**Study Visit to the National Bureau of Statistics in Rwanda, Ghana, the UK, and Senegal, irrespective of the Big Data Unit.**

Addis Ababa

**Title: Study Visit to the Statistics Office of Rwanda, Ghana,** **UK and Senegal on Big Data Unit**

**Background:**

The Ethiopian Statistics Service (ESS) plays a pivotal role as the national statistical agency, tasked with the responsibility of providing reliable and timely statistical information for evidence-based policy formulation, decision-making, and monitoring of development programs in Ethiopia. Over the years, ESS has conducted Population and Housing Censuses (PHCs) and various surveys to collect data on demographic, economic, and social indicators, contributing significantly to the country's statistical landscape.

In pursuit of staying abreast of emerging trends in data management and analysis, ESS recognizes the transformative potential of big data in augmenting traditional statistical methodologies. The importance of timely and accurate data for informed decision-making has led to the consideration of establishing a dedicated big data unit within ESS.

As part of its commitment to embracing modern data methodologies, ESS is embarking on the establishment of a new big data unit. This unit is envisioned to revolutionize data collection, processing, and analysis through the incorporation of advanced technologies and statistical methodologies. The study visit to the Statistics Office of Rwanda, UK and Senegal is a strategic step in this initiative, aiming to gain critical knowledge that will guide the operations of the new big data unit.

the Ethiopian Statistics Service is at the forefront of embracing technological advancements and innovative methodologies to strengthen its capacity in data management. The establishment of a new big data unit aligns with the organization's commitment to providing high-quality statistical information for informed decision-making and sustainable development in Ethiopia.

The advent of big data has transformed the landscape of data collection, processing, and analysis. Recognizing the importance of staying at the forefront of technological advancements, our organization is in the process of establishing a dedicated big data unit. To gain crucial knowledge and expertise, a study visit to the Statistics Office of Rwanda, Ghana, UK and Senegal has been proposed.

**Objective:** The primary objective of this study visit is to acquire valuable insights and knowledge from the Statistics Office of Rwanda, Ghana, UK and Senegal regarding the establishment, operation, and best practices of their big data unit. The aim is to leverage this information for the successful implementation and integration of a new big data unit in our organization.

**Scope:** The study visit will encompass a comprehensive exploration of the Statistics Office of Rwanda, Ghana, UK and Senegal’s big data unit, covering its inception, operational procedures, technological infrastructure, challenges faced, and successful collaborations with existing departments.

**Activities:**

1. **Overview Presentation:**
   * Receive an overview presentation from the Statistics Office of Rwanda, Ghana, UK and Senegal on the establishment and evolution of their big data unit.
   * Understand the unit's organizational structure, objectives, and key functions.
2. **Technical Workshops:**
   * Participate in technical workshops conducted by the big data experts of the Statistics Office of Rwanda, Ghana, UK and Senegal.
   * Explore the technologies, tools, and methodologies employed for big data processing and analysis.
3. **Collaboration Sessions:**
   * Engage in collaborative sessions with the big data team to discuss challenges faced during the initial stages of unit setup.
   * Share our organization's goals and seek advice on potential strategies for overcoming challenges.
4. **Site Visits:**
   * Visit the physical facilities and technological infrastructure supporting the big data unit.
   * Observe the data processing pipelines, storage systems, and analytical tools used.
5. **Interaction with Sister Departments:**
   * Interact with existing sister departments involved in traditional data collection, processing, and analysis.
   * Discuss potential synergies and collaborations between the new big data unit and existing departments.

**Expected Outcomes:**

1. A comprehensive understanding of how the Statistics Office of Rwanda, Ghana, UK and Senegal established and operates its big data unit.
2. Insights into the technological stack, tools, and programs utilized for efficient data processing and analysis.
3. Identification of challenges faced and strategies employed in overcoming obstacles during the unit's initiation.
4. Knowledge transfer on how to initiate collaboration with existing sister departments for seamless data integration.

**Duration:** The study visit is proposed for a duration of five working days, providing sufficient time for in-depth discussions, workshops, and site visits.