Implementing 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
What Bangladesh should be aware of

Debapriya Bhattacharya, *PhD*

Chair, Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals

&

Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD)
<debapriya.bh@gmail.com>

Presented at
CPD-FES-SV Dialogue held on 31 October 2015

CENTRE FOR POLICY DIALOGUE (CPD)
B A N G L A D E S H
a civil society think tank

FRIEDRICH EBERT STIFTUNG
Bangladesh Office

Southern Voice
2015 On Post-MDG International Development Goals

Acknowledgement

This presentation builds on a number of ongoing research studies which are being conducted by the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) and the Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals (Southern Voice).

Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Director, CPD provided guidance to this study.

Contributions were received from *Mr Towfiqul Islam Khan*, Research Fellow; *Ms Umme Shefa Rezbana*, Research Associate; *Ms Lam-ya Mostaque*, Research Associate, *Mr Mostafa Amir Sabbih*, Research Associate and *Mr Ashraful Haque Mahfuze*, Programme Associate; CPD.

Content

1. **Introduction**

2. **"Aligning" SDG implementation with national planning and policy processes**

3. **Management, coordination and leadership for SDG implementation**

4. **Adequacy of financing and other means of implementation including systemic issues**

5. **Data-related issues and capacity of the national statistical agencies**

6. **Partnership and stakeholder participation including institutional arrangements**

7. **Concluding remarks**

1. Introduction

- At the seventieth session of the UN General Assembly on 25 September 2015, the member states have adopted the declaration *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*

- 17 Goals with 169 Targets will come into effect on 1 January 2016 and will guide the international development agenda over the next 15 years

- The indicators will be finalised by the UN statistical Commission in early 2016

- "Follow-up and review" mechanism is being given shape with HLPF at the centre

- Debates on implementation of SDG are being widely discussed across the world

1. Introduction

❑ **Distinguishing features of SDG**

- The Agenda: **Universal, Transformative, Integrated, and Inclusive**

- A revitalised Global Partnership

- Country-led implementation

- "Follow-up and review" processes will be voluntary and will respect policy space and priorities of the countries

- Global review will primarily be based on national official data sources – country reports and thematic reports

- Data Revolution

- Separate Goal (17) for 'means of implementation' (MoI) and MoI targets under each Goal

1. Introduction

❑ Key elements of the SDGs

***It is critically important to keep the key elements of SDGs in perspective***

- The synthesis report of the Secretary General on the post-2015 agenda, "*The road to dignity: ending poverty, transforming all lives and protecting the planet*" was published in December 2014

- The report presents **six elements** for delivering on the SDGs which "*… would help frame and reinforce the universal, integrated and transformative nature of a sustainable development agenda …*"

1. Introduction

❑ Key elements of the SDGs

- New areas of SDGs will call for greater effort and resources at the country level
  - o Goal 7: Affordable and clean energy
  - o Goal 9: Industry, innovation and infrastructure
  - o Goal 10: Reduced inequalities
  - o Goal 11: Sustainable cities and communities
  - o Goal 12: Responsible consumption and production
  - o Goal 13: Climate action
  - o Goal 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

Three pillars of Sustainable Transformation
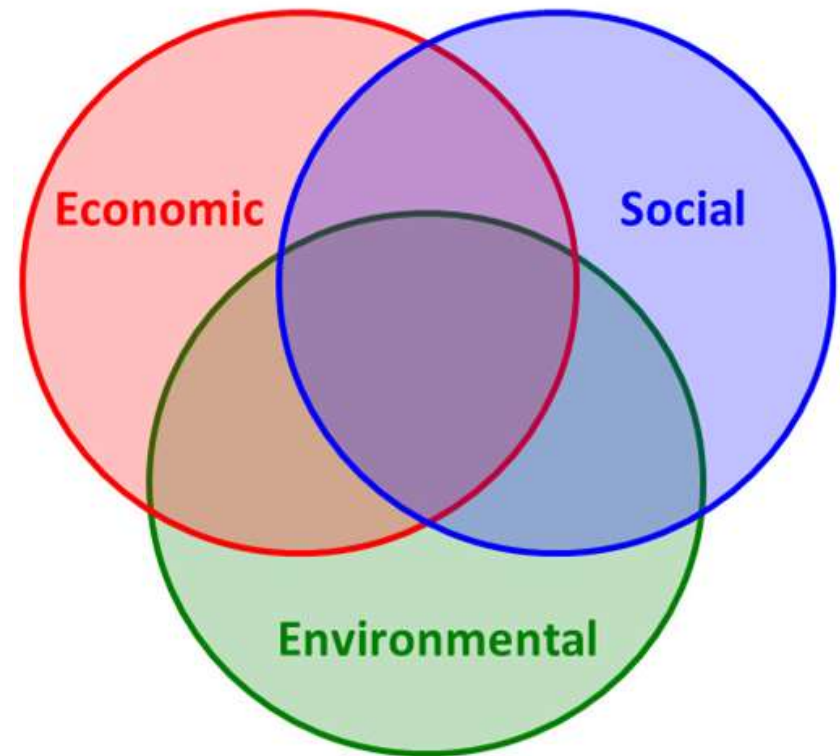
2. "Aligning" SDG implementation with national planning and policy processes

- **2030 Agenda document proclaims**
  - *Cohesive **nationally owned sustainable development strategies** will be at the heart of our efforts*
  - *All member states are encouraged **to develop practicable ambitious national responses** to the overall implementation of this Agenda*
  - *Member states are also encouraged **to conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress** at the national and sub-national levels which are **country-led and country-driven***
- The SDGs declaration has included commitments from several international processes including Third International Conference on Financing for Development (2015)
- The declaration also looked forward to COP21 (December 2015)

2. "Aligning" SDG implementation with national planning and policy processes

❑ **The main challenge:** *How the 'universal' SDG will be rearticulated at the national level reflecting the contextual priorities?*

▪ Challenges of prioritisation include-

o "No cherry picking" while emphasis should be on weaker areas of MDG achievement, e.g.

➢ Employment to population ratio (15+)

➢ Pupils starting grade 1 who reach grade 5

➢ Births attended by skilled health personnel

➢ Share of women in wage employment in the nonagricultural sector

➢ Contraceptive prevalence rate

➢ Proportion of land area covered by forest

o Must integrate Goal 10 (Reduced inequality) and Goal 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions) substantially

o Should not opt for the lowest possible measure- some SDG targets could be less than our national aspiration

2. "Aligning" SDG implementation with national planning and policy processes

- Both SDG and 7FYP are formulated in 2015, presenting a good opportunity for Bangladesh for integration

- The 7FYP document declares that it embraces the goals proposed by the Open Working Group (OWG) as the post-2015 SDGs and endorsed the Rio+20 outcome document - *The Future We Want*

- In the MDG report 2015, the government proclaimed that it has developed "Development Result Framework (DRF)", considering the indicators of proposed SDGs, to incorporate with the 7FYP

- However, the 7FYP is not the only development plan

- There is also a number of sectorial and cross sectorial plans for development that are already in place.

2. "Aligning" SDG implementation with national planning and policy processes

❑ National plans (at least 14), strategies and policies that are already in place

- 7th Five Year Plan
- National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) 2015 (Draft)
- National Food Policy Plan of Action (2008-2015)
- National Health Policy 2011
- Health, Population and Nutrition Sector Development Program (HPNSDP) 2011-16
- National Education Policy 2010; Primary Education Development Program (PEDP III) 2011-16 (extended to June 2017)
- National Women's Development Policy (NWDP) 2011

- Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 (From 7FYP)
- Power System Master Plan (PSMP) 2010
- National Skills Development Policy (NSDP 2011)
- National Industrial Policy 2015 (draft)
- National Sustainable Development Strategy 2010-21
- Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP) 2009
- National Plan for Disaster Management (NPDM) 2010-2015

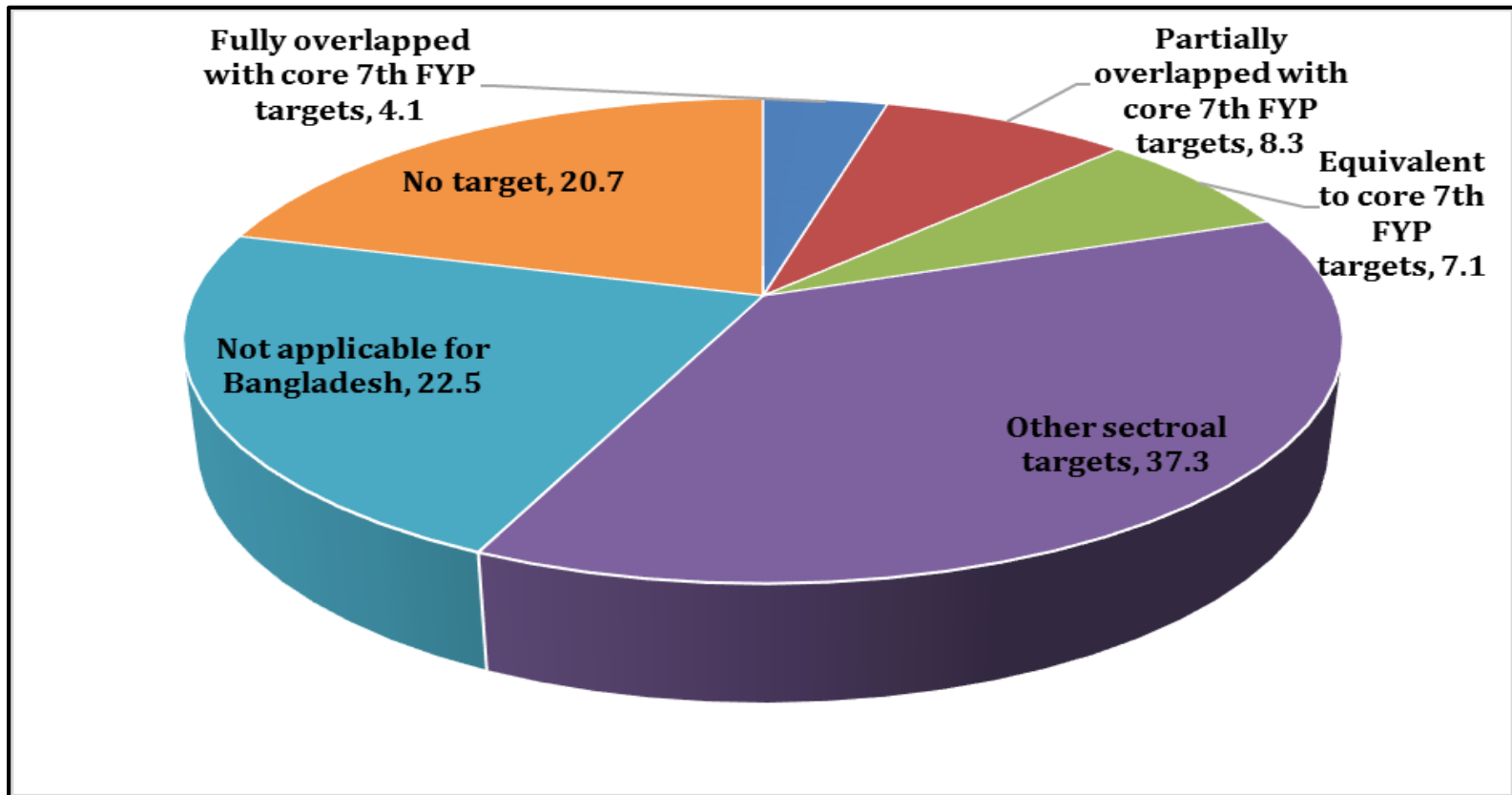# 2. "Aligning" SDG implementation with national planning and policy processes

❑ **The extent of alignment -**

The Concepts:

◦ **Fully overlapped** category includes targets which match completely

◦ **Partially overlapped** targets capture those that partly relate to the SDG targets

◦ **Equivalent** targets are targets which cannot be directly matched but carries the essence of the targets

◦ **Not applicable for Bangladesh** targets were either global in nature or not relevant for Bangladesh

2. "Aligning" SDG implementation with national planning and policy processes

SDG targets vs. Bangladesh national development targets

Fully overlapped with core 7th FYP targets, 4.1

No target, 20.7

Partially overlapped with core 7th FYP targets, 8.3

Equivalent to core 7th FYP targets, 7.1

Not applicable for Bangladesh, 22.5

Other sectroal targets, 37.3

Source: Ongoing CPD Study

2. "Aligning" SDG implementation with national planning and policy processes

- 8 Goals are better integrated in the existing national prioritisation processes

- About 20% targets are not currently reflected in national priorities

Better Integrated Goals
Goal 1: Poverty
Goal 2: Hunger and nutrition
Goal 4: Education
Goal 5: Gender equality
Goal 6: Water and sanitation
Goal 7: Energy
Goal 13: Combat climate change
Goal 17: Global partnership

Source: Ongoing CPD Study

Lesser Integrated Goals
Goal 3: Health
Goal 8: Inclusive growth, Employment
Goal 9: Infrastructure, industrialization and innovation
Goal 10: Inequality
Goal 11: Cities and human settlements
Goal 12: Sustainable consumption and production
Goal 14: Conserve and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources
Goal 15: Ecosystem and biodiversity
Goal 16: Governance

3. Coordination, management and leadership for SDG implementation

❑ **Lessons learned from the MDGs implementation in Bangladesh**
  - Low alignment with national plans
  - Silo approach in implementation
  - Inadequate data availability
  - Low engagements of stakeholders
  - Weak monitoring and accountability practice
  - One of the weaknesses of MDGs implementation was absence of dedicated institutional mechanism for implementation.
  - GED was involved in producing monitoring reports with the help of other government agencies.
  - Attainment of SDGs will require a strong and effective institutional mechanism involving all stakeholders including public representatives (central and local), government (executive and bureaucracy), private sector, civil society, knowledge community, and development partners

3. Coordination, management and leadership for SDG implementation

❑ **Who should lead the process?**

❑ **Under the leadership of the Prime Minister's Office an interministerial body may be constituted**

- Hon'ble PM has declared this at the UNGA

- Involve national parliament and local government institutions

- The government may form a set of task forces involving both government and non-government experts

❑ **Arrangements between Central-Local Government and GO-NGOs**

- Coordinated actions from different institutions will be needed even at the District and *Upazilla* level

- Capacity building at grassroots level is needed to ensure delivery

- Need for regional approach

- GO-NGO partnership for implementing SDGs

4. Adequacy of financing and other means of implementation including systemic issues

❑ **Finance for implementing SDGs**

- Achieving the SDGs in all countries will require additional global investments in the range of **$500 thousand crore to $700 thousand crore** per year up to 2030 (Source: ICESDF)

- Out of this, developing countries will need between **$330 thousand crore and $450 thousand crore a year** in financing for basic infrastructure (roads, rail and ports; power stations; water and sanitation), food security (agriculture and rural development), climate change mitigation and adaptation, health and education (UNCTAD estimates)

  - But, at current levels of public and private investment, there will be an annual **financing gap of $250 thousand crore** for aforesaid five areas (about 3.2% of world GDP)

4. Adequacy of financing and other means of implementation including systemic issues

❑ **Finance for implementing SDGs**

- According to the World Bank, achieving the proposed SDGs globally will require best possible use of each available grant dollar, beginning with **$13.5 thousand crore** in ODA from governments and also including philanthropy, remittances, South-South flows, other official assistance, and foreign direct investment

- In the IMF-World Bank annual meetings in October 2014, sessions on financing for development concluded that the SDGs would cost **three times** more than MDGs

  - Developing countries may require **doubling public spending**, but it will be difficult to mobilise additional aid

4. Adequacy of financing and other means of implementation including systemic issues

❑ **Finance for implementing SDGs**

▪ According to **Government Spending Watch 2015** report SDGs will require at least **$150 thousand crore extra a year**:

- **Doubling developing country tax revenues** which would require radical overhauling of global tax rules

- **Doubling concessional development cooperation and improving its allocation and effectiveness**

- 0.7% of DAC countries' GNI in ODA, by 2025 could mobilise an additional $25 thousand crore a year

- Accelerating concessional flows from South rose by 300% during 2000–15 - a similar increase for the SDGs would raise $8 thousand crore

- **Raising US$500 billion in innovative public financing -** taxes on carbon, bunker fuels and air travel (US$25–30 thousand crore), financial transactions and currency ($10–15 thousand crore) and issuance of IMF SDRs ($10 thousand crore)

4. Adequacy of financing and other means of implementation including systemic issues

❑ **Finance for implementing SDGs in Bangladesh**

- To mobilise the needed finance for SDG implementation, additional flows must come from two main pillars:
  - Public sector -
    - Domestic resource mobilisation is 12.1% of GDP
    - Illicit financial flow is 1.2% of GDP
    - Foreign Aid is 1.6% of GDP
    - Public investment is 6.9% of GDP
  - Private sector -
    - Private investment (22.1% of GDP) – stagnant over last three years
    - Foreign direct investment (0.9% of GDP) – comparatively low
    - Remittances (7.9% of GDP) – volatile prospect

4. Adequacy of financing and other means of implementation including systemic issues

❑ **Adequacy of finance for implementing SDGs**

- Budgetary allocation on **social security** is hovering around **2% of GDP in FY2010-2015 period** which is even lower than the 6FYP target of 3%

- Average share of **health** in total public expenditure stagnated at **0.7% of GDP during FY2003-2014**
  - WHO stipulates that the allocation should be 5% of GDP

- **Education** budget (both allocation and expenditure) has been about **2% of GDP during FY2003-2014**
  - UNESCO stipulates that the allocation should be 6% of GDP

4. Adequacy of financing and other means of implementation including systemic issues

❑ **Adequacy of finance for implementing SDGs**

- Budgetary allocation on **gender** is increasing steadily over the years

  o From 2.6% of GDP in 2007 to 4.4% of GDP in 2015

- Spending on **agriculture and food security** has been declining consistently both as a share of GDP and total budget in last 5-6 years

  o Average share of agriculture and food security in total budget was 10.3% while it was around 1.3% of GDP during FY2010-2015

4. Adequacy of financing and other means of implementation including systemic issues

❑ For MDGs, resource requirement was not estimated upfront

❑ Resource needs for MDGs were estimated individually for different goals – which ended up in double counting

❑ Once the indicators are finalised, resource requirements for implementing SDGs need to be carried out at both country level and globally

❑ Target based estimates need to be considered

❑ Synergy among the targets and trade-offs need to be taken into cognisance

❑ Estimated resource requirement needs to be matched with existing flow of resources (by sources)

❑ This will lead to more accurate estimates of resource gaps and identification of potential sources for financing

# 4. Adequacy of financing and other means of implementation including systemic issues

❑ Global financial architecture needs stability in the midst of a volatile and tepid global environment

   o while illicit resource outflow needs to be curbed

❑ Other systemic issues are also of critical importance -

   o Creating conducive environment through global trading system

     ➢ Market access for goods and services and preference erosion

   o Intellectual property rights

   o Technology transfer

   o Climate change

❑ Ownership trap must be avoided

5. Data-related issues and capacity of the national statistical agencies

❑ **Data availability**

- An ongoing CPD study has found that among the 300 indicators proposed by UNStatCom, data for about one-third indicators are not available for Bangladesh

Data availability for all proposed SDG indicators
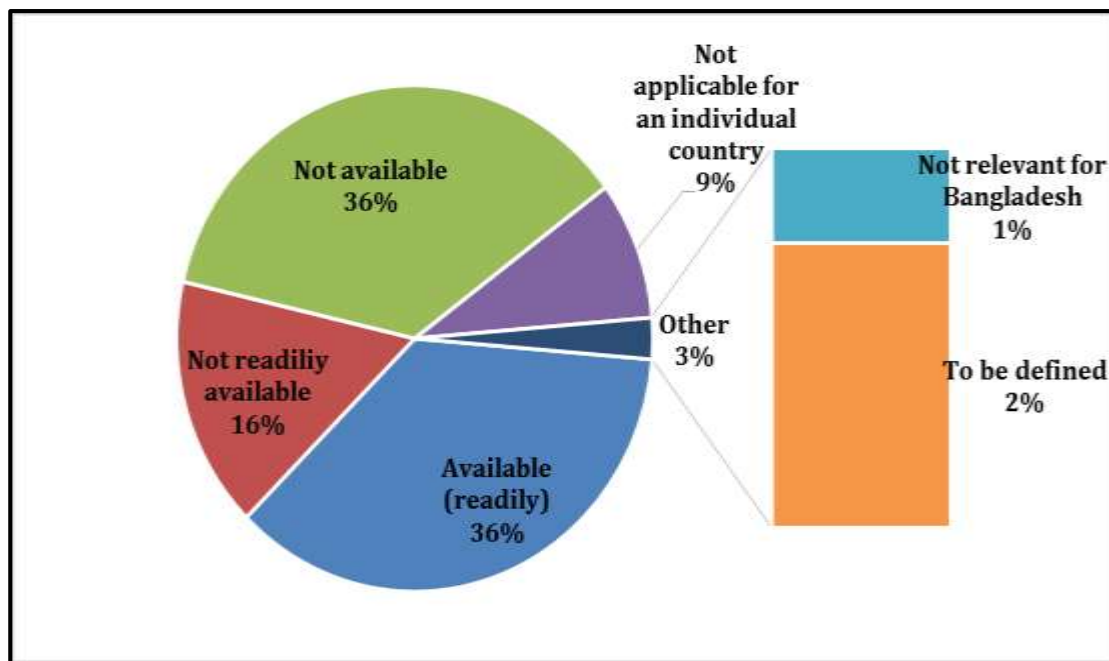
Source: CPD ongoing Study

5. Data-related issues and capacity of the national statistical agencies

❑ **Data Challenges By Category (in Bangladesh)**

- **Survey based:** Data is not available without a time lag of 3-5 years for other major surveys such as HIES and LFS

- **Administrative:** Data for energy, disaster, crime, violence, refugees are often not readily available in usable format

- **Technical:** Indicators such as 'material footprint' will require the use of technical tools and expertise to collect data

- **Perception-based:** Data for indicators such as 'percentage of population who believe decision-making at all levels is inclusive and responsive' are generally collected by private sector

5. Data-related issues and capacity of the national statistical agencies

❏ **Adequacy and Capacity of Human Resources**

- **Recruitment and retention of skilled, experienced and professionally qualified staff** is one of the major challenges in view of Agenda 2030 and their monitoring

- Among the sample countries, except for Canada and Sierra Leone, **overall adequacy of human resources in the line ministries are relatively low than the national statistical agencies** (Source: CPD-NPSIA-SV ongoing study under Post-2015 Data Test)

Adequacy of Human Resources in the National Statistical Agency and other Line Ministries
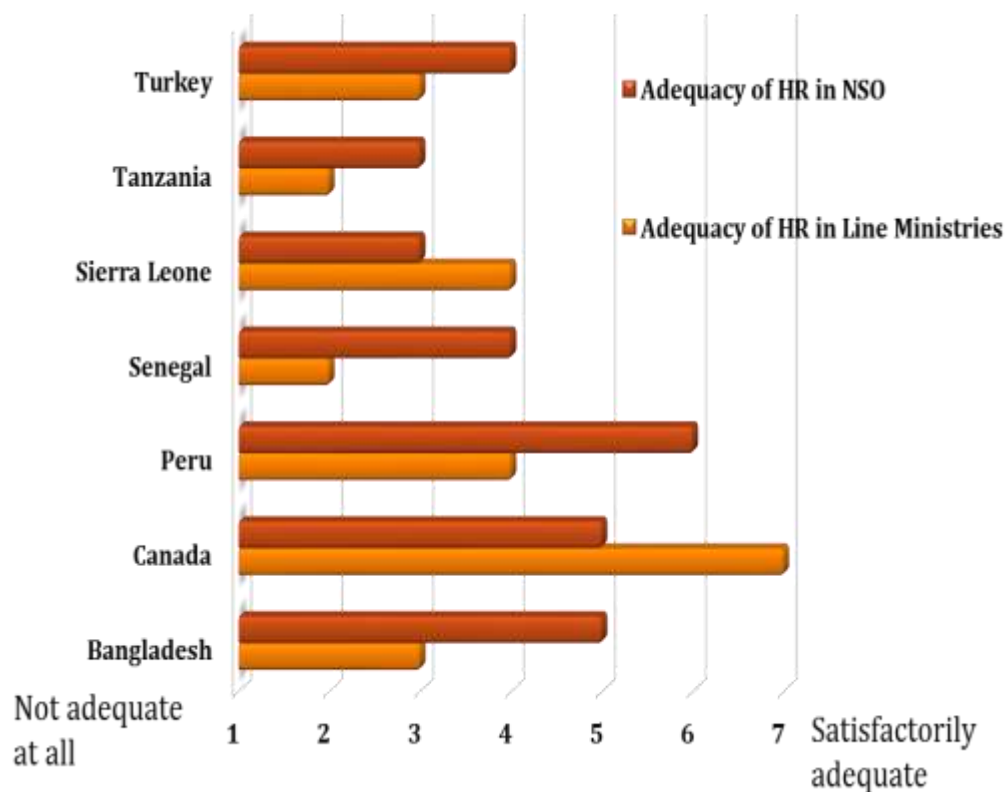
5. Data-related issues and capacity of the national statistical agencies

❑ Technical capacity

- Almost 'satisfactorily adequate' in Canada and Turkey (rated 6 out of 7) following Peru (rated 5 out of 7) while moderate situation exists in Bangladesh and Senegal (4 out of 7). Tanzania and Sierra Leone received the lowest (3 out of 7)

  (Source: CPD-NPSIA-SV ongoing study under Post-2015 Data Test)

Adequacy of technical capacity in the data collection and management
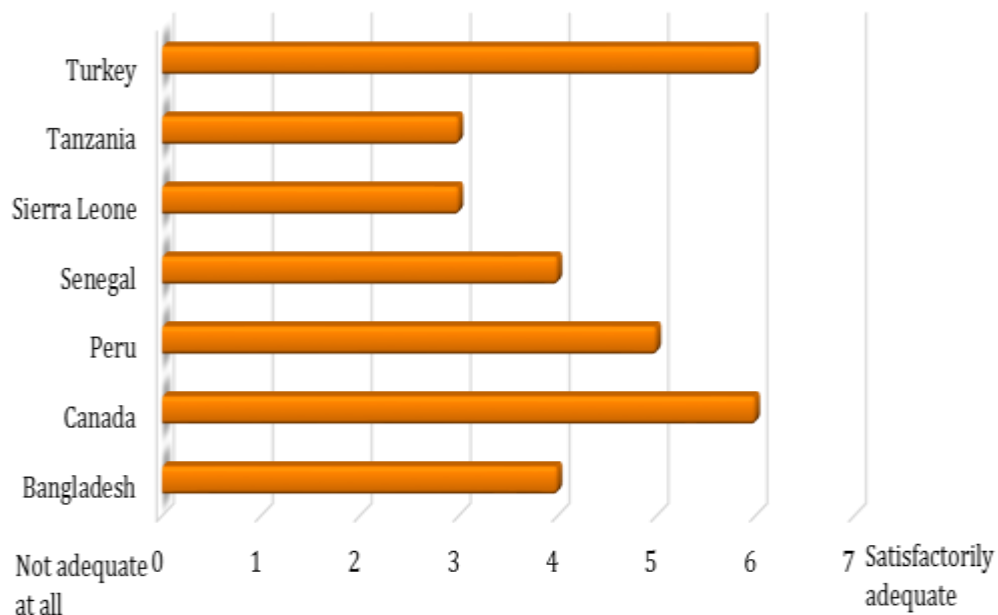
- Importance of **'Big Data'** as a source of information is increasing

  ("Big Data" is a popular phrase used to describe a massive volume of both structured and unstructured data that is so large that it's difficult to process these with traditional database and software techniques)

5. Data-related issues and capacity of the national statistical agencies

❏ **Key Challenges**

▪ Accessibility, quality and timeliness of data will be critical

▪ Fixing a reference year will be a challenge

▪ Rapid technological progress should be put into effective use

▪ Coordination among National Statistical Agency and private sector for addressing the methodological gap

▪ Validation of non-official data

▪ Ensuring finance for data is a challenge given that global support to statistics has declined in recent years

  o According to Partner Report on Support to Statistics (PRESS 2015), in 2013, commitments to statistical development (of about $44.8 crore) show a 20% decrease from the previous two years

▪ Independence of statistical office is important

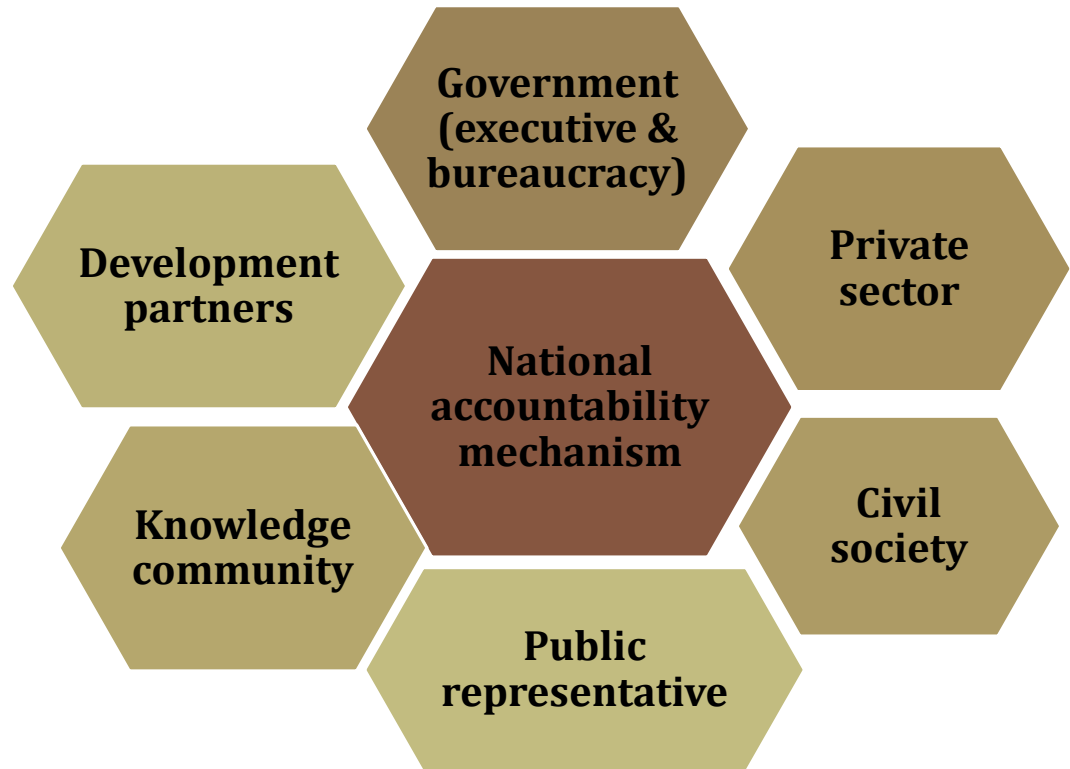# 5. Data-related issues and capacity of the national statistical agencies

❑ **What needs to be done**

▪ A data adequacy mapping exercise needs to be initiated

▪ Develop a modality for validating and stocktaking non-official data

▪ National Strategy for the Development of the Statistics (NSDS) needs to be revised accordingly

▪ Estimate a resource requirement for financing more, quality, accessible, and timely data

▪ Create a domestic trust fund including contributions from development partners and philanthropy

6. Partnership and stakeholder participation including institutional arrangements

Agenda setting	➜	Implementation	➜	Monitoring	➜	Accountability
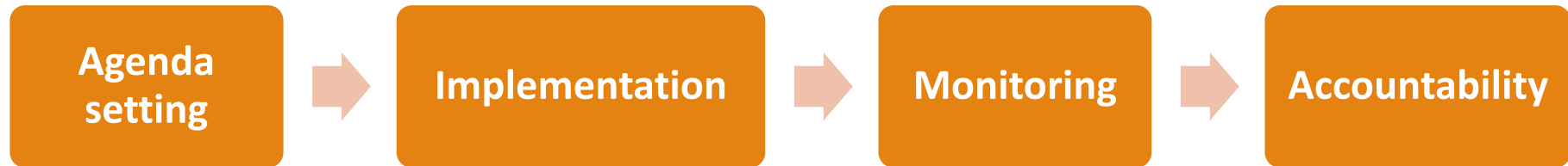
- Mode of participation

- Instrument for enforcing accountability

- Role of public representatives (Parliament and local government)

Government (executive & bureaucracy)

Development partners

Private sector

National accountability mechanism

Knowledge community

Civil society

Public representative

6. Partnership and stakeholder participation including institutional arrangements

❑ **Involvement of NGOs, CSOs and think tanks**

- ▪ **Planning process**
  - ◦ Input of all stakeholders in prioritization and sequencing of SDGs

- ▪ **Implementation**
  - ◦ Civil society groups can lend a hand in grant management
  - ◦ NGOs work can help in implementing SDG in the ground

- ▪ **Monitoring and evaluation**
  - ◦ NGOs, CSOs and think tanks can provide alternative sources of data
  - ◦ They can set up parallel review process that will ensure accountability

6. Partnership and stakeholder participation including institutional arrangements

❑ **Follow up and review mechanism**

▪ Follow-up and review processes will be voluntary and will respect policy space and priorities of the countries

▪ Global review will primarily be based on national official data sources – country reports and thematic reports

▪ National reviews will be carried out by member states: should be **regular and inclusive,** and in line with national circumstances, policies and priorities

▪ National reviews should draw contributions from

  o Marginalised groups (e.g. indigenous people)

  o CSOs

  o Private sector

  o Other stakeholders

▪ Needs support from the National Parliament and other institutions

7. Conclusion

- An ambitious global development partnership launched at a time of challenging international environment
- Systemic issues should be given attention to at every opportunity
- Political will – global, regional and national – will be of the critical essence
- Need to have a strengthened accountability and legitimacy process

    A Citizen's Platform will be set up towards this end

THANK YOU