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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
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