

## **United Nations Development Account 10<sup>th</sup> tranche**

### **Sub-regional workshop on Data disaggregation**

**Lilongwe, Malawi, 27-29 September 2017**

#### Concept note

The UN Development Account 10th tranche brings together the collective efforts of ten implementing<sup>1</sup> entities into a comprehensive programme of action centered around strengthening national statistical systems to measure, monitor and report on the sustainable development goals. Through four main pillars, the programme will support national capacity to measure and report on the 2030 Agenda. The Pillar 1 of the programme namely ‘means of implementation’, focuses on enhancing capacity of developing countries to strengthen statistical institutional environments and production processes across multiple statistical domains to measure, monitor and report on the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

The emphasis in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development on leaving no one behind and reaching the most vulnerable first presents the statistical community with challenges as well as opportunities. Data disaggregation is essential to understand whether the fruits of development are benefitting the full spectrum of the society including the most vulnerable and furthest behind. It will be a challenge for national statistical systems including those in the developed countries to produce disaggregated data by various characteristics of population and by different levels of geography. New and improved statistical methodologies, innovative techniques and the increased use of administrative data are among important initiatives required to respond to the enormous challenges presented by the 2030 Agenda and the need for more detailed data. The 2030 Agenda provides opportunities to improve and enhance the statistical capacity of countries and provide relevant up-to-date detailed information on the population. The Cape Town Global Action Plan on Sustainable Development Data prioritizes statistical capacity building as an essential action area for achieving the scope and intention of the 2030 Agenda and provides a framework for its planning and implementation.

This sub-regional workshop builds on work on data disaggregation being undertaken by the Inter-agency and expert group on SDG indicators which focuses on ensuring the Global Indicator Framework adequately incorporates data disaggregation. Furthermore, the UN Statistical Division organized an expert group meeting on data disaggregation in June 2016 which assessed the current status of methodologies for data disaggregation and began work on guidelines on data disaggregation. In November 2016 an International Seminar on SDG Data co-organized between UNSD and Statistics Korea built upon the June EGM. The Korean Seminar provided an

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<sup>1</sup> The 10 implementing entities are UNSD, UNCTAD, UNEP, UN-Habitat, UN-ODC and the 5 Regional Commissions – ECA, ECE, ECLAC, ESCAP and ESCWA

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opportunity to further advance the dialogue by bringing together representatives from national statistical offices to share their experiences on disaggregation tools and methodologies and addressed opportunities and limitations of statistical data in the pursuit of leaving no one behind. The UN Statistics Division is developing a guideline on data disaggregation that will help provide guidance to countries on the topic, which inter alia will also include best practices from different countries.

This sub-regional workshop on data disaggregation (A1.3) is organized under expectations accomplishments “EA1 Enhanced capacity of target countries to launch or improve institutional mechanisms and procedures, at national and local level, for the production and utilization of SDG indicators”, Sub-regional workshops will be organised jointly by the Regional Commissions, UNSD and UNEP with the support of other implementing entities as relevant.

### **Expected Purpose**

The workshop will allow experts from national statistical systems, academic institutions in the region, and international organizations to discuss various issues and challenges with regard to data disaggregation and facilitate sharing of best practices in addressing the data disaggregation requirements to fulfil the call to leave no one behind, including coverage of specific groups (in particular, migrants, people with disability, ethnic groups, other vulnerable groups) as well as geographic location, which will feed into guidelines on data disaggregation being prepared by the United Nations Statistics Division.

In preparation for the workshop, countries will be asked to assess data sources available to produce data disaggregated by specific characteristics for specific indicators. A short questionnaire will be developed and sent to all countries participating in the workshop. The results of the assessments will be used to guide the workshop.

### **Expected Outcome**

This workshop will help in achieving a common and improved understanding among the participants about the various technical issues and challenges of disaggregation. It will also provide valuable inputs for the continued development of guidelines and training material addressing data disaggregation for measuring and monitoring the SDGs to be shared online. In addition, the experiences from the workshop will be incorporated into the technical advisory missions to the target countries for the programme and the strategic plans for statistics.

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### **Participants and registration**

The target groups for this workshop are experts from national statistical systems, academic institutions in countries, and international organizations. Participants are expected to actively contribute to the workshop for which substantial time will be assigned to group discussions and plenary interventions.

Participants should note that they are responsible for their visa arrangements. However, they are requested to inform the organizers if there is no Malawi embassy in their country of residence to explore possibility to facilitate visa issue on arrival.

### **Date and venue**

The Workshop will be held from 27 to 29 September 2017 at the [Conference Centre to be determined, Conference Centre address], Lilongwe, Malawi.

### **Working language**

This workshop is for English speaking countries. Therefore, English will be the working language.

### **Structure of the Workshop:**

The 3-day workshop will consist of six main sessions.

The first session will set the stage for the workshop and provide an overview of the assessments of national sources for data disaggregation on specific indicators.

The second session will highlight national experiences and challenges in producing disaggregated data. It is envisioned that 3-5 countries will share their experience with data disaggregation and the statistical challenges faced by their offices in obtaining adequate data so that no one is left behind. Some potential changes that can be addressed include modifications to traditional household surveys, augmentations to the age range used in surveys, among others.

The third session will examine the ongoing work of the IAEG-SDGs and other efforts to address the need for disaggregated data at the national level. Innovative solutions to assist national statistical offices in the collection, production, and dissemination of disaggregated data will also be highlighted. The focus of the presentations will be on technical statistical work being done, both within and outside the national statistical systems and how to make these tools available to countries for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda. Three to four presentations by groups working on solutions or tools to enable the production and use of adequate data to ensure that no one is left behind will be invited to speak (e.g., work on disability).

The fourth session will address the topic of integrating data from other sources including line ministries, civil society organizations and other non-official sources into the national statistical systems for the follow up and review of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. The case studies and country examples will highlight how to utilize new data sources. There will be links between this

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workshop and the workshop activities under A.2.1 on the integration of administrative data, big data and geospatial information.

The fifth session will review statistical capacity building needs and highlight efforts that are ongoing to assist national statistical systems to produce adequate data to address the needs of the 2030 Agenda.

The sixth session aims to integrate the lessons learned of the four sessions and devise a work plan for the national statistical systems to address all population group, especially the most vulnerable, a to enhance data disaggregation at the national level.

### **Provisional Agenda**

- I. Opening
- II. Session 1: Assessing national sources to produce disaggregated data
- III. Session 2: National experiences and challenges in producing disaggregated data
- IV. Session 3: Innovative solutions
- V. Session 4: Integration of data produced by various sources
- VI. Session 5: Statistical capacity initiatives
- VII. Session 6: Coordinated efforts on data disaggregation
- VIII. Closing