

Post-2015 Data Test Tanzania Case Study in Progress

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In-Progress Note No. 7

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CURRENT STATUS: TANZANIAN CASE STUDY

Progress to Date

The Tanzania inception workshop took place at [REPOA](#) in Dar es Salaam on 27th February 2014. It was attended by 30 participants who represented stakeholders from academia, research institutions, government agencies, NGOs, UN agencies, the private sector, civil society, and the donor community. This inception workshop had three main objectives:

- 1) inform the design of the Tanzania study under the Post-2015 Data Test initiative by obtaining expert input to refine the proposed objectives, methodology and implementation and outreach plans of the initiative;
- 2) test out the appropriateness of the goals, targets and indicators pre-selected for the study in the country context; and
- 3) examine the state of data availability and accessibility.

The workshop was organized around a set of breakout sessions. Four breakout groups examined specific goal areas in terms of potential targets and indicators. They examined potential baseline years for measuring progress on Post-2015 and discussed possible ambitious, yet practical targets. The REPOA team grouped the goals into the following breakout sessions:

- Group I: Poverty & Hunger and Employment & Growth;
- Group II: Social Protection & Education;
- Group III: Environmental Sustainability & Disaster Resilience and Energy & Infrastructure; and
- Group IV: Governance & Human Rights and Global Partnership for Development.

Following the thematic sessions, three breakout sessions examined key issues related to data availability and accessibility. Participants were divided into three groups: 1) data producers; 2) data analysts; and 3) data users. Key findings from the inception workshop are highlighted below.

In addition to holding the inception workshop, the team has also been engaging with key stakeholders and is in the process of finalizing the literature review.

The team has undertaken an extensive data mapping exercise to inform their analysis on the state of data availability and accessibility in Tanzania. To support this work, the team is utilizing the [Tanzania Statistical Master Plan](#), which details the schedule of surveys to be undertaken by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

To date, the research team has found strong interest among key stakeholders on the Post-2015 agenda. In particular, stakeholders are especially concerned with ensuring no one is left behind in the process.

SUBSTANTIVE FEEDBACK TO DATE

National Statistical System

Participants at the workshop noted that coordination of data collection remains a challenge not only among government institutions that produce data but also among UN agencies and research organizations. Here, harmonization and meaningful standardization of data collection processes would be very useful and practical.

At the inception workshop, data producers called for demand-driven data collection and technological innovation to assist in both the collection and the dissemination data. They also noted that calls for better data (improved timeliness, accessibility, disaggregation, etc.) must be understood within the context of available human and financial resources, research infrastructure and available technology.

For their part, data analysts emphasized the importance of data coverage and timeliness. Participants noted that shorter timelines for data analysis mean that policymakers are more likely to have the information they need sooner.

Data users recognized that Tanzania is very rich in data; however data users do not always have the capacity to effectively use data. They noted that there is a need to examine capacity of the entire “data value chain.” From a policymaker perspective, it is crucial that credible and robust data be produced that fulfils policy and programming needs.

Data Availability and Accessibility

A number of key challenges regarding data availability and accessibility have arisen from the study. Data that is available in Tanzania is not necessarily up to date nor does it meet the desired level of disaggregation called for by the Post-2015 agenda. This reality creates a substantial data gap for data users. However, it was noted at the inception workshop that if given adequate support, the NBS could produce on-time data, including disaggregated data to bridge this gap.

At the same time, the NBS also needs to be more proactive in engaging with other data producers. Recognizing the challenge of generating sufficient data is significant, participants at the inception workshop noted that a data revolution means inclusiveness of all possible sources of data. The Post-2015 initiative would particularly benefit from utilizing multiple datasets available from different stakeholders. This means forming collaborations to use new data production techniques that can allow for better coverage and representation.

Another issue that arose at the inception workshop pertains to the question of qualitative data. Data that is currently available is not geared towards capturing qualitative aspects of sustainable development. Moreover, in some areas, such as the environment and human rights, the team continues to struggle to obtain

data on quantitative, let alone qualitative, indicators. Table 1 provides a list of the national data sources currently available.

Table 1. Datasets Currently Available in Tanzania	
Data Source	Year(s)
Tanzania Housing and Populations Census	2012
Household Budget Survey	2007,2012*
Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey	2010
Tanzania HIV/AIDS and Malaria Indicator Survey	2011-12
Tanzania Integrated Labour Force Survey	2006, 2013*
Tanzania National Panel Survey	2013*
Tanzania National Accounts	Annual
Tanzania Agricultural Sample Census Survey	2007-08
Basic Education Statistics in Tanzania	2007-2011
<i>*Data collected but not made public as of May 2014</i>	

Despite these gaps, participants at the workshop noted that careful consideration is needed regarding the utilization of existing datasets and the creation of new ones. Inasmuch as the Post-2015 process calls for new data, the data revolution will create human and financial implications for national statistical organizations and researchers who are responsible for analyzing the data. For the data revolution to effectively take hold, it will need to be seen as a priority by Tanzania.

NEXT STEPS

The research team has planned key informant interviews with stakeholders for the goal areas on environment and governance over the next month. The team also expects to complete data mapping and assessment in the coming months with subsequent plans to organize a validation workshop. This will be followed by the drafting of a final report.