Second Working Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group on Social Statistics

13-15 June 2012, Bangkok, Thailand

REPORT

Background

The Technical Advisory Group on Social Statistics (TAG-SS) at its first working meeting[1] agreed to develop a proposal of a regional programme for improving social statistics in Asia and the Pacific. The proposal was to include three components: (1) A basic set of social statistics all member States in the region should be able to produce by 2020, (2) Strategy for building capacity in the region to produce the basic set, and (3) Directions for a programme of work to implement the strategy. Using an approach that was discussed and agreed upon during the meeting, the TAG-SS produced an initial draft of the core set of social statistics in February 2012 and a further revision in May 2012 after incorporating comments from the TAG-SS members.

At the same time, the Bureau of the Committee on Statistics of ESCAP provided input to both the direction of the work of the TAG-SS as well as its work plan, particularly in view of the changes in the leadership of the TAG-SS. The Bureau emphasized the importance of country consultations on the policy relevance of the draft core set, as well as using the core set to review national practices and understand gaps in existing national capacity in social statistics. At the same time, the Bureau pointed out that it was worthwhile to consult international organizations involved in various domains of social statistics to ensure that the draft core set covers the basic data requirements of such organizations.

The Second Working Meeting of the TAG-SS was held to produce: (1) a plan to further refine the draft Core Set of Social Statistics and use the Core Set to guide the formulation of a regional strategy to improve the capacity of national statistical systems to develop and deliver social statistics; and (2) a programme of work for the TAG in the short- and medium-term, including reporting to the third and fourth session of the Committee on Statistics.

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[1] The report of the meeting is available at: http://www.unescap.org/stat/social-stat/meeting-Sep2011/index.asp

The meeting took place from 13 to 15 June 2012 at the United Nations Conference Centre, Bangkok. The agenda of the meeting is contained in Annex I and the list of participants in Annex II.

Outcomes of the meeting

Members of the TAG-SS went through the draft core set of social statistics and made further recommendations (see more details in the next section). At the same time, they discussed and agreed on the broad directions of the group as well as work plans in the short and medium terms as follows (see Annex III for a visual presentation of the work plans):

A. Three streams of work

The TAG-SS agreed to pursue the following three streams of work:
  1. Developing a core set of social statistics that countries will agree to aspire to by 2020
  2. Using the core set of social statistics as a guide to identify gaps in capacity and formulate a strategy for capacity development
  3. Review of national practices for producing statistics that will then be used as a basis for a regional development programme/ regional implementation plan

B. Short-term work plan

In the short-term (between July and the beginning of October 2012), the TAG-SS will prepare a core set of social statistics for consideration and endorsement at the third session of the Committee on Statistics in December 2012. This is to be followed by submission to the sixty-ninth session of the ESCAP Commission in May 2013 for adoption.

The focus of the preparation is within-country and international consultations on the policy relevance of the draft core set. The within-country consultations are to be led by national statistical offices of member States. Consultations with international organizations will be managed by the ESCAP secretariat with the guidance of the TAG-SS. The consultations are scheduled to take place in July/August. The TAG-SS will prepare detailed guidelines for the consultations.

At the same time, the TAG-SS will prepare a paper for the third session of the Committee on Statistics. The paper, which is scheduled to be ready by 03 October 2012, should reflect the outcomes of the consultation.

C. Medium-term work plan

In the medium term (between October 2012 and fourth session of the Committee on Statistics in 2014), the TAG-SS will develop a strategy of national capacity development in social statistics and seek the consensus of member States on the strategy.

The basis of developing the strategy is the outcomes of detailed assessments of national capacity in producing social statistics, with the aim of having a full picture of the gaps in the existing production of data as well as such issues as quality, standards, definitions, classifications, metadata, data sources, use, etc. The consultations are to involve all major producers of social statistics within national contexts. At the same time, consultations with major producers of social statistics at the international level will also be carried out with a focus of understanding their potential in assisting national capacity development.

The main aspects of the strategy might include technical improvements, measures to improve administrative data sources as well as strengthening training in the application of existing guidelines and methodologies. Technical improvements include such issues as the development of new guidelines, definitions, methodologies, standards and classifications.

D. New Co-Chair

While welcoming new members, the TAG-SS also recommended Mr Sairi Hasbullah (Indonesia) to be the Co-Chair.

General discussions

Refining the draft core set

Participants of the meeting reviewed the approach that underlie the draft core set of social statistics and were reminded that the document deals with both statistics and indicators. The list of indicators is illustrative and not prescriptive. Similarly, the list of policy concerns illustrates the types of social issues that the statistics and the derived indicators can address. It was also pointed out that the issue of gender runs through all domains.

It was agreed that it might be easier to achieve consensus on statistics, but not so for indicators. As such, the main body of the document should be the list of core set of statistics. At the same time, the illustrative indicators can be moved to appendix. It is important to provide the indicators in the document as illustrative examples, but not to detract from the main purpose which is to seek endorsement for a set of basic statistics.

While highlighting the sources of statistics for various domains, it is also important to consider the dimension of quality standards for such sources. Some of the countries are not able to provide some of the core set statistics because of a lack of quality sources. The core set should be linked to established methodological guidelines and standards. For instance, the production of social statistics should comply with international classifications. Quality dimensions should also include accessibility and interpretability, particularly in light of the shifting paradigm from dissemination to communication. The core set should, where possible, be linked to internationally agreed frameworks in various domains. For instance, there is ongoing discussion on post 2015 development agenda within the UN system. There is the general perception that the existing MDG indicators may be too limited in scope.. Thus while it is important to consider the MDG indicators in developing the core set, we do not need to limit ourselves to the existing MDG framework.

Multiple tiers of the core set can be considered, e.g. "must have" and "nice to have". In addition, considerations can be given to the development of measures of subjective well-being (including satisfaction, positive and negative emotions), which the current draft core set includes, particularly in the health domain. At the same time, the draft core set should address the challenges faced by the countries (e.g. different levels of development).

Social statistics typically comes from three sources: population and housing censuses, surveys and administrative data. Censuses and surveys are run by national statistical offices, which are generally more aware of methodological standards and guidelines. However, the same cannot be said about social statistics from administrative sources. There are not enough methodological guidelines or the application of such guidelines. There is generally a lack of manual for administrative data in developing countries, despite the multitude of agencies producing administrative data.

Specific comments on the draft by domains:

Domain 1: Population
- Consider adding statistics on internal migration to capture the all human mobility phenomenon. Also consider change the wording of migration to mobility so as to capture the temporary and permanent mobility.
- The dimension of ethnic groups is country-specific and useful to capture discrimination.
- The importance of elderly population is rising in the region.
- Birth weight maybe more related with health
- Consider including statistics that allow the study of such issues as asylum seekers, refugees, and internally displaced populations.
- Both this domain and the one on family cover statistics on marriages. Is the overlapping necessary?
- We need quality indicators for the completeness of Census counts i.e. undercoverage rates..

Domain 2: Health
- Statistics on disability is important, which is part of ESCAP work, including working with Washington group.

Domain 3: Wealth
- Consider adding household expenditure by quintiles and percentiles.
- Statistics in this domain should address poverty and inequality.

Domain 4: Employment
- The draft core set covers main statistics underlying indicators of decent work of ILO, with the exception of indicators on social security which is a major component of ILO the right of work. Also, under the ILO indicators, full time/part time is referred to as general stability of work.

- Statistics in this domain should include unpaid work (housework), occupational injuries (occupational safety), social security (for such indicators as percentage of a population covered by pension, how many contributing to pension schemes, how many are beneficiaries, etc).
- Need of a precise definition of informal sector employment.

Domain 5: Education and training
- Issue about "literacy" definition. The group should agree on a common definition. However, some agencies, such as UNESCO, are working on definitions and measurement of literacy.
- Education of migrants is important.

Domain 6: Housing and infrastructure
- Need to define the term "Slum".
- Need to add the "housing need" statistics.
- Need to use alternative data collection approach on "slum areas" using village based approach/spatial (not household approach)

Domain 7: Information and communication
- Consider splitting the TV statistics on two parts: national and international.
- Accessibility to ICT is also important (distance for instance).
- Consider statistics that allow one to address such important issues as on connectivity, affordability (costs), ICT infrastructures, access to internet and OTHER ICTs, as well as usage
- Transports should be either here or in Economics? The proposal is to be here.

Domain 8: Crime and Justice
- One challenge in this domain is to capture crimes that are being experienced by victims (household based survey) in addition to crimes data produced by the police.
- It is also important for statistics in this domain to reflect perception, especially safety perception and perception of crime (perception and experience).
- Statistics on corruption can also be related with governance domain
- Consider using other crimes statistics through other data sources such as from the village based survey as has been implemented in Indonesia.

Domain 9: Family and community, including community/social cohesion
- Statistics in this domain should also allow the measurement of social isolation (the kind of contact people had with others, including face-to-face, phone, etc) which also relates with health, e.g., mental illness, and related with elderly health.
- Consider having statistics that allows the study of family-friendly policies, e.g. maternal or paternal leave, or other benefits for children.
- The core set should capture the measurement of social cohesion and community aspect (identity/belong), number of parents living and working overseas.

- The work on social capital can inform this domain, namely in terms of baseline frameworks.
- The concept of family is not clear, it maybe nuclear-extended or in other forms. One alternative is to use "household". However, the concept of household may differ across countries, e.g. one country has institutional families.
- Community support, protection and participation can be included.
- Community and social cohesion are in the title, but not in the statistics, e.g., % of expenditure of the household that goes to the poor, % of household that trust their house to neighbours.
- Statistics should be at individual, family- household, and community levels.
- Incidence of domestic violence is already in the crime and justice.
- ESCAP currently does works in the area of civil registration and vital statistics which includes the registration of marriages and divorces. Some countries have a problem of early marriage, and statistics on this topic have policy relevance.
- The issue of forced marriages is also relevant in this region.
- Statistics in this domain should also allow developing the measurement of happiness statistics (happiness index)

Domain 10: Culture and leisure
- Educational attainment should be added in the relevant characteristic part.
- A relevant characteristic could be the source of information (newspaper, radio, TV, etc.)
- The statistics here can include those on identity building activities, e.g. type of TV programmes that reinforce (or not) the cultural identity of the country.
- UNESCO has developed framework on cultural statistics, which should be consulted for this domain.
- Consider adding statistic on attendance of public libraries, type of books published, etc.
- Time-use survey is an important source for statistics in this domain.

Domain 11: Governance
- It is worth considering adding the topic of measuring index of democracy in this domain.
- A distinction should be made between the measurement of satisfaction of citizens towards the government and the on the extent of the provision of public services (e.g. access to government-provided water)
- Consider having statistics that allow the study of female participation in local government bodies.
- Need to clarify the definition of governance, which is relevant to the kind of bodies to be involved in consultation, e.g. legal, academics, human rights, media, etc…
- Should be mindful of the potential bias arising from the collection of data sponsored by government bodies. "Biologically we are part of the government. Ideologically

we are not part of the government," as was pointed out. The question is: is it possible for a government body to assess government performance?

- Equitable and effective institutions are based on perceptions
- UNDP has a definition of governance. However, this may not be the only one. Other issues of importance include rule of law, transparency, accountability, and access to and freedom of information. Accountability of government also relates with the role of national statistical offices.
- This is the more evolving domain. Maybe we can consider the document as "working in progress". The question is not so much of "who is the contact in government", but rather our role as statisticians to inform government. But, when it comes to official statistical offices, should it be us measuring government performance, since we are directly in the government and inform both government and public?
- Similar to the domain on crime, this domain can have real and perception data.

Country consultations

The meeting decided that country consultations will be carried out in two sequential phases, each with a different objective and involving different parties.

In the first phase, consultations would focus on the policy relevance of the draft core set of social statistics. The objective is to achieve agreement on a core set of social statistics for its policy relevance, which will pave the way for endorsement by the Committee on Statistics at its third session in December 2012 and subsequently by the sixty-ninth session of the Commission of ESCAP in May 2013.

Questions to be addressed include "Are we capturing the most important policy themes in this core set of social statistics?" The consultation priority should be given to line ministries responsible for policies and programmes in each of the eleven domains as well as researchers in the country. It is left to the NSOs to decide whether they should also engage other major producers of social statistics. It would be ideal to have broader engagement to facilitate buy-in later (see more in next paragraph). The priority, though, is to consult the policy users of social statistics.

In the second phase, the objective is to identify capacity gaps of national statistical systems in social statistics, so as to inform the capacity building strategy. The consultations should also help to understand the responsiveness of national statistical systems to emerging issues and expectations in social statistics. As such, the consultations should cover statistical standards, data quality, standard methodological issues, dissemination, metadata, further analysis and thematic areas. Such consultations should include an examination of existing national strategies for the development of statistics so that the resulting strategy of capacity development is complementary.

The second phase consultations should include all major producers of social statistics and users as well to identify the issues in their use of social statistics. Producer-producer dialogue will evolve as necessary to harmonize or standardize definitions, methodology, and indicators through avoiding duplication, confusion, and ambiguity.

The second phase consultations are to follow those in the first phase. TAG members agreed to pilot the second phase consultations and the experiences thus gained can be used to strengthen the process for expanding the consultations to other member States.

It was agreed that the national consultations should be coordinated by each NSO, which are usually well-positioned in their knowledge of the institutional framework and are a key stakeholder. At the same time, the TAG-SS will provide guidelines for the country consultations, namely in terms of the general objectives, concrete questionnaires and timeline.

It was mentioned that clear guidelines are quite important in conducting national consultations. For instance, a clear set of criteria should be used to determine whether a particular statistics included in the core. Potential candidates for the criteria include: relevance, how it is applied, whether it is part of a national legislative requirement, whether it is part of international data reporting obligation and /or critical for international comparability. After having some criteria, it would also be important to decide on how to evaluate the responses, how to aggregate them, and what would be the threshold to decide whether criteria is in or out.

Several members of the TAG-SS shared information of existing regular consultation processes with producers and users of data (e.g. parliament, ministries, international agencies, media, etc) in their own systems. Consultations may also be at different institutional levels, e.g., as currently at the national and sub-national levels. In addition, consultations can be both formal and informal, with the latter usually supporting the former.

While developing guidelines of consultation, it is important incorporate lessons learned from NSOs' experience in national consultations. These lessons include:

- Clearly communicate the purpose of work on social statistics, the plan, and how the consultation relates to the overall work;
- Provide documents in advance to the participants to support discussions;
- Customize the types of documents and the strategy to develop/organize consultation to suit the needs of different participants. For instance, it would usually work better to use briefing documents for policymakers. On the other hand, the documents should contain more detailed information if technicians are to be consulted;
- The documents need to be very objective in the purpose and clearly mention the direction of the process (e.g., with policymakers, it is important to be explicit on the goal - endorse, comment, agree, etc).

Consultation with international and regional stakeholders

Why consult international and regional organizations?

The purpose of consultations with international and regional organizations is to result in the following:

- Substantive feedback and possibility to align the core set with various international technical standards;
- Reassurance for the users. In other words, the process provides credibility, especially when users know that the core set has been reviewed by international organizations and has met international standards;

- Synergies with ongoing or upcoming initiatives of international and regional organizations, reducing overlapping, and coordinated methodologies and efforts to avoid contradicting messages;

- Avoid such reactions as "another framework" and show added value of this proposal. For this process, it is very important to emphasize that a strong added value of this work relies on a process that is country driven and regional in scope. In other words, it is not an ESCAP project, rather it is owned by countries;

- The possibility to develop a regional programme of work. One needs to assess what is the current status of each country, and where are the gaps (e.g. in disability statistics, what data are provided and how frequently?), what can be done along the way and guide capacity building activities.

What to consult on?

International and regional stakeholders will be asked to provide feedback on the draft core set of social statistics. Some of them may already have their own core set of indicators and/or their own internal monitoring mechanisms, but we are consulting on whether these are the policy relevant statistics, not whether all of their required indicators are captured. The focus of the consultations is:
- Review the relevant statistics in the core set, data sources, methodological standards, quality standards (accuracy, periodicity, etc); Share information on statistical activities and technical support of activities in ESCAP region;
- Share information on priority areas of work related to social statistics and explore opportunities to build synergies;
- Be partners in substantive and methodological work activities, including activities related to fund raising

As is the case with national consultation, consultations with international and regional organizations will also be carried out in two phases. The focus of the first phase should be on the policy relevance of the core set of statistics. It is important to be precise on the request for the consultation. It is quite likely that asking for less may result in getting more. The

first phase of consultations will focus only on the domains of the core set and statistics themes in each domain. In the second phase, the consultations should include more precise and quality-related questions, such as methodologies, quality, frequency, etc.

It is important, from the outset, to communicate well with the other organizations about the entire process and to be explicit that this is the first phase of the consultation and that another phase of consultations will be conducted later. Additionally, we need to:
- Share why this is important, what are the underlying motivations, the guiding principle (e.g. supporting policy, building capacity, etc);
- Acknowledge the existence of significant efforts in different areas, although not all can be included. We respect these other processes, but we have limitations and therefore we need feedback on whether we are capturing the most relevant in their own framework.

Some additional questions to take into consideration when consulting international and regional organizations:

- Shall we limit the number of indicators for data collection?" The answer to this question has implications for the national capacity to produce data.
- "What frequency of data should we aim for?" International developed surveys have some (quite) well established surveys, e.g., yearly, quarterly for economic information. But countries may have different capacity to implement certain frequency levels. Shall that be explicitly determined along the core set, or shall we give flexibility for countries to decide along their needs? This question also relates to the possible gaps to be addressed in a regional programme.

Which international and regional organizations to consult?

The list should start with members of the "Partners for Statistics Development in Asia-Pacific" established on 14 December 2010. One of the strategic objectives for the work of the Partnership is to support the work of the Committee on Statistics, which means the coordination in the areas of **social**, economic, environmental and population statistics. The list of participants in the Partnership is available at http://www.unescap.org/stat/partnership/1st-stat-dev/list-of-participants.pdf

Some international organizations focus on particular sectors, but others are cross-cutting (e.g., UNDP) or they can help us building capacity later (e.g., ADB). On the other hand, starting with a more focused target of organizations at this initial stage (e.g., UNESCO for education) may help understand better and obtain specific technical guidelines on whether the core set covers well the major issues of these organizations. Thus, for each of the domains in the draft core set, target should be set at the most relevant international organizations. Following this, other organizations will be engaged to provide feedback cross-domains.

How to conduct consultations with international and regional organizations?

There are several possible ways, which can be complementary. The first option is to establish communication through written request or face-to-face meeting with the Organizations based in Bangkok. The second option is to organize consultative meetings with specialists at these organizations (which can be face-to-face, in a workshop/seminar format, or by video/tele-conference. The third option is to send the organizations written document (or file) and/or questionnaire (or web base survey) asking them to fill it and return with specific information. This process should be coordinated any of their own consultation process. The ESCAP secretariat will facilitate the consultation with international and regional organizations.

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ANNEX I PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Second Working Meeting
Technical Advisory Group on Social Statistics
ESCAP Committee on Statistics

United Nations Conference Centre, Meeting Room F
Bangkok, 13-15 June 2012

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Expected Results: The meeting is expected to produce: (1) a plan to further refine the draft Core Set of Social Statistics and use the Core Set to guide the formulation of a regional strategy to improve the capacity of national statistical systems to develop social statistics; and (2) a programme of work of the TAG in the short- and medium-term, including reporting to the third and fourth session of the Committee on Statistics.

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13 JUNE 2012
MORNING

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Opening Session
9:00-9:30

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➢ Welcome remarks and expectations
  - Ms Haishan Fu, Director, Statistics Division, ESCAP
➢ Around-the-table introduction
➢ Update on progress of TAG's work
  - Ms Gemma Van Halderen (Australia), Co-Chair of TAG

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Session 1 - Reviewing the Draft Core Set of Social Statistics
9:30-12:00
Chair: Ms Gemma Van Halderen

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1.1 Overview of the draft Core Set of Social Statistics (the Core Set)
  - Ms Sue Taylor (Australia)

1.2 Plenary discussion: Further refining the draft Core Set

Lead discussants:
- Ms. Jessamyn O. Encarnacion (Philippines)
- Mr Nemat Khuduzade (Azerbaijan)
- Mr Phub Sangay (Bhutan)

Suggested questions:
- What do you think about the guiding principles and the process of developing the draft Core Set? Do you see the need for any modifications?
- How does the Core Set link to other major development indicators framework, including the human development indicators, the global project on measuring well-being and fostering societal progress, and the evolving post-2015 development agenda?
- What is the best approach to determining which of the implied statistics in the draft document will be core or essential, and which will be non-core or "nice to have?
- Do you think the current draft Core Set is ready for endorsement by your government? If not, what considerations might prevent it from being endorsed? What can be done?

10:30-10:45   Break
12:00-13:00   Lunch
13:00-14:45   Session 1 (continued)
14:45-15:00   Break
15:00-17:00   Session 1 (continued)

<u>*14 JUNE 2012*</u>
<u>*MORNING*</u>

Session 2 – Consultation with International and Regional Stakeholders
09:00-10:45
Chair: Mr Jan Smit

Plenary discussion: Consultations with international organizations involved in the production, dissemination and use of social statistics

Lead discussants:
- Mr Tite Habiyakare (International Labour Organization)
- Mr Enrico Bisogno (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime)

Suggested questions:
- What do you see as the major gaps, if any, between the draft Core Set and the social statistics your Organization considers as minimum/essential?
- What other international organisations should be included in the consultation?
- How to organise the consultation effectively? Timeline?

10:45-11:00   Break

Session 3 – Understanding Social Statistics Production in National Statistical Systems
11:00-14:45
Chair: Mr Lee Eu-Fah Edmond

3.1 Purpose and expected outcomes
- Ms Gemma Van Halderen

3.2 Discussion: Understanding the institutional arrangements

Lead discussants:
- Ms D. Oyunchimeg (Mongolia)
- Ms Sunitha Bhaskar (India)

Suggested questions:
- What frameworks, if any, does your country use to guide the production, dissemination and analysis of social statistics? What issues have producers and users raised about these frameworks?
- Who are the key national stakeholders to be involved in the national consultation? What are their respective interests in social statistics? What do they perceive as the major problems in the current practices of social statistics? What resources do they have to contribute to the work on social statistics? What are their mandates regarding social statistics?
- What is the specific role of NSO in the process?

3.3 Discussion: Understanding national capacity to produce the draft Core Set

Lead discussants
- Mr. Sairi Hasbullah (Indonesia)
- Ms. Shirin Jafari (Iran)

Suggested questions:
- Does your national statistical system currently have the capacity to produce the draft Core Set? If not, what are some of the major capacity gaps or constraints?
- How should the draft Core Set be used to define/identify the key elements of fundamental statistical capacity (e.g., institutional, technical and skill sets) required of a NSS?

12:00-13:00   Lunch
13:00-14:45   Session 3 (continued)
14:45-15:00   Break

Session 4 – Developing a Strategy for Country Consultations
15:00-17:00
Chair: Mr Nemat Khuduzade

4.1 Purpose and expected outcomes
   - Ms Gemma Van Halderen

4.2 Discussion: Managing country consultation

   Lead discussants:
   - Ms Gemma Van Halderen (Australia)
   - Ms Liu Wei (China)

   Suggested questions:
   - If a guideline is to be prepared to support country consultation, what key elements/issues should it cover?
   - In light of the discussions on the various national stakeholders in the work on social statistics, do you think the NSO is best placed to facilitate the country consultation process? What is required of NSO to effectively facilitate the process?
   - What post consultation-follow-up action might be required of TAG?

4.3 Discussion: Region-wide review of national statistical system (the "National Review")

   Lead discussants:
   - Mr Dipankar Roy (Bangladesh)
   - Mr Lee Eu-Fah Edmond (Singapore)

   Suggested questions:
   - What could be expected from the National Review?
   - If a guideline is to be prepared to support the National Review, what elements/issues should be covered?

Session 5 - Short- and medium-term work plans of the TAG:
Goals, outputs, activities, milestones and resource needs
9:00-10:45
Chair: Ms Gemma Van Halderen

Plenary discussion:

6.1 Short-term work plan: What TAG aim to achieve before the 3rd session (December 2012) of the Committee on Statistics (CST)

6.2 Medium-term work plan: What TAG aim to achieve before the 4th session (December 2014) of CST

6.3 Reporting to the 3rd session of CST: Content, format and responsibility

Concluding Session: Summary and Way Forward

> ➢ Summary and way forward
>   - Ms Gemma Van Halderen
> ➢ Concluding remarks
>   - Ms Haishan Fu

11:45-13:30 Side Event on Victimization Surveys, hosted by UNODC

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ANNEX II LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

MEMBERS OF TAG-SS

AUSTRALIA

Ms Gemma Van Halderen (Co-Chair), Program Manager, Demography, Regional and Social Analysis Branch Population, Labour and Social Statistics Group, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Canberra

AZERBAIJAN

Mr Nemat Khuduzade, Deputy Head, Labour Statistics Division, State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Baku

BANGLADESH

Mr Dipankar Roy, Deputy Director, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, Dhaka

BHUTAN

Mr Phub Sangay, Chief Statistical officer, National Statistics Bureau, Thimphu

CHINA

Ms Wei Liu, Deputy Counsel, Department of Social, Science and Technology and Cultural Statistics, National Bureau of Statistics, Beijing

INDIA

Ms Sunitha Bhaskar, Director, Social Statistics Division, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India, New Delhi

INDONESIA

Mr Sairi Hasbullah (Co-Chair), Director, Social Resilience Statistics, BPS – Statistics Indonesia, Jakarta

IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF)

Ms Shirin Jafari, Expert of Statistical Surveys and Administrative Registers, Statistical Centre of Iran, Tehran

MONGOLIA

Ms Oyunchimeg Dandar, Director, Population and Social Statistics Department, National Statistical Office, Ulaanbaatar

PHILIPPINES

Ms Jessamyn O. Encarnacion, Director, Social Statistics Office, National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB), Makati City, Philippines

SINGAPORE

Mr Edmond Lee, Deputy Director, Singapore Department of Statistics, Singapore

UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (UNODC)

Mr Enrico Bisogno, Statistician, UNODC, Vienna

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION (ILO)

Mr Tite Habiyakare, Regional Labour Statistician, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok

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INVITED EXPERT

Ms Sue Taylor, Director, Measures of Australia's Progress Demography, Regional and Social Analysis Branch, Population, Labour and Social Statistics Group, Australian Bureau of Statistics, Canberra

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OBSERVER

Mr Michael Rand, Individual Consultant, United States of America

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SECRETARIAT

Ms Haishan Fu	Chief, Statistics Division (SD)
Mr Jan Smit	Chief, Statistical Development and Analysis Section (SDAS), SD
Ms Rikke Munk Hansen	Chief, Statistical Information Services Section (SISS), SD
Mr Yanhong Zhang	Statistician, SDAS, SD
Ms Isabel Pereira Rodrigues	Statistician, SISS, SD
Ms Ermina Sokou	Statistician, SDAS, SD
Mr Arman Bidar Bakhtnia	Associate Statistician, SDAS, SD

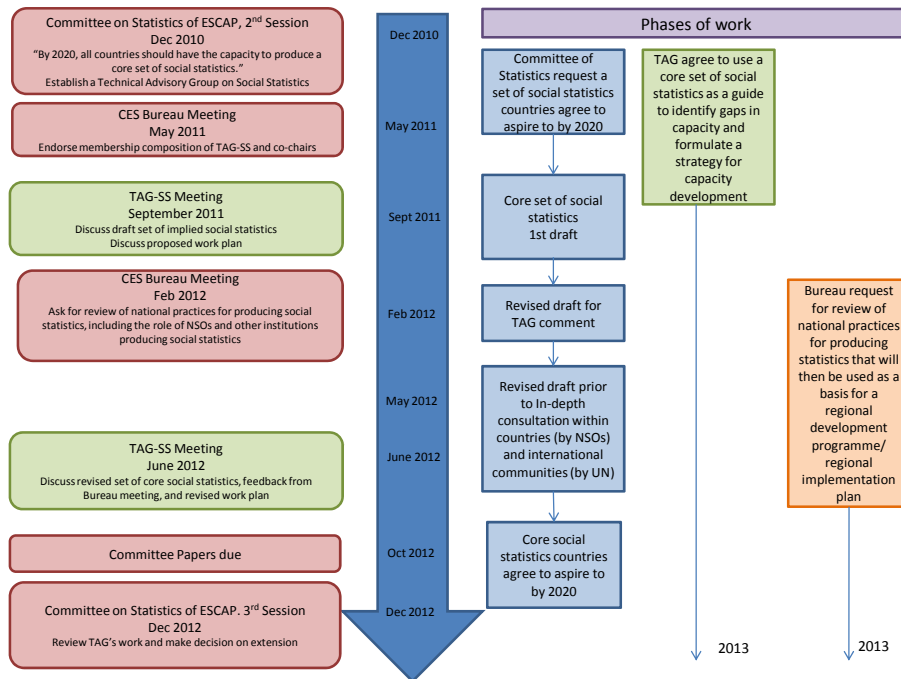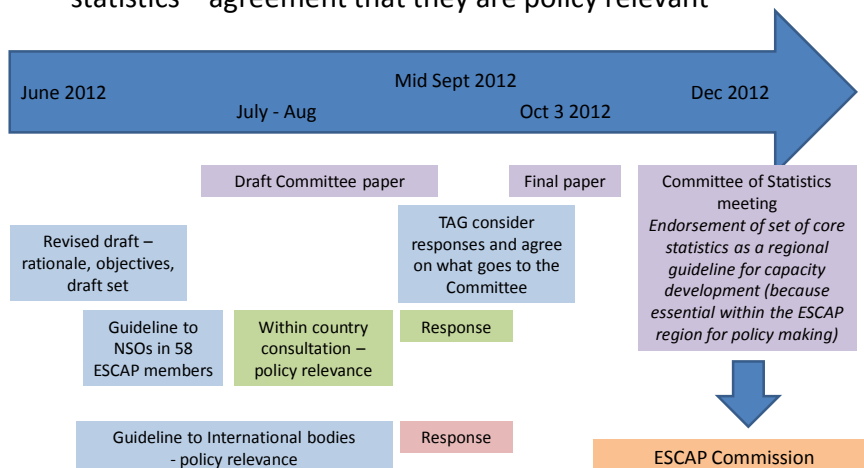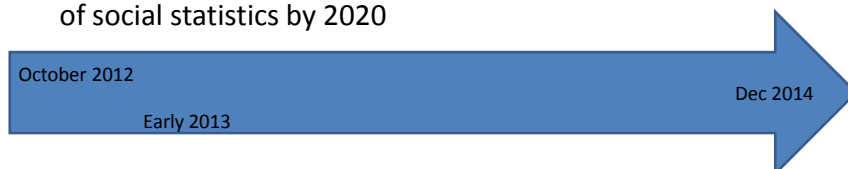|	
Ms Harumi Shibata	Associate Statistician, SISS, SD
Ms Sharita Serrao	Associate Statistician, SISS, SD
Mr Donovan Storey	Chief, Social Policy and Population Section, Social Development Division

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ANNEX III SHORT-TERM AND MEDIUM-TERM WORK PLANS

Committee on Statistics of ESCAP, 2nd Session Dec 2010
"By 2020, all countries should have the capacity to produce a core set of social statistics."
Establish a Technical Advisory Group on Social Statistics

CES Bureau Meeting May 2011
Endorse membership composition of TAG-SS and co-chairs

TAG-SS Meeting September 2011
Discuss draft set of implied social statistics
Discuss proposed work plan

CES Bureau Meeting Feb 2012
Ask for review of national practices for producing social statistics, including the role of NSOs and other institutions producing social statistics

TAG-SS Meeting June 2012
Discuss revised set of core social statistics, feedback from Bureau meeting, and revised work plan

Committee Papers due

Committee on Statistics of ESCAP. 3rd Session Dec 2012
Review TAG's work and make decision on extension

Timeline: Dec 2010, May 2011, Sept 2011, Feb 2012, May 2012, June 2012, Oct 2012, Dec 2012

Phases of work

Committee of Statistics request a set of social statistics countries agree to aspire to by 2020

Core set of social statistics 1st draft

Revised draft for TAG comment

Revised draft prior to In-depth consultation within countries (by NSOs) and international communities (by UN)

Core social statistics countries agree to aspire to by 2020

TAG agree to use a core set of social statistics as a guide to identify gaps in capacity and formulate a strategy for capacity development

Bureau request for review of national practices for producing statistics that will then be used as a basis for a regional development programme/ regional implementation plan

2013   2013

Short Term

Objective: to seek endorsement of the core set of social statistics – agreement that they are policy relevant

Timeline: June 2012 — July - Aug — Mid Sept 2012 — Oct 3 2012 — Dec 2012

Draft Committee paper

Final paper

Committee of Statistics meeting
Endorsement of set of core statistics as a regional guideline for capacity development (because essential within the ESCAP region for policy making)

Revised draft – rationale, objectives, draft set

TAG consider responses and agree on what goes to the Committee

Guideline to NSOs in 58 ESCAP members

Within country consultation – policy relevance

Response

Guideline to International bodies - policy relevance

Response

ESCAP Commission

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Medium Term

Objective: to identify gaps in capacity and formulate a strategy for capacity development to produce the core set of social statistics by 2020

October 2012

Early 2013

Dec 2014

Consultation template

PILOT among TAG members

Guideline to NSOs

Response

Within country assessment – data gaps, quality, standards, definitions, classifications, metadata, data sources, use,...

Guideline to International bodies

Response

Regional level assessment of gaps, quality, standards, data sources

Committee of Statistics meeting
Agreement to a strategy of capacity development