March 2018

Volume1 Issue2

NBS Newsletter

Mandate and Functions of NBS

The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) is the official statistical agency of the Republic of South Sudan; having been established under Article 193 of the Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan that came into force on 9th July 2011. The NBS is mandated to:

- Collect, compile, analyze, publish and dissemintae all official statistical information on economic, social, demographic, environmental and general activities and conditions of the people of South Sudan
- Conduct all censuses and surveys that are carried out throughout South Sudan
- Monitor and evaluate social impacts of public policies, projects, and programmes on the people of South Sudan and
- Monitor the progress of poverty alleviation and the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals

Some of the functions of NBS among others includes;

- Coordinate National Statistical System (NSS)
- Establish statistical standards and ensure adherence by all producers of statistics
- Carry out mapping in South Sudan and collect spatial information and integrate such spatial information with statistical data.
- Coordinate National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI).
- Represent South Sudan in International and Regional Bodies such as UN Statistical Commission, Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD), United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) and African sector UNGGIM-Africa, UNECA among others.

National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)

Providing Official Statistics for National Development

National Bureau of Statistics, (NBS)
Ministries Road,
P.O.Box 137
Juba - South Sudan
Email:
contact.ssnbs@gmail.com

Proposed NBS Building

Inside this issue:

Consumer Price Index (CPI) for South Sudan February 2018

The South Sudan annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) increased by 112.7% from February 2017 to February 2018. The increased was mainly driven by high price in food and non-alcoholic beverages.

The annual CPI increased in Juba by 149.3% and in Wau by 93.1% from February 2017 to February 2018.

The South Sudan monthly CPI increased by 24.9% from January 2018 to February 2018, the monthly CPI increased by 37.5% in Juba and decreased in Wau by 8.7%.

Over this period the price for food and non-alcoholic beverages decreased by 5.7% in Juba and decreased by 11.1% in Wau respectively.

Annual CPI

The annual growth in the CPI for South Sudan increased by 112.7% in February 2018 compared to 425.9% for February 2017. Food and non-alcoholic beverages increased by 48.3% from February 2017 to February 2018, while the prices for heath increased by 840.3% restaurants and hotels increased by 163.9% over the same period.

The high prices of food and non-alcoholic beverage were mainly driven by higher price of Fruits.

Monthly CPI

In addition to annual CPI, the National Bureau of Statistics also calculates CPI on a monthly basis. These figures are subject to volatility because of seasonal products entering and exiting the markets, so should be used with caution. Please see the technical notes for further explanation of how CPI is calculated.

The monthly CPI increased by 24.9% between January 2018 and February 2018. Over this period the price for health increased by 8.8%, and restaurant and hotel increased by 1.6%.

The decreased in the price of food and non-alcoholic beverages was mainly caused by lower prices in Catering services.

Annual inflation in February 2018 was 149.3% in Juba, and 93.1% in Wau, compared with 112.7% for South Sudan. Prices of food and non-alcoholic beverages increased in Juba by 36.1%, and by 75.5% in Wau respectively over this period.

The annual CPI increased in Juba by 149.3% and in Wau by 93.1% from February 2017 to February 2018.

The South Sudan monthly CPI increased by 24.9% from January 2018 to February 2018, the monthly CPI increased by 37.5% in Juba and decreased in Wau by 8.7%.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is an index which tracks the price of a representative basket of goods and services consumed by households in South Sudan.

Linking of geospatial information to statistics and other data

At its second session, held in August 2012, the United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UNGGIM) discussed an inventory of issues relevant to a number of national geospatial information authorities, and noted that the issue of linking geospatial information to statistics needed to be considered in greater detail. The Committee of Experts concluded that the mechanisms to support the integration of geospatial information and statistics and other data, in particular through geocoding, did not exist in the global geospatial community in general. The Committee identified the need to determine how Government agencies, such as national geospatial information authorities, and other actors on geospatial information can best work together with national statistical offices in order to best exploit the synergies of both domains.

In this regard, the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) agreed that a programme review be conducted to understand: the current geospatial activities of national statistical offices; the demands on national statistical offices for location-based information; what activities might be undertaken both nationally and internationally to enhance the integration of statistical and geospatial information; and the need for developing a statistical geospatial framework in national statistical systems. The Australian Bureau of Statistics was tasked to carry out this programme review in 2012, and to conduct a survey on the status of the integration of statistical and geospatial information within National Statistical Offices (NSO) globally. In total, 52 countries participated in the survey and the responses provided a wealth of information to the programme review which was presented for discussion to the forty-fourth session of the Statistical Commission, held in February 2013 (E/CN.3/2013/2).

At its forty-fourth session the Statistical Commission, recognizing the importance of the integration of geospatial information and statistics in supporting social, economic and environmental policy decision-making, adopted decision 44/101 (E/2013/24). This decision: "strongly supported the linking of socio-economic and environmental data to a location in order to enrich and maximize the potential of statistical information", "welcomed the proposal of an international conference as a way of outreach and best practices, bringing together both statistical and geospatial (professional) communities" as well as "the proposal to develop an international statistical geospatial framework", and "requested the United Nations Statistics Division to establish an Expert Group composed of representatives of both statistical and geospatial communities to carry the work on developing a statistical spatial framework as a global standard for the integration of statistical and geospatial information" and to address various technical, institutional and information policy issues.

The present report outlines the need for linking geospatial information to statistics and other data, and summarizes the consultations and deliberations which occurred after the second session of the Committee. The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on the way forward for the global geospatial information community, including in considering the recommendations of the Statistical Commission; encouraging Member States to participate in the expert group to be established on the integration of statistical and geospatial information; and organizing an international conference on the topic.

To be continued in the next issue.

Volume 1, Issue 1

NSDS Sector Working Group

The National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) is a statistical capacity building project being coordinated by NBS with government loan from the World Bank.

There are a number of sector working groups dealing with different issues. On 16th March the different sector working groups came together to discuss progress and challenges faced in Ministries Departments and Agencies (MDAs).

57 participants from 25 MDAs attended the sector working group meeting. The meeting resolved that;

1. Each MDA should establish a statistical unit
2. NBS will provide technical support for the unit in terms of trainings and equipment

ICT training in Israel

NSDS continues to build the capacity of MDAs in different areas for Statistical purposes

This year two staff from NBS Department of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) were sent to Galilee International Management Institute (GIMI), Israel for Advance ICT management.

The objectives of the training were;

- To equip participants with advanced managerial techniques; specialized knowledge
- To increase their capacity for innovative planning, implementation of modern information and communication system.
- To improve the strategic-thinking, problem-solving and decision-making skills.

It was a two week Training held from 13th to 26th February 2018.

The content of the training includes;

- The digital society and its challenges
- Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP): Modules and trends
- Cloud computing
- The concept of Big data
- The digital revolution: Internet and Mobile services and E-government
- Cyber Security: threats and trends
- The anatomy of cyber-attack: Attackers'' perspective etc.

The two participants were awarded diplomas upon their successful completion of the prescribed course.

www.ssnbss.org is our website

78% of households depend on crop farming or animal husbandry (main source of livelihood)

51% of the population lives below the poverty line

We are on the web

ssnbss.org

Do you know March 8th is World Women's Day?

With the World Economic Forum's 2017 Global Gender Gap Report findings telling us that gender parity is over 200 years away - there has never been a more important time to keep motivated and Press for Progress. And with global activism for women's equality fueled by movements like Me Too, Times Up and more - there is a strong global momentum striving for gender parity. Now, more than ever, there's a strong call-to-action to press forward and progress gender parity. There's a strong call to Press for Progress motivating and uniting friends, colleagues and whole communities to think, act and be gender inclusive.

In South Sudan, 27% of the population aged 15+ is literate; 40% of males are literate compared with 16% of females (NBHS 2009)

The transitional government of national unity has 30 ministers out of which 6 ministers are women (20%).

The council of state has 50 members out of which 6 (12%)are women.

How many women doctors are there in South Sudan? How many female teachers are there in the Country? How many female lawyers are there in the new nation?

Out of 32 state governors 0% is women. It is unfortunate the 25% or 35% of participation in government granted by SPLM is not being followed.

I think this is a wakeup call for Women of this nation. Women should claim their percentage and also compete for the remaining percentage with their male counterparts. It is not a matter of asking for 25% or 35%. Why don't you take even more than 50% like what the Rwandan Legislators are doing.

South Sudan
National Bureau of Statistics

Providing Official Statistics for National Development

NBS

National Bureau of Statistics
Ministries Road
P.O.Box 137
Juba
South Sudan

Email: contact.ssnbs@gmail.com
CC: agonoism@hotmail.com

IPC report is produced every quarter of the year. It provides the government and development partners with information about food security situation in the country to make an informed decision

Digital Convergence:

The future of breathtaking socio-economic developments

In a rapidly transforming world, the seamless interconnection, integration and convergence of various technologies is heralding great developments and playing a pivotal role in enabling new research and impacting societies. Along these line, there is imminent need of digital convergence for fostering technological growth as well as betterment of the citizens.

In the past few years some countries have taken great leaps ahead in the field of digital convergence of different technologies so that they can lead to advancements in future technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things, block chain and help in gauging the public responsiveness, infrastructural preparedness and the readiness to undergo an overhauling transformation.

In this regard, we can gain invaluable insights as well as adapt working guidelines, strategies and roadmaps from the Baltic nation of Estonia, which has carved a niche for itself as among the most technologically advanced nation in the world and a pioneer in digitalization of government services and delivering utilities to the public.
In emphasizing the role of government in facilitation of digital transformation and providing opportunities, "There has to be political will. There has to be leadership to take risks and try different solutions. Also to make sure that it delivers benefits to the citizens".

Digitization of almost all aspects of government services in Estonia, not only more people friendly, but also slashes government budgetary allocation significantly. "Since 2002, digital signature has been made equivalent to physical signature in Estonia. The digital signature saves 2% of GDP" in Estonia.

"We need frugal yet robust technology architecture. People must have confidence and it must be cost effective without compromising on robustness" to overcome operational constraints.
"If you look at digital convergence at this point of time, all the forces are at interplay. There has been an exponential acceleration in digital convergence and there is also an amplification factor. People are more and more comfortable in embracing new technology".
"As technology is being globalized, therefore convergence is real and a lot of new disruptive technologies are impacting vertical industry segments".
Succinctly, "Digital solutions are no more an option; it is an imperative".
In order to expand digitalization and technological convergence, we need a paradigm shift in regulatory frameworks and overcoming bottlenecks.