

NEWSLETTER

GHANA STATISTICAL SERVICE (GSS) DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS PLATFORM



GSSDPG group members and guest discuss progress on the National Strategy for Development of Statistics at a meeting. © Embassy of Denmark

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS INVOLVED



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Partners during the meeting. © IMF AFRITAC West 2

Ghana Statistical Service upgrade GDP and Price Statistics with IMF AFRITAC WEST 2 support

Supported by IMF AFRITAC WEST 2 (AFWC)

IMF AFRITAC West 2 (AFW2) technical assistance to the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) furthered progress on the update of national accounts and price statistics to support policymaking.

With IMF AFRITAC West 2 support, GSS continued to make progress on GDP rebasing activities. A CD mission in July 2024 focused on developing revised import and export estimates that are aligned to the proposed new base year (2023) to ensure that volume GDP estimates remain relevant.

AFRITAC West 2 Regional Advisor for Real Sector Statistics led the national accounts mission at AFW2 headquarters in Accra with officials of GSS to further support the development of revised export and import data as part of the ongoing GDP rebasing program.

Another intervention in September 2024 assisted GSS with updating the consumer price index (CPI). Key activities included working with staff on expenditure data review, and the compilation and development of key indicators pertaining to the CPI.



Sealing a commitment: Government Statistician, Prof. Samuel Kobina Annim and UNICEF Representative OIC, Mr. Fiachra McAsey, shake hands after the 2025 MICS MoU signing. © UNICEF/2024

Partnering for Progress: UNICEF and GSS Launch 2025 MICS

Supported by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

In July, The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) jointly signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the 2025 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS). The signing ceremony marked the official beginning of their collaboration, confirming the commitment of the two institutions to MICS implementation. This will be Ghana's fifth MICS after 1995, 2006, 2011 and 2018.

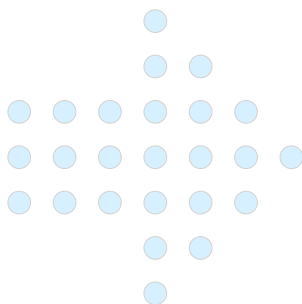
UNICEF Representative OIC, Mr. Fiachra McAsey, in his speech noted that, 'We are in an era of poly-crisis where pandemics, conflict, inflation, food insecurity, and energy crises disproportionately affect the most vulnerable children and families. MICS will provide essential data to inform targeted, evidence-based interventions to reduce poverty.'

The Government Statistician, Prof. Samuel Kobina Annim, emphasized the survey's focus on critical areas including child protection, early childhood education, child health and nutrition. He also highlighted MICS-exclusive topics such as water quality testing, and mental health.

The 2025 MICS is expected to produce data on 267 indicators, including 33 for the SDGs, aiding in shaping national and international development agendas. However, funding challenges threaten the 2025 implementation plan. The GSS and UNICEF therefore call on stakeholders and funding partners to provide vital financial support. With collaboration and commitment, the 2025 MICS can drive meaningful change, informing policies and programs that improve the lives of Ghana's children and families.



Government Statistician, Prof. Samuel Annim, and WFP Country Director, Barbara Clemens, signing a Memorandum of Understanding to formalize their partnership. © WFP



food security and improving nutrition in Ghana is not just a commitment but a necessity for sustainable development. Generating strong evidence is key to guiding interventions and shaping policies that make a real difference, especially as resources become more limited. WFP's collaboration with the GSS will help us use accurate data to better understand food security and nutrition challenges and opportunities across the country. Together, we can build a healthier, more resilient Ghana."

In the first year, two major initiatives will be launched: the third national Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment (CFSVA) in 2025 and the rollout of the mobile Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (mVAM) system. The CFSVA will provide updated information on household food security, helping to identify vulnerable areas, while the mVAM system will use mobile technology to track food security and market trends in real time. Through these data-driven efforts, GSS and WFP aim to strengthen food security and build a more resilient food system in Ghana.

Strengthening Food Security and Nutrition through Data-Driven Solutions

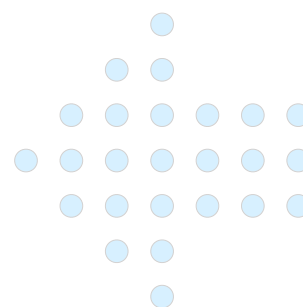
Organised by The Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) and the World Food Programme (WFP)

The Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) and the World Food Programme (WFP) have formed a strategic partnership to improve the planning, implementation, and monitoring of food security and nutrition programs in Ghana. This partnership, established through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed on August 14, 2024, will run until December 2028. Its primary goal is to generate reliable data to inform national food and nutrition policies.

Key activities include developing new data collection methods, such as mobile surveys and remote sensing, building expertise in data analysis, and improving social protection programs to better reach vulnerable populations.

In addition, the partnership will focus on raising public awareness about food security and nutrition through community outreach and digital media campaigns.

Prof. Samuel Kobina Annim, the Government Statistician, emphasized the importance of "ensuring a convergence across different statistical measures of food self-sufficiency, food security, food insecurity, and nutrition." Ms. Barbara Clemens, WFP Country Director, highlighted that "ensuring





Group photo of participants and facilitators at the training. © Ghana Statistical Service

Ghana Takes Significant Steps Toward Enhancing Its Statistical Capacity

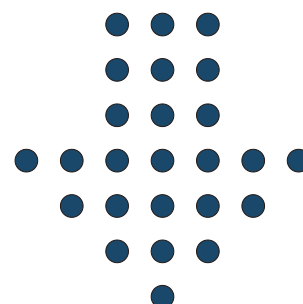
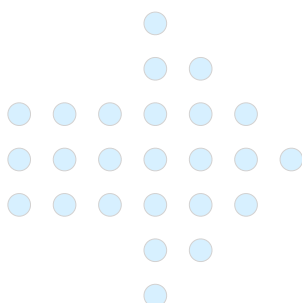
Supported by The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

As part of efforts to improve data quality in the country, the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS), with support from The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), trained heads of statistical units from 25 Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), along with selected staff from the Harmonization, Quality Assurance, and Data Science Unit of the GSS.

The three-day training workshop was organized from August 4- 6, 2024 in Koforidua. This collaboration between the GSS and UNICEF demonstrate their commitment to improving data quality and promoting evidence-based decision-making.

The workshop, which aimed at enhancing the knowledge of participants on the importance of data dictionaries and the development of a standardized data dictionary format, will guide MDAs to produce quality statistics in Ghana. Speaking at the workshop, the Deputy Government Statistician, Madam Faustina Frempong-Ainguah, emphasized the importance of taking the training seriously to ensure proper data naming and storage for future analysis.

The approved data dictionary format is expected to be utilized by participating MDAs for dataset development and sharing. Subsequently, future training programmes will include other MDAs, in addition to Metropolitan, Municipal, and District Assemblies in Ghana.





Partners from Environmental Protection Agency sharing insights on data storage, sharing, and accessibility opportunities and challenges during workshop in Accra. © Oskar Birger Jensen, Embassy of Denmark

Roundtable Discussions on Data Sharing, Storage, and Accessibility with the Government Partners of the Four Strategic Sector Cooperations of the Embassy of Denmark.

Organized by Embassy of Denmark in Ghana and Statistics Denmark

In September, Embassy of Denmark in Ghana together with Statistics Denmark and Ghana Statistical Service hosted a roundtable with 23 partner Ministries, Departments, and Agencies across the four Strategic Sector Cooperations at the Embassy. Together they explored how data synergies can drive transparency, improve policies, and support informed decision-making across sectors.

Key discussions centered around data storage, sharing, and accessibility with a shared understanding of the power of collaboration. The roundtable served to create new networks among technical staff to amplify the work on cross-sectoral knowledge sharing of digital data, identify

synergies among partners, and discuss opportunities for further collaborations.

The roundtable is part of Phase II of the Strategic Sector Cooperation between the Embassy of Denmark in Ghana, Ghana Statistical Service, and Statistics Denmark.



Participants during the Admin Data training workshop in September. © ONS

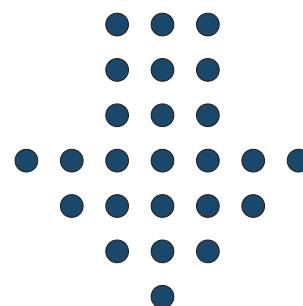
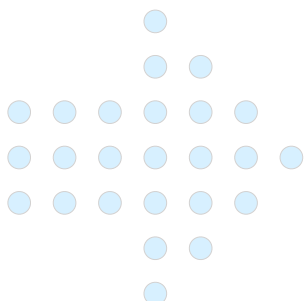
Enhancing the quality of administrative data in Ghana

Organized by [Office for National Statistics \(ONS\)](#)

In our ongoing commitment to support improving the quality of administrative data, the ONS successfully delivered two 'train the trainer' workshops in August and September aimed at strengthening the capabilities of 60 staff from the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) and Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) to further train officers and statisticians at the metropolitan, municipal and district level.

The interactive workshops focused on best practices for collecting and managing administrative data. Delegates were taken through the data life cycle and inherent challenges. They were equipped with the requisite skills and resources to enhance administrative data quality practices, as the sessions covered various methodologies including data validation techniques, data visualization and the importance of accurate reporting.

The long-term strategic vision is for GSS to cascade the training to approximately 4,000 officers nationwide, in October, which could significantly enhance the quality of administrative data that is used for planning, policy and decision making.



FOCUS ON NEXT QUARTER

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2024



UNICEF

- » Development of thematic and policy briefs from 2022 GDHS
- » Development of data dictionary for the 2022 Ghana Demographic and Health Survey (GDHS)

Office for National Statistics (ONS)

- » Training on data analysis which includes communicating uncertainty, time series analysis and data imputation techniques as part of the GSS mentoring programme.
- » Capacity building on questionnaire design/data collection methodology and statistical disclosure control.

Embassy of Denmark

- » System for Environmental Economic Accounting Study Visit to Denmark on Water and Material Flow Accounts with GSS, Ministry of Water and Sanitation, Ghana Water Company Limited, Environmental Protection Agency, and Water Resource Commission.
- » Study Visit to Denmark participating in the Next Generation Digital Action Case Challenge and Conference with GSS and students from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology.
- » IT Experts from Statistics Denmark on mission to Ghana in November to work on an updated IT Strategy with GSS IT Department.
- » Automatic Identification System (AIS) Experts from Statistics Denmark on mission to Ghana for follow-up mission from June to estimate emissions based on AIS data in November.
- » Sampling Methodology Experts from Statistics Denmark on mission to Ghana to support the Integrated Business Establishment Survey (IBES) II in November.

USEFUL LINKS TO RECENT GSS RELEASES

- » [The Digital Census Atlas](#)
- » [Rasterized Data Platform](#)
- » [Multi-dimensional Poverty Report](#)
- » [PHC 2021 StatsBank](#)
- » [Mid-Year 2023 Trade Report](#)
- » [Consumer Price Index- October 2023](#)
- » [Producer Price Index- September 2023](#)
- » [Trade Vulnerability Report 2023](#)
- » [Ghana 2010 and 2021 Population and Housing Census Water Report](#)
- » [StatBank](#)

Further information can be found on the Ghana statistical service website
www.statsghana.gov.gh