



United Nations

# Harmonizing methodologies and improving data: The role of the Statistical Commission

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# Follow-up and review of the global migration compact – data needs

- *“Collect and utilize accurate and disaggregated data as a basis for evidence-based policies”* – Global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration, zero draft, objective 1
- *“We recognize the importance of improved data collection, particularly by national authorities, and will enhance international cooperation to this end, including through capacity-building, financial support and technical assistance.”* – New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants





# Connecting with existing framework – the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- For the 1st time, international migration was explicitly mentioned in a global development framework of the UN
- *“safe, orderly and regular migration” (Target 10.7)*
- *“By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, **migratory status**, disability, geographic location and other characteristics ...” (Target 17.18)*

# Follow-up and reviews: lessons learned from the SDG indicator framework

- IAEG-SDGs: Coordination
- The Global Indicator Framework
  - Adopted by the Statistical Commission, ECOSOC and GA in 2017
  - A tier system
  - Yearly refine and periodical comprehensive review
  - Complemented by regional and national indicators
- What constitutes a good indicator?
  - Relevant
  - Methodologically sound
  - Measurable
  - Comparable and sustainable
  - Easy to communicate and access



# The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2017



## Follow-up and reviews: lessons learned from the SDG indicator framework (cont.)

- The *Sustainable Development Goals Report* and the global database
- Proper data flow – transparency and comparability
- Capacity building – *Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data*
- World data forum – private sectors, academia, civil society, government officials





# United Nations Statistical Commission

- Established in 1947, highest body of the global statistical system
- Chief statisticians of member states, regional and international agencies
- Mandates:
  - Setting statistical standards and developing concepts and methods;
  - Coordinating statistical work in various areas;
  - Promoting the development of national statistical systems



# United Nations Statistics Division



Collecting, processing and dissemination of statistical information



Standardization of statistical methods, classifications and definitions



Capacity building



Coordination of international statistical programmes and activities and collaboration with partners



# UNSD's work on international migration statistics

- Collects/publishes data on migration flows/stocks since 1949
- Develops methods:
  - *Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, Rev. 1 (1989)*
  - *Handbook on Measuring International Migration through Population Censuses (2017)*
  - *International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics (2018)*
- Coordinates activities under the 2020 World Population and Housing Census Programme
  - *Principles and Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses + accompanying handbooks*
- Leads methodological work on SDG indicator disaggregation by migratory status
  - *The Expert Group on Migration Statistics*
- Builds capacity: Regional workshops and the Development Account Project on migration statistics

