

## **GATS in Nigeria: A Key to Innovation/Success in Adult Tobacco Surveillance in Africa**

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**Abstract:** The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) over 45 years has been conducting household surveys in Nigeria. In the past two decades, the bureau has taken significant steps aimed at improving its service delivery, particularly in the areas of quality data production, reliability and timeliness of the data. Some of the measures taken to achieve this include conversion of some analogue questionnaires to digital; electronic method of sample selection; use of Geographic Positioning System (GPS) for farm surveys. In the conduct of Global Adult Survey (GATS) recently, the use of hand-held electronic devices for data collection was adopted. This paper gives the experiences in the recently conducted GATS and other innovations brought to the conduct of household surveys in Nigeria, stating the implementation strategies from the early stages of planning and preparations to final stages of data processing and analysis. Also outlined are the achievements, challenges and lessons learned for the survey, which could serve as a reference for adult tobacco surveillance in Africa.

**Key Words:** Sample selection, households, sampling frame, tobacco.