International Comparison Program
Meeting of the Governing Board

Africa progress report

Virtual Meeting
March 14, 2022
Outline

1. ICP 2021 Implementation Status
2. Overall regional risks
1. The 2021 Round Implementation

SCB –V Approved: AfDB Board Approved its SCB-V in April 2020 to support Regional Statistical Capacity Development; among other activities are ICP 2021 Round as part of the Rolling Benchmark Approach (RBA) aligned to 2017 results;

- Endorsed the ICP 2017 results as part of the Bank’s key strategic areas;

Four strategic lines for the ICP 2021 Implementation
ICP permanency in RMCs activities entails the following 4 Frameworks to be pursued:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convergence Framework</th>
<th>• (1) The System of National Accounts (SNA)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Frameworks</td>
<td>• (2) The Data and statistical strategies of the United Nations General Secretariat and the AFDB High’5 Agenda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• (3) The Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa (SHaSA-II)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparison framework</td>
<td>• (4) International Comparison Program</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. ICP 2021 Implementation Status

- **ALL 50 African countries have agreed** to the following New Arrangements:
  - SCB-V is a non-concessional Programme of 10 million UC (~13 Million USD) for the 37 ADF-eligible to countries;
  - COMESA is the Only Executing Agency as the Bank procedure currently requires;
  - 10 Million UC was disbursed to COMESA in April 2021;
  - COMESA as the Executing Agency has been working on arrangements to disburse ICP funds to the eligible both “Non-COMESA member states” (18) and to “COMESA Member states countries” (19):
    - First Time COMESA is Implementing a Program in “Non-COMESA member states”;
    - Signing LOA issues raised in “Non-COMESA member states”;
    - Meetings held with both the Bank and 37 Countries to facilitate disbursement of Funds;
    - COMESA Accounts at UBA and Ecobank have been opened in all 37 countries to channel resources to NSO for HHC field data Collection.
1. ICP 2021 Implementation Status (Cont’d)

✓ 13 Middle Income Countries (MIC) will implement ICP without resources (these are the Bank New Operational rules):
   a) based on their CPIA which upgrades them from Non Concessional (ADF-Resources) to Concessional Resources (required special agreement with respective governments)
   b) All agreed to start collecting data in April because of the delay in their various statistical operations due to Covid-19.
   c) for special surveys in 2021: validation is underway.

✓ 4 “Experimental” or “Benchmark” Countries
   a) Eritrea; Somalia; South Sudan; Libya:
      i. the four (04) countries made official request to No longer be Considered as “Non-Benchmark Countries”:
      ii. Depending on data to be collected a decision will be made to consider them as “Experimental” or “Benchmark Countries”
1. ICP 2021 Implementation Status (Cont’d)

- Various AfDB’s communication with 54 countries (the 50 ICP 2017 round countries plus South Sudan, Libya, Eritrea and Somalia):
  - All Confirmed/Updated the composition of national ICP teams for 2021/2022 (Names of experts and allocation of technical areas);
  - All Started data Collection for the following Surveys : EDUC, GOV; GDP-MORES;
    a) Update for 2017, 2018 , 2019,
    b) Collection for 2020 2021;
    c) Submission of Population XR figures (2017-2022); and
- AfDB and ESCWA made arrangements : Only Morocco remains to discuss ICP funding issues. The meeting will be held today 14 march 2022.
- A Data Validation Workshop is programmed for September-October 2022
- HHC data collection to run from April 2022 to March 2023.
2. Overall Regional Risks mitigation measures

THREE (03) major risks are worth underlining:

- **Belated availability of RESOURCES for the first regional workshop**: 
  - The Bank is working very closely with COMESA AND Participating countries to ensure there is very minimum slippage;

- **ICP staff turnover in the countries**:
  a) ICP staff died from Covid-19
  b) Appointment of Whole NI Team
  c) ICP staff Mobility for various Reasons
  d) Retirements

- **Data discrepancy for dual participating countries** — AfDB and ESCWA have learned lessons from challenges that arose from the review of 2017 data. **Implementation of the ISTANBUL 2019 agreement.**
Thank you!