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I. ABSTRACT

Title: European social indicators' revision and modernization

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Topic: D. 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and going beyond averages

The at risk of poverty or social exclusion indicator (AROPE) corresponds to the sum of persons who are either at risk of poverty, or severely materially deprived or living in a household with a very low work intensity.

AROPE has been the headline indicator to monitor the EU 2020 Strategy poverty target and remains crucial to monitor the EU 2030 target on poverty and social exclusion. The EU 2030 poverty objective aims to reduce by at least 15 million the number of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion by 2030, out of them, at least 5 million should be children.

This work shows the decisions that have been taken by Eurostat in strict cooperation with policy users to modernize two of the components of AROPE. Firstly, the changes to adjust the severe material deprivation indicator, based on some obsolete items towards the severe material and social deprivation measure will be shown. Secondly, the changes adopted regarding some of the parameters of the low work intensity indicator, to adapt it to the new realities in the labour market will be described. Finally, the impact of these changes on AROPE will be shown.

The revision entails a marginal impact on both the levels and composition of the overall population considered at risk of poverty and exclusion at EU level. This will allow to capture a broader and more refined measurement of deprivation, based on a revised and elaborated list of items, as well as to better account for the social exclusion situation of those of working age from age 18 to age 64.