

INFORM THE STORY OF THE ENVIRONMENT WITH STATISTICS

Environment statistics tell about the environment's state, its changes, and the factors that bring about these changes.

Environment statistics is a misnomer in so far as the term only connotes the biophysical aspect of nature.

In fact, environment statistics cover the three aspects of sustainable development: economic, social, and environmental.

Environment statistics is at the early stages of statistical development. Their compilation presents challenges, which can be significantly addressed by adopting a framework.

The Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics (FDES) 2013 offers a way to group together and order environment statistics.

CHOOSING WHICH ENVIRONMENT DATA MUST BE PRIORITIZED

FDES 2013 lists a total of 458 environment statistics, which are considered fundamental in describing environmental state and addressing policy needs.

This comprehensive, though not exhaustive, list is collectively known as Basic Set of Environment Statistics.

458 STATISTICS grouped into 6 MAIN THEMES and categorized based on relevance in 3 TIERS

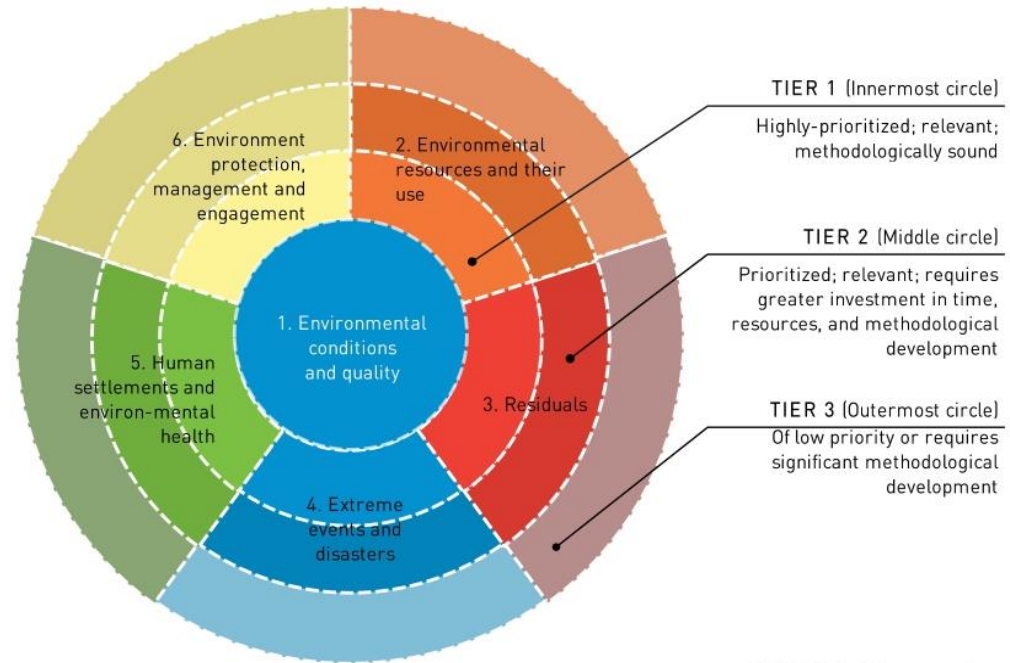


FIGURE 1. The six main themes of the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics 2013

TIER 1 (Innermost circle)
Highly-prioritized; relevant; methodologically sound

TIER 2 (Middle circle)
Prioritized; relevant; requires greater investment in time, resources, and methodological development

TIER 3 (Outermost circle)
Of low priority or requires significant methodological development

FIGURE 2. Disaggregation of Basic Set of Environment Statistics

CHALLENGES IN COMPILING ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS

- WIDE RANGE OF DATA.** Environment statistics come from a number areas of study.
- TOO MANY DATA SOURCE AGENCIES.** Because of their scope, environmental statistics tend to come from a number of data producers. Institutional coordination is a challenge.
- VARIETY OF METHODS.** Definitions, classification systems, and metadata across source agencies are not necessarily aligned with each other.

HOW FDES 2013 CAN HELP ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES

- MARKING OUT THE SCOPE.** FDES 2013 is comprehensive list of statistics that is fundamental in covering economic, social, and environmental aspects of issues.
- IDENTIFYING ROLES.** FDES 2013 identifies data gaps and marks out the roles among data providers.
- STANDARDIZATION OF TERMS AND METHODS.** FDES 2013 provides a guide to its adoption. The Manual on the Basic Set of Environment Statistics is coming soon.

GROUPING TOGETHER ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS

FDES has six main themes which it calls components. Interrelated with each other, these themes are centered at Environmental conditions and quality.

For environment statistics program development, FDES

guides the compilers by ranking the Basic Set into three tiers.

Tier 1, Core Set of Environment Statistics, is recommended as the starting point of compilation for any country.

See Annex A at <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/environment/FDES/FDES-2015-supporting-tools/FDES.pdf> for the Basic Set of Environment Statistics.

THE PLOT



The Philippine narrative

A GUIDE ON MAKING SENSE OF ENVIRONMENT STATISTICS

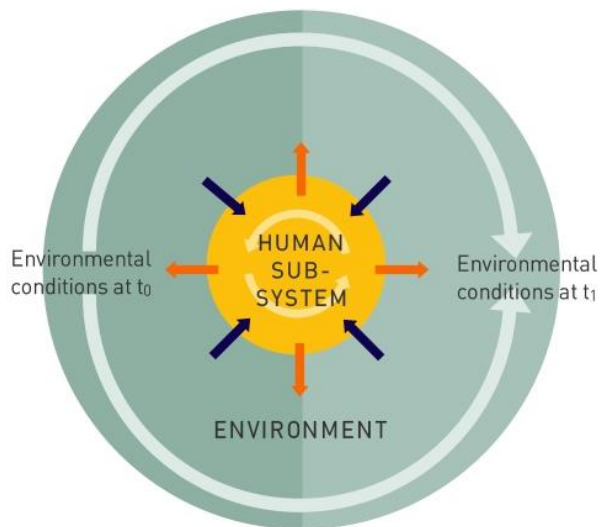
Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics

The interactions within and between the environment and the human sub-system are at the core of describing environmental issues.

The Philippines has been keen on adopting UN FDES even during the framework's earlier versions. The country's statistical compilation was realized in the Compendium of Philippine Environment Statistics (CPES), which were published biennially from 2000 to 2008. These publications adopted the 1984 FDES.

Current efforts to organize environment statistics were revived through a project under the newly established Philippine Statistics Authority. CPES 2014, which follows the draft FDES 2013, was released in June 2015. CPES 2014 consequently served as data assessment and compiled 71 of the 107 environment statistics.

CPES 2016 is now on the data collection stage. It shall follow the final official edited version of FDES 2013 that was last updated on 27 June 2016.



- Light blue arrow: Natural processes
- Yellow arrow: Processes within the human sub-system
- Orange arrow: Human activities
- Dark blue arrow: Impacts from changing environment



Visit
<https://psa.gov.ph/sites/default/files/CPES2014%20%281%29.pdf> to see CPES 2014.

