StatsTalk-Africa: Creating National Reporting Platforms for the Sustainable Development Goals in Africa
Tuesday, 9th July 2024
Concept Note

Background

The demand for evidence is enormous in all walks of our lives. International agendas like SDGs and Agenda 2063 require data and indicators for their frameworks. As sources of official data, national and international statistical systems are under pressure to disseminate data for planning, decision making and policy formulation. Besides the government agencies and development partners at the national and international levels, the public, researchers, and academia also require quality and relevant data on the SDGs.

Over 45 organisations, primarily National Statistics Offices, currently use Open SDG, an open-source platform which results in a website for disseminating their data on the SDGs. The platform is open-source, and free and simple to reuse for those with limited or no expertise in web development. Data with disaggregation and metadata can be reported in a variety of formats including SDMX and CSV, displayed on a website and ready to download as tables, charts and maps. The websites can be multilingual and are designed with users and accessibility in mind. Other frameworks can also be reported on the websites benefitting from the same functionality but kept separate to the SDGs if desired.

Ten African countries are currently using (or setting up) Open SDG as a National Reporting Platform, most of which have had support from the UK Office for National Statistics (ONS) in setting their platform up, and from the United Nationals Statistical Division (UNSD) and ECA to help convert data into the preferred SDMX format for SDG reporting.

Kenya is an example of a country who is currently setting up their Open SDG platform, having received in-country support in preparing their platform and data. Ghana is another example of a country who has a live Open SDG platform to report their SDG data in SDMX format and received in-country support to do so. Ghana also reports their GDP and COVID-19 indicator frameworks on the same platform. Both countries will share their journeys of reporting SDG data in the presentation.

Technology and innovation could be the primary enablers to mitigate the challenges of data management and production. To share experiences and knowledge in data works, a platform to exchange ideas and innovation is critical. The African Centre for Statistics

(ACS) of the UNECA, with its role as a Pan-African statistical development Centre for member states, is the right place to incubate ideas and solutions for data challenges.

Objective

The ACS is convening the monthly webinar series – *StatsTalk-Africa* – to provide a space for a dialogue about data, statistics, and innovative tools with data experts and users. Specifically, StatTalk-Africa aims to:

1. Serve as a knowledge-sharing and exchange platform.
2. Demystify and promote greater understanding of key statistical concepts and alternative data sources that could be harnessed in the African context.

Agenda

1. Introduce Open SDG dissemination platform
2. Experience sharing on setting up and using the Open SDG platform by Kenya and Ghana.

Date and Time

The Webinar is scheduled for **Tuesday, 9th July 2024, from 11:00 to 12:30hr EAT**.

Language

English will be the official form of communication for this webinar series.

Registration link

Register **HERE**

Contact Persons

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