

# 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 February 2024



# 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 2023



## 28 events

- Expert meetings, workshops and webinars
- Joint annual meeting with UN-GGIM: Europe
- Close collaboration with **Eurostat, EFTA, OECD, UNSD** and **regional commissions**



## 4 new areas reviewed

- Measurement of **well-being**
- **Social cohesion**
- **Hard-to-reach groups** in administrative data sources
- Use cases for **alternative population bases**

## 6 statistical guidelines

- Behaviours demonstrating the **core values** of official statistics
- **Data stewardship** and the role of national statistical offices in the new data ecosystem
- Measuring **circular economy**
- Set of core **disaster-risk-related indicators**
- **Large language models** for official statistics
- **Cloud** for official statistics

## 4<sup>th</sup> **SDG** report and regional platform on statistics

- 2023 report tracking progress for the Regional Forum
- **Knowledge hub and database** for statisticians and analysts
- **Dashboard for policymakers and public**

**Global Assessments of national statistical systems were conducted in Georgia and Kazakhstan and sectoral reviews in Georgia and the Republic of Moldova**

# Strategic and managerial issues of official statistics

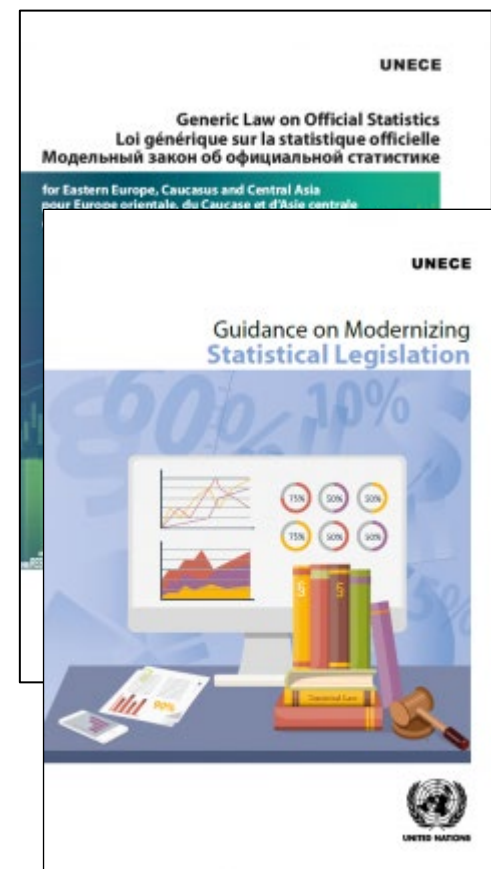


## Priority areas

- Data stewardship
- Legislative framework of official statistics
- Access to data held by the private sector for purposes of official statistics
- Fundamental Principles and Core Values of Official Statistics

## Focus in 2024

- Changing role of national statistical offices in data ecosystems
- Update of the Generic Law on Official Statistics



More than 30 countries worldwide have used UNECE guidelines on statistical legislation to revise their laws. Regional versions were produced by ECLAC and ESCWA.

# Economy and globalization

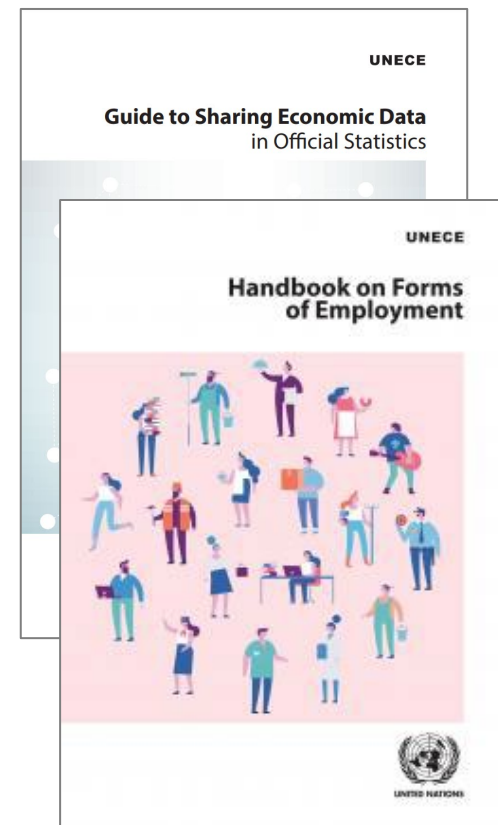
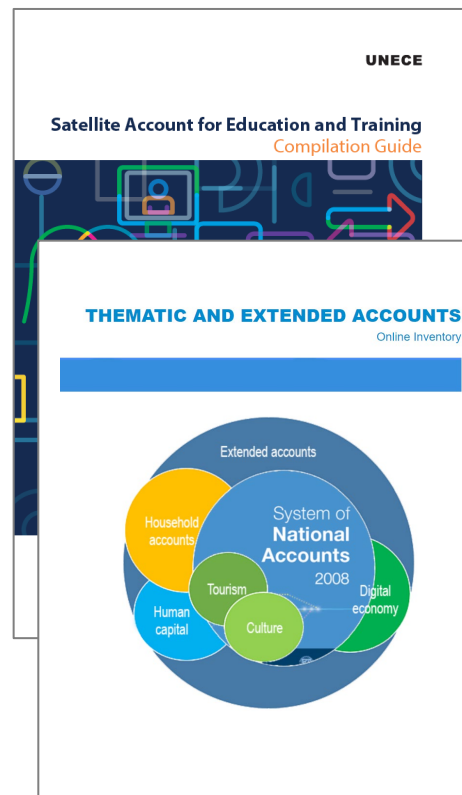


## Priority areas

- National accounts
- Well-being, sustainability and human capital
- Globalization and digitalization
- Quality of employment
- Prices

## Focus in 2024

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



UNECE guides on measuring globalization and human capital are used for the global SNA update. New Inventory of Thematic and Extended Accounts links to 950 accounts from 100 countries

# Main areas of the CES work

## Population, gender and society

### Priority areas

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

### Focus in 2024

- 2030 census recommendations
- 1<sup>st</sup> region-wide meeting on statistics on children
- New forms of international migration
- Hard-to-reach groups in administrative data sources



All the **51** population and housing censuses conducted in the decennial 2020 round have followed the UNECE Conference of European Statisticians Census Recommendations.

# Sustainable development, environment, climate change and hazardous events

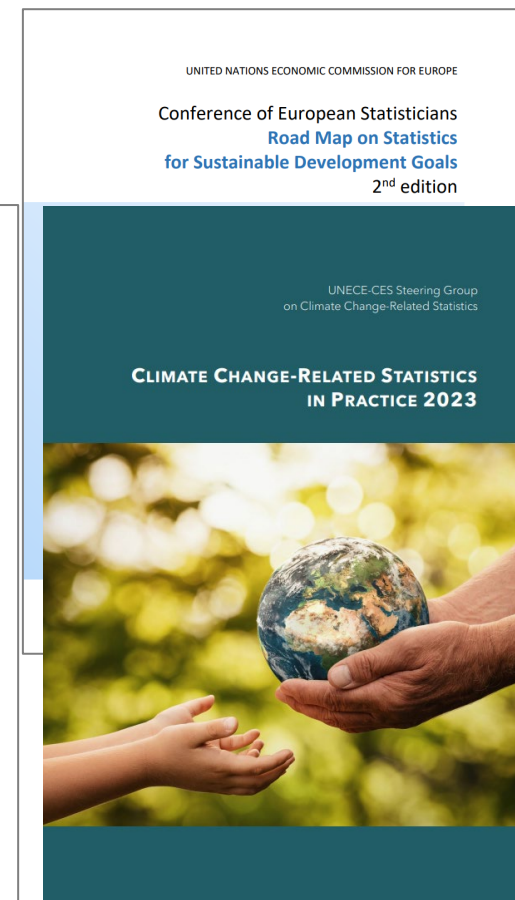
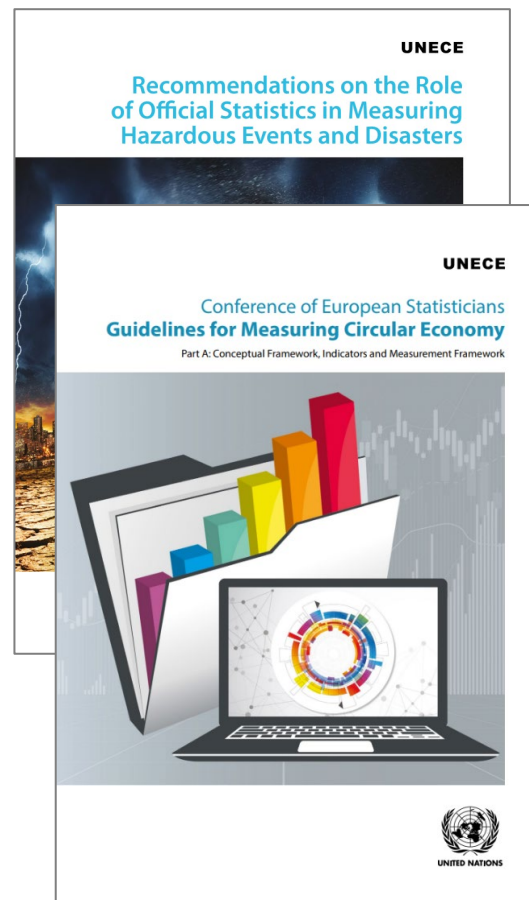


## Priority areas

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

## Focus in 2024

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



In 2023, UNECE published the first guidelines on measuring circular economy together with OECD and organized a COP28 side event dedicated to data and statistics enabling climate action

# Modernization of statistical production

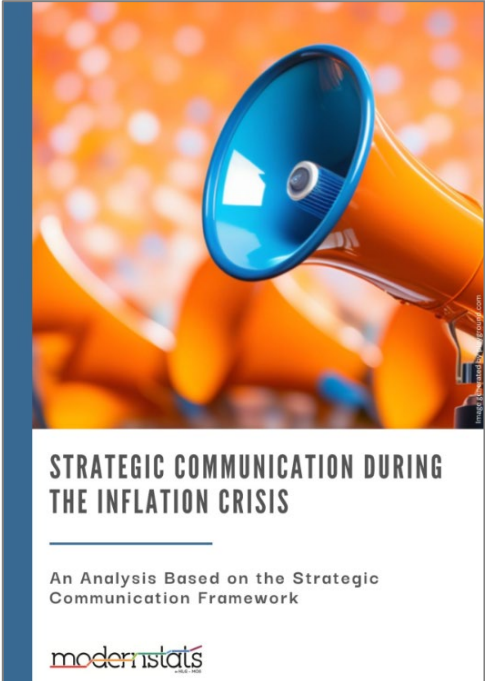
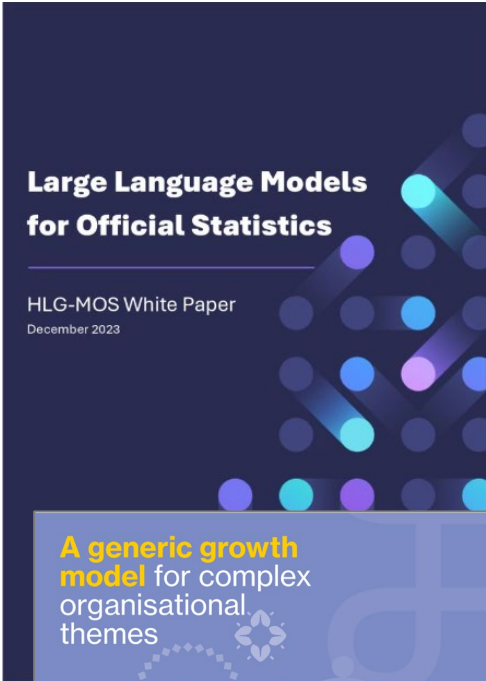


## Priority areas

- Standards and models of statistical production
- Data science
- Innovation
- HR and strategic communication
- Ethics
- Integrating geospatial and statistical data

## Focus in 2024

- Statistical Open-Source Software
- Generative AI for Official Statistics



Over **80%** of countries worldwide have implemented the Generic Statistical Business Process Model of UNECE High Level Group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics



# Supporters



## CES would like to thank:

- **All countries** for their support and active participation
- Country donors: **Canada, Ireland, Mexico, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Russian Federation 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 2024 (ECE/CES/2023/16 and ECE/CES/2023/16/Add.1).
- Approve the **mandates** and terms of references of the **two Task Forces and the High-Level Group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics** (ECE/EX/2024/L.1, annexes I to III).
- **Comment on the achievements and future priorities** of the Conference of the European Statisticians (Chair's report)

# Thank you!

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