European Union

Lesotho Data for Sustainable Development

Annual Report

November 2017

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List of Acronyms

BOS	Bureau of Statistics
CMS	Continuous Multipurpose Survey
HPS	Horticulture Production Purvey
KYSS	Know Your Statistics System
MDP	Ministry of Development Planning
NSDP	National Strategic Development Plan
NSDS	National Statistics Development Strategy
RBM	Results Based Management
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

Title of the Action: Lesotho Data for Sustainable Development

EC reference: FED/2016/377-529

Project duration: 18 months (November 2016 - June 2018)

Reporting period: 30th November 2016 – 30th November 2017

A. Summary and Context of the Action

Introduction

This document reports on the activities implemented during Year 1 of the Lesotho Data for Sustainable Development Project (Lesotho Data), from November 2016 – November 2017. The project is jointly funded by the European Union and UNDP. Based on the Article 3.7. of the General Conditions, the report has the following elements:

1) Report on the actual results achieved in the period.
2) Project challenges and risks
3) Project Stakeholder engagement and management
4) Implementation of the visibility plan (Annex IV)
5) Financial progress report
6) A request for payment

Lesotho Data for Sustainable Development Project

The Lesotho Data for Sustainable Development Project is a project of the Government of Lesotho aimed at developing capacities for collection, analysis and dissemination of development data, and building institutional support and technical skills for effective management of development programs and accountable public management system. The project objective is to strengthen national and sectoral capacities to generate and utilize data to facilitate program monitoring and evaluation, and advocacy for evidence – based planning and results. The project is expected to drive realization of the national, regional and global targets as enshrined in the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) and United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The project has three components as follows:
- Definition of systematic tools for measuring development programs;
- Promotion of literacy and innovations for data collection, dissemination and use; and
- Strengthening national leadership, institutional and technical capacities for effective coordination and sectoral engagement

The project is jointly funded by the European Union and United Nations Development Program (UNDP) at total budget of **USD1, 426, 550.00,** with the European Union making available EUR 1, 071, 731 (~ $1, 188, 550.00). It is implemented by the UNDP and executed by the Ministry of Development Planning, and the different components of the project will be implemented jointly with the Bureau of Statistics and Department of Monitoring and Evaluation. This project will be implemented over a period of 18 months, from 30 November 2016 to 30 May 2018.

B. Actual Results for the period

Intervention logic	Indicators	Baseline (2015)	Current Value (2015)	Targets (incl. reference year)	Progress Report (Year 1)	
					Results Achieved	**Sources and means of verification:**
Overall objective: (Impact): **National data collection, measurement and analytical systems in place to monitor progress on the national development programmes, agenda and Sustainable Development Goals**	Existence of a coordinated and integrated M&E system. Existence of a functional and coordinated National Statistics System	A draft M&E framework for NSDP exists (2013) National Statistical Development Strategy (2012-2015)	Lack of updated information on key economic and social indicators Limited capacity to implement and coordinate the NSDS Lack of awareness and capacities on M&E	National and sectoral level M&E frameworks in place and functional (2018)	- Availability of the selected SDGs indicator list with baseline data, and identified reporting gaps, as an input towards development of the national M&E framework. - A capacity building plan for statistics and M&E developed, including engagement of staff and technological support to facilitate development of a national M&E and statistical system. - Increased knowledge and capacity in M&E, data and statistical development through training, study tours and technical support	Project reports
Outcome(s): LUNDAP Outcome 4. By 2017, national and lower level institutions make evidence-based policy-decisions						
Project Outcomes						
Outcome 1. National statistics are produced through an effective ecosystem for data collection, analysis and dissemination	Output Indicator 1.1. Existence of a national M&E framework to monitor national and international (SDGs) development programs Output Indicator 1.2. Revised NSDS and implementation	*Draft NSDP M&E framework*	Low utilization of M&E data to guide progress reporting	Y1 60% of identified national development sectors participate in the project and report on the NSDP M&E framework	- 75% members of the national statistical system participate in the project - Government ministries trained in RBM, identifying roles in the M&E system for individual ministries. - no reports to the NSDP have been developed yet as the NSDP is currently under development.	Project Progress reports Training reports
		NSDS (2012 - 2015); Assessment for NSDS implementation (2013)	Limited production of timely and relevant statistics on key indicators	Y2. Baseline data for NSDP and SDGs	- Gap analysis carried out to determine data gaps for SDGs. - Potential national indicators on the SDGs selected, to be confirmed pending national prioritization process.	Gap analysis report (Annex 2) List of selected indicators and baseline for SDGs and NSDP monitoring

Intervention logic	Indicators	Baseline (2015)	Current Value (2015)	Targets (incl. reference year)	Progress Report (Year 1)	
					Results Achieved	**Sources and means of verification:**
					- Baseline data and gaps for selected indicators from the SDGs established.	
				Y3. 60% mandatory statistical reports are planned and published	BOS has published in 2017, the Census report.	Census reports
Outcome 2. Increased quality and use of data in policy	**Output Indicator 2.1.** Number of training programs held/people trained	Baseline: 0	Lack of technical capacities to support M&E and statistical functions

Limited use of data and statistics for evidence in planning and reporting

Lack of information and access to statistical reports and data | *Y1.* Capacity building plan for key officials in Statistics, M&E and Policy; | - 5 training programs (horticulture, CMS, RBM, Population, M&E) undertaken for staff in the M&E department, Bureau of statistics and other national stakeholders.
- 100 participants, comprising civil servants (planners and statisticians), academia and civils society, trained in RBM
- Process tools for establishment of the national M&E ecosystem developed | Workshop/training reports, |
| | **Output Indicator 2.2.** Number of policies, plans and national/sectoral reports produced that use national data sources | | | Y2. 60% ministries use data for policy and planning | - No policies or documents produced based on the national data, pending capacity building | |
| | **Output Indicator 2.3**. Number of reports disseminated through specific platforms (workshops, internet download, | *Baseline (2015) Lesotho Statistical portal* | | Y3. A functional central and sectoral statistics and data dissemination platform | - Capacity development needs for the upgrading of the Lesotho statistical portal identified | |

Intervention logic	Indicators	Baseline (2015)	Current Value (2015)	Targets (incl. reference year)	Progress Report (Year 1)	
					Results Achieved	**Sources and means of verification:**
	distribution of print versions)					
Outcome 3. Legal and policy framework reviewed and strengthened for effective coordination	Output Indicator 3.1. Existence of national coordination committees for statistics and M&E production	Limited coordination processes for Statistics and M&E	Lack of capacity for coordination of statistics and M&E	Y1. NSDS, NSDP review completed.	- A framework for coordination mechanism for statistics and M&E in developed - A diagnostic assessment was carried out, identifying key constraints in the statistics system; a corresponding capacity building plan developed.	Presentations from meetings Reports
	Output indicator 3.2. Improved institutional capacities for effective participation in statistics and data collection	No institutional capacity gaps established	Ongoing review of the Statistics Act			
			Lack of policy framework for collection and management of data			
Activities	***Implementation means***			***Progress report***		
National statistics and data collection ecosystem	**Consultant, Experts, advertisements, workshops, staff, supplies, attend meetings, local travel, Visibility**			**Activities report**	**Financial report**	
Carry out a national diagnostic study	Consultant, Experts, advertisements, workshops, staff, supplies, attend meetings, local travel, Visibility			A national and international consultant engaged to undertake a diagnostic assessment of the national statistical system	EUR40, 465.17	
Develop national M&E framework	Consultant, Experts, advertisements, workshops, staff, supplies, attend meetings, local travel, Visibility			An international consultant engaged to support development of the M&E framework Staff trained in RBM to enable their participation and contribution into the development of the M&E framework.	EUR32, 400.79	
Establish national, sectoral and district database and an on-line platform	Staff, meetings, Technical team meetings, Experts, Reports, Supplies			The activity is pending upgrading of the BOS systems and capacity building of the responsible teams	EUR29, 551.90	
Analysis of use and demand for statistics	Staff, meetings, Technical team meetings, Experts, Reports, Supplies			A statistics user survey was undertaken by a national consultant, (Annex 3), providing an analysis of demand and use of statistics	EUR6, 687.39	
Capacity building for data collection, use and literacy	**Consultant, Experts, advertisements, workshops, staff, supplies, attend meetings, local travel, Visibility**					

Intervention logic	Indicators	Baseline (2015)	Current Value (2015)	Targets (incl. reference year)	Progress Report (Year 1)	
					Results Achieved	Sources and means of verification:
Develop and implement a capacity building program for MDA	Consultant, Experts, advertisements, workshops, staff, supplies, attend meetings, local travel, Visibility			Capacity building plan and program for the MDAs developed: - RMB training for planning, statistics and M&E officials held - Study tours for horticulture statistics, and CMS (Continuous multipurpose surveys) - International conferences for population SDGs data, and	EUR109, 480.27	
Support Innovations for data awareness and dissemination	Consultant, Experts, advertisements, workshops, staff, supplies, attend meetings, local travel, Visibility				0.00	
Promote awareness and advocacy for use of statistics and data	Staff, meetings, Technical team meetings, Experts, Reports, Supplies			- A Know Your Statistics System (KYSS) campaign - Celebrations of the Africa Statistics Day.	EUR19. 800.92	
Coordination, legal and policy frameworks	**Staff, meetings, Technical team meetings, Experts, Reports, Supplies**					
Support improved coordination, policy and legal frameworks for data and statistics	Consultants, training, transport, accommodation, equipment, meetings, local and international travel; supplies,			Activities not funded by the project, it has been recommended to take them out of the action plan.	0.00	
Establish coordinating and support mechanisms for M&E and Statistics	Consultants, training, transport, accommodation, equipment, meetings, local and international travel; supplies,			RBM training facilitated development of tools to support improved coordination and establishment of the	0.00	
Support learning and knowledge resources	Consultants, training, transport, accommodation, equipment, meetings, local and international travel; supplies,			Pamphlets produced as part of the Know Your Statistics Campaign.	0.00	
Project Management and Administration	Supplies, equipment, technology, experts, survey, meetings, internet, staff			Project technical adviser, project manager, project assistant, were engaged. Furniture and IT equipment procured	EUR90, 746.02	

C. Activities carried out in the period

Component 1 Development of national ecosystem for statistics and data collection

Assessment of the national statistical and data capacities for SDG and NSDP. In May 2017, the project engaged two consultants, an international consultant supported by a national consultant, to undertake a diagnostic assessment of the national capacities and readiness for reporting on the SDGs and the national development agenda (NSDP). The purpose of the review was to provide an indication of the technical capacity gaps among suppliers of data, users, and the overall ecosystem, and to recommend how best to address the identified challenges in responding to the demands of the SDGs, NSDP and Agenda 2063 reporting.

The specific objectives for this assignment were:
- To conduct the mapping of the Lesotho data ecosystem, including national official statistical capacity at the national and sub-national levels, legal and policy frameworks, entry points and obstacles for multi-stakeholder engagement on data for implementation and monitoring of the SDGs, National Strategic Development Plan and other regional programs, such as the Agenda 2063.
- To develop a national capacity building plan, by identifying gaps, opportunities, innovations and new technologies for participation, which could be leveraged in infrastructure/institutional requirements for the improved collection, dissemination, analysis and use of data, and efforts to support the creation of national and international legislative frameworks for monitoring and accountability of SDGs.
- To evaluate data gaps and availability based on the principles for effective implementation of the SDGs and assess the capacity and institutional upgrading required to track and monitor NSDP, including the SDGs – sub-nationally and nationally

The report on this assignment was filed in four parts: i) diagnostic assessment and mapping ii) data gap analysis, iii) user survey, iv) capacity building plan. These are attached as Annex 1, Annex 2, Annex 3 and Annex 4 respectively.

Component 2. Promote literacy and innovation for data collection, compilation, dissemination and use

Capacity development for data collection and use. Based on the results of the diagnostic assessment, carried out in Component, a capacity building plan (annex 4) was developed to help bridge some of the identified gaps in the national ecosystem. The identified capacity gaps included limited of human resources support, lack of access to technology and limited technical skills among the ministries an development agencies in the ecosystem. The project has procured 19 computers to support 9 ministries with necessary technology and to enable data collection and collation.

Training programs for statistics and policy officials. Based on the recommendations diagnostic assessment and the Capacity building plan, the project supported a series of training and capacity building

programs for the of government officials, including of the Bureau of Statistics, Department of M&E and general government. The following programs were implemented in the period in review:

i) Training in Results Based Management (RBM). 100 Government officials in the planning, M&E and statistics functions including the academia and civil society on results based management. The training provided basic concepts for planning, monitoring and evaluation, and also facilitated development of simple tools that can be adopted for systematic planning and reporting at the ministerial, sectoral and national level. The training had two modules which run consecutively. Module 1 offered general RBM principles while Module 2 was a training of trainers on RBM. Each module had a respective manual or guide to serve as a readily available point of reference

ii) International training programs and meetings. The Capacity Plan identifies critical areas of focus for improving competences particularly at the BOS to produce quality data and improve data use. the following study tours study tours were undertaken to support capacity development in the identified areas:

- UN World Data Forum (15 – 18 January 2017). The objective of the UN World Data Forum was to provide a platform for technical discussion of opportunities and challenges in applying information, data, and statistics to measure the global progress on the 2030 Agenda, as well as provide technical support to national statistical systems on the methods for selection of data and measurement that will ensure coherence among countries. The forum was attended by the project management team, comprising UNDP, Ministry of Development Planning and Bureau of Statistics.

- Horticulture Production Survey (HPS) Study Tour to Tanzania National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) from 9th – 13th October 2017. The main objective of this exercise was to equip the team with methodology designs including questionnaire development regarding horticulture statistics to adequately carried out the official duties. The delegation consisted focal persons from the following statistical areas: Horticulture Production Survey (HPS), Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and Survey Methodology and Cartography.

- Continuous Multipurpose Household Survey (CMS) Study Tour to Statistics Mauritius from 16th - 20th October 2017. The objectives of the study tour were to learn the Statistics Mauritius CMPHS division structure in regard to the personnel engaged, reports produced, which indicators are published, how they improve their CMPHS questionnaires to ensure that international standards are met and data can be comparable nationally and internationally more especially the Labor market information module, data collection methods they are using, their sample design, statistical analysis software used for data cleaning and tabulation, and how do they measure reliability in their data i.e. Standard error and confidence intervals. The delegation consisted of focal persons from the following statistical areas: Continuous Multipurpose Household Survey (CMS), Labor and Education, Information and Communications Technology (ICT) as well as Survey Methodology and Cartography.

- International Population Conference Study Tour, in South Africa from the 29th October - 4th November 2017 under the auspices of Statistics South Africa and the International Union for Scientific Study of Population. The overall objective of this study tour was to equip members of the Lesotho Data Technical Committee with necessary skills and best practices for planning and executing the 2018 Lesotho Data and Statistics Conference.

- Luxembourg study tour. The project supported participation of the Director for Bureau of Statistics to attend a EuroStat International Study Tour held in Luxembourg, on the 6th – 10th November 2017. The purpose of the tour was to provide a peer exchange among the participants, and to allow them to share in the Eurostat's knowledge and practice in relation to the production and dissemination of statistics and therefore to meet some of the international demand for knowledge about how Eurostat, the EU Member States and the European Statistical System functions.

- Outcomes-based Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Implementation short course which ran from the 13th – 17th November 2017 at the University of Pretoria in South Africa. The main objective of the training course was to provide the M&E officers with a practical and theoretical framework for understanding and implementing the M&E process in the work environment. Emphasis was towards developmental work, but at the same time providing knowledge especially suited to the aim and M&E programmes, projects and performance in a bid to generate desired results. In attendance were four M&E officers from the Department of M&E.

- Public Sector M&E short course which ran from the 20-24 November, 2017 at the University of Stellenbosch in South Africa. The main objective of the course was to instil the importance of public sector M&E systems and practices that focus on delivering outcomes, improving public sector performance and enhancing accountability and good governance. In attendance were four M&E officers from the Department of M&E.

- Consumer Price Index (CPI) study tour to Uganda Bureau of Statistics from the 20-24 November 2017. CPI is a common measure of rate of change in price however it has undergone several computational and methodological change hence the need for this study tour. The main objective of the study tour was for the team to learn methodological aspect surrounding revision and updating of the CPI; to learn how to deal with second hand cars, owner occupied imputed and rentals and communications in CPI compilation; how to deal with substitution bias and how to handle seasonal products. The study tour team comprised of four officers: three price statisticians and one IT specialist of the BOS.

- The Producer Price Index (PPI) study tour to Uganda Bureau of Statistics from the 20-24 November 2017. PPI is often over looked in measuring rate of change in prices however Lesotho for the first time intends to publish a PPI report. Therefore, the main objective of the study tour was for the new team members of the Price Statistics Section at the BOS who are responsible for this publication to learn methodological aspects in this regard. Special focus was to be paid to identified challenges pertaining to separate identification and valuation of changes in the quality

of goods and services, which need to be done so that quality changes can be excluded from the index to ensure reflection of real change. The study tour team comprised of four officers: three price statisticians and one IT specialist of the BOS.

- Correctional Statistics study tour to Uganda Prisons Services from 20th -24th November, 2017. The main objective was for the team to acquire best practices regarding correctional data collection including sensitive variables of inmates, definition of concepts, data processing, analysis and archiving of data. This included learning how best the Ugandan Prisons Services works together with Uganda Bureau of Statistics and other relevant stakeholders to produce high quality correctional statistics. The study tour team was made up of six officers: three statisticians from the BOS and three officers from the Lesotho correctional services.

Data awareness and dissemination. To enhance appreciation of data in the implementation of the SDGs and the NSDP, the following workshops and meetings were hosted:
- Importance of data and statistics. The project hosted a workshop for national stakeholders on the key tenets for a functional statistical ecosystem, and roles that stakeholders would be expected to play for an effective ecosystem. The workshop was hosted with technical support from the UNAIDS. The project further supported national stakeholders to understand the role of data and statistics for national reporting on the SDGs.

- SDGs reporting, selection of SDGs indicators and role of data. In building advocacy for improved data use and collection, the project hosted a workshop to introduce stakeholders to reporting mechanisms for the SDGS and process for selecting national indicators for the country. The workshop further established baselines of available national statistics, based on the international standards and process. This process established that the major gaps for Lesotho statistics were found in the environmental statistics.

- National SDGs prioritsation. In facilitation of the process to finalize selection of national indicators, and development of the national M&E framework, the project supported a workshop on prioritsation of the SDGs.

- Africa Statistics Day celebration. The BOS celebrated 2017 African Statistics Day on the 17th November 2017 in Mafeteng. The purpose of the celebration was to sensitize the public about the importance of Statistics and to showcase BOS products. The event was attended by school children, public and government officials. The 2017 African Statistics day was running under the theme: "BETTER LIVES WITH BETTER ECONOMIC STATISTICS". The following events were also undertaken as part of the campaign:
    o ''Know Your National Statistical System" workshop - 13th November 2017
    o Career Guidance given by the Lesotho Young Statisticians and Demographers Association at Tšakholo High School 15th November 2017

- Presentation on Lesotho TV by Director BOS and Data Project Manager (giving highlights of the Data Project and the African Statistics Day celebration 15th November 2017

- Know your statistics System campaign. Lesotho Data supported the "Know Your National Statistical System" workshop, an initiative of BOS. This workshop was one of the celebratory events building-up to the grand African Statistics Day that was celebrated on 17th November 2017. This platform was intended to contribute in building up a responsive national statistics system, where producers always have users' needs in mind and keep ahead of the curve in meeting their needs. It also influenced data suppliers to appreciate provision of data and assured them of privacy and confidentiality of the information they provide.

Component 3. Strengthening national leadership, legal frameworks and policy

Strengthen coordination, knowledge development and documentation of best practices. The project facilitated establishment of coordination mechanisms for the project and the sector for effective support to the ecosystem and project implementation.

- Sectoral and Technical/working committees. The sectoral clusters have been established to support implementation of the both the SDGs and NSDP, as well sa enable identification of key players in data collection and reporting on specific sectors. The sectoral classification was aligned to the NSDP pillars and based on the 5 – Ps of the SDGs as shown in the figure 1 below.

- Project knowledge resources. The project is continuously facilitating knowledge and dissemination of information to stakeholders to build capacity and advocacy for use of data in the country. One of these was dissemination of the Global SDG Index and Dashboards, 2016 and 2017, reflective a comparative analysis of data and statistics across countries in the world. In 2017, Lesotho, is ranked 125 (out of 157 countries), and scored 530; reflecting gaps in availability and relevance of available statistics and data to support reporting on SDGs.

TAC sub-committees/Working committees

NSDP Sectoral Classification	SDGs Clusters

Productive Sector - MDP

Health and Social Protection - MH

Skills and Innovation - MET

Environment and Climate Change - MTEC

Governance and institutions OPM

Key Infrastructure - MTW

People

Planet
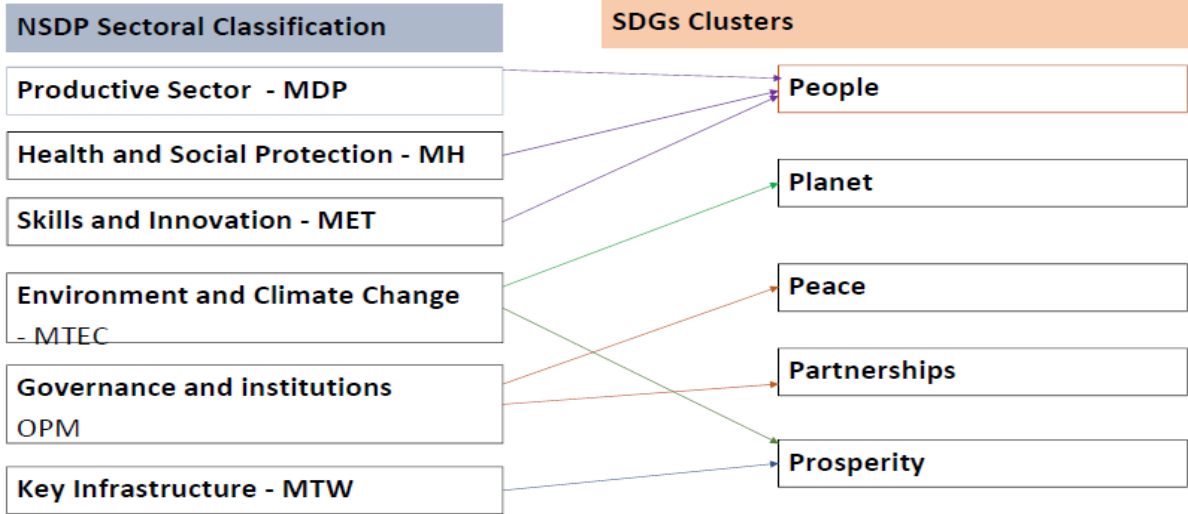
Peace

Partnerships

Prosperity

Figure 1. Coordination mechanism for statistics and the Lesotho Data project

D. Project Challenges and Risks

Project challenges

Delayed implementation process of the SDGs framework. The national prioritsation process for the SDGs was delayed, which was partly due to processes to develop the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) II. This has affected finalisation of the list of proposed national indicators and work on development of the national M&E framework. As a mitigating strategy, UNDP supported a capacity building workshop for SDGs integration and mainstreaming, as well as supported the process for national prioritization of the SDGs.

Lack of coordination and alignment of the SDGs and NSDP processes. There is an identified gap in the coordination and alignment of the processes for SDGs implementation and the NSDP development, which hamper some of the planned activities, including the development of the M&E framework. The project has invited participation of the Program and Strategic Policy Division of the Ministry of Development Planning to participate in the technical team meetings of the project, to enable information sharing and facilitate mainstreaming of the progress for SDGs and NSDP implementation in the project activities.

Delayed decision - making processes. The Capacity building plan identified areas to be addressed for effective system, such as provision of human resources to selected ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs), which required policy decision from Government to effect proposals. UNDP has provided technical backstopping through the Chief Technical Adviser based in the Ministry, and the Project manager to provide continuing support. Further, UNDP has recommended that the Bureau of Statistics considers engaging the assistant statisticians on temporary basis under the support of the project pending finalisation of government recruitment process.

Project Risks Assessment

During this implementation period, the following risks were confirmed and/or identified:

- Attainment of project results and full utilization of project resources. While the project implementation started late due to delayed finalisation of project processes, there are many competing priorities affecting potential for complete achievement of the project results.

- Ownership of the project results. The project is ecosystem based, however, from the implementing partner, there is need to engage broadly in the sector and develop institutional frameworks that will have an ecosystem- wide impact.

- Complexity of required project interventions and project timing: The diagnostic assessment further recommends a multi-faceted approach to enable capacity building within the national statistics and M&E systems. While the project will implement some of the recommendations form this plan, a

strategic process will be necessary to facilitate attainment of planned interventions in the short-term, and with limited resources.

Changes introduced to the action with approval from the PSC

Period of implementation of the project
- It was recommended that the implementation period of the action be extended by one year, to June 2019. This will enable effective delivery of project activities and objectives.

Changes to the Action:
Component 1: Development of a national ecosystem for statistics and data collection
- **Development of the national M&E framework**. The project will be supporting technical assistance for development of the national Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for National Development Strategic Plan (NSDP), and facilitate a contextual integration of the targets for the SDGs and other international programs. The World Bank will be supporting development of the M&E policy, as part of its ongoing support to the development of the NSDP II. A collaborative and coordinated process is envisaged to exploit synergies in these activities. As such, the project will provide a complimentary support to the process of policy development.

- **Development of sectoral tools and on-line platform for statistics and data**. The project is expected to support development of sectoral statistical tools and data management systems, including development of the on-line portal, which will contribute to compilation of data and development of sectoral databases. As a change, the project will not develop a new on-line portal, but will upgrade and strengthen the existing data portal, hosted by the BOS, to avail most recent data, as well as to enable the desired data exploitation and analysis.

Component 2: Promote literacy and innovations for data collection, compilation, dissemination and use
- **Capacity development for data collection and use.** The project is expected to support capacity assessment for technical skills, infrastructure and technological requirements for Bureau of Statistics, Department of M&E within Ministry of Development Planning (MDP), line ministries and development partner agencies. More specifically, and based on the capacity assessment and requisite contribution to the national statistical and M&E systems, the project will support identified ministries with computers, human resources and other technical support.

- **Training programs for statistics and policy officials.** The project is expected to support establishment of mechanisms to promote and maintain consistency in the production of statistics by training key statistics officials in the Bureau of Statistics and line ministries on key statistical concepts, tools and standards. Based on the capacity building plan, specific training programs, study tours, and engagement of thematic experts will be supported to enhance on the job-learning and exposure on identified areas. Similarly, the project supported the training of economic planners on results-based

management techniques, for usage and collection of data. The project will also support establishment of a cadre of trainers on RBM, through training of trainers, to support ongoing capacity development and culture for results in the country.

- **Data awareness and dissemination.** The project will also support review of data dissemination tools, to ensure that user- and objective specificity, in order to increase awareness and usage. The project will further support development of an advocacy strategy for the Bureau of Statistics to enhance visibility as well as promote awareness on the products and services of the BOS. Contrary to the original plan, the project will not support establishment of the data labs due to time constraints and requisite technical capability.

Component 3: Strengthening national leadership, legal frameworks and policy
- **National Statistics Development Strategy (NSDS) and Statistics Act 2001.** The project will support the on-going revision of the NSDS as well as the review and amendment of the Statistics Act 2001. Since this Acton is not funded by the project, it will be excluded from the work plan. It however remains a complementary activity to the project.

Stakeholder involvement

The project has been engaging with over 23 different government ministries, academic institutions and other agencies in its initiatives. This has strengthened participation of relevant stakeholders and this in this long run can reduce incidences of duplicative efforts in the national statistics system.

South-South cooperation

In order to advance sharing of experiences and good practices in collection, analysis, dissemination and use of statistics, the project has facilitated engagement of beneficiaries with other countries such as South Africa, Tanzania and Mauritius. This will foster capacity and increase ability in this regard

Project management

- The following positions were filled in the period:
    - Project technical advisor and international consultant
    - National consultant
    - Project manager
    - Project assistant
    - Project driver
- Procurement
    - Project vehicle
    - Project IT equipment
    - Furniture

Sustainability

- As a way of fostering partnerships to address sustainability the National University of Lesotho through its Department of Statistics and Demography has been engaging in several initiatives of project which include but are not limited to:
    - developing a basic statistics training module for BOS field and clerical staff,
    - participating is validation sessions of all assessment done in this period

- Establishment of the Training of Trainers cadre. The project has established a cadre of trainers of to support capacity building and promote the RBM and culture for monitoring and evaluation in Lesotho. The cadre consists of 22 members from the National University of Lesotho, Institute of Development Management and the Ministry of Development Planning.

- Capacity building and support to the project.

    - For effective implementation and mainstreaming of the project activities, the Ministry of Development Planning has appointed the thematic coordinators for M&E and Statistics, to promote ownership of results and build capacity in the Ministry.
    - Based on the capacity building plan, the project will support provision of human resources, technical skills and access to technology to enhance capacity for data development. These interventions are expected to facilitate sustainability and continuity of project results.

E. Implementation report of the Visibility and Communication Plan (Annex VI)

Based on the Visibility and Communication plan, the following activities were planned and undertaken to publicize the action as well as enhance Visibility and Communication on the funding of the project:

- Launch of the project
- Project Coordination meetings, training workshops and conferences
- Brochures, leaflets and newsletters
- Project Banners
- Vehicles, supplies and equipment
- Photographs
- Information sessions and campaigns

Launch of the project

The Lesotho Data project was launched on the 23rd February 2017. In attendance were the dignitaries from the Ministry of Development Planning, European delegation to Lesotho, UNDP, other government departments, civil society academia and media. The communication tools used in this event included pictures, press release on the project, (attached as Annex 5), banners and branding on workshop packages. As reflected in the pictures below, the project was jointly launched by the Ambassador of EU, H.E Dr Michael Doyle, Minister of Development Planning, Mr Semano Sekatle and UNDP Senior Economist, Ms Asha Kannan.

EU Ambassador, H.E Dr Michael Doyle

Minister of Development Planning, Mr. Semano Sekatle, MP

UNDP, Senior Economist, Ms Asha Kannan   Director, Bureau of Statistics,

Pic 1. Senior officials of the European Delegation to Lesotho, Government of Lesotho, UNDP and Bureau of Statistics at the lunch of the Lesotho Data project

This event was also featured by the Sunday Express newspaper, and UNDP website, as reflected in Pic 2 below.

Pic 2. Excerpts on internet coverage of the Lesotho Data project.

Project Coordination meetings, training workshops and conferences

The project has held several meetings with the objectives to validate project reports and to disseminate information to stakeholders. For communication and visibility of the activity, strategies including meeting packages, banners, press releases were utilized. A sample presentation from one of the meetings of the project is attached as Annex 6.

i) Stakeholders sensitization and launch of the project

Pic 3. Some of the participants to the launch and sensitization session for the Lesotho Data project

ii) Validation sessions and consultations for the for the Diagnostic Assessment

iii) Results Based Management Training

The Lesotho Data project hosted about 100 civil servants for a training on Results based Management. Participants were Government officials in the Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation and Statistics Units of line ministries. The training was led by IMA International, a consultancy and RBM expert firm based in the United Kingdom.

- Other than the banners, all the training materials were branded to reflect the project and its funding partners.

- The workshop was closed by a convocation of certificates to participating ministries and participants. The ceremony was officiated by Mr Jyrki Torni, from the European Delegation in Lesotho

- Training manuals and files were branded to reflect the action and visibility.

Pic 4. Training Manuals for the Results Based Management Training, and file folders for the training session.

iv)   File folders for the materials used in trainings and workshops

Brochures, leaflets and newsletters

A pamphlet that displays key findings for the 2016 Lesotho Population and Housing Census, distributed in the statistics campaigns.

A leaflet designed by Young Statisticians and Demographers Association which was used during statistics campaigns.

2016 PHC KEY FINDNGS

A pamphlet that displays key findings for the 2016 Lesotho Population and Housing Census, distributed in the statistics campaigns

BOS Mission Statement

To coordinate the National Statistical system (NSS) and produce accurate, timely and reliable culturally relevant and internationally comparable statistical data for evidence-based planning, decision making, research, policy, program formulation and monitoring and evaluation to satisfy the needs of users and producers.

Websites

http://www.ls.undp.org/content/lesotho/en/home/news-centre/lesotho-celebrates-african-statistics-day-/

http://www.lestimes.com/dearth-of-statistics-hinders-sound-policies/

https://youtu.be/1HTFvsu2LFY

https://www.yammer.com/undp.org/#/users/1642136030

https://www.yammer.com/undp.org/#/threads/show?threadId=993967410&messageId=993967410?trk_event=likes_message_click

https://www.yammer.com/undp.org/#/threads/show?threadId=993957254&messageId=993957254?trk_event=likes_message_click

Banners and Vehicles

*Pic 5 Banners and vehicle **branding***

F. Financial Progress Report (Annex III)

Title of the Action: Lesotho Data for Sustainable Development

EC reference: FED/2016/377-529

Project duration: 18 months (November 2016 - June 2018)

Reporting period: 30th November 2016 – 30th November 2017

1. Financial Summary report of the action[1]

Total cost of the Action (as per Art. 3.1 of the SCs)	**EUR 1,286,339.00**
EU contribution (as per Art. 3.1 of the SCs)	**EUR 1,071,731.00**
First pre-financing payment (as per Art. 4.2 of the SCs)	**EUR 398,824.00**
Total Expenditure (as per financial report):	**EUR 397, 614.00**
Next instalment requested	**EUR 458, 561.00**

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1. [1] Of the budget **EUR383, 114.30,** presented above, **EUR260, 625.56** corresponds to eligible actual expenses (as per IPSAS terminology), **EUR122, 488.73** represents the amount of legal commitments currently in force between UNDP (or UNDP's implementing partners) and a third party."

2. Detailed Progress Report

Activity #	Budget Heading/Line	Total Budget of the Action (Annex III)	Financial report Year 1
1.0.0	**National statistics and data collection ecosystem**	**$247,971**	**$103,349**
1.1.1.	Carry out a national diagnostic and Inception	$67,628	$40,465
1.1.1.1.	Assess the national capacities for M&E and Statistics for implementation of the SDGs and NSDP	$27,051	$10,977
1.1.1.2.	Validation sessions	$9,017	$7,027
1.1.1.3.	Identify key ministries and departments, priorities, needs and gaps to be filled	$4,509	$0
1.1.1.4.	Inception report	$27,051	$22,461
1.2.1	Develop national M&E framework	$58,611	$26,644
1.2.1.1.	Support development of national M&E framework in context of SDGs and NSDP	$45,086	$26,644
1.2.1.2.	Develop and disseminate tools and manuals for reporting, planning and data collection for NSDP/SDG M&E	$13,526	$0
1.3.1	Establish national, sectoral and district database and an on-line platform	$108,205	$29,552
1.3.1.1.	Conduct a cross-sectional assessment of methodologies used to collate data in selected sectors	$18,034	$19,103
1.3.1.2.	Establish baselines and update periodic databases (national, sectoral, district) for SDGs and NSDP	$18,034	$10,448
1.3.1.3	Develop an on-line platform for data collation and analysis	$72,137	$0
1.3.2.	Analysis of use and demand for statistics	$13,526	$6,687
1.3.2.1.	Update and publish Lesotho Statistical Yearbook.	$9,017	$0
1.3.2.2.	Undertake statistics user survey and identify user requirements for statistics reports;	$4,509	$6,687
2.0.0.	Capacity building for data collection, use and literacy	$387,736	$129,281

Activity #	Budget Heading/Line	Total Budget of the Action (Annex III)	Financial report Year 1
2.1.1.	Develop and implement a capacity building program for MDA	$252,479	$109,480
2.1.1.1.	Provide training and technical assistance	$81,154	$2,067
2.1.1.2	Train statisticians on tools and modern technics for data collection, analysis and dissemination	$45,086	$7,467
2.1.1.3.	Train planning cadre and M&E personnel on RBM, Budgeting and Resource Allocation	$90,171	$50,020
2.1.1.4.	Support for meetings, exchange visits and international trainings	$36,068	$49,927
2.3.1.	Support Innovations for data awareness and dissemination	$54,103	$0
2.3.1.1.	Support a data-lab/technology-based learning platform for statistical analysis, reporting and data dissemination	$36,068	$0
2.3.2.2.	Assessment and support development of statistics reports, quick data informatics and other user-friendly reporting formats	$18,034	$0
2.4.1.	Promote awareness and advocacy for use of statistics and data	$81,154	$19,801
2.4.1.1.	Develop and implement an awareness/advocacy campaign programme to promote use of statistics	$36,068	$19,801
2.4.1.2.	Support policy research for evidence generation	$45,086	$0
3.0.0.	Coordination, legal and policy frameworks	$39,675	$0
3.1.1.	Support improved coordination, policy and legal frameworks for data and statistics	$27,051	$0
3.1.1.1.	Develop relevant policies for Statistics and M&E	$18,034	$0
3.1.1.2.	Support amendment of the Review Statistics Act 2001,	$9,017	$0
3.2.1.	Establish coordinating and support mechanisms for M&E and Statistics	$12,624	$0

Activity #	Budget Heading/Line	Total Budget of the Action (Annex III)	Financial report Year 1
3.2.1.1.	Establish and support national and sectoral M&E Coordinating Committee	$6,312	$0
3.2.1.2.	Establish and support national and sectoral Statistics Coordinating Committee	$6,312	$0
4.0.0	Project Management and Administration	$526,802	$138,972
4.1.1	Engage project staff	$433,024	$90,746
4.1.1.1.	Project Technical Advisor	$180,342	$43,322
4.1.1.2.	Project Manager	$108,205	$9,759
4.1.1.3.	Project Assistant	$54,103	$4,327
4.1.1.4	Project Coordinators	$0	$0
4.1.1.5	Assistant Statisticians/Project technical staff (6 officials)	$90,373	$33,338
4.1.1.6.	Project Driver	$0	
4.1.2.	Project Operating Costs	$21,641	$8,500
4.1.3.	Undertake Project monitoring and evaluation	$27,051	$0
4.1.3.1.	Project progress reports	$0	$0
4.1.3.2.	Mid-term Review/Evaluation	$27,051	$0
4.1.3.3.	Project sustainability plan	$0	$0
	Project M&E plan	$0	$0
4.1.4.	Project Vehicle	$27,051	$36,467
4.1.5.	Undertake Project audit	$0	$0
4.1.6.	Communication and publicity	$18,034	$3,259
	Total Project Budget	$1,202,186	$371,602
	7% Management Fee	$84,153	$26,012
	Grand Total	**$1,286,339**	**$397,614**

List of Annexures

Annex 1. Diagnostic Assessment and mapping of national statistical capacities report

Annex 2. Data Gap analysis

Annex 3. Statistics user Survey

Annex 4. Capacity Building Plan

Annex 5. Press release (sample)

Annex 6. Sample presentation