

In summary

**Building statistical
capacity**



**Oxford Policy
Management**

**About Oxford
Policy Management's
In summary series**

Our *In summary* publications aim to give an introduction to a key area of our expertise and the capabilities we offer in supporting governments, funders, practitioners, and partners in achieving lasting, positive change through policy reform.

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Building statistical capacity

Relevant and reliable data are at the heart of a well-functioning society. Good governance and development interventions demand accountability and evidence-based policies. The adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals in 2015 has not only increased demand for data, but also for innovative techniques for collecting and analysing data. However, many countries struggle with under-resourced and fragmented statistical systems.

Our Official Statistics portfolio provides technical and strategic support to local and national governments, as well as development agencies, across the entire statistical production cycle, from design to evidence-based policy formulation and engagement with users and producers of statistics. We are a group of dedicated statistical consultants, who work within an extensive network of expert statisticians, including academics and senior officials from national statistical systems. We have a proven track record of statistical capacity building to support improvements in the quality, coherence, accessibility, and efficiency of official statistics to ensure they meet international standards.

We work globally across the policy cycle

Through collaborations with national statistical offices, we offer tailored solutions to the challenges faced by national statistical systems. We take pride in our **outcome-focused approach**, in our **deep analytical understanding** of statistical methods, and in the **strategic insights** we provide into statistical planning and systems.



OPM Offices



Countries we have worked in



Map above is based on a Gall-Peters projection

Delivering impactful results

In **Rwanda** we provided support to the transformation of a new Institute of Statistics over a 12-year period. In particular, we have supported the development of Living Conditions Monitoring Surveys, poverty analysis, and analytical skills that were applied to the latest population census.

In **South Africa** we developed a data quality assessment framework based on extensive audits of selected statistics, established coordinating mechanisms, built staff capacity for system mapping, and designed a road map for the NSDS.

In **Barbados** we proposed a full re-engineering of the Barbados statistical system, in addition to making concrete improvements to current and planned statistical series.

In the **Middle East and North Africa region** we have conducted data diagnostics for UNICEF, mapping existing data sources against SDG indicators and UNICEF priority sectors, as well as identifying challenges and bottlenecks across the data cycle. We have developed strategic action plans to address the identified challenges in the national statistical system.

Areas we work in

Modernisation of national statistical systems

Developing and reviewing national strategies for the development of statistics and sector-specific strategies

Drafting of supporting legislation

Re-engineering of statistical business processes and infrastructure

Creating guidelines on statistical standards and classifications based on international best practice

Advising on organisational and IT-systems requirements

Improving statistical series

Designing, implementing, and analysing national data collections, and local and regional statistics

Improving sector-specific statistical methodologies

Developing and assisting survey sampling, questionnaire design, collection tools, systems and methods, processing, analysis, publication, and dissemination

Conducting data quality assessments of different sources of data, including administrative data collections

Training and mentoring in statistics

Training in statistical software for data collection, processing, and analysis

Training in statistical methods, such as sampling, survey design, measurement, hypothesis testing, multidimensional analysis, and statistical modelling

Training in data literacy and improving the user–producer dialogue

Twinning programmes, mentoring, and coaching

Evaluating and assessing statistical systems and programmes

Statistical capacity assessment

Mapping of data sources, indicators, and gaps

Evaluating institutional infrastructure, resources (human, physical, and financial), statistical methods and practices, and availability of statistical information (dissemination and user and producer engagement structures)

Conducting data quality assessments and reviews

Developing action plans to improve capacity

About Oxford Policy Management

Oxford Policy Management is committed to helping low- and middle-income countries achieve growth and reduce poverty and disadvantage through public policy reform. We seek to bring about lasting positive change using analytical and practical policy expertise. Through our global network of offices, we work in partnership with national decision makers to research, design, implement, and evaluate impactful public policy. We work in all areas of social and economic policy and governance, including health, finance, education, climate change, and public sector management. We draw on our local and international sector experts to provide the very best evidence-based support.

Contact us

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For further information about OPM, visit our website www.opml.co.uk

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