

Data and statistics for the post-2015 development agenda: implications for regional collaboration on statistics in Asia and the Pacific

Preparatory expert group meeting for the fourth session of the ESCAP Committee on Statistics

9-10 December 2014, ESCAP Conference Centre, Meeting Room G

Tentative programme

Tuesday 9 December

08:30 - 09:00	Registration
Session 1 - Welcome and opening	
09:00 - 10:00	<p>Inauguration of the meeting and opening remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Anis Chowdhury, Director, Statistics Division of ESCAP</i> <p>Data and statistics for the post-2015 development agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, Professor, International Affairs, The New School for Social Research, New York (by video link)</i>
10:00 – 10:30	Coffee/tea break and group photo
Session 2 – Supporting monitoring and accountability for the post-2015 development agenda	
10:30 – 12:00	<p>Successful implementation of the post-2015 development agenda depends on effective monitoring of progress towards goals and clear accountability for the progress being made. This will require the consolidation of a wide range of data and statistics collected by an equally wide range of organisations, disaggregated by relevant population groups and accessible to all key stakeholders. This provides opportunities for establishing and strengthening a virtuous cycle of effective demand and efficient supply of key statistics for informed decision-making and better development results.</p> <p><u>Expected outcome:</u> Recommendations to strengthen the role of the national statistical systems, in particular national statistical offices, to support monitoring and accountability of the post-2015 development agenda as well as that of key users of statistics to ensure a suitable environment for statistics development</p>

	<p>Moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Ms El Iza Mohamedou, Deputy Secretariat Manager, PARIS21</i> <p>Presentations</p> <p>Demand for and provision of data for monitoring and accountability in public policy-making: Establishing and maintaining a virtuous cycle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Mr Deepak Nayyar, Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; and New School for Social Research, New York (via video-link)</i> <p>Global process of developing and finalizing indicator framework for post-2015 development agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Mr Matthias Reister, Senior Statistician, United Nations Statistics Division</i> <p>Discussants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Mr Nishan Veera Kumar, Head Programme Management Team, Performance Management and Delivery Unit, Malaysia</i>• <i>Mr Mohd. Monirul Islam, Planning Commission, Bangladesh</i> <p>Tentative questions for discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are the most significant factors that will ensure data and statistics are used to inform policies and promote accountability?• What institutional arrangements would most effectively support national monitoring and accountability of post-2015 development agenda?
Lunch event - Launch of the Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific 2014	
12:00 – 13:15	<p>The Statistical Yearbook for Asia and the Pacific presents the most up-to-date and comparable data. It is accompanied by a series of online products, including country fact sheets, a database containing over 600 indicators and data visualization options.</p> <p>Presenter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Mr Anis Chowdhury, Director, Statistics Division of ESCAP</i> <p>Questions and answers</p>

Keynote address	
13:15 – 14:15	<p>Better data for better development outcomes – opportunities presented by the post-2015 sustainable development agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Enrico Giovannini , Co-chair, United Nations Secretary-General’s Independent Expert Advisory Group on the Data Revolution for Sustainable Development (by video link)</i> <p>Moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Chair, Southern Voice on Post MDGs and Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue, Bangladesh</i> <p>Open discussion</p>
Session 3 - Measuring new and more detailed targets	
14:15 – 15:45	<p>National statistical systems need to prepare themselves for the high demands arising from the post-2015 development agenda for integrated economic, social and environmental statistics, as shown by the broad range of goals and targets that are contained in the proposal of the Open Working Group (OWG) on Sustainable Development Goals. The OWG proposal also contains two targets on data and statistics, making statistics development as part of a global development agenda. National statistical systems need to take advantage of this opportunity to introduce innovations in their structures, systems and processes to increase their efficiency and ability to meet the demands for statistics.</p> <p><u>Expected outcome:</u> Recommendations on how national statistical systems should prioritize their actions to strengthen their capacity in order to meet the demands for the wide range of integrated economic, social and environmental statistics.</p> <p>Moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Sairi Hasbullah, Head of Statistics Indonesia Java Timur Province, BPS-Statistics, Indonesia</i> <p>Presentations</p> <p>Integrated statistics for the post-2015 development agenda: Implications for national statistical systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Matthias Reister, Senior Statistician, United Nations Statistics Division</i> <p>Findings from the Post-2015 Data Test: Gaps in data availability and underlying constraints of national statistical systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Chair, Southern Voice on Post MDGs and Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue, Bangladesh</i>

	<p>Meeting the requirements for new measures and standards: examples from disaster-related statistics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms Hae Ryun Kim, Deputy Director, Research Planning Division, Statistical Research Institutes, Statistics Korea, Republic of Korea</i> <p>Discussants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Ipia Gadabu, Government Statistician, Nauru</i> • <i>Mr Zhasser Jarkinbayev, Deputy Chairman, Committee on Statistics of the Ministry of National Economy, Kazakhstan</i> <p>Tentative questions for discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What data are required to establish the baseline for the post-2015 sustainable development goals and where are the major data gaps? • To what extent are such gaps common across the entire region, or different for different subregions or groups of countries? What capacity constraints do these data gaps point to in national statistical systems? • What options are there for national statistical systems to take advantage of the opportunities proffered by the emphasis on statistics development as illustrated in the OWG proposal?
15:45 – 16:00	Coffee/tea break
Session 4 - Ensuring the relevance of regional collaboration for statistics development in Asia and the Pacific	
16:00 - 17:30	<p>Faced with frequent budget cuts and increasing demands from policy makers for more and better quality statistics, national statistical systems have taken steps to collaborate in different ways, including at the regional level. The measurement challenges brought about by the post-2015 development agenda raise even further the need for cooperation by the countries and the development partners to eradicate inefficiencies in statistics development work, notwithstanding the cost of coordination itself.</p> <p><u>Expected outcome:</u> Recommendations on whether/how regional collaboration tools and mechanisms for statistics development (e.g. existing regional programmes and those in progress) can be adapted or adjusted for accelerated improvement of national statistical systems, given the opportunities and challenges rising from the post-2015 development agenda.</p> <p>Moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Tite Habiyakare, Regional Labour Statistician, International Labour Organization</i> <p>Presentations</p> <p>Integrating new requirements into regional programmes under the strategic goals of the Committee on Statistics/ tackling core capacity issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Jeff Cope, Principal Economic Statistician, Statistics New Zealand</i>

	<p>Broadening the partnerships for statistics development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms Gemma Van Halderen, First Assistant Statistician, Australian Bureau of Statistics</i> <p>Discussants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Rana Hasan, Assistant Chief Economist, Asian Development Bank</i> <p>Tentative questions for discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can we ensure that statistics development issues cutting across different domains, e.g. institutional, organizational and statistical infrastructure— which are prerequisites for domain-specific development such as the implementation of the Core Sets—are tackled efficiently at the regional level? • How can we ensure coordination with value added—that the cost and benefit of coordination are effectively understood and internalized by the countries and development partners? • Can the regional programmes contribute to the monitoring of the SDG target 17.18 under Goal 17 Data, monitoring and accountability and how?
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Wednesday 10 December

Session 5 – Integrating new priorities into national planning for statistics development	
09:00 – 10:30	<p>Given the broad scope and ambition of the post-2015 development agenda, existing national statistical capacity building plans may need to be updated to include additional priorities. Integrating new priorities into national development plans will be crucial.</p> <p><u>Expected outcome:</u> Recommendations of processes, tools and strategies to assist the countries of Asia and the Pacific to integrate new statistical capacity building requirements into national development plans.</p> <p>Moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms Maja Cubarrubia, Country Director, Plan International, Thailand</i> <p>Presentations</p> <p>Application of the Adapted Global Assessment in Mongolia and the potential to help countries prepare to monitor the post-2015 development agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms B. Badamtsetseg, First Vice Chairperson, National Statistics Office, Mongolia</i> <p>Using National Strategies for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) as a tool for capacity strengthening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms El Iza Mohamedou, Deputy Secretariat Manager, PARIS21</i>

	<p>Discussants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Kuenga Tshering, Director General, National Statistics Bureau, Bhutan</i> • <i>Mr Roko Koloma, Government Statistician, Papua New Guinea</i> <p>Tentative questions for discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In what ways would an overall review of national statistical system be useful in helping countries to meet the statistical demands presented by the post-2015 development agenda? • The full set of targets currently proposed for the post-2015 development agenda, goes beyond the framework of national statistical plans of most countries. What in your view should be done to address the gaps for the full post-2015 agenda? • What recommendations would you give to national statistical systems to promote more effective usage of national statistical plans for monitoring the SDGs?
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee/tea break
Session 6 – Using the data revolution to provide more effective and efficient statistical production and services	
11:00 – 12:30	<p>The post-2015 development agenda poses demands for more efficient and effective data production from both existing and potential new sources. While it may be necessary to launch new data collections, much can be done to make use of existing data to reduce and eliminate the gaps in the availability and quality of data, as well as open access to the available data.</p> <p><u>Expected outcomes:</u> Recommendations on realizing the data revolution, including using new data sources and increasing openness of data, and on opportunities to improve the efficiency and modernization of statistical production and services in key areas of the post-2015 development agenda.</p> <p>Moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms Margarita Guerrero, Director, Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific, ESCAP</i> <p>Presentations</p> <p>Modernization of statistical production and services and to increase efficiency of national statistical organizations: Experiences from Thailand</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms Malee Wongsaroje, Inspector General, Ministry of Information and Communication Technology, Thailand</i> <p>Modernization of statistical production and services and to increase efficiency of national statistical organizations: Experiences from Indonesia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Suryamin, Chief Statistician, BPS-Statistics, Indonesia</i>

	<p>Combining official statistics with new data sources - Australian big data strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms Gemma Van Halderen, First Assistant Statistician, Australian Bureau of Statistics</i> <p>Discussants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Pham Quang Vinh, Deputy Director General, General Statistics Office, Viet Nam</i> <p>Tentative questions for discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do statistical organizations need to do to stay relevant in view of increasing number of producers of statistics and increasingly limited budgets? How can modernization of statistical production and services improve the quality, reduce costs, and help with monitoring of the post-2015 development agenda? • Data and statistics are a public good. Can open and transparent data become the standard practice in the region? How can we encourage other actors, from both public and private sector, to share their data with the wider public? • How can NSOs in the region harness the potential of new data sources, such as big data, satellite imagery or even administrative data sources? Are surveys and censuses becoming obsolete? Can (or should) new data sources replace the ways of producing official statistics? • How can new data sources be used for some "quick wins" on the SDGs to demonstrate the feasibility of different approaches, set baselines for indicators, or even develop a first wave of indicators?
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
Session 7 – The need for greater investment in statistics development	
13:30 – 15:00	<p>Improvements in data availability and quality require significant investment of resources in order to launch new data collection exercises and expand existing ones, acquire and/or upgrade information technology and other tools that are essential to the efficient functioning of a modern statistical system, recruit and keep competent staff, as well as develop their technical, management and leadership capabilities. In addition, there is need to use existing resources more efficiently.</p> <p><u>Expected outcome:</u> Conclusions on the investment required for monitoring the post-2015 development agenda and recommendations on securing sufficient (and additional) resources and making more efficient use of existing resources.</p> <p>Moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Kuenga Tshering, Director General, National Statistics Bureau, Bhutan</i>

	<p>Presentations The financial investment required to monitor the SDGs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Morten Jerven, Simon Fraser University and Nantes Institute for Advanced Study, France (via video link)</i> <p>Financing statistics development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Rana Hasan, Assistant Chief Economist, Asian Development Bank</i> <p>Discussants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Pham Quang Vinh, Deputy Director General, General Statistics Office, Viet Nam</i> <p>Tentative questions for discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the cost of developing capacity to monitor the post-2015 development agenda? • Will countries be able to dedicate the resources and investment required? What additional sources of funding and investment are needed? • How will investment in the post-2015 development agenda affect investment in other national statistical development priorities? • What is the opportunity cost of failing to invest in statistics development?
15:00 – 15:30	Coffee/tea break
Session 8 – The future strategic direction for statistics development in Asia and the Pacific	
15:30 – 17:30	<p><u>Expected outcomes:</u> Draft recommendations to be submitted to the leaders of the Asian and Pacific national statistical systems at the fourth session of the Committee on Statistics on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How best to formulate a regional position on the requirements of the post-2015 development agenda for national statistical systems, including the role of the latter in the development of a regional monitoring and accountability framework • Whether the existing regional strategic goals should be adapted, especially in view of the new global development agenda and how. <p>Moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Anis Chowdhury, Director, Statistics Division of ESCAP</i> <p>Round table discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr Suryamin, Chief Statistician, BPS-Statistics, Indonesia</i> • <i>Mr Zhasser Jarkinbayev, Deputy Chairman, Committee on Statistics of the Ministry of National Economy, Kazakhstan</i> • <i>Ms B. Badamtsetseg, First Vice Chairperson, National Statistics Office, Mongolia</i> • <i>Mr Ipia Gadabu, Government Statistician, Nauru</i> • <i>Mr Bikash Bista, Director General, Central Bureau of Statistics, Nepal</i>

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