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**AFRICAN STATISTICS DAY 2018: "HIGH QUALITY OFFICIAL STATISTICS TO ENSURE
TRANSPARENCY, GOOD GOVERNANCE AND INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT."**



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Government Committed to Good Governance, Says Dr. Mpango



Guest of Honor, the Minister of Finance and Planning, Dr. Philip Mpango speaks at the opening of the Third Statistics Conference held at University of Dodoma to mark World Statistics Day.

The Minister for Finance and Planning, Dr. Philip Mpango, has reiterated that the Fifth Phase Government under President John Pombe Magufuli is committed to good governance and that recent amendments to the Statistics Act of 2015 would neither affect the level of transparency nor contradict provisions of the Access to Information Act of 2016.

Minister Mpango said the amendments were meant to regulate publication of statistical information but has, unfortunately, raised doubts among some stakeholders on the true Government intentions.

Officiating the World Statistics--

Day at the University of Dodoma, Dr. Mpango emphasized that the amendments were not intended to prohibit public debate on policy and outcomes, and research activities conducted by institutions of higher learning.

“The amendments were aimed at laying down the procedures and standards to be followed within the National Statistical System in the process of producing Official Statistics and the publications of statistical information,” he stressed.

The minister expressed the--

intention to continue working with all stakeholders in developing statistics in the country hence invited all players including members from academia to work closely with his Ministry in amending the 2017 Regulations.

He commended the Department of Statistics of the University of Dodoma for organizing such a conference which he said was very important as it provided an opportunity to showcase the latest innovations and initiatives in the field as well as promoting professionalism.

The Minister for Finance and Planning told conference participants, including representatives of local and foreign development partners that the government was aware that statistics production was an inclusive process which cannot be left to the national statistics authority alone.

“It should be concerted efforts among different stakeholders including the academia, research institutions, and non-state partners including civil society organisations,” he explained and assured stakeholders of government commitment to enhance statistical capacity in the country.

Statistical Experts Urged to Support the Government through Data Provision



Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa gives a keynote address at the Third Statistics Conference held at University of Dodoma as part of celebrating World Statistics Day.

Statistics experts have been urged to be more proactive to ensure that quality statistics were made available to the government to guarantee informed decision making at all levels.

In her keynote address at the conference to mark the 3rd World Statistics Day at the University of Dodoma, Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa stressed that statistical community “should join hands” with the Fifth Phase Government by producing--

quality statistics which would enable the later to make evidenced-based decisions.

She noted that due to the increased demand for data, the National Statistics Offices (NSOs) have teamed up with global and regional statistics bodies to develop new statistical innovations and technologies with cost – effective on data production.

She told the well attended conference, which attracted renowned statistical scholars--

from within and outside the country, that implementation of national, regional and global development programmes has necessitated the NSOs to establish “National Data Road Map” that will map out availability of data for reporting progress made at the global level.

She cited implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals of Agenda 2030 with its ambitious 17 Goals, 169 Targets and 244 Indicators among programmes which--



Part of participants to the Third Statistics Conference organized by Department of Statistics of University of Dodoma listen to presentations delivered during the one day conference.

have given rise to data demand. The Statistician General informed participants that SDG's new datasets tend to be more complex and varied in structure which often cannot be analysed using conventional data analysis methods.

She mentioned development of Big Data and Open Data Cube as some of the initiatives to facilitate analysis of voluminous datasets and insisted that "the need to develop new theoretical approaches and advanced methodologies for analysing data should be a continuous phenomenon"

Dr. Chuwa told conference--

participants that techniques and methods for analyzing data have advanced rapidly in a wide range of official statistics cited communication, technology, administration, economics, transportation, health sciences, tourism, agriculture, mining, oceanography, hydrology, actuarial science, environmental issues, climatology, meteorology among others.

In this regard she emphasized that "advanced technologies on data scientists are needed to work closely with statisticians to develop new methodologies that will derive this entire new--

paradigm shift".

She however lamented over lack of adequate capable graduates trained in official statistics and data scientists who can work with national statistics bodies in developing effective data production mechanisms and to harness administrative data.

The Statistician General said it was now high time for institutions of higher learning in the country including the University of Dodoma, to re-think of introducing such courses in the Department of Statistics.

Tanzania to Chair Africa Statistics Body for Two Years

The Statistics Commission for Africa (StatCom-Africa), during its sixth meeting held from 3rd October to 4th October, 2018, has unanimously elected Tanzania to chair the forum for 2018-2020.

The meeting which took place in the Ethiopian Capital, Addis Ababa, was officially opened by President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, His Excellency Mr. Mulatu Teshome Wirtu, who underscored the importance of high quality statistics as a basis for the design and implementation of evidence-based policies at all levels.

The sixth meeting of StatCom-Africa was organized under the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030 and agenda 2063: The Africa We Want of the African Union and was under the “Enhancing National Statistical System Capacity to Support Policies for Africa’s Economic Diversification and Industrialisation”.

StatCom-Africa is the highest entity of the Africa Regional Statistical System and the--

highest decision making for Africa Statistical activities. It brings together the African statistical community including heads of national statistical offices, regional statistical training centres, high levels experts and development partners supporting statistical development in Africa.

Tanzanian delegation to the meeting was led by the Director General of the National Bureau of Statistics, Dr. Albina Chuwa. Others were Rector of Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre Dr. Frank Mkumbo and the acting director of economic statistics at NBS, Mr Daniel Masolwa.

During the meeting, delegates discussed the need for economic statistics in decision-making and for informing the SDGs. The meeting also called member countries to commit more resources in conducting timely surveys necessary for compiling reliable economic statistics to facilitate effective policy making and decision-making.

The opening of the meeting was also graced by remarks from the Deputy Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Dr. Abdallah Hamdok; the Chief of the National Accounts and Economic Statistics Section of the United Nations Statistics Division, Mr. Greg Scott, and the Director of the Statistics Department of the African Development Bank, Mr. Charles Leyeka Lufumpa.

The Statistical Commission for Africa was established in 2005 at the joint Annual Meeting of the African Union Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance, Planning and Economic Development. The Commission operates within the framework of the United Nations policies and procedures, and is subject to the oversight of Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development.

Health Minister Irked by Councils' Health Workers Insensitivity to General Cleanliness

The Minister of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Ms. Umy Mwalimu, has expressed displeasure over councils' health workers who only focus their inspection work on restaurants and butcheries ignoring general cleanliness which is the basis of public health.

Launching the 2017 Tanzania Malaria Indicator Survey (TMIS) Report at the Karimjee Hall recently, the Minister decried what she referred to as-

as council health workers 'insensitivity' to public health by spending all their time and energy inspecting restaurants and butcheries simply because they 'benefit' from those inspections.

"We want them to concentrate on making our streets, villages and households clean to prevent them from mosquito breeding places to eradicate malaria," the minister insisted.

She said district and ward--

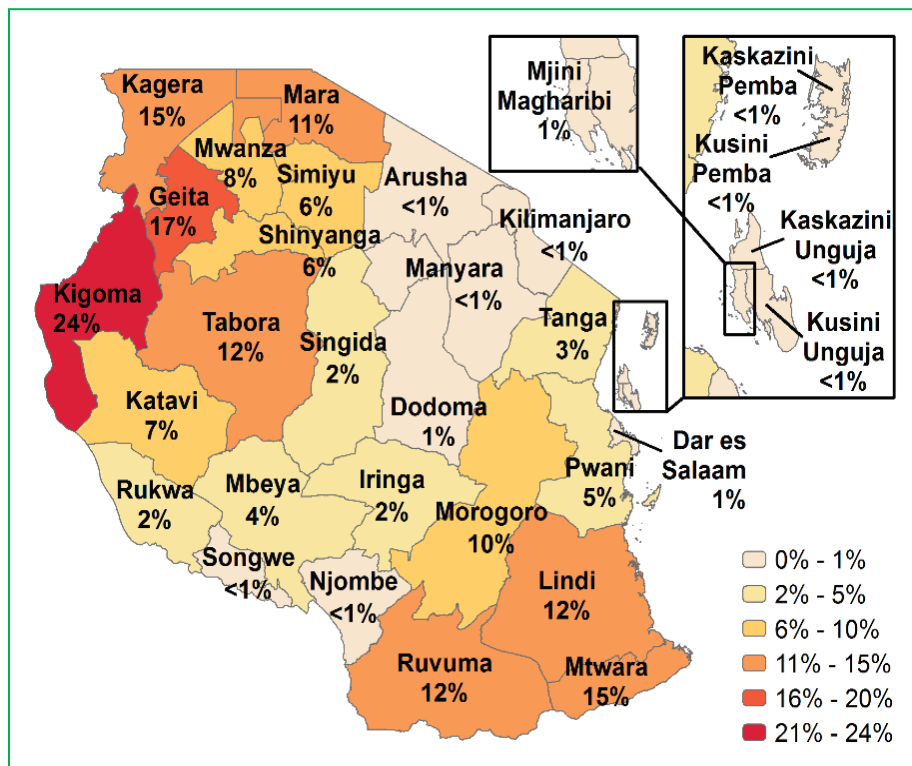
councils must come up with strict by-laws to deter people from neglecting taking care of their environment, which cost the country billions of shillings to treat those with malaria.

Minister Mwalimu revealed that the government has set aside about TShs 3 billion in the financial year 2018/2019 to support malaria prevention activities in councils which have high malaria prevalence rate.



Minister of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Ms Umy Mwalimu addressing participants during the launching of the 2017 Tanzania Malaria Indicator Survey (TMIS) Report at Karimjee hall, Dar es Salaam

Percentage of children age 6-59 months who tested positive for malaria by RDT



She further explained that government priorities would be in destroying mosquito breeding areas, improving general cleanliness, continue providing treated mosquito nets and testing services.

Meanwhile, the minister informed stakeholders that the government has set a target to reduce malaria prevalence to five percent by 2020 and the release of malaria atlas at council level has come at right time as it will be used by the councils in their strategies to fight the disease.

“I will propose to the Minister of

State in the President’s Office-Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG) to sign a sort of performance agreement with councils which have high malaria prevalence as a strategy to accelerate reduction prevalence on those districts,” she explained.

The minister thanked NBS and OCGS for positively responded to her call to provide malaria report at district council level which she said was of paramount importance as the report will guide decision making in dealing with malaria prevalence at respective councils.

“I am so delighted to see our national statistics offices have heeded to my request and today besides the main report I am also launching malaria atlas at council level,” the minister said.

According to the report, the districts with high malaria prevalence and their percentage levels in brackets include Kakonko (30.8), Kasulu (27.6), Kibondo (25.4), Kigoma (25.1) and Buhigwe (24) all from Kigoma Region. Others are Geita (22.4), Nanyamba (19.5), Muleba (19.4) and Mtwara (19.1).

Participation in WASH Survey Opens More Opportunity to Work with NBS and OCGS in the future, Kwesigabo



Senior Statistician Mariam Kitembe clarifies a point during training of data collectors for the 2018 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Assessment Survey held at Karimjee hall, Dar es Salaam.

The Director of Population Census and Social Statistics, Mr. Ephraim Kwesigabo, has told enumerators in the survey to assess Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services in schools to deliver quality work so as to build a reputation for themselves and create chances of employability with the national statistics bodies.

Mr. Kwesigabo made the challenge when he visited the enumerators for the survey who were undergoing training at the Karimjee Hall in Dar es Salaam.

“NBS conducts various surveys and it always employs young people like you, therefore if you prove to be hardworking and well-

disciplined there is no way you cannot be part of other/future surveys,” Mr. Kwesigabo said.

He said the training they were undergoing was very important hence they were to take it seriously because it was that training that was meant to make them competent data collectors for the intended survey which was scheduled to start early November.

Mr. Kwesigabo urged them to keenly follow the training programme to enable them to correctly collect what they were supposed to collect and not otherwise.

“Your behaviour and attitude--

towards people who you will be visiting during collection of data should be of appreciable and respectable one as those who will build rapport with them and would not only facilitate your work but will also portray good image of NBS and OCGS,” he noted.

The survey, using a sample of 2,414 primary and secondary schools from both Mainland and Zanzibar, aims at assisting the government to obtain more knowledge about the level and quality of those services available in primary and secondary schools in the country. The survey results will inform national strategy for scaling up school WASH services as well as policy advocacy in efforts towards fulfilling children’s right to a better education; and establish national database for data definitions, and appropriate data sets for the management and monitoring of school WASH in the economy.

The survey is jointly implemented by NBS and Office of Chief Government Statistician in Zanzibar (OCGS) in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, President’s Office Regional Administration and Local Government, Ministry of Education Zanzibar and President’s Office Regional Administration, Local Government and Special Departments - Zanzibar.

NBS Adopts Advance Statistical Tools in Statistics Production

In its efforts to ensure it produces quality official statistics in the country, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) has been adopting newly developed statistical methods, says Statistician General, Dr. Albina Chuwa.

Addressing the 3rd Statistics Conference to mark the World Statistics Day at the University of Dodoma recently, the Statistician General said the methods included classification and categorisation which--

have been adopted from United Nations Statistical Commission.

The methods, she explained, were applied in collection for both spatial and non-spatial data, construction of Consumer Price Index and other indices, computation of National Accounts, computation of Poverty indices, and many others that are done at the NBS and within the National Statistical System.

She told the gathering under the theme “New Advances in Statistical Methods and Their Applications” that NBS has adopted a number of advanced methodologies in compiling National Consumer Price Index (NCPI).

She mentioned among others as adoption of the UN Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (COICOP) which is universal classification framework and use of Lowe Index formula from the Standard Laspeyres Formula.

Others are use of geometric mean of price relatives for compiling elementary index aggregates instead of Arithmetic Mean and use of multiple sources of data for generation of NCPI weights to complement HBS information.

On measuring poverty index, Dr. Chuwa said NBS is working on the new approach called Multi-dimensional Poverty Analysis which will produce Multi-dimensional Poverty Index.

According to Dr. Chuwa, the--



Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa interviewed by a section of media at the Third Statistics Conference held at University of Dodoma as part of World Statistics Day celebrations.

new method puts aside the consumption aggregation that assumes each member of the household has equal share of the total household consumption.

“The method allows for the possibility to establish whether a household has some members who are multi-dimensionally poor and others are not, and this is the advantage of this new method over the household aggregate one,” she explained.

Meanwhile, NBS in collaboration with Eastern Statistical Training Centre has managed to develop e-Population Register System aimed at managing evidence based at village level.

Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa told conference participants that the system, which will collect information on age, births, deaths, citizenship and people with disability, will provide a real time data in Tanzania.

She added that a pilot study was done in Bagamoyo District of Coast Region and Songwe Region and was expected to simplify work of village executive officers from collecting this information using paper-based register to the e- Population Register using mobile technology.



Part of participants to the Third Statistics Conference organized by Department of Statistics of University of Dodoma listen to presentations delivered during the one day conference.



We Have to Fight Malaria on All Fronts, Says Serukamba



Chairman of Parliamentary Committee on Social Services, Peter Serukamba addresses gathering during the launching of the 2017 Tanzania Malaria Indicator Survey (TMIS) held at Karimjee Hall, Dar es Salaam.

If Tanzania is to win the war against malaria, it has now to put more efforts in eradicating breeding areas of malaria parasites instead of relying more on using treated mosquito nets.

Mr. Peter Serukamba, who is the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Social Services, told stakeholders at the launching of the 2017 Tanzania Malaria Indicator Survey (TMIS) report at Karimjee Hall recently that “the strategy shouldn’t be only on using mosquito nets but rather to eradicate mosquito breeding spots in all corners of our country.”

He said as shown in the report, Kigoma Region is lagging behind so it is upon the regional authorities in support from central government to come up with a specific drive to reduce malaria prevalence in the region.

To begin with, he suggested that district councils to have special plans to deal with environmental cleanliness and also to pass by-laws which will ensure every family possesses treated mosquito nets.

According to the report the--

region with the highest malaria prevalence to children under 5 years is Kigoma with Kakonko District having the most prevalence cases in the country with 30.8 percent prevalence cases.

Meanwhile, Mr. Serukamba applauded government’s commitment to producing official statistics through conducting surveys like TMIS which guide the country in right direction in its decision making process.

“It is through these type of professional surveys that the government is able to get the clear understanding of the situation on the ground and take appropriate remedial measures,” he said and congratulated NBS and OCGS for aptly undertaking the survey.

Mr. Serukamba for the report to be more useful, he suggested that it should be tabled before the parliament to strengthen member’s awareness about the malaria situation in the country and support government efforts to fight the scourge.

The 2018 Tanzania Service Delivery Points (SPD) Kicks Off Data Collectors urged to take responsibilities professionally



NBS manager for Statistical Methods, Standards and Coordination Emilian Karugendo speaks to data collectors for the 2018 Tanzania Service Delivery Points (SDP) Survey during training held at Magadu conference centre Morogoro.

The 2018 Tanzania Service Delivery Points (SPD) survey commenced as scheduled on the 20th October, 2018.

The countrywide survey, which focuses on family planning services and maternity health, including delivery services, has been taking place on an annual basis since 2015.

Closing the eleven day data collection training, the Survey Coordinator, Mr. Emilian Karugendo, who is also the NBS Manager for Statistical Methods,

Standards and Coordination urged enumerators to act responsibly throughout the data collection period and ensure nothing goes wrong.

Mr. Karugendo told selected enumerators that having passed the final test held after eleven day training they were now “ready for the job”

“For the last eleven days we provided you with the skills and knowledge on how to do this job and we are now satisfied that you are--

competent enough to do what we have been prepared you to do,” Mr. Karugendo told those enumerators.

He insisted to enumerators that the ball was now in their court since they have been given the tools so it was now their turn “to finish the job”.

Survey coordinator reminded enumerators the importance of demonstrating high level of discipline and to observe a good time management throughout the survey period.



Data collectors for the 2018 Tanzania Service Delivery Points (SDP) Survey at training program at Magadu conference centre Morogoro.

He also urged them to exercise extra care of the survey tools specifically the electronic devices which can be damaged or even stolen if not well taken care of.

The coordinator thanked all training participants for the enthusiasm they showed throughout the training and dedication towards attaining best results.

Meanwhile, according to Ms. Phausta Ntigiti from NBS Department of Statistical Methods, Standards and Coordination, unlike previous years, the 2018 survey is implemented by NBS and Office of the Chief--

Government Statistician (OCGS) under the request of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

She said that the survey is designed to provide information about the availability and stock-out of contraceptives and maternal health medicines in the country.

The survey results, which is currently being implemented in 46 countries worldwide, will help UNFPA and other health partners to assess and track results of Reproductive Health Commodities and Services (RHCS) interventions hence be able to establish priorities in future plans--

During the eleven days, participants underwent both theory and practical training where they visited some health service providers in Morogoro Municipality.

“For the last eleven days we provided you with the skills and knowledge on how to do this job and we are now satisfied that you are competent enough to do what we have been prepared you to do,” Mr. Karugendo

Tanzania without Malaria Can Be Achieved, says Former First Lady

Member of Parliament (Nominated) and Former First Lady Mama Salma Kikwete has commended President John Pombe Joseph Magufuli for being in the forefront in the fighting against malaria and emphasized that Tanzania without malaria was a goal that could be achieved.

Speaking during the launching of the 2017 TMIS Report which took place at the Karimjee Hall in Dar es Salaam, Mama Kikwete said it is now high time district--

councils allocated enough money to buy insecticides to fight malaria in genuine way.

“The right way is to eliminate malaria breeding areas which can only be done through treating those areas with insecticides which are produced locally at Labiofam factory in Kibaha,” she said and added that it was a shame to see people from other countries coming to buy here while we didn’t.

Mama Salma, who is also the member of Parliamentary--

Committee on Social Services told stakeholders that the fight against malaria is a collective responsibility hence each and every one has to play his or her part wherever he or she is in the country.

She quoted famous Mwalimu words that “it can be done, play your part” and Mzee Karume slogan that “what is possible to be done today should not wait until tomorrow”.

“The report shows us that there are those who have made progress in reducing prevalence in their regions but also those who have not done well. It is now our responsibility to continue this fight,” she added.

“The right way is to eliminate malaria breeding areas which can only be done through treating those areas with insecticides which are produced locally at Labiofam factory in Kibaha,” she said and added that it was a shame to see people from other countries coming to buy here while we didn’t.”



Member of Parliamentary Committee on Social Services and former first lady Mrs. Salma Kikwete makes a point during the launching of the 2017 Tanzania Malaria Indicator Survey (TMIS)

NBS Trains Journalists on 2017 TMIS Report



Health media trainer from Nairobi based Espinell Communications Ms Joy Wanja Muraya makes presentation on data journalism at media dissemination workshop for the 2017 Tanzania Malaria Indicator Survey (TMIS) held at National Museum, Dar es Salaam.

Following the launch of the 2017 Tanzania Malaria Indicator Survey (TMIS) Report by the Minister of Health, Community Development, Gender and Children, Ms. Umyy Mwalimu, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) in collaboration with ministry conducted a half-day training for members of press to elaborate survey's key findings.

It a normal practice for NBS to conduct such workshops for media after launching such a big and important report aiming at taking on board media people to make sure they send right messages to the public about the findings.

Introducing the workshop objectives to the participants, senior publicity officer with NBS, Mr. Said Ameir, said it was imperative for members of the press to have a clear understanding of the survey's keys findings so that they would deliver the right message to the public.

He went on to say that it has been established that majority of the people in the country always rely on news media including television, radio, newspapers and social media when it comes to getting--

exposed to official statistics.

Therefore he told participants that it was in the interest of NBS and that of the ministry to make sure media practitioners understood well the findings before they pass them over to their news consumers.

In that regard, he said the workshop objectives were to make members of the press familiar with TMIS findings, learn to correctly interpret TMIS tables to identify specific data points, patterns, and trends as well as learn about other--



Senior Statistician at NBS Stephano Cosmas presenting key findings of the 2017 Tanzania Malaria Indicator Survey (TMIS) during media dissemination workshop held at National Museum, Dar es Salaam.

TMIS data resources.

Other objectives were reinforcing basic mathematics and statistics skills, identifying story ideas based on TMIS data and able to draft the beginning of a story idea based on TMIS data.

During the training, Mr. Cosmas Stephano, who is the senior statistician from NBS, presented the key findings of TMIS and lead discussion on how to read tables in the report. Participants also learnt about how to access comparable data using STATcompiler programme and mobile application which was presented by statistician Mary Agusta from NBS.

They were also trained on how to write statistical stories, whereby Ms. Joy Wanja Muraya, a health media trainer, from Nairobi took them through a short review on basic mathematics skills and introduce them with basic statistical concepts for journalistic writings.

The workshop ended with participants working in groups to identify topics within the TMIS report which they thought were newsworthy and develop headlines for the story.

The training was also--

attended by NBS manager for Social and demographic Statistics, Ms Sylvia Meku, Dr. Renata Mandike and Leah Ndekuka from the National Malaria Control Programme (NMCP) who were also part of subject specialists.

“Overwhelming majority of the people in the country always rely on news media including television, radio, newspapers and social media when it comes to getting exposed to official statistics.”

Environmental Degradation in Mining Areas Contribute to Increase of Malaria Prevalence



Chairman of Parliamentary Association against Malaria Hon. Riziki Lulida contributes to the discussion on the findings of the 2017 Tanzania Malaria Indicator Survey (TMIS) during Report launching at Karimjee Hall, Dar es Salaam.

Environmental degradation resulting from mining activities contributes to increase of malaria prevalence in regions affected by high mining activities, says Chairman of Parliamentary Association against Malaria, Hon. Riziki Lulida.

“All those mining holes or openings when filled with water turn into breeding areas for mosquitoes,” she explained.

Madame Lulida called for a--

new law which will compel mining companies to restore/reclaim the land damaged during mining activities.

She said Members of Parliament acknowledge the plight many Tanzanians face when it comes to malaria and that is why they decided to lead the fight against the scourge through a parliamentary initiative.

“Members of Parliament have the spirit to fight and--

are ready to eliminate malaria because we believe we can make difference,” she insisted.

“Members of Parliament acknowledge the plight many Tanzanians face when it comes to malaria and that is why they decided to lead the fight against the scourge through a parliamentary initiative.”

Release of Malaria Atlas at District Council Level is a Big Step Forward, says Statistician General



Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa gives introductory statement during the launching of the 2017 Tanzania Malaria Indicator Survey (TMIS) Report at Karimjee hall, Dar es Salaam.

Release of Malaria Prevalence Atlas at district council level is a huge step forward in war against malaria in the country, says Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa.

The atlas, she said will help council leaders including Members of Parliament to have better understanding of malaria situation in their constituencies hence take appropriate strategies to end the scourge.

Speaking during the launch of the Atlas which was done simultaneously with the launching of the 2017 Tanzania Malaria Indicator--

Survey (TMIS) Report at Karimjee Hall in Dar es Salaam, Dr. Chuwa informed stakeholders who attended the event that the Atlas was prepared by NBS and OCGS using sample of malaria indicators from 2017 TMIS Report at regional level.

She explained that statistical method used was Small Area Estimation (Direct Method) and experts used malaria prevalence at regional level, total number of children under five years old in each district council and total number of children who visited health facilities in the district council.

On TMIS report, the NBS chief executive said the results will help the governments to provide needed services in view of improving people's health, economic and a social wellbeing at household levels.

She informed stakeholders that malaria indicators were thoroughly analysed by health experts from ministries of Health from both Mainland and Zanzibar in collaboration with health experts from outside Tanzania.

“Our task ahead now is to evaluate and review policies and programmes against malaria in a bid to prepare comprehensive strategy to eradicate malaria in the country,” she stressed.

She added that “It was the responsibility of NBS and OCGS to provide statistics which depict health situation in the country and guide national policies on health,” adding that it was through the statistics that we can assess our governments' successes and challenges in achieving national health targets.

The Statistician General assured the minister that NBS and OCGS will continue their collaboration--

with her ministry in disseminating the results as well as working together to conduct more surveys while joining hand in seeking more support from development partners to enable undertake statistics activities.

Dr. Chuwa noted that production and dissemination of statistics was expensive undertaking which called for sustainable investment she therefore asked the ministry of Health to help disseminate results to all health stakeholders.

The Statistician General reminded producers and users of statistics that as far as--

malaria indicators for 2017 is concerned the statistics provided in the survey is final as far as Statistics Act of 2015 as amended hence any misinformation of this statistics is punishable as per article 37 of the Act.

Dr. Chuwa thanked all stakeholders who contributed to the success of 2017 TMIS, particularly, development partners including USAID and Global Fund who provided financial and technical support.

She also commended members of staff of NBS and OCGS who worked closely with the US-based ICF--

International from early stage of the survey until this stage which culminated with results with worldwide recognition.

“The Statistician General assured the minister that NBS and OCGS will continue their collaboration with her ministry in disseminating the results as well as working together to conduct more surveys while joining hand in seeking more support from development partners to enable undertakes statistics activities.”



Minister of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Ms Ummy Mwalimu cuts the ribbon to launch 2017 Tanzania Malaria Indicator Survey (TMIS) Report at Karimjee hall, Dar es Salaam.

Government is Keen to Hasten Approval of EIA Certificates, says Minister Makamba

The 2017 National Environment Statistics Report shows that the number of approved Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environment Audit (EA) professionals has increased from 454 in 2013 to 939 in 2016.

According to the Minister of State in the Vice President's Office responsible for Environment and Union Affairs, Mr. January Makamba, the increase was attributed to the increase of investment activities in different sectors and rise of environment awareness in the country.

In a speech read on his behalf by the Deputy Minister of State in the Vice President's Office, Mr. Mussa Sima, Minister Makamba told the stakeholders at the launch of the report held at LAPF conference hall in Dodoma that despite such an increase still more efforts were needed to make the process hassle free to investors.

"Recently my ministry has taken various measures to address issues hindering or delaying the process of issuing Environmental Impact Assessment and Environment Audits to would be



Deputy Minister of State Vice President's Office (Union Affairs and Environment) Mussa Sima on behalf of Minister of State Vice President's Office (Union Affairs and Environment) January Makamba addresses the launching of the 2017 National Environment Statics Report at LAPF conference hall Dodoma.

investors," he said.

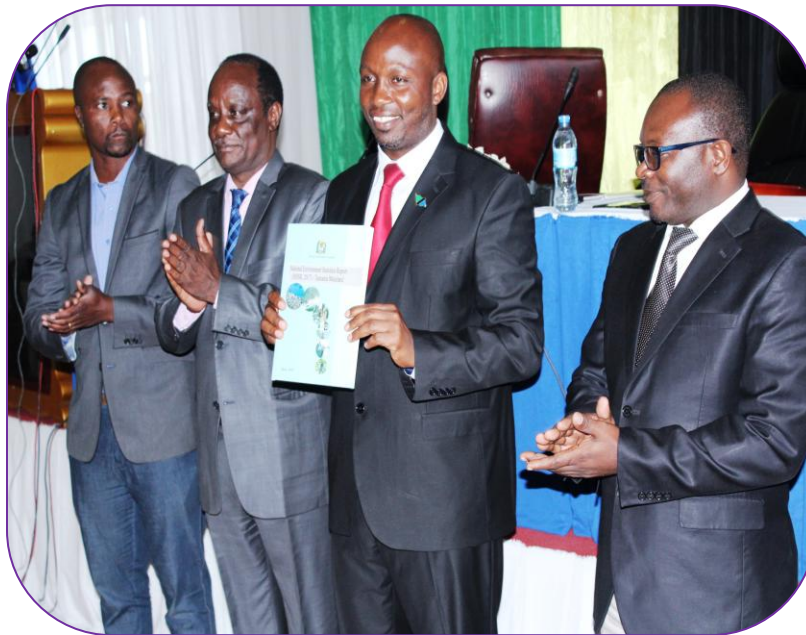
He noted, for example, that through the National Environmental Management Council (NEMC), his ministry has reviewed its regulations and now it takes only 74 days from 149 days from the day investor submitted EIA report to get environment certificate.

He further explained that investor, upon submitting the report, is allowed to start mobilisation work as he was entitled for provisional clearance to start work within fourteen--

days.

He told stakeholders that charges fees have been reduced from previous one percent of project value to from 2 million to 50 million for public projects and from 2 million to 100 million private projects.

"Following such fee review, it has become more convenient not only to the private investors but also to the government," said the minister citing Stigler's Gorge project where--



Deputy Minister of State Vice President's Office (Union Affairs and Environment) Mussa Sima displays the 2017 National Environment Statics Report signalling it's launching at LAPF conference hall Dodoma.

according to previous regulations government had to pay over 800 million shillings as fee.

However, Minister Makamba noted that despite such measures, still the ministry received several complains from investors which compelled his ministry to hold a meeting with environment experts and agreed to make review NEMC regulations of 2005 to address those complains.

“We want investors also to understand that the government is keen to make every possible effort to make sure everything is moving smoothly on the part of the ministerial duties and responsibilities,” he insisted and-

acknowledged that his ministry has a vital role to play in fostering investment in the country.

He urged local government authorities to clearly categorise investment areas and evaluate them for it is important for his ministry to appropriately advice investor when seeking EIA certificates.

“Local government must help us by not only setting aside industrial areas in their localities but also must clearly identify areas set for light, middle and heavy industry in order to avoid mix-ups which always happened when issuing EIA certificates,”--

he emphasized.

The minister said, all projects with potential adverse impacts to the environment after screening by initiating officers are subject to EIAs. Projects observed to have low negative impacts on environment after screening process, are allowed to proceed but with some conditions.

“We want investors also to understand that the government is keen to make every possible effort to make sure everything is moving smoothly on the part of the ministerial duties and responsibilities,”

NBS strives to meet demand for Environmental Statistics

The release of the National Environment Statistics Report (NESR 2017) for Mainland Tanzania was not only part of NBS efforts to produce official statistics but also to meet the increasing need of environmental statistics in the country.

Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa told stakeholders at the launch of the report that the increased demand for environmental statistics was due to increased awareness among policy and decision-makers of the inextricable relationship between sustainable social-economic development and environment condition.

She informed stakeholders that such increase demand of environmental statistics was also a result of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) having identified many areas with environmental aspects which need huge data for monitoring and evaluation of their implementation.

Statistician General cited goal number 13 of SDGs which demands accelerated action to protect, restore and promote--

sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.

She also mentioned goal number 15 which she said directs urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. Dr. Chuwa added that about ten percent of indicators of Second Five Year Development Plan (2016/17 – 2020/21) were related to environment hence need environmental statistics.

Statistician General said NBS has established a special department to coordinate production, processing and dissemination of environmental statistics and it has been working closely with ministries, departments and government agencies which in one way or another produce environmental statistics in executing their duties.

Dr. Chuwa added that the department is also charged with the duty to foster--

cooperation between local and foreign nongovernmental organisations which deal with environmental issues.

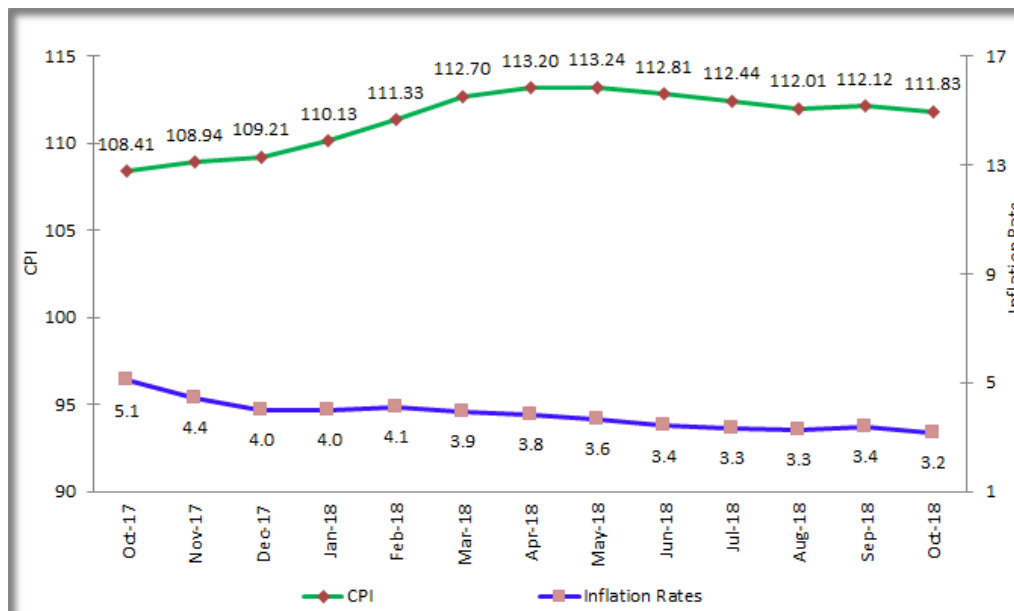
“The report you are going to launch it today is a product of NBS emphasis on the production and dissemination of environmental statistics,” she said and appreciated contributions from other technical people from other sectors including the Vice President’s Office.

The 2017 National Environment Statistics Report is the first comprehensive National Environment Statistics Report in Tanzania Mainland which complies with the United Nations standards.

The report follows United Nations Framework for the Development of Environmental Statistics (FDES) which is based on a conceptual foundation that there are variety of complex natural, demographic, social and economic processes and interactions within and between the environment and the human subsystem. Other reports were produced in 1994, 2012 and 2014.

Inflation Rate drops to 3.2 percent in October, 2018

Movement of National Consumer Price Indices (NCPI) and Inflation Rates from October, 2017 – October, 2018. (Dec., 2015 = 100)



The inflation rate for October, 2018 has decreased to 3.2 percent from 3.4 percent recorded in September, 2018.

Addressing reporters, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) Director of Population Census and Social Statistics, Mr. Ephraim Kwesigabo, said the decrease of the inflation rate was due to the decrease of speed of price change for commodities in October, 2018 compared to the speed of price change recorded a month earlier.

“The decrease of October’s inflation rate was mainly attributed to decrease of some--

food items such as rice which decreased by 0.8 percent, maize grains by 10.5 percent, maize flour by 3.0 percent, sorghum flour by 3.4 percent, cassava flour by 3.5 percent, fresh fish by 4.9 percent, dried sardines by 1.1 percent, dry peas by 5.4 percent, fresh cassava by 3.9 percent, dry cassava by 10.3 percent, cocoyam by 4.3 percent and cooking bananas by 4.5 percent,” said Mr. Kwesigabo.

Mr. Kwesigabo said food and non alcoholic beverages inflation rate for October, 2018 has decreased to 1.2 percent from 2.0 percent recorded in September, 2018. The inflation rate for food consumed at home-

and away from home has also decreased to 2.5 percent in October, 2018 from 3.1 percent recorded the previous month.

However, the 12 month index change for non-food products in October, 2018 has increased to 5.0 percent from 4.8 percent recorded in September, 2018 where as the overall index has decreased to 111.83 in October, 2018 from 112.12 recorded in September, 2018.

The inflation rate which excludes food and energy for October, 2018 has slightly increased to 2.3 percent from 2.2 percent recorded in September, 2018.

NBS PICTORIAL NEWS



Jerve Gasto, Cartographer at NBS, using satellite image shows Deputy Minister Vice President's (Union Affairs and Environment) Mussa Sima rate of deforestation of Chenene forest reserve in Dodoma.



A section of stakeholders follow Guest of Honour's speech Minister of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Ms Umyy Mwalimu during the launching of the 2017 Tanzania Malaria Indicator Survey (TMIS) Report at Karimjee hall, Dar es Salaam.

NBS PICTORIAL NEWS



Senior Statistician at NBS Stephano Cosmas presenting key findings of the 2017 Tanzania Malaria Indicator Survey (TMIS) during the launching of the survey report held at Karimjee hall, Dar es Salaam.



Data collectors for the 2018 Tanzania Service Delivery Points (SDP) Survey at training program at Magadu conference centre Morogoro.

National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)

VISION

To become a one-stop centre for official statistics in Tanzania.

MISSION

To produce quality official statistics and services that meet needs of national and international stakeholders for evidence based planning and decision making.

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