

# STATISTICS SECTOR COOPERATION BETWEEN GHANA & DENMARK, Annual report for 2019

Statistics Denmark



## Project description

Through the cooperation, Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) and Statistics Denmark strive to improve the Statistical System of Ghana and therewith the foundation for evidence-based policy-making and democracy - through increased availability of accurate and timely statistics.

The project will overall contribute to the achievement of SDG 17 (Partnerships) with focus on the targets related to data, monitoring and accountability. In fact, the project will indirectly influence all SDGs, as GSS is responsible for monitoring the indicators on Ghana.



## Key activities in 2019

**The Background Document was completed** and gives a clear understanding of the situation of producing statistics in Ghana. The document was written by Statistics Denmark based on meetings with staff at GSS, the Birth and Death Register (BDR) as well as other affiliated public institutions. During these meetings, the GSS staff also identified areas of interest for support. The Background Document contains short descriptions of all the areas that GSS has chosen to work on in the context of the cooperation, as well as an overview of other on-going international co-operations in the area of statistics.

**Building relations between GSS and Statistics Denmark** has been important to create mutual understanding. All visits have been extremely positive experiences with a lot of dialogue and exchange of ideas. GSS invited Statistics Denmark to speak at the launch of their new 5-year-corporate plan to an audience of parliamentarians and national media about the use and value of administrative data.

The **provision of subject-matter technical assistance** has been in focus already in the inception

phase to keep momentum and motivation. At the same time, it has given Statistics Denmark practical insights into the Ghanaian Statistical System. The focus has been on establishing baselines in the areas GSS has asked for support in – administrative data in population statistics, quality management as well as economic statistics. Experts from Statistics Denmark provided guidance and recommendations during a number of activities.

The focus on administrative data has led to **a wider cooperation** among the Embassy, the Ghanaian National Identification Authority (NIA), the BDR, Statistics Denmark and GSS. In this context, the Embassy organised a study trip to Denmark where GSS, BDR and NIA among others visited Statistics Denmark. The Danish Central Person Register (CPR) participated and shared the Danish experience.

Finally, **the full SSC project has been formulated** in close cooperation with GSS. Workshops with staff at GSS were facilitated to engage GSS actively in the formulation of the project. Coordination with other international donors has been organised and will continue.

**Eight missions to GSS in Accra and two study visits to Statistics Denmark in Copenhagen** took place in 2019. A local Project Officer has been hired by the Danish Embassy in Accra in May 2019.



## Main achievements and lessons learned in 2019

A close and trustful cooperation has been established between GSS and Statistics Denmark. The project design and work plan have been formulated in close cooperation with GSS in order to build a strong ownership and commitment to the project.

Status: Inception phase

Project period: February 2019 to February 2020

Partners: Ghana Statistical Service

Contact information:

Project Manager: Silja Emmel, sie@dst.dk

Danish Embassy: Birgit la Cour Madsen, bimads@um.dk

Harrison Ofori, harofo@um.dk