



**stats sa**

Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

## Big Data Application

---

**Risenga Maluleke**  
Statistician-General  
Statistics South Africa



[statssa.gov.za](http://statssa.gov.za)

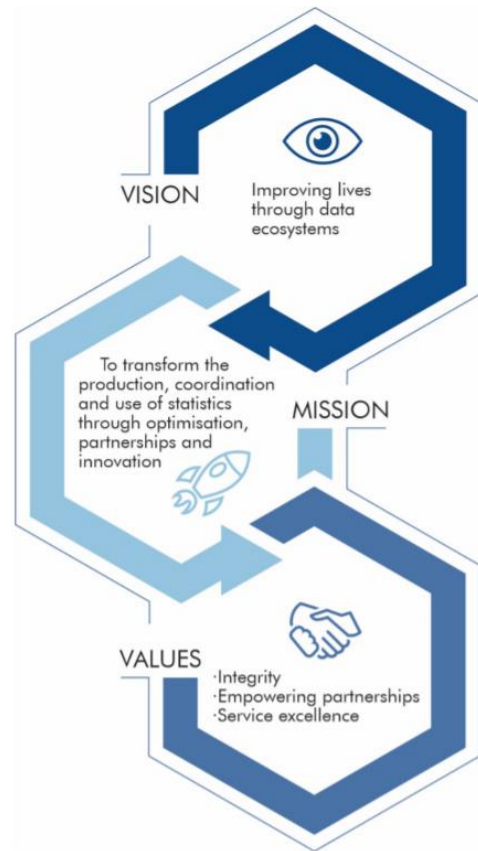


[twitter.com/StatsSA](https://twitter.com/StatsSA)



[facebook.com/StatsSA](https://facebook.com/StatsSA)

# BIG Data important contributor to addressing the South Africa's information needs



The statistics system in South Africa is currently not fully responding to the country's diverse and wide-ranging information needs.

The digital economy is flooding stakeholders with information produced by other data producers in the data ecosystem.

It is therefore important for Stats SA to seek opportunities and partnerships that will capitalise on these diverse data sources as a solution to the country's information gap, but this will necessitate extraordinary intervention and investments.

# Four strategic outcomes to power change

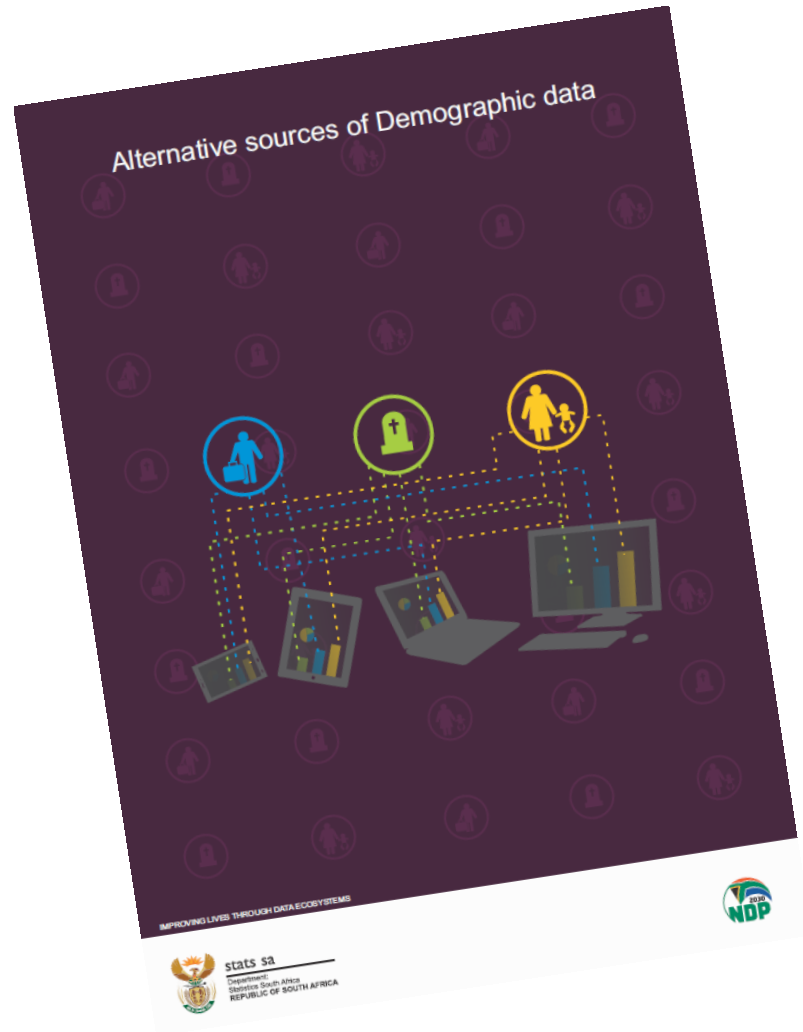


Stats SA identified the following four strategic outcomes that the organisation aims to achieve in pursuit of transforming the statistical landscape in the country

Increasing supply of 'big data' to close critical data gaps and expand knowledge and insights.

Proposed new Statistical Act to allow us to fully engage and explore the all the actors within the data ecosystem

# Examining alternative data sources



Statistics South Africa is exploring a variety of alternative data sources (including BIG data) whilst taking their strengths and weaknesses into account in order to expand the supply of data

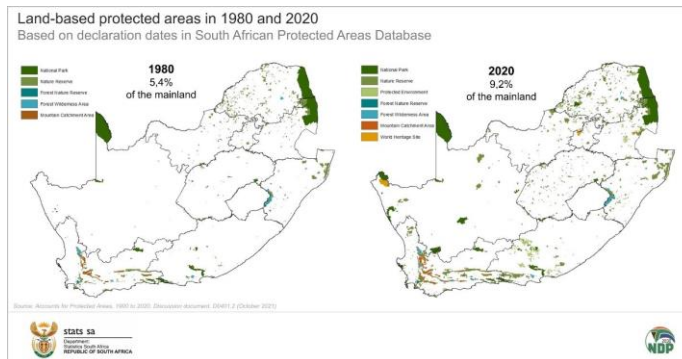
# Active participation in UN Global Platform



South Africa is the current Chair of the *Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics*

The finance committee of the Global Platform, chaired by South Africa, aims to develop a sustainable business model and marketing plan for the Global Platform in order to manage cost and raise funds

Stats SA is testing Artificial Intelligence for Environment and Sustainability (ARIES) for System of Environmental and Economic Accounts (SEEA Explorer to investigate how it can help to produce automated land and ecosystem accounts

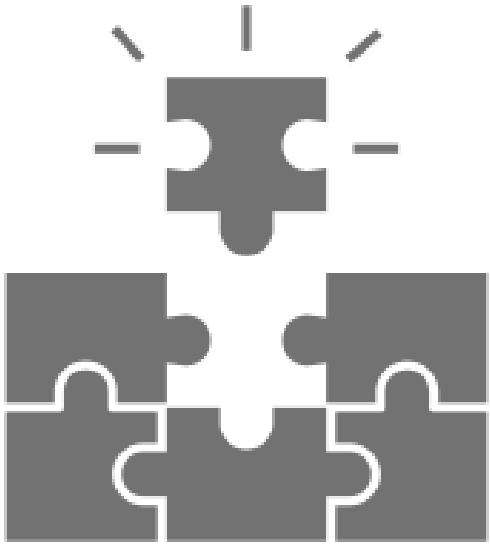


# Research into usage of innovative methods



Research into methodologies and applications of Scanner Data and Web Scraping for use in the publications such as the Consumer Price Index (CPI)

# BIG Data to supplement current traditional sources



Access to 'big data' could considerably reduce the costs of statistical production, at a time of severe cutbacks in resources and expenditure.

We will be investing in research into 'big data' to supplement rather than replace sources of traditional data in certain statistical fields



**stats sa**

---

Department:  
Statistics South Africa  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**



[statssa.gov.za](http://statssa.gov.za)



[twitter.com/StatsSA](https://twitter.com/StatsSA)



[facebook.com/StatsSA](https://facebook.com/StatsSA)