

Statistical Commission

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Item 3(c) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: Open data

Launching of the worldwide discussion concerning Open data as an immediate challenge for the global statistical system is appreciated by Statistics Poland. This topic is worth considering, especially facing the users' needs and the necessity of maintaining the statistics leadership position in providing transparent, reliable and objective data required to make proper decisions.

The set of recommendations elaborated during the international seminar in Korea 'Open data for the Sustainable Development Goals' is highly valuable. Addressing the issue of open data in statistical laws and related legal frameworks deriving from the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics is crucial for the respondents' trust in statistical institutions. In case of introducing the open data solutions into the statistical practice, it will be necessary to carry out a relevant information campaign to ensure the users that fundamental standards concerning security and privacy of the collected, processed and disseminated data will be maintained.

From the point of view of the microaggregated data dissemination, securing resources and developing the necessary skills of employees are perceived as critical. In this context the improvement in microdata anonymization competency is needed.

The request for the wide range of statistical data presentation is communicated by individuals, public and private institutions and many organizations specialized in analyzing the level of data openness on the National Statistical Office websites (e.g. Open Data Watch). Therefore ensuring interoperability of systems and data as well as development of visualization and statistical data dissemination tools are essential. Furthermore, adjustment of data presentation formats and statistical data supply channels are demanded.

Taking the above into consideration, the idea presented in the document regarding the creation of a body that would determine the directions of actions concerning open data within the statistical environment is valuable. A high decision-making level taking part in this project will in our opinion allow for a greater involvement of countries and adequate implementation of effects within the global statistical system.