United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
Russian Federation Federal State Statistics Service (Rosstat)
National Research University Higher School of Economics (NRU HSE)

Inception workshop for the project *Strengthening research and studies for improved quality of SDG statistics in Central Asia*
8-10 May 2019
CR-4, UN Conference Center, Bangkok, Thailand

PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 8 May 2019	
08:30 – 09:00	**Registration**
09:00 – 09:25	**Session 1: Opening of the workshop** Opening remarks by • ESCAP Statistics Division • Rosstat
09:25 – 09:40	**Session 2: Introduction to the workshop** • Introduction of participants and logistics
09:40 – 10:00	**Group photo and coffee/tea break**
10:00 – 12:00	**Session 3: Towards improved quality of SDG statistics in Central Asia** The session reviews the objective of the project *Strengthening research and studies for improved quality of SDG statistics in Central Asia* and the context in which it was developed. *Chair: Mr. Sergey Egorenko, Rosstat* *Presentations:* • Rosstat • ESCAP Statistics Division • NRU HSE *Comments and moderated discussion*
12:00 – 13:30	**Lunch break**
13:30 – 16:30 (Coffee/tea break at 15:00 – 15:15)	**Session 4: SDG statistics in the countries of Central Asia** The session reviews, through country presentations, the status and opportunities for improved quality of national SDG frameworks of countries of Central Asia. *Chair: Mr. Steven Kapsos, ILO* *Presentations (15 minutes each):* • Afghanistan • Armenia

	• Azerbaijan • Kazakhstan • Kyrgyzstan • Russian Federation • Tajikistan • Turkmenistan • Uzbekistan
	Key questions for country presentations: 1. What does the national SDG indicator framework of your country look like? 2. What are the main data sources and processes for data collection, indicator compilation and dissemination? 3. What are the main challenges and capacity gaps, such as related to formulating indicator concepts and definitions; indicator computation and disaggregation; data sources and data availability? 4. Have there been recent and/or are there ongoing efforts to strengthen capacity, including through training? *Comments and moderated discussion*
Thursday, 9 May 2019	
09:00 - 12:00 (Coffee/tea break at 10:30 – 10:45)	**Session 5: Training and related capacity strengthening for the compilation of specific SDG indicators of international agencies** In this session, selected international organizations, as custodian agencies of specific SDG indicators, present their training and related capacity strengthening efforts, with focus on ongoing and planned work in the countries of Central Asia and the availability of training material and/or courses in the Russian language. *Chair: Mr Kanat Kerimkulov, Government Office of the Kyrgyz Republic* *Presentations (15 minutes each):* • FAO • ILO • UNESCO • UN Women *Comments and moderated discussion*
12:00 – 13:30	**Lunch break**
13:30 – 15:00	**Session 6: Regional assessment of progress towards the SDGs in the countries of Central Asia** ESCAP annually assesses the progress of the countries of Asia and the Pacific towards the SDGs on the basis of data sourced from the global SDG indicator database and custodian agencies. In this session, the results of the most recent assessment are presented. *Chair: Mr Giorgi Kvinikadze, FAO* *Presentation* • ESCAP

	Comments and moderated discussion
15:00 – 15:15	**Coffee/tea break**
15:15– 16:30	**Session 7: Priorities for a training programme on SDG statistics for countries in Central Asia** The session discusses priorities for a training programme on SDG statistics for countries in Central Asia by addressing the following questions: • For which thematic areas (e.g. goals and/or targets) and/or specific SDG indicators are countries in most need of training? • What is the need for training related to the use of non-traditional data sources, such as geospatial information and big data, and possible new techniques such as small area estimation for the compilation of, especially disaggregated, SDG indicators? • Who are in most need of training? Say, managers or methodologists? Should training be pitched at the basic, intermediate or advanced level? • What are preferred training modalities? To what extent is their need for face-to-face versus remote / e-learning courses? For face-to-face training, in-country or subregional? • What are countries currently doing to train staff in the production of SDG indicators? Do they have training material, experience and/or lessons to share? *Chair: Jan Smit, Statistics Division, ESCAP*
Friday, 10 May 2019	
09:00 – 11:30 (Coffee/tea break at 10:15 – 10:30)	**Session 8: Way forward and next steps** This session summarizes, on the basis of outcome of the discussion during the previous day, the way forward for the development of a training programme on SDG statistics for countries in Central Asia. *Chair: Jan Smit, Statistics Division, ESCAP*
11:30 – 12:00	**Session 9: Conclusion and closing of the workshop**