Legal agreement to ensure the sharing of data

Session 3: Data Ecosystem: governance and sharing mechanisms

National Workshop on Strengthening the Measure of Progress in Disaster Risk Reduction in Sub-Saharan Africa through the Sendai Framework Monitoring Process and Enhanced Disaster Loss Data
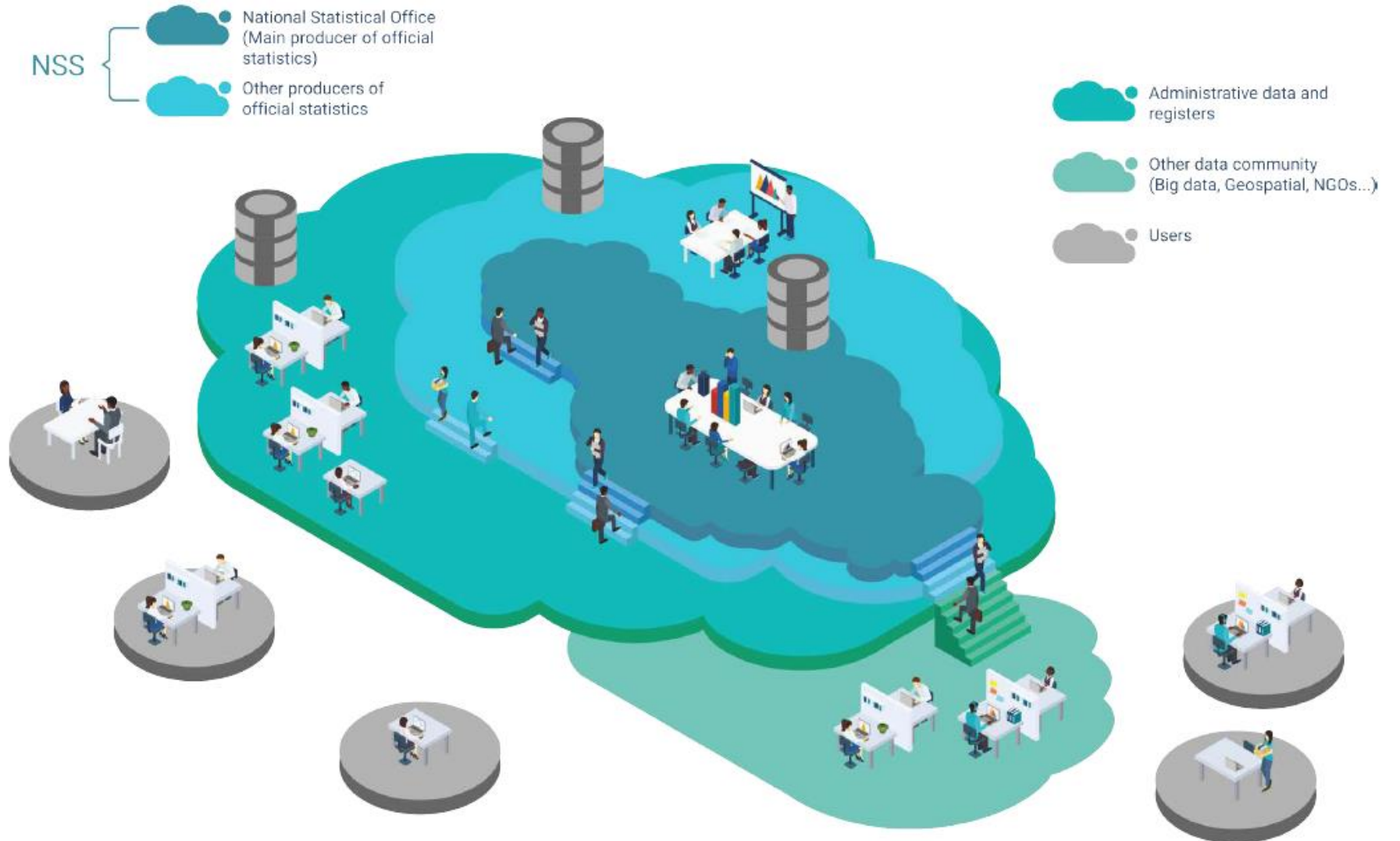
Ekaterina Poleshchuk
25-27 November 2024, Nairobi, Kenya

UN
environment
programme

Data Ecosystem

Data Ecosystem
is the entire network of:
- **data collectors,**
- **data producers,**
- **data analysts and**
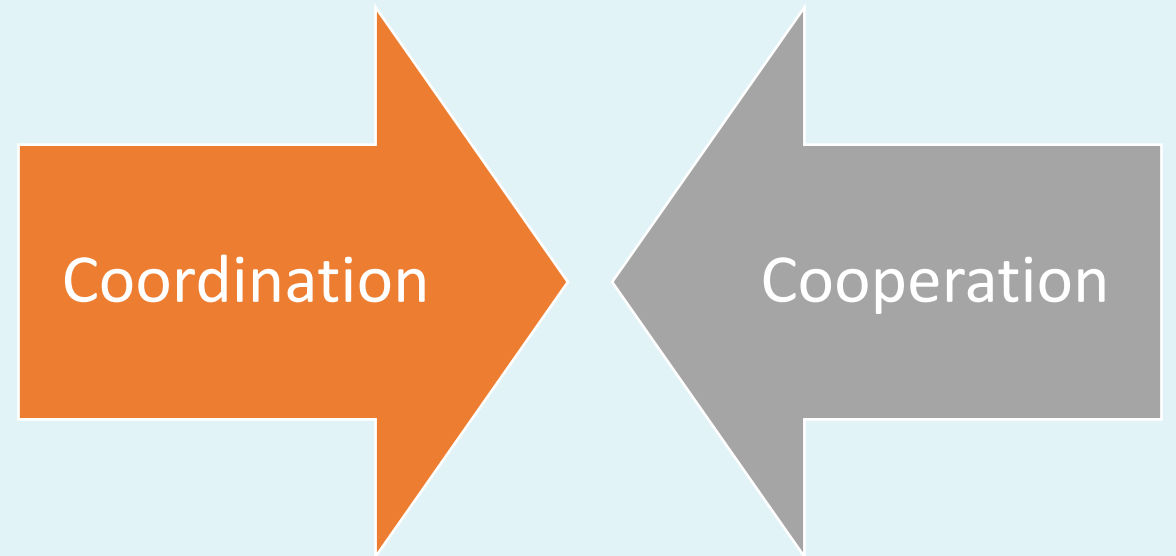- **other main data users**
that directly or indirectly collect, process, disseminate, analyze and/or otherwise consume data and associated services within a specified country or region.

NSS
- National Statistical Office (Main producer of official statistics)
- Other producers of official statistics

Administrative data and registers

Other data community (Big data, Geospatial, NGOs...)

Users

General information

In many countries:

- The **NSO has the function of leading and coordinating** the NSS, composed of all producers of official statistics.

- Cooperation and coordination are centered around the **annual statistical programme of the country**, in which the parts played by the NSO and the different institutions are set out.

Coordination

Cooperation

UN
environment
programme

Cooperation with administrative authorities that are data providers

✓ Collaboration mechanisms are often governed by Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) between the statistical office and the administrative data providers which foresee that the NSO would be informed and consulted well in advance about any changes on the structure, coverage and timeliness of the administrative data set used for statistical purposes.

✓ Such policies and agreements can lead to positive outcomes on both sides.

- The NSOs can build relationships with administrative data providers by offering expertise in collecting, editing, and storing data by promoting statistical standards and providing guidance in quality issues.

- Administrative data providers, in return, may improve the quality of administrative data.

UN
environment
programme

Data exchange

✓ Data collection exchange can be organized through data collection agreements between the data providers and the NSO

✓ Agreements are made with owners of administrative data which set out their shared commitment to the use of these data for statistical purposes.

For example, Statistics Finland defines two different types of agreements that are made with data providers:

1. **Data acquisition agreements**, and

2. **Skeleton agreements**

UN environment programme

Data acquisition agreements

Data acquisition agreements are made with smaller organizations.

The data acquisition agreements consist of detailed information about the data collection, such as:

- ✓ Data name (including details about disaggregation and unit of measurement).
- ✓ In what format they are sent.
- ✓ Periodicity.
- ✓ How the data are transferred.
- ✓ How often the data are either sent or retrieved (indicate the date).
- ✓ The contact persons for the data transfer process in both organizations.
- ✓ The content experts for the data in both organizations.

The data acquisition agreements are always updated whenever any changes in data occur.

UN environment programme

Data acquisition agreements - Template

Data name	Format	Periodicity	How the data are transferred	Date when data should be sent	Contact persons for the data transfer process in both organizations	Content experts for the data in both organizations
Total water discharge, by region, thousand cubic. m (according to Annex 1)	Excels	Annual	By email	15 February	From Water Agency: … To the Institute of Stat.: …	From Water Agency: … To the Institute of Stat.: …
…						

UN
environment
programme

Skeleton agreements

Skeleton agreements are made with important data providers.

In addition to the data acquisition, the agreements determine regular collaboration between the organizations.

- This collaboration usually involves annually arranged meetings between both parties.
- In these annual meetings important issues concerning changes or future plans in administrative data are discussed.

➢ The skeleton agreements are always signed by the general directors of both organizations.

➢ In skeleton agreements the data acquisition agreements are enclosures and they contain the above mentioned detailed information about the data transfer.

UN
environment
programme

More information

1. [The Handbook on Management and Organization of National Statistical Systems](#). 4th Edition. UN, 2022

2. Sinikka Laurila, Janne Eskelinen and Johanna Sisto, Statistics Finland, Helsinki, Finland. The system of collecting administrative data and how it responses to the guidelines of the code of practice and the peer review. [Statistical Journal of the IAOS 33 (2017) 741–747](#)

UN environment programme

Thank you

UN environment programme

Ekaterina Poleshchuk
Statistician, SDG and Environment Statistics Unit
Early Warning and Assessment Division
ekaterina.poleshchuk@un.org

United Nations Avenue, Gigiri
PO Box 30552 – 00100 GPO Nairobi, Kenya

www.unep.org