

# Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys

11<sup>th</sup> IAEG-SDGs meeting, 3-5 November 2020

Haoyi Chen  
Coordinator  
[chen9@un.org](mailto:chen9@un.org)

# Outline



BRIEF INTRODUCTION OF  
ISWGHS



COMPLETE AND ONGOING  
WORK



FUTURE WORK/DIRECTION

# Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys

- Improve **coordination**: surveys within the country and efforts at the global level
- Advance survey **methodology**
- Enhance **communication and advocacy**

- Established at 46<sup>th</sup> Session of UNSC in 2015
- Current (rotating) co-chairs: UN Women and WB
- Secretariat: UNSD
- Members: 10 international agencies and 8 countries



## New members

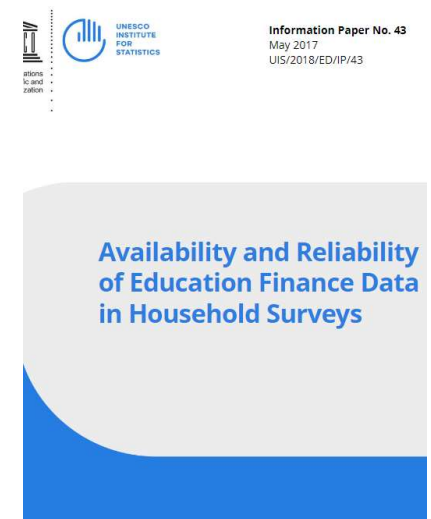
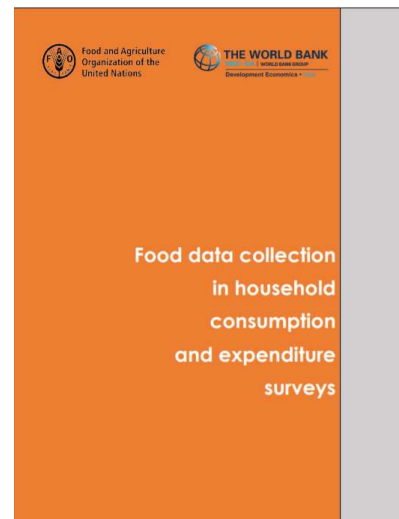
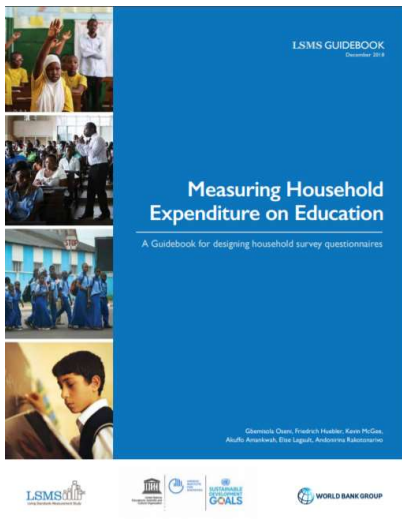
Welcome aboard!

As of August 2020, 8 Member States joined ISWGHS following the recommendations from IAEG-SDGs!

We look forward to your guidance and expertise.

# Developing thematic survey methodology

- Standards for **education spending** (UIS and WB)
- Measuring **food consumption** in household surveys (FAO and WB)
- A survey module on **SDG 16 indicators** (UNODC and UNDP)
- Consistent measurement of paid and unpaid **work** activities (ILO)



## Developing cross-cutting survey methodologies

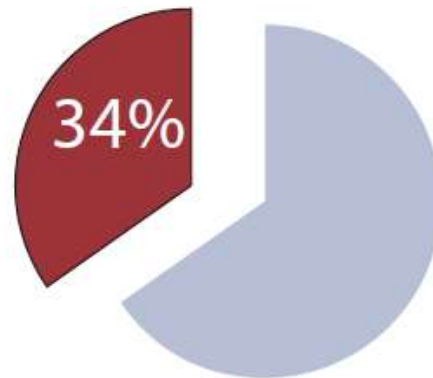
- Moving towards more **coordinated** national household survey programmes
  - Collecting and sharing survey information, a survey calendar? (various ISWGHS members)
  - Developing recommendations on a comprehensive national household survey programme (various ISWGHS members)
- Dissemination of household survey **microdata**
  - Household survey microdata dissemination (led by FAO, Open Data Watch and WB)
  - Spatial anonymization in public-use household survey datasets (DHS and WB)
  - Standards and best practices for survey data documentation (WB)
- **COVID-19** and household surveys (UIS, UNSD, WB)

More information about the task forces: <https://unstats.un.org/iswgghs/task-forces/task-forces-round2/>

## Supporting the SDG monitoring

80

SDG indicators  
can be obtained  
from household  
surveys



covering

13

goals

[SDG indicator mapping](#)

Building an entry point to **access** methods for all household survey-relevant SDG indicators (supported by UNSD)

Leaving no one behind: **sampling** the vulnerable populations (supported by UN Women)

A toolkit on **small area estimation** for the SDGs (with IAEG-SDGs)

Better **Utilization** of Existing Household Surveys for More Disaggregated **Gender Statistics** – a Tool Kit (UN Women)

## Communication and advocacy



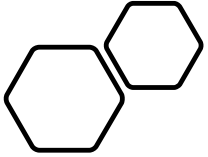
REVAMPING WEBSITE  
INCLUDING PORTAL FOR SDGS



ORGANISING WEBINARS, IN  
COLLABORATION WITH REGIONAL  
COMMISSIONS



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER AND  
ANNUAL REPORT



# Work-in-focus: COVID-19 and household surveys





# COVID-19 and household surveys

## Task Force on COVID-19 and household surveys

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented itself as both a tremendous challenge and an opportunity to household survey programmes in countries.

The overall objectives of the Task Force are to (a) support the coordination of the COVID-19 impact surveys in countries; (b) provide guidance to countries both on maintaining the continuity of regular survey programmes and various methodological aspects of COVID-19 related surveys; and (c) establish a collective vision on the implications of COVID-19 for reshaping national household survey programmes.

### National responses to COVID-19

Based on a survey carried out by UN Statistics Division and the World Bank, many national statistical offices have responded through innovative approaches.

### COVID-19 impact surveys

Members of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys are supporting countries to measure the impact of COVID-19 through sample surveys. As of 8 July 2020, we have supported about 180 countries through 480 surveys.

### Methodology on COVID-surveys

ISWGHS members have issued guidelines to help countries carry out surveys to assess the impact of COVID-19.

Led by: UIS, UNSD and the WB

- **Coordination of COVID-19 impact surveys in countries**

<https://unstats.un.org/iswgghs/task-forces/covid-19-and-household-surveys/COVID-19-impact-surveys/>

- **Guidance to countries on maintaining continuity of regular survey programmes and methodological aspects of surveys related to COVID-19**

<https://unstats.un.org/iswgghs/task-forces/covid-19-and-household-surveys/methodology-on-COVID-19-impact-surveys/>

- **Collective vision on implications of COVID-19 for reshaping the national household survey programmes**

Countries ISWGHS members are supporting to measure the impact of COVID-19

# COVID-19 Impact surveys database

Select one region

Select a country from the dropdown list below then click on the country on the map for further details:

- Covered by ISWGHS members
- Not covered



Detail information of the COVID-19 impact surveys

Country (Original)	Agency provided in..	Status (Tentative, ..)	Focal point for the surv..	Focal point email	Name of the survey	Objective of the survey	Lead survey implement..	Partners of the survey	Sample frame (fro..)	Sample size (Individuals)	Survey forma
Kenya	FAO	In preparati..	Carlo Cafiero	Carlo.Cafier..	Food Insecu..		FAO		National ph..		
	NSO	Ongoing			Socio-econo..		NSO		2019 Censu..	15,840 indi..	Cross
	UN Women	Ongoing	Isabella Sch..	isabella.sch..	Rapid Gend..	To provide i..	UNW		Listing fro..		
	UNDP	Completed			Social Econ..	Socio-econo..	UNDP CO				
	World Bank	First round ..	Utz Pape	upape@wo..		(i) monitor ..	World Bank		(i) Phone nu..	(i) 4,000 fr..	Panel

Source: <https://unstats.un.org/iswghs/task-forces/covid-19-and-household-surveys/COVID-19-impact-surveys/>

# COVID-19: Technical guidance note on planning and carrying out a household survey under COVID-19

## Annex 1. Checklist for planning and carrying out household surveys under COVID-19

The checklist is created to facilitate the planning and organization of household surveys. More detailed explanation of each item is available in the text in its corresponding section.

<p><b>1. General principles</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Minimizing the risk of COVID-19 transmission among household survey field staff and survey respondents</i></li> <li>- <i>Limiting the field data collection activity to the minimum that is necessary</i></li> <li>- <i>Ensuring high quality and timely data are available for policymaking at the national and local level.</i></li> </ul>			
Phase	Sub-phase	Task	Status
<b>2. Planning data collection</b>	<b>2.1. Setting/ Revisiting survey objectives</b>	Develop/revise survey objectives with all stakeholders	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Prioritization of modules/questions to be included	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>2.2. Assessing COVID-19 situation</b>	Gather data on government restrictions, number of cases, overall transmission rate, transmission hot spots	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Assess whether face-to-face interview is plausible at the national, regional and local level	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Develop safety protocols to minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Assess the need for personal protective equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>2.3. Building the</b>	Involve health authorities and experts in the	<input type="checkbox"/>

# Post-COVID: moving to the “new normal”?

- **Systematic assessment of national data needs**
  - What should be collected through household surveys?
- **Strengthening survey infrastructure for CAWI and CATI surveys**
  - Sampling frame and accompanying mode-appropriate survey tools and protocols
- **Integrating survey data with other data sources**
  - Making survey data more interoperable
  - Strengthening technical skills (e.g., record linkage, machine learning, multi-frame sampling)
  - Data access and data privacy
- **Building empirical evidence in developing countries**
  - Validity and reliability of telephone and web interview compared to face-to-face
  - Data integration (multi-frame sampling, record-linkage, modelling)
- **Strengthening capabilities for remote training and quality assurance**



## Future work/direction: for discussion

### Coordination, methodology, communication and advocacy

- Vision paper: focus on innovation (e.g. mixed-mode, interoperability) and tools (e.g. remote training and quality control)
- Setting priorities that are guided by countries
- Broadening outreach and collaboration