

NEWSLETTER

GHANA STATISTICAL SERVICE (GSS) DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS PLATFORM



Group photo at the handing over event

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Following the development of a multi-stakeholder Data Quality Assurance Framework (DQAF) for the National Statistical System in Ghana, UNICEF supported the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) to develop an operational manual in January 2024.

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS INVOLVED



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Group photo at the handing over event

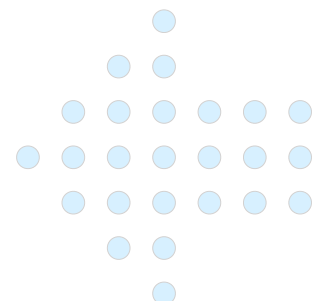
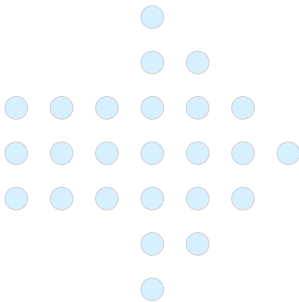
UNFPA and the Embassy of Denmark becomes new host for the Ghana Statistical Service Development Partners Group (GSSDPG)

Supported by IOM, UNFPA, UNICEF & the Embassy of Denmark

On the 9th of April 2024, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) handed over the hosting responsibility for the Ghana Statistical Service Development Partners Group (GSSDPG) platform to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Embassy of Denmark.

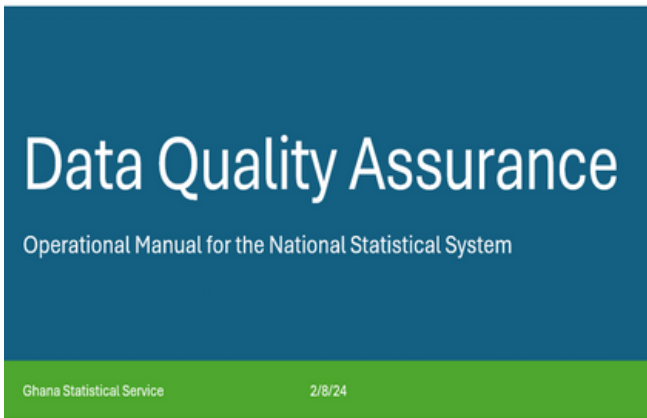
The handover event featured insightful discussions, where the outgoing host shared the group's successes and experiences, which informed discussions around strategies to strengthen the platform's process of engagement. This included fostering collaboration and cooperation amongst DPs, coordinating and harmonizing DP programs for successful support to GSS.

The Deputy Statistician emphasized the GSS's commitment to utilizing data for national development and highlighted the importance of collaboration in data production. The new hosts (UNFPA and the Embassy of Denmark) outlined possible deliverables for the group, including the development of key performance indicators for accountability and ways to increase visibility of the group.

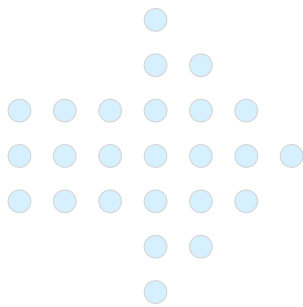


The handover meeting marked a pivotal moment for the GSS and its partners with a commitment from the co-hosts to uphold a strengthened coordination effort for the shared benefit of the group.

This was a reflection of a collective commitment on behalf of DPs membership to undertake the appropriate actions to further leverage data for sustainable development in Ghana.



©UNICEF



UNICEF Supports Data Quality Assurance in Ghana

Organised by UNICEF

Following the development of a multi-stakeholder Data Quality Assurance Framework (DQAF) for the National Statistical System in Ghana, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) supported the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) to develop an operational manual in January 2024.

The DQAF, which was earlier developed by the GSS, will guarantee uniformity in the production and utilization of statistics produced from diverse sources in the country.

As part of the preparatory activities to operationalise the data quality assurance framework for the National Statistical System, a multistakeholder drafting team consisting of selected staff of the Ghana Statistical Service, academia, and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) was constituted to prepare an operational manual.

The DQAF manual is expected to guide the DQAF Secretariat and experts who will be quality-assuring statistical processes and products within the National Statistical System.

Both the operational manual and the DQAF will be launched concurrently this year, after approval by GSS Management and the National Statistical Advisory Committee.

Development of National Accounts and Price Statistics

Supported by AFRITAC WEST 2/ IMF

The Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) continued to develop and improve national accounts (NA) and price statistics to ensure high quality and relevant data are available for decision making. Two follow up missions conducted in March assisted ongoing activities in both NA and Consumer Price Index (CPI).

The national accounts mission continued to support with the development processes of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) rebasing. Regular rebasing is essential to ensure that GDP volume estimates remain relevant.

The primary objective of the CPI mission was to assist the GSS with assessing the latest Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) data for the purpose of deriving CPI weights and assisting with the CPI update.





Dr. Kobina Abaka Ansah, the Deputy Head for the Regional Offices Directorate of the Ghana Statistical Services, delivering the welcome address at the event © UNICEF/Geoffrey Buta/2024

The 2022 Ghana Demographic and Health Survey Report Reaches the Northern, North East, Upper East and Oti Regions

Organised by UNICEF

On 5th March 2024, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) supported the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) in a workshop to disseminate the 2022 Ghana Demographic and Health Survey Report to key stakeholders from the Northern, North East, Upper East and Oti Regions of Ghana.

The workshop which took place in Tamale in the Northern Region and brought together 183 participants across the four (4) regions, drawn from the Regional and Coordinating Councils, Regional and District Health (Directorates), Civil Society Organisations, Non-Governmental Organizations, Ghana Statistical Service and the media.

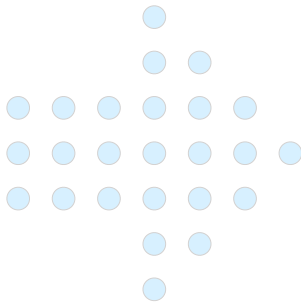
In his welcome address, the Deputy Head for the Regional Offices Directorate of the Ghana Statistical Service, Dr. Kobina Abaka Ansah, reiterated the relevance of the event and how efforts are increasingly being made by the global data community to provide quality official statistics for a more effective evidence-based planning and decision-making for socio-economic development.

Also, the Chief- Field Office for UNICEF, Mr. Bhanu Pathak, in his remarks, mentioned that it is always important to generate relevant, quality and timely data and ensure that they inform programming around the national development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The dissemination event provided a platform to engage key stakeholders involved in policy decision-making, planning, monitoring and evaluation at the sub-national level.



ONS colleagues with some stakeholders in front of the La Dade Kotopon District office © La Dade Kotopon district office



Scoping Mission on Administrative Data and Quality Assurance

Organised by the ONS

Improving administrative data quality has been identified by the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) as a key priority area to ensure better use of admin data in the production of statistics.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) Methodology and Quality Directorate (MQD) team undertook a scoping mission in Accra from 5th to 9th February 2024.

The purpose of the visit was to identify clear user requirements, obtain a better understanding of the local challenges in the admin data space, and specify the content of any capacity building activity.

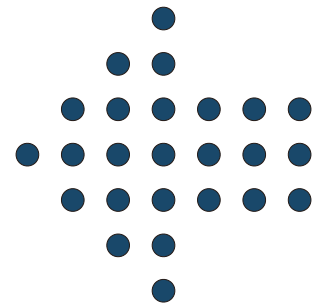
With this focus, the team met with the GSS staff from the Social & Demographic directorate, Regional Statisticians, as well as users and producers of statistics in two district offices in Suhum and La Dade Kotopon, to better understand evolving requirements and challenges.

The visiting team also had useful insights from the Office of the Head of Local Government Service, the National Development Planning Commission, Births and Deaths Registry and Statistics Denmark.

Discussions highlighted the need for improved quality of the aggregate of admin data and focus on developing access and capability on management and analysis of record level administrative data including from other government departments.

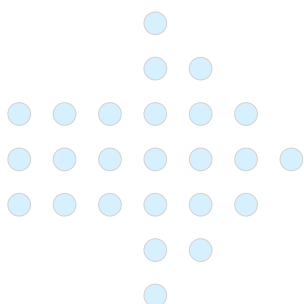
Based on the evidence, users' needs gathered, and options suggested by GSS, ONS is recommending delivering a weeklong training course for up to 60 GSS statisticians, including regional statisticians, with a 'train the trainer' format. This would potentially enable GSS to deliver subsequent training at district level, covering up to 4000 officers in total. ONS has also recommended on-going engagement to support the developing microdata landscape.

Next steps include agreeing workshop details with GSS and delivering training by summer 2024





Cover page of report ©UNDP



Business Tracker- Wave 4

Organised by UNDP

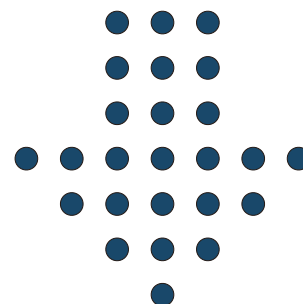
Building up from the 3 waves of business tracker done in the previous years, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in collaboration with Ghana Statistical Service (GSS), World bank and the European Union launched wave 4 of the business tracker. It investigates the impact of the pandemic and subsequent crisis on private sector development.

The aim of this survey is to understand and monitor the profound impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on Ghanaian businesses and to provide recommendation necessary for the Government of Ghana and Development Partners.

The data gathered from the last three surveys (wave 1-3), has been used to assess the evolving situation faced by businesses across the country. The fourth wave moves further to focus on the impact of internal and external shocks on Ghanaian businesses and how they cope with the challenges they face.

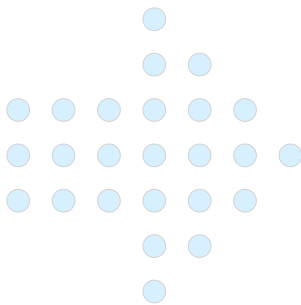
The study found that Ghanaian Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) are resilient despite the challenges they face. Approximately 12% of the surveyed businesses were using digital technologies to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and other internal /external shocks.

The survey also identified that companies have integrated energy-efficient solutions in their operations. One in ten firms report that they are using energy-efficient manufacturing equipment. More than two-thirds of micro, small and medium firms report not having a target for energy consumption.





Signing of Memorandum of Understanding by Danish Ambassador to Ghana Tom Nørring, Ghana Statistical Service's Prof. Samuel Annim, and Statistics Denmark's Director Carsten Zangenberg @Ghana Statistical Service, Communications



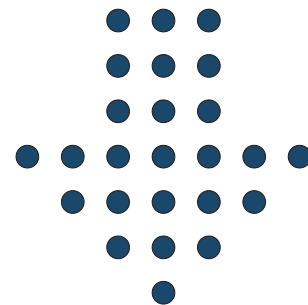
Collaboration now entering its second phase in March 2024

Organised by the Embassy of Denmark and Statistics Denmark

In mid-March, Ghana Statistical Services, Statistics Denmark (Danmarks Statistik) and the Embassy of Denmark in Ghana signed a Memorandum of Understanding. This marked the beginning of the second phase of the Strategic Sector Cooperation on Statistics in Ghana.

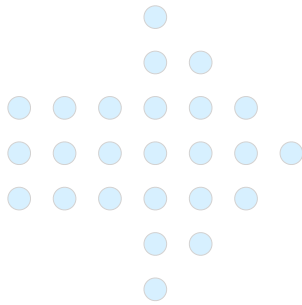
At the event, a panel discussed the power of data. The debate revolved around data sharing agreements, use of administrative data in general and ensuring that development in statistics is efficient and user-driven. The panel consisted of the following representatives from national statistical institutions and academia: Prof. Samuel Annim, Director Carsten Zangenberg, Dr. Grace Bediko, and Prof. William Baah-Boateng.

The project partners look forward to be using the lessons learned from the first phase and to be working together for three more years. Striving to produce reliable, consistent, objective, and effective statistics to inform data-driven decision-making in Ghana!





Public education campaign and advocacy on the pilot project, Ghana Statistical Service © GSS



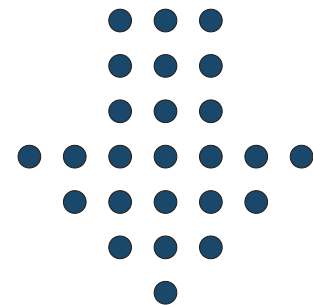
Measuring SDG 16.6.2 using citizen enenerated Data Methodology

Organised by UNDP

In an innovative step towards prioritizing citizen- driven data collection, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in collaboration with the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) launched the citizen science project. This project will utilize Citizen Generated Data methodology to collect real time feedback from citizens, enhancing their understanding of public service quality and accessibility.

As part of this initiative, the Public Service Satisfactory Survey (PSSS) App was also launched. This app will utilize citizen generated data methodology to assess SDG indicator 16.6.2 which focuses on the proportion of the population satisfied with their last public service experience. In January 2024, the project was launched in two pilot municipalities namely Ga East and Suhum.

This project aims at empowering citizens, including persons with disabilities to actively contribute to the improvement of public service delivery in health, education and Government- issued identification Services. It will also be crucial in achieving SDG indicator 16.6.2 and enhancing policy interventions in planning and providing public services.



FOCUS ON NEXT QUARTER

APRIL - JUNE 2024



UNDP

- » Energy Efficiency Training Workshop
- » Validation Workshop on Contingency Plan
- » Engagement with community members and security agencies on Prevention of Violent Extremism
- » Launch of new Japan Project and Steering Committee Meeting

UNICEF

- » Support Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS) preparatory phase – all year
- » Support GSS to conduct Further Analyses and Policy Briefs on selected DHS indicators – May 2024
- » Support GSS to conduct a data dictionary training

Office for National Statistics (ONS)

- » Workshop on Strategic Leadership and Embedding data science into operations at the GSS
- » Technical training for Data scientist

GIZ

- » Regional dissemination of district-level Multi Dimensional Poverty Index (MPI)
- » Media and CSO's training on Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)
- » Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) Survey on People's perception on corruption

Statistics Denmark

- » GSS Unit Value Index (UVI) Team goes on study visit in Denmark 22. - 26th of April, 2024 where they will work on the GSS methodology behind the UVI.
- » Ship automatic identification system (AIS) Experts from Statistics Denmark go on mission to Ghana in June to identify possibilities of using AIS data to estimate ship emissions in Ghana.

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 2022](#)
- » [Ghana 2010 and 2021 Population and](#)
- » [Housing Census Water Report](#)

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