Best practices in global data reporting

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ILOSTAT - the ILO’s central online statistical database

- primary source for ILO reporting on labour market- SDG indicators (Convention 160)
- priority given to data quality, reliability and comparability
- fed from data compiled through various channels
  - annual questionnaire on labour statistics
  - batch processes
  - SDMX and other sources
The ILO Department of Statistics’ Annual questionnaire on labour statistics is a very important tool, at the core of the ILO’s data compilation efforts, allowing us to:

- Reach countries that do not disseminate data widely online and include them in a public database
- Get more detailed information, with more disaggregations, in accordance with what is needed for some SDG indicators
- Put together efforts from various agencies in each national statistical system (NSOs, labour ministries, etc.)
But we also try to reduce the burden on respondents of filling in the questionnaire:

- Questionnaires customized by country
- Data received and processed in batch where possible
- Automatized processes to access data directly from National Statistical Offices:
  - Downloading and processing anonymized national LFS microdata
  - Bulk download from online databases, SDMX
Best practices in global data reporting on the SDGs

• Preferred concepts and coverage for purposes of international comparability
  – Working-age population: 15+
  – National coverage (whole country rather than only some areas)
  – Ideally from a labour force survey (for labour force, employment, unemployment, time-related underemployment, etc.)
  – Definitions of main concepts based on ICLS resolutions (for example, 3 criteria for unemployment)
  – Operational criteria used to derive indicators following international recommendations or practices and robust over time
  – Etc.
Concluding remarks

- Availability of labour statistics is highly important at the international level – the success of the SDG Agenda relies to some extent on it
- ILO Department of Statistics’ annual questionnaire is a crucial tool to ensure wide labour statistics availability
- Annual questionnaire is the basis for ILO’s reporting on SDGs
- Close communication between ILO and countries to ensure understanding of the questionnaire or find alternatives to it where relevant and possible