**Eighth Meeting of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group
on the Sustainable Development Goal Indicators**
9 November 2018
Venue: Swedish International Development
         Cooperation Agency
         Stockholm, Sweden

IAEG-SDGs working meeting on data disaggregation

Summary of main discussion points and way forward

Objectives of the meeting: To review and discuss the workstream of the IAEG-SDGs on data disaggregation and how to prepare a background document for the fiftieth session of the Statistical Commission in 2019. The background document will outline the dimensions and categories of data disaggregation required for the indicators in the global SDG indicator framework and the Expert Group will work with countries, custodian agencies and specialized groups on recommendations, standards, tools and methodologies for data disaggregation for the monitoring the SDGs.

The working meeting on data disaggregation was held back to back to the 8th meeting of the IAEG-SDGs. The co-chair of the IAEG-SDGs, Mr. Enrique Ordaz of Mexico, led the working meeting. The meeting was attended by IAEG-SDG Members, observer countries, agencies and stakeholders, as a first working meeting to discuss the way forward on the IAEG background document on data disaggregation and engagement with stakeholders.

Main discussion points
The following includes the main discussion points from the meeting:

- At the 49th session of the Statistical Commission, the IAEG was tasked to "clearly determine the dimensions and categories of data disaggregation required for the indicators in the framework, keeping in mind the resources needed and the key principle of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of no one left behind," reporting back to the 50th session in March 2019. Because of its complexity, this work will require short and long-term plans, priority setting, as well as the identification of different expert groups (such as the Expert Group on Migratory Statistics, FAO (rural), and UN-Habitat (urban)), etc. to assist with the work and engagement with multiple stakeholders (countries, agencies and others).
- Two aspects to monitoring should be taken into consideration, both global monitoring for data disaggregation and the national level. The IAEG-SDGs has responsibility for the guidance of global monitoring related to data disaggregation. Capacity building is essential for the national aspects of this work.

- It is important to look at different vulnerable groups, to really understand the size and scope of these populations and ensure that we address 'leaving no one behind', which is the guiding principle of the data disaggregation work.
- The disaggregation dimensions/categories of the environment should also be reflected and can be recommended.
- A mapping of dimensions/categories has been completed by the IAEG-SDGs, but may require updating and validation by agencies for the global indicator framework.
- There is a need for having minimum standards for countries as guidance, in particular because it will require time for harmonization among countries for data disaggregation.
- The work also needs to respond to the demands of policy makers, in particular where disaggregation has an impact on public, social and private policies. An example from UNEP is their work on gender and environment, which was as a direct request by policy-makers.
- Understanding the priority areas for different vulnerable population groups should be included in the background document to advise on the global priorities and define the more extensive guidelines on all the dimensions and categories that will inform the work at the national level. For example, the policy priorities for people with disabilities include education, employment, health and accessibility. The group will need to reach out to already existing organized groups/constituencies and broader groups that have worked on the data disaggregation perspective for a specific vulnerable group.
- The Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys (ISWGHS), composed of nine international agencies, has prepared a mapping exercise which shows the entire range of the global SDGs indicators for which data could be derived from household surveys, which will be submitted to the 50th session of Statistical Commission. An additional consideration has been added to the mapping exercise which shows possible ways of disaggregating the figures based on household surveys and according to the overall goal of leaving no one behind. It is possible to align this work to the timelines of the work of the IAEG-SDGs.
- The background document will be a living document, For example, there could be an additional chapter defining data sources and making recommendations around administrative sources, registers, new data sources, etc.
- Work has been conducted by the High-Level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (HLG-PCCB) to identify capacity building needs, which prepared the Cape Town Action Plan for Sustainable Development and the Dubai Declaration to focus on the financing mechanism. Capacity building issues can tie to this already existing body of work.
- The UN Population Division offered an input in March that can be used as a basis for looking at the indicators from the angle of population, sex, age or migratory status, as well as older people.
- For stakeholder engagement, it was recommended to conduct further consultations with the broader stakeholder community and possibly through platforms.

Way Forward
The following outlines the way forward for the IAEG-SDGs work on data disaggregation and engagement with stakeholders:

- The current workplan is to conduct a first round of consultations to review the policy priorities of different vulnerable population groups, soliciting input from those that attended the working meeting and others major stakeholders in their respective areas of work. This initial follow-up is a first round of consultations, which will be followed up with broader consultations going forward.
- In parallel, UNSD will update the dimensions/categories matrix that was developed by Germany and confirm and update the information with custodian agencies. This information will be provided to the IAEG-SDGs for review and a further work plan developed for broader consultations and work going forward. The document provided to the 50th session of the Statistical Commission will be further fine-tuned and discussed at the 9th IAEG meeting in Spring 2019.
- The outline for the background document is as follows:
    - 1. Global level/reporting: policy priorities (i.e. 3-4 per vulnerable group) for different vulnerable population groups mapped to SDG targets/indicators
    - 2. Minimum dimensions and categories per indicator (based on data, metadata and agency review)
    - 3. Compilation of existing recommendations, standards, tools and methodologies for data disaggregation for the monitoring the SDGs **(to be developed following the Statistical Commission)**
    - 4. Developing additional guidelines (data source recommendations, etc.) **(to be developed following the Statistical Commission)**
- Timeline for the work (parts 1 and 2 above):
    - first round of consultations to establish policy priorities: early Dec.
    - consultation on the dimensions/categories with agencies: early Dec.
    - inputs due by late Dec.
    - draft report to IAEG by mid-Jan.
    - Possible consultation mid-end Jan.
    - posted on UNSC 50 site by 15 February
- Timeline for the work (parts 3 and 4 above): throughout 2019/2020

Background documents:
1. UNSC49 Decision (49/101, part (e)): https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/49th-session/documents/Report-on-the-49th-session-E.pdf
2. IAEG-SDG 2018 work programme (part V): https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/49th-session/documents/2018-2-SDG-IAEG-E.pdf
3. IAEG-SDGs data disaggregation presentation (7th IAEG-SDG meeting): https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/meetings/iaeg-sdgs-meeting-07/4.1%20IAEG%20Work%20Plan%20Disaggregation.pdf
4. IAEG-SDG work on data disaggregation: Overview of standards (https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/meetings/iaeg-sdgs-meeting-07/20180404_Update_Overview%20of%20standards%20after%20consultation%20mechanism.pdf); Data availability of minimum disaggregation (Excel file under background documents and weblinks) https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/meetings/iaeg-sdgs-meeting-07/