

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-second session

1–3 and 5 March 2021

Item 3 (a) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Document E/CN.3/2021/3 – Report of the Secretary-General on work for the review of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals

Statement provided by:

Chile

Statement:

Today more than ever, the strengthening of collaborative networks such as those provided by the Data For Now initiative are essential. The challenge posed by the pandemic has driven us to use new sources, technologies, and innovative methods for the production and dissemination of data. We must continue to move forward together, ensuring that no country is left behind, and this type of initiative can help us achieve this by strengthening communication and cooperation between countries and international experts.

We also value and support the implementation of the collaborative working group for the use of administrative records, in which Chile has actively participated in the three task teams, and, together with Denmark and Kyrgyzstan, has shared leadership of task team 1: Institutional framework, coordination, and partnerships. The work of this group will enable us to continue increasing the availability of timely, reliable, and high-quality data, as established by Sustainable Development Goals. Our collaboration will also enable us to continue strengthening the use of Administrative Records as an alternative source of information, which during the global COVID-19 crisis with its effects on critical statistical operations, has frequently been a tool for ensuring the continuity and availability of data required for decision making.

We urge those countries that have not yet participated actively to join this initiative through which the exchange of experiences and successful case studies has provided the opportunity to continue progressing in the use of this source of information. Thus, we would like to reiterate the importance of the ongoing support of the Commission in promoting the creation and continuity of these working groups.

We welcome the outstanding work and progress in the training courses made available to our offices through the statistical portal "UN SDG: Lear", which gives us access to practical guidance and to new approaches for the further development of the skills of our personnel.

Finally, we would like to thank the World Bank and the United Nations Statistics Division for conducting the survey on the impact that COVID-19 on national statistical systems. Throughout its three versions, the survey has provided us with timely information on office closures, the interruptions in data collection, the adaptation of National Statistical Offices to this new way of generating statistics, the implementation of changes in the way of collecting information to the various surveys, and the impact that the pandemic has had on censuses in regard not only to the restrictions on fieldwork, but also to the budget cuts that some governments have had to make.

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This survey, together with the recommendations and methodological guidelines provided by specialized organizations, has provided valuable support in facing the pandemic and the constant challenge of producing statistics in the most efficient and accurate way possible while ensuring their quality in face of the difficult conditions of the pandemic. We would like to reiterate the need to continue this survey of Statistical Offices in order to study the impact of the pandemic on other countries and to learn from the experiences and good practices of our peers.

Submitted on:

2/22/2021