

CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS

Approved

Meeting of the 2015/2016 Bureau
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Item 4 (j) of the Provisional
Agenda

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR 2018-2019
Subprogramme 03: Statistics

*This document provides objectives for the Statistics subprogramme for the biennium 2018-2019, including expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement. It includes a description of a strategy with a risk analysis. **The Bureau discussed and approved the UNECE Statistics subprogramme's Strategic Framework for 2018-2019.***

Objective of the Organization: To develop official statistics at the national and international levels for evidence-based policymaking and assessing progress towards sustainable development goals (SDGs), and to ensure the coordination of statistical activities in the ECE region under the Conference of European Statisticians

<i>Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat</i>	<i>Indicators of achievement</i>		<i>Performance measures</i>		
			<i>2018-2019</i>	<i>2016-2017</i>	<i>2014-2015</i>
(a) Streamlined international statistical work, in support of monitoring the achievement of SDGs	(a) (i) Number of international organizations involved in the regional monitoring of SDGs in coordination with the statistical work of the Conference of European Statisticians	Target	20	–	–
		Estimate		–	–
		Actual			–
	(ii) Number of statistical areas reviewed in depth by the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians	Target	5	5	5
		Estimate		5	5
		Actual			6
(b) Updated and newly developed standards and recommendations to enhance the quality and international comparability of statistics and SDG monitoring	(b) (i) Number of new or revised international statistical standards and recommendations developed with ECE contribution	Target	6	6	5
		Estimate		6	5
		Actual			6
	(ii) Number of SDGs in which ECE provides methodological support to the development of statistics for measuring progress towards SDGs	Target	10	–	–
		Estimate		–	–
		Actual			–
(c) Improved national capacities to implement international standards and recommendations in official statistics, including on SDGs and gender-sensitive indicators	(c) (i) Number of countries with developing statistical systems that include recommendations from global assessments of national statistical systems, including on SDGs and gender-sensitive indicators, in their strategies for statistical development	Target	6	6	–
		Estimate		6	–
		Actual			–
	(ii) Percentage of trained national experts, including women, that use the acquired skills to implement international standards and recommendations in official statistics	Target	85	–	–
		Estimate		–	–
		Actual			–
(d) Improved availability and increased use of statistics from the ECE database, in particular related to SDGs, gender equality and key socio-economic indicators in support of evidence-based policymaking and research in ECE member States	(d) (i) Number of countries that use internationally comparable statistical data from the ECE statistical database for evidence-based policy making and research	Target	46	–	–
		Estimate		–	–
		Actual			–
	(ii) Percentage of users that express satisfaction with the ECE statistical database as a tool for their work	Target	82	80	80
		Estimate		80	80
		Actual			81

Strategy

The responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the Statistical Division. The objective of the subprogramme will be achieved through (a) coordination of international statistical work in the region, in particular for the monitoring of progress towards SDGs; (b) normative work to develop statistical standards and recommendations to enhance quality and comparability of statistics and SDG monitoring; (c) capacity building activities to support the implementation of these standards and recommendations; and (d) provision of statistics on key socio-economic indicators, SDGs and gender equality to support evidence-based policy making in the ECE region.

The subprogramme will coordinate international statistical activities in the region through the Conference of European Statisticians, joint expert meetings and working groups to share good practices and expertise in official statistics. The subprogramme will ensure effective collaboration and efficient use of resources through close partnerships among national and international statistical organizations. It will strengthen synergies with other ECE subprogrammes and with relevant United Nations entities and other organizations whose policy work relies on the development of official statistics.

The subprogramme will develop standards and recommendations in priority areas identified by the ECE member States, with a focus on supporting the monitoring of progress towards SDGs and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; measurement of climate change; globalization; population, poverty and inequality; and modernization of statistical production, including the use of geospatial information. Work will be undertaken in close cooperation with experts from ECE member States and international organizations through expert groups, each of them developing methodological and practical guidelines to address a specific gap or a challenge in official statistics.

The subprogramme will support statistical capacity building of ECE member States, particularly of those with less developed statistical systems. It will promote the implementation of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and other United Nations standards and best practices at the national level, and provide advice on legal and institutional frameworks of official statistics. The training workshops and advisory work will be demand-driven and address national priorities as identified in global assessments of national statistical systems, with a view to developing population censuses, SDG indicators, gender-disaggregated statistics, national accounts, prices, business statistics, environmental accounting and indicators, and modernize statistical production.

The subprogramme will collect and disseminate key socio-economic statistics of ECE member States, including on progress towards the achievement of SDGs and gender equality. The subprogramme will promote the use of these statistics and make them accessible to the public on the Internet. A specific framework will be applied to ensure the quality, coverage and timeliness of the information.

External factors

The subprogramme is expected to achieve its objective and expected accomplishments on the assumption that: (a) sufficient resources and mechanisms are in place for monitoring the achievement of SDGs nationally and internationally; (b) resource constraints would not hamper the participation of national statistical offices in international work nor impede the implementation of the resulting standards; (c) the willingness to cooperate on the part of international statistical organizations remains high, in particular the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the Statistical Office of the European Union (Eurostat), the Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, as well as on the part of the national statistical organizations of ECE member countries; (d) sufficient donors' support is available to the work on modernization of statistical production; (e) development work carried out by national statistical offices continues on key statistical domains; (f) resources are available to provide support for the national statistical organizations of countries with less developed statistical systems; and (g) data needed for the ECE statistical database are made available by the national and international statistical organizations free of charge, and the technological infrastructure is sufficient for databases and web dissemination.
