

Strengthening research and studies for improved quality of SDG statistics in Central Asia

Statistics Division
United Nations Economic and Social Commission
for Asia and the Pacific



Project rationale

- Evidence-based decision-making for and assessing progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals
- Requires the availability of high-quality data and statistics
- Including SDG indicators
- That are disaggregated along all relevant dimensions



Collective vision and framework for action by the Asia-Pacific statistical community

Adopted by the [ESCAP Committee on Statistics](#) in Dec 2016

Vision

“... by 2030, national statistical systems are enabled and empowered to lead development of and to deliver innovative, trusted and timely products and services for urgently needed and evolving statistical requirements of Agenda 2030.”

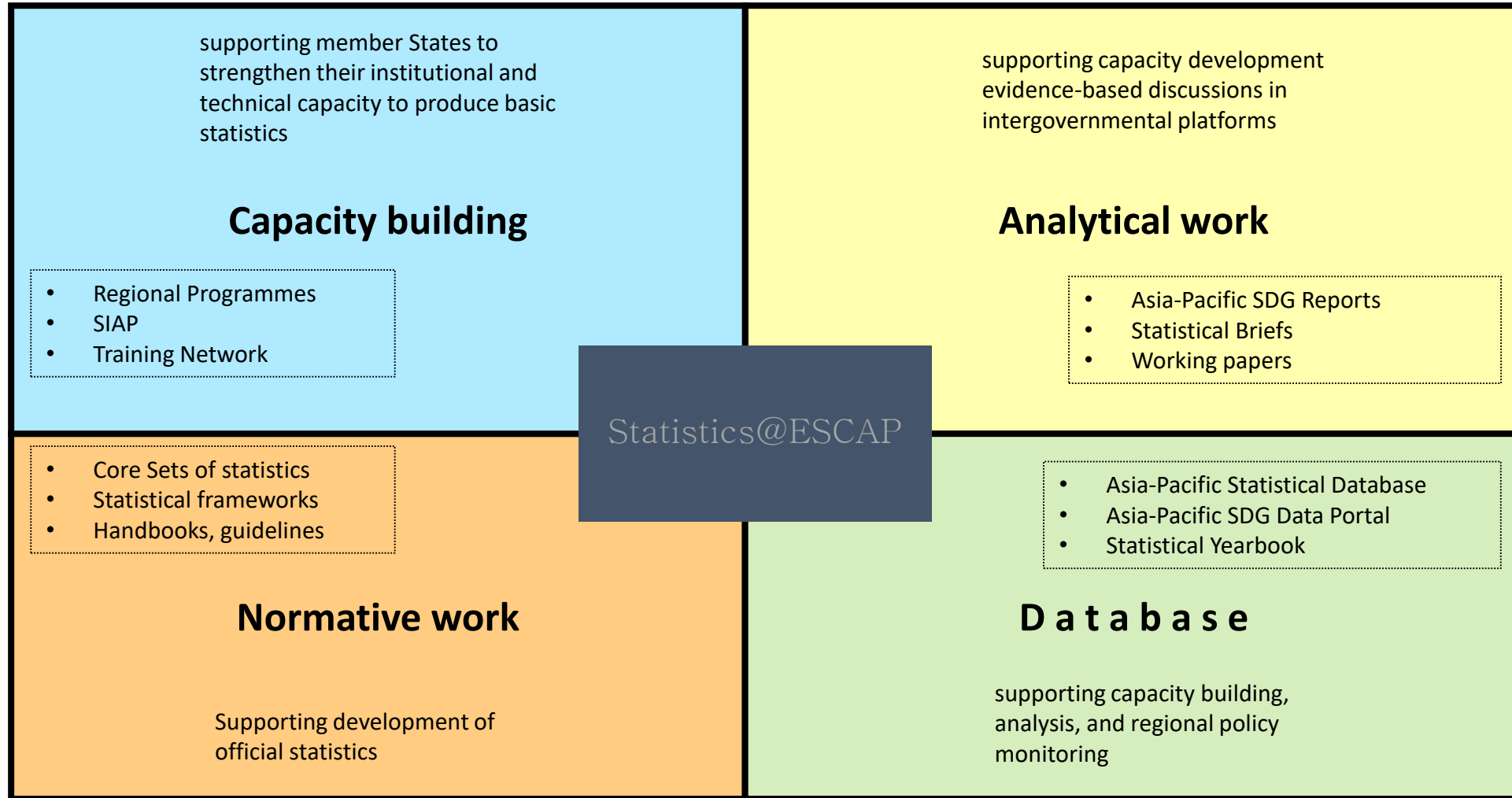


The framework for action: 5 action areas

- A. Engaging users and investing in statistics
- B. Assuring quality and instilling trust in statistics
- C. Integrated statistics for integrated analysis
- D. Modernizing statistical business processes
- E. Having requisite skill sets
 - 1. Availability of guidance material and training
 - 2. Combined skill set of staff, capable management and sufficiency of human resources ensures generation of statistical products needed to monitor implementation of national development plans and the 2030 Agenda



Implementing the vision and framework for action: Statistics@ESCAP



Project aim

To strengthen the capacity of the countries of Central Asia to produce data for priority SDG indicators through the development of training material, including in the Russian language, and the design and delivery of training courses through face-to-face and/or e-learning modalities.

Thus directly addresses action area E of the framework



Project funding and partners

- Funding: Russian Federation
- United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
 - Statistics Division
 - United Nations Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP)
 - Subregional Office for North and Central Asia (SONCA)
- Russian Federation Federal State Statistics Service (Rosstat)
- National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE)



Project building blocks

- Past Russian-funded projects to strengthen statistics in the countries of Central Asia
- ESCAP regional programmes related to SDG data & statistics
- SIAP workshops and training courses



Past Russian Federation-funded projects

- Supporting effective use of information and communication technology in population census operations, 2010-2012
- Strengthening capacity of national statistical systems to produce and disseminate economic statistics, including national accounts, in accordance with 2008 SNA, 2013-2017



ESCAP regional statistics programmes

Currently involving Central Asian countries:

- Environmental accounting: Tajikistan
- Population and social statistics: Armenia
- Civil registration and vital statistics: Kazakhstan & Tajikistan
- SDG indicator development / monitoring: Kazakhstan & Turkmenistan



SIAP workshops & training courses

- Central Asia-focused SDG statistics-related workshops
- Regional SDG indicator workshops & training courses
- Residential courses with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) on:
 - Statistics for meeting the SDG demand
 - Producing disaggregated SDG indicators
 - ICT innovations for modernizing statistical systems
- E-learning
 - Including on poverty statistics & the poverty-related SDG indicators and the System of National Accounts (SNA)



Central Asia-focused workshops

- [On Data and Statistics for SDGs](#), Almaty, Kazakhstan, Sep 2016
 - Familiarization with emerging global SDG indicator framework
 - Considerations for the development of national SDG indicator frameworks, including the need to address data gaps
- [On Data and Statistics for SDGs for High-Level Official Statisticians](#), Baku, Azerbaijan, May 2017
 - Enhanced leadership of national statistical systems to accelerate the development of national SDG indicator frameworks, with focus on the need to enhance the skills base of staff through training



Regional SDG indicator workshops/ courses in 2018

- [On Quality of Statistics for SDG Indicators](#) (with UNSD)
- [On Gender Statistics for SDG Indicators](#) (with UNSD)
- [On SDG Indicators under FAO Custodianship](#) (with FAO)
- [On Gender Statistics and SDG Indicators 5.a.1 and 5.a.2](#) (with FAO)
- [Measuring decent work in the context of the SDGs](#) (with ILO)
- On SDG-related Gender Statistics (with UN Women)
- [On Education-Related SDG indicators](#) (with UNESCO & Kostat)



Project activities so far

- Completed/ongoing:
 - Partnership arrangement between HSE and ESCAP in place for organizing training courses for official statisticians in Russian
 - HSE is in the process of finalizing the translation of a SIAP e-learning course on poverty statistics
 - The organization of this project inception workshop
- Planned:
 - The organization of two training events
 - The organization of a project concluding event to review project achievements and discuss any next steps



Objectives of the inception workshop

- To take stock of the status of countries' current SDG indicator frameworks, challenges, capacity gaps and training needs
- To take stock of ongoing and planned training and related capacity strengthening activities by selected international organizations, as custodian agencies of specific SDG indicators, for the countries of Central Asia
- To decide on priorities for the training to be delivered under the project
- To consider options for meeting longer term training needs on data and statistics for the SDGs in Central Asia



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