The advent of the third quarter in July beaconed that we stop and take stock of activities implemented by the Training Component during the first 2 quarters of the year. The training component needed to meet a number of milestones and financial targets in order to advance into implementing its ensuing period of programme activities; as well as obtaining additional financial support for the same.

As a result, the mid-year performance report of the Global Office has praised the performance of the Training Component implementation by ECA to a very large extent. The report has also indicated serious areas for improvement, promising and good practices and essential areas that needed to be sustained.

One of the major milestones within the implementation is output in relation to the “Increased capacity of agricultural statistics staff in training centers and target countries”. The indicator for this output “Number of technical reports, guidelines and training material developed” is met “Above The Target”. This takes into consideration the 80 different types of training materials produced and disseminated by ECA since the onset of the component implementation. On the overall financial performance of the training component, ECA has managed to attain 85% implementation of the resources taking into consideration the obligations and commitments made under the component. Based on this performance, the GO Office has undertaken a possible Risk analysis concerning the capacity of partners to implement in 2018. Out of the six outputs where the training component is concerned, the GO has rated the ECA as no risk involved in 5 of the outputs and indicated some potential risk in regards to sustaining staffing. The global office has lauded the increased efforts of ECA to implement improved communication and visibility of its activities and recommended this to continue further.
In this quarter, the training component focused on extending the implementation of the training of trainers to additional universities, training centers as well as NSOs and Ministries of Agriculture. Three training of trainer workshops on the topics of Effective use of Administrative Data, Food Balance Sheets in English and French have been delivered. The trainings have been generously hosted by the respective national statistical offices of Statistics Botswana, National Statistical Institutes of Morocco and Tunisia. The three workshops have served almost 80 participants from a total of 21 African Countries. Institution wise, an extensive reach has been undertaken in inviting new and active universities working in Agricultural Statistics training and research across the various sub-regions in the continent.

The main objectives of this Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop was to give the participants the skills and competencies necessary for producing and using as a team a Food Balance sheet based on agricultural censuses and surveys that allow easy integration of the data from various areas of statistics, including demographic statistics and other economic statistics.

The ToT was primarily designed to serve Statistical Training Centers, Schools, and Universities as well as national statistical offices and Ministries of agriculture dealing with the production and contributing to the development of National Food Balance Sheets in their respective countries. Some selected NSOs were invited to present their experiences as practical showcase. The participants for this training were drawn from statistical training Centers and Universities such as L’Institut Sous-régional de Statistique et d’Economie Appliquée (ISSEA)- Cameroun, Institut De formation Et de Recherche Demographiques (IFORD)- Cameroun, Haremaya University- Harar, Ethiopia, Makerere University – Kampala, Uganda, Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (CAPMAS)- Egypt, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Khartoum, Sudan; Fisheries Hatchery Management, Aquatic Pollution and Toxicology, University of IBADAN- Nigeria ; University of Nairobi, Faculty of Agriculture, Nairobi, Kenya ; University of Namibia, Faculty of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Windhoek, Namibia; Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Zambia, Lusaka Zambia ; School of Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. The National Statistical Offices from the following countries were also integral part of the training of trainers: Lesotho, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Gambia, Libya, Rwanda, and South Sudan.

The workshop was officially opened by Ms. Ms Anna Majelantle, Statistics General of the National Statistics Office of Botswana. In her opening Ms. Majelantle stated FBS were the main source of data used in the assessment and appreciation of the world food situation and they were also suitable in estimating the overall food shortages or surplus in a country. “They are useful in developing projections of future food supply and demand as well as evaluating national food and nutrition policies,” she said, adding that FBS provided sound baseline data for policy analysis and decision-making needed to ensure food security. She said they expected the workshop to result with better understanding of the requirements for producing and using FBS to enhance statistics on agriculture and to improve physical scope of official statistics by mainstreaming agricultural statistics within the national statistical systems of Africa. On the other hand, she said this would ultimately result in an enhanced capacity of African national statistical systems that produced and disseminated high quality agricultural statistics.1

In the context of the Global Strategic Plan for Agricultural and Rural Development (CEA), in partnership with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the African Development Bank (BAD), and the High-Commissioner for Planning (HCP, Morocco), an event was organized from 22 to 25 August 2017 in Rabat (Morocco) on the use of administrative data for agricultural statistics. The event gathered 21 participants from 10 French-speaking African countries (Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, Djibouti, Mali, Morocco, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Chad, and Togo). The goal of the event was to improve the availability and quality of national and international statistics in the domains of food and agriculture so as to facilitate decision making in those domains. Participants were therefore able to deepen their knowledge of the principles and methods, as well as the different components of the food balance sheets. A practical case was also presented to participants to elaborate step by step the elaboration of food balance sheets. Moreover, throughout the event, participants were able to share their experiences and observations on the elaboration of the balance sheets of their respective countries.

In general, participants were satisfied with the event and found the training useful. They are therefore encouraged to share the newly acquired knowledge within their respective organizations.

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (CEA) organized a regional training event on the use of administrative data in agricultural statistics from 3 to 6 October 2017 in Tunis (Tunisia). The event was opened by the Director General of Tunisian Statistics and closed by the Director of Agricultural Statistics in Tunisia. The event gathered 24 participants from 9 French-speaking African countries, as shown in the following table:

- Burkina Faso (2), Cameroon (2), Côte d’Ivoire (2), Mali (1), Morocco (10), Mauritania (1), Niger (1), Senegal (2), Chad (1), Togo (1)
- Tunisia (12)

The event was officially opened by the General Director of the National Institute of Statistics of Tunisia, Mr. Hédi Saïdi. In his opening speech, the general director emphasized the importance of agricultural statistics. More importantly, he declared the role that the Global Strategic Plan plays in progressing skills and capacities in agricultural statistics in Africa. Tunisia has a commendable experience in the use of effective administrative data to produce agricultural statistics. This is also reinforced by the strong partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture.
The Training Component Management team had been part of a training entitled: Practical Toolbox for EU Funds Project Managers and Project Management at the European academy for Taxes, Economics and Law. The training focused on the EU requirements of managing funds, managing projects and the process of preparing for audits and evaluation as per EU regulations. The training was provided by experienced facilitators from various walks of experience in managing and leading EU funded programmes and activities. The topics covered included Cost Benefit Analysis by Mateu Turró of European Investment Bank, Evaluation Techniques by Mr. Stanisław Bienias Former Head of the National Evaluation Unit of the Polish Ministry of Regional Development, Poland and Project Management by Bénédict Wauters Deputy Director for Innovation, Belgium and Anna Kanakaki, Agency for the Management of Development Ministry of Health, Greece. The Training Component team has gained strong insight into EU fund management and processing aspects.

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

**QUARTER THREE IN NUMBERS**

- **3** Courses Delivered
- **78** People Trained
- **2** Syllabi Developed

**MISSIONS UNDERTAKEN**

- Gaborone, Botswana
- Tunis, Tunis
- Berlin, Germany
- Rabat, Morocco

**ACTIVITIES IN THE LAST QUARTER 2017**

- **November**
  - Dakar, Senegal – Training of Trainers on Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Livestock (French)
  - Abidjan, Ivory Coast – Expert Group Meeting for the Validation of Syllabi and Training Materials in Agricultural Statistics
  - Addis Ababa, Ethiopia – Training of Trainers on Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Livestock (English)
  - Kigali, Rwanda – Regional Steering Committee meeting for Action Plan for Africa

- **December**
  - Addis Ababa, Ethiopia – Training of Trainers on Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Livestock (English)
  - Abidjan, Ivory Coast – AGROST Annual Review Meeting of Training Activities
  - Kigali, Rwanda – Regional Steering Committee meeting for Action Plan for Africa