



**SPECIAL FOCUS/ATTENTION PARTICULIÈRE:**

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- Featured NSO: Central African Republic / Profil d'INS: République centrafricaine p.38



**First Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration / Première conférence des Ministres africains chargés de l'enregistrement des faits d'état civil**

# African Statistical Newsletter

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« Quand nous luttons contre l’informalité, nous réduisons la pauvreté. Nous devons nous rappeler que l’informalité c’est « l’armée de réserve » dont Marx parlait, c’est aussi « l’offre illimitée de travail » que nous trouvons dans le modèle d’Arthur Lewis. Quand nous proposons des politiques de réduction des emplois non décents, nous devons admettre que les gens préfèrent être dans l’informel pour éviter les surcoûts du formel ».

Pr. François Bourguignon, Directeur de l’Ecole d’Economie de Paris (mai 2010)

“When we are fighting against informality, we are reducing poverty. We have to remember that basically, informality is the “reserve army” that we find in Marx and the “unlimited supply of labour” that we find in Arthur Lewis’ model. When we propose policies that would reduce non decent jobs, we have to understand that people prefer to be informal to avoid extra costs of being formal”.

Pr. François Bourguignon, Director of Paris School of Economics (May 2010)

## FROM THE DIRECTOR, ACS - MESSAGE DU DIRECTEUR DU CAS

### Esteemed readers,

With only two months to go for the First Regional Conference of African Ministers in Charge of Civil Registration, the main pan African institutions dealing with statistics and statistical development namely the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the African Union Commission (AUC), are striving to fine tune the preparations for this continental event. In fact, African practitioners, Heads of National Statistical Offices (NSOs), Heads of Civil Registration Offices, and Experts in the areas of civil registration and vital statistics will converge to Addis Ababa from 10 to 14 August 2010 to discuss issues pertaining to civil registration and vital statistics under the theme "Towards Improved Civil Status Information for Efficient Public Administration and Generation of Vital Statistics for National Development and MDGs Monitoring in Africa."

Hosted by the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE), this Conference is co-organized by the above-mentioned pan African institutions with the collaboration of the UN Statistics Division (UNSD), the World Health Organization (WHO) based Health Metrics Networks (HMN), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and other regional and international organizations. This is an outcome of the recommendations of the regional workshop on civil registration and vital statistics systems convened in June 2009 in Dar-es-Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania. The rationale behind the organization of this Conference is that currently, most African countries are being challenged with the inadequate nature of births, deaths, marriages and divorces registrations and incomplete vital statistics. This is negatively affecting development endeavors in building modern public administration, promoting decentralization and democratization programs and proper measurement and monitoring of development initiatives including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). There is substantive coverage on preparatory aspects of both the Expert Group Meeting and the Ministerial Meeting in this issue of the Newsletter.

On another note, African statisticians and policy makers are gathering in Nairobi, Kenya from 14 to 25 June 2010 for the launching of the African Chapter of the 2011 Round of the International Comparison

### Honorables lecteurs,

A seulement deux mois de la première conférence régionale des ministres africains responsable de l'enregistrement des faits d'état civil, les principales institutions pan africaines chargées des statistiques et de leur développement, notamment la Commission économique pour l'Afrique (CEA), la Banque africaine de développement (BAfD) et la Commission de l'Union africaine (CUA), oeuvrent aux préparatifs de cet événement continental. Les responsables africains, Directeurs des instituts nationaux de la statistique (INS) et Directeurs des services d'état civils, ainsi que les experts dans les domaines de l'enregistrement et des statistiques des faits d'état civil, se rencontreront à Addis-Abeba du 10 au 14 août 2010 pour discuter de ces questions essentielles sur le thème « vers l'amélioration des systèmes d'information des faits d'état civil pour une administration publique et une production efficaces des statistiques de l'état civil vers le développement national et le suivi des OMD en Afrique. »



**Dimitri Sanga, Officer-in-Charge / Directeur par intérim  
African Centre for Statistics**

Accueillie par la République démocratique fédérale d'Ethiopie (RDfE), cette conférence est co-organisée par les institutions pan africaines mentionnées ci-dessus avec la collaboration de la Division de la statistique de l'ONU (DSNU), du Réseau métrique de Santé (RMS), de l'Organisation mondiale de la santé (OMS), du Fonds des Nations Unies pour l'enfance (UNICEF). D'autres organismes régionaux et internationaux soutiennent également la conférence et collaborent à son organisation. Tout ceci résulte des recommandations de l'atelier régional sur les systèmes d'enregistrement et de statistiques des faits d'état civil, qui s'est tenu en juin 2009 à Dar es-Salaam, République unie de Tanzanie. L'idée sous-tendant l'organisation de cette conférence est qu'aujourd'hui, la plupart des pays africains se heurtent aux aspects insatisfaisants et incomplets relatifs à l'enregistrement des naissances, décès, mariages ou divorces, ainsi qu'à l'établissement des statistiques d'état civil. Ceci compromet les efforts visant le développement des administrations publiques modernes, le soutien aux programmes de décentralisation et de démocratisation ainsi que la mesure et le suivi appropriés des initiatives de développement comprenant les Objectifs du millénaire pour le Développement (OMD). Le présent numéro du Bulletin couvre largement tous les aspects préparatoires tant de la réunion du groupe d'experts que de la réunion ministérielle.

Sur un autre plan, les statisticiens et les décideurs africains se réunissent à Nairobi, Kenya du 14 au 25 juin 2010 pour le lancement du cycle 2011 du

## FROM THE DIRECTOR, ACS - MESSAGE DU DIRECTEUR DU CAS

Programme. It is to be recalled that more and more African countries are participating in this continent-wide programme coordinated by AfDB. This programme assisted participating countries to strengthen their economic statistics and compilation of consumer price indexes, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and related indexes; production of Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs); and general statistical development including the design of the National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDSs). There is mention of the forthcoming meeting in this volume of the Newsletter while comprehensive coverage will be in the next issue.

The Third Joint Annual Meetings of the African Union (AU) Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and UNECA Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development (CoM) concluded in Lilongwe, Malawi on 30 March 2010. There were comprehensive exchanges on statistics and statistical development culminating in resolutions namely on the endorsement of the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Support of Regional Integration in Africa (ShASA), a continental effort by the above-mentioned major pan African institutions. This issue presents an overview of the resolutions on statistics from the CoM as well as a summary of the preparatory meeting of the African Statistical Coordination Committee (ASCC) for the CoM.

As usual there are a wealth of statistical capacity building activities going on across the continent as captured through a number of interesting articles including the Train-the-Trainer Workshop on Innovative Tools and Techniques for Statistical Data Management and Dissemination in Abuja and Rabat; The 11th meeting of the Delhi Group and the Hanoi Conference on Informal economy; the meeting of the Group of Experts in National Accounts in Geneva; Archiving and Disseminating Census Metadata and Microdata by IPUMS-International; report on study tour by ACS to share experiences in statistical data management and the 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of Afristat board of directors in N'Djamena.

The featured National Statistical Office (NSO) for this edition is Institut Centrafricain des Statistiques et des Etudes Economiques et Sociales (ICASEES). You will find a profile containing useful information on this country's NSO in this edition.

We continue to encourage the statistical community in Africa and outside the continent to send us articles and any information of interest to the statistical development of the continent for publication in the Newsletter. Readers and contributors might also consider sending us reactions to and feedback on the materials we publish.

Finally, we are providing in this and future issues the editorial policy of the Newsletter, which provides guidance on how to prepare and submit an article for publication.



programme de comparaison internationale. Il convient de rappeler que de plus en plus de pays africains participent à ce programme continental, coordonné par la BafD. Ce programme a aidé les pays participants à renforcer leurs statistiques économiques et la production des indices de prix à la consommation, le produit intérieur brut (PIB) et ses indicateurs, dont l'indice des parités de pouvoir d'achat (PPA). Le développement statistique en général, dont la conception des stratégies nationales pour le développement de la statistique (SNDS) devrait également en bénéficier. Le prochain numéro du Bulletin couvrira largement le contenu de cette importante réunion.

La troisième réunion annuelle conjointe de la conférence des ministres des finances, de la planification et du développement économique (CdM) de L'Union africaine (UA) et de la CEA s'est tenue à Lilongwe, Malawi en mars 2010. Des échanges sur les statistiques et le développement statistique ont abouti à des résolutions conséquentes, notamment sur l'approbation de la Stratégie pour l'harmonisation des statistiques en appui à l'intégration régionale en Afrique (ShASA), un effort continental des principales institutions pan africaines mentionnées ci-dessus.

Le présent numéro du Bulletin donne une vue d'ensemble des résolutions concernant les statistiques par la CdM ainsi qu'un résumé de la réunion préparatoire du Comité statistique africain de coordination (CSAC) pour la CdM.

Comme d'habitude une pléiade d'activités de renforcement des capacités statistiques continue d'être menée à travers le continent ainsi que rapporté dans un certain nombre d'articles intéressants dont ceux sur : l'atelier de formation des formateurs sur les outils techniques innovant pour la gestion des données et la diffusion statistiques d'Abuja et de Rabat ; la 11ème réunion du groupe de Delhi et la conférence de Hanoi sur l'économie informelle ; la réunion du groupe d'experts en comptes nationaux à Genève ; l'archivage et la diffusion des méta données et des micro informations de recensement par l'IPUMS-International ; le rapport sur le voyage d'étude du CAS pour le partage des expériences de gestion des données statistiques et la 21ème réunion du Comité de Direction d'Afristat à N' Djamena.

L'Institut national de la Statistique (INS) décrit dans ce numéro concerne l'Institut Centrafricain des Statistiques et des Etudes Economiques et Sociales (ICASEES). Vous trouverez dans le profil retenu, toute l'information utile sur cet INS.

Nous continuons à encourager la communauté statistique d'Afrique et de l'extérieur à nous envoyer des articles et toute information relative au développement statistique du continent pour publication dans le Bulletin. Les lecteurs et les contributeurs sont également conviés à nous envoyer leurs réactions et commentaires sur les articles que nous publions.

En conclusion, nous fournissons à la fin de ce numéro des indications sur la politique éditoriale du Bulletin, ainsi que des conseils sur la façon dont préparer et soumettre un article pour publication.



## I. CIVIL REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS - ENREGISTREMENT DES FAITS D'ÉTAT CIVIL ET DES STATISTIQUES DE L'ÉTAT CIVIL

**Invitation by the United Nations Under-Secretary General and Executive Secretary  
Invitation du Sous Secrétaire General des Nations unies et Secrétaire exécutif de la CEA**

**First Conference of African Ministers  
Responsible for Civil Registration**

On behalf of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the African Union Commission, the African Development Bank and the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, I have the pleasure of inviting you to the first Conference of African Ministers responsible for Civil Registration being convened at the United Nations Conference Centre in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 13 to 14 August 2010.



**Mr. Abdoulie Janneh**

**Première Conférence des ministres africains chargés de l'enregistrement des faits d'état civil**

Au nom de la Commission économique pour l'Afrique, de la Commission de l'Union africaine, de la Banque africaine de développement et de la République fédérale démocratique d'Éthiopie, j'ai le plaisir de vous inviter à la première Conférence des ministres africains chargés de l'enregistrement des faits d'état civil, qui se tiendra au Centre de conférences des Nations Unies à Addis-Abeba (Éthiopie), les 13 et 14 août 2010.

The United Nations Statistics Division and other regional and international organizations are also collaborating with us in organizing this conference.

The theme for the Conference is: *"Towards Improved Civil Status Information for Efficient Public Administration and Generation of Statistics for National Development and MDGs Monitoring in Africa."*

Organizing this conference was one of the main recommendations of the regional workshop on civil registration and vital statistics systems that took place in June 2009 in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania. One of the key drawbacks of past efforts in strengthening civil registration and vital statistics systems in Africa is the lack of coordination at the regional level; and the limited involvement and leadership of national governments in civil registration operations and management.

The Dar-es-Salaam workshop revealed that most African countries have inadequate registers of births, deaths, marriages and divorces taking place within their borders. Incomplete vital statistics are negatively affecting Africa's development endeavors and efforts at building modern public administrations, promoting decentralization and democratization programmes.

La Division de statistique de l'ONU et d'autres organisations régionales et internationales apportent également leur soutien à l'organisation de la Conférence.

La Conférence a pour thème: *«Vers une amélioration des systèmes d'information des faits d'état civil en vue d'une administration publique et d'une production de statistiques efficaces pour le développement national et le suivi des OMD en Afrique».*

L'organisation de cette conférence était l'une des grandes recommandations de l'atelier régional sur les systèmes d'enregistrement des faits d'état civil et des statistiques de l'état civil, organisé en juin 2009 à Dar es-Salaam (Tanzanie). En effet, les principales failles des efforts déployés dans le passé pour renforcer les systèmes d'enregistrement et de statistiques des faits d'état civil en Afrique ont été l'absence de coordination régionale et la faible implication des gouvernements dans le fonctionnement et la gestion de l'enregistrement des faits d'état civil.

L'atelier de Dar es-Salaam a révélé que la majorité des pays africains ne disposent pas de registres adéquats pour recenser les naissances, les décès, les mariages et les divorces ayant lieu à l'intérieur de leurs frontières. Des statistiques d'état civil incomplètes nuisent aux efforts de développement de l'Afrique, notamment en ce qui concerne la mise en place d'administrations

## I. CIVIL REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS - ENREGISTREMENT DES FAITS D'ÉTAT CIVIL ET DES STATISTIQUES DE L'ÉTAT CIVIL

The measurement and monitoring of development initiatives such as the Millennium Development Goals are also negatively affected.

Recent assessments show that most African governments are making efforts to improve their civil registration systems as part of wider efforts aimed at reforming the administration of justice, implementing decentralization programmes, improving efficiency of health and education services, launching national identification systems, issuing passports and providing other public services.

In support of these initiatives, the forthcoming Conference is expected to achieve the following: the creation of a high-level regional platform for exchanging information on civil registration and vital statistics; enhanced awareness and commitment of African governments in the development of these systems; and endorsing resolutions and recommendations that would lead and govern African civil registration and vital statistics systems for the coming years.

The High-Level Ministerial Conference is expected to convene for the first time the 53 African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration. Heads of national statistics offices and civil registration authorities of all our member States are also expected to participate; as are representatives of regional and international organizations, representatives of UN agencies and representatives of non-governmental organizations.

I look forward to your attendance and active participation in this key regional high-level gathering.

□

publiques modernes ou la promotion de programmes de décentralisation et de démocratisation. La mesure et le suivi des initiatives de développement telles que les Objectifs du Millénaire pour le développement sont également affectés.

Les diagnostics récents montrent que la plupart des gouvernements africains s'efforcent d'améliorer leurs systèmes d'enregistrement des faits d'état civil en appui à la réforme de leur administration judiciaire, à la mise en oeuvre de leurs programmes de décentralisation, à l'amélioration de l'efficacité des services de santé et d'éducation, au lancement des systèmes nationaux d'identification chargés notamment de la délivrance des passeports, et à l'administration d'autres services publics.

Dans cette optique, la Conférence devrait aboutir aux réalisations ci-après: la création d'une plate-forme régionale de haut niveau pour l'échange d'informations relatives à l'enregistrement des faits d'état civil et aux statistiques de l'état civil, une sensibilisation et un engagement accrus des gouvernements africains pour la mise en place de ces systèmes, et l'adoption de résolutions et de recommandations qui guideront et régiront les systèmes d'enregistrement et de statistiques des faits d'état civil en Afrique dans les années à venir.

La Conférence ministérielle de haut niveau réunira pour la première fois les 53 ministres africains chargés de l'enregistrement des faits d'état civil. Les chefs ou directeurs des instituts nationaux de statistique et les directeurs de l'état civil ou des bureaux d'enregistrement des faits d'état civil de tous nos États membres y participeront également, au même titre que des représentants d'organisations régionales, Nations Unies, Commission économique pour l'Afrique, nationales et internationales, d'organismes des Nations Unies et d'organisations non gouvernementales.

J'attends avec beaucoup d'intérêt votre participation active à cette importante réunion régionale de haut niveau.

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## I. CIVIL REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS - ENREGISTREMENT DES FAITS D'ÉTAT CIVIL ET DES STATISTIQUES DE L'ÉTAT CIVIL

### First Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration

Genene Bizuneh, African Centre for Statistics

#### Why are African Ministers Holding this Conference?

Most African ministers responsible for civil registrations are expected to attend this ground-breaking meeting because they all agree that a functional civil registration system is the basis for building modern legal and public administration systems and the first step in collecting reliable vital statistics necessary for preparing evidence-based policies and programmes for national development.

The Conference will lay the foundations for moving Africa towards a modern system of public administration. It will help in transforming demographic and health statistics into current, universal and sustainable information management systems. This is the best way of filling the considerable information gaps existing in many African countries.

The main factors compelling Africa's three premier institutions into organising this conference include the following:

Many Africans come to this world and pass away without leaving a trace in any legal or statistical record. This is because the majority of African countries do not have adequate legal or statistical recording systems for births deaths and foetal deaths; or marriages and divorces.

Many countries do not have an official citizenship recording system or accurate record of how many children are born each day, how many people die each day; or how many marry or divorce each day. That means there is no appropriate legal and public administration system or sound and comprehensive statistical basis to plan for the development of their societies.

Systematized identification of citizens through assigning unique identifier is the modern norm of public administration. But most African countries can not create a viable national identity system due to the inadequacy of their civil registration systems. This can even threaten their national security.

Without accurate records of the number of marriages, most countries do not have the necessary information to measure the level and type of basic needs of newly established families.

Without accurate records of the number of marriages annulled each day, there is no way of telling the number of family members, especially children and women, who are affected due to broken families, and therefore predicting the fate of these family members.

Even more importantly the age at marriage and the characteristics of the bride and the groom remain inaccessible to official statistics resulting in the lack of comprehensive input for developing relevant policies and practices

Vital statistics compiled from civil registration systems are the building-blocks for establishing current and sustainable demographic and health statistics databases that helps the measurement and monitoring of development results, including Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The majority of African countries do not put in place a system for generating population dynamics information. These countries do not have a conventional system to properly generate up to date statistical data on a continuous and permanent basis on the size, fertility, mortality and growth of their population down to the lowest administrative levels.

Since most African countries do not have a conventional and adequate system of birth and death registration, they do not maintain flow of health statistics on infant, child and maternal mortality rates and causes of death, which could have served as inputs to measure, monitor and evaluate progress made on the implementation of many of the MDGs in a sustainable manner; the Continent as a whole is in such vicious cycle.

Civil registration is the conventional information source in generating individual information that guides the implementation of health services and interventions at individual, household and community levels as per the African context.

The majority of African countries do not have accurate record of how many children die each day in their countries. This implies that no meaningful efforts have been made to find out the identity and number as well as uncover the reasons behind the deaths of the newborns in these countries.

The majority of African countries do not have accurate record on the number and identity of underweight newborns who are losing their lives at birth or in the few days or months after birth; the same holds true for Africa as a continent.

There is no accurate record of the number and identity of children born with defects/disabilities in the majority of African countries. There is also no record of how many of these children stay alive and how many of them die eventually, or the causes of the defects/disabilities.

The majority of African countries do not have accurate record of the number and identity of mothers dying each day in childbirth and related causes; the same holds true for Africa as a continent.

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In the majority of African countries, no meaningful effort has been made to compile the causes of deaths of citizens. Though the health care accorded to people is based on information procured from the cause of death of people, no significant effort was exerted to properly document funerals nor has there been systematic administration of graveyards to monitor funeral undertakings.

Africa comprised the highest number of unregistered children and hence children without official birth certificates.

According to the United Nations these children have not gone into any formal government record nor do they have a legal document permanently identifying them. They are unlikely to have a proper legal document in their lifetime identifying their names and those of their parents as well as their nationality.

Numerous children in many of African countries are being adopted by nationals and expatriates alike. Nevertheless, as these children do not have a proper birth certificate to identify them it creates difficulty to follow-up their whereabouts.

In the majority of countries there are no records on the number of girls/children who are married off early and how many of them suffer ill-health and become victims of social crisis and lose their freedom due to this problem.

The majority of countries in Africa due to the absence of official birth certificates use traditional mechanisms in confirming school admittance age that compromise the right to education.

*“Development is a bottom-up exercise. The building blocks are human beings. There can be no sustainable development without current and reliable information on the identities, civil status and welfare of our people.”*



### Shaking the Status quo: Urgent Need for Country Ownership and Leadership of National Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Systems in Africa

Geneve Bizueneh, African Centre for Statistics

Most African governments do not properly know the people they are accountable for. Public administrations and social service rendering institutions do not have basic personal data and information for managing and monitoring public resources. *Most people in Africa*

*and Asia are born and die without leaving a trace in any legal record or official statistics making it difficult for the public sector to manage and monitor its human capital.* The Working Group on Monitoring Vital Events has called this “*A scandal of Invisibility*” because absence of reliable evidence and information for births, deaths and causes of death are the root causes that left *most of the world's poor as unseen, unaccountable and hence uncounted.* Systematic recording of vital events, that is, births, deaths, marriages and divorces in some African countries goes back to the 18th and 19th centuries (few examples, Mauritius 1667, South Africa 1842, Ghana 1888 and Egypt 1839). Nevertheless, with the exception of 2 to 3 countries, none has maintained the civil registration system to the international standards that would lend its services to building modern public administrations and supporting the nations' multi-sectoral development endeavors.

In Africa, absence of comprehensive civil registration has been and is continuously counteracting development efforts by handicapping countries in improving their public service efficiencies and deservingly required data and information for managing development results, including the MDGs. Most African countries do not have proper and legal identity and citizenship documentary system for their people, which should have served as the basis for all public transactions at individual, community, national, inter-country, regional and international levels. National identification systems, passport and immigration controls, business transactions, protection of women and children from abuses and exploitation, court administration of civil and criminal cases, just to mention few, are highly dependent on properly functioning vital events registration system. African health service management and information system is the other huge development sector being affected by the absence or inadequate birth and death registrations and causes of death recording and compilation systems. Current decentralization programmes and democratization processes progressing in most African countries are being challenged by the absence of conventional and relevant population dynamics data from vital statistics systems.

For Africa it is the time for *breaking the silence on civil registration.* In most African countries, civil registration used to be structured under the responsibility of Ministries of Home Affairs or Interior or Justice or their equivalent. Likewise, the vital statistics derived from the civil registration system is managed by National Statistics Offices (NSOs) in almost all the member states. In the majority of countries the ministries or departments responsible for civil registration have been focused on the day-to-day operational duties without due attention to the macro level and multi-sectoral functions of civil registration. On the other hand, NSOs' *attention has been focused on the products (i.e. vital statistics) of the systems rather than on the systems themselves*<sup>1</sup>. These inherent problems that remained

1 MoVE Working Group, Lancet Series 2007

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in existence for nearly half a century in the countries coupled with project-oriented and uncoordinated external interventions have dragged the systems in a vicious cycle of ignorance and stagnation.

After long years of ignorance, the Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) in collaboration with the African Development Bank (AfDB) and key regional and international organizations have taken the first fundamental step in "shaking the status quo" in 2009. The first regional workshop on civil registration and vital statistics systems was convened in June 2009 in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania that brought the two responsible national organs: the National Civil Registration Authorities and NSOs in one meeting room. The workshop endorsed comprehensive recommendations that addressed advocacy, operational, technical and partnership issues that are currently serving as roadmap to civil registration and vital statistics interventions in the African region.

The Tanzania regional workshop identified lack of political commitment, country ownership and leadership in civil registration and vital statistics undertakings as one fundamental deterring factor in improving the systems in the region and strongly recommended the organization of a High-Level Ministerial Conference as soon as possible. The Second Meeting of the Statistical Commission for Africa (StatCom-Africa II) that was concluded in January 2010 has supported the workshop recommendation and endorsed in its resolution the organization of the High-Level Ministerial Conference.

Accordingly, the First Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration is expected to address the long overdue fundamental challenges of civil registration and vital statistics systems in the region in its resolution that is meant to lead the region for the coming years. The Conference will be convened on the 13th and 14th of August 2010 in the UN Conference Centre in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Conference will be preceded by an expert group meeting that will prepare technical materials and draft resolution and recommendation for the Ministerial Conference. The Theme for the High-Level Ministerial Conference is framed to reflect the integrity, interface and prospective engagements of the component functions and purposes of civil registration and vital statistics systems as: "*Towards Improved Civil Status Information for Efficient Public Administration and Generation of Statistics for National Development and MDGs Monitoring in Africa*". The choice of the theme is timely as the Conference will address issues pertaining to the monitoring and evaluation of progress or lack of progress made towards the MDGs at the 2010 review.

*Civil Registration is a public good!*



### Rompre le statu quo: l'impératif de l'appropriation et du contrôle par les pays des systèmes nationaux d'enregistrement des faits d'état civil et de statistiques de l'état civil

La plupart des gouvernements africains connaissent mal les populations dont ils sont responsables. Les administrations publiques et les institutions prestataires de services sociaux ne disposent pas de données et de renseignements personnels de base, nécessaires à la gestion et au suivi des ressources publiques. *La plupart des individus en Afrique et en Asie naissent et meurent sans laisser de traces dans un registre légal et sans faire l'objet de statistiques officielles, ce qui rend d'autant plus difficile pour l'administration publique la gestion et le suivi de son capital humain.* Le Groupe de travail sur le suivi des événements de l'état civil a qualifié cette situation de «scandale de l'invisibilité», car l'absence de données fiables sur les naissances ainsi que sur les décès et leurs causes fait que *la majorité des pauvres de la planète sont invisibles, impossibles à compter et par conséquent non comptabilisés.* Dans certains pays africains, l'enregistrement systématique des faits d'état civil (naissances, décès, mariages et divorces) remonte aux XVIIIe et XIXe siècles (1667 à Maurice, 1839 en Égypte, 1842 en Afrique du Sud et 1888 au Ghana, pour ne citer que quelques exemples). Cependant, à deux ou trois exceptions près, les systèmes d'enregistrement des faits d'état civil des pays africains accusent trop de retard par rapport aux normes internationales pour que leurs services soient en mesure de créer des administrations publiques modernes et d'appuyer les efforts de développement multisectoriel national.

En Afrique, l'absence de système intégré d'enregistrement des faits d'état civil a été, et est encore, une entrave aux efforts de développement, empêchant les pays d'améliorer l'efficacité de leurs services publics et de disposer des données et informations nécessaires à la gestion des résultats du développement, notamment les OMD. La plupart des pays du continent ne disposent d'aucun système documentaire juridique adéquat pour renseigner l'identité et la citoyenneté de leurs populations, système qui devrait servir de base à toutes les transactions publiques à l'échelle individuelle, communautaire, nationale, interétatique, régionale et internationale. Les systèmes d'identification nationaux, le contrôle des passeports et de l'immigration, les transactions commerciales, la protection des femmes et des enfants contre les abus et l'exploitation, l'administration de la justice civile et pénale, par exemple, sont hautement tributaires du bon fonctionnement du système d'enregistrement des faits d'état civil. Le système de gestion et d'information des services de santé en Afrique est l'autre pilier du développement qui souffre de l'absence de systèmes d'enregistrement des naissances ainsi que des décès et de leurs causes ou, lorsqu'ils existent, de leurs insuffisances.

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Les programmes de décentralisation et les processus de démocratisation en cours dans la plupart des pays africains pâtissent aussi du fait que les systèmes de statistiques de l'état civil manquent de données conventionnelles et pertinentes concernant la dynamique démographique.

Il est temps pour l'Afrique de briser le silence qui entoure l'enregistrement des faits d'état civil. Dans la plupart des états africains, l'enregistrement de ces faits relève généralement du ministère chargé des affaires intérieures ou de la justice, ou de ministères équivalents. Pareillement, dans presque tous les États membres, ce sont les services nationaux de statistique qui gèrent les statistiques de l'état civil provenant des systèmes d'enregistrement des faits d'état civil. Dans la plupart des états membres, les ministères ou services qui en sont chargés privilégient les tâches opérationnelles quotidiennes et n'accordent pas l'attention voulue aux aspects globaux et multisectoriels de l'enregistrement des faits d'état civil. Par ailleurs, l'activité des services nationaux de statistique se focalise sur les produits des systèmes (tels les statistiques de l'état civil) plutôt que sur les systèmes eux-mêmes<sup>1</sup>. Ces problèmes intrinsèques, qui se posent aux pays depuis presque un demi-siècle, s'ajoutent à des interventions extérieures axées sur les projets et caractérisées par l'absence de coordination, pour enfermer les systèmes dans un cercle vicieux d'ignorance et d'immobilisme.

Après de longues années de désintérêt, la Commission économique pour l'Afrique (CEA), de concert avec la Banque africaine de développement (BAD) et des organisations internationales et régionales clefs, a franchi un premier pas décisif vers la rupture du statu quo en organisant, en juin 2009 à Dar es-Salaam (Tanzanie), le premier atelier régional sur les systèmes d'enregistrement des faits d'état civil et de statistiques de l'état civil. L'atelier avait réuni des représentants des deux groupes d'organismes nationaux concernés que sont les agences nationales d'enregistrement des faits d'état civil et les services nationaux de statistique. Les participants ont adopté des recommandations générales concernant le plaidoyer, les problèmes opérationnels et les questions techniques et de partenariat. Ces recommandations servent actuellement de feuille

de route pour les activités liées à l'enregistrement des faits d'état civil et aux statistiques de l'état civil en Afrique.

Les participants à l'atelier régional ont indiqué que l'un des principaux obstacles à l'amélioration de ces systèmes dans la région était l'absence d'engagement politique ainsi que la faible appropriation et le manque de leadership en ce qui concerne l'enregistrement des faits et statistiques d'état civil. Ils ont par conséquent vivement recommandé la tenue, sans délai, d'une conférence ministérielle de haut niveau. Les participants à la deuxième réunion de la Commission africaine de statistique (StatCom Afrique II), en janvier 2010, ont fait leurs recommandations de l'atelier et soutenu dans leurs résolutions la tenue de la conférence ministérielle de haut niveau proposée.

En conséquence, la première Conférence des ministres africains chargés de l'enregistrement des faits d'état civil devrait se pencher sur les problèmes cruciaux, restés longtemps sans solution dans la région, des systèmes d'enregistrement des faits d'état civil et de statistiques de l'état civil et décider des mesures qui guideront les actions de la région dans les années à venir. Ladite Conférence se tiendra le 13 et 14 août 2010 au Centre de conférences des Nations Unies à Addis-Abeba (Éthiopie). Elle sera précédée d'une réunion de groupe d'experts chargée d'établir les documents techniques et les projets de résolutions et de recommandations pour la Conférence ministérielle. Le thème de la Conférence ministérielle de haut niveau : « *Vers une amélioration des systèmes d'information des faits d'état civil en vue d'une administration publique et d'une production de statistiques efficaces pour le développement national et le suivi des OMD en Afrique* », a ainsi été conçu de manière à rendre compte du caractère intégré, des relations et des engagements éventuels qu'exigent les composantes, fonctions et objectifs des systèmes d'enregistrement des faits d'état civil et de statistiques de l'état civil. Le choix de ce thème vient à point nommé, dans la mesure où la Conférence abordera des sujets concernant le suivi et l'évaluation des progrès, ou du manque de progrès, dans la réalisation des OMD, qui seront traités lors de l'examen de 2010.

*L'enregistrement des faits d'état civil est d'intérêt public !*



1 Groupe de travail MoVE, Lancet Series 2007

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## First Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration

13-14 August 2010, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC)

Towards Improved Civil Status Information for Efficient Public Administration and Generation of Vital Statistics for National Development and MDGs Monitoring in Africa



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Nations Unies

Grande de la Banque africaine de développement

Commission de l'Union africaine

République démocratique fédérale d'Éthiopie

## Première Conférence des ministres africains chargés de l'enregistrement des faits d'état civil

13-14 août 2010,

Centre de conférences des Nations Unies, Addis-Abeba (Éthiopie)

Vers une amélioration des systèmes d'information des faits d'état civil en vue d'une administration publique et d'une production de statistiques des faits d'état civil efficaces pour le développement national et le suivi des OMD en Afrique



Photo credit: Eric Miller and Carl Cameron, World Bank

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جمهورية إثيوبيا  
الديمقراطية الاتحادية



مجلس الوحدة الإفريقي



مجموعة مصرف التنمية  
الافريقي



لجنة الإحصاءات في الأمم المتحدة  
لجنة الأمم المتحدة للإحصاء

## مؤتمر الوزراء الأفريقيين المسؤولين عن التسجيل المدني

٣١-٤١ آب / أغسطس ٢٠١٠، أديس أبابا، إثيوبيا

مركز الأمم المتحدة للمؤتمرات

نحو تحسين معلومات الأحوال المدنية لإيجاد إدارة مدنية فعالة وإنتاج الإحصاءات اللازمة للتنمية الوطنية ولرصد الأهداف الإنمائية للألفية في أفريقيا



Photo credit: Eric Miller and Curt Cammerick, World Bank

## II. STATISTICAL CAPACITY BUILDING / WORKSHOPS - RENFORCEMENT DES CAPACITÉS STATISTIQUES / ATELIERS

### The 11th meeting of the Delhi Group, and the Hanoi Conference on Informal economy: Two international events promoting the interregional cooperation on the measurement of Informal Sector and Informal Employment

Gerard Osbert, African Centre for Statistics



The Conference room where the meeting in Hanoi took place

The 11th regular meeting of the International Expert Group on Informal Sector Statistics (Delhi Group), was held at the International Labour Organisation (ILO) headquarters in Geneva from 27th to 29th January 2010.

In 1997 the United Nations Statistical Commission set up the "Delhi Group on Informal Sector Statistics" whose purpose was to "exchange experiences in the measurement of the informal sector, document related data-collection practices, including definitions and survey methodologies followed by member countries, and recommend measures for improving the quality and comparability of informal sector statistics." The Delhi Group has been one of the most active of the United Nations' "City Groups" with annual meetings since its inception.

The ILO has been studying the informal sector as a source of employment for several years. In particular the 15th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) in 1993 and the 17th ICLS in 2003 brought together earlier resolutions concerning statistical definitions of informal sector and informal employment, respectively.

The 2008 System of National Accounts (SNA-08) dedicated a whole chapter on "Informal aspects of the economy". It starts by noting that: "No economy is completely regulated and captured perfectly by statistical enquiries. Steps have to be taken, therefore, to attempt to cover unregulated activity and survey imperfections as special exercises."

### Finalisation of the Manual on Survey of Informal Employment and Informal Sector

The primary objective for this technical meeting composed of statisticians and national accounts statisticians was to discuss the draft of the "Manual on Survey of Informal Employment and Informal Sector". The nine chapters contained in the manual as well as general views about the timeline for the manual finalization and handing over to ILO by the Delhi Group in the later part of the year 2010 were discussed.

#### Chapter 1: Introduction

In most developing countries informal employment is a larger component of the workforce than formal employment. Estimates show that it comprises 50 to 75% of non-agricultural employment in developing countries: specifically 48% of non-agricultural employment in North Africa, 51 % in Latin America, 65 % in Asia, and 72 % in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Because informal enterprises contribution to GDP is substantial for many countries, this chapter lays the conceptual groundwork for preparing two tables supplementary to national accounts on the production and income generation and on employment. However, neither the concept of "satellite accounts" nor labour input matrix is mentioned in the chapter.

#### Chapter 2: Concepts, definitions and classifications of Informal Sector and informal employment

The purpose of this chapter is to summarize and explain the international statistical definitions of informal sector enterprises, employment in the informal sector and informal employment, which were adopted by the 15th and 17th ICLS.

The chapter also deals with issues related to the links of the concepts of informal sector and employment with the concept of "non-observed economy"; the term 'informal economy' and key sub-classifications of informal sector units and informal employment are also addressed.

#### Chapter 3: Measurement objectives and Data Collection Strategies

Strategies and programmes for the regular collection of statistics on the informal sector and on informal employment should form an integral part of a country's national plan for statistical development. A crucial step in the formulation of such a strategy is the identification of a suitable data collection methodology and calendar.

In section 8, key methods of indirect estimation of informal sector and informal employment are described. These methods of indirect macro-economic estimation have been primarily used in national accounts to produce estimates of the size of the informal sector as well as its contribution to the economy (value added).



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### Chapter 4: Household Surveys on Informal Sector and other types of Informal Employment

The objective of the chapter is to describe how labour force surveys (LFS) can be used to collect data on employment in the informal sector and on informal employment. In particular, the chapter provides a review of aspects of the planning, design and implementation of LFS, as well as of data processing, that need to be taken into account for this purpose.

Most of developing countries do launch more or less regularly a LFS; however, still few are ready to go for a survey on informal sector units. There is also a need to mention about panel/non-panel surveys and to indicate that information collected by these differing methods will be interpreted differently.

### Chapter 5: Establishment Censuses and Informal Sector Establishment Surveys

The chapter addresses the problems of under-reporting/coverage inherent to the establishment approach. It describes country experiences that attempt to tackle these problems, i.e. those trying to cover home-based and/or mobile activities.

It is also necessary to take into account the seasonal variations in that presentation of informal sector establishment surveys.

### Chapter 6: Mixed household and enterprise surveys using the modular approach

With regard to integrated mixed surveys, the chapter should mention that if measurement of informal sector and informal employment become key objectives of a LFS, questionnaire and sample should be redesigned accordingly.

The core of this chapter focuses on the 1-2 survey, which has become the most widely known survey of this kind. The discussion includes the methodology of the surveys conducted under the UN Development Account Project 'Interregional cooperation on the measurement of informal sector and employment' in several countries (ESCAP 2006-2009).

### Chapter 7: Independent Informal Sector Surveys using the mixed survey approach

Independent informal sector surveys using the mixed household and enterprise survey approach may bring out the economic characteristics of enterprises but may not do justice to the social, demographic characteristics of informal employment. This needs to be highlighted.

This complex methodology is basically proposed for developed economy and not necessarily fitted for developing countries because it required very good quality files to be matched.

### Chapter 8: Tabulation, reporting and dissemination

This chapter provides guidance on formats for tabulation, reporting

and dissemination of data that will contribute to greater harmonization and comparability of statistics on informal employment and informal sector across countries.

No statistical effort makes sense if data is not released in a meaningful way, which is meeting the users' needs. However, the groundwork must be laid at an early stage of the survey design and too much sophistication should be avoided.

### Chapter 9: Use of data on Informal Sector in the preparation of National Accounts

The manual gained a lot in clarity and simplicity with this chapter which has the double objective to convey both survey statisticians and national accountants that there is a frame for coordination and within it a resource - the labor input matrix - operating as the rally point in order to start the effort.

Informal sector and informal employment belong to the areas that the national accounts are seeking to measure, even if it only represents a portion of these areas. For NA, employed population creates values that the GDP measures; the sum of the value added by all production units, whether market-oriented or not, intervene in the national economy. This implies to reference informal sector within the rest of the economy, through a detailed quantitative measure of the central framework areas in which the multi-facets informal economy operates.

With "1-2" types of surveys being carried out, it is possible to reach a direct statistical measure of the informal economy. NA will complement the exhaustive evaluation of the national economy by the part that statistics cannot take into account. However, such an integrated measure is limited to the context of the central framework (SNA-93). It will therefore be necessary to build an account of the informal sector compatible with other macro-economic aggregates: this is what the SNA manual refers to as a "satellite account".

### **The Hanoi Conference on Informal Economy**

The International Conference on the Informal Sector and Informal Employment, jointly organised by the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences VASS and the French Institute for Development Studies (IRD/DIAL), was held in Hanoi from 6th to 7th May 2010. 60 contributions were presented and 200 participants were registered.

Viewed from the researchers' point of view, not enough is known about the informal sector and informal employment, still constituting a "grey area" of our knowledge, neglected by public policy makers. However, an increasing number of surveys have been conducted over the last few years: concepts and methods to measure this sector have progressed, especially in Africa.

Moreover, the current international financial and economic crisis is leading to large employment losses and restructuring. This calls

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for paying more attention to the informal economy, which is one of the main sectors that are affected by the crisis. Measuring informal employment and incomes generated by informal enterprises is therefore crucial in developing countries with large informal sectors.

### Looking into statistical concepts to study public policy implementation

The aim of the Hanoi Conference was to move forward along three directions:

- a. Advance towards defining common approaches to the measurement and definition of the informal sector and employment in developing countries, on the basis of the work by the Delhi Group coordinated by the United Nations and the ILO;
- b. Present and discuss the comparative outcomes of recent economic papers on the informal sector and employment by academic researchers and international organizations that have benefited from the availability of new data drawn from statistical surveys; this work provides a better understanding of how the sector operates and its dynamics;
- c. As regards the new international poverty reduction strategies and in the crisis context, use the diagnoses and past experiences to help define targeted assistance policies for the informal sector and job creation (in particular, impact evaluation studies).

Two plenary sessions and eight parallel sessions were held during the International Conference; the expected outcome derived from the aims mentioned here above:

- To take stock of statistical knowledge of the informal sector (and micro & small enterprises) and the informal employment in developing countries and countries in transition;
- To make recommendations on the best methods for these different focuses to be able to harmonize concepts, nomenclatures, methodology (survey techniques, etc.) and indicators;
- To integrate the informal sector into economic information systems, including national accounts;
- To promote the development of South-South cooperation in informal sector and informal employment statistics;
- To disseminate results to users, for analysis and economic policies in place or to be promoted;
- To present and discuss results of economic research work on the informal sector and informal employment;
- To propose new initiatives, at the national, regional and international levels.

The plenary presentations illustrated the global approach, the dynamics of the informal sector and the related policy challenges. It was noted that globalisation has had a limited effect in reducing labour market vulnerabilities in developing countries as economic dynamism has not reduced high informality rates; in some instances, trade reforms have even increased them; it seems that benefits on employment and wages will only be actual in longer terms.

Therefore, policies play a decisive role in raising benefits from globalisation by enabling formalisation processes and exploiting complementarities between trade and labour market reforms, whatever the economic current retained (dualist, structural, or legalist). During the discussions, it was noted that ILO definitions for informal sector and employment were found too flexible, creating important heterogeneity in the results; it was stated that the economic resilience was stronger in Asia; and that the informality in agriculture can only be measured through national accounts process.

There was a consensus on associating informal sector and poverty; a legal framework has to be established; equilibrium between informal and formal should be proposed, which evolution will depend on the qualification levels of the informal employment by industry.

The joint presentation by Afristat and ACS/UNECA was on how to select the most adequate instruments in Africa to measure informal sector and informal employment. Among various tools already used in Africa: household and establishment surveys, mixed surveys, LFS, etc. There is a need to harmonise the selected tools and methodologies in order to be able to compare results at regional level and, in a long-term view, to produce regional PRSP, while keeping countries disparities. Despite the fact that LFS launched in East and Southern African countries are different on scope, content and timeframes than those of '1-2' surveys implemented in West and Central African countries, it has been possible to produce comparable results by including informal employment outside informal sector (ILO concept, 17th ICLS, 2003).

Afristat and ACS/UNECA jointly presented the Action Plan to improve the statistics on informal sector in Africa: this Action Plan has been approved during the 2nd meeting of the Statistical Commission for Africa (StaCom-Africa-II), held in Addis Ababa, in January 2010, confirming Afristat in its role of animating the working group on informal sector. The activities to be implemented at national and regional levels covering the period 2010-2012 were described, including success requisites as well as potential risks. The global objective is to offer to stakeholders an integrated framework making statistics on informal economy more comparable, while organising more frequent/regular dissemination of the results.

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### General Conclusions

The Delhi Group has incorporated all lessons learnt from 13 years of experiences into the “Manual on Surveys of Informal Employment and Informal Sector”, including ILO’s definitions of informal employment and informal sector. The 1-2 survey has become the most widely known survey of this kind and an extensive description of this methodology has been presented in chapter 6.

It is therefore time to take stock of all these advances and to think of new potential directions. As such, the Delhi Group participated in the Steering Committee of the Development Account Project on ‘Interregional cooperation on the measurement of informal sector and informal employment’ in several countries.

It is expected that similar support would also be obtained for the Interregional Cooperation DA project being prepared by UNECA which would deal with the “Use of Data on Informal Sector and Informal Employment in the preparation of National Accounts”. In particular, practical advice on labour input matrixes and satellite accounts methodologies on informal economy are expected to integrate the informal economy into national accounts and get regular evolution on informal GDP and even project it through annual LFS.

The success of the International Conference on the Informal Sector and Informal Employment demonstrated that South-South partnerships and cooperation are developing, illustrating the positive side of the globalisation. Still informal production units need to increase their capital. Also, women who constitute the largest group in informal employment need to be assisted in their choices. New ways of labour contracting need to be proposed, towards more and better jobs.



#### Report on the Meeting of the Group of Expert in National Accounts, Geneva, Switzerland

Andry Andriantseheno, African Centre for Statistics

The African Centre for Statistics (ACS) participated in the meeting of group of experts on national accounts during 26 to 29 April 2010 in Geneva.

The meeting was organised in three modules. The following substantive topics were discussed on the basis of invited papers and supporting papers: the first module dedicated to transition economies, and on government finance statistics and national accounts, the second module focused on natural resources,

Financial accounts and balance sheets, and the measurements and recording of pensions, the third module focused on specific example on the Impact of globalization on national accounts, including labor mobility, impact of the financial crisis and E-commerce and finally the review of the first draft of the publication on globalization and SNA.

Participants welcomed the ECE paper presenting the main issues and challenges in implementation of the SNA in the East Europe, Caucasus, Central Asia, South-East Europe and Mongolia. The ECE will further develop the paper to include more detailed country metadata using the information provided. The meeting strongly recommended that the ISWGNA provide guidance on the main priorities in the implementation of the 2008 SNA. Both countries and regional organisations will benefit from such guidance in developing their implementation plans. The meeting proposed that training workshops on the use of Government Finance Statistics (GFS) for compilation of National Accounts targeting economies in transition and other interested countries be organised in the course of 2011. The workshop will be co-organised by the IMF, ECE and EFTA. It is important that experts from ministries of finance and national accountants are brought together.

Participants recommended that ECE continue to provide assistance to economies in transition for the implementation of the SNA in cooperation with other regional partners. When appropriate other interested countries would also be invited.

Concerning the impact of globalization, four issue papers were presented for in-depth discussion, namely: (a) Labour Mobility; (b) Impact of the Financial crisis; (c) Second homes; and (d) e-commerce, the experts made some comments and incorporate comments received and should present them in the chapters for guide..

The publication “Impact of Globalisation on National Accounts: Practical Guidance” was reviewed and should be finalised by the end the year. Further, it will be submitted to the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) Bureau and for a global consultation, with the aim to be presented for endorsement by the CES in June 2011.

UNECA plans to organise similar workshop and expert group meeting to develop manuals for the implementation of 2008 SNA in Africa, in collaboration with regional partners like AfDB and AUC, under the project implementation strategy for the 2008 SNA in Africa, developed by the African Group on National Accounts (AGNA). The first of these series of workshops on implementation strategy will be conducted by UNECA and UNSD in Mauritius, during 6-9 July 2010.



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### **Train-the-Trainer Workshop on Innovative Tools and Techniques for Statistical Data Management and Dissemination**

Dozie Ezigbalike and Molla Hunegnaw,  
African Centre for Statistics

#### **Background**

The African Centre for Statistics in collaboration with Nigerian Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and the organized a Train-the-Trainers workshop on Innovative Tools and Techniques for Statistical Data Management and Dissemination in the training room of NBS, Abuja, Nigeria from 23 to 26 March 2010.

The main objective of the workshop was to train nominated staff of selected member States and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) on the recent and innovative techniques and tools for statistical data management. The workshop covered the following topics:

- The ECA Statistical Data Management and Dissemination Platforms;
- New ideas in statistical data management such as statistical data discovery, special and temporal time-series, community mapping and mobile platforms; and
- Google technologies for statistical data management such as Google Map Maker; Google Maps; Google Earth; Fusion Tables; and Public Data Explorer.

#### **Participants**

Participants were invited from Lesotho, Uganda, Swaziland, Egypt and Nigeria. The African Union was also represented. In the case of Nigeria, several organizations were represented, namely, the National Bureau of Statistics, the Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation, the National Space Research and Development Agency, The Nigerian Statistical Association, the University of Lagos (Geography Department) and the Regional Centre for Training in Aerospace Surveys.

#### **Proceedings of the training**

The workshop was divided into three Components, dealing with the ECA Statistical Database Platform, Brainstorming and General Discussion on Key Concepts, and Google Tools and Applications for Data Management, Dissemination and Mapping. Also, NBS made a presentation of their activities relevant to the theme of the training workshop.

#### **ECA Statistical Database Platform**

A tutorial on the ECA statistical database platform followed by hands-on exercises was provided:

- Data management platform: Need for better statistics to design policies informed by evidence and for decision making; the increased demand for quality and timely statistics in Africa; and the need for improve statistical data management at all levels necessitate a need for development of data management system. Existing data management platforms for statistical data management in Africa includes: DevInfo, CountryStat, World Bank Live Database, CRIS, The ECA Statistical Database (StatBase).
- StatBase: StatBase is a web-enabled application that could be customized as a platform for statistical data management at country, sub regional and regional levels. It can also configured as stand-alone, LAN, and also put as on the webs for public use. Moreover, it facilitates as content management and it functions in two languages (French/English). The discussion touched up on the development platform used for StatBase, system requiems to install StatBase, and the various functions available in StatBase. StatBase provides a fully integrated solution for data entry; metadata, management; search and retrieval; data storage and security. It has two distinct components. The first one, the Data management Component, is a secured environment where statisticians administer the database, manage data and metadata. The second one is Data Access/Dissemination component designed for end-users to browse, search, produce tables and charts from the database.
- Data Management component: This component has three modules to facilitate administration, data compilation and metadata management. The data management component of StatBase can only be accessed by registered users. The Administration module facilitates creation of login credentials, customize parameters, and administer the day to day activities of StatBase. Access to StatBase data management component can be restricted to registered users by a number geographical areas, statistical domains (sectors) and functional roles. Data manager module allows users to do routine data compilation activities such as data entry, data modification. This module provides online data entry as well in batches from other data sources. Metadata module enables users to define and customize the parameters like sectors, indicators, areas, organization profile, etc.
- Data Dissemination component: This component for end-users to navigate the database to find statistical data and related contents. Data navigation can be done through various user-friendly screens and access dimensions. End-users could access data from the sectoral , country, period point of views. Browse: End users can browse the data by sector, geographical area or period years and produce data tables and charts. Search option allows end-users to locate datasets through search criteria. Selected tables put in place frequently accessed dataset to be readily available for end users. The

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data dissemination component presents datasets from any of the above access dimensions will produce tabular formats where the data is presented by country across period years. However, from the resultant table end-users have the choice to produce charts, geo-spatial maps or save the results table locally for further analysis.

- Live demonstration of StatBase: A live demonstration done for all the components and functions of StatBase. Trainees provided feedback to the improvement of StatBase and also showed interest to acquire the application. Trainees also give access to the StatBase to have hands on experience on the use of the application.

### Presentation of NBS Activities

The NBS made a presentation of its activities showcasing their use of modern technology in statistical processes. The presentation highlighted

- the development of the VPN cloud of the Nigerian Data Nervous System NDNS
- an e-Statistics grid to connect all Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) of government and State Statistical Agencies (SSAs) to NBS
- the use of NBS Web Portal for the actualization of the NSDS and data dissemination
- demonstration of e-Template of Sector and State Statistical Year Book data capturing Systems
- the use of mapping and GIS for presentation of socio-economic data at Ward Level in Nigeria
- Use of GPS and Handheld systems for data collection in the area of Agriculture and Prices
- Frame construction and sampling using GIS tool and satellite imagery for agricultural sample survey
- Dissemination of micro-level data and metadata using NBS web portal platform

### Brainstorming on Key Concepts

ECA led a general discussion and brainstorming session on key concepts. The key topics covered were:

- Public Data Discovery: One of the important features of web-based dissemination of information and knowledge is that users decide what they need and access them. However the onus is on the authors or providers of information resources to organise them in a way that lends for easy discovery by potential users. Search engines have developed as the most important tool for discovering information on the web. However, much of the information resources discoverable through search engines are still in the form of documents;

special techniques and tools are required to search special database type resources. While these documents have their uses for decision analysis and research, data from official sources would be more useful. The discussion centred around a hypothetical enquiry for cassava production in Kwara State of Nigeria in 2007. Does that information exist in any official statistical database? And if so, would that official information be discovered by an Internet user, in addition to any research documents or blogs? What is the desirability of Internet users being presented with that official information along with other results from search engines?

- Audience Specific Packaging of Information: From the discussion on public data discovery, the idea was introduced that NBS and other statistical agencies have data portals where researchers and decision makers can download data sets for further analysis. This brought up the need to arrange information products to present different views of data and information products for different audiences. Discussion focused on the needs of senior decision makers who need pre-analysed data to be presented in a form that conveys high level facts. Reference was made Gapminder's Trendalyzer, which has been acquired by Google, which presents changes in variables over time as animated bubbles that change in size and position. These animated bubbles make it easier for non specialists to understand the facts being conveyed, and hence a useful tool for communicating with policy makers. The importance of presenting the data geographically was also highlighted.
- Community mapping: The discussion on the geographic presentation led to the trend towards community involvement in mapping their neighbourhoods. Google's MapMaker was introduced, both as a technology and as a service to contribute to the efforts to increase the mapping coverage of Africa. The concept of mapmaker is to provide a tool that will facilitate contribution of map data by the community at large by providing an easy to use Internet based tool. This is based on the principle that members of the community are expected to know their neighbourhoods better than any expert from outside. It was pointed out that in addition to features and points of interest, there is still a need for official delineation of boundaries of administrative units. The Second Administrative Boundaries Project (SALB) of the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group was mentioned, indicating that the data are available for download for validated countries. However, it was pointed out that there is still need for lower level administrative units which could be aggregated into higher levels. In the case of Nigeria, this lowest level is the ward, which should aggregate hierarchically into local government areas, and then in turn into states. It was observed that continuous delineation of this ward level boundaries does not exist, and it was suggested that the concerned agencies should work together to create the boundary definitions in the context of both the National Geospatial Data Infrastructure and

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the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics. The concerned agencies are the Office of the Surveyor General of the Federation, the National Bureau of Statistics and the National Population Commission.

- **Mobile technologies:** While emphasising the move towards web-based dissemination of information, it is an acknowledged fact that Internet permeation in Africa is still very low, with 6.8% of the population having access to the Internet (compared to 25.6% global average – based on September 2009 data). This is in spite of the fast growth recorded in recent years. Moreover, most of the available access is still over slow connections due to the prohibitive cost of broadband services. On the other hand, the cost of mobile phone subscription is affordable and usage has been increasing, with Africa being estimated to have the highest mobile phone growth rate over the last five years. At the same time, technology advances in mobile technology have led to Internet services being increasing tailored for mobile phone access. This presents an opportunity for information dissemination to African audiences to be based more on mobile devices. This module will present trends in information dissemination targeting the mobile phone audience and discuss how Statistical offices can benefit from the trend. The use of mobile devices for data collection was also discussed, including forms design and workflow and validation issues.

### Training on Google Tools and Applications

The third and fourth days were dedicated to hands-on training on Google tools and applications.

- **Google Apps:** secure online applications wherever you work Google Apps reduces IT costs and empowers today's employees. Gmail, Google Docs, Google Sites, and more - \$50 per user per year. Try it free for 30 days.
- **Google Alerts:** Google Alerts are email updates of the latest relevant Google results (web, news, etc.) based on your choice of query or topic. Some handy uses of Google Alerts include: monitoring a developing news story; keeping current on a competitor or industry; getting the latest on a celebrity or event; keeping tabs on your favorite sports teams.
- **Google News:** Aggregated headlines and a search engine of many of the world's news sources.
- **Google Feeds:** Read them in one place with Google Reader, where keeping up with your favorite websites is as easy as checking your email.
- **Google Picasa:** Picasa software lets you organize, edit, and upload your photos in quick, easy steps.
- **Google Public Data Search:** The Google Public Data Explorer makes large datasets easy to explore, visualize and communi-

cate. As the charts and maps animate over time, the changes in the world become easier to understand. You don't have to be a data expert to navigate between different views, make your own comparisons, and share your findings.

- **Google Maps:** Google Maps is a map service that you view in your web browser. Depending, you can view basic or custom maps and local business information, including business locations, contact information, and driving directions. Click and drag maps to view adjacent sections immediately. View satellite images of your desired location that you can zoom and pan.
- **Google Maps API:** The Google Maps API lets you embed Google Maps in your own web pages with JavaScript. The API provides a number of utilities for manipulating maps (just like on the <http://maps.google.com> web page) and adding content to the map through a variety of services, allowing you to create robust maps applications on your website.
- **Google Earth:** Google Earth Outreach gives non-profits and public benefit organizations the knowledge and resources they need to visualize their cause and tell their story in Google Earth & Maps to the hundreds of millions of people who use them.
- **Google Map Maker:** Google Map Maker allows you to create a map by adding or editing features such as roads, businesses, parks, schools and more. Using Google Map Maker tools, you can visually mark locations and add detailed information about them. Once you have submitted content, this information may be edited by other users or moderators. Your mapping contributions on Map Maker are eventually also made available on Google Maps (this update process is not immediate).
- **Google Public Data Explorer:** The Google Public Data Explorer makes large datasets easy to explore, visualize and communicate. As the charts and maps animate over time, the changes in the world become easier to understand. You don't have to be a data expert to navigate between different views, make your own comparisons, and share your findings.

### Follow up Activities

1. Contact participants who indicated interest in installing and using ECA database platform and arrange to provide the installation package for them, with backstopping missions as appropriate.
2. Finalize agreement with Google for refund of funds and organization of second workshop for Francophone countries.
3. Set up a discussion forum on the ECA-UNDP knowledge sharing platform for the participants to constitute a knowledge network for the exchange of lessons and solutions.



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### Le Comité de direction d'Afristat a tenu sa 21<sup>ème</sup> réunion du 16 au 18 avril 2010 à N'Djamena, République Tchad

Gerard Osbert, Centre africain pour la Statistique

Etaient présents, les représentants des Etats membres suivants : Bénin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroun, Centrafrique, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinée, Mali, Mauritanie, Niger, Sénégal et Tchad. Ont également pris part aux travaux :

- les représentants de la Banque centrale des Etats de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (BCEAO) et de la Banque des Etats de l'Afrique centrale (BEAC) ;
- les représentants de la Commission de la Communauté économique et monétaire de l'Afrique centrale (CEMAC) et de la Commission de l'Union économique et monétaire ouest africaine (UEMOA).
- Le Directeur de la statistique et des études démographiques de la République de Djibouti, en qualité d'invité du Président du Comité de direction.

Les représentants des organisations, administrations et écoles de formation statistique suivantes assistaient: Banque africaine de développement (BAD), Centre africain pour la statistique de la Commission économique des Nations unies pour l'Afrique (CAS-CEA), Consortium du partenariat pour le développement de la statistique au 21<sup>ème</sup> siècle (PARIS21), Commission de la Communauté économique des Etats de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (CEDEAO), Institut national de la statistique et des études économiques (INSEE), Ecole nationale de la statistique et de l'analyse économique du Sénégal (ENSAE), Ecole nationale supérieure de statistique et d'économie appliquée (ENSEA), Institut de formation et de recherche démographiques (IFORD) et Centre d'appui aux écoles de statistique africaines (CAPESA).

#### Ouverture de la réunion et adoption de l'ordre du jour

Les travaux du Comité de direction ont été ouverts par le Secrétaire Général du Ministère de l'Economie et du Plan du Tchad. M. Ousman Abdoulaye HAGGAR, Directeur Général de l'Institut national de la statistique, des études économiques et démographiques (INSEED) de la République du Tchad présidait les travaux de cette 21<sup>ème</sup> réunion.

#### Examen et adoption du rapport d'activité 2009,

Ce rapport comprenait aussi le compte rendu de la mise en œuvre des recommandations, résolutions et décisions de la 20<sup>ème</sup> réunion du Comité de direction et de la 18<sup>ème</sup> session du Conseil des Ministres

Le Comité a noté la bonne exécution du Plan d'action 2009 malgré quelques difficultés rencontrées. Il a apprécié l'ampleur

des activités réalisées et a félicité la Direction générale pour les résultats obtenus. Le Comité a instruit la Direction générale pour :

- mieux faire ressortir désormais la participation d'Afristat aux activités des groupes de travail africains ;
- organiser régulièrement le séminaire des cadres chargés de la programmation des activités au sein des INS.

Le Comité a invité les Etats membres à poursuivre la mise en œuvre des règlements relatifs à l'élaboration d'un répertoire d'entreprises national et à la production d'un indice harmonisé de la production industrielle (IHPI).

S'agissant du Programme multinational de renforcement des capacités statistiques des pays régionaux de la Banque africaine de développement (PRCS-BAD), le Comité a instruit la Direction générale d'accélérer le traitement des demandes d'avis de non objection dans le but de réduire les délais d'émission de ces avis.

#### Examen des questions budgétaires 2009

Le Comité a examiné le rapport d'exécution du budget 2009 présenté par la Direction générale et a entendu le rapport du Commissaire aux comptes et celui de la Commission de contrôle de l'exécution du budget d'Afristat.

Le Comité a instruit la Direction générale de veiller aux bonnes conditions de la tenue des réunions de la Commission de contrôle de l'exécution du budget d'Afristat. Il a invité la Direction générale à mettre en œuvre les recommandations formulées. Toutefois, il lui a demandé de poursuivre avec la méthode actuelle de sécurisation des documents comptables.

#### Elaboration du programme de travail d'Afristat 2011-2015

Le Comité de direction a approuvé les objectifs et les résultats attendus du programme de travail d'Afristat 2011-2015 et a invité la Direction générale à poursuivre l'élaboration de ce programme conformément à la feuille de route établie.

#### Restructuration d'Afristat et reconstitution du Fonds pour 2016-2025

Le Comité a examiné les termes de référence de l'étude sur la restructuration institutionnelle d'Afristat et la reconstitution de son fonds de financement au titre de la période 2016-2025. Il a mis en place un groupe de travail pour le suivi de l'exécution de l'étude, composé des du Cameroun, de la Mauritanie et du Sénégal. Le Comité a approuvé les termes de référence sous réserve de :

- spécifier plus clairement le rôle d'Afristat en matière d'harmonisation statistique en Afrique ;
- souligner le problème de la communication entre Afristat et ses Etats membres ;
- préciser le processus de validation des produits des différentes phases de l'étude par le Comité de direction ;

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Examen des questions soumises à la 19ème session du Conseil des Ministres

- Compte rendu de la mise en œuvre du Plan d'action 2009 et des décisions de la 18ème session du Conseil des Ministres : Le Comité a pris acte de la synthèse du rapport d'activité 2009 d'Afristat élaborée pour l'information du Conseil des Ministres.
- Situation des contributions au Fonds Afristat 2006-2015 et mesures à prendre :
  - Examinant la note sur la situation des contributions au Fonds Afristat 2006-2015, le Comité a relevé le faible niveau de mise en œuvre relative à la date butoir du 31 décembre 2009, en dépit des actions menées par la Direction générale.
  - Le Comité a approuvé un projet de décision portant création d'un Comité ministériel chargé de la mobilisation des ressources financières d'Afristat et le soumet à l'adoption du Conseil des Ministres.
- Demande d'adhésion de la République de Djibouti : le Comité de direction l'a réexaminée et la soumet avec avis favorable au Conseil des Ministres pour approbation.

### Interventions des partenaires

CAS – CEA : Le représentant du Centre africain de la statistique a souligné les bonnes relations de travail que son institution entretient avec Afristat à travers des activités menées en collaboration. Ces relations sont appelées à se renforcer à travers la mise en œuvre du Plan d'action 2010-2012 sur le secteur informel en Afrique.

CAPESA : Le Directeur du CAPESA a présenté la situation et les perspectives de la formation statistique en Afrique, concernant l'adéquation aux besoins, l'ouverture vers d'autres établissements de formation supérieure et l'établissement de partenariats avec les pays anglophones et lusophones.

ENSEA : À l'occasion de son cinquantenaire en 2011, l'ENSEA envisage d'élaborer un répertoire des anciens élèves et sollicite la collaboration des directeurs généraux des INS pour la réalisation de ce document. Le Congrès mondial de la statistique se tiendra en août 2011, à Dublin (Irlande).

ENSAE-Sénégal : Le représentant de l'ENSAE a informé le Comité de direction des résultats de l'atelier tenu à Dakar en mars 2010 et qui a permis de finaliser l'harmonisation des programmes de formation initiale des trois écoles dans le cadre du système LMD.

IFORD : Les activités de formation les plus marquantes ont été présentées dont le projet de recherche en santé reproductive (DEMTRENDS) et l'établissement des diagnostics des systèmes d'information pour le secteur de l'éducation (IUS/UNESCO). Il a fait état de la situation critique des contributions financières des Etats membres.

BAD : Le représentant de la BAD a annoncé le lancement prochain du cycle 2011 du PCI et a souligné la place d'Afristat dans ce dispositif. Il a annoncé que la préparation de la 3ème phase du PRSC-BAD sera lancée en fin d'année 2010 et a invité les pays à se positionner pour son exécution, en améliorant leurs capacités d'absorption des crédits alloués.

UEMOA : Le représentant de l'UEMOA a informé le Comité du projet de réorganisation de la fonction statistique au sein de la Commission, et de l'adoption par le Conseil des Ministres du 30 mars 2010 d'un règlement sur l'IHPC et d'une directive sur l'IHPI.

CEDEAO : Le représentant de la CEDEAO a présenté les chantiers statistiques pour lesquels l'assistance d'Afristat serait sollicitée : mise en place de la méthodologie commune pour la production des indices de prix, l'amélioration de l'enregistrement des faits d'état civil et élaboration des comptes nationaux.

PARIS21 : Le Secrétariat de PARIS21 a renforcé son programme de travail autour de quatre axes : coordination, plaidoyer, SNDS et utilisation des données. Sur l'examen par les pairs, quatre Etats membres (Bénin, Cameroun, Congo et Sénégal) se sont déclarés candidats pour se faire évaluer en 2010.

INSEE : Le représentant de l'INSEE a réaffirmé le soutien aux travaux sur les comptes nationaux et en particulier sur les comptes trimestriels, dont le premier atelier est prévu à Douala en mai 2010, et ceux sur le secteur informel. Il a informé le Comité de la tenue en juin prochain à Paris, du Colloque international sur la comptabilité nationale.

### Questions diverses

Examen et adoption de l'avis de recrutement du Directeur Général d'Afristat pour la période 2012-2015 : Le Comité a approuvé l'avis de recrutement pour la période 2012-2015 et a invité la Direction générale à procéder à sa diffusion en vue de l'examen des dossiers de candidature à la réunion du Comité de direction d'octobre 2010.

Examen du projet de protocole d'accord de coopération des Organisations inter-gouvernementales d'Afrique de l'Ouest : Le Comité a accueilli favorablement ce Projet de protocole et autorise le Directeur Général d'Afristat à procéder à sa signature.

Examen et adoption d'un nouveau design du logo d'Afristat : Le Comité a pris connaissance des propositions présentées par la Direction générale. qu'il invite à assurer la bonne conduite de ce changement.

La 22ème réunion ordinaire du Comité de direction se tiendra du 20 au 22 octobre 2010 à Bamako (Mali).





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### Fifth Meeting of the African Statistical Coordination Committee (ASCC), Lilongwe, Malawi

Dimitri Sanga, African Centre for Statistics

#### Introduction

The African Statistical Coordination Committee (ASCC) held its fifth meeting at the African Union Regional Office in Lilongwe, Malawi, on 23-24 March 2010. In attendance were representatives of Statistics South Africa, the African Union Commission (AUC), the African Development Bank (AfDB), and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA).

The main objective of ASCC meetings remains to discuss mechanisms for achieving greater synergy between continental/regional institutions, and coordinating statistical programmes with a view to enhancing and sustaining the effectiveness of statistical support to African countries. Specifically, the fifth ASCC meeting was organised in preparation for the joint AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and UNECA Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development to be held on 28-30 March 2010. The Ministerial Conference was to consider several agenda items on statistical development including items on the African Charter on Statistics and the Strategy for the Harmonisation of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA). In addition, the ASCC discussed preparations for the organisation of the sixth Africa Symposium on Statistical Development (ASSD) as well as the initiative to establish the AfricalInfo database. Finally, the meeting considered some of the issues raised during the second session of the Statistical Commission for Africa (StatCom-Africa II).

#### I. Preparation of the joint AU Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and UNECA Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

Agenda items that were considered under this heading comprised: (i) advocacy materials; (ii) the ShaSA; and (ii) draft Recommendations to be submitted to the Conference of Ministers for consideration and adoption.

#### Advocacy documents

The AUC presented a statistical advocacy leaflet, titled "High-Quality Statistics to Better Promote, Measure, and Plan Africa's Development". The leaflet was prepared in collaboration with the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21) and as part of an advocacy strategy designed to reach decision-makers on matters relating to statistics. Printed copies of both English and French versions were available for distribution during the Conference of Ministers.

A SHaSA briefing document was also prepared during the meeting to better inform Ministers and advocate for the adoption of the Strategy.

#### Strategy for the Harmonisation of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA)

Discussions on the most recent version of the SHaSA focused mainly on the structure and presentation of the document; the content was deemed comprehensive enough.

General comments were as follows:

- Spread the ownership of the document to all members of the African Statistical System to ensure effective implementation;
- Summarise as much as possible section 2.1 of chapter 2;
- Separate sections 4.1 and 4.2 of chapter 4 into two different chapters;
- Include a chapter on resource implications;
- In the new chapter on implementation, monitoring and evaluation, include a section on risks and mitigation measures; and
- Fine-tune the work programme in line with the general context of statistical development on the continent.

The meeting agreed to hire a consultant for 10 working days to finalise the document. The consultant would work under the supervision of the Director of Economic Affairs of the AUC and, among others:

- Recast the document in line with general directions of the meeting;
- Fine-tune the work programme;
- Refine the implementation and evaluation mechanism; and
- Propose a budget estimate for the implementation of the strategy.

The AUC was tasked with the drafting the Terms of Reference (TOR) for the recruitment of the consultant, and the AfDB for the hiring of the latter. The final document, approved by the AUC, would then be edited and translated into all four official languages of the AU.

Draft Recommendations for consideration and adoption by Ministers

The AUC presented the draft Recommendations to be submitted for consideration and adoption to the ministers. The Recommendations comprised six (6) different points addressing matters related to the African Charter on Statistics, statistical harmonisation, and the strengthening of the statistical function at the AUC.

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The meeting recommended condensing the 6 recommendations into 3, namely: one addressing the Charter; another addressing statistical harmonisation; and a third one recommending the transformation of the AUC Statistics Unit into a Statistics Department.

### II. Other matters arising

#### Preparations for the 6th Africa Symposium on Statistical Development (ASSD)

Statistics South Africa informed the ASCC that preparations were underway for the organisation of the 6th ASSD, to be held in November 2010 in Cairo, Egypt. A planning meeting, scheduled to take place in April 2010 in Cairo, was to discuss practical organisation matters, including the theme, attendance, and logistical arrangements. The planning meeting would also discuss the possibility of organising the Meeting of the Committee of Directors-General back to back with the ASSD. The Egyptian Central Agency for Public Mobilisation and Statistics (CAPMS) would send invitation letters to all pan-African organisations which were called upon by the ASCC to attend the scheduled planning meeting.

#### Africainfo Database

The AUC briefed the meeting on the Africainfo database initiative. Based on UNICEF's DevInfo technology, Africainfo aims at responding to data and statistical needs of the African Union, its organs, its Member States as well as all interested actors/parties across Africa. It will provide tools for the monitoring of commitments made by governments in the implementation of national, regional and continental decisions, policies and AU legal instruments. The first Africainfo planning meeting was held on 12 February 2010 at the AUC Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, with two main objectives: (1) to discuss the timetable for the establishment of Africainfo, as well as responsibilities of stakeholders; and (2) to agree on financial support from various stakeholders. The meeting was attended by representatives of AUC Departments, of UNICEF's Liaison Office to the AU, and of UNECA. Major recommendations of the planning meeting included the establishment of a working group with focal points from various organisations, the hiring of a database administrator/manager for a minimum period of one year, and the tentative launch of the database in November 2010.

The ASCC recommended that, in presenting it, ownership of this initiative be spread to include all pan-African organisations for effective implementation.

#### Issues raised during Statcom-Africa II

The UNECA drew the meeting's attention to a number of issues raised by various working groups during Statcom-Africa II. These include:

- The development of an African open-source software for data management;
- The development of a continental/regional strategy on gender statistics; and
- The creation of a working group on social inclusion/exclusion/protection.

As for the need to create a working group on social inclusion/exclusion/protection, the ASCC recommended the preparation of a concept note on data requirement for the social sector. This concept note will clarify whether such a working group will add value to the work being undertaken by existing groups.

#### Signature and ratification of the Charter

- The AUC informed the meeting that a strategy for the signature and ratification of the African Charter on Statistics was about to be finalised. This strategy, developed by the AUC and PARIS21, aims at fast-tracking the signature and ratification of the Charter.

The ASCC recommended that the strategy target countries with regional or continental influence.

#### MDGs meeting

The AUC informed the meeting that the continental MDGs meeting held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in March 2010, recommended the need to scale-up capacity to collect statistical data directly from countries.

The ASCC recommended that conclusions of that meeting should be shared with the ASCC members to ensure their effective implementation.

#### Annex: Participants

1. Risenga Maluleke, Statistics South Africa
2. Lucky Ngwenya, Statistics South Africa
3. Rene Kouassi, AUC
4. Charles Awitor, AUC
5. Dossina Yeo, AUC
6. Thiekoro Doumbia, AUC
7. Charles Lufumpa, AfDB
8. Dimitri Sanga, UNECA
9. Joseph Atta-Mensah, UNECA



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### Train the Trainers workshop, Rabat, Morocco

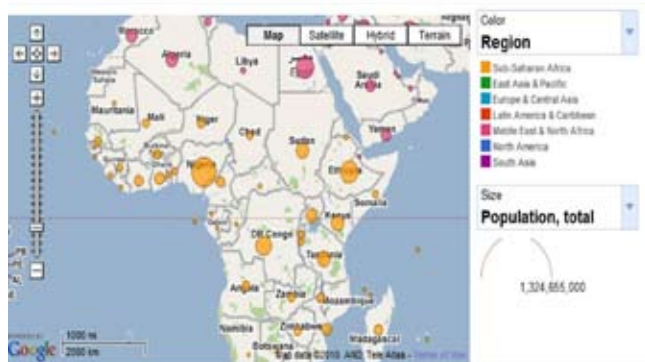
Evans Arabu, Google

#### Helping to unveil the power of statistical data

We know that statistics and geography are closely linked because mapping is a fundamental requirement for the implementation of any census or survey. But what would be the role of Google Map Maker in the world of statistics? Can it make a difference? Google's Map Maker team has been keen to answer these questions.

Since our contribution to StatCom Africa II in January 2010, our team has embarked on a journey to actively engage with the statistics and mapping community in Africa with the objectives of fostering geospatial innovations adoption and of learning how Map Maker can best support users and serve as a platform to map economic, social, and environmental points of interest.

Thus, under the leadership and vision of Dozie Ezigbalike from UNECA, the Map Maker team initiated a Train the Trainers programme in Africa that aims to strengthen the capacity of national organizations in making statistics more accessible, useful, and interesting to the wider public. We do so by tying together technologies -- Google Map Maker, mobile applications, Google Earth and Maps, Google fusion tables, and Public Data Explorer -- that support data collection, sharing, visualization, and publishing. Jointly with UNECA we have organized Train the Trainers events in Nigeria and Morocco, and trained people at National Statistics Organizations (NSO) from Burundi, Cameroon, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Egypt, Lesotho, Morocco, Nigeria, Senegal, Swaziland, Uganda, and Zambia.



Google Public Data Explorer

The Morocco Train the Trainer event took place last week in Rabat and brought together forty statistics and mapping professionals from locations around Africa for intensive training on Google geospatial technologies. UNECA and Google put together the event in order to help organizations make mapping and statistical data widely accessible to everyone. The event was capped off with a Mapping Party for students at Ecole Hassania Travaux Publics (EHTP), who will be creating detailed maps for the public.



Take a peek at the photos from the Train the Trainers event that took place last week in Rabat.

We're only in the first steps of our journey of learning together with these communities, but we are already seeing the impact of our work at the UN (UNOSAT work), with universities (Makerere University), and among enthusiastic mappers. Google Map Maker data for Africa and other countries around the world (see complete list here) is publicly available for download for non-commercial use and attribution. Data can be used to do things such as create offline maps, combine data sets, and run analysis. Join the map your world community for the latest developments, Map Maker features, discussion with other mappers and sneak previews!



### III. STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT - SELECTED AREAS - DÉVELOPPEMENT DE LA STATISTIQUE - QUELQUES SUJETS

#### Archiving and Disseminating Census Metadata and Microdata: ACS, AfriSTAT, CELADE, CEPED, IHSN, IPUMS-International and National Statistical Offices Undertake Cooperative Initiatives

Robert McCaa, Minnesota Population Center, USA

Several initiatives are underway to archive and disseminate metadata and microdata of African censuses. To energize and coordinate international, regional and national efforts, a meeting was held, preceding the 2010 Statistical Commission in New York City. Prior to the meeting, a listing of archived microdata was circulated to encourage national statistical offices both to take stock of holdings and to identify microdata stored on obsolete media. The inventory, updated with information received by email or in discussions with delegates in New York, is reprinted below (Table 1).

Represented at the meeting were the following:

- The African Centre for Statistics (ACS) - Dr. Dimitri Sanga
- Afristat - Mr. Freeman Amegashie
- The Latin American and Caribbean Center for Demography (CELADE) - Mr. Dirk Jaspers
- United Nations Fund for Population (UNFP) - Mr. Rogelio Fernandez-Castillo
- IPUMS-International - Dr. Robert McCaa
- Institut National de la Statistique et des Études Économiques (INSEE) -Mr. Alain Tranap

Representatives of three projects emailed their regrets and best wishes—the Centre de Population et Développement (CEPED/IREDA), Integrated Household Survey Network (IHSN) and l'Observatoire Démographique et Statistique de l'Espace Francophone (ODSEF, Laval University). Two others—the African Census Analysis Project (ACAP) and l'Institut de Formation et de Recherche Démographiques (IFORD)—did not respond to emailed inquiries.

Dr. Dimitri Sanga succinctly summarized the extended, collegial discussion into a four point plan of cooperation, as follows:

1. recovery of microdata and metadata by national statistical offices, and repatriation from personal or institutional holdings
2. archiving at national and regional repositories
3. dissemination via national, regional and international systems

4. capacity building in African countries for official statisticians, academic researchers and policy makers.

The first stage is the inventory and recovery of microdata and documentation. All agreed that visits—either to the national statistical offices or by statistical officers attending regional and international meetings and repositories—are probably the most effective means of completing this stage. Email and courier service to exchange materials may also be helpful. The accompanying table, indicating the status of microdata for each census by country and participation in various initiatives, was up-dated at the meeting and at a dinner hosted by INSEE and IPUMS for official statisticians representing delegations from Francophone African countries.

In 1988, the Centre de Population & Développement ([www.ceped.org/ireda](http://www.ceped.org/ireda)) began to organize documentation collected over several decades by primarily French researchers who had consulted on many censuses and surveys. Some of the fruits of this long collaboration is now publicly available on the IREDA (Inventaire des recensements et enquêtes en Afrique) web-site (Fig. 1). Others, including several sample censuses from the 1950s, 60s and 70s, are being recovered in cooperation with IPUMS. CEPED is cooperating fully with ACS, AfriSTAT, IHSN, IPUMS and other initiatives in the collection and dissemination of metadata and microdata.



Fig. 1. CEPED/IREDA home page for inventory of censuses and surveys in Africa  
<http://www.ceped.org/ireda>

In the 1990s, the African Census Analysis Project amassed microdata for some 50 censuses, many of which were recovered from the only surviving tapes. The list of ACAP holdings, which are housed at the University of Pennsylvania, is presently being updated (see Table 1 and Fig. 2):

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**Fig. 2. African Census Analysis Project Region Selector.**  
[http://www.acap.upenn.edu/Data/navigator/region\\_selector.html](http://www.acap.upenn.edu/Data/navigator/region_selector.html)

In 1999, IPUMS began a global initiative to recover and preserve microdata, devoting most of its energies to the Americas, Asia and Europe (see: [www.ipums.org/international](http://www.ipums.org/international)). Only later were significant resources directed toward Africa. As the example in Fig. 3 indicates, scarce resources often preclude adequate archiving of old electronic media. Precisely because of the global scope of IPUMS, the 1991 census microdata of Rwanda was recovered from an repository in South America, where only an international cyber-leuth might have thought to look. Nonetheless there are at least five censuses of African countries that exist only on old computer tapes (noted by a “t” following the census year in Table 1). The IPUMS project pays to ship the tapes to a data recovery company in New York and funds the recovery and repatriation costs, as well.



**Fig. 3. The recovery of microdata from old tapes is an urgent task**  
[http://www.hist.umn.edu/~rmccaa/ipums\\_archiving\\_disseminating\\_microdata\\_acys2008.ppt](http://www.hist.umn.edu/~rmccaa/ipums_archiving_disseminating_microdata_acys2008.ppt)

A third international project, the IHSN ([www.ihsn.org](http://www.ihsn.org)), is a global initiative to empower NSOs and to build statistical capacity in archiving and disseminating a broad range of microdata, including censuses. The IHSN microdata toolkit is a valuable tool for standardizing the assemblage and dissemination of metadata and mi-

crodata according to international standards. Metadata are generated using the Document Data Initiative (DDI) conventions. DDI is readily transportable to a wide variety of metadata formats. More than a dozen African statistical offices (identified by the “/nada” acronym in the accompanying table) have completed projects using the IHSN microdata toolkit to construct physical as well as virtual (web-based) national repositories. Olivier Dupriez, director of the IHSN project, kindly emailed the following comments for the meeting:

- As you know, I am a strong supporter of the DDI as a metadata standard for documenting all censuses (many censuses metadata will be in the DDI format at completion of the IHSN-IPUMS work and through the IHSN-ADP [Accelerated Data Program] work).
- Our priority is to have all censuses documented and preserved in countries (IPUMS being a useful “backup” in addition to being a good dissemination channel for harmonized data)
- I attach guidelines on long-term preservation of digital data/metadata [for a copy please email [odupriez@worldbank.org](mailto:odupriez@worldbank.org)]. This document was produced by the ICPSR (at University of Michigan) for the IHSN.

The meeting strongly endorsed Mr. Dupriez’s statement in support of preservation in-country. Repatriation of lost microdata is an obligatory first step after microdata are recovered. Repositories outside the countries are of little use if they do not respond to requests by the owners of the data for copies to restore what has been lost or misplaced. Moreover repatriated datasets should be as completely documented as possible. Repatriated copies should highlight the value added by repositories in developing certified archival sets to the highest international standards.

A fourth initiative, the ODSEF ([www.odsef.fss.ulaval.ca](http://www.odsef.fss.ulaval.ca)), is conducting an ambitious project for the computerization of the 1977 census of Mali from paper forms (see Fig. 4). Microdata recovered several years ago from old computer tapes with the assistance of IPUMS were proven to be incomplete. The only recourse is to rekey the data from the original paper forms.

Recovering census microdata from paper is a costly, time consuming, but important, undertaking where the microdata are lost or incomplete. At least nine African censuses are known to survive only in paper form (denoted by “p” in the accompanying table).

IPUMS, too, has cooperated in the recovery of several censuses from paper, but none in Africa. Although, IPUMS funding is more symbolic than real, never amounting to more than US\$20,000 per census, even modest resources may provide the nest egg to get a project underway. IPUMS favors 100% keying of the data, using a simple, practical process to be sure that at least a sample is recovered, in case the project is not concluded as planned.

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First, bundles or folders containing the original returns for a couple hundred households are numbered serially from 1 to n. A digit from 0-9 is randomly selected. Forms are keyed from bundles where the right-most digit equals the random number. Quality controls are implemented from the beginning to assure that the work is performed to exacting standards. IPUMS pays a small fee once a purchase order is endorsed and essential documentation for the census is assembled. A second payment is made when a 10% sample is entrusted. Successive payments are made at 30% milestones. The final payment is for a report which compares basic statistics from the recovered microdata with official figures.

**Archiving is the second stage, undertaken once the data and documentation are recovered.** The recent earthquakes in Haiti and Chile as well as floods, fires and civil disturbances elsewhere, leave no doubt that microdata and the corresponding documentation must be archived not only in national repositories, but also regional ones as well.



**Fig. 4. Archived returns, like these for the 1977 census of Mali, constitute a more expensive, time consuming means of recovery. The Bureau Central de Recensement in cooperation with ODSEF**  
<http://www.odsef.fss.ulaval.ca/cms/index.php?menu=10&temps=1265645232>

Both Afristat and the ACS are keen to establish regional repositories. All agreed that national and regional repositories must be a top priority. CELADE offered its technical expertise in archiving census microdata and documentation from its 50 years of experience working with statistical offices in the Americas. CELADE's REDATAM software is widely recognized as a web-based tool for instantaneous generation of tables. What is less well known is that microdata stored in REDATAM are encrypted and thus provide total protection of statistical confidentiality, even of entire databases. The recovery of the microdata of the 1991 census of Rwanda was possible precisely because the only surviving copy of the microdata was stored in REDATAM.

The IPUMS project is committed to entrusting microdata to regional repositories in the Americas, Asia, Europe and Africa—always with the necessary consent of the corresponding National Statistical Office. Meanwhile, IPUMS is providing copies of a vast trove of meta-data to regional and national repositories. At the 2007 International Statistical Institute meeting, IPUMS presented a nearly complete collection of census enumeration forms to each official statistical agency in attendance. For the 2011 ISI, a DVD of the census enumerator instructions is in preparation, a preliminary version of which was provided to the ACS and Afristat in New York.

**The third stage, dissemination of microdata,** may take various forms, from public use files passed about freely (Statistics South Africa, INSEE-France) to the most restrictive data enclave, such as the ACAP facility at the University of Pennsylvania, where access is controlled by the project director, Dr. Tukufu Zuberi.

IPUMS pursues a middle road. The microdata are disseminated free of cost, but access is restricted to bona-fide researchers. There are no restrictions as to country of residence, and the data are available for download at any time without charge. Registered IPUMS-International users numbered 3,354 as of February 2010. IPUMS disseminates microdata in the form of customized extracts—not in the traditional way of entire datasets. Researchers analyze IPUMS extracts in their own workplaces, using their own hardware and software resources.

Mirror-sites in Africa are a priority for IPUMS—once 60-70 African censuses are integrated into the IPUMS database (the current number is 19). IPUMS will also cooperate in the construction of secure data enclaves at the ACS, Afristat, IFORD and other interested institutions, similar to the site for USA microdata housed at the Minnesota Population Center. Construction of an African site may be possible as early as 2014, if there is sufficient cooperation by African statistical offices.

Dissemination is also possible by means of a web-based tabulator, such as REDATAM. If the Latin American experience is a guide, REDATAM is likely to generate a substantial and growing body of users for national statistical offices. There are numerous advantages to REDATAM's approach to microdata. First, the number of potential users is limitless because the confidentiality protections facilitate public access without registration. REDATAM is a third generation product that works smoothly with an intuitive interface. Second, the REDATAM portal and data reside on the national statistical office website, yet has an entirely national "look". The NSO is wholly responsible for maintaining access. Third, CELADE regularly offers training programs and technical support to assist in implementing REDATAM on NSO websites, preparing the underlying database, and maintaining trouble-free performance. Al-

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most all NSOs in Africa have participated in at least one REDATAM workshop (see Table 1). Fifteen have implemented REDATAM on their websites and an additional 18 have been awarded advanced certification after completion of coursework.

The IHSN dissemination strategy empowers National Statistical Offices to disseminate microdata directly to end-users. This approach to dissemination has proven successful for some statistical offices, such as Statistics Canada. However, the gold standard in dissemination is INSEE-France: <http://www.recensement.insee.fr/fichiers-Detail.action>. The INSEE site constitutes best practice because:

1. It offers several high precision, anonymized household census samples. The density for the individual-region sample dated "2006" and derived from the "recensement rénovée" is 31.6%.
2. Custom metadata were written specifically for the open-access microdata, describing the census and sample and defining each term.
3. The microdata are downloadable from the site, without registration, and there is no payment of any kind.
4. Household samples for five historical censuses, 1962-1999, are fully integrated with differences from one sample to another explained in detail.

IPUMS-USA ([www.ipums.org/usa](http://www.ipums.org/usa)) also disseminates fully integrated samples free of charge for a long series of censuses, stretching over a century and a half, from 1850 to 2000. IPUMS-USA also incorporates annual updates of the American Community Survey, 2000-2008.

The site has attracted over 20,000 registered users over two decades at no cost either to the researchers or the US Census Bureau, thanks to funding by the National Science Foundation (USA).

Many National Statistical Offices aspire to disseminate microdata, but few succeed. In part this is because of small population size.

It should not be a surprise that countries with fewer than 20 million inhabitants and, say, 20 members of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population—to cite one of the most active international organization of demographers—will not generate a large number of requests for microdata. Unless the microdata are simply posted on the internet to be freely downloaded by researchers, low demand is often the result.

Regional and international organizations are more successful in disseminating microdata because of the economies of scale from distributing many censuses for many countries. The most effective sites are not simply conduits—passing on copies of files received from the national statistical offices—but add value to the samples by standardizing the research experience, producing additional metadata, and simplifying coding schemes.

**The fourth stage envisioned is capacity building.** Empirical research is weak in many African countries because data are not readily available. Once microdata are made available, teachers, researchers and policy makers require training through workshops, specialized courses, and reformed curricula offered by Universities and research training facilities, such as IFORD. The African Centre for Statistics, Afristat and IFORD are well positioned to assume leadership roles in training the current generation of researchers as well as preparing teachers of the coming generation of university graduates.

**Conclusion.** Cooperation was the watchword from the microdata meeting in New York. Cooperation between National Statistical Offices, regional organizations, and international initiatives is essential, if census microdata of African countries are to be recovered, archived, disseminated and used to their fullest, as for other regions of the world.

Readers interested in cooperating with one or another of the initiatives referenced here are invited to email the author of this note: Robert McCaa, [rmccaa@umn.edu](mailto:rmccaa@umn.edu)

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**Table 1. Census Microdata Inventory by Country, Census and Initiative**  
**Tableau 1. Inventaire des microdonnées de recensement par pays, recensement et Initiative**

Country	NSO	IPUMS	ACAP	IHSN	REDATAM	2000-09	1990-99	1980-89	1969-79
Microdata (censuses)	116	61	49		17				
Algeria	4				Course	2008*	1998	1987t	1977t
Benin	3		2		Course	2002*	1992* <sup>A</sup>		1979* <sup>A</sup>
Botswana	3	3	2			2001* <sup>I</sup>	1991* <sup>IA</sup>	1981* <sup>IA</sup>	1971
Burkina Faso	3	3	1		3	2006*	1996* <sup>A</sup>	1985* <sup>A</sup>	1975
Burundi	3				Course	2008*	1990t	1979t	1970
Cameroon	3		2	/nada	2	2005*		1987* <sup>A</sup>	1976 <sup>A</sup>
Cape Verde	2	§	1		Course	2000*	1990 <sup>A</sup>	1980p	1970p
Central African Republic	2		1		1	2003*		1988 <sup>A</sup>	1975
Chad	2		1		Course	2009*	1993* <sup>A</sup>		
Comoros	2					2003*	1991	1980	
Congo, Republic	1					2007*	1996p	1984	1979
Cote d'Ivoire	2			/nada			1998*	1988	1975
Djibouti	1					2009		1983	
Equatorial Guinea	1					2002	1994	1983	1970
Egypt	3	3			1	2006* <sup>I</sup>	1996* <sup>I</sup>	1986 <sup>I</sup>	1976
Ethiopia	3	2		/nada	Course	2007*	1994* <sup>I</sup>	1984* <sup>I</sup>	
Gabon	2				1	2003*	1993*	1981	1969
Gambia, The	4	2	3	/nada		2003*	1993* <sup>IA</sup>	1983* <sup>IA</sup>	1973* <sup>A</sup>
Ghana	3	2	3	/nada	Course	2000* <sup>IA</sup>		1984* <sup>IA</sup>	1970 <sup>A</sup>
Guinea	2	2	2		Course		1996* <sup>IA</sup>	1983* <sup>IA</sup>	
Guinea-Bissau	1	§				2009*	1991		1979
Kenya	5	4	4		2	2009*	1999* <sup>IA</sup>	1989* <sup>IA</sup>	1979 <sup>IA</sup> , 69 <sup>IA</sup>
Lesotho	3	2	2	/nada		2006* <sup>I</sup>	1996* <sup>IA</sup>	1986 <sup>A</sup>	1976
Liberia	2	1	1	/nada		2008*		1984	1974 <sup>IA</sup>
Libya	0					2006	1995	1984	1973
Madagascar	1	1			Course		1993* <sup>I</sup>		1975
Malawi	4	2	3	/nada	Course	2008*	1998* <sup>IA</sup>	1987* <sup>IA</sup>	1977 <sup>A</sup>
Mali	4	3	1	/nada	Course	2009*	1998* <sup>I</sup>	1987* <sup>IA</sup>	1976* <sup>I</sup>
Mauritania	0					2001		1988	1977
Mauritius	3	2	3			2000* <sup>IA</sup>	1990* <sup>IA</sup>	1983 <sup>A</sup>	1972
Morocco	3	3			Course	2004* <sup>I</sup>	1994 <sup>I</sup>	1982 <sup>I</sup>	1971



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Mozambique	2	1	1	/nada	Course	2007*	1997* <sup>IA</sup>	1980	1970
Namibia	1					2001*	1991	1981	1970
Niger	2	2	1	/nada		2001* <sup>I</sup>		1988* <sup>IA</sup>	1977
Nigeria	2		1	/nada	1	2006*	1991 <sup>A</sup>	1980	1973
Rwanda	2	2			2	2002* <sup>I</sup>	1991* <sup>I</sup>		1978
Senegal	3	3	2	/nada	Course	2002* <sup>I</sup>		1988* <sup>IA</sup>	1976 <sup>IA</sup>
Sierra Leone	1	1			1	2004* <sup>I</sup>		1985	1974
South Africa	7	7	5	/nada	Course	2001 <sup>IA</sup> , 7 <sup>I</sup>	1996*, 1 <sup>IA</sup>	1980, 5 <sup>IA</sup>	1970 <sup>IA</sup>
Sudan	4	3	1			2008*	1993* <sup>I</sup>	1983* <sup>I</sup>	1973 <sup>IA</sup>
Swaziland	4	1	1			2007* <sup>I</sup>	1997*	1986 <sup>A</sup>	1976
Tanzania	2	2	1			2002* <sup>I</sup>		1988* <sup>IA</sup>	1978
Togo	1				Course			1981 <sup>t</sup>	1970?
Tunisia	1				Course	2004*	1994 <sup>p</sup>	1984 <sup>p</sup>	1975 <sup>p</sup>
Uganda	3	2	2	/nada	1	2002* <sup>I</sup>	1991* <sup>IA</sup>	1980 <sup>A</sup>	
Zambia	3	2	2	/nada	Course	2000* <sup>I</sup>	1990* <sup>IA</sup>	1980 <sup>A</sup>	
Zimbabwe	2				2	2002*	1992*	1982	

Notes: NSO = National Statistical Office. "/nada" = Census and survey metadata are posted on the national statistical office website.

**Bold year** = microdata extant. \* = complete microdata are archived.

I = IPUMS - [www.ipums.org](http://www.ipums.org) § = in preparation A = ACAP - [www.acap.upenn.edu](http://www.acap.upenn.edu) (Feb 1 and Jun 13, 2010)

IHSN - [www.ihsn.org](http://www.ihsn.org) (Note: IHSN does not archive microdata) REDATAM - <http://www.eclac.cl/redatam/>

t = microdata survive on computer tape p = paper—census responses survive in paper form only

Countries with no known extant census microdata: Angola, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, and Somalia

Please address corrections and updates to: Robert McCaa, [rmccaa@umn.edu](mailto:rmccaa@umn.edu)

Légendes : INS = Institut national de statistique. "/nada" = Les métadonnées des recensements et enquêtes sont mises sur le site web de l'office national de statistique.

**Année en gras** = les microdonnées existent. \* = la totalité des microdonnées est archivée

I = IPUMS - [www.ipums.org](http://www.ipums.org) § = en préparation A = ACAP - [www.acap.upenn.edu](http://www.acap.upenn.edu) (1 fev. et 13 juin, 2010)

IHSN - [www.ihsn.org](http://www.ihsn.org) (Note: IHSN n'archive pas de microdonnées) REDATAM - <http://www.eclac.cl/redatam/>

t = les microdonnées ont survécu sur des bandes pour ordinateur p = papier—les questionnaires de recensements remplis ont survécu uniquement sur support papier

Les pays ne disposant pas de microdonnées de recensement existant sont connus : il s'agit de : Angola, République Démocratique du Congo, Érythrée et Somalie

Veuillez, sil vous plaît, envoyer les corrections et mises à jour à : Robert McCaa, [rmccaa@umn.edu](mailto:rmccaa@umn.edu)



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#### Archivage et diffusion des méta-données et des micro-informations des recensements africains : Le CAS, Afristat, le CELADE, le CEPED, l'IHSN, l'IPUMS-International et les Instituts Nationaux de Statistique coopèrent

Robert McCaa, Centre de Population du Minnesota, USA

Plusieurs initiatives sont en cours pour archiver et diffuser les méta-données et les micro-informations des recensements africains. Afin de dynamiser et de coordonner les efforts internationaux, régionaux et nationaux, une réunion s'est tenue, en marge de la session de la Commission statistique 2010 des Nations unies. Avant la réunion, une liste des micro-informations archivées a été diffusée en vue d'encourager les instituts nationaux de statistique à réaliser le bilan des exploitations ainsi qu'à identifier les micro-informations stockées sur des supports obsolètes. L'inventaire, actualisé via les informations reçues par courrier électronique ou au cours des discussions avec les délégués à New York, est présenté ci-dessous (cf. tableau 1, page 28). Étaient représentées à ladite réunion les institutions suivantes :

•Le Centre Africain pour la Statistique (CAS)	Dr. Dimitri Sanga
•Afristat	M. Freeman Amegashie
•Le Centre Latino Américain et Caribéen de Démographie (CELADE)	M. Dirk Jaspers
•Le Fonds des Nations Unies pour la Population (UNFP)	M. Rogelio Fernandez-Castillo
•IPUMS-International	Dr. Robert McCaa
•Institut National de la Statistique et des Études Économiques (INSEE)	M. Alain Tranap

Les représentants de trois projets se sont excusés de ne pouvoir y assister et ont souhaité pleins succès aux travaux. Il s'agit du Centre Population et Développement (CEPED/IREDA), du Réseau d'enquêtes intégrées sur les Ménages (IHSN) et de l'Observatoire Démographique et Statistique de l'Espace Francophone (ODSEF, Université de Laval). Deux autres institutions, Le Projet d'Analyse des Recensements Africains (ACAP) et l'Institut de Formation et de Recherche Démographiques (IFORD), n'ont pas répondu aux demandes de renseignements.

Dr. Dimitri Sanga a succinctement résumé la longue discussion collégiale qui a débouché sur un projet de coopération en quatre points et qui se présente comme suit :

1. récupération des micro-informations et méta-données par les instituts nationaux de statistique, et leur rapatriement à partir des sites personnelles ou institutionnelles
2. archivage dans des centres de stockage nationaux et régionaux

3. diffusion par le biais des systèmes nationaux, régionaux et internationaux

4. renforcement des capacités dans les pays africains pour les statisticiens publics, les chercheurs universitaires et les décideurs.

La première étape est l'inventaire et la valorisation des micro-informations et de la documentation. Il a été convenu que les visites, aussi bien dans les instituts nationaux de statistique qu'aux cadres de la statistique qui assistent aux réunions régionales et internationales sur les archives, constituent le moyen le plus efficace d'accomplir cette phase. Le courrier électronique et le courrier express peuvent être également utiles pour le transfert de matériaux. Le tableau ci-joint, indiquant l'état des micro-informations des recensements par pays et par participation aux initiatives, a été mis à jour lors de la réunion et au cours d'un dîner organisé par l'INSEE et l'IPUMS pour les statisticiens publics représentant les délégations des pays d'Afrique francophone.

En 1988, le Centre Population et Développement ([www.cepel.org/ireda](http://www.cepel.org/ireda)) a lancé l'organisation de la documentation recueillie sur plusieurs décennies par des chercheurs en majorité français qui avaient été consultants sur de nombreux recensements et enquêtes. Quelques-uns des résultats de cette collaboration sont accessibles au public sur le site Internet de l'IREDA (Inventaire des Recensements et Enquêtes en Afrique ; fig. 1). D'autres résultats, dont ceux tirés des recensements échantillons des années 1950, 60 et 70, sont en traitement de récupération par l'IPUMS. Le CEPED coopère avec le CAS, Afristat, l'IHSN, l'IPUMS et d'autres initiatives sur la collecte et la diffusion des méta-données et des micro-informations.



Fig. 1. Page d'accueil du CEPED/IREDA pour l'inventaire des recensements et des enquêtes en Afrique

<http://www.cepel.org/ireda>

Au cours des années 1990, le projet d'analyse de recensements africains (ACAP) a accumulé des micro-informations d'environ 50 recensements, dont beaucoup ont été récupérés à partir de bandes ayant survécu. La liste des données en possession par l'ACAP, et qui sont logées à l'Université de Pennsylvanie, est actuellement en cours d'actualisation (voir tableau 1 et Fig. 2) :

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**Fig. 2. Sélection de régions du Projet d'analyse de recensements Africains** [http://www.acap.upenn.edu/Data/navigator/region\\_selector.html](http://www.acap.upenn.edu/Data/navigator/region_selector.html)

En 1999, IPUMS a lancé une initiative mondiale pour récupérer et préserver les micro-informations, consacrant la plus grande part de son énergie aux pays des Amériques, d'Asie et d'Europe (voir : [www.ipums.org/international](http://www.ipums.org/international)). Ce n'est que plus tard que des ressources importantes ont été dirigées vers l'Afrique. Comme indiqué en Figure 3, les faibles ressources empêchent l'archivage adéquat des anciens médias électroniques. En raison de la portée mondiale d'IPUMS, les micro-informations du recensement de 1991 au Rwanda ont pu être récupérées à partir d'un référentiel en Amérique du Sud, où seul un cybernéticien international aurait pensé à les consulter. Néanmoins, il y a au moins cinq recensements de pays africains qui n'existent que sur bandes d'ancien ordinateur (noté par un «t» dans le tableau 1). Le projet IPUMS finance la récupération de ces bandes par une entreprise de données de New York ainsi que les frais de rapatriement.



**Fig. 3. La reprise de micro-informations à partir de vieilles bandes magnétiques est une tâche urgente**

[http://www.hist.umn.edu/~rmccaa/ipums\\_archiving\\_disseminating\\_microdata\\_acys2008.ppt](http://www.hist.umn.edu/~rmccaa/ipums_archiving_disseminating_microdata_acys2008.ppt)

Un troisième projet international, l'IHSN ([www.ihsn.org](http://www.ihsn.org)), est une initiative mondiale visant à l'autonomisation des INS et au renforcement des capacités statistiques en matière d'archivage et de diffusion d'un large éventail de micro-informations, y compris les recensements. L'interface de micro-informations d'IHSN est un outil précieux pour standardiser l'assemblage et la diffusion des méta-données et des micro-informations. Les méta-données sont générées à partir des conventions de l'Initiative Document de Données (DDI). DDI est facilement transférable dans une grande variété de formats de méta-données. Plus d'une douzaine d'instituts de statistique en Afrique (identifiés par l'acronyme «/ nada» dans le tableau ci-dessous) ont réalisé des projets en utilisant la boîte à

outils de micro-informations IHSN pour construire des répertoires nationaux physiques et sur Internet. Olivier Dupriez, directeur du projet IHSN, a aimablement envoyé les observations suivantes à la réunion :

- «Comme vous le savez, je suis un fervent partisan de la DDI comme norme de méta-données pour documenter tous les recensements (de nombreux recensements verront leurs méta-données mises au format DDI à l'achèvement des travaux IHSN-IPUMS et via les travaux de l'IHSN-ADP [Programme de Données Accéléré]).
- Notre priorité est d'avoir tous les recensements documentés et préservés dans les pays (IPUMS étant une "sauvegarde" très utile en plus d'être un bon canal de diffusion pour des données harmonisées).
- Je joins les lignes directrices sur la préservation à long terme des données /méta-données numériques [pour obtenir une copie, veuillez envoyer un courrier électronique à [odupriez@worldbank.org](mailto:odupriez@worldbank.org)]. Ce document a été produit par l'ICPSR (à l'Université du Michigan) pour l'IHSN. »

La réunion a clairement appuyé la déclaration de M. Dupriez en faveur de la conservation dans le pays. Le rapatriement des micro-informations perdues est une première étape obligatoire dès qu'elles sont récupérées. L'archivage en dehors du pays est de peu d'utilité s'il ne répond pas aux demandes formulées par les propriétaires des données pour des copies en vue de restaurer ce qui a été perdu ou égaré. En outre, les ensembles de données rapatriés doivent être documentés le plus complètement que possible. Les copies rapatriées mettront en évidence la valeur ajoutée de l'archivage en développant une certification selon les normes internationales de haut niveau.

Une quatrième initiative, l'ODSEF ([www.odsef.fss.ulaval.ca](http://www.odsef.fss.ulaval.ca)), mène un projet ambitieux pour l'informatisation du recensement de 1977 du Mali à partir de questionnaires papier (voir Fig. 4). Les micro-informations récupérées il y a de cela plusieurs années à partir des anciennes bandes avec l'aide d'IPUMS se sont avérées incomplètes. Le seul recours est de saisir à nouveau les données à partir des questionnaires papier d'origine.



**Fig. 4. Les retours archivés, comme pour ceux du recensement de 1977 du Mali, constituent un moyen de récupération plus cher, plus consommateur de temps.** <http://www.odsef.fss.ulaval.ca/cms/index.php?menu=10&temps=1265645232>

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La récupération de micro-informations de recensement à partir des questionnaires papier est une entreprise coûteuse, consommatrice de temps, mais inévitable lorsque les micro-informations sont perdues ou incomplètes. Près de neuf recensements Africains sont connus pour ne subsister que sous forme papier (signalés par un "p" dans le tableau ci-joint).

IPUMS, a aussi coopéré à la récupération de plusieurs recensements à partir de papier, hors Afrique. Bien que, le financement IPUMS soit plus symbolique que réel, ne s'élevant pas à plus de 20.000 \$ US par recensement, ces ressources modestes peuvent permettre de démarrer un projet. IPUMS assure à 100% la saisie des données, en utilisant un processus simple et pratique (sur au moins un échantillon), dans le cas où le projet n'est pas conclu, comme prévu. Tout d'abord, les paquets ou les dossiers contenant les déclarations originales pour quelques centaines de ménages sont numérotés en série de 1 à n. Un chiffre de 0 à 9 est choisi au hasard. Les questionnaires sont saisis à partir de lots où le dernier chiffre à droite est égal au nombre tiré au hasard. Les contrôles de qualité sont mis en œuvre dès le début afin de s'assurer que le travail est effectué selon des normes rigoureuses. IPUMS paie une avance une fois que le bon de commande est approuvé et la documentation de base du recensement est rassemblée. Un deuxième versement est effectué quand un échantillon de taille 10% est confirmé. Les versements sont effectués par étape de 30%. Le paiement final est effectué au vu d'un rapport qui compare les statistiques de base des micro-informations récupérées avec les chiffres officiels.

L'archivage est la deuxième étape de mise en œuvre, une fois que les données et les documents sont récupérés. Les récents tremblements de terre en Haïti et au Chili ainsi que les inondations, les incendies et les troubles civils ailleurs, ne laissent aucun doute au fait que les micro-informations et la documentation correspondante doivent être sauvegardées dans des archives non seulement à l'échelle nationale, mais aussi à des niveaux régionaux.

Aussi bien Afristat que le CAS sont désireux d'établir des centres d'archivage régionaux. Tous ont convenu que les archives nationales et régionales doivent être une priorité absolue. Le CELADE a offert son expertise technique en matière d'archivage de micro-informations et de documentation des recensements fort de ses 50 années d'expérience avec les instituts de statistique en Amérique. Le logiciel REDATAM de CELADE est reconnu comme un outil basé sur Internet pour la production instantanée de tableaux. Ce qui est moins connu, c'est que les micro-informations stockées dans REDATAM sont cryptées et donc fournissent une protection totale du secret statistique, même pour des bases de données entières. La reprise des micro-informations du recensement de 1991 au Rwanda a été possible, précisément parce que la seule copie de micro-informations ayant survécu, avait été stockée dans REDATAM.

Le projet IPUMS s'est engagé à confier les micro-informations aux structures d'archivage régionales en Amérique, en Asie, en Europe et en Afrique, avec le consentement indispensable de l'Institut National de Statistique correspondant. Entre temps, IPUMS va fournir des copies d'un immense butin de méta-données aux structures régionales et nationales d'archivage. Lors de la session de l'année de 2007 de l'Institut International de Statistique, IPUMS a présenté une collection presque complète de questionnaires de recensement pour chaque agence de statistique officielle qui y participait. Pour la session 2011 de l'IIS, un DVD d'instructions aux agents recenseurs est en préparation, dont une version préliminaire a été fournie au CAS et à Afristat.

La troisième étape, la diffusion des microdonnées, peut prendre des formes diverses, de l'utilisation des fichiers publics distribués librement (Statistique Afrique du Sud, INSEE-France) aux données les plus restrictives fermées, tel que l'outil d'ACAP à l'Université de Pennsylvanie, où l'accès est contrôlé par le directeur du projet, le Dr Tukufu Zuberi.

IPUMS poursuit une voie médiane. Les micro-informations sont diffusées gratuitement, mais l'accès est limité aux chercheurs de bonne foi. Il n'existe aucune restriction quant au pays de résidence, et les données sont disponibles pour téléchargement à tout moment sans frais. Le nombre des utilisateurs enregistrés par IPUMS-International s'élevait à 3 354 en Février 2010. IPUMS diffuse les micro-informations sous - forme d'échantillons extraits sur demande. Les chercheurs analysent les échantillons extraits de la base IPUMS à leur propre lieu de travail, en utilisant leurs propres matériel et logiciels.

Les sites miroirs en Afrique sont une priorité pour IPUMS- une fois que les recensements africains des années 60-70 seront intégrés dans la base de données IPUMS (le nombre actuel est 19). IPUMS coopérera à la construction des centres d'archivage de données sécurisés au CAS, à Afristat, à l'IFORD et auprès d'autres institutions intéressées, comme pour le site des micro-informations pour les Etats-Unis logé au Centre de Population du Minnesota. La construction d'un site africain est envisageable dès 2014, s'il existe une coopération suffisante de la part des Instituts africains de statistique.

La diffusion est possible au moyen d'un tableur sur Internet, tel que REDATAM. Si l'expérience latino-américaine est un modèle, REDATAM est susceptible de générer un volume important et croissant d'utilisateurs pour les instituts nationaux de statistique. Il y a de nombreux avantages par rapport l'approche REDATAM sur les micro-informations. D'abord, le nombre d'utilisateurs potentiels est sans limite parce que les protections de confidentialité facilitent l'accès du public sans qu'il y ait besoin d'enregistrement. REDATAM est un produit de troisième génération qui fonctionne avec une interface intuitive. Ensuite, le portail REDATAM et les données

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résident sur le site de l'institut national de la statistique, ce qui donne déjà une "vue" nationale. L'INS est entièrement responsable en ce qui concerne le maintien de l'accès. Enfin, le CELADE offre régulièrement des programmes de formation et d'appui technique en vue d'aider à la mise en œuvre de REDATAM sur les sites Web des ONS, la préparation de la base de données sous-jacente, et le maintien d'un rendement sans problème. Presque tous les INS en Afrique ont participé à au moins un atelier REDATAM (voir tableau 1). Quinze ont mis en œuvre REDATAM sur leurs sites et 18 autres ont reçu une certification avancée après la fin du cours.

La stratégie de diffusion d'IHSN permet aux instituts nationaux de statistiques de diffuser les micro-informations directement aux utilisateurs finals. Cette approche de la diffusion a fait le succès de certains instituts de statistique, comme Statistique Canada. Toutefois, la palme en matière de diffusion revient à l'INSEE-France : <http://www.recensement.insee.fr/fichiersDetail.action>, ce site constituant la meilleure pratique car :

1. Il offre plusieurs échantillons de recensement de ménages anonymisés de haute précision. La densité de l'échantillon individus/région, dérivé du «recensement rénové» de 2006 est de 31,6%.
2. Des méta-données personnalisées ont été écrites spécialement pour les micro-informations en libre accès, décrivant le recensement et l'échantillon ainsi que la définition de chaque terme.
3. Les micro-informations sont téléchargeables sur le site, sans inscription, et il n'y a aucune sorte de paiement à faire.
4. Des échantillons de ménages de cinq recensements historiques, 1962-1999, sont totalement intégrés et les différences entre échantillons sont expliquées en détail.

IPUMS-USA ([www.ipums.org/USA](http://www.ipums.org/USA)) diffuse des échantillons pleinement intégrés à titre gracieux pour une série de recensements, s'étendant sur un siècle et demi, de 1850 à 2000. IPUMS-USA intègre les mises à jour annuelles de l'Enquête sur la Communauté Américaine, 2000-2008.

Le site a attiré plus de 20 000 utilisateurs enregistrés sur plus de deux décennies, sans frais, soit à des chercheurs soit au Bureau du Recensement des Etats-Unis, grâce au financement offert par la Fondation Nationale pour la Science (USA).

De nombreux instituts nationaux de statistique aspirent à diffuser leurs micro-informations, mais peu d'entre eux y réussissent. Cela vient en partie de la petite taille des populations de ces pays,

comptant moins de 20 millions d'habitants. Ceci explique qu'une vingtaine de membres de l'Union Internationale pour l'Etude Scientifique des Populations, pour citer l'une des organisations internationales les plus actives de démographes - ne génère que peu de demandes de micro-informations ; à moins que ces micro-informations n'aient été mises sur Internet pour être téléchargées gratuitement par les chercheurs, le résultat est le plus souvent dû à une faible demande.

Les organisations régionales et internationales sont plus efficaces dans la diffusion de micro-informations en raison des économies d'échelle qui découlent de la possibilité de distribuer des recensements provenant de nombreux pays. Les sites les plus efficaces ne sont pas que de simples canaux de transmission de fichiers provenant de instituts nationaux de statistique, mais une valeur ajoutée aux échantillons, en standardisant l'expérience de recherche, la production de méta-données supplémentaires, et la simplification des schémas de codage.

La quatrième étape envisagée est le renforcement des capacités. La recherche reste de faible niveau dans de nombreux pays africains parce que les données ne sont pas facilement disponibles. Une fois que les micro-informations sont mises à disposition, les enseignants, les chercheurs et les décideurs politiques doivent recevoir une formation via des ateliers, des cours spécialisés, et des programmes académiques révisés, proposés par les universités et centres de formation et de recherche, comme l'IFORD. Le Centre Africain pour la Statistique, Afristat et l'IFORD sont bien placés pour assumer des rôles de leadership dans la formation de la génération actuelle de chercheurs ainsi que les futurs enseignants en cours de formation de la prochaine génération de diplômés universitaires.

#### Conclusion

La coopération a été le mot d'ordre de la réunion sur les micro-informations à New York. Cette coopération entre les instituts nationaux de statistique, les organisations régionales, et les initiatives internationales est indispensable, si on veut que les micro-informations de recensement des pays africains soient récupérées, archivées, diffusées et utilisées à leur maximum, comme c'est le cas pour d'autres régions du monde.

Les lecteurs intéressés à coopérer avec l'une ou l'autre des initiatives référencées dans cet article sont invités à envoyer un courrier électronique à son auteur : Robert McCaa, [rmccaa@umn.edu](mailto:rmccaa@umn.edu).



### III. STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT - SELECTED AREAS - DÉVELOPPEMENT DE LA STATISTIQUE - QUELQUES SUJETS

#### ACS Staff conducted Study Tour at World Bank and University of Minnesota to enhance statistical data management activities

Dimitri Sanga, African Centre for Statistic

#### Background

The African Centre for Statistics (ACS) has embarked on a project aimed at building the capacity of the Centre to be an authoritative source of development information on Africa and underpinning the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa's (UNECA) important policy analysis, which is dependent upon up-to-date comparative data across Africa.

In this context, ACS staff conducted a study tour to share and learn from experiences and knowledge between the ACS and the two of the leading institutions in statistical data management: the World Bank and the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (IPUMS) of the University of Minnesota.

#### Objectives of the mission

The objectives of the mission were to share experiences and ideas, particularly:

- Identifying best practices in statistical data collection, processing, dissemination and archiving;
- Strategies for future collaboration in the area of statistical data management;
- Discussing modalities for sharing and exchanging data and tools of common interest; and
- General discussions on statistical capacity building towards African countries.

#### Account of the mission

The study tour, held from 3 to 8 May 2010, offered a tailored program covering, among other topics, data collection, data validation, dissemination, microdata data archive and capacity building. Important discussions, demonstration of statistical data management products and presentations were carried out. The visiting team also presented the statistics and statistical capacity building activities covered by the ECA including the statistical data management platform.

#### The World Bank

There were high quality presentations delivered on the above subjects. The discussions were intensive and informative, and the documentations received extremely useful.

The study tour focused on three major areas, namely, macro statistical data management system, microdata/household survey, and capacity building.

#### Statistical Data Management System

The Bank staff made various presentations and live demonstrations of tools used for statistical data collection, processing and dissemination.

#### Data collection

The bank collects mainly secondary data. The data are compiled into satellite or World Development Indicator (WDI) working databases. Derivative indicators are also maintained at this level of the process. The software tools used for data collection were demonstrated which includes, the Live Database (LDB), Data Collection System (DCS), and the Development Data Platform (DDP).

#### Data validation

The Bank presented the data validation mechanism implemented to validate data. The data collection tools have a mechanism to implement algorithms to validate data before putting on production. The ECA statistical data collection system does not implement computer assisted mechanism for validation.

#### Data Dissemination

There are several tools used by the World Bank for statistical data dissemination. These include: World Development Indicators Database, the Website, API, GDF, MDG, TOPICAL, API, Data export for both codes and data and footnotes. The latter have the possibility to save reports, define them, and create custom pages according to users' needs. The visiting team learnt that the Bank has changed its data dissemination policy recently from paid subscriptions of statistical data to an open data access initiative. The Open data access initiative allows users to have free subscription to its data irrespective of the type of the user. Users are only required to properly cite the Bank and declare the purpose of use.

#### Mobile application

The Bank also presented to the team the mobile application

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particularly the tool for apple smart phone called data finder to explore data from Iphone and similar technologies.

#### CD-ROM

One of the tools demonstrated to us was the CD-ROM publisher tool. This tool is part of the Data Platform, which is used to publish snap shots of searchable database on a CD-ROM.

#### SDMX

The SDMX is a special xml file for data and metadata exchange. The core of the SDMX is the Data Structure Definition (DSD). DSD is designed for various sectors of statistics like national accounts, trade, education, etc. DSD can be shared among partner organizations to avoid duplication of effort. The World Bank has developed a hybrid DSD for managing MDGs data, which is of interest to ECA.

#### World Integrated Trade Solution (WITS)

The trade data platform, which is under development, is one of the sophisticated platform demonstrated to the team for management trade statistics. This platform imports automatically data from Comtrade, WTO, UNCTAD and other databases and maintains in a central database. The features include different versions of classification of indicators mapping, various grouping of countries, customization of presentations pages by end users, etc.

#### Microdata/Household Survey

The team also discussed about the survey data housed at the World Bank and the microdata archiving activities undertaken by the latter with African countries. The Team learnt that the World Bank is supporting through IHSN and ADP a number of African countries. The Team suggested to the World Bank that it can partner on this important activity in the implementation of national data archive systems to African countries.

The Team also learnt that the survey data bank at the World Bank is mainly for policy work of the organization and that surveys are partly funded by the Bank. The format of the survey files includes SPSS, text, STATA, SAS and accompanying documents that are converted into PDF.

#### Statistical capacity building

The visiting Team had discussion on statistical capacity building activities. The Bank presented the Bulletin Board on statistical capacity and the various activities undertaken by the Bank to develop capacity in Africa.

The ECA Team also met and discussed a number of issues with officials of the Bank, including:

- Ms Shaida Badiee, Manager of the World Bank's Data Development Group: Open data access initiative, capacity building, sharing existing tools at the Bank with ECA.
- Michel Mouyola-Katoula, Manager, Global Office of the International Comparizon Programme: PPP and CPI data collection and compilation, lack of database for archiving historical data in African countries, sub regional, regional and international organizations ; Global core list, regional list and national accounts programme statistics ; Quality Assurance Framework.
- The Chief Economist: Collaboration between the the two institutions.
- The Acting Director of Africa Region: Collaboration between the two institutions.

#### The University of Minnesota – Minnesota Population Center

The visiting Team spent two days at the Minnesota Population Center mainly to discuss the mirroring African microdata at ACS.

The Team was given a tour of the ICT infrastructure including servers, data storage systems, backup systems, and the organization of census microdata management. The Team was also exposed to the whole process leading to the archiving of microdata from countries, which includes scanning, digitizing, verification, storage, and integrating census data and related documentation from countries. The back end software used in the archiving processes and the IPUMS website for dissemination of the data were also presented in details to the visiting Team. During the ensuing discussions, IPUMS informed the visitors that the European census data are mirrored by the University of Barcelona, which gives a clearer picture of how the African census data can be mirrored at the ECA.

The Team visited also the US Census Bureau at the Minnesota Population Centre with special emphasis on modern data security mechanisms and disaster recovery mechanisms set up for statistical data by the US Government.

#### Conclusions and recommendations

Household surveys databank

- The WB is willing to share household surveys files from African countries as long as there is a written agreement between the ECA and respective counties. There is a need for coordination

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between pan African institutions to decide where the files will be based. The ECA is willing to consult with other pan African institutions in this regard and offer to host the files as it has the capacity to do so.

- The WB will share the list of African countries that have provided it with their household surveys files so far.
- The ECA will crosscheck with countries to see which of the surveys have been documented. This would help both institutions to collaborate on the cataloguing of household surveys on African countries. The proper catalogue of household surveys on African countries will also be mirrored at the ECA.
- The ECA offers the services of its IT professionals to be part of the teams that will upgrade and train African countries on the new catalogue being set up by the Bank. The WB will only take care of travel and DSA of ECA specialist while their salary is being paid by the ECA as the contribution to project.
- The ECA will implement a harvester to create a regional portal of household survey data on Africa.

#### Infrastructure

- There is a need to get stock of the ongoing initiative to build the capacity of African countries to collect and disseminate infrastructure statistics in collaboration with the AfDB.
- ACS to come up with a proposal on how it can contribute to this process.
- From the proposal, WB and other partners to see how to fund this contribution.

#### International Comparizon programme (ICP)

- ACS to explore the possibility of creating a repository on data on prices, national accounts and related metadata at country, sub regional and regional levels in collaboration with the AfDB.
- Prepare some guidelines for the implementation of National Accounts in the framework of the ICP with special emphasis on the expenditure approach for GDP compilation.
- Sharing with the WB the African strategy for the implementation of the 2008 SNA.

#### Database

- Acquiring the application behind the Data Development Platform (DDP) as the functionalities of the Data Platform (DP) are limited as compared to what ACS has in its StatBase.
- The CD-ROM Publisher component of the DP for the dissemination of the ASYB.
- The trade statistics database (WITS): ACS interested in getting the entire application as it can help us efficiently access information from other partners such as the UNSD on COMTRADE, WTO, IMF etc. This would support building a repository on trade data in support of RECs work on regional integration.

#### Open Data Access Initiative

- WB to share with ACS the expanded version of the terms of use of the data (open access initiative) and any other data policy if sharable.
- The contest on applications for development: how to use data to help move forward some development issues. The ACS proposes to organize a contest in this regard among young statisticians and the reward would be a round trip ticket and DSA to present their papers to the next ISI meeting in Dublin.

#### E-Learning

- Development of training modules on new and emerging issues:
- Management of statistical systems;
- Geographical Information Systems;
- Labour statistics;
- Agricultural statistics (based on the African implementation strategy being prepared);
- Climate change; and
- Preparation of CD-ROMs to avoid problems related to connectivity.

#### Virtual Statistical System

- To collaborate with AfDB on this project as they are part of this initiative.



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- ACS to use ongoing initiatives such as the RRSF implementation and the African Statistical Knowledge Networks to contribute to the initiative.

#### Bulletin Board

- Exchange of information on the African Statistical Development Index (ASDI) to feed the Bulletin Board from data collected from African countries.

#### Facilities for statistical capacity building

- Inform countries on the process of applying to existing facilities for statistical capacity building activities: TFSCB, STATCAP, SRF etc.

#### Data Management applications tools and technologies

Appreciate the various statistical data management applications we have been introduced to:

- Data Collection System (DCS)
- WDI / ADI
- DDP/DP
- Microdata toolkits, NADA systems and HARVESTER
- CD-ROM publisher
- LDB
- WITS
- Mobile applications
- API
- SDMX components
- Virtual Statistical System

#### Tools to be shared

ECA has discussed to get hold some of the tools the Bank has developed for statistical data management. This will help ECA to

avoid duplication of effort. In principle, the Bank agreed to provide the ECA with the following tools:

- DDP – including data validation, derivation of indicators, report definitions, etc.
- DP – Light weight version of DDP which can be packaged and implemented easily to other locations.
- WITS – Comprehensive trade statistics system.
- CD-Publisher – Allows publishing of searchable statistics on a CD.
- SDMX – the Hybrid DSD for sharing of generic statistical data.

#### Mirroring African Census microdata

The MPC has agreed graciously to provide African Census Microdata to ECA. It was agreed also that having the datasets at the ECA premises at this point will require configuring the ICT infrastructure in great deal and will take time. As this is part of a longer-term plan, it was agreed initially to create a portal like that of the European Census microdata archive for Africa. The following are the next steps in the implementation of the project:

- A list of African countries census data will be provided to ECA;
- All African Census data and documentation will be provided on a CD/DVD to ECA;
- MPC will provide documentation and information how to create the African portal;
- ECA will develop a prototype of the portal and launch it at the 6th ASSD meeting in Cairo, November 2010; and
- MPC will explore the possibility of training ECA staff in microdata management at the University of Barcelona and ICPR in Michigan.



## IV. FEATURED NSO - PROFIL DE L'INS

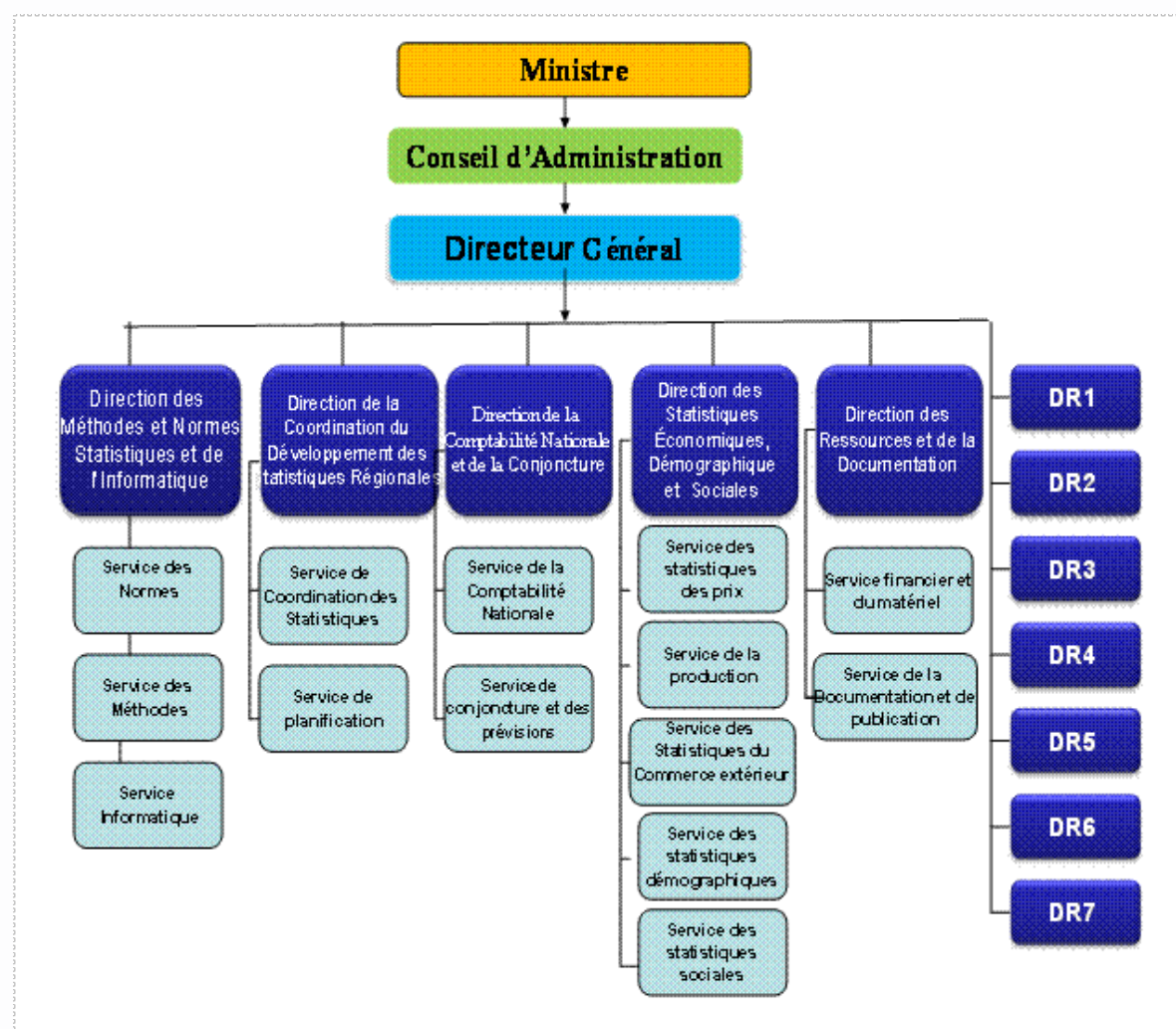
## PROFIL DE L'INS DE LA REPUBLIQUE CENTRAFRICAINE



Nom de l'INS	Institut Centrafricain des Statistiques et des Etudes Economiques et Sociales (ICASEES)
Directeur Général	Monsieur Issen MUSTAPHA
Structure organisationnelle	<p>L'ICASEES comprend cinq (5) directions au niveau central :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Direction des Méthodes et Normes Statistiques et de l'Informatique</li> <li>2. Direction de la Coordination et du Développement des Statistiques Régionales</li> <li>3. Direction de la Comptabilité Nationale et de la Conjoncture</li> <li>4. Direction des Statistiques Economiques, Démographiques et Sociales</li> <li>5. Direction des Ressources et de la Documentation</li> </ol> <p>et sept (7) Délégations Régionales (DR) ayant les prérogatives d'une direction:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. DR n°1 : PLATEAUX; (Chef lieu BIMBO)</li> <li>2. DR n°2 : EQUATEUR (Chef lieu Berberati)</li> <li>3. DR n°3 : YADE (Chef lieu Bossangoa)</li> <li>4. DR n°4 : KAGAS (Chef lieu Sibut)</li> <li>5. DR n°5 : FERTIT (Chef lieu Bria)</li> <li>6. DR n°6 : OUBANGUI (Chef lieu Bangassou)</li> <li>7. DR n°7 : BANGUI (Chef lieu Bangui)</li> </ol>
Effectif (désagrégé) au 16 février 2010	par sexe
	Hommes: 75 Femmes : 8 Total : 83
	par catégorie professionnelle
	ISE et ITS : 8 Démographes : 6 dont 2 femmes Economistes, planificateurs, géographes, sociologues... : 18 dont 2 femmes Techniciens et Agents : 38 dont 2 femmes Personnel d'appui : 16 dont 2 femmes

### IV. FEATURED NSO - PROFIL DE L'INS

Date de création	21 juillet 2006
Loi statistiques (Date et titre)	N°001.008 du 16 juillet 2001 portant réglementation des activités statistiques en République Centrafricaine. Décret N° 06.236 du 21 juillet 2006 portant approbation des statuts de l'ICASEES



## IV. FEATURED NSO - PROFIL DE L'INS

<b>Publications courantes</b>	<b>mensuelles</b>
	Indice des prix à la consommation des ménages « prix Info » Indice des prix de gros
	<b>trimestrielles</b>
	Bulletin Trimestriel de Conjoncture Indice de la production industrielle « IPI-Info » Bulletin Trimestriel de Statistique (trimestrielle) 4ème trimestre 2008 disponible Commerce en bref Résultats d'opinion auprès des chefs d'entreprises
	<b>annuelles</b>
	Annuaire statistique (2008 disponible) Bilan des prix à la consommation des ménages (annuelle) Bilan annuel des entreprises (exploitation des DSF) Annuaire du commerce extérieur (2006 disponible) Annuaire intra-communautaire (2006 disponible) Comptes de la Nation (2005 et 2006 disponibles) Tableau de bord social (2008 disponible) Annuaire statistique de la région N°7 (Bangui)
	<b>Autre publications ponctuelles</b>
	Résultats de RGPH03 de 2003 en 12 thèmes Résultats de l'enquête à indicateurs multiples MICS3 de 2006 Enquête Centrafricain de suivi du bien être de Base (ECASEB) 2008 Profils socioéconomiques des régions Répertoire des entreprises et des sociétés et quasi sociétés non financières
<b>Base de données</b>	Bases de données sociales-démographiques (IMIS) disponibles Base de données Dev-Info (en cours d'élaboration)
<b>Forces de l'ICASEES</b>	Partage des responsabilités Renforcement des capacités des cadres (recyclages et séminaires/ateliers) Evolution progressive du personnel statisticien Acquisition des Technologies de l'Information et de la Communication (existence d'un site de l'ICASEES)
<b>Faiblesse de l'ICASEES</b>	Nombre limité de cadres statisticiens de haut niveau (ISE et ITS) Faiblesse des ressources allouées aux activités statistiques courantes Forte mobilité des cadres compétents et solidement expérimentés Manque de document de stratégie de développement de la statistique.



## V. NEWS AND EVENTS - INFORMATIONS ET ÉVÉNEMENTS

### Staff Promotion / Promotion du personnel



Mr. Negussie Gorfe has been promoted to Statistician at the P-3 level since February 2010, through a competitive selection process. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Statistics and a Masters degree in Demography from Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia. He joined the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa in October 1990.

Mr. Gorfe works mostly in the area of Environment and Climate change statistics. In addition, he is a member of the editorial committee of African Statistical Newsletter. The editorial committee of the Newsletter would like warmly congratulate him for his promotion.

Mr. Negussie Gorfe vient d'être promu au rang de Statisticien niveau P-3 depuis février 2010, à l'issue d'un processus de mise en concurrence. Il a une licence en Sciences statistiques et possède une maîtrise en démographie et de l'Université d'Addis Ababa, Ethiopie. Il a rejoint la Commission économique des Nations unies pour l'Afrique en octobre 1990.

Mr. Gorfe est surtout impliqué dans les statistiques de l'environnement et du changement climatique. Par ailleurs, il est membre du comité de rédaction du bulletin statistique africain. Au nom de ce comité de rédaction, nous le félicitons chaudement pour sa promotion.



### Staff Retirement / Départ en retraite



ACS staff members while bidding farewell to Mr. Teklehaimanot Derso on his retirement after nearly 27 years of service to the Commission (17 June 1983 to 31 May 2010). Mr. Derso was a dedicated and hardworking staff during his services to UNECA. He was involved in many areas of statistics and especially in industrial statistics, web

development, database management among others.

He demonstrated utmost capacity working in various domains of statistics. He is a role model of an outstanding use of ICT in working environment.



### ACS staff at the farewell / Le personnel du CAS au pot de départ

Le personnel du CAS a offert un déjeuner d'adieu à Mr. Teklehaimanot Derso, qui prend sa retraite après 27 ans de bons et loyaux services à la CEA (du 17 juin 1983 au 31 mai 2010).

M. Derso était un travailleur dévoué et assidu. Il s'est impliqué dans de nombreux secteurs statistiques et en particulier les statistiques industrielles, le développement de l'Internet, la gestion de bases de données.

M. Derso a fait preuve de la plus grande capacité à oeuvrer dans divers domaines. Il est un exemple vivant de l'utilisation appropriée des TIC dans l'environnement de la CEA.



## V. NEWS AND EVENTS - INFORMATIONS ET ÉVÉNEMENTS



# First Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration

13 - 14 August, 2010  
United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC)  
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Towards Improved Civil Status Information for Efficient Public Administration and Generation of Vital Statistics for National Development and MDGs Monitoring in Africa

For more information, visit: <http://www.uneca.org/crmc>

## V. NEWS AND EVENTS - INFORMATIONS ET ÉVÉNEMENTS



## Première Conférence des ministres africains chargés de l'enregistrement des faits d'état civil

13 - 14 août 2010,  
Centre de conférences de Nations Unies  
Addis-Abeba, Éthiopie

Vers une amélioration des systèmes d'information des faits d'état civil en vue d'une administration publique et d'une production de statistiques des faits d'état civil efficaces pour le développement national et le suivi des OMD en Afrique

Pour plus d'informations, visitez notre site: <http://www.uneca.org/crmc>

## V. NEWS AND EVENTS - INFORMATIONS ET ÉVÉNEMENTS

## Heads of National Statistical Offices in Africa / Les Directeurs des Instituts Nationaux de Statistique (INS) en Afrique

Country/Pays	Name/Nom	URL
Algeria	Mohammed BOUMATI, Directeur général	www.ons.dz
Angola	Maria Ferreira dos Santos de Oliveira, Director general	
Benin	Cosme Zinsou VODOUNOU, Directeur général	http://www.insae.bj, http://www.insae-bj.org
Botswana	Anna MAJELANTLE, Government Statistician	www.cso.gov.bw
Burkina Faso	Bamory OUATTARA, Directeur général	http://www.insd.bf
Burundi	M. Nicolas NDAYISHIMIYE, Directeur Général	
Cameroon	Joseph TEDOU, Directeur Général	http://www.statistics-cameroon.org
Cape Verde	Antonio Does Reis DUARTE, Président INE	http://www.ine.cv
Central African Republic	Issen MUSTAPHA, Directeur Général	http://www.stat-centrafrique.com, http://www.minplan-rca.org
Chad	Ousman Abdoulaye HAGGAR, Directeur général	http://www.inseed-tchad.org
Comoros	Ahmed Djoumoi, Directeur	
Congo	Samuel AMBAPOUR KOSSO, Directeur général	http://www.cnsee.org
D.R. Congo	Grégoire KANKWANDA Ebulelang, Chargé de Mission	
Cote d'Ivoire	Mathieu MELEU, Directeur Général	http://www.ins.ci
Djibouti	Amareh Ali SAID, Directeur	http://www.ministere-finances.dj/statist.htm
Egypt	Abobakr Mahmoud EL-GENDY, President	www.capmas.gov.eg, interoz.com/economygoveg/index.htm
Equatorial Guinea	Luis ONDO OBONO, Directeur Général	http://www.dgecnstat-ge.org
Eritrea	Mr. Aynom BERHANE, Acting Head/DG	
Ethiopia	Samia ZAKARIA, Director General	http://www.csa.gov.et
Gabon	Francis Thierry TIWINOT, Directeur Général de la Statistique	http://www.stat-gabon.ga
Gambia (The)	Alieu S.M. S. N'DOW, Statistician General	http://www.gambia.gm/Statistics/Statistics.htm
Ghana	Grace BEDIAKO, Government Statistician	
Guinea	Oumar DIALLO, Directeur	http://www.stat-guinee.org
Guinea-Bissau	Carlos MENDES DA COSTA, Directeur Général	http://www.stat-guinebissau.com
Kenya	Anthony K. M. KILELE, Director General	www.cbs.go.ke
Lesotho	Liengoane Mothweso LEFOSA, Director	http://www.bos.gov.ls
Liberia	Edward T. LIBERTY, Director General	http://www.lisgis.org/
Libya	Salem ABU-AISHA, Director-General	
Madagascar	Paul Gérard RAVELOMANANTSOA, Directeur Général	www.cite.mg/instat/index.htm
Malawi	Charles MACHINJILI, Commissioner for Census and Statistics	www.nso.malawi.net
Mali	Seydou Moussa TRAORE, Directeur Général	http://www.dnsi.gov.ml
Mauritania	Baba Ould BOUMEISS, Directeur général	www.ons.mr
Mauritius	Li Fa Cheung Kai Suet, Acting Director	http://ncb.inetnet.mu/cso.htm
Morocco	Mohamed TAAMOUTI, Directeur	http://www.hcp.ma
Mozambique	João Dias LOUREIRO, President	www.ine.gov.mz, www.ine.gov.mz/Ingles
Namibia	Fanuel S.M. HANGULA, Government Statistician	http://www.npc.gov.na/cbs/index.htm
Niger	Ghalio Ekadé, Directeur General par interim	http://www.stat-niger.org/
Nigeria	Vincent Doyin Akinyosoye, Director General	http://www.nigerianstat.gov.ng/index.php
Rwanda	Yusuf MURANGWA MAGO, Directeur Général par intérim	www.rwandastat.org.rw
Sao Tome and Principe	Elsa Maria da Costa CARDOSO CASSANDRA, Directrice nacional	http://www.ine.st/home.html
Senegal	Babakar FALL, Directeur Général	http://www.ansd.sn, http://www.ansd.org
Seychelles	Jude PADAYACH, Chief Executive Officer	http://www.nsb.gov.sc/, http://www.misd.gov.sc/
Sierra Leone	Joseph Aruna Lawrence KAMARA, Statistician General	http://www.statistics.sl
Somalia	Nur Ahmed NUR A. WEHELIIYE, Director General	http://www.moic.somaligov.net/about.html
South Africa	Pali Jobo LEHOHLA, Statistician General	www.resbank.co.za, www.statssa.gov.za
Sudan	Yassin Haj ABDEEN, Director General	http://cbs.gov.sd/
Swaziland	Amos ZWANE, Acting Directo	http://www.gov.sz/home.asp?pid=75
Togo	Kokou Yao N'GUESSAN, Directeur Général	http://www.stat-togo.org/
Tunisia	Khalifa Ben FEKIH, Directeur général	www.ins.nat.tn
Uganda	John Baptist MALE-MUKASA, Executive Director	www.ubos.org
United Republic of Tanzania	Albina Andrew CHUWA, Director General	http://www.nbs.go.tz, www.tanzania.go.tz/statistics.html
Zambia	Efreda Chulu, Director Census and Statistics	www.zamstats.gov.zm
Zimbabwe	Moffat NYONI, Acting Director	http://www.zimstat.co.zw/html/about.html

ACS will appreciate it if it can be kept updated about changes in the leadership of NSOs / Le CAS apprécierait d'être tenu informé des changements parmi les directeurs d'INS



## V. NEWS AND EVENTS - INFORMATIONS ET ÉVÉNEMENTS

### National Statistical Associations in Africa / Les Associations Nationales de Statisticiens en Afrique

Country/ Pays	Association		Contact person
Burkina Faso	Association des Statisticiens et Démographes du Burkina Faso	M.	Some Nibene Habib
Cameroon	Association des Statisticiens du Cameroun	Mr.	Isaac Njemoun
Congo	Association des Statisticiens	Mr.	Bolide Ntumba
Equatorial Guinea	Association des statisticiens		Angeles Ngongolo
Ethiopia	Ethiopian Statistical Association	Dr.	Emmanuel G. Yohannes
Gabon	Association des Statisticiens du Gabon	Mr.	Jean Nestor Nguema
Ghana	Ghana Statistical Association	Mr.	Nicholas Nsowah-Nuamah
Kenya	Kenya Statistical Society	Dr.	Leo Odongo
	Association Malgache des Ingenieur Statisticiens	Mr.	Eric Raktomanana
Malawi	Statistical Association	Dr.	Lawrence Kazembe
Mali	Association de Malienne Statistique	M.	Aboumediane Toure
Mauritania	Association des Statisticiens de Mauritanie	M.	Cissoko Mamadou
Niger	Association des Statisticiens et Démographes du Niger	Mr.	Alichina Idrissa Kourguéni
Rwanda	Association Rwandaise des Statisticiens	Mr.	Nzayisenga Canisius
Senegal	Association Sénégalaise pour la Statistique	Mr.	Amadou Talla Gueye
South Africa	South African Statistical Association	Dr.	Khangelani Zuma
Tanzania	Tanzania Statistical Association	Mr.	Peter C.T. Mayeye
Togo	Association des Statisticien et Démographes	Mr.	Kponton Anani Théodore
Tunisia	Tunisian Association of Statistics and its Applications	Mr.	Malika Charrad
Uganda	Uganda Statistical Society	Mr.	Mr. Moses Y. Lubaale

### Statistical Training Centres in Africa / Les Centres Africains de Formation Statistique

Centre	Location	Contact person
Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre	Dar es Salaam, Tanzania	Mr. Michael Sindato
Ecole Nationale de la Statistique et de l'Analyse Economique	Dakar, Senegal	Mr. Bocar Toure
Ecole nationale de statistique et d'économie appliquée	Rabat, Morocco	Mr. Abdelaziz El Ghazali
Institut de Formation et de Recherche Démographiques	Yaoundé, Cameroon	Mr. Augusto Roku Mesani
Institut national de statistique et d'économie appliquée	Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire	Mr. Koffi Nguessan
Institut supérieur de statistique et d'économie appliquée	Yaoundé, Cameroon	Mr. Akoto Eliwo Mandjale
Regional Institute for Population Studies	Legon, Ghana	Mr. Stephan Owusu Kwankya
Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics	Kampala, Uganda	Mr. Jonathan Ochono Odwee



### Statistics Units in Regional Economic Communities (RECs) / Les Unités Statistiques des Communautés Economiques Régionales (CER)

Centre	Location	Contact person
Common Market for Eastern & Southern Africa (COMESA)	Zambia, Lusaka	Mr. Anthony Walakira
Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD)	Tripoli, Libya	
East African Community (EAC)	Arusha, Tanzania	Mr. Robert Maate
Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)	Libreville, Gabon	Mr. Louis Sylvain Goma
Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)	Nigeria, Abuja	Mr. Mahamadou Yahaya
Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD)	Djibouti, Djibouti	
Southern African Development Community (SADC)	Gaborone, Botswana	Mr. Ackim Teudulo Jere
Union du Maghreb Arabe (UMA)	Morocco, Rabat	Mr. Habib Boulares



## V. NEWS AND EVENTS - INFORMATIONS ET ÉVÉNEMENTS

### Upcoming Events / Événements à venir (July 1 - September 30 2010)

Date	Event/ Événement	Organisers/Organisateurs	Location
6-9 July	Workshop on basic economic statistics, economic classifications in support of the 1993 System of National Accounts (SNA)	UNECA/ UNSD	Port Louis, Mauritius
TBD	Meeting on the Consolidation of the African Strategy on Agricultural Statistics	UNECA	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
10-14 August	Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration	UNECA/AfDB/Government of Ethiopia	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
6-10 September-	Joint UNECA/ILO/World Bank workshop on informal sector, household surveys and labour statistics	UNECA/ILO/World Bank	Bamako, Mali
13-17 September-	AEG meeting: Harmonization of National Accounts and compilation of comparable gross domestic product (GDP)	UNECA	Johannesburg, South Africa

### Other Events/Autres événements

Date	Event/ Événement	Organisers/Organisateurs	Location
10-14 August 2010	First Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Civil Registration	UNECA/AfDB/Government of Ethiopia	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
13-15 October 2010	Fifth International Conference on Agricultural Statistics - <a href="http://www.icas-v.org/">http://www.icas-v.org/</a>		Kampala, UGANDA
20-22 October 2010	International Association for Official Statistics (IAOS) Conference - <a href="http://www.ine.cl/iaos2010/eng/index.html">http://www.ine.cl/iaos2010/eng/index.html</a>		Santiago, CHILE
20 October 2010	World Statistics Day		All Countries
18 November 2010	African Statistics Day		African Countries



ACS will appreciate it if it can be kept updated about changes in the leadership of National Statistical Associations and Statistical Training Centres. Le CAS apprécierait d'être tenu informé des changements de Direction des Associations Nationales de Statisticiens ou des Centres de Formation Statistique.

## African Statistical Newsletter Editorial Policy

**The Newsletter:** The African Statistical newsletter aims to supplement the efforts of the African Statistical Journal to provide a platform for sharing knowledge and information about statistical methodologies and their application to solve practical problems in Africa. It covers all activities and news deemed to be of interest to the African statistical community, ranging from statistical advocacy to institutional development including capacity building and technical assistance, to specific statistical activities like censuses and surveys.

**Target Clientele:** The Newsletter is intended for the statistical community, across the whole of Africa as well as development practitioners with an interest in Africa's development.

**Frequency:** The African Statistical Newsletter is a quarterly periodical published four times a year. Issues are generally released within two weeks after the last day of the quarter. Material should be submitted to African Centre for Statistics email (statistics@uneca.org) by 15th day of the last month for publication in that quarter's newsletter.

**Source of Articles and Photos:** The articles and photographs published are written and submitted by experts practicing statistics in Africa and the rest of the world who are interested in statistical development in Africa. All articles must comply with the standards and technical publishing requirements. Generally, articles should not exceed 4 pages and should be of general interest to the statistical community. The editorial board carries out minor editing of the articles and reserves the right to determine the content of the newsletter.

**Language:** The Newsletter is bi-lingual –English and French. Articles are published in the language in which they are submitted. If an article is deemed to be of especial interest across the continent, we aim to publish it in both languages of the Newsletter.

**Accessibility:** The African Statistical Newsletter is posted on the Internet and is also published in hardcopies for limited distribution. An electronic version in PDF format is also emailed to all contacts maintained by the African Centre for Statistics - to be added to this database send your contact details to statistics@uneca.org.

**Subscription:** The African Statistical Newsletter can be accessed free of charge.

**Disclaimer:** This Newsletter is not an official document of the United Nations, nor does it express the official position of the United Nations.

**Citation:** The editorial board welcomes the further distribution of any material from the newsletter on condition that this is cited as follows: This is reproduced from the African Statistics Newsletter (add issue date and number) <http://www.uneca.org/statistics/statnews>



## Bulletin d'information statistique Africain

### Politique éditoriale

**Le Bulletin :** Le Bulletin d'information statistique africain vise à compléter les efforts du Journal statistique africain en fournissant une plateforme pour partager les connaissances et les informations sur les méthodologies statistiques et leurs applications pratiques en Afrique. Il couvre toutes les activités et nouvelles d'intérêt pour la communauté statistique africaine, depuis le plaidoyer statistique pour le développement institutionnel en passant par le renforcement des capacités et l'assistance technique, jusqu'aux activités statistiques spécifiques comme les recensements et les enquêtes.

**Clientèle ciblée :** Le bulletin est orienté vers la communauté statistique à travers toute l'Afrique ainsi que vers les praticiens du développement marquant un intérêt pour le développement de l'Afrique.

**Fréquence de parution :** Le Bulletin statistique africain est un périodique trimestriel édité quatre fois par an. Les parutions s'effectuent en général dans un délai de deux semaines suivant la fin du trimestre. Les contributions doivent être soumises au Centre africain pour la statistique par email ([statistics@uneca.org](mailto:statistics@uneca.org)) le 15ème jour du dernier mois pour une publication dans le bulletin du trimestre.

**Source des articles et des photos :** Les articles et photographies publiés sont écrits et soumis par des experts pratiquant la statistique en Afrique et dans le reste du monde, intéressés par le développement statistique en Afrique. Tous les articles doivent être conformes aux normes et aux conditions techniques d'édition. Généralement, les articles ne doivent pas excéder 4 pages et représenter un intérêt pour la communauté statistique. Le comité de rédaction effectue des corrections mineures mais se réserve le droit de déterminer la teneur du bulletin.

**Langue :** Le bulletin est bilingue, anglais - français. Les articles sont publiés dans la langue dans laquelle ils sont soumis. Si un article est considéré comme étant d'un intérêt particulier pour le continent, nous cherchons à l'éditer dans les deux langues du bulletin.

**Accessibilité :** Le bulletin d'information statistique africain est posté sur Internet et édité en copie papier pour une distribution limitée. Une version électronique en format PDF est envoyée par e-mail à tous les contacts du Centre africain pour la statistique. Pour être ajouté à cette base de données, envoyez vos coordonnées à [statistics@uneca.org](mailto:statistics@uneca.org).

**Souscription :** Le bulletin d'information statistique africain est gratuit.

**Avertissement :** Ce bulletin n'est pas un document officiel des Nations Unies ; il n'exprime pas la position officielle des Nations Unies.

**Citation :** Le comité de rédaction est ouvert à toute diffusion extérieure des contributions à condition qu'elle soit mentionnée comme suit : Ceci est reproduit du bulletin d'information statistique africain (ajoutez la date et le numéro de la publication) <http://www.uneca.org/statistics/statnews>.





