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**Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**  
Committee on Statistics

**Eighth session**

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Item 4 (b) of the provisional agenda\*

**Regional initiatives and partnerships for strengthening national statistical systems for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: initiatives by global, regional and subregional organizations in support of the collective vision and framework for action**

**Advancing official statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: initiatives by global, regional and subregional organizations with respect to the collective vision and framework for action\*\***

*Summary*

The collective vision and framework for action focuses on collaborative activities that add value to national efforts to strengthen statistics for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Hence, development partners at all levels play important roles in its successful implementation. The present information document contains highlights of the current efforts of partners in support of the collective vision and framework for action.

The Committee on Statistics may wish to express its views on the progress to date and on the future direction of the initiatives with a view to ensuring they together most effectively serve to implement the vision and framework for action.

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\* ESCAP/CST/2022/L.1/Rev.1.

\*\* The present document is being issued without formal editing.

## **I. Introduction**

1. In 2016, the Committee on Statistics, at its fifth session, endorsed a collective vision and framework for action by the Asia-Pacific statistical community for advancing official statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.<sup>1</sup> Collaborative efforts are focused on five action areas: engaging users and investing in statistics; assuring quality of and instilling trust in statistics; using integrated statistics for integrated analysis; modernizing statistical business processes; and developing requisite skill sets. The community committed to expanding and reinforcing global, regional and subregional partnerships, building on existing statistical capacity development initiatives in Asia and the Pacific.

2. The present document provides an overview of efforts of partners since the seventh session of the Committee that add value to national efforts to strengthen statistics for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in support of the collective vision and framework for action.

## **II. Progress by action area of the collective vision<sup>2</sup>**

### **A. Action area A: Engaging users and investing in statistics**

3. Action area A has two objectives:

(a) National statistical systems are responsive to the needs of users, including those arising from the 2030 Agenda;

(b) Investments in national statistical systems match the requirements for meeting demands and needs of users.

### **International Labour Organization**

4. At the global level, the contribution of the International Labour (ILO) to official statistics for the 2030 Agenda continues to be in two broad areas: (a) supporting the development of international statistical standards on decent work indicators, to respond to the needs of monitoring new indicators included in the Sustainable Development Goals global indicator framework; and; (b) developing guidance notes, tools and manuals aimed at supporting the implementation of the latest resolutions of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS – the international standards setting body for labour statistics),<sup>3</sup> such as the 19th ICLS resolution concerning statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization (October 2013), and the 20th ICLS resolution concerning statistics on work relationships (October 2018).

5. In terms of methodological work, the main focus since the last reporting cycle in 2020 has been on preparations for resolution(s) of the 21st ICLS. The 21st ICLS is planned for October 2023, when the ICLS will also be celebrating its 100 years of existence, and the main expected resolution is on informal economy statistics. A note on this was recently presented by ILO to the 53rd session of the United Nations Statistical Commission, covering current proposals from the Working Group for the Revision of the standards for

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<sup>1</sup> See E/ESCAP/CST(5)/1/Rev.1.

<sup>2</sup> See ESCAP/CST/2018/INF/6 and ESCAP/CST/2020/INF/9 for previous updates on initiatives by global, regional and subregional organizations.

<sup>3</sup> See <https://ilostat.ilo.org/about/standards/icls/> for details.

statistics on informality.<sup>4</sup> ILO continued to develop more guidance and tools on labour force surveys (LFS) in line with ICLS standards.<sup>5</sup> Relatedly, ILO is currently implementing methodological tests to evaluate a range of “light” modular time use tools, suitable for integration into national LFS to support the measurement of paid and unpaid forms of work, consistent with the 19th ICLS. Model instruments, national adaptation and implementation toolkits, a practical training guide and a dedicated ILO-International Training Centre (ITC) training course are scheduled for release in 2023. ILO continues to work closely with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD) to align parallel workstreams to simplify time use measurement and support the production of national statistics on unpaid care and domestic work / own use provision of services work.

6. In terms of data production particularly for the Sustainable Development Goals, ILO continues its data production work through the gathering and processing of individual level and anonymised microdata on national LFS and other related household surveys. The aim is to reduce international data gaps and to expand the range of disaggregated, internationally comparable labour statistics published on ILOSTAT,<sup>6</sup> the organization’s central statistical repository. To date ILO collects labour force and related survey microdata sets from 164 countries around the world, up from 150 countries two years ago.

7. At regional and national levels, ILO’s statistical work and assistance to member States from Asia and the Pacific region covers three major areas: (a) capacity building in labour statistics and decent work indicators, particularly covering the latest international statistical standards such as from the 19th and the 20th ICLS; (b) support to national labour statistics systems through revised national LFS or other data collection exercises, including building statistical systems for annual or sub-annual surveys; and (c) support to the measurement and dissemination of Sustainable Development Goal decent work indicators at the national level. At the national level, ILO has also recently been supporting the production or piloting the measurement of new Goal indicators such as Goal indicator 10.7.1 on the recruitment costs of migrant workers (in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Maldives, Nepal, the Philippines and Viet Nam).

8. Over the last two years, ILO also responded to the challenges posed by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic to national statistics systems, not only through guidance, but also with technical support to member States in Asia and the Pacific in updating and upscaling their labour statistics systems. Support was specifically provided to the following member States: Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, India, Kiribati, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Samoa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam. Support included new LFS or revising existing LFS considering challenges posed by COVID-19 measures to data collection systems. Support also included the measurement of economic activity in the 2020 round of population censuses, as well as measuring the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on labour markets.

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<sup>4</sup> See <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/53rd-session/documents/BG-3t-InformalEconomyStats-E.pdf>.

<sup>5</sup> The latest LFS guidance and tools can be found at: <https://ilostat.ilo.org/resources/lfs-resources/>.

<sup>6</sup> <https://ilostat.ilo.org/>.

## **International Organization for Migration**

9. As its contribution to the 2030 Agenda, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) supported the strengthening of migration data and statistics both at regional and national levels, as well as improving the availability of data disaggregated by migratory status. Key knowledge products on migration were developed by IOM to facilitate the monitoring of Goals related to migration. They include the annual Migration Data Report 2020<sup>7</sup> and 2021,<sup>8</sup> which presents the latest trends in migration dynamics in Asia and the Pacific with an explicit goal to monitoring Sustainable Development Goals progress, and an assessment of the availability and gaps in existing Goals data disaggregated by migratory status based on international, regional and national data sources, and inequality in outcomes between migrants and non-migrants.<sup>9</sup> These reports provide recommendations on closing data gaps in monitoring migration-related Goals and overcoming data challenges at regional and national levels. Furthermore, IOM has been developing a migration data portal to centralize regional migration data with specific reference to the Goals, with the aim to contribute to increasing the availability of migration disaggregated data.

10. In selected member States, IOM developed national secondary data reviews to assess the availability and gaps in migration data from Government institutions, international organizations and third-party non-governmental sources with specific reference to Sustainable Development Goal related data. They included Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam. Such efforts will be continued and expanded to other countries in the region.

11. IOM provided technical assistance to countries in the Asia and the Pacific region to integrate and align new data collection modules related to migration to facilitate enhancing the availability of migrant-disaggregated statistics, such as Marshall Islands and Mongolia. IOM also worked with the National Statistical Office of Mongolia on capacity building through training and technical guidance to improve statistical tools for migration data collection.

## **United Nations Children's Fund**

12. The flagship household survey programme Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS)<sup>10</sup> of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is supporting countries to collect internationally comparable data on children and women since the 1990s, and the support to countries continued during the last two years despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. In Asia and the Pacific, over the last two years eight countries (Fiji, Nepal, Pakistan, Samoa, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu and Viet Nam) published MICS results, and another nine countries (Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Federated States of Micronesia, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nauru, Pakistan,<sup>11</sup> Thailand and Uzbekistan) are being supported at different stages in

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<sup>7</sup> <https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/Asia-Pacific-Migration-%20Data-Report-2020.pdf>.

<sup>8</sup> Forthcoming.

<sup>9</sup> These are not public documents and are currently only shared with Government partners.

<sup>10</sup> <https://mics.unicef.org/>.

<sup>11</sup> Provincial level surveys.

## MICS implementation.

13. UNICEF has supported countries to strengthen the near real-time data collection and reporting in the Asia and the Pacific using innovative approaches of data collection that are best suited for pandemic situations such as COVID-19 in which face-to-face data collection is challenged. UNICEF supported countries in the region to design and implement the MICS Plus<sup>12</sup> method of data collection that uses computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) to collect data from a representative sample of households. In the last two years, Georgia and Mongolia in Asia and the Pacific have completed six and seven waves of data collection respectively and have published results. The gathered data provides crucial evidence to inform various social policies and programmes. A few other countries, namely Fiji, Samoa and Viet Nam, are at different stages of planning and implementation of MICS Plus.

14. During the last two years, UNICEF supported and worked closely with Governments and development partners in designing and implementing COVID-19 economic and social impact assessment surveys in the region, with special focus on collecting and analyzing data on children. Such work was carried out in, for example, Armenia, Cambodia, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam.

15. Globally, UNICEF along with IOM, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), established the International Data Alliance on Children on the Move (IDAC)<sup>13</sup> in 2020 comprising Governments and non-governmental organizations to improve statistics and data on migrant and forcibly displaced children with the goal to support evidence-based policymaking that protects and empowers them. UNICEF, IOM and UNHCR supported strengthening the capacity of government counterparts and systems in Asia and the Pacific to collect and report migration data as per international standards, especially on child migrants, for example in Cambodia, Nepal and Thailand.

16. To strengthen collaborative statistics production, UNICEF worked closely with the statistical systems and partners in Cambodia and the Philippines during the design and implementation of the Demographic Health Survey (DHS) and supported the integration of non-DHS standard child-focussed indicators into the DHS. In Türkiye, UNICEF in partnership with the Presidency of Strategy and Budget, Turkish Statistical Institute and Ministry of Family and Social Services conducted a comprehensive data mapping and data gap analysis on child statistics to identify gaps, including on Goals that can be addressed via administrative data and regular household surveys included in the official statistical programme.

17. In Malaysia, UNICEF partnered with the Department of Statistics to develop a booklet on Sustainable Development Goal related child rights indicators in 2021 as a key contribution to Malaysia's efforts to track progress, as well as to address data gaps.<sup>14</sup> In Turkmenistan, UNICEF partnered with the State Statistics Committee to support child-related Goal monitoring with the data analysis and development of the Progress for Every Child report in 2021,

<sup>12</sup> <https://mics.unicef.org/mics-plus/methodology-and-use>.

<sup>13</sup> <https://data.unicef.org/resources/international-data-alliance-for-children-on-the-move/>.

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.dosm.gov.my/v1/index.php?r=column/pdfPrev&id=d1YxK0tsUWp4RGNHQXZTZTlZNUxWdz09>.

which contributed evidence to the national mid-term review of progress towards the Goals.

18. During the last two years, UNICEF along with the World Health Organization (WHO) supported several countries in establishing COVID-19 vaccination tracking systems that assist in monitoring the vaccine distribution and uptake of vaccination in many countries in Asia and the Pacific.

### **United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women**

19. The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) continues to work with data users to promote statistical literacy and uptake of gender data for evidence-based decision-making. In particular, through its Women Count and Building Back Better projects, UN-Women organizes regular data user-producer dialogues to inform targeted policies. For instance, in the context of informing responses to the COVID-19 crisis, UN-Women worked with policymakers in seven countries (Indonesia, Kiribati, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga) to identify information needs, design surveys and, once the data was available, promote the use of gender data on the gendered consequences of COVID-19 for policymaking, including by working with decisionmakers to identify and overcome barriers to evidence-based decision-making.

### **United Nations Industrial Development Organization**

20. Apart from the activities of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) supporting countries to strengthen their regular data production systems, the organization has developed several tools to help countries to track progress towards achieving the Goal 9 industry-related targets.

21. UNIDO launched its Industrial Analytics Platform (IAP)<sup>15</sup> to foster dialogue with member States and other relevant stakeholders on issues relevant to inclusive and sustainable industrial development. The IAP is a data-driven knowledge platform that provides novel insights into industrial development around the world. The central tool of the IAP consists of the Goal 9 Industry Tracker that helps monitor performance and progress of countries towards Goal 9 industry-related targets based on the global indicator framework. The Goal 9 Industry Tracker consists of the Goal 9 Industry Index constructed based on the indicators selected from the global indicator framework for the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda.<sup>16</sup> The Goal 9 Industry Index represents a comprehensive but straightforward approach to assess the extent to which countries have industrialized while promoting social inclusiveness and minimizing natural resource use and environmental impacts. The resulting Goal 9 Industry Index benchmarks inclusive and sustainable industrial development in 132 economies over the period 2000-2019. The calculated scores of the Goal 9 Industry Index can show in which dimensions countries lead or lag behind other economies.

22. The Goal 9 Industry Tracker indicates progress made by countries on respective Goal 9 industry-related targets based on available data from 2000

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<sup>15</sup> <https://iap.unido.org/>.

<sup>16</sup> Kynclova, P., Upadhyaya, S., Nice, T. (2020). Composite index as a measure on achieving Sustainable Development Goal 9 (SDG-9) industry-related targets: The SDG-9 index. *Applied Energy*, 265(C). Accessible at <https://ideas.repec.org/a/eee/appene/v265y2020ics0306261920302671.html>.

and the outlook on achieving these targets by 2030. The methodology has been developed together with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), building on the knowledge and experience gained by assessing progress in the Asia and Pacific region.<sup>17</sup> The ESCAP approach has been adjusted to assess progress of Goal 9 indicators at the country level.

23. In 2022, novel data tools have been launched to bring timely data on current growth trends in world manufacturing production and export competitiveness as a response to increasing demand on recent developments and faster policy response.

### **United Nations Population Fund**

24. As a recognized global key player on socio-demographic statistics, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has been co-chairing with ESCAP the working group on Sustainable Development Goal data and statistics of the Regional Collaborative Platform for Asia and the Pacific. The working group is the leading regional coordination body on statistical support to countries and plays a key role in supporting Goal monitoring at national and subnational levels through enhanced investments in statistics. In this context, UNFPA has been contributing to the latest editions of the Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report.

25. UNFPA has been continuing its involvement in the activities of the regional partnership for the Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS) Decade in Asia and the Pacific (2015–2024), in particular as a co-organizer of the second Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics that took place in November 2021. The partnership has been instrumental in advocating for the strengthening of CRVS systems as essential investments for an efficient administrative and statistical infrastructure. At the global level, UNFPA's engagement in CRVS has been strongly enhanced by the hosting of the Center of Excellence for CRVS Systems within UNFPA headquarters since the second half of 2021. In the region, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Pakistan are among the countries supported by UNFPA on CRVS system strengthening.

26. Moreover, in partnership with organizations of persons with disabilities, UNFPA has been investing since 2021 in supporting systems strengthening for the enhancement of availability of data on disability in Asia and the Pacific.

27. Pursuing its efforts to strengthen the availability of data on its areas of expertise, UNFPA launched in March 2022 a new population data portal providing access to geospatial information on demographic trends, sexual and reproductive health and gender-based violence.

28. Finally, in response to needs for increased availability of data on sexual and reproductive health, UNFPA developed an analysis of inequalities related to sexual and reproductive health indicators in Asia and the Pacific.

### **Asian Development Bank**

29. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) recognizes the vital role that trusted data play in tracking development targets and facilitating evidence-

<sup>17</sup> Bidarbakhtnia, A. (2020). Measuring Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): An Inclusive Approach. *Global Policy*, 11(1), 56-67. Accessible at <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/1758-5899.12774>.

based policymaking. To provide reliable, timely, granular, and integrated data, ADB produces a wide range of data products such as the Key Indicators for Asia and the Pacific,<sup>18</sup> basic statistics and multiregional input-output tables, which present the latest economic, financial, social, and environmental indicators for the bank's regional members from across Asia and the Pacific. These knowledge products continue to serve as a vital source of data and statistics for policymakers, government officials, development professionals, researchers, and students around the world.

30. Aside from compiling data for development, ADB also acknowledges the need to improve the capacity of national statistical systems to produce effective and reliable statistics. To accomplish this, the bank forges partnerships with other development organizations. In this context, ADB provided technical assistance to UNSD in organizing high-level dialogues with senior management of selected national statistical offices in Asia and the Pacific, which served as inputs for the preparation of the latest edition of the Handbook on Management and Organization of National Statistical Systems.<sup>19</sup> The handbook is designed to provide guidance and inform statistical organizations on critical and emerging issues relevant for official statistics. ADB also worked with UNSD to develop a practical guidebook on data disaggregation for the Goals. The guidebook is designed as a knowledge resource on statistical standards and tools for countries to generate disaggregated data for compiling the Sustainable Development Goal indicators.

### **Pacific Community**

31. The Ten-Year Pacific Statistics Strategy (TYPSS) 2010-2020 was adopted by leaders of Pacific Islands Countries and Territories (PICTs) in 2009. TYPSS 2 is currently being developed to support statistics through to 2030 and the completion of the period of the 2030 Agenda. The goal is the continued improvement and development of statistics in the Pacific, and greater use and integration of statistics in policy development and decision-making.

32. The Donor and Development Partner Group was created as part of the governance arrangements to improve coordination of support activities. This technical working group helps ensure all relevant development partners have a regular forum through which to provide direct inputs into statistics governance in the Pacific, and to better coordinate their actions and resources in support of statistical development.

33. The Statistical Innovation and Capacity Building in the Pacific Islands (PACSTAT) project is an International Development Association (IDA)-funded project being implemented by the Pacific Community (SPC) over the period July 2020 to June 2025. The aim is to improve the quality of welfare data collection and the accessibility to users of comparable welfare data across Pacific Island Countries (PICs). This includes the promotion of, and investment in, context-appropriate innovation in the region.

34. In collaboration with UN-Women, SPC is implementing the Pacific Roadmap on Gender Statistics that supports Pacific national statistical systems to generate quality, relevant and timely gender data that meets the needs of users. The engagement with data users at all stages of the data production

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<sup>18</sup> <https://www.adb.org/publications/key-indicators-asia-and-pacific-2021> and <https://kidb.adb.org/>.

<sup>19</sup> <https://unstats.un.org/capacity-development/handbook/index.cshtml>.



process is a key element to the roadmap and includes, for example, data literacy training for data users.

### **Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries**

35. The Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC) prepares annual progress reports on eight prioritized Goals (1–5, 8–9, and 13) in line with the resolutions of the 34th session of the Standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) that was held in November 2018 in Istanbul, Türkiye. The annual reports<sup>20</sup> present an overview of the progress of OIC countries towards the achievement of prioritized and other selected Goals using the most recent available data extracted from the global SDG indicators database.<sup>21</sup> The latest edition of the report (2021) covered the aforementioned eight prioritized Goals, as well as a further six, namely Goals 6–7, 10–12, and 14.

36. At the regional level, SESRIC organized and contributed to expert group meetings, trainings, webinars, and workshops in collaboration with several partners, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), International Energy Agency (IEA), OECD, Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21), UNSD, Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), ESCAP, United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat), UN-Women, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), UNHCR and United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The activities focused on administrative registers, big data applications, business registers, coordination within national statistical systems, development finance statistics, disaster-related statistics, food balance sheets, foreign direct investment statistics, gender statistics, Islamic finance, measurement methods for Goal 11 and the New Urban Agenda, modernizing statistical legislation and Goal 13 indicators.

37. At the national level, between September 2020 and August 2022, SESRIC organized 67 statistical training activities under its Statistical Capacity Building (StatCaB) programme for the benefit of national statistical offices and line ministries of countries member of both OIC and ESCAP, namely Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Brunei, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Maldives, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Türkiye, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Out of these activities, 38 were training courses, 21 were webinars, seven were workshops, and one was a study visit covering various topics such as agriculture, demography, education and science-technology-innovation, energy, business, environment, finance, gender, health, infrastructure, labour, poverty, tourism, and trade statistics. These activities were organized based on the needs and capacities of the national statistical offices of OIC member countries collected through the biennial StatCaB questionnaire circulated and processed by SESRIC.

## **B. Action Area B: Assuring quality and instilling trust in statistics**

<sup>20</sup> Accessible at <https://www.sesric.org/publications-sdgs.php>.

<sup>21</sup> <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/dataportal>.

38. Action area B has three objectives:

(a) National statistical systems have in place legal frameworks that accord appropriate coordination authority and responsibility to the national statistics office and are fully in line with and facilitate adherence to the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics;

(b) National statistical systems, as the national authority on statistics, formulate and implement comprehensive, system-wide and transformative strategies for the development of statistics for progress monitoring of national development plans and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

(c) National statistical systems have implemented a system-wide quality assurance framework.

### **International Labour Organization**

39. ILO provided and continues to provide technical assistance to member States in Asia and the Pacific in building their statistical systems to be able to collect and publish annual or sub-annual statistics on work and labour force, as well as in developing Sustainable Development Goal decent work-related labour market information systems, such as in Malaysia and Papua New Guinea. Advocacy work on the production of annual labour force statistics is also continuing in countries such as India and Lao People's Democratic Republic. While supporting the revision of the International Standard Classification of Occupations (currently ISCO-08)<sup>22</sup> at global level, ILO continues supporting countries to align their national ISCO to international standards, or to update their own classifications, based for example on findings from the current round of population censuses. Such support is provided recently for example to Cambodia and Viet Nam.

40. ILO continues to provide support in developing data collection systems for selected thematic areas through LFS and other labour-related surveys, covering topics such as child labour, disability, forced labour, earnings from employment, labour demand (through establishment surveys), labour migration, etc. Member States supported in the past two years or currently supported include Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nepal, Samoa, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam (establishment surveys).

### **Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**

41. The General Assembly tasked UNHCR to identify, reduce and prevent statelessness and protect stateless persons. UNHCR, as the custodian United Nations entity for statelessness statistics, collects and compiles global statistics on stateless persons and persons of undetermined nationality as one of its mandated responsibilities. Since 2004 UNHCR has been reporting stateless figures that come from a combination of sources, which include administrative registers maintained by national statistical offices and line ministries; statelessness status determination and other registration procedures; census data; household surveys; UNHCR projects, surveys and administrative records; civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-developed registers or other data sources; and internal UNHCR estimates. UNHCR follows the overall guidance set by the Expert Group on Refugee, IDP and Stateless Statistics (EGRISS), whose mandate was extended to incorporate the development of the International Recommendations on Stateless Statistics (IROSS). IROSS is being developed in collaboration with affected countries and international experts through an EGRISS subgroup. It aims to provide a statistical framework on statelessness and will be instrumental for enhancing the

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<sup>22</sup> <https://www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/stat/isco/>.

quality and comparability of national statistics. As a result of UNHCR's data transformation strategy and the regionalization process in Asia and the Pacific, improving data quality and collaborating with national statistical offices in the production of data on stateless is a key priority.

42. Asia and the Pacific hosts 56 per cent of the reported global stateless population. At the regional level, UNHCR Asia-Pacific has put effort into improving data on stateless populations by engaging with national authorities and national statistical offices to highlight issues of statelessness. Census results can provide data on the demographic characteristics of stateless people, the extent and causes of statelessness, to inform policymakers on how it can be speedily resolved and prevented in the future. In Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, UNHCR supports the capacity building of national statistical offices and provided expertise on formulating nationality and statelessness-mapping questions in the census questionnaires. In Thailand, measures to promote birth registration and reduce vulnerability to statelessness by the Government have been taken. This is in line with the pledges made by the Government of Thailand at the high-level segment on statelessness convened by UNHCR in 2019.

43. At the national level, UNHCR has supported data collection exercises on statelessness in several countries in the region. In Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan data collection exercises on statelessness were launched with the support of UNHCR and the World Bank Joint Data Center. This included socioeconomic surveys on both refugee and stateless populations, modernization of data portals of census organizations and national statistical offices, improved capacity of national statistical offices and improved access to censuses for stateless people. In Bangladesh, UNHCR through a registration exercise jointly with authorities has registered stateless Rohingya refugees to ensure their right to be able to return home voluntarily to Myanmar in the future. UNHCR has been continuously registering new births of stateless Rohingya and providing them with identity cards.

#### **United Nations Children's Fund**

44. To strengthen the availability and use of child disability statistics to uphold the leaving no one behind principle of the 2030 Agenda, UNICEF has established the Centre of Excellence on Data for Children with Disabilities<sup>23</sup> in 2021. This centre is guided by a strategic advisory group composed of key stakeholders that includes representatives of national statistical offices who advise on activities and provide overall direction. The centre is also seeking to support new and innovative projects to foster utilization of data on children with disabilities.

45. In the Pacific, UNICEF strengthened its partnerships with SPC, the Pacific Disability Forum, national statistical offices and development partners through the establishment of the Pacific Group on Disability Statistics as a coordination mechanism to guide the collection, compilation, analysis, dissemination and use of disability statistics by promoting the use of tools that have been developed by the Washington Group on Disability Statistics.<sup>24</sup>

#### **United Nations Development Programme**

<sup>23</sup> <https://data.unicef.org/topic/child-disability/centre-of-excellence-on-data-for-children-with-disabilities/>.

<sup>24</sup> <https://www.washingtongroup-disability.com/>.

46. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) serves as a partner agency for Sustainable Development Goal indicator 1.2.2 – Proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions. At the country level the data is compiled by World Bank country offices in consultation with national statistical offices. The data is shared with UNDP and UNICEF country offices for validation. After incorporating inputs from UNDP and UNICEF, the data is sent to the Goal focal points of each country for final approval.

47. In addition, UNDP together with UNICEF and World Bank has been supporting the collection of data for and/or the measurement of the national multidimensional poverty index (MPI). For example, in 2021 UNDP together with UNICEF supported the Government of Nepal to measure and analyse the national MPI of Nepal. This helped to track Sustainable Development Goal indicator 1.2.2 as well as the provincial resource/budget allocation process. In 2022, UNDP has been supporting the Government of Samoa in the measurement of the National MPI.

48. Apart from measurement of the national MPI, UNDP has also been engaged in using it as a policy tool. UNDP has been promoting the use of the MPI for resource allocation in several countries such as Bhutan, Pakistan and Viet Nam, and for sectoral coordination and programme development in some other countries. A review of the measurement and uses of the national MPI as a policy tool for Asia and the Pacific is available in the report *A Review of Multidimensional Poverty Index and Uses in Asia-Pacific*.<sup>25</sup>

49. UNDP, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) worked on the methodological development of the Sustainable Development Goal 16 Survey Initiative<sup>26</sup> that is intended to measure most survey-based indicators under Goal 16. The methodological development involved experts from around the world, mostly from national statistical offices, including that of Kazakhstan, which was one of the eight countries that piloted the survey and highly contributed to the finalization of the instruments. The Goal 16 Survey Initiative was presented to the 53rd United Nations Statistical Commission as the standard to produce the indicators and is now available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish. The translation into Russian is forthcoming.

### **United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization**

50. *Regional benchmarks:* The Global Education Meeting 2020 Declaration called on “UNESCO and its partners, together with the SDG-Education 2030 Steering Committee, to ... accelerate the progress and propose relevant and realistic benchmarks of key Sustainable Development Goal 4 indicators for subsequent monitoring” (para. 10). The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Institute for Statistics (UIS) and the Global Education Monitoring Report (GEMR) team

<sup>25</sup> <https://www.undp.org/publications/review-multidimensional-poverty-index-and-uses-asia-pacific>.

<sup>26</sup> <https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.sdg16hub.org%2Fsdg-16-survey-initiative&data=05%7C01%7Cbishwa.tiwari%40undp.org%7Cca6093f67ff64b88da0b08da495ec0e2%7Cb3e5db5e2944483799f57488ace54319%7C0%7C0%7C637902968564804363%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6Ikk1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=0906sZic618Lkwulv6CMTnb%2Bqb26PE9uGoWgfJHdAb4%3D&reserved=0>.

took the lead in supporting countries in establishing regional and national benchmarks for selected Goal 4 indicators under targets 4.1, 4.2, 4.5, 4.c and education finance. In Asia and the Pacific, UIS, together with UNESCO Bangkok, partnered with the Southeast Asia Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO), SPC, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) to establish regional and national benchmark values. Countries reviewed their national policies and generated baselines to establish achievable, relevant and aspirational benchmark values for each of the indicators. To help with this exercise, a template with baseline and current values by country and indicator was prepared and made available to countries. In addition, to support member States in establishing national benchmark values, UIS and UNESCO organized several subregional and national consultations in the region.

51. Preliminary results of the benchmarking exercise were shared at the Global Education Meeting in November 2021 and at a side event at the UNESCO 41st General Conference.<sup>27</sup> So far, more than 80 per cent of the countries have established national benchmark values and submitted them to UIS. Several countries are finalizing their national benchmarks and are waiting for approval from higher authorities. This collective effort to establish benchmarks at national levels shows strong commitment of member States towards achieving Goal 4 beyond the learning recovery from the pandemic.

52. *Implementing a new UIS template for the compilation of data for Goal 4 reporting:* One of the key data sources for producing Goal 4 indicators is administrative data sources. However, administrative data sources in education are fragmented. Education Management Information Systems (EMIS) mainly cover formal school system data. Data on technical and vocational education and training and other types of education programmes are usually managed separately. The lack of appropriate tools and capacity is one of the reasons countries have been facing challenges in bringing data from various sources together to use for policymaking and planning. UNESCO/UIS has developed user-friendly tools that help to compile national education data from different sources into relevant education levels and categories following international classifications to generate the most relevant indicators. The template also helps countries to understand in a transparent manner how the indicators are calculated using various data sources.

53. The template has been used in 17 countries in Asia and Pacific to produce Goal 4 indicators on participation in education, completion, trained teachers, school facilities, education finances, etc. The template will be used in more countries in the coming years.

54. UIS also developed a series of technical resources including guidebooks and manuals to support countries to produce quality data and indicators for monitoring Goal 4. An “Operational Guide to Using EMIS to Monitor SDG 4” has been developed to support member states to use data from EMIS to report on Goal 4. UIS also developed a series of data collection guidelines and tools for countries to consult in producing data on learning outcomes. The guidelines have been well received by member States and have been used in various national and regional education data and statistical platforms.

55. UIS together with regional partners such as SPC and SEAMEO also

<sup>27</sup> <https://en.unesco.org/gem-report/events/2021/sdg-4-benchmarks-visualizations-and-data-gaps-linking-global-regional-and-national-0>.

published an Asia and Pacific Goal 4 report “Bridging Asia-Pacific Education Monitoring Frameworks and SDG 4” providing and assessment of progress on Goal 4 in the region in 2021. The report looked critically into progress on each of the targets, gaps and challenges to provide an in-depth understanding of the status of Goal 4 in the region after five years of implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

### **United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women**

56. To promote the availability and quality of statistics that measure the gender-environment nexus, UN-Women has developed a methodology and model questionnaire<sup>28</sup> on this topic in coordination with SPC, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), ILO, ESCAP, FAO and UNDRR. The methodology has been tested in some countries (for example, Bangladesh and Mongolia) and nationally representative surveys have already been conducted or will be conducted in other countries over the coming months (in Mongolia, Samoa and Tonga). Survey scripting tools and sampling guidance for the implementation of these surveys is currently being developed.

### **United Nations Environment Programme**

57. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has been supporting countries in Asia to report on Goal 12 through the regional policy advocacy component of the SWITCH-Asia programme<sup>29</sup> funded by the European Union. The support enabled participating countries to mainstream Goal 12 on sustainable consumption and production into national and sectoral strategies and action plans through policy dialogue and the engagement of stakeholder, and to formulate national indicators for Goal 12 implementation and reporting. SWITCH-Asia is currently providing support to 17 Asian countries, namely Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam.

58. The joint UNEP-UNDP Poverty-Environment Action for Sustainable Development Goals programme in Bangladesh supported in 2021: (1) the revised mapping of ministries/divisions and custodian/partner agencies for Sustainable Development Goal implementation by the Planning Commission; and (b) the General Economics Division, through the organization of training workshops on “SDG Metadata and SDMX Template: Exercise on SDG Indicators 12.2.1,12.2.2, 14.2.1 and 17.15.1”. These workshops aimed to enhance the capacity and knowledge of participants about the concepts and methodologies for compiling Sustainable Development Goal indicators 12.2.1 – Material footprint, material footprint per capita, and material footprint per gross domestic product (GDP); 12.2.2 – Domestic material consumption, domestic material consumption per capita, and domestic material consumption per GDP; 14.2.1 – Number of countries using ecosystem-based approaches to managing marine areas; and 17.15.1 – Extent of use of country-owned results frameworks and planning tools by providers of development cooperation.

59. Under the joint UNEP – UN-Women EmPower project, funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Bangladesh,

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<sup>28</sup> <https://data.unwomen.org/publications/model-questionnaire-measuring-nexus-between-gender-and-environment>.

<sup>29</sup> <https://www.switch-asia.eu/>.

Cambodia, Viet Nam as well as countries across the Asia-Pacific region were supported to deliver on Goals 5, and 13. Through the promotion of women's entrepreneurship in the area of renewable energy, the project contributed to Sustainable Development Goal indicator 7.1.2 – Proportion of population with primary reliance on clean fuels and technology, and has generated co-finance for women entrepreneurs (relevant for indicator 7.b.1 – Installed renewable energy-generating capacity in developing countries (in watts per capita)).

60. Under the European Commission-UNEP partnership project on building national capacities to strengthen the science-policy interface through improved access to environmental data and the production of indicators to meet reporting obligations (2021–2022), UNEP has collaborated with partners in Lao People's Democratic Republic and Viet Nam in the development of shared environmental information systems/mechanisms and enhancing institutional capacity of stakeholders in sharing and accessing environmental data/information to strengthen the normative base of national environmental authorities for relevant environmental reporting on the Goals and multilateral environmental agreements.

61. UNEP, in collaboration with Country Teams, has supported analysis of trends and progress on the 93 environmental Sustainable Development Goal indicators, submitted as inputs into the Common Country Analyses for Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam to support the development of the respective United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks.

62. UNEP, in collaboration with Country Teams, supported Bhutan, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Tuvalu in 2021–2022 in the development of Voluntary National Reviews through the review of progress and challenges on the environmental dimension of the Goals in each country. The support also helped to review and update environmental indicators in national Sustainable Development Goal indicator frameworks, as well as data gaps in environmental indicators.

63. The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP), UNEP and regional partners developed an "Environmental Indicator Guidebook for Pacific Island Countries". The guidebook was launched virtually in September 2021. The guidebook is a key resource to streamline the obligations at national, regional and international levels for the reporting of Pacific Island countries on multilateral environmental agreements, the state of the environment and progress on the environmental dimension of Goals.

64. ESCAP and UNEP are jointly working on a big data article for the Statistical Journal of the International Association for Official Statistics Special Edition. The article will cover the usage of big data in official statistics with examples covering Sustainable Development Goal indicators 6.6.1 – Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time, and 14.1.1a – Index of coastal eutrophication. The first draft was submitted in June 2022. The final manuscript will be submitted in July 2022 and the article is expected to be published in September 2022.

### **United Nations Population Fund**

65. UNFPA plays a key role in supporting countries in the implementation of population census projects that are aligned with international standards for census taking. Country-specific technical assistance provided by UNFPA census advisers at national and regional level aims at responding to national

needs, but also puts a strong emphasis on quality assurance at all stages of census processes (census planning and management, cartography, development of census instruments, training of field personnel, enumeration, post-enumeration survey, data processing, publication of results, data dissemination, thematic analyses) and on the adoption of mitigation strategies whenever risks are identified. Countries where substantial census advisory services were provided since the seventh session of the Committee include in particular Bangladesh, Cambodia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste and Viet Nam.

66. In addition, UNFPA has been supporting the conduct of surveys on violence against women, with the application of well-tested procedures enabling the production of high-quality data on this very sensitive topic, while at the same time ensuring the protection of respondents.

### **Asian Development Bank**

67. ADB has been the regional coordinator for the International Comparison Program (ICP) for Asia and the Pacific, which is a regional component of the global ICP coordinated by the World Bank. ICP, the largest global statistical initiative under the auspices of the United Nations Statistical Commission, produces purchasing power parities (PPPs) and comparable price level indexes, and provides cross-country comparisons of gross domestic product (GDP) and other PPP-based macro-economic aggregates. The 2017 ICP cycle, with 22 economies participating in the region, was completed with results published in May 2020.<sup>30</sup> The PPPs are also critical inputs for Sustainable Development Goal monitoring, particularly for measuring global poverty.<sup>31</sup> Currently, the 2021 ICP cycle is in progress, with 21 economies from the region participating and results expected by the end of 2023. ADB provides technical and financial support to the participating economies for the conduct of price surveys, data validation, and through a series of workshops for capacity building and validating the economy-level price data and GDP expenditure data, which serve as inputs for the computation of PPPs. With the ICP being declared as a regular program to be implemented every three years, ADB has also been assisting the participating economies by providing enhanced information technology-based software tools for data management. ADB is also currently piloting in two economies a computer-assisted personal interviewing-based (CAPI) tool for collecting ICP prices through surveys for modernizing data collection and processing.

68. ADB has also been involved in improving the compilation of national accounts statistics of selected ADB developing member countries. Several technical assistance projects have assisted participating countries in implementing the System of National Accounts 2008 recommendations. This involved updating and constructing supply-use tables, which facilitate the production of disaggregated data on economic transactions and are also a key input to the production of global value chain statistics. Through these technical assistance projects, the participating ADB developing member countries were able to construct supply-use tables and input-output tables adhering to System of National Accounts 2008 recommendations. Statistical capacity building

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<sup>30</sup> Information about the ICP in Asia and the Pacific, results and reports can be accessed at <https://www.adb.org/what-we-do/data/icp> and <https://icp.adb.org/overview>.

<sup>31</sup> The World Bank will adopt a new International Poverty Line based on PPPs from the 2017 ICP in the fall of 2022 and release updated global poverty estimates. See also <https://blogs.worldbank.org/voices/adjustment-global-poverty-lines>.



activities like training programmes and knowledge-sharing workshops on global value chain statistics and analysis, compilation and analysis of supply-use tables, input-output tables, and social accounting matrices were also provided.

69. ADB has also advanced the use of digital technology in generating data for development purposes. Remote sensing data such as those sourced from satellite imagery is an excellent example of an innovative data source that falls outside the traditional paradigm of reference points used by national statistical offices. In a recently concluded technical assistance project, ADB collaborated with the Philippine Statistics Authority and the National Statistical Office of Thailand to produce granular poverty maps by integrating satellite imagery with data from conventional surveys and censuses and applying machine learning algorithms. In turn, granular statistics on poverty can empower public policymakers and enable them to deliver targeted, improved programmes and services for the poor and most vulnerable segments of society. Through this project, ADB facilitated a series of strategically designed training workshops and course modules on use of integrated data sets for granular poverty statistics compilation that benefited several national statistical offices and development practitioners. In an ongoing technical assistance project, ADB is exploring how such a poverty mapping methodology can be further enhanced by integrating other types of big data.

70. ADB has also used remote sensing data and technology to improve the compilation of agricultural statistics (for example, land area, production and yield). In an ongoing technical assistance project, ADB will work with Georgia and Viet Nam aiming to explore and institutionalize the use of digital technology and remote sensing to create maps of crops that are of economic importance to selected participating developing member economies. Mapping the locations of main agricultural crops in the country with yield estimates would provide key information where interventions and resources are needed for enhanced productivity. Such initiatives can help developing member economies respond to disasters affecting agricultural areas more effectively. In addition, ADB is also assisting the Cook Islands on the application of sampling techniques and employment of land measurement methods to validate national parcel area estimates significant at the provincial level (for example, by comparing farmer estimates with estimates from global positioning systems and the use of administrative data as an auxiliary data source). The results of the activities will be used to improve census data estimates on agricultural landholdings, which form the basis for various programme planning and policy formulation in the agriculture sector.

71. ADB will continue to support developing member countries in strengthening their statistical systems with a focus on promoting the use of non-traditional data sources, statistical methods and technology, while continuing support in implementing statistical standards in core areas of statistics.

### **Pacific Community**

72. Over the last two years, SPC has developed a Pacific Data Hub Indicator Database (PDH.stat)<sup>32</sup> built on the .Stat Suite<sup>33</sup> (which is based on the Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange – SDMX<sup>34</sup> – standard). This stores and

<sup>32</sup> <https://sdd.spc.int/innovation-sdd/pdhstat>.

<sup>33</sup> <https://siscc.org/stat-suite/>.

<sup>34</sup> <https://sdmx.org/>.

disseminates over 1,100 indicators and their metadata across a range of thematic areas and is improving accessibility to Pacific statistics. The automatic updating of derived indicators from data stored in PDH.stat is improving quality and timeliness.

73. SPC, in collaboration with partners, has developed materials for sample design in small island States, which recognize the need for data that can produce disaggregated Sustainable Development Goal indicators with a reasonable degree of accuracy. Sampling guidelines are available for household income and expenditure, disability and agriculture surveys.

### **Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries**

74. SESRIC organized an online workshop on “Coordination within the National Statistical Systems” in collaboration with the UNSD – with additional contributions from PARIS21, ESCWA and ECE – in June 2021 with the participation of 84 attendees from the national statistical offices of 31 OIC member countries and five international organizations. Organized within the framework of the Programme of Action 2021-2025 of the OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom) Strategic Vision for 2030, the workshop aimed at facilitating the sharing of good practices among OIC countries and learning from the potential challenges needed to be taken into consideration for efficient and effective coordination within the national statistical systems of OIC countries.

75. In addition, SESRIC organized an online workshop on “Modernising Statistical Legislation” in collaboration with UNSD in June 2022 with the participation of 94 experts from the national statistical offices of 36 OIC countries and other relevant international organizations. Experts from ECE, ESCWA, ESCAP, ECA and PARIS21 also participated and made comprehensive presentations under the relevant technical sessions. Organized within the framework of the Programme of Action 2021–2025 of the OIC-StatCom Strategic Vision for 2030, the workshop had the objective to provide a platform for sharing experience and good practices among OIC countries in the modernization of legal and institutional frameworks for official statistics.

## **C. Action Area C: Integrated statistics for integrated analysis**

76. Action area C has two objectives:

(a) An integrated statistical measurement framework for sustainable development goals has been developed;

(b) National statistical systems integrate data from multiple sources in a coherent and consistent manner for the production of statistical products that support integrated analysis of sustainable development issues.

### **International Labour Organization**

77. At the regional level, ILO continues its collaboration with United Nations partners and regional institutions. The main activities to note include ILO collaboration with SPC to implement the core labour force module through ongoing household income and expenditure surveys, as well as in the current round of population censuses in the Pacific. ILO also continues its collaboration with ADB to support labour force or related surveys in selected member States.

78. At the global level, ILO continues to work with international partners such as the World Bank to ensure that an updated core module on the labour force is available in their main supported surveys such as the living standards measurement survey. Collaboration with the World Bank continues also through its KNOMAD partnership (Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development),<sup>35</sup> with the aim to support increased measurement of Sustainable Development Goal indicator 10.7.1 on recruitment costs of migrant workers. ILO also continues its collaboration with UNSD and UN-Women to support the collection of statistics on unpaid care and domestic work, from various possible data sources.

### **Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**

79. UNHCR made a commitment to "ensure that quality and coherent data related to refugees and other persons of concern is systematically, responsibly and efficiently managed by UNHCR and its partners, and shared openly and responsibly both internally and externally (UNHCR, Data Transformation Strategy 2020–2025)".<sup>36</sup> The UNHCR Microdata Library (MDL)<sup>37</sup> provides access to microdata containing information about UNHCR persons of concern. The MDL contains unit-level microdata collected directly by UNHCR or indirectly through its partners but supported in some way by UNHCR. Supporting documents such as metadata, reports, or survey questionnaires are also provided for complementary information on the datasets. The MDL aims to be the reference repository containing metadata on publicly available censuses, administrative data, and surveys regarding forced displaced people and other persons of concern to UNHCR, as well as provide direct access and/or links to the microdata. It is continuously updated as new datasets from UNHCR and its partners become available, and organizations that collect relevant data are highly encouraged to submit datasets for dissemination through the MDL. For ESCAP members and associate members, there are currently 54 datasets in total, including for Afghanistan (14), Azerbaijan (3), Bangladesh (20), China (2), Indonesia (1), Kazakhstan (1), Kyrgyzstan (1), Malaysia (2), Nepal (3), Pakistan (1), Philippines (2), Sri Lanka (1), Tajikistan (1) and Thailand (2). There are 10 citations from books and journal articles that focus on the study of displacement in the region.

80. UNHCR also aims to integrate and harmonize the way household survey data is collected and to align them with international statistical standards and good practices. Particularly, UNHCR is initiating a flagship survey programme – a radical rethinking of its survey landscape. The programme is a detailed multisectoral household survey series that will collect nationally representative samples in key population groups. The programme is built on international statistical standards and allows for comparison with national and international official statistics. Given its complexity, a flagship survey will be run in only 20 to 30 priority countries on a three- to four-year cycle. The programme focuses on refugees and asylum-seekers at first and will gradually expand to also cover internally displaced persons. Pakistan is one of the pilot countries for the programme, for which data collection is expected to start in collaboration with the Government in the second half of 2022, if possible in alignment with the preparations for a regional refugee plan for 2023 as a continuation of the 2022 plan. Data gathered through the survey will provide actionable evidence to inform the operational and policy-related data

<sup>35</sup> See <https://www.knomad.org/> for details.

<sup>36</sup> [https://www.unhcr.org/5dc2e4734.pdf#\\_ga=2.43336997.1844927395.1653884685-1561245996.1651036501](https://www.unhcr.org/5dc2e4734.pdf#_ga=2.43336997.1844927395.1653884685-1561245996.1651036501).

<sup>37</sup> <https://microdata.unhcr.org/index.php/home>.

needs of the Government, as well as its humanitarian and development partners.

### **United Nations Children's Fund**

81. One of the UNICEF's initiatives to strengthen data integration is MICS Link,<sup>38</sup> i.e., the provision to integrate MICS data and other administrative data systems. In the UNICEF supported Fiji MICS 2021, the MICS Link components were added for the first time to facilitate data integration between the MICS and the Fiji Education Management Information System datasets.

82. To uphold the OneUN principle, UNICEF continues to work closely with other United Nations entities to support Governments during all stages of the preparation and finalization of Voluntary National Reviews and Common Country Analyses.

83. UNICEF worked with partners to further improve the maturity model for administrative data systems to prioritize investments and needs across sectors, help donors assess the capacity to absorb proposed investments and ensure impact for children. The model provides a framework for good-practice examples and highlights areas where additional guidance is needed.<sup>39</sup>

### **United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women**

84. UN-Women has worked on integrating geospatial data with DHS data for the generation of statistics on the nexus between gender and climate change. While some findings have been published in a regional publication,<sup>40</sup> further work is being undertaken in partnership with national statistical offices to expand the number of countries and publish a larger compendium.

### **United Nations Population Fund**

85. Through its work on population censuses, which helps to produce data at very detailed geographical levels, UNFPA is a strong advocate of the integration of population data with other types of geospatial information. This integration goes a long way in promoting wider use of population statistics for development planning and policymaking, as visual displays of development indicators through maps can make it easier to highlight the importance of population dynamics in development processes at different geographical levels.

86. A similar approach based on geospatial information is being applied with UNFPA support in Indonesia for the use of population data for disaster preparedness and response. This requires a close integration of activities between national statistical offices and agencies in charge of disaster management. Within the United Nations system, UNFPA cooperates with the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) with respect to the production and availability of common operational datasets on population statistics that can be mobilized quickly in case of an emergency.

87. UNFPA supports the integration of different data sources, typically a population census and a household sample survey, to derive more granular information through the use of small area estimation techniques. The use of this methodology has been supported by UNFPA on topics of the fund's

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<sup>38</sup> [https://mics.unicef.org/methodological\\_work/9/MICS-LINK](https://mics.unicef.org/methodological_work/9/MICS-LINK).

<sup>39</sup> <https://data.unicef.org/resources/the-administrative-data-maturity-model-adamm/>.

<sup>40</sup> <https://data.unwomen.org/publications/women-environment-asia-pacific>.

interest such as family planning and reproductive health, but the potential for applications is much broader.

88. UNFPA also promotes the integrated analysis of demo-economic information through support provided to many Asian countries for the construction and use of national transfer accounts, an accounting system designed to improve understanding of the impact of population growth and changing population age structures on the macro-economy.

### **Pacific Community**

89. SPC is developing an integrated programme of work to address the multi-faceted statistical needs and challenges for food systems and the food and nutrition security challenge in the Pacific. Integrated statistics across the set of interacting elements and outcomes that describe the production, processing, trade and consumption of food are being developed to improve the flow of information and evidence necessary to understand food system dynamics and outcomes. SPC and FAO are working with national statistical offices in the Pacific to provide consistent food and nutrient consumption statistics, using the Pacific Nutrient Database published late 2020.

90. In 2022, SPC is supporting Tuvalu to deliver an integrated census-household income and expenditure survey, termed a “Long Form Census”. The project aims to collect all the information during one survey visit and thus increases the efficiency (both cost and potential use of the integrated dataset) of collecting these essential demographic, social and economic datasets.

91. SPC has worked with its development partners to conduct COVID-19 rapid assessments, including in the small realm countries of Tokelau, Niue and Cook Islands.

### **Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries**

92. SESRIC organized four training courses and three webinars between September 2020 and August 2022 on topics related to big data applications on price intelligence, statistical data analysis, survey methods and sampling, administrative records, collection and dissemination of Sustainable Development Goal indicators, disaster-related statistics and remote data collection methods for the benefit of 15 countries that are member of both OIC and ESCAP. These activities were organized in collaboration with Statistics Indonesia, the Department of Statistics Malaysia, State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Statistics and Turkish Statistical Institute. In addition, SESRIC cooperated with regional and international organizations, including ESCWA, ESCAP, UNDRR, and ECO to organise the abovementioned activities.

## **D. Action Area D: Modernizing statistical business processes**

93. Action area D has two objectives:

(a) National statistical systems have used the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) (or the Generic Activity Model for Statistical Organizations (GAMSO)) to map their current business processes and have used the resulting findings to identify opportunities and priorities for change;

(b) National statistical systems have implemented modernization tools and concepts, such as the Statistical Data and Metadata eXchange

(SDMX), for strengthened quality, efficiency and effectiveness of statistical information management and exchange.

### **International Labour Organization**

94. In partnership with international partners such as OECD and UNICEF, ILO contributed to streamlining the SDMX data model at the National Statistical Office of Thailand for labour data exchange. Such activities took place under the framework of a project aimed at establishing a data exchange platform between the Ministry of Labour and National Statistical Office of Thailand using SDMX. The country reached out to United Nations agencies for technical support, asking ILO to provide an expert in SDMX data modelling to support the development of the labour statistics structural metadata. OECD and UNICEF contributed with software configuration and ESCAP provided information technology support. ILO continued discussions with selected member States on updating or implementing their labour market information systems, to include reporting on Sustainable Development Goal indicators for which ILO is the custodial agency. During this reporting period such discussions started or continued with Cook Islands, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Tonga and Vanuatu.

### **United Nations Children's Fund**

95. UNICEF supported the roll out of Child Protection Information Management Systems based on the PRIMERO opensource platform<sup>41</sup> to strengthen case management and administrative data for child protection in Papua New Guinea and Thailand in 2020–2021. This integrated electronic case management system is envisaged to increase efficiency and effectiveness of response and referral to provide quality child protection services to child victims in these countries. A few more countries are also in the process of establishing these systems in 2022–2023.

96. Strengthening administrative data systems, including CRVS systems, is one of the priorities of UNICEF along with partners like ESCAP and UNFPA. In Indonesia, UNICEF supported the establishment of a monitoring and evaluation system of the National Strategy for Accelerating Population Administration for CRVS that will facilitate the capacity of the Government to track progress against the indicators defined in the national strategy.

### **United Nations Industrial Development Organization**

97. UNIDO continues to provide support to the development and modernization of data collection and production systems in thematic areas related to industrial statistics, covering topics such as structural and short-term industrial statistics, analytical indicators for sectoral analysis, Goal 9 industry-related indicators and others. Member States supported since the seventh session of the Committee include Armenia, Cambodia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

### **United Nations Population Fund**

98. In the field of population censuses, the UNFPA global Census Strategy for the 2020 round (2015–2024) highlights the identification and promotion of innovative technologies and methodologies. These include digital cartography and the use of mobile devices for census enumeration. To strengthen the geospatial dimension of population censuses, and more generally of official

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<sup>41</sup> <https://www.primero.org/>.

statistics, UNFPA has entered into a partnership with Esri<sup>42</sup> (its modernization programme), which a large number of UNFPA programme countries can mobilize to access the ArcGIS software and develop their capacities on its use.

99. As far as data dissemination is concerned, UNFPA advocates for free and open access to population census data through platforms that make it possible for users to access microdata according to their needs while ensuring data confidentiality. Countries in the region where such an approach could be supported include Bangladesh, Nepal and Timor-Leste.

100. UNFPA also supports, for instance in Papua New Guinea, the production and use of modelled population estimates obtained through satellite imagery for the purpose of census planning and preparation and in specific situations where traditional data collection through field work cannot take place.

101. Moreover, UNFPA provides technical support to countries, in particular the Islamic Republic of Iran, which are interested in moving towards a register-based census.

### **Asian Development Bank**

102. ADB, in partnership with the UNSD and ESCAP, developed an e-learning course on the foundation of the SDMX standard to support and improve statistical activities such as data collection, reporting, mapping, and dissemination. The course aimed to introduce SDMX to managers, supervisors, statisticians, information technology experts and other staff of national statistical offices, line ministries part of national statistical systems, regional and international organizations and other organizations involved in statistical data and metadata management. The course also discussed the rationale and benefits of SDMX and provided an overview on the SDMX information model, content-oriented guidelines, architecture and information technology tools. To date, the course has trained 450 participants. ADB is also providing tailored support on SDMX implementation to the National Statistical Office of Thailand (for example, training on the SDMX converter and data structure definition customization).

103. ADB is promoting the use of digital technologies in survey data collection, such as CAPI, CATI and computer-assisted web interviewing (CAWI). CAPI, CATI and CAWI refer to the use of handheld computer devices, mobile telephone and web interfaces, respectively, in data collection and survey management. Such digitalization efforts will contribute to greater resilience of survey operations undertaken by national statistical systems. ADB conducts training workshops on census and survey data processing and mobile data collection to prepare its member economies for the adoption of CAPI platforms. In an ongoing technical assistance project, ADB is assisting Nauru, Niue, Samoa and Tuvalu in the conduct of the household income and expenditure survey (for example, questionnaire design, training on the platforms and field work). ADB continues to collaborate with FAO on developing massive online open courses on CAPI for the Census and Survey Processing System (CSPRO)<sup>43</sup> and Survey Solutions.<sup>44</sup> These courses have so far trained 2,116 statisticians and analysts from around the world.

<sup>42</sup> <https://www.esri.com/en-us/home>.

<sup>43</sup> <https://www.census.gov/data/software/cspro.html>.

<sup>44</sup> <https://mysurvey.solutions/en/>.

## **Pacific Community**

104. The Pacific Statistics Methods Board meets biannually to address key or emerging topics. In the last year, topics addressed included high-frequency phone survey methods, poverty measurement methodology, the capture of labour information in censuses and the utilization of administrative databases in Pacific census programmes, and the use of technology and software by national statistical offices.

105. SPC's PDH.stat has enhanced the production and dissemination of statistical data. A range of plugins were developed to allow users to easily access data and indicators (Excel, PowerBI, Stata, R and Python).

106. The Pacific Microdata Library acts to preserve, document and anonymize Pacific country microdata. To date, 179 microdata sets have been documented, published and curated according to international standards, making data discoverable, useable and accessible for secondary analysis for evidence-informed development.

## **E. Action Area E: Having requisite skill sets**

107. Action area E has two objectives:

(a) Statistical requirements for the 2030 Agenda are supported by appropriate guidance material and training;

(b) The combined skillset of the staff of national statistical systems, together with capable management and sufficiency of human resources enable the continuous generation of statistical products and services required for monitoring of national development plans and the 2030 Agenda.

## **International Labour Organization**

108. At the global level, ILO launched in 2015 the Labour Market Statistics and Analysis Academy (LMSA) with the main objective to enhance the capacity of member countries to plan and implement national labour force and related household surveys to produce a wide range of labour statistics, following the latest ICLS standards. Despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the LMSA and other ILO annual courses continued online, offering the same curriculum covering the full statistical production process (from high-level planning and identification of core indicators to be constructed, to questionnaire design, indicators calculation, analysis, interpretation and communication of the results, including the issue of gender mainstreaming in labour statistics). Other ITC-ILO annual courses include Stata for labour market analysis,<sup>45</sup> measuring skills mismatches, measuring and analyzing labour migration (organized in Daejeon, Republic of Korea, in collaboration with Statistics Korea), etc. Over the last two years (2020 and 2021), the ILO-ITC trained some 570 technical specialists from various national statistical offices and ministries of labour in Asia and the Pacific.

109. While the COVID-19 pandemic has hampered face-to-face training at the regional and national levels, ILO continued online briefings on various aspects of the latest standards from the 19th and 20th ICLS, as well as national training on topics such as labour migration, Sustainable Development Goal indicators under ILO custodianship, labour market information systems, measuring unpaid domestic and care work and establishment surveys. Over the

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<sup>45</sup> <https://www.itcilo.org/courses/stata-labour-market-analysis>.



last two years, ILO has provided briefings to member States such as Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Vanuatu and most of the ASEAN member States. ILO also collaborated with ESCAP to provide briefings to national statistical systems in the region, such as through the regular Stats Café series and through briefings to Resident Coordinator Offices.

110. The COVID-19 pandemic has also affected the ILO-Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) annual courses on Sustainable Development Goal decent work statistics in Chiba, Japan, including on Goal indicators for which ILO is the custodian agency.<sup>46</sup> However, plans are being developed to restart the key “Regional Course on Informality: Definitions, Measurement, SDGs and Other Policy Indicators”, which hopefully will restart in 2022. The course is held in collaboration with ESCAP, the WIEGO network (Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing)<sup>47</sup> and the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) of Japan. The regional course on “SDG indicators: Measuring decent work in the context of the SDGs” should also be restarted in the coming years.

### **United Nations Children’s Fund**

111. UNICEF, in partnership with United Nations and development partners, continues to provide technical assistance to countries in Asia and the Pacific to measure national multidimensional poverty for children, women and men (Sustainable Development Goal indicator 1.2.2) using MICS and other datasets and its use for policy and planning, for example in Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Timor-Leste.

112. In collaboration with SIAP, UNICEF organized a two-day online training workshop in May 2022 to strengthen the national statistical capacity in Asia and the Pacific to collect, analyse, report and use the newly developed Sustainable Development Goal indicator 4.2.1 on the early childhood development index (ECDI2030).<sup>48</sup> Indonesia’s Central Bureau of Statistics (BPS) was supported with the customization and adaptation of the ECDI2030 in the context of national surveys, such as the national socioeconomic survey (SUSENAS).

113. UNICEF organized a two-week virtual training workshop on “Harnessing the Power of Data to End Harmful Practices” in November 2021 to improve national capacity on the analysis, implementation and use of data related to child marriage and female genital mutilation that was attended by participants from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Nepal and Pakistan.

<sup>46</sup> See <http://unsiap.or.jp/programmes/labor.html> for details.

<sup>47</sup> <https://www.wiego.org/>.

<sup>48</sup> <https://data.unicef.org/resources/early-childhood-development-index-2030-ecdi2030/>.

## United Nations Development Programme

114. UNDP, UNODC, OHCHR, ESCAP and UNESCO organized a series of interactive and online training workshops on measuring progress towards Goal 16 indicators in Asia. The “Regional Training in Measuring SDG 16 in Asia”<sup>49</sup> was conducted in September–November 2021 for 609 participants from 33 countries (and 53 outside the region). The training was aimed to strengthen technical capacities of national authorities to produce, analyse and disseminate relevant Goal 16 indicators. It also aimed to strengthen the organizational framework and promote a “data community” among data producers and users for the exchange of experiences and challenges.

## United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

115. UIS and partner agencies conducted several trainings during 2020 and 2021 to strengthen the capacities of the member States in data collection, compilation, analysis and dissemination. Mainly through virtual modalities, it has conducted training programmes for each of the subregions South and West Asia, East and Southeast Asia, Central Asia and the Pacific. The training covered data collection and calculation methodologies for various Goal 4 indicators. Apart from subregional training, national trainings were organized at the request of countries.

116. Particularly to support countries to report on Sustainable Development Goal target 4.1, policy linking workshops were organized in Bangladesh, Cambodia and India. The workshops helped countries to streamline national assessment results into international reporting mechanisms.

## United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

117. In partnership with ESCAP (including SIAP) and SPC, UN-Women organized targeted training for different partners. For instance, training on big data analysis was organized for Pacific Island countries upon request. Similarly, a training-of-trainers was organized for the members of the subgroup on gender statistics training of the Network for the Coordination of Statistical Training in Asia and the Pacific,<sup>50</sup> utilizing the training curriculum on gender statistics.<sup>51</sup> A system of certification was used for participants who completed the training-of-trainers successfully, and their names were added to a repository of gender training experts.<sup>52</sup> Furthermore, the materials from the training curriculum were also converted into an e-learning course, which was launched in June 2022 and posted on the SIAP e-learning platform.

<sup>49</sup> <https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.sdg16hub.org%2Fregional-training-measure-sdg-16-asia%23%3A~%3Atext%3DThe%2520main%2520objectives%2520of%2520the%20Cexchange%2520of%2520experiences%2520and%2520challenges.&data=05%7C01%7Cbishwa.tiwari%40undp.org%7Cca6093f67ff64b88da0b08da495ec0e2%7Cb3e5db5e2944483799f57488ace54319%7C0%7C0%7C637902968564804363%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6IklhaWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ybkUQn8IAajusNEKXWX8ixHwSDd0HjGA10%2FP8ShtcLQ%3D&reserved=0.>

<sup>50</sup> <https://www.unsiap.or.jp/tnetwork/index.html>.

<sup>51</sup> <https://data.unwomen.org/resources/gender-statistics-training-curriculum>.

<sup>52</sup> <https://data.unwomen.org/resources/repository-gender-statistics-training-experts>.

## United Nations Environment Programme

118. In partnership with UNITAR, UNEP launched an e-learning course on “Gender Equality and Human Rights in Climate Action and Renewable Energy” in November 2021. So far, 5,106 participants registered for the course and 1,666 certificates were issued. The course increased the knowledge of participants on mainstreaming gender and human rights in climate action and renewable energy, thus contributing to indicator 13.b.1 – Number of least developed countries and small island developing States with nationally determined contributions, long-term strategies, national adaptation plans and adaptation communications, as reported to the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

119. UNEP and ESCAP jointly organized online training on Sustainable Development Goal indicator 12.c.1 – Amount of fossil-fuel subsidies (production and consumption) per unit of GDP, in June 2022. This training provided participants with a clear understanding of the methodology developed for measuring fossil fuel subsidies through Goal indicator 12.c.1, including definitions, template and national experiences of fossil fuel statistics, globally and in the Asia-Pacific region.

120. UNEP and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) initiated a joint review in 2021 on the environmental dimension of the 50 Voluntary National Reviews produced by 37 Asia and Pacific member countries in the period 2016–2021 and submitted to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. The review was to harness the knowledge and experiences from Voluntary National Reviews as a vehicle and national strategy for Sustainable Development Goal implementation and reporting, extract good practices, challenges, lessons and assess key areas that can illustrate where the region stands on the development of Voluntary National Reviews while also extracting common elements in the formulation process, with focus on the environmental dimension challenges, governance, and data and indicators.

121. UNEP organized two workshops on strengthening coordination for measuring progress on responsible consumption and production (Goal 12) and policy coherence (Sustainable Development Goal indicator 17.14.1) for South Asia in November-December 2021<sup>53</sup> and Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia in December 2021.<sup>54</sup> The workshops were part of the activities of the European Commission project on enhancing capacity for measuring progress towards the environmental dimension of the Sustainable Development Goals<sup>55</sup> and included Bangladesh, India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Uzbekistan. The objectives of the workshops were to reinforce coordination between data producers and users to emphasize the understanding of data collection and data usage for policymaking, to strengthen inter-institutional coordination and to share and discuss the challenges in measuring Goal 12 and policy coherence indicators.

<sup>53</sup> [https://wesr.unep.org/sites/default/files/2022-02/Workshop\\_Report\\_South\\_Asia-Final.pdf](https://wesr.unep.org/sites/default/files/2022-02/Workshop_Report_South_Asia-Final.pdf).

<sup>54</sup> [https://wesr.unep.org/sites/default/files/2022-02/Workshop\\_Report-7-9Dec2021\\_2.pdf](https://wesr.unep.org/sites/default/files/2022-02/Workshop_Report-7-9Dec2021_2.pdf).

<sup>55</sup> <https://wesr.unep.org/article/enhancing-capacity-measuring-progress-towards-environmental-dimension-sdgs>.

### **United Nations Industrial Development Organization**

122. UNIDO, in collaboration with SIAP, developed and implemented an e-learning course on “Sustainable Development Goal 9 (SDG 9): Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure”. The course provides the opportunity for participants to learn about the main pillars of Goal 9, its contribution to the 2030 Agenda and the importance of industrialization and innovation for structural transformation and inclusive growth. It also presents data sources and methodological aspects for monitoring Goal 9 indicators including UNIDO Goal 9 data tools available at the IAP. The course shows achievements of UNIDO’s industrial development projects in Asia and the Pacific and worldwide, highlighting COVID-19 impacts on manufacturing industries and introduces digital transformation and industrial recovery strategies.

### **United Nations Population Fund**

123. UNFPA has been contributing to national capacity building in statistical offices through all projects it has been supporting on population data (population censuses, household surveys and CRVS systems). This is done either directly through the provision of context-specific technical assistance to countries or through the organization of regional or global capacity building activities, which facilitate experience sharing and collaborative dialogue between countries. Since the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, UNFPA has invested in the development of e-learning resources, particularly in relation to population censuses. In the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, UNFPA was involved, in partnership with the Census Bureau of the United States of America, in the administration of the Tool for Assessing Statistical Capacity (TASC) to assess needs for capacity development in advance of the 2025 population census.

124. Moreover, UNFPA has been continuing to support where needed the development of capacities for the Sustainable Development Goals monitoring in relation to the Goal indicators for which it is custodian or partner agency.

### **Asian Development Bank**

125. ADB is working with ILO in supporting selected national statistical offices in implementing the latest guidelines on compiling statistics on labour, work and employment for their household surveys. Research is being conducted to examine the use of administrative data sources to provide additional employment-related information to complement LFS data and meet the employment-related data requirements of the Sustainable Development Goals.

### **Pacific Community**

126. SPC provides technical assistance and professional capacity development to support a regular programme of population and housing censuses and household surveys in Pacific Island member countries. Technical support covers all aspects of the census and survey cycle, from questionnaire design and preparation of census cartography, geographical information system (GIS) capacity building, to training of field staff, data processing, tabulation, analysis, and reporting and dissemination of results. Over the last two years, training has been delivered in virtual mode.

127. The key collections in which SPC provides direct support to are population and housing censuses; household income and expenditure surveys; DHS; MICS; disability surveys; and agriculture censuses/surveys.

128. SPC has collaborated with United Nations agencies and member States across several capacity building activities over the last two years, including:

- (a) A webinar series on the use of registers and administrative data in census programmes;
- (b) Development of training curricula on medical certification and coding of causes of death. These curricula have been made available to the Fiji National University and other universities in the region for incorporation into their academic training programmes for medical doctors and other health professionals;
- (c) Supporting ESCAP in the rollout of the National SDG Tracker in the Pacific in 2021, including a regional workshop and follow up discussions with countries on the refinement of national indicator frameworks;
- (d) Regional virtual workshop on monitoring Sustainable Development Goal target 2.1 using survey data;
- (e) Regional virtual workshop on Goal 14 indicators for which FAO is the custodian agency;
- (f) Online course on data analysis and report writing for civil registration-based vital statistics;
- (g) Open data for good governance webinar series;
- (h) Use of big data in gender statistics training;
- (i) QGIS for a Census and Survey Mapping Manual;
- (j) International Merchandise Trade Statistics Pacific Compilation Guide which contains training materials.

### **Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries**

129. In support of the 2030 Agenda, SESRIC organized 11 training courses and five webinars between September 2020 and August 2022 on topics related to Goal 1-7, 8, 9, 11 and 13 indicators in collaboration with national and international organizations including the Department of Statistics Malaysia, State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Statistics, Turkish Statistical Institute, IEA, and UN-Habitat for the benefit of 15 countries that are member of both OIC and ESCAP.

130. In addition, monitoring and reporting on Goal 1 and Goal 3 indicators was discussed in the OIC-StatCom annual sessions held in 2020 and 2021, respectively. The OIC-StatCom is an important forum within the OIC framework for cooperation among the national statistical offices of the member countries. It is a platform similar to the United Nations Statistical Commission aiming at supporting the national statistical systems of OIC member countries in the development of improved national strategies and policies.

131. Furthermore, SESRIC participated in the Consultative Group of Experts regional webinar on “Embedding Climate Reporting in National Statistics” for the Africa and the Eastern Europe regions organized virtually by UNFCCC in September 2021. SESRIC made a presentation on its StatCaB programme with a focus on its statistical capacity development activities related to Goal 13 indicators. The webinar was organized with a view to facilitating the enhancement of developing countries’ transparency arrangements under the UNFCCC convention and the Paris Agreement in a manner that taps into potential opportunities and mainstreams data collection

and analysis activities for climate reporting as well as for the optimal use of the existing resources and capacity at the national level.

132. The Committee may wish to express its views on the progress to date and on the future direction of the initiatives with a view to ensuring they together most effectively serve to implement the vision and framework for action.

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