

Editorial Policy

The African Statistical Journal was established to promote the understanding of statistical development in the African region. It focuses on issues related to official statistics as well as the application of statistical methodologies to solve practical problems of general interest to applied statisticians. Of particular interest will be an exposition of: how statistics can help to illuminate development and public policy issues like poverty, gender, environment, energy, HIV/AIDS, etc.; development of statistical literacy; tracking national and regional development agenda; development of statistical capacities and effective national statistical systems; and the development of sectoral statistics e.g. educational statistics, health statistics, agricultural statistics, etc.

In addition to individual academic and practicing statisticians, the Journal should be of great interest to a number of institutions in the region including National Statistical Offices, Central Banks, research and training institutions, subregional economic groupings, and international development agencies.

The Journal serves as a research outlet and information sharing publication among statisticians and users of statistical information mainly in the African region. It publishes, among other things:

- Articles of an expository or review nature that demonstrate the vital role of statistics to society rather than present technical materials;
- Articles on statistical methodologies with a special emphasis on applications;
- Articles about good practices and lessons learned in statistical development in the Africa region;
- Opinions on issues of general interest to the statistical community and users of statistical information in the region;
- Notices and announcements on upcoming events, conferences, calls for papers;
- Recent statistical developments and anything that may be of interest to the statistical community in Africa.

The papers, which need not contain original material, should be of general interest to a wide section of professional statisticians in the region.

All manuscripts will be reviewed and evaluated on content, language and presentation.

Ligne éditoriale

Le Journal statistique africain a été établi pour favoriser la compréhension du développement statistique dans la région africaine. Il se concentre sur des questions liées aux statistiques officielles aussi bien que l'application des méthodologies statistiques pour résoudre des problèmes pratiques d'intérêt général pour les statisticiens de métier. L'intérêt particulier est de montrer comment les statistiques peuvent aider à mettre en exergue les problèmes de développement et de politique publique tels que la pauvreté, le genre, l'environnement, l'énergie, le VIH/ SIDA, etc.; le développement de la culture statistique; la prise en compte des questions de développement régional et national; le développement des capacités statistiques et des systèmes statistiques nationaux efficaces; et le développement des statistiques sectorielles comme les statistiques d'éducation, de santé, des statistiques agricoles, etc.

En plus des universitaires et des statisticiens de métier, le Journal devrait revêtir un grand intérêt pour les institutions de la région, notamment les offices nationaux de statistiques, les banques centrales, les instituts de recherche et les organisations économiques sous-régionaux et les agences internationales de développement.

Le Journal constitue un document de recherche et d'information entre les statisticiens et les utilisateurs de l'information statistique, principalement dans la région africaine. Il publie entre autres:

- des articles sur le plaidoyer en matière de statistique qui démontrent le rôle essentiel des statistiques dans la société plutôt que la présentation des outils techniques,
- des articles sur les méthodologies statistiques, avec un accent particulier sur les applications,
- des articles sur les meilleures pratiques et les leçons tirées de la région,
- des avis sur des questions d'intérêt général pour la communauté statistique et les utilisateurs de l'information statistique dans la région africaine,
- des informations et des annonces sur les prochains événements, les conférences, les appels à contribution pour des papiers, et
- les développements statistiques récents et tout autre aspect susceptible d'intéresser la communauté statistique dans la région.

Les articles, qui n'ont pas besoin de contenir du matériel original, devraient intéresser une grande partie des statisticiens professionnels dans la région.

Tous les manuscrits seront passés en revue et évalués sur le contenu, la langue et la présentation.

Guidelines for Manuscript Submission and Preparation

Submissions

Manuscripts in English or French should be sent by email to the Co-Chairpersons, Editorial Board at: c.lufumpa@afdb.org and BKiregyera@uneca.org with a copy to statistics@afdb.org.

Title

The title should be brief and specific. The title page should include the title, the author's name, affiliation and address. The affiliation and address should be given as a footnote on the title page. If the manuscript is co-authored, the same information should be given for the co-author(s).

Abstract, Key Words, and Acknowledgments

A short abstract of about 150 words must be included at the beginning of the manuscript, together with up to 6 key words used in the manuscript. These key words should not repeat words used in the title. Acknowledgments, if any, should be inserted at the bottom of the title page.

Sections and Numbering

Major headings in the text should be numbered (e.g. “**1. INTRODUCTION**”). Numbered subheadings (e.g. “**1.1 The establishment of the NSDS**”) may be used but thereafter sub-subheadings should be unnumbered. Main body text in the form of paragraphs should not be numbered.

Formatting

Please use minimal formatting as this will facilitate harmonization of all the papers. As your default, keep to “normal” (12 pt. Times New Roman) for main text with a single line space between paragraphs. Do not apply “body text” as an inbuilt style. The levels of heading need to be easily identifiable. We recommend all capitals bold for the first level of heading in the main text (e.g. “**1. INTRODUCTION**”); thereafter bold upper and lower case for subheadings (e.g. “**1.1 The establishment of the NSDS**”) and unnumbered bold italic (e.g. “***Creating a culture of cooperation***”) thereafter. Please refer to the latest volume of the AJS as a guide.

House Style

The Bank's house style is US rather than British spellings (e.g. “organization” not “organisation”; “program” rather than “programme”, “analyze” etc.). Use % rather than “percent” or “per cent” and double rather than

single quotation marks. Dates should be US style (e.g. December 11, 1985 not 11 December 1985).

Tables and Figures

Tables and figures should be numbered and given a title. These should be referred to in the text by number (e.g. "See Table 1"), not by page or indications such as "below" or "above".

Equations

Any equations in the paper should be numbered. The numbers should be placed to the right of the equation.

References

A list of references should be given at the end of the paper (to precede the Annexes, if included). The references should be arranged alphabetically by surname/name of organization. Where there is more than one publication listed for an author, order these chronologically (starting with the earliest). The references should give the author's name, year of publication, title of the essay/book, name of journal if applicable. Use a, b, c, etc. to separate publications of the same author in the same year. Titles of journals and books should be in italic; titles of working papers and unpublished reports should be set in double quotation marks and not italicized.

Examples:

Fantom, N. and N. Watanabe (2008), "Improving the World Bank's Database of Statistical Capacity," *African Statistical Newsletter*, vol. 2, no. 3, pp. 21-22.

Kish, L. (1988a), "Multipurpose Sample Designs," *Survey Methodology*, vol. 14, no. 3, pp. 19-32.

Kish, L. (1988b), *A Taxonomy of Elusive Populations*, Proceedings of the Section on Survey Research Methods, American Statistical Association, pp. 44-46.

Herzog, A. R. and Dielman, L. (1985). "Age Differences in Response Accuracy for Factual Survey Questions," *Journal of Gerontology*, vol. 40, pp. 350-367.

World Bank (2006), *Statistical Capacity Improvement in IDA Countries – Progress Report*. Washington DC: The World Bank.

Cross References

In the main body of the article, cross-references should be Harvard-style, e.g. (Kish 1988a; Herzog and Dielman 1985: 351). For cross-references to three or more authors, only the first surname should be given, followed by et al., although the names of all the authors must be provided in the References entry itself. Abbreviations *ibid.* and *op. cit.* should not be used in the text or in footnotes.