United Nations Statistics Division

Planning and Designing Data Collection on Disability: Data Quality Considerations

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Generic Statistical Business Process Model

Any kind of statistical operation, censuses, surveys, administrative registers



Source: Generic Statistical Business Process Model GSBPM, Version 5.0, the UN Economic Commission for Europe, on behalf of the international statistical community, Dec-2013



Determining objectives and expected outputs

- Research objectives- Why data is needed ?
- Expected outputs –What information will be collected ?
 - People with disabilities by:
 - Types and causes of disability
 - Geographic area- small geography/region/urban/rural
 - Demographic characteristics; Living arrangement; Education;
 Employment status and Occupation;
 - Environmental conditions
 - Data on people without disabilities ? What information?
 - User consultation
 - Checking data availability



Questionnaire design and translation

Factors affecting the design

- Mode of enumeration -Face-to-face and/or Self-interview
- Whether technology will be used for data collection- Handheld devices and/or Internet
- o Data capture technology- Manual data capture or scanning
- Translation taking into account cultural and psychosocial Influences

Testing, testing, testing !!

Example of census questionnaire-Individual questionnaire Division



Example of census questionnaire-Household questionnaire

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Key considerations for designing statistical process

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Training programme

- More stages in training, more risks for losing information at final stage
- Less attention on additional topics, more possibility for errors in data
- Covering more topics in one survey, more confusion in definitions and concepts

Data collection

- Electronic data collection for surveys- and census?
- How to monitor the quality of the work of interviewers? Quality assurance procedures during the field work
- Management information system –what information is needed to check data quality on disability, who will collect, who will analyze?
- Data quality control for selected households



Data processing and Validation:

- Data entry- In the field or in the office –special procedures for data quality
- Coding In the field or in the office
- Dealing with missing data (unknown or refusal)
 - Having a separate field for unknown?
 - Missing data should be coded to make distinguishable in database
 - Decision on imputation or leaving as unknown ?
 - Accepting missing data as people with no disabilities creates bias on results



Imputation, Validation and Analysis:

- Editing/imputation for inconsistency and missing data
 - Imputation rules and validation considering differences with people without disabilities
 - Analysis of impacts of imputation on original dataset
- Validation of data
 - Systematic Quality Control during data processing
 - Comparison with other relevant data sources
 - Evaluation of unexpected pattern/results
- Difficulties in comparison of different sources-mainly censuses and surveys- are main challenge for data analysis



Dissemination

- How to improve accessibility and utilization
 - o Online dissemination
 - o Interactive electronic outputs
 - o Geographic products using GIS
 - o Thematic reports- for censuses and surveys with model questionnaire
 - o Micro data
 - o Metadata
- Developing a programme for introducing results on disability -national and regional level

Evaluation

- Methods of evaluation of data quality and the quality of operational process
- Evaluation report for assessment of quality and lessons learned for future activities

Some suggestions and discussion points for the

Guidelines

- Clear understanding of objectives of study and expected outputsdecision on appropriate data source
- Developing a national statistical programme on disability *improve* coherence between data sources –types of data/timeliness/cost effectiveness
- Establishing a long term user consultation programme
 - for better understanding of needs of different types of users
- Clarification of criteria used for identifying people with disabilities any special group for inclusion in or exclusion from people with disabilities ??

Some suggestions and discussion points for the

Guidelines

- Benefits of using electronic data collection technologies for improving data quality including coverage of people with disabilities
- More emphasize on the importance of testing questionnaire and procedures
- Instructions for dealing with missing data not to create bias for disability prevalence
- Better information on online dissemination tools for improving availability and accessibility