

Governance Statistics in the COVID-19 Era: A PRAIA CITY GROUP GUIDANCE NOTE

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**GOVERNANCE
STATISTICS**
PRAIA CITY GROUP



Why **governance** statistics to address a health crisis?

COVID-19 is far more than a health crisis: also a governance crisis

- Far-reaching “secondary impacts”

Governance statistics just as important as health and socio-economic statistics to:

- Draw attention to dysfunctions of governance systems hindering an effective response;
- Hold government to account on its response plan and recovery strategy;
- Provide early warnings of civil unrest and violence.

COVID-19 reminds us that reliable information on quality of governance = a public good

- NSOs have an important role to play



A new **Guidance Note on Governance Statistics in the COVID-19 Era**

- To assist NSOs and other governance data producers in **meeting the governance information needs** most likely to arise during the pandemic and its aftermath
- Builds on main recommendations of the **Handbook on Governance Statistics** (UNSC, March 2020)
- In many ways, an **"executive summary"** of the **Handbook** for time-pressed and resource-constrained governance data stakeholders



Who is this **Guidance Note** for?

- Mainly for **NSOs and other governance data producers** in the NSS (e.g. Ministry of Justice, Electoral Management Body, national COVID-19 Taskforce, etc.)
- Also for other governance data producers outside of the NSS (e.g. **research institutions, civil society and the private sector**)
- For a wide range of **users of governance statistics** (e.g. policymakers, media, national oversight institutions, civil society groups, etc.)
- Guidance relevant **beyond COVID-19, for future multidimensional crises** that will require a similarly robust governance response



Overview of the content

Guidance on cross-cutting issues:

- Ensuring a user focus
- Applying an HRBA to governance statistics in times of crisis
- Drawing on readily available official and non-official sources
- Harnessing the full potential of administrative records
- Conducting household surveys remotely
- Leveraging new data sources
- Going beyond data production: NSOs as stewards of the data ecosystem on governance

8 thematic briefs:

- 1) Non-discrimination and equality
 - 2) Participation
 - 3) Openness
 - 4) Access to and quality of justice
 - 5) Responsiveness
 - 6) Absence of corruption
 - 7) Trust
 - 8) Safety and security.
- “Priority governance data needs” for immediate response and medium-term recovery action
 - Practical measurement advice (keeping in mind constraints faced by NSOs)
 - A few recommended indicators

Guidance Note accessible on
[Praia Group website](#)

We look forward to **engaging with you** at this critical time for the burgeoning field of governance statistics.

Please share your experiences with us:
[**group.praia@gmail.com**](mailto:group.praia@gmail.com)