13th East Asian Statistical Conference Tokyo, Japan . 5-6 November ,2012

MARLAR AUNG, DIRECTOR
Central Statistical Orgazation
Myanmar

Challenges facing of CSO in Myanmar

- Statistical System of Myanmar is a decentralized
- •functioning on a national level since 1952
- many departments have statistical units to meet their needs.
- statistics is facing various challenges.

Challenges

- 1. CSO needs to amend the Statistical authority Act
- 2. National Statistical Coordination Board should be formed as new organization
- 3. To capture of private sector data in timely and regularly
- 4. Need to fulfill the data gaps such as environmental statistics, tourism statistics, trade statistics and some indicators such as HDI, Happiness Index and Well-being Index
- 5. Frequency of census & survey to estimate the absence of real data
- 6. Need of human resources, financial assists, technical support and IT resources
- 7. Consistency in data from different sources8. Timeline of data & reports
- 8. Timeline of data & reports
- 9. Plan for National Statistical Development Strategies to overview, monitor and evaluate management system for statistics

1. CSO needs to amend the Statistical authority Act

CSO is collecting & compiling the data from different sources according to that 1952 Statistical Authority Act No.32 & needs to amend

One of the Economic Policies is "Emergence of reliable statistics and amending of statistical system".

Higher requirements for official statistics and huge challenges. Therefore CSO need to amend relevant Statistical Law to meet the current situations of the country.

2. National Statistical Coordination Board should be formed as new organization

CSO play the central role in the national statistical system and has been disseminating economic and social statistics in cooperation with the source

- Planning & Statistics department exist in almost all ministries.
 Statistics are being compiled individually by each ministry to serve the own and immediate purposes.
- Coordination and facilitation of statistical activities is really lacking.
 There is no national mechanism or institutional arrangement to
 standardize concepts, definitions, methodologies and
 classifications,
- to ensure coordination of statistical work enhance co-operation in execution, to eliminate duplication and save resources, unify results and improve data dissemination. and classifications, to ensure coordination of statistical work enhance co-operation in execution, to eliminate duplication and save resources, unify results and improve data dissemination.
- National Statistical Coordination Board should be formed

. 3 To capture of private sector data in timely and regularly

- According to the new economic policy, promotion of the private sector is the most single task of the market-oriented economic system
- •According to the new economic policy, promotion of the private sector is the most single task of the market-oriented economic system
- ■So it is needed to trust between government and private sector in order to get the reliable data in timely and regularly in line with the statistical standard.

- 4. Need to fulfill the data gaps
- ■Capture of private sector including informal sectors, To encourage for providing information To reform existing taxation system, To ensure the confidentiality
- environmental statistics -greenhouse gas, carbon dioxide emission deforestation, disaster statistics which would be new field statistics.
- •tourism statistics, non-observed economy statistics, trade statistics (Illegal trade), To promote the cooperation among related government agencies, private sector, community, INGOs, local NGOs and civil society & to obtain technology knowhow, equipments concerning the measurement of environmental situation
- Human Development Index, Happiness Index and Well being Index would be new field statistics
- •It would be needed many technical and financial assistant together with methodology.

5. Frequency of census & survey to estimate the absence of real data

- ■the last Population -- 1983
- to conduct population census in 2014. Due to the absence of real population data
- some indicators are calculated based upon the estimated pop
- And also the last labour force survey was in 1990. For the weakness of the labour statistics, Ministry of Labour try to prepare to conduct the labour force survey after the Population census.
- So we need to fulfill financial and technical assistance & to get political willingness and public

6. Need of human resources, financial assists, technical support and IT resources

- generating the adequate and reliable statistics, the compiling, computing, analyzing and reporting are important
- So CSO needs skilled and efficient statisticians' capable computer programmer and technician for the requirement of resource and technical assistance for IT activities and networking.
- Data analysis for using the statistical software such as SPSS, STATA will be necessary to be efficient timely statistics and producing. Harmonization of classification, concept, definition and measurement has to be undertaken to be able to mention international comparison.
- Overall methodology of sample survey for in-house training with job attachment would be rather appropriate to conduct training on statistics for relevant staff of line ministries down to township level.

- Diploma/Master in statistics regular course
- Analysis, Interpretation and use of official statistics
- Price Statistics
- International merchandise trade statistics
- Compiling, analyzing and reporting on statistics of trade and services
- Statistical survey methodologies
- Poverty reduction
- Development indicators
- Software development techniques
- Computer office application
- Demographic analysis
- Industrial and commercial statistics

7. Consistency in data from different source

Collects and Compiles –(3) different ways.

- (a)CSO itself collects and compiles the data needed by conducting adhoc or regular surveys in the specific region or specific field as well as the nationwide.
- (b)Some data are collected and compiled by CSO in collaboration with other departments.
- (c)The rest way to collect and compile the data is by asking or requesting data from other concerned departments according to Statistical Authority Act 34 of 1952. The data is coming from administrative records.

Population data — DOP, GAD

Tourist data --- DOP, DHT

8. Timeline of data and reports

- new market-oriented economic system
- The demand of statistical data is increasing from the public
- more closely watching and using statistical information's released by government statistical agencies.
- To computerize on data compilation
- to establish networking and communication facilities is important for timeliness, accuracy and comprehensiveness.

9. Plan for National Statistical Development Strategies to overview, monitor and evaluate management system for statistics

- To emerge the qualitative statistics and to strengthen the national statistical system
- need to implement National Strategies for Development of Statistics with the aid of technology assistants
- the consultation meeting was held in July for the need of statistical capacity building with respective ministries
- data generated by administrative system.
- First, a strong quality management system for national statistics will be setup to ensure the accuracy, timeliness and soundness of national statistics data.
- Second, we will make efforts to enhance the capacity of statistical monitoring and analysis. Comprehensive evaluation system that meets the scientific concept of development will be explored in order to closely monitor the national economic performance timely depicts trends of economics development and indentifying problems. It also helps to make policy recommendations to decision makers by government at all level.
- Third, we will promote wider public access to statistical information.

Conclusion

Now CSO is facing severe challenges;

a long way ahead of us in the course of reformed and develop an efficient statistical system. We are confident that we can work hard to improve Myanma official statistics but we need strong supports and assistances from our colleagues from other countries and international organizations.

I sincerely hope that we can make joint efforts to promote the development of international statistics by developing closer exchanges and co-operation and by learning from each other.

- Consistency in data from different sources
- To establish central data bank system
 - To develop database system in departmental level
- To apply common data processing system
- Timeliness of data and report
 - To computerization on data compilation
 - To establish networking and communication facilities
- Use of international statistical standards
 - To advocate, motivate the use of international statistical standards in public and private sectors by CSO
 - To practice the use of international standards by respective sectors

- Human, financial, technical and IT resources
 - To pay more attention in statistical areas
- Coordination within and among ministries and departments
 - To establish the central statistical committee
 - To conduct change of mindset
- Need of Environmental statistics
 - To promote the cooperation among related government agencies, private sector, community, INGOs, local NGOs and civil society.
 - To obtain technology-know-how, equipments concerning the measurement of environmental situation.

Thank you.