

2022

IARIW-TNBS Conference on “Measuring Income, Wealth and Well-being in Africa”

Panel Prepared for the IARIW-TNBS Conference, Arusha, Tanzania, April 14-15, 2022

Statistical Capacity Development in Africa: Old Debate, New Approach

Session organizer

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Background

In 2017, the World Bank’s Center for Development Data (C4D2) established a unique partnership among like-minded institutions aimed at improving and harmonizing the curricula of Regional Statistical Training Centers (RSTC) in Sub-Saharan Africa, facilitating the uptake of global standards and best practices in household survey design, creating a network of household survey experts at the regional level, and promoting harmonization across countries. One of the first initiatives of its kind, the *C4D2– Training* Initiative is the result of a collaboration among the World Bank, Italian partners (Bank of Italy, the Agency for Development Cooperation, the National Institute of Statistics, and the National Institute of Health), and African institutions (the African Center for Statistics of the UN Economic Commission for Africa, the Eastern Africa Statistical Training Center in Dar es Salaam, the École Nationale Supérieure de Statistique et d’Économie Appliquée in Abidjan, the School of Statistics and Planning of Makerere University of Kampala, Uganda and the Institute of Demographic Training and Research of Yaounde, Cameroon). The initiative is in collaboration with the African Group on Statistical Training and Human Resource (AGROST).

The C4D2-Training Initiative organizes training courses, thematic workshops on specialized topics, as well as short courses and seminars aimed at teaching best practices and tools in the design, collection, analysis, and dissemination of household surveys for policy, with a thematic focus on poverty and welfare analysis. In particular, the *C4D2-Training* Initiative organized several training courses on designing household survey to measure poverty, on measuring income, wealth and consumption through household surveys for welfare monitoring, on sampling theory and practice, just to mention few examples.

Format of the session

This session aims at providing an overview of the statistical capacity in Africa, with a focus on survey design and measurement of welfare component and sharing the experience of a successful initiative such of the *C4D2-Training* initiative.

The session will be structured as follows:

1. Presentation of the C4D2 Training Initiative, and its approach to improving and harmonising household survey methods in Africa, with a focus on the measurement of income and wealth;
2. Contributions from four panelists (representing the perspectives of academia, training institutions and national and international agencies) on perspectives on strengthening statistical capacity, in general, and advancing the measurement of income and wealth, in particular.
3. Q&A session

1.5 hours session. There will be a 20-minute presentation on C4D2 Training Initiative. This will be followed by a 30-minute panel discussion then open for 30 minutes Q&A with participants. The session will end with brief remarks from the session chair who will outline the mechanisms for sustaining and strengthening the *C4D2-Training* Initiative and statistical capacity building in Africa in general.

Participants (*to be confirmed*)

Chair

Andrea Brandolini, Banca d'Italia

Speakers

Dean Jolliffe, World Bank

Oliver Chinganya, UN ECA

Director General from Tanzania National Statistical Office

Giovanni Vecchi, University of Rome Tor Vergata