

**Philippine Statistical
Development Program
2011-2017 Update
PRIMER**

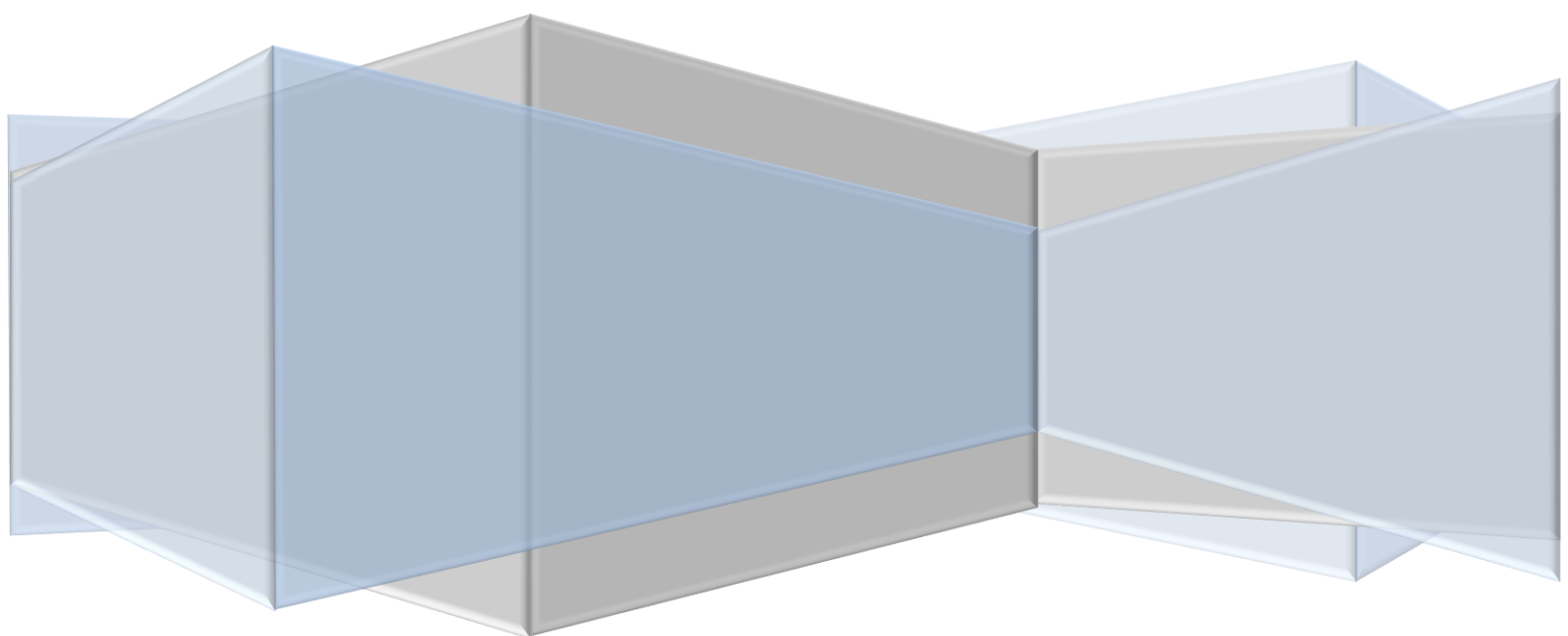


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The Philippines Needs Good Quality Statistics

“Understanding the state of our nation entails an awareness of our people’s realities: A grasp of their abilities, their potential, and the aspirations that move us as a collective. Statistics is a tool that enables our government to ground our policy and program reforms in data that accurately represent the unique circumstances of our countrymen.”

- *His Excellency Benigno S. Aquino III, President of the Philippines*

“Uncertainties in light of our country’s increased openness to trade and participation in information and cultural exchange also compel us to be vigilant about the changes in key development indicators and direct us to think progressively in overcoming impending threats to the robust growth of our economy. Thus, official statistics that meet the standards of reliability and timeliness are indispensable, especially in the execution of our plans and programs.”

- *The Honorable Arsenio M. Balisacan, Director General of the National Economic and Development Authority and Secretary for Socioeconomic Planning*

“Statistics are important not only for the stories they tell but also because they provide the basis for sound, sensible policies going forward. Timely, relevant and reliable information provide sound guideposts that enable us to make informed choices and, ultimately, form an educated stand on issues that affect our nation’s future.”

- *The Honorable Amando M. Tetangco, Jr., Governor of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas*

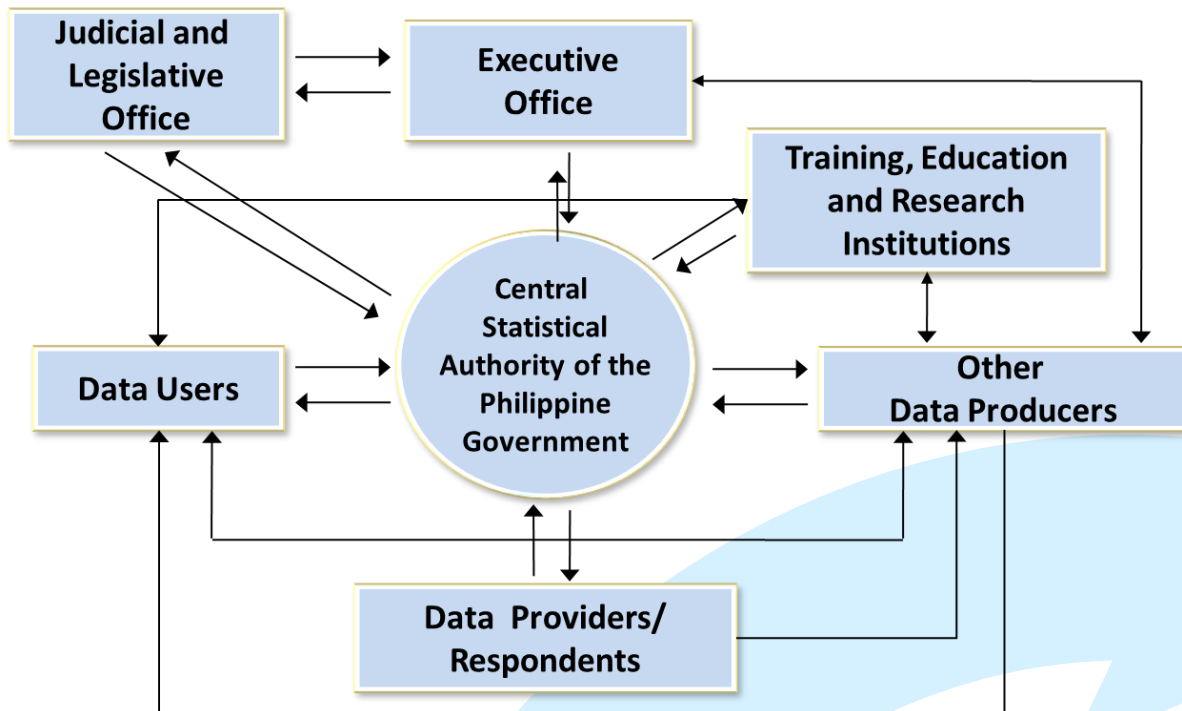
“Statistics play a vital function in maintaining good health status of the population and combating dilemma of health inequity. Today’s modern age require health services, technologies and innovations driven by evidence-based information... Let us spread and use statistics to extensively save lives!”

- *The Honorable Janette P. Loreto-Garin, Secretary of the Department of Health*

“Good stats make good stories...and good governance, too!”

- *Ms. Maria Lourdes C. Mangahas, Executive Director of the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism*

The Philippine Statistical System



The Philippine Statistical System (PSS) needs a strong coordination mechanism to oversee and guide the decentralized government statistical service in order to promote the orderly development of a system capable of providing timely, accurate and useful data for the government and the public, especially for planning and decision-making.

As such, Republic Act No. 10625 established the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) as the central statistical authority of the government with coordination linkages among executive, judicial and legislative offices, government agencies producing specialized statistics either as their primary functions or as part of their administrative or regulatory functions, agencies who use statistics in the exercise of their planning, policy and decision-making functions, and training and research institutions, as well as the data providers who respond to the surveys.

Governance Structures in the PSS

- ***PSA Board***

Establishes appropriate coordination mechanisms to maintain effective and efficient PSS, through formulation of policies on all matters relating to government statistical operations, review and rationalization of the statistical programs of the agencies of the national government and of the local government units.

- ***Interagency and Technical Statistical Committees***

Assist the PSA Board in the exercise of its functions, particularly, to coordinate and resolve agency and sectoral concerns on statistical matters, and serve as forum for discussion of the issues raised by concerned producers, users and other stakeholders of sectoral and agency-specific statistics.

PSA Board Resolution No. 4 Series of 2014 established 27 Committees on Statistics.

- ***Regional/Provincial Statistics Committees***

Serve as forum for the discussion and resolution of statistical issues at the regional and local levels, PSA Resolution No. 5 established the Regional Statistics Committees (RSCs) issued on 20 March 2015.

- ***Subcommittees/Technical Committees/Task Forces/ Technical Working Groups***

Address/resolve specific concerns/issues before these are discussed at the Technical/Interagency Committees or Regional/Provincial Statistics Committees

Statistical Development Programming in the Philippines

Legal Basis

Sec. 6 of Republic Act No. 10625 (Philippine Statistical Act of 2013) mandates the PSA to prepare the Philippine Statistical Development Program (PSDP)

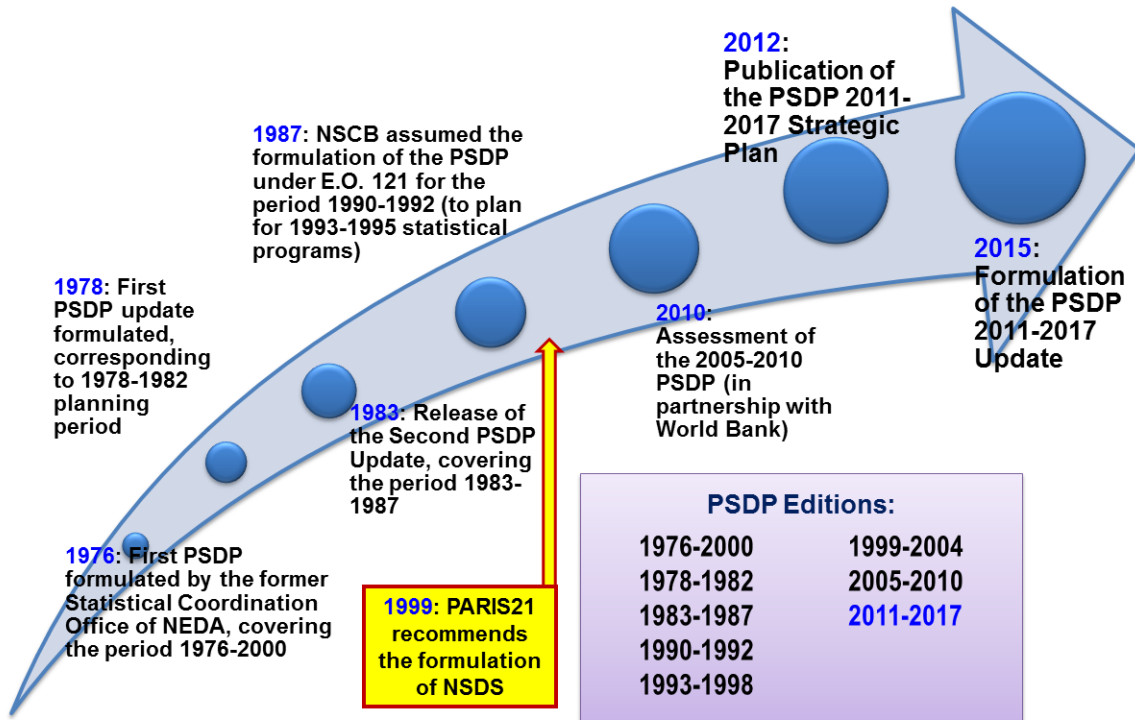
Philippine Statistical Development Program

- Sets the medium term directions, thrusts and priorities of the PSS for the generation and dissemination of statistical information used in policy and decision-making.
- Identifies priority statistical development activities to address the data requirements of the medium-term national development plan.

The Philippines' equivalent of the National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) advocated by the international community as an instrument for "setting the vision for where the national statistical system (NSS) should be in five to ten years and will set milestones for getting there".

Long before the NSDS, the Philippines already has the PSDP.

PSDP Milestones



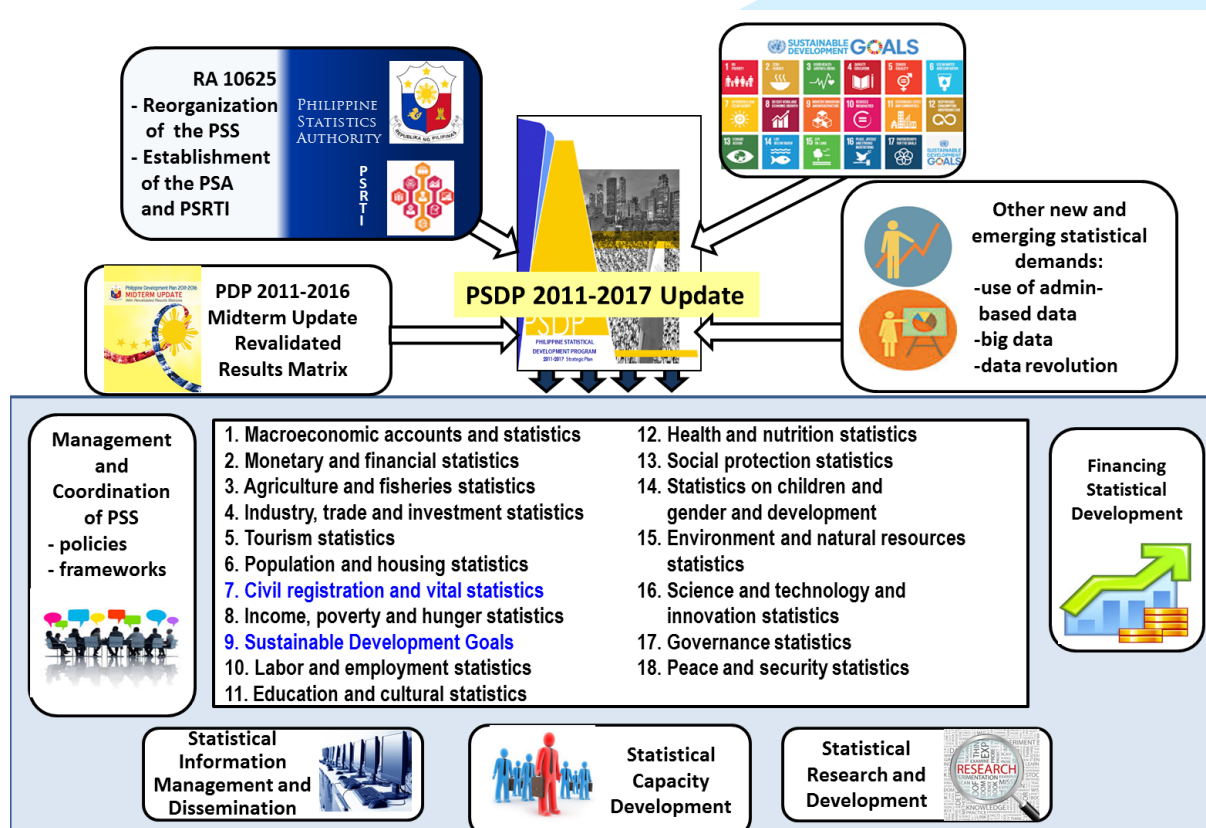
The PSDP 2011-2017 is the eighth edition of the PSDP. Released in October 2012, it aimed to provide solid and relevant statistical evidence for development planning, policy and decision-making in support of inclusive growth and poverty reduction.

The publication contained 23 sectoral chapters, highlighting the accomplishments, issues and challenges as well as the key programs of the PSS in the medium-term.

The Need to Update the Existing PSDP

Recent Developments

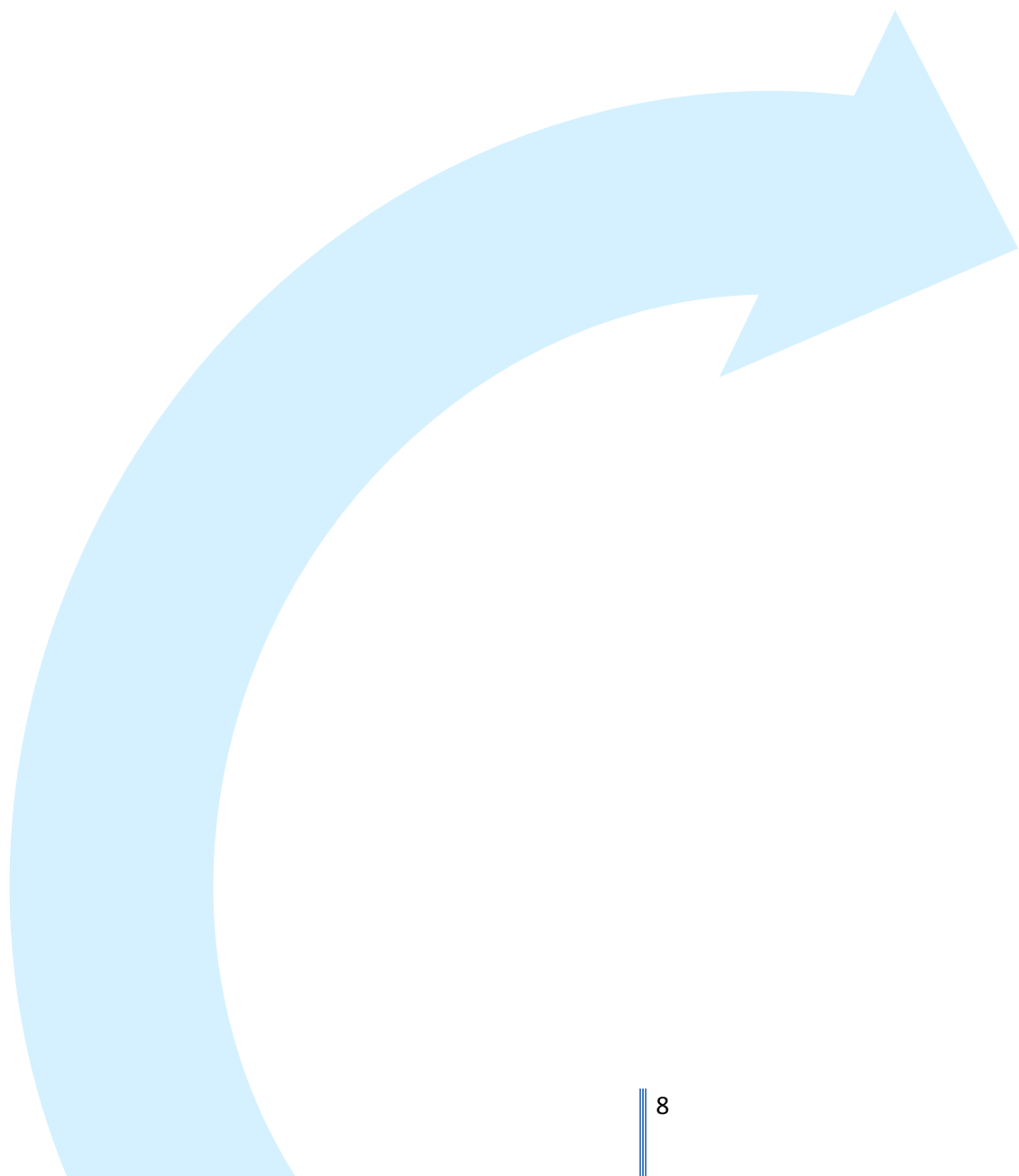
- Reorganization of the PSS and the establishment of the PSA
- Release of the Philippine Development Plan 2010-2016 Midterm Update with the Revalidated Results Matrices in 2014
- New challenges such as data revolution, which calls for a reform in the way data is produced, shared, assessed, analyzed and consumed
- Use of open data, big data and other non-official data, as well as administrative-based data to complement survey-based data
- Post-2015 development agenda/sustainable development goals (SDGs)



Emerging information demands

- Statistics on non-traditional security concerns, i.e., climate change, disaster risk reduction and management, transnational crimes, among others
- Statistics generated from civil registration system such as births, deaths and marriages

The PSDP also aims to address the continuing issues and challenges in the PSS, advocate for the provision of adequate and sustainable financial and human resources in the PSS.



Philippine Statistical Development Program 2011-2017 Update

Priorities for the Development of Statistics in the Philippines: 2016-2017

The PSDP 2011-2017 envisions a responsive, effective and efficient PSS that provides quality statistics for evidence-based decisions towards the attainment of the development goals of the nation. It serves as a roadmap with strategic guideposts and pegs of desired outcomes that characterize the changes and reforms needed to realize the vision. With strong political support and adequate resources, the PSDP shall facilitate and ensure the production of statistics in aid of good governance towards inclusive growth, reduced poverty, and sustainable progress in the country.

With the reorganization of the Philippine Statistical System (PSS) and the establishment of the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) by virtue of Republic Act 10625 otherwise known as the Philippine Statistical Act of 2013, a new central authority for statistics arises with the renewed aspiration of building a solid and responsive statistical system for the Philippines. In 2014, the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) also released the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2010-2016 Midterm Update, calling for new and more up-to-date statistics to monitor the achievements of the government's flagship programs geared towards a better quality life for the Filipinos.

Developments in the recent past have likewise escalated along with the growing consciousness on the value of statistics. Data revolution calls for a reform in the way data is produced, shared, assessed, analyzed and consumed. It espouses the optimal use of administrative-based data and open data as well as third party data sources such as big data and other non-official data to complement survey-based data and official statistics. The most recent development framework – the 2030 Agenda or the Post-2015 Development Agenda – emphasizes the role of quality data in monitoring progress of nations vis-à-vis the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the need to mobilize resources to support such. Given these and the emerging information demands, the PSA deemed it imperative to update the PSDP 2011-2017 Strategic Plan.

Objectives and Strategic Thrusts of the PSDP

The PSDP 2011-2017 Update aims to continually respond to the existing and emerging requirements of development planning and policy formulation considering major institutional/structural changes, information demands, recent events involving natural hazards and threats to national security, and adherence to international commitments. It builds on the achievements of the PSS for the period 2011-2014 and discusses perennial issues and areas for improvement. Key programs of the PSS for the period 2016-2017 – including the financing required, potential outputs and policy uses of statistics generated from these statistical ventures – are also identified in the document.

The strategic thrusts of the PSDP 2011-2017 Update are as follows:

1. Enhancement of the management and coordination of the PSS to ensure progressive and sustained improvement of statistics for development planning, decision-making and effective governance.
2. Improvement of data production in the PSS aimed at addressing current, new and emerging concerns such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), data revolution, and other sectors/areas of concern that may affect national development.
3. Enhancement of data dissemination and advocacy on the use of statistics through maximized use of information technology in statistical processes, and conduct of forums/workshops to promote the effective use of statistics.
4. Advancement of statistical research and upgrading of systems and skills towards increased technical capacity of human resources, as well as improvement of current methodologies for the generation of statistics and indicators and to respond to the current and emerging needs and demands.
5. Strengthening of the local statistical system in support of countryside development
6. Increasing investment in statistics to enable the PSS to meet the growing demand for statistics in support of evidence-based governance.
7. Promotion of international cooperation in statistics through sharing of experiences, practices and expertise on statistics as well as adherence to international commitments and adoption of internationally-recognized statistical principles, declarations and best practices.

Each of the chapters in the PSDP Update features a situational analysis and assessment of the achievements, innovations, and perennial and new issues and challenges faced by the various sectors in terms of management, coordination, production, and dissemination of statistics. Through consultations with the various interagency, technical and regional committees on statistics as well as conduct of meetings and workshops with the stakeholders, various priority statistical programs are slated for years 2016 and 2017.

Pursuing Harmony and Quality Statistics in the PSS

To strengthen statistical governance and coordination, the PSS will maximize the use of information technology, implement the Data Quality Assurance Framework (DQAF), establish institutional mechanisms on the monitoring of SDGs and aid in the evaluation of the Philippine performance in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Relatedly, policy studies and an action plan will be formulated to explore the use of big data and non-official data from the private sector as complement to official statistics. Greater attention will also be put unto the System of Designated Statistics (SDS) to improve its relevance and comprehensiveness to include new indicators and activities critical to adequately measure socioeconomic development.

Besides addressing the information needs in the monitoring of the indicators in the PDP revalidated results matrices and SDGs, there are other commitments and framework systems in which response and action from PSS is called for; these include among others, Core Sets of Indicators in Agriculture and Gender, International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Decade 2015-2024 and ASEAN Framework of Cooperation in Statistics (AFCS).

Advancing the Capacity of the PSS

To ensure the preparedness of and empower the PSA and other data producers at the national and local levels to respond effectively to increasing information demands, capacity building activities will be conducted by the PSA and Philippine Statistical Research and Training Institute (PSRTI). The PSRTI is envisioned to be at the forefront in improving organizations' technical capability, efforts in exploring new methods and further extending expertise to other members of the PSS. A PSS human resource development plan will be created to direct and maximize the PSS human capital. Moreover, following a training needs assessment, training for the staff involved in data collection, processing and analysis will be held to enrich their skills in using new techniques and software technologies. Support to research on new statistical methodologies and studies geared towards improving statistical survey instruments will also continue to be provided and encouraged across the PSS.

Strengthening the Management of Information Systems, and Understanding and Use of Statistics

To bring statistics closer to its users and to strengthen cooperation of respondents and data providers, the PSS shall increase its reach to government executives, business leaders, civil society, and the media through more frequent conduct of statistical appreciation seminars. These stakeholders shall be invited to the various consultative meetings, dissemination fora and conferences. Statistical reports/articles will also be tailored to the needs of the public, business sector, policymakers, program implementers and researchers.

Statistics that Track Economic Progress

Among the priority programs in the production of more timely accessible, coherent, comparable, comprehensive, and relevant statistics, PSA will undertake an earlier release of the quarterly national accounts (i.e., from 60 days after the reference quarter to 55 days), overall revision and rebasing of the Philippine System of National Accounts (PSNA) with 2012 as base year, as well as the generation of the 2012 Benchmark Input-Output Table. In partnership with Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and Commission on Audit (COA), the initial work on the compilation of corporate statistics will be institutionalized in 2016.

PSA in collaboration with the Department of Tourism (DOT) aims to update the Philippine Tourism Statistical Classification System (PTSCS) in view of the updating of the Philippine Tourism Satellite Accounts (PTSA) and to better illustrate the variety of tourism activities and products in the country. Monitoring of the country's research and development (R&D) expenditures will also be strengthened through the compilation of data on Government Budget Allocation for R&D (GBOARD) based on DBM's Unified Accounts Code Structure (UACS). The sampling frame for crops, livestock, poultry and fisheries surveys will also be updated using the 2012 Census of Agriculture and Fisheries (CAF) findings.

To facilitate the encoding and processing of responses, phone tablets are programmed to be used in the various price surveys of the PSA as well as other socioeconomic surveys of other survey proponent agencies.

Statistics that Monitor the Environment, Peace, and Security

Other data producing agencies will also lead in the conduct of key statistical programs for the period 2016-2017. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), particularly the Land Management Bureau (LMB), will verify and publish the results of the cadastral survey. On the other hand, the Department of Justice (DOJ) and its partner agencies will start the establishment of the National Justice Information System (NJIS) to facilitate data sharing/collaboration mechanism among justice sector agencies towards enhancing government capacity to deter crimes, track down criminals, monitor criminality, and, ultimately, administer justice.

Statistics that Influence Actions Towards Social Development

While PSA will focus on the compilation of population and housing estimates in 2016, it will also lead in several activities towards the development of other areas of social statistics. PSA will generate provincial labor and employment statistics based on the Labor Force Survey (LFS) starting 2017 using the 2013 Master Sample, and develop the multidimensional poverty index (MPI). The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) and PSA will continue working towards the designation of statistics on school-based and non-school-based technical vocational education and training (TVET). Meanwhile, the Department of Health (DOH) and PSA will move for the adoption of the System of Health Accounts (SHA) 2011 as the framework for the Philippine National Health Accounts (PNHA). Preparatory activities will be undertaken by the PSA in 2017 in line with the conduct of the National Demographic and Health Survey (NDHS) in 2018. To guide compilation of data at the local level, PSA shall also spearhead the formulation of Core Regional Indicators System (CRIS), which is targeted to be institutionalized in 2016.

Investments for Statistical Development

Generating quality statistics also necessitate adequate and accessible financing. To increase investment and institutionalize a sustainable resource mobilization strategy for statistics, the PSA, in collaboration with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and through the PSA Board, will move for the implementation of PSA Resolution No. 10, s. 2015, "Enjoining Agencies to Provide Separate Line Items for Statistical Activities". Specifically, an Object Code for "statistical activities" in the UACS will be included to enable agencies and local government units to explicitly indicate budget appropriations for statistical activities. The "generation of quality and timely data" category will also be advocated for integration in the Organizational Outcomes/Programs in the Program Expenditure Classification (PREXC) of government agencies producing administrative data. Preparatory work for the medium-term expenditure framework (MTEF) of the PSA is also targeted to be undertaken in 2016 so that statistics will be integrated into the government's expenditure planning and management.

Through the PSDP 2011-2017 Update, everyone is called upon to take part in the various efforts of the PSA, PSRTI and other data producing agencies to reach out to users and data providers. After all, the respectable reputation of the PSS in the international statistical community was built through years of active interaction between statisticians in both public and private sectors, as well as data users and providers who openly speak their needs and supply much-needed information. It is thus the aspiration of the PSS to witness and feel the statistics that they produce ultimately result in uplifting the standards of life in the country and reaching the deprived sectors of the society.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The PSA thanks its partners for their active involvement in the preparation of the PSDP 2011-2017 Update. In particular, the PSA extends its warmest gratitude to the PSA Board, the various interagency and technical committees on statistics as well as regional statistical committees, resource persons, development partners, and the public and private sector participants in the consultative workshops and meetings on the PSDP for their inputs, suggestions and commitment in pursuit of a solid and responsive PSS in service to the Filipino people and its other valued clients.



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY

The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) is the central authority for statistics in the Philippines, which unified the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB), the National Statistics Office (NSO), the Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics (BLES), and the Bureau of Agricultural Statistics (BAS) starting December 29, 2013 as per Republic Act 10625 otherwise known as the Philippine Statistical Act of 2013.

The PSA comprise the PSA Board and offices on sectoral statistics, censuses and technical coordination, civil registration and central support and field statistical services. It is headed by a National Statistician who shall be appointed by the President. The NS is supported by three Deputy National Statisticians.

The data produced by the PSA is the official and controlling statistics of the government and the PSA shall uphold the values of Integrity, Independence and Professionalism in undertaking its duties. It also collects primary data and administers civil registration functions in the country as provided for in Act No. 3753, otherwise known as the Civil Registry Law.

Total manpower complement (regular and permanent as of December 2014): 2,821

National funding for 2015 (based on 2015 General Appropriations Act): PhP 5.04 billion

Executive Department in-charge: National Economic and Development Authority



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY

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