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



Editorial Board



Dr. Albina Chuwa
Statistician General

Members



Deogratius Simba



Said Ameir



Emmanuel Ghula



Andrew Punjila



Hadija I. Abdul

Integrating non-Traditional Sources in Production of Official Statistics is Inevitable

Stakeholders have agreed that integrating non-traditional data sources in the production of official statistics is imminent and what is needed now is for the stakeholders to work together on how best that can be done.

The stakeholders, both local and international, who met in Dar es Salaam in a two-day national workshop on integrating non-traditional data sources in the production of official statistics said the process will help the country to bridge the gap of the much needed statistics.

It was emphasised during discussions that issues of quality and reliability must be a priority and that stakeholders, under the directorship of national statistics office, should collectively work together to find proper ways of managing and administering the process.

Mr. Ahmed Markbel, who is an assistant director in the Prime Minister's Office,--



Mr. Ahmed Markbel from Prime Minister's Office explains to members of the press types of non-traditional data sources and the challenge on how to integrate them in production of official statistics.

said the biggest challenge is skills to handle data at required standards as there are so many data sources.

“Data sources are just too many from both government and private sector including civil societies. So all those collected data, to become official or usable officially must be professionally guided and validated,” he noted.

Mr. Markbel argued that since the country has many graduates in statistics and--

a good number are still unemployed, it is the right time now for data producers like civil societies to employ those graduates to do the job.

“Some civil societies have been very smart by engaging statisticians from MDAs for professional advice when they conduct surveys and researches. This is the right way as the statistics they produce can be officially used and recognised by the relevant authorities,” he noted.

A participant from Rwanda statistics institute noted that it is a new phenomenon which needs strong partnership with development partners particularly the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD).

The exercise, he said, needs to put on board all statisticians at NBS and in MDAs and when it comes to training, development partners can help to identify key modules and basic issues sounding non-traditional data sources--

across the industry.

“They will have to also help us to show what big data is and then go down to other specifics on how it complements the traditional data sources” he said.

A participant from Ghana stressed that this partnership should continue as countries have a lot to share and learn from each other.

“Sharing experience on this subject is very important as some of us here are ahead of many others and what--

we have learnt from this workshop needs to be also shared with our colleagues back home in the offices,” she said.

She noted that it was a privilege to her to participate in the workshop, which she said, was very fruitful and reaffirmed that her country, Ghana, is always ready to work with the Tanzania national statistics office.



Participants to the two-day national workshop on integrating non-traditional data sources in production of official statistics

This month, Tanzania conducted a two-day national workshop to discuss how to address the emerging issue of integrating non-traditional data sources in the production of official statistics. One of the key resource persons was Mr. Gabriel Games from the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD). NBS Newsletter had the privilege to interview him and the following are excerpts from the interview.

What was the main focus of this workshop?

The focus of the workshop was on the institutional setup in the data community in the country; coordination and governance of data that will in future support integration of non-traditional data sources in the compilation of official statistics and indicators. It is something very important and for the experience you (NBS) have and we have internationally, it is rather important that we have in place the right institutions and structures in order to facilitate in future the integration of non-traditional sources of data in production of official statistics and indicators.

What about the technical part of this integration?

We discussed about the technical aspects like interoperability of the sources and so on but this convergence of traditional and non-traditional sources in terms of-

quality criteria is something that has to be followed up by a certain group of people and of course under the leadership of NBS. As you know, NBS has the skills and the know how about how to process and handle data. The group should comprise stakeholders such as producers and users of statistics as well as other stakeholders who can support this process including private sector and civil society organisations.

You mentioned about quality but there some questions about the reliability of these non-traditional data sources. How do you explain this?

Of course, we have different kinds of non-traditional data sources. Administrative data that are collected and published by Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) are among them. They are very rich and informative and can inform indicators of SDGs and--

African agenda 2063. But we need to identify where they are, and establish whether they have necessary quality to be used. Indeed, it has also to be assessed its interoperability with existing data sets and other quality dimensions for quality evidence based decisions.

Among non-traditional sources are data produced by civil societies and can well be integrated. Can you comment on that?

Yes, as you said, civil societies are among those non-traditional data sources and some data they produce are very interesting but cannot all be integrated. There are, however, part of the data they produced, during collection and processing, applied scientific methods and these I would say can be easily integrated.

Technology has dramatically changed data production landscape. One is geospatial technology. How do you explain this in relation to non-traditional data sources?

Interestingly, geospatial information is becoming more and more non-traditional source of data. Satellite imagery can give extremely detailed information for example about forestry, landscape and infrastructure. Through this technology, we are able to measure all spatial data for example volume of fresh water bodies, pollution, deforestation and the like. So it is possible to bring together satellite imagery and data but then comes the issues of accessibility.

How long do you think this process of integrating non-traditional sources will impact on the development of production of official statistics?

For some countries this will be done probably very quickly and also it depends on what is available and that is why we are thinking of making inventory of what kind of non-traditional data sources are available in Tanzania. We will probably discover that some of the data set on non-traditional--

data sources can be integrated in the next one year or one year and half.

For decades now, the world has moved from opinion-based to evidence-based decision making, how do you assess prominence of statistics in the continent's decision making process?

We know that every good decision is based on evidence, you need to have good evidence to make decision, however statistics is not all information you need to make decision but it is a fundamental one. But what I--

see the difference, one can compare with few years ago, the SDGs and 2063 Agenda for Africa helped decision makers to understand how important to monitor progress of different development programmes using reliable, high quality and timely statistical information. Statistics as monitoring and measurement tool have become central in SDGs and this has played important role in putting statistics and also national statistics institutions like NBS at the fore front.



Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa, Mr. Gabriel Games from UNSD and other workshop participants going through Tanzania's Draft Action Plan of integrating non-traditional sources of data in production of official statistics and indicators.

How do you see the now emerging challenge of interaction of laws governing statistics and technology?

We are in countries whereby our activities are basically not only governed by legislation but also facilitated by legislation. The legislation is not there just to tell us what we are allowed to do but also how we can make things better. We are talking about statistical legislation particularly regulations which will be updated once the new amendments are consented by the higher authorities. But what is important is to think in legal-

perspectives what kind of provisions we could add within existing regulations so that we put in place the institutional framework, governance and coordination mechanism that will support the technical part of integrating non-traditional data sources in the production of official statistics.

Two days of intensive discussions, sharing of knowledge and experience, so what next?

We have come up with a very interesting draft action plan and I think it looks very good and also agreed that we now need a-

couple of consultations process and get something in the next few days. We will conduct this among a restricted number of workshop participants and after that we are going to have something which is going to help the country, of course with the support of international community particularly the United Nations during its implementation. It will be Tanzania Action Plan of integrating non-traditional sources of data in production of official statistics and indicators.



Mr. Gabriel Games from UNSD addressing workshop participants on integrating non-traditional data sources in production of official statistics held at Ministry of Finance and Planning conference hall recently.

Communicator's Job Never Easy in Communicating Statistics, Says Head of Stats SA



Participants to the Public Relations and Dissemination Seminar from National and Pan-African Statistics Organisations which was held in Pretoria South Africa listening to one of the presentations

The Statistician General and Head of Statistics South Africa (Stats SA), Mr. Risenga Maluleke, has said communicating statistics in a statistics agency is a big challenge to those entrusted with the task.

He told participants to the Public Relations and Dissemination seminar held in Pretoria, South Africa, that one thing that relates to challenges of communicating statistics is the fact that--

communicators are supposed to maintain the independence of the national statistics agency when addressing issues related to policies.

He said it is normal practice that when there are challenges, statisticians will leave communicators to see it finished in orders to survive.

“In all cases of official statistics, we are not--

supposed to move into policy space, however when politicians and users call you they (statisticians) expect you as a communicator to talk about their own policy space,” he said.

Mr. Maluleke added: “... the agency’s communicator has to respond to users because if not, then we lose them, but when the communicator comments and crosses the line he or she runs into trouble with those who call--

themselves mainline statisticians.”

He insisted that in spite of the challenges still efforts should be made to make sure that agencies move along with the users and make sure societies are being informed all the time.

He insisted on the importance of creating close and professional relationships between national statistics agencies and media among strategies to reach stakeholders.

The head of Stats SA reminded seminar participants that: “In communication it is not about the message that you put across but it is about the person or organisation you are representing and it also about those who receive the information and it is also about those who know you as a person and who always relate you with the message when they see you in the media.

He cited another challenge facing communicators in statistics agencies as communicating the value of something which is very abstract, in most instances it-

is the numbers given for free.

“Normally people do not tend to take things which come for free, many take pride for something or service for which they paid some of money. So when they get numbers for free which are abstract is even more complex,” he said.

The Stats SA chief met seminar participants after a tour of Stat SA offices at the end of their four day seminar, which was organised by the African Union Commission (AUC) and Eurostat under Pan African Statistics Programme (PAS)--a European Union sponsored programme.

Meanwhile, Statistician General and Head of Stats SA challenged communication and public relations practitioners in African statistics agencies to get ready to implement their duties in an ever changing world of the fourth industrialisation era.

He said the era calls for the communicators to step up the pressure plate as today there is a lot of statistics--

which are not official but one which can spread a lot more quickly than that coming from national statistics agencies.

“How do we get ready to communicate in an ever changing world while your base, what you call national statistics agency, is slow. This is a big challenge to communicators,” he noted, adding that it was the duty of the communicators to advise national statistics agencies on how to improve and increase the pace when it comes to communicating with stakeholders.

“Normally people do not tend to take things which come for free, many take pride for something or service for which they paid some of money. So when they get numbers for free which are abstract is even more complex,” he said.

Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics are not outdated, say UNSD Expert

- **Comparability is very fundamental**



Mr. Gabriel Games from UNSD making a presentation during the two-day national on integrate non-traditional data sources in production of official statistics.

The fundamental principles of official statistics, which guide production of official statistics, are not outdated as claimed by some members in the statistics system.

According to Mr. Gabriel Games, who is the Inter-regional Advisor, Organisation and Management of National Statistics Systems at United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), it was only the--

interpretation of those principles which was probably outdated.

“These (fundamental) principles are not outdated but sometimes we have rather restrictive interpretations of them,” he said and urged people to think in a more open-minded way and “rightly inclusive way” when assessing and implementing those principles.

Mr. Games was speaking during the national workshop on integrating non-traditional data sources in the production of official statistics held at Ministry of Finance and Planning conference hall in Dar es Salaam.

He said the ten principles, which were adopted in 1994 by UN Statistical Commission--which is the--



Stakeholders from government, private sector, civil societies and international organisations discussing draft document on how to integrate non-traditional data sources in production of official statistics. This followed a two day national workshop on integrating non-traditional data sources in production of official statistics.

highest intergovernmental body in statistics governance, were forward looking as by then the principles permitted National Statistics Offices (NSOs) to be allowed to use all kind of data sources in production of official statistics.

Mr. Games noted that the forward thinking of the principles was the one which brought together stakeholders at the workshop.

Meanwhile, UNSD expert--

stressed that NSOs are producing statistics for stakeholders not for themselves hence the issue of comparability of official statistics is fundamental.

“NBS like any other national statistics office produces statistics not for itself but stakeholders like governments, private sector, organisations, civil societies and the business community,” said Mr. Games.

He added that the importance-

of comparability of statistics is very crucial in decision-making at both governmental and business levels.

He said, for example, when companies want to make a decision about investing in Tanzania, they will gather all information available about Tanzania but they will definitely give priority on official statistics because they are produced according to fundamental principles of official statistics.

“Those set of statistics and indicators about Tanzania can be compared with other sets of statistics and indicators of other countries and one can decide where to invest,” he said and added that is the advantage of official statistics in decision making process.

“NBS like any other national statistics office produces statistics not for itself but stakeholders like governments, private sector, organisations, civil societies and the business community,” said Mr. Games.

Tanzania Readies to Embrace Non-Traditional Data Sources in Production of Statistics, Says Statistician General



Statistician General, Dr. Albina Chuwa, making contribution to the discussion on how to integrate non-traditional data sources in production of official statistics.

National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) is likely to propose further changes in its structure after the approval of the recent Statistics Act amendments to accommodate non-traditional data.

Speaking during the two-day national workshop on integrating of non-traditional data sources in the production of official statistics, the Statistician General, Dr. Albina Chuwa, told the media that currently NBS had no such --

thing called non-traditional data sources but said it is ready to learn from others.

She said Statistical Regulations will explain how to integrate non-traditional data sources in the production of official statistics and the idea proposed by workshop participants of having a pilot study is very much welcome.

“The most important thing now is to have those regulations, form the committee and set things in motion and I would--

like to see in three months’ time we accomplish this task,” she insisted.

Statistician General said when regulations are ready; the main priority will be to have the guidelines and code of conduct to govern the process.

“It will be a continuous process and very inclusive one. All stakeholders from MDAs, civil societies will come together and this workshop is part of the preparations,” she explained.

She elaborated that the guidelines to be used by all producers of statistics and NBS will only coordinate the process.

Dr. Chuwa insisted: “NBS, by coordinating statistics production and dissemination, is not restricting others from producing and disseminating statistics but rather doing so through providing guidelines in production of statistics”.

She added that guidelines are specifically for producers of statistics and NBS as the coordinator of national statistical system while her main--

preoccupation is to provide guidance to those who produce statistics.

“Coordinating production of statistics means monitoring the whole process from the beginning to the end that is to say even the methodology used in the production process,” she elaborated.

She added that the guideline will comprise criteria/characteristics of various categories like poor statistics, accepted statistics and quality statistics and the like.

Dr. Chuwa said, NBS will--

benefit from UNECA’s experience as mentioned during the seminar by the commission’s representative that it has already developed guidelines for civil societies on how to publish their statistics.

On how capable NBS is to manage the process, the agency’s chief admitted that the national statistics office obviously does not possess everything to satisfy the capacity needs but will conduct training needs assessment to guide and address future human resources needed to build capacity on how to handle non-traditional data sources.



Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa answering questions from members of the press after official opening of the National Workshop on Integrating Non-Traditional Data Sources in Production of Official Statistics held at Ministry of Finance na Planning conference hall along Luthuli Street Dar es Salaam.

Tanzania held a two-day national workshop on integrating non-traditional data sources in production of official statistics. The workshop was jointly organised by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the UK Department for International Development (DFID). During the workshop, Mr. Joseph Tinfissi ILBOUDO, the Chief Statistical Development, Data Innovation and Outreach Section of the African Centre for Statistics of the UNECA gave this interview to NBS Newsletter.

Why do you think it is so crucial today to integrate non-traditional data sources in the production of official statistics?

Yes, it is so critical today because when you look at new dynamics of the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) perspective and capacity of the traditional system to cover the needs, you will realise that there is an important percentage even more than half of the information that may have to come or should come from non-traditional sources. So integrating them, in fact, is a must because we have no choice; otherwise we would not be able to cover all the needed information for SDGs and also national development plans whereby some of the critical areas have to be enlightened by data we don't have yet.

You have said that it is inevitable, but there are questions of quality and reliability of these sources. How does UNECA look at these issues?

Of course, quality does not come --

over night and the same applies to reliability, you have to have a process. At the beginning, to make sure that the system is going to deliver you have to ensure whatever the process, it has to follow certain methodological requirements so even these data are not structural to be used in a way that the official statistics wants it, there is a possibility of --

improving the way we should take them in into account.

Administrative data constitute big part of non-traditional data sources but its quality is a major concern across the continent. How do you explain this in relation to workshop objectives?

Of course, as you said many countries are facing the same--



Mr. Joseph Tinfissi Ilboudo the Chief Statistical Development, Data Innovation and Outreach Section of the African Centre for Statistics of the UNECA speaking during the national workshop on integrating non-traditional data sources in production of statistics.

challenges as Tanzania and most of the time we are asking national statistical system that is led by national statistics office to put emphasise on helping line ministries to improve administrative records. We are creating that awareness and we even have a documentation of the use of administrative records for production of official statistics explaining how those records can be improved at the national level and how they can make progress.

Now how ready are African countries to embrace this new idea of integrating non-traditional data sources into production of official statistics?

I think the debate is everywhere but the need and urgency to look at what data revolution has called for improving production of data to cover all needs on the view of 'leaving no one behind'. At the end of the day you realise that this is an effort that should be collective and we have noticed in many African countries this movement of let us get to new frontiers of using data from other alternative sources. It is common phenomena that we are facing here and it is a common--

challenge to all statisticians on how to improve things that we traditionally do in a new ways.

What is the role of UNECA in this process?

The role of UNECA here is, let say, to leverage on our convening power to have the overall discussion and keeping these discussions on how national statistics systems in the continent can embrace these new ways and we will never cease to use any opportunity to carry on. I would say, our role at UNECA is to create awareness of what institutions should be undertaking.

During the workshop you mentioned that UNECA has already prepared a framework of using non-traditional data sources in the production of official statistics. Can you elaborate a bit on this?

What we are saying is more of our perspectives of bringing about experience other countries have in this area to others who want to learn from them. For example, Uganda is using satellite imagery to gather more frequent data about poverty at households. We want to make countries to be aware of what other countries are doing and--

the challenges they face. You know sharing of experience is very important for others to embrace this and start questioning on how they can improve in embracing non-traditional data which they were unable to do. To be precise, our role is a kind of liaison one getting information to be known and getting experience to be shared.

There is what I will refer to as 'collision' between technology and laws governing statistics. How do you perceive this view?

Yes, sometime there seems to be such contradiction but personally I don't think so. I would say we should rather use the technology to help on how we can apply or how we can implement the law. To my opinion, there is no such collision. Technology should be used in implementation or in the disposition of the law in the best way.

But, how can you do that?

What is important is for the statisticians to see technology as an enabler of better application of the law and that the law is here to show us--



Participants to the national workshop on integrating non-traditional data sources in production of official statistics pose for a group photograph after the official opening by Permanent Secretary Ministry of Finance and Planning Doto James.

how best data collection can be done. Why I am saying so? Because most of the time, statisticians would think that laws should be applied in a classical way but technology is now helping us to move from classical way of doing things to new ways by applying it. For example, today due to technological advancement, obtaining information may no longer require one going with a bunch of paper questionnaires interrogating someone; it can be done in alternative way by using electronic devices.



Participants to the two-day national workshop on integrating non-traditional data sources in production of official statistics

Government Seeks to Establish the Contribution of the Aviation Sector to the National Economy

For the first time, Tanzania is set to determine the contribution of the aviation industry to the national economy following government decision to commission special task force to study the matter.

Engineer Aron Kisaka, who represented the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Works, Transport and Communication told the committee of heads of institutions tasked to study the matter saying that the initiative was very important in order to accurately determine the impact of the sector in the national economy.

“It is very unfortunate that despite its central position, we have never done any study to establish how much this sector contributes to our national economy,” Engineer Kisaka said.

He, therefore, noted that the study results will help the government and its relevant institutions to address issues around the aviation industry in a very strategic way to ensure maximum benefits to all players in the industry.

The Permanent Secretary informed the meeting,--

which was held at the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) offices in Dodoma, that Tanzania will be among the very few countries to adopt the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) guidelines referred to as the Aviation Satellite Account (ASA) used to assess economic contribution of civil aviation.

The institutions entrusted to do the study are: NBS, Office of Chief Government Statistician (OCGS) of Zanzibar, Bank of Tanzania, Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority (TCAA) and Zanzibar Airports Authority (ZAA).

The Statistician General, Dr. Albina Chuwa, who is the co-chair of the committee said given the investments of the Fifth Phase Government in the sector, it was imperative that Tanzania as a country should understand the industry's contribution to the national economy.

She noted that with massive investment, in terms of upgrading airport facilities and the reinventing of the national

carrier (ATCL) by buying a fleet of modern aircraft, it was high time the sector's impact on the national economy was determined.

Dr. Chuwa explained further that obtaining data on tourism and aviation industries remained as one of the main challenges facing compilation of economic statistics in the country.

“Indicators of contribution of tourism sector and aviation industry in the national economy, which are very critical in policy formulation, monitoring and evaluation, as well in decision making regarding those sectors for many years lacked scientific explanation,” she noted.

The Statistician General added: “If we will be successful in managing this process, then Tanzania will be among the pioneers of applying ICAO system. So, we should expect many other countries to come to learn from us which, will be a milestone to our local experts”.

PAS Conducts another Capacity Building Seminar on Communication and Dissemination of Statistics



Communication and dissemination officers from National and Pan-African Organisations during a Pan-African Statistics Project (PAS) organized Public Relations and Dissemination seminar held in Pretoria, South Africa.

This month, under the Pan African Statistics Programme (PAS), the African Union Commission (AUC) and Eurostat conducted another capacity building seminar on public relations and dissemination of statistics in the continent.

The objectives of the seminar were to improve dissemination and public relations capacities of National Statistics Institutes, Regional and Pan African organisations; and to promote the creation, harmonisation and coherence of public relations strategies throughout the continent.

The four-day seminar attracted participants from 24 countries and four regional organisations, namely, Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and Southern African Development Community (SADC).

The seminar, which was attended by staff having communication and dissemination functions--

in their respective organisations, centred on the understanding of good media relations, improving participants' public relations skills and creating more user-friendly presentations of statistics so as to increase the use of and trust in official statistics.

In December, 2019, PAS conducted capacity building workshop on dissemination of statistics products for dissemination officials from member countries as well as regional organisations. Both seminar were held in Pretoria, South Africa.

Africa is increasingly Adopting Evidenced-Based Decision Making Approach, Says UNECA



From left to right, Executive Director of Foundation of Civil Societies Mr. Stephen Chacha, Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa, UN Resident coordinator Mr. Alvaro Rodriguez and Mr. Neil Jackson from DFID keenly follow one of the presentations during national workshop on integrating non-traditional data sources in production of official statistics.

African leadership awareness on the importance of statistics in decision making is taking firm grip and the continent is going to benefit from evidence-based decision making.

Mr. Joseph Tinfissi ILBOUDO, the Chief Statistical Development, Data Innovation and Outreach Section of the African Centre for Statistics of the UNECA told NBS Newsletter that African leadership is very keen on the use of statistics be it in-- the perspective of--

national planning or towards regional and global goals.

“Of late, we have witnessed a sort of an increase in awareness on statistics because most of the debates were focusing on how to prioritize SDGs and when they come to that discussion then leaders call statisticians to tell them how and give more information,” he said.

The most important thing, he noted, was to ensure the momentum created by the dialogue between statisticians--

and planners in the continent continues in order to create more awareness on the importance of statistics in decision making at all levels of leadership.

“Of late, we have witnessed a sort of an increase in awareness on statistics because most of the debates were focusing on how to prioritize SDGs and when they come to that discussion then leaders call statisticians to tell them how and give more information,” he said. Mr. ILBOUDO.

Tanzania's Decision to Join Countries Reporting Implementation of SDGs Impresses UN Resident Coordinator

The UNDP Resident Representative and UN Resident Coordinator, Mr. Alvaro Rodriguez has said it was gratifying to see Tanzania joining other countries to make voluntary reporting about implementation of the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Mr. Rodriguez was speaking during the national workshop on integrating non-traditional data sources in production of official statistics where he also launched the national report on the Implementation Status of SDGs Indicators Framework.

The workshop, which was officiated by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Finance and Planning, Mr. Doto James, was organised jointly by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the UK Department for International Development (DFID).

The UN Resident Coordinator said Tanzania, like several other countries, has started the journey to 2030 and beyond and that the workshop has come at the right time as the world is confronted by ever increasing data demand to address many pressing development challenges.

He added that integrating non-traditional data sources in production of official statistics can face some legal challenges in many countries, but all must reckon the importance of comparability of data as one of the fundamental principles of official statistics.

“Countries may have varied legal framework regarding non-traditional data sources but on the other hand there are fundamental principles of official statistics which highlight comparability across countries and societies of statistics we produce,” he noted.

He added that the workshop was not just a technical discussion but also a--

gathering which is very critical in embracing non-traditional data sources which makes a big part of today's data stories.

He noted that “those who control data control the story” and emphasised that the statement was profound because people trust stories containing statistical evidence and the messages they carry.

Mr. Rodriguez added that it is the statistical evidence that shows how a country is progressing or otherwise therefore making statistics available for monitoring and evaluating development plans and programmes.

Meanwhile the acting Director of Social Statistics Directorate at NBS, Ms. Ruth Minja, said the 2019 SDGs booklet provides key global goals updates regarding Tanzania's implementation of agenda 2030.

She told workshop participants that the booklet contains statistical information for monitoring--



UN Resident Representative Alvaro Rodriguez speaking during the opening of the national workshop on integrating non-traditional data sources in the production of official statistics.

SDGs progress which is also in line with the implementation of the Second National Five Year Development Plan.

The acting director said the report was due to be presented to the United Nations as the country was expecting to join other countries to make voluntary reporting of implementation of SDGs.

Meanwhile, Neil Jackson from DFID told workshop participants that there were many challenges in the process of integrating non-traditional data sources in the

production of official statistics but it is a reality which every country must address.

He said the workshop, which acted as a national platform for stakeholders to exchange ideas and experience on the subject, was taking shape towards making the process a success.

He emphasised that stakeholders need to engage more actively in finding solutions to the challenges, that is, in the sense of building capacities, quality,--

technical, legal framework and the like.

He was optimistic that by addressing those challenges the world, including Tanzania, can shape data systems that will work for everyone and help countries and regions realise global development goals.

Mr. Neil Jackson noted that thinking about how official statistics can help non-official statistics is important because the former can add value in the statistical system.

He cited an example from the United Kingdom where the code of practice of statisticians is on trust, quality and value with minimum set of standards to be followed.

He, however, informed the workshop participants that adherence to those standards is voluntary but one, on releasing the data to the public, is supposed to declare in a statement whether or not I followed the minimum set standards.

UNECA Advocates Use of New Technologies in the Coming Population and Housing Censuses



Mr. Joseph Tinfissi Ilboudo the Chief Statistical Development, Data Innovation and Outreach Section of the African Centre for Statistics of the UNECA speaking during the national workshop on integrating non-traditional data sources in production of statistics. Right is Hellen Move, NBS statistician

As Africa is approaching 2020s rounds of Population and Housing Censuses (PHCs), UNECA is optimistic that the continent will embrace new technologies to facilitate smooth implementation/conduct of those censuses.

The Chief Statistical Development, Data Innovation and Outreach Section of the African Centre for Statistics of the UNECA, Mr. Joseph Tinfissi ILBOUDO, said that discussion is going on to--

ensure the continent is benefitting from new technological innovations in data collection including PHCs.

He said UNECA strongly recommends the use of new technologies and to go less paper way by using Personal Digital Assistant (PDA), Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) and many other ways.

He added that it was imperative that African countries drastically improve

the way they conduct PHCs by adopting new technologies and that is what UNECA is promoting to all member states.

“We are creating many discussions and convening fora and the message is clear--census must be technology-based, cost saving, and adhere to principles of reliability and timeliness,” he elaborated.

Mr. Ilboudo said the role of UNECA is very instrumental as it links African continent and the global system and it will make sure the 2020s rounds of population and housing censuses, which are just around the corner, will be effectively implemented by many African countries.

“When you embrace technology your results are no longer going to wait for ages before being published,” he explained and added that UNECA is confident that more and more African countries will be going along that way in the 2020s rounds of censuses.

Amendments to the Statistics Act Commended

The Executive Director of the Foundation for Civil Society, Mr. Stephen Chacha has commended the recent amendments of the Statistics Act which recognise data produced by civil societies and other stakeholders.

Mr. Chacha said the recognition of non-traditional data sources in the national statistical system was something civil societies have long been advocating and now that the law has recognised them, civil societies have nothing more than to commend the government for the wise decision.

“The recent amendments of the Statistics Act is a clear indication that our leaders are listening to alternative views. We gave our opinion and the government had positively responded to it,” he said.

Mr. Chacha added that civil societies consider the national workshop on integrating non-traditional data sources in production of official statistics with high--



Executive Director of Foundation of Civil Societies Mr. Stephen Chacha at the national workshop on integrating non-traditional data sources in production of official statistics.

esteem because it is the beginning of the long process to accomplish their long time wish.

He said data produced by civil societies can be integrated into official statistics as complementary data for the official statistics produced out of official system.

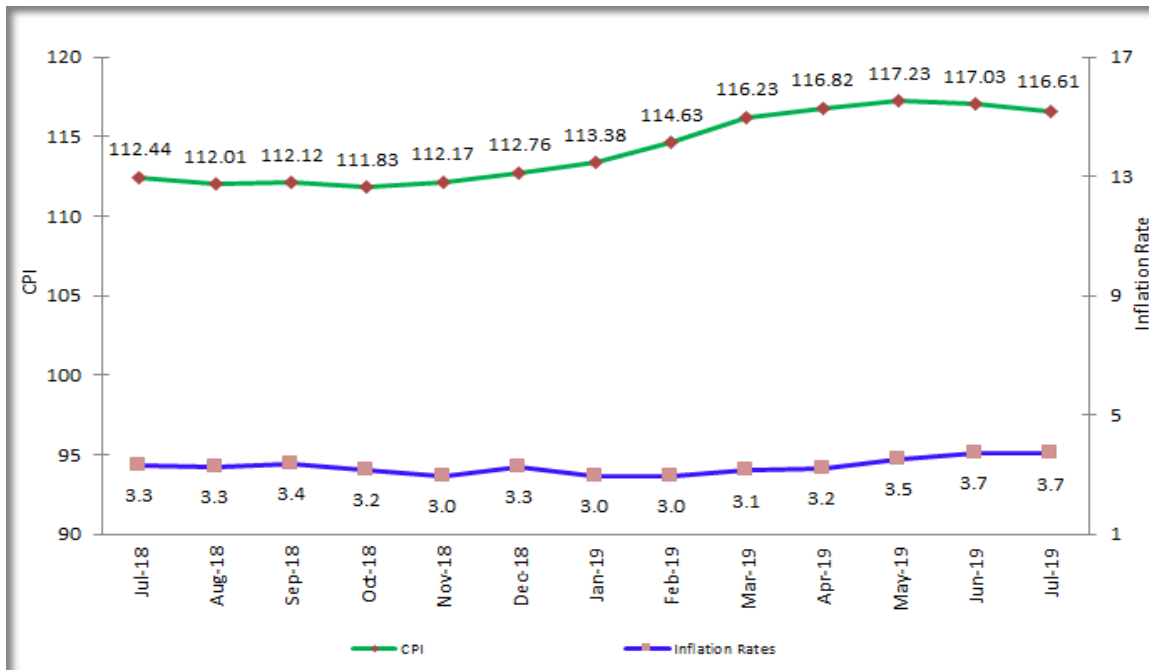
He mentioned data from private sector, the academia and civil societies can be used as recognised and acceptable--

statistics as civil societies strongly believe those data are of high value as official statistics to measure progress of our national development plans and programmes such as Second Five Year Development Plan and the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

“The systematic integration of these data will enhance our capacity in statistics production and fill the existing statistics gap in many areas,” he observed.

Inflation Holds Steady in July

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



The annual consumer price inflation was 3.7 per cent in July, 2019, unchanged from June 2019.

The main contributor to annual inflation was food as the speed of the price change remained the same as in the previous month.

Addressing reporters in Dar es Salaam, the Acting Director of Population Census and Social Statistics, Mrs. Ruth Minja, said the overall index has decreased to 116.61 in July, 2019 from 117.03 recorded in June, 2019.

The decrease of the overall index was caused by the decrease of price of food items such as rice which decreased by 2.4 percent, spaghetti by 1.1 percent, sardines by 2.1 percent, fruits by 3.4 percent, coconut by 4.0 percent, round potatoes by 2.3 percent, cassava by 6.5 percent, and cooking bananas by 2.2 percent.

Mrs. Minja said that the inflation of Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages for July, 2019 has increased to 2.9 percent from 2.3--

percent recorded in June, 2019. Inflation rate which excludes food and energy in July, 2019 has decreased to 3.1 percent from 3.4 percent recorded in June, 2019.

The acting director revealed that inflation rate for food consumed at home and away from home in July, 2019 has climbed to 4.9 percent from 4.3 percent recorded in June, 2019 while the 12 month index change for non-food products in July, 2019 has slowdown to 4.2 percent from 4.7 percent recorded in June, 2019.

NBS PICTORIAL NEWS



NBS Marketing Officer Andrew Punjila explaining NBS activities to a visitor at NBS pavilion during SabaSaba International Trade Fair. Left is statistician Saleh Chivanga of NBS.



NBS Social Statistics Manager Mrs. Sylvia Meku at Clouds' Power Breakfast Talk with Philips Mwihava discussing the 2017-18 Households Budget Survey Report.

NBS PICTORIAL NEWS



Republic of Korea ambassador to Tanzania Tae-ick Cho (right) with NBS team led by Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa (second right) during a meeting to discussion how NBS can benefit from existing cordial relations between Tanzania and Republic of Korea. From left are Agriculture Statistics Manager Titus Mwisomba and Acting Director of economic statistics directorate Daniel Masolwa.



Participants to the regional workshop on violence against women share experiences and knowledge on how to develop and implement surveys on violence against women.

National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)

Website: www.nbs.go.tz

Twitter: [twitter@NBSTanzania](https://twitter.com/NBSTanzania)

Face book: [facebook@NationalBureauofStatistics](https://facebook.com/NationalBureauofStatistics)

*For comments and suggestions
please contact:*

*Statistician General,
National Bureau of Statistics,
Jakaya Kiwete road,
P. O. Box 2683,
Dodoma.*

Tel: +255 26 – 2963822

Fax: +255 26 - 2963828

E-mail: sg@nbs.go.tz