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## **Measuring Post-2015 Sustainable Development in Senegal**

*Phase II Follow-up Study*

Southern Voice Post-MDGs 2015

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**Maam Suwadu Sakho-Jimbira  
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**MEASURING POST-2015  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN SENEGAL**  
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# Preface

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*Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals* (Southern Voice) is a network of 49 think tanks from Africa, Asia and Latin America, which was founded in 2012 to serve as an open platform to contribute to the global discourse tied to the formation, implementation, monitoring and mid-course review of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The *Post-2015 Data Test* was a pioneering multi-country project, which was conceived and implemented in the period immediately following the release of the Report of the High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. Co-led by the *Southern Voice*, the *Norman Paterson School of International Affairs (NPSIA)* and the *Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD)*, the project was implemented in Bangladesh, Canada, Peru, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania and Turkey to assess the manner in which the post-2015 agenda may be measured and implemented across a range of country contexts.

After the successful completion of the collaborative seven-country project, *Southern Voice* decided to undertake a follow-up exercise based on conclusions and recommendations of the project's previous country studies. Under the follow-up exercise, four countries, viz. Bangladesh, Senegal, Tanzania and Turkey have prepared country-level Data Action Plans for addressing the capacity gaps and data deficits with regard to the implementation of the SDGs, which were unanimously adopted at the Sustainable Development Summit of the United Nations in New York in September 2015.

The present study captioned **Measuring Post-2015 Sustainable Development in Senegal: Phase II Follow-up Study** is the third of the four country-level Data Action Plans to be published under the Southern Voice Occasional Paper Series. The report observes that despite significant efforts and investments towards national statistical system in Senegal, challenges and gaps are still there, creating risks of compromising proper monitoring and implementation of the SDGs. The report, in this regard, provides concrete proposals through an inclusive country-level action plan while being responsive to both national needs and international challenges for the effective SDG implementation in Senegal.

The study has been authored by *Dr Maam Suwadu Sakho-Jimbira*, Researcher; *Dr Ibrahima Hathie*, Research Director; *Dr Aminata Niang*, Researcher; and *Mr Lamine Samaké*, Junior Researcher at the Initiative Prospective Agricole et Rurale (IPAR) – Senegal.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognise the support of The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation towards *Southern Voice*, particularly that of *Dr Ruth Levine*, Programme Director; *Ms Sarah Lucas*, Programme Officer; and *Ms Rachel Quint*, Programme Fellow of the Global Development and Population Programme at the Hewlett Foundation.

The contribution of *Ms Umme Shefa Rezbana*, Senior Research Associate, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) for overseeing the programme, and *Ms Tarannum Jinan*, Administrative Associate, CPD for following-up the Data Action Plans, are acknowledged. Input from *Ms Maeesa Ayesha*, Programme Associate, CPD is also recognised.

I would also like to thank *Dr Mehmet Arda*, Member of the Executive Board Centre for Economics and Foreign Policy Studies (EDAM) for peer reviewing, and *Mr Ben Hudson* for copy-editing the paper.

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This report presents the results of Phase II of the Post-2015 Data Test initiative. It aims to address the challenges and opportunities, identified in the pilot study, for measuring and implementing the SDGs. The report provides solutions, organised within a national plan of actions, that aim towards addressing data problems and proposing measures for an effective SDGs implementation. In Senegal, despite important efforts and investments that have been made regarding the national statistical system, many challenges still remain, including the access, availability, reliability, and financing of data for monitor the SDGs. These gaps risk compromising the monitoring and implementation of the SDGs. Therefore to address sustainable development challenges by 2030, it is crucial to involve all national stakeholders as the means of implementation, including financing, human resources and reliable data.

This report recommends, through an inclusive plan of action, concrete proposals that are consistent with national needs yet responsive to international challenges. A first recommendation is to ensure a strong political leadership and commitment from key decision-makers. This will facilitate a good ownership of the SDGs, and therefore their alignment with the Senegal's new economic and social policy framework. Another recommendation is to establish efficient SDG monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, through an operationalisation of the Harmonised Monitoring-Evaluation Framework; bringing together the monitoring of SDG indicators and PSE indicators. In addition, capacity should be built for ensuring the production of quality data on SDGs, by deepening the present work on mapping data sources during the Data Test study. A key recommendation is to promote the domestic resource mobilisation, through the development of public-private partnership or the creation of an annual budget line dedicated to the production of sectorial statistics. Finally, an effective communication is required on SDGs and their data-related needs in order to develop a strong sense of national ownership.



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# Acronyms

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ANSD	National Agency for Statistics and Demography
CAAPOST2015	Post-2015 Agenda Framework of Action
CASE	Harmonised Monitoring and Evaluation Framework
CESE	Economic, Social and Environmental Council
CNS-ODD	SDGs National Monitoring Committee
CONGAD	Council of Non-Governmental Organisations for Development Support
CPD	Centre for Policy Dialogue
CRD	Regional Development Committee
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
DGPPE	Directorate General for Planning and Economic Analysis
DHS-MICS	Demographic and Health Surveys
DPRE	Planning and Reform of Education Director
ENSAE	National School of Statistics and Economic Analysis
ESPS II	Second Senegalese Survey for Poverty Monitoring
FTP	Financial and Technical Partner
GPSDD	Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data
HLP	High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IEAG-SDG	Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goals
IPAR	Initiative for Agricultural and Rural Prospective Analysis
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MEDD	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
MEFP	Ministry of Finance and Planning
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
NPSIA	Norman Paterson School of International Affairs
NSDS	National Statistics Development Strategy
NSS	National Statistical System
ODA	Official Development Assistance
PARIS21	Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century
PDA	Personal Digital Assistant
PSE	Plan for Emerging Senegal
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SDSN	Sustainable Development Solution Network
SNIS	National Health Information System
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Emergency Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USD	United States Dollar
UVS	Université Virtuelle du Sénégal
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

# Measuring Post-2015 Sustainable Development in Senegal

## *Phase II Follow-up Study*

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### **1. Introduction**

#### ***Background***

In a concerted attempt to effectively implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the international community has acknowledged the need for accessible, quality, disaggregated data to monitor progress within the post-2015 development agenda. In September 2015, a new global sustainable development programme was launched. This programme, which continues the work of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), identifies and defines the key indicators of importance for monitoring progress up until 2030. In that context, the availability of reliable, timely, high-quality and publicly-accessible data, is seen as key for the successful implementation of the new development agenda and effective progress monitoring, as consistent with calls for a “data revolution.” It is now acknowledged that better quality data is needed to guarantee the design of evidence-based development policies, and to strengthen transparency and accountability.

In the aim of filling current data deficits in terms of access and use of quality, disaggregated data for the rolling-out of the SDGs, a group of independent experts was established in August 2014 by the United Nations Secretary-General. It is in this context that the initiative, the ‘Post-2015 Data Test’, was launched by the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) in Bangladesh and the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs (NPSIA) of Carleton University in Canada, in cooperation with the Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals network. In Senegal, the post-MDGs and data revolution study was conducted by the Initiative for Agricultural and Rural Prospective Analysis (IPAR), through a consultative approach that involved civil society stakeholders, public institutions, research organisations, financial and technical partners (FTPs) and the media.

#### ***Aims and objectives***

This second study addresses the need to identify challenges and opportunities in the test phase and proposes solutions through a national plan of actions that aims at the effective implementation of the SDGs. The results of this monitoring study will serve to inform inputs at the global level on the creation of concrete support mechanisms for the global South countries. Effective response to many of the present sustainable development challenges will require a substantial mobilisation of means of implementation, including finances, human resources and reliability of data, and involvement of all country stakeholders, especially policymakers, civil society, universities and think tanks, FTPs, the private sector, the media and the international community.

### ***Methodology of the study***

The methodology of this study is based, on the one hand, on a review of the available literature on the data revolution and the adoption of the SDGs at the international, regional and national levels. On the other hand, a qualitative approach has been used to enable discussion with stakeholders involved in sustainable development and data issues. Experts from various institutions, including ministerial technical departments, civil society organisations (CSOs), universities, and the National Agency for Statistics and Demography (ANSD), met during a workshop titled “The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Implementation Data Challenges and Opportunities.” This workshop facilitated the collection of a range of perspectives regarding the expectations and possible solutions to data problems that could help to inform and measure the priority SDG indicators, with specific proposals and recommendations being formulated that could support the effective implementation of SDG. In addition, key informant interviews were conducted with targeted stakeholders, including researchers, local authorities, personnel from the national statistical system (NSS), and resource persons at decentralised sectoral services at the regional level.

### ***Structure of the paper***

The present paper is structured into five sections. Following this introduction (Section 1), which revisits the context of the post-2015 development agenda and the objectives of Phase II of the Data Test initiative, Section 2 provides a review of the available literature on the data revolution and the SDGs at the international, regional and national levels. Section 3 provides a brief recap of key results from the test study; and Section 4 then analyses the proposed actions to be undertaken at the national level to ensure effective implementation of the SDGs. The paper concludes in the Section 5 with a set of recommendations and a discussion on the scope and implications of a national plan of actions.

## **2. Literature Review on the Data Revolution and the SDGs**

### ***An overview of initiatives at the international level***

The call for a ‘data revolution’ was launched in 2013 by the High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda (HLP), mandated by the United Nations Secretary-General. An HLP report published in 2013 stressed the need for a data revolution in the area of sustainable development, with a proposal to set up an international initiative with the aim of improving the quality of statistics and information provided to governments and the general population (HLP, 2013). This report also highlighted the importance of disaggregated data (including by sex, geographical location, revenue and disability, as well as by other categories), so as to ensure that no group was to be “left behind”. Further, the data revolution should contribute to development progress monitoring while also reinforcing transparency and accountability for various stakeholders.

In August 2014, the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goals (IEAG-SDGs) was established by the United Nations Secretary-General. In their November 2014 report, the Group framed the data revolution in terms of improving data that is key to decision-making, accountability and the resolution of development challenges (IEAG, 2014). The IEAG made recommendations that focused on four areas of intervention, which included:

- i. *Principles and standards.* The report recommended the necessity to establish anonymisation standards for personal data so as to guarantee compliance with the right to privacy. In addition, nine principles were proposed, including data quality and integrity, data disaggregation, data timeliness, data transparency and openness, data usability and curation, data protection and privacy, data governance and independence, data resources and capacity, and data rights.
- ii. *Technology, innovation and analysis.* Recommendations in this regard included the creation of a ‘data laboratory’ on the SDGs, the development of global systems for data sharing, the need to fill

research gaps, and engagement with various stakeholders in the process, among others. The SDG Data Laboratory would bring together various stakeholders to identify existing and missing data on SDG indicators, and use opportunities offered by technology to improve the coverage, timeliness and availability of indicators for each SDG.

- iii. *Capacities and resources.* The IEAG report highlighted the need to develop national capacity in all processes concerned with data production and use. This capacity building requires quantifiable investment, as well as the management of various funding sources, in order to ensure a suitable SDG monitoring system.
- iv. *Leadership and governance.* One of the key proposals in the IEAG report was the creation of a Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data (GPSDD). This GPSDD would contribute by promoting a variety of initiatives, such as a World Forum on Sustainable Development Data, a User Forum, data sharing through collaboration among various stakeholders, and public-private partnerships.

The GPSDD is a global network that was officially launched in September 2015 at the United Nations General Assembly, at the time of the adoption of the SDGs. This SDG global network is a multi-stakeholder group whose membership includes government representatives, CSOs, private sector organisations, universities and international organisations. The Government of Senegal is among the first African countries to be a GPSDD member. The objective of the partnership is to accelerate efforts towards increasing the availability of quality data, by drawing the greatest benefits possible from the data revolution so as to achieve the SDGs by 2030. In addition, the GPSDD seeks to facilitate access to open data, as well as enhancing the capacity of data users and producers to measure, monitor and assess the progress made towards meeting the SDGs.

From the four action areas identified by the IEAG (2014), the Secretariat of the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21) proposed detailed recommendations by means of a roadmap for a country-led data revolution. In regards to the ‘capacities and resources’ area, the recommendations of the roadmap can be summarised into three main strands. Firstly, the roadmap proposes to invest in dialogue-building between data producers and users at the national and regional levels. Secondly, the roadmap recommends the measuring of progress achieved in the field of statistics through the creation of a ‘statistics capacity indicator’ within the SDG framework. Thirdly, it recommends the updating of national statistics development strategies (NSDS) so as to align them to the SDGs and other development strategies, while also identifying opportunities for innovation and partnership (OECD-PARIS21, 2015).

Regarding ‘principles and standards’, the roadmap proposes reaching on pilot data agreements between countries and donors, defining technical platforms and common standards for rapid data dissemination, and greater use of administrative data. For ‘technology, innovation and analysis’, it is recognised that it is important to identify innovative best practices, to test public-private partnerships, and to improve user access to statistics by upgrading national statistics internet sites and creating data portals. Finally, in the area of ‘governance and leadership’, one of the roadmap’s recommendations is the publication of a Sustainable Development Data Annual Report that analyses a country’s capacity to measure the SDGs and provide detail on the financing of statistics. This should then be accompanied by mechanisms for monitoring the use of national standards and best practices in the entire NSS. Further, the coordination role of national statistics agencies should be reinforced and national statistics partnerships developed.

In addition, the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) has published several reports regarding the data revolution and the post-2015 development agenda. A 2015 SDSN publication, completed in collaboration with partner organisations, concerns a needs assessment for SDG monitoring and statistical capacity development (SDSN, 2015a). As stated in this report, a minimum of USD 1 billion is required per year to establish a robust statistics system, capable of measuring and ensuring efficient SDG monitoring in 77 low-income countries. In addition, the analysis of NSDS shows that countries are planning on aid at a level of 52 per cent of the current budget of these NSDS;

therefore, an additional amount of USD 100 to USD 200 million will be required in the form of official development assistance (ODA) to fulfil the monitoring demands of the SDGs. It is evident that foreign aid should be complemented by financing from national budgets, which therefore requires a strong strategy for the mobilisation of national resources. Moreover, statistics financing differs based on the context, as the capacities and challenges for achieving the production of reliable and regular statistics are not always the same. In the case of Africa, for example, an unpublished report by the managers of African statistics services and other partners estimates that the production of harmonised statistics for the purpose of SDG monitoring would cost USD 4.33 per capita, when taking into account the costs related to improving data reliability.<sup>1</sup>

Another SDSN study includes a needs assessment that determines the volume of public-private investment needed to achieve the SDGs (SDSN, 2015b). This study demonstrates the importance of rigorously assessing SDG-related public-private investments. For instance, there is a need to demonstrate how these objectives can be reached; identify implementation gaps; understand the private financing opportunities available and the policies needed to support private SDG investments; and ensure that there is a strong resource mobilisation strategy and appropriate accountability framework. Further, this study proposes six major investment areas to be considered for achieving the SDGs, in addition to two other investments related to data for the SDGs, and emergency response and humanitarian actions.

Investment areas to target in order to attain the SDGs include health, education, social protection, food security and sustainable agriculture, infrastructure (energy, water, sanitation, transport and telecommunications), and the ecosystem and biodiversity. The SDSN study highlights the need to strengthen needs assessments for most of these investment areas, especially infrastructure, the ecosystem, and food security and sustainable agriculture. While considering the investment areas identified as necessary for achieving the SDGs, countries are invited to develop national needs assessment strategies, as well as a financing strategy that would help to fill the gap in current financial flows. This SDSN study on the required investment to achieve the SDGs is of particular relevance to Senegal. In fact, by applying the same methodology, it will be possible to determine the level of investment needed for SDG implementation and data requirements at the national level. Consequently, it will be easier to develop a strategy for domestic resource mobilisation, including contributions from the private sector and the government. Donors could also have a role to play, although only if domestic resources turn out to be insufficient.

In a recent report, the SDSN detailed a guide that aims to explain how countries could start the process of SDG operationalisation and achievement (SDSN, 2015c). The report highlights the need to review national performance in reaching the SDGs, to foster a multi-stakeholder dialogue, and to prepare a roadmap to implementation strategies for development.

To assess performances at the national level, it is important to select 2-3 indicators based on well-defined criteria. Such indicators must be based on maximum data availability, actionable in different national contexts, and capable of covering a wide range of priorities related to different development objectives. In addition, the SDSN guide highlights the need to begin with national statistics sources in order to understand current performance at the national level. This will enable the identification of data gaps and reveal priorities as regards strengthening institutional capacity and analysis. This SDSN study is also of relevance to Senegal in the context of the Plan for Emerging Senegal (PSE), which is the reference document on issues of development policy at the national level, as it could prove useful to use the PSE indicators to inform the selection of the 2-3 indicators from which national performance will be assessed.

The SDSN guide proposes that SDG implementation strategies be developed through a clear planning process that involves various stakeholders. This planning process is not only necessary due to the

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<sup>1</sup><http://www.uneca.org/fr/es-blog/comment-assurer-la-r%C3%A9volution-des-donn%C3%A9es-en-afrique>

complexities involved in achieving all of the SDGs, but also for the need of governments to achieve those targets most relevant to the national context. In addition to the need to define an SDG implementation planning process that is based on a multi-stakeholder dialogue, it is also important to highlight that the lead responsibility for implementing such development strategies will rest with the State. States must demonstrate strong public commitment to SDG implementation, even though other stakeholders, such as civil society, universities, researchers and development partners, also have a role to play in planning and implementation. For instance, universities and research centres can contribute to SDG monitoring through the collection, analysis and interpretation of primary data; the identification of strategic priorities from research and development; and the provision of expertise to governments in defining and planning SDG implementation strategies. CSOs can also play a key role in implementation due to their knowledge of the reality on the ground. For instance, CSOs can ensure that various groups are considered in SDG strategies; they can propose appropriate, targeted interventions; and they can contribute in ensuring accountability. Further, development partners can provide a range of support, particularly technical, managerial and financial support in SDG planning and implementation strategies at the national level.

### ***Key initiatives at the regional level***

One of the key data revolution initiatives developed in Africa is the Africa Data Consensus, adopted following the high-level conference held in Addis Ababa in March 2015. The Consensus proposes to establish a large data ecosystem that mainstreams the entire value chain, and has the potential to deal with a number of challenges while also benefitting from development prospects. In the document, 'data ecosystem' is defined as a grouping that consists of "multiple data communities, all types of data (old and new), communities, institutions, laws and policy frameworks, and innovative technologies and tools, interacting to achieve the data revolution."<sup>2</sup> This ecosystem, based on national priorities and fundamental official statistical principles, must take into account official and non-official data, and involve all stakeholders.

The principles that underlie the consensus integrate the necessity of political will to implement the data revolution; the need for data disaggregation, official data opening, and a governance and coordination system; and the promotion of a demand-driven data-use culture.

Furthermore, the Consensus proposes key actions that first require strengthening of the data ecosystem, conducting a capacity needs assessment, and defining the legal and financial framework. In addition, it is important to identify the data assets and gaps at different levels (at the national, local and community levels) to develop a roadmap and define the respective roles of various stakeholders.

### ***Initiatives undertaken at the national level***

In Senegal, several relevant initiatives have been launched by various stakeholders. Prior to the adoption of the SDGs, Senegal was already among the 50 countries chosen to conduct national consultations under the framework of the post-2015 development process. Senegal held these national consultations in May 2013, with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and in close collaboration with the Council of Non-Governmental Organisations for Development Support (CONGAD). In addition to the government, participants included CSOs, research centres and private sector representatives. In respect to the government's involvement, the two key ministries that participated in the process were the Ministry of Economy, Finance and Planning (MEFP) and the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MEDD). The MEFP played a key role during the national consultations, and resulted in the production of the report, "The Senegal We Want after 2015."

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<sup>2</sup><http://repository.uneca.org/bitstream/handle/10855/22773/b11525691.pdf?sequence=1>; [http://www.uneca.org/sites/default/files/PageAttachments/final\\_adc\\_-\\_english.pdf](http://www.uneca.org/sites/default/files/PageAttachments/final_adc_-_english.pdf)

In January 2016, the MEFP launched the process for developing the SDG national implementation strategy, working in close cooperation with the UNDP. In addition, the ANSD, which reports to the MEFP, organised a meeting in November 2015 during which various stakeholders discussed SDG indicators. The MEDD conducted a regional consultation process with various stakeholders within the 14 regions in which the SDGs were prioritised. At the end of the consultation, seven SDGs were identified as being high priority, including:

- SDG 1 on poverty;
- SDG 2 on hunger, food security and nutrition;
- SDG 4 on quality education;
- SDG 6 on clean water and sanitation;
- SDG 7 on renewable energy;
- SDG 13 on climate action; and
- SDG 15 on terrestrial ecosystems.

Within the framework of the National Strategy for SDG Implementation, coordinated by the MEFP, it is important to deepen the priority-ranking work already undertaken by the MEDD. In addition, a committee was recently created at the Prime Ministerial level to reflect on the SDGs, addressing institutional and policy aspects, as well as areas related to the measurement and monitoring of indicators.

Ecobank Senegal and Orange are among the few private sector stakeholders that have demonstrated a keen interest in the post-2015 development agenda in Senegal. In December 2015, Ecobank organised a high-level panel on the role of international organisations in achieving the SDGs. This initiative, undertaken within Ecobank's corporate social responsibility (CSR) framework, may strengthen private sector involvement in SDG implementation in Senegal.

With regard to civil society, few organisations have been able to carry out actions within the post-2015 development agenda framework. Activities have mainly been undertaken by CONGAD and the Post-2015 Agenda Framework of Action (CAAPOST2015), whose activities have been supported mainly by the UNDP.

FTPs have established a task force within the UN system for monitoring the SDGs in Senegal. As part of its support to the Government of Senegal, in 2016, the UNDP funded a project on the data ecosystem for sustainable development. The overarching objective of this project, which is coordinated by the IPAR, is to assess the availability of data and institutional capacities for monitoring the post-2015 development agenda in Senegal. This project is in line with statements emerging from the Africa Data Consensus. The methodological approach taken involves organising national and regional workshops that engage various stakeholders, including line ministries, locally-elected authorities, CSOs, universities, research centres, and private sector representatives. Each workshop aims to achieve the following specific objectives:

- Identify the development priorities of the national statistical system so as to better monitor SDG targets;
- Assess the statistical capacity production needs of each stakeholder;
- Identify challenges concerning the exchange of data and collaboration between actors needed for implementation and monitoring the SDGs;
- Assess the opportunities offered by innovation and new technologies that can help fill data gaps and improve the effectiveness of SDG monitoring;
- Evaluate the infrastructure required to improve the collection, dissemination and use of data and best practices; and
- Discuss the actions needed to develop and strengthen regulatory frameworks critical for monitoring, transparency and accountability.

The World Food Programme (WFP) has undertaken gender-related analyses, and collected data disaggregated by sex and age, which is critical to SDG 5 (achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls). The WFP has launched a pilot study, 'Gender and Market Analysis: Empowering Women in West African Food Markets', to strengthen links between gender analysis, market assessments and food security.

IPAR is among one of the first organisations in Senegal that has conducted research into the work of post-2015 development agenda. Reflecting on the SDGs in relation to the data revolution in Senegal, IPAR's data test study helped to identify a number of challenges and opportunities in the implementation of the SDGs at the national level. Moreover, the UNDP data ecosystem project, conducted by the IPAR, has also delivered valuable inputs given that it addresses institutional capacities in relation to data and SDG implementation and monitoring.

Finally, in collaboration with Brookings, IPAR will undertake a case study of Senegal on the theme of 'Ending Rural Hunger', as part of a Brookings project that concerns five African countries. The specific objective of the project is to detail a thorough mapping of food security challenges and opportunities, which will then enable policymakers to better target investment and actions needed to achieve the SDG 2 (zero hunger).

### **3. Recapping the Main Results from Phase I of the Post-2015 Data Test**

Under Phase I of the post-2015 data test, the case study on Senegal cast light on issues surrounding data availability, accessibility, financing, quality and gaps. It also underlined the efforts required to achieve priority SDGs at the national level (Sakho-Jimbira *et al.*, 2015). During this process, various stakeholders were consulted. These stakeholders shared their opinions on the SDG targets and indicators as defined, identified challenges and revealed possible opportunities.

The SDGs that were selected for the Phase I exercise, namely poverty, education, employment and growth, energy and infrastructure, environment and resilience to disasters, governance and global partnerships for sustainable development, are all of particular relevance in the Senegalese context. The study examined data-related problems associated with each SDG, in particular, data availability for monitoring objectives, targets and selected indicators, data quality, as well as politico-economic dimensions related to the data revolution (including those related to financing). Presented below are some of the key results from the test phase.

#### ***Data availability is relatively satisfactory***

The institutional reforms conducted 10 years ago within the national statistical system have enabled considerable improvement in statistical capabilities and data availability. The availability of data is positive for monitoring SDG indicators. The study reveals that data was already available for 91 per cent of global indicators (with excellent availability in regards to poverty and education). Similarly, for national indicators, 64 per cent have readily available data. In general, data availability is relatively good in Senegal as official data sources can be used to calculate measures relevant to SDG indicators. However, statistics gaps do exist in some sectors, particularly in regards to the SDGs on the environment, governance, employment and the global partnership for sustainable development. Disaggregation of data at the local and sectoral levels remains unsatisfactory, with the data being incomplete, especially in the area of civil registration.

#### ***Data quality remains low***

A lack of accurate and reliable data, which is relevant and timely, can prove to be an obstacle to achieving high-quality data. Low-quality data is principally due to a lack of sustainable funding to conduct statistical operations. The ANSD relies on the support of FTPs, as well as on the national budget. Delays in external funding or government-initiated budget cuts therefore consequently



have an impact on the sustainable financing of statistical activities. The SDG with the highest quality data is education, followed by poverty, energy, the infrastructure and employment. The SDG on the environment has low-quality data (i.e. it is unreliable, not disaggregated and incoherent) due to differences between data sources for informing the same targets and indicators. This situation is then replicated for the SDGs on governance and global partnership, which additionally also lack accuracy.

### ***Challenges and opportunities identified during the Test Phase***

Phase I of the test study revealed a number of notable challenges. The most important gap concerned data disaggregation at the sectoral scale and the local level, despite efforts to decentralise ANSD's services in the various regions of the country. These regional statistical offices need financial, technical and human resources support in order to produce quality, disaggregated data at the local level. Key gaps can also be seen in the sectors of culture, the environment, justice, employment, governance, sports and youth.

Another challenge is the under-use of survey data. This data is not used to its full potential due to a lack of anonymisation of micro-data collected through surveys. Anonymisation enables better use of personal data, while securing confidentiality. Moreover, the data is not always as open and accessible as it should be, as a public good.

Politico-economic analysis has shown that these issues with data are exacerbated by a lack of financial and human resources, which acts as a major constraint as it limits the development of the production of statistics in Senegal. For instance, NSS-produced data, which largely depends on internal financing, suffers from frequent budget cuts and insufficient financial resources available to conduct its statistical operations. The NSS does also benefit from external financing, from FTPs including the World Bank, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). However, such external assistance presents two constraints. Firstly, donors request data that are their own priorities, and raises questions on the relevance of those data. Secondly, reliance on donor assistance now means that the ANSD depends heavily on external resources, and as such its programme of work is, to some extent, dictated by donor priorities for which funding is available. The MEFP must therefore respond to this financing challenge by supporting the Statistics Development Fund at the ANSD.

As regards human resources, the major issue continues to be a lack of expert statisticians within ministries. In addition, there is also an issue with retaining senior statisticians without financial incentives or possibilities of promotion.

In terms of opportunities, results have shown the important role technology plays in the improvement of survey data availability, quality, storage and rapid dissemination. Indeed, thanks to the use of tablets, smartphones, Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) and ultra-portables for conducting surveys, such as Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS-MICS), Second Senegalese Survey for Poverty Monitoring (ESPS-II) and the last general population census in 2013 (RGPHAE), data is more readily available. For the RGPHAE, as a result of using technology to collect data (thanks to bilateral cooperation with Brazil), preliminary results were available three months after collection, disaggregated by age, sex, departmental and regional levels. Recognising the role that technology can play in data availability, most ANSD surveys are now conducted using tablets and PDAs. This is currently the case with the General Census of Enterprises (RGE) launched in 2016, the Poverty Monitoring Survey and the National Survey on Employment in Senegal. Also, with the use of technology, the ANSD is able to improve communication with data users in order to ensure the timely publication of results online and contribute to the creation of open data.

Nonetheless, technology use in rural areas remains a challenge, due to a lack of energy and infrastructure, which increases the probability of data loss during information transfer. Greater

private and public investments in infrastructure, technology and training can help to fill this gap. In general, the availability of high-quality, reliable data for the purpose of monitoring SDG achievement requires large investment from public authorities, the private sector and the FTPs. Furthermore, it is important that the NSS develops implementation strategies to better understand the opportunities available from private financing, and drafts the necessary policies that support private investment in the SDGs.

#### **4. Plan of Action for Effective Implementation of the SDGs in Senegal**

Over the past 15 years, the MDGs have significantly contributed to development progress. However, the implementation of the MDGs was conducted in a ‘top-down’ manner by international donors. Further, the process was limited in its inclusivity and was not sufficiently ‘owned’ by the general population.

Within the new post-2015 development framework, consensus has been reached on the importance of developing links between global SDGs and national priorities. In this connection, relevant stakeholders, including ministries, CSOs, research centres, TFPs and the media, have expressed the need to work at the national level to ensure efficient implementation of the post-2015 agenda. As such, there is a need to identify those SDGs most relevant to the Senegalese national context and to work in alignment with national priorities as defined in the PSE, which is the reference document on issues of development policy. At the Prime Minister’s level, there is preliminary work being conducted in this regard that will help to develop coherence between the SDGs and the PSE for more effective implementation of these goals. To achieve this aim, a national plan of actions is proposed, articulated around five key areas:

- a. Strong political backing and articulation of the SDGs to the PSE;
- b. Development of effective SDG monitoring and evaluation mechanisms;
- c. Capacity building for the production of quality, available SDG data;
- d. Sustainable financing for the production of data for SDG monitoring; and
- e. Communication and national ownership over SDG data.

Each of these five areas will now be explored in further detail in the sections below.

##### ***Strong political backing and articulation of the SDGs to the PSE***

The SDGs constitute a universal framework and will structure development programmes for the coming years. It is therefore critical that the Government of Senegal commits to taking the lead on rolling-out and implementation at the national level. Besides decision-makers’ political will, it is also important that the SDGs are aligned with priority areas as defined in the PSE. Indeed, various stakeholders who met during the implementation of this study advocated for greater involvement of all ministries in the SDGs. In other words, the government must demonstrate firm political will for SDG implementation and monitoring. In addition, it would be advantageous for ministerial technical and operational services be involved in this process. As mentioned above, to date, the MEFP and the MEDD are among those who are most actively involved.

The political steering of work on the SDGs was first launched at the MEDD. As mentioned above, in June 2015, the MEDD initiated a process of regional consultations with various stakeholders throughout 14 regions, with the aim of conducting an SDG priority-ranking exercise. This initial work has resulted in the selection of seven priority SDGs (as outlined above). In addition, the MEDD initiated a study this year, which aims to reflect on the SDG institutional framework in Senegal.

In January 2016, the MEFP, another key stakeholder in the post-2015 development process, launched a process that aims to develop the national SDG implementation strategy, with the support of the UNDP. In addition, the MEFP recently released an important draft Ministerial Order on the structure and operations of a national SDG Monitoring Committee (CNS-ODD), following a proposal made by the Director General for Planning and Economic Policies (DGPPE). The CNS-ODD’s overarching role is to

steer SDG implementation, monitoring and evaluation at the national level. In particular, its specific tasks will be to:

- stimulate better articulation of economic policy (PSE) and sectoral policies with the SDGs;
- coordinate SDG implementation at the national level;
- ensure better alignment of SDG financing;
- facilitate stakeholder dialogue on the SDGs;
- develop the government's technical contributions on the SDGs during international meetings;
- ensure reporting on SDG commitments, as well as a joint review of SDG implementation.

As regards the membership of the CNS-ODD, there appears to be a certain level of inclusiveness. The CNS-ODD's members include almost all stakeholders, including ministries, parliament, the Economic, Social and Environmental Council (CESE), civil society, employers' unions, local authorities and FTPs, with the exception of research centres (universities and think tanks) and the media, which are absent. The Committee, despite being inclusive, would benefit from inviting research experts working on the SDGs, as they have the capacity to conduct studies and evaluations of the SDGs at the national and local levels, on demand, and can better analyse SDG achievement.

One action that therefore needs to be taken is to adopt the draft Ministerial Order as soon as possible. Another action necessary to ensuring strong political leadership is to establish a High-Level Commission, under the framework of the Prime Minister's Cabinet or the President's Cabinet, to support and oversee the work of the CNS-ODD. The creation of this High-Level Commission will better involve the executive branch in SDG implementation, specifically to help solve leadership and coordination problems among ministries with regard to the SDGs (in particular the MEFP and the MEDD), and ensure the mobilisation of sufficient resources to ensure the efficient operation of the CNS-ODD. Finally, the creation of the High-Level Commission should help to increase the inclusivity of the process by encouraging sectoral dialogues that involve various stakeholders. By ensuring strong political leadership that favours the SDGs, the Commission would also ensure better linkages between sectoral ministries' technical services and implementation. It is also worth stating that the Commission must avoid a top-down approach by taking concerted decisions and integrating technical services with independent expertise inputs.

It is also important to deepen reflection on alignment between the SDGs and the PSE already being implemented. In this regard, it is necessary to first compare the 169 SDG targets with the 230 PSE indicators, and to propose measures to be taken to fill the existing gaps. The responsibility for conducting this analysis would fall to research centres and think tanks, with the results of the analysis then being shared with the SDG High-Level Commission. As a consequence of this analysis, the Commission would be able to see how PSE flagship projects and priority SDG programmes could together benefit the development of the country as a whole. Alignment of the SDGs and the PSE will help to identify those SDGs most relevant to Senegal based on its national priorities. So there is a particular need to deepen the priority-ranking work steered by the MEDD.

In addition to the CNS-ODD and the SDG High-Level Commission, other coordination mechanisms and institutional arrangements could be established at the local level that give a greater role and responsibility to local communities. These entities must, however, be endowed with the necessary resources and capacities to be able to fully undertake this work at the local level.

Finally, political leadership must also be championed by parliamentarians who, subject to successful training in the area of the SDGs, can better review draft laws or propose new laws that aim towards facilitating the implementation of priority SDGs. CSOs and think tanks can help facilitate the necessary parliamentary capacity-building activities. It is also important to involve the general population, in particular associations, as far as is possible, by giving them the means by which they can develop a sense of ownership and promote their involvement in SDG implementation follow-up.

### ***Development of effective SDG monitoring and evaluation mechanisms***

Consensus has been reached on the need for suitable monitoring and evaluation mechanisms that promote effective SDG implementation. The existence of a Harmonised Framework for the Monitoring and Evaluation of Public Policies (CASE), created on 26 May 2015 under Decree n 2015-679, is an opportunity for sound monitoring and evaluation of SDG performance in Senegal. Under the authority of the Senegalese President's Cabinet, the CASE is in fact responsible for developing and coordinating all monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and instruments related to government public policy. This monitoring and evaluation tool can therefore be used as a reference for SDG alignment to public policies and development plans, in particular, the PSE.

Considering the role that ministries play in the SDG implementation process, it is necessary to undertake capacity-building activities for CEPs, which are the units responsible for studies and planning within sector ministries, to ensure they can play a key role in monitoring and evaluation at the sectoral level. Capacity-building should also equally focus on CEP financial, human and technical resources. The ANSD has a key role to play in building CEP capacity, by providing them with graduate statisticians from the National School of Statistics and Economic Analysis (ENSAE), for example, for the production of the data necessary for SDG monitoring. Further, the ANSD could sign performance contracts with the relevant sector ministry services so as to ensure that SDG indicators are monitored.

Given that reviews of the CASE process are being planned, it would be beneficial to ensure that SDG monitoring reports are regularly prepared and discussed at the SDG High-Level Commission, as well as in parliament and at the CESE.

The CNS-ODD also aims to conduct an annual periodic review of the SDGs to assess progress and performance in SDG implementation against the level of funding mobilised. Furthermore, in rolling out its programme, the CNS-ODD should ensure strong, participatory planning by giving responsibility to a variety of stakeholders who could play a critical role in the monitoring and evaluation of SDG implementation. It was also suggested during phase two of the Post-2015 Data Test that it is necessary to clearly define objective, verifiable indicators so as to ensure sound monitoring and evaluation of SDG implementation and to plan for mid-term and end of programme evaluations.

### ***Capacity building for the production of quality, available SDG data***

The availability of comprehensive, relevant and reliable data is necessary to establish a baseline and measure progress towards achieving the SDGs. The work achieved by IPAR through the Post-2015 Data Test can serve as a basis from which can be proposed a data action plan for effective implementation of the SDGs in Senegal.

A first action that needs to be undertaken is the enlarging and deepening of IPAR's work on the mapping of data sources, through an extensive review of survey and administrative data that exists for monitoring the 230 SDG indicators. An initial mapping exercise of relevant data sources, particularly for those of Tiers I and II, was initiated by ANSD and IPAR in May 2016, using the methodology of the Post-2015 Data Test. It is expected that this exercise will lead to the identification of indicators that benefit from reliable and regular data, and those indicators for which data is non-existent, as well as revealing the level of data disaggregation and which data producers are associated with each indicator (for example, ANSD, sectoral and others).

The gaps that will be identified during this mapping exercise will be important to help inform which actions need to be undertaken to fill SDG-related data gaps. These actions should be prioritised towards the human, technical and financial capacity-building of the NSS for the purpose of SDG implementation and monitoring. Furthermore, it has been recently recommended that NSSs in global South countries must truly modernise in order to be able to play a prominent role in the data revolution (Quint, 2015), which must serve as a springboard for well-informed policy decision-making and development

progress. One of the key actions that therefore needs to be considered is the adoption of a participatory approach to data production that involves various stakeholders, including those external to the NSS. This approach will require synergies among the various data producers so as to avoid the duplication of surveys and ensure efficient use of the available resources.

Taking into consideration the large number of SDG indicators and the inclusive nature of the 2030 Agenda, the availability and regular production of reliable, disaggregated data is a critical issue. Consultations with various stakeholders during Phase II of the Post-2015 Data Test has prompted a number of recommendations concerning the importance of disaggregated data for effective SDG implementation. As regards the current lack of disaggregated data, it is suggested to work in close collaboration with local decentralised bodies, which can mainstream the necessary disaggregated data production while designing their budget. Local decentralised bodies could therefore contribute financially to the production of disaggregated data at the local level. Indeed, it is important to emphasise that the current NSS framework does not take into consideration all decentralisation policies in its statistical planning, despite more power having been given to local decentralised bodies through the Third Act of Decentralisation. The disaggregated data gap at the local level can also be filled through development projects, although this would require budgeting for the costs of such data collection at the project development phase. Key informant interview participants, notably local authorities, have recommended taking advantage of Communal Development Programmes as these generally include local data on a range of areas, including demographics, health, economy, education and the environment. Performance contracts could be signed between local communities and the ANSD, through its regional branches, to build capacity and ensure data quality control.

Furthermore, developing close collaborations between official data producers (such as the ANSD) and non-official data producers (such as civil society and universities/research centres) could help to fill data availability, quality and disaggregation gaps. During an interview with the Vice-President of Bambey University, a recommendation was made to assign students to decentralised sectoral services, through internships. These students could support the decentralised units in the processing and analysis of the data produced at the regional and departmental levels. In addition, some CSOs have emphasised that they have available local data that they are happy to share with those responsible for SDG monitoring, and that they are willing to work alongside the ANSD in improving their collection methodologies.

Such recommendations are also applicable to the issues surrounding the availability and quality of data produced by sectoral ministries. The government should take steps to recruit qualified statisticians, doing so in collaboration with the ANSD as it is in charge of the training of statisticians through ENSAE. It is indeed important to emphasise that the recruitment of statisticians is the responsibility of the government, in particular the Ministry of Civil Servants and the Ministry of Finance, in collaboration with the relevant line ministry that will host the recruited candidate. Statisticians would then be sent to regional, decentralised services, and to units responsible for planning and studies within sectoral ministries. This would ensure harmonisation of methodologies and collection tools, in line with the centralised management of the NSS, as well as ensuring quality data is produced at the local and sectoral levels.

Furthermore, the SDG Implementation Action Plan should include new information and communications technology (ICT) as a central feature. ICT use increases and improves the amount and quality of data for SDG monitoring, while simultaneously reducing costs and collection times, and democratising access to information. Some sectors already use ICT for data collection, for instance, in the Ministry of Education, the Planning and Reform of Education Director (DPRE) leads its school data collection campaign through a platform housed at the Academy Inspections. A similar framework, the National Health Information System (SNIS), also exists at the Health Ministry. In the SDG Implementation Action Plan, it is therefore recommended to extend the use of technology in the production of statistics to all sectoral ministries. To achieve this, it will be necessary to provide

sectoral ministries with ICT experts and to provide training on the use of data processing software, such as SPSS and STATA.

Regarding data dissemination, one action could be to put key information on the SDGs online, including targets and indicators, through the creation of a website or SDG information system (SIS-ODD). This is a basic communication method that would serve to sensitise most stakeholders to the importance of their contribution to SDG implementation.

Finally, developing partnerships among stakeholders will enable everyone to benefit from the opportunities offered by the diversity of technologies. For that purpose, a partnership should be developed with the Université Virtuelle du Sénégal (UVS), as this institution has an open digital space and platform in many departments within Senegal. Through this platform, the UVS could contribute to the effective SDG implementation in Senegal.

### ***Sustainable financing for the production of data for SDG monitoring***

The availability of sustainable financial resources is critical for the effective implementation of the SDGs. As such, the challenge of ensuring a sustainable supply of finance that is predominantly based on domestic resource mobilisation needs to be addressed by the government.

One of the key recommendations for funding availability is reducing dependency on donor resources. This requires improving the domestic mobilisation of funding that is directed at data production, analysis and dissemination. Although NSS financing is still maintained through a pool including TFPs, the State and the ANSD through its provision of services, it is important to highlight that Senegal is already undertaking significant efforts to finance statistics. Such efforts include the latest censuses, in particular, the RGPFAE, more than 90 per cent of which was financed by the State, and the General Census of Businesses, which cost 5 billion FCFA.

To increase State efforts to finance statistics, it has been suggested that in the Finance Act substantial subsidies allocated to surveys and other priority statistics activities should be included. Another action that could contribute to the regular production of sectoral statistics would be the setting up of a budget line dedicated to each line ministries' statistical system, from which statistical services would be developed to ensure the necessary level of data production. Domestic resource mobilisation for financing statistics requires convincing decision-makers of the importance of data. Developing a 'statistics culture', targeting political decision-makers, especially parliamentarians and the CESE, can be an advocacy vehicle that guarantees political backing and results in sustained financial support. With the existence of such a statistics culture, these decision-makers would be more favourable towards domestic resource mobilisation for effective SDG implementation at the local level.

Increased engagement of the private sector, through the development of public-private partnerships, is key to financing SDG implementation and data production. Indeed, the private sector stakeholders are becoming increasingly interested in issues related to sustainable development, and they are able to fund such activities as part of their CSR commitments. These activities could contribute to a range of areas associated with the SDGs, including health, education and agriculture. A key recommendation is therefore to develop partnerships between the private sector and local authorities that will promote the effective implementation of the SDGs at the local level.

Finally, Senegal is a member of various initiatives concerned with the SDGs, including the GPSDD. This multi-stakeholder initiative should enable member countries to develop roadmaps and fill data gaps through capacity-building. The Government of Senegal should therefore increase its involvement in the GPSDD in order to seize the data-related opportunities that are available.

### **Communication and national ownership over SDG data**

SDG implementation cannot be inclusive or successful without a sense of national ownership, based on effective communication of the goals and the data needed to monitor them. The first step needed to ensure national ownership and adequate communication is guaranteeing that the implementation process is participatory. At the local level, the SDGs, their targets and indicators could be translated into local languages so as to develop greater understanding of the 2030 Agenda among the general population and encourage their involvement in its implementation. Translation should also extend to the associated data needs and requirements so as to inform various stakeholders of these at the local level. Given the proven success of Non-government Organisation (NGOs) in working with local populations on development projects, NGOs should be better engaged in communicating data-related issues that pertain to the SDGs. In addition, Regional Development Committees (CRD), which are chaired by governors and are held periodically, should be used to help further communicate SDG objectives at the local level.

On this same issue, one of the related measures in the Action Plan is the identification of “SDG Data Champions” who would be capable of advocating for development objectives and their data needs, both at the local and national levels. In addition, mass communication strategies, such as community radio stations, youth and women associations and sports associations, could also be a means of ensuring national ownership. Moreover, the media is a key player as regards developing a national sense of ownership over the SDGs and their data needs. It would therefore be useful to include a group of journalists on the SDGs in the SDG Implementation Action Plan, as is already the case with other themes, such as land. In schools and universities, it would also be beneficial to encourage communications to students and teachers so as to facilitate a better understanding and ownership of the SDGs and data-related issues by this important segment of society. In addition, given that young people make particular use of social networks, these could be used to communicate SDG actions and data targeting.

In its NSS coordination role, the ANSD could play a role in the communication on SDG data needs. This could be achieved during censuses or surveys that reach several segments of the population at one time. Moreover, it would also be useful for the ANSD to organise regular ‘user-producer dialogues’ to discuss SDG data needs.

Finally, in order for communications related to the SDGs and their data needs to be successful at a higher political level, it is important to demonstrate to policy-makers the linkages that exist between the PSE and the SDGs. This would promote ownership by decision-makers, such as CESE advisors or MPs, who could then feel empowered to undertake initiatives and propose guidelines that aim towards facilitating SDG implementation.

### **5. Conclusions and Recommendations**

In Senegal, the new post-2015 global development agenda is being implemented in a context marked by persistent economic and socio-political challenges. As stated in a recent report, *The Senegal We Want: National Consultations Report on the Post-2015 Development Agenda*<sup>3</sup>, two major challenges that remain are poverty reduction and the means of sustainably ensuring prosperity and well-being to all in a context of natural resource depletion, disruptions to the ecosystem, food and energy price increases and climate change. The SDGs therefore constitute a global opportunity to address these human development obstacles over the next 15 years. Drawing on lessons so far from SDG implementation, the effective execution of the SDGs requires a benevolent environment, as well as the development of an action plan that responds to challenges associated with policy-making, financing, data and inclusion. It is here where this second study is of relevance, in line with the framework of the

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<sup>3</sup>République du Sénégal, ONU. «Le Sénégal que nous voulons»: Rapport des consultations nationales sur l’agenda de développement post-2015. Mai 2013.

'Post-2015 Development Agenda Data Test', which seeks to generate national readiness by identifying data needs and proposing solutions that will promote the achievement of the SDGs.

Data issues remain critical for the efficient implementation and monitoring of the SDGs, hence the importance of the creation of a reliable data ecosystem. Notable data production efforts have been made at the national level, which have been possible, thanks to NSS institutional reforms over the last decade. However, a lack of available, reliable and disaggregated data, which results from persistent financial and human resource constraints, is a risk that is affecting the monitoring of SDG implementation progress. Drawing lessons from the implementation of the MDGs in Senegal, it is particularly important to renew the priority SDGs through a coherent and participatory plan of action that is championed by decision-makers. Indeed, an SDG Action Plan that responds to national needs and takes into account international challenges, has been proposed. The research conducted during this study has revealed that consensus exists for the following series of recommendations:

- *Ensure strong political leadership and commitment from key decision-makers*, including, in particular, key ministries, such as the MEFP, the MEDD and other important sectoral ministries. Technical services and parliamentarians should commit themselves to SDG implementation under the guidance of a High-Level SDG Commission, which will work closely with the SDG National Monitoring Committee (CNS-ODD) and mobilise the necessary resources through an inclusive approach.
- *Align the SDGs to the PSE*, as there is an important need to articulate the SDGs within the priority areas of the PSE given that the latter constitutes Senegal's new economic and social policy framework, and therefore provides a financing opportunity for priority SDGs.
- *Establish efficient SDG monitoring and evaluation mechanisms*, with the operationalisation of existing mechanisms and tools, such as the Harmonised Monitoring-Evaluation Framework (CASE), which brings together the monitoring of SDG indicators and PSE indicators.
- *Build capacity for the production of quality data on the SDGs*, by deepening the work conducted by IPAR in 2014-15 on data source mapping. This would contribute towards filling data gaps; building the human, technical and financial capacity of the NSS; and promote synergies between various data producers. In this respect, universities, research centres and think tanks should be more involved given that they are both data producers and data users, and can often provide expert, in-depth analysis.
- *Ensure sustainable financing for the production of data*, as an indispensable action for the purpose of SDG monitoring. A particularly strong recommendation is the need to mobilise domestic resources to ensure the sustainable financing of statistical activities and ensure proper monitoring of the SDGs. Domestic resource mobilisation could be undertaken at the ministerial level through an annual budget line dedicated to the production of sectoral statistics. Another proposal would be to include a significant grant for surveys and other nationwide statistical operations in the Finance Act. Meanwhile, the private sector could also play a role in ensuring sustainable funding through the development of public-private partnerships. All of these proposals are in line with a commitment to sustain funding for the production of SDG monitoring data, while simultaneously reducing reliance on external funding.
- *Improve communication and develop a sense of national ownership over the SDGs and their data-related needs*, to ensure open, inclusive data sharing, as well as sound SDG implementation and monitoring. Indeed, effective communication concerning the SDGs and their data-related needs are crucial to developing a strong sense of national ownership.

The conclusions and recommendations of this second phase of the Post-2015 Data Test will serve to inform and influence discussions at the regional (the African Union) and international (the United Nations) levels as regards the challenges that are likely to be faced in implementing the SDGs. They will also serve to create connections with other global South countries that have developed similar platforms as regards data and the SDGs.



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Launched in 2012, **Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals** (Southern Voice) is a network of 49 think tanks from Africa, Asia and Latin America, which was set up to serve as an open platform to contribute to the global discourse pertaining to the formation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the challenges of implementation, monitoring and mid-course review of the SDGs. *Southern Voice* addresses the existing 'knowledge asymmetry' in the global debates and 'participation deficit' of the developing countries by generating evidence-based knowledge, sharing policy experiences originating in the Global South, and disseminating this knowledge and experience among key stakeholders. *Southern Voice Occasional Papers* are based on research undertaken by members of the network as well as inputs received at various platforms of the initiative. The *Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD)*, Bangladesh hosts the Secretariat of *Southern Voice*.



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