**UNIVERSITY OF CAPE COAST**

**SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS**

**DEPARTMENT OF DATA SCIENCE AND ECONOMIC POLICY**

**MSc. DATA MANAGEMENT AND ANALYSIS**

**DATA CURATION AND MANAGEMENT (DMAS 820)**

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**ASSIGNMENT TWO**

**Name: Emmanuel Owusu Boateng Student ID: SE/DMD/24/0017**

**A Case Study of Ghana Statistical Service (GSS)**

## Part A: Six Data Quality Performance Indicators for Meeting GSS Vision

At the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS), producing statistics is more than just compiling numbers; it is about telling Ghana’s story with accuracy, fairness, and clarity. Our vision of being the trusted provider of official statistics demands that we uphold quality at every stage of the statistical process, from planning fieldwork to releasing final publications. Data Quality Performance Indicators (DQPI) help us maintain this high standard, ensuring that our outputs are credible, relevant, and useful for decision-makers, researchers, and the public.

1. Accuracy: Accuracy builds trust. Every figure we release must reflect the reality on the ground, free from significant errors or distortions. GSS achieves this through rigorous data cleaning, cross-checking with other sources, and peer review before publication.

2. Timeliness: Data is most valuable when it is delivered promptly. GSS works to release statistical products within three to six months after data collection, enabling policymakers to make decisions based on current realities.

3. Relevance: Our work is guided by user needs and national priorities. Relevant data addresses today’s pressing issues such as unemployment rates, agricultural production, or access to education by ensuring that outputs contribute directly to policy solutions.

4. Consistency: Consistency allows comparisons over time and across datasets. GSS applies standard definitions, classifications, and methodologies, enabling meaningful analysis such as comparing literacy rates between censuses.

5. Accessibility: High-quality data must be easy to find and use. Through the GSS website, open data portals, and social media platforms, we make statistical products available in both technical and simplified formats for wider public understanding.

6. Transparency: Every dataset must come with clear documentation on its methods, sources, and limitations. This transparency enables correct interpretation and reinforces public confidence in our statistics.

## Part B: Five Administrative Data Points GSS Should Prioritise for Archiving (Next Five Years)

Archiving is not simply storing data; it is safeguarding the evidence base for Ghana’s future decisions. Preserving critical datasets ensures that future generations can analyse trends, measure progress, and make informed policy choices. Over the next five years, GSS should prioritise the following administrative data points for archiving due to their long-term policy importance.

1. Population and Housing Census (PHC) Microdata: The PHC is Ghana’s most complete demographic record. Archiving microdata allows long-term analysis of population growth, migration, and settlement patterns, informing urban planning and development strategies.

2. Labour Market Statistics: Employment data reflects the health of the economy. Preserving detailed records on employment, unemployment, and wages supports policy design for job creation and workforce development.

3. Price and Inflation Data (CPI and PPI): Inflation affects every citizen and business. Archiving CPI and PPI data ensures future analysts can track cost-of-living changes, assess economic shocks, and evaluate policy responses.

4. Business and Economic Census Data: Enterprise structure and distribution data help track GDP contributions, industrial growth, and investment trends. Maintaining these records supports economic diversification strategies.

5. Health and Education Statistics: Data on literacy, enrolment, morbidity, and mortality are crucial for human capital development. Archiving these ensures continuity in evaluating the effectiveness of social and development programmes.

Link to GSS Vision: By safeguarding these priority datasets, GSS ensures that future decision-making is grounded in reliable, relevant, and accessible evidence, keeping faith with its mandate and its vision of being the trusted provider of official statistics for good governance and development.