We congratulate the Bureau upon completing planned and unplanned activities. One of the most interesting things about the Bureau is the broad diversity of its brain power to inform, educate and address different statistical needs. This is exhibited in the wide range of statistical products and services rendered over time. Appreciation goes to the entire staff for the effort rendered in the last 6 months in accomplishing the various tasks such as the Release of the Consumer Price Index, Producer Price Index for Agriculture, The Annual Residential Property Price Index (RPPI), Training for Data collectors, Development of Local Government Strategic Plans for Western Uganda and many more activities.

In the Bid to increase awareness among the staff and the Public regarding UBOS activities, we continue to share with monthly publication so as to regularly inform you about the recent events in the Bureau. All staff are called upon to share information regarding recent developments in the their respective Divisions and Directorates as input for the Newsletter. Enjoy reading.

The Uganda Bureau of Statistics has embarked on training of 120 field staff ahead of Uganda National Household Survey 2019/2020. The team will collect data on household consumption expenditure, health conditions of all persons in the household, education conditions of every persons above three years of age, water and sanitation among others.

The one month training at Kabira Country Hotel is being conducted by experts in methodology and data collection. The training is covering several areas of survey method of data collection interviewing skills, reading the questions aloud for better understanding, interviewee approach as well as the use of Computer Assisted Personalised Interviews (CAPI) devices.

Mr. Stephen Baryahirwa – Principal Statistician at UBOS, noted that it is important to train field staff if the Bureau is to constantly provide data, which is timely, accurate and reliable to the various users of statistics.

Household surveys provide valuable information for the National and international Development Frameworks in Uganda. Monitoring the performance and outcome of these interventions is critical to the whole evaluation of the progress made and challenges that require remedies.

The main objective of the survey is to collect high
quality and timely data on socio, demographic and economic characteristics of household population for monitoring economic performance of the country. 

The survey will involve 12 months of fieldwork in order to be comparable with past surveys taking into account the seasonality factors. The sample of Enumeration Areas (EAs) will be spread in equal proportion for each quarter of the year across districts.

The questionnaires to be administered are, Socio-economic survey questionnaire, Labour questionnaire, Informal Sector questionnaire and Community questionnaire.

In the recently released Consumer Price Index by UBOS, the Annual Headline Inflation increased by 0.1 percent from 3.3 percent registered in the month of May to 3.4 percent registered in the month of June 2019. This means that one paid a higher price by 0.1 percent in the month of June compared to the month of May for similar basket of goods. “The increase in Annual Headline inflation is largely attributed to the Annual Core Inflation, which rose to 4.9 percent for the year ending June 2019 compared to the 4.6 percent registered for the year ended May 2019”, said Mr. Vincent Nsubuga Musoke Ag. Director Macro Economic Statistics at UBOS.

The Annual Services Inflation rose to 4.7 percent for the year ending June 2019 compared to the 4.0 percent recorded for the year ended May 2019. Similarly, the Annual Food Crops and Related Items Inflation also increased to minus 3.7 percent for the year ending June 2019 compared to the minus 5.4 percent registered for the year ended May 2019. This was mainly due to increase in Annual Fruits Inflation that increased to minus 12.2 percent for the year ending June 2019 compared to the minus 14.9 percent recorded for the year ended May 2019.

The Annual Energy, Fuels and Utilities (EFU) Inflation recorded a minus 0.5 percent for the year ending June 2019 compared to the 4.6 percent recorded for the year ended May 2019. This means that a consumer of a similar basket of (EFU) was likely to pay lower prices in the month of June as compared to what would have been spent in the month of May. The decline in Annual EFU Inflation is mainly due to Annual Solid Fuels Inflation that is registered at minus 7.1 percent for the year ending June 2019 compared to the 5.4 percent recorded for the year ended May 2019.

On a geographical basis, Masaka registered the highest Annual Inflation of 6.1 percent for the year ending June 2019 compared to the 3.3 percent registered for the year ended May 2019. This was driven by Annual Inflation for Education that was registered at 4.8 percent for the year ending June 2019 compared to the 7.0 percent recorded for the year ended May 2019. In addition, Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages Inflation increased to 4.4 percent for the year ending June 2019 compared to the 1.0 percent registered during the year ended May 2019. Fort Portal was the least registering a minus 1.0 percent for the year ending June 2019 compared to the minus 1.5 percent recorded for the year ended May 2019.

The monthly comparisons indicates that the Headline Inflation for June 2019 dropped by 0.1 percent from the 0.4 percent rise recorded in May 2019. The drop in the Monthly Headline Inflation was attributed to the Monthly Food Crops and Related Items Inflation that decreased by 3.5 percent for the month of June 2019 from the earlier 2.6 percent rise recorded in May 2019.
UBOS received a total of 110 interns from various Universities including Makerere University, Kyambogo, MUBS, KIU, Ndeje, Muni, IUIU, Busitema, Victoria University, Institute of Survey and Land Management and ISBAT.

According to Ms. Charlotte Kimuli – Human Resource Officer the Internship programme started on 10th June where the internship students underwent a full week’s induction in the Conference Hall. During the induction the students were informed about the work ethics and organisational culture at the Bureau. They expressed their expectations and were urged to behave in a responsible way.

Mr. Mbahamiza Edgar – Manager Administration and Human Resources in his opening remarks at the workshop welcomed the students to the Bureau. He cautioned them to handle bureau property with care and respect. He encouraged them to be ethical and professional in all their undertakings during the internship programme that will end on 30th August, 2019.

Presentations on various topics were made to the students. These included: An overview: Composition and Structure of UBOS by Mr. Walube Charles-Principal Administration Officer, UBOS Strategic Plan, Goals, Principles and Objectives by Mr. Rutaro Thomas -Senior Officer Statistical Coordination Services.

The Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Procedure by Ms. Wakhapabulo Fred - Principal Human Resource Officer and A Question and Answer session was held where a panel of 3 Senior officials including the MA&HR, PAO and PHRO received concerns and expectations of the interns and responded accordingly.

In conclusion of the exercise the Coordinator of interns at the Bureau was elected and the students were taken on a guided tour of statistics house by Mr. Tumusiime Morris– the Estates Officer.
The Residential Property Price Index (RPPI) for Greater Metropolitan Kampala (GKMA) is registered at 98.40 price level index for 2018/19 Financial Year (FY) from the 96.03 price level of the last FY. The rise was due to prices of properties in most parts of GKMA including Wakiso and Kampala areas of Makindye, Kawempe & Rubaga that registered 3.5, 2.5 and 6.6 percent respectively. However, prices in Nakawa area declined to minus 7.4 percent during the 2018/19 FY compared to 0.9 percent registered in the 2017/18 FY.

“This means that if one was to purchase a house with similar amenities during this time last year, would pay less by 2.5 percent”, said Mr. Sam Kasiromwe -Senior Statistician at UBOS.

Year-on-Year quarterly changes, the RPPI for the quarter between Q4 (April – June) 2018 and Q4 (April – June) 2019 declined to minus 6.9 percent compared to the 9.4 percent recorded between Q3 (January – March) 2018 and Q3 (January - March) 2019.

On a quarterly basis, the RPPI for GKMA decreased by minus 0.3 percent during the fourth quarter 2018/19 from minus 5.7 percent registered during the third quarter 2018/19.

This means that if one purchased a residential house within the same geographical location and with similar amenities, would pay less by 0.3 percent in fourth quarter as compared to one who purchased it in the third quarter.

This quarterly drop was due to Kampala & Makindye properties quarterly inflation that decreased to minus 5.4 percent during the fourth quarter 2018/19 from the minus 1.3 percent registered during the third quarter of 2018/19. In addition, Nakawa quarterly prices of residential properties decreased to minus 5.7 percent during the fourth quarter 2018/19 from the minus 2.5 percent registered in the third quarter 2018/19.

However, residential properties prices for Wakiso areas, increased by 8.4 percent during the fourth quarter of 2018/19 compared to the minus 16.3 percent recorded during the third quarter of 2018/19.
Over the years, Government has engaged in activities aimed at promoting budget transparency through increased citizens’ interactions and engagements on issues of the budget for example through publications such as the Citizens’ Guide to the Budget, Budget Transparency Initiatives including platforms like the Budget Toll Free Hotline, Call Centre and Ministry websites, the Barazas by the Office of the Prime Minister and the decision by Cabinet to explain policy issues through the Media.

The objective of these initiatives is to increase citizen’s participation in the development of their country, through paying taxes and monitoring the use of public resources in the delivery of public services. These initiatives have been instrumental in disseminating information and obtaining feedback.

In the same regard, The Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development in Partnership with Uganda Revenue Authority and Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group organised a series of activities dubbed the National Budget Month celebrations. UBOS participated in the following activities that included the Launch of the National Budget Month Financial Year 2019/20 at the MoFPED Head Offices on Tuesday 14th May 2019, Tree Planting along the road reserves of Kampala, the National Budget March from the Constitutional Square to Kololo Ceremonial Grounds, the Service Excellence Exhibition at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds, Budget Speech Day, the Post Budget Dialogue at the Serena International Conference Center and the Budget Breakfast Meetings.

At the events attended by all Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies UBOS through the Division of Communication and Public Relations exhibited its products and information materials such as the latest statistical reports from surveys were given to various MDA’s and the public.

Further more UBOS staff and Members of the Uganda Statistical Society Matched from City Square to Kololo Airstrip with a Banner and placards reflecting the latest statistics.

UBOS collected statistics and feedback from the Budget Month exhibition at Kololo and this provided well informed feedback to Ministry of Finance as the organisers.

At the National Budget Month events the Bureau provided statistical booklets with the latest statistics about the economy and this further highlighted the performance of the various sectors and their respective contribution to the Economy.

The events are credited for educating and popularizing the benefits from the previous budgets and tax policy measures to both the taxpaying public and the business community.

The public was provided with information regarding key sectoral interventions and allocations for Financial year 2019/2020. The same information such as statistical reports from UBOS will provide the necessary information for purposes of making better investment decisions that can stimulate economic growth.
Across the globe, there have been various technological advancements, talk about the world’s first electronic television which was created by a 21 year old inventor named Philo Taylor Farnsworth. The television only showed in black and white colours. It was not until in 1946 after the World War II, that the world witnessed the invention of coloured television.

Guglielmo Marconi, an Italian inventor, proved the feasibility of radio communication. He sent and received his first radio signal in Italy in 1895.

J. Presper Eckert and John Mauchly built the first computer system in 1946 at the University of Pennsylvania.

Our personal life is highly dependent on the technologies that people have developed. Technology has advanced with years and it has changed the way we purchase products, the way we live, the way we communicate, the way we travel, the way we learn and so many changes have been brought about by these continuous technological advancements. As people’s demands and life style change, the demand for advancing the type of technology we use is high. Almost every thing we use has been innovated to better standards, a good example is the “Mobile Phone”, the type of mobile phones we had in 1995 are no longer on demand in this century, the demands of mobile phone users have changed greatly, and this has resulted in the advancement of mobile phone technologies. UBOS as data collecting agency has not been left behind in this advancement. We have continuously witnessed technological advancements that all these have changed over time, now we can ably talk about the smart television, flat screen television sets, fastest transmitter radio stations and computers.

While the desk top computers are still of great use, there is the invention of laptops that has eased mobility of work from offices to homes and everywhere one goes. These effects have enhanced technological ways of doing business with many institution holding their heads high for adopting and making good use of such technological developments.

With enormous efforts from the Directorate of Information Technology, The Bureau has continuously embraced technological advancements in its operations drawing back on how it collects, processes, analyses and disseminates statistics. The innovation of Computer Assisted Personalised Interview (CAPI) method of data collection involves the use tablets with pre-loaded questionnaire to collect data. This has reduced the time for data collection which used to be conducted manually using the paper questionnaires. The CAPI technology allow the field officer to immediately share information at the data processing centre. This has lessened the time taken to process data since it requires no data entry clerks.

The Bureau recently unveiled an app to make statistics accessible on the go. The android enabled app dubbed “UGStat”, can be accessed by an individual right on their cell phones. The app provides yet another dissemination angle for the Bureau to share data with anyone anywhere with less hustle.

The UBOS M&E e-system is yet another technological advancement that the institution has innovated. The M&E e-system, provides for the prompt information on progress made over time vis-a-vis the planned activities. It therefore, offers a platform for checks and balances in the Bureau’s day to day operations. A well embraced technological advancement, championed with innovative minds and better ideologies can propel an institution to greater heights.
UBOS through the Directorate of District Statistics and Capacity Development organised a workshop to discuss the Integration of Gender Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) into the Community Information System for two days from 28th to 29th May 2019 at the conference hall.

The event organised in collaboration between Directorate of District Statistics and Capacity Development and the Directorate of Information Technology was coordinated by Mr. Mark Kajubi - Senior Statistician and it was intended to integrate Gender Based Violence and SRHR into the Community Information System in order to provide community level data.

According Mr. Bahemuka Lenard—Senior Statistician with DDSCD, UBOS partnered with United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) which prioritizes undertaking of in-depth analysis of the available data sets in order to transform population data into demographic intelligence. Through this partnership, UNFPA has also supported mainstreaming of the demographic dividend into national and sub-national development plans; and other projects. UNFPA support is now being extended to facilitate the production of data on Gender Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual & Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) in order to track progress towards the elimination of GBV in Uganda.

Currently, there is data being collected by various agencies. However, it is fragmented and does not give a holistic picture on GBV/SRHR prevalence. Therefore, an integrated system which will provide GBV/SRHR data at household, community and administrative levels.

In order to collect GBV/SRHR data at household/community level, it will be mainstreamed into the Community Information System (CIS) which is implemented by the Directorate of District Statistics and Capacity Development (DDSCD). The initiative will focus on the seven UNFPA programme districts, which include: Arua, Kasese, Tororo, Kyenjojo, Kitgum, Amudat, Kyeggewa and Kampala.

Upon completion of the exercise the DDSCD Plans to Check on the expected deliverables and undertake Piloting the integrated Community Information System tool in the districts of Arua and Tororo respectively.
UBOS at a press conference held in May 2019 released the maiden Producer Price Index for Agriculture at the UBOS Conference Hall.

At the release attended by stakeholders and Journalists from various media houses, according to Mr. Okello Patrick the Director Agriculture and Environment Statistics it was noted that the Annual Producer Price Index for Agriculture decreased by minus 9.2 percent for the year ending December 2018 compared to the decrease of minus 8.6 percent for the year ended November 2018. This decrease was mainly due to a drop in the prices for Crop & Animal Production of minus 9.8 percent for year ending December 2018 compared to the decrease of minus 9.1 percent for the year ended November 2018.

A decrease in prices for Fishing & Aquaculture of minus 12.4 percent for the year ending December 2018 compared to the decrease of minus 11.8 percent for the year ended November 2018.

At the Release the MS. Imelda Atai Musana –DED/SPD, congratulated DAES upon the successful compilation of the index, she thanked all the stakeholders involved in the process and the called upon the media to relay the information appropriately since Agriculture is a key sector in the economy.
The Bureau in collaboration with various Ministries, Department and Agencies and Local Governments (LGs), is implementing the second Plan for National Statistical Development (PNSD II), as a comprehensive framework for strengthening statistical capacity in the country. The PNSD provides for establishment of structures, as well as institutional frameworks and arrangements that bridge producers and users of statistics in the National Statistical System. The PNSD specifically underlines the need, for all Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and Local Governments to develop and implement strategic plans for statistics as the framework for statistics production and use in the MDA /LG.

On 07, May, 2019 the Bureau through the Directorate of Statistical Coordination Services organised a workshop as part of the Regional Orientation and Strategic Planning for Statistics, Statisticians and district planners from the 37 Higher local governments and Municipalities from western Uganda were hosted in workshop in the conference hall at statistics house, Kampala.

During the workshop presided over by the new Executive Director UBOS Dr. Chris Mukiza as Guest of Honour. In his opening remarks as the chief statistician in the country welcomed the Statisticians from the local governments. He thanked them for their efforts in statistical production and use. He however cautioned those Statisticians in entities that failed to comply with the regulations governing the practice would be subjected to sanctions accordingly. He thanked them for responding to the invitation and pledged to support them in their respective statistical development needs accordingly. The Workshop hosted by the new Director Statistical Coordination Services Mr. John Mayende had a number of presentations such as overview of the PNSD, review of the Department Assessment Tool, and the Structure of the Local Government Strategic Plans for Statistics, Statistical Research Tool and the Quality of the Institutional Environment for Statistics.

The meeting provided a platform for orientation of the Local Governments on the Processes of the PNSD and Strategic Planning for Statistics Development in order to ensure sustainable production of demand driven statistics. Also to ensure that the statistics produced at Local Governments are aligned to the National Standard Indicator (NSI) Framework that is used to measure the country progress on Sustainable Development Goals and national development programmes.

During the workshop deliberations the Local Government technical and political wings were sensitised on the importance of statistic production and use in the district. There was assessment of the current status of statistics production and use in the districts in western Uganda. The participants shared lessons learnt; challenges in statistical development at the respective Local Government and proposed mitigations for those challenges.

Strategies for production of statistics for the districts in Western Uganda were developed accordingly.

The Bureau was credited for coordinating and supporting the development of strategic plans for Statistics for the MDAs and the LGs in the National Statistical System. It was also noted that as a result 60 Higher Local Governments have developed and are implementing their strategic plan for statistics (SPSs). 33 Higher Local Governments in Central and Eastern Uganda are finalising their strategic plans for statistics however 65 LGs in Northern and Western part of the country and one from Karamoja (Kotido) had not yet developed their strategic plans for statistics which calls for more effort.
In the bid to respond to the different development frameworks both at national and international level, UBOS hosted a one day workshop for the Sustainable Development Goal Data Technical working Group coordination on Tuesday 07\textsuperscript{th}, May 2019 at Statistics House Conference Hall. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is one of the global level frameworks that Uganda made commitments to. Routine reporting and reviews on SDGs implementation are data driven using statistics generated through the different national data sources.

To effectively report on the SDGs implementation National Statistical Offices were given the responsibility of coordination of statistics for reporting on SDGs at country level. This is to ensure production and use of quality, timely, accessible, reliable and disaggregated data that will inform the review and reporting on the implementation of the SDGs at National, Regional and Global level.

In the same regard the Bureau through the Directorate of Statistical Coordination Services institutionalized a national SDG data working group. The membership to this is the Plan for National Statistical Development (PNSD) and SDG Focal Persons from all the 18 Government Sectors.

During the one day workshop Two presentations were made on the Emerging Issues from the Sector Specific data working meetings conducted for the 16 Goals and the Available Tier I data points for reporting on SDG Indicators for Uganda.

The workshop that yielded outputs like the Quarter III FY 2018/19 SDG data working Coordination meeting Report, Draft SDG Indicator Framework for Uganda and updated SDG Tier I data points was concluded with discussion of Emerging Issues and Way Forward.
The International Labour Day is commemorated to honour the contribution workers make towards development across the globe. The day is also used to create national and international awareness on the importance of promoting and protecting the rights of workers. Each year’s celebrations are designed to fit a selected theme and this year’s theme is “promoting employment through enhanced public infrastructure development”.

UBOS joined other entities to commemorate the International Labour Day. The national celebrations held at Agago District at Patongo Akwee Primary school playground in Patongo Town Council.

This year’s celebration was held under the theme “promoting employment through enhanced public infrastructure development” based on the premise that Uganda’s investment in public infrastructure like roads, rail, power dams, power transmission and oil refineries will eventually solve Uganda’s unemployment problems.

At the event attended by different dignitaries and presided over by General Yoweri Museveni His Excellency the President of Uganda as the Guest of Honour, he emphasized that the business people are the heartbeat of the economy - both in Uganda and the world over. The International Labour Day 2019 theme relates to the challenges that the Country has been experiencing in provision of decent employment opportunities and job creation. Furthermore, the theme is in line with the aspirations of the second National Development Plan (NDPII) which aims to propel the country towards middle income status by 2020 through strengthening the country’s competitiveness for sustainable wealth creation, decent employment and inclusive growth.

The theme thus called on Government, all category of investors and other stakeholders to redesign and review their policies, laws, strategies and programs with the view of increasing job and employment opportunities for the working age population that increased to 19.1 million in 2016/17 from 16.5 million in 2012/13 as reported in the National Household Survey 2016/17.

UBOS statistical booklets were shared among the participants at the event. clad in branded T-shirts, a Banner and placards with the latest statistics UBOS staff participated in the Matching too.
There is a vast difference between failure and temporary defeat.

There is no such thing as failure, unless it is accepted as such. Every defeat is temporary unless you give up and allow it to become permanent. In fact, temporary defeat often makes us stronger and more capable. Each time we try and fail, we learn something that helps prepare us for eventual success. Only in the classroom is there a single correct answer for every problem. If you try an approach that doesn’t work, try something else. When you view adversity as nothing more than a learning experience, your successes in life will far outnumber your failures.

Congratulations to our very own Mr. Mukuru Peter Director Information Technology upon being elected the New President for the Kampala South Rotary Club. All the best in your new Assignment.

In Pink is Ms. Imelda Atai Musana—DED/SPD UBOS with participants at the Workshop on the Development of Strategic Plans for Western Uganda held at Statistics House.