



# NBS NEWSLETTER

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





# Editorial Board



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**Statistician General**

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## SG: Quality matters in Compilation of FBS Statistics



***A section of stakeholders who attended the launching of the Tanzania Food Balance Sheets Report 2014 – 2017 which was held at Nashera Hotel, Dodoma attentively listening to the proceedings.***

Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa has stressed the importance of quality data from various sources during compilation of Food Balance Sheets statistics in order to make proper analysis of food consumption and distribution.

She said as Food Balance Sheet statistics provide in-depth analysis of food, its value and agricultural trends-

in the country, the issue of data quality is very vital and cannot be compromised.

The Statistician General made the remarks in a speech read on her behalf by the acting Director of Economic Statistics, Mr. Daniel Masolwa, when officiating the launching of the Tanzania Food Balance Sheets reports of 2014 through 2017 at Nashera--

Hotel in Dodoma.

Dr. Chuwa elucidated that the Tanzania Food Balance Sheets statistics were prepared using the compilation tool prepared by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), which is a globally accepted tool.

The exercise, she said, was jointly financed by the government of the United--

Republic of Tanzania and the African Development Bank (AfDB) which provided technical expertise.

She noted that in 2011 African agricultural statistics programme was initiated in a bid to address challenges facing users of agricultural statistics in the continent.

Statistician General added that one of the main objectives of the programme, which was a product of joint efforts from AfDB, FAO and United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) in collaboration with the African Union Commission (AUC) was formulation of food balance sheets for African countries.

“The programme provides mechanism and standards of improving availability of quality food and agricultural statistics according to national and international standards,” she explained.

Food Balance Sheets statistics show the total amount of food available in the country, namely, the amount produced locally,--



***A section of stakeholders who attended the launching of the Tanzania Food Balance Sheets Report 2014 – 2017 which was held at Nashera Hotel, Dodoma attentively listening to the proceedings.***

the imported and that in national food reserve.

It also shows food consumed by the population, exports and animal food, seeds, food for industrial use and the amount lost during storage and transportation.

**Meanwhile,** Office of Chief Government Statistician (OCGS) expressed appreciation for being part of the process of preparation of Tanzania Food Balance Sheets Statistics. Mr. Mwalimu Juma, the senior statistician, who represented the Chief--

Government Statistician, Ms. Mayasa Mahfoudh, said it was a job well done for Tanzania to be able to prepare and release those statistics using international approved standards.

“OCGS is proud to be part of the process and expresses its appreciation to our development partners for their continued support,” Mr. Mwalimu noted.

## We are Committed to Support Informal Sector Growth, says ILO Country Director

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) country office has reiterated its commitment to support Tanzania in transforming informal sector into a very vibrant sector of the economy.

ILO Country Director for Tanzania, Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda, Mr. Wellington Chibebe, said with the majority of young people and women being employed in the sector, it is where the future of most African economies lie.

He noted that in Africa, in a combined figure, the informal economy constitutes 85 percent of the continent's economy and in sub-Saharan Africa the figures were even higher.

He added that those in the informal economy are youth and women who in every society form the backbone of the society and therefore cannot be forgotten.

“Informal sector is a very critical sector as far as the future of Africa is concerned because it forms about 85 per cent of national economies in the continent employing mostly--

youth and women,” he stressed.

Mr. Chibebe was speaking after being briefed by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) acting Director of Population and Housing Census, Mrs. Ruth Minja, of the progress of the ongoing 2019 Informal Sector Survey taking place in Dar es Salaam Region.

He said ILO believes with that kind of statistics, the government can take on board the informal economy and ensure that it is not a forgotten sector in the sense that when people talk of foreign direct investments, for example, it always targets the formal economy whereas majority of people are in the informal economy.

The country director revealed that the first study on informal sector in Africa was done by ILO in early seventies in Kenya and since then the organisation has been supporting African countries to undertake those kind of surveys.

He added that during his recent visit to Kenya, he learnt that the informal economy currently--

contributes about 34 percent to the country's gross domestic product (GDP).

He said when ILO was approached by NBS to support the Survey, it was more than happy to come on board and that it now provides technical assistance in the form of training and availing data collection and processing tools.

“ILO is a not donor agency, we only give instruments. We provide technical support in the form of training and provision of modern data collection tools,” he said and insisted that ILO works only on the national priorities where a country “tells us where it wants to go and how so we can support to do so”.

The country director later participated in a high level supervision of the Survey accompanied by NBS officials, a representative of Dar es Salaam Regional Administrative Secretary, who is the Principal Statistician, Mr. Joseph Nyahende, and Kipunguni ward local leaders.



## Preparations of 2018-19 Agriculture Sample Survey on Track

Preparations of the National Agriculture Sample Survey (NASC) are in advanced stages as this month a team of NBS staff and those from the US-National Agriculture Statistics Service (NASS) met to deliberate key issues as regards to the methodology and survey sample frame.

During the meeting, which was held at the NBS offices in Dodoma, stakeholders shared knowledge, expertise and their experience in agriculture sample selection methodology.

They also customized the sample frame to ensure it consists of all the required information suitable for the Tanzanian environment.

National Agriculture Sample Survey for the agricultural year 2018/19 (2018/19-NASC) will be conducted jointly by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and the Office of Chief Government Statistician Zanzibar (OCGS) in collaboration with Agriculture Sector Lead Ministries.

According to the Senior Agriculture Statistician of NBS, Mr Philemon Mwenda,--



Franklin Duan from US-National Agriculture Statistics Service (NASS) and NBS Agriculture Statistics Manager Titus Mwisomba *in serious discussion during* a meeting held at NBS offices to deliberate on key issues on methodology and survey sample frame as part of final preparations of National Agriculture Sample Survey (NASC). Left is Theresia Sagamilwa and in the middle is Jilahoma *Mussa* both from NBS agriculture statistics department.

the meeting was very crucial as the two issues were key for the survey to be implemented according to the required methodology and standards.

“The meeting was extremely important because the team (NASS, NBS and OCGS) must have a clear understanding of the sampling procedures before sample selection of households, which will be participating in the survey,”

Mr. Mwenda emphasised.

NASS is providing financial and technical support for the 2018/19 NASC and has been closely working with NBS in the preparation and implementation of the survey.

During the meeting, the NASS team, which was in Tanzania from 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 also discussed its NBS counterpart about the coming activities before data collection, which is scheduled to begin in November 2019.

## NBS to Award Best Statistical Story

From this year, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) will honour best statistical stories as a motivation and recognition of media contribution in development of statistics in the country.

Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa made this announcement in her speech as she officiated the opening of a two-day media workshop held at the bureau's conference hall in Dodoma.

She said the winner will be honoured at the climax of African Statistics Day celebrations which is marked on every 18th November.

“We will announce the winner during African Statistics Day and also included in the report submitted to the African Union Commission (AUC),” she said.

Dr. Chuwa noted that NBS understands the crucial role that media play in facilitating implementation of national statistics offices duties and appreciates media efforts in making the public informed about NBS activities and about statistics in general.



***Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa speaks during the opening of the two-day media workshop held at NBS where she declared NBS to offer annual best statistical story Award.***

“This workshop is the continuation of our programme to strengthen media capacity in covering statistics issues and inform you of new developments in the sphere of statistical profession,” she said.

Dr. Chuwa underlined that her office and media had a shared responsibility of educating the public on the importance of statistics, their role in production of statistics and above all the need to use statistics in their day to day lives.

Therefore she emphasised that it was now time for NBS and media to consolidate their partnership and “continue to educate each other and enhance our working relation to better our society”.

Statistician General urged members of the media to learn a bit of statistics in order to enhance their capacity to write statistical stories.

“As much as we would love to see multi skilled--



***Media practitioners at Media Workshop organized by NBS; The workshop aimed at strengthening media capacity to cover statistics issues and orient them of new developments in statistics profession.***

statisticians, the same as to journalists and communication professionals who have good knowledge of other professions like statistics, law, and sociology and so on,” she said.

She pointed out that it does not help just to scribe the numbers released by NBS or any statistical report without telling the readers, and the public what those numbers mean in their day to day activities.

If one writes about inflation rate, she explained, one has the duty to probe the numbers to understand the causes and the effects and tell the audience that food carries big weight in compilation of inflation rate.

“Tell them that if food prices are high, then inflation will definitely rise. Tell them that high prices are caused by scarcity and to evade high prices they must produce--

more,” she said and added such kind of stories would make the difference in people’s lives as they would be adding value to their daily undertakings.

Statistician General expressed NBS management appreciation to the media in the country for working hand in hand and stressed that the media has immense contribution to the national statistics office achievements.



## Government Commends NBS, OCGS and AfDB



***Deputy Permanent Secretary Ministry of Agriculture Professor Siza Tumbo addresses invited guests and participants at the launching of the Tanzania Food Balance Sheets Report 2014 – 2017 held at Nashera Hotel, Dodoma.***

Government has commended National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) for its incredible work of producing agricultural statistics which is vital in guiding policy and development programmes in the sector.

The Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, Prof. Siza Tumbo, said apart from producing agricultural statistics, NBS has been the source of most vital quality statistics in the country.

“As we speak today on the launching of the Tanzania Food Balance Sheets Report 2014 – 2017, NBS has already released various statistics products in the--

agriculture domain,” said Prof. Tumbo.

“I salute NBS for the huge strides you have been making in strengthening your professionalism and that we see more release of statistical products,” he added.

Prof. Tumbo mentioned the release of the Annual Agriculture Sample Surveys for 2014/15 and 2016/17, the Tanzania Agriculture Statistics Strategic Plan (2014/15– 2018/19), the National Agriculture Sample Census for 2002/03 and 2007/08 as well as The Quarterly Regional Report(s) as among NBS milestones.

Others mentioned were Crop Sector National Report - Census of Agriculture 2007/2008 and Zanzibar Crop Sector Report - 2007/08 Agriculture Sample Census.

He said whereas NBS and OCGS are doing their work of producing statistics, the challenge remains for policy and decision makers to use those statistics accordingly in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes.

Meanwhile, the Deputy Permanent Secretary thanked development partners, especially the African Development Bank (AfDB), for the support in preparation and publication of the report.

“AfDB is one of our main partners supporting various development programmes and in agriculture sector it provides assistance to various projects including ASDP1,” he explained.

Prof. Tumbo echoed government call to members of the public and stakeholders to offer necessary support to statistics bodies in Mainland and Zanzibar during data collection for production of statistics.

## NBS Conduct Statistical Awareness Workshop for Editors

National Bureau Statistics (NBS) this month continued with its series of media training on statistics awareness as part of implementation of national statistics office communication and advocacy strategy.

The training involved editors and senior reporters as well as bureau chiefs of some mainstream media stationed in Dodoma.

The workshop main objective as described by Acting Director of Personnel, Administration and Marketing, Mr. Andrew Ulindula, were to enhance knowledge and skills of media in writing about statistics, inform of the latest developments unfolding in statistical sphere as well as strengthening NBS working relations with the fourth estate.

The two-day workshop was a quite intensive but always interesting which make participants not to lose focus on the topic discussed.

“I appreciate the way the workshop materials were organised and presented, however, time was too short. I think 3 to 4 presentations per day are manageable,” said one participant.

On the first day, participants were treated with five presentations, namely: Brief overview of the Statistics Act of 2015 and its Amendments, Introducing Key Functions of NBS, National Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Consumer Price Index (CPI) and Labour statistics.

Day two programme was more intense compared to day one. There were eight presentations though some were very short. These included: Introduction to Demographic Health Surveys (DHS), the 2017-18 Household Budget Survey (HBS), and Agriculture Sample Census, Introducing Upcoming Technologies in Data Collection and How to Access NBS Data through TSED.

There were also presentations on Traditional Data Sources and Non-traditional Data Sources, How to Write Statistical Story, Basic Statistical Concepts for Journalists.

“The programme should have taken four full days! In future more practical sessions must be incooperated to assist participants to grasp intended knowledge,” another participant commented.

NBS conducts media training from time to time to help media practitioners acquire sufficient knowledge and skills in writing statistical stories so that media can convey clear and appropriate statistical messages to the public.

“We want to improve their competence on statistical knowledge and writing skills to ensure media treat statistics in a more professional and candid way in informing and educating stakeholders on the same,” Statistician General, Dr. Albina Chuwa, noted during workshop opening.

## 2019 Informal Sector Survey Implementation is in Top Gear, says NBS

- **Results to come out by end of December**



*ILO Country Director for Tanzania, Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda Wellington Chibebe with NBS Acting Director of Population Census Mrs Ruth Minja visiting small poultry keeper Mr. Samuel Marwa at Kitinye, Kipunguni ward Dar es Salaam region during a high level supervision of ongoing 2019 Informal Sector Survey.*

The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) Acting Director for Population Census, Mrs Ruth Minja, has said the 2019 Informal Sector Survey, which is currently being implemented in Dar es Salaam Region, was going on smoothly and she was optimistic that the survey would meet the intended objectives.

In a brief note to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Country Director at NBS offices along--

Kivukoni Front in Dar es Salaam before the high level supervision of the survey, Mrs Minja noted that so far it has recorded a high response rate.

“The household-based phase was very successful with response rate of 99 percent while in the business phase, the field work is in the final stages where 1,953 businesses out of 2,025, which is equivalent to 96.4 percent, have enumerated by 25th September, 2019,” she explained.

The acting director added that data collection was expected to be completed by the end of September and then follow data validation, analysis and report writing.

“We don’t expect any snag, if everything goes on well as planned, we expect to disseminate the results by end of December,” she said.

She told the country director and the media that the main--



objective of the survey was to examine contribution of the informal sector to Tanzania's gross domestic product (GDP).

“Specifically, the survey intends to obtain estimates on value addition in production of goods and services; productivity in investment, capital formation, location of establishments and businesses; employment and linkages between the informal sector with other sectors,” she said.

She said the sector's contribution to national GDP is based on crude estimates of the past 25 years, that is, since 1991, hence there is an urgent need to extend the survey to other regions.

Meanwhile, poultry farmers have asked the government to ensure it effectively monitors and supervises hatcheries to make sure chicks entering the market are of the required standard and that operators followed all health protocols.

Mr. Samuel Marwa, a poultry-

farmer at Kitinye, Kipunguni Ward in Dar es Salaam Region told a team of ILO and NBS officials that there was a problem of quality of chicken feeds and chicks in the market, and that, this, at times occasioned farmers huge losses due to deaths as some of the chicks sold had not been properly vaccinated.

Responding to question posed by Mr Edmund Mushi from the ILO on the challenges they face, Mr. Marwa said they faced numerous challenges, but lack of capital was the main one because most financial institutions lack enough understanding of the business and so regard players in the industry as high risk.

“Government has to enable us have access to financial institutions that understand our business so that there will be friendly terms for us to access loans and sources of capital,” advised.



***Clement Ngalaba, enumerator for the 2019 Informal Sector Survey (right), interviewing small scale poultry farmer Mr. Samuel Marwa of Kitinye, Kipunguni ward Dar es Salaam.***

## Prof. Tumbo: Collection of Food Balance Sheet Data is a Big Challenge

Access to information is still a big challenge facing compilation of food balance sheet data in Tanzania.

This was said by the Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry Agriculture, Prof. Siza Tumbo. He said the matter made it difficult for the country to establish the amount of food in stock as well data on how much has been exported and how much has been imported.

However, he said, the government has started to address the challenge but still a more pragmatic approach must be put in place as more information is needed from production to the last consumer.

He told the meeting that there were discrepancies in data available from different sources, hence, the need to maintain closer cooperation between concerned--

institutions in compilation of data.

Prof. Tumbo said that information of imported food (crops) differs from one source to another and gave the example information collected by the Ministry of Agriculture, which differs with that collected by the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA).



*Deputy Permanent Secretary Ministry of Agriculture Professor Siza Tumbo cuts the ribbon signalling the launching of the Tanzania Food Balance Sheets Report 2014 – 2017 at function held at Nashera Hotel, Dodoma.*



***NBS Senior Agriculture Statistician Philemon Mwenda presents highlights of the Tanzania Food Balance Sheets Report 2014 – 2017 during the launching held at Nashera Hotel, Dodoma***

“I’m a bit worried by this trend of data mismatch from various sources. I hope that this gathering will discuss this and I am confident that you will come up with a solution,” he said.

He informed the gathering that in a bid to get reliable and right information his ministry recently held a meeting with agricultural crops traders and hope if they organise themselves well, then it would be easy to get reliable and credible data.

On the report, Prof. Tumbo said the matter was very important and urged directors and their subordinates in the respective ministries to thoroughly read the

report and make use of it.

“As the government is now implementing the second Agriculture Sector Development Programme (ASDP-2), it is therefore desirable to use the report findings in setting key performance indicators (KPI) for the implementation of the programme,” he emphasized.

He noted that the trend of food self-sufficient ratio showed that it has been declining, particularly cereals, during the last four years.

He said, for example“ Food--

Self-Sufficient Ratio decreased from 146 in 2014 to 108 in 2017,” something which he said was not healthy as the country targets to ensure food self-sufficiency.

**Meanwhile,** Prof. Tumbo said he was optimistic that participants would come up with proposals on how to deal with the challenges of compilation of food balance sheets and dissemination of data.

“I hope you come with recommendations on how food balance sheets data are easily accessible and understandable to the public and how to make annual updates of the information,” he said.

He added that the meeting must advise on how best the country can access accurate and reliable information within current situation where information collection mechanism is not well developed.

***“I hope you come with recommendations on how food balance sheets data are easily accessible and understandable to the public and how to make annual updates of the information,” said Prof. Tumbo.***



## September Inflation Rate Down by 0.2 Percent

The Annual Headline Inflation Rate for the month of September, 2019 has slightly declined by 0.2 percent from 3.6 percent recorded in August, 2019.

Releasing the National Consumer Price Index (NCPI) for the month of September, 2019 during press conference held at NBS offices in Dodoma, the acting Director of Population Census, Mrs. Ruth Minja, said the rate fell from 3.6 percent in August to 3.4 percent in September.

The decrease of the headline inflation explains that, the speed of price change for commodities for the year ended September, 2019 has decreased compared to the speed of price change recorded for the year ended August, 2019.

The decline, she said, was attributed to the decrease of price of non-food items during the month of September 2019 compared to price in August 2018.

Non-food items which experienced price fall in September included kerosene (1.0 %), petrol (3.3%), gas stoves (1.5%), insecticides (2.2) and hair beauty products (1.3%).

“The Annual Inflation Rate, which excludes food and energy for the month of September, 2019 has decreased to 2.7% from 2.9% recorded in August, 2019,” She explained.

However, Mrs. Minja added that the overall index went up to 115.92 in September, 2019 from 112.12 recorded in September, 2018.

She told members of the press that Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages Inflation Rate for the month of September, 2019 has increased by 0.3 percent to 4.0 percent from 3.7 percent recorded in August, 2019.

Mrs Minja added that the annual inflation rate for food consumed at home and away from home for the month of September, 2019 has slightly increased to 5.1 percent from 5.0 percent recorded in August, 2019.

She, however, noted that for the 12-month index change, there was a decrease in non-food products in the same month of 0.4 percent to 3.1 percent from 3.5 recorded in August, 2019.

The NCPI measures the change over time in the cost of a fixed basket of goods and services that are purchased by a representative sample of households in Tanzania.

A basket includes a list of 278 goods and services of which 97 are Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages and 181 are Non-Food items that are being priced on monthly basis.

***“The decrease of the headline inflation explains that, the speed of price change for commodities for the year ended September, 2019 has decreased compared to the speed of price change recorded for the year ended August, 2019.”***

## NBS Runs Training on the Use of Advanced Data Planning Tool for Data Gap Assessment for SDGs



*Charles Bundu (far left standing) from Data Lab (Dlab) makes presentation during training on the use of Advanced Data Planning Tool (ADAPT) as a planning tool for data gaps assessment for the National Five-Year Development Plan and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) engagement in Tanzania. The training was held at NBS offices in Dodoma.*

The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) conducted training for stakeholders on the use of Advanced Data Planning Tool (ADAPT) that can be used for data gaps assessment for the National Five-Year Development Plan (FYDP) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) engagement in Tanzania.

ADAPT is a data planning tool that help National Statistical Organisations--

(NBOs) and data organisations in mapping and responding to data gaps for the national, regional and global frameworks.

The training, which is part of the implementation of activities of the project on “**Enhancing capacities for development results and effectiveness (CDE)**” was held at the NBS Conference Hall in Dodoma and was facilitated by experts from NBS and Tanzania Data Lab (Dlab).

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The CDE project focuses on enhancing knowledge, skills and capacity for the achievement of --

development goals as defined in the national, regional and global development agenda.

According to Saruni Njipay, a statistician from NBS, the training was designed to help participants to design, prepare and plan for their sectoral activities including costing.

He said: “The participants learnt how ADAPT tool works including: log frames, demand and supply side of data, data sources, generation of reports for the-

data gaps and data plans such as the National Strategy for Development of Statistics (NSDS) usually referred to as TSMP in Tanzania.

Mr. Njipay added that participants also learned about different statistics produced and coordinated by the NBS including statistics for monitoring the implementation of the National Development Plans and SDGs.

Funded by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the five-year--

project is jointly implemented by departments and institutions under the Ministries of Finance of both Mainland and Zanzibar.

These include NBS, Poverty Eradication Department and External Finance Department under the Ministry of Finance and Planning Mainland Tanzania, External Finance Department, Ministry of Finance Zanzibar, Planning Commission of Zanzibar and Office of Chief Government Statistician, Zanzibar (OCGS).



*Participants to the stakeholders' training on the use of Advanced Data Planning Tool (ADAPT) as a planning tool for data gaps assessment for the National Five-Year Development Plan and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) engagement in Tanzania. The training was held at NBS offices in Dodoma.*



## **Data Revolution Necessitated Amendments to Statistics Act of 2015**

The recent amendments to the Statistics Act, 2015 were necessitated by the rapid diversification of data production following what is as referred to as 'data revolution'.

This was said by Statistician General, Dr. Albina Chuwa, during the opening of a two-day media workshop organised by National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) on the advent of various new data sources against traditional data sources, meaning that the move to amend the Act was unavoidable.

"The recent amendments were necessitated by the tremendous developments witnessed during this century in the data field which calls for inclusive mechanism to accommodate huge data produced by non-state institutions," Statistician General elaborated.

She told workshop participants that it was a dilemma which was to be resolved because on one hand there is a huge data gap but on the hand there is also so huge data produced by non-traditional data producers which is rendered unutilised.

"Therefore, the amendments were made to create an opportunity for those data to be used but only that they must follow rules and guidelines of production of official statistics," she told workshop--

participants.

She emphasised that underlining the objective of the amendments was the need to produce enough statistics for monitoring and evaluation of national, regional and global development programmes and even individual matters.

The Statistician General informed workshop participants, drawn from among editors and media bureau chiefs stationed in Dodoma, that the move to amend the Act was also to implement a call from the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) directing National Statistical Offices (NSOs) to cooperate with other data producers in the production of official statistics.

"It is no longer time for NSOs to lock themselves in and pretend to produce all the needed statistics. They have to work with and give professional support to other producers so that the latter would also produce quality statistics," she emphasised.

Dr. Chuwa insisted that such diversification of statistics production, processing and even dissemination must always adhere to recognised professional standards.

She said the amendments were very important as they would guide the country in matters pertaining to statistics production and dissemination.

She assured workshop participants that the amendments to the Statistics Act of 2015 were appreciated by stakeholders worldwide and cited Argentine as one country that came to Tanzania to borrow a leaf.

"They sent us their document for review. We noted that the overall theme of the amendments was on how to incorporate civil societies in the production of official statistics, something which Tanzania was already ahead," she said.

Dr. Chuwa said she was encouraged by the enthusiasm workshop participants showed, particularly on learning more about the content of the amendments to the Statistics Act, 2015.

"We are duty bound to fulfil your expectations although we are time bound as two days are not enough but our experts will try their best," she said.

## AfDB: We Will Continue Supporting Tanzania in Production of Agricultural Statistics

African Development Bank (AfDB) has assured Tanzania of its continued support in improving production of high quality agricultural statistics.

The bank's country representative said the technical assistance provided by the lender in preparation of the report was aimed at setting up a robust sustainable food balance sheets system in Tanzania.

The country representative was speaking during the launching of the Report on Tanzania Food Balance Sheets from 2014 to 2017 which was held at Nashera Hotel in Dodoma recently.

He said that statistics on Food Balance Sheets is very important because it shows the status of supply and use of each food product within a given country.

He added that it also "tracks progress against established development goals to inform decision makers".

The country representative noted that his institution was more than happy to be associated with data that contributes to improving lives and livelihoods in every nation.

"The bank is delighted to see that Tanzania, for the very first time, has managed to compile its food balance sheets using the required international standards methods," he said.

The bank's country representative underscored the importance of keeping momentum in production on Food Balance Sheets statistics and sustaining the exercise over time to regularly provide updated and timely food balance sheets data to users.

He emphasised that since 2018--

Food Balance Sheets data are now available, it was appropriate for the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) to embark on preparation of the 2018 Food Balance Sheet Report.

In 2018, the bank selected Tanzania, Kenya, Ivory Coast and Togo to pilot the project whereby they were provided with technical support for that purpose.

The bank's country representative told the participants at the launching that Tanzania benefited from the lender's support because the latter was impressed by Tanzania's strong interest and commitment on this undertaking.



*Deputy Permanent Secretary Ministry of Agriculture Professor Siza Tumbo (second left) in group photograph with stakeholders who attended the launching of the Tanzania Food Balance Sheets Report 2014 – 2017 held at Nashera Hotel, Dodoma.*

# PAS Moves to Strengthen Capacity of National Accounts Statistics



*Staff of National Account Statistics departments of National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and Office of Chief Government Statistics (OCGS) during the in-house training organised by Pan African Statistics program (PAS) at NBS offices in Dodoma. On the left is trainer from PAS Mr. Bernd Struck.*

The Pan African Statistics programme (PAS) held another in-house training for national accounts statistics staff of the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) and Office of Chief Government Statistics (OCGS).

The training, with the objective of strengthening the capacity of the national account statistics in the country, was conducted by national account statistics expert from the Addis Ababa--

based programme, Mr. Bernd Struck.

The capacity building was also aimed at meeting demand by users for more and better data and ensures national data are adequately addressed.

The training was the continuation of support to NBS and OCGS national accounts aimed at the next steps of compiling Gross Domestic--

Product (GDP) in the context of the institutional sectors (household, corporations, general government and non-profit institutions).

“The first training was of a more fact finding mission to have an overview of the current situation of national account in Tanzania and this time it was more specific because before coming here--



we made needs assessment and agreed on the agenda,” Mr. Struck said.

He said the staff were trained on how the institutional sectors contribute to the economy and how they interact with the rest of the world.

The PAS expert told NBS Newsletter that by developing sector accounts, a country can present to users a coherent view of economic activities in terms of production, income generation, and income (re) distribution, consumption and accumulation.

He added that the sector account also streamlines the economic roles played by households, financial and non-financial corporations and government in the economy.

“It shows disaggregated data, for example, of gross value added by sectors, income generated in production process by sectors, allocation of income by sectors and--

savings by sectors,” he explained.

Mr. Struck explained that the training was very beneficial as it dwelt on critical issues in national account statistics and that he was impressed with the way trainees embraced the programme.

“We spent one whole day learning how to implement the recently released Householder Budget Survey (HBS) results in the national accounts statistics. For example, how to implement household expenditure for food items into certain categories of consumption,” PASS expert elaborated.

He said HBS is a multipurpose survey which provides a lot of statistical information therefore special attention was given on integrating its results into national account.

During the four-day training, participants were taken through various topics including Supply and Use Tables (SUT), Implementing results of --

the 2017-18 HBS, Merchandise trade statistics and imports and exports; SUT, Regional Accounts and ERETES, a software package for national accounts.

Funded by the European Union, PASS provides technical assistance to African Union members to strengthen national statistical organisation (NSOs) capacities in development of statistics system in Africa.

*“The first training was of a more fact finding mission to have an overview of the current situation of national account in Tanzania and this time it was more specific because before coming here we made needs assessment and agreed on the agenda,” Mr. Struck said.”*

## NBS will Continue Offering Trainings to Media

NBS has offered to train more media personnel to ensure they attain the best skills in covering statistics matters.

The acting director of Statistical Operation, Mr. Emmilian Karugendo, said this during the closing of the two-day media workshop saying it was the desire and commitment of NBS to conduct regular media training when resources were available.

“NBS wants to see robust and vibrant media capable of dealing very professionally in numbers, extract messages from them and make it easy to the public to understand,” Mr. Karugendo said.

The acting director appreciated comments from the participants that time located for the programme was short and promised that future training opportunities would allocate more time according to the needs.

He thanked participants for accepting the invitation and said he was optimistic that participants used the two days effectively to learn as much as they could.

Meanwhile, workshop participants thanked NBS for conducting the training and appealed for more such opportunities in order to sharpen their skills in covering statistical matters.

Speaking on behalf of the participants, Mr. Mgaya Kingoba said during the two-day training, they gained a lot of knowledge about functions and activities of NBS and above all on how to deal with numbers while writing about statistics.

He explained that they benefitted immensely from the training; adding that he believed the two-day programme made a huge difference in their understanding towards covering statistics stories.

“We were impressed by the way resource persons conducted the programme. There were many topical issues which have broadened our knowledge in statistics sphere,” Mr. Mgaya said.

He concurred with other participants that the programme was very intense-

with limited time and suggested that in future enough time should be allocated to enable participants to follow the programme and enjoy more discussion with subject specialists.

Mr. Mgaya assured NBS management of media’s continued collaboration with NBS in informing and educating the public on the importance of statistics and in advocating proper use of statistics.

*“During the two-day training, we gained a lot of knowledge about functions and activities of NBS and above all on how to deal with numbers while writing about statistics,” said Mr. Mgaya Kingoba*

# NBS PICTORIAL NEWS



*Peter Quan from US-National Agriculture Statistics Service (NASS) elaborating a point during consultation meeting with NBS staff on methodology and survey sample frame for the 2018-19 National Agriculture Sample Survey (NASC).*



*PAS trainer Mr. Bernd Struck explaining on how to deal with imports and exports of services into figures of National Accounts during capacity building training for National Account Statistics departments' staff of NBS and OCGS.*



# NBS PICTORIAL NEWS



*Statistician General Dr. Albina Chuwa in a group photo with editors and bureau chiefs of mainstream media present in Dodoma during the opening of the two-day media workshop organized by NBS*



*Members of Technical Working Group for the Development of Dimensions and Indicators of National Multidimensional Poverty Index (NMPI) in groups discussing Tanzania poverty indicators*

National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)

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