

Directory of statistical services of international organisations

UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS FOR AFRICA (UNECA)

Brief description of the organisation	<p>Established in 1958, ECA is one of the five regional commissions under the administrative directions of UNHQ. As the regional arm of the UN in Africa, it is mandated to support the economic and social development of its 53 member states, foster regional integration and promote international cooperation for Africa's development. Its reports to the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).</p> <p>Statistical activities of UNECA are aimed to implement the international standards through meetings, development of manuals, dissemination and training workshop and technical assistance to countries on international standard. Also, through technical assistance, ECA collect data from countries, ECA database and publications are mainly from country sources.</p>
Mission	<p>The mission of the African Centre for Statistics (ACS) of ECA is to strengthen the statistical capability of African statistical system for the production of quality statistics in a manner consistent with the international standard, ECA services is delivered through a variety of tools, including training workshops, seminars, development of manuals and technical assistances to implement these manuals. Through these capacity building activities, ACS collaborates with national statistical systems (NSS) to develop quality data in compliance with standard and collect these data for the statistical database and the statistical yearbook.</p> <p>The ACS is the regional coordinator of statistics in Africa, ACS organize several coordination meetings, including the Statistical Commission for Africa (StatCom-Africa), the Forum of donors, partners and statistical offices on African Statistical Development (FasDev) and the African Symposium on Statistical Development (ASSD) focusing on the round of population censuses and the African Statistical Coordination Committee (ASCC) which consist of AfDB, AUC, ACBF and ECA.</p>
Field of Statistics	<p>The field of UNECA statistical activities i.e. mainly technical support are covering a wide range of statistical subjects, including economic, demographic, environmental social statistics and statistical development and statistical advocacy (NSDS). For each subjects, the ACS carry out workshops and technical assistance with relevant UN agencies (e.g. UNSD, PARIS21, WB...) and regional organization (AfDB, AUC and ACBF)</p>

Mandate	There is a compelling case for the increasing attention to statistical development in Africa, because a majority of African countries do not have sufficient capacity to generate reliable and comprehensive data for evidence-based planning and decision-making. Through various meetings and forum, the member states request ECA to revitalize and to scale up its assistance to African countries in Statistics, as a result, the statistics division of ECA, as ACS, was re-established in 2006.
Statistical work programme	Statistics work programme is generally developed in accordance with the biennial programme and budget cycle of the Organization. The current programme runs for 2009-2010. Due to the expanded mandate from the ECA repositioning, the ACS activities increased considerably, including support to the 2010 RPHC, coordination of statistical activities in Africa.
Number of staff <i>Total / Statistical division</i>	19 Regular staffs and 2 regional advisors on statistical organization and on censuses and 2 consultants.

Flagship Publications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ African Statistical Yearbook (AfDB/ECA) ▪ African Statistical Database ▪ Compendium on African Trade Statistics ▪ African Statistical Newsletter (quarterly) ▪ African Statistical Day (on 18 Nov), through the provision of material and DVD for the celebration to all member countries and sub regional organizations. ▪ Report of the ASSD, FASDEV and StatCom-Africa.
Website	www.uneca.org/statistics

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