Financing the data demands of the SDGs

Better data for sustainable development
UN High-Level Political Forum 2018

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• 47 countries present Voluntary National Reviews at HLPF 2018

• All recognize the importance of data in measuring and monitoring SDGs

• But also highlight statistical capacity limitations and data gaps
Gaps in data and capacity are a major obstacle to measuring and achieving SDGs

- 44% of countries worldwide do not have comprehensive birth and death registration data.
- 13% of countries worldwide have a dedicated budget for gender statistics.
- 37 countries have statistical laws that meet UN standards.
- No data exist for two thirds of Sustainable Development Goals.
Can national statistical systems meet the data demands of the SDGs?

Number of countries with capacity to deliver fundamental statistics, 2016

Source: 2018 OECD’s Development Co-operation Report: Data for Development; table compiled by Open Data Watch, based on World Bank (2017), Statistical capacity Indicators (database)
Need for **more** financial resources for data
Not just more financial resources for data but also better

Applying the Cape Town Global Action Plan to guide data investment priorities
Investing in data brings positive returns

Lessons from the past:
- Marrakesh Action Plan for Statistics
- International Comparison Program
- 2010 Census Round
- Demographic Health Survey and Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
More and better financing for data: What will it take?

- Build political support for increased financing for data.
- Increase domestic and international resources.
- Demonstrate the value of data through use and impact.
- Improve the delivery of aid and technical assistance for modernizing data systems.
Moving forward, a strong focus should be placed on mobilizing resources to build national statistical capacity to improve data for development and serve the implementation of SDGs.