Inclusive Data Taskforce
Leaving no one behind – How can we be more inclusive in our data?

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12th Meeting of the IAEG on the SDG Indicators
Data disaggregations, 3rd November 2021

Link to the Inclusive Data Taskforce report
Why an Inclusive Data Taskforce?

- To help realise the strategic vision of inclusivity
- To provide recommendations on how best to make a step-change in the inclusivity of UK data and evidence
- To ensure our statistics count everyone and that everyone counts in them
What approach did the Taskforce take?

An ambitious engagement programme to listen and learn…

- Online consultation and roundtable discussions
  - Government and Devolved Administrations
  - Academics, think tanks, research funders
  - Civil society organisations
- Facilitated events with equalities groups and the wider public
- Paper-based consultation with those at risk of digital exclusion
What did the Taskforce find?

- **Lack of trust/trustworthiness** in research participation and sharing information with government
- **Need to engage more with under-represented groups** to make the (currently) invisible visible
- **Definitions/measures** of protected characteristics must be reviewed to keep pace with society
- **Granularity** is lacking due to small sample sizes hindering intersectional analysis
- **Lived experience insights** would enhance understanding
- **Inclusivity of access to data and evidence** needs improvement
What did they recommend?

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<th>8 key principles with 46 specific recommendations for action</th>
<th>Create an environment of <strong>trust and trustworthiness</strong> which allows and encourages everyone to count and be counted in UK data and evidence</th>
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<td>Take a <strong>whole system approach</strong>, working in partnership with others to improve the inclusiveness of UK data and evidence</td>
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<td>Ensure that <strong>all groups are robustly captured across</strong> key areas of life in UK data and review practices regularly</td>
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<td>Improve the UK data infrastructure to <strong>enable robust and reliable disaggregation and intersectional analysis</strong> across the full range of relevant groups and populations, and at differing levels of geography</td>
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<td>Ensure <strong>appropriateness and clarity over the concepts</strong> being measured across all data collected</td>
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<td><strong>Broaden the range of methods</strong> that are routinely used and create new approaches to understanding experiences across the population of the UK</td>
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<td><strong>Harmonised standards</strong> for relevant groups and populations should be <strong>reviewed at least every five years</strong> and updated and expanded where necessary, in line with changing social norms and respondent and user needs</td>
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<td>Ensure <strong>UK data and evidence are equally accessible to all</strong>, while protecting the identity and confidentiality of those sharing their data</td>
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How relevant are these recommendations to the SDGs?

Some examples of principles:

- Take a collaborative whole system approach to improve the UK data infrastructure
- Broaden the range of methods used and create new approaches to understand everyone’s experiences
- Enable robust and reliable disaggregations and ensure that UK data and evidence are equally accessible to all

Links to SDGs:

- The Inclusive Data Charter action plan will be updated based on the Taskforce recommendations and workplan
- We have published a non-official sources protocol to identify alternative sources that can help us increase the granularity of SDG indicators
- New tools are being developed to help people find the data and evidence they need including an Equality Data Navigator Tool and the Sustainable Development Goals web platform which allows users to search for disaggregated data
- There are currently over 30 implementations of Open SDG worldwide and among UK local authorities – of which there is an increasing demand

Office for National Statistics

Sustainable Development Goals
What’s next?

- Wide-reaching implications for our **everyday work, affecting everyone**
- An **independent committee** will be established to monitor progress towards the Taskforce recommendations and will report to our National Statistician
- **Transparent reporting** will be key and a **detailed operational plan** with specific milestones will be published in January 2022…
- … **joint working and learning will be key** in taking forward the Taskforce recommendations and to make a step-change in the inclusivity of UK data and evidence!
Thank you for listening!

“Coming together is the beginning
Keeping together is progress
Working together is success”

Any questions, comments or suggestions?

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Link to the Inclusive Data Taskforce report
Link to the UK Open SDG Platform

Thank you for listening!