



NBS: "A ONE-STOP CENTRE FOR OFFICIAL STATISTICS IN TANZANIA."



Editorial Board



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National Quality Framework for Integrating Non-Traditional Data Sources Underway



Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa elaborates a point during Development Partners Poverty Monitoring Group (PMG) meeting where NBS presented Key findings of the 2017-18 Household Budget Survey Report (2017-18 HBS). The meeting was held at African Development Bank office along Shaaban Robert Street and Garden Avenue, Dar es Salaam. Right is UNFPA Program Manager Samuel Msokwa.

Stakeholders in the National Statistical System (NSS) have been invited to take part in formulating and developing of a national framework for the integration of non-traditional data sources in the production of official statistics.

Statistician General, Dr. Albina Chuwa, told members of the Development Partners-

Poverty Monitoring Group (PMG) that the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), after the recent amendments to the Statistics Act passed by Parliament, was working on the regulations to affect the changes.

“We keep our promise, the amendments have been approved and have been uploaded on our website.

We are now working on the regulations. Very soon we will submit draft regulations to you for your comments,” she revealed.

At this moment she said NBS was working closely with World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF) and UN Statistics Division (UNSD) and sincerely welcome comments from them on--

draft regulations once they are available.

Statistician General added that in line with the new regulations NBS was planning to come up with national data quality assurance framework that will integrate non-traditional data sources.

“There are opposing views on how to bring on board non-traditional data sources like big data, open data and data coming from civil societies because of conflict of interests. It is for this reason that we are working with UNSD, WB and DfID to reach a common ground,” she noted.

Dr. Chuwa insisted that apart from quality assurance framework there was also the need for all producers and users of statistics to adhere to the code of practice for official statistics.

“Apart from quality assurance framework there was also the need for all producers and users of statistics to adhere to the code of practice for official statistics.” Said Dr. Chuwa.



Members of Development Partners Poverty Monitoring Group during their routine consultative meeting with NBS follow proceedings of the recent meeting which was held at AfDB conference hall Dar es Salaam



Tanzania Ready for 2020-21 Demographic and Health Survey



Development partners (seated left), NBS and OCGS team (right) discussing preparation of the forthcoming Demographic and Health Survey (DHS). The meeting was held at Canadian High Commission's conference hall, along Garden Avenue and Mirambo Street, Dar es Salaam.

Tanzania has said it is readiness to implement the scheduled Demographic and Health Survey (2020-2021 DHS) and has urged development partners to continue supporting its efforts in production of official statistics.

The DHS is crucial because one of its objectives is to collect high-quality data for policy formulation, programme planning,--

designing and monitoring and evaluation of related development plans and programmes.

Speaking at a meeting that brought together development partners and other stakeholders in order to inform them about the forthcoming DHS, Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa, asked development partners to join the United Nations in--

financing statistical activities.

“Development partners must continue partnering with our government by supporting production of official statistics just like the way they collaborate in other development statistical matters,” she said.

Dr. Chuwa told the meeting that the national leadership has the political will to see--

to it that the survey is implemented and that people are always positive when it comes to participation in statistical surveys.

“DHS caters for every goal highlighted in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We are grateful to our partners ICF for coming to roll out the preparation of this important survey,” she noted.

Dr. Livia Montana, who is the Deputy Director of the DHS Programme from ICF, presented a report on the survey preparations.

She further told the meeting that she and her colleague Dr. Gulnara Semenov have been meeting with different government officials and key stakeholders since their arrival in the country to seek their opinion and if they have additional information to be collected in the forthcoming DHS.

“It has been a very tense but very productive two weeks of meeting stakeholders in Mainland and Zanzibar,” said Dr. Montana.

She said the meeting with development partners, just as it was with other stakeholders, was intended to discuss and exchange views on how to improve the proposed survey.

Dr. Montana also reported that Tanzania has a long history of conducting household-based health surveys dating back to 1991-92 when the first survey was conducted. Since then, more than 13 surveys have been conducted, the last being the 2017 Tanzania Malaria Indicator Survey.

During the meeting which was chaired by Ms. Ananthi Thambinayagam from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), participants recommended inclusion of more indicators including that of chronic or non-communicable disease (NCD) and blood pressure measurement for adult.

They also recommended a special study on maternal mortality to be conducted using the available different data sources (surveys and routine) and produce--

maternal mortality ratio for the country by June 2020.

Among participants to the meeting were representatives from UNFPA, Global Affairs Canada, USAID, ICF, CDC, GIZ, WHO, DFID, UNAIDS, Embassies of Ireland and Canada.

Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey is conducted jointly by Ministries of Health in the United Republic of Tanzania, the National Bureau of Statistics, Office of the Chief Government Statistician Zanzibar in collaboration with ICF and funded by different donors including United States government through the USAID, Global Canada Affairs, DfID, Irish Embassy, UNFPA and UNICEF.

“DHS caters for every goal highlighted in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We are grateful to our partners ICF for coming to roll out the preparation of this important survey.” Said Dr. Chuwa.

Tanzania among Few Countries to Conduct Informal Sector Survey, says Statistician General



Guest of Honour Principal Secretary of Ministry of Finance and Planning Doto James accompanied (from left to right-seated) Acting Director of Population Census Ruth Minja, Preeti Arora from World Bank, Statistician General Dr. Chuwa, Assistant Director at Prime Minister's office Ahmed Makbel, Betty Talbert of World Bank and Yokobety Maliwa of Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner's Office in a group photograph with NBS employees attending the training.

Tanzania's planned Informal Sector Survey is a very important statistical exercise that will help the country to mirror the sector and identify financial needs and employment opportunities, particularly, among the low income earners.

Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa said the decision to conduct the 2019 Informal Sector Survey is a step forward demonstrating--

commitment of the Fifth Phase Government to invigorate the sector and turn it into a reliable source of generating lucrative employment opportunities for the poor.

Speaking during the opening of the two week training of survey's data collectors, Dr. Chuwa said Tanzania is among very few countries that have conducted such survey to map out the sector.

She said the survey results will also provide required data in the implementation of the Second Five-Year National Development Programme which needs detailed data from the lower levels of domestic production and employment by sector, gender and specific groups like people with disabilities.

"The plan also intends to improve access and extend coverage of social security and health insurance services by--

promoting supplementary schemes for the informal sector so that the coverage of about 40 percent can be achieved by 2020,” she revealed.

Dr. Chuwa explained that the survey will cover the usual households in all 26 regions of Tanzania Mainland in both urban and rural areas.

She, however, noted that it will be conducted in two phases; the first in Dar es Salaam Region and the second phase will be in the remaining 25 regions of Mainland Tanzania.

In Dar es Salaam Region, she elaborated that the survey was scheduled to be implemented from mid-August through November, 2019 and would cover usual 2,400 residents of private households and over 4,000 informal enterprises in 200 Enumeration Areas.

The Statistician General said that the multi-phase approach will be used to conduct the 2019 Informal Sector Survey meaning a mixed of households and enterprises survey.

“The data to be collected include demographic, social and economic statistics including value of production, intermediate inputs, status and type of activities performed--



Omar Mdoka, statistician at NBS interviews Ms. Eunice Makutu, resident of Makulu in Dodoma Municipality, during instruments testing exercise for the preparation of the 2019 Informal Sector Survey.

under informal sector,” she explained.

The survey is jointly implemented by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), the Ministry of Finance and Planning, the Prime Minister’s Office Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disability (Employment Department) and other key stakeholders including the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and World Bank.

Meanwhile, Dr. Chuwa told training participants that she expects high quality data to be

collected. She noted that for most data collectors going to take part in the exercise, this was not their first time to engage with NBS.

“I see many of you here are not new so my expectation is high that you will diligently perform your duties and avail us with quality information as par the questionnaires,” she insisted.

She reminded participants that their approach and behaviour towards interviewees were very key if they were to successfully implement the survey hence they have to restrain themselves from uncalled for behaviours and actions.

NBS to Engage Research Institutions to Study Poverty Levels in the Country

National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) is planning to engage research institutions to study levels of poverty in the country and the factors behind the situation in the country.

Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa told a Development Partners Poverty Monitoring Group (PMG) meeting that the Key Findings Report contained--

only a descriptive analysis, hence and the need for further analysis in order to establish reasons behind the current poverty situation.

“We are planning to work closely with REPOA and other research institutions to investigate reasons behind poverty situation in some parts of the country as was the case during poverty mapping,” said the Statistician General.

According to survey results, basic needs poverty has declined from 28.2 per cent in 2011-12 to 26.4 per cent in 2017-18 and the food poverty has decreased from 9.7 per cent in to 8.0 per cent during the same period.

During the routine consultative meeting between NBS and PMG, which was held at African Development Bank offices, members discussed Report of Key Findings of the 2017/18 HBS and were also updated on the National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) and the forthcoming agriculture census.

Dr. Chuwa revealed that the MPI “will tell us more on causes of poverty and under which dimension have Tanzanians been suffering and the way to address the situation” and added that the MPI will bring policy and decision makers on board.

The Statistician General said the main report, which is scheduled to be released by--



Members of Development Partners Poverty Monitoring Group during their routine consultative meeting with NBS follow proceedings of the recent meeting which was held at AfDB conference hall Dar es Salaam

the end of the year, will capture some reasons behind poverty situation, whereby she emphasised that “Poverty reduction is a process. It is therefore important that everyone should appreciate the reduction from 28.2 per cent in 2011 to 24.4 per cent in 2018.”

Ms. Betty Talbert from World Bank, who chaired the meeting, told PMG members that there was still work to accomplish the 2017-18 HBS Report, hence any support at this stage from members will be very much appreciated.

She said unlike other previous reports, the 2017-18 HBS report was very rich and more reports were expected to come from the survey.

“From the data set we will get a report from UNICEF on child poverty, we also expect a special report from UN Women on time use,” she noted and urged more development partners to come on board to support analysis of the valuable data set to produce more statistical data.

She told group members that-

NBS has done a wonderful job by producing the report in a very short time and availed the required statistics to stakeholders.

During the meeting NBS Social Statistics Manager Sylvia Meku and Senior Statistician Cosmas Stephano briefed PMG members on Key findings of the 2017-18 Household Budget Survey Report (2017-18 HBS) and update on National Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) respectively.



Elizabeth Talbert from World Bank Dar es Salaam offices contributing to the discussion on the Report of the Key Findings of the 2017-18 Household Budget Survey during NBS and Development Partners Poverty Monitoring Group (PMG) meeting held at African Development Bank conference hall in Dar es Salaam. Left is Chief Country Economist at the African Development Bank Group's Tanzania Dr. Jacob Oduor.

PS Tells Enumerators: Follow the Guidelines, We Need Quality Statistics



Principal Secretary Ministry of Finance Doto James listens to World Bank official Preeti Arora outside Ministry of Finance conference hall in Dar es Salaam after he officiated the opening of Data Collection Training for the 2019 Informal Sector Survey. Others are Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa and Ahmed Makbel who is Assistant Director in Prime Minister's Office.

The Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance and Planning, Mr. Doto James, has challenged enumerators participating in the 2019 Informal Sector Survey to ensure they adhere to the survey techniques in order to collect right statistical information needed to produce quality statistics.

“You have to keenly follow this training so as to gain the necessary skills and techniques on how to appropriately conduct interviews in order to obtain the

right information,” he advised the enumerators.

Opening the training for the survey, the Permanent Secretary said informal sector is among key sectors of the economy, and the survey was aimed at establishing the challenges facing the sector and how to address the needs.

“It is crucial to strategize how best to address the challenges facing players in the sector if we are to create an enabling environment that will allow growth the sector and hence--

increase its contribution to national economic growth and improve lives of its key players,” he noted.

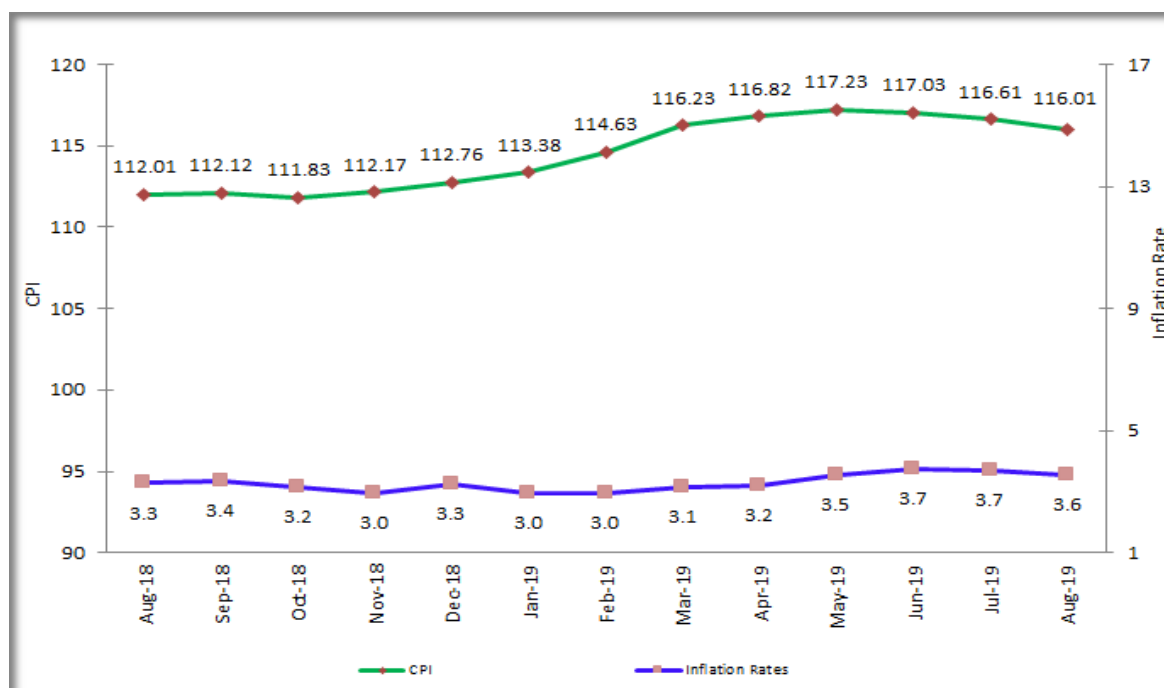
He said with comprehensive data on the sector, the government and other stakeholders will be able to take appropriate policy measures and design programmes to address them.

The PS further said that the government has been collaborating with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and World Bank in order to ensure Tanzania benefits from their worldwide experience and expertise which will help the country to produce high quality data on the informal sector.

Mr. James also called upon Dar es Salaam residents to fully participate in the survey by according enumerators with all necessary support including giving appropriate answers during interviews.

Non Food Items Push Inflation Rate Slightly Down

Movement of National Consumer Price Indices (NCPI) and Inflation Rates from August, 2018 – August, 2019. (Dec. 2015 = 100)



The Annual Headline Inflation for the year ending August, 2019 has declined by 0.1 percentage points to 3.6 percent compared to 3.7 percent recorded during the year that ended July, 2019.

According to Ms. Ruth Minja, the Acting Director for Population Census and Social Statistics, the decline of inflation for the month of August, 2019 was largely attributed to the decrease of prices for non-food products in the year ending August 2019 compared to prices recorded in August, 2018.

Releasing the results for the August, 2019 Consumer Price Index to the press, Ms. Minja identified the non-food items that--

contributed to the decrease of inflation rate which included petrol by 4.3 percent, kerosene by 2.6 percent, gas cookers by 1.4 percent, routine maintenance and repair of dwellings costs by 1.7 percent and personal care products such as hair glow by 1.3 percent.

“The overall index has decreased to 116.01 in August, 2019 from 116.61 recorded in July, 2019. The decrease of the overall index is attributed to the price decrease for food and non-food items,” she said regarding the monthly change of Consumer Price Index for July-August, 2019.

She listed some food items that--

contributed to such a decrease as: sardines by 1.0 percent, fruits by 3.7 percent, vegetables by 2.9 percent, lentils by 4.1 percent, potatoes by 6.2 per cent and cooking bananas by 4.0 percent.

However, she added that the Annual Inflation Rate for food consumed at home and away from home for the month of August, 2019 has slightly increased to 5.0 percent from 4.9 percent recorded in July, 2019.

Moreover, the Acting Director for Population Census and Social Statistics said inflation rate of food and non-alcoholic beverages recorded an increase of 0.8 percentage points from 2.9 percent in July, 2019 to 3.7 percent in August, 2019.

World Bank Official: Support the Forthcoming Tanzania Agriculture Census



Members of Development Partners Poverty Monitoring Group during their routine consultative meeting with NBS follow proceedings of the recent meeting which was held at AfDB conference hall Dar es Salaam

Ms. Betty Talbert from World Bank has urged development partners to come forward to support the forthcoming Tanzania agriculture census which is still in the preparation stage.

She told members of the Poverty Monitoring Group (PMG) that whereas the Institution appreciates support so far availed to Tanzania in implementing the census but she said the gap was still too big hence--

the need for more funds to enable the country to accomplish the undertaking.

Earlier, briefing the meeting, Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa said so far the US department of Agriculture continued to support the preliminary preparations but admitted that "It is a big undertaking which Tanzania cannot go alone without support from its partners".

The statistics produced through Agriculture Census, she said, will provide indicators required in SDGs particularly goal number two and will be used to monitor national development plans.

"As agriculture is the backbone of the national economy, therefore, it is critical to get quality data to mirror the sector" She insisted.

NBS on SADC: Our Role is to Facilitate Implementation of Community Programmes, says Statistician General

Tanzania's Statistician General, Dr. Albina Chuwa, has said participation of the national statistics body during the 4th Week of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Industrialisation and Exhibition was very important as it has special role to play.

"NBS participation in this exhibition is vital because as the national statistics institution, our role is to facilitate implementation of Community's programmes through provision of the needed statistics," Dr. Chuwa told reporters at Karimjee grounds in Dar es Salaam.

She explained that in SADC, national statistics institutions of member states have their own committees that provide statistical support to further SADC core activities.

She said that there is a statistics committee which is made up of Heads of National Statistical Offices of the member states and is responsible for provision--

of policy and strategic guidance regarding development of statistics in the region.

The 4th Week of SADC Industrialisation and Exhibition, which was held at Karimjee and Mwalimu Nyerere Convention Centre grounds was under the theme: "A conducive Business Environment for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development".

Before addressing the media, the Statistician General visited small entrepreneurs--

participating in the exhibition and assured them of government support to develop their businesses.

"As you see, I am here to meet you with the sole purpose to listening to you on how you conduct your businesses, know the challenges you face and understand how you think the government can assist you," she said.

She told them that the government was now conducting Informal Sector Survey, which will study the sector's dynamics and how it--



NBS Industrial and Construction Statistics Manager Joy Sawe responding to questions from ITV reporter Godfrey Monyo at NBS pavilion during 4th Annual SADC Industrial Week and Exhibition at Karimjee grounds Dar Es Salaam.



Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa addresses the media during 4th Annual SADC Industrial Week and Exhibition held at Karimjee grounds. Dr. Chuwa informed the press the important role national statistical offices in member countries play in furthering the community goals and objectives.

can be improved to increase its contribution to the national economy.

At the exhibition, NBS provided public education on statistics through interactions with stakeholders and also provided visitors with various publications of statistical products.

It also enlightened visitors on how to access statistical publications through NBS website and statistical information through NBS social media accounts.

Meanwhile, visitors at NBS pavilion commended the national

statistical body for its efforts to educate the public on the importance of statistics and its usage.

They said they have been following on radio and TV programs on statistics but some expressed their discontent over the use of English language in most of statistical reports, particularly those available online.

“I think you need to change because most of us speak Kiswahili and even if some do understand English but still statistical language is a specialised one which is--

Somehow difficult to comprehend,” one visitors noted.

The SADC Industrialization Week which started from 5th through 9th August, 2019 is a public-private engagement platform that helps to foster new opportunities for intra-African trade and investment in the southern African region. The event was co-organised by the SADC Secretariat, Ministry of Industry and Trade of the United Republic of Tanzania, and the SADC Business Council through the interim Secretariat of the NEPAD Business Foundation.

Statistician General Attends the 62nd ISI World Statistics Congress in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The 62nd World Statistics Conference took place in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur and attended by about 2,500 delegates from over 130 countries.

The conference, which was organised by the International Statistics Institute (ISI), was officially opened by Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Bin Mohamad.

Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa attended the conference where she was among eight new ISI council members who took office during the conference. They will serve the council for four years (2019 to 2023).

Apart from attending council sessions, Dr. Chuwa participated in various panel discussions and she also had an interview with Congress Television.

During the interview she discussed at length on the state of agriculture statistics in many African countries. She particularly dwelt on the urgency of addressing challenges facing that part of statistics as most African countries depend on agriculture at their economic mainstay.

She noted further that agriculture-



Panel discussions were among main activities which characterized the 62nd World Statistics Conference held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Statisticians from around the globe share their wealth of expertise and experiences during those discussions. Above, Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa shares Tanzania's experience in development of statistics

employs more people in Africa than any other sector.

During the six-day conference, delegates participated in various workshops and forums discussing a range of topics on statistics and related disciplines as well as the emerging issues in the statistics profession from about 1,300 presentations.

In his speech the Malaysian Premier emphasized on the role of national statistics offices in production of relevant, objective and accurate statistics of quality and integrity to keep users well informed and further assist in effective policies and decision-making.

“With information flooding in from various sources, it is of paramount importance to have a reliable, relevant and timely source for decision making, evaluations and assessments at different levels,” he noted and added that “will ensure an effective check-and-balance system”.

The 62nd World Statistic Congress has witnessed more women in the forefront of statistics and data science and was a proud moment in the history of the ISI having 5 women presidents from top associations presenting papers on leading vital developments.

NBS PICTORIAL NEWS



Simiyu regional commissioner Anthony Mtaka shares a light moment with employees of the Ministry of Finance, and NBS at the latter's pavilion during NaneNane exhibition held in Nyakabindi Simiyu. Left with black t-shirt is NBS acting director of Economic Statistics Daniel Masolwa and head of government communication at Ministry of Finance Ben Mwaipaja (holding a booklet)

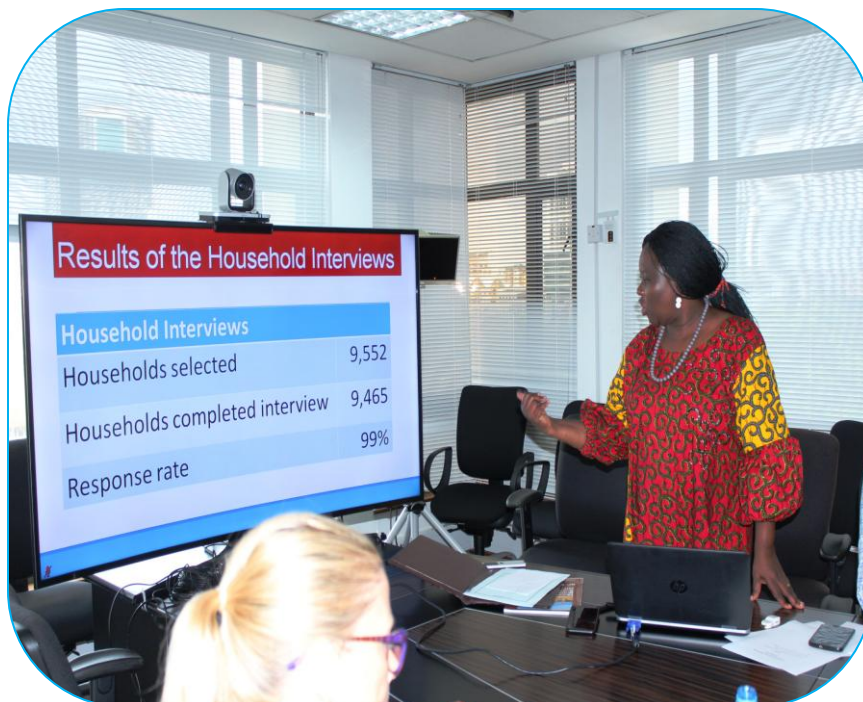


NBS pavilion always attracts many visitors during exhibitions. Here a group of Simiyu residents are briefed by NBS Marketing Officer Andrew Punjila about agriculture statistics during NaneNane Exhibition.

NBS PICTORIAL NEWS



Members of the Press who attended release of the August, 2019 Consumer Price Index (CPI) listening to the Acting Director of Population and Housing Census Ruth Minja during press conference held at NBS offices in Dodoma.



NBS Social Statistics Manager Sylvia Meku presenting to Development Partners Poverty Monitoring Group (PMG) Report of the Key Findings of the 2017-18 Household Budget at African Development Bank conference hall in Dar es Salaam

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