Data on Migrants in Vulnerable Situations

Distinguishing between vulnerable populations: the role of statistical recommendations

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Outline

- Defining vulnerable situations

- Value of statistical standards & definitions

- Role of official statistics & inclusion in national systems

- Existing statistical standards for refugees, IDPs and (upcoming) stateless persons

- EGRISS overview

Defining "vulnerable situations"

- Vulnerable situations before, during or after migration
    - Compelling people to move
    - Circumstances on route
    - Conditions upon arrival
- Personal characteristics of migrants themselves creating situations of vulnerability

- "Migrants in vulnerable situations" therefore refers to a wide range of different migratory situations and groups
    - Forcibly displaced persons
    - Third country nationals in conflict situations
    - Irregular migrants
    - Stateless persons in contexts of migration
    - Minority ethnic/religious groups on the move
    - …

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Value of statistical standards & definitions

- **Who, precisely, are we talking about?**

Although many are vulnerable, it is important to identify and properly count migrants in vulnerable situations. Different groups may have different rights, access to different services, fall under different policy frameworks/mechanisms.

- **Speaking the same language**

Statistical frameworks and definitions provide a *common* language that can enhance comparability of data over time and between countries, especially regarding politically sensitive groups/phenomena.

- **Vulnerable how?**

Beyond stocks and flows, statistical standards can recommend indicators to assess vulnerability (e.g. for measuring integration and wellbeing) and ensure significant issues are not overlooked.

Role of official statistics & inclusion in national systems

- **Why official statistics?**

Operational data - for programmatic/operational/research purposes – is important, but for effective and sustainable national policy development and implementation, official statistics play a critical role. Data on migrants in vulnerable situations should, where feasible, be incorporated in National Statistical Systems (NSS).
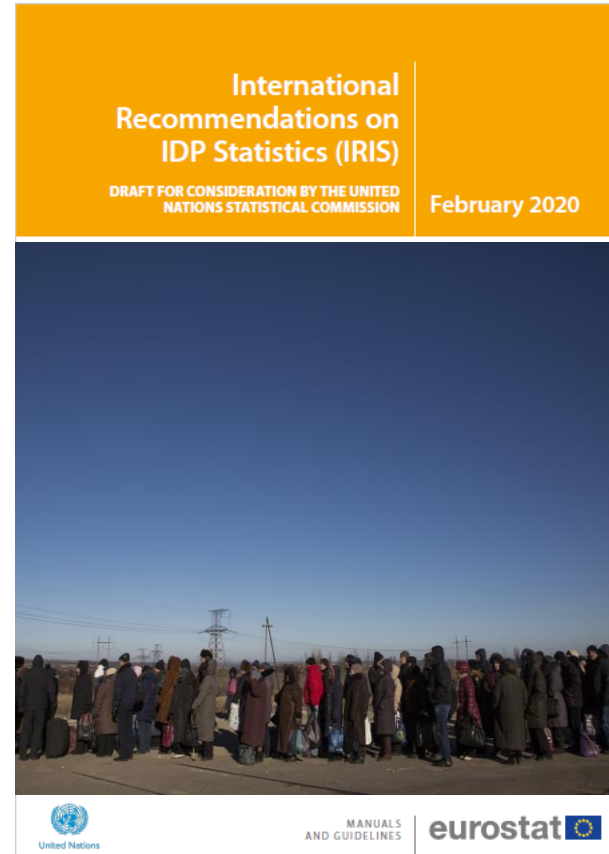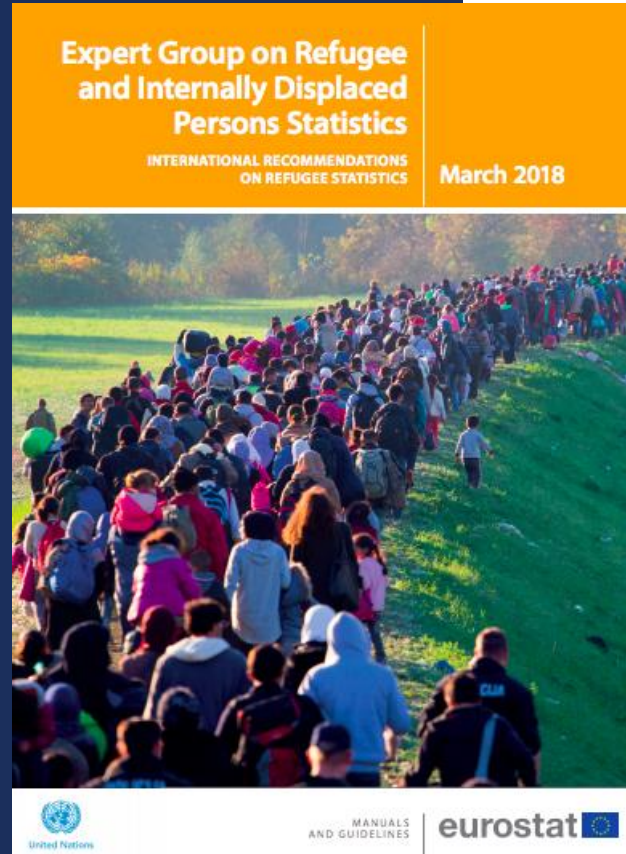
- **What does this mean in practice?**

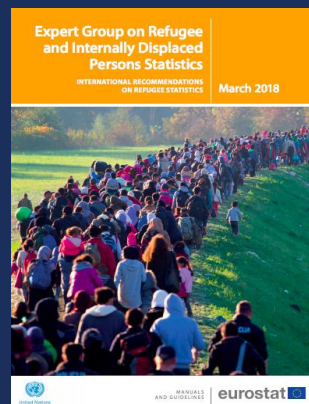Connect efforts to NSS and coordination role of the NSO.
Adapt existing data sources when possible to produce statistics sustainably.
Adhere to Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and "do no harm" principle in the collection, production and dissemination of data.
Inclusion in National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS), or similar plans, can be helpful.

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Existing statistical recommendations

Expert Group on Refugee and Internally Displaced Persons Statistics
INTERNATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS ON REFUGEE STATISTICS — March 2018
MANUALS AND GUIDELINES — eurostat — United Nations

International Recommendations on IDP Statistics (IRIS)
DRAFT FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE UNITED NATIONS STATISTICAL COMMISSION — February 2020
MANUALS AND GUIDELINES — eurostat — United Nations

International Recommendations on Statelessness Statistics (IROSS) — February 2023
UPCOMING

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Existing statistical recommendations

- Statistical frameworks for different population groups routed in legal definitions
- Recommended statistics for stocks and flows, as well as the measurement of key characteristics based on considerations of policy relevance
- Practical guidance for use of traditional (and non-traditional) data sources
- Steps to enhance national, regional and international statistical coordination

- Refugee & IDP Recommendations are further supported with additional guidance:
    - Official translations of IRRS/IRIS
    - New e-learning (refugees & IDPs)
    - Revised Compilers' Manual
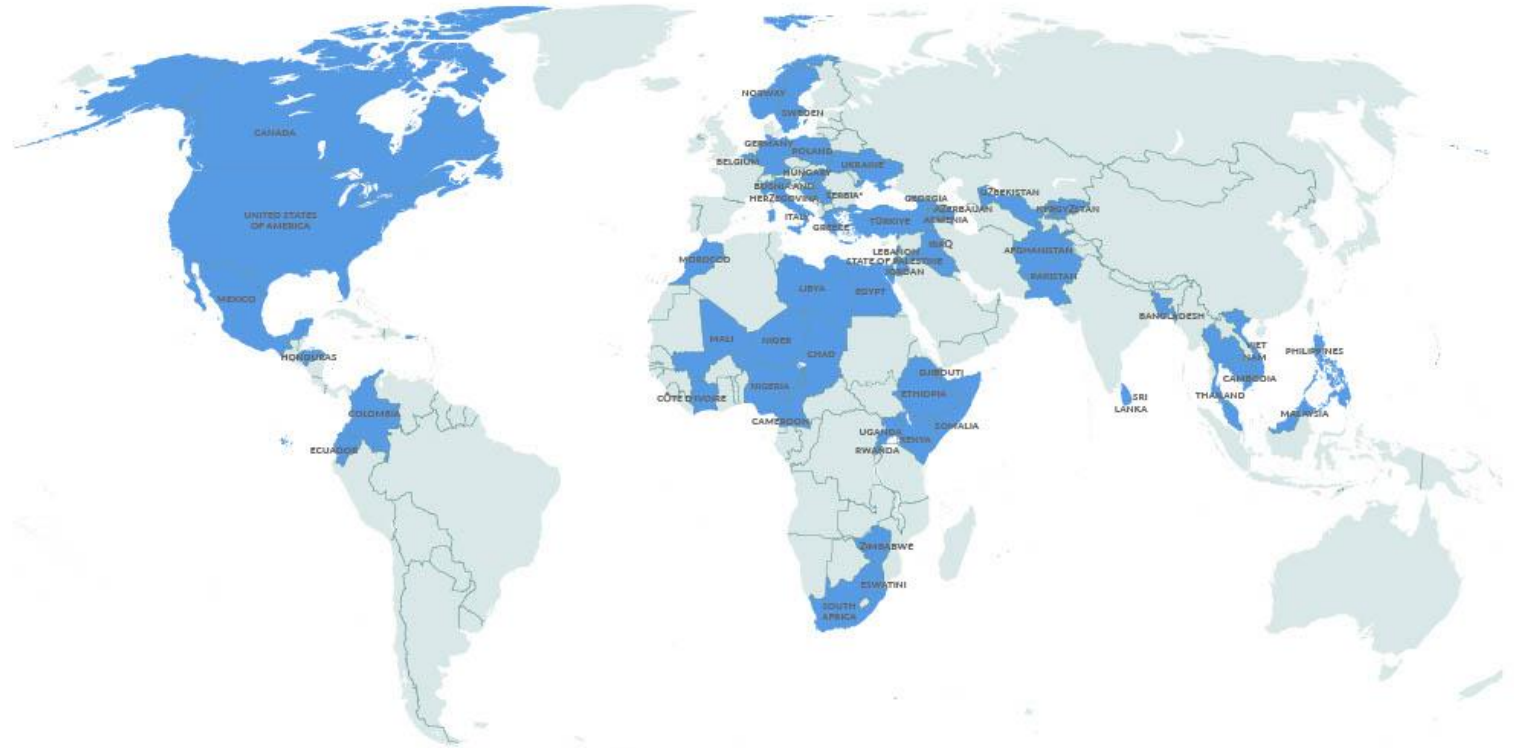   - Regional Capacity Development

EGRISS

UN Statistical Commission mandate (x3) 2016-2024

55 Countries & 35 Regional and International Organizations

Steering Committee for guidance & technical subgroups coordinating activities

Focus on standard setting & support to implementation

Thank you!

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