UN Reform and the Regional Reform: Strengthening the regional data and statistics ecosystem

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Outline

• What are the UN Development System (UN DS) Reforms about?
• Reform implementation in the Asia-Pacific region
• Where are we now?
• Challenges and opportunities
• Draft recommendations for the Commission’s consideration
UN DS Reforms

Objective – to support Member States achieve the 2030 Agenda

UNDS reform - Operational activities for statistics development

- A coordinated, reprofiled and restructured regional approach is proposed to **fully support the work carried out on the ground**
- The entities of the United Nations development system need to **improve and harmonize internal data collection mechanisms** to produce comparable, system-wide data, with disaggregation at the global, regional and country levels.
- .. the [UN development] system also needs to **scale up its support for national institutions as they strengthen their statistical and data management capacities**.

Source: Secretary-General’s report of December 2017 (A/72/684 – E/2018/7)
UN DS Reforms: The regional dimension

Five recommendations

1. Unified mechanism for coordination in each region
2. Regional knowledge management hubs
3. Transparency and results-based management

4. Initiate a region-by-region change management process consolidating capacities on data and statistics to minimize duplication and foster regional collaboration on data and statistics

5. Efficient administrative sources

Source: Secretary-General’s report of April 2019 (A/74/73-E/2019/4)
## Implementing recommendation 4

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<tr>
<th>What</th>
<th>Why</th>
<th>How</th>
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<tr>
<td>Initiate a region-by-region change management process consolidating existing capacities on data and statistics, and other relevant analytical functions</td>
<td>To minimize duplication and foster regional collaboration on data and statistics</td>
<td>The SG’s recommendations were quiet on how to do this</td>
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### Task given to Regional Task Team

| What are the existing data, statistics and analytical functions and capacities in, or operating in, the Asia and the Pacific? | What are the individual entities and team’s roles and what are their mandates? | How can different parts of the data ecosystem be connected to ensure coherent messaging including through harmonized data and reporting standards? |
Agreed activities and timeline

October 2019        December 2019/January 2020        March 2020        March 2021

Track 1
One UN Asia-Pacific SDG Data Gateway

Track 2
One UN Asia-Pacific SDG Progress Report

Mapping of: (a) Data, statistics and analytical functions; (b) capacities of UN regional entities.
Stock take of data, statistical and analytical assistance to member states for the 2030 Agenda

Track 3
Consolidation based on the analysis of the mapping/stock-take of Track 2 and Report on the way forward to member states
Where are we now?

• The Asia Pacific **SDG Gateway** use the data compiled by the UN system custodian agencies, hence the same data is used for regional and global progress reporting

• Asia Pacific **SDG Progress Report** 2020 is being prepared with engagement by several UN DS entities

• **Mapping** exercise started following meeting of the Thematic Working Group on Statistics on 30 January 2020

• **Consolidation** to be discussed at high-level regional meeting in March 2020 (to be chaired by the Deputy Secretary-General)

Source: Secretary-General’s report of April 2019 (A/74/73-E/2019/4)
Asia-Pacific SDG Gateway

SDG Gateway 2019: Progress Assessment Report

Database: Data tables

SDG Gateway 2020:
- Visualizations
- Country Dashboard
- Data Availability
- Costing & Financing
Challenges & opportunities

**Challenge 1:** How to expand improved collaboration on knowledge products (SDG progress report and SDG Gateway) to more effective statistics support to countries in the region?

**Challenge 2:** How to extend collaboration among regional UN entities to national and global UN entities operating in the Asia-Pacific region?

**Opportunity 1 and 2:** The mapping and consolidation activities are opportunities to address the challenges

- What to map?
- Scope of consolidation?
Proposed recommendations

The Commission …

• Welcomes the Secretary-General’s recommendation to enhance collaboration among United Nations Development System (UN DS) entities for effective statistics support;

• Appreciates the efforts of the Asa-Pacific UN DS to implement the UN development system reforms as they pertain to data and statistics (recommendation 4);

• Encourages a consistent focus on “strengthening national statistical systems” as the objective throughout the implementation of recommendation 4 in the Asia-Pacific region;

• Notes the necessity of capturing functions and activities of national and global UN DS entities involved in statistics capacity development in Asia-Pacific in the planned mapping and consolidation activities.
Thank you!

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