

# Ninth Meeting of Statistical Commission for Africa

Unleashing the potential of African innovation in statistical development



## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



*Mr. Oliver Chinganya, Director of the African Centre for Statistics*

## NINTH MEETING OF STATISTICAL COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

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The Statistical Commission for Africa is the regional equivalent of the Statistical Commission of the Economic and Social Council, which is the highest body in the global statistical system. The Statistical Commission for Africa is the highest decision-making body in Africa responsible for setting statistical standards, developing concepts and methods and implementing them at the national, subregional and continental levels. The meeting provides an opportunity for participants to discuss the link between African and global statistical systems to ensure that Africa is not left behind in global statistical initiatives. Participants will also be able to discuss progress and statistical development in African statistical systems.

The meeting will provide Member States with an opportunity to take stock of ongoing global initiatives and to seek ways to mainstream and take ownership of new and updated methodologies to enhance their statistical capacity. Particular emphasis will be placed on how to modernize and transform national statistical systems in Africa to ensure that the data needed for subregional and continental integration and the global agendas are available.

The ninth session of the Statistical Commission for Africa will be held under the theme “Unleashing the potential of African innovation in statistical development”. The theme reflects the imperative to challenge traditional approaches to statistical development by using disruptive innovation to bridge the statistical literacy divide in Africa. By harnessing indigenous innovation and technology to revolutionize data-collection, analysis and dissemination processes, Africa will leverage home-grown solutions, foster a culture of innovation in statistical practice and be propelled towards achieving its development goals.

Welcome to the Ninth Meeting of StatCom-Africa, under the theme “Unleashing the Potential of African Innovation in Statistical Development.”

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) is organizing three concurrent events from 28 October to 1 November 2024 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The meeting, centred on “Unleashing the Potential of African Innovation in Statistical Development,” brings together heads of African National Statistics Offices, Regional Economic Communities, Statistical Training Centres, Pan-African institutions, and partners in statistical development. This meeting offers a unique opportunity for African Statistical Systems to review current global and regional developments, with an emphasis on integrating and fostering ownership of innovative methodologies to strengthen Member States’ statistical capacities. Our goal is to build agile, resilient statistical systems across the continent.

The discussions will focus on methodologies that enhance the availability and reliability of data for monitoring progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Agenda 2063: “The Africa We Want,” Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, and national development agendas.

In addition, we are pleased to host the Tenth Session of the Regional United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa (UN-GGIM) under the theme “Harnessing the Potential of Geospatial Intelligence for a Disaster-Resilient Africa.”

This session provides an invaluable platform for African Member States to accelerate the integration of geospatial data with statistical systems, drawing from both traditional and emerging data sources, to improve the lives of people across Africa.

I believe these events will be an inspiring experience. Your active participation and engagement in the discussions will spark insights into the opportunities and challenges before us.

# Forum on African Statistical Development FASDEV XI

Strengthening the mobilization of  
technical and financial resources to  
support innovation in statistical  
development in Africa

28 October 2024  
@ Africa Hall  
9 a.m to 4.30 p.m



## ELEVENTH FORUM ON STATISTICAL DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA KICKS OFF

Addis Abeba, 28 October 2024 (ECA) - The eleventh Forum on Statistical Development in Africa (FASDev) kicked off today in Addis Ababa under the theme: "Strengthening the Mobilization of Technical and Financial Resources to Support Innovation in Statistical Development in Africa."

The meeting aims to foster connections between countries, partners, and institutions that support statistics, in order to address the needs of national statistical systems for technical and financial resources to accelerate the transformation and modernization of these systems.

The meeting will also provide an overview of the challenges faced by countries and identify the needs of national statistical systems to develop and implement transformation and modernization programs. There will also be discussions on the opportunities and mechanisms offered by institutions, partners, and pan-African organizations to support countries in their statistical development.

"Over the years, FASDev which is being held back to back with STATCOM, has established links between producers of official statistics, statistical training

centers, and partners supporting statistical development on our continent. These meetings have played a crucial role in contributing to the creation of partnerships for the development of statistics in Africa, leveraging the opportunity for more actors to support African countries in this area," according to Mr. Oliver Chinganya, Director of the African Statistics Center of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), today.

FASDev is an initiative of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and is supported by the African Development Bank, the Statistical Partnership for Development in the 21st Century, (PARIS 21) and the World Bank.

The Forum meetings provide an opportunity for representatives of African national statistical agencies, statistical training centers, international, regional, and sub-regional institutions, bilateral agencies, international programs and initiatives, foundations, and other institutions to come together with the ultimate goal of making the support provided to countries more effective within the framework of the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness, it was emphasized.





## FOURTH GLOBAL EXPERT FORUM FOR PRODUCERS AND USERS OF DISASTER-RELATED STATISTICS

Disasters caused by natural and man-made hazards have a significant impact on societies and economies worldwide. The ability to understand, monitor, and respond to these events is crucial for effective disaster risk management and mitigation efforts. Disaster-related statistics plays an important role in informing decision-making, formulating policies, and allocating resources for disaster prevention, preparedness and response. However, there is often a disconnect between the producers of this data, such as statisticians, and the users, including policymakers, researchers, and practitioners. Establishing a platform where producers and users can come together to exchange knowledge, share experiences, and collaborate on improving the quality and accessibility of disaster-related statistics is essential. Developing disaster statistics and risk metrics will not only support evidence-based policy and decision making, but also improve monitoring and reporting of progress towards internationally agreed goals and targets including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Agenda 2063, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and Paris Agreement on Climate Change.

An Expert Forum for Producers and Users of Disaster-related Statistics is organized every year, by the United Nations in collaboration with its partners, to advance the production and use of disaster-related statistics for risk-informed development in support of the aim of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Disaster-related Statistics (IAEG-DRS) of the United Nations Statistical Commission. The Forum provides a platform where users and producers of disaster-related statistics collaborate and share knowledge. Previous forums were organized and hosted by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific (2023), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (2022), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (2021).

The 2024 Expert Forum for Producers and Users of Disaster-related Statistics will be organized in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, back-to-back with the STACOM: Africa, from 28 October to 01 November 2024.

## STATCOM-AFRICA SIDE EVENTS

A total of 17 side events organized as pre-sessions leading up to the ninth meeting of the StatCom-Africa. These events addressed a range of critical and contemporary topics designed to strengthen the capacity of our member states to produce timely, more frequent, and relevant statistics. The events covered areas such as data quality, governance, SDG monitoring, gender statistics, and innovative tools for digital census, data situation assessment and survey management. These events provided an invaluable platform for knowledge sharing, capacity building, partnership for developing statistics on the continent.

The list of side events is as follows:

1. Innovative Tools for Effective Census and Survey Management and Dissemination of Results, Organized by: ECA
2. Advances in the Improvement of the Quality of Administrative Data on the Continent, Organized by: UN Women, ECA
3. Beyond GDP Growth: Quality of Life Matters, Organized by: UN Habitat
4. Survey Systems for Children: Child-Centric Surveys and MICS, Organized by: UNICEF and PARIS21
5. Boosting Statistical Capacity and Awareness through Hackathons, Organized by: UNSD - Data4now, NSOs, Francophone schools of statistics ESA
6. Making Every Data Point Count: Assessing SDG's Progress in Africa, Organized by: ECA
7. The Femicide Statistical Framework and Its Testing in Africa, Organized by: UN Women, ECA
8. Food Security Statistics and Analysis from Household Expenditure and Consumption Surveys, Organized by: COMESA, Statistics Norway
9. Administrative Data: Health and ICVAC, Organized by: UNICEF and PARIS21
10. Harnessing Data for Integrity: Measuring and Curbing Corruption in Africa, Organized by: Ghana Statistical Service & National Bureau of Statistics of Nigeria
11. Young African Statisticians, Organized by: Takwimu, ECA
12. Data on Gender and Environment, Organized by: UN Women
13. Governance/Datafication, Organized by: UNICEF and PARIS21
14. Development and Evaluation of Leadership Training, Organized by: ONS/ECA
15. Food Security and Nutrition Data and Statistics, Organized by: FAO/WFP
16. Discussion on Recommendations for an Expert Group on Child-Related Statistics, Organized by: UNICEF and PARIS21
17. Meeting of the UN Statisticians and OIBC Members on the Continent, Organized by: ECA, UNFPA, UN Women



**UN-GGIM: Africa**  
**Tenth Session of the Regional Committee**  
 28 October to 1 November 2024 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

“Harnessing the potential of geospatial intelligence for a disaster-resilient Africa”

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## TENTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT FOR AFRICA (UN-GGIM: AFRICA)

The Regional Committee of United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management for Africa has been established to oversee geospatial development in Africa and to contribute to the larger global geospatial information management effort. Substantial progress has been made by the Regional Committee in generating momentum and demonstrating the commitment of the continent to that effort. In order to engage with policymakers in Africa effectively and further strengthen the initiative to use geospatial information as a catalyst for sustainable development, the Executive Board of the Regional Committee is organizing the tenth meeting of the Regional Committee, which will be held in Addis Ababa from 28 October to 1 November 2024, as a back-to-back event with the ninth session of the Statistical Commission for Africa and the fourth Expert Forum for Producers and Users of Disaster-related Statistics.

The three parallel and interlinked events will facilitate dialogue and knowledge-sharing among professionals, policymakers, researchers and practitioners involved in statistics, geospatial information and disaster risk management in Africa. Events to maintain and strengthen the synergies among the geospatial, statistical and disaster risk management communities will allow for interaction, networking and the cross-fertilization of ideas among those communities, with a view to creating a shared vision for the cooperative management of national development data and information.

The ninth session of the Statistical Commission and the tenth meeting of the Regional Committee will be attended by directors of African national statistical offices and representatives of regional economic communities, regional statistical

training centres, heads of national mapping agencies, pan-African institutions and various partners in disaster, statistical and geospatial information. In line with the implementation of the Data Strategy of the Secretary-General for Action by Everyone, Everywhere, participants will deliberate and discuss data flows at the national and continental levels to respond to the needs of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The tenth meeting of the Regional Committee will provide an opportunity to foster collaboration and partnership among countries in Africa, with the ultimate goal of promoting the effective use of geospatial information in decision-making processes. By addressing critical challenges in geospatial information management and exploring new possibilities for leveraging geospatial data, the participants will work towards achieving sustainable development goals in Africa.

In addition, the meeting will serve as a valuable platform for sharing knowledge and innovations in geospatial technology and applications, and for promoting the integration of geospatial information into national development plans and policies. Accordingly, the formal segment of the tenth meeting will be followed on 1 November by a workshop on the integration of geospatial and statistical information.

The enriching exchanges and presentations that will occur at the meeting will help representatives of countries in Africa to harness geospatial information for the benefit of their people and the continent, which is a goal that the Executive Board is committed to supporting.



# PICTURES GALLERY











### Acknowledgments

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