

African Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators (ASTII) Initiative

EXPERIENCES IN INNOVATION INDICATORS - UGANDA

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Outline

- ▶ Background
- ▶ Challenges and Solutions
- ▶ Critical Successes



Background

- ▶ Innovation survey was undertaken between mid July 2009 and September 2009.
- ▶ A total of 300 businesses were sampled for the survey.
- ▶ The selection was based on businesses classified according to ISIC Rev3.
- ▶ The sampling frame was the Value Added Tax Register from the Revenue Authority, *implying mainly large tax payers, hence only the formal sector covered.*
- ▶ The size variable for stratification was the average annual turnover.



Summary of Businesses by Sector (weighted)

Industry Sector	Businesses	Percent
Agriculture & Forestry	79	1.08
Mining & Quarrying	31	0.42
Food Processing	590	8.04
Other Manufacturing	686	9.35
Utilities	89	1.21
Construction	251	3.42
Trade	3,168	43.18
Hotels & Restaurant	244	3.33
Transport, Storage and	283	3.86
Finance & Insurance	166	2.26
Business Services	1,304	17.78
Health & Social works	75	1.02
Community, Social & Personal services	370	5.04
Total	7,336	100

Response Rate

Sample	300.0	100.0
Population	7,336	
Response Rate	272	90.7



Challenges & Possible solutions

- ▶ Innovation was relatively new to businesses and Government institutions, hence difficulty to ascertain scope & coverage: **Advocacy and sensitization before data collection**
- ▶ Non response from businesses partly due to bureaucratic processes, response fatigue (many surveys taking place within the same businesses) and sensitivity of information: **Better coordination of surveys, Sensitization**
- ▶ Some businesses unwilling to provide data on especially turnover : (**tax purposes?**) **Convince them on the purpose and confidentiality**



Challenges, con'd....

- ▶ Inadequate Government funding to research organizations: **Prioritize funding towards Innovation and from national budgets based on the appreciation of the role of Innovation**
- ▶ Making several visitations: Some organizations would not fulfill the appointments made with the interviewers and this lead to more visits to the same organization which results into extra costs than anticipated: **In-depth stakeholders sensitization**



Challenges, con'd...

- ▶ Change Management: In some cases, the challenge of change management, *where the newly recruited officers would make the interviewers to restart the process again.* *Institutionalization of the program within the respondent organizations:*
- ▶ Unfavorable time table for data collection: Mostly in Higher Institutions where data collection coincides with exam time: *Data collection to be well programmed not to coincide with exam time*
- ▶ The length of the questionnaire: *Probably review the questionnaire*



Critical Success Factors

- ▶ Commitment by the Focal Point officers steering the program
- ▶ Close and good collaboration amongst the implementing institutions: Ministry of Trade, NSO and National Council for Science and Technology
- ▶ Creation of baseline information on innovation





THANK YOU