GUIDELINES ON DATA FLOWS AND GLOBAL DATA REPORTING FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Inter Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators
Aim & scope

- Lessons learned from the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) process
  - Importance of robust and reliable data
  - Strengthened statistical capacities
  - Increased availability of more and better data
  - Concepts of cooperation, coordination and transparency of utmost importance

-> it is crucial to understand the data flows and reporting structures between national and international organisations
-> find a common ground on how to work together
-> Aim: submit guidelines to 49th UN Statistical Commission
Provisions

- Member states play the central role in the Agenda 2030
  - Global review is to be primarily based on national official data sources
  - Coordinating role of National Statistical Offices in the National Statistical Systems (A/RES/71/313 para. 6)

- “all activities of the global statistical system must be conducted in full adherence to the FPOS” (A/RES/71/313 para. 8)

- Adjustments or estimates of country data to be done in full consultation with the concerned country (StatCom 48/101 para. 1) and methodologies used for harmonisation disclosed (A/RES/71/313 para. 7)
Work done

- Studying existing data delivery mechanisms and guidelines
- Suggesting first draft guidelines and best practices
- Consulting with different experts and NSOs
- Prepared the “Draft Guidelines and Best Practices”
Content of guidelines and best practices I

a. Introduction
   I. Aim & scope
   II. Provisions

b. Guidelines for Global SDG Data Reporting
   I. Principles to guide data reporting and data sharing for SDG indicators
   II. Principles to guide the production of international data series for SDG indicators
      (1) Concerning data
      (2) Concerning metadata
   III. Annex
Content of guidelines and best practices II

c. Description of Existing Practices for Global SDG Data Reporting

I. The complementary roles of national and international statistical institutions in the global monitoring
   (1) **NSS and the coordination role of NSOs**
   (2) Responsibilities of data CA and PA for the global SDG indicators
   (3) Role of the Regional Commissions

II. Data reporting channels and data flow scenarios from national to global system
   (1) Lessons learnt from the MDG reporting
   (2) Existing data reporting mechanisms

III. **Production of international data series**
Some general principles in Guidelines

- ensure agencies use national data whenever possible and if any adjustments or estimates occur, countries are provided with the full methodology and these estimates are done in a fully transparent manner
- suggesting a common timetable with reasonable and workable timeframes
- treatment of non-response
- different options (eg.: NRP, using existing data flow mechanisms etc.)
  -> offering a lot of flexibility to countries (and CA)
Proposal of a flow chart on global SDG (meta-)data flow and (meta-)data reporting

1. National statistical system (NSS)
   - Make official country data available e.g. via national reporting platforms (NRP) (Ref*: Art. 2 para. h)
   - Make regional and/or international aggregated data available via SDG indicators global database

2. Custodian agency (CA)
   - If data available, CA retrieves data
   - If no official data available, CA checks back with NSS focal point (Ref*: Art. 2 para. h)
   - If after all non-official data available, CA searches for non-official data
   - CA retrieves non-official data

3. Quality assessment for official data (Ref: Art. 4 para. c)
   - Accreditation procedure for non-official data (Ref: Art. 5 para. c-e; Annex 1)

4. Decision to utilise official data** to be taken consensual with national official data provider (Ref.: Art. 4 para. c)
   - Decision to utilise official statistics*** to be taken consensual with national statistical office (Ref.: Art. 4 para. c)
   - Decision to utilise non-official data to be taken consensual with national statistical office and possibly other national focal points (Ref.: Art. 5 para. c-e; Annex 1)

5. If after all non-official data available, CA searches for non-official data
   - CA retrieves non-official data

6. Utilising data: Yes
   - Utilising data: No

7. Decision to utilise official data** to be taken consensual with national official data provider (Ref.: Art. 4 para. c)
   - Decision to utilise official statistics*** to be taken consensual with national statistical office (Ref.: Art. 4 para. c)
   - If errors in the metadata and/or data found, technical consultation (Ref.: Art. 6ff)
   - If agreement found, utilise adjusted data set (Art. 6 para. g, Art. 8 para. n)

8. If no errors found, utilise data set
   - If agreement found, utilise adjusted data set (Art. 6 para. g, Art. 8 para. n)
   - Side by Side + explanation by [...], if both parties wish / agree call upon regional commission (Ref.: Art. 7, Art. 9)

9. Make official country data available e.g. via national reporting platforms (NRP) (Ref*: Art. 2 para. h)
   - Make regional and/or international aggregated data available via SDG indicators global database

Blue colour means an involvement of the national statistical system

* references to the proposal of guidelines on global SDG data flow and reporting
** Proposed definition: ‘official data’, meaning that a set of values of qualitative or quantitative variables is disseminated by an official source
*** Proposed definition: ‘official statistics’ means a part of official data, which is produced in compliance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

Inter Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators
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Chart 8
Conclusions from Members Meeting

- Splitting document into two separate documents:
  - Guidelines
    - needs some refinements especially to make it more “readable”
    - consultations with CA and additional NSOs
    - plan: background document for 49th UNSC
  - Best practices
    - “living document”
    - to be constantly updated when new experiences become available
THANK YOU!