

Information Notice No.1

I. DATE, LOCATION, AND OBJECTIVES

1. This online expert meeting¹ will be organized as part of the Conference of European Statisticians' work programme for 2023, within the context of the High-Level Group for the Modernisation of Official Statistics. It will take place online from 12 to 14 June 2023. The event will be scheduled for the maximum 3 hours per day between 12:00 and 17:00 CET/Geneva².

2. The objective of this expert meeting is to identify innovative ways and best practices in statistical data collection, and to provide a platform for practitioners to exchange experiences and foster collaboration in this area. In addition to the more traditional presentations, the agenda will include target-driven small group discussions and activities to identify best practices and new opportunities. Delegates will be asked to contribute to the development of internationally coordinated work in the field of statistical data collection.

II. AGENDA

3. The programme of the meeting will consist of two topics:

(i) **Process Automation and Efficiency**

This topic focuses on the application of innovative methods or tools for streamlining data collection processes as well as the organisational and methodological issues involved. It will cover the following substantive sub-topics:

- Digitalization and system-to-system data communication
- Use of adaptive techniques and flexible solutions
- Use of artificial intelligence and machine learning techniques
- Use of paradata to improve response and measurement bias during data collection

(ii) **Respondents as Assets**

This topic highlights the paradigm shift that puts the respondents as the centre of the data collection design and management. It will cover the following substantive sub-topics:

- Respondent care and communication strategies
- Strengthening social licensing
- Differentiation in communication strategies: share experiences, e.g., use of apps and links sent by SMS to reach students or generation specific channels
- How to involve respondents in the survey design

4. The target audience for the expert meeting includes senior and middle-level managers responsible for data collection activities and new data sources, across all statistical domains.

¹ Until 2020, it was called the Workshop on Statistical Data Collection

² For your time-zone check <https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/meeting.html>

5. The Organizing Committee of the meeting will make the final decision in regard to the acceptance of proposals for contributions. The Organizing Committee consists of the following members:

- Pasquale Papa, Istat, Italy
- Ian O'Sullivan, ONS, United Kingdom
- Susan Oudshoorn and Leonne Hollanders, Statistics Netherlands
- Lise Rivais, Statistics Canada
- Paulo Saraiva dos Santos, Statistics Portugal
- Önder Değirmenci, Turkstat, Turkey

III. CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

6. Participants are strongly encouraged to consider submitting an abstract that summarises the content of their proposed contribution. These should cover one or more of the topics in the meeting programme. Those who contribute are also encouraged to share links to any code repositories containing code, if applicable (e.g., in GitHub). Please note that the official language of the meeting will be English, and therefore all contributions should be submitted in English only. No translation or interpretation during the meeting will be provided.

7. A short abstract of the proposed contribution should be submitted as soon as possible and by **17 March 2023** at the latest, via the following form: <https://forms.office.com/e/mYeqMJPYWY>

8. The Organizing Committee will notify in due time whether the submission is accepted or not and might request changes. Information about the selection of contributions for the meeting, guidelines on formatting, and means of submission will be sent to authors by email. Contributions should normally consist of a paper, plus an accompanying presentation. Other forms of contributions may be proposed. Please note that as we finalize the agenda, it may not be possible to allocate time to all proposed contributions.

9. Any written papers must be provided by **19 May 2023** at the latest. A link will be sent to the authors where documents can be uploaded.

10. Any presentation slides, videos or other electronic materials should be provided by **19 May 2023** at the latest. Any equipment required for practical demonstrations must be provided by the participants. A link will be sent to the authors where presentations can be uploaded.

IV. REGISTRATION

11. Participants should register online at the site <https://forms.office.com/e/Dnw8Wbk6Eq> by **31 May 2023**. Only registered participants will get further information and be permitted access to the online meeting platform (Webex).

12. Representatives of Member States of the United Nations and of interested intergovernmental organizations are welcome at this meeting, as are researchers at universities or research institutes working on statistical data editing applicable in the context of official statistics. Participants representing non-governmental organizations in a consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council may also attend. **All participants must be accredited by the competent authorities of their country or international organization.**

V. DOCUMENTATION, METHODS OF WORK AND OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

13. The expert meeting will consist of presentations, small group discussions to exchange experiences and to identify lessons learned, and interactive discussions to identify future work in the area of data collection. Participants are expected to actively contribute to the discussions.

14. Prior to the meeting, abstracts and papers will be made available in pdf format on the following website: <https://statswiki.unece.org/display/Collection/2023+Data+Collection+Expert+Meeting>. After the

meeting, papers and presentations will be made available via the meeting webpage: <https://unece.org/statistics/events/DC2023>. Presentations will not be made available to delegates before the meeting.

VI. VENUE

15. The expert meeting will be held online on the UNECE Webex platform. Connection details and testing opportunities will be provided to registered participants in due time.

VII. FURTHER INFORMATION

16. For further information you may contact the following organisers:

Mr. Wai Kit Si Tou, email: sitou@un.org

Mr. Taeke Gjaltema, email: taeke.gjaltema@un.org

Statistical Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

DEADLINES

17 March 2023	Abstract or proposal for intended contribution
19 May 2023	Presentation (draft) & Paper or detailed abstract
31 May 2023	Registration
5 June 2023	Final versions of presentations
12-14 June 2023	Expert meeting