Mobilizing Big Data and Data Science for the Sustainable Development Goals

Session 1.4 Mobile phone data

UN-CEBD Task Team on Mobile Phone Data (MPD):
Overview, achievements, and future plans

Esperanza Magpantay
Mobile phone data Task Team lead
Senior Statistician, ICT Data and Analytics Division, ITU

Outline

1. Task Team on Mobile phone data (MPD) - overview

2. Area of focus

3. Achievements

4. Future plans

1. Task Team on Mobile phone data (MPD) - overview

Objectives

- Develop methodologies to get complementary information and quality checks of SDG indicators, conduct capacity workshops and trainings, awareness raising events and projects that could illustrate how countries could benefit from the use of mobile phone data

- Meets (virtually) regularly to discuss issues related to the deliverables, projects, events, and other activities

Members: ~ 50 individual members/experts

ITU (Chair)
UNSD (Secretariat)

- Brazil
- Colombia
- Georgia
- India
- Indonesia
- Italy
- Japan
- Korea
- Malaysia
- Mexico
- Netherlands
- Oman
- Philippines
- Romania
- Saudi Arabia
- United Arab Emirates

- EU JRC
- Eurostat
- IMF
- IOM
- UNFPA
- UNGP Jakarta
- WB

- Flowminder
- GSMA
- Positium
- Telenor

2. Areas of focus

1) Tourism statistics
(lead: BPS Indonesia)

2) Migration statistics
(Lead: GeoStat, Georgia)

3) Census and dynamic population (lead: Positium)

4) Transport and commuting statistics (lead: World Bank)

5) Information society indicators (lead: ITU)

6) Displacement in disaster context (lead: University of Tokyo)

3. Achievements

Handbook on the Use of Mobile Phone Data for Official Statistics – released in September 2019 (v1)

Applications

Data sources

Concepts/Methods/processing/data quality assurance

Data access and partnership models

Handbook on the Use of Mobile Phone Data for Official Statistics 2022 (v2)

Elaboration of previous version

Cover six areas of statistics

Includes use cases

Will be the basis of the training materials to be prepared by the MPD task team

3. Achievements

2021:

- Invited Paper Sessions on the use of MPD for official statistics at the ISI (July)
  - Use of Mobile Phone Data to measure SDG ICT Indicators
  - Exploring Statistics on Tourism, Migration, Population and Displacement by Using MPD
- Measuring the information society using new data sources, WSIS Forum 2021 (May)
- Oman's Experience in Utilizing MPD for official statistics (April)
- MPD for official statistics – addressing data accessibility, privacy and regulatory issues (UN ESCAP StatsCafé, April)

2020:

- 6th International Conference on the Use of Big Data 2020 (hosted by Korea)
- Mobile Tartu Conference, Asia Pacific Statistics Week 2020
- ITU World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators Symposium 2020

Previous events:

- Conducted workshops in Colombia (2017, Rwanda (2019) and Indonesia (2019)
- Organized the International meeting on measuring human mobility in Georgia (2019)

3. Achievements

Paper *"Guiding principles to maintain public trust in the use of mobile operator data for policy purposes"* **to be published in the Data and Policy Journal (https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/data-and-policy, released on 1 October 2021)**

UN World Data Forum 2021 – *"How to adhere to the fundamental principles of official statistics when compiling data during the Covid-19 pandemic"* **(5 October 2021, 15h00-16h00) (***https://unstats.un.org/unsd/undataforum/***)**

Webinar series of the Road to EXPO2020 on the UN Global Platform - 9 Nov 2021

Methods and applications - MPD task team achievements and demo on how to use MPD

4. Future plans

Publish

Publish the six Handbooks in the beginning of 2022

Prepare

Prepare training materials based on the Handbooks

Conduct

Conduct training workshops to support regional capacity development, in collaboration with UN- CEBD Regional Hubs

Produce

Produce promotional video on the work of the task team

Organize

Organize events to disseminate the MPD Handbooks and raise awareness

Thank you!