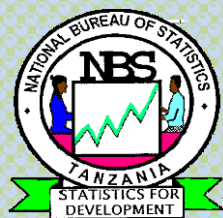




The United Republic of Tanzania

AFRICAN STATISTICS DAY REPORT

23rd November, 2015



**National Bureau of Statistics
DAR ES SALAAM
December, 2015**

AFRICAN STATISTICS DAY REPORT

African Statistics day is commemorated every year on 18th November. The day is celebrated in order to create public awareness on the role played by statisticians in the production of statistics for the African social-economic development. Each year, different themes have been proposed by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). The theme for this year was **“Better Data for Better Lives: Harnessing modern technology to enhance national statistical systems.”**

Before and after the event, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) in collaboration with the Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre (EASTC) carried out media advocacy program to various media outlets in both print and electronic media. The main objective of this day was to inform the public about the importance of data in making the people’s lives better.

In Tanzania, African Statistics Day was celebrated on 23rd November, 2015 at the Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre (EASTC) which is located at Changanyikeni, Dar es Salaam.

The event was attended by different stakeholders of statistics including, representatives from International Organizations, Ministries, Departments and Agencies, NBS Staff, EASTC Staff and the EASTC Students.



Participants listening to the presentation during the celebration of African Statistics Day in Dar es Salaam on 23rd November, 2015.



The Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Finance, Professor Adolf Mkenda delivering a speech to open the celebration of the African Statistics Day 2015 at Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre in Dar es Salaam on 23rd November, 2015.

In this event, the guest of honour was the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Dr. Servacius Likwelile who was represented by his Deputy, Professor Adolf Mkenda.

In his speech Prof. Mkenda assured the participants on the Government's commitment to statistical activities in the country. He further added that, official statistics help decision makers to develop informed policies, planning, monitoring and evaluating development programmes.

Others who made their remarks on that day were the EASTC Rector Professor Innocent Ngalinda who highlighted on the use of modern technology and data to make better lives. The Tanzania National Bureau of Statistics' Director General reiterated the importance of data and statistics for informed decision making, planning and monitoring as well as their impact on social economic development and their effect in the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Data revolution was infused by Dr. Chuwa, stressing on bringing on board the use of modern technology (i.e. tablets, smartphones) in data collection instead of using papers questionnaires.

She encouraged the young statisticians to become more innovative in producing better data timely, so as to change the lives of the society - better life.

The representative of the Director General for Tanzania Social Security Regulatory Authority (SSRA) and head of ICT department, Dr. Carina Wangwe pointed out how better data on social protection and other related information will impact positively on the lives of all Tanzanians.

There were two presentations, one from NBS Senior Statistician and the other one from EASTC lecturer.

NBS Senior Statistician, Mr. Seif Kuchengo presented the **Key Mortality Indicators** calculated from the 2012 Population and Housing Census data. The Key Mortality

indicators presented included death rate, Infant Mortality rate, Under-Five Mortality rate and Life Expectancy.



NBS Senior Statistician Mr. Seif Kuchengo presenting the Key Mortality Indicators calculated from the 2012 Population and Housing Census during the celebrations of African Statistics Day on 23rd November, 2015 in Dar es Salaam.

The second presentation, by EASTC lecturer Dr. Camillius Kasala, was on **Better data for better lives** focusing on the Nature of Official Statistics, importance of using reliable data in planning development for Better Life and Sustainable Development Goals as the ultimate aim of the development process.

The 2015 African Statistics Day was colored by a panel discussion whereby the main speakers were Young Statisticians from the EASTC. The discussions were centered on the day's theme focusing on improved data sources, sound statistical methods, new technologies and strengthened statistical systems to enable better decisions that eventually result in better lives for all.



EASTC student Olatunde Olawumi who is pursuing Masters in Official Statistics presenting her contribution during panel discussion on Better Data for Better Lives in the celebration of African Statistics Day held in Dar es Salaam in November, 2015.

Generally, the participants used the event to emphasize on how Tanzania can make the National Bureau of Statistics a better place of obtaining official statistics in Tanzania, Africa and beyond.

They further said that, the capacity of the activities of the agency has to be strengthened through the effective use of modern Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

Attachments:

- i) African Statistics Day 2015 Advertisement
- ii) Opening remarks by the Director General – NBS
- iii) Opening speech – Deputy Permanent Secretary, Minister for Finance
- iv) Presentation on Key Mortality Indicator
- v) Talking Notes – Social Security Regulatory Authority
- vi) Presentation on Better data for Better Lives
- vii) [Video](#)