

SOAPBOX EDITION

Task Team on Ethical Leadership, under the Capabilities and Communication Group

Workshop on Ethics in Modern Statistical Organisations

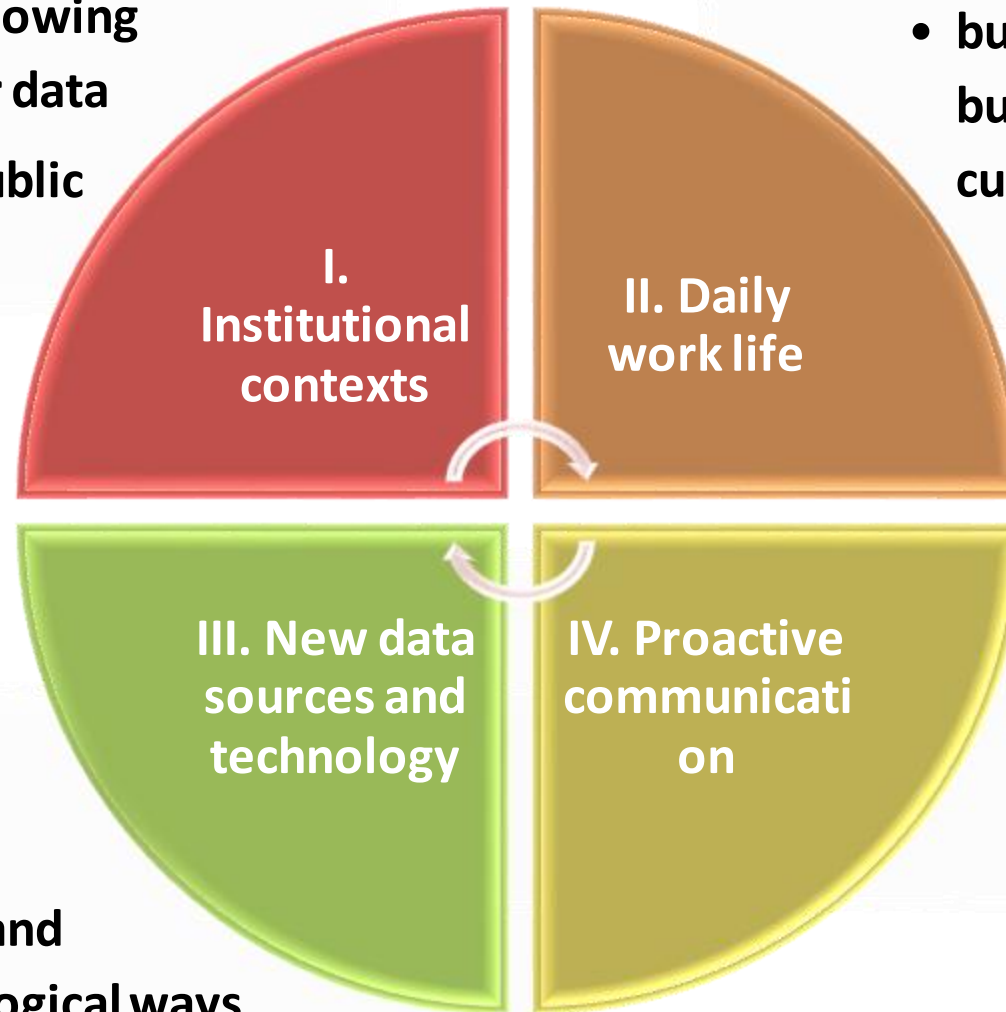
26-28 March 2024 Geneva, Switzerland



- meet the growing demand for data
- maintain public trust

- build a strong business culture

The programme of the workshop will consist of 4 substantive sessions



- find new technical and methodological ways

- integrate communication with ethical values and practices

Session 1: Ethics in institutional contexts

Ethical leadership is crucial. Managers should:

- ❖ **demonstrate outstanding ethical behaviour** to inspire others to follow suit;
- ❖ **build strong communication skills** to champion the values of official statistics and to foster open dialogue on ethical matters;
- ❖ **educate their staff on the significance of ethical practices**, including any relevant codes of conduct **to improve the organisational culture** within the NSOs.



This Session aims to:

- compare the ethics** management practices;
- promote awareness initiatives on ethics**, inclusiveness and mutual respect at work;
- share possible assessment** systems that have been set up to evaluate the compliance of behaviours to the institutional ethics;
- discuss the line between discretionary power and maladministration**, through case studies about assignment/responsibilities;
- share policies about Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)**;
- compare whistleblowing practices** and their effects;
- share information about effective training** programs on ethics;
- create competency datasets to train competent ethical leader** (evaluation skills, talent recognition, capability to implement ethical policies).

Session 2: Ethics in daily work life

Statistical offices often obtain data directly on individuals and enterprise that, if not safely handled, could result in adverse impacts on these stakeholders.

The need for **measuring highly sensitive subjects** has a potential to **raise ethical dilemmas** and unexpected negative consequences that affect both respondents and the staff of statistical offices.



This Session aims to:

- outline any practices on ethics shared by the NSOs** with their stakeholders outside and inside, as the result of paying attention, respectively, to the expectations about the reliability of the services provide and the expectations from staff to grow;
- facilitate the stakeholders' participation in focusing strategic objectives** on ethics;
- share transparency management practices** on the services provided;
- examine and discuss actual situations that can daily occur at work** and challenge the discretionary power of people who decide;
- find any connection and interdependency factors** between **institutional policies and daily practices** in action.

Session 3: Ethics for new data sources and technology

- **Official statistics needs to constantly adapt in order** to refined and time-sensitive data needs.
- It involves **delving into alternative data sources**, adopting **data science methodologies**, **modernising data integration strategies**.
- **Spanning from AI-driven algorithms** to the **analysis of social media**, each innovation presents **distinct ethical challenges**.
- Amid this **swift progress**, **ethical considerations** take center stage, **underscoring the vital importance of data ethics**.



This Session aims to:

- develop awareness of the new data sources and technologies**, along with the ethical concerns they raise;
- share examples of how to create a culture of good data ethics practices** in the NSOs;
- share best practices and strategies for integrating ethics** into design, development and deployment of new data sources and technologies;
- discuss and analyze real case studies** and **identify ethical dilemmas** and considerations coming from new technology use;
- explore existing ethical frameworks** that can guide our decisions and actions while **dealing with new data sources and technology**.

Session 4. Ethics and proactive communication

Without effectively communicating the ethical values and practices in statistical offices **to users and society, the efforts** to safeguard and promote ethical behaviours **could remain incomplete** and statistical offices might find themselves in a bubble of self-praise.

The **public trust** in which statistical offices rely upon is social capital – **it is hard to earn but easy to lose**. Therefore, adopting a proactive communication approach should be viewed as a strategic investment.

This Session aims to:

- compare different ways to communicate ethical values;
- discuss about challenges associated with communicating on ethics;
- share experiences, best practices and lessons learned;
- discuss how to better define and communicate what is meant by data ethics in different contexts and why it is an important enabler for the use of data for statistical purposes;
- discuss the role of proactive listening (both to external and internal stakeholders) in establishing effective communication on ethical values.

