

NEWSLETTER

NL #2, Aug. 2017

CSA Ethiopia

World Bank Financed Project
Statistics for Results (SFR)

The four Branch offices buildings financed by World Bank through SFR project inaugurated



Midterm Review conducted by an independent institution concluded that the Statistics for Result (SFR) project has exceeded performance expectations

Stakeholders establish a common understanding on the Census 2010 Communication Strategy

The Central Statistical Agency (CSA) of Ethiopia once again leads all other African statistical offices in timely agricultural data production

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CSA experts participate in local and international trainings

Midterm Review conducted by an independent institution concluded that the Statistics for Result (SFR) project has exceeded performance expectations

CSA/SFR

The need for reliable and timely data is more important than ever before. Reliable and timely data is important for the systematic measurement, monitoring and evaluation of development policies, plans and targets.

The Government of Ethiopia and the World Bank designed the Ethiopia Statistics for Results (SFR) project to build the capacity of the National Statistics System in general and CSA in particular.



The midterm evaluation, conducted by the firm DAB Research and Training, aimed to assess the status of the SFR project in terms of achieving its set objectives. It sought to identify the strengths and weakness of project implementation; identify risks and counter measures; and learn how to improve the ongoing work for the remaining project period.

The evaluation took a retrospective approach. It reviewed several documents and used various data collection methods, such as desk review, key informant interviews, and observations.

It concluded that the SFR project has achieved many of the goals that were set at its inception, although the achievements varied across outcomes and project components. The project benefited members of both the National Statistical System (NSS) both directly and indirectly. The percentage of data users that were satisfied

with the accessibility of official statistics has reached 55.7 percent, indicating that the project is in harmony with the needs of the target beneficiaries.

The project also achieved substantive progress in strengthening the organizational capacity of CSA and NSS through the provision of training opportunities, both local and overseas. These trainings were evaluated as having been successful, as a high number of participants noted that the trainings' relevance to their work, as well as the high quality of the trainers. However, it was noted that although female trainees were well represented in the administrative support staff, they were less available among technical staff. This signals the need to further investigate of CSA and NSS, as it relates to gender.

The midterm evaluation noted the successful construction of four branch offices in Bahir Dar, Mekelle, Ambo, and Hawassa, despite slow progress in Bahir Dar and Ambo due to political instability and late design changes. As for the environmental and social aspects associated with the construction of the branch offices, the evaluation noted that (i) there were no major adverse environmental impacts associated with the construction, and (ii) there were no notable accidents observed during construction.

The SFR project has achieved many of its intended objectives in the area of statistical methodology, standards and data quality assurance and information dissemination. The evaluation also noted that the SFR project supported three surveys, including the Agriculture Sample Survey, Population Census, and Vital Statistics Survey. However, the project still lags in establishing an IT data center and a fully equipped video conferencing room.

The midterm review evaluation concluded that the project is found satisfactory in terms of its progress towards the attainment of the project development objectives.

Stakeholders establish a common understanding on the Census 2010 Communication Strategy

CSA/SFR

Communications officials from federal- and regional-level government offices gathered to support the success of the fourth Population and Housing Census, which will be taking place in Nov 2017. CSA, in collaboration with the Ethiopian government's Communication Affairs Office, arranged a two-day sensitization workshop on the Communication Strategy of Population and Housing Census (PHC) developed for 2010 EC.



Dr. Negere Lencho, Federal Communication Affairs Office Minister



Dr. Negere Lencho, Federal Communication Affairs Office Minister, said on the occasion that coordination among stakeholders for the success of the Census is of paramount importance. For this, media and communication offices and experts can play a big role to bring clear understanding among the general public on the Census' dates and relevance, and on the role of stakeholders and society at large. The Minister emphasized that each communication office and media house, whether government-owned or private, has a responsibility to support the carryout of the Census, and to prioritize it in their day to day activities.

Population and Housing Census data are indispensable for effective development planning, as well as the research and analysis of social and economic phenomena. Census results, with other sources of data, are necessary for the formulation of policies affecting economic and social development, especially at lower administrative levels and for special population subgroups.

The Government of Ethiopia conducts the Population and Housing Census every ten years. Ato Biratu Yigezu, Director General of Central Statistical Agency, mentioned that CSA will employ better methods and new and innovative technologies in the upcoming census to increase the reliability and accessibility of data. He also stated that preparatory activities for the Census have already begun, such as mapping across the nation, which is nearly completed, and the development of questionnaires. Two pilot censuses have been conducted in selected areas. Tablets uploaded the necessary software were used in the pilot censuses and questionnaires are examined. CSA cannot be successful without promotional and communication activities; in this regard, the Director General conveyed the need for communication officials to strive to create awareness among the public.

In the two-day sensitization program, CSA experts presented how the mapping has been implemented and its purposes, the technologies which will be effective in the PHC2017 were

Introduced, what questionnaires will be forwarded for the counted are sited. Most importantly thorough discussion has been made on the Communication Strategy of Census, and finally common understanding between communications specialists are created to work with the Census Commission.

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The Central Statistical Agency (CSA) of Ethiopia once again leads all other African statistical offices in timely agricultural data production.....

The African Development Bank's Statistical Department's Agricultural Statistics Capacity Indicator, published in May 2017, showed that CSA was ranked highest in the timely production of Agricultural Composite statistics. Using international standards to measure African statistical offices with regard to their institutional infrastructure, resources, statistical methods and practices, as well as the availability of statistical information, the publication showed that CSA achieved this result even though it had average resources, compared to other African countries.



The Global Strategy is a comprehensive framework for improving the availability and use of agricultural and rural data, which are necessary for evidence-based policy-making that can improve the lives and livelihoods of Africans across the continent. The Global Strategy's overarching aim is to improve countries' statistical capacities to produce timely, reliable, and sustainable agricultural and rural statistics. Africa was the first region to develop and implement its Action Plan in order to ascertain the status of agricultural statistical capacity in African countries.

A standardized tool for the measurement of the performance of National Agricultural Statistics Systems (NASS) was developed within the framework of the Global Strategy. This tool collected basic data to be used to generate standard objective indicators at the start of the implementation period of the Action Plan. Thereafter, these evolved into monitoring and evaluation (M&E) indicators to track the statistical capacities of African countries to produce agricultural data of the required quality and quantity for policy formulation and decision-making. In short, the Country Assessment (CA)

process served to establish the baseline indicators and to measure the evolution of National Agricultural Statistics Systems (NASS) in African countries. It also facilitated the development of an appropriate program to address national needs in terms of technical assistance, training, and research. The CA process was scheduled to be carried out in three cycles during the implementation period of the Action Plan. It was conducted first for the reference year 2013 to provide baseline data. The second and third cycles of the CA were scheduled to be undertaken for the reference years 2015 and 2017, to measure the ongoing performance of African countries, and determine the real impact of the Action Plan on their capacity to produce agricultural statistics.

Objectives of the Country Assessments for the reference year 2015 were conducted during 2016 to measure how well the Action Plan for Africa was being implemented in terms of its effectiveness, using only the requisite variables to compute the related ASCI. In addition, the CAs provide data to assist the compilation of indicators which, in turn, determine the technical assistance and training components of the Action Plan for Africa.

The scope of CAs covers all the data items and elements needed to compute all four dimensions of the Agricultural Statistics Capacity Indicators (namely: Prerequisites Dimension, Input Dimension, Throughout Dimension, and Output Dimension). The data items are encapsulated under the following three modules: i) An overview of the National Statistical System (NSS), which covers the institutional environment and core data availability to assess the status of the Minimum Set of Core Data (MSCD) across regional countries; Progress on the Capacity of African Countries to Produce Timely, Reliable, and Sustainable Agricultural Statistics Agricultural Statistics Capacity Indicators (ASCI) for the 2013 and 2015 reference years 3 ii) A review of the ongoing statistical activities and critical constraints in agriculture statistics system at the level of the National Bureau of Statistics; and iii) information on the subsectors of agriculture, at the level of concerned line ministries.

In the categories of data collection/compilation, checking, and validation, thereby ensuring data quality and timeliness, the Central Statistical Agency of Ethiopia recorded the highest score from all other participating African countries. It is for the second time for the Central Statistical Agency (CSA) of Ethiopia recorded the same result in the evaluation of statistical results. In this evaluation, South Africa and Mali came second and third, respectively.

CSA experts participate in local and international trainings

Since the establishment of the SFR project in 2014, both CSA experts and support staff and other National Statistical System members have participated in trainings and various experience sharing programs.



Experience sharing visit at Korean Statistics Bureau

A total of 2,475 (1,674 male, 801 female) individuals took part in either local training and overseas study tours, or in-country scholarship programs. Among these, 32.4% of the participants were females. The participation of females is comparatively low, as there are more males at expert, medium and top management levels. Since its inception, the SFR project planned to provide training for 2,869 individuals over the course of three years. So far, 86.2% of the target have been met.

In March 2016, the Center for Creative Leadership provided a Leadership and Change Management training course for top and middle level managers of CSA and National Planning Commission in Adama. A total of 26 (23 male, 3 female) participants attended this four-day training. Four of the participants were from the National Planning Commission.



Leadership and change management training

CSA-SFR project entered into an agreement with the Ethiopian Statistical Association to train CSA experts at both Addis Ababa and branch offices in CSPRO and STA-TA. A total of 42 (36M, 6F) staff members from CSA's head office have attended the training so far. This training will continue for another year.

Ten experts took part in an overseas training course on Poverty Mapping and Small Area Estimation. The two-week training took place in Bangkok at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT). Trainees learned how to evaluate economic growth versus its impact on poverty and inequality, poverty measurement, and poverty mapping at a sub national level using household census data and representative survey data, which will later feed into the poverty mapping exercise to be conducted in the upcoming year.

Two rounds of a two-week training on the Improvement and Management of National Accounts was offered to the staff of the National Planning Commission and CSA. A total of 14 staff members participated. Of these, eleven were from National Planning Commission and three from CSA. The main objective of the course was to build capacity of National Economic Accounts Directorate (NAD) experts through knowledge and skill transfer on National Accounts Statistics and Economic and Financial Statistics.

The SFR project also organized a training on sample survey, field organization, and data quality for a total of 24 branch managers and two desk heads. The training was given in two rounds in April and May 2017. The trainings took place at the Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute in New Delhi. The major objectives of the training were to equip branch managers with knowledge on statistical methodology, coordination, field organization and supervision; as well as to improve their knowledge in the quality control of statistical data, and increase their capacity with regard to planning, monitoring and evaluation.

Moreover, five individuals from Agricultural Statistics Directorate went to Jakarta, Indonesia to learn about fishery statistics on Feb. 2017. The main objective of the study visit was to study major concepts on fishery statistics and to develop survey methodology, which will enable the participants to design and prepare fishery sample frame for fishery survey.



Field visit showing how data collection on fishery is monitored, Jakarta, Indonesia

Participants of the training and experience sharing programs expressed their satisfaction are satisfied very well and have learned new experiences and innovative approaches, which will improve their performance and achievement in the survey, data collection, analysis and important statistical studies in their job.

SFR project has organized a training in two rounds on statistical awareness and survey methodologies via Video conference using woreda net infrastructure, which covered many towns of the country. The training conducted for three-days and provided for more than 1,237 participants. The participants were drawn from NSS member organizations and CSA branch offices. The three-day training aimed to create statistical awareness among the participating staff of NSS members regarding CSA's major activities, and to build their capacity in data quality and sampling techniques.

The training was arranged in towns/cities, while CSA Branch Offices are available and video conference is functional. At least 27 different areas located across the country are covered. Education, Health, Investment, City Administration and Agriculture Bureaus, (at Regional, Zonal, Woreda and City Administration level) are among the participants in the Training. Moreover, sectors such as, Finance and Economic Development, Children and Women Affairs, Urban Development and Housing, Trade and Industry, Labor and Social Affairs, and Vital Statistics were included in the training given.

The trainers were senior statistical experts from CSA directorates (namely, Household Survey and Price, Agriculture, Business, and National Statistics Data Quality and Standard Coordination) as well as a statistics professor from Addis Ababa University. The training was given on August 2016.

Participants expressed their feeling that they have got knowledge about sampling techniques, survey and census methods of research. They also understood much about the roles and responsibilities of CSA. The training helps them to know more about the activities of CSA on Agriculture, Business, Household consumptions etc.



From Southern Nation and Nationalities Vital Registration office

"It is no doubt that a training on how to conduct surveys, collecting data, analysing them, how to maintain its confidentiality, distributing to the concerned bodies has paramount importance for an expert who is working in the Vital registration office (especially to an expert like myself who receive and analysis data from the public). I also pointed out that if CSA and World Bank could able to provide us computers which assists our work, it will much better for our works. Moreover, this training shall include people who are working in all levels (including kebele)".



Tesfaye Taddesse(participant)
Hawassa Department of Health

"I have never expected that CSA has such a big responsibility in producing various statistical data and in many sectors, in Business, Agriculture, Household and many more. While I am working in health Bureau, I even didn't know that CSA has produced DHS as well. The data usually has sent from MOH and I imagined that it has produced by MOH, but it is CSA. Data produced by CSA and other sectors sometimes would not match and it creates confusion among users. For this we have to work in collaboration and this training gives this perspective"

Procurement Activities Statistics for Results (SFR) Project Executed for the Past Three Years

The project procurement tasks have been conducted in accordance with the World Bank's procurement guidelines, revised on January 2011. As per the guideline for procurement of Goods, Works and Non-Consulting services and guideline for the selection and employment of consultants, the project procurement tasks have been performed to achieve the intended project purposes explained in the first 18 months of procurement plan and subsequent revisions:

Procurement report summarized and comprised up to August 2016

S/N	Description
	Goods
1	IT Equipment for Head Office
2	Procurement of Surveying Tools FOR Branch Offices (Measuring Taps, Digital balance, GPS enabled data logger)
3	Procurement of Vehicles
4	Procurement of IT equipment
	Desk Top Computer, Laptop Computer, External Hard Disk, 32GB Memory Card, IPAD, Vm-ware EXI6 Support
5	PROCUREMENT OF OFFICE EQUIPMENTS (Video Camera)
6	Procurement of office furniture for PIU
	Works
1	CSA Hawassa Branch Offices Construction
2	CSA Mekele Branch Offices Construction
3	CSA Bahirdar Branch Offices Construction
4	CSA Ambo Branch Offices Construction
	Consulting Services
1	Consultations for the development of the next NSDSII
2	Business statistics Development study
3	stakeholder analysis, development of user satisfaction index, training & communication support (e.g. via web, media, radio)
4	Project Audit for the year ended 2015
5	Project Audit for the year ended 2016
6	Program Coordinator at CSA HQ
7	Development of Financial Manual for the project
8	Hiring of PIU Staffs and newly identified positions in the course of project implementation

Procurement tasks since Sept 2016 and currently in progress

S/N	Description
	Goods and non-consulting services
1	10 pieces of Motorcycle with accessories
2	Procurement of reference Books
3	Procurement of different IT Equipment, Supply, Installation, Commissioning, Testing and Provision of Training for the implementation Different Software's, Backup UPS, and Video Conference Service Hall including 200 desktop computers for BOs
4	Procurement of 2300 pieces of Android Tablets
5	Procurement of Furniture for Branch Offices
6	Supply and commissioning of CSA's fleet Management systems
7	331 pieces of Solar panel
8	Procurement of 1500 licenses Antivirus for CSA head quarter, the contract includes configuration and free maintenance
9	Procurement of Heavy Duty Diesel generator and 4 elevators for BOs
10	Procurement of ECSA (under bidding preparation)
11	Drama & public announcement for promoting 2017 population census
12	Preparation of Brochures to promote the SFR project
	Works
1	CSA HQ, renovation of office space at the headquarter
2	Building of Training hall at CSA HQ
3	Aluminium Partition works for CSA new building
	Consulting services
1	Hiring of a firm to conduct project midterm evaluation
2	User satisfaction assessment survey II round
3	Replacement of Procurement and financial management staffs
5	Project Audit for the year ended 2016
6	Hiring of firms for project performance video production
7	LOGO & Branding development & upgrading of Website for CSA
8	Recruitment of IT network administrator

Enabling environment for SFR procurement undertakings

- CSA’s top managements are closer for prompt support on any procurement tasks under issue,
- The Bid Endorsing Committees is fast for timely decision.
- SFR staffs are worked as a team for procurement backlogs.



The four Branch offices buildings financed by World Bank through SFR project inaugurated

After the completion of the Constructions of the four branch offices in *Ambo, Bahir Dar, Mekelle, and Hawassa* are now opened for operation. The four-branch office construction begun last year on 2016 following the agreement made between the Ethiopian Government and the World Bank. Statistics for Result Project (SFR) project then established with four major components to perform. Under the theme of realizing Organizational Infrastructure Capacity Development component the SFR project constructed four branch offices in Amhara, Tigray, Oromia and Debu regional states.

Close follow ups have been undertaken to expedite the construction of CSA branch offices from the beginning to its end. Social and environmental impact assessment of the constructions indicated that there were no major adverse environmental impacts associated with the construction of the four CSA Branch Offices buildings.

Construction of the lift shaft for all sites, which was left behind due to budget constraint has been made up on the decision by the project office. Site gardening also implemented in all construction sites of the four branch offices.

Area distributions at each Sites

Branch Office	Plot Size	Built-up Area	Store/Basement	Training and Library	Office Space
Ambo	2000m2	453m2	345 m2	130 m2	725 m2
Bahir Dar	2000m2	453m2	345 m2	130 m2	950 m2
Hawassa	1000 m2	453 m2	120 m2	130 m2	725 m2
Mekelle	2000 m2	453 m2	120 me	130 m2	725 m2

Bahir Dar: among the four branch offices of CSA constructions the four-store building in Bahirdar now opened for use after twelve months. Construction of the building was not easy as we have observed the picture here. The soil condition is swampy and needed revision on Structural foundation design. Deep excavation up to the rock level were important.



The location of the site is sloppy and measures has been taken to protect the building and divert the storm water. Particularly, retaining wall at the front and sides of the building, and at the two sides of the site for vehicle access have been built. In addition, selected material also filled up in every part necessary.

Ambo: Due to the soil condition and slope of the site, some measures have been taken also in the construction of Ambo branch office. Some of the measures were bulk excavation up to the foundation level and selected material were filled.



Hawassa: among all four constructions in four different regional states Hawassa branch office were smoothly completed without significant challenges.



Mekelle: Soil condition in Mekelle is rocky and excavation was highly difficult. Currently the three-story building is ready for function.

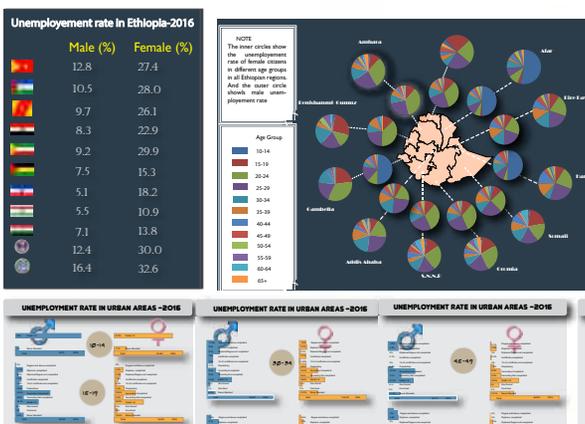
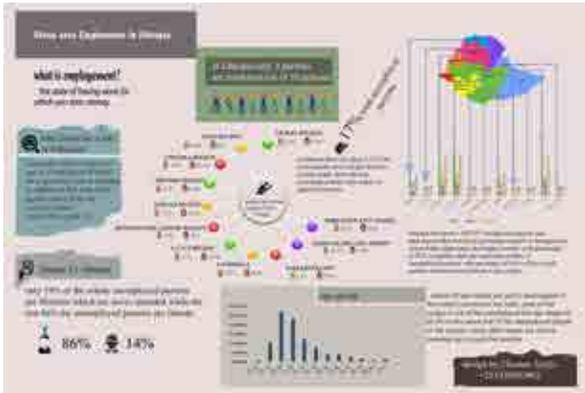
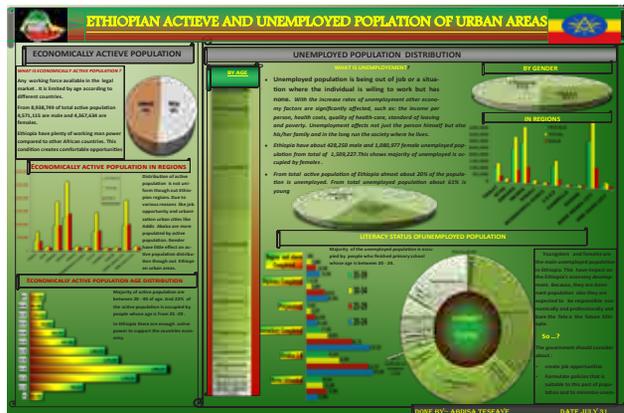
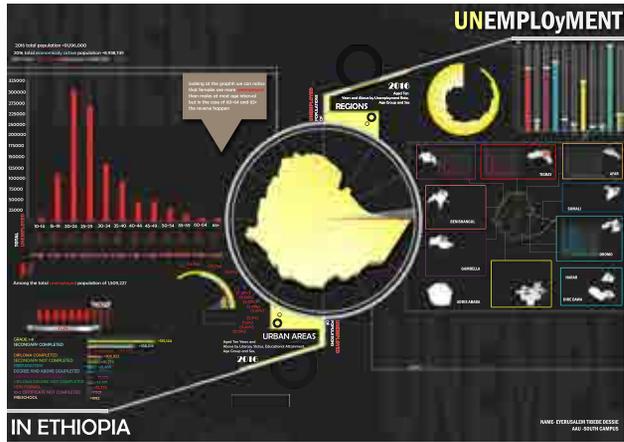
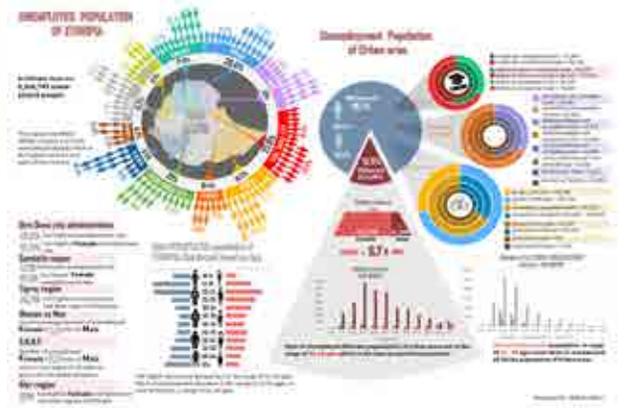


CSA Info-graphics competition 2017 happened for the first time

The Central Statistical Agency (CSA) is opening its branch office in Mekelle, Bahirdar, Hawassa and Ambo on August 2017. Event will be conducted in Bahirdar Branch office. The event marks the first time in CSA's history that the agency has launched a new branch office building across four regions. These branch office, with its state-of-the-art ICT infrastructure, training, and video conferencing centers, will serve as an example to other future branch office constructions.

As part of its program to promote statistics to the general public, the CSA is organizing an exhibition, trainings on stats for statisticians and Statistical Communication for media editors' managers, and a contest among University students on "infographic Competition".

The competition announced in the National television for all university students across the country and more than 100 students applying for the competition and some are able to go through the award. The SFR project will award lap top, tablet and smart phone for three winners. The winners will be invited in the inaugural ceremony as well.



SFR Project Finance

- Out of the 10million USD the Banks' grant fund so far 7.7million USD has been dispersed to the project account.
- The total cumulative actual expenditure of the project has been reached to 143.4 million ETB (6.8million USD)
- Considering all commitments entered into contract, the total cumulative expenditure amount of the project reached to ETB 223million (10.6million USD)

