



Better data and social statistics to ensure the inclusion and protection of children on the move

- a side event to the UN Statistical Commission 54th session -

**Thursday, 2 March 2023
08.00 – 09.30 EST**

Participation in person: Danny Kaye Room, UNICEF Building, New York
Participation Online: [via Zoom](#) Passcode: 810201

Today, there are an estimated 35.5 million international migrant children around the globe. Around 36.5 million children are displaced by conflict and violence, while 25.5 million children are internally displaced. Yet amid an abundance of global efforts to promote social inclusion through better data and evidence, millions of these migrant children are often left invisible to policy and decision-makers due to numerous challenges in producing, analyzing, sharing and using data.

First, the international community does not clearly define who constitute children on the move. The lack of a common definition impairs the ability to count them and compare data across contexts. *Second*, across the world, there is a generally widespread lack of data and statistics about migrants and displaced populations, which makes it doubly difficult to estimate the numbers of the different subgroups of children on the move. *Third*, the limited available data that does exist are often not disaggregated, which means that the specific needs of children on the move are not properly addressed.

The lack of knowledge of the stock and flow numbers of children on the move makes it difficult to protect their rights and monitor their wellbeing in crucial areas such as education, health, child protection (including exposure to exploitation and trafficking) and poverty, relative to their host peers. For the realization of the various international protection frameworks, including the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the 2030 Agenda, the Global Compact for Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees, the data gaps for children on the move must be eliminated. This calls for basic disaggregation of data by age, sex and migratory status to capture and respond to the unique needs of children and inform efficient allocation of scarce resources. Moreover, there is need for innovative approaches to strengthen national statistical systems, including by using new methodologies, leveraging non-traditional data sources such as administrative and citizen-generated data, and promoting data integration. Finally, it is important to identify a minimum set of indicators that will allow Member States to improve the basic count of migrant and displaced children and monitor their specific needs.

In this context, the [International Data Alliance for Children on the Move \(IDAC\)](#) will organize an in-person side event at the 54th session of the UNSC aims to promote a meaningful dialogue with the statistical community about how to ensure the inclusion of children on the move in national data and social statistics to inform policy and program design. The event has the following specific **objectives**:

- Discuss how improving child-specific data and statistics can add value to social and demographic statistics in the spirit of leaving no one behind.
- Reflect on the current outlook on the numbers and situations of children on the move.
- Unpack the challenges of disaggregating data in migration and displacement context that can ensure the protection and sustainable development of children on the move.
- Consider a proposed framework developed by the International Data Alliance for Children on the Move (IDAC) for child-specific indicators that can improve the count and monitor the well-being of migrant and displaced children.
- Provide a platform for data producers and data users, particularly the national statisticians, to exchange about experiences and lessons learned in fostering data disaggregation and data capacity/building.

Final Agenda	
8.00 – 08.15	Registration and Networking (coffee will be served)
8.15 – 08.25	Welcome remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>Vidhya Ganesh</i>, Director, UNICEF Division of Data Analytics, Planning and Monitoring (DAPM) ◦ <i>Ani Todorova</i>, Head of Unit, Eurostat
8.25 – 9.00	Panel Discussion Moderator: <i>Koko Warner</i> , Chief, IOM Global Data Institute (GDI) Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>Aina Saetre</i>, Statistics and Data Analyst, UNHCR ◦ <i>Estrella Lajom</i>, IDAC Coordinator, UNICEF ◦ <i>Apostolos Kasapis</i>, Director, President's Office at Hellenic Statistics Authority (ELSTAT) ◦ <i>Diego Iturralde</i>, Chief Director of Demography and Population, Statistics South Africa ◦ <i>Alankrita Dayal</i>, Migration Youth and Children Platform (MYCP) ◦ <i>Ann Singleton</i>, Associate Professor, University of Bristol
9.00 – 9.25	Open Discussion
9.25 – 9.30	Closing remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>Joao Pedro Azevedo</i>, Chief Statistician, UNICEF