

Expert Group Meeting on  
**Asian Partnership in Financing SDGs**

Dhaka: 16-17 May 2015

Working Session 3  
**Financing Data and Information Needs for  
Monitoring and Accountability Mechanism of the Post-2015 Agenda**  
17 May 2015

**Delivering on Data Needs for Monitoring SDGs**  
*Addressing Financing Issues in Asia-Pacific Context*





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High-quality, disaggregated, and timely data will be crucial for evidence-based planning, implementation and monitoring of the SDGs

Data needs for monitoring SDGs are being recognised and highlighted by all involved stakeholders

Monitoring exercise will test the limits of existing capacity of many national statistical systems

A targeted financing mechanism including a corresponding international support architecture will need to be devised and deployed

Third Conference on Finance for Development to be held in Addis Ababa in July 2015 will be a major opportunity to discuss the relevant issues



## *Objectives*



Identifying the underlying gaps and challenges in the context of data revolution in Asian countries



Reviewing the global cost estimations to finance data revolution for SDGs



Examining the current mechanisms to finance production of data in Asian countries



Understanding the political economy dynamics in the context of financing data revolution in Asian countries



Proposing a set of policy recommendations prepared on the basis of analysis undertaken to inform the relevant discourse



Focused on countries from  
East Asia, South Asia and Pacific regions

Review of literature and  
relevant policy  
documents

Analysis of data and  
secondary information  
relating to financing data  
and statistical capacity



## *Key messages*

Mind the gaps

Focus on  
sustainable  
statistical  
capacity

Ensure  
predictable  
and  
sustainable  
budget

Addressing  
volatility &  
concentration  
in ODA flow  
is critical

Recent  
available  
estimates are  
grossly  
underestimated

Seal domestic  
buy-in and  
political buy-  
in



*Availability*

*Disaggregation*

Gaps

*Accessibility*

*Quality*





*Mind the gaps*

## AVAILABILITY

**Notable progresses following inception of MDG**  
*With wide variation*

*Ratio of girls to boys enrolled in primary education*  
*Incidence and death rates associated with malaria*

**Variation is also significant among the regions/countries**

*Civil registration data: 25% in South Asia, about 50% in Latin America and Caribbean & 6% in Sub-Saharan Africa*

**Leaving no one behind! – Some are hardly covered**  
**Indigenous people, slum dwellers, persons with disability**

**Administrative records - an important source of statistics**  
*Often not recorded or collected in a systematic way*





*Mind the gaps*

## DISAGGREGATION



Insufficiently disaggregated at sub-national level

*District level data*

Not found by age, sex and ethnicity

Lack of demographic and location information frequently  
hinders global response to emergencies

*Information on Refugees in 2013*  
*sex composition 56% & age-sex composition 35%*



*Mind the gaps*

## QUALITY

Data is considered 'good' when it is accurate, relevant, comparable, timely, produced free of political interferences

Standardization is crucial for aggregation

Consistency is crucial for compatibility



## ACCESSIBILITY

Restricted behind technical and/or legal barriers and by governments or companies that are apprehensive about 'too much' transparency

Lagged in terms of right to information laws, civil society demand for data, and open government initiative

Dissemination format is also critical

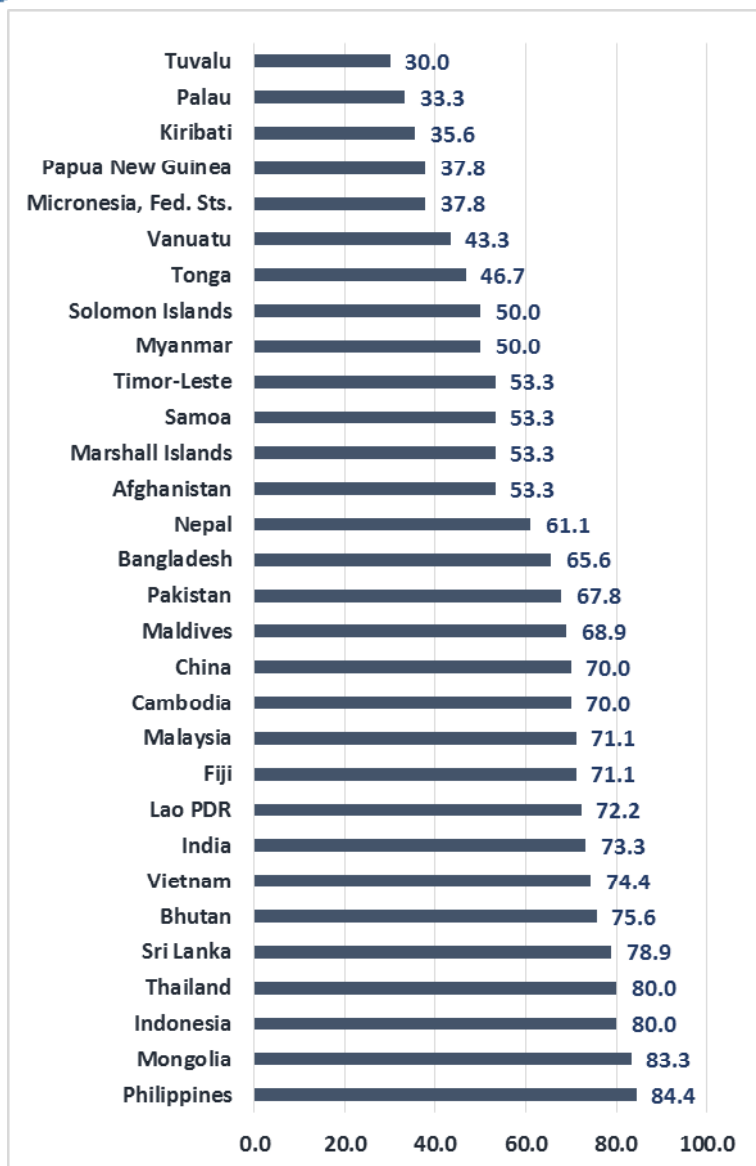
Administrative data that are often not transferred to statistical offices

Data generated by the private sector or by academic researchers that are never released or released too late

Absence of data dissemination policy and strategy to release metadata and unit-level or micro-data



## *Focus on sustainable statistical capacity*



Wide variation among the countries

6 had scores below the threshold of 50 and all of these were island countries

Small island Asian countries will require significant capacity development

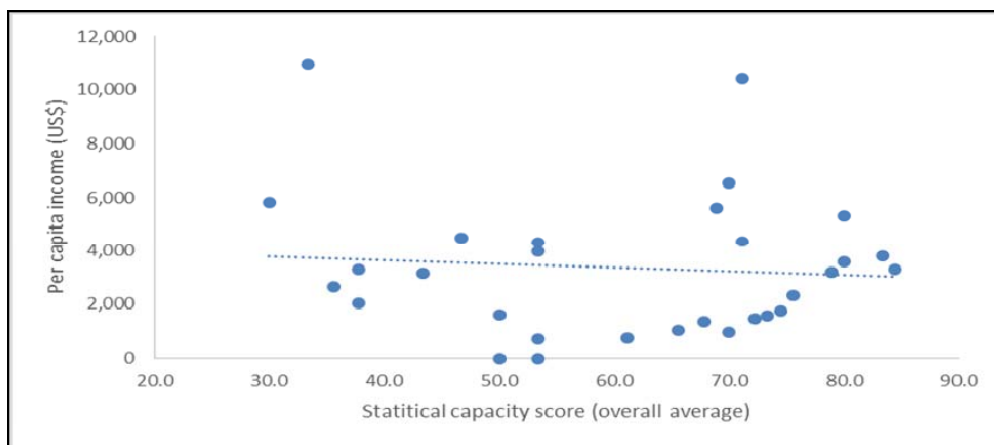
Compared to African counterparts in other Asian regions, in general, are better

The weakest area is 'methodology' - critical to ensuring quality



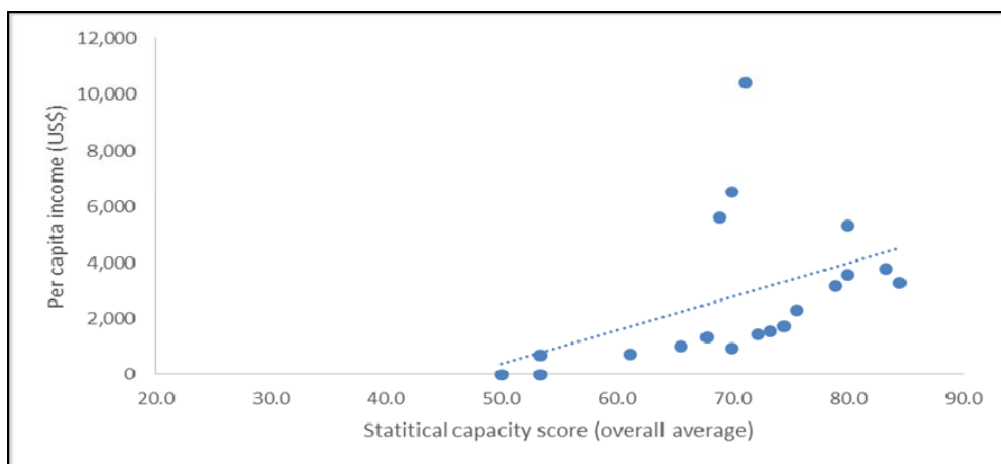
## *Focus on sustainable statistical capacity*

**Statistical capacity score vs per capita income of 30 Asia-Pacific countries in 2013**



Statistical capacity and per capita income may be linked!

**Statistical capacity score vs per capita income for only Asian countries in 2013**



Steady and dramatic improvement can be observed

Institutional strengthening should be focus of financing for data



## *Ensure predictable and sustainable budget*

Bangladesh

India

Philippines

Nepal

Singapore

It is perhaps the case that as a country develops, it can also invest more in data related activities

Budgetary allocations for data tend to be volatile – needs to ensure predictability

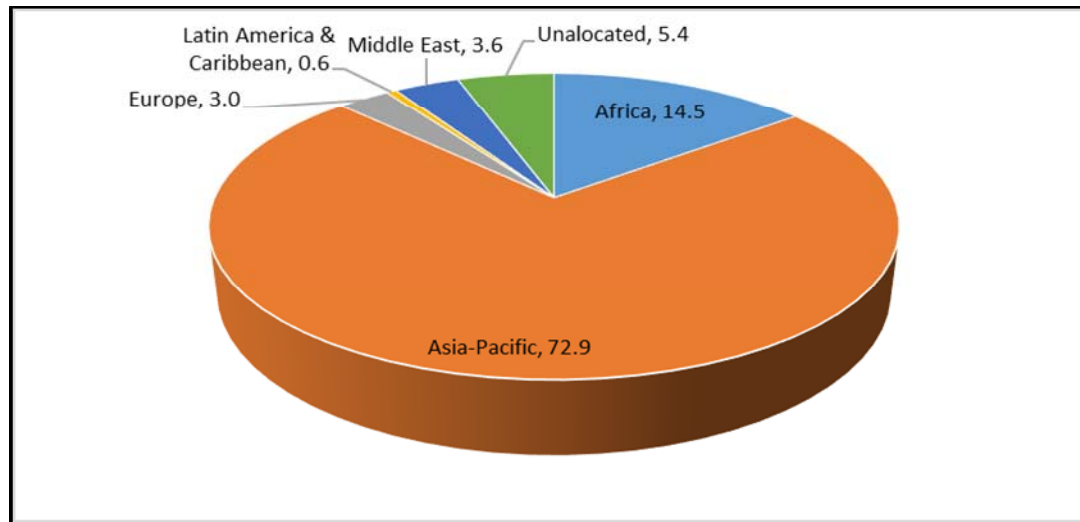
Efficacy in utilising budgetary allocations also needs to be enhanced





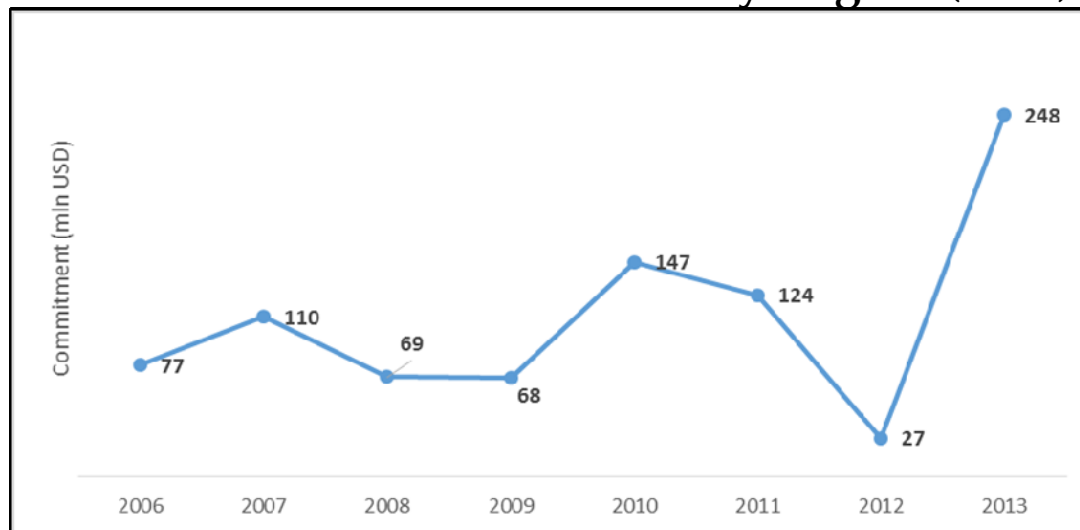
## *Addressing volatility & concentration in ODA is critical*

### Aid Commitment to Statistics by Region (2013)



Asia-Pacific region received the highest share – on an average \$100 million per annum since 2006

### Aid Commitment to Statistics by Region (2013)



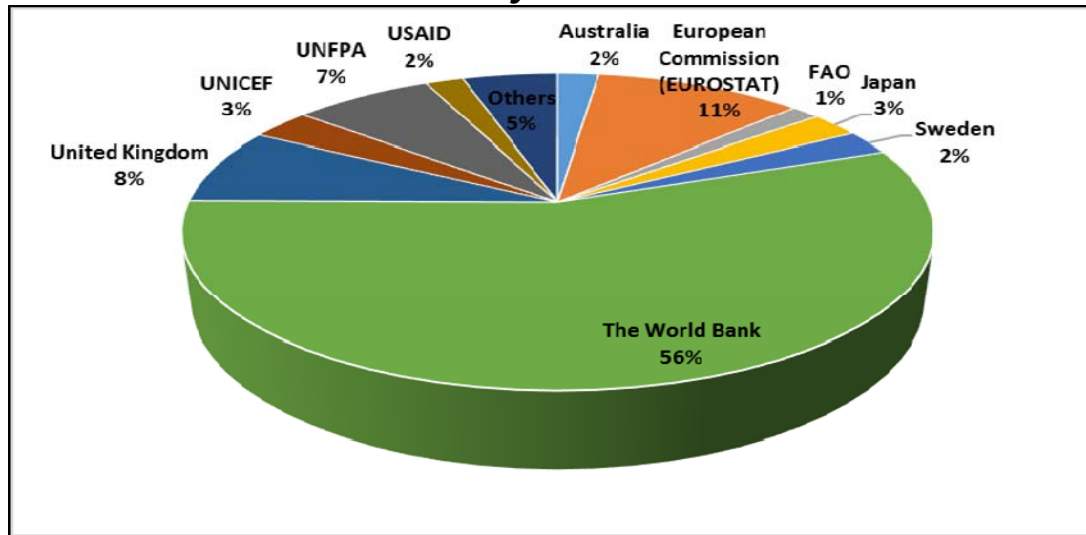
ODA allocation for data was found to be volatile





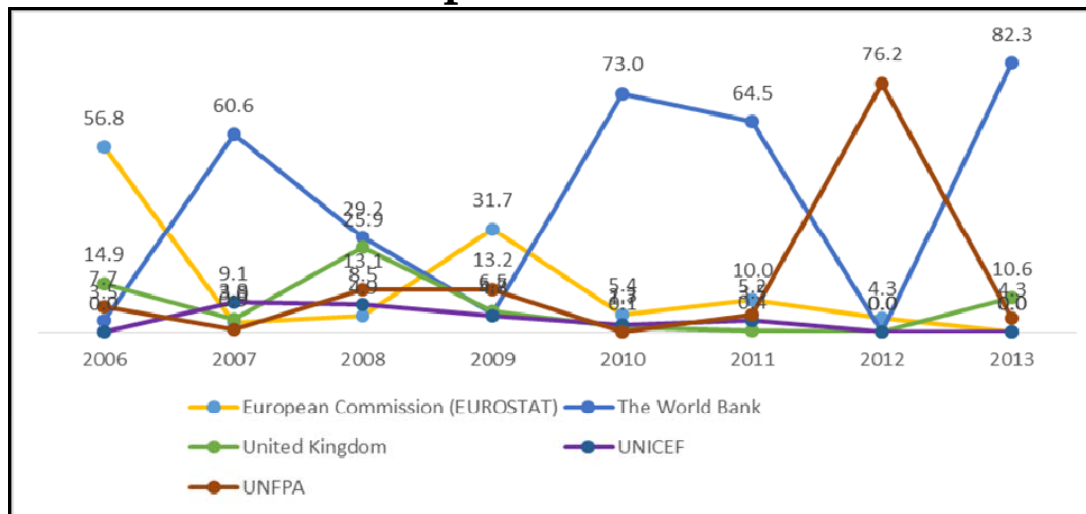
## *Addressing volatility & concentration in ODA is critical*

### Commitments by Donors (2006-2013)



Only five major donors have been contributing more than 80%

### Share of Top 5 Donors (2006-2013)

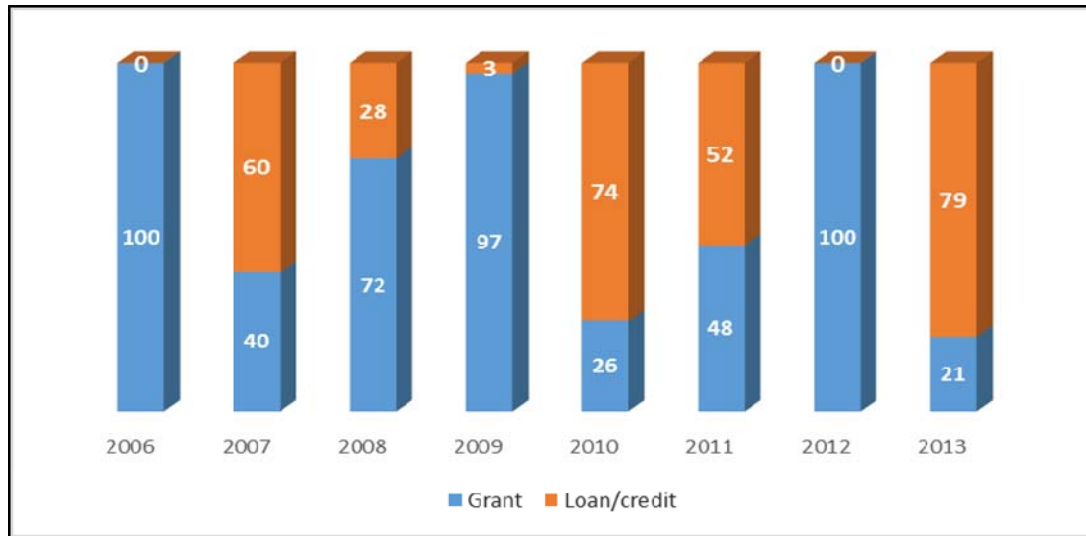


Volatile - nature of these donors in providing project/program-based finance



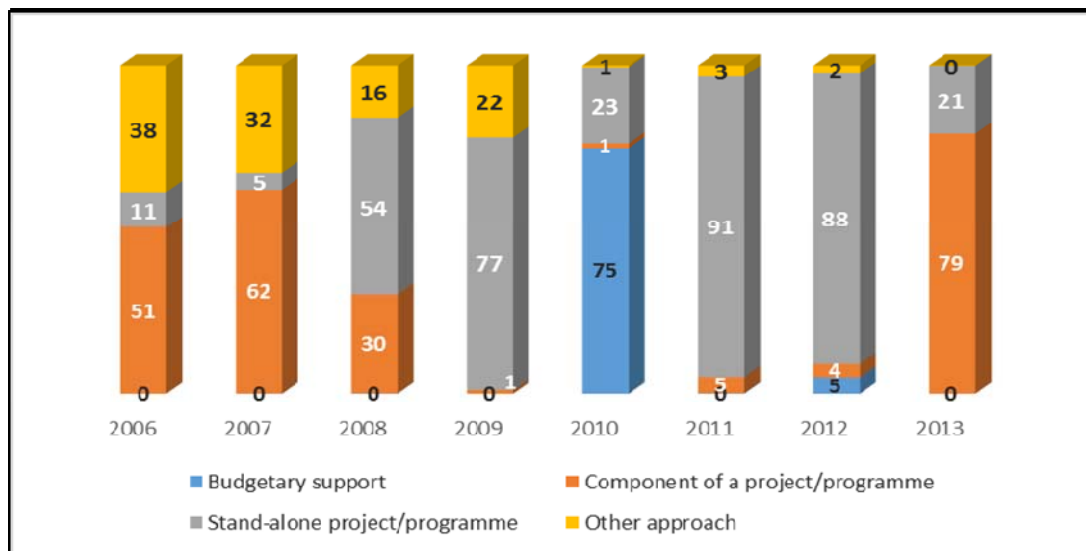
## *Addressing volatility & concentration in ODA is critical*

### Type of ODA for statistics (2006-2013)



Loan/credit is becoming more preferred

### Financing Approaches (2006-2013)



Project based ODA is more common



## *Addressing volatility & concentration in ODA is critical*

### **Sources of financing NSDS of selected Asia-Pacific countries**

Countries	GNI per capita (USD) 2013	Govt. sources	Donor support
Cambodia	950	55.5	43.5
Bangladesh	1,010	62.0	38.0
Maldives	5,600	85.5	13.5
Timor-Leste	3641*	27.4	72.6

**Implementation of NSDS is largely financed by government revenue**

**Countries with higher per capita income are seeking lower share of foreign financing – except small island country!**



*Recent available estimates are grossly underestimated*

Marrakech Action Plan for Statistics (MAPS) in 2004 estimated that the additional cost of developing both national and international statistical systems up to the acceptable levels would be between USD 140-160 million per year

World Bank and WHO in 2014 estimated that the total cost of scaling up and sustaining civil registration and vital statistics (CRVS) systems in 73 countries to be about USD 382 million per year (excluding China and India)



*Recent available estimates are grossly underestimated*

Jerven (2014) estimated that 18 targets from MDGs cost USD 27 billion, hence, 169 targets proposed by the OWG would roughly demand about USD 254 billion for the 2015-2030 SDG round a big number and twice the annual global ODA flow

Demombynes and Sandefur (2014) attempted to improve Jerven (2014) estimates - the total amount of international donor assistance needed to support this basic survey program is in the order of USD 300 million per year





## *Recent available estimates are grossly underestimated*

SDSN, Open Data Watch, PARIS21, the World Bank and other partners, based on SDSN proposed 100 indicators and 77 IDA recipients countries, estimated that on an average USD 1.30 to USD 2.59 million will be required for per IDA recipient or blend country

No estimate considered administrative data – a major means/tool of monitoring SDGs

MAPS is outdated

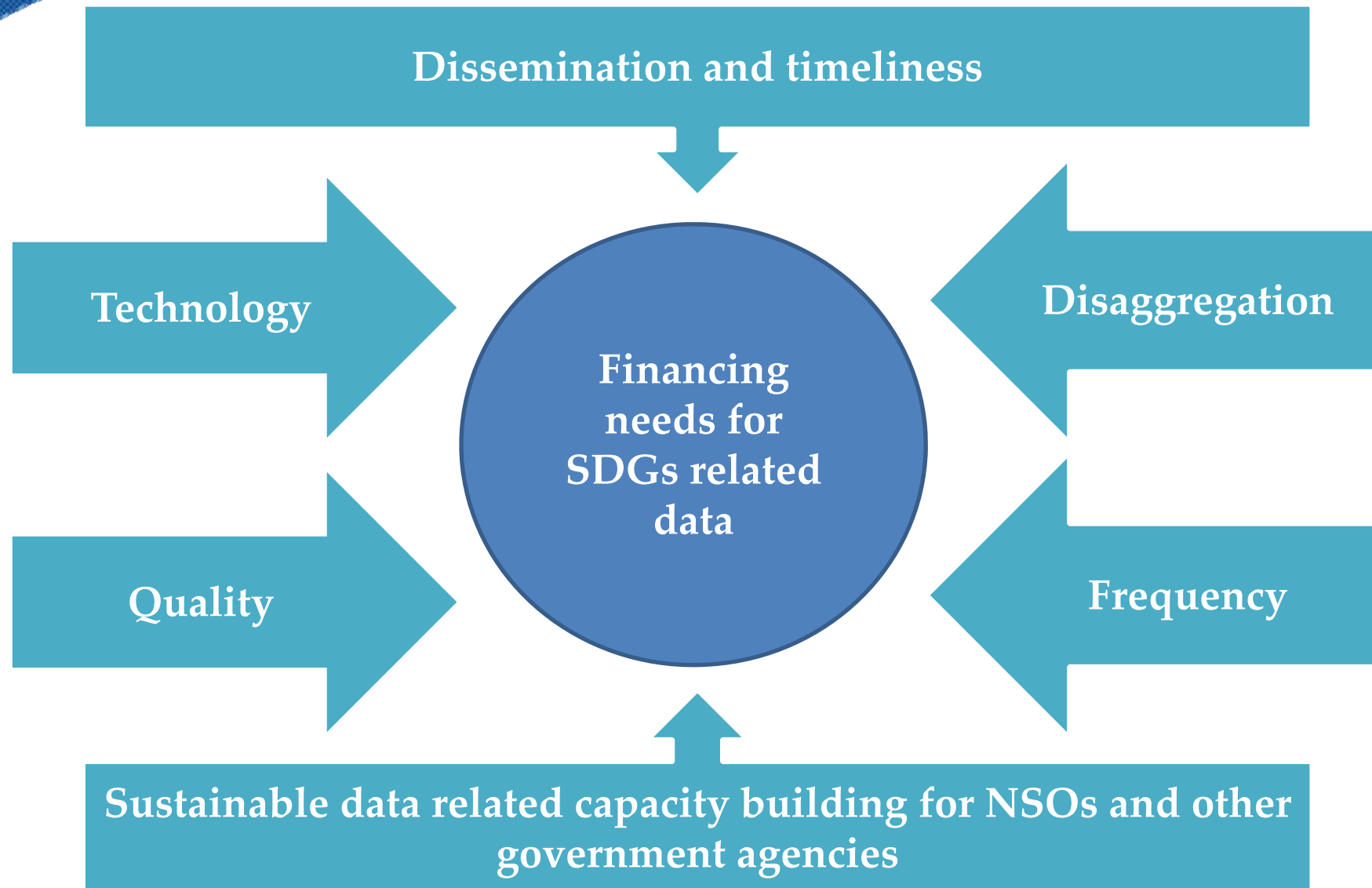
Jerven (2014) is over-ambitious and overestimated

Demombynes & Sandefur (2014) fell short of providing a comprehensive estimate

Estimates by SDSN and other partners is of only indicative nature



*Recent available estimates are grossly underestimated*







## *Seal domestic buy-in and political buy-in*

Success in terms of SDGs will be critical not only from the perspective of gaining global recognition as 'success case', but attaining SDGs will also be closely related to success of national development plans and policies

An autonomous and political interference free data eco-system

**Domestic buy-in and Political buy-in**

Institutional frameworks for monitoring data related issues including finance at the global level and at country levels – led by host government where donors are engaged in a coordinated manner



## *Next steps for member states*

Estimate financing needs for SDGs related data at national level

Design a strategy in the country context in view of monitoring the SDG process

Estimate the resource envelop

Identify the potential sources

Allocation from domestic sources through annual budgetary expenditure plans

Incremental allocation to support non-state actors in generation of reliable-SDG data

Mobilise ODA particularly for strengthening national systems

Explore if private flows can be directed to generation of data

Built-in data generation costs in projects being implemented that are relevant in SDG context



THANK YOU