

Regional Workshop on Time Use Statistics: Methods and Uses

Reflections on key messages

Group 1

A: What are the main learnings?

- Day 1:
 - Importance of time-use statistics
 - Understanding of ICATUS 2016 Classification Framework
 - **Exercise:** identifying current and potential users, their needs, and expected benefits.
 - An overview of the Minimum Harmonized Instrument (MHI – list of activities).
- Day 2:
 - Learning, through practical exercises with real world cases, how to codify different activities in alignment with the ICATUS 2016 classification framework.
 - Training on how to fill-in a sample time-use survey (diary questionnaire).
 - Importance of communication with concerned stakeholders as well as the importance of disseminating of time-use key data and findings.

A (Contd.)

- Day 3:
 - The Moroccan experience on time-use survey including their online portal.
 - Examples on how to utilize the SNA to value the unpaid domestic work.
 - An overview of the treatment of simultaneous activities.
 - Exercise of calculating key time-use indicators including the SDGs 5.4.1

B: How can this knowledge be applied when we go back to our countries?

- Adopting the Minimum Harmonized Instrument or its corresponding list of activities (according to national contexts and priorities) as part of the time use survey Methodology.
- Taking advantage of the use of CAPI tool for time use data collection and processing.
- Providing a thorough training for data collectors to clarify any misunderstandings or confusions with certain activities.
- Creating a communication/ visibility strategy to maximize the benefits of the time use statistics for social and economic developmental plans.

C: what are the challenges:

- Objectives of time use surveys are not always clear.
Frequency/periodicity of conducting the survey.
- Challenges related to memory decay of the respondents such as remembering the sequence of activities and its timing or duration.
- Technological challenges with the use of CAPI tools.
- Financial limitations.
- Challenges related to self reporting in case of using CAWI tools in rural areas, where there is a low literacy rates.
- Lack or insufficient coordination among national line ministries.

Proposed solutions:

- Objectives should be clearly identified and prioritized right from the very beginning of the preparatory stage.
- Periodicity: if possible, time use surveys can be implemented as a module with in other household surveys like Labor Market Panel Survey or Household Income & Expenditure Surveys and it, therefore, should be identified and prioritized right from the very beginning of the preparatory stage.
- Capacity building for the use of the ICATUS 2016 Classification for standardization and regional/int. comparability.
- More reliance on the use of technological tools like CAPI for quick and accurate results.
- Funding: Mobilizing more resources from the government along with regional and international organizations or development partners.
- More coordination is required on the national level.

D: Way ahead:

what are the plans for TUS in countries in the region?

- Iraq: 2023/2024 as a module within the social and economic survey (IHSES-3)
- Egypt: 2023 as a module within the Labor Market Survey.
- Oman: 2025: as a module within the Household Income & Expenditure Survey.
- Somalia: Proposal : Option 1: Labor Force Survey – Option 2: MICS Survey
- Yemen: No current Plans (hopefully in 2025)