FROM IMPLEMENTATION GAPS TO COUNTRY DEMAND

What countries need, and what partner support must deliver

The first presentation showed where implementation is falling short. This presentation examines national strategies to identify the demand, financing, and support needed to accelerate delivery.

COUNTRY NEEDS

COSTED DEMAND

PARTNER ALIGNMENT

Country perspective informed by 36 national strategies

By Kevin Bistoquet, on behalf of Member States

Addis Ababa (hybrid) • 20 October 2026

EVIDENCE BASE

A robust review, with important limits

Documentary evidence shows patterns in published strategies, not an annual continent-wide financing requirement.

54
states tracked

36
strategies reviewed

23
costed plans itemised

≈ $3.5bn
across different plan periods

READ THE TOTALS WITH CARE

Different plan periods • approximate USD conversions • varying cost detail • no North Africa in the in-depth review • two large plans account for 36% of the total

Analytical funnel: 54 tracked → 36 reviewed → 23 itemised

EXECUTIVE SYNTHESIS

Four findings from countries' own strategies

The evidence points to a system-building agenda, not only a pipeline of surveys and censuses.

SYSTEMS

Needs are systemic

Coordination and dissemination are evidenced in 34 of 36 strategies.

COSTING

Production dominates

Statistical processes account for 57.2% of itemised costs.

MODERNISATION

Capabilities remain thin

Data quality and AI each receive about 1% by domain.

FINANCING

Funding is uncertain

Published gaps vary widely, and definitions differ.

Implication: fund operations and the systems that sustain them.

SCOPE OF STRATEGIES

System-wide strategies do not always produce system-wide budgets

Among 23 costed plans, the institutional reach of the budget varies substantially.

8 ministries hold costed actions

9 other NSS bodies appear, but costs are not split

6 action plans are NSO-only

Support aligned only with the NSO can still miss sector ministries, administrative-data producers, and subnational systems.

COUNTRY NEEDS

Country strategies converge on the same foundational gaps



SYSTEMIC, NOT ISOLATED

No single project can address laws, coordination, people, infrastructure, production, quality, access and financing.

Package support around national systems, not isolated outputs.

PRIORITY DEMAND

Five areas where need is most visible

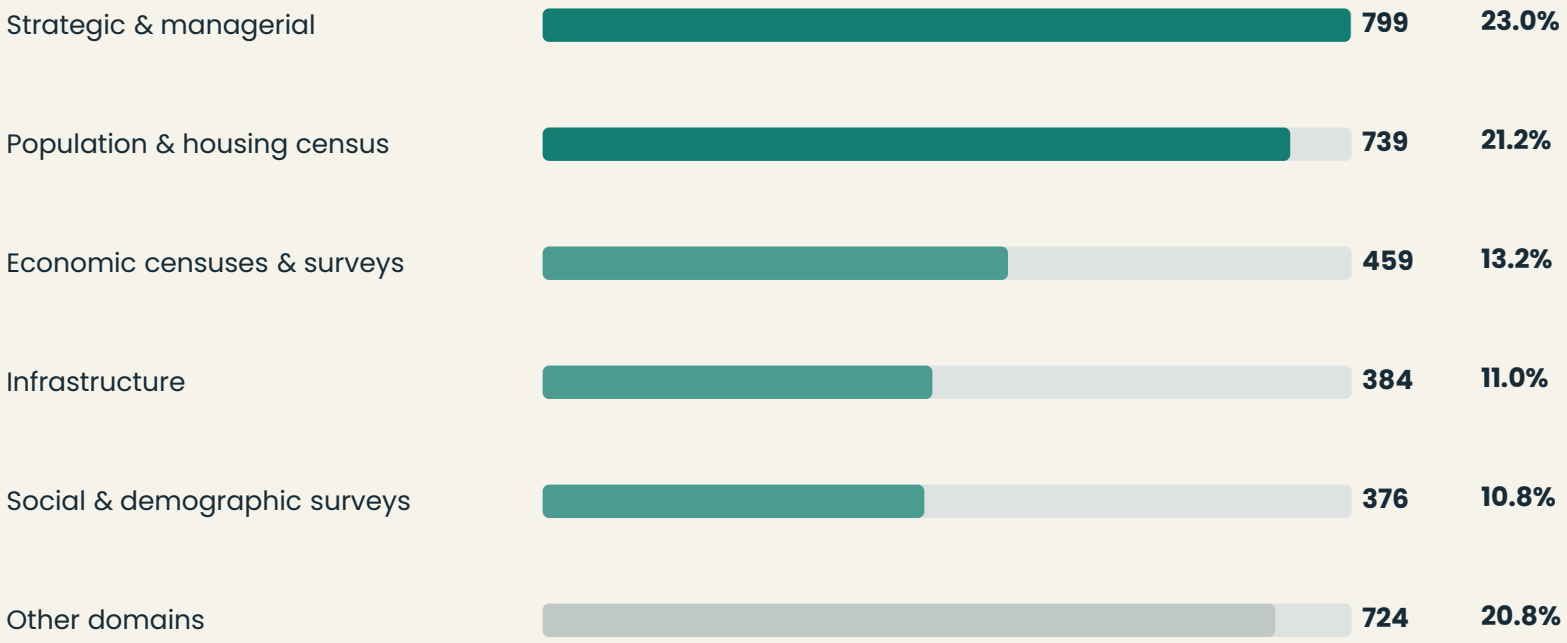
National strategies show why countries need more than event-based financing.

1	**Mandates and coordination**	Rules and councils often exist on paper but remain inactive.
2	**People and careers**	Shortages, unfilled posts, weak retention and advanced-skill gaps persist.
3	**Digital and physical systems**	Paper processes, stand-alone databases and weak interoperability remain common.
4	**Production and administrative data**	Recurring operations must be matched by stronger routine data systems.
5	**Quality, access and use**	Quality frameworks, metadata, release calendars and literacy are uneven.

COSTED DEMAND

Production and large operations dominate planned costs

These are planned or itemised costs, not actual expenditure or disbursement.



≈ $3.5bn

Itemised across 23 plans and different periods

Nigeria and Tanzania account for 36% of the reviewed total.

THE IMBALANCE

Production dominates; modernization remains underfunded



0.9%
Data quality

1.0%
Big data, data science & AI

2.2%
National accounts

2.9%
Dissemination & communication

Low shares may reflect undercosting or classification choices, as well as low prioritization.

RECIPROCAL COMPACT

Five measurable shifts for partners and countries

Proposed commitments for discussion, not pre-agreed institutional positions.

PARTNERS

1. Map interventions to NSDS actions and responsible institutions.
2. Fund staff, quality, analysis, dissemination and maintenance around operations.
3. Publish a rolling three-year commitments framework.
4. Include interoperability, technology and skills transfer.
5. Report annually against NSDS action lines.

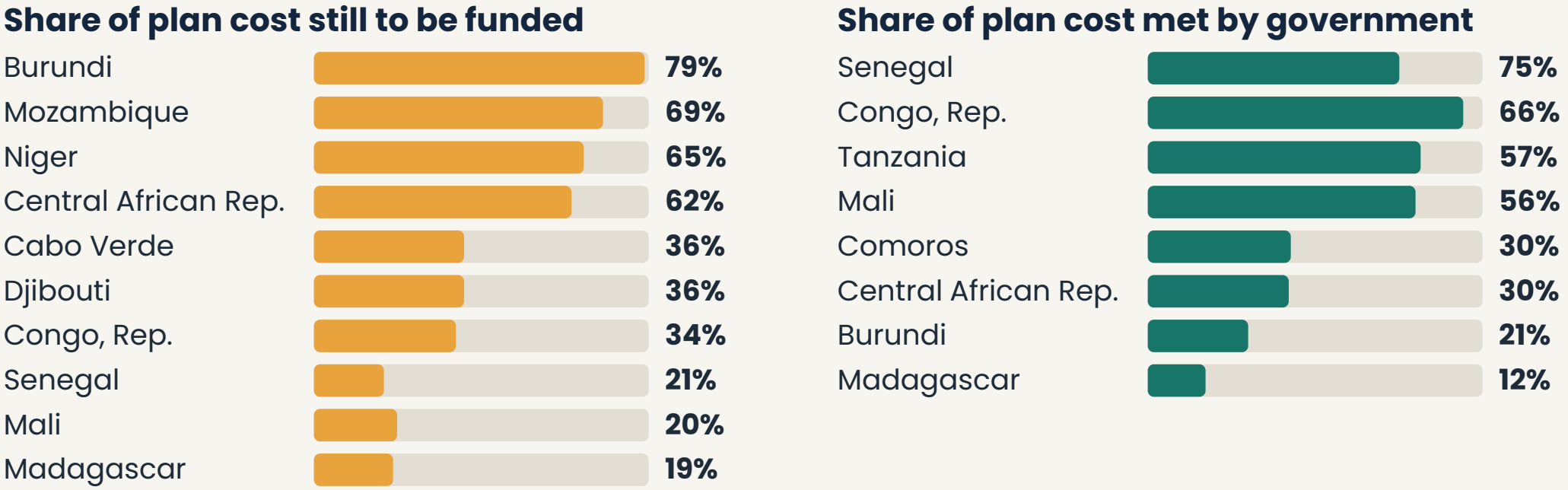
COUNTRIES

1. Maintain a current, costed strategy.
2. Publish domestic allocations and a path toward agreed benchmarks.
3. Set indicators for active laws and coordination bodies.
4. Establish funded statistical units and approved posts.
5. Publish an annual implementation and financing report.

FINANCING

Many plans still have no funder

Strategies that state their financing split: 10 quantify the gap, 8 state the government share



Source: Plans for 2021 to 2032; definitions differ. Senegal's State share includes a World Bank loan.

FOR DECISION

Three decisions invited from the Forum

1 **Use the NSDS as the organizing framework**

New interventions identify the relevant action, institution and financing line.

2 **Agree a reciprocal two-year compact**

Countries strengthen ownership and reporting; partners align and commit for several years.

3 **Establish annual monitoring**

Use one template for strategy status, domestic allocations, commitments, disbursements and progress.

What monitorable commitment will each side accept for the next two years?

ANNEX

How to read the numbers

Methodological notes for questions.

- Review covers 36 strategies; evidence depth varies.
- Costs from 23 strategies use approximate FX assumptions.
- Plan periods differ, and totals are not annualised.
- Planned costs are not spending or disbursement.
- Blank heatmap cells mean “not evidenced”.
- Funding splits use country definitions.
- Domains and enablers are separate classifications.
- Two largest plans account for 36% of the total.