

# **Securing and Developing Statistical Capacity**

***Specific programmes and tools in the SDG era***

***Chapters XII – XV – XVI of the next edition of the Handbook of Statistical Organization***

**Thematic Conference for the Caribbean :  
Managing a Statistical Organization in Times of Change**

12-14 February 2020 – Manila, Philippines

# Chapter associated with this session

## **Chapter XII: Human resources management and development (advanced draft available)**

Reflects changes in staff hiring, retention and training to cover the evolution of information technology, new data sources, standards of modernization and business architecture

## **Chapter XV: Management of finance, buildings and physical space (not yet drafted)**

Covers management issues of a more operational nature not reflected elsewhere in the Handbook. A specific section will deal with critical statistical infrastructure protection

## **Chapter XVI: International activities and collaboration**

Discusses international organizations at global, regional and sub-regional levels, cooperation and relations, as well as international standards and requirements

# Chapter XII: Human resources management and development

- **Human resources policy**

- Defining a human resources policy for a national statistical office
- Elements of a human resources policy (i.e. competency framework)

- **Staff composition**

- Skills needed in a modern national statistical office
- Categories of staff

- **Recruitment**

- Defining a recruitment policy for a national statistical office

- **Training**

- Importance of training for national statistical office staff
- Types of training (on-the-job, in-house, Internet, etc.)

- **Job rotation**

- Principles of job rotation within NSO and across NSS
- Pros and cons of job rotation for a national statistical office

- **Staff retention**

- Challenge of retaining staff
- Improving staff retention

- **Options available to new chief statistician**

- Concerns and challenges facing a new chief statistician

- **Human resources management: a policy package**

- Defining the elements of a human resources policy package



# Chapter XV: Management of finance, buildings and physical space

- Managing environmental, mechanical and electrical needs
- Managing the arrangement of office space and distribution of offices
- Building security
- Critical statistical infrastructure protection
  - Identification of critical statistical infrastructure and capability
  - Risk analysis based on major threat scenarios and vulnerabilities
  - Risk mitigation and improving resilience of statistical infrastructure and capability
- Managing finance

## Issue:

- Standalone chapter with strong overlap with Chapter V: National Statistical Office

## Options:

1. It remains a standalone chapter
2. It is merged with Chapter XII: Human resources management and development
3. All sections of this chapter are moved to Chapter V: National Statistical Office



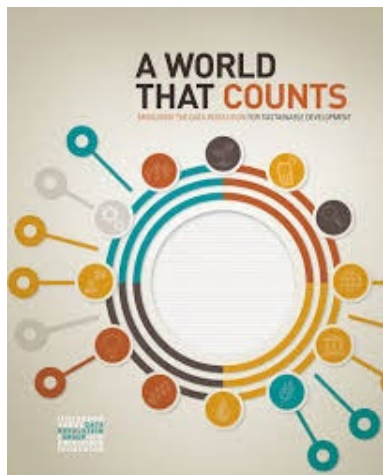
# Chapter XVI: International activities and collaboration

- Importance of international standards and requirements
  - Sustainable Development Goal Indicators
  - Other standards and frameworks
- Coordination of international cooperation at the national level
  - Role of the National Statistical Office and Chief Statistician
- International actors and bodies in the field of statistics
  - Organizations of the United Nations System
  - Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
  - International Monetary Fund
  - European Union and Eurostat
  - Other non-United Nations regional organizations

- International professional organizations
  - ISI, IAOS ...
- International development cooperation
  - Importance of statistical development cooperation
  - Main actors in the field of development cooperation
- Regional and sub-regional statistical training institutions
  - Importance of statistics training institutions
  - Main actors in the field of development cooperation
  - GIST



# UN initiatives for the modernization of official statistics /1



## Mobilizing the data revolution for sustainable development [\[Weblink\]](#)

- Independent Expert Advisory Group on a Data Revolution for Sustainable Development (IEAG)
- Fostering and promoting innovation to fill data gaps
- Leadership and coordination to enable the data revolution to play its full role in the realization of sustainable development



## World Data Forums [\[Weblink\]](#)

Events promoting cooperation and dialogue between national statistical offices, the private sector, NGOs, academia and international and regional organizations for innovative solutions and better data

- 2017 Cape Town, South Africa => Cape town Global Action plan
- 2018 Dubai, UAE => Dubai declaration to improve the methods of resource mobilization
- 2020 Berne

# UN initiatives for the modernization of official statistics /2



6<sup>th</sup> International  
Conference on  
**BIG DATA**  
for Official Statistics

12 – 14 May 2020  
Seoul, Republic of Korea

## UN Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics [\[Weblink\]](#)

- The GWG has the mandate from the UN StatCom to explore the use of satellite data, mobile phone data, scanner data and social media data for various applications of official statistics
- Task teams:
  - (1) Access and Partnerships
  - (2) Big Data and the SDGs
  - (3) Mobile Phone Data
  - (4) Satellite Imagery and Geo-Spatial Data
  - (5) Scanner Data
  - (6) Social Media Data
  - (7) Training, Skills and Capacity-building
  - (8) Global Platform for Data, Services and Applications
- Members: 16 International Organizations and 28 countries

# UN Initiatives for Capacity Building for SDGs

## High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building ...

... for statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development [\[Weblink\]](#)

### The HLG-PCCB is tasked with:

- Providing strategic leadership and promoting national ownership of the SDG implementation process
- Facilitating modernization and harmonization of data infrastructures and leverage resources and creativity of the private sector (jointly with the Inter-Agency Expert Group on SDGs)
- Recommending priority areas to target funding
- Promoting engagement between the statistical community and other stakeholders
- Organizing the World Data Forum

### Composition of the HLG-PCCB:

- 22 representatives of NSSs (incl. China, Mongolia, Nepal, Philippines), UN StatCom chair (ex-officio member) and observers, including UN Regional Commissions, and regional and international agencies



# Selected UN Capacity Building Programmes and Projects



## UNSD-DFID project on SDG monitoring [\[Weblink\]](#)

- Covering NSOs and NSSs of 20 countries in Africa and Asia on developing SDG implementation plans, national data platforms and user engagement strategies
  - Incl. Bangladesh, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Nepal, Viet Nam

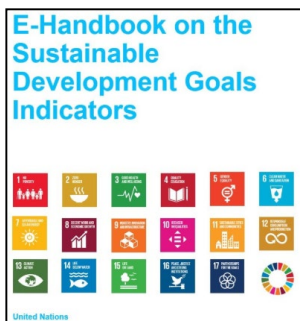
## RPTC – Regular Programme for Technical Cooperation

### Development Account – 10th tranche, Statistics and Data

- Innovative global programme managed by UNSD and implemented jointly by 10 entities of the UN Secretariat (UN Regional Commissions, UNEP, UN-Habitat, UNODC and UNCTAD)
- Spanning the period 2016 to 2020 with a total budget of USD 11.4m
- Covers country advisory missions, development of guidelines and e-learning material, training seminars, workshops and conferences.
- With the objective to strengthen the statistical capacity of developing countries to measure, monitor and report on the sustainable development goals in an accurate, reliable and timely manner for evidence-based policymaking



# Other relevant UNSD initiatives, materials and tools



## E-Handbook on the Sustainable Development Goals Indicators [\[Weblink\]](#)

- The handbook is targeted towards national statisticians to enable them to monitor progress made in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals based on data produced by national statistical systems.

## Global Network of Institutions for Statistical Training [\[Weblink\]](#)

- Global Network of Institutions for Statistical Training (GIST) is a network of international, regional and national training institutions
- Collectively working to build sustainable statistical capacities through efficient, effective, and harmonized delivery of training
- Inventory of available courses and e-learning programmes [\[Weblink\]](#)

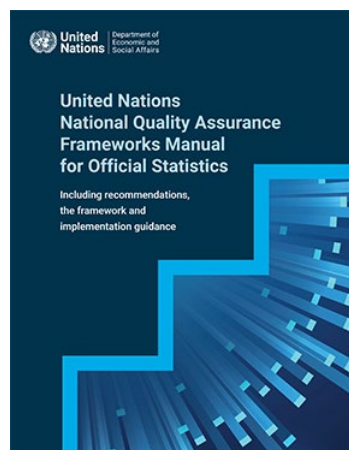


# Other recent UNSD initiatives, materials and tools



## StaTact [\[Weblink\]](#)

- Innovative Web-based tool developed by UNITAR and UNSD enabling countries to address in the short-term measurement gaps that impede monitoring national development policies
- Leverages the power of the Agenda 2030 to help resolve problems tactically
- Provides an analytical framework and a multi-stakeholder methodology to enable the design of a short-term action plan



## UN National Quality Assurance Frameworks Manual for Official Statistics [\[Weblink\]](#)

- The Manual builds on and replaces the generic United Nations National Quality Assurance Framework template and guidelines (UN NQAF template and guidelines) adopted in 2012
- Chapter 3 and Annex A of the Manual fully replace the UN NQAF template and guidelines of 2012.
- Chapter 2 provides recommendations and Chapters 4 to 8 provide implementation guidance
- Chapter 9 provides additional information and references regarding quality assurance in the global context.

# Questions to be addressed in the breakout session

- Which **resources** given to official statistics are the **most critical** for securing and further developing statistical capacity that is fit for purpose? Please explain.
- Can you provide us with any recent **success stories**, new initiatives or best practices related to **mobilizing and securing adequate resources** for official statistics?
- How could **bilateral and multilateral partners contribute** more effectively to the mobilization of adequate resources for official statistics?
- Can you provide us with any recent **success stories**, new initiatives or best practices related to the protection of core data and **critical statistical infrastructure** against natural disasters?
- What is **missing** from the discussion on this session that should be covered in the Handbook?

# Questions and comments

- Publicly available drafts of the Handbook on Statistical Organization can be found at: <https://unstats.un.org/wiki/display/HSO/Handbook+Statistical+Organization>
- Please provide inputs to: [statistics-handbook@un.org](mailto:statistics-handbook@un.org)

**Ralf Becker | Chief, Statistical Capacity Management Section**

Statistics Division, DESA, United Nations  
DC2-1414, 2 UN Plaza, New York, NY 10017  
Email: [BeckerR@un.org](mailto:BeckerR@un.org)

