



Fifth Meeting of the Forum on African Statistical Development (FASDEV - V)

17 January 2012
Cape Town, South Africa

“Effectiveness of the Support to Statistical development in Africa”

Concept Note

I. Background

The Forum on African Statistical Development (FASDEV) is a United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) initiative further sponsored by the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21), and the World Bank. Representatives of 12 international organizations, 4 donors institutions, 17 regional and sub-regional agencies attended FASDEV meeting in Addis Ababa, in May 2004 and endorsed the establishment of FASDEV with the following functions: (i) to have an overview of statistical activities, including assistance, and training in Africa; (ii) to set up a permanent system for the monitoring of statistical development in Africa; and (iii) to strengthen modalities for cooperation with a view to leveraging on each partner's comparative advantage.

The ultimate objective of FASDEV is to render more efficient and effective the support made available to countries in the framework of the Paris Declaration of Aid Effectiveness. To ensure this, meetings of the FASDEV bring together representatives from African National Statistical Offices (NSOs), Statistical Training Centres (STCs), international, regional and sub regional institutions, bilateral agencies, international programs and initiatives, foundations, and other institutions.¹

The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), jointly with the African Development Bank (ADB), PARIS21 Consortium and World Bank, will organize the fifth meeting of FASDEV. This event will comprise of a market fair and a meeting and will take place back-to-back with the Third Session of the Statistical Commission for Africa (StatCom-Africa).

II. Objectives

The main objectives of FASDEV V include:

- To take stock of the state of partners' support to statistics in Africa including new initiatives;
- To share information and discuss modalities of financing statistical development and National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) implementation in African countries;
- To explore the possibility of applying the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness principles to support statistics;
- To explore ways of improving coordination and efficiency in the support to countries;
- To explore the role of partners in fostering South-south cooperation; and
- To explore new financing sources for statistical capacity building in Africa.

¹ See PARIS21 Directory

III. **Expected Outcomes**

The expected outcomes of the meeting include:

- More technical assistance and training possibilities in the area of statistics in Africa;
- Greater ownership of monitoring systems of statistical development and reporting mechanisms by the countries;
- A broader spectrum of financial resources made available to statistical investment and funding agencies for statistical activities in Africa; and
- More coordinated interventions in support of African countries statistical development efforts.

IV. **Venue and date**

The meeting is scheduled to take place in Cape Town, South Africa on 17 January 2012. It will be organized back-to-back with the Third Session of StatCom-Africa to be held from 18 to 23 January 2012.

V. **Format**

FASDEV V will comprise of a market fair and a formal meeting.

Market Fair

As in past years, a market fair will be organized to present partner programs, principally through posters, booklets, documentation, videos, web sites, and advertisement material. The African Centre for Statistics (ACS) in its quality of the Secretariat to FASDEV is calling upon partners to provide information related to their programs, and organize the presentation. The list of presentations and booklets will be part of the meeting documentation, and distributed in the conference room. A report on the fair, including lessons learned, will be prepared.

For more queries on the market fair, please contact Mr. Molla Hunegnaw at mhunegnaw@uneca.org or by telephone at: +251 11 544 3395.

Meeting

The provisional agenda describes the formal meeting part of the event. This consists of a full day meeting under the following three main sessions:

Levels and trends of support to statistical development in Africa: This session will include a presentation of overall partner support based on the PARIS21 PRESS report, and an analysis of the support levels and trends. There will also be presentations of specific programs or initiatives in selected countries with special focus on achievements of the programs and not only on

implementation processes. The reports/presentations will focus on results. The chair will also allow interventions (not more than 3 minutes) from the floor on some programs.

Ongoing and new initiatives: This session will be devoted to presentations by partners and/or countries on new initiatives that have been launched after the last meeting. These initiatives are of a sub regional and/or regional nature and aim at improving the capacity of African countries to produce and use quality statistics in support of their development efforts.

Making partner support more effective and efficient: This session will deal with modalities of financing statistical development and National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) implementation, application of Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness principles to support statistics, architecture of supporting statistical development in Africa, donor coordination under the Statistics for Results Facility (SFR), coordination of support to statistical development among international organizations, and the role of partners in fostering South-south cooperation.

VI. Targeted audience

The target audience is all the organizations working in the area of statistics in Africa.

VII. Secretariat and other services

As the Secretariat to the forum, ECA will provide support for the meeting.

VIII. Contact information

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