Role and Initiatives of International Organizations in Collaborating with Private Data Providers

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This presentation is based on the document (ECE/CES/2022/25), which is an extract of the in-depth review paper prepared by Poland et al. (ECE/CES/2022/11), with updates from international organizations.

It provides a summary of international statistical activities on collaboration with private sector data providers under six thematic areas.

It aims to identify the areas in which many international organizations actively participate, those with clearly divided responsibilities, and possibly the fields that have not yet been sufficiently addressed.
I: Principles for accessing privately held data

- Improve communication by underlining the public interest purposes, sensitivities of using company’s data, and the need for a responsible approach

Examples:
- Principles for Access to Big Data Sources for Official Statistics, by the UN Committee of Experts on Big Data and Data Science for Official Statistics (UN-CEBD)
- Recommendation on Enhancing Access to and Sharing of Data (OECD)
II: Communication and agreements with stakeholders

- Active engagement with stakeholders to overcome factors that hinder data sharing collaborations for official statistical purposes

Examples:
- Task Team on Global Facilitation of Access to Privately-held Data for Official Statistics (UN-CEBD)
- Expert Group on Business-to-Government Data Sharing; Expert Group on facilitating the use of new data sources for official statistics (European Commission)
- Development Data Partnership (Inter-American Development Bank, IMF, OECD, UNDP, and World Bank)
III: Legislation

- Provide safeguards on ethical and privacy issues, while supporting the trust and relationships established based on the mutual benefits of collaboration.

Examples:
- The EU General Data Protection Regulation; European Data Strategy; Data Governance Act; Data Act Proposal
- 2020 and 2021 UNECE Expert Meetings on Modernizing Statistical Legislation
Support NSOs in dealing with the common problems related to particular data sources

Examples:
- Task teams on the specific data sources, e.g., mobile phone data, scanner data, satellite imagery data, automatic identification system data, etc. (UN-CEBD)
- Guide to Sharing Economic Data for Official Statistics (UNECE)
- ESSnet Big Data multi-partner projects
V: Common IT infrastructure

- Facilitate the access to, processing, and analysis of different data sources

Examples:
- UN Global Platform (UN-CEBD)
- The Smart Data platform (OECD)
- Trusted Smart Statistics Centre (Eurostat)
VI: Trainings and competency building

- Strengthen institutional readiness for the use of new data sources

Examples:
- Task Team on Training, Competencies and Capacity Development (UN-CEBD)
- Big Data Maturity Matrix; Big Data Training Curriculum; Big Data Training Catalogue (UN-CEBD)