



**African Population and
Health Research Center**

**SCOPING REVIEW OF THE SUB-
NATIONAL AND NATIONAL DATA
SYSTEMS
IN BURKINA FASO
REPORT, AUGUST 2021**

Content

- 1. Introduction 4
- 2. Research objectives 4
- 3. Method..... 5
- 4. Country background..... 6
- 5. Findings 8
- 6. Overview of the Data Systems in Key Sectors..... 21
- 7. Next steps 24
- References 26

List of figures

| | |
|--|----|
| Figure 1: Key features of the evaluation framework, source: IDinsight report, 2021 | 5 |
| Figure 2: Administratives divisions in Burkina Faso..... | 7 |
| Figure 3. Monitoring and evaluation framework of PNDES 2017-2020..... | 10 |
| Figure 4 : flow of data health transmission in the health system | 22 |
| Figure 5: Flow of data in the health information system. | 23 |

List of tables

| | |
|---|----|
| Table 1 : Burkina Faso at glance: selected development indicators from the 2020 Human Development Report | 6 |
| Table 2. Components of the national statistical system in Burkina Faso..... | 12 |
| Table 3 : Number of NSS and INSD staff in 2020..... | 15 |
| Table 4. Estimated and obtained amounts for statistical activities funding in 2019 (in millions of XOF). | 19 |
| Table 5. structures that received an allocation from the national budget and structures that received funding from donors for statistics from 2016 to 2019..... | 19 |

1. Introduction

Sub-national levels of governance are important layers to consider in the achievement of national-level development targets, particularly in Africa. In most countries, the service delivery of critical social sectors is devolved to sub-national administrative units, where budget and program implementation decisions are made, including recruitment of personnel, purchase of goods and services, and actual service delivery, with the national level providing policy direction and financial resources. Therefore, monitoring progress and tracking performance for evidence-based decision-making, particularly at sub-national levels, which automatically has similar effects at national levels are important.

The African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) aims to promote the use of evidence in planning and decision-making in Burkina Faso, Niger, Senegal, and Uganda through research project.

This research is grounded in the fact that monitoring progress and tracking the performance of evidence-based decision-making in Africa is increasingly becoming an important part of the development process. This, however, requires the existence and use of strengthened data systems to satisfy the demand and supply needs in the data ecosystem – both at the sub-national and national levels. To start this process, APHRC seeks to understand sub-national and national data dynamics through a scoping review of the legislative and policy environment of the data ecosystem, and the supply, demand and use of data.

2. Research objectives

The scoping review covered the following aspects:

- i) a review of the country's social and political environment especially policy and legislative frameworks, their linkages to data systems as well as the data use culture at sub-national level;
- ii) a review of the existing data systems in terms of structure, data demand and supply, data integration and data use practice in the country's sub-national units.

This review would then further contribute to the understanding of capacities of sub-national and national governments concerning data and data systems in the following areas:

- Institutional capacity
- Regulatory capacity
- Technical capacity

- Infrastructure and human resources (integrated data systems and skilled workforce)
- Financial capacity for data use and evidence-informed decision-making
- National data ecosystems, especially on existing systems for evidence
- Informed decision making at the subnational levels

3. Method

3.1. Framework evaluation

The framework used for this scoping review was the one developed by APHRC. This framework focuses on three key areas such as data governance, data production, and data demand and use that contribute to a healthy national or sub-national data system and data use (see figure below).

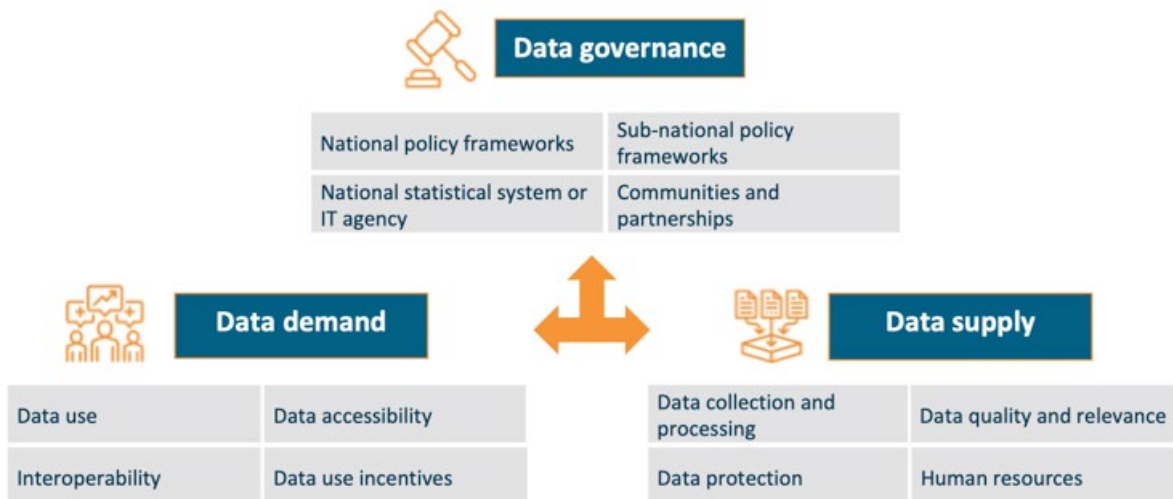


Figure 1: Key features of the evaluation framework, source: APHRC report, 2021

3.2. Approach for data collection

Data collection was conducted through desk review and key informants interviews.

- *Desk review*

This involved the review of the following documents:

- Policy and legal documents in the data system at the national and sub-national level
- Strategic plans related to the national data system

- Evaluation reports on the national data system

Relevant documents were sought from websites of the respective national institutions in charge of statistical data, through Google search in French and from key informants.

Relevant data were then extracted from the documents and processed.

- Key informants interviews

Potential key informants were identified and interview appointment organized. Overall, we discussed with 1 official at the National Institute for Demography and Statistics (INSD), 1 official at the Ministry of Health, 2 officials at the Ministry of Higher Education, 1 official of the National Institute for Public Health (INSP), 1 responsible of civil society organization and 1 consultant who has worked in the area of data system. The interviews were conducted in Burkina Faso from April to May 2021. The interviews were conducted using a guide where main topics related to data governance, production and data demand and use were explored. This combined approach enabled us to collect information as much as possible and get an insight into the data ecosystem in each country.

4. Country background

Burkina Faso is a landlocked country in West Africa with limited natural resources. Its economy is largely based on agriculture, which employs 80% of the workforce. It currently ranks 144th among 157 countries on the new human capital index established by the World Bank. It made real progress on maternal mortality and antenatal coverage in comparison with the sub-Saharan Africa (see table below).

Table 1 : Burkina Faso at glance: selected development indicators from the 2020 Human Development Report

| Indicator | Burkina Faso | Sub-Saharan Africa |
|--|--------------|--------------------|
| Life expectancy at birth (years) | 61.6 | 61.5 |
| Mortality rate, under-five (per 1,000 live births) | 76.4 | 76.7 |
| Expected years of schooling (years) | 9.3 | 10 |
| Government expenditure on education (% of GDP) | 6.0 | 4.7 |

| | | |
|--|-------|-------|
| Literacy rate, adult (% ages 15 and older) | 41.2 | 65.3 |
| Gross national income (GNI) per capita (constant 2017 PPP\$) | 2,133 | 3,685 |
| Antenatal care coverage, at least one visit (%) | 92.8 | 84.1 |
| Maternal mortality ratio (deaths per 100,000 live births) | 320 | 535.2 |
| Population in multidimensional poverty, headcount (%) | 83.8 | 55 |
| Population living below income poverty line, national poverty line (%) | 40.1 | 43.4 |
| Unemployment, total (% of labour force) | 6.3 | 6.4 |
| Unemployment, youth (% ages 15 - 24) | 8.3 | 10.7 |
| Internet users, total (% of population) | 16.0 | 25.2 |
| Mobile phone subscriptions (per 100 people) | 97.9 | 76.6 |

In Burkina Faso, there are two levels of local authorities: the region and the municipality. There are 13 regions and 351 municipalities (302 rural and 49 urban). There are 45 provinces and 350 departments, which are administrative districts, and 8,228 villages and sectors, which are administrative subdivisions.

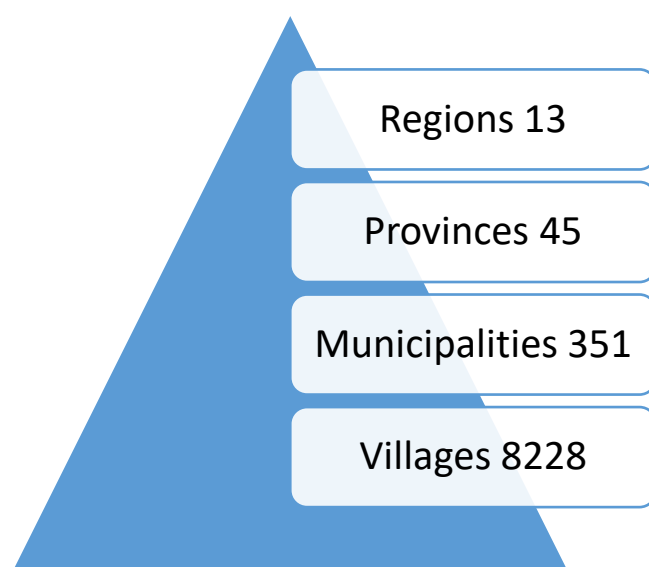


Figure 2: Administrative divisions in Burkina Faso

5. Findings

5.1. Data governance

This section presents the policy and legal framework of the country and the key agencies involved in the national data system.

a) Key policies and legal framework

The Constitution of June 2, 1991, in its article 08, ensure access to information as a guaranteed constitutional right, which statistics can help to achieve. This constitutional provision is implemented through texts of general scope on statistics.

The current legal basis for the statistical system in Burkina Faso is the Act n°012-2007/AN of May 31, 2007 on the organization and regulation of statistical activities. This act was revised in 2018 to take into account the changes occurred since 2007 such as :

- the ratification of the African Charter on Statistics,
- users' request for access to individual data while respecting statistical confidentiality,
- the "Open Government" initiative subscribed to by Burkina,
- the development of ICT for data collection and dissemination;
- the creation of the statistical development fund in 2016
- the regular organization of large-scale statistical operations (RGPH, RGA, RGE);
- the need for sanctions in the event of carrying out a statistical survey without requesting prior authorization.

But until now the revised act is still waiting for its adoption by the parliament. The adoption of these texts will provide a more current legislative framework for the implementation of the Plan for Statistics (schéma directeur de la statistique) 2021-2025.

There are other legal laws (07) related to the national statistical system (NSS) such as :

- Decree No. 2007-720/PRES/PM/MEF of November 7, 2007, setting the conditions and procedures for conducting censuses and statistical surveys by public statistical services and organizations among persons who are not members of these structures;
- Decree No. 2007-741/PRES/PM/MEF of November 19, 2007, on the powers, organization and functioning of the national statistical system;

- Decree No. 2007-767/MEF/CAB of December 31, 2007, setting the terms and conditions for the communication of data to the statistical services and organizations of the national statistical system by public administrations and organizations;
- Decree No. 2007-785/MEF/CAB of December 31, 2007, on the creation, powers, composition and operation of the specialized commissions of the National Statistics Council;
- Decree No. 2013-404/PRES/PM/SGG-CM of May 23, 2013, on the standard organization of ministerial departments and creating the General Directorates of Studies and Sectoral Statistics;
- Decree No. 2015-1518/PRES-Trans/PM/MEF of December 18, 2015, approving the special statutes of the INSD;
- Decree No. 2013-175/MEF/SG/INSD of May 13, 2013, on the responsibilities, organization and operation of the INSD.

This legal national framework for statistics is hugely inspired by the regional and international-recognized statistical policies and development plans such as the African Charter on statistics, the regional program for statistics (Programme Statistique Régional (PSR 2015-2020) de l'UEMOA), UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, the International Monetary Fund's General Data Dissemination System (GDSS) and recommendations from Paris' declaration.

In addition, to that legal framework, a national strategic plan for the development of statistics (Schéma directeur de la statistique (SDS)) is set every 5 years since 2003. For that Burkina Faso is the first francophone country in Africa that has a fourth strategic plan for statistics. The plan highlights coherent actions according to achieve specific objectives. It is translated at the operational level in activities to be carried out in well-specified periods. Moreover, there is an annual plan for statistics (programme statistique national) that derives from the activities of the national strategic plan.

The National Economic and Social Development Plan (PNDES)

The PNDES constitutes the medium-term reference framework for guiding public policy action to achieve the development vision of the Government of Burkina Faso. Currently, the new national plan is elaborated for 5 years from 2021 to 2025. For the previous plan, a

monitoring and evaluation system was implemented (le décret 2017-0004/PRES/PM/MINEFID1 relatif au dispositif de suivi-évaluation).

The Figure below presents the flow for M&E of PNDES.

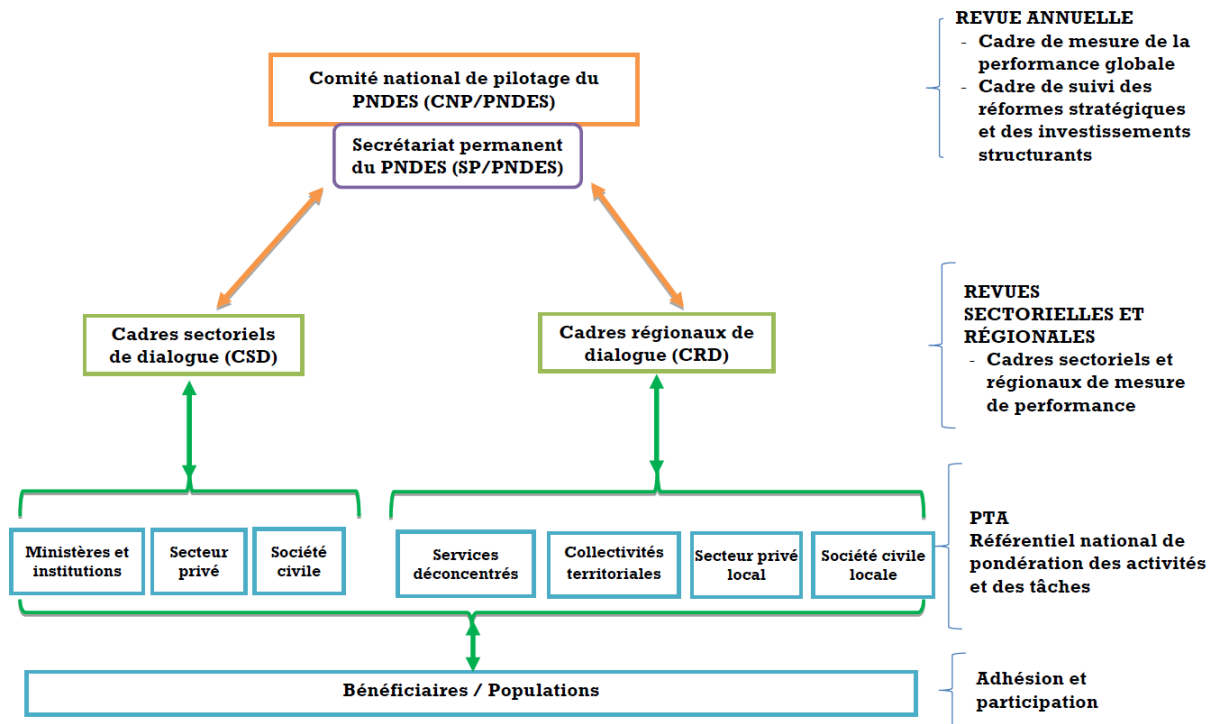


Figure 3. Monitoring and evaluation framework of PNDES 2017-2020. Source: PNDES 2016-2020, p 59

After two years of implementation of this plan, monitoring activities, including reporting exercises during the 2017, 2018 and 2019 annual reviews, have revealed some strengths and difficulties in the process of collecting and processing the data required for performance measurement indicators.

The strengths are the regular holding of sessions of the regional dialogue frameworks, the sectoral dialogue frameworks, the national technical committee and the national steering committee; and the close collaboration between the National Institute of Statistics (INSD) and the permanent secretariat of the National Economic and Social Development Plan (SP/PNDES).

The difficulties were observed for both PNDES and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). For instance 36% of effect and impact indicators of PNDES were not filled in. The reasons of these weaknesses are the non-alignment of production schedules for several sectoral statistics

with the PNDES monitoring schedule; the new nature of several indicators, the lack of ownership of the indicators by the ministerial departments; and the lack of funding to carry out certain surveys or specific studies to provide information on the indicators. For the period 2020-2021, the national council for statistics decided to elaborate a Priority Statistical Program (PSP) in order to identify and fill all the indicators for PNDES and SDG using the NSS. The government approved the PSP and provided some funds.

Subnational system

At the sub-national level, the national legal framework is applied, in addition to the general code for local authorities (code général des collectivités locales) where article 11 stipulated that « The inhabitants of the local authority have the right to information on the management of local affairs. ». They have to pay for accessing copies of different documents such as annual report, budget etc.

In this “code general”, in articles 88, 89 and 91, regions and municipalities have to elaborate development plan. Thus they provide every 5 years a plan for development, at regional and municipal levels. For that they collect data for planification (plan communal de developpement (PCD), plan régional de developpement, etc.) and reporting their activities. In that process, committees are put in place at each level. These committees included representative of ministry such as economy and planification, health, education, also civil society, religious etc.

b) Key agencies for governance

The institutional components of the National Statistical System are defined in the act for statistical activities. There are three groups which are presented in the table below.

Table 2. Components of the national statistical system in Burkina Faso

| National statistical system | | |
|---|---|--|
| The bodies that coordinate statistical activities | All services and organizations whose mission is to provide statistical data | Training institutions for statisticians and demographers |

In the first group, there are the national council for statistics (CNS) established since 2007 and the national institute for statistics and demography (INSD) established since 1974.

The national council for statistics has to propose the general orientations of the nation's statistical policy, the priorities for the collection, processing and dissemination of statistical information, and the instruments for coordinating the activities of the National Statistical System. Under its umbrella there are a secretary ensured by INSD and 5 specialized committees. The administrative functioning of the CNS is relatively satisfactory, with the regular holding of sessions and the organization of meetings of specialized committees.

The national institute for statistics and demography (INSD) is the body responsible for collecting, analysing and disseminating official statistics in the country. It has autonomous in functionment. It has also an extensive experience in conducting national statistical operations and well known recognize at national and international level.

INSD has only 3 regional directors for 13 regions. Where there is no representative the regional director of ministry of economic and planification help in statistical activities.

It is not clear which organizations are referred to in the second group but academics, non-governmental organizations and private compagnies could be put there. In that group, there are also the directorate of Sectorial Statistics (Direction des Statistiques Sectorielles (DSS)) under which there is a general director for studies and sectorial statistics (Direction Générale des

Études et des Statistiques Sectorielles (DGESS)) at ministerial departments that were implemented through the 2013 institutional reform. Their mission is to produce and disseminate statistical data in their area of expertise. Not all ministerial departments which have regional representative. But there is a lack of clarification on the tasks of DSS, DGESS and other central services that produce statistics.

The local authorities as regions and municipalities at sub-national level also produce statistics. For instance, municipalities provide annual statistics for cultural activities held in their area.

In the third group, there are mainly training institutions for statisticians in Burkina Faso. Some statisticians (high-level qualification) and all demographers are trained abroad. There is a school for statisticians that will open in 2021 with the support of the World Bank.

The NSS in Burkina has a functional legislative and institutional framework for the coordination of statistical activities. There are also regular programming and monitoring of operations through the national strategic plan for the development of statistics and the annual plan and report for statistics. All ministerial departments have a directorate for sectorial statistics.

However, there are some challenges that need to be addressed such as

- the revision of the acts and other legal texts to be up to date
- the low participation of senior officials in the sessions due to the routinely activities that are the adoption of the report on the national statistic, the annual plan and presentation of few studies ;
- Lack of provisions defining the relationship between statistics-producing structures (DGESS, INSD, academics, etc.)
- the large number of official statistical operations (surveys but also administrative statistics) taking place without the granting of visas;
- lack of coordination of technical and financial partners involved in the statistical field

5.2. Data production

Data collection and processing

In terms of production in 2020, almost three-quarters of statistical productions (73.7%) are on schedule and more than half are not on statistical production standards (51.4%).

Even if paper-based data collection are still used, more institutions of the NSS used mobile technology. Large-scale statistical operations (for instance population census) of the INSD have been systematically carried out with mobile technology. Other institutions such as academics (IRSS, ISSP, INSP) and ministries have used mobile technology. For instance ministry of agriculture has been using mobile collection tools for the permanent agricultural survey in all 13 regions of Burkina since 2019. Most administrative data collection are not modernized.

Academics, NGOs or other data producers used their own procedures for data collection. Most of them did not grant statistical visa as stated in the act for statistical activities.

At sub-national level,

In 2020, the regional director of the INSD (03) did not have the same level of production of general statistics. Overall, 58% of the regional directories have been produced, 14% of the "Regions in figures" booklets, but no economic and social dashboard and no regional gender booklet.

The regional director of economy and planification have produced 30% of regional socio-economic dashboards, 32% of regional profile and 7% of NGO directories.

Statistical products that meet the needs of monitoring the activities of regions and municipalities are not yet sufficiently developed. There is a lack of disaggregated data (geographic, gender, etc.). In addition, there is a lack or inadequacy of data in certain areas such as civil status, land administration, livestock, digital economy, economic indices, etc. In fact, at the regional and municipal level, they relied on data produced by INSD because they do not have fund for data collection at the local level.

Data quality and relevance

In terms of quality, a major effort has been made with the development of a quality assurance framework with technical procedures manuals for INSD, drafts of which are available. But from the interviews, each data producer uses its own framework for quality insurance of data collection. Assessment of data quality is not a generalized practice. For instance, for the large-

scale statistical operations, there was no quality report. At the ministerial department, only three departments have elaborate a quality report.

Data protection

From the interviews, data producers respect the confidentiality of data. The issue of data storage was raised. Many data producers are not sure about the safety of their data storage. Few institutions had their own server for a safe storage. For the others, the data are stored in an individual laptop.

Human resources

Statisticians are in short supply in almost all structures, especially high qualified statisticians.

The NSS statistical staff in 2020 is 468. Three quarter of staff are made up by low-qualified (adjoints techniques de la statistique (AD) et agents techniques de la statistique) and one quarter by high qualified staff (ingénieurs statisticiens économistes (ISE), ingénieurs des travaux statistiques (ITS), démographes et conseillers en statistique et analyse du développement (CSAD)) (table 3).

More than two-thirds of high qualified staff work at INSD and 11% at ministry of agriculture. The remaining senior staff are distributed among 11 structures. The other sectoral structures have only low-qualified and non-statistician staff.

Table 3 : Number of NSS and INSD staff in 2020

| | NSS | | INSD | |
|---|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| | Number | % | Number | % |
| Ingénieur statisticien économiste | 51 | 11% | 30 | 19% |
| Ingénieur des travaux statistiques | 31 | 7% | 22 | 14% |
| Démographe | 30 | 6% | 29 | 18% |
| Conseiller en statistique et analyse du développement | 10 | 2% | 1 | 1% |
| Adjoint technique de la statistique | 227 | 49% | 65 | 40% |
| Agent technique de la statistique | 119 | 25% | 14 | 9% |
| Total | 468 | 100% | 161 | 100% |

Source : Enquête sur l'état des lieux du SSN, INSD, 2020

Non-statistician staff in the NSS are 635 for the facilities included in the survey. This is significantly higher than the number of statisticians. At sub-national level, most of the staff are non-statisticians. That has an effect on the quality of statistical products.

The recruitment of statisticians in the public sector is organized by INSD since 3 years. Then INSD allocates staff to ministerial departments. Due to financial motivation, highly qualified staff are leaving for international institutions and NGOs.

In terms of capacity building, there is a project funded by the world bank which will support the implementation of a school that will reinforce the existing school. Currently, low qualified staff are trained in the country in public and private schools while high qualified one are trained abroad.

In-service training is also provided, for instance from 2016 to 2019, at regional level 84 high qualified staff received training. But this is not on a regular basis.

Infrastructure

The situation of the NSS infrastructures has not improved in recent years. In general, we can note:

- The inadequacy and obsolescence of the premises;
- The insufficiency of computer and reprographic equipment;
- The insufficiency or lack of rolling stock in many sectoral structures;
- The absence or poor quality of the internet connection in many premises.

Despite the support from donors, the equipment still enough for many NSS institutions. For instance, in 2020 the average number of a laptop per staff was 0.71. Almost all organizations use statistical software without a valid license. This situation is worst at sub-national level.

In conclusion, the NSS structures have neither premises, nor computer equipment, nor satisfactory means of communication and transport.

5.3. Data demand and use culture

The official statistics user satisfaction survey is one of the instruments for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the statistical plan. It is conducted every two (2) years and aims to provide information to assess the quality of statistics produced at the level of the national statistical system.

All interviewees agreed on that there is no statistical culture despite promotion actions like celebration of the African Statistics Day and the Education Statistics Day.

Data use

In terms of the use of official statistics in 2020, the overall level of user satisfaction with statistical production is 84.6%.

Demographic, health, education, and household living conditions statistics are, in 2020, the most widely used in the last 5 years prior to the survey. Statistics are mainly used for the production of other statistics (75%), to analyze current developments for short-term decisions (69.2%) and to analyze trends for long-term policy formulation (57.7%). INSD remains the most used source of official statistics by the different structures, but this leading role is being challenged by other NSS structures.

The ministerial departments are also solicited by the NGOs, students or academics who are looking for sectoral data relating to their fields of intervention or disciplines. Internal requests are also observed for elaboration of reports or planification. For instance, there are director for policies elaboration that required data from PNDES indicators to propose policies.

At sub-national level there are some requests provide by local authorities for planification and reporting. But these data are not updated and the representative at the region referred to the central level.

During the interviews, some key informants in the health area highlighted their dissatisfaction with existing data that lead them to create their own data system.

Data accessibility

From the survey, users have access to official statistics through essentially three channels. In order of importance, 63.3% of the structures through official correspondence and 20.4% through the official websites of the NSS or the National Statistics Council (CNS). The rest (12.2%) use their own network of knowledges . This situation has revealed a lack of interoperability in the NSS.

The accessibility of data on the website is not a generalized practice. While the INSD and CNS websites contain a significant amount of publications and some databases, the websites of the other structures have few, if any, statistical publications. Microdata are rarely available. Their access require formal authorization.

At the sub-national level, there are rare information available on the website because no regional or municipality has a website with available data.

That means, there are lot of publications that are not easily accessible.

Data diffusion

Regarding dissemination, more than one third (37.8%) of official statistics do not meet the dissemination deadlines. But there is no calendar for diffusion in most institutions of NSS. The NSS structures mainly use three channels to make their statistical productions available to the public: paper, CD-Rom and the Internet. Paper is the most use. In fact, 70.3% of all publications are disseminated through this channel. About 2 out of 3 statistical productions are disseminated through CD-Rom and less than half use ICT.

Printed dissemination is very much linked to the availability of financial resources and dependent on projects and TFPs. Too few structures manage to print their publications with their own resources.

The situation is similar for the other institutions of the NSS such as academics or NGOs.

5.4. Funding

Statistical activities received 19.3 billion CFA francs of funding in 2019 for a forecast of 20.8 billion CFA francs. This mobilization rate is relatively satisfactory compared to previous years. The share of national funding is 56% overall (table 4).

Table 4. Estimated and obtained amounts for statistical activities funding in 2019 (in millions of XOF).

| | 2019 |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Estimated amount | 20 790 |
| Amount obtained from the government | 10 824 |
| Amount obtained from donors | 8 470 |
| Total amount obtained | 19 295 |
| Rate of mobilization (%) | 92,8% |
| Part national fund (%) | 56,0% |

Sources : RSN 2019

From 2016 to 2019, more and more NSS structures are receiving national and/or international funding. The percentage of structures that received an allocation from the national budget rose from 73% to 81%. While the percentage of structures that received funding from donors decreased from 42% to 52%.

In 2019, 4 out of 5 structures received national funding and more than 1 out of 2 received international funding (Table 5).

Table 5: structures that received an allocation from the national budget and structures that received funding from donors for statistics from 2016 to 2019

| | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 |
|---|------|------|------|------|
| structures that received an allocation from the national budget | 73 | 80 | 79 | 81 |
| structures that received funding from donors | 42 | 49 | 48 | 52 |

Sources : RSN 2016 à 2019

Despite this increase in domestic funding, in 2020, 55% of structures reported financial difficulties in producing current statistics. From the interviews, the main structures are at ministerial department. The budgets needed for the normal operation of current statistical activities are not always available on time, which compromises the availability of results within a short timeframe. In addition, the budget allocation changes little over the time and without taking into account the scale of the statistical operations to be carried out.

At sub-national level, they received no fund for statistical activity. All the funds are centralized. Regional representative of ministry are associated by central level for data collection. For elaboration of local plan (region or municipality, village), local authorities mobilize local funders such as NGO, development projects which interventions cover their area.

The donors support are concentrated in the production of statistics. In fact, large-scale operations are mainly funded by donors. Also other NSS structures like academics, local NGO are highly depended of donors for their data collection and other activities. That mean the topics for surveys are driven by donors and that not always aligned with national priorities. In addition, local NGOs reveal that the sustainability of monitoring and evaluation is questioned because of unstable funds coming from donors.

The creation of the statistical development fund, in 2016, has not changed much in funding for statistical activities. This fund will supply mainly by a tax providing from customs. If this fund operates well it could reinforce domestic finance and improve the number of statistical production.

6. Overview of the Data Systems in Key Sectors

6.1. Health system information

The management of health information is organized around a National Health Information System (SNIS) which aims to provide quality health information available at all levels. Several actors are involved in the management of the SNIS, including SPIH/SOM Manager of Hospital Centres, Health Information and Epidemiology Monitoring Centre (CISSE) Manager from district and regions of the regions, the hospitals heads of care unit, the head nurses of the health and social promotion centers (CSPS), community actors as well as private facilities.

Strenghts

The national health information system has undergone a remarkable evolution in computerized data management with the establishment of a National Health Data Warehouse (Endos-BF) in 2012. This warehouse is developed with the software "District Health information System, version 2 (DHIS2)". The platform is accessible via the internet and has been deployed nationwide since 2013.

It integrates monthly data from all levels of care in the health pyramid (peripheral health centers, district hospitals, regional hospital centers, university hospital centers). Data entry is monthly and is carried out at the health district and hospital levels. (Figure 3).

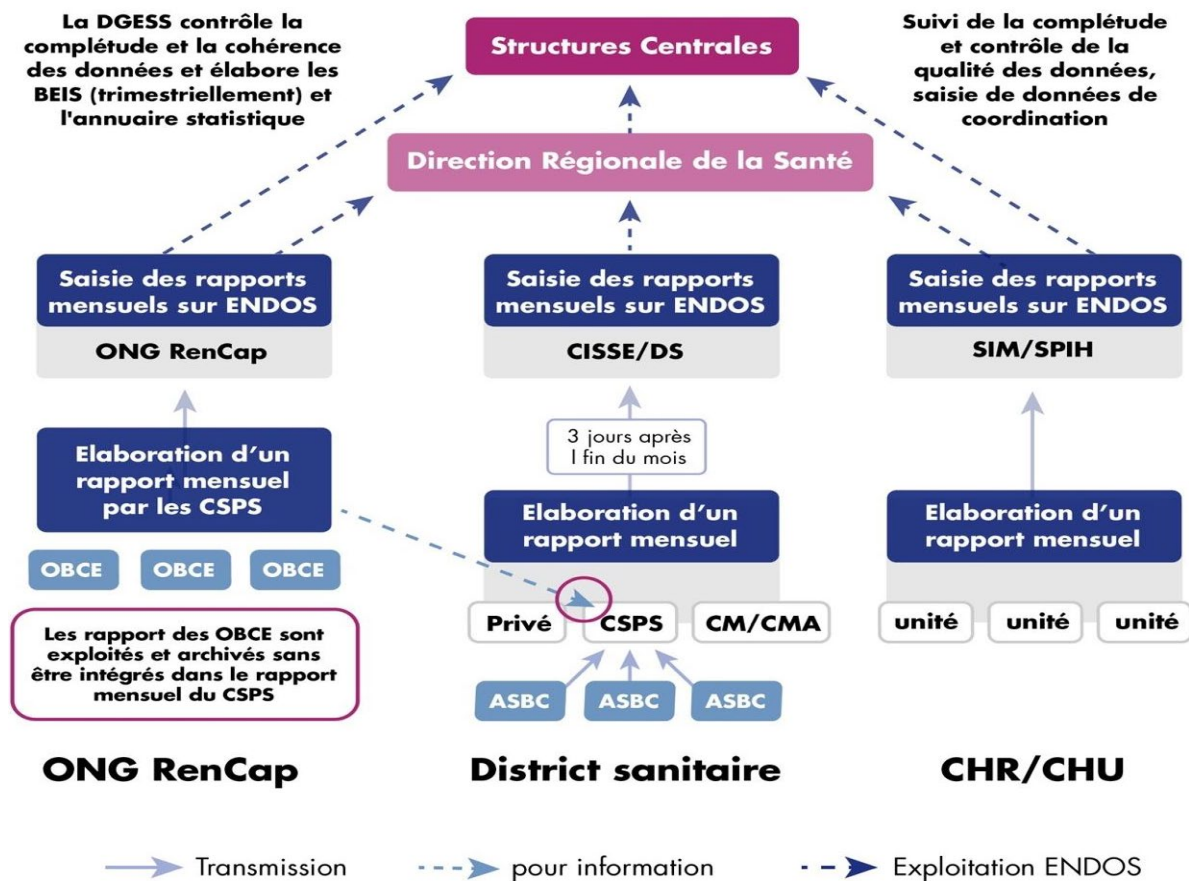


Figure 4 : flow of data health transmission in the health system, Source : Evaluation de la performance du système d'information sanitaire de routine (PRISM) au Burkina Faso, p24

Guidelines for health information system management are available with description of job position at each level of the health system information.

Weaknesses

The low speed of the internet connection and the absence of a connection in some places do not allow for optimal use of this database. Also, the insufficient coverage of electricity at the health facility level associated with the instability of the internet connection and the low level of use of computer tools by the actors at this level of the health pyramid constitute limitations for the decentralization of the data entry of health districts at the health facility level.

Health data systems are fragmented, preventing decision-makers from fully accessing and using all available data for decision making. As an example, there are over 110 active databases, applications, and digital tools currently in use across the country. Overall there is a lack of interoperability of applications.

However, data from some directorates (e.g., the Directorate of Disease Control, the current Directorate of Population Health Protection, the Directorate of Vaccination Prevention and the Directorate of Nutrition) are not fully entered into the warehouse from the health districts and/or hospitals. In fact, some data go directly from the health districts to these departments on a daily or weekly basis. This is the case, for example, for immunization data from the Expanded Program on Immunization or for nutritional monitoring data from the health facilities. (figure 4).

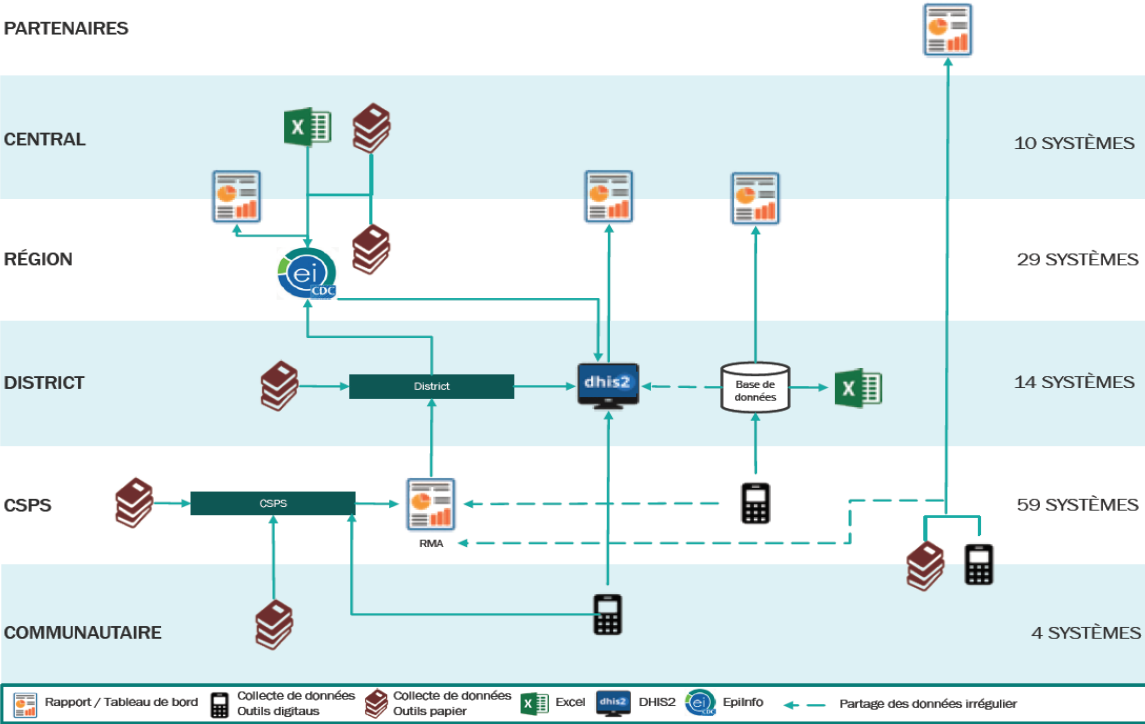


Figure 5: Flow of data in the health information system.

Source : Évaluation du Système National d’Information Sanitaire (SNIS) et du plan stratégique 2010 – 2020 ; p10

More data are collected than is needed for decision making. This over-collection of data results in spending between 13 and 46 hours per week collecting and understanding data for health workers at all levels of the system. For example, there are 48 data elements collected for HIV/AIDS by data managers, but decision-makers use only 25 unique data elements to make decisions. Data managers collect data that are not considered useful or important by decision-makers in making decisions

Decision-makers and data managers are even less aligned on which data sources are most important. Decision-makers often mentioned informal data sources, such as individuals.

6.2. Education information system

The country's institutional framework places the education system under the supervision of three ministries (MENAPLN, MESRSI, MJPEJ); each of which has its own Education Management Information System (SIGE), through its DGESS, without any coordination mechanism between them. This institutional structure makes it difficult to harmonize, integrate, and ensure the coherence of information systems for the management of education in the country. Such a situation could make it difficult to monitor and difficult to monitor and evaluate the performance of the education and training sector as a whole.

The collection units are schools, vocational training centres or universities. The Ministry of National Education collects data at the regional directorates level while the Ministry of Higher Education and Vocational Training collects data at the central level.

The main application used for data entry is "STAT EDUC 2", especially for MENAPLN and MESRSI with databases designed in MS ACCESS. Software such as EPIDATA and CSPro are also used for data entry as well as Excel. For specific surveys or studies on students' learning achievements, STATA and SPSS are commonly used.

7. Next steps

7.1. Selection of Sub-national units

Burkina Faso is divided into 13 regions and 351 municipalities. The region has less autonomy and less actions close to the community than municipality. That could be explained by the fact that the mayor is elected while the governor of the region is appointed by the government. Thus, the Municipality could be more interested to take up the information from the data information system for setting up a local development plan that could attract national and international funds through partnership.

Most of the products provided by INSD are at the regional level, for instance "region en chiffres", "annuaire statistique de la region" and for ten years for some regions. In that product, data at the municipality level are available. Currently, ten regions out of thirteen are covered by INSD. Among the ten regions, four could not be selected because of security issues. The other regions are Boucle du Mouhoun, Cascades, Centre Est, Centre Sud, Hauts bassins and Sud

Ouest. Among these regions, Hauts bassins could be considered because the second largest city of the country is located there and there are available resources and representatives of all sectors.

7.2. Identification of potential institutions or partners for the project

Potential institutions or partners that could have interest in that project are: The national association of municipalities (Association des Municipalités du Burkina Faso (AMBF)), Institut National de la Statistique et de la Démographie (INSD), Institut National de Santé Publique (INSP), Institut Supérieur des Sciences de la Population (ISSP), Institut de Recherche en Sciences de la Santé (IRSS), Joseph Ki Zerbo University and Nazi Boni University. These institutions could be considered for the identification of partners for that project.

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