

# AFRICAN PROGRAMME ON URBANIZATION DATA AND STATISTICS

Obtaining Urban Data for Improved Urban  
Planning and Growth

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# BACKGROUND

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Urbanization being multi-dimensional requires data and statistics from varied sources and an integrated approach to urban planning and development which can only be obtained through quality and timely data of urban areas including cities, towns, communes, metropolitan areas, districts, municipalities and any locality defined as urban.

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# WHY AN URBANIZATION DATA AND STATISTICS PROGRAMME?

# Rationale

- ❑ Reporting on global, regional commitments
  - ❖ *SDGs*
  - ❖ *Agenda 2063*
  - ❖ *The New Urban Agenda*
  - ❖ *Others-Sendai, Addis Ababa*
  - ❖ *National visions and plans*
- ❑ Strengthen national development planning processes
- ❑ Harness Africa's urban future
- ❑ Reiterating the need to strengthen urbanization data

# Guidance

## □ REGIONAL

- ❖ Strategy on the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA) II
- ❖ The Reference Regional Strategic Framework for Statistical Capacity Building in Africa (RRSF)
- ❖ Regional Strategies for the Development of Statistics (RSDS)

## □ NATIONAL

- ❖ National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS)

The mandate to establish the African Programme on Urbanization Data and Statistics as an emerging Statistical area was provided by the Tenth Session of the Committee of Director Generals of National Statistical Offices and, the Fifth Session of the Statistical Commission for Africa, in 2016.

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# THE PROGRAMME



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# PRINCIPLES GUIDING PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

Enshrined in the production, analysis and application of urbanization data and statistics:

- ❑ National ownership and engagement;
- ❑ Alignment to existing systems and processes at national, regional and global level;
- ❑ Alignment to global, regional and national reporting commitments

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# OBJECTIVES, OUTPUTS, OUTCOMES

Overall objective- advocate, strengthen capacity, generate knowledge and strengthen coordination on urban (cities, towns, communes, metropolitan etc....,) data and statistics in Africa. Specifically:

❑ Strengthen Capacity of :

- ❖ National statistical systems to collect, compile and analyze urbanization data and statistics through a coordinated regional approach;
- ❖ member States to report on regional and global commitments ;
- ❖ member States capacity to report on programmes and plans;
- ❖ Countries to bring about the comparability of urban data for evidence based policies and strategies as a bid to promote sustainable cities and human settlements for inclusive growth and transformation;

❑ Generate knowledge on:

- ❖ Spatial data and statistics as a tool for economic and social development planning

*Continued:*

- ❖ Needs of the data users and ensure availability of data

- ❑ Strengthen Coordination:

- ❖ Ensure that urban data and statistics are in line with SHaSA and the African integration agenda, particularly the Minimum Integration Programme (MIP);- Regional level
- ❖ Among partners to bring about urbanization data comparability;

- ❑ Advocate at technical and policy levels as well as national and regional levels, advocacy tools on urbanization data and statistics

- ❑ Report on review of urban in NSS
- ❑ Training programme on urbanization data and statistics
  - ❖ Guidelines, tools, methodologies
- ❑ Knowledge products;
  - ❖ Reference Guide on urbanization data and stats
  - ❖ Comparable data, regionally
  - ❖ Compendium/taxonomy of urban data and statistics

- ❑ Enhanced capacity in Urban statistics at national level to produce and harmonize urban statistics for regional comparability;
- ❑ Increased capacity at national level to collect, analyze, store and disseminate urban data and statistics;
- ❑ An urban statistics network to facilitate exchange and learning between national and regional statistical experts, institutions and related stakeholders.

- ❑ The three Regional African institutions: ECA (secretariat), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the African Union Commission (AUC);
- ❑ United Nations organizations: UN Habitat; UNFPA;
- ❑ Regional Economic Communities (RECs):
- ❑ Member States: Burkina Faso; Cameroon; Cote d'Ivoire; Egypt; Ethiopia; Guinea Equatorial; Nigeria; Niger; Republic of Central Africa, South Africa; Uganda and Zambia.



- (a) Promote mainstreaming of urbanization statistics in national statistical systems and in national planning mechanisms;
- (b) Promote coordination of initiatives and activities on urban data and statistics in Africa;
- (c) Coordinate the implementation of activities of the African Programme on Urbanization Data and Statistics and;
- (d) Promote the exchange of experiences and good practices on urban data and statistics.

- ☐ Other United Nations organizations
- ☐ Statistical training centres;
- ☐ Regional and International organizations

The indicators of achievement for the programme are:

- ☐ Increased number of African countries producing urban data and statistics indicators in a regionally coordinated manner, using agreed upon statistical definitions, methodologies and formats;
- ☐ Increased availability of harmonized urban data statistics indicators in national and regional databases also aligned to international data standards;
- ☐ Increased number of African statistical training centres and universities that have integrated and are teaching urban data and statistics in their statistics training programmes and;
- ☐ Increased number of African countries using urban data and statistics to design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies, programmes and projects.

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# IMPLEMENTING STRATEGY AND ACTIVITIES AND MONITORING

Regional level initiative with National level implementation.  
Activities will be led by the core working group:

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# PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

## ❑ Short, medium and long term

- ❖ Stakeholder Engagement- state and non-state actors;
  - Continuous dialogue and engagement. – National and Regional;
- ❖ Knowledge generation for urbanization data and stats. i.e. Methodologies, guidelines, tools, quality assurance of data; research
- ❖ Capacity building
- ❖ Repository and dissemination
- ❖ Advocacy

- ❑ Identify good practices for integration of urban data into the production, analyses and use of statistics
- ❑ Advocate for decentralization of National Statistical Systems to enhance data disaggregation
- ❑ Obtain information on mainstreaming data into national statistical systems, including in all traditional areas of statistical production as well as emerging data ecosystems;
- ❑ Promote dialogue and coordination among producers of urban data and statistics. These committees will be cross-cutting because of the membership composition



Cost Effective way to conduct the review of urban data

- ❑ Stakeholders meeting of all producers and users of urban data to review available data and assess data gaps. NSDS technical committee/ working group on urban statistics with well-defined ToRs
- ❑ Experience sharing from other NSOs who are producing urban data
- ❑ Review of available baseline data- surveys, census, administrative data through a questionnaire to city councils etc.

- ❑ Scooping exercise, taking stock of existing capacity building initiatives on urbanization data and statistics
- ❑ Regional and national level training programme on urbanization data and statistics through institutionalized programmes such as Statistical Training centers;
  - ❖ Data producers and users; analyzing urbanization data from census data and household surveys;
  - ❖ Strengthen administrative data sources – Management Information Systems
  - ❖ Integrate urban statistics in school curriculum
  - ❖ Integrate urbanization into national development planning
  - ❖ GIS - Visualization
  - ❖ City GDP/CPI and labour market indicators.
  - ❖ TOT trainings and workshops on urban data and statistics at regional level.
  - ❖ E-learning workshops and trainings on urban data and statistics.

- ❑ Joint research and publications:
  - ❖ State of urbanization in Africa
  
- ❑ Joint development of methodologies, guidelines and tools- for monitoring urbanization processes
  - ❖ Harmonize concepts and definitions on urban data and statistics: countries need to use the same definitions about urban areas

### **❑ The African Statistical Yearbook**

The ECA, African Development Bank (AfDB) and African Union Commission (AUC) together produce the African Statistical Year Book (ASYB) based on data collected from the member states through a common format. Urban core indicators will be included in the publication.

### **❑ Pan African Statistical Databases**

The statistical database maintained by ECA, AfDB and AUC will also include urban statistics.

### **❑ The Regional Hand Book on Sustainable Development Goals**

The ECA is developing a Regional Hand Book for the meta data of the Selected Regional set of sustainable Development Goals in Africa. The urban core and component will be strengthened in this handbook accordingly.

### **❑ National observatories and platforms**

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# IMPLEMENTING AND PARTNER ARRANGEMENTS

# IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS ARRANGEMENTS



STAKEHOLDER AND CATEGORY	ROLE/ RESPONSIBILITY
(a) National level	
National statistics offices	Collection, Production of Data and Coordination
Private sector	
Machineries In Charge of Planning	Lead coordination
Sectoral Ministries	Data producers and data users
Sub-National level	
Academia and Statistical training centres, universities	
Local government	
Civil society groups	Advocacy; Dissemination;
(a) Regional level	
Intergovernmental organizations	Training
Regional Statistical Centers	
(d) International level	
Multinational and Intergovernmental organizations	

The "Africa First" logo is centered in the upper half of the image. It consists of a white silhouette of the African continent to the left of the word "AFRICA" in a bold, white, sans-serif font. Below "AFRICA" is the word "FIRST" in a larger, bold, white, sans-serif font. The entire logo is set against a background of faint, vertical, light blue bars.

# THANK YOU!

For more info: [zawedde@un.org](mailto:zawedde@un.org)

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