

# Showcase of Asia-Pacific achievements in data integration

Monday 19 April 2021 at 13.00-14.00 BKK time

To keep up with urgent and evolving statistical demands raised by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and COVID-19 pandemic, national statistical systems are exploring new approaches. Data integration stands out as having potential to bridge data gaps.

The ESCAP Committee on Statistics agreed to launch the Data Integration Community of Practice to accelerate data integration practices. Establishing the community has been a significant achievement. It provides official statisticians across Asia-Pacific and beyond the opportunity to exchange their knowledge and experiences in an online forum. It produced resources like the **Asia-Pacific Guidelines to Data Integration for Official Statistics** (a regional adaption of the [UNECE guidelines](#)) and fostered papers by official statisticians of the region in the Statistical Journal of International Association for Official Statistics.

This Stats Café will showcase these and other achievements in supporting data integration.

## Agenda

- Welcome: Ms. Gemma Van Halderen, Director of UNESCAP Statistics Division
- **Overview of achievements**, Ms. Afsaneh Yazdani, Statistician, UNESCAP Statistics Division
- **DI-CoP: our virtual meeting place**, Ms. Jessica Gardner, former UNESCAP consultant
- **Launch of Asia-Pacific Guidelines to Data Integration for Official Statistics**
- **Touch upon the Asia-Pacific Guidelines to Data Integration for Official Statistics**, Ms. Jenine Borowik, UNESCAP consultant
- **Innovations from Iran: Resolving quality issues in the integration of administrative and big data in official statistics**, Mr. Saeed Fayyaz, Statistician, Statistical Center of Iran
- Q/A and discussion

## Relevant publication:

- United Nations, Economic Commission for Europe, "[A guide to data integration for official statistics](#)", version 2.

## Chair



**Ms. Gemma Van Halderen** is the Director of Statistics Division in ESCAP. Her work is to improve the use of statistics for evidence-based decision making and to develop and disseminate quality statistics for inclusive, sustainable and resilient societies in the ESCAP region. Gemma has extensive experience with the global statistical system through the UN Statistical Commission and UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management.

## Panelists



**Ms. Afsaneh Yazdani** is a Statistician at UNESCAP Statistics Division, Population and Social Statistics Section. She is currently leading a regional initiative on data integration. Before joining ESCAP in 2018, Afsaneh worked at Statistical Centre of Iran for more than 20 years in various capacities. Afsaneh has extensive experience in official statistics with a focus on survey methodology, censuses, and register-based statistics.



**Ms. Jessica Gardner** is a statistician specializing across several fields of official statistics. As a former consultant with ESCAP, Jessica helped to establish the Asia Pacific Data Integration Community of Practice. She worked with ESCAP to explore how similar communities of practice have been established and developed the initial framework and tools to help build the community.



**Ms. Jenine Borowik** has more than 30 years of work experience at Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), four years of which she was involved in leading data collection and data dissemination projects, including data integration. She has also led the international virtual collaboration on data integration for UNECE.



**Mr. Saeed Fayyaz** holds bachelor's degree in Statistics and master's in industrial engineering. He started working in Statistical Center of Iran in 2013. Since then, he has worked in different areas including manufacturing, ICT, and labour force statistics. Currently, he is leading the group on sustainable development statistics. He has (co)authored different papers on official statistics which have been presented at or published by UNESCAP statistical weeks, IAO-OECD, and ISI.