United Nations | **Department of Economic and Social Affairs**
Statistics

Assessment of progress towards gender equality in Beijing+25
Side Event to the 51st Session of
the United Nations Statistical Commission

Modernization of time-use data collection

**United Nations Statistics Division and
the Expert Group on Innovative and Effective Ways to Collect Time-Use Statistics**

Photo by Fabrizio Verrecchia, Unsplash

New York, USA

2 March 2020

Mandates and background

International agreements

- Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995)
  - Strategic Objective H.3.

- 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015)

  Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

  Target 5.4 Recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate

  Indicator 5.4.1 Proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by sex, age and location
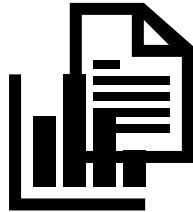
Challenges faces by NSOs with TUS

Data expectations

High data quality

Data granularity

Usability

Current challenges

Financial and human resources cost increase

Declining response rate

Respondent burden

Indicator 5.4.1 in SDGs global database

- **~90** countries between 2000-2017, with data disaggregated by sex
- **Only 15%** have 3 or more data points

How can time-use data be produced more regularly and efficiently?

UN Expert Group on Innovative and Effective Ways to Collect Time-Use Statistics

48th Session UN Statistical Commission (Decision 48/109)
The Statistical Commission:

(b) Endorsed the International Classification of Activities for Time -Use Statistics (ICATUS 2016) for use as an international statistical classification, and appreciated the efforts of the countries and other experts who contributed to its finalization;

(c) Supported the proposal to develop methodological guidelines on how to operationalize ICATUS 2016 and produce time-use statistics using the latest technologies, noted the countries that had expressed an interest in contributing to the guidelines, and also noted the need to provide technical assistance to countries, particularly in developing regions;

UN Expert Group on Innovative and Effective Ways to Collect Time-Use Statistics

- Experts from national and international organizations with extensive experience in time-use surveys in terms of data collection instruments and modes, coding and activity classifications, including ICATUS 2016, and data analysis

- Members:

Australia	Morocco	UNECE
Canada (chair)	New Zealand	UNECLAC
China	South Africa	Eurostat
Finland	Thailand	IATUR
Italy	United Kingdom	Time-use expert (Marge
Japan	United States	Guerrero)
Mexico	ILO	
Mongolia	UNICEF	

- Face-to-face meetings:
  20-22 June 2018, 20-22 May 2019, 4-6 November 2019

UN Expert Group on Innovative and Effective Ways to Collect Time-Use Statistics

Solutions to modernize time-use data collection in line with ICATUS 2016 and SDGs ➤ **Output** ➤ **Outcome**

Current focus

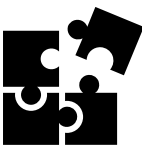|	
5 GENDER EQUALITY	Making the case for time-use data
	Promoting consistent concepts and definitions
	Ensuring high-quality data
	Applying latest technologies
	Promoting more frequent collections (Minimum harmonized instrument)

New UN Guidelines on the production of time-use statistics

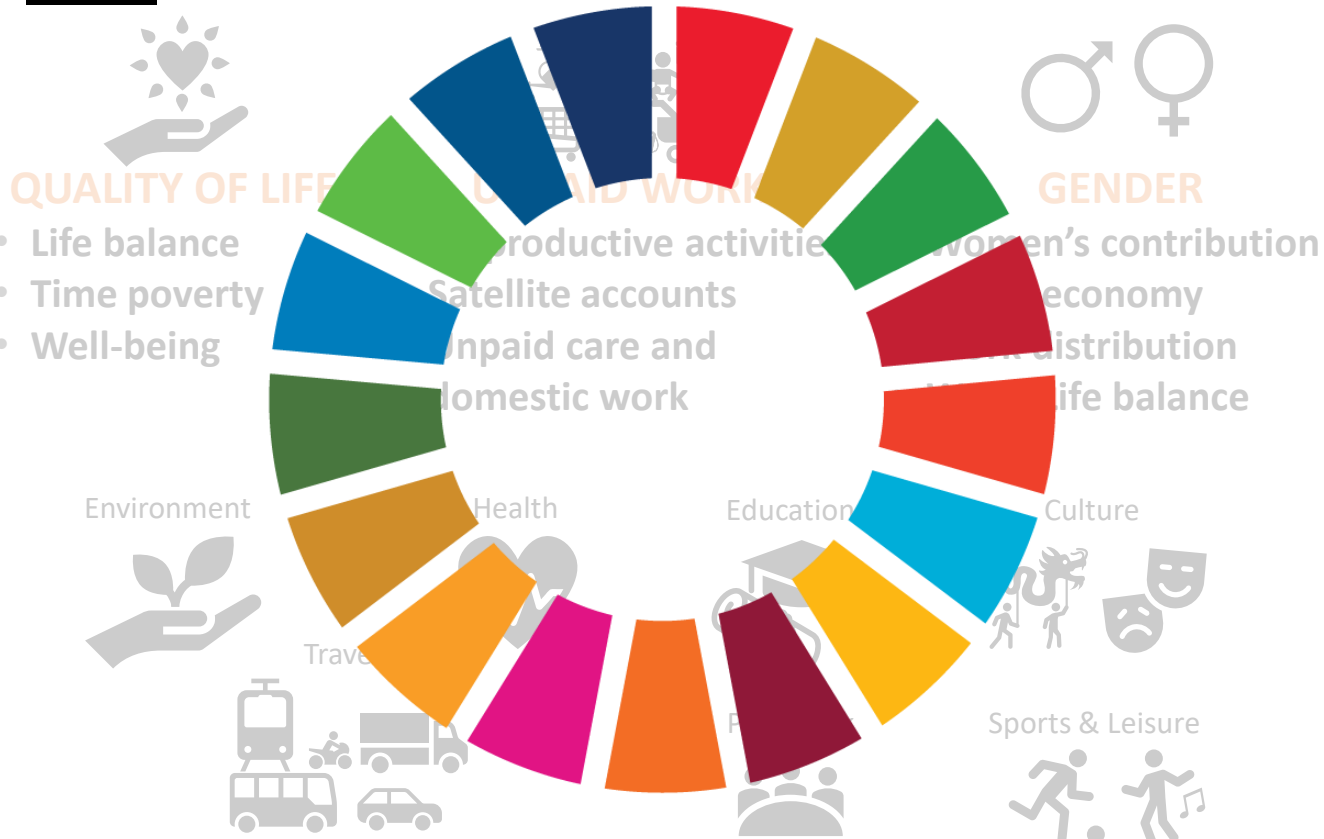**More:**
- **Relevant**
- **High-quality**
- **Reliable**
- **Comparable**
- **Frequent**
- **Timely**
- **Cost-effective**
- **Accessible**
- **Consumable**

time-use data in all countries

Solutions: current focus

Making the case for time-use data

Promoting consistent concepts and definitions

- Facilitate discussions and **common understanding**
- Provide and promote **consistent and harmonized** terminology

- Be further developed into a dedicated chapter in the new UN Guidelines –add country examples and practices

QUALITY OF LIFE
- Life balance
- Time poverty
- Well-being

UNPAID WORK
Productive activities
Satellite accounts
Unpaid care and domestic work

GENDER
Women's contribution economy distribution life balance

Environment
Health
Education
Culture
Travel
Sports & Leisure

Solutions: current focus

Ensuring high-quality data

- Developing a framework for defining **quality (multi-dimensional)**
- Anchored on agreed related frameworks:
  - UN National Quality Assurance Framework – **UN NQAF**
  - Generic Statistical Business Process Model – **GSBPM**

Applying latest technologies to modernize time-use data collection

- Recommend **digitalization of time-use data collections**
- Exploring use of technology and challenges (e.g. **access to/coverage of technology** for self-completed, potential "**mode effect**")
- Learning from **Eurostat** and partners working on innovative tools for Household Budget Surveys and Time-Use Surveys

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Solutions: current focus

Minimum Harmonized Instrument to promote more frequent collections

Questions capturing on economic characteristics

A minimum list of 25 predefined activities + contextual information + probing questions

Linking information

International Classification of Activities for Time-Use Statistics – ICATUS 2016

Activity	0	30	1 am	30	2 am	30	3 am	30	4 am	30	5 am	30	6 am
1. Working in paid job or													
2. Making goods for own ho													
3. Volunteer work													
4. Preparing and serving foo													
5. Cleaning own or family d													
6. Maintaining and making													
7. Cleaning and care of clo													
8. Managing own househ													
9. Taking care of pet own													
10. Shopping for own house													
11. Taking care of own (hou													
12. Taking care or helping													
13. Education													
14. Socializing and commun													
15. Community participatio													
16. Cultural, entertainment													
17. Hobbies, games and oth													
18. Sport participation and													
19. Reading for leisure													
20. Watching TV/Listening t													
21. Sleep													
22. Eating and drinking													
23. Personal hygiene and ca													
24. Travel													
25. Other													

Probing questions	
Contextual information	

Solutions: current focus

Minimum Harmonized Instrument to promote more frequent collections

Questions capturing on economic characteristics

- Identification of persons employed during a specified time (week/7 days)
- For employed persons:
  - Multiple job-holding status
  - Core characteristics of the main / second / other jobs as relevant:
    - Status in employment
    - Occupation
    - Industry
    - Institutional sector of employment
    - Business incorporation for those employed in the private sector
    - Business registration

Solutions: current focus

Minimum Harmonized Instrument to promote more frequent collections

A minimum list of 25 predefined activities

Activity	0	30	1 am	30	2 am	30	3 am	30	4 am	30	5 am	30	6 am
1.Working in paid job or in	→												
2.Making goods for own ho	→												
3.Volunteer work	→												
4.Preparing and serving foo	→												
5.Cleaning own or family d	→												
6.Maintaining and making	→												
7.Cleaning and care of clot	→												
8.Managing own household	→												
9.Taking care of pet of own	→												
10.Shopping for own house	→												
11.Taking care of own (hou	→												
12.Taking care of or helpin	→												
13.Education	→												
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19.Reading for leisure	→												
20.Watching TV/Listening t	→												
21.Sleep	→												
22.Eating and drinking	→												
23.Personal hygiene and ca	→												
24.Travel	→												
25.Other	→												
Probing questions													
Contextual information													

1. Working in paid job or income generating activities
2. Making goods for own household or family use
3. Volunteer work
4. Preparing and serving food and meals for own household or family members
5. Cleaning own or family dwelling
6. Maintaining and making small repairs in own or family dwelling
7. Cleaning and care of clothing and footwear of own household or family members
8. Managing own household
9. Taking care of pet of own household or family
10. Shopping for own household or family
11. Taking care of own (household or family) child
12. Taking care of or helping adults (own household or family)

SDG 5.4.1

Solutions: current focus

Minimum Harmonized Instrument to promote more frequent collections

A minimum list of 25 predefined activities

Activity	0	30	1 am	30	2 am	30	3 am	30	4 am	30	5 am	30	6 am
1.Working in paid job or in	→												
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19.Reading for leisure	→												
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21.Sleep	→												
22.Eating and drinking	→												
23.Personal hygiene and ca	→												
24.Travel	→												
25.Other	→												
Probing questions													
Contextual information													

13. Education
14. Socializing and communication
15. Community participation, civic and related responsibilities, and religious practices
16. Cultural, entertainment and sports events
17. Hobbies, games and other pastime activities
18. Sport participation and exercising
19. Reading for leisure
20. Watching TV/Listening to radio or streaming
21. Sleep
22. Eating and drinking
23. Personal hygiene and care
24. Travel
25. Other

Next steps

2020 Consolidate technical inputs on the methodological aspects related to the modernization of time-use surveys

2021 Countries will be able to select from proposed options to collect time-use data in efficient ways.

2022 UNSD and the Group will continue to work on the UN guidelines to be finalized

2023 UN Guidelines will be submitted to the UN Statistical Commission taking into account feedback received from countries on their implementation and adaptation of the proposed methods.

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