



AFRICAN STATISTICAL NEWSLETTER

JAN. VOL. 10 | NO. 1 | 2019



WELCOME TO THE
SIXTH STATISTICAL COMMISSION
FOR AFRICA (STATCOM-AFRICA-VI)

*"Enhancing the capacity of the National Statistical
Systems to support policies for Africa's
economic diversification and industrialisation"*
1-4 OCTOBER 2018
DAR ES SALAAM



Dr. Mulatu Teshome, former President of Ethiopia

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR ON SIXTH STATISTICAL COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

By Oliver Chinganya, Director of African Centre for Statistics

The StatCom-Africa, which is a resemblance of the UN Statistical Commission (an apex entity of the global statistical system and the highest decision making body for international statistical activities) is, at the regional level, the highest gathering which brings together the African statistical fraternity as well as development partners supporting statistical development in Africa. It also attracts participation of Geoinformation experts and other data enthusiasts. As we are gathered here for the 6th round of this high level meeting, we take stock of the path taken and our endeavors in advancing African statistical capacity. Our continued

and concerted efforts have proven crucial in further ameliorating the monitoring and reporting for indicators of the Sustainable Development Goals and the AU Agenda 2063, "The Africa we want". During this journey undertaken along with other panAfrican institutions, regional economic communities and regional statistical training centres, as well the national statistical offices, we have collaborated with development partners who have provided both technical and financial support. The continued collaboration and cooperation in building sustainable capacities of member States to concretely elevate the statistical production, analysis and

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Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa



Prof. Osman Sankoh Statistician General



Dr Burton Mguni Statistician General



*Oliver Chinganya, Director,
African Center for Statistics*

dissemination of quality and credible data on the continent is yielding results, although much still remains to be done. The 6th StatCom-Africa session, takes recognition of new challenges that are posing danger to the credibility and quality of data and statistics for Africa as well as across the globe. By this I refer to the issues of misinformation, disinformation and manipulation of data and statistics. In attempting to resolve these challenges, member States are engaging fully in the various sessions as well as in side events to come up with innovative solutions. Better ways of responding to these challenges are critical – statisticians will have to think out of the box.

Without being self-serving, I would like to reiterate the fact that the more

than 350 participants, and level of representation in this gathering is a resounding testimony that the topics identified for this round of StatCom-Africa resonate clearly with the aspirations of the member States and that the ECA is doing well in listening and responding to their needs. Going forward, I am of the strongest conviction that such focus and alignment with the core needs of the continent's statistical development agenda translated into actionable programmatic interventions, would indeed result in getting us closer to our vision of really transforming Africa with credible data and statistics. The journey continues and the destination will only be defined by the type and nature of data being generated. Remember, not everything that counts count.

13TH AFRICA SYMPOSIUM ON STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT URGES AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO MOVE FAST IN PREPARATION FOR THE 2020 ROUND OF POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUSES by Eyob Getahun

01 October 2018. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia — The 13th Africa Symposium on Statistical Development (ASSD) and the 6th Statistical Commission for Africa (StatCom-Africa-VI) kicked off in Addis Ababa Monday under the themes “Strengthening Population Census and National Accounts to support Agenda 2030 and Agenda 2063” and “Enhancing the capacity of the National statistical systems to support policies for Africa’s economic diversification and industrialization” respectively.

The ASSD is being held with the main goal of boosting the participation of African countries in the 2020 round of population and housing censuses and to advance the development of economic statistics and national accounts in Africa.

In his opening speech, Ethiopia President, Dr. Mulatu Teshome said the Ethiopian government was committed to supporting statistical development in Ethiopia and Africa, including the implementation of National Accounts and Population and Housing Census.

The President said Ethiopia’s second Growth and Transformation Plan was highly supported by data from different surveys and a population and housing census conducted by Central Statistical Agency.

He told the participants that Ethiopia was planning to conduct its 4th Population and Housing Census in the current Ethiopian

calendar. He said the census will be fully digital, adding his government had completed its preparations for the upcoming census and was committed to support the statistical activities in the country.

“More than 80 percent of the survey and census budget is covered by the government,” the President said.

Dr. Teshome said the symposium would help facilitate participation of countries on the continent in the 2020 round of population and housing census and to advance the development of economic statistics and national accounts in Africa by identifying challenges, sharing country experiences and best practices and coming up with resolutions on the way forward.

Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) Deputy Executive Secretary and Chief Economist, Mr. Abdalla Hamdok, emphasized the need for Africa to enhance the capacity of national statistical systems to further align with the ever-growing demand for statistics in support of national, regional and global development agendas. “The role that national statistical agencies and their respective sectoral partners play in supporting the realization of the global SDGs and the AU Agenda 2063 is paramount,” Mr. Hamdok said. He said on the StatCom-Africa-VI theme, “Enhancing the capacity of the National Statistical System to support policies for Africa’s economic diversification and industrialization” was timely.

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The ECA Deputy Chief said well-functioning statistical systems can only be achieved if countries engaged in creative and innovative ways to overcome some of the key challenges of the national statistical offices such as insufficient financing, inadequate staff, poor IT infrastructure and inadequate legislation framework, among others.

For his part, the Chairperson of the Africa Symposium on Statistical Development, Mr. Risenga Maluleke, who's also South Africa's Statistician-General said the ASSD was born out of a dire situation, at a time when Africa was not ready to participate in the global Census 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses.

"What at the time looked like a once-off gathering of African statisticians at the beginning of 2006, in Cape Town, South Africa, would unleash one of the most persevering programs in the world — the ASSD of fame. We had decided as Africans that we can no longer be measured by events, we wanted to be measured by how effective we could be," he said.

"The ASSD's first stride was to rally African nations to undertake their censuses with the highest distinction ever recorded in history. We heeded the clarion call of our Ministers of Planning, Finance and Economic Development who — meeting in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso — had said we should also focus on in-conflict and post-conflict countries. Indeed, Chairperson, fifty African countries conducted their

censuses in the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses! This is not theory, it a reality as we not only saw it happen, but we made it happen. We had put to rest the mantra which goes: united we stand."

The ASSD Chairperson called on the participants to learn from the lessons of the 2010 Round of Population and Housing Censuses, adding victory was certain if they continued to work together. "The ASSD is our vehicle that guarantees such certainty. We need to move faster to arrest the 2020 Round of Population and Housing Censuses. The 2020 Round is being conducted on digital technology platforms which will put Africa on a pedestal to the Fourth Industrial Revolution. We cannot fail to surpass the mark of our 2010 Round success, for, we might inadvertently place our continent to lag behind on technological development," Mr. Maluleke said.

He said South Africa had chaired the ASSD since its inception in 2006, adding the country could not be a permanent chairperson of the forum.

"We need to address that. Failure to do so will render the ASSD not to be inclusive enough to tap on the leadership capabilities of other men and women of our countries on the continent," he noted.

Director of the Statistics Department at the African Development Bank (AfDB), Dr. Charles Leyeka Lufumpa, on his part said that bank, through its statistical development program, had invested immensely in the development of statistics in Africa. He noted that lack of budget allocations for census and surveys diminished their quality and effectiveness. Mr. Lufumpa emphasized the need to enhance advocacy on the importance and use of statistics. He urged African states to invest more in statistics.

The AfDB Director said the 2020 round of census was the first time Africa would have the highest participation rate. He noted that the round comes with its own challenges as censuses evolve from paper to digital data collection which ensures quality, cost effectiveness and timeliness of data collection. This requires the right technical expertise and ICT infrastructure.

Mr. Lufumpa said on going partnerships should continue to be enhanced in building statistical capacities across Africa. Greg Scott, speaking on behalf of Director of UN Statistics Division (UNSD), Stefan Schweinfest, expressed UNSD's commitment to full professional support for all African countries to strengthen their national capacities.

He said UNSD will support member States during the 2020 round of censuses. The implementation in 2020 will exceed the 2010 census round. Censuses are important for the monitoring of the 2030 UN development agenda, the senior UN official added. There are two major recommendation coming from UN Statistical Commission for the 2020 round of census; the use of tablet computers and similar devices resulting in much more timely and efficient production census statistics; and the necessity of producing geo-referenced small area census statistics. This can be achieved by meticulous preparation of census field work and with the use of geo-referencing and geo-spatial information for housing with geo-graphical coordinates.

He underlined the need for partnership among different stakeholders to strengthen capacities, adding innovation was also crucial.

"We are committed to deliver all the support for the success of the 2020 census program," said Mr. Scott.

INTERVIEWS

by Ernest Cho Chi



Ms Nwabisa Maya
 Director: International Cooperation and Partnerships, Statistics South Africa, ASSD Secretariat.

The planning for ASSD started in July with the secretariat and host (ECA and CSA), as well as development partners. We had an effective collaboration and Secretariat noted with satisfaction the tireless efforts of the host staff to make this symposium a success. From the venue to transportation as well as protocol and the content of the meetings, the logistics plans paid off. Participation was commendable.

The highlight of the event for me was the opening ceremony where H.E. the President of the Federal Republic of Ethiopia graced the event and the excellent speeches made by partners, which seemed to resonate on the importance and gains of the ASSD. I found the discussions very fruitful even though there was limited time to elaborate on the topics.

The book by Professor Hendricks was a mindblowing discovery and reality. Countries came in their numbers and the representation was satisfactory. Overall, the ASSD was a success despite the time constraint. The discussion on the future of ASSD was pertinent and I look forward to working with the committee on this important matter.



Hennie Loots
 Director, GeoSpace International

We've been supporting the African Symposium on Statistical Development since its inception in 2006. So we have been a sponsor all along. We provide technical support and services to national statistical offices in the census environment. Also, we recently launched a new software platform called Hexagon Smart Census. A fully integrated digital system that manages all tasks, posts, and roles during census taking. The App covers the entire census cycle from planning to the actual data collection and dissemination. This is obviously the perfect event for us to promote our new platform.



Aberash Tariku
 Deputy Director General, Ethiopian National Statistics System Coordination & Operations

The thematic areas of ASSD and STATCOM are very important for Ethiopia because we want to learn from and share experiences on ongoing housing and populations census. You know, as a country, Ethiopia is preparing for its fourth population and housing census, which will be conducted during this Ethiopian calendar year. So we really want to hear from other countries how they conducted their censuses, what are the challenges and best practices. Also, you know that different countries have different experiences on national accounts. So we hope to share and learn from each other on how to improve national accounts and jointly reflect on the way forward.



Albine A. Chuwa
 Chair of STATCOM and Director General, Tanzanian National Bureau of Statistics

As the new chairperson of STATCOM, my vision is really to support Agenda 2063; the Africa we want. We need good statistics and data to inform our policymakers and heads of state on how best to attain the objectives of Agenda 2063. The task now is to promote the culture of evidence based statistics in Africa. This can only be done in partnership with the heads of our various national statistical offices. My plea is for our leaders to view statistics as an essential element, the same way they view water and electricity. We should stop relying on development partners to provide funds for our statistics. We have to be a bit more serious about this. If I had the chance to sit in one of those meetings of heads of state, that's exactly what I'd be telling them. I'll let them know that to get to the 'Africa We Want,' we need to put more emphasis and resources to produce our statistics and data. We are tired of begging for money from outside Africa



Mercy Kanyuka,
Commissioner of Statistics, Malawi
National Statistical Office

So far we have shared experiences on conducting digital censuses and looked at each other's plans and levels of implementation. My takeaway from this meeting is that planning is critical. You need to plan well in advance to be able to successfully implement digital censuses. I've also learned that digital censuses are not necessarily cheaper than the traditional censuses although their advantages outweigh those of the traditional census in terms of timeliness and quality of date."



Risenga Maluleke
Statistician General, South Africa

Both StatsCom and the ASSD have the same objective of harnessing the energies of African statisticians on matters of statistical development. Census is something that the ASSD has been focusing on since its inception. We have moved from paperbased census to digital censuse. The biggest challenge now is that most of our countries are not ready in terms of infrastructure. So we need to invest in infrastructure because technology makes it a lot easier to cover difficult areas. Also we need to harmonize our numbers for purposes of comparability, because free trade and intraregional integration will work better when you are able to compare the numbers.



Charles Lufumpa,
Director of Statistics, AfDB

It's important to rally all stakeholders in the African statistical community to share experiences and draw consensus on the way forward. It is important that countries help each other through something like the peer review, which the bank finances. That's because on the one hand we have countries like Mauritius, South Africa, and Ethiopia that have strong statistical systems, but on the other hand many of our countries have weak systems. So it is incumbent upon us to make arrangements to support them.



Oliver Chinganya
Director, ACS

I think STATCOM, which as you know is happening along side with UNGGIM for Africa and ASSD has met its expectation. In the beginning we thought we won't have many participants because the meeting is no longer held jointly with the African Union. Interestingly enough I think the people have found value in the kind of work ECA is doing in terms of providing support to countries on statistical development. The participation rate (51 countries) was quite impressive and I think countries will go back with a different perspective the work of ECA, which to a large extent, resonates with ECA's new vision for Africa. We certainly don't want to be complacent with what we've achieved. Rather, we want to do much more in improving statistics, particularly in line with the 2020 round of census. When you look around the continent you see lots of lapses in terms of providing the required data for the SDGs. So I think there's progress but we need to work harder, particularly in line with harmonization and integration. I strongly think it's time to integrate statistics and geospatial. Policymakers want to see evidencepackaged documents to enable them make decisions. The idea of bringing together statisticians and geospatial specialists is crucial and will make a significant difference going forward.



Sorel Francine Kouam
Statistical Engineer,
Cameroon Ministry of Agriculture

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) is doing a very good job of promoting statistical development in across Africa. They are conducting many trainings on statistics, targeting both national statistics offices and schools of statistics. They also organize workshops to train trainers. I particularly appreciate their support for Agricultural statistics. I came here to attend the AGROST meeting. I recently benefitted from an ECA scholarship for a master's programme on agricultural statistics. The programme is over now so I thought it was important for me to participant in such an important event. As a statistical engineer in Cameroon's Ministry of Agriculture, I view STATCOM as a unique opportunity to hear reports on statistical development in other African countries.



Tinfissi Joseph Ilboudo

Chief of Statistical Development Section at the African Centre for Statistics, ECA

As you know our continent faces a major challenge when it comes to timely and accurate data to inform policies that will support Africa's inclusive development. So it was really heartwarming to see so many of our experts turning up to attend and come up with concrete resolutions that push our governments to want to put more resources into the production of accurate and high quality statistics.

In terms of the overall organization of the meetings, I'm quite satisfied, especially because of the feedback from participants. The past few days were busy though very productive. We feel encouraged as stakeholders urged us and the other Pan African institutions – our partners – to continue working together in supporting Africa build its statistical capacity. I commend all ECA colleagues, partners and sponsors for contributing significantly to the success of this event.



Xianoning Gong,

Chief of Economic Statistics and National Accounts at the African Centre for Statistics, ECA

Such a meeting with many Director Generals of NSOs from many African countries is very important because they are very influential in terms of informing policy. The overall organization of the meeting was impressive despite some financial and time constraints. The level of participation too was really good. The discussions were very intense and although we did have some session delays and had to work beyond scheduled hours, it paid off at the end.

It was quite thoughtful and strategic to have ASSD on the first two days because it served as a technical backbone and set the tone for the rest of the discussions. I also commend the seamless collaboration between the ECA, the Secretariat (South Africa), the host country and other partners and sponsors. All the different organizations played their respective roles very well, leading to a successful event. It was also an opportunity for us to learn from stakeholders on how best to organize and structure the event in future, while remaining realistic given the uniqueness of each region and organization. I would also want to use this opportunity to thank the team that worked on the news articles, newsletters, photos and other communication related content generated throughout this event.



Andre Nonguierma

Chief of the Geoinformation and Sectoral Statistics at the African Centre for Statistics, ECA

The UNGGIM Africa meeting went very well. We were able to review some of the activities we carried out over the past five years. We were also able to renew the executive board of the committee which will steer the process in the next two three years. The event enabled us to foster the linkages and integration of geospatial and statistical data with the statistical community. The tone was set for these two communities to talk to each other in their processes of developing data infrastructure and services, especially in support of the SDGs.

It was a very successful and one of our most attended meetings thus far. So we are all fired up to ensure that Africa is not lagging behind other regions at the global level. I am very satisfied with the level of participation, contribution and the renewed engagement and commitment of member states to fully participate and provide the needed support for the implementation of our activities.



Kadidia Souley Yero

Data Scientist, Niger

I work with an organization in Niger that uses a lot of earth satellite observation data. I'm here not necessarily to represent my country but as a data scientist, given the importance of geospatial in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). I strongly believe that the integration of geospatial and statistical skills, data and resources will enhance our understanding of the needs of our rural populations and our countries such that we can address properly and sustainably. Working together as a collective will enhance our ability to generate better statistics and data to enable our policymakers to make good decisions in support of the SDGs.

Digital Colonialism on the African Continent

Silas L. Marker, Mads Vestergaard, Vincent F. Hendricks
Center for Information and Bubble Studies (CIBS)
University of Copenhagen
Denmark

Earlier colonialists came by boats to 'the new world' and expanded their empires by building railroads, farms and infrastructure. Today's colonialists are digital; they implement communication infrastructures like social media in order to harvest data and turn it into money. This threatens the upcoming democracies in Africa, as they experience explosions of fake news and misinformation with tribal violence and democratic unrest as dire consequences.

What is digital colonialism?

'Digital colonialism' designates the decentralized extraction of data from citizens without their explicit consent through communication networks developed and owned by Western tech companies. This structure has four primary actors:

- 1) The tech companies providing the technology and infrastructure for the data extraction, ad targeting and ad distribution;
- 2) The advertising and consultancy firms which use the technology provided by (1) to target different groups with highly personalized ads and messages;
- 3) The local companies, parties and organizations who pay (2) to help them impose their different agendas for the respective countries; and
- 4) The citizens who play both the role as data sources for (1) and target groups for (2) and (3).

For the tech companies, the citizens' data are just like natural resources: They may be extracted and sold as commodities to commercial and political interests who need to know their target groups, so they are able to push political messages, agendas or sell products to citizens. The very core of the business model is already well known from the West: The tech companies provide seemingly free communication services and search engines, track the user around the platforms (and almost everywhere else on the internet e.g. via the 'social plugins') in order to able advertisers to target consumers and voters with personal ads based on their behavioral patterns.

Misinformation – the case of Kenya and Nigeria

Social networks like Facebook, which is getting more and more widespread on the African continent, are key tools to reach the public and set the agenda, e.g. in elections. But what is going viral is not always true, and truth is not always viral – and misinformation may fuel anger and hate which threaten the stability African countries at the moment. In Kenya, the fake news webpage FP News falsely reported that the opposition leader Raila Odinga orchestrated attacks

on white-owned ranches. According to experts, fake news and misinformation like this might have been the cause of widespread tribal violence in the last two Kenyan elections, where thousands of Kenyans died and thousands got displaced.

Misinformation is not only a problem in Kenya. In February 2018, a fake report of herdsmen attacking and killing people along the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway in the Ogun State in Nigeria went viral on Nigerian social media. And in June, fake pictures started to circulate on the Nigerian social medias, falsely claiming to show new tribal violence, though the pictures were two to seven years old.

Both countries still have unstable political systems and a scores of tribal violence. In such a political environment, fake news and misinformation may just add fuel to fire.

The social and political consequences of these unfortunate eventualities concern citizens and pose threats to their self-determination and security. However, to the tech giants and consultancy firms providing and using the communication technology to harvest data and target audiences, it is just business: This year, executives from Cambridge Analytica was caught on tape bragging about how they ran "about every element of his [President Kenyatta's] campaign" in Kenya. "We'd stage the whole thing," the managing director of CA's political division, Mark Turnbull, says in the video.

Chains of 0's and 1's

Countries such as Kenya and Nigeria have no or very limited data protection laws which makes citizen data a veritable (and profitable) buffet for the digital colonizers. It is easy to harvest data and to use it for targeting the right groups with the messages that feeds the strongest mobilizing emotions: fear, anger and hate. As Lucy Pardon, Privacy International Policy Officer, notes:

The potential data-gathering could be extremely intrusive, including sensitive personal data such as a person's ethnicity. In a country like Kenya, where there is history of ethnic tensions resulting in political violence, campaigning based on data analytics and profiling is untested ground fraught with great risk.

In other words, digital colonialism is threatening to turn young, developing democracies post-factual (<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-030-00813-0>) with more data driven misinformation and manipulation resulting in more tribal violence and instability. The new digital colonial actors, who feed, monetize and profit from diversion and polarization, may only be effectively resisted by a united front of actors working together for political self-determination, democracy and development of the African continent on its own terms: A unity of forces to avoid that a continent in which citizens historically have been forced into castiron chains risks a future in invisible chains consisting of 0's and 1's.

Happy New Year, Happy Holidays and Thank you



Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa

Dear friends and colleagues,

2018 is drawing to a close. It marks the end of my first full year with you at the Economic Commission for Africa. This year we closed the curtain on 60 decades of ECA's transformative presence on the continent under the broad theme of innovation. I am privileged and honoured to have been at the ECA to witness this, with you. Once again let me acknowledge all who worked tirelessly to make the celebration a success. A few selective highlights of our 2018 below show that we have had a very productive year and I thank everyone for staying the course.

This year has been a watershed year for the global economy, for Africa and for the ECA. After many years of dreaming the dream, in March, the AfCFTA was signed in Kigali. The leadership of President Issoufou and President Kagame and others showed that when Africa wants Africa can. ECA's hard work over the years was acknowledged in the Kigali declaration. There is no better tribute. To whom much is given, much is expected so we must now work tirelessly to get to 22 and ensure our countries are ready to accelerate integration and trade by deepening economic diversification. I thank all the teams who worked tirelessly on this for all their efforts. With the CFTA and the implementation of the Secretary General's AU-UN framework our relationship with the AU has grown from strength to strength. We must continue to build on this.

The Conference of Ministers in May this year acknowledged and endorsed our reforms designed to better respond to the continent's evolving needs. In particular, I believe, ECA's renewed focus on the private sector has been overwhelmingly welcomed by all. After

seven months of various committee discussions on the 26th of December, 2018 the reforms were endorsed. This allows us to look to 2019 with clarity of vision. I thank you for your patience as we worked through these steps. There has been anxiety but that should be lifted. We have used the reforms to bring more discipline to our financial accounts and relationship with partners and hope this helps us to continue building strong relationships with our partners. The teamwork around this process has been exemplary.

Good economic decisions will remain the springboard for the achievement of the SDGs and agenda 2063. Solid policy analysis must define who we are and what we do. The African Economic report says it all. I thank the team that worked on this and hope as we enter 2019 we keep this as a compass of the gap between our aspirations as a continent and the distance to travel. The SRO's are gearing up to take on substantive areas of specialization, in response to their unique regional challenges. Building on collaborations with our academic and substantive partners such as the KIPRA, the IMF, LSE, the WBG, the ADB, AERC, IRENA, UN agencies and other partners I look forward to seeing our work grow in relevance. I want to thank the SROs for the enthusiasm with which they embraced the idea. It clearly sets ECA firmly on the path of a Think Tank.

Poverty is becoming stubbornly and singularly African, but there are unique opportunities for us to arrest the situation and like some before us confront and win the challenge. The work being done on the digital economy has put ECA at the fore front of current discussions on the promise of digitalization for inclusive growth, poverty reduction and economic transformation. The launch of the ECA Center of Excellence on the digital economy is a clear example of ECA combining ideas and action in support of our member states and the Union. I thank all the teams who worked tirelessly to make this a reality. This year we had one of the biggest gatherings of statistics and national accounts professionals with us at the ECA. We must leverage our convening power to get our statistics right, use big data and effectively monitor our performance as a continent.

From May to December our security team took on the challenge of creating a more welcoming and accessible ECA for our guests and staff. I want to acknowledge and thank them for the visible improvements made. The successful organization of the recently concluded Diplomatic Bazar attests to this.

As we get into 2019, there are major challenges for Africa and the world on issues we are all working on, which

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will need to be addressed if we are to build a prosperous Africa. The ECA, I believe has an important role to play at the member state, regional and global level to influence the development agenda. We must continue to work to ensure we provide a unique innovative platform for ideas and action to improve livelihoods on the continent, consistent with the SG's reform agenda. Our cross sectoral teams should grow to become the strength of our institution.

The task ahead seems impossible; however, I hope as we continue to work to build a stronger collective spirit at the ECA, a greater awareness of our privilege and our purpose to serve, a more transparent institution, a more accountable environment, a more gender balanced team, with the support of our staff engagement teams, HR, the staff union, management and each and every one of us, we will realize that it lies within our reach to make it possible. The bold reforms in our host country, Ethiopia, are but a glimpse and hopefully serve as encouragement for what we, collectively can achieve with determination and support.

Let me end by extending my thanks to all your loved ones and those dear to you who make a silent sacrifice so ECA can stand strong. Use this time to rest, recharge, reconnect and recommit. 2019 promises to be exciting! I look forward to working with you to build an even more impactful ECA!

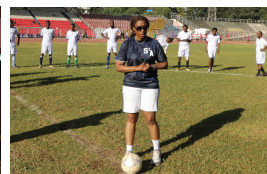
All the very best for on your holidays and a happy New Year 2019,



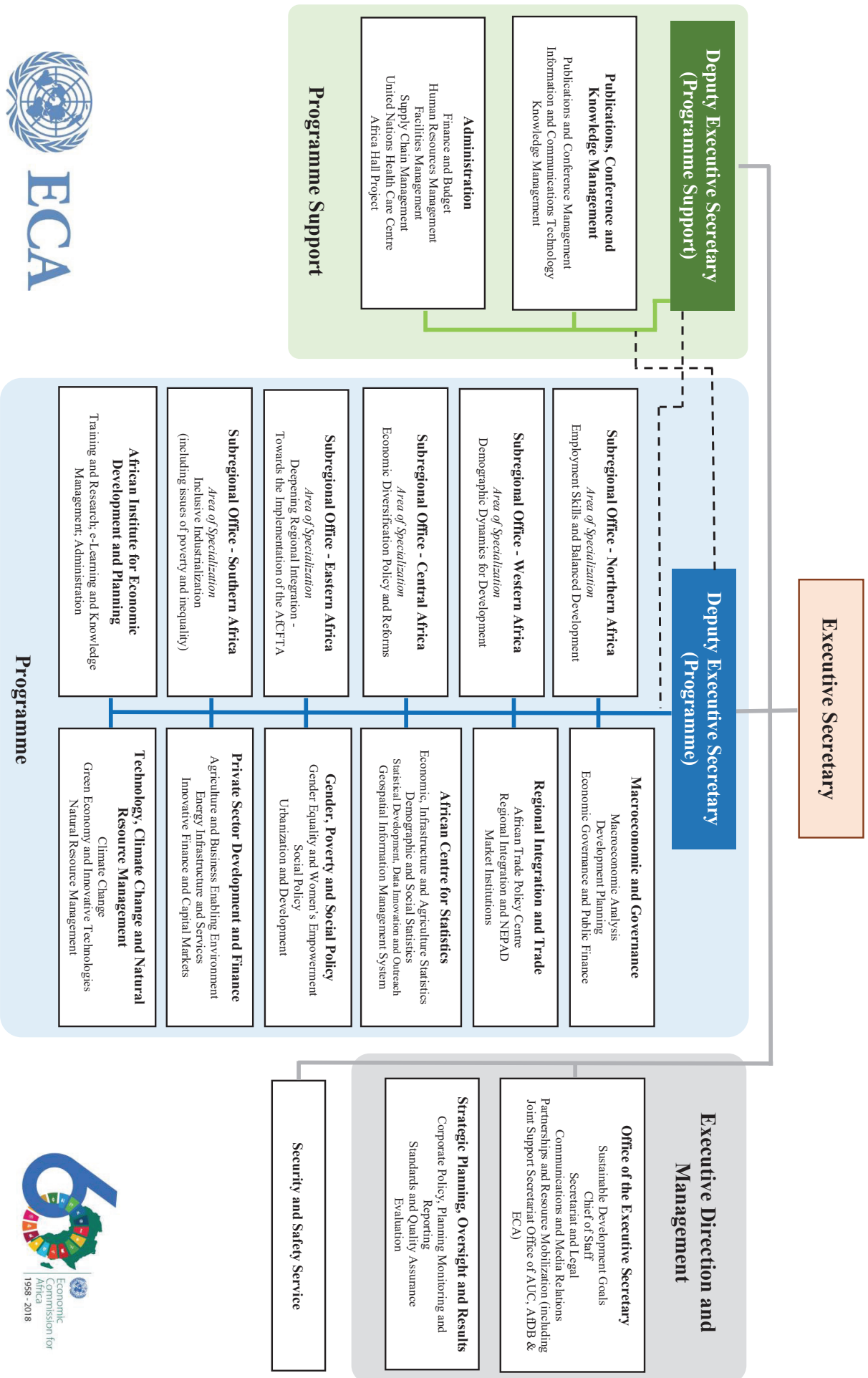
Economic Commission for Africa | Commission économique pour l'Afrique

1958 - 2018

60th Anniversary of ECA



ECA Organizational Chart





Dr Burton Mguni is the new Statistician General

The Minister of Finance and Economic Development has appointed Dr Burton Mguni to the position of Statistician General with effect from 01 June 2018. Dr Mguni joined Statistics Botswana in 2014 as the Deputy Statistician General responsible for Economic and Social Statistics.

Dr Mguni worked for many years as an academic and a higher education manager at the University of Botswana. He started as a Lecturer in statistics in 1982 and was promoted to the rank of Senior Lecturer in 1994. The higher education management positions he held include Head of the Department of Statistics, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Deputy Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. Dr. Mguni holds a Bachelor's Degree in Economics and Statistics from the University of Botswana and Swaziland which he obtained in 1978, a Master of Science (M.S.) Statistics Degree from Colorado State University which he obtained in 1982 and a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), Statistics from the University of Northern Colorado which he obtained in 1988.

In his role as Deputy Statistician General (Economic and Social Statistics), Dr Mguni provided leadership and

management towards the provision of reliable, timely and quality socio-demographic, economic and environmental statistical information and indicators. As part of this work he was appointed by the organization to represent Botswana in the United Nations Inter Agency Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goals (IAEG-SDGs) which developed the Global SDG Indicator Framework. Flowing from this work he has been instrumental in leading Statistics Botswana in setting up the strategies, systems and structures for the monitoring and follow up of the progress in the implementation of the various Development Agenda/Visions that apply to Botswana including SDGs, Africa's Agenda 2063, Vision 2036 and NDP11.

Surveys and Censuses are some of the very important sources of data and in this connection, Dr. Mguni has during his tenure as Deputy Statistician General, overseen the conduct of three major national surveys being the Agricultural Census; Census of Enterprises and Establishments and the Botswana Multi-Topic Household Survey.

The Board of Directors and Staff of Statistics Botswana welcome Dr. Mguni in his new role as the Statistician General and wish him well ■



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Prof. Osman Sankoh Statistician General

Prof. Osman Alimamy Sankoh was appointed Statistician-General of Statistics Sierra Leone by the Statistics Council of Sierra Leone. He has joined our team in April 2018 for a three-year term.

Until joining Statistics Sierra Leone, Osman was the Executive Director of the INDEPTH Network, an international organisation for the demographic evaluation of populations and their health in 20 low- and middle-income countries in Africa, Asia and the Pacific. He became the Executive Director in October 2007 after serving as Deputy Executive Director from mid-2006. From 2002-2006 he was Manager for Communications and External Relations and was responsible for the Network's scientific programme. Osman has many years of progressive experience in health and demographic surveillance systems and in networking of international scientists and research institutions.

Dr Sankoh joined INDEPTH from the Institute of Public Health at the University of Heidelberg Medical School in Germany where he worked as a Biostatistician / Epidemiologist from December 1999 to June 2002.

Osman is a member of the Advisory Boards/Committees of several international academic journals including The Lancet Global Health and the International Journal of Epidemiology. He has also acted as a consultant on population and health issues to the World Bank, the World Health Organisation, and the African Census Analysis Project at the University of Pennsylvania in the US.

His more than 100 peer-reviewed scientific publications have appeared in a range of international journals. His work on epidemiology and biostatistics has been published in The Lancet, Lancet Global Health Nature, British Medical Journal, Tropical Medicine and International Health, Journal of Public Health, Global Health Action, BMC Public Health, PLOS ONE, PLOS MED and the International Journal of Epidemiology. Papers on environmental impact assessment and management that

he has authored or co-authored have appeared in the African Journal of Environmental Assessment and Management, the Journal of Environmental Management, and Environmental Impact Assessment Review. His work on creative writing includes Hybrid Eyes-Reflections of an African in Europe and Beautiful Colours-Reflections on the Problem of Racism, both of which he first wrote and published in German.

Osman holds a visiting professorship at the College of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences, University of Sierra Leone. He also holds an honorary associate professorship in the School of Public Health, Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa where he has received awards for research excellence. He is also an honorary professor in the Faculty of Public Health at the Hanoi Medical University in Hanoi, Vietnam. He has jointly supervised PhD students at the University of Basel in Switzerland.

Osman was born in the village of Warima in Northern Sierra Leone. He attended Tomlinson High School in Songo, Sierra Leone and did undergraduate studies at Njala University in Sierra Leone where he graduated in 1987 with a Bachelor degree in mathematics with distinction. He was awarded the 1987 University of Sierra Leone Prize for Academic Excellence. He was a Research/Teaching Assistant in the Department of Mathematics at Njala University (1987-89). He pursued undergraduate and postgraduate studies in Applied Statistics and Spatial Planning at the Technical University of Dortmund in Germany where he was awarded in 1996 the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) Prize for Academic Excellence and Exceptional Social Engagements by a Foreign Student - a prize which cuts across all nationalities. He earned his Doktor der Naturwissenschaften (DSc.) in Applied Statistics in 2000. In the Faculty of Statistics at the Technical University of Dortmund, Osman worked as a research assistant in the Chair of Statistical Methods in Genetics and Ecology as well as in the Institute for Economic and Social Statistics.

Identity Management (IDM) system in Africa

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The Identity Management (IDM) is to assign a unique identity formed by characters to every individual in the country. This identity follows the individuals throughout his or her life from birth to death. Before talking about importance of IDM, we provide the components and types of Identity (ID).

- **ID technology:** As the digital age brings with it much needed opportunities to help Africa implement IDM, it also has its own challenges, that should be researched and analyzed and appropriate risk management put in place. The opportunities cover the advances in identification technology (both digital and biometric), while the challenges include privacy risks, social exclusion (due to not having the registration and certification), technological risks (such as complex IT systems, vendor lock-in risks), cyber security risks, and lack of political leadership.
- **The principle of identification for sustainable development:** The principles of identification (World Bank) cover 10 points falling, and fall in to 3 sub sections, namely, inclusion (universal coverage and accessibility), Design (robust, secure, responsive, and sustainable), and Governance (building trust by protecting privacy and user rights).
- **IDM Stakeholders:** The IDM stakeholders includes individuals, governments, private sector, international organizations and NGOs, and development partners. Regarding development partners, for instance, development agencies, other donors, and humanitarian actors provide support for legal identification systems in the form of funding and technical assistance, and may also be involved in establishing identification systems to administer programs. A shared vision will help foster inclusive identification systems that enable economic opportunities and sustainable development outcomes.
- **ID4D - World Bank:** Identification for Development (ID4D) was launched by the World Bank Group in 2014. The initiative will support progress towards identification systems using 21st century solutions.
- **Components of Identification Systems:** The identification System consists of legal registers (i.e., birth registration or civil identification) and functional registers (that are created in response to a demand for a particular service or transaction, such as health and insurance records, bank cards, voter IDs, ...). This is done through the use of a Unique Identity Number (UNI) alphanumeric code.
- **CR and CI - Integration of CR and IDM:** At best, Civil Registration (CR) and Civil Identification (CI) register be synchronized to avoid duplication or biographic errors, but this depends on the institutional and administrative arrangement between the two registers.
- **Identity Credentials:** After identity and identification comes identity credentials (a birth certificate or national identification card), which allows the holder to access to rights and privileges for the rightful holder of the credential. In general, Civil Registrations (CR) certificate a credentials issued by Civil Identification (CI) agencies and are called primary identity credentials (established identity), while those offering privileges (such as driver's license, passport, ...) are called secondary identity credentials. Those offering entitlements (such as social security card, health service card, ...) are called tertiary identity credentials. For verification purposes, it should be sufficient for functional registers to rely on the primary identity credentials that the primary register issues (i.e., CR and CI), which have a strong legal basis and established through the constitution, as compared to functional registers.
- **Electronic identity credential (e-ID):** It is a set of data or attributes that enables a person to prove electronically who he or she is to access services or reserved information online. E-ID, also called Digital Identity is not related to the physical person but to his or her on-line credentials.
- **Strategic Pathways for IDM system:** In terms of development priority, moving from the foundational

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(CR, CI) to functional, also called top down regime, though costly in the short term, creates a reliable and strong basis for a modern Identity management system, as it allows traceability from birth registration and use of Unique Identity Number (UNI) throughout one's life time, and also help build the institutional and physical infrastructure for IDM system.

The Identity Management (IDM) plays an important role in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Its importance to successful development considers it as one target in the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) agenda. In fact, the target 9 of the Goal 16 is to provide legal identity for all, including birth registration by 2030. In addition, the IDM is a key enabler of the efficacy of at least 10 other SDG targets in the following areas:

- Social protection, including for the most vulnerable (SDG 1.3);
- Assistance in dealing with shocks and disasters (SDG 1.5);
- Access of the poor to economic resources, including property and finance (SDG 1.4);
- Empowerment of women (SDG 5a and 5b);
- Reducing the global maternal mortality ratio (SDG 3.1);
- Ending preventable deaths of newborns and children under 5 (SDG 3.2);
- Ending the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combating hepatitis, water-borne diseases and other communicable diseases. (SDG 3.3);
- Improving energy efficiency and eliminating harmful energy subsidies (SDG 12c);
- Reducing remittance costs (SDG 10c);
- Reducing corruption (SDG 16.5) and fighting crime and terrorism (SDG 16a). (ID4D, Strategic framework, 2016).

Regarding, the IDM (Identity Management) System, its implementation, and at best, its integration (Civil Identity, CI) with (Civil Registration, CR), creates conducive situation for the implementation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063 of AU. With fast paced move towards regional and sub regional integration efforts,

proper analysis of the IDM environment and implementation of IDM system in Africa will help in realizing the free movement of people and labor within the continent for better socio economic transformation.

The IDM system (Civil Registration and Civil Identification) enabling environment comprises of: legal and regulatory framework, governance and institutional capacity, ICT and Interoperability and Inter connectivity arrangements. For this, there is a need to do an Identity Management System Analysis (IMSA). Identification can be a critical enabler for achieving some key development outcomes including: financial inclusion, gender equality (incl. birth and marriage registration to help combat child marriage, claim property rights, and also to have access to financial and other services that require proof of identity), access to health services, social safety net, and for improved governance (e.g. help eliminate ghost workers and double dippers through Nigeria's Integrated Personnel and Payroll Information System, saving approx. 74 million USD in the first phase and eliminating 43000 ghost workers as of July 2011).

Thus, a universal and accessible, reliable and disaggregated data from Civil Registration and IDM systems benefit all sectors and the economy as a whole, and promotes: civil and human rights, governance, gender equality and women's empowerment, proper planning, social protection, data for proper planning, efficiency and effectiveness, business and commerce, banking, travel documents (as it requires birth certificates for issuance), and voter rolls (to validate the voter age). The Identity Management contributes to facilitate a well-functioning Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) system, because with an ID, it is much easier to draw up marriage certificates, death certificates,

In high-income countries, people have been registered and get their unique individual's identity from birth while, in many low- and middle-income countries, civil registration systems are still paper-based and coverage is incomplete so that many people do not have the documentation needed to establish individual identity.

However, in some African countries, the Identity Management system is well underway. For example, following a report of the World Bank, the integration of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics and Identity Management Systems in Botswana Success has been a great success in the country through its the National Identification System (NIS). Also another report of the World Bank concluded that Namibia's IDM system is sufficiently mature and advanced to move toward an e-ID system and provided a timeline with concrete recommendations. (World Bank, Namibia IMSA Report, April 2016).

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¹ <http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/21571460567481655/April-2016-ID4D-Strategic-RoadmapID4D.pdf>

² http://getinthepicture.org/sites/default/files/resources/Information_Note_D_CRVS_and_Identity_Management.pdf

In Guinea, in the context of the end of the Ebola crisis and in order to receive essential services such as health care and access financial services such as loans, a robust identification system is necessary. Thus, the World Bank has piloted a digital ID system using an existing World Bank cash transfer program in order to support the Government of Guinea in

designing and implementing a biometric digital identification (ID) system after conducting an assessment in the country (Identification for Development Strategic Framework, World Bank, 2016). Others ways are used in various developing countries including Chile, Philippines, Pakistan and Bangladesh to implement the Identity Management.

Système de gestion des identités (IDM) en Afrique

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La gestion des identités (IDM) consiste à attribuer une identité unique formée de caractères à chaque individu du pays. Cette identité suit les individus tout au long de leur vie, de la naissance à la mort. Avant de parler de l'importance de l'IDM, nous fournissons les composants et les types d'identité (ID).

- **Technologie d'identification :** Alors que l'ère numérique offre des opportunités indispensables pour aider l'Afrique à mettre en œuvre la gestion intégrée des identités, elle a aussi ses propres défis, qui doivent être recherchés et analysés et une gestion des risques appropriée mise en place. Les opportunités couvrent les progrès de la technologie d'identification (numérique et biométrique), tandis que les défis incluent les risques pour la vie privée, l'exclusion sociale (en raison de l'absence d'enregistrement et de certification), les risques technologiques (tels que les systèmes informatiques complexes, les risques de blocage des fournisseurs), les risques de cyber-sécurité et le manque de leadership politique.
- **Le principe de l'identification pour le développement durable :** les principes de l'identification (Banque mondiale) couvrent 10 points et trois sous-sections, à savoir l'inclusion (couverture universelle et accessibilité), la conception (robuste, sécurisée, réactive et durable) et gouvernance (instaurer la confiance en protégeant la vie privée et les droits des utilisateurs).
- **Parties prenantes à l'IDM :** Les parties prenantes à la gestion des identités incluent des particuliers, des gouvernements, le secteur privé, des organisations internationales et des ONG, ainsi que des partenaires de développement. En ce qui concerne les partenaires de développement, par exemple, les agences de développement, les autres donateurs et les acteurs humanitaires apportent un soutien aux systèmes d'identification juridique sous forme de financement et d'assistance technique, et peuvent également participer à la mise en place de systèmes d'identification pour administrer les programmes. Une vision commune contribuera à promouvoir des systèmes d'identification inclusifs permettant

des opportunités économiques et des résultats de développement durable.

- **ID4D - Banque mondiale :** L'identification pour le développement (ID4D) a été lancée par le Groupe de la Banque mondiale en 2014. L'initiative soutiendra les progrès en matière de systèmes d'identification utilisant des solutions du XXI^e siècle.
- **Composants des systèmes d'identification :** Le système d'identification se compose de registres légaux (c'est-à-dire d'enregistrement de naissance ou d'identification civile) et de registres fonctionnels (créés en réponse à une demande de service ou de transaction particulière, tels que des dossiers de santé et d'assurance, des cartes bancaires, des cartes d'électeur, ...). Cela se fait par l'utilisation d'un code alphanumérique à numéro d'identité unique (UNI).
- **CR et CI - Intégration de CR et IDM :** au mieux, l'enregistrement des registres d'état civil (CR) et de leur identification (CI) doit être synchronisé pour éviter les doublons ou les erreurs biographiques, mais cela dépend de l'arrangement institutionnel et administratif entre les deux registres.
- **Identifiants d'identité:** Après l'identité et l'identification, les identifiants d'identité (un certificat de naissance ou une carte d'identité nationale) permettent au titulaire d'accéder aux droits et privilèges du détenteur légitime du justificatif. En général, les enregistrements d'état civil (CR) attestent des informations d'identification délivrées par les agences d'identification civile (CI) et sont appelés identifiants d'identité principaux (identité établie), alors que ceux qui offrent des privilèges (tels que permis de conduire, passeport, ...) sont appelés identifiants d'identité secondaires. Ceux qui offrent des droits (comme une carte de sécurité sociale, une carte de service de santé, ...) sont appelés identifiants d'identité tertiaires. Aux fins de la vérification, il devrait suffire que les registres fonctionnels s'appuient sur les informations d'identification principales délivrées par le registre principal (c.-à-d. CR et CI), qui disposent d'une base juridique solide et sont définis dans la constitution, par rapport aux registres fonctionnels.
- **Identifiant électronique :** C'est un ensemble de données ou d'attributs qui permet à une personne de prouver par voie électronique son accès aux services ou aux

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informations réservées en ligne. L'identité électronique, également appelée identité numérique, n'est pas liée à la personne physique, mais à ses informations d'identification en ligne.

- **Voies stratégiques pour le système de la gestion des identités (IDM) :** en termes de priorité de développement, le passage du régime fondamental (CR, CI) au fonctionnel, également appelé régime descendant, bien que coûteux à court terme, crée une base fiable et solide pour un système moderne de gestion des identités, car il permet la traçabilité de l'enregistrement des naissances et de l'utilisation du numéro d'identité unique (UNI) tout au long de la vie, et aide également à construire l'infrastructure institutionnelle et physique pour le système de gestion intégrée des identités.

La gestion de l'identité (IDM) joue un rôle important dans la réalisation des objectifs de développement durable. Son importance pour un développement réussi le considère comme l'une des cibles du nouvel agenda des objectifs de développement durable (ODD). En fait, la cible 9 de l'objectif 16 est de fournir une identité juridique à tous, y compris l'enregistrement des naissances, d'ici 2030. En outre, l'IDM est un facteur clé de l'efficacité d'au moins 10 autres cibles d'ODD dans les domaines suivants :

- Protection sociale, y compris pour les plus vulnérables (ODD 1.3) ;
- Assistance pour faire face aux chocs et aux catastrophes (ODD 1.5) ;
- Accès des pauvres aux ressources économiques, y compris l'immobilier et les finances (ODD 1.4) ;
- Autonomisation des femmes (ODD 5a et 5b) ;
- Réduire le taux global de mortalité maternelle (ODD 3.1) ;
- Mettre fin aux décès évitables de nouveau-nés et d'enfants de moins de 5 ans (ODD 3.2) ;
- Mettre fin aux épidémies de sida, de tuberculose, de paludisme et de maladies tropicales négligées et lutter contre l'hépatite, les maladies d'origine hydrique et d'autres maladies transmissibles. (ODD 3.3) ;
- Améliorer l'efficacité énergétique et éliminer les subventions néfastes à l'énergie (ODD 12c) ;
- Réduire les coûts des envois de fonds (ODD 10c) ;
- Réduire la corruption (ODD 16.5) et lutter contre le crime et le terrorisme (ODD 16a). (ID4D, Strategic framework, 2016).

En ce qui concerne le système IDM (gestion des identités), sa mise en œuvre et, au mieux, son intégration (identité civile, CI) à (Enregistrement à l'état civil, CR), crée une situation favorable à la mise en œuvre des ODD et de l'Agenda 2063 de l'UA. Avec une évolution rapide vers les efforts d'intégration régionale et sous-régionale, une analyse appropriée de

l'environnement IDM et la mise en œuvre du système IDM en Afrique aideront à réaliser la libre circulation des personnes et des travailleurs sur le continent en vue d'une meilleure transformation socio-économique.

L'environnement favorable du système IDM (registre civil et identification civile) comprend : un cadre juridique et réglementaire, la gouvernance et la capacité institutionnelle, les dispositions relatives aux TIC et à l'interopérabilité et l'inter connectivité. Pour cela, il est nécessaire de procéder à une analyse du système de gestion des identités (IMSA). L'identification peut être un facteur essentiel pour atteindre certains résultats de développement clés, notamment : l'inclusion financière, l'égalité des sexes (y compris l'enregistrement des naissances et des mariages pour aider à lutter contre le mariage précoce, revendiquer des droits de propriété, ainsi que l'accès à des services financiers et autres nécessitant la preuve d'identité), l'accès aux services de santé, le filet de sécurité sociale et l'amélioration de la gouvernance (par exemple, aider à éliminer les travailleurs fantômes et les doublons grâce au système intégré d'information sur le personnel et les salaires du Nigéria, économisant environ 74 millions USD dans la première phase et éliminant 43 000 travailleurs fantômes comme juillet 2011).

Ainsi, des données universelles et accessibles, fiables et désagrégées issues des systèmes d'enregistrement civil et de gestion intégrée des identités (IDM) profitent à tous les secteurs et à l'ensemble de l'économie et favorisent : les droits civils et humains, la gouvernance, l'égalité des sexes et l'autonomisation des femmes, une bonne planification, l'efficacité et l'efficience, les affaires et commerce, la banque, les documents de voyage (car des certificats de naissance sont nécessaires pour la délivrance) et les listes électorales (pour valider l'âge de l'électeur). La gestion de l'identité contribue à faciliter le bon fonctionnement du système d'enregistrement civil et de statistiques de l'état civil (CRVS), car avec un ID, il est beaucoup plus facile d'établir des certificats de mariage, des certificats de décès,

Dans les pays à revenu élevé, les personnes ont été enregistrées et obtiennent leur identité individuelle unique dès la naissance, tandis que dans de nombreux pays à revenu faible et moyen, les systèmes d'enregistrement à l'état civil sont encore sur papier et la couverture est incomplète, de sorte que beaucoup de personnes ne possèdent pas la documentation nécessaire pour établir l'identité individuelle.

Par ailleurs, dans certains pays africains, le système de gestion des identités est en bonne voie. Par exemple, selon un rapport de la Banque mondiale, l'intégration des systèmes d'enregistrement des faits d'état civil et de statistiques de

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¹ <http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/21571460567481655/April-2016-ID4D-Strategic-RoadmapID4D.pdf>

² http://getthepicture.org/sites/default/files/resources/Information_Note_D_CRVS_and_Identity_Management.pdf

l'état civil et de gestion de l'identité au Botswana a été couronnée de succès dans le pays grâce au système national d'identification (NIS). En outre, un autre rapport de la Banque mondiale a conclu que le système namibien de gestion des identités est suffisamment développé et évolué pour passer à un système d'identification électronique et a présenté un calendrier assorti de recommandations concrètes. (World Bank, Namibia IMSA Report, April 2016).

En Guinée, dans le contexte de la fin de la crise de l'Ebola et pour pouvoir bénéficier de services essentiels tels que les soins de santé et accéder à des services financiers

tels que les prêts, un système d'identification robuste est nécessaire. Ainsi, la Banque mondiale a mis à l'essai un système d'identification numérique utilisant un programme de transfert monétaire existant de la Banque mondiale afin d'aider le gouvernement de Guinée à concevoir et à mettre en œuvre un système d'identification numérique biométrique après avoir effectué une évaluation dans le pays (Identification for Development Strategic Framework, World Bank, 2016). D'autres moyens sont utilisés dans divers pays en développement, notamment le Chili, les Philippines, le Pakistan et le Bangladesh pour mettre en œuvre la gestion de l'identité.

EVALUATION OF DATA QUALITIES FROM NATIONAL DATA SOURCES IN AFRICA

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1. INTRODUCTION

Africa is at the dawn of a data revolution. In recent years, the continent has witnessed a great explosion of the data it has produced [1], the speed of data generation from non-traditional sources, as well as an expansion in the demands of all types of data by public and private sector users. The data revolution is happening in every country, in every walk of life. For many African countries, their national and regional economy, policies and planning is now built upon the availability of the data [2, 3]. And the data revolution is much more than simply generating huge quantities of data – as important as to improve data quantity, it is also about to improve the quality of data. For the new, innovative sources, many of the data communities are still debating on the best ways for the measuring and evaluating of quality [1]. Traditional data sources, including official data generated in the national statistical systems, also rely on the high standard of data quality [4].

The quality of national, primary official data is of uttermost importance to the national statistical systems in Africa. National statistical systems, especially the national statistical offices (NSO), who usually coordinate all data collection and dissemination strategies of a country, must step up and play the leading role in safeguarding the data production process, and ensuring that all data generated are meeting the minimum requirement for quality control.

This paper conducts a thorough evaluation among national official data sources in Africa. We selected 38 key economic and socio-demographic indicators from five major domains to study their data source quality. These five domains are:

key macroeconomics performances, economic trends, demographics, education and employment, and health and living conditions. The majority of these data are collected and disseminated by the key players in the national statistical systems, including the NSOs, central banks, and line ministries and agencies in charge of sectoral statistics. For each indicator, it is scored against a set of 10 data quality elements to obtain a mean score for its final quality evaluation. Findings for this data quality evaluation from 39 African countries are analyzed.

2. METHODOLOGY

We conducted a literature review on what other organizations have already put in place. We reviewed quality evaluation guidelines from OECD on its Quality Framework for OECD Statistical Activities [5], and from IMF [6], Eurostat [7], Statistics Canada [8], Statistics Korea [9], Statistics Netherlands [10], Statistics South Africa [11], Statistics Sweden [12], U.K.'s Office for National Statistics [13], as well as data quality strategies from the UNECE [14] and UNSD [15]. We also want this guideline to voice the African statistics communities' narratives on data quality.

After considering both the guidelines and our objectives, we established 6 key quality assessment areas for the national data sources. 10 data quality elements have been selected as the integrated components of national official data quality. These quality assessment areas and data quality elements are well defined and used to assess official data sources when possible. They are:

Quality assessment area 1: Timeliness and Periodicity

- Data Element T1. Punctuality of effective publication;

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- Data Element T2. Frequency of update in accordance with international standard.

Quality assessment area 2: Comparability

- Data Element C1. Length of comparable time-series;
- Data Element C2. Standard definition and unit of measurement.

Quality assessment area 3: Accessibility

- Data Element A1. Whether the data is public accessible, in an open database, free of charge;
- Data Element A2. The format of the data and ease of download and sharing.

Quality assessment area 4: Citation

- Data Element CT1. Whether the data point has full citation;
- Data Element CT2. Whether it is coming from a primary or secondary source, and if secondary, if the primary source is referenced.

Quality assessment area 5: Metadata

- Data Element M1. Completeness of metadata information for released statistics.

Quality assessment area 6: Methodology Soundness

- Data Element MS1. Completeness and clarity methodological document and notes.

These data quality 10 elements cover a representative profile of the many domains of national official data quality. Each element is scored on a 0 to 1 scale, with 1 being the highest (best quality) and 0 the lowest (worst quality). For each indicator from every country, the relevant quality elements of the indicator will be evaluated and an average score is given to the indicator. When an indicator's final score is higher or equal to 0.75, the data source is categorized as "Good". When the score is between 0.5 and 0.74, it is categorized as "Satisfactory" Finally if the score falls below 0.5, the data source is categorized as "Needs Improvement".

We collected data points from national, official data sources based on 38 key economic and socio-demographic indicators from five major domains: key macroeconomics performances, economic trends, demographics, education and employment, and health and living conditions. These 38 indicators include most of the basic, universal data pointed collected by countries and were used to track the progress of the Sustainable Development Goals.

3 RESULT

Figure 1. Key Macroeconomics Performances Indicator Quality

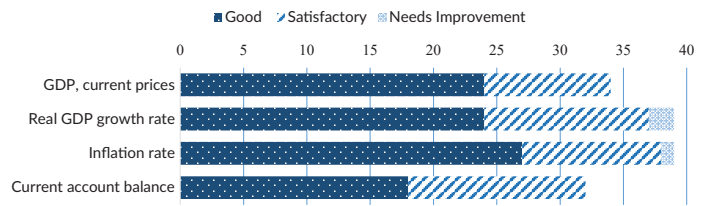


Figure 2. Economic Trends Indicator Quality

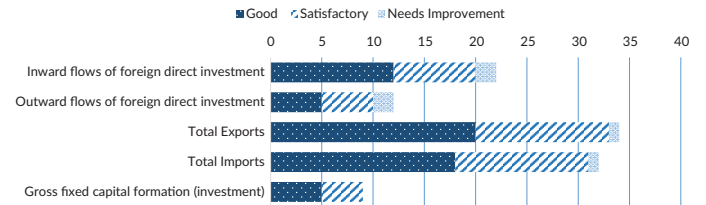


Figure 3. Demographic Indicator Quality

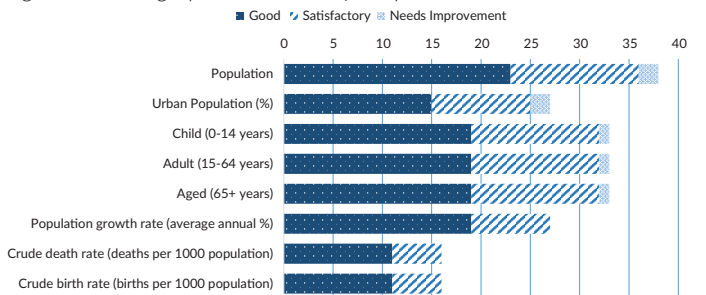


Figure 4. Education & Employment Indicator Quality

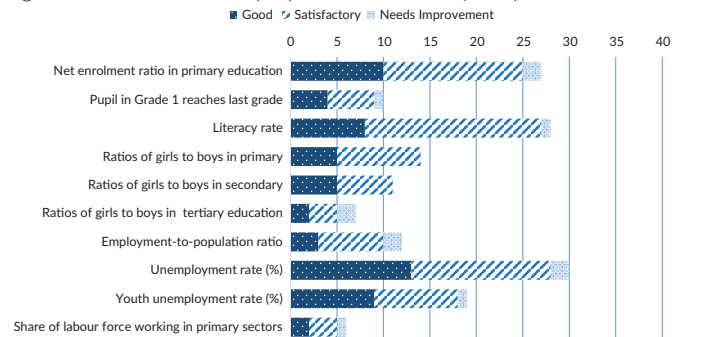
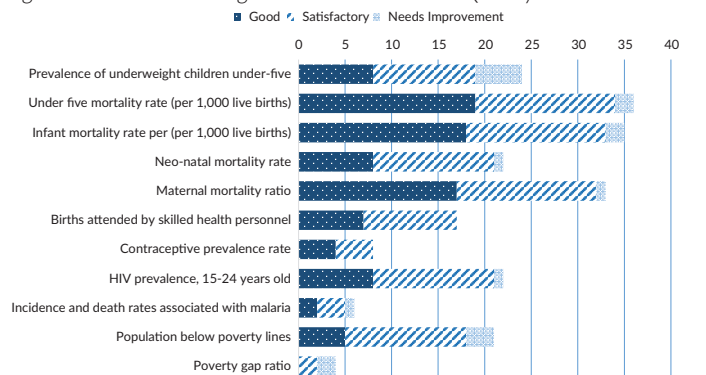


Figure 5. Health & Living Conditions Indicator Quality



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The average scores across Africa for indicators in key macroeconomics performances are shown in Figure 1. All four indicators successfully passed the test, as all of them are above 0.75, which indicated that countries have really fare strong in this domain to make sure that these key economic benchmarks are reported timely, accurately to the general public.

In the economic trends domain, total imports and exports and gross fixed capital formation indicators enjoy good national data sources, while the inward and outward flows of foreign direct investment (FDI) have been scored lower, albeit still in the satisfactory range (Figure 2).

In Figure 3, many of the demographic variables, include total and aggregated population, growth rate, and crude birth rate and crude death rate have scored high on our evaluation. Countries have made good effort to ensure that by conducting regular censuses and population estimates, the demographic figures enjoy high quality outputs.

None of the 10 indicators scored higher than 0.70 in the education and employment domain. All have been categorized as satisfactory. These indicators are mostly reported by line ministries, including education, labour, social affairs, among others. The lack of timely update and standardization contribute to this under performance in many cases - often time we have observed these indicators were not regularly updated and without an adequate citation, metadata, and methodology, which yield a lower quality score. This is where improvement and investment are due for the national statistical systems, to incorporate these highly important indicators into their regular statistics production cycles (Figure 4).

There were also much room for improvement in the health and living conditions domain (Figure 5). A lone data point, contraceptive prevalence rate, scored good. All others are below satisfactory, with the poverty gap ratio indicator having the lowest of all evaluated. From this domain we can observe a similar trend as the education and employment statistics, with many of them suffer from a poor availability (fewer countries reporting) and poor quality (below 0.75) at the same time.

4 DISCUSSION

Among the 39 countries being studied, countries from West, East and Southern Africa include Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Congo, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Guinea, Cote d'Ivoire, Uganda, Kenya, Zambia, Lesotho and South Africa are producing a comprehensive national official data coverage. In other parts of the continent, there is still much work filling the gaps of the data where only a few economic indicators are reported. Uniformly, economic and trade indicators such as GDP growth rate, GDP current price, inflation rate and current account balance, total import and export perform well in the quality evaluation. This result

shows the importance of these indicators in the statistics systems. National statistical offices have invested heavily to develop the statistical capacity to monitor these key benchmarks to understand the pulse of the economy, and their overall data quality is held to high standards. However, in the demographic, education, labour, poverty and health sectors, the quality of the national data has not been consistently satisfying. In this regards, we expect national statistics offices to take on their leading roles in transferring statistical and database technology, knowledge and expertise to line ministries, and in coordinating the collective data production and dissemination efforts in the national statistical systems. Beyond the borders, international statistical bodies and the United Nations should also assist the countries in strengthening their statistical capacity, particularly in the demographic, education, labour, poverty reduction and health sectors.

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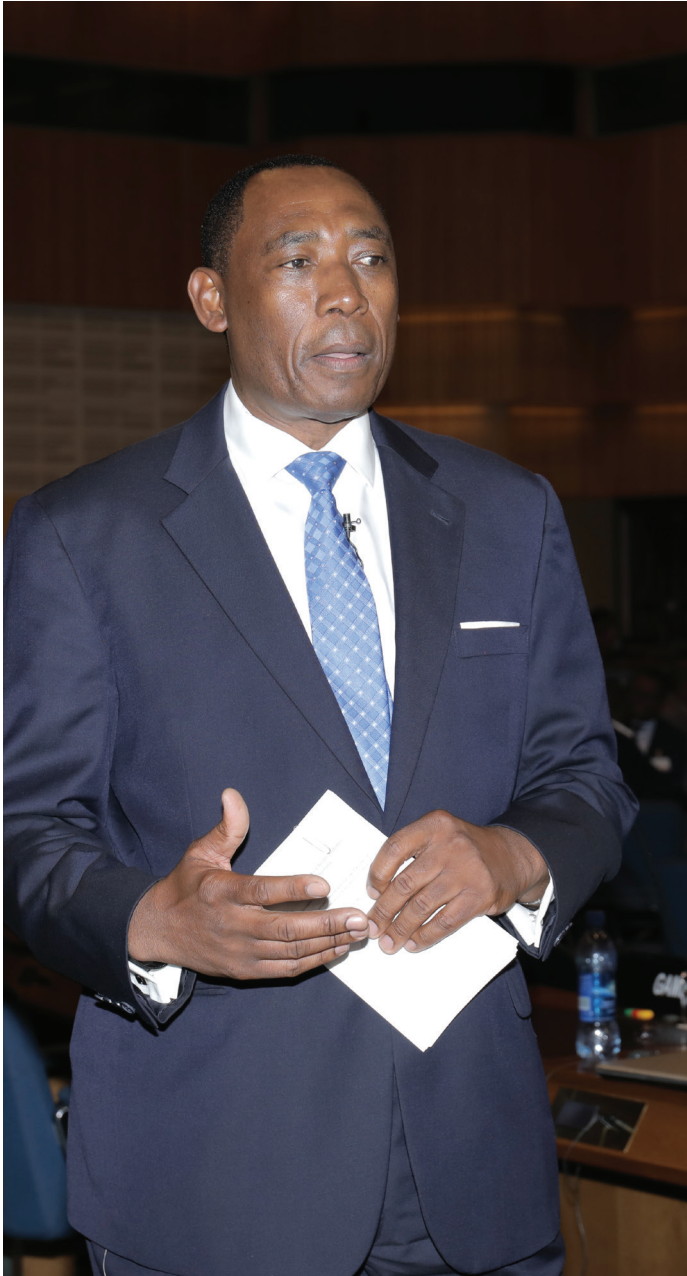
STATISTICS IS THE 'NEW OIL' OUR LEADERS MUST EXPLOIT, SAYS ECA'S CHINGANYA

"Statistics is the new oil that our leaders must, henceforth, harness to engineer business processes on the continent," said Oliver Chinganya, Director of the African Centre for Statistics (ACS) at the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

Mr. Chinganya deplored the fact that when it comes to funding for statistics, "we see more promises than action because our politicians sign documents and make bold statements but a lot of it ends at the level of statements and commitment.

He was speaking on 23 October during a panel discussion on 'The Political Economy of Statistical Capacity' at the 2nd World Data Forum in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

The ECA official argued that governments need to take urgent, concrete and significant actions "to boost and utilize our statistical capacity, which will then guide their efforts to address ongoing global challenges in health, education, migration, gender, and the environment etc."



Oliver Chinganya, Director, African Center for Statistics

Commenting on a "very successful" session organized by ECA at the Forum under the theme, "Bringing Statistics Where Opinions and Decisions are Made," Mr. Chinganya pointed

out that the session provided a great bridging-the-gap opportunity for data producers and users.

"It was such a thrill to sit in that packed room with National Statistics Officers, journalists, researchers, policymakers, representatives of the civil society, academia, and other data stakeholders," said Mr. Chinganya, adding "the discussions were vibrant, interactive, honest and enriching, and I think that speaks to ECA's role as a big contributor to this drive for enhanced data and statistics in Africa."

The panel was almost unanimous on the need for improved partnerships within the entire data production and consumption spectrum; the role of the media as essential stakeholders; and the importance of linking privately generated data to the tracking and monitoring of SDGs and African Union's Agenda 2063.

Mr. Chinganya cautioned "we need to make sure that we have the necessary data by 2030, otherwise we end up where we found ourselves with the MDGs.

The official opening of the Forum was graced by UN Deputy Chief, Amina Mohammed, who invited "all data innovators to work together with the UN to improve the availability and use of disaggregated and local data.

"Together, we can safely and responsibly harness the power of data to achieve the SDGs and bring about a world where no one, absolutely no one, is left behind, she said." The Forum was hosted by the Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority of United Arab Emirates with support from the Statistics Division of UNDESA under the guidance of the UN Statistical

Commission and the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



AFRICAN STATISTICS DAY 2018

18 NOVEMBER

**High quality official
statistics to ensure
transparency, good
governance and
inclusive development.**



African Statistics Day Celebration –INS- Cape Verde

As part of the African Statistics Day commemoration, which this year was celebrated under the slogan "High-quality statistics to ensure transparency, good governance and inclusive development", Statistics Cabo Verde held from 12 to 16 November, at Praia's Council Chambers, an exhibition of Statistical Publications of the National Statistical System. The opening session took place on 12 November and was attended by the President of Statistics Cabo Verde, Osvaldo Borges, President of the National Statistical Council (CNEST), Raimundo Lopes and the United Nations Representative, Luca Monge Roffarello. Several public and private institutions, schools, universities, etc. also attended the opening session.

Another activity carried out was a commemoration journey of the African Day of Statistics, on 16 November, with the objective to raise awareness among the public with the proposed slogan for this year, where were presented the results of the Governance, Peace and Security 2016 Statistics, the Praia Group on Governance Statistics, the Role of Statistics in Crisis Prevention, National Statistical System website and Micro-Data Diffusion Policy.

The opening session was chaired by the Coordinator of the Common Desk Program of UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF, Nélide Rodrigues, and attended by the President of Statistics Cabo Verde, Osvaldo Borges and President of the National Statistical Council (CNEST), Raimundo Lopes. The closing session was made by the Vice President of Statistics Cabo Verde, Celso Soares.

It is noteworthy that this year's slogan came to meet the great challenge that Statistics Cabo Verde has at the moment with the Praia Group on Governance Statistics, which is a forum for debates on the field of governance statistics, which it has a mandate to work in the production, consolidation and presentation of a Handbook by March 2020. Another purpose of the Praia Group is to support the Inter-Agency and Expert Groups on Sustainable Development Goals (IAEG-SDGs) in SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) indicators.

African Statistics Day celebration –INS- Cape Verde



Exhibition of Statistical Publications of the National Statistical System



Dia Africano da Estatística



08h30 Recepção dos participantes

09h00 Sessão de abertura

Intervenção do Presidente do INE, Osvaldo Borges
Presidente do CNEST - Raimundo Francês
Coordenadora de Programa do Escritório Comum do
PNUD, UNFPA e UNICEF - Nélida Rodrigues

SESSÃO DE TRABALHO

JOÃO CARDOSO - DIRETOR DO DEPARTAMENTO DAS CONTAS NACIONAIS

09h30 Apresentação dos Resultados das Estatísticas da
Governança, Paz e Segurança 2016
Aliana Varela (INE)

10h00 Grupo Praia em Estatísticas da Governança:
Progressos Alcançados
Malene Almeida (INE)

10h15 O Papel das Estatísticas na Prevenção de Crises
Ana Semedo (BCV)

10h30 Coffe Break

10h50 Site do Sistema Estatístico Nacional
Pedro Varela (INE)

11h10 Política de Difusão de Micro-dados
Carlos Mendes (INE)

11h30 Debate

12h00 Encerramento - Vice-Presidente do INE, Celso Soares

**Estatísticas Oficiais
de Alta Qualidade
para Garantir a
Transparência,
a Boa Governação e
o Desenvolvimento
Inclusivo**

16 NOVEMBRO 2018

**SALA DE CONFERÊNCIAS DA
BIBLIOTECA NACIONAL**

SOME FEW THEMES

Classical statistical themes	New statistical themes
Population and demography	Environment
Economic environment	Sustainable development
Cameroon national accounts	Gouvernance, peace and security
Economic and financial situation of enterprises	Climate change
Poverty	Social protection
Employment and labor-market	Criminality and criminal justice
Health	Renewable energies
Education	Financial market



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Together, let's celebrate from 20th
October to 20th November 2018

THE MONTH OF STATISTICS IN CAMEROON



THEME :
High quality official statistics
to ensure transparency, good
governance and inclusive
development



NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF
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nspd, Page Nationale Récapitulative de Données (PNRD) est une base de données Macroéconomique et financière du SGDD-a
• <http://nso.cameroon.opendataforafrica.org>, Plateforme Open Data de l'INS, est une base de données macroéconomique et financière du SGDD-a produite par l'INS.

QUELQUES THÈMES

Thèmes statistiques classiques	Thèmes statistiques nouveaux
Population et démographie	Environnement
Conjoncture économique	Développement durable
Comptes nationaux du Cameroun	Gouvernance, paix et sécurité
Situation économique et financière des entreprises	Changements climatiques
Pauvreté	Protection sociale
Emploi et marché du travail	Criminalité et justice pénale
Santé	Energie renouvelable
Education	Marché financier



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Ensemble, célébrons du 20 octobre
au 20 novembre 2018

LE MOIS DE LA STATISTIQUE AU CAMEROON



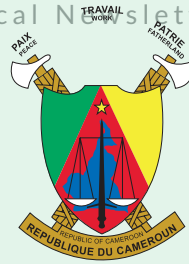
THEME :
Des statistiques officielles de haute
qualité pour assurer la transparence,
la bonne gouvernance et le
développement inclusif



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REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON



PEACE - WORK - FATHERLAND

AFRICAN STATISTICS DAY

STATEMENT OF THE MINISTER OF ECONOMY, PLANNING AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Ladies and gentlemen,

On 18 November 2018, Cameroon joined the African community to celebrate the 28th edition of the African Statistics Day. Instituted in 1990 by the Member States of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the main objective of this Day is to raise public awareness on the importance of statistics in the development, implementation and evaluation of the impact of sustainable development policies on the living conditions of the populations of each country.

This edition is celebrated around the following central theme: «**High quality official statistics to ensure transparency, good governance and inclusive development**».

This theme underscores the importance of official statistics in handling transparency, good governance and inclusive development issues. It is consistent with the theme of the Summit of Heads of States and Governments of the African Union held in Nouakchott in June 2018, namely: «**Winning the fight against corruption: a sustainable path for the transformation of Africa**».

For Cameroon, the theme of the African Statistics Day, like that of the Summit of Heads of States and Governments of the African

Union, is of very high relevance and has been the subject of appropriate reflection for many years. Indeed, since he became President in 1982, His Excellency Paul BIYA, President of the Republic immediately took due note of the issues of transparency and good governance in the management of public affairs and placed his action under the sign rigour and moralization.

He has regularly defended these values. In his address to the Nation on 31 December 2009, he reiterated his firm commitment to fight relentlessly against this plague when he stated: «... *We undertook to fight ruthlessly against corruption. You should not expect us to stop on the way. We will go to the end, whatever some may say*». Speaking about the theme «For a sustainable partnership» at the Cameroon-France Economic Forum held on 31 January 2013, the Head of State noted that «... as far as Cameroon is concerned, this environment (the business environment, ed) *has improved significantly thanks to reforms undertaken to promote good governance and the fight against corruption. We are preparing to go even further.*»

Aware of the significant progress made, the President of the Republic, at his swearing-in ceremony on 6 November 2018 for the 2018-2025 term, made it clear that «it goes without

saying that we will continue our structural reforms in order to strengthen our budget balance and reinforce the sustainability of *our debt*. *Sound finances are indeed the condition for the attractiveness of an economy and, therefore, its ability to accommodate investments*".

In this context, Law No. 2018/011 of 11 July 2018 on the code of transparency and good governance in the management of public finances came to reiterate the commitment of Cameroon to improve the business environment in Cameroon. This law defines the principles and rules that the State must observe in its legislation and practices in the management of public funds.

It gives the national statistical system the responsibility for collecting, processing, and disseminating public finance statistics and related methodologies independently. Still in this spirit of consolidating the quality of its statistical system, Cameroon has adhered to various initiatives and important international instruments. To this end, the signature on 25 June 2014, of the Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters stresses Cameroon's commitment to resolutely fight against international tax evasion and avoidance and allows the country to join the Global Forum for Transparency and Exchange of Information for fiscal Purposes. The same is true of the African Charter for Statistics.

It should also be recalled that Cameroon has adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and implementation of the SDGs. Objective 16 of this instrument entitled «Promoting the advent of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, ensuring access to justice for all and building effective, responsible and inclusive institutions at all levels» is mainly aimed at reducing all forms of corruption and bribery, and establishing effective, accountable and transparent institutions.

In this context, it our statistical system's responsibility to make available to decision-makers all the data they need to define coherent and effective policies in order to modernize our institutions and ensure better economic and social inclusion. That is why, the national statistical system should, on the one hand, continue its alignment with the Special Data Dissemination Standard, which is required from any country that aspires to emergence, and, on the other hand, promote quality approach in statistics among all producers of official statistics.

I would like to thank on behalf of the Government, all stakeholders whose precious contributions in quality information enable the national system to produce useful and quality statistics. This enables to make available to enterprises and households secure and confidential information in accordance with relevant provisions of the Statistical Law, which protects privacy.

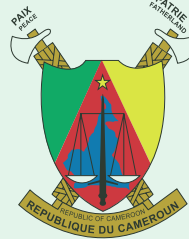
Finally, Cameroon expresses its gratitude to the numerous stakeholders of the National Statistical Information System whose relentless efforts have enabled to improve over time statistical production in quantity and quality.

I extend the gratitude and appreciation of the Government to all development partners and wish for greater and fruitful cooperation, successful implementation of the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics that should be consistent with the Growth and Employment Strategy Paper, United Nations 2030 Agenda and African Union 2063 Agenda.

Long live the African Statistics Day
Long live International Cooperation
Long live Cameroon. /-

ALAMINE OUSMANE MEY

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN



PAIX - TRAVAIL - PATRIE

JOURNEE AFRICAINE DE LA STATISTIQUE

DECLARATION DU MINISTRE DE L'ECONOMIE, DE LA PLANIFICATION ET DE L'AMENAGEMENT DU TERRITOIRE (MINEPAT)

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Ce 18 novembre 2018, l e Cameroun se joint à la communauté africaine pour célébrer la 28^{ème} édition de la Journée Africaine de la Statistique (JAS) . Instituée en 1990 par les Etats Membres de la Commission Economique des Nations Unies pour l'Afrique (CEA), cette Journée a pour principal objectif, la sensibilisation du public sur l'importance des statistiques dans l'élaboration, la mise en œuvre et l'évaluation de l'impact des politiques de développement durable sur les conditions et le cadre de vie des populations de chaque pays.

La présente édition est célébrée autour du thème central suivant: « Des statistiques **officielles de haute qualité pour assurer la transparence, la bonne gouvernance et le développement inclusif** ».

Cette thématique réaffirme l'utilité des statistiques officielles dans le traitement des questions de transparence ; de bonne gouvernance et de développement inclusif . Elle s'aligne sur le thème du Sommet des Chefs d'Etat et de Gouvernement de l'Union Africaine tenu à Nouakchott en juin 2018, à savoir : « Remporter la lutte contre la corruption : une voie durable pour la transformation de l'Afrique ».

Pour le Cameroun, le thème de la Journée Africaine de la Statistique comme celui du

Sommet des Chefs d'Etat et de Gouvernement de l'Union Africaine, sont d'une très haute pertinence et font l'objet d'une réflexion appropriée depuis plusieurs années. En effet, dès son accession à la Magistrature Suprême en 1982, Son Excellence Paul BIYA , Président de la République s'est aussitôt approprié les questions de transparence et de bonne gouvernance dans la gestion des affaires publiques, en plaçant son action sous le signe de la rigueur et de la moralisation.

Ces valeurs, il les a défendues régulièrement. Dans son discours à la Nation le 31 décembre 2009, il a réitéré sa volonté ferme de lutter sans relâche contre ce fléau en déclarant : «... Nous avons entrepris de lutter sans merci contre la corruption. Qu'on ne s'attende pas à ce que nous nous arrêtions en chemin. Nous irons jusqu'au bout, quoi qu'en disent certains» . Le 31 janvier 2013, lors du Forum Economique Cameroun-France, intervenant sur le thème « Pour un partenariat durable », le Chef de l'Etat relevait qu' « ... en ce qui concerne le Cameroun, cet environnement (l'environnement des affaires, ndlr) s'est considérablement amélioré grâce aux réformes entreprises pour promouvoir la bonne gouvernance et la lutte contre la corruption. Nous nous préparons à aller encore plus loin ».

Conscient des avancées notables opérées, le Président de la République, à l'occasion de sa prestation de serment le 06 novembre

2018 pour le mandat 2018-2025, a clairement indiqué « qu'il va de soi que nous allons *poursuivre nos réformes structurelles afin* de renforcer notre équilibre budgétaire et de conforter la soutenabilité de notre dette. *Des finances saines sont en effet la condition de* l'attractivité d'une économie et, donc, de son aptitude à accueillir les investissements ».

Dans ce contexte, la loi N°2018/011 du 11 juillet 2018 portant code de transparence et de bonne gouvernance dans la gestion des finances publiques est venue consacrer à nouveau l'engagement du Cameroun à améliorer l'environnement des affaires au Cameroun. Cette loi définit les principes et les règles que l'Etat doit respecter dans sa législation et dans ses pratiques en matière de gestion des fonds publics.

Elle confère au système statistique national la responsabilité de collecter, de traiter, et de diffuser les données statistiques liées aux finances publiques et les méthodologies y relatives en toute indépendance. Toujours dans la logique de consolider la qualité de son appareil statistique, le Cameroun a adhéré à diverses initiatives et importants instruments internationaux. A cet effet, la signature le 25 juin 2014, de la Convention portant assistance administrative mutuelle en matière fiscale marque l'engagement du Cameroun à lutter résolument contre la fraude et l'évasion fiscales internationales et permet au pays d'intégrer le Forum Mondial pour la Transparence et l'Echange de Renseignements à des fins Fiscales. Il en est de même de la Charte Africaine pour la Statistique.

Il convient aussi de rappeler que le Cameroun a adopté l'Agenda 2030 pour le Développement Durable et la mise en œuvre des ODD. L'objectif N° 16 de cet instrument intitulé «Promouvoir l'avènement des **sociétés pacifiques et ouvertes à tous aux fins du développement durable, assurer l'accès de tous à la justice et mettre en place, à tous les niveaux, des institutions efficaces, responsables et ouvertes à tous**» a pour cibles principales, la réduction de la corruption et la pratique des pots-de-vin sous toutes leurs formes, la mise en place

des institutions efficaces, responsables et transparentes.

Dans ce cadre, il revient à notre système statistique de mettre à la disposition des décideurs, toutes les données dont ils ont besoin pour définir des politiques cohérentes et efficaces en vue de moderniser nos institutions et d'assurer une meilleure inclusion économique et sociale. C'est pourquoi, le système statistique national doit, d'une part, poursuivre son arrimage à la Norme Spéciale de Diffusion des Données, exigible à tout pays qui aspire à son émergence, et, d'autre part, promouvoir la démarche qualité statistique auprès de tous les producteurs des statistiques officielles.

C'est ici le lieu de remercier, au nom du Gouvernement, tous les acteurs dont les contributions précieuses en information de qualité permettent au système national de produire des statistiques utiles et de qualité. Ce qui permet de garantir aux entreprises et aux ménages, une mise à disposition d'informations sécurisées, confidentielles conformément aux dispositions pertinentes de la Loi statistique qui protège la vie privée.

Enfin, le Cameroun témoigne sa reconnaissance aux différents acteurs du Système National d'Informations Statistiques (SNIS), dont les efforts inlassables ont permis l'amélioration au fil des ans, de la production statistique en quantité et en qualité.

Aux différents partenaires au développement, j'adresse les remerciements du Gouvernement et je formule le vœu pour une coopération toujours plus riche, plus fructueuse, pour une mise en œuvre réussite de la Stratégie Nationale de Développement de la Statistique (SNDS), alignée au DSCE, à l'Agenda 2030 des Nations Unies et à l'Agenda 2063 de l'Union Africaine.

Vive la Journée Africaine de la Statistique
Vive la Coopération Internationale
Vive le Cameroun./-

ALAMINE OUSMANE MEY



NAMIBIA STATISTICAL SYMPOSIUM IN COMMEMORATION OF AFRICAN STATISTICS DAY 2018

19 - 20 November 2018

“High-quality official statistics to ensure transparency, good governance and inclusive development.”

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Designed and layout by ECA, African Centre for Statistics.

Printed in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

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