

AFRICAN CENTRE FOR STATISTICS

Monthly update of activities and events- April 2024

Restitution Workshop of the Study on Readiness Assessment Towards the African Customs Union/Common Market' and 'Technical Validation Workshop for the Construction of the New African Synthetized Regional Integration Index (ASRII)

1-5 April 2024, ACS participated in this event organized by the African Union Commission (AUC) in Kigali Rwanda. The restitution workshop aimed to deliberate on the study recommendations, collecting inputs, assessing readiness for economic integration, and co-creating actionable recommendations to advance African regional integration efforts. While the technical validation workshop aimed to produce the methodological approach for constructing ASRII, including its new architecture with adopted dimensions, indicators, calculation methodology, data collection and analysis process. The two workshops were attended by representatives of AUC, ECA, African Development Bank (AfDB), GIZ, Arab Maghreb Union (AMU), Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CEN-SAD), East African Community (EAC), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Inter-Governmental Authority for Development (IGAD), Southern African Development Community (SADC), Eastern Africa Standby Force (EASF), and North African Regional Capability (NARC).

Civil Registration and Vital Statistics Applied Research Training Initiative

On 2nd April 2024, the African Centre for Statistics (ACS) in partnership with UN ESCAP launched the CRVS applied research training (CART) initiative that focuses on enhancing CRVS systems through supporting applied research on strategies, interventions, and tools. This is for 24 successful applicants who are government employees from 12 countries in Africa.



Africa Progress Towards SDG 16.9: Legal Identity for All.

Africa's Progress Towards SDG target 16.9: Legal Identity for All



On 18th April 2024, ACS as the secretariat of the Africa Programme on Accelerated Improvement of Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (APAI-CRVS) in collaboration

with partners of the regional CRVS Core group under the umbrella of the APAI-CRVS and the UN Legal Identity Agenda held a webinar on Africa's Progress Towards SDG 16.9: Legal Identity for All. This was a pre-event session at the 10th Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development that provide an opportunity for an in-depth review of the progress made by African countries towards achievement of SDG 16.9 based on recent data. Key messages were derived on how Africa can effectively track progress and accelerate collaborative actions towards achieving SDG 16.9. As well as the adjustments that need to be made to achieve the drive through the Summit of the Future.

10th Africa Regional Forum for Sustainable Development (ARFSD)



ACS actively participated in the 10th ARFSD that focused on the 2024 High Level Political Forum selected SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16 and 17 and the corresponding aspirations of Agenda 2063/strategic objectives of the second ten-year implementation plan (STYIP) of Agenda 2063. The Forum took place at the UNECA Conference Center, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 23rd to 25th April 2024. ACS hosted a side event and two pre-events.

Please find more information [HERE](#).



ACS also held a plenary round-table panel discussion on the transformation and modernization of statistical systems to produce high-quality data and statistics that can be used to track progress and reinforce national policies and plans to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. Countries were urged to transform and modernize their national statistical systems guided by ECA's Road Map for the Transformation and Modernization of Official Statistics in Africa (2023-2030). Partners were called upon to support the implementation of the Road Map. The panel discussion emphasized the crucial role of high-quality data and statistics in implementing the 2030 Agenda and the Agenda 2063 during the plenary round table on the transformation and modernization of the statistical systems in Africa.

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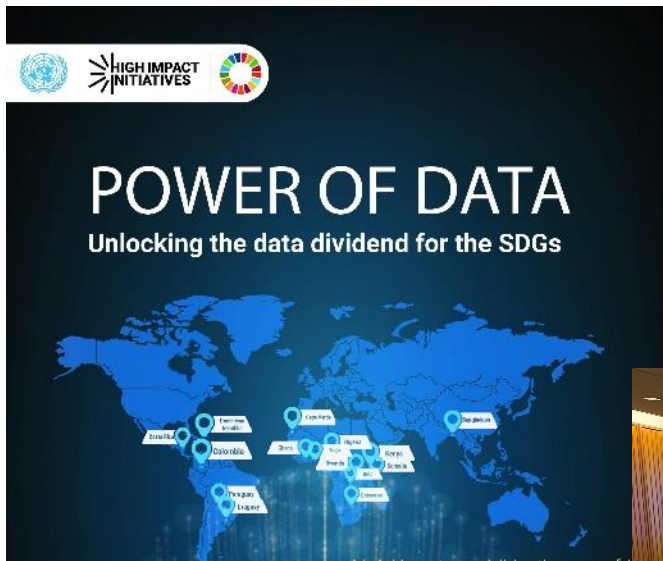
Data to Unlock the Relevance and Accuracy of Voluntary National Reviews (VNR)



On 22nd April 2024, ACS held a hybrid pre-event session at the 10th Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development on African voluntary national and local reviews: strengthening integration and reporting on the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.

This session highlighted the compelling reasons for countries to include data at the national and sub-national levels in their VNR Reports, emphasizing the importance of data-driven decision-making and showcased the benefits it brings to sustainable development efforts.

Power of Data: Unlocking the data dividend for the SDGs and Agenda 2063



On 24th April 2024, hosted a pre-event to the 10th ARFSD with partners, data stakeholders and member States on the Power of Data: Unlocking the data dividend for the SDGs and Agenda 2063. This session focused on socializing the power of data initiative, identifying the data gaps and devising mechanisms for mobilizing resources to support national partnerships.

The power of data to unlock the data dividend for the SDGs is one among the 12 high impact initiatives providing a platform to take the SDGs to scale. It has been stated that “data is the fuel that powers progress across all the SDGs”. By 2030, the Power of Data High Impact Initiative aims to launch 50 national data partnerships to boost government decision making, accelerate digital transformation agendas, and open new economic and developmental opportunities.



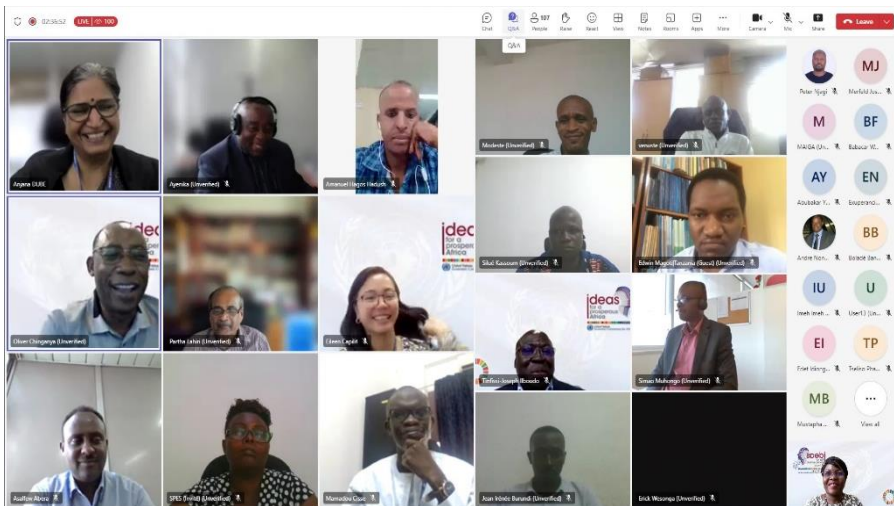
Knowledge Fair during the 10th ARFSD



During the 10th ARFSD a knowledge fair was set up with various knowledge booths. ACS showcased part of the SDG reporting tools specifically for analyzing progress by sub regions and Regional Economic Commissions, emphasizing the transition to digital censuses in Africa. With specific products including the ECA census digital tools, ECAsStats-statistical portal, Africa Statistics Flash, The modernization and transformation roadmap for official statistics among others. The fair facilitated the exchange of insights, best practices, and collaborative

strategies to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Africa. By leveraging the continent's resources and collective efforts through data.

14th StatsTalk-Africa monthly webinar series



On 16th April 2024, ACS convened its 14th StatsTalk-Africa monthly webinar series that provide a space for dialogue about data, statistics, and innovative tools with data experts and users. This particular webinar gave a space to discuss the challenges of producing small area estimates using sample survey data alone, and how the sample survey data can be effectively integrated with alternative databases in producing reliable small area estimates. The challenges for

development of Urban Spatial Frameworks in Africa were discussed and showcased Luanda, Angola’s case study which is to guide urban planning efforts towards the creation of economically vibrant, resilient, connected, and socially equitable cities.

For more details See: [StatsTalk-Africa: Integrating Survey Data, GIS and Small Area Estimation | Events | United Nations Economic Commission for Africa \(uneca.org\)](#)

Access previous StatsTalk – Africa Series at [HERE](#)

Inequality Assessment for Registration of Vital Events Based on the 2020 Round of Censuses

ACS conducted a training on CRVS inequality assessment based on questions on registration of Vital Events in the 2020 round of population censuses. The training took place from 29th April to 3rd May 2024 in Nairobi, Kenya. The training focused on statistical regression modelling to determine significant inequality situations using census data. Ten (10) countries that have undertaken a population census in the 2020 round and included questions on civil registration in their questionnaires participated in the training. A training resource guide and a CRVS inequality assessment handbook based on an R pipeline will be finalized to make this process replicable.



IAOS-ISI 2024, Mexico City - Improving Decision-Making for All

The National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) of Mexico, the International Association of Official Statistics (IAOS) and the International Institute of Statistics (ISI) will jointly host the 19th IAOS Conference and the 4th ISI Regional Statistics Conference which will be held as the IAOS-ISI 2024 Mexico Conference. The IAOS-ISI 2024 Mexico Conference Improving Decision-Making for All, to be held from 15th to 17th of May 2024 in Mexico City, Mexico. The theme for the Conference aims to provide an environment where interested people and institutions can examine the current dilemmas around data and suggest ideas for producing statistical information that contributes to improving decision-making at every level, from policymakers to citizens.

The abstract gallery at [IAOS-ISI 2024, Mexico City Submissions | ISI \(isi-next.org\)](#) features interesting issues from ACS on Africa SDG Progress Index, Enhancing The Quality Of Online Self-Paced Training On The SEEA Using Large Language Models And Interactive Knowledge Graphs, Understanding Data Stewardship And Role Of NSS In Africa.

Upcoming events

StatsTalk-Africa

Monitoring Roads at a Large Scale in low income and developing countries using Big Data and Remote Sensing



Welcome remarks and Moderator
Oliver Chinganya
Director, ECA- ACS



Presenter
Roberto Carroccia
IT Manager presso CTLup
Università degli studi di Roma
Rome, Latium, Italy



Presenter
Damien Puy
Senior economist,
Research Department, IMF;
and consultant, Alteia



ACS has scheduled the 15th StatsTalk -Africa webinar series on Monday, 13 May 2024 from 11:00 to 12:30 hrs EAT, which will focus on: Monitoring Roads at a Large Scale in low income and developing countries (LIDCs) using Big Data and Remote Sensing. The webinar will delve into a new platform which was designed to: (i) help countries monitor the size and quality of their road network in real time and at a low cost; and (ii) use those inputs to measure

Contact Persons

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investment gaps, sequence road maintenance work or simulate the resilience of road networks to climate shocks to better pilot investments. It will also provide insights on the African Regional Transport Corridor Management System – ARTCOMS. Click [HERE](#) to register for the webinar.

Global and continental statistical events

Here are some global and continental statistical events that will take place in May 2024:

- 15 - 17 May 2024. IAOS-ISI 2024, Mexico City- Improving Decision-Making for All will be held in Mexico City. [IAOS-ISI 2024, Mexico City | ISI \(isi-next.org\)](#)
- 19 - 24 May 2024. The 9th Africa Population conference to be held in Malawi. www.conference.uaps-uepa.org. ACS will present the Opportunities for Census Data Collection in Africa for the 2030 Population and Housing census Round on Monday, May 20, 2024.
- Various: Members of the [SDMX User Forum](#) are actively discussing a wide range of SDMX-related topics. Head on over to the group to join the discussions (SDMX User Forum).

Thank you.