

## Concept note:

# SDG disaggregation workshop

Bangkok, 28-30 January 2019

### I. Background

In committing to the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Member States recognized that the dignity of the individual is fundamental and that the Agenda's Goals and targets should be met for all nations and people and for all segments of society. Ensuring that these commitments are translated into effective action requires a precise understanding of target populations. To properly measure this, statistics need to be presented in a disaggregated way, displaying figures for different population groups and regions. The global indicator framework has included an overarching principle of data disaggregation: "Sustainable Development Goal indicators should be disaggregated, where relevant, by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability and geographic location, or other characteristics, in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (General Assembly resolution 68/261)".

However, the disaggregated data needed to address all vulnerable groups – including children, youth, women, persons with disabilities, people living with HIV, older persons, indigenous peoples, refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants – as specified in the 2030 Agenda, are sparse. Few of the current SDG indicators, for example, are able to shed light on the particular situations of migrants, refugees, older persons, persons with disabilities, minorities and indigenous peoples. Many countries are struggling to collect and use disaggregated data and there is extensive need for more guidance and sharing of experiences. This workshop aims at contributing to these needs and will build upon existing guidelines and earlier workshops conducted.

### II. Objectives and participation

#### *Objectives*

There are three main objectives for this workshop:

- Strengthen national statistical offices' capacity to address the needs for data and indicators on the most vulnerable groups, by facilitating exchange of country practices and experiences in integrating the inclusive policy demands, by considering vulnerable groups and disaggregation dimensions in statistical production and dissemination and enhancing analysis and use of disaggregated data.
- Increase the availability of data on vulnerable groups and disaggregated data in participating countries.
- Develop training materials/guidelines, based on the workshop materials, and country experiences shared, as input to the development of a toolkit for how to improve data and indicators on the most vulnerable groups and data disaggregation to inform the implementation of the 2030 agenda (at subnational, national and global levels).

#### *Participation*

This workshop will be jointly organized by the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), UN-Women, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) and the Asian Development Bank. The Workshop will be held at

UNESCAP in Bangkok, Thailand, from 28 to 30 January 2019. About 15 developing countries will be invited to participate. The countries will be mainly selected from Africa and Asia, with one or two from ECLAC region. Some of the selected countries are from pilots conducted within different projects related to data disaggregation, such as UNESCAP EPIC tool pilot countries, countries from the UNSD-DFID project and pilot countries from ADB Data for Development' technical assistance project.

While experts from National Statistical Offices (NSOs) constitute the main target group for the workshop, facilitating increased collaboration across the National Statistical System (NSS) is key to addressing the data disaggregation needs. Two to three persons will therefore be invited from each participating country, one from the NSO and one or two from relevant line ministries or other key data producers in the country.

In addition, more advanced countries, with their own budget, will be invited to join and participate in the discussion and exchange of experience.

Representatives from WHO, UNESCO-UIS, OHCHR, academia and other organizations will also be invited as resource persons for the workshop.

### III. Workshop Topics and modalities

The workshop will consider the vulnerable groups and dimensions of disaggregation as identified by the IAEG-SDGs in their workstream on data disaggregation.

The three-day workshop will cover different aspects of disaggregation related to integration of inclusive policies and data, the production and the use of disaggregated data and indicators for the SDGs. A few key SDG indicators, which together cover a broad aspect of the challenges countries face in disaggregating data, will be selected for more in-depth discussion.

The workshop will also look at different data sources, both traditional and new, to explore how they can be used to improve data disaggregation. More specifically

- Household surveys: The experience and guidance of the ISWGHS will be used to discuss household surveys and how they can be better utilized to address the data disaggregation needs.
- Censuses: Many countries have recently conducted or are about to conduct censuses. There might be potential for new ways of deriving better disaggregated data from the censuses.
- Administrative data: In many countries these data are typically under-utilized for statistical purposes. The workshop will review countries' experiences and discuss ways to improve the quality and utilization of administrative data for the SDGs and explore what other sources exist in countries that are not yet used.
- Other emerging data sources: Some countries are exploring new sources and tools for data disaggregation, such as Integration of geospatial information with statistics, using small area estimation techniques or other model-based estimation methods, crowd sourcing, community based data, etc. There have also been various initiatives at international level to increase the use of new sources and methods. Exchange of experiences and possibilities will also be a topic of the workshop.

For all sources, quality of the disaggregated data (particularly representativeness and confidentiality) will be discussed to ensure that data published are in line with the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. Integration and linkage of different sources will also be discussed.

### *Workshop modalities*

The workshop will focus on exchange of country experiences and will therefore contain many exercises and group discussions. Participants will be grouped into small groups based on the topic to be discussed, for instance by country, by type of knowledge and topic discussed.

The language used in the workshop will be English, so all participants should have a working knowledge of English. Translation will not be provided.

### *Expected preparatory and follow up work*

Countries will receive information in advance of the workshop on how they should prepare. They will be asked to bring an overview of data sources currently in use and look for possible new data sources.

After the workshop, countries will be expected to include additional disaggregated data into their national reporting platforms or other dissemination mechanisms.

UNSD and partners will share a document summarizing good practices and country examples for review by participants.

## IV. Tentative Agenda/Topics

- *Data disaggregation for SDGs*
- *Inclusive policy demands and data integration*
- *Data disaggregation and 2019 VNR*
- *Integrating administrative data sources*
- *Using census and household survey data*
- *Small area estimation method and big data for data disaggregation*
- *Vulnerable population groups in focus*
- *Gender equality assessment*
- *Health equality assessment*
- *Education equality assessment*
- *Exercise and discussion sessions*