

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-second session

1–3 and 5 March 2021

Item 3 (m) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: data and metadata presentation and dissemination

Document E/CN.3/2021/17 – Report of the Secretary-General on data and metadata presentation and dissemination

Statement provided by:

Chile

Statement:

The presentation and dissemination of data and metadata is an important issue in the work of a statistical office because it determines to some extent the way in which the information requirements of users of official statistics are satisfied. Thus, Chile views the proposal to modernize UNdata as an initiative to facilitate the dissemination and exchange of data and metadata because it develops a centralized structure for data entry of the United Nations system; because it provides tools for integration, analysis, and dissemination; and because it ensures and promotes a common language for interoperability, traceability, integration, and usability of data and metadata. This last point is especially important because it not only contributes to the presentation and dissemination of information to users but also helps guide decision-making within the statistical office regarding the management and documentation of metadata.

Accordingly, we endorse the vision set forth in the report of the Secretary General on the dissemination of data and metadata, and we encourage the establishment of an interagency mechanism, as well as the examination and regular updating of its data and metadata.

In addition, we would emphasize that an important aspect of this inter-agency mechanism, as addressed in the Secretary's report, is that there are currently a number of initiatives for the exchange and presentation of data and metadata (SDMX, .Stat, UNdata, and SDDS, among others). Therefore, we think it imperative to discuss the effort that member organizations of the United Nations—mainly the statistical offices—will have to make in order to maintain data and metadata "hubs" with architectures for particular domains on the one hand, and to participate in the integrated hub (network of hubs) with a federated architecture for information exchange on the other.

INE Chile currently uses the INE.STAT platform, which functions as a repository for labour-market statistics (with gender disaggregation when appropriate) and for environmental statistics. For our statistical operations based on surveys, we have continued our methodological documentation, quality reports, and technical data sheets (in Nesstar format). These efforts adhere to the Metadata Documentation and Management Standard and incorporate the international standards Data Documentation Initiative (DDI) and Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI), using Nesstar Publisher to edit, document, and modify the information simply and systematically with a conceptual homologation of the required topics. Nevertheless, we must continue generating spaces for discussion for the exchange and presentation of data and metadata to advance the unification of criteria at the time of implementation by statistical offices.

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