The Economic and Statistic Observatory for Sub-Saharan Africa (AFRISTAT) has, during the last three quarters (from the fourth of 2022 to the second of 2023), undertaken several activities relating to: (i) coordination and mobilization of resources, (ii) consolidation of partnerships and (iii) technical supports.

In terms of coordination and resource mobilization, AFRISTAT Directorate General worked in two directions. It first carried out an intense awareness-raising and advocacy activity with around ten Member States for recovery of financing contributions and for collection of technical assistance needs. It then organized the meetings of two of its statutory bodies, namely the Steering Committee and the Scientific Council. During these meetings, the mid-term implementation of 2022 activities program was reviewed, the 2023 activity program was adopted and the medium-term strategic work program 2022-2025 was reviewed. The same applies to the computer application for managing business directories and the new manual of administrative and financial procedures.

Regarding the consolidation of partnerships, the Observatory continued execution of projects entrusted to it by WAEMU Commission, Expertise France, FAO and the Member States on specific projects. These projects cover price statistics, national accounts, digital economy, SDGs, business statistics, employment statistics, modeling on storage losses of food products, national strategy of statistical development (NSDS) and macroeconomics. Furthermore, AFRISTAT experts took part in workshops and other technical meetings organized by COMESA, INSEE, CEMAC, ECOWAS and WAEMU Commissions as well as the Sub-regional Office of ECA for West Africa. The Directorate General took advantage of all the opportunities offered to discuss with different partners, mainly World Bank, African Development Bank, INSEE, PARIS21 and others in order to strengthen existing collaborations and seek new ones that are mutually beneficial.

Regarding the provision of technical support, those carried out outside the projects only benefited Cabo Verde, Equatorial Guinea, Mali and Togo. This support referred to assistance in development and evaluation of NSDS, processing of survey data, regional accounts and development of the National Quality Insurance Framework.

During the period under review, new Directors General appointed at two National Institutes of statistics of AFRISTAT member states. These are Comoros and Madagascar. At the same time, we note the loss of two important african statisticians following the deaths of Mr. Michel Mouyelo-Katoula and Mr. Harouna Koné. The first was known for his abundant contribution to the work carried out within the framework of harmonization and statistical development on a global scale, notably the international comparison program. The second is a former Director General of National Institute of Statistics of Mali.

Finally, the first ambition of the Directorate General for the coming weeks will be to achieve the organization of the first statutory meetings of the institution for 2023. The Observatory will naturally continue its technical support to Member States and its action of resources mobilization and partnerships.

Paul-Henri NGUEMA MEYE
Director General of AFRISTAT
AFRISTAT NEWS

Visits

The Director General of AFRISTAT, Mr. Paul-Henri Nguema Meye, has carried out, since the 4th quarter of 2022 to the end of the second quarter of 2023, several visits to its member States and two non-member States. These visits, which mainly dealt with statistical coordination and resource mobilization, concerned the following countries:

- **BURUNDI**

  The Director General of AFRISTAT stayed in Bujumbura from March 19 to 24, 2022 for a mission to inform, mobilize resources and collect Burundi’s technical assistance needs in 2022. A report was made to the new President of the Council of Ministers (PCM) on AFRISTAT activities carried out in recent years and the material conditions in which they were implemented. It gave opportunity to present the main challenges that the institution will face during the mandate which runs from January 2022 to December 2023. At the same time, the mission discussed with the PCM the hope that Burundi will continue with its annual rate of contributions payment. In addition, Burundi’s technical assistance needs addressed to AFRISTAT for the year 2022 have been collected. On the sidelines of the meetings with ISTEBU, the mission paid a courtesy visit to the Institute of Applied Statistics (ISTA) of Burundi to inquire about the working and organizational conditions within this training establishment.

- **CHAD**

  A mission to coordinate, mobilize resources and collect support needs for 2023 for Chad’s NSS took place in N’Djamena from February 12 to 18, 2023. The work took place exclusively with INSEED of Chad, the General Directorate of the National Fund for Statistical Development (NFSD) and the Permanent Secretariat of the National Statistics Council (CNS). At INSEED, discussions focused on the support expected from AFRISTAT.

- **CONGO**

  On the sidelines of the 45th meeting of the AFRISTAT Steering Committee held in Brazzaville, the Director General was successively received in audience by:

  - Ms. Ingrid Olga Ebouka Babackas, Minister of Planning, Statistics and Regional Integration in the presence of Mr. Gaspard Symphonier Mbou Likibi, Director General of the INS of Congo, on October 6, 2022. It was the opportunity to take an overview of the situation of AFRISTAT since the advent of Covid-19 and to address the question of Congo’s contributions to the AFRISTAT Fund 2016-2025.

  - Mr. Marcel Ondele, Vice-President of the Development Bank of Central African States (BDEAC), on October 10, 2022 to whom AFRISTAT was presented as well as the availability of the Observatory to collaborate with the development bank.

  - Ms. Mery Ever Vibroutdoumb Viplpoux, World Bank Economist for Congo, on October 10, 2022. A reminder of the World Bank’s support for Congo was made and the two parties agreed to remain in permanent contact in order to study the ways and means of collaborating effectively within the framework of projects currently being negotiated between the World Bank, the countries of Central Africa and CEMAC.

- **GUINEA**

  Two visits with the authorities took place in Conakry during the period under review. The first on November 3, 2022 where the mission was received by Mr. Moussa Cissé, Minister of Economy, Finance and Planning of the Republic of Guinea. On this occasion, discussions focused on:

  - (i) the validation of the new household consumer price index extended to the entire country;
  - (ii) the Government’s overall expectations in terms of statistical development and
  - (iii) the prospects for payment of contributions from the Republic of Guinea to AFRISTAT funds. The second on May 5, 2023 with the meeting with Ms. Rose Pola Pricenou, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation. Advocacy continued for the payment of Guinea’s contributions to the AFRISTAT Funds as well as discussions on the conditions to accelerate the development of the Guinean statistical system. Alongside these exchanges, advice was provided to the NIS of Guinea with a view to the successful implementation of the World Bank’s statistics harmonization program in West and Central Africa.

- **EQUATORIAL GUINEA**

  On December 9, 2022, the Minister of Finance, Economy and Planning, Mr. Valentin Ela Maye, granted an audience to the mission. During this, the current and future areas of technical assistance from the Observatory for the benefit of INEGE were recalled.

- **GABON**

  On December 15, 2022, the Director General of AFRISTAT was received in a working session by the Commissioner for the Common Market, Economic, Monetary and Financial Affairs of ECCAS Commission Mr. François Kaninba in the presence of Mr. Joel Nkégna, Director of Commission Statistics. The Observatory was presented and the possibilities of collaboration between the two institutions were declined. At the end of this interview, the mission had the privilege of being presented to His Excellency Gilberto da Piedade Verissimo, President of the ECCAS Commission. Later, on May 18, 2023, Mr. Jean H. Taty Mavoungou, Chief of Staff of the Minister of Economic Recovery, discussed with the Director General of AFRISTAT on results of the Gabon Statistics Development Project for which the Observatory supports execution and prospects of payment of Gabon’s contributions to the AFRISTAT Fund.
During a coordination and partnership mobilization mission carried out in Lomé from April 22 to 30, 2023, the Director General of the Observatory discussed with representatives of the World Bank, ECOWAS and the Directors General of the NSIs this community of the evolution of the project of harmonization and improvement of statistics in West and Central Africa.

**BISSAU GUINEA**

A mission to coordinate and mobilize resources and partnerships visited Bissau from June 25 to 30, 2023. During this mission, Mr. José Carlos Varela Casimiro, Minister of Economy, Planning and Integration Regional spoke with the Director General of AFRISTAT in the presence of Mr. Roberto Viera, the President of the African Development Bank and the Director of Research and Statistics of the Central Bank of Congo. On strategic level, the idea of strengthening cooperation between AFRISTAT and DRC was discussed with the Cabinet Directors of the Ministers of Budget and Planning.

**DR CONGO**

A coordination and partnership mobilization mission was carried out in Kinshasa, from June 12 to 17, 2023. On this occasion, discussions took place with Mr. Félix Mpaka, Director General of NIS of the DRC on statistical projects in course in the country, as well as with the principal country economist of NIS of Guinea-Bissau. Discussions focused on the situation of Guinea-Bissau’s contributions to the financing of AFRISTAT activities and the plea for the authorities’ support for NIS in the challenges it faces, particularly in terms of human capacity building.

**BENIN**

AFRISTAT expert in charge of business statistics, Mr. Roland Frédéric Ngampana, carried out, from September 5 to 16, 2022, a technical assistance mission in Cotonou with National Institute of Statistics and demography (INStaD). This mission made it possible to (i) meet and discuss with umbrella associations of informal production units (UPI) for the implementation of the data collection system; (ii) launch the IPU sampling process, develop data collection sheets for the base year and the current years. The collection of data from certain umbrella associations of informal production units has been launched.

**Arrivals**

- Mr. Chiaka Berethe, a Malian national, joined AFRISTAT team on January 16, 2023 as accounting assistant. Holder of a Master’s degree in technical accounting and financial sciences (MSTCF) obtained at the University Institute of Management of Bamako (IUG), Mr. Berethe worked as an auditor at accounting firm IFCOGEC, as Chief Financial Administrator of National NGOs financed by UNICEF, WFP, UNDP and as accountant for a building company (ELECT-SAHEL SARL).

  - The Observatory welcomed from April 3 to June 30, 2023, Mr. Aboubacrine A. Cissé, a statistician graduated from the Center for Training and Improvement in Statistics (CFP-STAT) of Mali for a professional internship. He worked in the Department of Social Statistics and Poverty Reduction Strategies.

- During the 2nd quarter of 2023, the Observatory welcomed two interns: Mr. Mohamed Tangara and Mr. Abdoulaye Tangara, respectively student statistician engineer from ENSAE Pierre Ndiaye in Dakar (Senegal) and senior statistical technician student from CFP-STAT in Mali. The first worked on the topic “Segmentation of the labor market in Bamako” and the second on “Child labor and school dropouts in Mali”.

- The Observatory welcomed from March 6 to June 2, 2023 for an academic internship, Mr. Mamadi Doumbia, student Economist and Financial Statistician Engineer (ISEF) at the Research and Training Center for Economic and Social Development (CREFDES). He is carrying out his internship on the comparative analysis of multidimensional poverty in the urban areas of ECOWAS countries (Ivy Coast, Mali, Senegal, Burkina Faso and Guinea). The sources of the data used are the Demographic and Health Survey (EDS) and the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS). It will also provide support for other ongoing work within the department.

**Nomination**

**Appointment in the National Statistical Offices of the Member States**

- **COMOROS**
  
  Appointed on February 1, 2023 as Director General of INSEE, Mr. Mohamed Ali holds a Master’s degree in Applied Mathematics and Social Sciences (MASS) from Aix-Marseille University (France), a Master’s degree in Studies and Research in Demography (ERD) University of Nanterre (France) and a Master’s degree in Management and Applied Mathematics, Madagascar. Before his appointment, he held the positions of Deputy Director General of INSEE, Monitoring-Evaluation Manager of three Global Fund programs (Malaria, HIV/AIDS and Tuberculosis), Responsible for Quantitative and Qualitative Studies at the Directorate of Health Information and Statistics, Ministry of Health, Director of Planning, Studies and Projects at the Ministry of National Education.

- **MADAGASCAR**

  Mr. Ndremitsara Jean Baptiste Tarzan was appointed on February 22, 2023 as Director General of INSTAT of Madagascar. Mr. Ndremitsara was Deputy Director General of INSTAT from October 2018 to March 2019 before being appointed Research and Statistics Officer at the Southern African Development Community (SADC) from December 2020 to February 2023. Mr. Ndremitsara is a Demographic Statistical Engineer and worked as National Consultant of UNDP for the development of the diagnosis of the Malagasy National Statistical System as a prelude to the drafting of the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics. In terms of population and development, he is also a representative at the SADC region of the Union for the Study of African Population.
Activities of the Directorate General

Workshop of price experts from CEMAC member countries

Mr. Bahaze-Dao, expert in price statistics, moderated the workshop from October 3 to 7, 2022 in Douala (Cameroon) for experts in price statistics from CEMAC member countries. This workshop, organized by the CEMAC Commission, brought together around twenty participants from Member States, Commission executives as well as representatives of the BEAC, the World Bank and AFRISTAT. This workshop made it possible to: (i) Train State experts on the varieties data collection; (ii) Take stock of CPI production situation in the CEMAC zone; (iii) Train experts on methods of forecasting inflation and calculating indices corrected for seasonal variation; (iv) Produce the regional economic report on inflation in CEMAC zone and (v) Take stock of the measures taken by Member States to contain the effects of inflation on populations.

Seminars on the economic situation in the second half of 2022 and macroeconomic forecasts

During the second half of 2022, three seminars were organized to take stock of the recent situation and short and medium-term macroeconomic forecasts in the States and allow exchanges and sharing of experience between participants.

- The West Africa sub-regional office of ECA, organized, in collaboration with AFRISTAT and ECOWAS Commission, a seminar on the recent economic situation and macroeconomic forecasts for 2022-2023 in the English-speaking countries of ECOWAS. This seminar was held in Banjul from October 11 to 14, 2022 and brought together 23 participants from the Ministries of Finance, Economy and Planning, NSIs as well as ECA, AFRISTAT, ECOWAS, WAEMU, WAMA and WAMI. It enabled: (i) institutions to present their support systems for countries and monitoring of the international and regional economic situation; (ii) each country present the recent economic situation and macroeconomic forecasts for 2022-2023 as well as the impacts of the current crises on their economy and the measures taken by their government.

- AFRISTAT, West AFRITAC and WAEMU Commission organized in virtual mode the traditional economic situation seminar for the second half of 2022 and the medium-term forecasts 2022-2025 for the benefit of the French-speaking States of West Africa. It took place from November 22 to 24, 2022 and brought together 20 participants in charge of economic analysis and macroeconomic forecasting, including executives from the BCEAO, AFRISTAT, WAEMU and CEMAC.

- A webinar on the economic situation in the second half of 2022 and short-term macroeconomic forecasts in CEMAC member states, DR Congo, Burundi, Comoros, Sao Tome and Principe, Djibouti and Madagascar, organized jointly by the Commission of CEMAC, AFRISTAT and AFRITAC Central, was held from November 29 to December 1, 2022. The member states and organizations which took part in this work are Cameroon, Gabon, Chad, Equatorial Guinea, Djibouti, Burundi, Sao Tome and Principe and the Central Bank of Sao Tome and Principe.

Seminars on the economic situation in the first half of 2023 and macroeconomic forecasts

During the first half of 2023, two seminars were organized to take stock of the recent situation and short and medium-term macroeconomic forecasts in the States and allow exchanges and sharing of experience between participants.

- The traditional seminar on the economic situation for the first half of 2023 and medium-term forecasts for 2023-2026 for the benefit of West African Member States took place from May 29 to June 2, 2023 in Ouagadougou. The member states of WAEMU, Guinea and Mauritania, were represented by participants respectively in charge of economic analysis and macroeconomic forecasting. Executives from the BCEAO, the Central Bank of Republic of Guinea, AFRISTAT, West AFRITAC, WAMA and WAEMU Commission also took part. The seminar provided also an opportunity of sharing experiences on “Evaluation of the return of public finances to the pre-Covid-19 path”.

- A seminar on the economic situation in the first half of 2023 and short-term macroeconomic forecasts in CEMAC member states, DR Congo, Burundi, Comoros, Sao Tome and Principe, Djibouti and Madagascar, organized jointly by the Commission of CEMAC, AFRISTAT and Central AFRITAC, was held from June 19 to 23, 2023 in Douala. CEMAC member states (online) as well as DR Congo, Djibouti, Burundi, Sao Tome and Principe (in person) were represented by participants respectively in charge of economic analysis and macroeconomic forecasting. Comoros, Madagascar and Central African Republic were not represented. The BEAC and the ECA for Central Africa also took part in the work. The seminar enabled also sharing of experiences on current inflation in the States and the measures taken to regulate subsidies for petroleum products and the impact on the overall macroeconomic framework.

AFRISTAT statutory meetings for the second half of 2022

45th meeting of the AFRISTAT Steering Committee

AFRISTAT Steering Committee held its 45th meeting on October 7 and 8, 2022 in Brazzaville under the chairmanship of Mr. Blaise Bienvenu Ali, Director General of Central African Institute of Statistics and Economic and Social Studies (ICASEES), President in office of the said Committee. The work focused, among other things, on examination of the mid-term implementation of the 2022 action plan and execution of the 2022 budget, the 2023 Action Plan as well as the related budget. The Committee also examined several specific issues on its agenda. Concerning the mid-term implementation of the 2022 action plan, the General Management recorded an improvement of 4 points in the rate of execution of activities compared to the previous year (49.3% against 45.7%). The Committee adopted the AFRISTAT Action Plan (PAA) 2023, while inviting the General Management to pay more attention to certain themes (i) capitalizing on experiences in the organization of general business censuses (RGE); (ii) revitalization of the institutional capacities of the NSIs; (iii) the use of statistics from administrative
On specific questions, the Committee examined in particular the progress of the development of the PSTA 2022-2025, the situation of statistical training in the public outside ESA in the Member States, the revised status of AFRISTAT staff and AFRISTAT administrative and financial procedures manual.

Project of CPI rebasing and Social accounting matrix (PRI/MCS) WAEMU

Activities within the framework of the PRI/MCS - WAEMU project concerned rebasing of the consumer price index and development of social accounting matrices (SAM).

SAM component

During the period under review, several technical support missions were led by Serge Jean EDI, Deputy Director General, for the development of social accounting matrices (SAM) in the countries, namely:

- Togo from October 17 to 21, 2022 for the development of the 2019 SAM. It made it possible to: (i) construct the 2019 macro and micro SAM; (ii) develop the model of the disaggregated micro SAM; (iii) update the methodological document describing the sources and methods used.

- Niger from December 5 to 9, 2022, for the development of the 2019 SAM. It made it possible to: (i) construct the 2019 macro and micro SAM; (ii) finalize the model of the disaggregated Micro SAM and (iv) identify the data sources necessary for the disaggregation.

- Two missions in Mali, respectively from October 17 to 28, 2022 and from November 1 to 9, 2022 for the development of the 2019 SAM. They made it possible to: (i) build the macro and micro SAM; (ii) develop the model of the disaggregated micro SAM; (iii) identify the data sources necessary for disaggregation; (iv) develop the disaggregation sub-matrices; (v) integrate the data into the disaggregated SAM; (vi) balance and finalize the 2019 SAM.

- Senegal from April 10 to 14, 2023. It allowed: (i) to present and validate the results of the work to develop the sub-matrices; (ii) integrate the data from the sub-matrices into the disaggregated SAM; (iii) balance and finalize the 2019 disaggregated SAM.

- Côte d’Ivoire from April 17 to 21, 2023. It made it possible to: (i) develop the macro SAM and the micro SAM 2019; (ii) develop the micro SAM disaggregation model; (iv) empower the 24 executives who were trained for the work of developing the sub-matrices.

Price statistics Component

AFRISTAT organized from February 6 to 17, 2023 in Lomé, a workshop to validate the methodology for developing the Harmonized Consumer Price Index (CPI) with technical support from the IMF. The workshop brought two price statistics experts from each WAEMU Member State, experts from AFRISTAT, WAEMU Commission, and BCEAO. It made it possible to: (i) take stock of the progress of the work on setting up the renovated CPI production system; (ii) present the new methodology for developing CPI; (iii) discuss sampling of points of sale and products; (iv) discuss about weightings and base prices data collection for the new index and (v) install a local version of Phoenix application on a laptop of each Member State.

AFRISTAT carried out technical support missions at the level of the NIS of the Member States of WAEMU in collaboration with the various partners (WAEMU Commission, BCEAO, IMF). These missions, carried out simultaneously by three groups of experts, took place in Burkina Faso and Bissau Guinea (from March 13 to 17, 2023), in Benin and Senegal (from March 20 to 24, 2023), in Niger and Togo (from March 27 to 31, 2023), in Côte d’Ivoire and Mali (from April 11 to 17, 2023). Theses missions made it possible to: (i) review the progress of the implementation of renovated CPI production system and discuss on the basic prices data collection; (ii) export the files of varieties, points of sale, elementary products and notebooks from the 2014 database by region; (iii) adapt the list of varieties and elementary products to COICOP 2018; (iv) prepare for each region, new Excel files to import data into Phoenix application and (v) begin the configuration and initialization.

Project to strengthen the institutional and organizational system of the NIS of the Republic of Guinea to improve the production of economic statistics

AFRISTAT and National institute of statistics (NIS) of Republic of Guinea signed, on October 11, 2022, a service provision agreement for improvement of statistical production in Republic of Guinea.

Price statistics component

Mr. Tchadéléki Biabalo Bahaze-Dao, expert in price statistics, carried out two support missions to the NIS of Guinea in Conakry.

The first mission which took place from October 20 to November 4, 2022 made it possible to validate and publish an analysis note for the NIS of Guinea in Conakry.

The second mission took place from November 20 to 30, 2022 and made it possible to consolidate the achievements of renovation of CPI and to publish indices for September and October 2022 by region and at national level.

National accounts component

Four AFRISTAT missions carried out by Mr. Ibrahima Sory, expert in national accounts, and by some associated experts, as part of the work on national accounts rebasing year 2018 and migration to the SNA 2008.

The first two missions, which took place respectively from October 17 to 28, 2022 and from November 13 to December 3, 2022, made it possible to support the technical team in the processing of administrative data sources and the results of specific surveys.

The third mission took place from January 9 to 27, 2023 and made it possible to continue the work using ERETES module, in particular by loading sources, pre-arbitrage, supply and use balances (SUT) by specific product.

The fourth mission took place from February 13 to 24, 2023 and made it possible to continue work on supply and use balances (SUT) by product.

Business statistics component

Mr. Roland Frédéric Ngampana, AFRISTAT expert in charge of business statistics, carried out a mission from April 10 to 28, 2023, as part of...
the continued work to establish production price index of industry (PPI). This mission made it possible to develop a document containing the results of calculations of provisional PPIs.

**External trade statistics component**
An associated expert of AFRISTAT, carried out two support missions in Conakry for production and analysis of foreign trade statistics.

- The first mission, carried out from October 24 to November 4, 2022, made it possible to disseminate the analysis note on foreign trade statistics for July 2022, as well as the production of data for August 2022.
- The second mission was carried out from January 16 to 27, 2023 and made it possible to disseminate the analysis note for the unit value indices for the month of December 2022 and to develop the methodological note for calculating, the foreign trade indices of Guinea.

**Labor market statistics component**
Mr. Djabar Dine Achedian, expert in socio-demographic statistics, carried out three support missions in Conakry as part of the development of the bulletin on labor market statistics.

- The first mission, which took place from October 10 to 21, 2022, made it possible to strengthen the capacities of NIS executives in charge of employment statistics to establish a formal employment monitoring system and to begin development of the bulletin for the third quarter of 2022.

### Project for Economic Management and Development of Statistics for Policy Development (GEDES) Djibouti

**AFRISTAT signed an agreement on October 28, 2021 with Djiboutian authorities to strengthen the capacities of Djibouti Institute of Statistics (INSTAD) in the areas of national accounts, business statistics, price statistics, social accounting matrix (SAM) and foreign trade statistics. The project resulting from this agreement is financed by World Bank.**

**Price statistics component**
Mr. Tchadéléki Biabalo Bahaze-Dao and Mr. Issoufou Ménié, respectively experts in price statistics and IT at AFRISTAT, carried out a mission in Djibouti from December 4 to 15, 2022, and whose work made it possible to configure and initialize the Phoenix application.

- A second mission carried out from January 22 to February 2, 2023, to set up index calculation system using Phoenix application, made it possible to strengthen capacities of national executives in data clearance of varieties, to validate base prices for 2022, to train data collection and data entry officers using Phoenix application.
- A third mission, carried out from May 14 to 25, 2023, made it possible to continue implementation work of Phoenix application, to ensure completeness of data entry from January to April 2023, to import the base prices and the weightings of the series, varieties and items into Phoenix application, and calculate price indices for January, February, March and April 2023.

**National accounts**
Two AFRISTAT missions were carried out by Mr. Ibrahima Sory, expert in national accounts.

- The first mission, carried out from December 18 to 29, 2022, made it possible to finalize the supply and use (SUT) balances, branch accounts and the first intermediate summary of the accounts for the year 2015.
- The mission also focused on preparation of a monographic study on foreign military bases in Djibouti.
- The second mission took place from February 19 to March 2, 2023 and made it possible to carry out the work on final summary of the accounts for the year 2015, through the balancing of the inter-industrial exchange table (TEI). It was also a matter of continuing preparatory work for the monographic study on foreign military bases in Djibouti.

**Business statistics**
Mr. Roland Frédéric Ngampa, AFRISTAT expert in charge of business statistics, carried out a technical assistance mission in business statistics from May 7 to 24, 2023.

This mission made it possible to train executives on the system of production and publication of an industrial production index (IPI) and a services production price index (PPIs), to continue work on establishing a construction cost index (CCI), and to train executives on the process of creating and managing a national business directory for statistical purposes.

**External trade statistics**
Two AFRISTAT missions were carried out by an associate expert, to support the staff in charge of foreign trade in production and analysis of international merchandise trade indices.

- The first mission took place from December 4 to 15, 2022 and made it possible to produce analysis note for the unit value indices for the third quarter of 2022, and to develop the methodological note for calculating external trade indices of Djibouti.
- The second mission, carried out from February 5 to 16, 2022, allowed the note on foreign trade price indices of the fourth quarter of 2022 and to validate the methodological note for calculating foreign trade indices of Djibouti.

### GEDES Djibouti Project: Agreement AFRISTAT – Direction of economy and planning (DEP)

AFRISTAT signed a second agreement on October 3, 2022 with Djiboutian authorities to strengthen the capacities of the Directorate of Economy and Planning (DEP) of the Ministry of Economy and Planning in charge of Industry, in the areas of monitoring of economic situation, the macroeconomic framework, public investment program (PIP) and computable general equilibrium modeling. The project resulting from this agreement is financed by World Bank.

**Macroeconomic framework component**
Three activities took place on this component, namely:
- Training provided by AFRISTAT from December 4 to 15, 2022 in Djibouti for eight executives of the Directorate of Economy and Planning (DEP), on financial programming methods and macroeconomic statistics of the four major accounts and their analysis.
- A technical assistance mission to the DEP, from January 8 to 19, 2023 in Djibouti to specify the technical characteristics of the Djibouti Economy Model (MED) with a view to strengthening its operational capacities. The mission which was led by three associated experts made it possible to train executives in charge of developing the macro-economic framework, in the principles of operation and use of Quasi-accounting Models (MQC), to define a new architecture of the MED.
- A technical assistance mission, led by an associate expert, from April 25 to May 4, 2023 in Djibouti. It made it possible to: (i) train staff on the use of basic and advanced Excel tools for the MED renovation process; (ii) prepare databases for the different modules.

**Public Investment Program (PIP) Component**
AFRISTAT carried out a training mission, from January 29 to February 8, 2023, for the staff of Ministry of Economy and Ministry of Budget on public finances results-based management (RBM) and implementation of the National Development Plan 2020-2024.
This training improved their knowledge and skills on the following points: (i) RBM; (ii) budgeting by program; (iii) Medium-Term Budgetary Framework (MTBF) and Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF); (iv) programming in Commitment Authorization (AE) and Payment Credits (CP); and (v) development of Priority Investment Program (PIP).

**Short term economic situation component**
- Mr. Serge Jean Edi, Deputy Director General of AFRISTAT, led a technical assistance mission from March 12 to 21, 2023 in Djibouti to strengthen capacities and improve the DEP’s economic situation monitoring system.
- It made it possible to improve their knowledge on: (i) challenges of a national system for monitoring economic situation; (ii) collection, analysis and dissemination systems; (iii) economic indicators analysis likely to be monitored by the DEP; (iv) management of current databases and improvements to be made by DEP following AFRISTAT recommendations; (v) the recommended formats of bulletins and economic notes.

**FAO project to assist in methodological development and capacity building in the area of SDG indicators 2.3.1 and 2.3.2**

AFRISTAT signed a memorandum of understanding with FAO, as part of assistance for methodological development and capacity building in the area of SDG indicators 2.3.1 and 2.3.2 in two AFRISTAT member countries.

The Program to support methodological development and capacity building in the area of SDG indicators 2.3.1 and 2.3.2 was initiated by FAO and implemented by AFRISTAT in two of its member states.

The technical assistance aimed to:
- Contribute to the finalization of the methodological tools concerning SDG indicators 2.3.1 and 2.3.2;
- Strengthen the capacities of African statisticians in data collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of SDG indicators 2.3.1 and 2.3.2 aimed at measuring trends in the productivity and income of small food producers. Support missions were carried out in these countries.
- Dissemination of results took place on November 24, 2022 in Burkina Faso and on November 29, 2022 with the participation of AFRISTAT.
- Actions carried out by AFRISTAT, the DGEES of Burkina Faso and the CPS/SDR of Mali have implemented certain activities.

**In Burkina Faso:**
- i. Clearance and quality control of data for 2022-2023 agricultural campaign;
- ii. Support for data collection with revised questionnaires;
- iii. Results dissemination workshop.

**In Mali:**
- i. Workshop for data collection and quality control for the last three agricultural seasons;
- ii. Capacity building workshop for CPS executives for calculating SDG 2.3 indicators;
Project of “Modeling and data collection on food losses during storage”

AFRISTAT signed a memorandum of understanding with FAO in 2022, as part of assistance in development of a model and collection of data on loss of food products during storage in an AFRISTAT member country.

The Project was initiated by FAO and implemented by AFRISTAT in Mali. The project aims to:

• develop a statistical model to estimate cereal losses during the storage phase;
• design, prepare and implement data collection relevant to the application of the model in Mali.

The field survey has two aspects: (1) the collection of information in three phases from farmers based on a questionnaire and the collection of samples of millet and corn seeds; and (2) analysis of seeds collected in a national analytical laboratory.

The data collection phase is implemented by the Planning and Statistics Unit of the Rural Development Sector (CPSSDR) of Mali.

Collection of data
Data collection took place in three phases: 1st phase from February 9 to 16, 2023; 2nd phase from March 13 to 20, 2023 and 3rd phase from April 8 to 15, 2023.

Analysis of the seeds in the laboratory started on Monday March 13, 2023.

Data processing and analysis
The analysis and tabulation plans which have been presented and validated by the technical team are finalized and available.

The survey report was produced, validated and transmitted to FAO.

G5-Sahel statistical program

AFRISTAT has signed a service contract with Expertise France, as part of capacity building program for national statistical systems of the G5-Sahel countries. This initiative is part of the Accountability Framework of the Sahel Alliance (G5-Sahel Statistical Program).

The Capacity Building Program for National Statistical Systems (NSS) of G5 Sahel countries was initiated by the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEAE) as part of the accountability of the Sahel Alliance (AS).

Its objective is to support statistical capacities of the five G5 Sahel countries, namely Burkina Faso, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Chad, in a coordinated manner, so that they produce official data with a view to strengthening the accountability of Sahel Alliance.

The Program has two specific objectives:

i. Strengthen the institutional and organizational mechanism for the collection, monitoring and analysis of data on the 25 national indicators of the Alliance’s accountability framework in priority sectors;

ii. Create a framework for exchanges, dialogue and advocacy on the actions to be taken to improve decision-making support tools in G5 Sahel countries.

AFRISTAT organized training for SSN executives in Niger (October 17 to 21, 2022) and Chad (October 10 to 14, 2022).

The workshops made it possible to train executives from the NSSs of these countries, in the process of data dissemination from administrative and survey sources and development of directories and statistical dashboards.

AFRISTAT organized in Lomé from October 24 to 28, 2022 a training workshop in survey techniques for the benefit of NSS executives from Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Niger and Chad.

The training was provided by Mr. Djabar Adechian, Coordinator of G5 Sahel Statistical Project and a Consultant.

The training made it possible to strengthen the capacities of participants in designing and improving sampling designs for household surveys.

Regional Support Project for Digital Economy Statistics

The Regional Project to Support the Strengthening of Digital Economy Statistics and Support the Use of Data Science by Tax and Customs Administrations (DATAFID) is implemented by Expertise France for the benefit of six pilot countries, (Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Togo). Its financing is provided by the Directorate General of the French Treasury. As part of the execution of certain project activities, AFRISTAT and Expertise France signed a service provision agreement in May 2022.

In 2022, the Observatory prepared the methodological documents for carrying out the pilot study on the digital economy. These documents were validated by the beneficiary countries (Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Niger, Senegal, Togo) of the project during a workshop organized by AFRISTAT and Expertise France in Abidjan, from December 5 to 7, 2022.

On this occasion, Ivory Coast has been designated for implementation of pilot study on digital economy among households and businesses with funding from Expertise France and technical assistance from AFRISTAT.

During the first half of 2023, AFRISTAT undertook exchanges with the NIS of Côte d’Ivoire for examination and contextualization of questionnaires. These discussions made it possible to finalize data collection tools by taking into account observations and concerns of NIS of Côte d’Ivoire.

The signing of agreement between Expertise France and NIS of Côte d’Ivoire for implementation of pilot survey is announced to start on the third quarter of 2023. It will make it possible to launch data collection operations on field.
Other AFRISTAT activities

Support missions by AFRISTAT experts

**CABO VERDE**
AFRISTAT supported Cabo Verde in the process of developing and validating its 2022-2026 NSDS. Mr. Alain Brilleau, Advisor to the Director General of AFRISTAT, carried out two technical assistance missions for the development of the 2022-2026 NSDS.

- The first mission took place in Praia from December 13 to 16, 2022. It made it possible to define action plan, logical framework and plan of summary document of NSDS 2022-2026.
- The second technical assistance mission took place from June 14 to 16, 2023. It made it possible to validate National Statistics Development Strategy (NSDS) 2022-2026, developed with technical assistance from AFRISTAT.

**EQUATORIAL GUINEA**
AFRISTAT provided support to the National Institute of Statistics of Equatorial Guinea (INEGE), from March 14 to 24, 2023, for the clearance and processing of data from the “First general census of businesses” carried out in 2021. The work of this mission led by Mr. Kambou Sansan Honkounne, expert in processing survey and census data, made it possible to examine consistency of activities, jobs codification and their breakdown by category and salary levels and their disaggregation between nationals and foreigners.

- Mr. Paul-Henri Nguema Meye, Director General of AFRISTAT and Mr. Christophe Kana Kenfack, associate expert of AFRISTAT, led, from April 10 to 14, 2023 in Malabo, an awareness and initiation workshop on the development of the national insurance framework quality. The work allowed national stakeholders to establish a preliminary diagnosis of the statistical system of Equatorial Guinea in terms of quality assurance.

**MALI**
- From December 5 to 9, 2022, Mr. Ibrahima Sory, AFRISTAT national accounting expert, provided support to INSTAT on regional accounts. The mission’s work made it possible to: (i) process data from administrative sources collected in the three test regions; (ii) process results of the survey of industrial and service companies operating in the three test regions; (iii) carry out analysis of processed data; (iv) integrate the results of processing data sources into regional accounts.

**TOGO**
- The Observatory took part, from December 5 to 9, 2022, in the mid-term evaluation mission of Togo’s NSDS 2020-2024 through Mr. Alain Brilleau, Advisor to the Director General of AFRISTAT. The mission also included two experts from Paris21 and a representative from COMESA. She had discussions with INSEED managers and executives, members of sectoral committees of the National Statistics Council and representatives of some technical and financial partners. The mission noted a satisfactory execution rate given the context of the Covid-19 pandemic.

### International activities

AFRISTAT took part in international meetings organized by its partners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Events</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Organizers</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>50th ordinary session of the IFORD Board of Directors</td>
<td>October 10-12, 2022</td>
<td>Brazzaville</td>
<td>IFORD</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Workshop of price experts from COMESA member countries</td>
<td>October 10-14, 2022</td>
<td>Naivasha</td>
<td>COMESA</td>
</tr>
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<td>3</td>
<td>10th Forum on Statistical Development in Africa</td>
<td>October 23, 2022</td>
<td>Addis Ababa</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>8th session of the African Statistical Commission</td>
<td>October 24-26, 2022</td>
<td>Addis Ababa</td>
<td>ECA</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Meeting of the ECA West and North Africa expert group on the topic: “Resilience to crises and sustainability of development in North and West Africa”</td>
<td>November 1-3, 2022</td>
<td>Marrakech</td>
<td>ECA</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Ninth ordinary meeting of the WAEMU Regional Statistics Committee</td>
<td>November 2-5, 2022</td>
<td>Lome</td>
<td>WAEMU Commission</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>7th meeting of the Steering Committee (CoPil) of the Program for Harmonization and Modernization of Surveys on Household Living Conditions (PHMECV) in WAEMU Member States</td>
<td>November 7-9, 2022</td>
<td>Lome</td>
<td>WAEMU Commission</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Data processing workshop for the 2nd edition of the harmonized survey on household living conditions (EHCVM)</td>
<td>November 22 - Décembre 2, 2022</td>
<td>Saly</td>
<td>WAEMU Commission</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>COMESA Statistical Capacity Building Program (PRCS 5) Regional Workshop on Environment and Climate Change Statistics</td>
<td>November 28 – December 1, 2022</td>
<td>Nairobi</td>
<td>COMESA</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>16th session of the Committee of Directors General (CoDG) of the African Union NSIs</td>
<td>December 6-7, 2022</td>
<td>Malabo</td>
<td>AUSTAFRIC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Meeting of the ECOVAS regional technical group for the operationalization of the methodology and tool for calculating the quarterly gross domestic product of the ECOVAS region</td>
<td>December 9-14, 2022</td>
<td>Lome</td>
<td>ECOVAS</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Training with INSEE on the ERETES module for English-speaking ECOWAS countries</td>
<td>December 12-16, 2022</td>
<td>Abuja</td>
<td>Insee</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>2021 ICP Regional Data Validation Workshop</td>
<td>January 23-27, 2023</td>
<td>Kigali</td>
<td>COMESA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>2022 end-of-year statutory meetings of the West African Monetary Agency (WAMA)</td>
<td>February 2-4, 2023</td>
<td>Banjul</td>
<td>WAMA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CAMEROON  
www.ins-cameroun.cm
- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (MINHDU) and the National Institute of Statistics (NIS) concluded in March 2022, the fourth contract for the establishment of a statistical and geospatial information system on roads, socio-collective equipment and precarious housing in the cities of Yaoundé, Ngaoundéré, Garoua, Maroua and Edéa.
- NIS started collecting data from the system for monitoring cross-border exchanges of goods in Cameroon during the first quarter of 2023.
- NIS continued the CCI production project during the first quarter of 2023, focusing on new housing for residential use in Cameroon.
- From March 28 to 30, 2023, NIS organized in Yaoundé, with the support of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), a workshop on the use of administrative sources for the development business statistics in Cameroon and Renovation of the turnover index (ICA).
- NIS organized, on January 25, 2023, its traditional annual meeting of exchanges between heads of central and decentralized administrations.

CONGO  
www.ins-congo.org
- NIS carried out during the first quarter of 2023 the recruitment of data collection staff for the positions of supervisors and enumerator.
- After launching, on October 9, 2022 across the entire national territory, the second wave of EHCVM-C data collection, the INS began exploitation of the database resulting from this statistical operation.
- NIS has made available to users the bulletin of the harmonized national consumer price index for the months of January and February 2023.
- NIS Steering Committee held its first ordinary session, on March 22, 2023, under the leadership of Mr. Obambi Guecko, President of the said Committee.

MALI  
www.instat.gov.ml
- Visit to Mali by the Head of Department of the Africa Region of the Swedish International Development and Cooperation Agency (SIDA).
- Workshop for the validation and tabulation of Mali’s 5th General Population and Housing Census (RGPHS) data organized from February 22 to March 14, 2023, with the financial support of Swiss Cooperation.
- Training workshop for journalists from Mali on using of data from the RGPHS, organized in Bamako, from March 27 to 30, 2023 by INSTAT and PARIS 21.
- National Institute of Statistics (INSTAT) in collaboration with Mali NSS organized, on May 11 and 12, 2023, the fourteenth technical session of the Annual Review of the NSDS.
- Three-week Mali SSN training workshop starting May 5, 2023 in Banankoro, in methodology and practice of developing thematic plans for analysis and tabulation of census data.
- Working meeting between INSTAT, the Planning and Statistics Units (CPS) and Statistics Sweden (SCB), from May 30 to June 1, 2023 in Bamako for good coordination of the SSN.
- INSTAT proceeded, on May 31, 2023, to the restitution of the results of the General Census of Economic Units (RGUE).

TOGO  
www.togostat.org
- On January 18, 2023, the International Firm AGORA CONSULTING, selected to lead the human resources reforms at National Institute of Statistics and Economic and Demographic Studies (INSEED), presented the results of the second phase of inventory and diagnostics of its intervention.
- NSEED started on February 5, 2023 the post-censal survey (EPC) of the fifth General Population and Housing Census (RGPH-5).
- On March 9, 2023, an extraordinary meeting of the INSEED Board of Directors was held.
- On April 4, 2023, the National Census Council proceeded in Lomé to the presentation of the final overall results of the 5th general population and housing census (RGPH-5).
- The Board of Directors of the INSEED met on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, under the chairmanship of Mr. Anumu Edem Ketoglo, President of the said Board.
- On June 14, 2023, the international firm Agora consulting in charge of human resources reform at INSEED sent its end-of-mission report to the Director General of INSEED.
- From June 19 to 23, 2023, the 6th biannual meeting of the top managers of INSEED took place in Kpalimé.
NECROLOGY
DEATH OF MR. MICHEL MOUYELO-KATOULA

The General Management of AFRISTAT was informed with great sadness of the death of Mr. Michel MOUYELO-KATOULA.

Born in Brazzaville on February 23, 1951, Michel MOUYELO-KATOULA died in Abidjan on April 12, 2023.

His long professional career (more than 42 years) was entirely devoted to development of African statistics, from Africa but also from Europe and the United States.

After obtaining his diploma as a statistician-economist engineer at CESD-Paris in 1974, his career began at National Institute of Statistics of Congo before continuing at the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa (UDEAC) in Bangui.

From 1980 to 1999, based in Luxembourg, Mr. MOUYELO-KATOULA held several positions of responsibility within institutions (CESD Communautaire and EUROCAST) linked to EUROSTAT for the development of statistics in Africa. In 1996, as Director of EUROCAST, his first collaboration with AFRISTAT was within the framework of the project to harmonize consumer price indices in UEMOA countries. His strong involvement enabled the success of the project and the establishment of the IHPC, still in force with some adaptations, and its extension to other countries and regions.

From 2000 to 2002, Mr. MOUYELO-KATOULA was an international consultant with numerous stays in Africa, notably for the development of Namibia’s second development plan.

From 2002 to 2009, he worked for the African Development Bank, first as coordinator of the International Comparison Program (ICP) for Africa and then as head of the Statistical Capacity Building Division. During this period, its collaboration with AFRISTAT was very intense, particularly within the framework of the PCI. His great statistical skills and his human relations made it possible to obtain results praised by all.

In 2009, the World Bank recruited him to lead the 2009-2015 global campaign of the International Comparison Program to which AFRISTAT was called upon.

Since 2016, he has been a consultant for major international organizations, including the AfDB, ECA, FAO and OECD. AFRISTAT continued to benefit from the technical assistance and advice of Mr. MOUYELO-KATOULA whenever the opportunity arose.

Mr. Michel MOUYELO-KATOULA will be remembered as a great manager and a very competent expert, with whom it was very pleasant to collaborate, and who contributed greatly to the development of statistics in Africa. He will remain an example for a generation of statisticians from AFRISTAT member states.

Wish his soul rests in peace.

NECROLOGY
DEATH OF MR. HAROUNA KONE

The Directorate General of AFRISTAT was informed with great sadness of the death of Mr. Harouna KONE, former Director General of National Institute of Statistics of Mali (INSTAT), which occurred on July 1, 2023.

Born on October 16, 1956 in Bandiagara (Mopti Region), Mr. Harouna KONE asserted his retirement rights on December 31, 2018. This exceptional statistics engineer was Deputy Director General of INSTAT (from 2011 to 2016), then Managing Director (from 2016 to 2018).

Mr. KONE has led a busy career in the exclusive service of statistics, serving in particular as:

• Regional Director of Planning, Statistics and Informatics, Territorial Development and Population (DRPSIAP) of the Sikasso Region (from May 2002 to December 2010);
• Regional Director of Planning and Statistics for the District of Bamako (from March 1996 to May 2002);
• Head of the “Prices” Section of the General Statistics Division at the National Directorate of Statistics and Informatics (DNSI, from September 1989 to March 1996);
• Deputy Director and Survey Supervisor at the Regional Directorate of Planning and Statistics of the Koulikoro region (from July 1984 to August 1989).

Distinguished Knight of the National Order of Mali in January 2015, Mr. Harouna KONE has significantly contributed to the influence of statistical production in Mali. He was also an active member of the AFRISTAT Steering Committee and effectively facilitated exchanges between the General Directorate of the Observatory and the Malian authorities throughout the time he was at the head of INSTAT.

Wish his soul rests in peace.
NEW ON THE AFRISTAT WEBSITE
http://www.afristat.org

The Directorate General of AFRISTAT is pleased to inform you that a documentary base of the national statistical systems (NSS) of the Member States is online on its website.

This documentary base includes annual publications and results of national surveys and censuses carried out in each country. When put online, the database included 1,674 annual publications and 919 publications of survey and census results. The publication files come from numerous sources: websites (NIS, other NSS structures, ministries supervising the structures, international institutions, etc.), transmission by the NIS and NSS structures, scanning of archival documents from AFRISTAT, etc.

The development of this database involved five young statisticians intern at AFRISTAT, the focal points of the 22 NISs of the Member States and AFRISTAT experts.

We invite you to visit this documentary database and ask you to send us any comment and also any publications allowing us to improve and enrich the content of this database.

The AFRISTAT Newsletter can be obtained free of charge upon request, and is available on: http://www.afristat.org

To obtain the electronic version, you can also subscribe to the mailing list of AFRISTAT Newsletter by sending an email to afristat@afristat.org with subject: Subscription

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