

# Challenges And Experiences In Reporting On SDGs On People With Disabilities

## Serbian Perspective

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# Relevance of disaggregation

*“No one to be left behind”*

- Targets can only be considered achieved if they have been met
- for **all** relevant income and social groups
- Given the importance of disaggregated data, the SDSN recommends that relevant SDG indicators be disaggregated according the following specific dimensions:
  - Sex and gender,
  - Age,
  - Income quintiles/deciles,
  - Location or spatial disaggregation (e.g. by metropolitan areas, urban/rural, or districts),
  - **Disability**,
  - Ethnicity and indigenous status, to the extent possible,
  - Economic activity,
  - Migrant status, to the extent possible.

# Create a system for data collection

- Statistics deal with the averages and usually neglect vulnerable categories, especially if the prevalence of the phenomena is low, such as disability.
- In order for the goals proclaimed by the conventions to be achievable, it is necessary that there is a system of data collecting applicable at the international level
- UN sponsored Washington Group on Disability Statistics (WG) was created in 2001 to improve quality and international comparability of disability measures
- WG has developed a set of instruments for measuring disabilities which are easily applicable in population censuses, sample surveys or other statistical formats (the shorter and the broader questionnaire)
- UNICEF joined the WG in 2011, on developing of the **set of questions earmarked for measuring disabilities among children.**

# Field testing of the child development and capabilities module (CF) in Serbia

- The field testing conducted in Serbia is the first case of applying the module in its entirety under the methodologically controlled conditions.
- Main goals
  1. To collect data on disability for children in Vojvodina and
  2. To test the instruments on the field by getting the feedback from interviewers on how households react to the questions
- Project lasted for around one year
- 40 interviewers in three weeks, around 3,000 children (1,500 per each questionnaire – old questionnaire from 2005 and the newly developed by the WG)
- The final results are both qualitative and quantitative.

# Methodological challenges

## Advantages

- New set of questions is more sensitive to different levels of difficulty, giving more precise and reliable data
- Children disability is measurable for the first time in statistics
- Module easily applicable for Surveys or Census

## Disadvantages

- Respondents lost their concentration as the interviewing went along on account of perceiving the questionnaire as repetitive and monotonous (especially when there are several children in the given household who meet the age criterion)
- Low prevalence requires large sample

# Recommendations for future

- Substantive investments in national statistical capacity will be required to ensure standardized collection of data on disability
- Further promotion of usage of module among NSIs
- Balancing between existing indicators and post 2015 requirements, so that NSIs can keep the sustainable system through creating synergies between existing and new data
- Mind the processes beside the required indicators so the overburden of NSIs would be avoided
- If neglected the consequences could be lower quality of data together with unnecessary waste of resources
- Big data, remote sensing and new methodological approaches should also be considered to provide an extra overlay of information and/or to reduce the costs of current methods.

# Thank you

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