

**UNSC Side Event hosted by the Inter-American Development Bank**

**New Frontiers in Measuring Statistical Capacity**

**Thursday, March 5, 2015 8:15-9:30 am**

**Conference Room C (CB)**

**Open meeting**

Statistical information is an essential element for development; it contributes directly to capacity building and the modernization of public administration. Official statistics are a necessary input to facilitate better planning, monitoring and evaluation of public policies as well as to promote better accountability to citizens in the context of results-based management. Similarly, statistics are essential to support academic research and to sustain decisions of the private sector and society in general.

There are many global initiatives to promote the statistical activities of countries for the benefit of development. In this context, there is a commitment not only to help improve statistics as a basis for monitoring results of implementation of the national development programs including the MDGs, but also from a future perspective, to support the actions that will promote statistical development in the post 2015 phase.

In the effort to promote more effective statistical development, national governments, the donor community and other cooperation agencies require a more systematized knowledge of the technical and institutional capacities of each country's statistical system. In particular, it is necessary to deepen the knowledge related to the capacity to produce basic statistics.

The interest in developing methodological frameworks and instruments for measuring statistical capacity is not new. A significant number of methodologies have been developed in recent years, but few have succeeded in obtaining a detailed measurement of the statistical capacity of the National Statistical System and, more specifically, that of the National Statistical Office. This panel discussion will present new tools and methodologies to assess the maturity of National Statistical Systems and the quality of the data produced by a given country.

**Moderator:**

José Antonio Mejía, Inter-American Development Bank

**Panelists:**

Janine Perfit, Inter-American Development Bank

*Latin America and the Caribbean: Tool for Assessing Statistical Capacity (TASC)*

Oliver P. Fischer, U.S. Census Bureau

*Africa and Central Asia: Tool for Assessing Statistical Capacity (TASC)*

Martine Durand, OECD

*Assessing and strengthening institutional statistical capacity: OECD experiences from Latin America*

Pieter Everaers, EUROSTAT

*Snapshot*

Oliver Chinganya, African Development Bank

*Country Statistical Profiles*

Discussant:

Diego Silva Ardila, National Administrative Department of Statistics, (DANE), Colombia

Question and Answers