
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

**INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT, INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION**

AND

BANK OF ITALY

AND

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OF THE ITALIAN
REPUBLIC**

AND

THE ITALIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

AND

ITALIAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STATISTICS

AND

ITALIAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH

AND

THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA

AND

EASTERN AFRICA STATISTICS TRAINING CENTER

AND

ÉCOLE NATIONALE SUPÉRIEURE DE STATISTIQUE ET D'ÉCONOMIE APPLIQUÉE

Preamble

This Memorandum of Understanding (Memorandum) represents a statement of intent by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Development Association (IDA) (collectively, the “World Bank”), the Bank of Italy, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Italian Republic – Directorate General for Development Cooperation (MAECI - DGCS), the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), the Italian National Institute of Statistics (ISTAT), the Italian National Institute of Health (ISS), the African Centre of Statistics of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ACS/UNECA), the Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre (EASTC) and the École Nationale Supérieure De Statistique Et D'économie Appliquée (ENSEA), each a “Party” and together, the “Parties”, to collaborate in the achievement of common objectives as described and on the basis outlined below.

A. Background

- (a) The mission of the **World Bank** is to help achieve a world free of poverty. In the spring of 2014, it established two ambitious goals to anchor its overarching mission: end extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity in all societies by 2030. The World Bank will achieve these goals by providing financing, technical assistance, knowledge sharing services to its member countries and through partnerships with other organizations. More specifically, units in the World Bank support the improvement and facilitate the use of household survey data for evidence-based policymaking by generating high-quality data, improving survey methods and building capacity. Thus, the World Bank is engaging with partners through its Center for Development Data in Rome, Italy, whose objective is to improve survey data production in low and middle-income countries, conduct methodological research, foster collaboration with the Rome-Based UN agencies on household surveys and forge partnerships with academic and research institutions in Italy.
- (b) In adherence to its Statute and within the legal framework established by the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, the Statute of the European System of Central Banks (ESCB) and the Italian law, the main functions of the **Bank of Italy** are to ensure monetary and financial stability and promote the smooth functioning of the payment system as indispensable conditions for growth in the economy. To increase the effectiveness of its performance, the Bank undertakes research in the economic, financial and legal fields. The measurement and analysis of the distribution of income and wealth, including the assessment of issues such as consumption patterns at different family income levels and households' financial vulnerability are among its research topics of interest.

- (c) The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Italian Republic conducts the foreign policy of the Italian Republic, of which the Italian Development Cooperation – IDC is a qualifying and integral element, according to the Law n.125 adopted on August 11, 2014. The same Law establishes the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation – AICS, as the implementing and funding body within the Italian Development Cooperation – IDC System, under the supervision of the Ministry’s Directorate General for Development Cooperation. The important role of statistics is underlined in the Triennial Policy and Planning Document for Official Development Cooperation for the period 2016-2018: building on the technical support of the Italian Institute of Statistics, the Document emphasizes the relevance of supporting the modernization and strengthening of national statistical systems in partner countries, by strengthening the capacities and training young statisticians, and considers the availability of high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data a strategic priority of the Italian Development Cooperation.
- (d) The **Italian Agency for Development Cooperation** seeks to give fresh energy to the international debate on development issues by operating as the platform of the Italian cooperation system, in order to act as a major player in the global endeavor against poverty, the promotion of peace, human rights and sustainable development. The Agency recognizes the importance of statistics and has incorporated “supporting a data revolution in developing countries” into its strategic guidelines for the period 2015-2017. Building on the technical support of the Italian Institute of Statistics, the strategic guidelines emphasize strengthening the capacity of statistical institutes in partner countries and training young statisticians.
- (e) The **Italian National Institute of Statistics** is a public body with scientific, organizational, financial and accounting independence and carries out its activities according to the principles of scientific independence, impartiality, objectivity, reliability, quality and confidentiality of statistical information, as laid down at European and international levels. It has been present in Italy since 1926, and is the main producer of official statistics in the service of citizens and policy-makers and operates in continuous interaction with the academic and scientific communities. The Italian statistical law (Legislative Decree no. 322 of 6 September 1989) lays down the main rules on the National Statistical System (Sistan) and on the National Institute of Statistics in order to rationalize the production and dissemination of information. Since 1989, ISTAT has been performing the role of directing, coordinating and providing technical assistance and training within the National Statistical System (Sistan).

- (f) The **Italian National Institute of Health** is the scientific advisory body of the National Health System in Italy, namely the Ministry of Health, the Regions and the Local Health Unit. ISS has scientific, organizational, administrative and accounting independence and is subject to monitoring by the Ministry of Health. It undertakes research, experimental, control and training functions in relation to public health in Italy. Among other activities, ISS takes part, through its own operation centers and by contributing financially, in foreign and international projects aimed at protection of public health, as well as in study and research program of national organizations.
- (g) Established by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (UN) in 1958 as one of the UN's five regional commissions, the mandate of the **United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)** is to promote the economic and social development of its member States, foster intra-regional integration and promote international cooperation for Africa's development. UNECA's African Centre for Statistics aims to be the first port of call for member States seeking original data to inform policy decisions. Its long-term objective is to serve as a regional service center for data on economic, social, demographic and environmental conditions in African countries.
- (h) The **Eastern Africa Statistical Training Centre (EASTC)** aims to be a leading training institution and resource center in official statistics and information technology in Africa. Its mission is to promote the production and use of high-quality statistics through training, research and consultancy in statistics for evidence-based decision making in Eastern and Southern African countries.
- (i) The **École Nationale Supérieure De Statistique Et D'économie Appliquée (ENSEA)** is a higher education and research institution whose vocation is to ensure the training of African statisticians. Since its inception in 1961, it has developed continuously, adapting to socio-economic realities at the national, regional and international levels and to various needs for statistical training. In accordance with this mission, ENSEA has made a significant opening by regularly welcoming students from Anglophone countries (South Africa since 2008 and Liberia since 2009) and Spanish-speaking countries (Equatorial Guinea since 2016) into its initial training programs. It supports the training of mid-level statisticians in training institutes in Burkina Faso, Madagascar, Niger and Togo.

B. Common Objectives

Consistent with their respective mandates to advance the common goal of achieving a sustainable system for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and other key development policy goals and support evidence-based policy making, the Parties

desire to cooperate to support capacity development in the production, analysis, dissemination and use of household surveys.

C. Areas of Collaboration

To further the achievement of these common objectives, the Parties anticipate that the collaboration will initially focus on specific substantive areas which will include, but are not limited to:

- Improving the availability, quality, comparability and cost-effectiveness of microdata production to inform policy making and investment decisions in low and middle income countries.
- Improving the quality and coherence of international training for statistical capacity building on household surveys and other types of microdata, and integration of data sources.
- Collaborating to foster greater attention to the design, implementation, dissemination and use of household surveys and other microdata.
- Engaging other entities to bring further support to the activities pursued under this Memorandum, including partnerships with local academia and research institutions.

D. Contacts

Each Party hereby designates and appoints below its representative with overall responsibility for implementing this Memorandum. The Parties may, by written notice to the other Parties, designate additional or different persons as points of contact, but the Parties expect to have only one person at a time designated as the person with overall responsibility for all activities undertaken pursuant to this Memorandum.

1	For the World Bank Calogero Carletto Lead Economist Via Labicana 110, Rome Tel: + 39 06 77710 233 Email: gcarletto@worldbank.org
2	For the Bank of Italy Giovanni D'Alessio Director, Statistical Analysis Directorate Via Nazionale 91, Rome, Italy Tel.: +39 06 4792.4158 Email: giovanni.dalessio@bancaditalia.it
3	For the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Italian Republic Directorate General for Development Cooperation Pietro Sebastiani Director General for Development Cooperation

	<p>Piazzale della Farnesina, 1 00135 Rome, Italy Tel: +39 06 36911 Email: dgcs.segreteriadg@esteri.it</p>
4	<p>For the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation Simonetta Di Cori Expert Development Cooperation Via Salvatore Contarini 25, Rome Email: simonetta.dicori@esteri.it</p>
5	<p>For the Italian National Institute of Statistics Tommaso Antonucci Director General Via Cesare Balbo 16, Roma Tel. +39 06 4673 2300 Email: tommaso.antonucci@istat.it / pres@istat.it</p>
6	<p>For the Italian National Institute of Health Luisa Minghetti Lead Researcher Viale Regina Elena, 299, 00161 Roma Tel: +39 06 4990 3153 Email: luisa.minghetti@iss.it</p>
7	<p>For the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa Oumar Sarr Statistician, African Center for Statistics P.O. Box 3001 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia Tel: +25111443614 E-mail: sarro@un.org</p>
8	<p>For the Eastern Africa Statistical Training Center Dr. Frank A. Mkumbo Rector P.O Box 35103 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania General line: +255 22 2925000; Direct Line: +255 22 2925001; Cell: +255 784 784 106 /219 E-mail: rector@eastc.ac.tz</p>

9 For the École Nationale Supérieure De Statistique Et D'économie Appliquée
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E. General

1. This Memorandum is not legally binding and it does not constitute an agreement or commitment by any of the Parties to enter into, or provide support for, any specific activity or project. Specific arrangements for individual activities and projects will be set forth in written documents or work plans to be jointly formulated by the Parties.
2. Nothing in this Memorandum is intended to be, or should be construed as a waiver of the privileges and immunities of the Parties or their officers and employees, whose privileges and immunities are hereby specifically reserved.
3. The Parties expect that this Memorandum and information with respect to the collaborative activities contemplated herein will be publicly disclosed by the Parties. Such disclosure will be made in accordance with the Parties' respective disclosure policies. The Parties plan to consult with each other concerning the manner and form of any acknowledgement of the other Parties' support regarding the activities.
4. This Memorandum will come into effect upon signature by all Parties on the date set forth below. It will remain effective until December 31, 2022. This Memorandum may be terminated at any time by any of the Parties at its sole discretion with thirty (30) days prior written notice in writing to the other parties. The MOU will remain in effect if a Party terminates its participation.

In witness whereof, the Parties have caused this Memorandum to be executed as of June 19, 2017.

Agency representative	Signature & Date
The World Bank Haishan Fu Director	
Bank of Italy Valeria Sannucci Deputy Governor	
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Italian Republic – Directorate General for Development Cooperation Pietro Sebastiani Director General for Cooperation and Development	
Italian Agency for Development Cooperation Laura Frigenti Director	
Italian National Institute of Statistics Giorgio Alleva President	
Italian National Institute of Health Stefano Vella Research Manager	
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa Oliver Chinganya Director, African Center for Statistics	
Eastern Africa Statistics Training Center Frank Mkumbo Rector	
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