YSA
YOUNG AFRICAN STATISTICIANS ASSOCIATION

REFLECTING ON OUR IMPACT

MILESTONES

THAT MATTERED

2025

END OF YEAR NEWSLETTER

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Impact Area 1
Capacity Building

Our training and capacity building activities are focused on conducting specialized training in global and public health, epidemiology research, demographic and population research, deve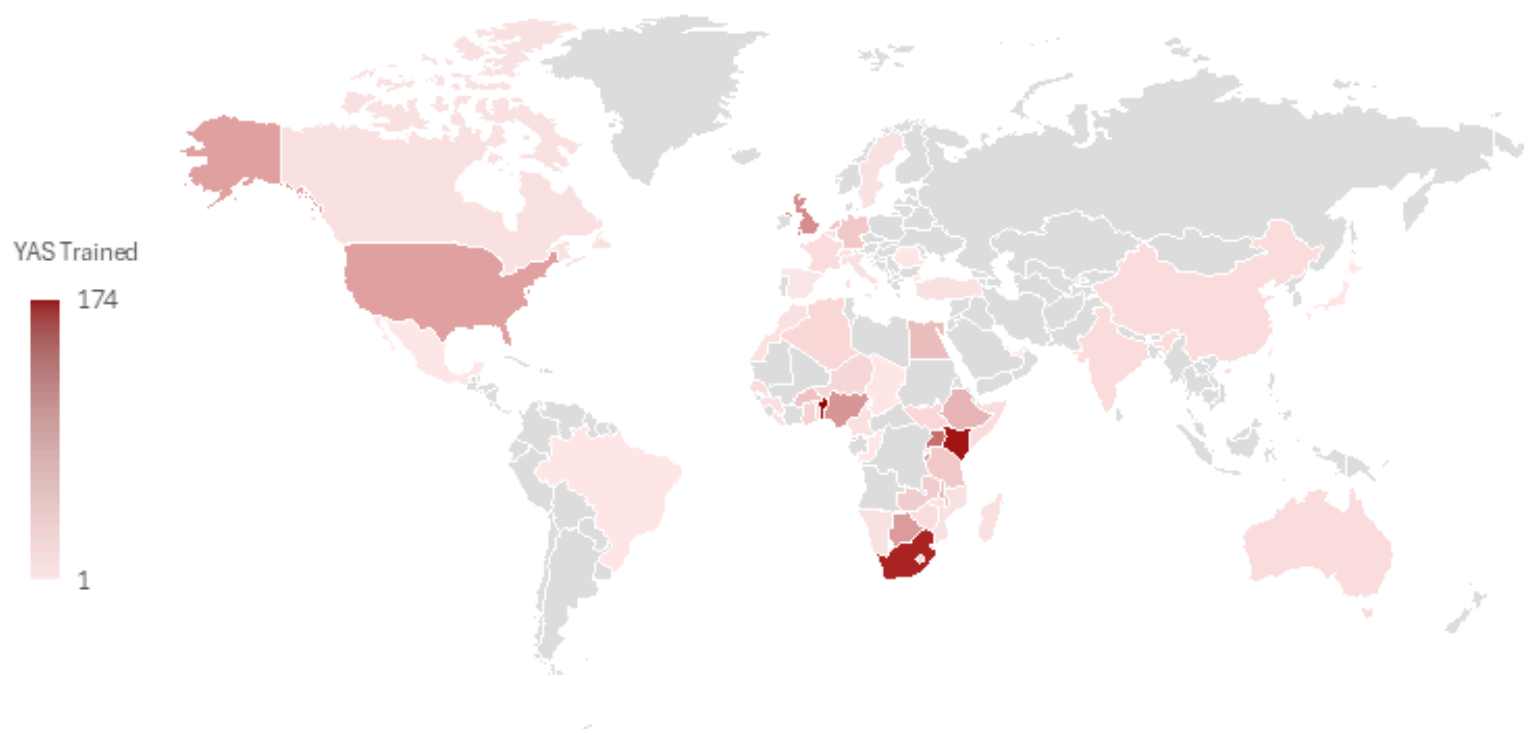lopment issues, geography, and research methodologies in data sciences. In 2025, we organized and facilitated 9 virtual training workshops, lectures and webinars, reaching over 1,300 participants (of which 43% were female) from 57 countries.

FEB — Spatial Analysis in R [Part 1] Guest Lecture

MAR — Female Statisticians &Demographers Driving Evidence-Based Decision Making in Africa

MAY — Introduction to Population & Gender [in English]

JUN — YASA & UNFPA ESARO Understanding Teenage Pregnancy in Africa through Data, Research & Policy

JUL — YSS & YASA Joint Webinar on Career Pathways for Young Statisticians

AUG — Cspro Training [Part 2] Advanced - CSWeb integration

OCT — YSS & YASA Webinar Beyond the Basics: Visualising Data for Young African Statisticians

NOV — Atelier de formation sur KoboCollect

NOV — Measuring Gender-Based Violence - YASA, UNFPA ESARO & UN Women ESARO

YASA Capacity Building Activities 2025 - YAS Trained Per Country

Top 5 Countries of Residents of YAS Trained by YASA in 2025

Country	YAS Trained
Benin	174
Kenya	156
South Africa	145
Uganda	89
United Kingdom	68

All YASA registered members and trainers who completed our trainings received certificates. Further, we have seen return attendees in almost all our trainings, signifying commitment to continuous learning. We have also received feedback from our attendees that there has been an improvement in their knowledge and skills, with some offering to return as trainers

Advocacy & Conference Participation

In 2025, the Young African Statisticians Association (YASA) actively engaged in advocacy and participation in conferences to elevate the voice of young statisticians across Africa and connect them to continental and global statistical communities.

A central highlight of YASA's advocacy work was its participation in the 65th World Statistics Congress (WSC) of the International Statistical Institute, held in The Hague, Netherlands. Led by a multi-country delegation of YASA members, the association achieved a landmark milestone by organising **the first Invited Paper Session at a World Statistics Congress led by Young African Statisticians.** This session marked a significant step in positioning African youth as contributors, not just observers, in global statistical dialogue.

The Invited Paper Session, titled "Making Data Comprehensible! Perspectives from Young African Statisticians," showcased applied experiences and research from different African contexts on improving data accessibility, literacy, and public use. Presentations highlighted youth-driven statistical literacy initiatives, country-level data capacity efforts, and research on statistical education and data quality. Collectively, these contributions demonstrated how young African statisticians are addressing practical challenges in data communication and use, while contributing to development priorities aligned with Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Beyond the formal session, YASA members used the Congress as a platform for advocacy, networking, and partnership development. Engagements with international statistical organis-

-ations and senior professionals opened discussions on capacity building, mentorship, and future collaboration in support of young statisticians across Africa. Participation in WSC 2025 also increased the visibility of YASA members and strengthened their integration into global statistical networks.

Young African Statisticians Association (YASA) invites you to our IPS session at

WORLD STATISTICS CONGRESS 2025

Title: Making Data Comprehensible! Perspectives From Young African Statisticians

📅 **Tuesday 7 October**   🕐 **AT 08.00AM**   📍 **Central America Room**

Come hear more about YASA's Ongoing Project: Making Data Comprehensible, and get perspectives from Burundi by Axel Keza, from Zambia by Chikoloma Nakazwe and from Ethiopia by Ashenafi Alemu Tessema

YASA
YOUNG AFRICAN STATISTICIANS ASSOCIATION

Session Chair: Lyne Nziza, seasoned data analyst (Burundi)

On the continental front, YASA members including Axel Keza participated in activities around the Statistical Commission for Africa, Union for African Population Studies (UAPS), Takwimu webinars and other events organised by other assciations (e.g., side events and related advocacy around youth involvement in statistical systems) continued the association's efforts to ensure that young statisticians are included in key policy and institutional dialogues on the future of statistics in Africa.

From continental action to global platforms, young African statisticians lead the way

In 2025, YASA participated in the Royal Statistical Society (RSS) Conference through its involvement in an invited session on international engagement, jointly organised by the RSS and its Young Statisticians Section (YSS). The session examined how professional statistical institutions can support early-career statisticians globally, with a particular focus on collaboration, local ownership, and sustainable partnerships. YASA was represented by Naomi Setshegetso, and Esau Atwongyeire, YASA members with statistical society leadership.

Through their contributions, YASA shared practical insights from the YSS–YASA collaboration, highlighting the needs of young African statisticians around career pathways, mentorship, confidence building, and communication skills, as well as challenges related to funding and volunteer sustainability. Their participation ensured that perspectives from African youth-led statistical organisations informed discussions alongside senior leaders from RSS and the International Statistical Institute, strengthening advocacy for inclusive, partnership-driven international engagement within the global statistical community.

YASA issued a public statement on World Statistics Day 2025, emphasising the importance of data as a tool for truth, inclusion and accountability. Through this statement, YASA reaffirmed its mission to promote the use of statistics for public good and informed decision-making across African contexts, highlighting the role of young statisticians in shaping that narrative. YASA and its social media platforms also marked Africa Statistics Day 2025.

Through these advocacy statements and conference engagements in 2025, YASA helped its members gain visibility in major statistical platforms, strengthened their voice in conversations about Africa's data future, and connected young statisticians with professional communities both within Africa and internationally. These efforts contributed to expanding members' networks, enhancing their confidence to present research and viewpoints, and solidifying YASA's role as a representative body for young statistical professionals on the continent. Read the statement here: **YASA World Statistics Day 2025 Statement**

Partnerships & Collaborations

Collaboration and partnership are central to building strong, skilled statistical communities. In 2025, YASA worked with several regional and international institutions, with new and existing collaborations, to deliver training, webinars, conference sessions and joint discussions aimed at strengthening the technical and professional capacity of young statisticians across Africa. These collaborations focused on practical skills, mentorship, exposure, and the application of statistics to real-world development challenges:

HIGH TECH SOLUTIONS & CONSULTING (HTSC) MALAWI

HTSC Malawi partnered with YASA in 2025 to support practical skills development in statistical software and data analysis. Through structured training activities, YASA members gained hands-on exposure to applied data management and analysis tools, strengthening their technical capacity to work with real datasets and improving readiness for professional and research roles. This partnership concluded in 2025

INTERNATIONAL STATISTICS AND EPIDEMIOLOGY PARTNERSHIP (ISEP)

. In 2025, ISEP provided a platform for YAS, including YASA members, to join their webinars and mentoring interactions on biostatistical methods and career development topics. Through these events, experienced statisticians and researchers shared knowledge with YASA members, while mentorship opportunities were made available to support early-career growth. This continues in 2026, with YASA co-hosting a webinar in June 2026.

YOUNG STATISTICIANS SECTION (YSS), ROYAL STATISTICAL SOCIETY

YASA's partnership with the Young Statisticians Section of the RSS focused on joint webinars and international engagement activities in 2025. Through co-hosted events and conference sessions, YASA members connected with early-career statisticians from other regions, expanded professional networks, and contributed African perspectives to global discussions on statistics and professional development. This collaboration continues in 2026 with more hands-on trainings and more networking opportunities.

ROYAL STATISTICAL SOCIETY (RSS)

In 2025, YASA engaged with the RSS through conference participation and invited sessions addressing international engagement and youth inclusion in statistics. YASA representatives contributed to discussions on partnership models, capacity building and sustainable collaboration, strengthening the visibility of young African statisticians within established professional institutions. YASA and RSS will continue to work together in 2026 through the RSS conference and other initiatives of mutual benefit.

UNFPA EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL OFFICE (UNFPA ESARO)

YASA's collaboration with UNFPA ESARO in 2025 centred on webinars and discussions linking statistics to youth, population and development priorities. These activities enhanced members' understanding of how statistical evidence informs policy and programme design, particularly in development and public sector contexts, and reinforced the role of young statisticians in evidence-based decision-making. This collaboration continue sin 2026 with emphasis on other demographic topics,and other initiatives of mutual benefit.

Across these partnerships, YASA members benefited in multiple ways: they gained practical software and analytical skills, engaged with international mentors and statistical networks, and accessed professional development platforms that broadened career perspectives. Joint activities helped new statisticians build confidence in applied methods, connect with global peers, and advance their visibility in the wider statistical community. Plans are in place for these collaborations to continue in 2026, building on the momentum from 2025 with expanded training, webinars, conference participation and mentorship opportunities with ISEP, RSS/YSS and UNFPA ESARO and new collaborators like Statistics without Borders, International Institute (ISI) and the junior section of the International Society for Bayesian Analysis j-ISBA, further strengthening the professional growth of young African statisticians.

Impact Area 3
Membership

Membership total counts over the years
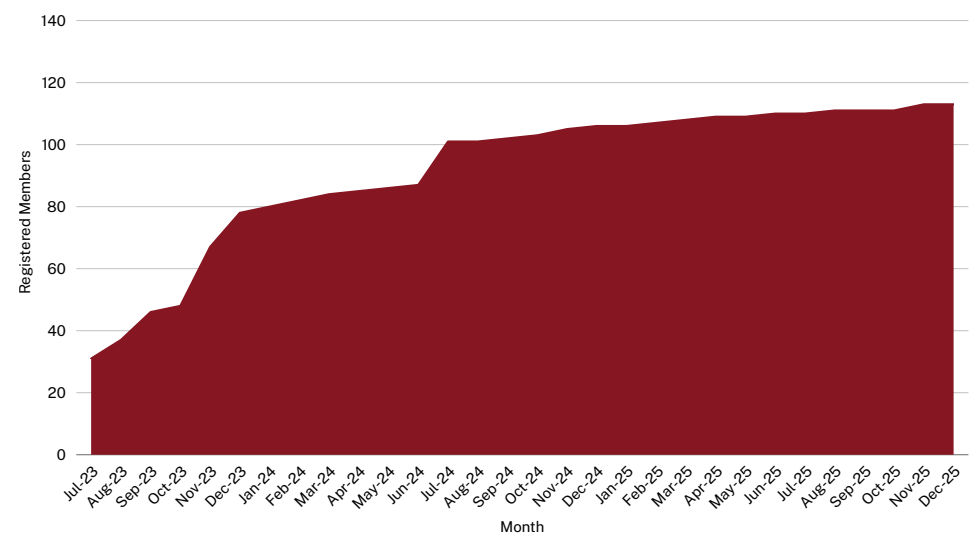
42% of YASA registered members are female

Female 42%

Male 58%
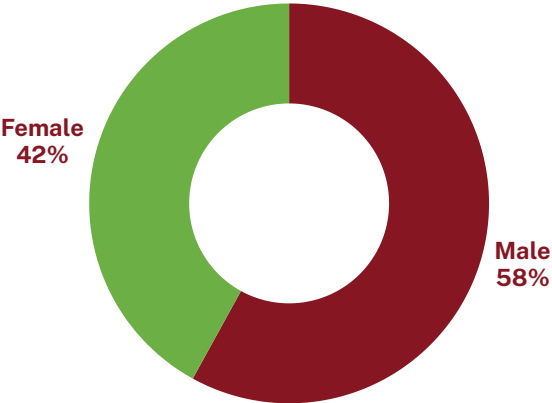
Occupation of YASA Registered Members

Occupation	Percentage
Employed - Private Sector	27%
Unemployed	22%
Employed - Public Sector	19%
Contractual Employment/ Consultant	16%
Student	14%
Employed - National Statistics Office (NSO)	3%
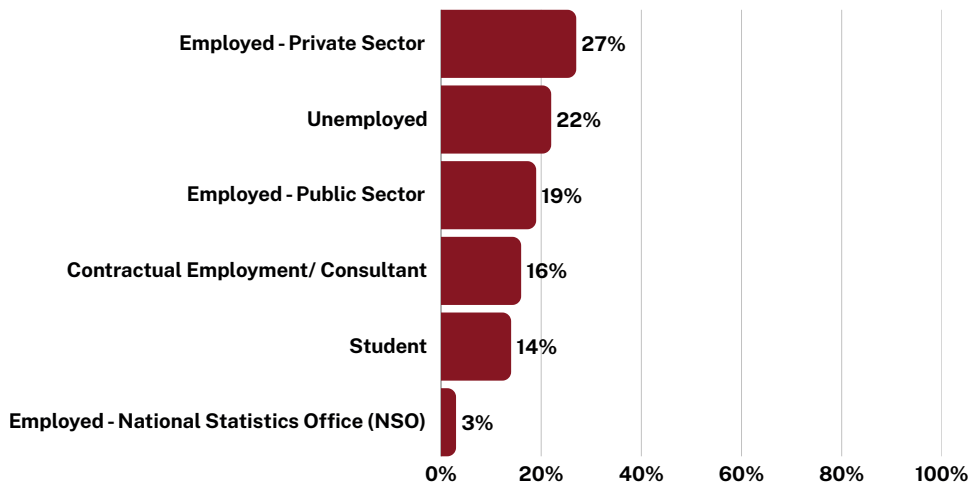
Country of residence at registration of the YASA registered members as of December 2025

South Africa (16)
Kenya (11)
Egypt (10)
Uganda (10)
Zambia (9)
Botswana (8)
Benin (6)
Swaziland (7)
Lesotho (6)
Tanzania (5)
Rwanda (3)
Burkin...
Algeria (4)
Ethiopia (2)
Chad...
Gha...
Libe...
Canada...
Burundi (3)
Malawi (3)
Na...
Tog...
France (1)
India (1)
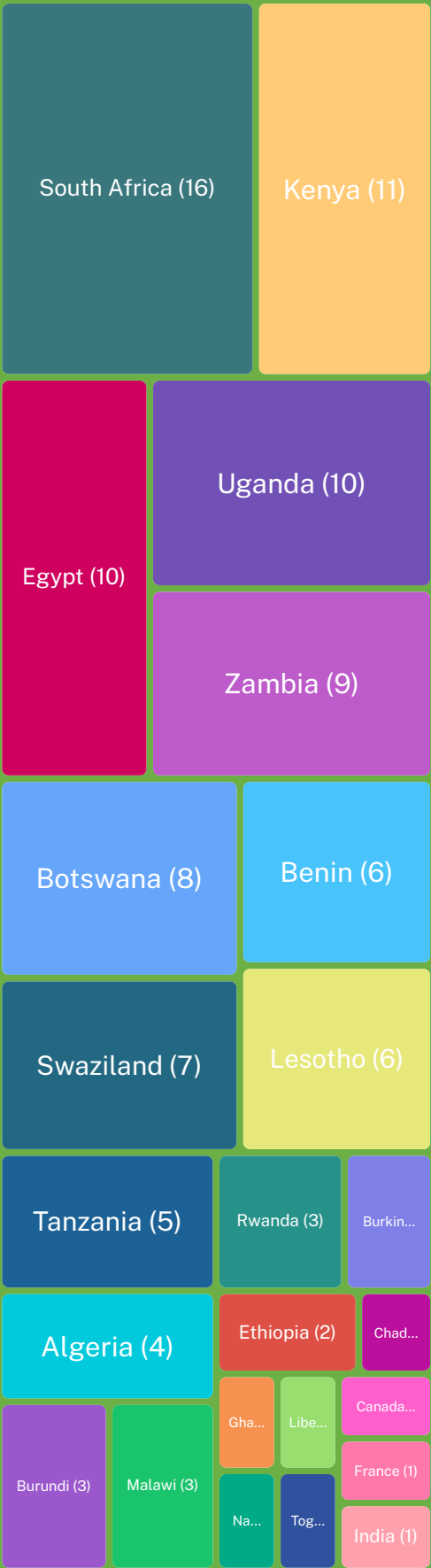
MEMBERS & STAKEHOLDERS SECTION

Get to know what our members are up to, their achievements, and news from our stakeholders. YASA members and partners with articles, pictures, news, events or publications should send their contribution to **info@youngstatisticians.org** for inclusion in the next newsletter edition
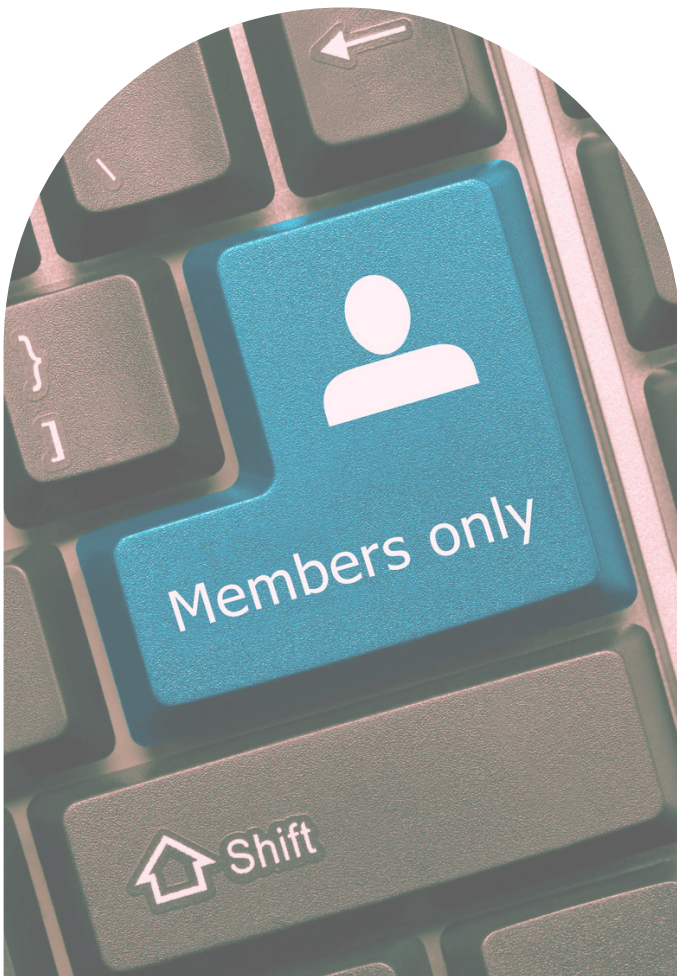
YASA member from Nigeria, Chidimma Florence, has published a book in collaboration with Dr. Samuel Kennedy Oguagbaka "*APPLIED STATISTICS: CONCEPTS, METHODS WITH APPLICATIONS*"

Synopsis:

This textbook "Applied Statistics: Concepts, Methods with Applications" offers a comprehensive introduction to applied statistics, developed to support students, professionals and researchers across a wide range of disciplines. It is particularly suited for learners encountering statistics at the foundational level, with a structured progression to applied methods.
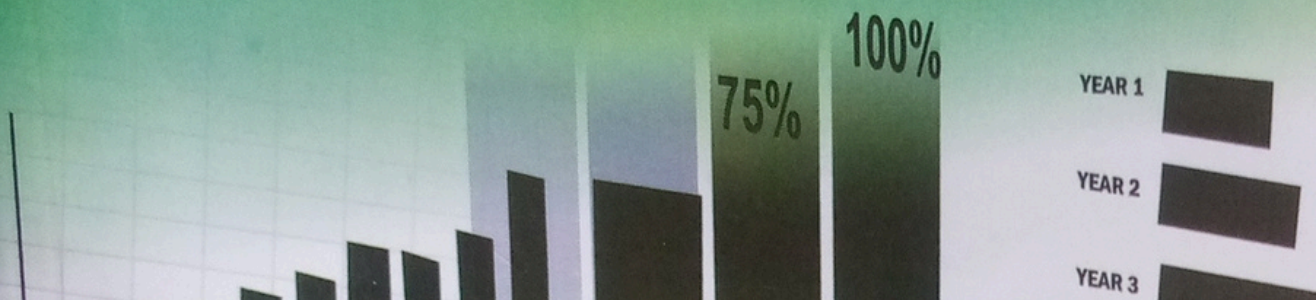
The text begins with the meaning, scope and importance of statistics, as well as the distinction between descriptive and inferential statistics. It progresses through data types, sources of data, sampling techniques, data organization and visualization. A concise presentation of key statistical

topics is provided, covering probability and probability distributions, mathematical expectations, sampling distributions, estimation, hypothesis testing, analysis of variance, correlation and linear regression. Multivariate methods including factor analysis, cluster analysis, index numbers and sample survey theory are also introduced in the book.

A notable strength of the textbook is its emphasis on examples drawn from real-life contexts that are relevant to the intended audience. This approach enhances clarity, improves learner engagement and supports the practical application of statistical methods to real-world problems. Overall, the book is designed to build statistical literacy, analytical competence and confidence in the use of statistics across diverse fields of study.
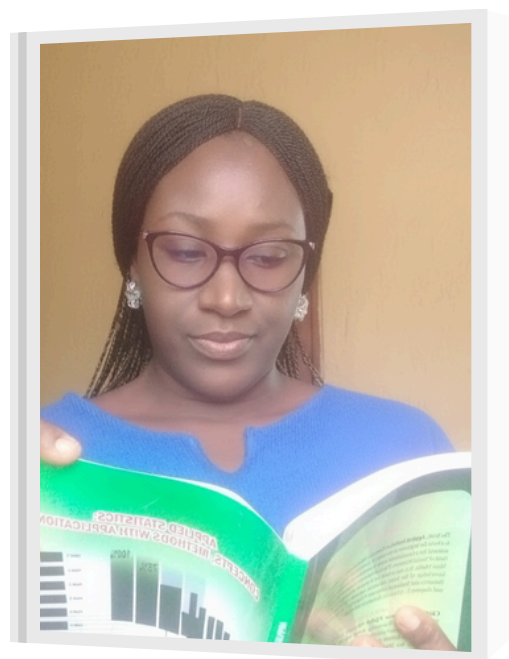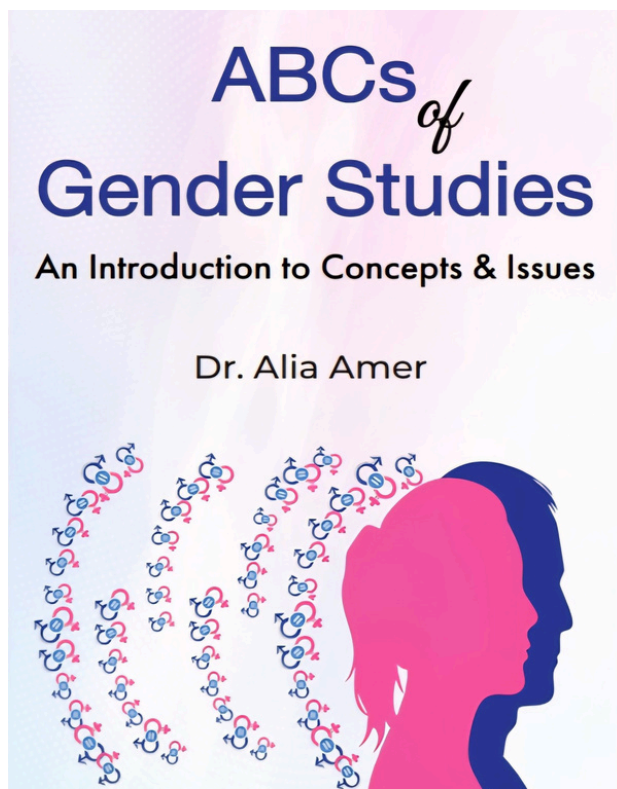
YASA member from Egypt, Alia Amer has published a book "ABCs of Gender Studies:"

Synopsis:

ABCs of Gender Studies: An Introduction to Concepts & Issues by Dr. Alia Amer provides a concise and accessible introduction to gender studies, presenting its core concepts, definitions, and theoretical foundations in a clear and structured manner. The book is designed for students, researchers, and readers new to the field, making complex ideas approachable without losing analytical depth. The book explores key topics such as gender roles, stereotypes, gender mainstreaming, and the historical development of gender studies within social and demographic frameworks. It places particular emphasis on the social and racial discrimination faced by women, drawing on a broad range of Arabic and international academic sources to connect theory with empirical analysis. The book promotes gender equality, social justice, and informed awareness. It serves as both an introductory guide and a reference for understanding contemporary gender issues and their implications for society and development.

Reflecting the new direction in gender studies within women's studies, the book "ABCs of Gender Studies: An Introduction to Concepts and Issues" is both a descriptive and an analytical approach book. It focuses on the essential principles of gender studies. This title was selected to present the fundamental concepts and issues of gender studies in a manner that is straightforward for intellectuals and researchers in demography and the social sciences. This is done by breaking down intricate topics into easily digestible parts, making it particularly beneficial for those who are new to the discipline. Readers will learn about critical issues related to gender.

This book targets to emphasize the racial discrimination faced by women, which contradicts the goals they pursue in their struggle against social domination. It explores various topics compiled from a wide range of Arabic and international academic references and literature.

Consequently, it is regarded as a reference and guide for all social researchers and demographers. Additionally, it elevates social awareness concerning gender differences and discrimination. The book addresses a wide array of topics and principles pertinent to gender studies, starting with the foundational elements of gender studies regarding definitions, concepts, stereotypes, roles, and gender mainstreaming, and advancing to the historical progression of gender studies under patriarchal and matriarchal frameworks. It clarifies the most crucial basic concepts associated with gender studies.

In addition to this, the book articulates gender studies from a demographic perspective, addressing the various components, indicators, and dimensions of it, and referencing statistics related to gender indicators and the repercussions of it on several sustainable development goals, as well as the current state of challenges and opportunities related to these critical issues. The book explores how to advance in altering outdated and erroneous concepts and traditions that reflect a negative stance towards women, advocating for their rightful claim to equality and the abolition of racial discrimination, acknowledging them as true and vital partners in society and life.

Dr. Alia Amer

YASA Nigeria Chapter Q4 2025 Highlights

A021.25: LEVERAGING PREDICTIVE ANALYTICS FOR ENROLLMENT TREND AND CURRICULUM INNOVATION IN NIGERIAN STATISTICS PROGRAMS

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ABSTRACT
Statistics remains a foundation of the fast-growing field of Data Science. Yet, declining enrollment in Statistics programs across Nigerian tertiary institutions threatens the future workforce for data-driven sectors. This study applies predictive analytics to model enrollment trends and explore implications for curriculum development. Building on Ejiofor (2023), which used the Poisson distribution to reveal declining enrollment in the National Diploma Statistics program at Federal Polytechnic Oko, this paper extends the analysis with machine learning methods, particularly XGBoost, to capture national patterns. Due to the lack of comprehensive national data, simulated datasets were employed to approximate real-world trends and illustrate the potential of predictive modeling once complete data become available. Additionally, survey responses from Statistics Department staff across institutions were analyzed to provide insights into perceptions of Statistics education. Findings aim to guide strategies to strengthen programs and support the integration of Data Science into Nigeria's higher education system.

The last quarter of the year 2025 was a productive period for the Young African Statisticians Association (YASA) in Nigeria, marked by scholarly engagement, collaboration and knowledge dissemination.

During the 2025 Conference of the Chartered Institute of Statisticians of Nigeria (CISON) held in Delta State, Nigeria, three members namely Chidimma Florence Ejiofor, Emeka Henry Chukwueloka and Dr. Ijeoma Ebelechukwu Okechukwu collaboratively authored a research paper titled "Leveraging Predictive Analytics for Enrolment Trend and Curriculum Innovation in Nigerian Statistics Programs". The paper was presented at the conference by Chidimma Florence Ejiofor, highlighting Nigeria's contribution to advancing data-driven discussions on enrolment sustainability and curriculum innovation in statistics education.

Collectively, these achievements reflect the commitment of Nigerian YASA members to research excellence, academic collaboration and the advancement of statistics as a tool for sustainable development.

YASA and Analysis for Action Connecting at WSC

In October, Dr Sarah Rafferty and Dr Sophie John from the UK Office for National Statistics (ONS) attended the 65th International Statistical Institute World Statistics Congress in The Hague, Netherlands. There they connected with members of the Young African Statisticians Association (YASA) in a session hosted by the group. As part of the conference, Sarah and Sophie delivered a talk titled 'Analysis for Action: National Statistical Offices learning from COVID-19 and preparing for the next pandemic'. This presentation marked the halfway point of Analysis for Action project.

What is Analysis for Action?

Analysis for Action is a five-year initiative (2023-2028) funded by Wellcome, and delivered in collaboration with partners in the UK, Argentina, Malawi, and Nepal. Together, we are developing an online platform to equip National Statistical Offices with skills and tools to support evidence-based health emergency preparedness and response. The platform, to be launched in 2027, will include resources spanning five key themes: data collection, data analysis, data governance, outputs and reporting, and stakeholder engagement.

Exploring collaboration opportunities with YASA

During discussions with colleagues from YASA at the World Statistics Congress, several promising opportunities for collaboration were identified. YASA members will gain access to free learning resources, case studies, and interactive tools designed for statisticians. They

will also contribute their expertise to test and refine platform content, ensuring it meets user needs. .In addition, the Analysis for Action Global Network will help promote YASA activities and events. This partnership will strengthen ties between YASA and the Analysis for Action project, fostering shared learning and driving global impact

Staying connected

For further information, please visit the **Analysis for Action webpage.** To receive updates and quarterly newsletters, contribute to ad-hoc platform development, and participate in virtual events, we invite you to join the **Analysis for Action Global Network**. Join us today and be part of a global community working together to strengthen preparedness and response through data and collaboration.

YASA 2026 EXCO ELECTIONS

NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

LIST OF POSITIONS OPEN

President	EXCO Schools Programmes
Vice President	EXCO Membership and Stakeholder Management
Secretary-General	
Deputy Secretary-General Arab Portfolio	EXCO Capacity Building Programmes
Deputy Secretary-General Francophone Portfolio	EXCO Strategy and Research Programme

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1 Be a registered YASA member in good standing

2 Have been an active member for at least one (1) year
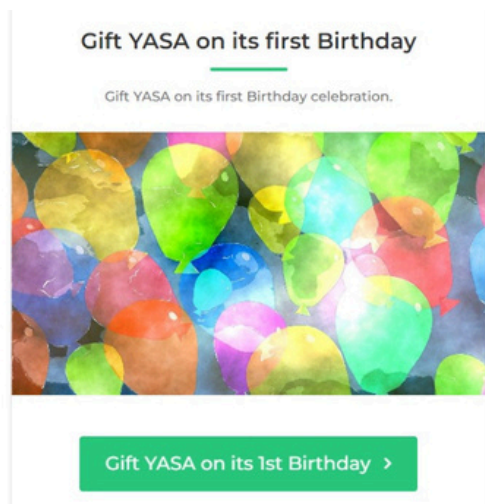
3 Provide written consent to stand for election

4 Submit a CV/short bio and a motivation statement.

Incomplete or late submissions will not be considered. All nominations will be verified by the Election Committee, and a list of qualified candidates will be published prior to the election. We strongly encourage eligible members, with due consideration to gender and regional balance, to participate actively in shaping the future leadership of YASA. **For any election-related enquiries, please contact the Election Committee via: Chief Electoral Officer: andrewtshililo@gmail.com, with cc: layebale@gmail.com; felixsipho@gmail.com**

ALL NOMINATIONS MUST BE DONE VIA THE OFFICIAL NOMINATION FORM BETWEEN 05 AND 23 JANUARY 2026: https://bit.ly/YASANOMINATIONELECTION26

WANT TO SUPPORT YASA ACCOMPLISH OUR MISSION? HERE IS HOW YOU CAN DO IT

Gift YASA on its first Birthday

Gift YASA on its first Birthday celebration.

Gift YASA on its 1st Birthday >

Give to support our activities and country chapters

Partner with us for hands on training, workshops and statistical literacy programs

MEMEBRSHIP CATEGORIES

Category	Description	Price
Young African Statistician	Young statisticians of African Origin (residing in Africa or diaspora) under the age of 45	$25
Student member	Students taking pure and/or applied statistics, and statistics related subjects within our scope in a tertiary association (valid for as long as enrolled)	$15
International member	Young statisticians NOT of African Origin and NOT residing in Africa under the age of 45	$25
Fellow member	Members who transfer from either Young African Statistician or International members	$25
Institutional member	Recognized institutions of research, learning and advocacy in our focus areas or private sector institutions with an interest in the mission of the association	$300

SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT

https://youngstatisticians.org/membership-form/

Reach out and interact with us

YASA
YOUNG AFRICAN STATISTICIANS ASSOCIATION

🔗 Website: www.youngstatisticians.org

✉️ Email: info@youngstatisticians.org

in LinkedIn: Young African Statisticians Association

f Facebook: Young African Statisticians Association

𝕏 Twitter/X: @AfricanYas