pointing out these areas that require immediate intervention from the government.

In order for the local statistical system to address all of these demands, creating additional statistical units and hiring statisticians that will perform the necessary groundwork, strengthening collaboration and partnerships among agencies, LGUs, and stakeholders, and conduct of statistical capacity building are just among the programs needed to facilitate the production of more reliable, relevant and quality local-level statistics.

❖ **Scope and Coverage**

This chapter provides the current state of the local statistical system and strategies that will contribute to a strengthened local data ecosystem.

- Statistical management and coordination mechanisms for the monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the local level; as well as maintaining an integrated framework for the collection, processing, dissemination and use of local-level statistics;
- Statistical laws and policies that provide mandate and govern the operations and activities of the regional statistical system (RSS), i.e., statistical resolutions issued;
- Statistical frameworks, methodologies, standards, and classification systems essential in the conduct of various censuses and surveys as well as in the development of administrative data and registers;
- Statistical advocacy strategies for the promotion of statistics particularly to students and the general public;
- Strategies for financing statistics to ensure sustainable resources for the development and generation of critical local-level statistics;

- Statistical capacity building measures for the human resource capacity development of the local statistical system; and
- Use of technology in the conduct of various censuses and surveys.

❖ **Implementing Agencies**

The following regional line agencies are responsible in the formulation as well as the implementation of the programs align with the improvement of the local statistical system:

- Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP)
- Bureau of Local Government Finance (BLGF)
- Commission on Higher Education (CHED)
- Department of Agriculture (DA)
- Department of Budget and Management (DBM)
- Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)
- Department of Education (DepEd)
- Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)
- Department of Health (DOH)
- Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE)
- Department of Tourism (DOT)
- Department of Science and Technology (DOST)
- Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)
- Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)
- Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)
- Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA)
- National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)
- Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA)
- Office of the Regional Governor and Regional Planning and Development Office (RPDO), Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM)
- Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)

Various Provincial Planning and Development Offices (PPDOs), Academe/State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), and the private sector at the local level are also involved in the development and accomplishment of these programs.

Milestones, Key Developments, Issues and Challenges

❖ **Milestones and Key Developments of 2016-2017**

Some of the major achievements of the RSS in 2016-2017 are as follows:

- Presence of the Regional Statistics Committees (RSC) in the regions that provided guidance in the formulation as well as implementation of relevant local statistical programs
- Implementation of Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) in some PSA surveys, e.g., Labor Force Survey (LFS), National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS), to facilitate data collection, transfer, tabulation, processing, and dissemination
- Development of an integrated local statistical framework and core regional indicators (CoRe-Is) in support of local development planning and governance
- Use of technology for geo-tagging, digitization of building structures, digitization of farm holdings and housing unit of farm operators, among others
- Adoption of Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping technology
- Earlier release of the Gross Regional Domestic Product (GRDP) and Regional Accounts
- Adherence to international standards in concepts and definitions of data to ensure comparability and development and implementation of statistical standards classification systems aligned with international standards and best practices
- Adoption of the 2013 Master Sample for the generation of data for highly urbanized cities and in the conduct of the household-based surveys of the PSA, i.e., Annual Poverty Indicator Survey (APIS), Family Income and Expenditure Survey (FIES), LFS
- Regular conduct of information, education, and communication (IEC) campaigns to schools, LGUs, private offices, media, and other establishments with regard to civil registration

- Continuous conduct of capacity building programs on the use of statistics in media, policy, and delivery of services and statistical training/workshop programs on basic statistical tools and data management
- Conduct of mobile registration in schools, hard-to-reach areas, and for special groups (e.g., Muslims, indigenous peoples (IPs))
- Conduct of statistical appreciation seminars for government, executives, business leaders, civil society, and media
- Conduct of the assessment and performance evaluation of provinces, cities and municipalities relative to compliance to Full Disclosure Policy of the Government
- Development of educational courses for statistics
- Enhancement/Updating and implementation of local information systems/administrative data systems to provide more timely and accessible local level data
- Conduct of workshops on the alignment of regional strategic priorities with the SDGs and development of indicators to monitor the SDG targets
- Adoption of the community-based monitoring system (CBMS) in some local governments

❖ **Issues and challenges**

Some of the issues and challenges identified in the development of the RSS are as follows:

- Absence of permanent statisticians or statistical focal person/s in most LGUs and some national government agencies (NGAs) responsible in the collection, processing, and dissemination of data
- Absence of plantilla positions and statistical units among RLAs and LGUs
- Fast turnover of statistical personnel
- Only few schools offering statistics courses and inadequate instructors/professors teaching statistics
- Frequent power interruptions and unreliable internet connections causing the delay of transmission of information
- Inadequate appreciation of respondents and data providers about the importance and value of statistical operations of the PSA which causes low response rate in surveys
- Inadequate representations of other government agencies and the private sectors to the RSC
- Inconsistent reporting systems and varied administrative forms across LGUs
- Insufficient indicators at the local level to monitor regional SDGs
- No monitoring and evaluation conducted for identified statistical programs, activities and projects (PAPs)
- Lack of awareness/appreciation/understanding of data/official statistics resulting to misuse and misinterpretation of data, especially by media practitioners
- Need for data disaggregation up to the provincial, municipal/city and barangay levels
- Lack of skills/knowledge and absence of collaboration/partnership among experts to develop statistical methodologies
- Limited implementation of the various statistical information systems at the local level
- Need for a concerted action plan at the national and local levels on data generation, consolidation, reporting and dissemination as well as monitoring and evaluation mechanism to address manifold issues and concerns of the different sectors
- Need for capacity building and training for personnel handling statistics
- Need for enhanced coordination mechanisms in hastening the generation, consolidation, dissemination and analysis of sectoral statistics

Key Statistical Development Programs and Activities

❖ **Thrusts and strategies**

The following thrusts and strategies shall be undertaken for the development of the local statistical system: (a) Enhancement of the management and coordination of the local statistical system to ensure progressive and sustained improvement of local-level statistics for development planning, decision-making, monitoring and evaluation, and for effective

governance and legislation; (b) Enhancement of data dissemination and advocacy on statistics through maximized use of information and communications technology in statistical processes and conduct of forums/workshops to promote utilization of statistics at the local level; (c) Strengthening capacity building for improved production, dissemination, and utilization of local-level statistics; and (d) Strengthening of the local statistical system to be able to generate more locally-disaggregated data in support of countryside development.

❖ **Major Statistical Development Programs and Activities for 2018-2023**

For the period 2018-2023, the following statistical development programs have been identified to facilitate the development of mechanisms, improve processes, and enhance capacities towards the production and dissemination of local-level statistics in support of governance and development.

a. New Developmental Programs and Activities

- Establishment of Provincial Statistics Committees (PSCs)/Local Statistics Committees (LSCs) to facilitate statistical coordination in the province
- Establishment of institutional mechanisms on the monitoring of the SDGs
- Creation of SDG databank which will generate time series data on SDG indicators
- Adoption/Application of technological innovation such as the use of CAPI in data collection processes of censuses and surveys to facilitate data collection, processing, and dissemination
- Establishment of statistical information centers at the city/municipal level for wider dissemination and utilization of statistics, especially in support of local governance and development
- Institutionalization of Statistical Survey Review and Clearance System (SSRCS) in the region
- Use of Small Area Estimation (SAE) technique to generate at least provincial level results or even up to municipal disaggregation
- Conduct of workshops on implementation of new or improved systems in generating and

disseminating statistical data, such as the Advanced Data Planning Tool (ADAPT), Microdata Documentation and Dissemination, National Data Archive (NADA), and other emerging information system technologies

- Establishment of a strong collaboration and coordination among agencies, LGUs and stakeholders by regularly conducting statistical fora, data dissemination, and lecture series
- Development of a comprehensive statistical plan to respond to Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) commitments
- Conduct of research studies in developing new methods of estimating some SDG indicators through the help of the SUCs
- Adoption of the 2018 Philippine Standard Classification of Crimes for Statistical Purposes
- Adoption of the methodology of the Expanded National Nutrition Survey (ENNS) of the Food and Nutrition Research Institute (FNRI)
- Adoption of the Philippine Statistical Quality Assurance Framework
- Creation of pool of individuals who are capable of formulating policies and guiding principles for the betterment of the RSS
- Development of metadata and data archives for statistical indicator frameworks to facilitate progressive assessment of data availability, proper data utilization, documentation, protection and data preservation

b. Building-up Current Efforts

- Conduct of censuses/surveys that will generate statistics for planning and policymaking both at the national and subnational level
- Improvement/Updating/Maintenance/Adoption of administrative-based registration, reporting, and monitoring systems
- Continuous conduct of trainings and workshops on data management, presentation, analysis and interpretation of data, small area estimation, statistical report writing, data storytelling, infographics, website and database management, among

- others, to improve accessibility, dissemination, and communication of statistics in all sectors
- Conduct of capacity buildings on the Regional and Provincial Accounts and other economic indicators for RLAs and LGUs
 - Compilation of economic indicators from various sector including data from LGUs Business Permits and Licensing System (BPLS)
 - Advocacy on the adoption of the System of Designated Statistics (SDS)
 - Adoption of/adherence to Administrative Records Review and Clearance System (ARRCS) to ensure that administrative-based data collection systems conform to standard definitions, concepts and classifications are in place
 - Preparation and dissemination of statistical publications, articles, and reports such as Regional Social and Economic Trends (RSET), Women and Men Statistical Handbook, Countryside in Figures, among others
 - Intensify advocacy campaigns on the importance of statistics such as civil registration and other administrative data through seminars, trainings or mobile registration up to the depressed areas and marginalized populations
 - Annual conduct of RSC Summit and National Statistics Month (NSM)
 - Adoption of and advocacy on the following standard statistical classification systems:
 - Philippine Central Product Classification (PCPC)
 - Philippine Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose (PCOICOP)
 - Philippine Standard Classification of Education (PSCED)
 - Philippine Standard Commodity Classification (PSCC)
 - Philippine Standard Occupational Classification (PSOC)
 - Philippine Standard Geographic Code (PSGC)
 - Philippine Standard Industrial Classification (PSIC)
 - Regular conduct of Career Orientation Seminars to Senior High School Students and advocacy on the BS Statistics curriculum
 - Updating of Basic Education Statistics in the Learner Information System (LIS) and Enhanced Basic Education Information System (EBEIS) to register and update learner's data in the LIS and school profiles
 - Updating of the Provincial Product Accounts (PPAs) for the Province of Guimaras and generation/estimation of PPAs for the other provinces
 - Upgrading/Purchase of information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure and internet connectivity especially in the LGUs which are the primary reporting units for administrative data
 - Increased utilization of tablet and GIS technology for listing and mapping of building structures, housing units and households, and other statistical activities of the PSA and other agencies
 - Creation of statistical units or positions/filling-up and hiring of additional statistical personnel in data producing compiling agencies
 - Designation of permanent statisticians and focal persons in statistics in LGUs
 - Annual Compilation and improvement of the Philippine National Health Accounts (PNHA)
 - Collaboration with RLAs for the adoption of best statistical practices as part of the seal for good governance
 - Creation of different levels of Census Coordinating Boards (CCB) for the conduct of the 2020 Census of Population and Housing (CPH)
 - Development and/or enhancement of an integrated statistics web portal to facilitate consolidation, sharing, and dissemination of available data and metadata in the RSS
 - Improvement and enhancement of the Batch Request System (BREQS), Decentralized Vital Statistics System (DVSS), Barangay Civil Registry System (BCRS), Philippines Civil Registry Information System (PhilCRIS), Analysis of Causes of National Deaths for Action (ANACONDA) and Issuance of Certificate for Registration of the Authority to Solemnize Marriage (CRASM)