

RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE INTERSECTIONAL ANALYSIS OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC DATA



National Statistical Offices (NSOs)

Leveraging the interface between the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

NSOs can gain a lot by reusing data collected for monitoring SDGs to also monitor implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). For example, data that has already been collected for purposes of monitoring the attainment of *SDG 1: Zero Poverty* can be relied on to monitor implementation of the right to an adequate standard of living and the right to social security guaranteed in the ICESCR.

Partnerships with NHRIs, CSOs and other actors

NSOs can get more out of the existing socio-economic data landscape by forming closer partnerships with actors such as National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) or private sector actors that already collect or plan to collect data. Leveraging these synergies can also lead to cost reductions, improved data coverage and granularity, and to obtaining and using data which these actors are better placed to collect.

Accessibility of data for people with disabilities

All NSOs should take particular care to ensure that data is accessible to people with disabilities. Guaranteeing accessibility will bolster the human rights-based approach to data (HRBAD) principles of transparency and allow for meaningful participation by people with disabilities who would otherwise be at risk of being left behind.



National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs)

NHRIs are well-placed to help NSOs when it comes to improving their human rights-based approach to data. NSOs may in turn be able to assist NHRIs with statistical expertise. This should help NHRIs to get the most out of analysing socio-economic data already being collected by NSOs and other actors, and to feed analyses back to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights with a view to assisting it in performing its monitoring functions.



Civil society organizations (CSOs)

Like NSOs and NHRIs, CSOs should look to build partnerships which can help take advantage of existing data in various CSOs' areas of expertise. These sorts of partnerships and the results they yield can then in turn be leveraged for advocacy purposes and for holding duty-bearers accountable for their human rights obligations, including by submitting reports to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.



A HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH TO DATA

is based on the following six mutually reinforcing principles:



1

PARTICIPATION

Participation of relevant population groups in data collection exercises, including planning, data collection, dissemination and analysis of data.



2

DISAGGREGATION

Disaggregation of data allows data users to compare population groups, and to understand the situations of specific groups. Disaggregation requires that data on relevant characteristics are collected.



3

SELF-IDENTIFICATION

For the purposes of data collection, populations of interest should be self-defining. Individuals should have the option to disclose, or withhold, information about their personal characteristics.



4

TRANSPARENCY

Data collectors should provide clear, openly accessible information about their operations, including research design and data collection methodology. Data collected by State agencies should be openly accessible to the public.



5

PRIVACY

Data disclosed to data collectors should be protected and kept private, and confidentiality of individuals' responses and personal information should be maintained.



6

ACCOUNTABILITY

Data collectors are accountable for upholding human rights in their operations, and data should be used to hold States and other actors to account on human rights issues.



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National Mechanisms for Reporting and Follow-up (NMRFs)

A national mechanism for reporting and follow-up is a national public mechanism that is mandated to coordinate and prepare reports to, and engage with, international and regional human rights, and to coordinate and track national follow-up and implementation of the treaty obligations and the recommendations emanating from these mechanisms.

Partnership-building is facilitated and strengthened by central co-ordinating bodies. An NMRF's coordination capacity refers to the authority to disseminate information, and to organise and coordinate information gathering and data collection from government entities and other State actors such as the NSOs, the SDG implementation focal point agency or national planning commission, parliament and the judiciary, for reporting and follow-up to recommendations. An NMRF's coordination capacity also increases the ability of stakeholders to identify intersecting forms of disadvantage and discrimination, and to address related challenges that put people further at risk of being left behind.



National Planning Commissions (NPCs)

National planning commissions are advisory bodies that assist governments in devising long term plans and policies, usually from an economic development perspective. NPC processes are informed by large amounts of socio-economic data, including data collected for purposes of the SDGs. Partnerships built within, and data collected for, NPCs can be transferred to NMRFs with relative ease, which can in turn assist NMRFs with reporting to bodies such as the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and monitoring progress made in respect of the implementation of recommendations emanating from the human rights mechanisms. Cooperation between NMRFs and NPCs should run both ways.



The United Nations and other international organisations

The United Nations and other international organisations have several important roles to play in facilitating an improved human rights-based approach to data (HRBAD) in Member States. These include advocating for HRBAD uptake and mainstreaming of gender and the Leave No One Behind principle, but also ensuring that these approaches and principles can be applied practically, for example by providing technical support to actors throughout socio-economic data ecosystems and engaging in capacity building activities that are specifically geared at using the large amounts of socio-economic data already available in ways which help to ensure that no one is left behind.



HUMAN RIGHTS 75: A PIVOTAL MOMENT TO ENSURE WE LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND



The 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) will be celebrated on 10 December 2023. Ahead of this milestone celebration, the anniversary initiative, *Human Rights 75*, will rekindle the spirit, impulse, and vitality of the UDHR and renew a worldwide consensus on human rights.

As a “common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations”, the UDHR is a global blueprint for international, national, and local laws and policies and a bedrock of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development.

In the decades since the adoption of the UDHR in 1948, human rights have become more recognised and more guaranteed across the globe. It has since served as the foundation for an expanding system of human rights protection that today also focuses on vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and migrants.

However, the promise of the UDHR, of dignity and equality in rights, has been under a sustained assault in recent years. The Declaration’s 30 articles that address rights and benefits, have been realized by many yet are still outside the reach of others. As the world faces new and ongoing challenges – pandemics, conflicts, exploding inequalities, imbalances in the global financial system, racism, climate change – the values, and rights enshrined in the UDHR provide guideposts for our collective actions that do not leave anyone behind.

For more information on the Human Rights 75 initiative:

Visit: <https://www.ohchr.org/en/human-rights-75>

OR

Scan the QR code here: →



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LEVERAGING DATA TO LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND

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