



Editorial

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The Economic and Statistic Observatory for Sub-Saharan Africa (AFRISTAT), during the second half of 2023, carried out various actions in terms of statistical coordination, resource mobilization, development and capacity building, statutory meetings and direct technical assistance to Member States.

As part of the coordination and resource mobilization missions, five member states and two regional economic communities were visited (CEMAC and WAEMU). The main point of discussions was the solicitation of contributions to the AFRISTAT 2016-2025 Fund from late contributors.

Regarding partnerships, this mainly involved their consolidation through:

- The finalization of the 2024 collaboration program with INSEE and the carrying out of the study visit to the quality unit of this institution, on the one hand, and the continuation of exchanges with Ciril GROUP, software publisher service provider, with a view to establishing a partnership, on the other hand;
- Monitoring the implementation of statistical programs and projects entrusted to AFRISTAT by the WAEMU Commission, FAO, INSEE, Expertise France as well as Djibouti, Gabon and Guinea;
- Cross-participation in statutory meetings of partners as well as in the joint organization of activities. It is for this reason that the Observatory was represented at the following main meetings: the 21st international conference of labor statisticians (ILO), the 28th session of the African Commission for Agricultural Statistics (FAO), the 17th meeting of the Committee of Directors General of Statistics of Africa Union's countries, two meetings of the IFORD Board of Directors and the mid-year statutory meeting of WAMA. INSEE and the WAEMU Commission in turn organized with AFRISTAT (i) the CEFIL 2023 workshop on the drafting of policy briefs and (ii) the webinar on the economic situation and medium-term forecasts of the States AFRISTAT members from West Africa.

Regarding the statutory meetings, those organized concern the 28th session of the Scientific Council and the 31st session of the Council of Ministers held virtually in September and December 2023. The 46th meeting of the Steering Committee took place in N'Djamena in October 2023. The main resolutions resulting from these meetings are: the adoption of the 2024 action plan with its budget, the reappointment of Mr. Paul-Henri Nguema Meye as Director General of AFRISTAT for a final term (2024-2027). The AFRISTAT strategic study for 2035 was examined and its conclusions should be adopted at the next Council of Ministers. Non-project technical assistance concerned around ten countries in these areas: business statistics, national accounts, general business census, quality approach, processing of survey data and calculation of indicators, human resources management, etc.

Finally, mobility was observed among AFRISTAT staff. Ms. Anta TEME, Executive Assistant, asserted her rights to retire and was replaced by Ms. Keïta Fatimata Diallo. Mr. Alain Brilleau, Technical Advisor to the Director General and International Technical Expert in the framework of cooperation between AFRISTAT and France, arrived at the end of his mission in August 2023.

Paul-Henri NGUEMA MEYE
Director General of AFRISTAT



AFRISTAT NEWS

Visits

The Director General of AFRISTAT, Mr. Paul-Henri Nguema Meye, carried out, during the second half 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:

■ BISSAU GUINEA

Director General of AFRISTAT, stayed in Bissau from November 11 to 23, 2023 to assist the National institute of statistics (NIS) with the recruitment of personnel specialized in statistics, IT and management jointly with a delegation from the WAEMU Commission.

The mission took the opportunity to meet Dr Geraldo Joao Martins, Prime Minister, Head of Government who gave instructions for the smooth running of recruitment. Guinea Bissau's cooperation with AFRISTAT was also discussed both technically and financially.



■ CHAD

On the sidelines of the 46th meeting of AFRISTAT Steering Committee in N'Djamena from October 23 to 24, 2023, Mr. Paul-Henri Nguema Meye, Director General of AFRISTAT had an interview with Mr. Moussa Saleh-Batraki, Minister of Economic Foresight and International Partnerships.

With his host, the subjects discussed related to the mobilization of Chad's contribution to AFRISTAT's Fund 2016-2025 and awareness raising on the importance of the strategic subjects which will be submitted to the 31st session of the Council of Ministers.

■ SENEGAL

Mr. Paul-Henri Nguema Meye, Director General of AFRISTAT, stayed in Dakar from July 10 to 12, 2023 for a resource mobilization and partnership mission. On this occasion, a working session was organized with Mr. Aboubacar Sedikh Beye, Director General of the NIS who was assisted by his deputy.

During the latter, discussions focused on the mobilization of Senegal's contributions to AFRISTAT's Fund and the possibilities of collaborating within the framework of the statistics harmonization project in West Africa.

■ BURKINA FASO

From September 17 to 23, 2023, Mr. Paul-Henri Nguema Meye, Director General of AFRISTAT, carried out a technical assistance mission to the NIS, coordination and mobilization of partnerships at the WAEMU Commission where he met Mr. Mahamadou Gado, Commissioner in charge of the Department of Economic Policies and Domestic Taxation.

The discussions focused on the long and appreciable collaboration between the two institutions.



■ EQUATORIAL GUINEEA

Malabo from September 12 to 17, 2023, Mr. Paul-Henri Nguema Meye, Director General of AFRISTAT had an interview with Mr. Nicolas Beyeme Nguema, Commissioner in charge of the Department of Economic Policies, Monetary and Financial at the CEMAC Commission. In the presence of Mr. Roland Lontchi, Director of Statistics at the CEMAC Commission, an overview

of the collaboration between the two institutions was carried out. They agreed to take advantage of statistical initiatives around the STAT-CEMAC programs and statistical harmonization supported by the World Bank to strengthen their cooperation.

■ FRANCE

During his visit to France, the Director General of AFRISTAT had working sessions at France development agency (AFD) and INSEE on December 8, 2023. At AFD, discussions focused mainly on methodological developments on the establishment and analysis of environmental trajectories.

An opportunity for collaboration has been identified in the development of environmental accounting with the appropriate use of input-output tables. With INSEE, Mr. Nguema Meye spoke with Corinne Prost and Olivier Biau respectively Director of Methodology and International Statistical

Coordination and Head of the Department of International Statistical Coordination on the development of the partnership between the two institutions.

Mr. Nguema Meye took advantage of his stay in France to meet the company Ciril Group on December 14, 2023 in Lyon.

The discussions mainly focused on Géoclip observatories which are rich web applications for statistical cartography allowing the development and discussion of sets of territorial data.

Departures and Arrival

■ **Mr. Alain Brilleau**, Technical Advisor to the Director General, left AFRISTAT on August 31, 2023 after a stay of two years. He was stationed at the Observatory as an International Technical Expert within the framework of cooperation between AFRISTAT and France. During this short stint, Mr. Brilleau actively participated in the work of updating and renovating the Observatory website, improving the databases and creating a documentary base. In recognition of the services rendered, the General Management presented him with a symbolic gift during a ceremony organized in his honor.



with dedication and professionalism. The Director General and all the staff wish her a happy retirement.

■ **Ms. Anta Teme**, Executive Assistant at AFRISTAT since January 2001, asserted her retirement rights on December 31, 2023 after good and loyal service rendered to AFRISTAT.

Ms. Anta Teme served the Observatory for 22 years

■ The Economic and Statistical Observatory for Sub-Saharan Africa (AFRISTAT) has recruited **Ms. Keïta Fatimata Diallo**.

She is holder of a Secretarial Diploma from the University Institute of Management (IUG) of Bamako, as Executive Assistant to replace Ms. Teme. Ms. Keïta took office on December 4, 2023.



Activities of the Directorate General

AFRISTAT statutory meetings for the second half of 2023

28th meeting of the AFRISTAT Scientific Council

AFRISTAT's Scientific Council held its 28th meeting on September 28, 2023 by videoconference under the chairmanship of Doctor Ébenézer Sylvain Benjamin Ferdinand Schouamé, Professor of Economics at the University of Yaoundé II-SOA, President of the said Council. The Council examined 2023 mid-term report of AFRISTAT Action Plan (PAA) 2023, the draft PAA 2024 and the progress report of the AFRISTAT strategic study for 2035. It also took note of the situation of initiatives relating to the dissemination

of statistical data in the Member States as well as the state of development of the computer application for managing statistical business registers (SBR).

Regarding the mid-term report on the execution of the PAA 2023, the Council congratulated the General Management for the results obtained during the period under review, as evidenced by the physical execution rate which stood at 48%. However, he invited the General Management to take into account the concerns of users of

Phoenix application who are nationals of non-WAEMU member countries, as part of the process of its ongoing renovation.

Regarding Action Plan 2024, the Council welcomed the inclusion of quarterly national accounts (QNA) and hoped that the Observatory would strengthen the promotion of the STATECO methodological and analytical review. He expressed his satisfaction with the content and ambitious nature of the PAA 2024.

46th meeting of the AFRISTAT Steering Committee

AFRISTAT's Steering Committee held its 46th meeting on October 23 and 24, 2023 in N'Djamena (Chad) under the chairmanship of Mr. Laurent Mahounou Hounsa, Director General of the National Institute of Statistics and Demography (INStad) of Benin, current President of the said committee.

The Committee mainly examined the files relating to the 2022 activity report and the associated budget, the mid-term implementation status of the 2023 action plan as well as the related budget. The Committee also examined AFRISTAT's 2024 action plan and the accompanying budget and the questions to be submitted to the 31st session of the Council of Ministers. In the 2022 activity report, General Management recorded an improvement in the level of



implementation of activities compared to the year 2021 (70.3% in 2022 compared to 66.7% in 2021). This improvement is mainly explained by the lifting of travel restrictions due to COVID-19 and the adaptation of General Management to digital technology.

Regarding the mid-term implementation of 2023 action plan, activity execution rate stands at 48.0%, slightly down compared to its level of 49.3% recorded at the same period in 2022.

Concerning the 2024 action plan of the General Management, the Committee noted the relevance of the programmed activities which highlight emerging areas such as the quarterly national accounts (CNT) and the development of "Policy briefs".

The Committee invited the General Management to explore alternative methods for the production of official statistics, including the exploitation of "Big data" in view of the difficulties of access to certain geographical areas of Member States plagued by insecurity.

31st Session of the AFRISTAT Council of Ministers

AFRISTAT's Council of Ministers held its 31st ordinary session on December 11, 2023 by videoconference, under the chairmanship of Hon. Audace Niyonzima, Minister of Finance, Budget and Economic Planning of Burundi, President of the Council of Ministers of AFRISTAT.

In addition to questions relating to the day-to-day management of the Observatory, the Council examined the results of the strategic study of AFRISTAT for 2035. It also proceeded with the appointment of the Director General of AFRISTAT for the period 2024-2027.

As part of the day-to-day management of the Observatory, the Council heard the report on the implementation of the 2021, 2022 and

2023 action plans as of June 30, 2023 and the decisions of the 30th session of the Council of Ministers. He also heard the report on the situation of contributions to AFRISTAT's Funds 2006-2015 and 2016-2025.

The Council also heard the report on AFRISTAT's Strategic Work Program for the period 2022-2025 and urged Member States to allocate the necessary means for the proper execution of their NSDS.

The Council examined the results of the AFRISTAT strategic study over the period 2026-2035. These present an assessment of the functioning of AFRISTAT's statutory bodies from 2016 to 2022, proposals for formulating the mission and vision as well as five strategic axes

which have been validated. The study also proposes two schemes for contributing to the AFRISTAT 2026-2035 Fund. The Council invited Member States to decide on the contribution levels allocated to them in the distribution scenario by country which was unanimously agreed upon.

With regard to appointments in the statutory bodies of AFRISTAT, the Council of Ministers renewed its confidence in the outgoing Director General of AFRISTAT, Mr. Paul-Henri Nguema Meye, for a new four-year term starting January 1, 2024. He also indicated that Togo would hold the Presidency of the Council of Ministers for the next two years starting in January 2024.

CEFIL 2023 seminar on the topic "Training in the design and writing of policy briefs"

INSEE and AFRISTAT, in collaboration with ENSAE Pierre Ndiaye in Dakar, organized from July 3 to 7, 2023 the CEFIL 2023 workshop on the design and development of policy briefs at ENSAE in Dakar.

The specific objective of this training was to strengthen the capacities of experts from NSIs

and African institutions for the design and development of policy briefs and to provide participants with training in editorial techniques.

The training made it possible to strengthen the technical capacities of 24 participants from the NIS of Senegal, Burkina Faso and the Comoros, the WAEMU Commission, the WAEMU coun-

tries central bank (BCEAO), the Central Banks of Burundi and Guinea, teachers of ENSAE, executives from the Ministry of Economy of Burkina Faso and Senegal in the design and development of policy briefs and drafting of editorial techniques. The training covered theoretical and practical aspects.

Webinar for the second half of 2023 on the economic situation and medium-term forecasts for 2023-2026 in the WAEMU States, Guinea, Mauritania and Cabo Verde

AFRISTAT, West AFRITAC and the WAEMU Commission organized in virtual mode the traditional economic situation seminar for the second half of 2023 and the medium-term forecasts 2023-2026 for the benefit of the West African Member States. It took place from November 28 to 30, 2023.

All the invited States were represented by participants respectively in charge of economic analysis and macroeconomic forecasting. Executives from the BCEAO, AFRISTAT, West AFRITAC, the ECA West Africa Sub-Regional Office and the WAEMU Commission also took part in the work.

The seminar made it possible to take stock of the

recent situation and the 2023-2026 macroeconomic forecasts in the States and to allow exchanges and discussions between the participants on the effects of inflationary pressures on the economies of the States, response measures and impacts on budgets.

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

Activities within the framework of the PRI/MCS-WAEMU project concerned the rebasing of consumer price index (CPI) and the 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 (DDG), for the development of social accounting matrices (SAM) in the countries, namely:

- The first mission to Bissau Guinea, carried out from July 10 to 14, 2023, made it possible to:
 - finalize the 2018 macro SAM;
 - finalize and balance the micro SAM;
 - develop the micro SAM disaggregation model;
 - empower trained executives for the work of developing sub-matrices.

- The second mission to Bissau Guinea, from October 2 to 13, 2023 led by the DDG and an associated expert, made it possible to:
 - support the working groups in using the data collected and finalizing the work;
 - integrate the data from the sub-matrices into the disaggregation model;
 - balance and finalize the 2018 SAM;
 - finalize the methodological document.

- A Benin mission took place in Cotonou from September 25 to 29, 2023. It made it possible to:
 - develop the 2018 macro SAM;
 - develop the micro SAM;
 - develop the micro SAM disaggregation model;
 - empower the executives who have been trained for the work of developing the sub-matrices.

- Three missions of Ivory Coast, Benin and Niger took place respectively in Abidjan from November 20 to 24, 2023, in Cotonou from December 6 to 10, 2023 and in Niamey from November 27 to December 1, 2023.

They made it possible to:

- finalize the use of the data collected;
- integrate the data from the sub-matrices into the disaggregated model;
- balance and finalize the 2018 disaggregated SAM (2019 for Côte d'Ivoire);
- develop a draft of the methodological document.

Price statistics Component

- AFRISTAT organized, from August 7 to 18, 2023 in Abidjan, a regional workshop to determine the structure of weightings for the calculation of the CPI.

The workshop brought together two experts in price statistics and an expert in survey data processing from each WAEMU Member State, experts from AFRISTAT, WAEMU Commission, BCEAO, IMF, as well as the consultants recruited for the development of the Phoenix application. The workshop made it possible to:

- use the raw bases of the Harmonized Survey on Household Living Conditions to construct the consumption aggregate for the purposes of price statistics;
- determine the weighting structures of the products, classes, groups, divisions of each region by country;
- stabilize the list of products at the national level;
- adapt PHOENIX application to take into

account the new weighting system;

- define the weighting structure at the level of each State and at the regional level.

- AFRISTAT led a second series of support missions to the NSIs of WAEMU member states in collaboration with WAEMU Commission, BCEAO and IMF in October and November 2023.

These missions made it possible to support countries in consolidating the system for producing the new index in accordance with the new methodology. This specifically involves:

- taking stock of the progress of the work on setting up the renovated CPI production system and discussing the collection of base prices for the new index;
- finalize the preparation for each region of new Excel files of products, points of sale, varieties;
- import the finalized files into the new Phoenix application;
- prepare and import product consumption expenditure files by region.

- AFRISTAT organized, from December 11 to 22, 2023 in Abidjan, a regional workshop for the clearance and calculation of basic prices for homogeneous and heterogeneous series for the calculation of the renovated CPI.

The workshop made it possible to purify the data collected during the last eleven months of 2023, and to calculate the base prices of the series in the Phoenix application for the calculation of the renovated CPI, in each country and by economic zone.

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 the Republic of Guinea signed, on October 11, 2022, a service provision agreement for the improvement of statistical production in the Republic of Guinea.

Price statistics component

- Mr. Tchadèléki Biabalo Bahaze-Dao, price expert carried out a mission to the NIS of Guinea in Conakry from July 10 to 20, 2023.

At the end of the mission, the following results were obtained:

- the operational system for producing the CPI base 2019 is reviewed to identify possible anomalies which delay the publication for month n no later than the 15th of month n+1;
- the CPI of June 2023 is produced on time;

- the first test results are calculated in June 2023 for all regions and the national level;
- products and outlets that require replacement have been examined;
- the methodological guide for producing the CPI base 2019 is finalized with a view to its publication on the NIS website;
- an overview of the main changes is made in the context of the migration to COICOP with 13 functions and the activities to be carried out.

National accounts component

Two missions were carried out by Mr. Ibrahima Sory, expert in national accounts, in Conakry.

- The first mission took place from March 6 to 24, 2023, as part of support for preparatory work for the project to change the base year and migrate to the 2008 SNA.

The mission made it possible to:

- integrate the new information collected from the sectoral services encountered;

- take into account the recommendations made by partner missions;
- consolidate all the results obtained from the accounts for the 2018 base year;
- finalize the analysis of the results from the consolidated work;
- begin work on the branch operating account;
- discuss the work to be carried out before the next mission.

■ The second mission took place from October 23 to November 3, 2023, as part of a review by peers and partner institutions of the base year 2018 national accounts results.

The work was led with Mr. Malick Diop and Mr. Khadim Sourang, AFRISTAT associate experts in National Accounts, involved in preparatory works and participation in the peer review workshop.

This workshop was carried out with the support of experts from the following international insti-

tutions: African Development Bank (AfDB), World Bank, West AFRITAC and AFRISTAT.

The countries represented as peers are: Senegal and Togo.

The work of the mission made it possible to:

- consolidate all the results of the accounts for the 2018 base year;
- share good practices of the peer review exercise;
- prepare all technical documents and annexed tables to be transmitted to peers;
- prepare the various presentations that the technical team will have to deliver throughout the work and
- carry out practical peer review exercises.

Labor market statistics component

■ Mr. Djabar Dine Adechian, expert in socio-demographic statistics, provided online support for the development of the 2nd quarter 2023 bul-

letin of labor market statistics in Guinea.

The following results were obtained by this support:

- Data quality analysis and processing of Q2-2023 data are carried out;
- The configuration and updating of the file of quarterly development series and analysis tables for Q2-2023 are carried out;
- The calculation of annual changes in indicators is carried out;
- Data analysis, development and publication of the Q2-2023 bulletin are effective.

■ The expert in socio-demographic statistics provided support to the NIS of Guinea for establishment of a half-yearly analysis note on socio-economic and demographic themes. The theme chosen for the first half of 2023 concerns the situation of women in labor market. Analysis and tabulation plan are being finalized.

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

AFRISTAT signed an agreement on October 28, 2021 with the Djiboutian authorities to strengthen the capacities of the 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 the World Bank.

Price statistics component

AFRISTAT carried out a technical support mission in price statistics to INSTAD over the period from September 24 to October 5, 2023.

The mission made it possible to achieve the following results:

- indices for September 2023 are calculated, analyzed and published;
- the secondary classifications are configured and initialized in order to finalize the classification of varieties in the Phoenix application;
- the secondary classification indices are calculated and validated over the period from January to September 2023;

- the Excel file of the new indices is created for a comparative analysis with the 2013 base indices already published for the period from January to August 2023;
- the rationale for moving from the 2013 CPI base to the 2022 CPI base is developed.

National accounts

An AFRISTAT mission carried out by the expert in national accounts took place from October 9 to 19, 2023 in Djibouti to support national accounts.

The overall objective of the mission was to continue the work of catching up with the national

accounts. They made it possible to:

- finalize the work carried out on the final accounts for 2015 and 2016;
- provide a reminder of the work to be carried out as part of the preparation of national accounts;
- carry out practical work on balancing transfer matrix;
- discuss the conduct of the work to be carried out on the Table of integrated economic accounts;
- discuss future work.

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

AFRISTAT signed a second agreement on October 3, 2022 with the 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 the economic situation, the macroeconomic framework, the public investment program (PIP) and computable general equilibrium modeling. The project resulting from this agreement is financed by the World Bank.

Macroeconomic framework component

Three AFRISTAT technical assistance missions took place for the renovation of the Djibouti Economy Model (MED), namely:

■ The first mission, led by two associated experts, took place from July 16 to 27, 2023 in Djibouti. This mission made it possible to: (i) insert the updated SUT data for the year 2018; (ii) finalize the GDP module; (iii) develop a first version of the projection modules for the Table of State Financial Operations (TOFE), the Balance of Payments, the monetary situation and a "Free Zone" module.

■ The second mission led by two associated experts took place from August 27 to September 7, 2023 in Djibouti. This mission made it possible to set up a second version of the model comprising the four major macroeco-

nom accounts and modules relating to the public debt situation, the public investment program and the free zone.

■ The third mission, led by two associated experts, took place from November 19 to 30, 2023 in Djibouti. This mission made it possible to improve the renovated model by finalizing and validating the macroeconomic accounts projection modules and related modules, by refinishing the model and adopting a model of the user manual for the renovated model.

Public Investment Program (PIP) Component

■ Work to develop methodological tools to enable proper preparation of the Public Investment Program and proper identification and implementation of public investment projects was carried out from June 15 to July 6, 2023 by an associated expert.

The mission took place in three phases, namely: (i) the preparation, of the first versions of methodological guides; (ii) the presentation of the guides and their enrichment during a workshop held in Djibouti; and, (iii) the development of a first draft of a decree relating to the maturation, prioritization and selection of public investment projects.

■ From October 1 to 13, 2023, AFRISTAT carried out a capacity building and validation mission of methodological guide projects.

The mission made it possible to strengthen the capacities of officials of the 6 key ministries on the principles of results-based management; the challenges of program budgeting; the process of developing the PIP and the process of developing the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework and validating methodological guides.

Project to support the development of statistics in Gabon

The implementation of the agreement signed in May 2021 between AFRISTAT and the National Commission for Works of Public Interest for the Promotion of Entrepreneurship and Employment (CNTIPPEE) of Gabon continued normally until the end of 2021. In 2022, the activities could not take place as planned and on the eve of the announced end of the initiative an extension of the execution was made.

Statistical coordination, dissemination and quality approach component

AFRISTAT carried out two technical assistance missions for the development of the 2023-2025 NSDS.

■ The first mission took place from July 24 to August 4, 2023. It made it possible to develop the NSS diagnostic report, to define the strate-

gic orientations of the NSDS and to prepare the collection of information for the action plan. It consisted of work with a technical team from the NIS and the holding of a validation workshop in the presence of sectoral structures.

■ The second mission took place from September 5 to 22, 2023. The work took place in the form of two workshops: the first with the

technical team and the second with representatives of sectoral statistical structures. At the end of the work, the action plan and the draft summary document of the NSDS 2023-2025 are available. The proposed action plan includes 4 strategic axes, 17 operational objectives and numerous activities. The NSDS 2023-2025 must still be validated by NSS before being adopted by the Council of Ministers.

FAO - AFRISTAT protocol for strengthening the capacities of 10 African countries for the production of SDG 2.1.1 and SDG 2.1.2 indicators

AFRISTAT signed a memorandum of understanding with FAO to strengthen the capacities of 10 AFRISTAT member states (national institutes of statistic and statistical units within the Ministries of Agriculture and/or food security of Benin, of Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Chad and Togo) to produce, analyze and communicate SDG 2.1.1 and SDG 2.1.2 indicators.

The general objective of this intervention is to strengthen the capacities of 10 beneficiary States of the Harmonized Survey of Household Living Conditions (EHCVM) program for the production of SDG indicators 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 to assist in decisions based on official estimates, as well as to develop a culture of statistical production oriented towards the optimization and pooling of resources.

More precisely, it will aim to achieve the following specific objectives:

1. The capacities of statisticians in beneficiary

States are strengthened for the production of SDG indicators 2.1.1 and 2.1.2;

2. SDG indicators 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 are produced using data from the first edition (2018-2019) of the harmonized survey on household living conditions (EHCVM) and possibly the second edition (2021-2022) depending on data availability;

3. SDG indicators 2.3.1 and 2.3.2 are produced from agricultural survey data for at least two countries;

4. Food security briefing notes/reports are pro-

duced and disseminated in each beneficiary country.

In the implementation, online training is planned for the benefit of executives of INS and statistical units within the Ministries of Agriculture and/or food security of the beneficiary countries and a regional workshop for the finalization of the SDG indicators 2.1.1, SDG 2.1.2, SDG 2.3.1 and SDG 2.3.2.

The Agreement, which entered into force on December 13, 2023, will end on December 31, 2024.

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 the development of a model and the collection of data on the loss of food products during storage in an AFRISTAT member country.

The Project for modeling and collecting data on losses of food products during storage was initiated by FAO and implemented by AFRISTAT in one of its Member States. After the choice of Mali, the data collection phase is implemented

by the Planning and Statistics Unit of the Rural Development Sector (CPS/SDR) of Mali.

The project made it possible to strengthen the capacities of CPS/SDR executives and produce resources for the implementation of investiga-

tions into the loss of food products during storage.

The survey report and the project financial report were transmitted and accepted by FAO.

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.

During the third quarter of 2023, AFRISTAT and the NIS of Côte d'Ivoire finalized the data collection tools for the ICT survey. This survey has two parts: a household part and a business part.

At the same time, the Observatory recruited an IT consultant who developed the CAPI collection application for the two operations. The survey was launched in September and the collection operation continued until October 2023.

The survey affected 1,714 households and 463 businesses. Alongside data collection, AFRISTAT developed tabulation and analysis plans as well as tabulation programs.

All of the tools were the subject of a validation workshop which was held from November 20 to 24, 2023 in Abidjan.

This workshop also made it possible to launch the cleaning and processing of data and to

agree on a timetable for the analysis and dissemination of the results of the study.

The first quarter of 2024 will be used for the development of study reports (preliminary and overall report) and the dissemination at national and regional level of the results.

Other AFRISTAT activities

BENIN

■ The AFRISTAT expert in charge of business statistics carried out, from October 2 to 13, 2023, a technical assistance mission in Cotonou to INSTAD for the continuation of work to take into account informal activities in the calculation of short-term indicators.

This mission made it possible to (i) launch the process of sampling informal production units (IPU) in departments/communes with a high concentration of informal production for each branch of activity, (ii) to develop collection materials for the selected IPUs, (iii) to visit certain IPUs already selected for the purposes of interviews and use of their activity books.

BURKINA FASO

■ An AFRISTAT mission carried out by the expert in national accounts took place from August 28 to September 8, 2023 in Ouagadougou, as part of training in national accounts financed by the NIS-AFRISTAT memorandum of understanding (MoU).

The mission's work made it possible to: (i) train national accounting executives in the general and operational aspects of the SNA 2008, as well as in the ERETES module; (ii) present the approach to processing source data and pre-arbitration work; (iii) implement the 2008 test set; (iv) train the team in the development of Supply and use Balances (SUB), branch accounts (BA); (v) present the approach to the final synthesis work; (vi) support the team in the work of preparing the 2020 national accounts.

■ MM. Nguema Meye Paul-Henri and Kana Kenfack Christophe, respectively Director General and associate expert of AFRISTAT, led an awareness and initiation workshop on the development of the national quality insurance framework from September 18 to 22, 2023 in Ouagadougou.



The mission allowed national stakeholders to better appreciate the quality of the work already carried out by the NIS, to establish a preliminary diagnosis of the statistical system of Burkina Faso as a whole in terms of quality insurance and to be introduced to the development of an inclusive national framework.

■ Mr. Sansan Honkounne Kambou, expert in survey data processing and information systems, carried out a mission to the NIS in Ouagadougou from October 9 to 13, 2023.

This mission made it possible to provide technical support to Burkina Faso by stabilizing the databases of the basic national survey on

Support missions by AFRISTAT experts

employment and the informal sector (ENB-ESI 2022-2023) and calculating spatial weightings.

■ Mr. Djabar Dine Adechian, expert in socio-demographic statistics, carried out a mission to the NIS in Ouagadougou from October 26 to 31, 2023. This mission made it possible to provide technical support to Burkina Faso by calculating the final spatial weightings for the data (households, individuals and employment) and the cleaning, processing and stabilization of the national survey databases. based on employment and the informal sector (ENB-ESI).

■ Mr. Sansan Honkounne Kambou, expert in survey and census data processing, information system, and Mr. Djabar Dine Adechian, expert in socio-demographic statistics carried out, from November 26 to December 8, 2023, a technical support mission to the NIS in Ouagadougou for processing and calculating indicators from the ENB-ESI survey.

The mission made it possible to: (i) stabilize the employment, household and informal sector databases; (ii) propose a model leaflet for the results of the household, employment and informal sector component; (iii) produce the main indicators of the employment component; to calculate the spatial weightings of the informal sector component.

BURUNDI

■ A mission, organized by the East African Community (EAC), in collaboration with the National Institute of Statistics of Burundi (INSBU), stayed from December 4 to 15, 2023 in Bujumbura, as part of training in the methodology for retropolating national accounts.

The mission was carried out by MM. Gervais Nduwimana and Ibrahima Sory, experts in national accounts, from EAC and AFRISTAT respectively.

The mission's work made it possible to: (i) present the methodology for retropolating national accounts; (ii) share the practices of some countries in carrying out retropolation work; (iii) carry out some practical cases of retropolation based on country data; (iv) support the technical team in developing a roadmap for the retropolation of national accounts.

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

■ A PAS2 ECOBUSAF-SOCSTAF project mission, in partnership with INSEE and AFRISTAT, took place from August 21 to 25, 2023 in Adiaké in Côte d'Ivoire, as part of support for the NIS regional accounts.

The work made it possible to: (i) present the general methodology for preparing regional accounts; (ii) discuss the implementation of classification; (iii) identify additional data sources and indicators required to carry out the work; (iv) discuss the implementation of the additional data collection system, and (v) discuss the strategy to be put in place for the conduct of future work.

DJIBOUTI

■ From October 28 to November 9, 2023, AFRISTAT carried out a technical assistance mis-

sion to Djibouti with NIS (INSTAD) for the organization of the general business census (GBC). It made it possible to develop the GBC implementation methodology document as well as the draft detailed budget for this operation.

BISSAU GUINEA

■ Mr. Paul-Henri Nguema Meye, Director General of AFRISTAT, led a delegation from the Observatory composed of Issoufou Meité and Seydou Doumbia respectively Computer scientist and statistician as part of a joint mission with the WAEMU Commission to Bissau. Carried out from November 11 to 23, 2023 to assist the NIS in recruiting staff specialized in statistics, IT and management in a transparent and inclusive manner.

This mission made it possible to select 15 statisticians, 6 computer scientists and 8 managers to join the NIS. It also made it possible to introduce officials from the NIS and the Ministry of Civil Service to the conduct of a selection process which does not give rise to any dispute.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

■ AFRISTAT carried out a technical support mission on the quality approach to Malabo on September 14 and 15, 2023. The AFRISTAT expert and the main members of the quality team from Equatorial Guinea took part in the work.

During the two days, the review of the draft version of the national quality insurance framework document of Equatorial Guinea was carried out and the main challenges that the national statistical system should address were highlighted.

MALI

■ The AFRISTAT national accounts expert carried out a mission from September 11 to 15, 2023 in Koulikoro in Mali, as part of support for the work of retropolating national accounts.

The mission's work made it possible to: (i) process the historical exogenous data collected; (ii) integrate the processed historical exogenous data into the retropolation calculations; (iii) finalize the retropolation work for large aggregates while ensuring the consistency of the results obtained.

MAURITANIE

■ An Expertise France mission carried out by Mr. Ibrahima Sory, Expert in national accounting from AFRISTAT, took place from August 7 to 18, 2023 in Nouakchott in Mauritania, as part of training in national accounting financed by Expertise France-France development agency (FDA).

The mission made it possible to: (i) train national accounting executives on the SNA 2008, as well as on the ERETES module; (ii) present approach of processing data source and pre-arbitration work; (iii) implement the 2008 test set; (iv) train the team in the development of Supply and use Balances (SUB), branch accounts (BA); and transfer operations matrix; (v) present approach of preparing national accounts at constant prices; (vi) present approach to the final synthesis work.

International activities

AFRISTAT took part in international meetings organized by its partners

N°	Events	Period	Location	Organizers
1	Ordinary and extraordinary meetings of the CESD Statisticians for Development Association	July 5, 2023	Paris	CESD Statisticien
2	6 th ordinary session of the National Statistics Council (NSC) of Mali	August 11, 2023	Bamako	CNS Mali
3	43 rd Ordinary Meeting of the WAMA Joint Technical Committee	September 7-9, 2023	Accra	WAMA
4	Advocacy meeting in favor of the mobilization of resources for the financing of the 2022-2026 NSDS of Equatorial Guinea	September 13, 2023	Malabo	INEGE
5	Regional workshop for processing data from the harmonized survey on household living conditions (EHCVM)	September 11-22, 2023	Abidjan	WAEMU Commission
6	Study visit to INSEE on employment and informal sector statistics	September 18-22, 2023	Paris	INSEE
7	21 st International Conference of Labor Statisticians (ICLS)	October 11-21, 2023	Geneva	OIT
8	Migration Data Week	October 17-20, 2023	Yaoundé	IOM
9	52 nd ordinary session of the IFORD Board of Directors	October 25-26, 2023	N'Djaména	IFORD
10	2 nd Joint Meeting of the Intergovernmental Committees of Senior Officials and Experts for North and West Africa	November 1-3, 2023	Accra	ECA SRO/WA
11	11 th virtual conference on the role of National Statistical Institutes in the ecosystem of production of environmental and climate change statistics	November 8, 2023	Virtuel	AFRISTAT/INSEE/PARIS21/UNECA
12	9 th African Think Tank Summit	November 8-10, 2023	Lusaka	ACBF
13	10 th extraordinary session of the IFORD Board of Directors	November 28, 2023	Virtuel	IFORD
14	28 th session of the African Commission for Agricultural Statistics (CASA/AFCAS)	December 4-8, 2023	Johannesburg	FAO
15	Regional training workshop on the process of establishing an industry production price index (IPPI)	December 4-8, 2023	Abidjan	France Expertise
16	Regional Statistics Day (RSD)	December 5, 2023	Ouagadougou	WAEMU Commission
17	Study visit on quality in statistics	December 6-8, 2023	Paris	AFRISTAT/INSEE
18	17 th meeting of the Committee of Directors General of the National Statistical Institutes (CoDG) of the African Union: Accelerate the implementation of the Continental Free Trade Area (ZLECAF) in Africa	December 13-15, 2023	Addis-Abeba	ECA

Echoes from National Statistical Institutes

BURUNDI

www.insbu.bj

- Celebration of the 12th Statistics Month in Burundi and 31st African Statistics Day, 2023 edition.

- Implementation of the 2008 System of National Accounts (2008 SNA) and change of the base year.

- Publication of a report on Burundi's food balance sheets for the year 2022.

- Capacity building of focal points on administration and updating of Open Data Portal (ODP).

- Organization of a workshop to set up a data collection system for the environmental sector and its operationalization with reference to the SDGs.

- Identification of data source structures for the calculation of monitoring indicators for the implementation of the "Vision Burundi Emerging Country in 2040, Developed Country in 2060".

- Training on national accounts retropolation methodology.

- Carrying out census mapping in Burundi for the fourth General Population and Housing Census (GPHC) and the 1st Agriculture and Livestock Census (RGAE).

CAMEROON

www.ins-cameroun.cm

- Signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Cameroon Human Rights Commission and the National Institute of Statistics on September 28, 2023.

- Updating the national directory of companies operating in Cameroon through the third General Business Census (RGE-3).

- Organization of a workshop to develop the methodology for producing the Turnover Index based on administrative sources.

- Start of the flagship socio-economic survey of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) called Forced Displacement Survey (FDS).

- Carrying out a pilot multi-sectoral needs assessment survey (EBMS) of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the Central region of Cameroon.

- Carrying out a survey aimed at improving access to contraception for all women in Cameroon using the Total Market Approach (TPA).

- Capacity building of SNIS staff on the new texts governing statistical activity in Cameroon.

CONGO

www.ins-congo.org

- Start of the post-censal survey (EPC) on September 9, 2023 to measure the level of coverage of the General Population and Housing Census (GPHC -5). Organization of EPC data processing and analysis workshops for the production of preliminary results.

- Publication of preliminary results of GPHC -5. Congo has 6,142,180 inhabitants as of May 17, 2023, the reference date for the main GPHC -5 enumeration.

- Publication of the harmonized national consumer price index (CPI) for August 2023. It increased by 0.1% monthly and by 4.7% year-on-year.

- In November 2023, the CPI increased slightly by 0.6% month-on-month and by 5% year-on-year.

- Publication of the foreign trade statistics bulletin for the first and second quarters of 2023.

- From September 27 to 29, 2023, the INS organized in the twelve (12) departments of the Republic the publication and dissemination workshop of the final report of the general census of Congolese businesses.

GABON

www.instatgabon.org

- The Directorate General of Statistics (DGS) organized, from December 27 to 29, 2023, the Statistics Dissemination Days on the theme: "Focus on dissemination for better visibility of statistics".

- Validation workshop of the summary document of the interim NSDS 2023-2025 from October 3 to 6, 2023 in Libreville.

- Validation workshop of the Statistical Yearbook of Education and Training (2020-2021) from October 13 to 23, 2023 in Libreville.

MALI

www.instat-gov.ml

- Holding on August 11, 2023 of the sixth statutory session of the National Statistics Council of Mali.

- Communication on August 9, 2023 to the Council of Ministers of the results of the fifth General Population and Housing Census (GPHC -5): The Malian population stands at 22 million 395 thousand 485 inhabitants, in 2022.

- Popularization of statistical data in Mali: The Malikunnafofi socio-economic database updated during a workshop, from July 19 to 21, 2023.

- The National Institute of Statistics (INSTAT) and the entire national statistical system of Mali celebrated, on November 18, 2023, the 33rd African Statistics Day (ASD) by videoconference.

MAURITANIE

www.ons.mr

- Preparation of the fifth General Population and Housing Census (GPHC -5) in December 2023 which will be organized by ANSADE.

SENEGAL

www.ansd.sn

- Publication on October 31, 2023 of the preliminary results of GPHC -5. The population of Senegal is 18,032,473 inhabitants.

- With a view to changing the base year of national accounts, the NIS has undertaken to carry out a set of surveys to update economic structures and improve the coverage of economic activities by national accounts.

- Development of the fourth National Statistics Development Strategy (NSDS IV): an ambitious and innovative strategy with a view to providing a coherent and concerted framework to realize the vision of the NSS.

TOGO

www.togostat.org

- Holding from August 7 to 11, 2023, a regional workshop on Geospatial Analysis of data from the General Population and Housing Census.

- Organization of a workshop to validate the results of the impact analysis of the Project to Support the Employability and Integration of Youth in Growth Sectors (PAEIJ-SP) on September 29, 2023.

- Training of NSS executives on the revision of the NSDS 2020-2024 and the development of the National Report on support for statistics (Country report on support to statistics CRESS), from July 4 to 6, 2023.

- Validation of the 2020-2021 national statistical directory on December 21, 2023 by INSEED and its partners.

- Validation of the national directory of concepts and definitions and the manual of indicators and metadata of the statistical system of Togo on December 28 and 29, 2023.

Meetings, workshops and seminars

Nairobi, January 19 - 20, 2024

Regional Meeting on Industrial Statistics

New York, February 27 - March 1, 2024

55th session of the United Nations Statistical Commission

Ouagadougou, January 22 - 26, 2024

Regional workshop for the development and validation of methodology for collecting and calculating priority indicators from the Housing Center

Abuja, February 29 - March 7, 2024

WAMA End of Year 2023 Statutory Meetings

Praia, January 29 - February 2, 2024

Project Seminar
"Census Reference Centers
with Electronic Data Collection in Africa"

Dakar, March 18 - 29, 2024

Regional workshop on the configuration and initialization of secondary nomenclatures and the calculation of the first test indices

Cotonou, January 29 - February 9, 2024

Regional determination workshop, subclass expenses not covered

May 7 - 10, 2024

Economic seminar for the first half of 2024

Abuja, February 12 - 16, 2024

Validation workshop of the methodological guide of the Harmonized Consumer Price Index (CPI)

Mexico City, May 15 - 17, 2024

Joint IAOS-ISI Conference 2024

February 22, 2024

Workshop on tourism satellite accounts

Cotonou, May 20 - 24, 2024

Sub-regional workshop for information and sharing of experiences in terms of quality assurance and control of statistical data production

Paris, June 20 - 21, 2024

Association of National Accounts Conference 2024

NECROLOGY
DEATH OF MR. LUIS ONDO OBONO



The General Management of AFRISTAT was informed with great sadness of the death of Mr. LUIS ONDO OBONO, which occurred on September 23, 2023.

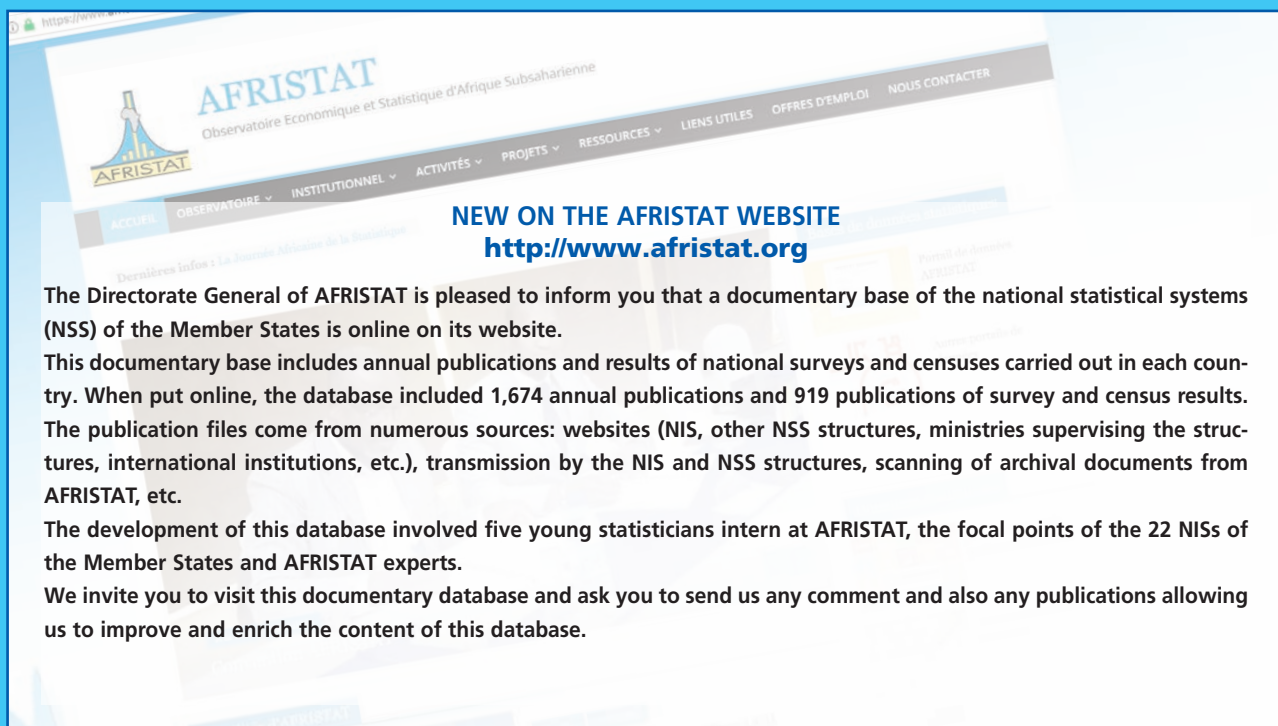
Mr. Ondo Obono, former Director General of Statistics and National Accounts in Equatorial Guinea, in the period from 2004 to 2012, dedicated his life to the Statistics Service of his country.

He was General Controller of the National Institute of Social Security (INSESO) of Equatorial Guinea and worked as an IT Systems Analyst in the UNDP project EQG/95/007/. At the time of his death, he held the position of Technical Advisor at the National Institute of Statistics of Equatorial Guinea (INEGE).

Chairman of the AFRISTAT Steering Committee from 2009 to 2010, Mr. Luis Ondo Obono honorably occupied this position during his mandate.

In memory of his contribution to the development of the Observatory, the Director General and all AFRISTAT staff implore Almighty God to allow him to rest in peace and to console his grieving family.

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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