Title: Data Integration Guidelines

Purpose
The Asia-Pacific Guidelines to Data Integration for Official Statistics is the result of collective efforts of the members of the Data Integration Community of Practice (DI-CoP) to adapt the guide developed by ECE for the Asia-Pacific region. This publication gives practical advice and information to advance data integration activities by statistical organizations. The guidelines target managers, statisticians, methodologists, information and communication technology professionals and other staff members of statistical organizations who use data integration in the production of official statistics. It reviews requirements and challenges of integrating data for producing official statistics, provides solutions and presents relevant examples from the Asia-Pacific region.

What aspect of the National Statistical System is strengthened by this tool?
- Legislative and institutional mechanisms to enable national statistical systems to take full advantage of new and innovative technologies for data integration, to follow national and, where appropriate, international standards of data exchange and to build partnerships with all stakeholders for data sharing, while respecting the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. (*Declaration commitment f*)
- Expanded use of official statistics for evidence-based policymaking and transparent governance (*Declaration commitment h*)

What part of the regional Collective Vision and Framework for Action does this tool support?
Action area C: Integrated statistics for integrated analysis (primary)
Action D: Modernizing statistical business processes, Action E: Having requisite skills set (secondary)

Experiences to date
As the first step, the community focused on adapting the UNECE’s guidelines for the Asia-Pacific region. Later, country experiences shared at regular DI-CoP meeting, the results of the capacity assessment survey and ideas gathered during the regional workshops were used to enhance the guidelines.

Many relevant case studies were shared at the regular meetings and lodged on the community’s virtual platform and the ESCAP website. Most of these refer to projects being undertaken in National Statistical Offices while others refer to partnerships between different countries in the region and between countries and international organizations.

The community implemented a Data Integration Capacity Assessment Survey to assess capacity in the region. Two rounds of Regional Workshops on Implementing Data Integration in Asia and the Pacific were also conducted with around 80 participants from 24 countries.

The Asia-Pacific Guidelines to Data Integration for Official Statistics were launched on 15th April 2021 and a Stats Café to celebrate the launch and the first anniversary was held on 21st April 2021.
Where can I find more information?


Blog posts on data integration:
https://www.unescap.org/blog/communities-practice-stop-gap-solution-during-pandemic-or-here-stay

Data Integration Community of Practice:
https://stat-confluence.escap.un.org/pages/viewpage.action?spaceKey=DICP&title=Data+Integration+Community+of+Practice