

# Editorial

We welcome readers to Volume 2 of the Journal and thank all those readers who sent us comments on the maiden issue that was launched in November 2005 as a joint initiative of the Bank, the Uganda Bureau of Statistics and the Uganda Statistical Society. The latter two are members of the Editorial Board whose composition represents a broad spectrum of the African Statistical Community. This second volume presents articles and other materials of interest to the African statistical community. This editorial touches on three of the articles and materials.

In November 2005, the African Development Bank organized a series of seminars in Kampala, Uganda, alongside the national events celebrating Africa Statistics Week and ending on 18 November - Africa Statistics Day. At the climax of the celebrations, this Journal was officially launched at a ceremony officiated by the Second Deputy Prime Minister of Uganda. The ADB seminars brought together the African statistical community to discuss statistical development issues in Africa, including issues relating to rethinking statistics for development in the region. A paper was presented on such rethink. The paper raised profound issues that we thought would be of great interest to all those interested in statistical development in Africa. That paper was revised and is published in both English and French.

In February 2006, a Reference Regional Strategic Framework for Statistical Capacity Building in Africa was endorsed by the Directors of National Statistical Offices in Africa (STATCOM-AFRICA) and the Forum on African Statistical Development (FASDEV) held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on February 6-8 and February 9-10 2006, respectively. The Framework's overall objective is to improve development outcomes and good governance by strengthening National Statistical Systems in Africa. The light version of the Framework is published in both English and French.

In April 2006, the entire African statistical community and development partners in statistical development in Africa will celebrate the 10th anniversary of AFRISTAT (Observatoire Economique et Statistique d'Afrique Subsaharienne). AFRISTAT was established as a supra-national statistical institution for Franco-phone countries in Sub-Saharan Africa to prepare for its member countries (now 18) harmonized methods, concepts and classifications to be used in the production of official statistics and to help them strengthen their statistical capacities. We are publishing in this volume an article on AFRISTAT. Member countries and development partners alike appreciate that AFRISTAT has done well in meeting its objectives and their expectations. The Editorial Board and readers of the journal join AFRISTAT in celebrating the anniversary.

Finally we are happy to inform you that beginning with this issue, the journal will also be available on CD-Rom.

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