Positioning household surveys for the next decade

The work of the Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Household Surveys

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Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Household Surveys

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

- Established at 46th Session of UNSC in 2015
- Current (rotating) co-chairs: UN Women and WB
- Secretariat: UNSD
- Members: 11 international agencies and 8 countries

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Colombia - Departamento Administrativo Nacional de Estadística
Ghana - Ghana Statistical Services
India - Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
Malaysia - Department of Statistics Malaysia
Niger - Institut National de la Statistique
Samoa - Samoa Bureau of Statistics
State of Palestine - Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics
Sweden - Statistics Sweden
Household surveys are critical for research, policy and development

- Fundamental component of NSS, providing the data to assess progress towards national development targets

- 1/3 of 232 indicators for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), cutting across 13 out of 17 SDG goals, can be derived from household surveys

- Household surveys can provide the required data to train and validate alternative data sources for high-resolution, high-frequency insights for monitoring, targeting and evaluation
Selected output - 1

• Survey coordination
  • Toolkit to assess coordination of national household survey programmes
  • Work with 5 countries and 1 sub-regional office to understand their household survey systems
  • Compiling information on surveys from major survey repositories

• Innovative survey approaches
  • Planning and Implementing Household Surveys under COVID-19
  • Spatial Anonymization
  • Impact of Covid on survey data quality
  • Data integration
Selected output - 2

- SDG data disaggregation
- Counted and Visible Toolkit
- Small area estimation for SDGs: guidelines and eLearning courses
- Sampling to leave no one behind
COVID-19 led to major disruptions in household surveys, while providing an opportunity for innovation

Source: Global COVID-19 Survey of National Statistical Offices (Rounds 1-3).
Positioning household surveys for the next decade: Objectives

• Identify priority technical areas and sketch out the required enabling environment for household surveys to perform their foundational roles, meet new data demands, and increase their policy and research impact in the remaining decade for the SDGs
Positioning household surveys for the next decade: Outline

Organized around 4 pillars:

• Increase **relevance** and **use** of household surveys for policy and research
• Pursue an ambitious agenda on the adoption of **innovative methods**
• Invest in **capacity** for CAPI, phone, web and mixed-mode surveys
• Improve **interoperability** of household surveys with other data sources

Plus:
• Foster stronger **enabling environment**
The Role of Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Household Surveys

• Foster **coordination** at the national and international level: planning, financing and implementation
• Collaborate with all partners: NSOs, CSO, Academia
• Serve as an intermediary: Innovation $\leftrightarrow$ national data needs
• Curate and disseminate best practices

• Encourage and support experimentation with and scaling-up of **innovative methods**
• Support the formulation of guidelines on select topics, anchored in experimentation and evidence

• Promote documentation and exchange of national experiences
• **Advocate** for better financing of household survey programs

• Set priorities as guided by countries
For more information

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