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Date

African Centre for Statistics (ACS)

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)

Addis Ababa

Subject: - Closing report for the project “strengthening the capacity of African countries to use mobile technologies to collect data for effective policy and decision making (ETHIOPIA component only)”.

Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), in collaboration with Central Statistical Agency of Ethiopia (CSA) and Ethiopian Statistical Association (ESA) has signed agreement on the joint project “strengthening the capacity of African countries to use mobile technologies to collect data for effective policy and decision making (ETHIOPIA component only)”.

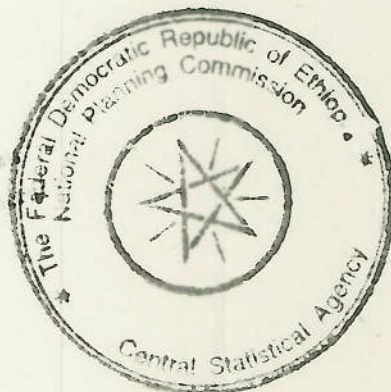
The project has been on progress for more than one year and now come to an end. Ethiopian Statistical Association has submitted the report and CSA has now reviewed and attached the summary report and financial report.

The CSA would like to thank ESA, ECA and Irish Government for the collaborative work and for the successful implementation of the project.

With Regards

B. Yigzaw

Biratu Yigzaw
Director General




Objectives

The objective of this project component is to improve the capacity of Ethiopia in using mobile technology to make statistical data available and accessible to support evidence-based policy making in area of price statistics.

Expected output

1. Increased capacity of CSA to work with training and research institutions to develop methodologies and systems for mobile data collection.
2. Increased capacity in CSA to develop geo-enabled data collection systems running on mobile devices.

Main activities conducted

- Two CSA staffs participate in regional workshop for experience sharing.
 - Situation analysis on the study area conducted
 - National consultative workshop among implementing partners and stakeholders conducted.
 - Concepts, Methodologies and applications for mobile data collection system developed. Training manuals and guidelines also developed.
 - National training workshop on the use of mobile data collection conducted to train all implementing partners on how to use the device to collect data.
 - The hand held devices purchase conducted.
 - Data collection and transfer of price data done successfully.
 - The CSA,ESA and ECA staffs participated in the regional conference
 - The project results document printed and disseminated.
 - Closing workshop conducted.
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Monitoring and Evaluation

- A management board to guide, monitor and evaluate the project activity was established from CSA and ESA. The board members held meeting at different time. Different reports were also prepared and submitted as per the agreement.

Key results achieved.

- The capacity of CSA and ESA on the use of mobile technology improved.
- The collaboration b/n CSA and ESA improved.
- The CSA has now decided to migrate to mobile data collection for different surveys including the 2017 Ethiopian population and housing census.





Mr. Biratu Yigezu
Director General
Central Statistical Agency
Addis Ababa

Subject: Mobile Data Collection Project Progress Report

With reference to the agreement on our joint project titled, “Strengthening the capacity of African countries to use mobile technologies to collect data for effective policy and decision making (ETHIOPIA Component Only)”, attached herewith, the Association submits the project progress, financial reports and copies of the published Project Results Document (20 copy for CSA and 20 copy ECA).

Kind regards,

Birhana Teshome (PhD)
President, Ethiopian Statistical Association (ESA)

CC:

Ms. Josephine Marealle-Ulimwengu
Officer in Charge
Office of Partnerships (OP)
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)
Addis Ababa

Mr. Oliver Chinganya,
Director,
African Centre for Statistics (ACS)
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)
Addis Ababa



Ethiopian Statistical Association

A. Project Final Report

PROJECT TITLE: Strengthening the capacity of African countries to use mobile technologies to collect data for effective policy and decision making (ETHIOPIA Component Only)

PROJECT NUMBER:	01
DURATION:	July 2014 – May 2016
STARTING DATE:	August 2014
ENDING DATE:	May 2016
REPORTING PERIOD COVERED:	September 2015 – May 2016
TOTAL BUDGET:	US\$124,906
FUND UTILIZATION RATE:	100.00%

**PROJECT FUNDED WITH THE GENEROUS SUPPORT OF GOVERNMENT
OF IRELAND**

July, 2016

I. Project objective:

The main objective of this project was to strengthen the capacity of Ethiopia to collect data through the use of mobile technologies by building capacities of Central Statistical Agency (CSA), government departments and Ethiopian Statistical Association (ESA) as a Research and Training Institutions (RTIs) in Ethiopia to make statistical data available and accessible to support evidence-based decision making for effective policy in areas of price statistics.

II. Key Results Achieved:

Some of the key results registered so far are:

- Price data was successfully collected using mobile devices and the pre-test affirmed the need to adopt the use of mobile devices for data collection.
- Capacities of CSA and ESA have developed and they have learnt a lot throughout the survey procedures and application of mobile devices.
- Experts from CSA, ESA and members of the survey have acquired skills on how to develop and customize software for data collection application, how to configure server to aggregate data remotely, how to manage mobile devices, how to transmit data etc.
- Awareness has been created among stakeholders of National Statistical Systems (NSS) about the pilot project and on the use of technology for data collection.
- Attended and presented at regional conferences on the use of mobile devices and networked with other experts in the field in Africa.
- Acquired mobile devices.
- Equipments were purchased to upgrade CSA's server.
- CSA's server was upgraded.
- Produced final project document, printed and disseminated.
- Findings of the study were disseminated through workshop setting, publication and other media outlets.
- The CSA has benefited from the project findings and has started implementing the use of mobile technology for data collection in the development of surveys at the agency.

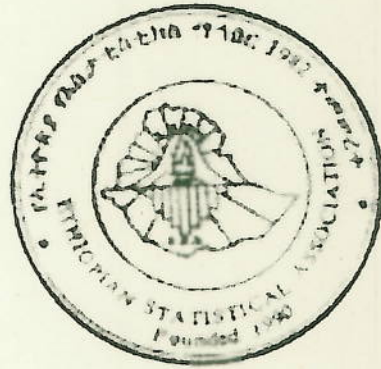
III. Lessons Learnt:

- In Ethiopia, organizations like EPHI and WaterAid Ethiopia use mobile devices in data collection for the purpose of monitoring and evaluation of their projects. At national level, the CSA has experiences of using mobile devices like PDAs and CAPI for data collection. However, the need to adopt the technology in an improved and advanced way has been found highly important.
- The project has given very important lessons:
 - o It has tested that it is possible to easily:
 - collect and store data using electronic device
 - synchronize to a server
 - collate and aggregate data automatically in real-time on a server
 - o The project exhibited that mobile data collection provides improved capabilities for a number of tasks, including:
 - on-field data quality control;
 - reduction of error and missing data;

- faster time of data delivery to central location;
- access to new data types like location coordinates, images, videos;
- options for integrating non-text with the text data types; and
- real-time supervision of enumerators.
- Battery life and lack of electricity could easily hamper the process unless carefully planned
- Devices could easily be stolen or damaged
- Experienced network failure that prevents real-time data transfer
- Difficult to see screen of the mobile devices, when sunlight reflects on the screen during the mid-day, which necessitated the survey team to increase display light and use some sunlight protections like umbrellas.
- Mobile devices implementation requires thorough planning; well-organized training; and skilled manpower to:
 - manage mobile devices,
 - use of software applications,
 - configure servers and local data hosts to link in real-time,
 - manage, compile, analyze and disseminate data,
 - manage logistics and resource, etc.
- Commitment of government and stakeholders of National Statistical Systems will be invaluable to meet the initial investments required for putting in place the tools, systems and expertise for mobile data collection and management.

IV. The Way Forward:

- Need to scale up the project to a more complex type of survey and methodology (for instance, Demographic and Health Surveys) based on the results and recommendations of the pilot.
- Continue the research and develop further concepts and methodologies based on updating the technologies and upcoming situations in order to keep building the capacity of CSA and the Research Institutions towards adopting state-of-the-art technologies to produce timely and quality data.



Ethiopian Statistical Association

B. Project final financial report

PROJECT TITLE: Strengthening the capacity of African countries to use mobile technologies to collect data for effective policy and decision making (ETHIOPIA Component Only)

PROJECT NUMBER:	01
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July, 2016

I. Summary of grant disbursement (US\$)

Total Budget	\$124,906.00
Total Expenditure	\$124,996.78
Balance	(90.78)
Utilization rate	100.00%

II. Explanation of major line items

No.	Purpose/ Support of	Total Budget		Expenditure		Balance	Exchange**
		US\$	ETB	US\$	ETB	US\$	
1.	Activity 1.3 of Project Document	5,000.00	100,087.86	4,922.97	98,545.99	77.03	20.0176
2.	Activity 2.2, ESA to organize a national training workshop in Ethiopia within three months from the first workshop to prepare national partners and stakeholders for data collection fieldwork	12,000.00	240,210.86	11,980.85	239,827.89	19.15	20.0176
3.	Activity 2.1, for ESA to develop a training manual on the use of mobile devices for the pilot study	3,000.00	60,052.71	2,989.94	59,851.42	10.06	20.0176
4.	Activity 1.4, for small research grants to ESA to develop and adapt concepts, methodologies and tools for mobile data collection, logistics related materials and services, and support data collection fieldwork	50,000.00	1,000,878.58	49,994.57	1,000,771.40	5.43	20.0176
5.	In support of activity 1.4, For logistics related materials and services;	22,906.00	458,522.49	15,060.07	301,466.45	7,845.93	20.0176
6.	12 Supporters: Activity 2.3, to collect data (1 x NSO, 3 x Line ministries, 3 x RTIs, 5 x CBOs / local government. Total of 12 partners.)	12,000.00	240,210.86	11,993.75	240,086.10	6.25	20.0176
7.	10 enumerator: Activity 2.3, to provide logistics for data collection fieldwork (for 10 data collection field workers.)	10,000.00	200,175.72	9,996.06	200,097.14	3.94	20.0176
8.	Activity 2.3, for CSA to install and/or upgrade computer servers and software to receive data from the project and integrate into standard statistical processes in Ethiopia.	10,000.00	217,015.00	9,999.96	217,014.19	0.04	21.7015
9.*	Printing of final project document	0.00	0.00	3,070.52	66,635.00	(3,070.52)	21.7015
10.*	Project close up workshop of disseminating results	0.00	0.00	4,988.08	108,249	(4,988.08)	21.7015
Total		124,906.00	2,517,154.08	124,996.78	2,532,544.45	(90.78)	-

Remark

*Activities undertaken following approval of No Cost extension

**Exchange rates of 1 USD in BIRR:

- As of Nov 21, 2014 = 20.0176

- As of June 13, 2016 = 21.7015