United Nations Disability Statistics Programme in Support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

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National interest in disability data and measurement

- National efforts to collect data on disability in both developed and developing countries have continuously increased over time.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Countries that asked question on disability in census</th>
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<td>Census round</td>
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<tr>
<td>1970</td>
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<td>1980</td>
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<td>1990</td>
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<td>2000</td>
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<td>2010</td>
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* Does not include censuses taken 2012-2014
National interest in disability data and measurement – Role of international mandates

International observances and policy documents on human rights of persons with disabilities

- GA Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons (1975)
- International Year of Disabled Persons (1981)
- The World Programme of Action Concerning Disabled Persons (1982)
Still lack of comparability among countries regarding definitions, concepts used in disability measurement

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Countries that asked a question on disability in 2010 census round</th>
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<td>Total number of countries in study</td>
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<td>124</td>
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New opportunities for disability statistics and measurement

- **2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme (2015-2024)**
  - ECOSOC Resolution (E/RES/2015/10) stresses importance of censuses as source of data for:
    - Inclusive socio-economic development
    - Assessing situation of special population groups, including persons with disabilities

- **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**
  - In context of “no one will be left behind” and “reach the furthest behind first” recognizes persons with disabilities as one of the vulnerable groups
Opportunities

- Building on momentum of 2010 census round
- Use of administrative data and of advanced technologies for census operations leading to more frequent and better quality statistics
- International applicability of SDGs and support at highest level
- Many disability-related indicators

Challenges

- Risk for a sizeable number of countries not being able to take 2020 round censuses (e.g., due to instability)
- SDGs require exploitation of multiple data sources
UNSD disability statistics project

Strengthening Disability Statistics in the Era of Post-2015 Development Agenda

Funding: Government of Australia
Implementation: United Nations Statistics Division
Duration: 2015-2019

Objective of the project:

“to enhance the capacity of national statistical offices to produce and disseminate good quality and fit-for-purpose statistics on disability for evidence-based policy making and monitoring”
Two expected accomplishments of the project:

1) Formulation of international guidelines for measurement of disability taking into account existing measurement instruments, good national practices and country experiences

- Build on on-going endeavors and existing measures of disability
- Take into account national experiences and needs
  - Important for getting measures that are applicable and relevant for their needs, and for generating data that are fit-for-purpose
- Through consultative process with countries and international disability experts
  - Expert group meetings
Two expected accomplishments of the project (Contd.):

2) Enhanced capacity of national statistical systems to collect and generate relevant and quality disability statistics based on international guidelines

- Special attention to ‘data-poor’ countries
- Importance of developing and exploiting multiple data sources
- Use of appropriate technologies
Modalities for national capacity development

- Training workshops
- Develop e-learning material on disability measurement
- Study visits for South-South cooperation
- Technical advisory assistance upon request of countries
UNSD disability statistics project

Stakeholders

- United Nations Statistics Division/DESA
- Division for Social Policy and Development/DESA
- WHO, UNICEF, ILO, World Bank, UNESCO, +,+ 
- Regional and sub-regional organizations
- Washington Group on Disability Statistics
- National statistical offices
- Disability measurement experts/researchers
- National institutions in charge of disability programmes
UNSD work on disability statistics

UNSD responsible for:

- Development of methodological standards
  - Principles and Guidelines for Development Disability Statistics
  - Manual for Development of Statistical Information for Disability Programmes and Policies
  - Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses

- Compilation of statistics
  - DISTAT online database
  - *Based on analysis of data in DISTAT and observed non-comparability of rates and methodology, UNSD organized an International Seminar that recommended creation of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics
UNSD work on disability statistics

UNSD responsible for:

- Providing technical assistance to countries for national capacity building
  - Workshops

- Coordination at international level
In conclusion

Through project, UNSD aims to assist countries to collect and utilize fit-for purpose disability statistics through:

- Tools and guidelines
- National capacity development
- Close collaboration with stakeholders, particularly with countries