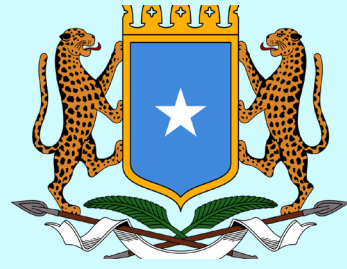FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA
SOMALI NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

Second Edition

Federal Republic of Somalia
Somalia National Bureau of Statistics

ANNUAL REPORT
2nd Edition

2024

Director General's Foreword

The Somali National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS) plays a crucial role in advancing evidence-based policymaking and sustainable development. Since its establishment in 2020, SNBS has been dedicated to producing accurate, timely, and reliable data to support national planning and governance. The enactment of the National Statistics Law No. 24 strengthened our mandate, allowing us to collect, analyze, and disseminate key data in alignment with Somalia's federal governance structure.

Collaboration remains central to our mission. SNBS works closely with government institutions, international partners, and regional bodies to ensure harmonized statistical methodologies and adherence to global best practices. By leveraging technology and innovative data collection techniques, we continue to enhance data accessibility and usability for policymakers and stakeholders.

The past year has been marked by key achievements. In 2024, SNBS strengthened the National Statistical System through initiatives such as the establishment of the Joint Coordination Forum on Data and Statistics, Chaired and Co-Chaired by SNBS and the Embassy of Switzerland, enhancing collaboration with ministries, UN agencies, and donors. The launch of the UNESCWA MARS platform for SDG data reporting, SDG capacity-building workshops, and continued engagement with UN agencies for SDG indicator reporting strengthened national SDG data reporting. The Somalia Household Shocks and Responses Report provided critical insights into economic and social vulnerabilities. SNBS expanded agricultural and food security data collection, strengthening transparency and supporting national food security planning. Somalia's first National Disability Report was launched, improving data on disability inclusion, while efforts to enhance gender statistics reporting contributed to a more comprehensive understanding of social dynamics. A major milestone was the launch of the Somalia Business Establishment Census (SIBEC-2024), mapping 174,149 businesses nationwide.

Institutional and operational improvements remained a priority. We developed our 2024 Procurement Plan, enhanced financial management and administrative procedures, and strengthened compliance with national regulations. In enhancing ICT and data managements, SNBS developed a web-based statistical data management system and introduced training programs in data analysis techniques, including the use of STATA software.

These achievements would not have been possible without the dedication and professionalism of the SNBS team. Their expertise, commitment to excellence, and tireless efforts have been instrumental in driving our progress. I extend my gratitude to every member of our staff for their hard work in delivering high-quality statistical outputs that are shaping Somalia's future. Their unwavering dedication is the backbone of our institution, and I am confident that together, we will continue to elevate Somalia's statistical capacity to new heights.

Looking ahead, SNBS is committed to becoming a Center of Excellence in Africa within the next decade. The Second National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDSII) provides a clear roadmap focused on capacity building, institutional strengthening, and international partnerships. By prioritizing data quality, innovation, and collaboration, SNBS will continue to support Somalia's long-term development with accurate and reliable statistics. This report highlights our progress, challenges, and vision for the future. Through continued efforts, SNBS will remain a trusted source of statistical information, ensuring that Somalia's development is built on a strong foundation of data-driven decision-making.

Abdisalam Abdirahman Mohamed
Director General
Somalia National Bureau of Statistics

Message from the Deputy **Director General**

The Somalia National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS) remains steadfast in its commitment to building a robust, data-driven foundation for Somalia's development. Over the past year, we have made significant strides in strengthening the National Statistical System, ensuring that reliable and high-quality data informs policymaking, economic planning, and social development.

Looking ahead, SNBS is focused on delivering several transformative initiatives that will enhance our statistical capacity and expand the scope of data available for decision-makers. A key priority is the Business Establishment Survey (SIBES-2025), which will build upon the 2024 Census data and provide comprehensive insights into Somalia's private sector landscape, supporting investment strategies, job creation, and economic growth.

To further ensure the quality and credibility of our statistical outputs, we shall be developing a Somalia Statistical Quality Assurance Framework (SSQAF) aligned with international best practices. This framework will standardize data production at SNBS, reinforcing transparency, consistency, and reliability in our reporting.

Expanding our social and demographic data remains a priority, with plans underway for the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS). This survey will generate critical data on health, education and child protection, providing valuable insights for shaping policies that improve the well-being of Somali citizens.

Agriculture remains a pillar of Somalia's economy, and we recognize the need for precise, timely data to guide agricultural policies, food security planning, and rural development. To this end, SNBS is preparing for a comprehensive Agricultural Census, which will assess crop production, livestock, fisheries, and land use, ensuring that agricultural planning is rooted in reliable statistics.

Additionally, we are committed to strengthening statistical research to enhance analytical capacity and evidence-based policy formulation. By investing in research, we aim to bridge data gaps, improve forecasting, and provide deeper insights into key socio-economic trends affecting Somalia's development.

These initiatives reflect our strategic vision of positioning SNBS as a Center of Excellence in Africa within the next ten years. Through continuous innovation, collaboration with key stakeholders, and adherence to global statistical standards, we will strengthen Somalia's data ecosystem and support national development priorities with high-quality, timely, and relevant statistics.

None of this progress would be possible without the dedication and expertise of the SNBS team, whose commitment to excellence in 2024 has been instrumental in achieving our goals. Their hard work, professionalism, and drive for continuous improvement are the foundation of our success. As we embark on another year of growth and ambition, I look forward to building on this momentum together and achieving even greater milestones in 2025 and beyond.

We remain grateful for the collaboration and support of government institutions, development partners, and the international statistical community. Together, we will continue to build a resilient and modern statistical system that serves the needs of Somalia today and for generations to come.

Abdirahman Omar Dahir
Deputy Director General
Somalia National Bureau of Statistics

Acknowledgement– SNBS Annual Report 2024

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Directorate of Policy, Planning and Coordination Services

The Directorate made significant strides in enhancing statistical production and strengthening coordination within Somalia's National Statistical System (NSS). A landmark achievement was the August 2024 launch of the UNESCWA Monitoring Application for Reporting on the SDGs (MARS), a cutting-edge platform designed to streamline and improve the coordination of SDG data reporting. The launch followed an intensive training session for 35 SDG Data Experts from various ministries, equipping them with the necessary skills and credentials to use the platform effectively, with ongoing support from SNBS. In July, the Directorate also successfully conducted a series of Statistics for SDG workshops, engaging government ministries, civil society, and the private sector to underscore the critical role of accurate data in national development. Throughout the year, additional SDG Data Quality workshops were held to further strengthen reporting standards, alongside continuous engagement with UN Custodian Agencies, responding to requests to report on SDG indicators.

Another key milestone was the launch of the Somalia Household Shocks and Responses Report, which provided an in-depth analysis using data from the 2022 Household Budget Survey. A major highlight of the year was the establishment of the Joint Coordination Forum on Data and Statistics in November, a highly successful initiative chaired by the SNBS Director General and the Embassy of Switzerland. This forum brought together UN agencies, ministries, and Federal Member States (FMS), fostering stronger collaboration within the NSS, raising SNBS's profile, and expanding opportunities for statistical development. Lastly, the Directorate continued to produce quarterly and annual progress reports, ensuring systematic tracking of statistical initiatives across SNBS's various sectors and directorates.

Beyond these achievements, the Directorate successfully secured support for two key initiatives: the development of the Statistical Quality Assurance Framework, aimed at standardizing data quality to ensure accuracy, reliability, and transparency, and a new initiative to strengthen statistical research at SNBS through collaborations with universities and research institutions. Additionally, work commenced on developing and collecting administrative data for the Second Edition of the Governance Statistics Report, although its launch was postponed to early 2025 due to challenges in obtaining data from Puntland.

Directorate of Population and Social Statistics

The Directorate of Population and Social Statistics has made significant progress in enhancing data collection, analysis, and policy development across key social and demographic areas. A major highlight was the capacity-building workshop on the Multidimensional Poverty Index in Nairobi, where Somali government officials gained expertise in measuring and addressing poverty using the Alkire-Foster method. This training strengthens Somalia's ability to develop a national MPI, aligning with SDG targets. Additionally, the Directorate played a pivotal role in regional migration data initiatives, participating in key meetings in Addis Ababa and Pretoria to improve coordination, data harmonization, and policy-making on forced displacement and migration. The learning visit to South Africa further enhanced Somalia's approach to migration data management by adopting best practices in administrative data collection and analysis. Another crucial milestone was the launch of Somalia's first National Disability Report, based on the Somali Integrated Household Budget Survey (SIHBS-2022), which provides critical insights into disability prevalence and informs inclusive policy-making.

Beyond these achievements, the Directorate has actively contributed to gender-based violence (GBV) statistics, strengthening data systems through training workshops with key stakeholders, including the Banadir Regional Administration. The publication of the "Women and Men in Somalia" gender report further underscores efforts to address gender disparities in health, education, and economic participation. The Directorate also played a key role in Somalia's census preparation through a study tour to Djibouti, participation in the EAC observer mission for Burundi's census, and engagement in the Census Experts Group Meeting in Pretoria, all of which contribute to refining Somalia's census methodologies. Additionally, its contributions to the EAC Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) report and regional statistical publications like EAC Facts and Figures 2024 demonstrate a commitment to enhancing socio-economic statistics for policy and development. These efforts, combined with the dissemination of the National MPI Report, highlight the Directorate's leadership in fostering data-driven decision-making, improving statistical systems, and addressing socio-demographic challenges in Somalia.

Directorate of Macroeconomic and Financial Statistics

The Directorate of Macroeconomic and Financial Statistics at SNBS achieved major milestones in strengthening Somalia's economic data infrastructure. A key accomplishment was the successful implementation of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), providing critical inflation data to guide economic planning and decision-making. This was complemented by a national CPI workshop in Mogadishu, which improved methodologies for tracking price changes.

The Directorate also published the 2023 National Accounts report, which updated GDP estimates using the latest data and methodologies, following an IMF-financed technical assistance mission. Efforts to align Somalia's economic statistics with regional standards were reinforced through a scoping mission with the East African Community. Additionally, the Directorate enhanced trade statistics, enabling better insights into imports, exports, and trade balances, which are essential for policy formulation and international trade negotiations.

A landmark achievement was the launch of Somalia's first-ever Business Establishment Census (SIBEC-2024), a groundbreaking effort that mapped 174,149 businesses nationwide, providing crucial data on business activity, workforce composition, and economic contributions. This census supports the creation of a Statistical Business Register, a critical tool for compiling economic statistics and informing GDP calculations.

The Directorate also conducted detailed analyses of business surveys and participated in high-level economic planning discussions, including the Macroeconomic Working Group and the final review of the 2020-2024 project supported by Statistics Sweden, which strengthened Somalia's statistical capacity. Regular monthly training sessions and directorate meetings further enhanced staff capabilities in economic data analysis, fostering a more robust and informed statistical environment.

These achievements mark a significant step toward improving Somalia's economic data systems, supporting evidence-based policymaking, and enhancing the country's macroeconomic stability.

Directorate of Production Statistics

The Directorate of Production Statistics at SNBS made significant advancements in agricultural and food security data collection, analysis, and dissemination. A major achievement was the collaboration with FAO in developing the Somali Livestock Market Data and Information Management System (LMDMIS), which enhances the efficiency and transparency of livestock market data. The Directorate also conducted a comprehensive livestock market survey in Southwest State, engaging over 300 participants to assess challenges and opportunities in the livestock sector. Furthermore, with support from COMESA, FAO, and Norway Statistics, the Directorate organized workshops to enhance staff capacity in food security data processing and analysis, leading to the production of the Food Security Fact Sheet. Based on data from the Somali Integrated Household Budget Survey (SIHBS) 2022, this fact sheet

provides critical insights into Somalia's food security landscape and will be officially launched on August 14, 2024. Additionally, the Directorate participated in the EAC Regional Technical Working Group meeting on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) methodology, contributing to regional discussions on measuring food security.

In its efforts to strengthen data-driven decision-making, the Directorate published the Joint Monitoring Report (JMR) for Somalia, which highlighted key food and nutrition security risks, identified high-risk regions, and provided critical alerts on fuel and food prices. A one-day training on the JMR process, organized by the World Bank, enhanced the capacity of the FSNU team in data utilization and stakeholder coordination. The launch of the Food Security Crisis Monitoring Dashboard further strengthened Somalia's ability to track and respond to food security crises in real time. The Directorate also conducted the Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment (CFSVA) in partnership with WFP and FAO, providing essential data on at-risk populations. Other key achievements included the Household Screening Approach Survey in Baidoa, the development of a Household Economic Gap Analysis to guide humanitarian cash transfer programs, and participation in critical workshops on livestock identification and disaster response financing. These efforts collectively support Somalia's resilience in addressing food security challenges and enhancing agricultural data systems.

Directorate of ICT & Data Management

The Directorate of ICT & Data Management has been actively engaged in a series of capacity-building initiatives to enhance data management, statistical reporting, and ICT infrastructure. A five-day training on infographics and report design was conducted in Nairobi for the ICT department, enabling them to independently handle data visualization and design tasks without external support. Additionally, the Somali Integrated Business Establishment Census (SIBEC) Training of Trainers (ToT) program was implemented to build trainer capacity for effective data collection and technical support. A study tour to South Africa allowed SNBS officials to learn about ICT infrastructure, data centers, and best practices in data security and management. Furthermore, the GIS team participated in multiple training sessions, including tablet-based census implementation, integration of survey tools, and satellite imagery analysis for crop monitoring. Collaborative study visits to Djibouti and regional training programs strengthened the bureau's expertise in statistical methodologies and data management.

A range of advanced technical training sessions and workshops further bolstered SNBS's capabilities in data dissemination, statistical analysis, and IT infrastructure development. The PX-Web training in Nairobi provided expertise in database design and statistical dissemination, while a regional training for IT officers focused on enhancing data security and statistics management. The establishment of a robust IT infrastructure aims to improve real-time data sharing between the Federal Government and Member States. Additionally, workshops on data and metadata exchange, anonymization, and microdata library management were held to standardize statistical data handling. SNBS also developed a web-based statistics database application to modernize data management processes. Several key events, including the National CPI workshop, production statistics workshop, and steering committee meeting, facilitated collaboration between SNBS and federal member states. Short-term training programs, such as the data analysis and management course at Makerere University, further contributed to building technical capacity and fostering regional knowledge exchange.

Directorate of Administration and Finance

The Directorate of Administration and Finance at SNBS achieved significant milestones in financial management, human resources, and workplace operations, reinforcing transparency, efficiency, and accountability. A key achievement was the development and finalization of the 2024 Procurement Plan, ensuring strategic and cost-effective procurement processes. The Directorate successfully submitted and registered quarterly warrants for staff salaries, covering multiple quarters of 2024, with the Office of the Auditor General, demonstrating a commitment to financial stability and regulatory compliance. Additionally, it completed and submitted annual and quarterly financial reports to the Office of the Accountant General, supporting informed decision-making and adherence to financial regulations. The Directorate also played a pivotal role in facilitating the government audit for the fiscal year 2023 by providing necessary documentation, further enhancing accountability and external oversight.

On the human resources and administrative front, the Directorate addressed staffing needs by planning for vacant positions and registering temporary staff with the National Civil Service Commission (NCSC). Workplace improvements included setting up 12 open office workstations to enhance collaboration and implementing an attendance verification system to improve workforce accountability. The Directorate also prioritized staff engagement and capacity building by organizing quarterly update meetings and conducting security training on fire safety, ensuring both operational alignment and workplace safety. These efforts collectively strengthened the efficiency, transparency, and resilience of SNBS's administrative and financial operations, reinforcing its commitment to excellence in governance and service delivery.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AIMS	Aid Management Information System
EA	Enumeration Areas
EO	Earth Observation
SNBS	Somali National Bureau of Statistics
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
CPI	Consumer Price Index
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FMS	Federal Member States
ICT	Information and Communication Technology YoY Year over Year
QoQ	Quarter over Quarter
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
PPI	Producer Price Index
PPS	Purchasing Power Standard UN United Nations
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIHBS	Somalia Integrated Household Budget Survey
SBR	Somalia Business Register
CBS	Central Bank of Somalia
GIS	Geographic Information System
GNI	Gross National Income
GFCF	Gross Fixed Capital Formation
MSF	Master Sampling Frame
NSDSII	National Strategy for the Development of Statistics
ODA	Official Development Assistance
SAPFAS	Strategic Action Plan for Food, Agriculture and Rural Statistics
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
HDI	Human Development Index
GPS	Global Positioning System
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
NDP	National Development Plan
GFS	Government Financial Statistics

ToT	Training of Trainers
DPC	Data Processing Centre
CAPI	Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing
LAN	Local Area Network
WAN	Wide Area Network
SDMX	Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
FPOS	Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics
SDC	Statistical Disclosure Control
NADA	National Data Archive
NSS	National Statistical System
FPOS	Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics
EARSPforR	Eastern Africa Regional Statistics Program for Results
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
MPI	Multidimensional Poverty Index
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
SNBS	Somali National Bureau of Statistics
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
OPHI	Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative
NDP9	Ninth National Development Plan
FMS	Federal Member States

Introduction And Background

The Somali National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS), established in 2020, is a pivotal institution in Somalia's commitment to leveraging data for informed decision-making and national development. As the country seeks to rebuild and strengthen its governance structures, SNBS plays a crucial role in providing accurate, timely, and reliable statistical information that informs policy formulation and implementation. Under the leadership of Director General Dr. Abdisalam Abdirahman Mohamed and Deputy Director General, Abdirahman Omar Dahir, SNBS operates with a team of dedicated professionals committed to the collection, analysis, and dissemination of vital statistical data. The institution is governed by a Board of Directors and six Directorates, ensuring the formulation of policies, regulatory frameworks, and the effective execution of censuses, surveys, and administrative data collection efforts.

The establishment of SNBS was a significant milestone in Somalia's statistical landscape, replacing the Somalia Statistical Law No. 35 of 1970 with Law No. 24 – National Statistic Law of the Federal Republic of Somalia. This legislative update was essential to aligning Somalia's statistical framework with the country's Federal System of Governance. The law not only grants SNBS the authority to collect, analyze, and disseminate national statistical information but also reinforces its role in conducting key statistical activities such as the Housing and Population Census. By ensuring a robust legal foundation, SNBS is better positioned to enhance data transparency, accountability, and accessibility, which are fundamental to national progress and development.

SNBS collaborates closely with various government agencies at both Federal and Federal Member States levels, as well as with national, regional, and international institutions engaged in statistical activities. This collaborative approach ensures the harmonization of statistical methodologies and the enhancement of data quality, enabling Somalia to meet international standards in statistical reporting. Furthermore, SNBS places a strong emphasis on leveraging advanced technology to enhance data collection, processing, and dissemination. By embracing digital transformation, SNBS aims to modernize its statistical infrastructure, improve efficiency, and ensure real-time data availability for decision-makers.

Looking forward, SNBS aspires to become a Centre of Excellence in Africa within the next 5-10 years, establishing itself as a leader in statistical excellence across the region. The Bureau envisions driving impactful change through the provision of accurate and timely data, which is critical for evidence-based policymaking and sustainable development. Through its Second National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDSII), SNBS has outlined a clear roadmap to achieving this goal, focusing on increasing statistical production and its quality, capacity building, institutional strengthening, and international partnerships. The strategic initiatives undertaken by SNBS aim to address existing challenges, enhance data availability and reliability, and foster a culture of data-driven decision-making across all sectors of governance and development in Somalia.

This progress report provides an overview of SNBS's key goals, achievements, challenges, and lessons learned. It highlights advancements in data collection, analysis, and capacity building while addressing obstacles faced in implementation. The report also outlines strategic insights to enhance future statistical development and informed policymaking.

In conclusion, SNBS stands as a cornerstone of Somalia's national development strategy, providing the essential statistical foundation upon which informed policies and decisions are built. With a strong legal mandate, a commitment to transparency and technological advancement, and a vision for excellence, SNBS is poised to play an instrumental role in shaping the future of Somalia's socio-economic landscape. Through continued production, collaboration, innovation, and capacity development, SNBS will ensure that Somalia's statistical ecosystem meets the demands of a rapidly evolving global data environment, ultimately contributing to the nation's long-term growth and stability.

Vision and Mission

According to SNBS Second National Strategy for the development of Statistics of Statistics (NSDSII) SNBS want to become the:

Vision

The preferred source of quality data in support of national and international development agendas and programmes.

Mission

To provide quality statistics for effective policy, planning and decision-making, development research and for monitoring development at all levels'.

In the 2024, SNBS's delivery has indeed met and abided by its vision and mission.

PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

► Directorate of Policy, Planning and Coordination Services

► Directorate of Population and Social Statistics

► Directorate of Macroeconomic and Financial Statistics

► Directorate of Production Statistics

► Directorate of ICT & Data Management

► Directorate of Administration and Finance

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

Directorate of Policy, Planning and Coordination Services

Annual Institutional Progress Report 2023

The Directorate played a pivotal role in compiling and developing the 2023 Annual Progress Report, ensuring the delivery of a high-quality and comprehensive document. This report meticulously presented SNBS's achievements in the year 2023, and was released in the beginning of 2024. The Report which covers both strategic objectives and specific activities, serves as a testament to SNBS's commitment to excellence, capturing valuable statistical insights that highlight the institution's significant contributions to national development.

The Annual Progress Report stands as a comprehensive resource for SNBS and its partners, enabling the institution to evaluate progress, identify challenges, and shape targeted interventions. By documenting statistical achievements and emerging trends, the report supports SNBS's dedication to data-driven governance ensures that the statistical framework remains robust, transparent, and aligned with national and international development goals.

https://nbs.gov.so/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/SNBS-2023-Institutional-Annual-Report.pdf

Governance Statistics

In 2024, the Governance Statistics Section (GSS) reviewed and evaluated existing data on governance indicators obtained from all surveys conducted and gathered governance administrative data from various aligned government ministries, departments, and agencies (MDAs). Specifically, the team undertook preparations for developing the Household Shocks and Responses report using raw survey data extracted from the 2022 SNBS Household Budget Survey data. The GSS team reviewed the economic, environmental, social, and health shocks affect household stability and well-being, utilizing raw data extracted in SPSS form from the Household Budget Survey.

Further, strong collaboration with key institution continued such as the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Attorney General's Office and the National Civil Service Commission, engaging frequently with the data teams to acquire updated governance administrative data. This collaboration is in preparation of the Second Edition of the Governance Statistics Report, which shall be launched in the first quarter of 2025. The planned launching for 20224, was delayed due to difficulties obtaining data from the Puntland region.

Between 11 to 22 February, the Governance Statistics Head of Section, participated in the data management and analysis training in Kigali, Rwanda.

Progress in SDG Data Reporting to UN Custodian Agencies

In the pursuit of reporting updated data on SDG indicators to UN Custodian Agencies, strong collaboration with Government Ministries which produce administrative data as well as with international organizations, remained a key focus. Specifically, SNBS SDG team managed to report on:

SDG Indicator 14.1.1 was validated in collaboration with UNEP, ensuring data accuracy. DPPC SDG team also updated the "Self-Assessment to produce SDG data" from UNESCWA. . Furthermore, the team updated the "Self-Assessment to Produce SDG Data" from UNESCWA, ensuring that Somalia remains aligned with evolving global data standards and best practices. Additionally, the team successfully submitted reports to Paris21 on SDG Indicators 17.18.2 and 17.18.3. These indicators emphasize the importance of enhanced statistical capacity and the availability of timely, high-quality, and disaggregated data.

Additionally, the completion of the FAO questionnaire on Indicator 5.a.1, which focuses on gender and agricultural land rights, demonstrates Somalia's dedication to gender equality in land ownership and sustainable agricultural practices.

In partnership with UNEP, the SDG team validated data for SDG Indicator 14.1.1. This indicator monitors marine pollution. These efforts, collectively reinforce the country's efforts to strengthen data availability and reliability for sustainable development planning.

Finally, the SDG team were also able to report to UNDP on SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong institutions indicators. Specifically, the team reported SDG 16.3.3: on Access to dispute resolution mechanisms, indicators 16.3.3 on Under-represented groups in the judiciary system, and indicator SDG 16.7.1b- Representation and participation in decision-making in the public service.

Engagement in global statistical discussions was also a priority, with active participation in the UNSC 55 Side Event and the Open IAEG-SDGs Virtual Meeting. These platforms provided valuable insights and technical knowledge, particularly in preparation for the comprehensive 2025 review of SDG progress. By taking part in these high-level discussions, SNBS SDG team continues to refine statistical frameworks, adopt innovative methodologies, and build partnerships that enhance its ability to produce high-quality, policy-relevant data. This proactive approach underscores the country's commitment to advancing its statistical capacity and achieving sustainable development goals.

Strengthening Stakeholder Engagement and Coordination Services

The Directorate strengthened coordination and collaboration between SNBS and external stakeholders, including government agencies, international organizations, and development partners by leading and streamlining engagement and securing the participation of key stakeholders. By fostering these partnerships, the team ensured stakeholder attendance aligned with the statistical sectors activities and Bureaus overall objectives, ultimately enhancing the visibility and impact of the Bureau's work.

Through its efforts, the Directorate reinforced its role as the central hub for effective Policy, Planning and Coordination within SNBS, leading key statistical activities stakeholder attendance of:

► The high-Level GIS and Mapping Stakeholder Engagement Conference, held on 6th and 7th of February 2024, at the Hangar in Aden Ade International Airport (AAIA), Mogadishu.

► Training on Food Security, Market Information and Mapping Information (GIS) held at SNBS hall on the 12th-14th- from February 2024.

► The Disability Report Verification Workshop on February 19, 2024, at the Jazeera Hotel in Mogadishu.

► The BRA- FMS a workshop on GBV crime and statistics held at Jawhara Hotel, on 27th-29th February 2024.

► The Coordination Section helped organize the Gender Booklet and Disability Report Launch, at the Decale Hotel on March 14, 2024.

► Trainings on the UNESCWA Monitoring and Reporting Application on the SDGs.

► The Launch of the Shocks and Responses Report in December, where 23 Ministries attended and 85 stakeholders in December 2024.

► Establishment of the Joint Coordination Forum on Data and Statistics, securing the participation and engagement of 70 stakeholders including 11 UN Agencies and many Ministries.

Training on using SDMX for SDG Data Reporting- Cairo, Egypt 3-5 June, 2024

In June, the Directorates SDG team attended a training held in Cairo Egypt, organized by UNESCWA, the Arab Institute for Training and Research in Statistics, the League of Arab States, and the United Nations Statistics Division. The training covered the use of the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX) standards for SDGs data reporting.

Specifically, the workshop covered data exchange and dissemination tools, including SDMX Reference Infrastructure (SDMX-RI), SDMX-RI Mapping Assistant, and other tools, as well as SDMX-based data exchange of SDG Reference Metadata.

The workshop brought together statisticians from various national statistical offices in the Arab region, and included hands-on training, presentations, demonstrations, and Q&A sessions.

SDG Data Workshops

In July, the Directorate of Policy, Planning, and Coordination Services (DPPCS) made significant strides in advocating for the importance of accurate and timely data in tracking progress toward the SDGs. Recognizing the vital role of statistics in shaping policies and measuring national progress, the DPPCS organized a series of workshops designed to enhance awareness and capacity among key stakeholders. These workshops targeted government ministries, civil society organizations, and the private sector, fostering a collaborative approach to SDG Data monitoring and sustainable development planning.

Through these interactive sessions, participants gained a deeper understanding of how reliable statistical data supports evidence-based policymaking and resource allocation. The workshops also emphasized the necessity of integrating statistical methodologies into institutional frameworks, ensuring that data collection and analysis align with international best practices. The DPPCS team presented the SDG Goal Tracker to participants, which has a wealth of data monitoring Somalia's progress on the SDGs. Participants were split into five groups under the Agenda 2030 five Ps on: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, and Partnerships.

The five Ps demonstrate how all of the SDG Goals are intertwined and connected and are not just standalone goals. In their groups, participants engaged with the Goals Trackers indicator data visualization tools, reviewed graphs and charts and deliberated on SDG progress on key sectors. By equipping stakeholders with the tools to interpret and utilize statistical data effectively, the DPPCS aimed to create a more informed and proactive approach to SDG Data monitoring and national development.

Beyond awareness-raising, the DPPCS leveraged these engagements to strengthen partnerships and encourage cross-sector collaboration in data generation and usage. Government institutions were urged to prioritize data-driven strategies in policy formulation, while civil society organizations and private sector actors were encouraged to contribute valuable insights through their own research and reporting mechanisms. These collaborative efforts are essential for maintaining a comprehensive and inclusive statistical system that accurately reflects Somalia's development landscape.

Additionally, This proactive approach reinforces the country's commitment to transparency, accountability, and evidence-based governance in its pursuit of sustainable development.

Launch of the UNESCWA Monitoring Application for Reporting on the SDGs (MARS)

One of the most significant achievements in enhancing SDG data reporting was the successful completion of a three-day training session on the Monitoring Application for Reporting on the SDGs (MARS) platform, conducted by UNESCWA. This training, held in August, brought together 35 data providers from various government ministries, equipping them with the knowledge and technical skills needed to effectively utilize the MARS platform. The training emphasized the importance of accurate and timely SDG data reporting, ensuring that government institutions are well-prepared to manage and streamline the complex process of monitoring sustainable development indicators.
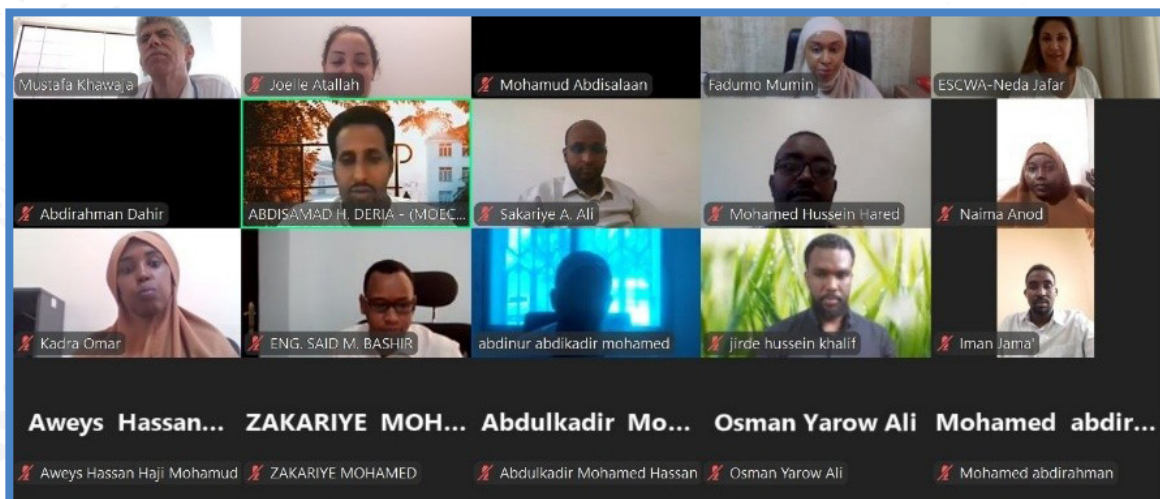
The launch of the MARS platform marked a major milestone in strengthening Somalia's SDG data management and coordination efforts. As a digital tool designed to enhance efficiency, the platform plays a crucial role in simplifying data collection, processing, and reporting on SDG indicators.

By providing a structured framework for managing national statistics, the MARS platform ensures that data providers can submit reports in an organized and systematic manner, reducing inconsistencies and improving overall data accuracy.

One of the key benefits of the MARS platform is its ability to support SNBS across by streamlining data flow and ensuring standardized reporting mechanisms by allowing Ministries the ability to report SDG-related data to SNBS while maintaining alignment with the reporting timelines set by United Nations custodian agencies.

This harmonization of data processes enhances coordination among national and international stakeholders, fostering greater collaboration in tracking Somalia's progress toward achieving the SDGs.

SOMALIA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS
Federal Republic of Somalia

Closing of the Online Trainings and the Launch of the UNESWCA Monitoring Application for Reporting on the SDGs (MARS) for Somalia's National Statistical System

"It is with great pride and satisfaction that we mark the successful conclusion of the trainings for UNESWCA's Monitoring Application for Reporting on the SDGs (MARS) and to Officially Launch this vital SDG Data reporting system for Somalia's National Statistical System. This step is a significant stride in our ongoing efforts to enhance the accuracy, transparency, and efficiency of our national reporting on the SDGs.
The MARS platform shall streamline our reporting process by providing a centralized location where our administrative SDG data providers, within all Ministries, can add data directly and SNBS will take on the critical role of coordinating this process and checking and verifying data to ensure its accuracy and reliability. Once approved by SNBS, this data will be shared with the UN custodian agencies, ensuring that Somalia's contributions to global SDG reporting are timely, accurate, and in line with international standards."

Sharmarke Farah
Director General

SOMALIA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS
Federal Republic of Somalia

Closing of the Online Trainings and the Launch of the UNESWCA Monitoring Application for Reporting on the SDGs (MARS) for Somalia's National Statistical System

"I would like to acknowledge and celebrate the invaluable support that UNESCWA has been providing to SNBS over the past few years, UNESCWA has been a committed partner in our journey to enhance the quality and accuracy of our statistical data. Their support has been pivotal in helping us align our national reporting mechanisms with international standards, ensuring that our progress on the SDGs is accurately captured and effectively communicated.
Strengthening our reporting on the SDGs through the MARS system is important for our ongoing development efforts but also serves as essential preparation for our second Voluntary National Review (VNR) report, which we will present next year. Strengthening Somalia's reporting on the SDGs and the process of collecting and verifying data, prepares the foundation for a complete and up-to-date VNR report in 2025"

Abdirahman Omar Dahir
Deputy Director General

Furthermore, the successful implementation of the MARS platform represents a significant step toward strengthening Somalia's statistical infrastructure and institutional capacity. By integrating modern digital solutions into national data management, the government is improving transparency, efficiency, and accessibility in SDG reporting.

Moving forward, continued investment in training, technical support, and capacity-building initiatives will be essential to maximizing the platform's potential and ensuring that Somalia remains on track in fulfilling its sustainable development commitments.

SOMALIA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS
Federal Republic of Somalia

Closing of the Online Trainings and the Launch of the UNESWCA Monitoring Application for Reporting on the SDGs (MARS) for Somalia's National Statistical System

"I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Neda, Joelle, and Mustafa from the UNESCWA team in supporting the advancement of our work on SDG reporting. Your partnership with the Directorate and the SDG team has been invaluable, and your dedication is deeply appreciated.

The MARS system represents a significant step forward for SNBS. It will greatly enhance our ability to coordinate SDG data collection across the various ministries, ensuring that our data is both high-quality and timely.
This tool will undoubtedly ease the burden on SNBS, enabling the team to focus on the critical task of ensuring that our reporting reflects the true progress of our nation."

Fadumo Mumin
Director of Policy, Planning and Coordination Services

Capacity Building and Multi-Stakeholder Engagement

In September, the team conducted a specialized capacity-building workshop for the 35 SDG data providers who had previously undergone UNESCWA training on the Monitoring Application for Reporting on the SDGs (MARS) platform. This workshop aimed to reinforce their understanding of the platform and ensure that they could effectively utilize its features for accurate and efficient SDG data reporting. By offering hands-on

training, the sessions helped participants navigate the MARS system with greater confidence, enabling them to efficiently manage, upload, and process statistical data critical to Somalia's sustainable development efforts.

The training sessions focused on key aspects of the MARS platform, including data uploading, verification, and reporting procedures. Participants were guided through step-by-step demonstrations on how to input and validate statistical data, ensuring compliance with international reporting standards. This approach enhanced technical proficiency and also emphasized the importance of accuracy and consistency in data reporting. Strengthening these capabilities is essential for improving the quality of statistical outputs and ensuring that Somalia's progress toward achieving the SDGs is well-documented and measurable.

Moreover, the workshop placed strong emphasis on multi-stakeholder engagement, encouraging collaboration between government ministries, agencies, and other key institutions. By fostering inter-agency cooperation, the training aimed to create a more integrated and cohesive approach to SDG data collection and reporting. Participants were encouraged to share best practices, align their methodologies, and establish communication channels that facilitate seamless data exchange. This collaborative effort is expected to enhance the overall quality and timeliness of Somalia's SDG reporting, ensuring that development policies are informed by reliable and up-to-date statistical insights.

Establishment of the Joint Coordination Forum on Data and Statistics in Somalia

On November 5, 2024, the Directorate of Policy, Planning and Coordination, with support from the United Nations and the Resident Coordinator's Office (RCO), successfully launched the Joint Coordination Forum on Data and Statistics.

This significant event, chaired by SNBS's Acting DG and Deputy Director General, Abdirahman Omar Dahir, and co-chaired by the Regional Director of International Cooperation at the Embassy of Switzerland, Martina Durrer, brought together a wide range of stakeholders dedicated to strengthening Somalia's statistical capacity.

The establishment of the Forum reflects a growing recognition of the need for a unified, well-coordinated approach to data management, ensuring that statistical efforts contribute effectively to national development goals.

The event saw participation from over 70 stakeholders, including representatives from key government ministries, UN agencies, donor organizations, and development partners. Among the attendees were high-level representatives from UNHCR, UNFPA, WFP, IOM, FAO, UNICEF, UNDP, FAO, UNIDO, UN-RCO, UNTMIS, UNSOS, and various Somali government institutions such as the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, the Ministry of Health and Human Services, the Somali Disaster Management Agency, the African Development Bank, the National Communications Authority, the Ministry of Fisheries and Blue Economy, and the Ministry of Commerce, alongside the Banadir Regional Administration. This broad participation highlighted the Forum's importance as a platform for collaboration across multiple sectors, ensuring that all key stakeholders are engaged in Somalia's data development agenda.

The primary objective of the Joint Coordination Forum on Data and Statistics is to enhance coordination between development partners, government entities, and donors. By consolidating statistical efforts and streamlining data initiatives, the Forum aims to reduce duplication, optimize resource allocation, and ensure that data collection and analysis efforts are aligned with national priorities.

This collaborative environment is expected to result in stronger methodologies, improved data quality, and a more integrated statistical framework that aligns with international standards

The Forum's establishment is also closely linked to Somalia's second National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDSII). By aligning data collection efforts with this strategy, the Forum helps create a robust framework for sustainable statistical capacity.
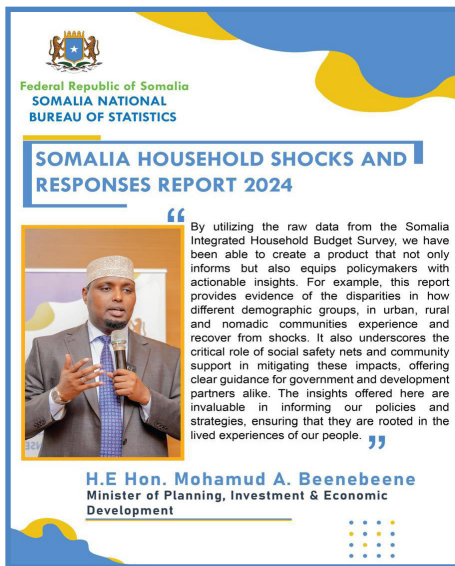
Given the complex landscape of data management in Somalia, this initiative represents a crucial step toward improving efficiency and maximizing the impact of statistical activities on policy and decision-making.

In conclusion, the launch of the Joint Coordination Forum on Data and Statistics marks a significant milestone in Somalia's journey toward a well-coordinated and efficient data ecosystem.

By promoting collaboration, optimizing resources, and fostering innovation, the Forum lays the foundation for a more structured and sustainable approach to statistical development. As the Forum continues to evolve, it is expected to play a crucial role in shaping the future of Somalia's data landscape, ensuring that the country's statistical capacity keeps pace with national and global development objectives.

Launch of Somalia Household Shocks & Responses Report

The DPPCS team, specifically the governance section, successfully led the preparation and data collection process of the Somalia Household Shocks and Responses Report. This involved designing a comprehensive framework to capture critical data on various shocks and their corresponding responses, utilizing the primary data in raw SPSS form from the Somalia Integrated Household Budget Survey 2022 (SIHBS).

The Directorate's efforts ensured a thorough analysis of the data, laying the groundwork for a detailed report that provides valuable insights to inform policy decisions and enhance resilience strategies.

This report presents an in-depth analysis of the impact of Shocks on Somalia's households, analyzing the extent of the impact to lives, the way in which households respond to and manage those shocks, offering insights into how households navigate various natural, economic, social, and health disruptions.

Federal Republic of Somalia
SOMALIA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS

SOMALIA HOUSEHOLD SHOCKS AND RESPONSES REPORT 2024

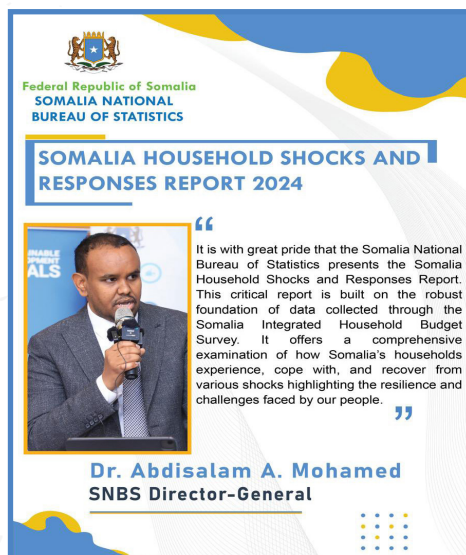"By utilizing the raw data from the Somalia Integrated Household Budget Survey, we have been able to create a product that not only informs but also equips policymakers with actionable insights. For example, this report provides evidence of the disparities in how different demographic groups, in urban, rural and nomadic communities experience and recover from shocks. It also underscores the critical role of social safety nets and community support in mitigating these impacts, offering clear guidance for government and development partners alike. The insights offered here are invaluable in informing our policies and strategies, ensuring that they are rooted in the lived experiences of our people."

H.E Hon. Mohamud A. Beenebeene
Minister of Planning, Investment & Economic Development

Federal Republic of Somalia
SOMALIA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS

SOMALIA HOUSEHOLD SHOCKS AND RESPONSES REPORT 2024

"It is with great pride that the Somalia National Bureau of Statistics presents the Somalia Household Shocks and Responses Report. This critical report is built on the robust foundation of data collected through the Somalia Integrated Household Budget Survey. It offers a comprehensive examination of how Somalia's households experience, cope with, and recover from various shocks highlighting the resilience and challenges faced by our people."

Dr. Abdisalam A. Mohamed
SNBS Director-General

Federal Republic of Somalia
SOMALIA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS

SOMALIA HOUSEHOLD SHOCKS AND RESPONSES REPORT 2024

"I recognize the profound importance of this report to our mandate. SODMA is tasked with coordinating national efforts in disaster risk reduction, preparedness, response, and recovery. The report sheds light on the complex array of shocks that Somali households face—ranging from environmental disasters like droughts and floods to economic challenges such as food price inflation, as well as social and health-related crises. These shocks not only disrupt the livelihoods of our people but also hinder the nation's overall development.

Furthermore, the report emphasizes the critical role of collaboration. All Government agencies must work together to first collect data and develop and implement strategies that are cohesive and comprehensive. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to SNBS for their work. Their efforts have provided us with a clear picture of the challenges we face and the pathways we can pursue to overcome them."

MD. Maxamuud Macallin Cabdulle
SODMA Commissioner

Federal Republic of Somalia
SOMALIA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS

SOMALIA HOUSEHOLD SHOCKS AND RESPONSES REPORT 2024

"It is my honor to address you today at the launch of the Somalia Household Shocks and Responses Report. As the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, this report directly speaks to our mandate to address the root causes of these environmental shocks and build resilience at the household and national levels. The findings of the report underscore the significant role that environmental shocks, such as droughts, floods, and severe water shortages, play in destabilizing households. These events, driven largely by climate variability, directly reduce household incomes, deplete essential assets, and force families into adopting coping mechanisms that, while necessary in the short term, often have long-term negative consequences. I commend SNBS for their exceptional work in producing the report and collecting and analyzing the data that underpins these findings, providing an invaluable foundation for evidence-based policymaking."

Hafsa Omar Abdilahi
Director of Climate Change
Ministry of Environment and Climate Change

Federal Republic of Somalia
SOMALIA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS

SOMALIA HOUSEHOLD SHOCKS AND RESPONSES REPORT 2024

"As we unveil the Somalia Household Shocks and Responses Report, it is important to acknowledge the data challenges and limitations we encountered to guide our focus in the future. Specifically, the report reflects household conditions at a specific moment in time, yet the dynamic nature of shocks- whether economic, environmental, or social- requires us to interpret these findings within the context of an ever-changing landscape. Further, the social stratification of the data was limited to urban, rural and nomadic which didn't capture the regional disparities, meaning that some localized shocks and responses are not fully captured. Addressing these gaps through regular, inclusive, and standardized data collection, enhanced analysis of coping mechanisms, and the establishment of a national data repository will pave the way for a more nuanced understanding of household resilience."

Fadumo Mumin
Director of Policy, Planning and Coordination, SNBS

Somalia Household Shocks & Responses Report 2024

Specifically, the report systematically examines the impact of a range of shocks including but not limited to food price rises, droughts/severe water shortages, floods, livestock deaths, conflicts, or death of a household breadwinner on household income and asset losses revealing how these events contribute to significant financial strain and asset depletion among affected households.

Key findings indicate that food price inflation and environmental shocks, lead to immediate and severe income drops, forcing households to sell assets, reduce consumption, or incur debt to cope. Additionally, the death of a breadwinner or loss of livestock exacerbates economic vulnerability, often leading to long-term impoverishment. Furthermore, the report highlights disparities in the ability of different demographic groups to absorb and recover from shocks, with particular attention to vulnerable populations.

https://nbs.gov.so/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/HH-shocks-Responses-Report-.pdf

The findings also underscore the critical role of social safety nets, community support, and policy interventions in enhancing household resilience. This report is a reflection of societal issues that need to be addressed by relevant government institutions that have both the responsibility and mandate of responding by utilizing policy recommendations aimed at strengthening households' capacities to withstand and recover from future shocks, thereby contributing to broader household economic stability and improved lives.

This report will be an important resource for policymakers and NGOs, as it helps identify key vulnerabilities and informs targeted interventions to mitigate the effects of wide-ranging shocks. The findings can guide evidence-based policy formulation, improve social protection programs, and support efforts aimed at strengthening household and community resilience.

National Evaluation Capacities Conference in Beijing, China

From the 14-18th October 2024, the Director of Policy, Planning and Coordination Services attended the National Evaluation Capacities Conference in Beijing, China. The Beijing Conference's theme was Responsive Evaluations for Government, for Inclusion and for the Future. Over 500 people from across the globe comprised of Evaluators and Data experts both in the public sector, academic institutions and UNDP gathered to share contextual experiences listen to global experts, engage in riveting , inspiring, philosophical and technical conversations which contribute to enriching evaluations, data and decision making. The Conference was organized by the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office, the World Bank's Global

Evaluation Initiative and graciously hosted by the China International Development Cooperation Agency (CIDCA). Director Fadumo met with Isabelle Mercer, the Director of the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office and Richard Jones who is the Deputy Director of the UNDP Independent Evaluation Office as well as the Candice Morkel, the Director of the Centre for Learning on Evaluation for Results- CLEAR-AA. The last two days of the Conference was dedicated to Workshops which gave more opportunities to share how the Somalia National Bureau of Statistics has made fast progress on producing quality data for decision making as well as briefing on our preparations for the 2026 VNR Report on the SDGs.

● **Directorate of Macroeconomic and Financial Statistics**

Implementation of the Consumer Price Index (CPI)

The Directorate has been producing monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI) statistics for publication since December 2014. The improved efficiency in generating price statistics by the Macroeconomic And Financial Statistics Department has been crucial in meeting release deadlines.

In 2024, the Directorate produced and published the monthly Consumer Price Index reports, providing critical data on inflation trends and understanding price changes in the economy in Somalia. These reports were published on the SNBS website on the 15th of each month. Specifically, the CPI provides accurate and timely data on the cost of living, helping policymakers, businesses, and consumers make informed decisions. This achievement enhances economic planning and stability by offering a clear picture of price trends and their impact on households.

SOMALI NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS
Federal Republic of Somalia

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI)
February 2024

CPI CATEGORIES
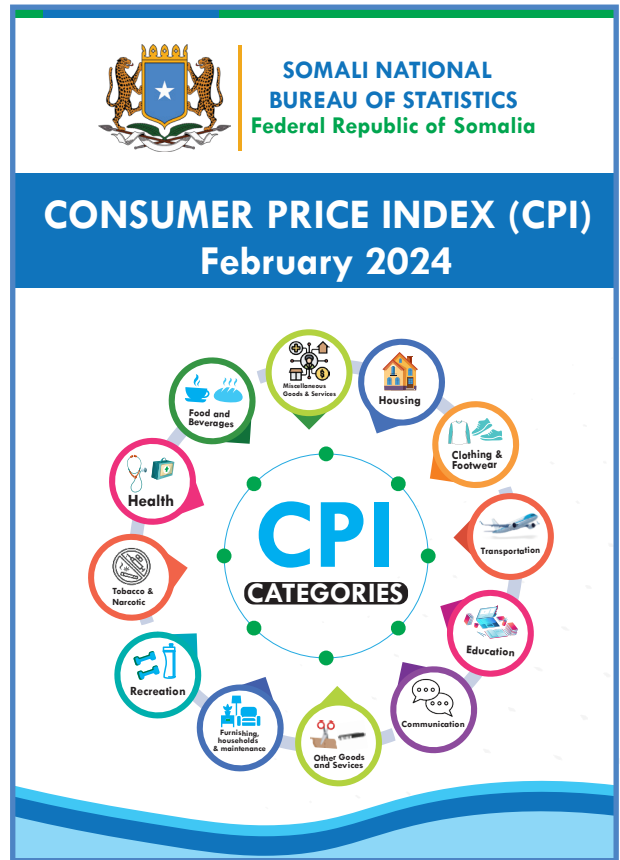
Last year, the team also initiated the National Consumer Price Index Workshop in Mogadishu. This workshop represents a significant step forward in refining the methodology and processes for inflation measurement in Somalia.

The initiative is aimed at enhancing data transparency and accuracy, critical for economic planning and policy formulation.

The workshop involved stakeholders from various levels of government, including local and federal government representatives, to ensure a comprehensive understanding and support for the improved CPI methodology.

Launch of the first-ever Somalia Business Establishment Census (SIBEC-2024)

In December 2024, in a historic moment for Somalia, the Somalia Integrated Business Establishment Census (SIBEC) Report was launched. The Census marks a ground-breaking endeavor by SNBS to completely capture the country's business demography. This first-of-its-kind census collected thorough information on formal, informal, and micro-establishments, providing useful insights into their economic activity, ownership structures, worker compositions, and geographic distributions. The main objective of the census was to identify and register all active businesses in Somalia in

order to establish the Statistical Business Register (SBR). This register will serve as a critical tool for compiling economic statistics, tracking business activities, and generating key national indicators such as GDP, gross output, and intermediate consumption. The data captured will support evidence-based policymaking and strategic planning for

economic development. This pioneering census lays the foundation for data-driven economic planning and policymaking, providing insights that will support Somalia's sustainable growth and the implementation of the NTP. The census

benefited from the active participation of Somali business owners and development partners. The total number of establishments recorded were 174,149, categorized into formal (28%), informal (25%), and micro-establishments (47%). The majority of these establishments were in Wholesale and Retail Trade, which accounts for 78% of all establishments, followed by 10% in Accommodation and Food Services, 5% in other services and 3% in Manufacturing sector.

Geographically, Banadir recorded the highest concentration of establishment with 48,387 (28%) followed by Waqooyi Galbeed (Hargeisa) and Bari (Bosaso) with 31,491 (18%) and 19,308 (11%) establishments, respectively. These three regions account for 57% of all establishment enumerated. Workforce data revealed significant gender and employment trends. Men dominate employment in formal

and informal establishments, accounting for 66% of the workforce, while women are more active in micro-establishments, accounting for 70% of employees. In terms of ownership, sole proprietorships emerged as the predominant business structure, accounting for 91% of all businesses.

SIBEC-2024 provides critical data for the compilation of input-output tables and a Social Accounting Matrix, enabling detailed economic planning, policy evaluation, and regulatory adjustments in alignment with the NTP. The census highlights disparities among women and men with respect to employment, presenting actionable observations to promote women-inclusive policies in Somalia's private sector.

SIBEC-2024 represents a landmark achievement in Somalia's statistical and economic development, providing a robust framework for;

► Strengthening national accounts and economic indicators.

► Forming the base for the compilation of the upcoming GDP by production approach

► Identifying growth sectors and monitoring sectoral performance.

► Developing targeted interventions to enhance economic resilience and inclusivity.

► Supporting equity initiatives through disaggregated employment data.

► Enabling subject-specific surveys such as the Producer Price Index and Construction Sector Index.

Somalia National Bureau Of Statistics to Launch Landmark Business Census Report — Hay'adda Staatistikada Qaranka Soomaaliya Ayaa Daah Furaya Warbixinta Tirakoobka Ganacsiga

Enhancement of Trade Statistics

The Directorate has significantly improved the collection and analysis of trade statistics. By providing accurate and up-to-date information on imports, exports, and trade balances, the Directorate helps stakeholders understand trade patterns and their implications for the economy. These enhanced trade statistics are essential for crafting effective trade policies, negotiating international agreements, and supporting economic growth through better-informed decisions.

National Accounts

The Directorate published the comprehensive National Accounts report for 2023 on June 30, 2024. This report includes updated GDP estimates, incorporating the latest data and methodologies. The technical assistance mission conducted in May 2024, financed by the IMF Somalia Country Fund, was pivotal in updating the GDP base year from 2017 to 2022 and revising GDP per capita estimates

The mission aimed to provide technical assistance in conducting a comprehensive GDP revision, incorporating the latest source data and methods, and updating the base year from 2017 to 2022. This mission, coincided with efforts to update the weights for the Consumer Price Index. The workshop focused on the compilation of expenditure approach, providing essential training to SNBS staff.

In 2024, the Directorate initiated a Scoping Mission for National Accounts in the East African Community. The scoping mission underscored Somalia's commitment to regional cooperation and standardization of economic statistics. This initiative aimed to align national accounts with those of the East African Community, ensuring data comparability and comprehensiveness. The mission involved collaboration with regional statistical offices to improve the quality and reliability of economic data, facilitating regional economic integration.

Monthly Meeting for the Macroeconomics and Financial Statistics Directorate

The Macroeconomic and Financial Statistics Directorate held monthly meetings on the first Saturday of each month, resulting in three meetings for this quarter. Detailed minutes were prepared for each meeting. The main objectives of these meetings were to provide updates on the progress of various activities from different sections, accelerate the completion of assigned and planned tasks, and ensure that all work is performed according to the work plan and within the stipulated timeframe. The minutes of each meeting, including action points, were shared with all Directorate staff by the administrator via email. Additionally, the administrator printed hard copies of the minutes and archived them for future reference.

Analysis of Business Survey

The analysis of the Business Census Survey conducted during the quarter provided crucial insights into Somalia's economic landscape. These findings serve as a foundation for shaping informed economic policies and developmental strategies, offering valuable guidance to policymakers and business leaders to foster economic growth and stability.

Final Review Meeting for the 2020-2024 Project Supported by Statistics Sweden

The conclusion of the Statistics Sweden-supported project represented a milestone in strengthening Somalia's statistical capabilities and infrastructure. Over four years, the project facilitated activities ranging from capacity building to implementing advanced statistical methodologies. The final review meeting evaluated the project's impacts, documented lessons learned, and provided a roadmap for future initiatives grounded in the project's successes and challenge.

Monthly Training Sessions

The Directorate conducted monthly training sessions covering topics such as Basic Statistics, Economic Statistics (including CPI), and National Account Statistics. These sessions aimed to bridge knowledge gaps, promote skill development, and facilitate knowledge transfer among staff, ultimately enhancing the Directorate's overall capacity.

4th Macroeconomic Working Group (MWG)

The SNBS played a vital role in the 4th Macroeconomic Working Group by preparing a comprehensive State of the Economy Report, which significantly informed national economic discussions and policy decisions. Additionally, the Bureau collaborated with the Ministry of Finance to draft the Somalia 2024 Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF). This partnership ensured that the MTEF was grounded in accurate statistical data and realistic economic forecasts, supporting strategic fiscal planning.

● Directorate of Population and Social Statistics

Capacity Building Workshop on Multidimensional Poverty (MPI) in Nairobi

The Multi-dimensional Poverty Index (MPI) Workshop was held in Nairobi from January 15 to 19, 2024. The workshop aimed to build the capacity of Somali government officials and stakeholders in measuring and tackling multidimensional poverty. Experts from OPHI facilitated the training, equipping participants with the technical skills and knowledge required for MPI implementation.

A blended learning approach was employed, combining lectures, hands-on training, group exercises, and real-world case studies. Participants gained a thorough understanding of the MPI framework, the Alkire-Foster method, and its application. It also significantly enhanced the capacity of Somali government officials to address multidimensional poverty, equipping participants with essential technical skills, analytical capabilities, and practical tools for MPI implementation and policy formulation. This newfound expertise lays a strong foundation for developing and implementing a national MPI in Somalia, ultimately contributing to achieving the SDGs and improving the well-being of the Somali population. By adopting a multidimensional approach to poverty measurement and policy, Somalia can make significant strides toward a brighter future.

Working Group on Forced Displacement Statistics (IGAD Region) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

A workshop was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, by the IGAD Secretariat and attended by the Directorate of Population and Social Statistics.

The event took place from March 18th to March 21st and primarily focused on enhancing coordination and collaboration at both national and regional levels in the generation and sharing of refugee-related statistics. Throughout the conference, technical teams from the member states engaged in extensive discussions to improve the accuracy and reliability of statistics concerning refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs). In order to facilitate this objective, the member states formed four collaborative teams that worked together and formulated recommendations aimed at enhancing overall coordination among IGAD member states. Notably, the implementation of a system to track instances of double registration when refugees migrate within member states was extensively discussed. Such a system would contribute to ensuring precise and error-free statistics, thereby enhancing reliability and coordination among the member state.

Learning Visit of the Migration Technical Working Group in Pretoria, South Africa

National priorities on migration data in Somalia are informed by international conventions and regional initiatives. The first objective of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) – to which Somalia is a signee – centers on the need to collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies.

IGAD Member States recognized that existing migration data is fragmented across many government agencies and is rarely collected for statistical purposes. This critical understanding led to the commitment to establish a regional technical working group (TWG) to facilitate harmonization, comparability, and accessibility of migration data.

Migration is a critically important national issue in Somalia, with political, economic and social repercussions which require well-informed, timely information and knowledge to ensure that the Federal Government is able to plan and prepare resources to adequately respond to pressing issues related to the plights of forced returnees, vulnerable immigrants and refugees and IDPs , and to effectively draw upon the resources of its diaspora and labor migrant force to work together in the interest of offering durable solutions, political stability and contributing to Somalia's economic development.

The specific objectives of the workshop included:

Exchange best practices in terms of early development related to migration data, including data sharing initiatives, etc.

Share lessons on administrative data collection, analysis, and dissemination.

Training Workshop on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Statistics with SNBS & Banadir Regional Administration

The Directorate of Population and Social Statistics recognizes the critical need for comprehensive and up-to-date GBV statistics. The existing surveys, such as the Somali Health and Demographic Survey and Multi-Indicator Cluster Survey, provide valuable insights but are periodic, occurring every 3-5 years

The importance of a dedicated GBV statistics system for Somalia cannot be overstated. It serves as a cornerstone for providing disaggregated and comprehensive data on the prevalence and incidence of various forms of violence against women. This information is indispensable for the Federal Government and member states to establish baselines, identify high-risk groups, concentrate intervention efforts, track changes over time, evaluate the effectiveness of interventions, and raise public awareness.

The overall objective of the training is threefold. First, it aims to create an enabling environment by bringing together a key stakeholder, the Banadir Regional Administration. The goal is to assess the current situation, identify constraints, and establish an efficient monitoring and evaluation system on and GBV statistics.

Second, the training sought to increase data production by enhancing the technical capacities of national statistical systems.

Third, the training aimed to improve data accessibility and use by strengthening the capacities of users to conduct gender crime data analysis. It focuses on increasing the accessibility of GBV statistics through better reporting, enhancing communication of gender crime data through training, and encouraging data and metadata sharing to facilitate data flows at state and federal levels.

Launch of the National Disability Report

In March 2024, the Directorate successfully launched a comprehensive National Disability Report, offering insights into the lives of people with disabilities in Somalia. This report is based on data from the Somali Integrated Household Budget Survey (SIHBS-2022). The primary aim is to inform public policies and government programs by highlighting the prevalence and patterns of disability across various demographics and regions. The survey and subsequent report were made possible through significant technical and financial support from development partners, including the World Bank.

The report addresses the lack of comprehensive data on disabilities in Somalia, a gap that has hindered effective policy formulation and implementation. It aligns with international standards and practices, including the guidelines provided by the Washington Group on Disability Statistics, ensuring the reliability and comparability of data.

The development of the report followed the completion of SIHBS-2022, which collected extensive data on household budgets, including disability metrics. The SNBS led the data collection and analysis, with efforts concentrated on ensuring accuracy and inclusivity.

The launch event was attended by key stakeholders, including government officials, representatives from international organizations, NGOs, and the media. This event served as a platform to discuss the findings and implications of the report, emphasizing the need for inclusive policies and programs.

Launch of the National Disability Report

Launch of the Gender Booklet Report

The "Women and Men in Somalia" report, the third edition produced by the Directorate of Population and Social Statistics, aims to provide a detailed analysis of gender disparities in Somalia. The report leverages data to highlight the distinct roles and contributions of men and women in society, focusing on demographic, health, educational, and socio-economic factors. This analysis is intended to support policymakers, researchers, and stakeholders in making informed decisions to promote gender equality in Somalia.

The main sources of data for this report include:
- ▶ Somali Integrated Household Budget Survey (SIHBS 2022)
- ▶ Somali Health & Demographic Survey (SHDS 2020)
- ▶ Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS 2006)

The report presents several key findings across different domains:

Health

The percentage of ever-married women aged 15-49 who received antenatal care (ANC) from skilled health professionals increased from 26.1% in 2006 to 31.1% in 2020.

There was a notable increase in the proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel in rural areas from 22.4% in 2006 to 31.9% in 2020.

However, significant disparities persist, with women in poorer households less likely to access these health services.

Education

The Net Enrollment Ratio (NER) for primary education shows disparities based on gender and location. Boys have a higher NER in urban areas (49.4%) compared to rural areas (16.7%), whereas girls have a higher NER in rural areas (29.8%) compared to urban areas (19.4%).

For secondary education, the NER is nearly equal for girls (9.6%) and boys (8.7%), indicating some progress towards gender parity in educational access.

Economic Participation

here are significant gender disparities in economic resources, with men having higher ownership or secure rights over agricultural land compared to women.

The report highlights the need for policies that support economic empowerment for women, ensuring equal rights and opportunities in resource ownership.

Census Study Tour in Djibouti 14th-17th April, 2024.

Somalia is set to conduct its first national Population and Housing Census in nearly 50 years, with the SNBS leading this effort. However, the country faces significant challenges due to decades of insecurity, internal displacement, refugee influx, and a nomadic population.

SNBS conducted a study tour to Djibouti to understand the challenges and best methodologies for conducting censuses in such environments. The tour aimed to understand the technological infrastructure used in Djibouti, the logistics of census operations, and how it has integrated migration and displacement into its census framework. SNBS aims to refine its questionnaire and optimize its own census operations.

United Nations 57th Commission on Population and Development in New York 29th April – 3rd May 2024.

The Somalia delegation, led by His Excellency Mohamud A. Sheikh Farah the Minster of Planning, Investment, and Economic Development, actively participated in the 57th Session of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD) at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from April 29 to May 3, 2024. The session, which included the Deputy Director General of SNBS and the SNBS Director of Population and Social Statistics, focused on assessing the implementation of the International Conference on Population and Development's (ICPD) Program of Action and its alignment with the SDGs.

Marking the 30th anniversary of the ICPD, the conference critically examined the program's relevance amid global challenges like climate change, economic instability, and inequality. Minister Farah delivered key addresses, including at a side event for Arab League members, highlighting Somalia's commitment to addressing population dynamics and sustainable development. Despite progress in areas such as maternal mortality reduction and education access, challenges like poverty, inequality, and violence against women persist, exacerbated by climate change and conflict.

The event aimed to reposition the ICPD agenda, develop strategies to address mega-trends, and create actionable recommendations for policy implementation. Somalia's submission of its inaugural ICPD progress report at the session signifies a commitment to evidence-based policymaking, transparency, and collaboration with the international community.

Emphasizing gender equality and women's empowerment, the report outlines Somalia's accomplishments, challenges, and future, plans serving as a catalyst for accelerating the nation's development trajectory and maximizing the demographic dividend.

Somalia's peer-to-peer learning and knowledge-sharing mission

The Directorate of Population and Social Statistics participated in a peer-to-peer learning and knowledge-sharing mission held from August 12–16, 2024, in Kampala, Uganda. This mission was part of a broader initiative aimed at strengthening Somalia's Crime, Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) statistics and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) statistics.

The Somali delegation, consisting of representatives from SNBS, the Supreme Court, Ministry of Justice, Benadir Appeal Court, and the Attorney General's Office, sought to gain valuable insights into Uganda's practices for managing and reporting crime and GBV data.

The mission aligns with Somalia's broader commitment to enhancing the collection, management, production, and dissemination of accurate GBV statistics.is aligned with a larger commitment to strengthen data collection, management, production, and dissemination related to VAWG, and GBV statistics in Somalia.

Throughout the five-day mission, the Somali delegation participated in in-depth discussions, workshops, and site visits aimed at understanding Uganda's data management systems.

These activities provided a hands-on learning experience where participants observed Uganda's operational frameworks, technological tools, and inter-institutional coordination mechanisms that contribute to Uganda's success in crime and GBV data management. By engaging with their Ugandan counterparts, the Somali delegation gained practical insights that will inform their efforts to improve Somalia's GBV statistics systems and enhance strategies for crime prevention and GBV mitigation.

East African community multidimensional poverty index (EAC-MPI) report

The Directorate of Population and Social Statistics contributed technically to the compilation and analysis of the East African Community (EAC) Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) report and participated in its production event, held in Entebbe, Uganda, in September 2024.

This baseline EAC MPI report marks a significant step in the EAC's commitment to adopting a multidimensional approach to poverty measurement, complementing traditional consumption-based poverty measures.

The East African Community (EAC) is an inter-governmental organization comprising Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Federal Republic of Somalia, Uganda, and United Republic of Tanzania. Its core mandate is to drive the economic, social, and political integration of East Africa.

The integration agenda aims to foster high and shared growth to effectively reduce poverty and improve the living standards of East African citizens.

The primary objective of the EAC-MPI report is to establish a baseline for tracking progress in addressing multidimensional poverty across the region, in line with SDG 1 and various EAC Vision 2050 targets.

The MPI offers a comprehensive perspective on poverty by considering a range of deprivations people face beyond mere income scarcity, focusing on their life circumstances, living conditions, and capabilities.

Validation meeting for Migration Statistics Report, Mogadishu-Somalia

The Directorate of Population and Social Statistics, through its Migration and Displacement Statistics Division, has made substantial strides in producing the first report on migration statistics using administrative data. A dedicated Technical Working Group (TWG) was formed to enhance data sharing among ministries, departments, and agencies (MDAs) involved in the collection of migration data.

To streamline the process, SNBS developed a customized Excel tool for each agency, enabling them to input and share their specific data via email. After receiving the datasets, SNBS undertook a meticulous data cleaning process to ensure the quality and integrity of the information. The cleaned data was then analyzed, culminating in the initial draft of the report, which is currently under review and validation.

The validation meeting was held on 26 September 2024 in Mogadishu, Somalia, bringing together representatives from the TWG and key MDAs. The purpose of the meeting was to review the migration statistics report and ensure its accuracy and comprehensiveness. Attendees included members the Immigration and Citizenship Agency (ICA), the National Commission for Refugees and IDPs (NCRI), the Office of Special Presidential Envoy for Migration, Returnees, and Children's Rights (OSPE), the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MoLSA), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MoFAIC), and the Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development (MoPIED).

These stakeholders participated in presentations, interactive discussions, and provided valuable feedback on the draft report. Plans were also made for a formal launch of the migration statistics report.

Training workshop of focal points for data analysis on health indicators for agenda 2063

The Directorate of Population and Social Statistics participated in the second training workshop of Focal Points from AU Member States on Health Indicators for Agenda 2063, held under the Strategy for Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA 2) from 23rd to 27th September 2024 in Accra, Ghana. The workshop, hosted for Anglophone-speaking countries, brought together representatives from AU Member States, Pan-African Organizations (PAOs), Regional Economic Communities (RECs), and independent experts, including institutions like the University of Pretoria.

The Strategy for Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA) operates under the leadership of the African Union Commission (AUC), the African Development Bank (AfDB), and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), in collaboration with the Committee of Directors-General of African National Statistical Offices (CoDG). The CoDG oversees and approves the comprehensive implementation of SHaSA across the continent.

The workshop was attended by AU Member States, Pan African Organizations (PAOs) and RECs as well as independent experts such us AU Member States, Pan-African organizations, and The University of Pretoria.

Census experts group meeting in Pretoria, South Africa

The Directorate of Population and Social Statistics participated in a week-long Census Experts Group Meeting held from 9th to 13th September 2024 in Pretoria, South Africa. This meeting was organized in collaboration with experts from across Africa, who gathered to share experiences and lessons learned from the 2020 census round.

The main objectives of the meeting were centered around reviewing the 2020 round of Population and Housing Censuses (PHCs) and planning for the 2030 round across Africa.

Meeting of the technical working group on compilation of EAC Facts and Figures 2024

The Directorate of Population and Social Statistics actively participated in the Technical Working Group meeting for the compilation of the EAC Facts and Figures 2024, which was held from September 2 to 6, 2024, in Entebbe, Uganda. The meeting was attended by experts from the National Statistics Offices of the Partner States, excluding the Republic of Rwanda, and the Central Banks of the Partner States, except for the Democratic Republic of Congo

The primary objective of the meeting was to compile and develop the EAC Facts

and Figures 2024, an annual publication designed to provide regional statistics that will inform the process of regional integration across the East African Community.

The meeting focused on reviewing and validating the data for three thematic areas: social statistics, production statistics, and macroeconomic statistics. Data for some indicators had been populated, though gaps were identified. The delegates worked to fill these gaps and update national data templates. The validation process considered various factors, including the completeness and consistency of data across partner states and over time and ensuring data was presented in numeric form for ease of summation.

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Learning visit and observation mission for Burundi's census 2024

SNBS proudly participated in the Eastern African Community observer mission for Burundi's 2024 General Census of Population, Housing, Agriculture, and Livestock, held from August 25 to 31, 2024. This mission marked a critical milestone for Somalia as it prepares to conduct its own national population and housing census in the near future.

The EAC observer mission to Burundi offered Somalia's statisticians a unique opportunity to gain firsthand experience of the challenges and successes encountered during the implementation of a large-scale national census. By participating in this mission, Somalia was able to observe Burundi's methods, assess its approaches, and understand the complexities involved in conducting a national census. These insights are expected to be instrumental as Somalia prepares for its own census, ensuring that it is accurate, comprehensive, and aligned with international best practices.

5th IGAD migration data technical working group workshop

The Directorate of Population and Social Statistics actively participated in the 5th IGAD Migration Data Technical Working Group Workshop, held from August 12 to 15, 2024, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The workshop, organized by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) in collaboration with various partners, focused on advancing the production and utilization of migration and displacement statistics within the IGAD region.

It aimed to strengthen regional data systems and improve migration data management to inform effective policymaking and interventions.

The workshop brought together experts responsible for migration data from National Statistical Institutes, Ministries of Labor, and Immigration Services of IGAD Member States.

Somalia made significant contributions by presenting updates on its migration and displacement statistics and reviewing the second edition of the Migration Statistics Report, offering valuable feedback to enhance the report's accuracy and relevance.

Social Statistical Abstract Report

The Social Statistical Abstract (SSA) is a crucial document in Somalia's Statistical Yearbook 2024, providing a detailed analysis of demographic, health, and social indicators from 2006 to 2022. It serves as a basis for evidence-based policymaking, planning, and research, identifying trends and gaps in areas such as education, health, and water sanitation. The SSA is structured to provide a systematic presentation of key statistics, focusing on demographic characteristics, literacy and education, health outcomes, and the federal government civil service. The SSA uses data from various surveys, including the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS), Somali Health and Demographic Survey (SHDS), Population Estimation Survey (PESS), and Somali Integrated Household Budget Survey (SIHBS), and administrative data from the Ministry of Education and National Civil Services Commission.

It emphasizes the need for continuous investment in strengthening national statistical systems to ensure reliable and timely data for monitoring progress and guiding future development efforts.

IGAD – EUTF – ILO End of phase 1 project review and learning workshop – 13TH – 16TH May

The Directorate attended the IGAD-EUTF-ILO End of Phase I Project Review and Learning Workshop in Uganda, focusing on the IGAD Protocol on Free Movement of Persons and Transhumance. The workshop highlighted the potential of free movement for regional economic growth, including skilled Somalis finding work in neighbouring countries and remittances. SNBS can help quantify the economic impact of Labour migration by collecting data on remittances, skills gaps, and the number of Somalis working abroad.

The workshop also highlighted the need for improved border management and data collection, with SNBS collaborating with immigration authorities to develop robust data collection systems. The workshop also provided insights into the progress of the IGAD Protocol implementation and best practices for implementing the Protocols.

Launch of the National Multidimensional Poverty Index Report.

The recent dissemination of the National Multidimensional Poverty Index (NMPI) report in Somalia marked a crucial step towards a more nuanced understanding of poverty within the country. This landmark event, attended by high-level government officials, UN representatives, civil society organizations, and the private sector, officially adopted the NMPI as the new national measure of poverty.

Developed through a collaborative effort involving the Somali National Bureau of Statistics, the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, UNDP, and OPHI, the NMPI transcends traditional income-based poverty measures by encompassing a wide range of deprivations, including those in education, health, nutrition, water, sanitation, and housing.

The significance of this development for Somalia cannot be overstated. In a country grappling with the complex interplay of conflict, climate change, and limited access to basic services, a comprehensive understanding of poverty is paramount for effective policy interventions. T

he NMPI provides a powerful tool for policymakers to identify the most vulnerable populations and tailor targeted interventions to address their specific needs. By moving beyond a simplistic focus on income, the NMPI sheds light on the multifaceted nature of poverty in Somalia, revealing how multiple deprivations intersect to create a cycle of disadvantage.

The launch event served as a platform for dialogue and collaboration, with key stakeholders emphasizing the need for a multi-sectoral approach to poverty reduction. The government, in partnership with international organizations, civil society, and the private sector, committed to utilizing the NMPI data to inform policy decisions, monitor progress, and ensure that resources are allocated effectively to address the most pressing needs of vulnerable populations. The dissemination of the NMPI report represents a crucial step towards a more equitable and inclusive future for Somalia, where the voices of the most marginalized are heard and their needs are addressed

through evidence-based and targeted interventions.

The report gathered a lot of attention both in media and within government institutions, there was attendance from the Deputy Prime Minister, senior Federal Ministers like the Health Minister, the Education Minister, and the Minister of Labour, all of which spoke at great length about the importance of this data in their respective data, in a country like Somalia that has experienced a significant gap in statistics this data has been welcomed as ground breaking and first of its kind which will help various dockets of government in planning and ensuring accurate policy and planning based on evidence.

FMS DGs coordination meeting - Generation of Socio-demographic Data for Evidence-based Programming

The Federal Member States Coordination Meeting on Generation of Socio-demographic Data for Evidence-based Programming convened at Star Empire Group, Mogadishu International Airport on November 25-26, 2024. The meeting aimed to address the critical shortage of reliable socio-demographic data in Somalia, which hinders effective planning, resource allocation, and service delivery.

Migration statistics report launch event and technical working group consultation meeting on migration and displacement data

The Somalia National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS) hosted a pivotal event from 19-21 November 2024 at the Jazeera Palace Hotel in Mogadishu: the launch of the inaugural Migration Statistics Report and a crucial Technical Working Group (TWG) consultation meeting on migration and displacement data. This event brought

together a diverse range of stakeholders, including government officials, representatives from regional organizations such as IGAD, COMESA, and EAC, UN agencies like IOM, and key international NGOs. The overarching objective was to significantly enhance data harmonization and sharing amongst ministries, departments, and agencies (MDAs), ultimately improving the availability and quality of administrative migration and displacement data to inform more effective and evidence-based policymaking. The event commenced with the highly anticipated launch of the Migration Statistics Report.

Sub-STG Migration of the Specialized Technical Group on Demography, Migration, Health, Human Development, Social Protection & Gender (STG_SO) of SHaSA II, held in Bujumbura, Burundi.

The Somalia National Bureau of Statistics' participation in the Sub-STG Migration meeting of the Specialized Technical Group on Demography, Migration, Health, Human Development, Social Protection & Gender (STG_SO) of SHaSA II in Bujumbura, Burundi, held from November 6-8, 2024, was of critical importance for several reasons.

Firstly, this participation provided a valuable platform for Somalia

to actively contribute to the development of harmonized uidelines and methodologies for migration statistics within the African Union. By actively engaging in the discussions and contributing to the development of recommendations, Somalia played a key role in shaping the future of migration data collection and analysis across the continent. This ensures that the needs and perspectives of Somalia are considered in the development of these crucial guidelines, leading to more accurate and relevant data that better reflects the realities of migration within the country. Secondly, the meeting provided a unique opportunity for Somalia to learn from the experiences and best practices of other African countries in estimating migration statistics. By sharing knowledge and best practices, participating countries can improve the quality and comparability of their migration data, leading to a more comprehensive understanding of migration patterns and trends across the continent. This exchange of knowledge is particularly valuable for countries like Somalia, which are actively developing their national statistical systems and seeking to improve the quality and reliability of their migration data.

Statistical Analysis and Data Management training held at Makerere University from November 10th to December 8th.

From November 10th to December 8th, 2024, I, staff from the Directorate of Social Statistics at the Somali National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS), participated in a comprehensive training program at Makerere University in Uganda. The training focused on enhancing my data analysis skills through in-depth instruction on Stata software, covering topics such as data management, descriptive statistics, data visualization, population projections, poverty analysis, environmental and agricultural indicators, employment and school enrollment rates, sampling techniques, statistical inference, and regression analysis. The program effectively combined theoretical lessons with practical exercises, facilitating a deeper understanding of the subject matter.

The training successfully achieved its objectives, equipping me with the necessary skills to effectively manage and analyze data, summarize and present data clearly and accurately, understand methods for estimating key country-level statistics, and improve decision-making through the utilization of statistical methods and reliable data. These newly acquired skills will be invaluable in my work at the SNBS, enabling me to conduct more rigorous data analysis, produce high-quality reports, and contribute more effectively to evidence-based decision-making within the organization.

Directorate of Production Statistics

Collaboration with FAO to Develop LMDMIS

The Directorate of Production Statistics, in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), successfully developed the Somali Livestock Market Data and Information Management System (LMDMIS). This innovative system aims to enhance the collection, management, and dissemination of livestock market data, providing critical insights for stakeholders across the livestock value chain. By leveraging modern technology and best practices, the LMDMIS improves transparency, efficiency, and decision-making processes within the Somali livestock market.

Comprehensive Livestock Market Survey in Southwest State

The Directorate of Production conducted a thorough survey in the Southwest State, engaging over 300 participants to assess the current state of the livestock market. This extensive survey aimed to gather valuable data on market dynamics, challenges, and opportunities. The insights derived from this survey are instrumental in formulating strategies to strengthen the livestock sector, address market inefficiencies, and support the livelihoods of those dependent on livestock production in the region.

Production of the Food Security and Nutrition Fact Sheet

With support from COMESA, FAO and Norway Statistics the Directorate held two workshops on enhancing the capacities of the Directorates staff and in disseminating critical information about the nation's Food Security. The first workshop held from April 22-26, focused on equipping participants with the skills necessary to process data on food security and nutrition, this step was crucial for laying a solid foundation for subsequent analysis and reporting. The second workshop conducted from June 10-14, concentrated on analyzing the processed data and developing a Food Security Fact Sheet. This fact sheet is a vital tool for stakeholders to understand the current food security situation in Somalia. The production of the fact sheet was a collaborative effort involving key stakeholders, including the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, and the Ministry of Health. The workshops ensured that the methodologies used were robust and that the fact sheet adhered to international standards.

The Food Security Fact Sheet is based on data from the Somali Integrated Household Budget Survey (SIHBS) 2022. It represents a significant advancement in the statistical capabilities of Somalia, particularly in the context of increasing challenges such as climate change, conflict, and economic instability. Reliable and comprehensive data is essential for guiding policy and decision-making processes aimed at addressing food insecurity and malnutrition.

The fact sheet includes a range of essential topics that provide a holistic view of the food security landscape in Somalia. These topics are critical for identifying gaps and prioritizing actions effectively. The official launch of the Fact Sheet is planned for the 14th August which will enable the Directorate to disseminate this vital information to a broad audience.

Regional Meeting of the TWG on Agriculture Food and Nutrition Statistics on Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) Methodology

In accordance with the EAC Calendar of Activities for the period July – December 2024, a meeting of the Regional Technical Working Group on Agriculture, Food, and Nutrition Statistics on the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES) was held from 8th to 12th July 2024 in Entebbe, the Republic of Uganda. SNBS attended and participated in this important meeting, which aimed to review the FIES methodology, establish its usefulness in measuring food security in the EAC context, and analyze and compare available data from the EAC Partner States (PS). This analysis was intended to provide further insights into the relevance of the FIES methodology to support approval by the Sectoral Committee on Statistics (SCS). The meeting was attended by delegates from all the EAC Partner States, a facilitator from the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and staff from the EAC Secretariat.

Publication of the Joint Monitoring Report

The Joint Monitoring Report (JMR) for Somalia, utilizing data up to April 2024, was successfully published. This report is a critical tool in assessing and addressing food and nutrition security risks across the country.

Key Findings from the report include critical and heightened risk alerts with the it identified populations at risk with it also reported on the high-risk regions and districts and provided fuel and food price alerts: The JMR highlighted significant alerts for fuel prices, indicating severe supply chain disruptions and economic impacts.

The insights from the JMR are instrumental in guiding humanitarian and development efforts. By identifying the most vulnerable areas and populations, stakeholders can better allocate resources and implement timely interventions to mitigate the impacts of food and nutrition security crises.

Training on the Joint Monitoring Report (JMR) Process

A team from the FSNU participated in a one-day training session on the Joint Monitoring Report (JMR) process, organized by the World Bank. This training aimed to enhance the capacity of the FSNU team in understanding and utilizing the JMR for better food and nutrition security assessment and planning.

Key Learning Outcomes from the training included understanding the JMR Process, Data utilization, enhanced collaboration with other stakeholders involved in the JMR process, ensuring a coordinated approach to food and nutrition security.

Launch of the Food Security Crisis Monitoring Dashboard

The FSNU has launched a new Food Security Crisis Monitoring Dashboard, which is now live and accessible to stakeholders. This dashboard provides real-time data and visualizations on food security conditions across Somalia, aiding in timely decision-making and response.

It also enhances the capacity of stakeholders to monitor and respond to food security crises effectively. By providing real-time data, it supports proactive and informed decision-making, helping to mitigate the impacts of food insecurity on vulnerable populations.

CFSVA Survey

The department conducted the Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Assessment Survey (CFSVA) in collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). This survey aimed to provide a thorough insight into the food security conditions nationwide, pinpoint at-risk populations, identify areas with the highest necessity, and determine the main factors contributing to food insecurity.

Publication of Food Security Factsheet 2024

The department published the Food Security Factsheet 2024, which provided valuable insights into the current food security situation in Somalia. The factsheet detailed trends, challenges, and progress in areas such as food availability, access, utilization, and stability.

Livestock Identification and Traceability

The department proposed three methods for animal identification: microchip, RFID, and ear tagging. These proposals aimed to improve the credibility and accuracy of livestock data, which is vital for enhancing Somalia's livestock sector and increasing its economic contribution.

Food Security Profile 2024

The Production Statistics Department published the Food Security Factsheet 2024 on 18th November 2024 at the Decale Hotel, based on data collected from the Somalia Integrated Household Budget Survey (SIHBS) conducted in 2022. The factsheet provides valuable insights into the current food security situation in Somalia, detailing trends, challenges, and progress in areas such as food availability, access, utilization, and stability.

Publication of Food Security Factsheet 2024

The department published the Food Security Factsheet 2024, which provided valuable insights into the current food security situation in Somalia. The factsheet detailed trends, challenges, and progress in areas such as food availability, access, utilization, and stability.

Household Screening Approach Survey

The Household Level Survey was conducted in Baidoa, with a focus on gathering detailed data from internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host communities. The goal of the survey was to assess the social, demographic, and economic conditions of these communities, which are often among the most vulnerable in Somalia. The survey is an essential tool for designing targeted interventions and support programs that address the specific needs of IDPs and local populations.

Additionally, the Household Economic Gap Analysis was completed using data from the 2022 Integrated Household Budget Survey. This analysis revealed significant gaps in the ability of households to meet basic needs, ranging from 40% to 70% across regions. As a result of these findings, the department proposed harmonized cash transfer values, adjusted based on regional Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) costs and price trends over the past three years. These recommendations are intended to guide future humanitarian responses, ensuring that support is directed where it is most needed.

Joint Monitoring Report (JMR) on Food and Nutrition Security Risks

The October 2024 Joint Monitoring Report (JMR) was another key achievement during Quarter the two quarters. The report provided an in-depth assessment of the food and nutrition security situation in Somalia. It highlighted 31 critical and 68 heightened alerts, with an estimated 500,500 people at risk of entering IPC Phase 4 or worse conditions.

The regions of Sanaag, Gedo, and Galgaduud were identified as particularly vulnerable due to factors such as rising fuel and water prices, displacement, and volatile food prices.

The findings from this report are now being used to refine risk mitigation strategies and improve resource allocation in areas most in need of assistance.

IPC Acute Food Security Analysis (Nov 23–26, 2024)

This training aimed at improving the department's analytical capabilities in food security assessments, ensuring that data collected is accurate and insightful.

Somalia Catastrophe Deferred Draw Down Option (Cat-DDO) (Nov 24-25, 2024)

The department contributed to a workshop focused on exploring financial tools to support the government's disaster response efforts through budget support.

Livestock Identification and Traceability

The department also participated in a workshop highlighting the importance of livestock identification and traceability for data-driven development in Somalia. During this session, the department proposed three methods for animal identification: microchip, RFID, and ear tagging.

These proposals aim to improve the credibility and accuracy of livestock data, which is vital for enhancing Somalia's livestock sector and increasing its economic contribution.

Directorate of ICT & Data Management

Infographics & Report Design Training and workshop

Members form the ICT department attended a five-day training course that was held in Nairobi. The training focused on infographics and report design. The course of workshop was intended to eliminate the need for external assistance with graphics, design, and visualization concerns.

The team learned numerous concepts and were able to achieve numerous achievements including but not limited to CPI report-Feb 2024 by SNBS, NDP9 Annual Progress Report by Ministry of Planning, Investment and Economic Development (MOPIED), SNBS Annual Report, Government Financial Statistics (GFS) Analytical Report by Ministry of Finance, Capacity Building To Support Macro-Economic and Budget Departments of MOF/FGS/FMS by Ministry of Finance.

Among the areas the training focused were:

► Understanding Design Principles.

► Practical application of Vector graphics, Text and Typography in Illustrator.

► Hands-on Session - Design of report with all skills and elements learned (Create a report Design)
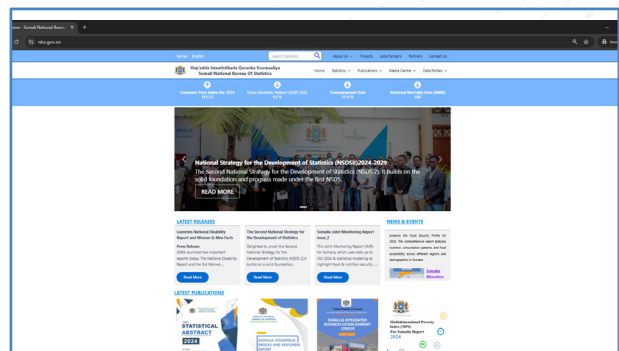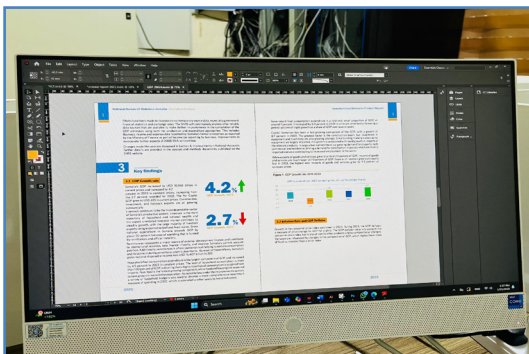
Somali Integrated Business Establishment Census (SIBEC) Training of Trainers (ToT)

The Somali Integrated Business Establishment Census (SIBEC) Training of Trainers (ToT) program is a critical initiative designed to build the capacity of trainers, ensuring they are well-equipped to lead, support, and implement the various phases of the SIBEC program effectively. By focusing on the foundational principles, methodologies, and practical aspects of SIBEC, the ToT program aims to create a team of skilled trainers who can facilitate accurate data collection and provide essential technical support throughout the process.

This program serves as the cornerstone for achieving the SIBEC's overarching goal of delivering reliable and actionable data to support informed decision-making and business development in Somalia.

Study tour to South Africa on migration statistics and data centre

The International Organization for Migration (IOM), in collaboration with Statistics South Africa (Stats SA), hosted the Somali National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS) from 18 to 20 March 2023.

The SNBS delegation comprised of the Head of the delegation, Mr Abdulkadir Mohamed Gedi (Data Manager) and three Data Centre officers; Mr Mohamed Ali Bar, Mr Abdullahi Mohamed Karim Hassan and Mr Mohamed Farah Hassan. The purpose of the visit was to learn and share experiences on Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) data infrastructure.

Amongst the topics requested were: Introduction to Data Centres, Data Centre Design and Infrastructure, ICT Equipment and Hardware, Data Management Systems, Data Security and Privacy, Network Infrastructure, Virtualisation and Cloud Computing, Data Centre Operations and Management, Green Data Centres and Emerging Technologies.

Experts from Stats SA shared a series of experiences through presentations, covering the overview of the organisation, Stats SA's ICT Data Infrastructure and related processes, Data processing, the South African experience regarding the preparations for the census, the lessons learnt during the rollout and post-census, data sharing mechanisms, administrative data usage, data security, mode of power supply, as well as tapping into emerging technologies.

The delegates were also taken on a tour of the building, including the Data Processing Centre (DPC) to appreciate the systems and layout. In his closing remarks, the SNBS Head of delegation stated their appreciation for the hosting of the delegation and sharing of experiences and mentioned that, overall, the mission was a success.

SNBS GIS Team Training and Collaborative Activities

The Somalia National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS) GIS Team has actively engaged in various training sessions and collaborative events to enhance their technical expertise and operational capacity in geographic information systems. These initiatives reflect the team's commitment to leveraging technology for accurate and efficient data collection and analysis.

Training Sessions

Tablet-Based Census Training Conducted by the US Census Bureau, this two-week virtual training covered critical components of implementing a tablet-based census. The sessions focused on planning, ICT technology, enumeration, and post-processing, providing participants with the skills to conduct modern, technology-driven census activities.

The ICT Directorate participated at the Integration of Survey123 & Field Maps training with CSPro organized by the Rwanda Statistics Office with support from the UNFPA GIS Team. This virtual training explored methods to integrate Survey123 and Field Maps with CSPro, Enhancing survey efficiency and data management processes.

GEOGLAM's East Africa Crop Monitor Learning Exchange- A GIS team member participated in this event held in Naivasha, Kenya. The exchange focused on utilizing satellite imagery for crop monitoring, highlighting innovative approaches to agricultural data collection and analysis.

Study Tour to Djibouti Statistics Institute (INSTAD)

The Census Core Team visited INSTAD to learn from Djibouti's ongoing census activities. This study tour provided valuable insights into census planning, implementation, and best practices, fostering cross-border knowledge exchange.

Data Management in SIBEC

Effective data management is critical to the success of the Somali Integrated Business Establishment Census (SIBEC). This component focuses on providing technical support for scripting, implementing, and maintaining data collection systems while ensuring the integrity and reliability of census data.
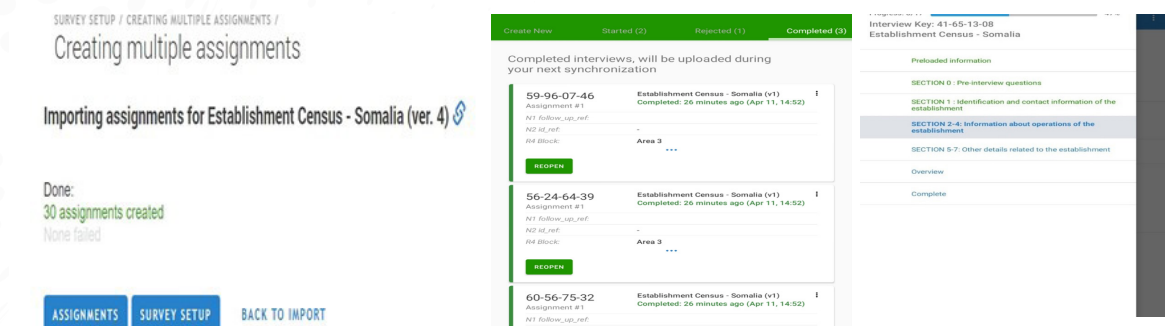
Advanced PX-Web Training

This third mission on PX-Web, conducted from 13th- 17th May 2024 in Nairobi, Kenya, was aimed at enhancing the capabilities of the Somali statistical authorities to disseminate statistics using PX-Web.

Key Results of the Mission included the basic understanding of database design and maintenance using SQLite and R, installation of necessary tools and repetition of PxEdit and PxWin basics, data from the "Facts and Figures" publication was transformed into PX-web files and included in a database, specifically covering education and accidents. These results indicate steady progress towards the project's goal of enhancing statistical dissemination in the Somali context.
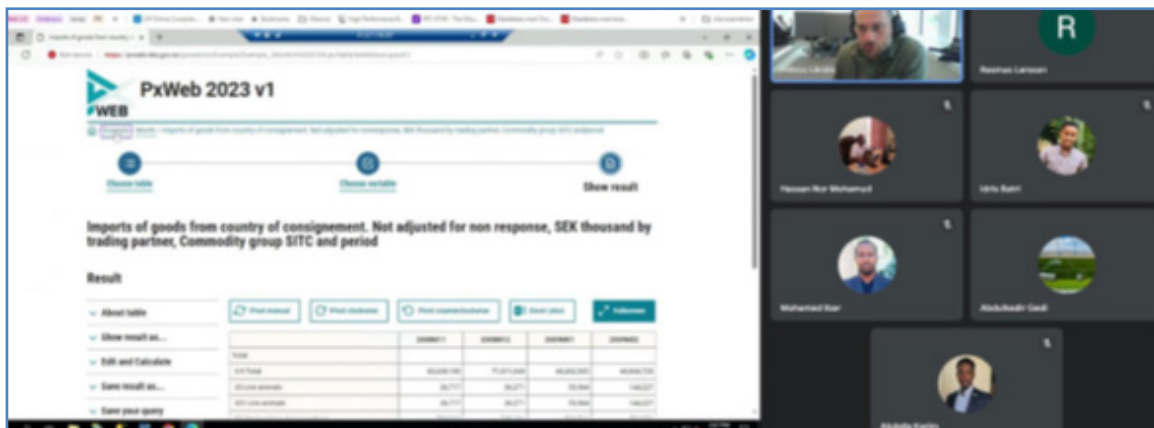
Regional Training of NSO's IT Officers

This regional training session was designed to strengthen the technical expertise of IT officers from National Statistical Offices. By addressing capacity gaps and equipping participants with advanced skills. The program aims to enhance the dissemination and security of official statistics, aligning with regional strategic priorities.

Establishment of IT Infrastructure

The establishment of robust IT infrastructure is critical to creating a unified and efficient system for data management and sharing between the Federal Government of Somalia and Federal Member States. This initiative focused on creating secure, scalable, and high-performance networks that enable seamless collaboration and data integration.

The Key Objectives for this are:

Development of Unified Networks Establish Local Area Networks (LAN) and Wide Area Networks (WAN) to support a unified database for the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and Federal Member States (FMS).

► Facilitate real-time data sharing and centralized data management to enhance cooperation and efficiency.

► Ensure Compliance with Industry Standards Implement IT infrastructure that adheres to global best practices for network security and data integrity.

► Introduce measures to protect against potential threats, ensuring the confidentiality, availability, and reliability of shared data.

► Optimize Network Performance Design and deploy networks optimized for high-speed, reliable data transfer to support large-scale data operations and reporting.

► Conduct regular performance assessments to identify and address bottlenecks or inefficiencies.

Workshop on Data and Metadata Exchange for Reporting on SDGs Advance level IV

Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX) is designed to enable the automation of data and metadata exchange between two or more entities and within the same entity, this process normalizing of data exchange has improved the efficiency of sharing both statistical data and metadata across statistical organizations and entities, providing an integrated approach and enabling the interoperable implementation of exchanging, reporting, and disseminating statistical data and metadata within and between systems.

The Workshop will bring together statisticians and IT specialists from various national statistical offices in the Arab region. The event will introduce participants to advanced data exchange and dissemination tools including SDMX Reference Infrastructure (SDMX-RI), SDMX-RI Mapping Assistant, and other tools, as well as SDMX-based data exchange of SDG Reference Metadata. Hands-on training will be provided as part of the workshop.

Endorsed by the United Nations Statistical Commission in June 2008, SDMX is recognized and supported as a preferred standard for data and its related meta-information, it has an approved standard ISO (17369:2013), sponsored by seven international organizations (BIS, ECB, Eurostat, OECD, IMF, UN, and WB), and has been successfully used for data exchange and dissemination in areas such as Macro- Economic Statistics, International Trade, and the Millennium Development Goals.(sustainable development goal)

Capacity Building Training

In 2024, the Directorate of ICT conducted several statistical capacity-building sessions in the Federal Member States of Jubaland, Hirshabelle, and Galmudug. These sessions focused on enhancing skills in Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and the Consumer Price Index (CPI), as well as advanced data analysis using SPSS and STATA.

Monitoring and Learning

In June 2024, a monitoring survey evaluated recent training sessions via an online questionnaire. It included standardized questions and open-ended responses from 34 stakeholders (26 complete responses, 7 from female participants) out of 76 invited, yielding a 44.7% response rate. Survey results were used for internal learning in August 2024.

The most attended training was in GIS (63.64%), followed by Data Collection Tools (60.61%), Population and Social Statistics (57.58%), Production Statistics (51.52%), and CPI training (33.33%).

Most respondents (92.31%) rated the training as effective, with all participants finding the content relevant. Comments highlighted improvements in data analysis, social statistics, and facilitator effectiveness.

All respondents deemed the training applicable to their work, noting its alignment with their professional tasks in data analysis, project planning, and policy communication.

Efforts to promote gender balance resulted in 25.2% female participation (28 out of 111 trainees), with a steady increase in female involvement over time. Gender integration is emphasized in all capacity-building activities by statistical experts and advisors.

Training on conducting, supervising and coordinating statistical activities

During this reporting period, statistical staff from the SNBS and Jubaland and Hirshabelle received training in production statistics. The training, aimed at building capacity in agricultural statistics, covered a range of topics such as data sources, collection methods, agricultural surveys, and gender-related indicators. These sessions highlighted core principles, including impartiality, confidentiality, and These capacity-building sessions were recognized by local statistical authorities, who commended the efforts and pledged ongoing support to strengthen statistical functions across the FMS.
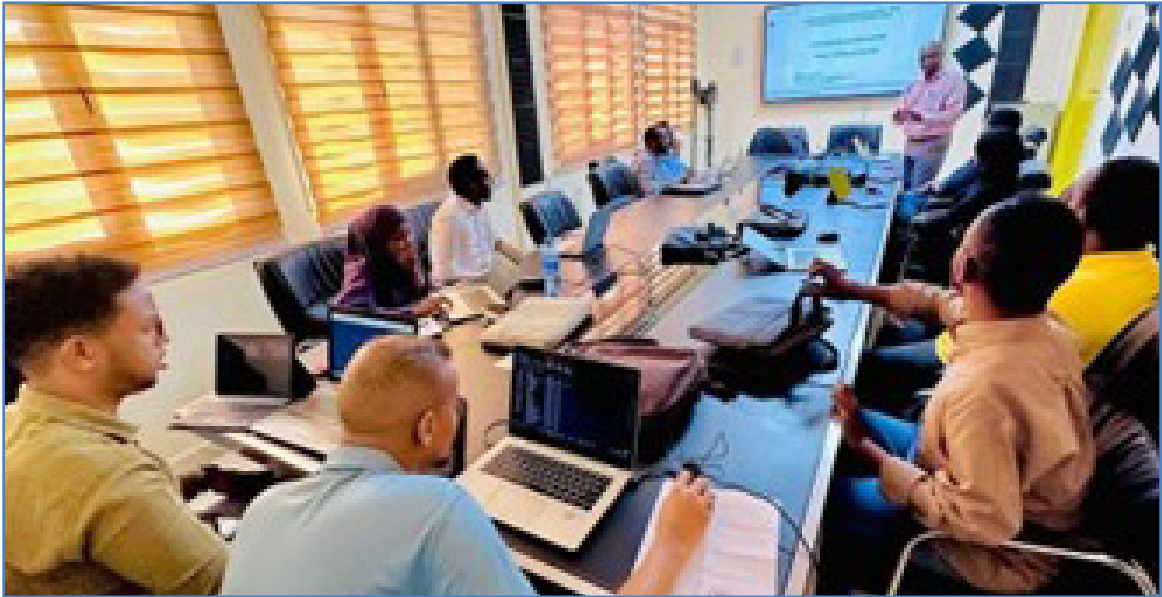
Training on data anonymization and microdata library

The East African Community (EAC) Secretariat is implementing the Eastern Africa Regional Statistics Program for Results (EARSPforR) with the core objective of strengthening the capacity of the National Statistical Organizations (NSOs) of the EAC Partner States to produce harmonized and quality statistics, and to disseminate them. Towards this goal, the EAC organized a training on microdata anonymization aimed at enhancing the capabilities of data dissemination at the NSOs. This training focused on equipping participants with the necessary skills to manage and disseminate microdata while ensuring data confidentiality. The training objectives aligned with the EAC's mission to strengthen the statistical capacities of its member states, promoting the adoption of best practices in data anonymizations.

TOR for Statistics Database Software Development

In our ongoing efforts to modernize and streamline the SNSB statistical data management and reporting processes, the development of a comprehensive web-based statistics database software application has been prioritized for SNBS.

The Director of ICT and data processing and project team has been working diligently to finalize the detailed TOR document that outlines the key requirements, objectives, and implementation plan for this critical initiative. The TOR document has now been finalized and is ready for publication on SNBS website in the coming days to inform potential vendors and solicit proposals for the project.

Implementing a Modern Web-Based Application for Statistical Data in Somalia

The development of the web-based application for Statistical Data Management is a significant initiative that will contribute to the availability of reliable and cost-effective statistical data in Somalia, enabling evidence-based decision-making and promoting sustainable development.

The statistics database software application will provide the organization with a centralized, automated system to manage its statistical data reporting. Further, it will streamline data collection, analysis, and reporting, while ensuring data security, compliance, and user-friendly accessibility.

By implementing a web-based application and establishing a server room or data center, SNBS and other relevant entities can overcome the current limitations in administrative statistical data management.
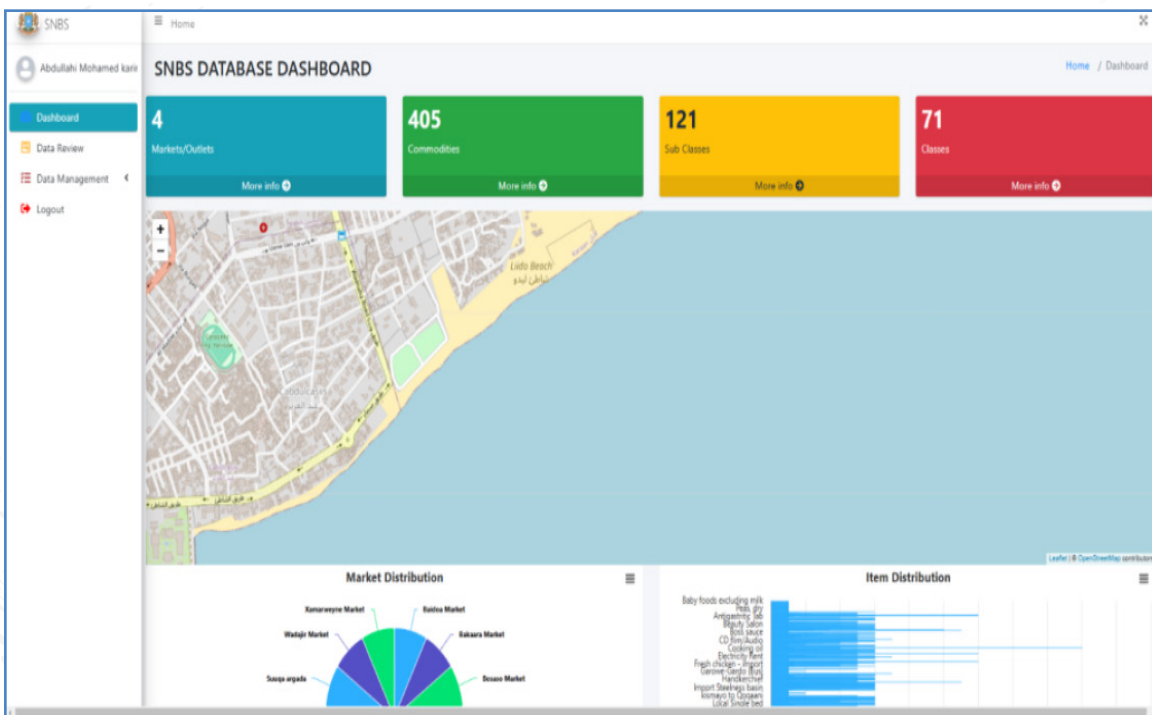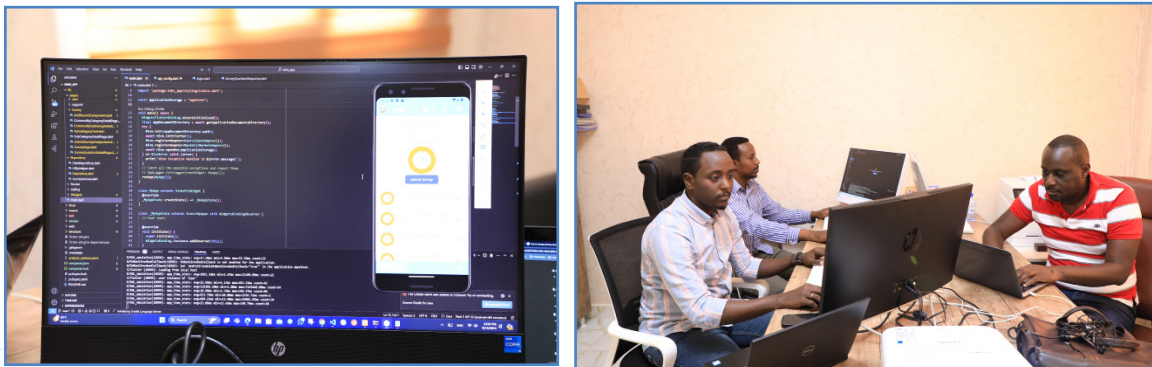
National CP Workshop and Data Sharing Agreement (FGS and FMS)

The team organized a workshop on the National Consumer Price Index (CPI) workshop and Data Sharing Agreement between SNBS and Federal Member States. This event, held in Mogadishu from December 10 to 12, 2024, focused on enhancing data-sharing mechanisms and fostering partnerships between national and regional statistical offices.

Production Statistics Workshop (FGS and FMS)

A workshop on production statistics was facilitated by the project management team, bringing together representatives from the Somalia National Bureau of Statistics and Federal Member States. The event, held in Mogadishu from December 31, 2024, to January 2, 2025, provided a platform for collaborative discussions and capacity-building initiatives on production statistics.

Steering Committee Meeting

The project management team organized the project's Steering Committee Meeting, which took place in Mogadishu on December 14, 2024. The meeting served as a critical forum for decision- making, review of project progress, and strategic planning for the upcoming phases.

Foreign Short-Term Training on Data Analysis and Management

As part of capacity-building efforts, the project management team engaged with Makerere University to deliver a one-month training program on data analysis and management. Twelve participants, comprising six members from SNBS and six from the Federal Member States, attended the training. This initiative aimed to enhance analytical and reporting skills to support project objectives.

These activities collectively contributed to the project's objectives by fostering collaboration, enhancing data management practices, and building technical capacity among stakeholders.

Directorate of Administration and Finance

Procurement Plan 2024

The Directorate developed and finalized the Procurement Plan for 2024, outlining the strategic purchasing requirements and timelines to ensure efficient and cost-effective procurement processes throughout the year.

Submitted Annual Financial Reports to the Office of the Accountant General (FY-2023)

The Directorate completed and submitted the annual financial reports for the fiscal year 2023 to the Office of the Accountant General, providing a comprehensive overview of financial performance and ensuring adherence to reporting standards.

Drafted Quarterly Financial Reports

The Directorate prepared detailed quarterly financial reports for 2024, offering critical insights into financial operations and supporting informed decision-making.

Facilitated and Provided Documents for Government Audit for Financial Year 2023

The Directorate supported the government audit process by facilitating access to necessary documents and information for the financial year 2023, ensuring a thorough and efficient audit.

Vacant Positions and Staffing Needs Planned

In 2024, the Directorate made strong efforts to do an assessment of staffing needs at SNBS. As a result, the Directorate identified and planned for the filling of vacant positions, addressing staffing needs to enhance operational efficiency and organizational capacity.

Set Up 12 Open Offices for 6 Persons (Workstations)

The Directorate of Administration and Finance established 12 open office workstations designed to accommodate six individuals each, improving workspace utilization and fostering a collaborative working environment.

Security Training (Fire Safety)

In 2024, fire safety training sessions were delivered to staff, enhancing workplace safety and preparedness in case of emergencies.

Registered Temporary Staff with NCSC Office

The Directorate successfully registered temporary staff with the National Civil Service Commission (NCSC) office, ensuring compliance with employment regulations and proper documentation of temporary personnel.

Submitting Monthly and Quarterly Warrants for Staff Salaries

The Directorate successfully submitted the Quarterly Warrant F.16 for SNBS Staff Salary, covering in 2024. This warrant ensures that all staff salaries for the specified quarter are processed and accounted for, reflecting the diligent financial management practices of the organization. Further, the quarterly warrant was officially registered with the Office of the Auditor General. This registration is a crucial step in maintaining transparency and accountability in financial operations, as it allows for external verification and auditing of the salary payments made.

The Quarterly Financial Reports for the period from April to June 2024 were drafted. These reports provide a comprehensive overview of the financial activities and expenditures of the Bureau during the quarter, serving as a critical tool for internal review and strategic planning.

In addition to the quarterly warrant, the Monthly Payment Voucher F.3 for SNBS Staff Salary, also covering April to June 2024, has been submitted. This voucher facilitates the regular monthly disbursement of salaries, ensuring that staff receive their payments in a timely manner each month.

Lastly, the Quarterly Update Admin & Finance Staff Meeting was conducted.

This meeting serves as a platform for reviewing financial operations, discussing administrative matters, and planning for the upcoming quarter, ensuring that all staff are informed and aligned with the organization's financial and administrative goals.

A critical step towards regulatory compliance was achieved with the successful registration of the quarterly Warrant F.16 at the Office of the Auditor General. This ensured adherence to auditing standards and reaffirmed the Directorate's focus on transparency and accountability in financial documentation. Such efforts reflect a culture of precision and responsibility within the Finance division, contributing to the overall efficiency of the organization.

On the human resources front, the Directorate prioritized team communication and development through a quarterly update meeting for Administration and Finance staff. These meetings served as a platform for fostering collaboration, addressing challenges, and aligning team efforts with organizational objectives. This initiative demonstrated a proactive approach to enhancing engagement and maintaining a cohesive work environment.

In addition to team updates, the Directorate made workplace safety a top priority by organizing a security training session focused on fire safety. This hands-on training equipped staff with essential knowledge and skills to respond effectively to emergencies, ensuring a safer and more secure workplace. Such measures reflect the Directorate's commitment to employee well-being and organizational preparedness.

Establishment of a Verification System for Staff Attendance

Another notable achievement in 2024 was the establishment of a verification system for attendance at SNBS. This system strengthens workforce accountability and improves operational efficiency by streamlining attendance tracking. The implementation of this system is a testament to the Directorate's focus on leveraging systems and tools to optimize human resource management practices.

Challenges and Obstacles

As 2024, the Somali National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS) faced challenges that impacted its operations in data collection and analysis. Key issues included ongoing security concerns in various regions, making it difficult for statisticians to access remote areas, and limited funding, which hampered the Bureau's ability to conduct comprehensive surveys. Additionally, SNBS struggled with insufficient administrative data sharing among government agencies, leading to fragmented and inconsistent data. Technological constraints and the lack of standardization further complicated data integration efforts.

Capacity building for staff was also a challenge, as limited training opportunities and financial resources hindered the development of technical expertise, particularly at the junior staff level. The Bureau also advocated for increased government funding to support data collection and analysis, helping maintain progress towards its mission of providing reliable statistical information for informed decision-making.

Lessons Learned

The lessons learned from the challenges faced by SNBS in 2024 include:

1. **Adaptation to Security and Accessibility Issues** Utilizing technology, such as mobile apps and online surveys, proved to be an effective solution for reaching remote areas, highlighting the importance of adopting innovative approaches in the face of challenges.

2. **Importance of Strategic Partnerships** Collaborating closely with local authorities and international organizations not only ensured the safety of fieldworkers but also facilitated more efficient data collection and transmission, emphasizing the value of strong partnerships.

3. **Need for Enhanced Funding Advocacy** The impact of limited financial resources underscored the critical need for sustained advocacy to secure government support and increased budget allocation for statistical activities.

4. **Data Integration and Standardization** The challenges of fragmented and inconsistent data across government agencies highlighted the necessity for standardized data formats and improved coordination to enable comprehensive analysis and better decision-making.

5. **Capacity Building and Training** The shortage of skilled personnel revealed the importance of investing in staff development through training and long-term capacity-building initiatives to ensure the workforce can meet the evolving demands of data production and analysis.

These lessons reinforce the need for continuous innovation, collaboration, and advocacy to overcome challenges and strengthen the Bureau's capacity to provide accurate and reliable statistical information.

Future Outlook or Recommendations

The future outlook for SNBS is focused on addressing current challenges and positioning the institution for long-term growth and effectiveness in its role as a key provider of statistical data for national development. To ensure continued progress, SNBS should prioritize securing sustainable funding for its initiatives, particularly for comprehensive data collection, analysis, and dissemination. Advocacy for increased government support, along with exploring alternative funding sources such as international partnerships and donor support, will be crucial for overcoming financial constraints that have previously hindered some efforts.

This financial stability will enable SNBS to expand its capacity, adopt new technologies, and enhance the skill sets of its staff to meet the growing demands for accurate and timely data.

Strengthening data integration and collaboration among various government agencies will also be essential to improving the quality and accessibility of statistical information. SNBS should prioritize the development of a unified data system that allows for seamless sharing and integration of data across sectors, while ensuring that data privacy and security concerns are effectively managed. By promoting data standardization, SNBS can foster a more efficient and coordinated approach to data collection and analysis, leading to more comprehensive and reliable statistics. The establishment of joint coordination forums, like the one initiated in November 2024, should be expanded and strengthened to facilitate better coordination and alignment of statistical efforts at both the federal and federal member state levels as well as the international patterners .

Finally, SNBS must continue its commitment to capacity building and institutional strengthening, focusing on training and developing a highly skilled workforce capable of adapting to emerging challenges in data collection and analysis. As the organization strives to become a Centre of Excellence in Africa, it will be important to invest in ongoing professional development and create long-term partnerships with regional and international statistical bodies.

These efforts will not only improve the technical capabilities of SNBS but also ensure that the institution remains at the forefront of statistical innovation, providing the data needed for informed policymaking and sustainable development in Somalia. By addressing these priorities, SNBS can fulfill its mission of supporting evidence-based decision-making and contribute to the country's broader socio-economic development goals.

Conclusion

In conclusion, SNBS has made significant strides in advancing its mission to provide accurate, reliable, and timely statistical data essential for informed decision-making and national development. Despite facing challenges such as security concerns, limited funding, and data integration difficulties, SNBS has demonstrated resilience and innovation in its approach to overcoming these obstacles.

Through strategic partnerships, the adoption of technology, and a commitment to capacity building, the Bureau has continued to improve its statistical capabilities and contribute to Somalia's development agenda.

Looking ahead, SNBS is well-positioned to further strengthen its role as a cornerstone of national governance and planning. By securing sustainable funding, improving inter-agency collaboration, and continuing to invest in staff development, SNBS can enhance the quality of its data and ensure its alignment with international standards.

The Bureau's vision of becoming a Centre of Excellence in Africa will guide its future efforts, focusing on expanding its capacity and impact in support of evidence-based policymaking and sustainable development.

Ultimately, SNBS plays a pivotal role in shaping Somalia's socio-economic landscape. With continued commitment to innovation, transparency, and collaboration, SNBS will be instrumental in providing the data needed to drive progress, foster good governance, and improve the lives of Somali citizens. As the Bureau works towards achieving its goals, its contributions will remain essential to the nation's long-term stability, growth, and prosperity.

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