



# Africa Webinar, 2022

Building public trust in the use of big data for official statistics

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# Trust in Official Statistics

- Trust in statistical products
  - accuracy
  - timeliness
  - reliability
  - credibility
  - objectivity
  - relevance
  - coherence
- Trust in institution
  - confidentiality protected
  - integrity
  - openness/transparency
  - impartiality
  - efficient stakeholder engagement

Source: PARIS21



Trust is  
connected to  
strong  
statistical  
systems.



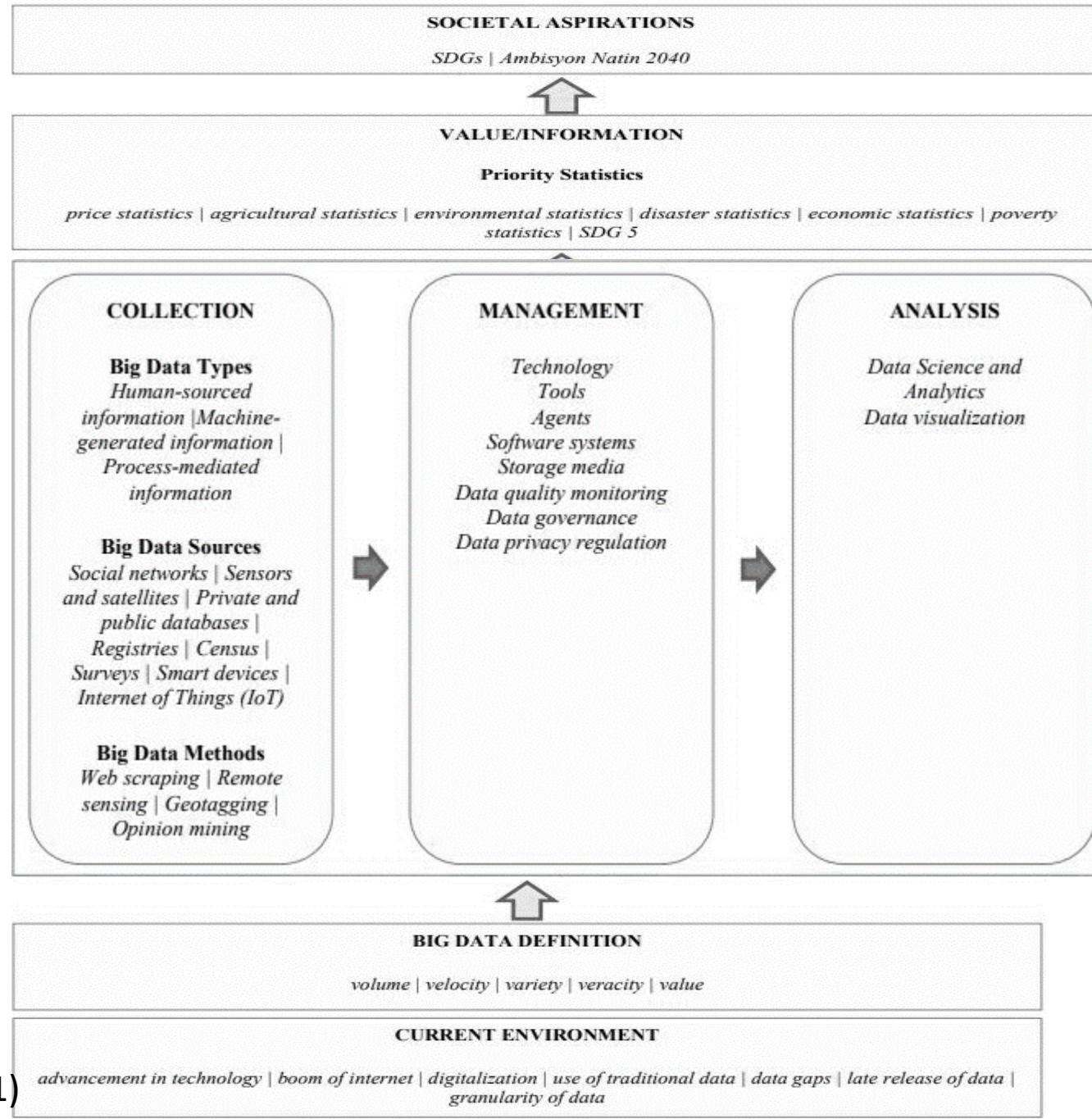
Fig. 1. A new strategy to strengthen the national statistical system.  
Source: CEPA strategy guidance note on Strengthening of national  
statistical systems.

Source: Bersales et al. (2021)

# The Philippine experience

- Censuses and surveys remain main sources of official statistics at the national level with some surveys providing estimates at the provincial level.
- Administrative data provide more granular information
- Civil registration provides vital statistics
- Challenge : demand for more granular, sectoral statistics, environment statistics, faster release of statistics

Note: census data are still needed for the predictive models from big data



Partnerships with the NSO :

- Telecom company mobile data( for tourism statistics)
- research institutes, web scraping( PSRTI for price stats)
- Ministry of Science and Technology, satellite data(for agriculture and disaster statistics)
- International development partners, night lights( ADB for poverty)

# Need to be done

- Identify the gaps in official statistics need to addressed by big data (to address granularity, timeliness, frequency, sectoral needs)
- Develop a statistical framework with consultation from various stakeholders ( the NSO, Academe, Other ministries, development partners, private sector)
- Pilot the estimation of the statistics and make adjustments on the technical issues, with advise from experts
- Have the statistical framework and methodology adopted by statistics policy body
- Ensure regular compilation and dissemination by the NSO
- Ensure regular capacity building of technical staff
- Ensure the proper ICT infrastructure for the compilation
- Involve academe and researchers in developing methodologies

# References

1. Bersales LG. CEPA strategy guidance note on Strengthening of national statistical systems:UN DESA, February 2021, available at <https://publicadministration.un.org/Portals/1/Strategy%20note%20national%20statistical%20systems%20Feb%202021.pdf>.
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3. PARIS21(2020).Building Trust in Data: What is new for national statistical systems.  
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Thank you!