



GHANA STATISTICAL SERVICE / DANISH EMBASSY PRESS RELEASE

Launch of the Strategic Sector Cooperation (SSC) Statistics Phase II

Statistical Collaboration between Denmark and Ghana to Enhance Data-Driven Decision-Making in Ghana

Ghana Statistical Service (GSS), Statistics Denmark (SD), and the Danish Embassy in Ghana have announced the second phase of their strategic partnership to boost the production of official statistics and thus, promote evidence-based decision-making in Ghana.

The collaboration aims to strengthen Ghana's National Statistical System by leveraging survey and administrative data efficiently while addressing existing data gaps through digitalization. Key focus areas include supporting the implementation of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounts (SEEA), contributing to Ghana's sustainable development efforts. With access to existing administrative data, GSS will be able to more efficiently and cost-friendly provide relevant statistics, so policymakers will be equipped with accurate information for effective decision-making. The partnership emphasizes accountability, empowering citizens to hold their leaders accountable and actively participate in the democratic process. Ultimately, the collaboration seeks to ensure that Ghana's progress towards a greener, more sustainable future is equitable and just for all its citizens.

Achievements of Phase I: Administrative data, the Statsbank and Green Statistics

During the first phase, efforts focused on exploring the use of administrative microdata, particularly in connection with the new Ghana card. It was assessed how to transfer data, how data sharing agreements can take form and the benefits of building an integrated register-based system for using administrative microdata for the production of official statistics by GSS. Access to already existing administrative microdata is a valuable and cost-effective source for an efficient production of statistics and can be a leap forward in terms of providing the society with detailed, reliable, and timely statistics.

Digitalization of the society is of great importance to working with administrative data and thus facilitating the green transition. Phase I prioritized digitalization with a high-level visit of policy makers to Denmark on a fact-finding mission which led to important discussions on a population register based on administrative data.

In addition, a new statistical databank called Statsbank with open and re-usable statistical data from the 2021 Population and Housing Census was launched in

combination with several hackathons for university students. With administrative data, the Statsbank can be updated and expanded much faster and easier than through costly censuses. The planning potential of the Statsbank is immense and have already been used in collaboration with the Strategic Sector Collaboration on Water to create new and important knowledge about water consumption and wastewater flow in very specific catchment areas. In this way, data from the Statsbank can be of use for climate adaptation.

Furthermore, the project has also focused on statistics on green goods and services, which is a part of the international SEEA. This is an important stepping-stone in measuring the production and export of environmentally friendly goods and services, and thus, constitutes another important contribution to the green transition in Ghana.

Objectives for Phase II

The second phase of the Strategic Sector Cooperation with Ghana started on January 1, 2024. During the year, the focus will remain on exploring administrative microdata opportunities with pilots, data sharing agreements and mapping of existing administrative data in the National Statistical System. Efforts will also continue on green statistics and further enhancing the capabilities of the key staff at GSS and in the National Statistical System.

The Ghana Statistical Service, Statistics Denmark, and the Danish Embassy are committed to maximizing the impact of this collaboration and fostering a data-driven culture in Ghana.

About the Ghana Statistical Service

The Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) provides comprehensive, reliable, quality, relevant, accurate, and timely statistical information to guide national development as stipulated in Section 3 of the Statistical Service Act, 2019 (Act 1003). The organisation's vision is to be a trusted provider of official statistics for good governance and its mission being the efficient collection, production, management, and dissemination of quality official statistics based on international standards, using competent and motivated staff for evidence-based decision-making, in support of national development. The Statistical Service produces monthly and quarterly data on important economic indicators such as inflation, Consumer Price Index, Producer Price Index, and Gross Domestic Product. GSS also regularly generates periodic population, housing, demographic and economic data at the locality, district, and national levels from routine surveys and censuses. The statistics generated by GSS can be utilised by a wide cross-section of users including public sector, businesses, academia, civil society organisations and development partners. For more information visit www.statsghana.gov.gh.

About Statistics Denmark

Statistics Denmark is the national supplier of independent statistics and data to the Danish society. The vision of Statistics Denmark is to be the preferred source of reliable knowledge about Danish society.

Statistics Denmark strives to deliver new and better statistics to the Danish society, to offer the easiest and safest access to data, and to be a competent and efficient institution and partner for others. The framework for the institution is included in the Act on Denmark's Statistics and the common European code of conduct for official statistics that contain binding principles on professional independence, objectivity, confidentiality and quality. At Statistics Denmark, the hope is that decisions at all levels of society can happen based on credible and objective facts and therefore, the institution works hard to be able to provide relevant and reliable statistics and data. For more information <https://www.dst.dk/en>