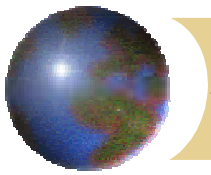


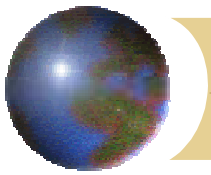
Promoting Linkages of Census Results to Social Policy

Tomas P. Africa



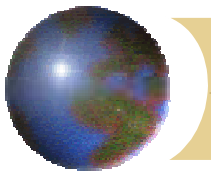
Outline

- ⊕ Introduction
- ⊕ The census cycle revisited
- ⊕ The utility of census data
- ⊕ Relevance & sustainability of official statistics
- ⊕ Some challenges in social statistics
- ⊕ Some strategies for more policy relevance

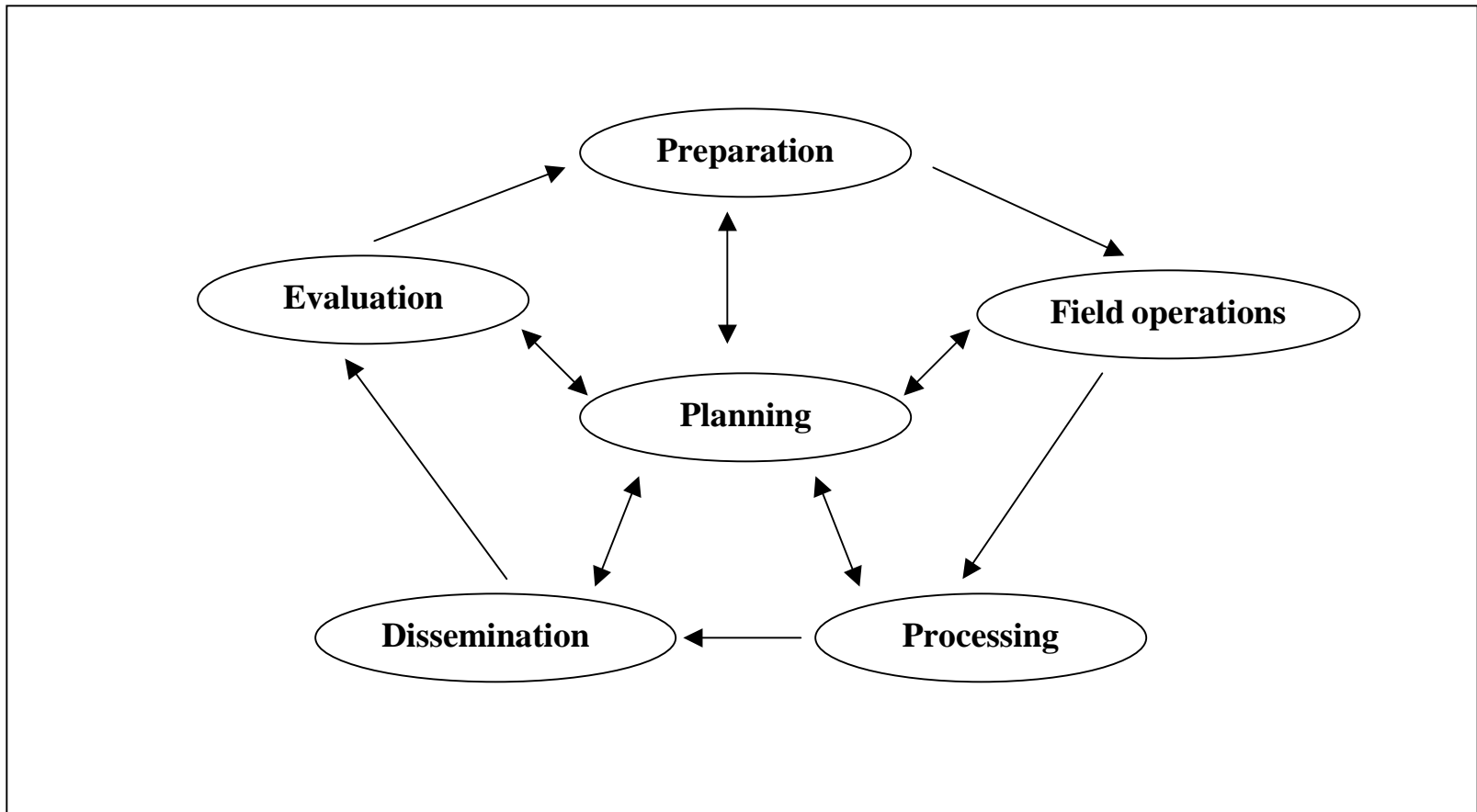


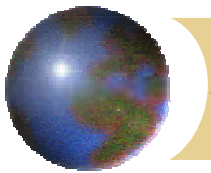
Introduction

- ⊕ On completion of an investment project, the implementor reports to the stockholders on the accomplishments of the project.
- ⊕ Investment project ► Census
- ⊕ Implementor ► Census office
- ⊕ Achievements ► Census results
- ⊕ Stockholders ► Stakeholders

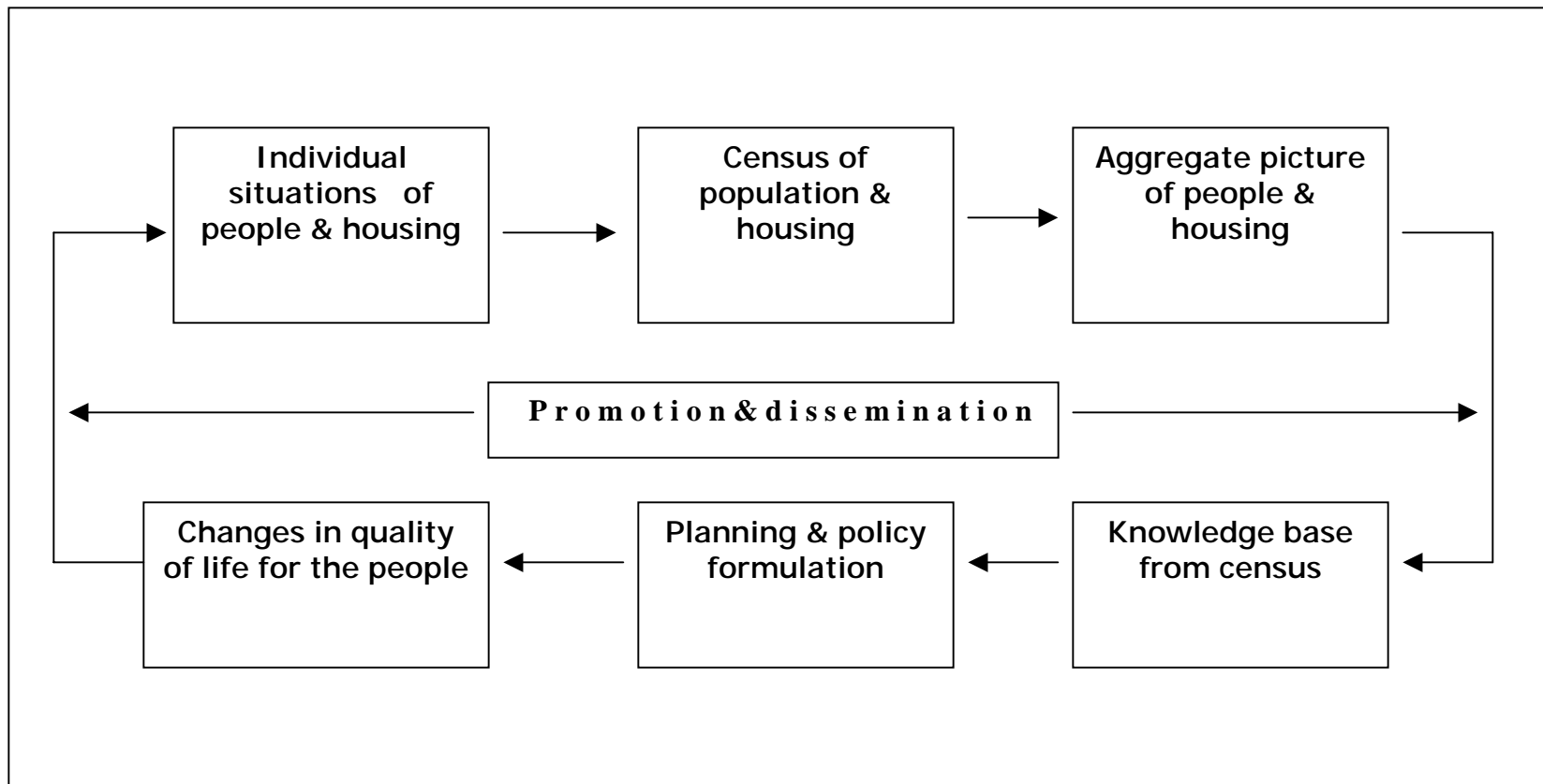


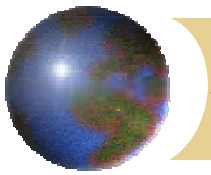
Census cycle





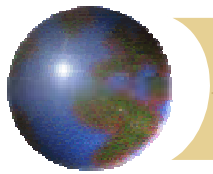
Census cycle continuum: relevance & access





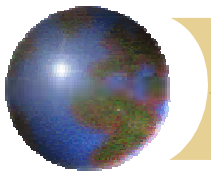
Utility of census data in government[1]

- Use in development planning
 - assessment of current levels and differentials
 - ... current socio-demographic situation
 - ... manpower resources
 - evaluation of availability of basic household needs
 - ... benefits of development programmes
 - identification of special groups
 - planning of social welfare programs
 - improvement in the status of women
 - formulation of housing policy & programmes
 - ... policies for investment of development funds



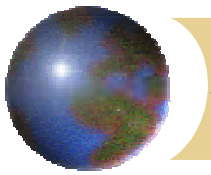
Utility of census data [2]

- Other uses in government
 - demarcation of constituencies for electoral purposes
 - classifying & designating areas as urban or rural
 - redrawing territorial jurisdictions of regions, districts & other administrative areas
 - division into manageable units such as wards for planning & delivery of facilities & services



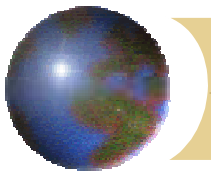
Relevance & sustainability of official statistics

- ⊕ Utility optimized when policy decisions and action programmes guided, if not influenced, by provision of knowledge embodied in official statistics
- ⊕ Has it been optimized, especially in developing countries where funding is always at risk?



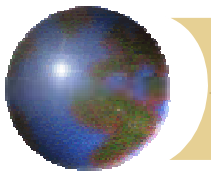
Relevance & sustainability... [2]

- ❖ ADB/PARIS21 Joint High Level Forum on Statistical Capacity Building for ASEAN Countries:
Key principles for capacity building
 - a) national commitment to allocate adequate resources;
 - b) adoption of sound management policies;
 - c) demand for statistics as driving force of work programmes;
 - d) pursuit of policies of data transparency and credibility;
 - e) improved data dissemination



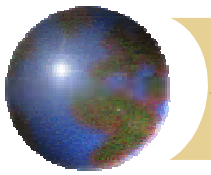
Relevance & sustainability... [3]

- ❖ SIAP/ESCAP Management Seminar for Heads of NSOs in Asia and the Pacific:
Depth and extent of analysis and interpretation that NSO undertakes – directly related to how high statistical development is placed among competing priorities in national funding agenda
- ❖ Statistics and policy: economic vs. social



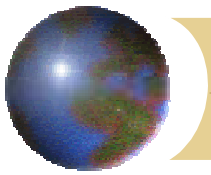
Some challenges in social statistics[1]

- ❖ Social statistics often produced in ad hoc manner, w/o clear strategy or work programme.
- ❖ Coordination among producers, national & international, still insufficient → inconsistent & underutilized statistics
- ❖ Stakeholders needs for timeliness & relevance not always adequately met



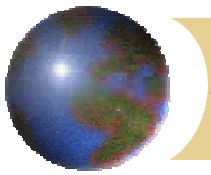
Some challenges in social statistics[2]

- Seeming absence of social statistics at macro & micro levels in developing countries, - e.g. lack of visibility of census results, likely one of the causes.
- Other than census, social statistics-administrative by-products, generally fragmented, independent efforts.
- Social planning & policy based more on record of performance of agency undertakings rather on analysis of past trends and present accomplishments.
- Opportunity: High profile of social, people-centered, development (2000 Millennium Summit & International Conferences) in current development policy.



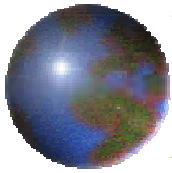
Some strategies for more policy relevance[1]

- ❖ Social statistics be driven by needs of policy makers and other users, such as media and the public.
- ❖ Produce information not just statistics, making figures easy to understand, more user-friendly, addressing specific user needs.
- ❖ Train & sensitize
 - policy makers on the use of statistics in policy formulation & monitoring, and
 - media on statistics providing factual base for their stories.



Some strategies for more policy relevance[2]

- ❖ Use the MDGs as momentum for development and policy relevance of social statistics.
- ❖ Align recent and next census round to addressing some of its information needs.
- ❖ Other suggestions?



Conclusion

- ❖ As in economic statistics, NSOs should have prominent, if not dominant, role in production and use of social statistics.
- ❖ Promoting use of census results in social policy – a step in that direction