An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh
Central Statistics Office

First Expert Forum for Producers and Users of Disaster-related Statistics
7th June 2021

Panel discussion:
Main Gaps between demand and availability of official statistics

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General Comments

1. National Statistical Offices have well-established reporting obligations so it is difficult to get staff resources for new work unless it has a legal obligation or was proposed by the Management Board

2. Getting disaster-related statistics onto the agenda of NSOs would probably require initial agreement and commitment at Conference of European Statisticians level

3. NSOs have lots of data but analysis of it may require high-level data processing skills

4. Generally there are no proactive discussions are taking place between NSOs and the departments and agencies responsible for disasters and hazards

5. Complex data need to be presented in readily-understandable formats. Meteorologists have developed excellent presentation methods for daily weather reports.

6. NSOs input may be more suitable for advance assessment and planning than in real-time

7. Statistics Acts provide a legal basis for making confidential data available to approved researchers that have more subject-matter knowledge e.g. Covid-19

8. Census and business register data by NACE sector should be readily available in an anonymised gridded format for use in disaster strategy assessments

9. Data protection and statistical legislation should include references to data management and sharing in emergency situations

Examples of Critical Data and CSO Access position	
Small areas	Good for planning and post-event assessment (Census)
Meteorological	Real-time data but complex to analyse (CSO access)
Hydrological	Real-time river gauge data but complex to analyse (CSO access)
Demographic	Censuses and Local Authority registers (CSO access)
Businesses	Location and NACE sectors (CSO access)
Road conditions	Real-time data but sparse (CSO access)
Air quality	Real-time data but complex to analyse and urban focused
Traffic counters	Real-time data but main roads focused (CSO access)
Mobile phone	Big data but complex to analyse and sensitive (CSO access)
Satellite	Complex to manage and analyse (real-time?)

Examples of NSO Strengths	Examples of NSO Weaknesses
Data management process – frameworks, classifications, coding, processing, editing, dissemination	Timeliness of data
Access to administrative data	Data sharing restrictions
Access to Big data	Office hours not 24/7
Data integration	Limited access to national map databases
Analytical capacity	Lack of spatial and geocoded data
Time series	Lack of geospatial skills among staff
Trust of data providers	…..
Products accompanied by clear metadata	
Open data access to aggregated data	
Robust IT system	
Onsite and remote working options	
Anonymised research microdata	