Reflections on addressing the data gap on SDG 16: South Africa’s experiences

Solly Molayi
Chief Director: Social Statistics
Statistics South Africa
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What informs our work on governance statistics?

Statistical imperatives and response

Reflections on how data availability can be further improved
What informs our work on governance statistics?

Preamble of our Constitution declares that:
“South Africa belongs to all who live in it, united in our diversity”

Chapter 2 states that:
“Everyone has the right to freedom of religion, belief and opinion”

NDP 2030: 4/15 chapters devoted to issues related to:
- Governance, peace and security

Medium Term Strategic Framework (MTSF):
Government’s strategic plan for the 2019-2024 electoral term

AU Agenda 2063 Aspiration 3:
An Africa of
good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law.

National Action Plan to combat Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

Target 16.1
- 16.1.3
- 16.1.4

Target 16.3
- 16.3.1
- 16.3.3

Target 16.6
- 16.6.2

Target 16.7
- 16.7.2

Target 16.b
16.b.1
Statistical Imperatives and Response...

Transition from “victimisation” to Governance, Public Safety and Justice
Democratic governance with universal adult suffrage, a national common voters roll, regular elections and a multiparty system. It also includes the rights all South Africans have as enshrined in the Bill of Rights.

Strong leadership across society and a mobilised, active and responsible citizenry.

A public service that is professional, accountable, focussed on citizen priorities and capable of delivering high-quality services consistently and sustainably through cooperative governance and participatory democracy.

All people living in South Africa feel safe at home, school and work and enjoy a community life free of fear.

Legitimacy, voice and equity

Strong leadership across society and a mobilised, active and responsible citizenry.

Government effectiveness and performance

A public service that is professional, accountable, focussed on citizen priorities and capable of delivering high-quality services consistently and sustainably through cooperative governance and participatory democracy.

Rule of Law

All people living in South Africa feel safe at home, school and work and enjoy a community life free of fear.

Accountability, transparency and control of corruption

Open governance and the monitoring and control of corruption.
Two Governance related questionnaires:

- Harmonised module on democratic Governance
- Module on Peace and Security

OECD-OSF guidance documents

The following modules were referred to:

Government Departments, Civil Society & Chapter 9 Institutions

UNDP-UNODC-OHCHR: SDG 16 Survey Initiative Questionnaire

International agencies: DIAL, OECD, OHCHR, UNECA, UNDP, UNODC, OSF.
Survey adopted a 3-year rotation plan – since 2018

New 3-year cycle

- Year 1
  - Apr 2018 to Mar 2019
- Year 2
  - Apr 2019 to Mar 2020
- Year 3
  - Apr 2020 to Mar 2021

- Year 1
  - Apr 2021 to Mar 2021
- Year 2
  - Apr 2021 to Mar 2022

- Human rights & discrimination.
- Courts.
- Access to justice.
- Experience of victimisation & feelings of safety
- Capable state.
- Trust in institutions.
- Corruption.
- Participation in political & public affairs
- Experience of victimisation & feelings of safety
- General individual perceptions on gender norms and societal issues
- Perceptions and attitudes related to crime and safety.
- Experience of victimisation
- Human rights & discrimination.
- Access to justice.
- Experience of victimisation & feelings of safety
- Capable state.
- Trust in institutions.
- Corruption.
- Courts
- Participation in political & public affairs
- Experience of victimisation & feelings of safety

COVID 19 CATI collection
Revised questionnaire content
Reflections on how data availability can be further improved

✓ Develop and test core modules that could be easily integrated into the existing surveys
✓ Identify potential criteria for identifying core module questions
✓ Continue to implement the three-year survey rotation plan to reduce respondent fatigue, especially in the context of COVID-19.
✓ **Translation**: The questions should be easy to translate into local languages
✓ Optimise the use of administrative data sources
✓ **Impact on cost**: Should be limited. The module should not overload the questionnaire.
  Additional training sessions and interviews may be needed
✓ **Effect on sample size**: Should not affect sampling methodology / sample size
✓ Optimise the use of administrative data sources

*Our goal is to develop a justice data strategy by bringing together data sources not collected by Statistics South Africa, but by other data producers. Furthermore, we want to build a justice data ecosystem that provides comprehensive information on access to justice in South Africa*
Thank you

Solly Molayi
Chief Director: Social Statistics
Statistics South Africa
Sollymol@statssa.gov.za