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**Generation of Small Area Official Statistics using Empirical
Best Linear Unbiased Prediction Estimator**

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Abstract

This paper aims to describe the use of the empirical best linear unbiased prediction (EBLUP) estimator in generating small area official statistics that are essential in local area governance. An EBLUP estimator is a weighted combination of the direct and regression-synthetic estimates. The statistical properties of an EBLUP estimator depend on the properties of its components: the direct and regression-synthetic estimators. A reliable EBLUP estimate has a low mean square error and a coefficient of variation not exceeding 10%. The estimates generated can also be evaluated externally.

Key Words: *mean square error, local area estimation, statistical and external evaluation.*