Committed to Connecting the World

International Telecommunication Union

ICT Regional Forum on ICT Measurement

Dubai, United Arab Emirates
13-15 December 2016

Session 2:
National practices and coordination on ICT measurement

José CERVERA, Consultant to ITU DevStat

Contents

- Why national coordination on ICT statistics
- Models for national coordination
- Inter-institutional ICT statistics committees
- ICT observatories
- Institutional and methodological issues for coordination:

Why national coordination on ICT statistics?

- ICT statistics are cross-cutting and therefore involve many **stakeholders** with different competencies and skills

- Statistical data collection, treatment and dissemination is often fragmented - data quality suffers, duplication of effort

- Objective: to produce high-quality official ICT statistics with adequate resources

Increasing statistical quality through coordination

- Relevance: satisfaction of users' needs (**users should be represented in national coordination mechanisms**)

- Coherence: possibility of integration of different statistical results by using coherent definitions and models (**different statistical producers should be represented**)

- Adequate resources (**duplication of work should be minimised, existing expertise in different institutions should be used**)

National coordination of ICT statistics

- Different coordination models exist
  - National statistical coordination bodies (**National Statistical Council**)
  - Inter-institutional committees and working groups (involving different Ministries)
  - National information society observatories
  - Others: *informal coordination, ad-hoc committees for a specific survey, financing relationships…*

Data users

Media, general users

International statistical agencies

International telecom agencies

Researchers, academic

Sector ministries (Industry, Education, Labour…)

National regulatory Agencies (NRAs)

Data producers

National Statistical Offices

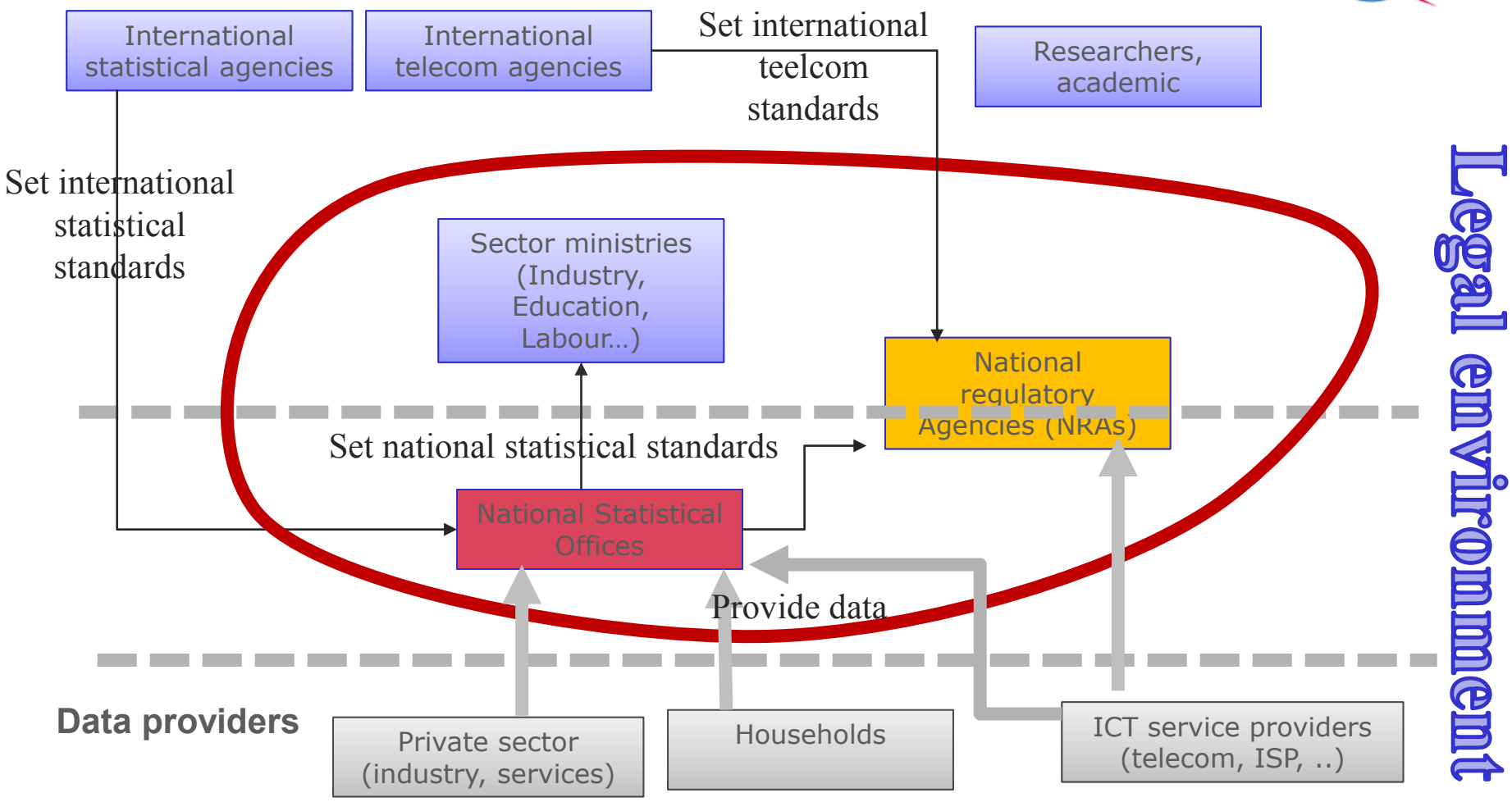
Data providers

Private sector (industry, services)

Households

ICT service providers (telecom, ISP, ..)

"National ICT Data Ecosystem"



National statistical coordination bodies

- National Statistical Commissions or Committees (established by statistical law)
- Usually coordinated by NSOs
- Includes NSO's satellite units in sector Ministries (eg. health, education, agriculture) or independent statistical units in those Ministries
- Can establish subject-matter working groups to discuss methodologies etc. (e.g. on ICT)
- Example: National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB) of the Philippines – Inter Agency Committee on ICT Statistics

Inter-institutional committees and working groups

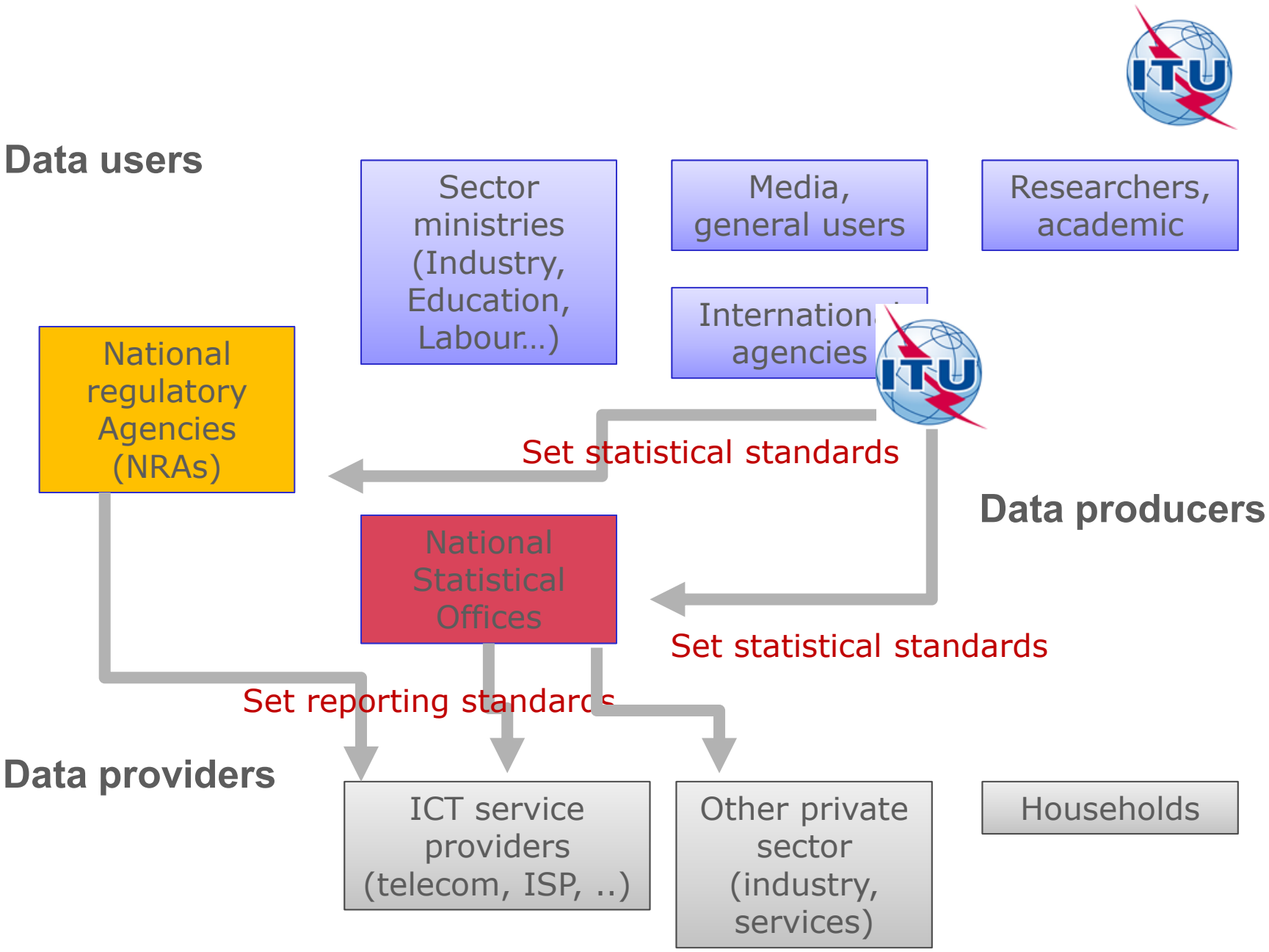
- Less institutionalized forms of collaboration among data-producing agencies
- Inter-institutional working groups with clearly defined responsibilities for establishing technical standards (e.g. for data collection and analysis, dissemination of findings)
- Bring together representatives from Ministries, NSOs, NRAs, etc.

National information society observatories

- Objective: to centralize all ICT indicators and disseminate them through one national web portal
- Requires close cooperation with all data producers in the country
- Example: Spain – National Observatory for Telecommunications and the Information Society (ONTSI)

International recommendations on national coordinatin

- **WTIS since 2012 stress the need for national coordination**
  - Countries should put in place coordination mechanisms
  - **National Statistical Offices** should play an active role in providing expertise for data collection and processing
  - **ICT ministries, agencies, regulators** should provide domain expertise to NSOs and institutional support
  - Countries should include ICT statistics in **National Strategies for the Development of Statistics**


Data users
Sector ministries (Industry, Education, Labour…)
Media, general users
Researchers, academic
International agencies
National regulatory Agencies (NRAs)
Set statistical standards
Data producers
National Statistical Offices
Set statistical standards
Set reporting standards
Data providers
ICT service providers (telecom, ISP, ..)
Other private sector (industry, services)
Households

Issues for coordination: institutional issues

- Implementation (who collects and processes the data?)
- Financing (who pays for the statistical operation?)
- Dissemination (who will publish the results?)

Issues for coordination: methodological issues

- Design:
  - Definitions of ICT concepts
  - Identification of relevant international statistical standards (ITU statistical standards, national statistical standards…)
  - Relevant target population (sub-populations of interest: youth, unemployed, women…)
  - Relevant breakdowns of ICT variables (classifications, tabulation plans)

- Collect:
  - Identification of relevant statistical and administrative sources (NEW SOURCES!)
  - Design of data collection instruments (questionnaires)
  - Timing of statistical operations

- Dissemination:
  - distribution of and answer to international questionnaires

Issues for coordination: multi-anual planning

Survey	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Labour Force Survey	X	X	X	X	X
Household living conditions survey		X			X
ICT survey	X	X	X	X	X
E-government survey			X		X

Issues for coordination: multi-anual planning

Survey	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Labour Force Survey	X	X	X	X	X
Household living conditions survey		X			X
ICT survey	X	No	No	No	No
E-government survey			X		No
ICT module		YES (in HLCS)	YES (in LFS)	YES (in LFS)	YES (in HLCS) With e-govt module

Questions for roundtable

1. Who are/could be the main ICT data producers and users in the countries of the region?
2. Which is the institutional role of National Statistical Offices in national statistical coordination?
3. Have any institionalized mechanisms for coordination been put in place? Which issues are discussed?
4. How could coordination of ICT statistics be improved? What needs to be done?