

# Conference of European Statisticians

**Objective, achievements, main directions and challenges**

Padraig Dalton, CES Chair  
Director General of the Central Statistics Office of Ireland

UNECE Executive Committee  
Geneva, 13 January 2023



# Objective of the Conference



## Objective:

To advance official statistics at the national and international levels in the region.

## Achieved through:

- **Streamlining** international statistical work
- Developing **guidelines** to enhance data quality
- Supporting countries' **capacity** in particular on measuring progress towards SDGs
- Providing a statistical **database** and a platform on SDGs

All the CES work supports the achievement and measurement of SDGs

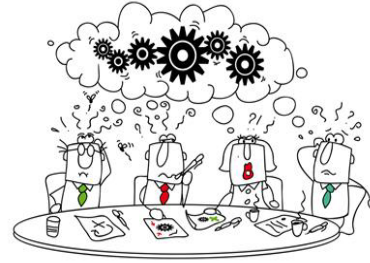


# Key achievements in 2022



## 23 events

- Expert meetings, workshops and webinars
- **CES plenary session jointly with UN-GGIM: Europe**
- Close collaboration with **Eurostat, EFTA, OECD, UNSD** and **regional commissions**



## 2 new areas reviewed

- **Collaboration with private data providers**
- **Data ethics**

## 7 statistical guidelines

- Guidance on statistics on **children**
- **New data sources** for measuring **migration**
- Measuring the **impact of the Covid-19 pandemic** on women and men
- Handbook on forms of **employment**
- **Machine learning** for official statistics
- **Synthetic Data** for a national statistical organization
- Measuring the **value of official statistics**

## 3<sup>rd</sup> SDG report and regional platform on statistics

- 2022 report tracking progress for the Regional Forum
- **Knowledge hub and database** for statisticians and analysts
- **Dashboard for policymakers and public**

**Access to data held by the private sector for official statistical purposes is a key challenge ahead – support from national governments and relevant ministries is needed**

# 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of adoption of Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics by UNECE



PRINCIPLE 1. RELEVANCE, IMPARTIALITY AND EQUAL ACCESS

PRINCIPLE 2. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND ETHICS

PRINCIPLE 3. ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

PRINCIPLE 4. PREVENTION OF MISUSE

PRINCIPLE 5. SOURCES OF OFFICIAL STATISTICS

PRINCIPLE 6. CONFIDENTIALITY

PRINCIPLE 7. LEGISLATION

PRINCIPLE 8. NATIONAL COORDINATION

PRINCIPLE 9. USE OF INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

PRINCIPLE 10. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Marking 30 years of common foundation for informed society – from adoption by UNECE in 1992, through adoption by the UN General Assembly in 2014, [to the anniversary campaign](#) by 170 contributors in 15 languages

# Strategic and managerial issues of official statistics

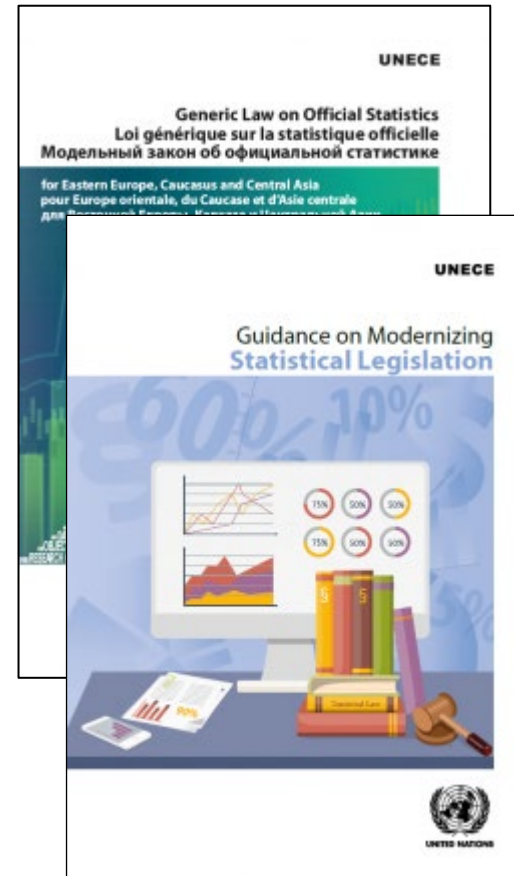


## Priority areas

- Fundamental Principles and Core Values of Official Statistics
- Data stewardship
- Legislative framework of official statistics
- Measuring the value of official statistics
- Classification of statistical activities

## Focus in 2023

- Facilitating access to data held by the private sector for purposes of official statistics
- Steering Group on Statistical Legislation



More than **24** countries worldwide have used UNECE guidelines on statistical legislation to revise their laws. Regional versions were produced by ECLAC and ESCWA.



# Main areas of the CES work

## Economy and globalization

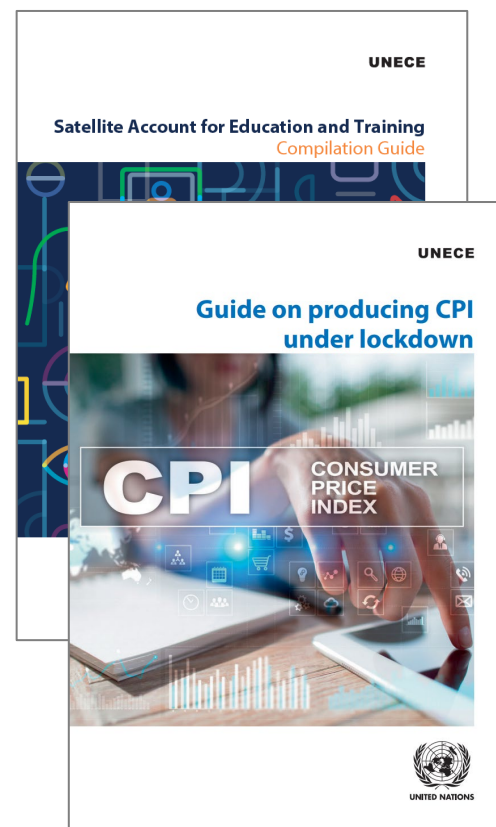


### Priority areas

- Data sharing and collection from multinationals
- Well-being, sustainability and human capital
- Globalization and digitalization
- Quality of employment
- Prices

### Focus in 2023

- Supporting global update of the System of National Accounts
- Measuring new forms of employment
- Measuring well-being



A handbook on measuring forms of employment (such as ‘gig’ economy, platform work etc.) allows to assess how well our societies are living up to the promises of productive and decent work for all

# Population, gender and society

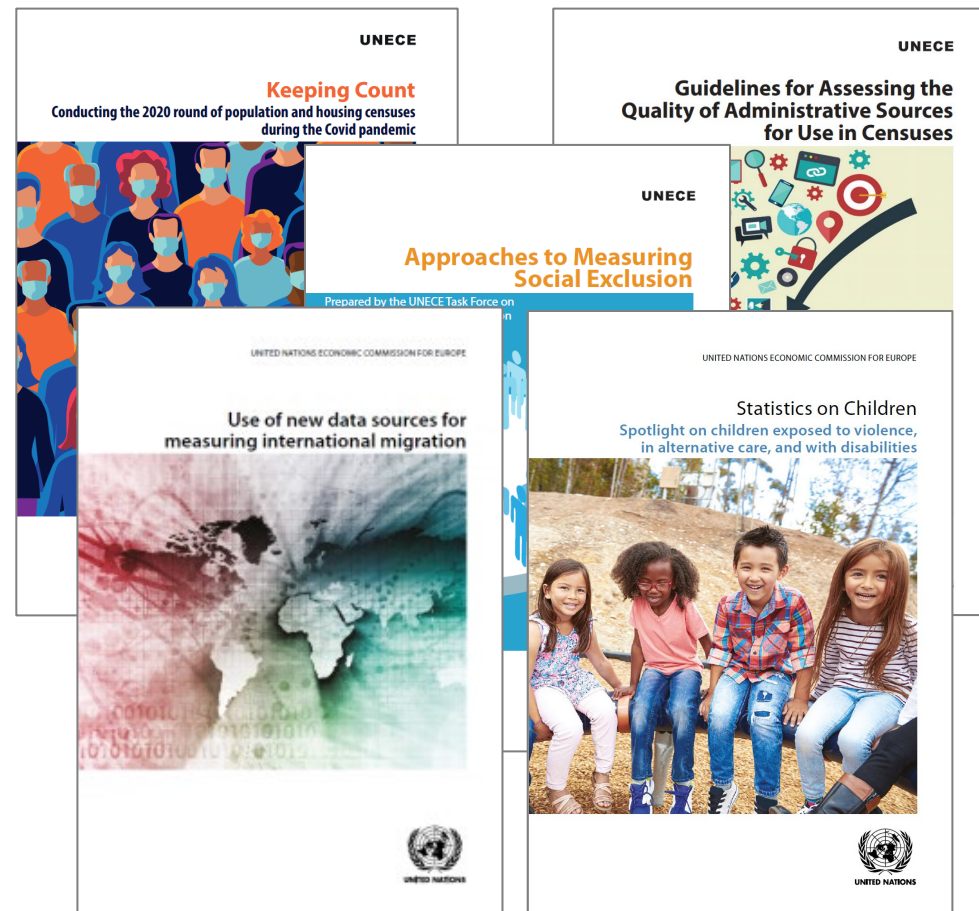


## Priority areas

- Population and housing censuses
- Poverty and social exclusion
- Gender
- Migration and labour mobility
- Children and youth

## Focus in 2023

- 2030 census recommendations
- Social cohesion
- Measuring emigration and improving timeliness of migration statistics
- Hard-to-reach population groups



Guidance on statistics on children, 1st globally

# Sustainable development, environment, climate change and hazardous events

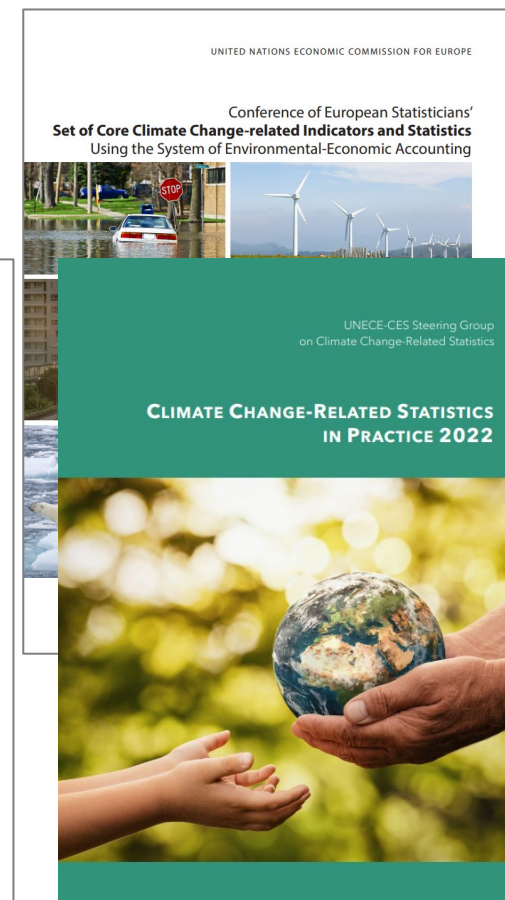


## Priority areas

- Sustainable development
- Climate change-related statistics and indicators
- Environment statistics
- Hazardous events and disasters
- Circular economy

## Focus in 2023

- Set of core disaster-risk related indicators
- Measuring circular economy
- Role of NSOs in achieving climate objectives



In 2021, UNECE convened the first global Expert Forum for Producers and Users of Disaster-related Statistics that have now become annual attracting participants from all continents



# Modernization of statistical production

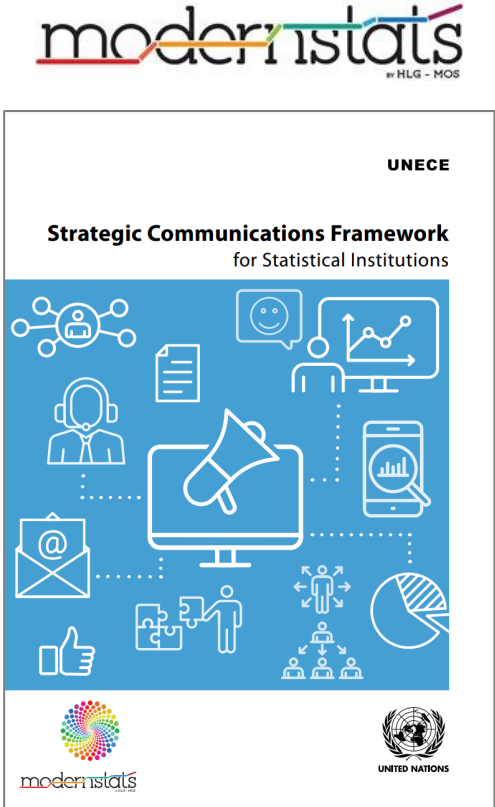
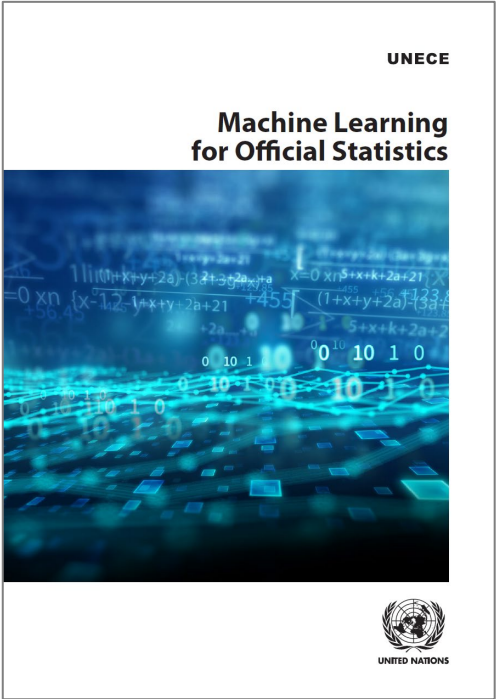


## Priority areas

- Standards and models of statistical production
- Machine learning and artificial intelligence
- Privacy preserving techniques
- Strategic communication
- Integrating geospatial and statistical data

## Focus in 2023

- Data science and modern methods in official statistics
- Data interoperability and cloud
- Co-creation and reuse of training



With over 750 community members, UNECE’s High Level Group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics remains at the forefront of global efforts to modernize official statistics

# Supporters



## CES would like to thank:

- **All countries** for their support and active participation
- All country donors: **Canada, Ireland, Mexico, Republic of Korea, New Zealand and United Kingdom**
- Major partners: **EU, Eurostat, EFTA, CIS-Stat, IMF, OECD, World Bank**
- **EXCOM** for your support



# Issues for EXCOM decision



## EXCOM is invited to:

- Approve the **programme of work** of the Statistics subprogramme for 2023 (ECE/CES/2022/16 and ECE/CES/2022/16/Add.1).
- Approve the **mandates** and terms of references of the **Steering Groups** (ECE/EX/2023/L.1, annexes I to V).
- **Comment on the achievements and future priorities** of the Conference of the European Statisticians (Chair's report)



# Thank you!

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