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



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ILO Hands Over 70 Tablets to NBS for Data Collection



Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa (left) flanked by NBS management during press conference held at NBS offices in Dar es Salaam to announce receipt of 70 tablets from ILO to support production of statistics in the country.

National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) has received 70 tablets from the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to be used in census and survey data collection.

Briefing the media at the NBS Dar es Salaam offices along Kivukoni Front, Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa said the data collection devices were among ILO support to the national statistics body.

She said ILO has been providing-

technical support to NBS in production of labour statistics, particularly, the Integrated Labour Force Surveys which are held after every five years and currently Informal Sector Survey which started with Dar es Salaam region last year.

Dr. Chuwa told reporters that since ILO is a UN agency charged with handling with labour issues, NBS was duty-bound to work closely with it so as to ensure that labour statistics produced in the--

country adhere to the standards and follow the set methodologies.

Dr. Chuwa said the 70 tablets were worth around 35 million, elaborating further that with the Informal Sector Survey, ILO has offered support worth hundreds of millions of Tanzania shillings.

“We will start using these tablets in August this year during the Integrated Labour Survey and of course will--

continue to be used in other surveys and census,” she said.

The Statistician General thanked ILO for its continued support to NBS which has improved production of quality labour statistics in the country.

“The tablets form just part of the many supports we receive from ILO, and we expect more and more to come,” she said.

Dr. Chuwa revealed that through the South South Cooperation, devices like tablets can be borrowed from other national statistics offices.

Meanwhile, Statistician General told the media that the national statistics office has always been producing quality statistics but with the advent of new technologies in data collection, it now produces more accurate and above all high quality statistics.

She was responding to a question by a reporter who wanted to know the quality difference of statistics produced using traditional methods to those using new technologies like tablets.

“NBS always produces quality statistics but with the application of new technologies like using tablets in data collection has improved the quality to the maximum,” she said.

She elaborated that using tablets gives an edge to perfection where it reduces a series of activities in between data collection and analysis which subjects data to possible errors.

Dr. Chuwa explained other benefits using tablets as that of timely availability of data unlike before where it took a couple of months to release data because of long process involving huge number of people.

“During the next Population and Housing Census, the whole process will be digitised from the very beginning to the end hence the numbers will be ready for a release just in a week if not in few days,” she emphasised.

She labelled the tablets as ‘new questionnaires’ where all is installed and everything will be done using the device in which the collected data will be sent directly to server.

“Think over 200,000 Enumerators during next census armed with tablets are sending data to the server and after a few days the numbers are available; it is incredible!” Statistician General noted. She mentioned that all households and their activities will be recorded using Tablets.

In another development, Dr. Chuwa told reporters that production of statistics would continue as usual until NBS receives other directives.

She was responding to a question by a reporter who wanted to know how the coronavirus pandemic has affected production of statistics in the country.

“We will continue to produce statistics as usual. These include the Consumer Price Index (CPI) which is realised every month as usual and continue with our other duties,” she noted.

Your Work Crucial in Determining Quality of the Survey Results, SG Tells SIGI Technical Advisory Group



Part of members of the Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI) Technical Advisory Group during a meeting to review the 2020 Tanzania SIGI Survey tools.

Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa has challenged members of the Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI) Technical Advisory Group to ensure they validate and approve comprehensive tools for the 2020 Tanzania SIGI Survey.

She made the challenge when she was opening a one-day SIGI Technical Advisory Group meeting held at TAKWIMU House recently.

Dr. Chuwa added that the task before the Technical Advisory Group meeting was very crucial because it was going to determine not only the implementation of the survey but also the quality of the expected results.

“It is a collective responsibility which we need to focus our attention to in such a way that we will achieve the objectives of this meeting, that is, to produce--

quality data collection tools for the survey,” she insisted.

In her brief statement read on her behalf by NBS Acting Director of Finance Administration and Marketing, Mr. Andrew Ulindula, the Statistician General urged members to stay focused by openly and candidly discussing and adapting the draft SIGI questionnaires in the Tanzanian context but also to allow comparison with--

other countries.

Dr. Chuwa told members of the group that she was confident the questionnaires would be of quality standard which will make the 2020 Tanzania SIGI Survey a success by producing intended outcomes.

The 2020 Tanzania SIGI Survey will use two questionnaires, namely, the Household questionnaire and the individual questionnaire.

Meanwhile, the co-chair of SIGI Technical Advisory Group, Mr. Ansgar Mapunda, expressed his gratitude to members of the group who have already submitted their comments on the draft questionnaires.

Mr. Mapunda, who is from the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, was giving introductory remarks before inviting Statistician General to open the meeting.

He urged those who were yet to have submitted their--

comments to register them to the draft tools the soonest possible.

Mr. Mapunda reminded members of the group to focus on the work as the draft tools have to be validated and approved making sure they are completed in time as scheduled.

“This is a working session which will centre on the fine-tuning of the survey tools using your comments and inputs sent through emails and those which will be raised during this session,” he explained.



NBS Acting Director of Finance, Administration and Marketing Andrew Ulindula opening, on behalf of Statistician General, the 2nd SIGI Technical Advisory Group meeting held at NBS Dodoma which she urged members to stay focused and adapt the draft SIGI Survey tools in Tanzanian context but also to allow comparison with other countries.

Tanzania attends United Nations Statistics Commission Meeting

The 51st Session of the United Nations Statistics Commission (UNSC) ended with a high note maintaining that countries should continue using international standards, concepts and methods endorsed by the body to enable production of high quality and trusted data and statistics.

The UNSC is the highest body of the international statistical ecosystem, through which global statistical standards are considered and approved. The Commission met between--

March 3 and March 6, 2020 in New York where members deliberated on various issues related to statistics development.

Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa led Tanzania's five-member delegation that also included the Chief Government Statistician (Zanzibar), Ms. Mayasa Mahfoudh Mwinyi, NBS Director responsible for Population Census and Social statistics, Mrs. Ruth Minja, Ms. Moza Ramadhan Omar, who is the coordinator of --

SDGs at the Office of Chief Government Statistics (OCGS), Zanzibar, and Dr. Francis Mkumbo, who is the Rector of the East African Statistics Training Centre.

During the meeting, Dr. Chuwa, who is a co-chair of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs), coordinated the presentation of the group's report concerning data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which was delivered by her--



Tanzania delegation to the 51st Session of the United Nations Statistics Commission (UNSC) held in New York. Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa (front left) and Chief Government Statistician Ms. Mayasa Mahfoudh Mwinyi (far left back row).

counterpart Ms. Viveka Palm from Sweden's Statistics Office.

Among other things, Dr. Chuwa also updated members of the Commission of the state of agricultural and rural statistics compilation in Africa with specific examples from Tanzania.

Mr. Liu Zhenmin, the UN Under-Secretary General, officiated the opening of the meeting where he underscored the importance of official statistics towards efforts of countries and international community in achieving sustainable development.

In that regard, he noted that timely, quality, disaggregated and open data are of critical importance, both at the national and global levels.

Mr. Zhenmin commended the IAEG-SDGs for its extensive work and for reaching agreement on a 2020 comprehensive review of the SDGs indicator framework.

He added that the update of the indicator framework will give support and a further boost to the SDG monitoring efforts, including by helping ensure that *no one is left behind*.



Mr. Liu Zhenmin, the UN Under-Secretary General officiated the opening of the 51st Session of the UNSC (file photo courtesy of Alamy Stock Photo).

He told Commission's members that he was very much impressed by its efforts to integrate statistical and geospatial information, and for the progress that is being made.

Apart from the report of the IAEG-SDG, the fifty-first session of the Commission also discussed among others the Report on the High-Level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Other reports discussed by the Commission included those by the Bureau on a more coordinated and coherent--

structure and functions of groups operating under the auspices of the Statistical Commission; and one of the Friends of the Chair Group on the future of economic statistics.

The meeting was informed that the third anniversary of the World Statistics Day, which is celebrated after every five years, will be held on October 20, 2020 under the theme: "Connecting the world with data we can trust".

SIGI Survey Consists of Sixty Variables, Reveals UN-Women Consultant

The 2020 Tanzania SIGI Survey consists of sixty variables based on the four key dimensions identified for the survey.

The four dimensions, according to the UN-Women-based consultant for Gender Statistics, Dr. Sadananda Mitra, are: discrimination at the family level; restricted physical integrity; access to financial and productive services; as well as restrictive civil liberties.

Dr. Mitra was speaking during the opening of the second SIGI Technical Advisory Group meeting held at TAKWIMU House, Dodoma.

He told members of the group that the survey has both qualitative and quantitative parts hence discussion during the meeting should also focus around those two aspects.

He emphasised that whilst the Survey is an--

international one still it has been customised for Tanzania, whereby he reminded members that it was going to capture the social inequalities related norms and practices in Tanzania.

“It is an international survey so after this meeting we are going to finalise data collection tool for the main survey and I thank you for your valuable inputs made through email; we have compiled them and updated the questionnaires,” Dr. Mitra said.

He told the meeting that he was optimistic that at the end of the day members would produce the required tools ready for data collection scheduled in April and May, 2020.

He told the meeting that due to restrictions on global movement because of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) some of the experts didn't manage to attend the meeting.

“We have tasked them to provide all the yardsticks and required standards that we can follow during the survey so that at the end of the day we can have quality data which is our main objective,” he said.

Dr. Mitra thanked Technical Advisory Group members drawn from Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) from both Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar and from Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) for total commitment they have been showing since the beginning of the process.

“Your contribution is always appreciated and thank you again for your time for this meeting and hope we can get good results unitedly gender equality for women and girls in Tanzania,” he added.

Inflation Rate Declines by 0.3 Percent in March, 2020

The headline inflation rate for the month of March, 2020 decreased by 0.3 percent from 3.7 percent recorded last month to 3.4 percent.

The NBS acting Director responsible for Population Census and Social statistics, Mrs. Ruth Minja, said such decrease explains the speed of price change for commodities for the year ended March 2020 which has decreased compared to the speed recorded for the year ended February, 2020.

She told the media during the release of Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the month of March, 2020 that the decrease of inflation rate of Food and Non-Alcoholic beverages from 5.9 percent last month to 5.3 percent in March contributed to such decline of headline inflation rate.

According to Mrs Minja, the annual inflation rate for food consumed at home and away from home during the same month also went down by 0.7 percent from 6.6 percent in February, 2020 to 5.9 percent--

in March, 2020.

She added that the overall index went up to 120.20 in March, 2020 from 116.23 recorded in March, 2019 whereas the 12-month index for non-food products in March, 2020 has decreased by 0.2 percent from 2.4 percent in February, 2020 to 2.2 percent in March, 2020.

The CPI March report also shows that the annual inflation rate, which excludes food and energy for the month of March, 2020 decreased to 2.1 percent from 2.2 percent, which was recorded in February, 2020.

According to the acting director, the general trend shows relatively stable movement of prices from March, 2019 to March, 2020.

“Annual headline inflation rate over the same period has shown a stable trend of movement ranging between 3.1 percent recorded in March, 2019 and 3.8 percent recorded in November and December, 2019,” she explained.



Observing social distancing! Members of the press at a press conference held at NBS office Dodoma during the release March Consumer Price Index (CPI).

UN-Habitat to Support Statistics in Tanzania

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) has agreed to assist Tanzania to be able to use *Degree of Urbanisation* methodology during the coming Population and Housing Census.

Degree of Urbanisation refers to the proportion of people living in localities or urban settlements among the population of a municipality whose place of residence can be defined by coordinates.

The harmonised methodology is used to delineate cities and urban and rural areas for international and regional statistical comparison. It was used in Kenya and South Africa during their respective 2020 rounds of Population and Housing Census.

The UN-Habitat acceptance to assist Tanzania was revealed during a meeting between Tanzania delegation to the 51st Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission and UN-Habitat delegation.

The meeting between Tanzania delegation and that of UN-Habitat focused on preparations for the 2022 Population and Housing Census in Tanzania--

and potential collaboration between the UN agency and Tanzania through NBS and OCGS.

During the meeting, Tanzania delegation was led by Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa whereas Mr. Robert P. Ndugwa, the Officer in charge of the Global Urban Observatory Unit in the Research and Capacity Development Branch at the UN-Habitat in Nairobi, Kenya led the other delegation.

Following the discussions, UN-Habitat is expected to send a technical mission to Tanzania in May, 2020 to assess the current situation and build capacity of cartographic experts at the country level on how to implement the recommended international methodology.

The two parties decided to establish networking between NBS including (OCGS) Geographical Information System (GIS) staff and UN-Habitat team to plan for online training before physical country visit.

It was also agreed during the meeting that implementation of-

the new methodology should be built on the work already done at the country level or should be compatible with technologies used by other experts in cartographic work in the country such as ESRI and GPSDD.

The Statistician General informed the UN-Habitat that Tanzania was planning to extensively use new technology during implementation of the 2022 Population and Housing Census, but currently “little has been done specifically, in delineation of cities, urban and rural areas”.

She pointed out that, out of 188 councils in Tanzania Mainland, only 3 of them have so far been demarcated.

Meanwhile, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is planning to send a team in Tanzania later this year to assess the status of the 2022 Population and Housing Census’ geographical work so as to set the baselines for collaboration and support.



Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa during the 51st Session of the United Nations Statistics Commission (UNSC).

The UNFPA team led its Technical Adviser Tapiwa Jhamba told the Tanzanian delegation headed by Dr. Chuwa that during the mission, UNFPA will be able to identify gaps and recommend solutions for issues which cannot be solved using the current Geographical Information System (GIS) technologies in use at the national statistical office.

During the meeting, which was held on the sidelines of the 51st Session of the UNSC in New York, Dr. Chuwa--

told UNFPA team that NBS GIS staff are currently working with ESRI but given the size of the country, more partnerships are encouraged to facilitate and speed up census' geographical work.

Dr. Chuwa informed the UNFPA delegation that all cartographic works were scheduled to be completed by June, 2022 in order to provide enough time for conducting pilot test and the actual census exercise during the last seven days of August, 2022.

“The use of high-level technology will make the plans possible because it will simplify the work and reduce costs of conducting the 2022 PHC,” she elaborated.

“UN-Habitat at Tanzania was planning to extensively use new technology during implementation of the 2022 Population and Housing Census, but currently “little has been done specifically, in delineation of cities, urban and rural areas” Said Dr. Albina Chuwa.

SIGI Survey Targets all adults aged 15 years and Above



NBS Manager of Social and Demographic Statistics, Mrs. Sylvia Meku presents to the SIGI Technical Advisory Group members sample for the 2020 Tanzania SIGI Survey.

The 2020 SIGI Survey will involve all male and female adults aged 15 years or older lived in household or slept in the household the night before the day of the survey.

NBS Manager of Social and Demographic Statistics, Mrs. Sylvia Meku said the main objective of SIGI survey is to identify, measure and profile gender-based discrimination by all adults aged 15 years and above in the country.

She added that in order to--

ensure the survey is representative of the national population, every individual of the target population should have a chance of being selected and interviewed in the survey in order to prevent bias.

Presenting the survey sample to the SIGI Technical Advisory Group meeting, Mrs. Meku mentioned that the sample of the survey will manage to represent National proportion of women ever experienced any--

Physical/sexual violence by any husband/partner, zonal prevalence and regional prevalence.

In summary Mrs. Meku told members of the group that the Sample Size will yield “31 Strata/Regions, 217 Primary Sampling Units (PSU/EAs), 20 HH/PSU in each EA, 4,340 households, 8,680 estimated adults 15+ years interviewees (4,340 Men and 4,340 Women) and overall Relative Standard Error (RSE) of 5 percent”

She added that the proposed sample design is expected to provide representative sample of the main domains of interest of National – Relative Standard Error (RSE) 5 percent, Zonal – RSE 15 percent and Domain level – RSE 15 percent.

Meanwhile, it was revealed that the survey will use two questionnaires namely Household Questionnaire and Individual questionnaire which the later will be used for quantitative data collection and Focus Group Questions for qualitative data collection.

In her presentation on methodologies of the survey, SIGI Coordinator, Ms. Mariam Kitembe explained that the Household Questionnaire has two sections one on demographic issues and the other one is on dwelling conditions.

On Individual Questionnaire, she said it consists of eleven sections seeking information on socio-economic characteristics, economic activities and employment status, childhood experiences, Time use and household decision making.



Dr. Sadananda Mitra, a UN-Women consultant for Gender Statistics stressing a point during the opening of the 2nd SIGI Technical Advisory Group meeting held at NBS Dodoma. Right is Mrs Sylvia Meku, NBS Manager for Social and Demographic Statistics and left is Mr. Ansgar Mapunda Co-chair of the Group.

Ms. Mariam mentioned other information sought on Individual Questionnaire as inheritance and divorce, violence, reproductive choices, access to land and real estate, civil liberty and access to justice and masculine and feminine attributes.

Earlier before, UN-Women-based Gender Statistics specialist Mr. Mitra Sadananda put through group members on the key dimensions of the survey by making elaboration on the same.

On discrimination in the family dimension, he said it includes information on child marriage, household responsibilities,--

inheritance and divorce whereas on restricted physical integrity dimension, it includes information on violence against women, female genital mutilation, missing women and reproductive autonomy.

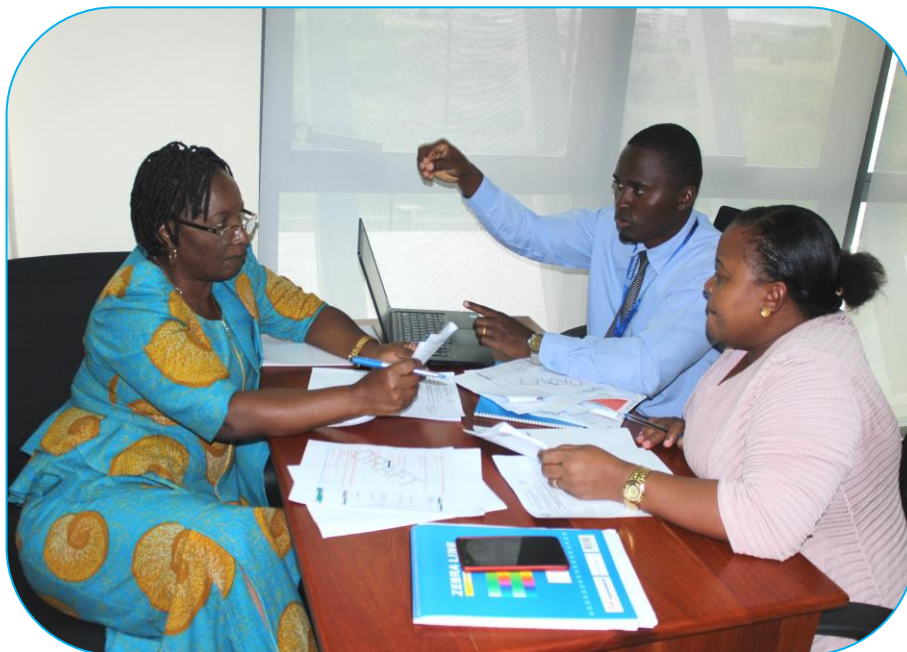
Dr. Mitra elaborated that the dimension of restricted access to productive and financial resources includes information on secure access to land, non-land assets, financial services and workplace rights.

On the restricted civil liberties dimension, he said it includes information on citizenship rights, freedom of movement, political voice and access to justice.

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Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa displays to the media one of the 70 tablets donated by ILO to NBS during the press conference held at NBS offices in Dar es Salaam.



Part of SIGI Technical Advisory Group members during group discussion on SIGI questionnaires.

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Members of SIGI Technical Advisory Group listening to one the presentations during the meeting.



Part of NBS Management follow press conference addressed by Statistician General (not in the picture) on receiving 70 tables from ILO in support of production of statistics in the country.

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