

## REPORT OF THE EXPERT MEETING

1. The expert meeting<sup>1</sup> was organized as part of the Conference of European Statisticians' work programme for 2022, within the context of the High-Level Group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics. It was held at the Italian National Institute of Statistics (Istat) in Rome, Italy from 26 to 28 October 2022. The meeting received strong interest and support, with more than 210 registrations. Due to the post-emergency prevention measures for COVID-19 risk management in Italy, the meeting venue could only accommodate around 50 persons and a hybrid meeting has been arranged. A total of 53 participants from 20 countries attended the meeting in-person and around 60 participants joined the meeting remotely. They represented the statistical offices of Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Türkiye, United Kingdom, United States, as well as IMF, UNHCR, University of Michigan and World Bank.

2. The expert meeting was hosted by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the Italian National Institute of Statistics (Istat). It was organised under the responsibility of the High-Level Group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics. The Organisation Committee consisted of Ian O'Sullivan (Office for National Statistics, United Kingdom), Lise Rivais (Statistics Canada), Pasquale Papa (Italian National Institute of Statistics), Paulo Saraiva dos Santos (Statistics Portugal), Andrea Ascheri (Eurostat), Ahmet Sari (Turkish Statistical Institute), Leonne Hollanders and Susan Oudshoorn (Statistics Netherlands).

3. The agenda included the following substantive topics:

- Automated Data Collection: New techniques and IT solutions to improve support and interaction with survey respondents;
- Responsive Design: Leveraging data collected in the early stages of a survey to inform data collection design in the later stages;
- Respondent Care: Improving the experience of respondents from initial contact through to completion of the survey;
- Managing Multimode Data Collection and Integrating Sources; and
- Rapid Data Collection Strategies and Real Time Indicators: Filling the information gaps of the rapidly changing environment

4. Sixty contributions were submitted and thirty-four of them were selected by the Organisation Committee. They were allocated and presented in three substantive sessions: (i) Managing Multimode and Rapid Data Collection; (ii) Respondents Care; and (iii) Responsive Design. In addition, there were small group discussions where lessons learned and topics for future work in data collection were deliberated. The expert meeting was concluded with an interactive plenary discussion on the way forward in data collection and a voting to identify the most relevant topics for future work.

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<sup>1</sup> Until 2020, it was called the Workshop on Statistical Data Collection.

5. During the small-group discussions, topics for future work were identified. Based on the voting, the most relevant items selected for future work were (listed in descending order):

- Respondents as assets (paradigm shift): how to get their feedback; what we need to do to get them responding; building confidence; return of results to data providers
- Use of paradata: how to use paradata to improve response and measurement bias (including legal issues about usage)
- Depend less on survey data: how to use new techniques and more administrative and other non-survey sources
- Use of adaptive techniques and flexible solutions: how to use adaptive and flexible solutions to improve response and reduce costs and bias from selective non-response
- Improve social licensing: how to improve public awareness of what NSOs are doing and the value of survey data
- Differentiation in communication strategies: share experiences, e.g., use of apps and links sent by SMS to reach students or generation specific channels
- Cooperation between European statistical institutes for the statistical training of university and school students to foster enrolment in STEM courses
- System-to-system data communication systems
- Mobile first approach: how to design mobile first questionnaire and use sensor data and other smartphone capabilities
- Changing role of field interviewers: how can their role be changed to help us
- Applying clever methods: how to combine probabilistic and non-probabilistic approaches and other shifts in how we collect data and accept risks of breaking time-series
- Getting internal support: strategies to get internal support for new directions and data collection methods, including support from top leadership
- How can we put the respondent first (e.g., PoC, tests and pilot to implement this vision)
- Getting new skills: how to obtain new skills and capabilities in our organizations (e.g., training programs for existing staff)
- Exchange of ideas on how to involve respondents in the survey design taking into consideration that respondents can be a diverse group and that resources often are limited
- Use of text mining: investing in text mining application to get respondents' opinions and complaints

6. For reference, the timetable is included as Annex 1. All abstracts, papers, presentations, and other output from the workshop are available at the UNECE website (<https://unece.org/statistics/events/DC2022>).

## Annex 1 Timetable of the 2022 UNECE Expert Meeting on Statistical Data Collection, 26-28 October, ISTAT, Aula Magna, Via Cesare Balbo 14, Rome, Italy

### DAY 1 – Wednesday 26 October 2022

09:00	<b>Registration</b>
10:00	<b>Opening</b>
10:00	<b>Welcome and Opening remarks UNECE and Chair of the 2022 Meeting.</b> Wai Kit (Jackie) Si Tou and Taeke Gjaltema (UNECE Secretariat), Pasquale Papa (Istat) and Ian O'Sullivan (Office for National Statistics, Chair of the meeting)
10:15	<b>Keynote address by Prof. Monica Pratesi "Trends of Data Collection processes in Official Statistics: specialization, automation, efficiency"</b>
10:45	Coffee/tea break
11:00	<b>Session 1: Managing Multimode and Rapid Data Collection</b> Session Organizers: Ian O'Sullivan (Office for National Statistics, UK) (morning session) and Paulo Saraiva dos Santos (Statistics Portugal) (afternoon session)
11:10	<b>Organizational responses to multiple data collection - Administrative Data unit.</b> Paulo Saraiva dos Santos (Statistics Portugal) Q&A
11:25	<b>Data collection Dashboard: a step towards more consistent data.</b> João Poças (Statistics Portugal) Q&A
11:40	<b>Adapting collection strategies for optimal results.</b> Rock Lemay (Statistics Canada) <b>Use of responsive design to improve response.</b> Rock Lemay (Statistics Canada) Q&A
12:00	<b>Estonian 2021 population census combining a register-based census with a sample survey.</b> Epp Karus (Statistics Estonia) Q&A
12:15	<b>General Discussion</b>
12:30	Lunch Break
14:00	<b>Experience on multimode data collection in the NSI Spain: challenges and opportunities.</b> Francisco Hernández (INE, Spain) Q&A
14:15	<b>Multimode data collection in household surveys at Statistics Portugal.</b> Pedro Silva (Statistics Portugal) Q&A

14:30	<b>Using paradata to manage and monitor multi-mode surveys.</b> Gina Cheung (University of Michigan, USA) Q&A
14:45	<b>The relevance of the combination of collection methods in economic surveys during and after the COVID-19 pandemic in Mexico.</b> Ariel Juarez Morales (INEGI, Mexico) Q&A
15:00	Coffee/Tea break
15:15	<b>Strategies and methodology to fill information gaps on daily life of children and teens during health crisis.</b> Monica Perez (Istat, Italy) Q&A
15:30	<b>Frequent and timely monitoring of poverty, inequality, and poverty profiles using SWIFT during the COVID-19 Pandemic.</b> Nobuo Yoshida (World Bank) Q&A
15:45	<b>Rapid Feedback Monitoring System (RFMS) – real-time, cost-effective, shock-resilient monitoring of living conditions and food security.</b> Kazusa Yoshimura (World Bank) Q&A
16:00	<b>General discussion</b>
16:15	<b>Small group discussions</b>
<b>16:45</b>	<b>Closing Day 1</b>
<b>20:00</b>	<b>Social Dinner at OpenArt (<a href="https://www.operart.eu/">https://www.operart.eu/</a>) (Address: Via del Viminale, 26, Rome)</b>

**DAY 2 – Thursday 27 October 2022**

<b>09:00</b>	<b>Registration</b>
<b>09:30</b>	<b>Opening</b>
09:30	<b>Welcome and Recap of day 1.</b> Chair and Session Organizers of Day 1
09:40	<p><b>Session 2: Respondents Care - communication, improving response, reduce response burden, webportals and automated data collection</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Session Organizers: Lise Rivais (Statistics Canada) and Ahmet Sari (Turkish Statistical Institute) (morning session) and Susan Oudshoorn and Leonne Hollanders (Statistics Netherlands) (afternoon session)</p>
09:50	<p><b>Data Collection in Social Surveys: Responsive, Smart and Mixed.</b> Karen Blanke (Destatis, Germany)</p> <p>Q&amp;A</p>
10:05	<p><b>Communication process with respondents throughout institutions surveys.</b> Federica Pellizzaro (Istat, Italy)</p> <p>Q&amp;A</p>
10:20	<p><b>A more digitalized contact strategy: Experiences from sending digital invitations in population surveys.</b> Johan Eklund and Lisa Flood (Statistics Sweden)</p> <p>Q&amp;A</p>
10:35	<p><b>Respondent Centred Surveys: putting respondents at the heart of survey design.</b> Laura Wilson and Emma Dickinson (Office for National Statistics, UK)</p> <p>Q&amp;A</p>
10:50	General Discussion
11:05	Coffee Break
11:20	<p><b>The respondent as the focus of the questionnaire design.</b> Barbara Lorè (Istat, Italy)</p> <p>Q&amp;A</p>
11:35	<p><b>Reduction of Response Burden for Individual Businesses.</b> Leanne Houben and Lianne Ippel (Statistics Netherlands)</p> <p>Q&amp;A</p>
11:50	<p><b>Today's and future Web portals for data collection from businesses.</b> Bente Hole (Statistics Norway)</p> <p>Q&amp;A</p>
12:05	<p><b>Building a portal together with the business, for the business.</b> Noël Mingels (Statistics Netherlands)</p> <p>Q&amp;A</p>
12:20	General discussion

12:30	Lunch Break
14:00	<b>A new vision on primary data collection from businesses: “naturally relevant”.</b> Robert Nieuwenhuijs (Statistics Netherlands) Q&A
14:15	<b>Penalties management strategy and quality of economic official surveys.</b> Pasquale Papa (Istat, Italy)  <b>Customized return of statistical information to enterprises involved in in economic surveys.</b> Paola Bosso (Istat, Italy)  Q&A
14:35	<b>Bringing the respondent closer to official statistics.</b> Isabel Almeida (Statistics Portugal) Q&A
14:50	<b>System-to-System Data Collection in business surveys applied to an agricultural survey: a Proof of Concept.</b> Ger Snijkers (Statistics Netherlands) Q&A
15:05	General discussion
15:15	Coffee Break
15:30	<b>Towards smart surveys: how to implement smart data collection in official statistics?</b> Jelmer de Groot (Statistics Netherlands)
15:40	<b>Smart surveys: How active should respondents be in passive sensor data collection?</b> Anne Elevelt (Statistics Netherlands) Q&A
16:00	<b>A machine learning based help desk approach for units involved in official surveys.</b> Gianpiero Bianchi (Istat, Italy) Q&A
16:15	<b>Automated assistance to respondents: the case of the Agricultural Census Measurement Error Survey.</b> Claudia Fabi (Istat, Italy) Q&A
16:30	General discussion
16:45	<b>Closing Day 2</b>

### DAY 3 – Friday 28 October 2022

<b>09:00</b>	<b>Registration</b>
<b>09:30</b>	<b>Opening</b>
09:30	<b>Welcome and Recap of day 2.</b> Chair and Session Organizers of Day 2
09:40	<b>Session 3: Responsive Design</b> Session Organizer: Pasquale Papa (Istat)
09:50	<b>Towards the adoption of adaptive contact strategies of units involved in business surveys.</b> Giampaola Bellini (Istat, Italy) Q&A
10:05	<b>Understanding data collection quality, inclusivity and representativeness at source.</b> Karina Williams (Office for National Statistics, UK) Q&A
10:20	<b>Filling the information gaps about digital nomads.</b> Simona Cafieri (Istat, Italy) Q&A
10:35	Coffee Break
10:50	<b>Achieving efficiency and representativeness through responsive design.</b> Sabina Kastberg (Office for National Statistics, UK) Q&A
11:05	General Discussion
11:20	<b>Future of Work: plenary discussion and prioritization</b>
11:50	<b>Conclusions</b>
<b>12:00</b>	<b>Closing Expert Meeting</b> Claudio Ceccarelli (Istat)