Beyond GDP and
the Friends of the Chair Group on Social and Demographic Statistics: opportunities to strengthen gender statistics

Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Gender Statistics (IAEG-GS)
18th Meeting
Session 4

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Assistant Director
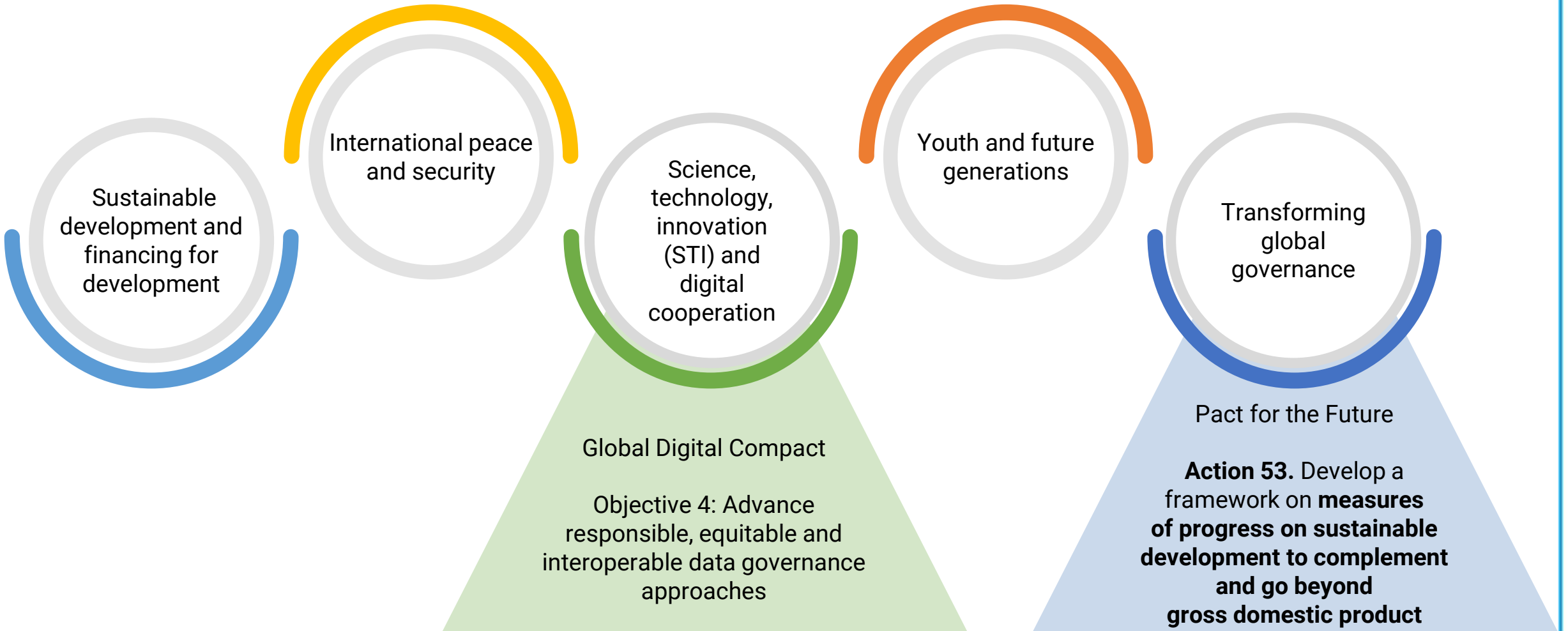**United Nations Statistics Division**

December 2024

Pact for the Future
Global Digital Compact and Declaration on Future Generations

Each chapter of the Pact and the annexes also include concrete actions related to human rights and gender equality as cross-cutting issues

Sustainable development and financing for development

International peace and security

Science, technology, innovation (STI) and digital cooperation

Youth and future generations

Transforming global governance

Global Digital Compact

Objective 4: Advance responsible, equitable and interoperable data governance approaches

Pact for the Future

Action 53. Develop a framework on **measures of progress on sustainable development to complement and go beyond gross domestic product**

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BGDP=Old topic, but new attention and recognition @ UN

Our Common Agenda
SG's initiative recognizing the need to "value what counts"

Pact for the Future
Action # 53 = BGDP mandate agreed by MSs

...

| 2015 | 2021 | 2022 | 2024 |

SDG. 17.19

By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries

Core Group on BGDP
Stocktaking paper mentioning process and broad priority areas (DESA, UNDP, UNCTAD) – approved by (HLCP-CEB)

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Many initiatives that could contribute to BGDP:

SDGs indicators framework

17.19.1 Dollar value of all resources made available to strengthen statistical capacity in developing countries

17.19.2 Proportion of countries that (*a*) have conducted at least one population and housing census in the last 10 years; and (*b*) have achieved 100 per cent birth registration and 80 per cent death registration

Economic
SNA revision (SNA 2025- extended accounts)

Social
New initiative "**Friends of the Chair Group on Social and Demographic Statistics**"

Environmental
SEEA
+environmental inds

Statistics on time-use to complement GDP?

Time use data

Can change the way we
measure progress
and provide innovative ways to assess public policy

Provide evidence to monitor progress towards the
Sustainable Development Goals and overall wellbeing

Provide information to measure and value
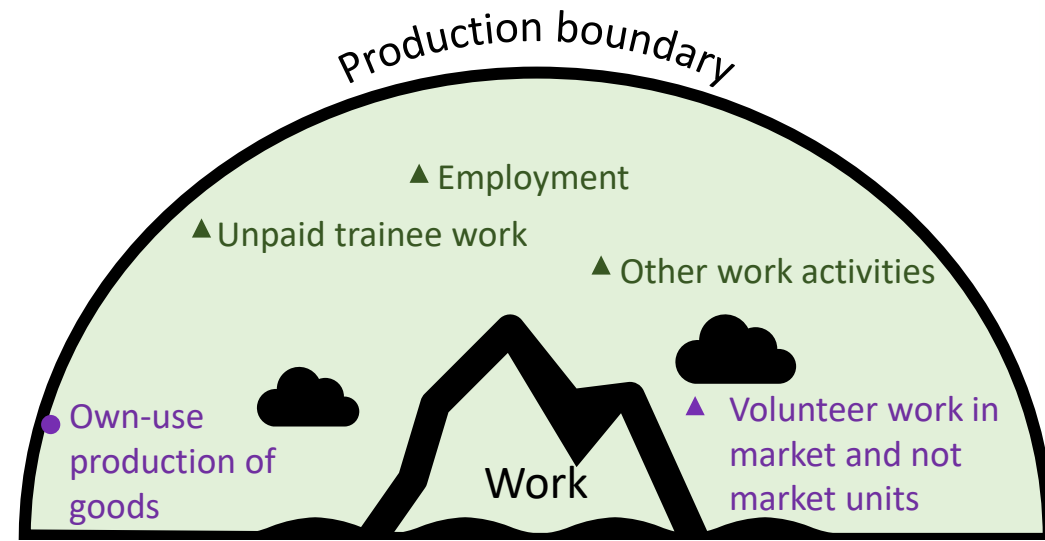**unpaid household services work**
..... and much more!

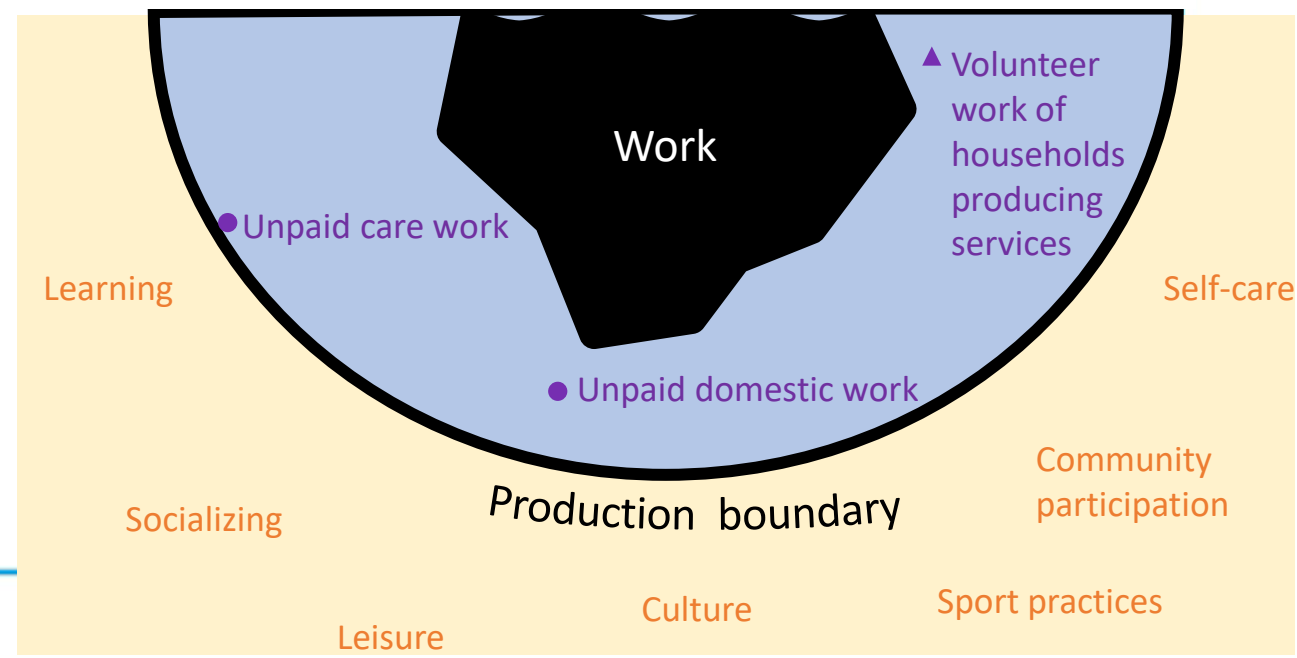▲ Production for use by others
● Production for own final use
Paid work
Unpaid work
Non productive/personal activities

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Production boundary

▲ Employment
▲ Unpaid trainee work
▲ Other work activities
● Own-use production of goods
▲ Volunteer work in market and not market units

Work

Production boundary of the System of National Accounts

Work

● Unpaid care work
▲ Volunteer work of households producing services
● Unpaid domestic work

Learning
Self-care
Socializing
Community participation
Leisure
Culture
Sport practices

Production boundary
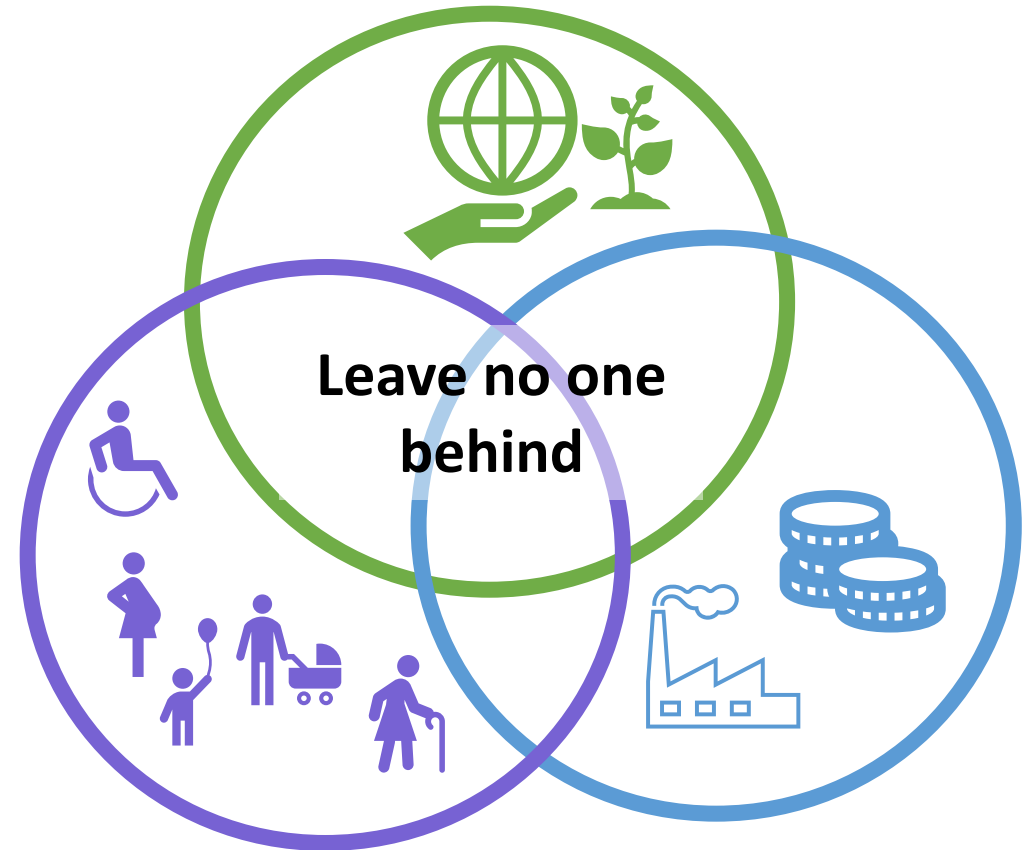
Friends of the Chair Group on Social and Demographic Statistics (FoC Group)
Social and demographic statistics fit for purpose today and in the future

How do we better reflect society and its connections with the environment and the economy, in line with the central promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to Leave No One Behind?

Leave no one behind

Better data harmonization and integration including across statistical pillars

FoC Group: Towards an overarching conceptual framework for social and demographic statistics

Gender lens

WHY?

Improve social and demographic statistics to better reflect society and its connections with the economy and environment.

Production: Agile and more responsive system of social and demographic statistics

Use: Inform policies of multi-dimensional trade-offs in the context of measuring inclusive and sustainable wellbeing and progress beyond GDP

WHAT?

Standards, concepts, definitions, classifications, data structure

RELATIONSHIPS

OUTCOMES

PEOPLE

TIME

PLACES

HOW?

Integrated data system, international statistical standards, methods and modeling techniques, innovative approaches to fill data gaps and improve granularity and timeliness.

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Building blocks of an overarching conceptual framework for social and demographic statistics

PEOPLE

The fabric, object, and 'unit of measurement' for social and demographic statistics.

✓ Population stock
✓ Population flows
✓ Characteristics of individuals

RELATIONSHIPS

Interactions between individuals which collectively build up a society.

✓ Extent
✓ Function
✓ Quality
✓ Impact

OUTCOMES

Qualitative or compound measures to be assessed both objectively and subjectively.

✓ Objective: education, health, time use (such as unpaid work, work-life balance and leisure), employment, income, wealth and housing, among others

✓ Subjective: well-being, including physical and mental health, learning, sense of purpose, meaningful work, among others

PLACES

Geography as an element for analysing social and demographic statistics and as a link across themes and domains.

✓ Link different statistical domains
✓ Determinant of social outcomes
✓ Improve data quality

TIME

Time as an aid in understanding and anticipating changes in population, distribution outcomes and relationships.

✓ Calendar time
✓ Time-use
✓ Data production time

Questions

- How could the IAEG-GS contribute to BGDP discussions?

- Any feedback on the FoC Group work?

Thank you!