

# 2024 African Statistics Day

*" Supporting education by modernizing the production of fit-for-purpose statistics."*

**Message from Director General, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, Macdonald G. Obudho, PhD, EBS, MBS**



The Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) is pleased to join the rest of Africa in celebrating the 2024 African Statistics Day, which is focusing on education statistics.

Education statistics play a fundamental role in informing the harnessing of demographic dividends, evidence-based policies, driving economic growth and monitoring progress

towards national and international development goals. These statistics covers broad of topics that include educational participation, literacy, educational institutions and systems, human and financial resources invested in education, lifelong learning, vocational training and adult learning, impact of education, and assessments of performance of learners.

The KNBS has been working with various stakeholders to produce regular education statistics using various data sources. In collaboration with Ministry of Education, KNBS conducted the 2024 National School Census of Basic Levels of Education and plans are underway to do the same for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Institutions. These statistical activities are meant to give insights on the status of the learners, staff and infrastructure in these institutions.

While we face challenges as a continent in respect of the production of education statistics, we have huge potential for overcoming these challenges. Modernization efforts, including the use of digital tools can significantly enhance the quality and relevance of education data. The KNBS launched a Data Science Training Centre this year with main purpose of using it to explore the use of new methods in statistics production

and dissemination such as data science, artificial intelligence, and machine learning. We also intend to build a rapid response phone surveys infrastructure for the collection of data.

The KNBS recognizes the need for a robust national statistical system with solid infrastructure for collecting, processing, compiling, analyzing, disseminating, and archiving data. In this regard, we encourage closer partnerships and collaborations with national government ministries, departments, agencies, county governments, non-state actors including the private sector and other stakeholders to enhance the relevance, accuracy, reliability, and timeliness of the statistics produced.

The national statistical system in Kenya is developing the Second Strategy for Development of Statistics (KSDS II) which will promote the use of citizen generated data for official reporting. Data from civil society organizations and the private sector should be used to complement other sources of data.

The KNBS promises to continue supporting the education sector as we promote modernization of fit-for-purpose statistics.

Thank you and enjoy the celebrations.