



## ACTION PLAN FOR AFRICA TRAINING COMPONENT

## QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Please note that this issue covers 2 quarters

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## African Centre for Statistics

P.O. Box: 3001

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

// Tel: +251 115 44 33 21

// E-mail: [ecastats@un.org](mailto:ecastats@un.org)

// <http://www.uneca.org/acs>

## FEATURE STORY:

## IMPROVED FOOD SECURITY MONITORING TO ACCELERATE AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT

Compiled by: **Tezeta Meshesha**—Communications Expert,  
FAO Sub regional Office for Eastern Africa



**F**AO and UNECA join forces to better support countries in meeting Sustainable Development goals

December 15, 2017 Addis Ababa – The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), stepped up efforts to put in place reliable, timely and effective monitoring of the food insecurity situation for policy guidance in Africa.

The two institutions ended a five-day training course, from 11th to 15th December, at the UN Conference Centre, Addis Ababa, on monitoring SDG 2 - End Hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture - in line with the framework of the strategic cooperation agreement between the ECA and FAO, in support of food security monitoring in Africa in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The course aimed to inform and train senior technical officers from international and regional institutions in Africa engaged in food security monitoring and/or assessment on the application of Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) methodology. FIES is one of the tools employed to assess and monitor the prevalence

of moderate or severe food insecurity in a given population.

"Partnerships are key. The great ambition of the Sustainable Development Goals can only be achieved through cooperation and global partnerships between multiple actors and across a broad range of areas. As mandated, FAO is making efforts to advocate for, facilitate and promote the adoption of the FIES methodology by national governmental institutions and by regional and international organizations", stated FAO Senior Policy Officer, Koffi Amegbeto.

Oliver Chinganya, Director of ECA African Centre of Statistics (ACS), welcomed a most timely and relevant training of experts. It would allow partners to monitor progress towards the achievement of SGD2 in a coherent manner.

The course covered key concepts of the FIES methodology, including the underlying statistical theory, analytical techniques and framing the indicator within the SDG monitoring process. The outcome of the training is expected to be an important milestone towards meeting one of the key goals of the ECA-FAO strategic cooperation framework, the joint preparation of the Africa Regional Overview of Food Security and Nutrition Report, 2018.

## 25TH SESSION OF THE AFRICAN COMMISSION ON AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS—AFCAS 2017



**T**raining Component of the Action Plan for Africa was part of the 25th Session of the African Commission on Agricultural Statistics held from 13 to 17 November 2017, in Entebbe, Uganda. AFCAS brings together senior statistics officials from FAO member countries of the African continent, who are responsible for the development of agricultural statistics in their respective countries. They review and exchange ideas on the state of food and agricultural statistics in the continent and advise member countries on the development of their agricultural

statistical systems within FAO's programme of Work and Budget for Africa.

On this Session, the Training Component activities to date, performance and achievements as well as an outlook for the year ahead have been presented. Statistical Training Centers and representatives of Ministries of Agriculture present on the workshop have forwarded their position in regard to the support the training Component of the Global Strategy has been providing. They have also highlighted the challenges and the need to strengthen training in agricultural statistics further in order to sustainably develop capacities in the production and dissemination of quality agricultural statistics in Africa. As a result, in direct reference to the implementation of the global strategy :Action plan for Africa, the 25th Session of AFCAS has recommended ***“that the Global Strategy’s implementing partners, in particular UNECA, to consider diversifying their training program to provide continuous capacity development opportunities to professional staff currently employed in national agricultural systems to receive on-the-job hands-on training, such a short-term training on specific topics or medium-term technical training on agricultural statistics.”***

## 6TH MEETING OF THE REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE (RSTC)



**T**he 6th meeting of the Regional Steering Committee was held in Kigali, Rwanda, from 05 to 06 December, 2017. It brought together its members comprising representatives of Regional Member Countries, the three implementation agencies of the Action Plan namely the African Development Bank, FAO and UNECA, two of the three development partners (Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the European Union), representatives from ECOWAS, ASERECA, as well as the Chairs of StatCom Africa and AFCAS. Afri-STAT was invited to showcase the type pf partnership between implementing agencies, RECs and SROs as well as benefits they are gaining in contributing to the implementation of the Global Strategy in Africa.

## THE ECA AND FAO SIGNED A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO SUPPORT & IMPROVE AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL STATISTICS

**E**CA and FAO signed a memorandum of understanding in February 2013, to adopt the Global Strategy to improve agricultural and rural statistics. The two agencies agreed to establish a coordination mechanism to facilitate the effective and efficient collaboration between the participating partners for the Global Trust Fund. These participating partners agreed to collaborate on resources which to support the implementation of the Global Strategy and development of Africa Action Plan, to use as the basis for mobilizing resources, and to create further opportunities to contribute to the Global Trust Fund and receive reports through the administrators. Fund administrators will establish an account under financial regulations and rules for the receipt and administration of the funds received pursuant to agreements with the resource partners. The participating partners will use the funds disbursed to it by the Fund administrators to carry program activities.

## AFDB AND UNECA VOW TO STRENGTHEN CLOSER TIES IN IMPLEMENTING THE EU FUND FOR THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GLOBAL STRATEGY: ACTION PLAN FOR AFRICA

In a bid to improve implementation and financial management processes of managing the EU fund, the AfDB and UNECA have signed an aide memoire for further streamlining the ECA's access to use and report of this fund at the AfDB Headquarters in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire on the 23 January 2018.

The aide memoir targets at the need for expediting the financial and technical implementation of the training component work plan for 2018. In so doing, the experts from the two institutions have recognized the challenges to date in implementing the fund specifically for the Training Component and have put forward various options for ensuring the implemen-

tation process goes as planned in the work plan. The proposed options should aid Training Component implementation attain a 70% financial implementation by June 2018. For this purpose, the ECA has envisaged working with four regional Statistical Training Centers and Universities in Abidjan, Rabat, Dar Es Salaam and Kampala. As close to 80% of the budget is allotted for undertaking various training of trainers in newly developed methods and techniques in agricultural statistics, the implementation rests heavily on ensuring that these trainings are delivered on time and the right audience in the region.



Mr. Lawson Fessou, AfDB (left) and Mr. Joseph Ilboudo, UNECA (right)

## PROGRAMME

### A TRAINING OF TRAINERS (TOT) WORKSHOP ON AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS WITH NOMADIC AND SEMI-NOMADIC (TRANSHUMANT) LIVESTOCK IN AFRICA



A Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop on agricultural Statistics with Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic (Transhumant) Livestock in Africa was conducted in Dakar, Senegal on 7-10 November, 2017. A similar event for English Speaking countries was held in Addis Ababa from 11-15 December 2017 at the UN conference Centre. The workshop is co-hosted by African Centre for Statistics (ACS) and the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP). The main objectives of the ToT were to give the participants the skills and competencies necessary for producing available and quality data on nomadic and transhumant livestock, and to use these produced data for better informed policies and planning.

The ToT is primarily targeted to serve Statistical Training Centers, Schools, Universities, National Statistical Offices, and the Ministries of Agriculture. The participants

hailed from francophone countries, training centers, and universities, with 15 traveled internationally, and 10 were from Senegal. The international participants were from Mali, Mauritania, Togo, Benin, Cameroon, and Niger. For the event held in Addis Ababa, participants came from English speaking countries of South Sudan, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, and Namibia.

Ms. Karima Bounemra Ben Soltane, Director of IDEP, officially opened the Training on 7 November in Dakar. She welcomed the participants as well as emphasized the important role an enhanced agricultural sector may play in the national economy. Mr. Tiral Sidi is the resource person of the ToT. He provided detailed tutorial on the different enumeration methods for nomadic livestock, sampling designs, and estimations. Through this ToT, participants mastered a better understanding of the requirements for producing and using livestock statistics in Africa as part of the agricultural statistics production and dissemination processes. This ultimately resulted in an enhanced capacity of African national systems to produce good quality agricultural statistics. The training for English Speaking Countries was provided by Mr. Nelson Onyango from Nairobi, Kenya.

## PROGRAMME

# PROTOCOL OF AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH REGIONAL TRAINING CENTERS AND UNIVERSITY

The ECA, through a fund administration role of the AfDB for the EU fund portion of the Training Component of the Global Strategy: Action Plan for Africa, has prepared and signed protocol of agreement with three regional statistical training centers and one University. The agreement targets the implementation of training of trainers' activities in various topics and newly development methodologies of in agricultural statistics. The centers with whom the agreement is signed are:

- » Institut National de Statistique et d'Economie Appliquée d'Rabat
- » The Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre

- » l'Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Statistique et d'Economie Appliquée (ENSEA) d'Abidjan
- » The School of Statistics and Planning (SSP) of Makerere University

In addition to providing financial support for the training centers to undertake regional Training of Trainers, the agreement has also made provision for the centers to acquire technical equipment and software to support training in agricultural statistics as well as scholarship for the lecturers of the centers to obtain capacity building exposure in agricultural statistics. The centers, two of which (EBSEA-Abidjan and EASTC Dar Es Salaam) are already implementing partners of the ECA for the scholarship programme within the Training Component, have been vetted through a rigorous capacity assessment which took place in January and February 2018. Mission to the two new additional centers in Rabat and Kampala have been undertaken with a detailed checklist of required provision for undertaking regional training services. The profile of these centers and university are provided within this newsletter.

## PROGRAMME PROFILE OF PARTNER STATISTICAL TRAINING CENTERS



MAKERERE UNIVERSITY

The School of Statistics and Planning (SSP) formerly known as the Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics (ISAE) was established as an autonomous body within the legal framework of Makerere University in July 1969

**Leadership:**

Professor Robert Wamala, Dean

**City:** Kampala

**Country:** Uganda

<http://makir.mak.ac.ug/handle/10570/174>



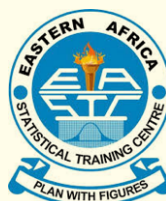
L'Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Statistique et d'Economie Appliquée (ENSEA) est un Etablissement Public National dont la vocation est d'assurer la formation des statisticiens pour les pays africains. Cette formation des statisticiens qui allie théorie et pratique est délivrée à travers cinq filières distinctes, conçues en fonction du niveau de recrutement des élèves et de la carrière envisagée à la sortie de l'école.

**Direction:** M. KOUADIO Hugues (PhD), Directeur

**Ville:** Abidjan

**Pays:** Cote D'Ivoire

<https://www.ensea.ed.ci/>



The Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre (EASTC) was established in July 1965 under an agreement between the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the East Africa Common Services Organization (EACSO), the predecessor to the East African Community (EAC) that was established in 1967. EASTC was established with the objective of improving the capabilities of the user countries to produce and use statistical data that is needed for evidence based decision making in assessing and planning the development of the people and the economies of the countries, through the training of personnel involved in the production and usage of the statistical information.

**Direction:**

Frank Mkumbo (PhD), Rector

**City:** Dar Es Salaam

**Country:** Tanzania

<http://www.eastc.ac.tz/>



Créé en 1961 sous l'appellation « Centre de formation des ingénieurs des travaux de la statistique », la dénomination Institut National de Statistique et d'Economie Appliquée (INSEA) a été adoptée en 1967 en application du Décret Royal n° 532-67. Ce Décret a été modifié et complété, notamment par le Décret n° 2-99-804 du 6 Chaoual 1420 (13 janvier 2000).

*A partir de 2011, la formation à l'INSEA est organisée en 3 cycles: Cycle Ingénieur, Cycle du Master, et Cycle de Doctorat.*

**Direction:** Directeur par intérim Abdous Belkacem

**City:** Rabat

**Country:** Morocco

<http://www.insea.ac.ma>

## TRAINING COMPONENT: IMPLEMENTATION OUTLOOK FOR 2018



**T**he training component aspires to further strengthen its implementation for the year 2018. Some of the core implementation areas and focuses for the year are as follows:

### *Regional Training of Trainers on Newly developed methods to support the curricula profiles of Statistical training centers*

As a result, the work plan takes into consideration further availing wide array of training of trainers in various topics targeting further Statistical Training Centers, Universities, Schools and Ministries of Agriculture as well as national statistical offices in the region. Doing so is going to require strategic partnership and working arrangements with regional Statistical Training Centers in Africa. Hence, ECA has forged further partnership with existing and new STCs for providing ToT much closer to the target entities. In addition to the existing 4 STCs, (INSEA-Abidjan, ENSAE-Dakar, ISSAE-Yaounde and EASTC-Dar ES Salaam) ECA has developed a Protocol of Agreement together with the African Development Bank to be signed with the Institut National de Statistique et d'Economie Appliquée-INSAE in Rabat Morocco and the SCHOOL of Statistics and Planning (SSP) of Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda. ECA will also be collaborating with the FAO for the development of the training materials and syllabi for providing the regional trainings. The chosen topics of focus are:

- » Cost of Production Statistics
- » Post-Harvest Loss Statistics,
- » Decent Work-Youth Employment in agricultural Statistics
- » Gender in Agricultural Statistics
- » Basics Skills in Agricultural Statistics
- » Refresher courses in Master Sampling Frame

### *Scholarship in Specialization in Agricultural Statistics*

Upon recurrent request from Member States, the year 2018 will further avail additional Scholarships in Agricultural Statistics Specialization. Depending on the availability and allocation of funds, the envisaged number of scholarships for this year are for 40 additional students in the continent to specialize in the sector. Additional Straining centers such as INSEA-Rabat and Makerere of Kampala will also be engaging in this programme in the current year.

### *Communication and Advocacy*

The currently ongoing communication and advocacy of the implementation of the training component and its achievements will be further publicized. The plan is also to make effective use of the global office availed web space, print media and electronic documentation and dissemination.

### *Providing short term, in-service training in priority area and promotion of distance and e-learning*

In support of the specialization program, it is envisaged to train staff in agencies producing agricultural statistics using various short-term, in service, distance or eLearning methods. This process involves converting the training modules and materials produced to date and availing them for wider access through an e-Learning platform.

### *Annual meeting for project monitoring in the framework of AGROST*

As part and parcel of the monitoring framework in the action plan, a meeting for the monitoring of the implementation of the training component will be organized.

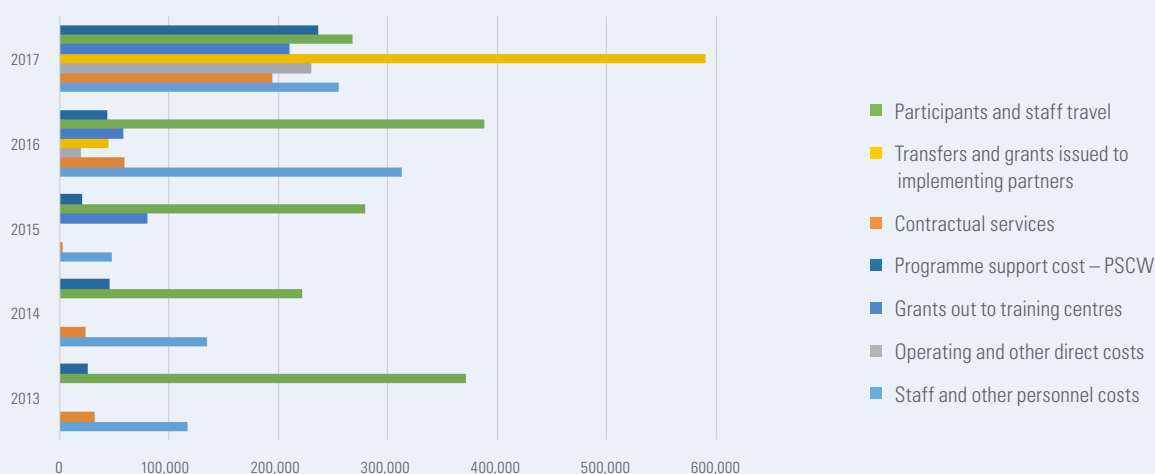
# TRAINING COMPONENT: SCHOLARSHIP AND TRAINING BENEFICIARIES



## TRAINING COMPONENT IN 5 YEARS: COVERAGE AND ACHIEVEMENTS



## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF THE TRAINING COMPONENT 2013-2017



# PREVIOUS ISSUES OF THE TRAINING COMPONENT NEWSLETTERS AT A GLANCE

The Training Component newsletter is one element of the communication plan devised to ensure that the activities of the Training Component of the Action plan for Africa are properly and timely publicized to all stakeholders, donors, implementing partners, beneficiaries, and the statistical community at large. In addition to the newsletters, other communication channels include posters, brochures, and a webpage <http://gsars.org/en/uneca-home/> where updated information is provided about the state of the programme, results, outputs and outcomes of the implementation process as well as ongoing events and happenings. In so doing, the implementation of this plan aspires to keep all above mentioned entities well informed and up-to-date with the progress of the Training Component programme.

