Better Data and the HLPF

8th IAEG-SDG Meeting, 5-8 November 2018
High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)

The HLPF is the central platform for reviewing and following up on the 2030 Agenda and SDGs, at the global level. It is expected to:

• provide political leadership, guidance and recommendations on implementation and follow-up;
• keep track of progress;
• spur coherent policies informed by evidence, science and country experiences;
• enhance the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development;
• address new and emerging issues;
• strengthen the science-policy interface.
HLPF IN NUMBERS

# HLPF 2018

- **8 DAYS**
- **46 VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEWS**
- **>125 HEADS AND DEPUTY HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT, MINISTERS, VICE-MINISTERS & OTHER MINISTERIAL LEVEL OFFICIALS**
- **130 SPEAKERS IN PANELS**
- **125 MAJOR GROUP & OTHER STAKEHOLDERS INTERVENTIONS**
- **>2200 REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS**

- **6 SDGs UNDER REVIEW**
- **25 MEETINGS**
- **260 SIDE EVENTS**
- **8 SPECIAL EVENTS**
- **33 EXHIBITIONS**
- **158 GENERAL DEBATE SPEAKERS**
- **8 VNR LABS**
Data Session at the HLPF 2018

SDG Progress Report

Implementing the 2030 Agenda for resilient societies

Reviewing progress in achieving the SDGs

Better data for sustainable development

The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2018
VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEWS
2018

1. NORTH AMERICA

8. LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN

15. EUROPE

13. ASIA PACIFIC

9. AFRICA
Evidence-based VNRs

Focusing from how to including where, what and who:
• Where are making progress?
• What policies are effective and what not?
• Who are left behind?

Experiences from previous VNRs:
• statistical annexes: 1 to over 100 pages
• different levels and structures and different forms to present them
• the selection of statistics presented doesn't always reflect national SDG or policy priorities stated elsewhere in the same VNR.

=> Challenge: availability of statistics and data for monitoring, especially disaggregated and alternative data.
VNR Lab: Leveraging data for evidence-based VNRs

Interactive discussions bringing members of NSOs, development partners and other data stakeholders.
(Jamaica, Ireland, Poland; DFID, UNDP, and UNICEF)

Focused on identifying challenges in using data for reporting progress on SDGs, and solutions to those challenges
Challenges identified during the discussions

1. Lack of coordination among entities within the NSS

2. Inadequate funding to strengthen statistical capacity

3. Lack of meaningful dialogue between policy makers and NSOs

4. Statistical Literacy of policy makers

5. Human Capital is lacking in some countries

6. Data availability high-quality disaggregated data

7. Technology Old systems hinder progress
## Solutions to the challenges identified

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<th>NSO engagement with policy makers and other stakeholders</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Helps address problems of visibility</td>
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<td>Helps improve trust in statistics</td>
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<td>Help explain the importance of using data. When people want data, there will be funding for statistics</td>
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<td>NSOs communicate in strategic and targeted way.</td>
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<td>Not all statistics users have same needs and skillsets</td>
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<td>Consideration for statistical literacy. Visualization/ infographics can help!</td>
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|   | Effective communication of statistics                     |
| 2 | For both within and outside the statistical system       |
|   | Aim to have NSOs within the center stage as it pertains to data |

|   | Coordination mechanisms                                   |
| 3 | In a resource constrained environment, focus on production of core statistics such as good quality census and vital registration |

|   | Focus on the core                                         |
| 4 | What NSOs do should be relevant for its stakeholders, and activities should be demand driven. |

|   | Relevance                                                 |
| 5 | SDGs provide an opportunity to link policy with data      |
Moving Forward:

- Active engagement in HLPF and VNRs

- National statistical system is central to national follow-up and review

- National Statistical Office – critical coordinating and quality assurance role (approval of data for use in official national statistics)

- Be supported by a national SDGs progress report