

Verification Report

Eastern Africa Regional Statistics Program-for-Results, June 2024

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), Addis Ababa.

Executive Summary

The Eastern Africa Regional Statistics Program-for-Results (EARSP-for-R) is aimed to support the harmonization, availability and use of core economic and social statistics in East Africa. Fund is disbursed to the national statistics offices of Kenya, Rwanda, and Tanzania under the program to accomplish specific Disbursement Linked Indicators (DLIs) requiring independent verification. The UNECA as the Independent Verification Agency (IVA), is contracted by EAC to undertake verification of a subset of the EARSP-for-R Disbursement Linked Results (DLRs) following established verification protocols and methodologies.

In the first verification window, **two** DLRs were submitted for verification by Kenya. In particular, the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) through the East African Community (EAC) - Regional Program Coordination Unit Secretariat (RPCU) requested verifications for DLRs:

- **DLI 2.5(f) - Improved availability of price and macro-economic statistics: Monthly harmonized CPI (HCPI) for 12 months 2022/23-2025/26 report produced and available on KNBS website. Specifically, DLRs - Monthly harmonized CPI (HCPI) for year one -12 months 2022/23.**
- **DLI 2.5(h) - Improved availability of price and macro-economic statistics: Gross Country Product (GCP) report produced and available online for 2022/23-2025/26. Specifically, DLRs - GCP report produced and available online for 2022/23.**

The verification procedures consist of checking the required reports are produced and available online on the KNBS website. A preliminary assessment report was sent by UNECA to the EAC for comment prior to writing this draft verification report.

The final result of the verification process of the year 2022/23 is:

- DLR 2.5(f)- Achieved.
- DLR 2.5(h)- Achieved.

I. Introduction

1. Background

The Eastern Africa Regional Statistics Program-for-Results aims to strengthen the harmonization, availability and use of core economic and social statistics generated from the national statistics programs of Kenya, Rwanda and Tanzania. The Program under the East African Community and Africa Union, is planned to support statistical activities of implementing countries from 2022 - 2027 within the strategic themes of SHaSA2. During the program period, the World Bank finances it following the disbursement-linked results mechanism focusing on the achievements of specific results.

The EARSP-for-R is structured into three result areas with disbursement-linked indicators and identified disbursement-linked results. Hence, implementing agencies (national statistics offices) are expected to report their country-specific achievement of disbursement-linked results to the Regional Program Coordination Unit (RPCU) of EAC. These results must be independently verified to disburse the related trench of funds.

To verify the results of the DLIs reported by national implementing agencies, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) through the African Centre for Statistics (ACS) has been contracted as an Independent Verification Agency (IVA) by the East African Community for a set of DLIs.

2. Disbursement-Linked-Indicator (DLI)

The EARSP-for-R program is structured into three results areas (RA), in which the DLRs are linked with respective RA. The result areas have specific Disbursement Linked Indicators (DLIs).

This report presents findings relative to DLI 2.5 (f) and DLI 2.5 (h) for Kenya as reported by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) for April 2024 verification window.

3. Independent Verification

In this verification window, the following DLRs were subjected to a set of verifications procedures undertaken by UNECA.

- DLI 2.5(f) – verification that KNBS produced Monthly harmonized CPI (HCPI) for 12 months report for 2022/23 and these are downloadable from the KNBS website.
- DLI 2.5(h) – verification that KNBS produced the Gross County Product (GCP) report for 2022/23 and the report downloadable from the KNBS website.

II. Methodology

The verification procedures followed by UNECA:

- **DLI 2.5(f). Kenya 2022/23 CPI(HCPI) Report:** KNBS provided necessary links with relevant documents and data. The methodology for checking the DLR involved UNECA checking the KNBS website and the EAC open data portal [website](#) to confirm that the monthly CPI (HCPI) for the 2022/23 report is available and downloadable. Second, the report is downloaded and checked whether it contains 12 months of HCPI data for the year 2022/23.
- **DLI 2.5(h): Kenya 2022/23 GCP Report.** The methodology for checking the DLR involves UNECA using links provided by KNBS to download the GCP 2022/23 report from the KNBS [website](#). It is also important to check the report to see whether it contained the key GCP results disaggregated by ISCI and covered the national reporting domains.

III. Detailed Verification Results for the DLI

1. Inspection/ Review

The verification was done fully online.

2. Findings.

a. DLI 2.5(f).

Kenya 2022/23 CPI (HCPI). The checks confirmed that Kenya has produced the 2022/23 HCPI report and the data is available and downloadable. The report is not available on the KNBS website rather the report is available from the EAC [Open data portal](#) as part of the HCPI dataset covering the period from July 2016 to February 2024. The datasets follow the HCPI methodology applicable to EAC Partners States. It was further noted that the result is not displayed on the KNBS website as expected, rather it is available on the EAC open data portal. Besides the dataset stands as evidence for the statistical outputs and the expected report. These facts have been raised with EAC, which clarified that KNBS has been submitting the HCPI to EAC every month using a format defined by EAC, and the HCPI is usually uploaded to the EAC website, and countries do not have other report(s) apart from the country-specific CPIs. Therefore, the web portal for EAC has been a

credible source of the HCPI for the participating countries and should continue to be used for verifications of DLR.

b. DLI 2.5(h).

Kenya 2022/23 GCP Report. The verification confirmed that the GCP report 2022/23 is available and downloadable from the [links provided](#) on the KNBS website. UNECA suggested that KNBS provide GCP data in a readable format and maintain the public announcement date of the report. The KNBS clarified that the GCP data sets (excel tables) are usually shared on request, however, KNBS will endeavour to have modalities in place to share the datasets with the report as they have done for other publications such as the Economic Survey. On the other hand, with the public announcement and release of the GCP, it is confirmed that the report was not released on time due to funding issues in the first year of the program implementation. Thus, the KNBS agreed to revise the Release Calendar promptly to reflect changes for transparency and accountability.

IV. Conclusions

UNECA as IVA has successfully conducted the two Disbursement Linked Results (DLRs) verification in line with the verification protocol. The process went quite smoothly within the period of verification.

1. Advantages and Challenges during the implementation.

- **DLI 2.5(f).**

- KNBS provided the necessary links and documents of the DLI for the verification. They are instrumental in completing the assignment of the result verification on time. The report is easily downloaded from the source and accessible to users.
- Challenges related to the sources of results where the report is available, i.e. in the EAC open data portal other than the KNBS website.

- **DLI 2.5(h).**

- The links and information provided by the KNBS were useful for the result verification.
- The report is available and easy to download from the KNBS website although intermittent connection was noted during the verifications.

2. Lesson learnt and Recommendations

- **DLI 2.5(f).**

- The source of evidence for the DLR in the inception report was the KNBS website. When the check was conducted by UNECA and found in other sources. Later the EAC indicated that the EAC open data portal is a credible source for the DLI and advised to take the source for verification.

- **DLI 2.5(h).**

- KNBS is advised to offer data in CSV or other machine-readable formats, which is crucial for enhancing the usability and accessibility of the GCP data. As indicated in the interim report by EAC, KNBS will in place modalities to share the datasets with the report. The recommendation is noted as useful for the next plan.
- It is also noted that prompt and clear communication about changes in the release dates of the report is fundamental to preserving trust and reliability among data users. The feedback from KNBS shows that the report was not released on time due to funding issues and KNBS agreed to reflect the changes in the release calendar for its transparency and accountability.

- **Overall Observation.**

- The collaboration and support of the EAC clarifying and providing feedback on outstanding issues was substantial. This could help UNECA to complete the DLI result verification on time. However, it is important to present the verification request of national agencies as agreed in the period/window of verification.

Annex .

Annex1: Verification of Disbursement-Linked- Results (Kenya National Bureau of Statistics-KNBS)

Disbursement-Linked-Indicator	Disbursement-linked-Result	Remark	Evidence of attachment	DLI Verification procedure	Code	UNECA Verification procedure	Result of Verification	Scalable	Links	Comments / Questions
DLI. 2.5. Improved availability of price and macro-economic statistics	DLR 2.5(f) Monthly harmonized CPI (HCPI) survey conducted, and reports produced for 12 months 2022/23-2025/26	Monthly harmonized HCPI for year one -12 months 2022/23 available online.	https://eac.opendataforafrica.org/pwskwdc/eac-harmonised-consumer-price-indices-2022	Verification that the Monthly HCPI report for 12 months 2022/23 was produced and downloaded from the KNBS website.	F (i)	ECA check monthly HCPI 12 months for 2022/23 report(s) are produced and downloaded from KNBS website.	Yes, the 2022/23 HCPI report is available & downloadable from the EAC open data portal other than the KNBS website.	Yes	https://eac.opendataforafrica.org/pwskwdc/eac-harmonised-consumer-price-indices-2022	The source of evidence is the EAC open data portal as noted by RPCU.
	DLR 2.5 (h) GCP report produced and available online for FY2022/23 - FY2025/26.	GCP report produced and available online for 2022/23.	https://www.knbs.or.ke/download/2023-gross-county-product-2/	Verification that the GCP report 2022/23 was produced and downloaded from the KNBS website.	H(i)	ECA checks GCP report for 2022/23 is produced and available online from the KNBS website.	Yes, the 2022/23 GCP report is available and downloadable from the KNBS website.	Yes	https://www.knbs.or.ke/download/2023-gross-county-product-2/	Data presentation in a readable format and adhering to the release calendar are useful for better data usage.