Twelfth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas
of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Santiago, 26–28 September 2023

BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES, 2024–2025, OF THE STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

UNITED NATIONS

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CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

At the twelfth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), held from 26 to 28 September 2023 in Santiago, 13 proposed outputs selected for implementation by the working groups of the Conference in the 2024–2025 biennium, which were included in the *Draft biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, 2024– 2025, of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean*,[1] were submitted.

The 13 proposed outputs were presented and subsequently adopted at the meeting of the Conference, during which the national statistical offices of the countries of the region, along with international agencies, had the opportunity to comment on the documents. The secretariat of the Conference requested coordinating countries to make the necessary changes and submit the final proposals that included the comments made during the meeting. The present document therefore constitutes the official version of the Biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, 2024–2025, of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, which will used to form the new working groups for the next biennium.

The aim of the selected proposals is to contribute to the development of official statistics through the preparation of guidelines and recommendations in: peer review, census mapping, data imputation, small area estimation, metadata management, childhood-related administrative records, gender, well-being indicators, forced displacement and migration, labour market, environmental statistics, agricultural statistics and crime statistics.

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[1] See [online] https://cea.cepal.org/12/en/documents/draft-biennial-programme-regional-and-international-cooperation-activities-2024-2025.

I. PEER REVIEW MECHANISM IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

1.   Coordinating country

Colombia: National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE)

2.   Technical secretariat

Statistics Division of ECLAC

3.   Background

Although Latin America and the Caribbean has demonstrated its commitment to statistical quality over the years, countries vary significantly in terms of their adoption of quality assurance mechanisms, unlike in other regions. It is particularly necessary to establish an external peer review mechanism that is sustainable over time, which would facilitate evaluations that take into account the specificities of each country and national statistical system and thus help to identify areas for improvement.

Thus, the working group aims to design and implement a regional peer review methodology institutionalized within the framework of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, based on the analysis of regional benchmarks, such as the Code of Good Practice in Statistics for Latin America and the Caribbean, and the results of working group consultations with the member countries and pilot tests.

The Code of Good Practice was updated during the 2022–2023 biennium, and the updated version constitutes the key input for peer review methodology, given that the methodology is aimed at determining the level of compliance with the principles contained in the Code. In addition, the first version of the peer review methodology is ready to be pilot tested in 2024, pending allocation of the resources necessary for its implementation. Once the countries eligible for financing to conduct the first pilot test have been identified, in the final quarter of 2023, the process for the allocation of resources will begin. The activities of the working group will therefore extend to the 2024–2025 biennium in order to carry out the pilot tests necessary for the establishment of a methodology for adoption by the Conference and eventual use as a regional guideline.

4.   Objectives

(a)   General objective

Establish a regional peer review methodology, institutionalized under the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC and based on an analysis of regional benchmarks, such as the Code of Good Practice in Statistics for Latin America and the Caribbean, and international peer review methodologies, such as the methodology of Eurostat.

(b)   Specific objectives

(i) Compilation of the methodological document and instruments necessary for peer review, according to the outcomes of the analysis of international benchmarks and the pilot tests carried out.

(ii) Design and conduct two pilot tests of the proposed peer review methodology to identify opportunities for improvement and generate a basis for its implementation in countries in the region.

5. Expected outcome

Encourage the proper implementation of the Code of Good Practice in the national statistical offices of the region through the implementation of the methodology and instruments necessary to carry out peer review.

6. Gender mainstreaming

The peer review methodology will be used to identify good practices in gender mainstreaming in the national statistical offices of the region.

7. Workplan

Activity	Start date	End date
Design and execution of the pilot test with external financing		
Compilation of the methodological document and instruments for peer review in Latin American and Caribbean countries	January 2024	February 2024
Selection of the national statistical office for the pilot test and selection of the peer review committee	February 2024	March 2024
Conduct of the pilot test in the country selected for this process	March 2024	July 2024
Preparation of the report on the results of the pilot test	July 2024	August 2024
Design and execution of the pilot test		
Revision of the methodological document, self-evaluation instrument and other necessary documentation based on the results of the pilot test	August 2024	October 2024
Implementation of the peer review methodology in the selected country	October 2024	February 2025
Preparation of the report on the results of the implementation	March 2025	March 2025
Adoption of the methodological document by the Statistical Conference of the Americas		
Revision of the methodological document, self-evaluation instrument and other necessary documentation based on the pilot test	April 2025	April 2025
Review of the revised methodological document by Latin American and Caribbean countries	May 2025	May 2025
Submission of the methodological document for adoption by the Conference	June 2025	July 2025
Incorporation of final revisions to methodology, copy and layout	July 2025	September 2025

II. ANALYSIS OF TECHNOLOGIES AND METHODOLOGIES FOR CENSUS MAPPING

1.   Coordinating countries

Argentina: National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INDEC)
Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela: National Institute of Statistics (INE)

2.   Technical secretariats

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE)-Population Division of ECLAC
Statistics Division of ECLAC

3.   Background

Population and housing censuses, whether de jure or de facto, are regularly carried out in Latin America and the Caribbean. Their results form the backbone of the social statistical system and the basis for the calculation of demographic and socioeconomic indicators that are indispensable in understanding population size, composition according to age and gender, growth, mobility and spatial distribution.

The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic caused the 2020 round of censuses in the region to be postponed, but it also prompted innovations and methodological changes to adapt censuses to the new reality. For example, in Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Panama and Uruguay, censuses were adapted through innovative means, such as the greater use of technology (online self-enumeration, mobile capture devices and tracking systems), administrative records and geospatial information.

Fourth-generation (4G) technology may be applied in various ways to improve the efficiency and accuracy of censuses, for example through geolocation and mapping with a global positioning system (GPS), which may improve precision in locating households and assigning geographical data. This facilitates the creation of accurate and up-to-date digital maps, and helps to plan and monitor the progress of censuses and the subsequent dissemination of census results; it is also useful for public and private management in areas such as urban planning and spatial analysis, as it provides a disaggregated view at the individual and territorial levels using census data.

In addition to prompting innovation, the pandemic highlighted the need to strengthen the capacity of statistical offices to manage, use and visualize geospatial statistical data in the pre-census and census phase.

4.   Objectives

(a)   General objective

Analyse the state of progress in technology and methodology for the preparation of geospatial information under the premise that "data speak", which refers to the exploration of census mapping in the information age, in order to explain what it is and how this information is used in the different phases of census operations in the 2020 round, for application in the 2030 round of censuses in Latin American and Caribbean countries.

(b) **Specific objectives**

Prepare a document on lessons learned with regard to the following:

(i) The different methods of capturing geospatial and statistical information used in the process of updating pre-census and census maps.

(ii) Oversight and management systems for updating pre-census and census maps.

(iii) Interoperability between geospatial information and the capture methods used in the field during the census-taking process (computer-assisted personal interview, computer-assisted web interview, computer-assisted telephone interview).

(iv) Systematization of experiences in the region with regard to the dissemination and geospatial representation of census data.

(v) General recommendations for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on leveraging lessons learned to strengthen national statistical and geographical systems and on the preparation of the 2030 round of censuses.

5. **Expected outcome**

Produce a document with guidelines on the use of technologies and methodologies in census mapping for implementation in the next round of censuses. It is expected that the lessons learned in the 2020 round will contribute to improving the next round.

6. **Gender mainstreaming**

The use of new technologies, along with the implementation of a statistical and geographical system, should incorporate the gender perspective to shed light on the theme of equal participation, not only in the disaggregation of information, but also in the functioning of the system itself. With regard to gender-related issues in particular, geospatial data offer the possibility of disaggregating a broad range of data and indicators, to the extent that they can be pinpointed to a location in the territory, for example through the reference to political and administrative units, geographical censuses or georeferenced postal addresses. The availability of data disaggregated by sex may make an important contribution to raising awareness of these territorial inequalities and, as a result, to focusing public policies on addressing gender-related issues with a principle of territorial equity.

The document will be prepared taking into account the *Guidelines for gender mainstreaming in the working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas* (LC/CEA.11/9) with a view to shedding light on persistent gender inequality in the region in the various phases of census operations that involve mapping.

7. **Workplan**

Activities	Start date	End date
Bilateral meetings to share technologies and methodologies used in updating pre-census and census maps with countries that have already completed their censuses (2020)	November 2023	May 2024

Report on the systematization of the information and presentations shared at the bilateral meetings	May 2024	June 2024
Observations on pilot tests and census operations for the period 2023–2025: updating pre-census and census maps	November 2023	March 2025
Report on observations made during the pilot tests	March 2025	March 2025
Preparation of the final document	March 2025	July 2025
Dissemination of the final document	August 2025	September 2025

III. DATA IMPUTATION METHODOLOGIES APPLIED IN HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS AND POPULATION CENSUSES

1.   Coordinating country

Chile: National Institute of Statistics (INE)

2.   Technical secretariat

Statistics Division of ECLAC

3.   Background

Household surveys and population censuses are important sources of data for national statistical offices to ascertain the demographic, socioeconomic and other characteristics of a population and use that input for monitoring and evaluating public policies. National statistical offices and institutions responsible for producing official statistics, understanding the scope and importance of these sources, seek to assure quality in all aspects throughout the production process.

However, even when the information collection phase of surveys and censuses is carefully planned, various non-response patterns may result in incomplete data. For example, households may decide not to participate in the survey or census or be impossible to locate, or respondents may choose not to answer certain questions, owing to lack of comprehension of the question or knowledge of the answer, or reluctance to disclose information that they consider private.

Total and partial non-response patterns in household surveys directly reduce the planned sample size, which may increase sampling error or introduce additional error. This, in turn, can lead to non-response bias.[2]

Data imputation is the technique used to address the various aspects of partial non-response, while expansion factor adjustment techniques are used to address total non-response. The recommendations on data imputation in censuses are consistent with mass imputation methods, as the appropriate use of administrative records is a key aspect in their implementation.[3]

In recent years, various alternative data imputation approaches have been proposed to overcome this problem and have on occasion been implemented without full consideration of their underlying theoretical and methodological aspects. In this regard, Medina and Galván (2007)[4] prepared a methodological document for ECLAC that covers the different theoretical and practical aspects involved in the use of data imputation in household surveys, and that presents the effects of imputation and non-response on the estimation of poverty and inequality indicators. Meanwhile, within the framework of the Conference, during the 2018–2019 biennium, the working group on household surveys examined the main income and expenditure surveys in the region, exploring techniques for handling non-response.[5]

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[2]   R. M. Groves and others, *Survey Methodology*, John Wiley & Sons, 2011.

[3]   J. Daalmans, "Mass imputation for census estimation", *Discussion Paper*, No. 4, Statistics Netherlands, 2017.

[4]   F. Medina and M. Galván, "Imputación de datos: teoría y práctica", *Statistical and Prospective Studies series*, No. 54 (LC/L.2772-P), Santiago, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), 2007.

[5]   Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean/National Institute of Statistics (ECLAC/INE), "Encuestas de ingresos y gastos de los hogares: experiencias recientes en América Latina y el Caribe", *Project Documents* (LC/TS.2021/49), Santiago, 2021.

The use of administrative records and auxiliary variables provides useful additional information to national statistical offices. The use of these records and variables in data imputation improves accuracy. The increasing availability of administrative records can provide accurate information on unit characteristics, such as income or education level, and such records can be used to impute missing values.

The choice of imputation methodology depends on the context and characteristics of the data. It is important to evaluate the methods used in terms of their performance in capturing the real variability of the data and minimizing bias. Therefore, the limitations and assumptions of each method must be considered, and the parsimony of the methodologies implemented must be safeguarded with a view to streamlining the limitations and assumptions for users. Therefore, a careful decision based on the methodological context and background must be made, performance must be evaluated and adequate information must be made available to select the most appropriate imputation method.

In this context, it would be advisable to resume the regional collaborative work agenda to jointly address the challenges in the methodological application of imputation techniques, building on the progress made and the reviews carried out by the working group on household surveys in previous bienniums, as well as recent recommendations and experiences.

4. Objectives

(a) General objective

Systematize international experience, focusing on national statistical offices in the region and international organizations, in order to develop recommendations for the implementation of statistical data imputation methodologies in household surveys and population censuses.

(b) Specific objectives

    (i) Establish an exchange with national statistical offices in the region to allow the sharing of knowledge, good practices and successful experiences in the field of data imputation in household surveys and population censuses.

    (ii) Establish a regional standardized procedure, in accordance with international recommendations and good practices, which can be adapted to the specific reality of each country and each statistical operation, on imputation in household surveys and population censuses.

    (iii) Examine the particular characteristics of database imputation processes and their impact on imputation variance and on the measurement of sampling error by users of household surveys.

    (iv) Through these efforts, it is proposed to establish a regional observatory, with responsibility for research and administrative functions rotating among the participating countries. The main objective is to produce a periodic, indexed publication, supported by all national statistical offices and ECLAC.

5. Expected outcome

To prepare a document, within the framework of the Conference, setting out regional standards that can be adapted to each country with a view to providing technical professionals in the region with the necessary uidelines to effectively address the imputation of missing data in household surveys and population censuses. This manual will serve as a practical and theoretical reference to improve the accuracy and

reliability of the statistical data generated, thus strengthening the capacity of national statistical offices to produce demographic and socioeconomic information as well as information on other population characteristics.

6.   Gender mainstreaming

Censuses and surveys help to deepen the knowledge and study of gender inequalities. For example, they can reveal and measure gender gaps in access to employment, wages for equal work or the time spent on domestic activities as unpaid work. Recommendations have correctly been made to focus on an adequate, in-depth and robust analysis of the results obtained by both types of instruments in order to consolidate, as accurately as possible, all their empirical results, making use of accurate and consistent expertise to significantly improve local and regional public policy on gender equality.

7.   Workplan

The aim is to establish a link between regional statistical offices and encourage collaboration on literature review, the publication of experiences, the availability and generation of R software code, the implementation of practical methods and exercises, and the analysis of relevant statistical results. The objective is to strengthen technical data imputation capacities and improve the quality of statistics in the region.

Activities	Start date	End date
Establishment of the working group	November 2023	January 2024
First proposal on the content of the document and discussion with the working group	February 2024	March 2024
Systematization of information on the current state of data imputation practices in household surveys in the countries of the region	March 2024	June 2024
Definition of standardized criteria for imputation in surveys and censuses	June 2024	September 2024
Presentation on progress at the first online meeting of the working group	October 2024	October 2024
Definition of the imputation methodologies to be considered for use in surveys and censuses	October 2024	March 2025
Seminar and workshop on data imputation in surveys and censuses: international experiences	November 2024	November 2024
Presentation of progress at the second online meeting of the working group	April 2025	April 2025
Consultation on the draft document with member countries of the working group	May 2025	June 2025
Discussion on the final draft at an online meeting of the working group	July 2025	July 2025
Submission of final document to the secretariat of the Conference	August 2025	August 2025

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INCORPORATING SMALL AREA ESTIMATION METHODOLOGIES INTO THE PRODUCTION OF STATISTICS

1. Coordinating countries

Colombia: National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE)
Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela: National Institute of Statistics (INE)

2. Technical secretariat

Statistics Division of ECLAC

3. Background

Following up on the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a commitment taken on by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, requires disaggregated indicators grouped by income, sex, age, race and ethnicity, migratory status, disability and geographical location, in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (General Assembly resolution 68/261). Disaggregated data are also required to make evidence-based public policy decisions on the gaps between population groups and geographical areas and to leave no one behind.

However, there are weaknesses in countries' capacity to generate statistics and indicators disaggregated by subgroup and at the subnational or local level. Household surveys are conducted by selecting a random sample using probability sampling, meaning that official national statistics that are published are broken down into the strata defined in the sampling design or into domains of interest that meet the quality criteria of each national statistical office (such as the coefficient of variation). However, users of these statistical data in the countries often request a greater degree of disaggregation, where direct estimators such as the Horvitz–Thompson estimator cannot be used because neither comments on the samples nor the metrics for statistical quality are available (coefficient of variation, design effect, margin of error, sample size and others) and the minimum criteria for publishing data and subsequently making decisions on the domains to be disaggregated have not been met.

In recent years, several countries in the region and also multilateral organizations have used the small area estimation methodology as a way of producing disaggregated statistics. The small area estimation methodology enables the generation of an estimate (and the standard error of the estimate) in domains where there are no samples, improving coefficients of variation in domains where the sample is small and thereby enabling the quality parameters for the publication of results to be met. Population and housing censuses are a key source of additional information during this process because they can provide very detailed disaggregated data as well as administrative records and satellite images.

Several countries in the region have already implemented small area estimation as a variable disaggregation technique for surveys. The indicator that recurs the most is monetary poverty and the most common disaggregation domain is the municipality. In other cases, the labour market, nutritional status and access to justice have also been studied. One recurring situation is that, while the results obtained using the disaggregation model are published as an experimental statistic or study, the information is not updated or used in the institution's workplan for producing statistics. This means that for decision makers, this key tool is unavailable over time because data are not updated, the historical series is not monitored and methodologies are not standardized.

As a consequence, the use of small area estimation experimentally or for a study means that the processes that could support automation are not defined. For example, among the tasks that require more funding within the small area estimation workflow are establishing an inventory or mapping sources, analysing quality, pre-processing data and including sources. Once these tasks have been defined within the process, they can serve as inputs for building different models to disaggregate indicators.

In this context, including small area estimation in statistical production methodologies is strategic and supports the availability of recurrent, disaggregated data for developing, executing and following up on public policy and the SDGs. For this reason, a manual is being developed to enable institutions to scale up the small area estimation methodology, an innovative way of disaggregating data during the production of statistics.

4. Objectives

(a) General objective

Develop a manual that enables institutions to standardize the use of small area estimation to produce official statistics.

(b) Specific objectives

(i) Analyse the use of the small area estimation methodology in the region, taking into consideration criteria for the following: publication, variables, domains, periodicity of publication, process definition and automation, tools used and available human talent.

(ii) Define the general stages of applying the small area estimation methodology in order to create a manual with a step-by-step guide, bearing in mind replicability and automation.

(iii) Make recommendations to institutions and organizations that enable small area estimation to be incorporated into the production processes for official statistics.

(iv) Establish a maturity model that takes into consideration the following capacities and assets: available data, human talent, defined processes, initiatives already implemented and technological tools.

(v) Contribute to building tools that highlight the possible contributions of implementing the small area estimation methodology for following up on and monitoring the SDG indicators.

(vi) Gather recommendations from countries in the region that have already begun implementing the small area estimation methodology to produce statistics.

(vii) Propose ways for the statistical data obtained using small area estimation methodology to be made available and viewed locally through geostatistical information systems.

5. Expected outcome

The output is a manual to enable national statistical offices to use small area estimation methodologies when producing statistics and will complement the information from traditional sources and strengthen targeted analysis for designing, executing and assessing social policy programmes while motivating an increasing number of countries to use and apply small area estimation techniques. This manual will address three main areas:

(a) Maturity and capacity

(b) Administrative and political components

(c) Practical implementation:

    (i) Use of administrative records for estimation during the intercensal period

    (ii) Validation of auxiliary variables

    (iii) Data quality analysis: integration biases, outliers, data gaps

    (iv) Selecting the best model

    (v) Validation criteria

    (vi) Dissemination

Developing a manual to standardize the use of small area estimation for the production of official statistics will enable national statistical offices to establish strategies to modernize institutions, identifying possible priority areas for strengthening the capacity to produce statistics. Similarly, implementing these recommendations will increase the level of interaction between the various stakeholders in countries' respective statistics systems, especially at the local level, enhancing the standing of national statistical offices across the country by enabling them to produce statistics that are more disaggregated and therefore more useful.

6. Gender mainstreaming

The small area estimation methodology allows for different variables to be disaggregated by gender, enabling countries to observe the gender gap so that differentiated measures can be adopted. Working with the ECLAC Division for Gender Affairs in preparing the guide, progress is expected to be made in prioritizing the SDG indicators that, through the use of the small area estimation methodology, contribute to closing data gaps and making gender differences visible.

7. Workplan

Activities	Start date	End date
Establishment of the working group	November 2023	January 2024
Development of an instrument to describe the level of institutional maturity in applying small area estimation	January 2024	February 2024
Analysis of the information from the maturity instrument for the associated document and comparison of the maturity of the countries of the region in the implementation of the small area estimation methodology	February 2024	April 2024
Definition of the general stages for the implementation of the small area estimation methodology in institutions	April 2024	May 2024
Preparation of a draft proposal for the implementation of each stage and development of the process to be incorporated into the production of statistics	May 2024	July 2024
Review of the document and approval of the final version	July 2024	August 2024

Definition of the administrative, political and technical factors that will enable the small area estimation methodology to be integrated into the production of statistics	August 2024	September 2024
Preparation of a draft proposal with the enabling factors that must be implemented in institutions for the small area estimation methodology to be incorporated into the production of statistics	September 2024	October 2024
Review of the document and approval of the final version	October 2024	December 2024
Definition of the degree of maturity and institutional capacities required to move to another level	December 2024	February 2025
Development of a draft proposal for the degree of maturity and institutional capacities required to move to another level	February 2025	April 2025
Review of the document and approval of the final version	April 2025	May 2025
Gathering of recommendations from the countries with the most experience in implementing the small area estimation methodology	May 2025	June 2025
Preparation of a summary of the manual to progress from using the small area estimation methodology as an experiment to using it for producing statistics	June 2025	August 2025
Review of the document and approval of the final version	August 2025	September 2025

V. GUIDELINES ON METADATA MANAGEMENT WHEN IMPLEMENTING THE GENERIC STATISTICAL BUSINESS PROCESS MODEL (GSBPM)

1. Coordinating country

Colombia: National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE)

2. Technical secretariat

Statistics Division of ECLAC

3. Background

The implementation of the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) by the countries that make up ECLAC has become essential in the production of statistics. GSBPM provides a conceptual and operational framework for managing and organizing the production of statistics, from determining what data are needed to delivering the final results. To successfully implement this model, however, processes must be fully documented and metadata properly managed.

For the member countries of ECLAC, managing metadata during the production of statistics is a key step for ensuring quality and transparency. Metadata provide information that describes statistical data, including meaning, quality, structure and context. These elements are indispensable for ensuring the interoperability, comparability and reuse of data over time. Metadata also make it possible to document and track production processes, making it easier to identify potential errors, replicate results and continuously improve the methods used.

It is essential to understand the current status of the implementation of standards for the production and dissemination of official statistics in the member countries of ECLAC, such as GSBPM, and how the documentation of statistics production processes is established and managed. In addition to allowing for the identification of progress, challenges and best practices in the region, this will strengthen technical capacities and foster progress in the adoption of international standards through regional agreements on metadata.

In the context of the information revolution and the emergence of tools and solutions based on artificial intelligence, it is critical to discuss and reach agreement on the use of tools such as ChatGPT and Bard, among others, in generating and managing documentation.

Lastly, it is essential to foster the exchange of ideas at the regional level regarding how widely metadata should be disseminated and what types of documents should be available to the general public in order to ensure the transparency, accessibility and use of official statistics. Other ways of obtaining such metadata should also be considered, from videos or other digital tools (such as podcasts), in order to determine whether these alternatives are useful for understanding metrics and to provide guidance on their appropriate use.

In that regard, an exhaustive study should be conducted, including interviews with representatives of the national statistical offices of member countries, a review of the existing documentation and an assessment of metadata management practices. Based on the results of this study, specific recommendations can be made to improve process documentation and strengthen metadata generation and management in the production of statistics. This will contribute to more effective implementation of GSBPM.

4.   Objectives

(a)   General objective

Analyse the implementation of standards for the production and dissemination of official statistics (such as GSBPM) and the generation and management of metadata and encourage the exchange of good practices and the incorporation of innovations in the countries of the region to develop a technical manual with recommendations for metadata documentation and management in the production of statistics.

(b)   Specific objectives

(i)   Identify the member countries of ECLAC that have implemented or are implementing GSBPM in statistics production processes.

(ii)   Conduct interviews and consult with selected countries' national statistical offices, using digital forms, to obtain detailed information on the implementation of GSBPM and on metadata management.

(iii)   Review the existing documentation on statistics production processes in the selected countries, analysing their coverage and level of detail.

(iv)   Analyse metadata generation and management in the statistics production processes of selected countries, identifying good practices and challenges.

(v)   Address the implications of using artificial intelligence tools to generate and manage documentation.

(vi)   Examine the regional context, explore a variety of innovations and good practices in the use of digital tools and media (such as videos and podcasts) and determine whether they can be considered metadata for producing statistics.

(vii)   Develop a technical manual with clear and practical recommendations for metadata documentation and management in the production of statistics, tailored to the particular characteristics of countries of the region.

(viii)   Foster the dissemination and adoption of the technical manual by national statistical offices in the region, through webinars, workshops and other media.

5.   Expected outcome

Encourage national statistical offices to develop documentation on metadata in the production of statistics, by establishing the good practices and recommendations required to generate and manage it, both domestically and in the national statistics systems in the region.

6.   Gender mainstreaming

Study how to mainstream gender in the production of statistical data by analysing the production and management of the metadata generated by the national statistical offices of the region. The study will also enable the identification of good practices in raising awareness of the importance of mainstreaming gender in the national statistical systems of the region's countries.

7.   Workplan

Activity	Start date	End date
Preparation and deployment of a survey to gauge the status of implementing and documenting the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM) in the member countries of ECLAC	January 2024	May 2024
Identification and selection of ECLAC member countries for the study using the GSBPM implementation criteria	May 2024	June 2024
Review and analysis of the generation and management of metadata in the statistics production processes of the countries selected	July 2024	September 2024
Interviews and consultations with the national statistical offices of the countries selected to obtain detailed information	October 2024	January 2025
Analysis of the results of the study and extraction of best practices and recommendations	January 2025	March 2025
Preparation of the technical manual in collaboration with experts from the national statistical offices and other relevant stakeholders	April 2025	July 2025
Review and approval of the technical manual by the national statistical offices and other experts in statistics from the region	August 2025	September 2025

VI. MANUAL ON THE INTEGRATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE DATA ON CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

1. Coordinating countries

Chile: National Institute of Statistics (INE)
Uruguay: National Institute of Statistics (INE)

2. Technical secretariats

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
Statistics Division of ECLAC

3. Background

Since 2015, the working group on statistics on childhood and adolescence has focused its efforts on improving the region's capacity to produce statistics on children and adolescents.

A recurring theme during the group's work has been the use of administrative records in the region for statistics. The migration and health crisis showed that statistics systems could be strengthened by making greater use of administrative data, which would enhance agility while preventing vulnerable populations from being excluded, and in some cases, provide advance notice of the fragility of certain systems during a crisis.

At the fourth in-person meeting of the working group, held in Panama in October 2019, it was agreed that each country in the region should strive to integrate the administrative data on children into the statistics system. An integrated records platform would reduce the cost of policy planning and assessment, generating information more frequently and allowing for more complex analyses, both by connecting variables from different thematic areas and by creating profiles of a country's children and adolescents over time. In addition, because of the infrastructure required for integration, systems would also tend to be more robust and inclusive.

For that reason, in the 2022–2023 biennium, a study was conducted of the maturity of the systems seeking to integrate administrative information in the countries of the region, revealing differences in the maturity of information included in the contemplation, initiation, enablement and implementation phases. Eleven recommendations that apply to all countries were developed for these phases.

Now that the working group is well versed in the region's preparedness in terms of administrative data and the recommendations for success, it will turn to providing technical assistance by conducting case studies and preparing a technical manual. This manual will enable countries to develop the best possible integrated systems for administrative data on children.

The study showed that countries are facing significant systemic risks that represent a barrier — even in countries with the most mature systems— to realizing their full potential. The manual will focus on the following areas:

- Scope (demand). Overcoming challenges in demonstrating the potential and value of integrating the administrative data on children into statistics systems.

- Governance. Overcoming the challenges presented by legal and administrative structures in the sharing, linking and dissemination of data, while ensuring that activities are socially acceptable.

- Data issues. Addressing issues related to transforming the information from administrative systems into usable data through a series of methodological and data management steps.

- Information technology and other issues. Ensuring that the necessary components are identified, installed and used, including open-source statistics software.

In addition, it has been recognized that as administrative population data of a more general nature, including on children and adolescents, are produced and used for statistical purposes, it will be important to emphasize data on children to ensure investment in integrated statistical systems for administrative data. These systems should take into consideration the unique attributes of the administrative data on children that will have the greatest final impact.

The manual will therefore provide technical guidance on how to focus on children in the development of statistics systems that integrate administrative data and will complement other technical manuals on developing statistics systems for administrative data for the broader population. To that end, a conceptual framework for a mature statistics system that includes administrative data on children will be identified and applied. The current zero draft of this conceptual framework indicates that such a system recognizes that:

- Children interact with administrative systems differently from adults.

- There are unique governance, protection and oversight needs with regard to data on children.

- There are unique statistical challenges with regard to data on children.

- The development of data should focus on the areas of greatest impact for children.

In conclusion, the manual will support countries in accelerating the development of mature statistics systems that integrate data on persons, particularly children; apply best practices in the four above-mentioned areas of interest; and teach concrete approaches for applying the recommendations from the study that focus on data on children.

4. Objectives

(a) General objective

Improve the quality of administrative data and its use for following up on the 2030 Agenda and designing public policies to safeguard the rights of children and adolescents in the region.

(b) Specific objectives

(i) Prepare a manual with guidelines on the production and use of integrated administrative data on children for statistical purposes, coordinating best practices in statistics, with the objective of supporting countries in developing coherent and well-informed strategies that will enable them to make full use of administrative data sources across sectors to develop insights on children.

(ii) Establish a conceptual framework for a mature statistics system that is based on integrated administrative data on children.

(iii) Develop a set of technical case studies of the region, including technical support.

(iv) Develop strategies and technical guidance for the four areas identified as problematic (scope, governance, data issues, and information technology and other issues).

5.   Expected outcome

The technical manual will provide tangible support to countries, in the medium and long term, in producing linked administrative statistical data on children, providing them with the necessary tools to make progress in areas that may have presented difficulties in the past.

Over the long term, countries with administrative data at all stages of preparation are expected to integrate administrative data on children. This will lead to the production of more frequent, higher-quality and more disaggregated data on SDG indicators for children.

6.   Gender mainstreaming

Linking the administrative data on children will make it possible to obtain more detailed, longitudinal information on children and their lived reality. Many administrative data systems collect information on sex or gender, and when information from all administrative systems is connected, over time, a statistical portrait can be established of all areas of the lives of boys and girls (health, education, and so on). This allows for a deeper understanding of "double disadvantage", whereby children who suffer more than one disadvantage are disproportionately worse off in important outcomes such as education compared to their peers. Experts on the subject have been and will continue to be consulted as part of the activities.

7.   Workplan

Activities	Start date	End date	Remarks
Identification of resources	January 2024	March 2024	
Preparation and dissemination of workplan	January 2024	March 2024	The formation of the working group will be finalized during this phase. This entails designing a structure for the report that balances the alignment of methodological standards (such as the Generic Statistical Business Process Model (GSBPM)) with the unique needs of the region.
Selection of case studies	April 2024	June 2024	The number and type of case studies will be determined in accordance with the stated needs of the working group members.
Case studies and consultation	April 2024	June 2025	The case studies will address technical support provided to countries through the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).
Literature review	April 2024	June 2025	
Contributions of experts	April 2024	June 2025	
Completion of case studies and manual	April 2025	September 2025	
Dissemination workshop	July 2025	September 2025	

VII. TOOLS FOR MAINSTREAMING THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE IN STATISTICAL PRODUCTION PROCESSES

1. Coordinating country

Mexico: National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)

2. Technical secretariats

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)
Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC
Statistics Division of ECLAC

3. Background

At the twenty-second meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, held in 2023, the progress made by the working groups of the Conference was recognized and, on the basis of the Biennial programme of regional and international cooperation activities, 2022–2023, progress on the development of the *Guidelines for mainstreaming the gender perspective in statistical production* was presented.

During preparation of the guidelines, some good practices implemented by the countries of the region to mainstream the gender perspective into statistical production were recorded, and note was taken of the need for some countries to consider these good practices in one or more phases of the statistical production process. This represents a baseline for further work on the guidelines through the creation of a website with a toolkit to raise awareness of these measures and strategies, and acknowledge them, with a view to adapting and replicating them in other countries in the region.

One of the measures set out in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995) is aimed at strengthening statistical systems to incorporate gender analysis into statistics, and thus foster the development of statistical methods to find better ways to collect, collate and analyse data that may relate to the human rights of women and all issues linked to the relationship between men and women in society.[6]

The Montevideo Strategy for Implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda within the Sustainable Development Framework by 2030, adopted at the thirteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (2016), reaffirms the need to establish and strengthen national statistical systems with a gender perspective, which entails improving the coverage, quality and periodicity of sociodemographic and economic statistics, using common classifications that ensure comparability.[7]

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[6] See subparagraph (i) of action 206 and subparagraph (a) of action 208 of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action [online] https://www.unwomen.org/sites/default/files/Headquarters/Attachments/Sections/CSW/PFA_E_Final_WEB.pdf.

[7] See measure 9.a [online] https://repositorio.cepal.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/b64f2bca-aad2-4aa4-a643-ddc9fabaf41e/content.

The Buenos Aires Commitment, adopted at the fifteenth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean , held in 2022, underscores the interest of the countries of the region in promoting adoption of a gender, intersectional and intercultural perspective in the production and use of statistical information, which will shed light on the multiple and interrelated forms of discrimination and violence against women, adolescent girls and girls in all their diversity and throughout their lives.

To give the work carried out in the 2022–2023 biennium continuity and meaning, this proposal is made to implement the *Guidelines for mainstreaming the gender perspective in statistical production*, through a toolkit to consolidate the good practices highlighted by national statistical offices and to incorporate the good practices developed and implemented by the various governmental and non-governmental organizations and institutions that contribute to production of gender statistics and mainstreaming of the gender perspective.

4.   Objectives

(a)   General objective

Apply the guidelines for mainstreaming the gender perspective to the phases of the statistical process by documenting good practices, measures, strategies and cases implemented by national statistical offices and institutions producing and using statistics in the region, through an online interactive toolkit, with documents, visual content and testimonies.

(b)   Specific objectives

(i)   Compile experiences, examples and good practices in the region of gender mainstreaming and intersectionality in statistical production.

(ii) Roll out a set of interactive tools that will enable the countries of the region to make optimal use of data on gender mainstreaming in statistical production.

(iii) Strengthen the directions and guidance in the *Guidelines for mainstreaming the gender perspective in statistical production.*

5.   Expected outcome

Improve and strengthen production of gender statistics in Latin American and Caribbean countries by compiling practices that can be adapted to the needs of each statistical system.

Establish strategic partnerships between countries for the exchange of information, in order to provide precise guidance on gender mainstreaming and intersectionality in the stages of the statistical process.

Provide proven tools for national statistical offices and other institutions that produce information, machineries for the advancement of women, civil society organizations, academia and the private sector.

6.   Gender mainstreaming

Statistical systems will continue to be strengthened to incorporate gender analysis into the production of information, to encourage development of more suitable statistical methods for collecting, collating and analysing data that may relate to the human rights of women and all issues linked to the relationship between

men and women in society. Gender-sensitive, intersectional and intercultural approaches will also be encouraged in the production and use of statistical information.

In this regard, it will be useful to create a toolkit for implementation of the *Guidelines for mainstreaming the gender perspective in statistical production* —a document prepared in the 2022–2023 biennium based on identification of the good practices of national statistical offices and other institutions producing statistics— which can translate knowledge and past proven experiences into specific actions to strengthen and improve gender mainstreaming in statistical production, quickly and effectively.

7. Workplan

Activities	Start date	End date	Remarks
Confirmation of the focal points of the working group's member countries	September 2023	October 2023	Routine task of working groups
Compilation of successful experiences and good practices identified in the *Guidelines for mainstreaming the gender perspective in statistical production*	October 2023	December 2023	Focusing on the experiences compiled in the expanded version of the Guidelines.
Formation of the working group. Preparation of the combined proposal on the components and structure of the toolkit	January 2024	March 2024	Incorporation of the working group participants and start of preparation of the proposal on content for the interactive version.
New consultation to be conducted, to identify other good practices for mainstreaming the gender perspective in statistical production processes in the countries of the region	February 2024	May 2024	The consultation may be carried out in an online regional workshop or by the countries sending resources by email.
Progress on the design and development of the digital platform or portal for the toolkit	May 2024	July 2024	Preparation of the proposal on content for the interactive version, with a compilation of the practices identified in the Guidelines and in the consultation.
Consultation with the member countries of the Statistical Conference of the Americas on the draft toolkit	August 2024	September 2024	Gathering of comments and opinions on the design and structure of the toolkit.
Incorporation of comments	October 2024	November 2024	Modifications suggested as a result of the consultation.
Adjustments to development of the proposed toolkit and the interactive online version	December 2024	January 2025	Interactive version of the adjusted product.
Creation and launch of the toolkit online	February 2025	May 2025	Interactive version of the toolkit.

Launch of the toolkit in the online testing portal	June 2025	July 2025	Approval of the portal for subsequent expansion.
Availability of the interactive toolkit online for national statistical offices of the region and other institutions and organizations that produce information	August 2025	August 2025	Toolkit made available for use

VIII. GUIDELINES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM OF WELL-BEING INDICATORS

1. Coordinating country

Argentina: National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INDEC)

2. Technical secretariat

Statistics Division of ECLAC

3. Background

Concern for the development, progress and well-being of the population has been part of the global agenda since the early twentieth century. Discussions of these concepts led to different theoretical approaches, which varied depending on their historical context. The prevalent thinking, which focuses primarily on an economic approach to progress and development, is being transformed through the inclusion of a wider- ranging vision of quality of life, including aspects related to health and education. These advances are reflected in the conceptualization of sustainable development and individual well-being.

In 2011, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) presented a framework for the development of indicators with a multidimensional approach focused on capabilities, aimed at measuring a country's well-being.[8] ECLAC, together with OECD, is encouraging adoption of this conceptual and analytical framework in the countries of the region, to be used in the design, implementation and monitoring of national policies. In 2015, the Member States of the United Nations adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, an action plan for governments to improve quality of life and to continue along the path embarked upon in 2000 through the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set out in the 2030 Agenda cover the different economic, social, environmental and institutional factors that contribute to people's well-being, in the present and the future. Countries' commitment to comprehensive and sustainable development, embodied in the 2030 Agenda, poses the challenge for national statistical offices of measuring people's complex circumstances, encompassing a multitude of dimensions.

The first meeting of the Regional Expert Network on Policy Metrics for Well-being and Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean was held in Santiago in 2019.[9] The aim was to identify indicators for measuring well-being and apply them to the design, implementation and monitoring of public policies. The outcomes of the meeting included recognition of the overlap between the OECD well-being framework and the SDGs, in both content and intent. The proposal by OECD, ECLAC and the European Union reaffirms the synergies between the two approaches and proposes development of tools for integration of multidimensional well-being indicators, in order to align national development strategies with the 2030 Agenda. Following the meeting, the document *How's Life in Latin America?: Measuring Well-being for Policy Making*[10] was prepared, and included the outcomes of a comparative study of well-being in Latin America and the Caribbean that focused on 11 countries of the region.

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[8] J. Stiglitz, A. Sen and J. Fitoussi, *Report by the Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress*, 2009.

[9] Further information is available at [online] https://foroalc2030.cepal.org/2019/es/programa/primera-reunion-grupo-consultivo-expertos-proyecto-oecd-cepal-ue-metricas-bienestar-ods.

[10] For more information see [online] https://www.oecd.org/fr/colombie/how-s-life-in-latin-america-2965f4fe-en.htm.

The seminar Beyond GDP: Statistical Challenges of Measuring Development, held in the framework of the twenty-first meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, in August 2022, addressed the various statistical challenges related to the improvement of GDP measurement and the production of complementary indicators. One of the central themes of the discussion concerned the shortcomings of GDP as a measure of factors that reflect development, including environmental sustainability and biodiversity loss, inequalities in access to the benefits of economic growth, the quality of institutions and the rule of law. National statistical offices were therefore urged to seek new metrics to complement GDP and thus overcome the limitations of that indicator and report on economic, social and environmental development.

The region faces the challenge of constructing a set of multidimensional metrics that combines various sources, forming a framework for addressing the different aspects of well-being. The COVID-19 pandemic led to changes in people's lives and laid bare certain needs linked to problems that are structural (employment, income, health and management of institutions), psychological (anxiety, trust and insecurity) and related to living conditions (structures and support for family life, work life, education and leisure in a single space), and that affect the most vulnerable groups in particular. Dynamic multidimensional statistical tools are therefore needed, to raise awareness of the different dimensions of well-being and of inequality gaps.

4. Objectives

(a) General objective

Prepare regional guidelines for construction of integrated systems of well-being indicators, enabling the combination of different types of sources in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, as part of a multidimensional approach.

(b) Specific objectives

(i) Develop a definition of well-being for Latin America and the Caribbean, using the study *How's Life in Latin America?: Measuring Well-being for Policy Making* as a reference

(ii) Analyse available sources (censuses, surveys and administrative records) in the countries of the region for measuring well-being, considering the progress made by the working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC.

(iii) Select a minimum set of standardized indicators that are aligned with the prepared definition of well-being and that allow each country to incorporate its particularities.

(iv) Systematize guidelines for reading the system of well-being indicators.

5. Expected outcome

Gain insight into the well-being of a population and identify inequalities within it, on the basis of defined theoretical and methodological guidance, with a multidimensional approach, to link, reorganize and analyse existing information from various sources, for the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. The proposal would also enable linkages among different dimensions of analysis and characterization of levels of individual and social well-being in each country through a harmonized system. This would provide national statistical offices with tools to evaluate living conditions and monitor the targets and objectives set out in government programmes and international commitments. It would also lay the foundations for a future integrated system of indicators to measure well-being in the region.

6.   **Gender mainstreaming**

In accordance with the recommendations of the *Guidelines for mainstreaming the gender perspective in statistical production*, the guidelines for each country to build the proposed system of indicators should incorporate an intersectional gender perspective. According to the Montevideo Strategy for Implementation of the Regional Gender Agenda within the Sustainable Development Framework by 2030, this will cast light on gender gaps and enable incorporation of new variables (such as age, ethnicity, education level and income level) and deepen links with other inequalities.

7.   **Workplan**

Activity	Start date	End date
Analysis of the literature and the statistical background of the region	October 2023	January 2024
Discussion on definitions of the dimensions of well-being and development of a shared glossary	February 2024	May 2024
Preparation and dissemination of a diagnostic survey and systematization of results	June 2024	October 2024
Presentation of a progress report	November 2024	November 2024
Selection and harmonization of indicators by dimension, based on the analysis of available sources	December 2024	May 2025
Discussion and drafting of a manual containing guidelines on reading indicators	June 2025	August 2025
Thematic seminars to present final results	August 2025	September 2025

IX. PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR PRODUCTION OF HARMONIZED STATISTICS ON FORCED DISPLACEMENT AND MIGRATION

1.   Coordinating country

Honduras: National Institute of Statistics (INE)

2.   Technical secretariats

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE)-Population Division of ECLAC
Statistics Division of ECLAC

3.   Background

By the end of 2022, nearly 110 million people had been forced to leave their homes around the world, and to move both within their own country and from one country to another, because of conflicts, violence, natural disasters, poverty and other reasons. Owing to the limited data available on these populations, true global numbers are presumed to be much higher.

Despite the growing scale of forced displacement, few countries have the data needed to inform national and regional policy responses to its root causes or to provide the specific services needed by displaced persons in their territories. The proliferation of global policy instruments on this issue, such as the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, the Global Compact on Refugees and the Secretary-General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement, has increased demand for data on forced displacement, placing an additional burden on the capacities of national statistical offices in affected countries.

The Expert Group on Refugee, Internally Displaced Persons and Statelessness Statistics is a multi- stakeholder group mandated by the Statistical Commission of the United Nations to develop international recommendations, standards and guidance for improved forced displacement and statelessness statistics. The first phase of its work included the formulation of the International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics, which were endorsed by the Statistical Commission in 2018. The second phase of the Expert Group's work gave rise to the International Recommendations on Internally Displaced Persons Statistics, which the Statistical Commission endorsed in 2020. These recommendations and the publication of the *Compilers' Manual on Forced Displacement Statistics* paved the way for the third and current phase of the Expert Group's mandate, which focuses on the implementation of both sets of recommendations, on refugee and internal displacement statistics, including the preparation of the International Recommendations on Statelessness Statistics, which were endorsed by the Statistical Commission in 2023.

The three sets of recommendations of the Expert Group and the ongoing work for a new review of the 1998 Recommendations on Statistics of International Migration, Revision 1, which already resulted in the endorsement in 2021 by the Statistical Commission of the revised conceptual framework on international migration and mobility, along with the related definitions and concepts as basic elements of this revision, reflect an evolving reference framework for production of official statistics on forced displacement. What remains to be done is to ensure that implementation of statistical recommendations meets the information needs of political decision makers.

In Central America, the Central American Statistical Commission of the Central American Integration System (CENTROESTAD) has considerable experience in coordination and has been linked to the Working Group for Latin America and the Caribbean of the Expert Group on Refugee, Internally Displaced Persons and Statelessness Statistics since 2019. This link has been overseen by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and the National Institute of Statistics of Honduras was chosen as the representative of CENTROESTAD in the Expert Group.

In early 2022, the subgroup on capacity development of the Expert Group, led at the global level by UNHCR, IOM and the Joint Internally Displaced Person Profiling Service, began to work with CENTROESTAD to provide technical support to national statistical offices in Central America to carry out an assessment of the subregion with regard to the production of official statistics on forced displacement, on the basis of national assessments.

The experience allowed an assessment of good practices and the identification of opportunities for strengthening statistical production, along with the enhancement of inter-agency coordination among the national statistical offices of the countries of the Central American Integration System (SICA) and the respective national institutions focused on forced displacement and protection systems for internally displaced persons.

4. Objectives

(a) General objective

Strengthen the capacities of national statistical offices in Latin America and the Caribbean to adopt and implement the recommendations of the Expert Group on Refugee, Internally Displaced Persons and Statelessness Statistics as a complement to framework for statistics on migration, internal mobility and transit.

(b) Specific objectives

(i) Build expertise in national statistical offices and improve inter-agency coordination for the production of statistics on internally displaced persons, refugees and stateless persons, on the basis of the application of international recommendations and frameworks.

(ii) Prepare an assessment of Latin America and the Caribbean with regard to the availability of data sources and statistical capacities for the implementation of the Expert Group's recommendations, which will complement the framework of migration, internal mobility and transit statistics.

(iii) Prepare a guide that includes good practices and operating guidelines for Latin America and the Caribbean regarding the implementation of the International Recommendations on Internally Displaced Persons Statistics, the International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics and the International Recommendations on Statelessness Statistics.

5. Expected outcome

Data on forced displacement and migration are included in the annual reports on progress in the achievement of the SDGs, of which the disaggregation for international migrants, forcibly displaced persons, refugees and stateless persons, has been prioritized by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators, in keeping with the principle of leaving no one behind, increasing the visibility of the population furthest behind in terms of following up on the SDGs. Provision

of data facilitates inclusion of displaced persons in national programmes and plans, as well as in United Nations cooperation frameworks, seeking lasting solutions for their situation. In turn, progress at the national level contributes to fulfilment of the overall objectives of the global compacts and the Secretary General's Action Agenda on Internal Displacement.

6.   Gender mainstreaming

All demographic and socioeconomic indicators on forcibly displaced persons and internal migrants or migrants in transit should be disaggregated by age and sex, using gender-sensitive statistical tools to analyse the distinct needs of vulnerable population groups, such as women, children, adolescents, young people, older persons and other groups requiring protection, such as women who have been forcibly displaced because of climate change, violence and other structural causes. In addition, the aforementioned global instruments address issues that require application of the gender approach, such as gender-based violence, which will be incorporated into the final indicator framework to be included in the planned practical guide.

7.   Workplan

Activity	Start date	End date	Objectives
Preparation of a document that systematizes and compares the existing international recommendations on migration and internally displaced persons, refugees and stateless persons	January 2024	May 2024	Familiarize national statistical offices with the general international policy framework relating to forced displacement, refuge, statelessness and migration.
Creation and use of a data-gathering tool for national statistical offices to obtain detailed information on the processes carried out to implement the recommendations and other practices relating to the production of statistics on internally displaced persons, refugees and stateless persons, which would complement the progress made in statistics on internal migration and transit	June 2024	November 2024	Systematize the initiatives, plans and good practices of the countries in the processes implemented to produce statistics on internally displaced persons, refugees and stateless persons.
Assessment of the practices of national statistical offices in the region relating to processes developed for the production of statistics on internally displaced persons, refugees and stateless	November 2024	March 2025	Systematize the practices of national statistical offices in the region with regard to the production of statistics on internally displaced persons, refugees and stateless persons, and on the processes developed for cases in which these statistics are not produced, taking into account the lessons

persons, to complement the progress made in statistics on internal migration and transit			learned on statistical production in the area of migration.
Development of a guide of good practices and operating guidelines for the implementation in the region of the recommendations of the Expert Group, to complement the statistical framework for migration and the use of information sources in the region (censuses, administrative records and surveys)	March 2025	July 2025	Provide the national statistical offices in the region with a practical guide for the implementation of the recommendations of the Expert Group, which highlights the most innovative experiences and includes operating guidelines consistent with the international recommendations of the Expert Group.
Consultations and validation of the guide	July 2025	September 2025	Pursue broad consultation and validation processes for the guide.
Hybrid seminars (online and in-person) to support the adoption and implementation of the Expert Group's recommendations	July 2025	September 2025	Disseminate the guide and innovative practices for the production of statistics on internally displaced persons, refugees and stateless persons to the national statistical offices in Latin America and the Caribbean.

X. ANALYSIS OF MEASUREMENT OF DEPENDENT CONTRACTORS AND THE INFORMAL ECONOMY

1. Coordinating countries

Chile: National Institute of Statistics (INE)
Mexico: National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)

2. Technical secretariats

International Labour Organization (ILO)
Statistics Division of ECLAC

3. Background

It is essential to foster the proper measurement and analysis of labour statistics in the region using a conceptual framework aligned with the latest international recommendations, and which, in turn, provides harmonized indicators to compare and evaluate individual countries' progress with regard to decent work. Overall, the region faces three major challenges:

(i) Advancing in the adoption of the latest recommendations on work relationship statistics, particularly in the pursuit of regional consensus on good practices with regard to the strategies used by countries to identify dependent contractors in labour force or household surveys.

(ii) Analysing the impact on countries' labour informality statistics of the recommendations on informal economy statistics to be adopted at the twenty-first International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) of ILO, to be held in October 2023.

(iii) Sharing countries' experiences of good practices in the measurement of statistics on labour migration, telework or remote work and digital platforms, through regional online workshops.

With regard to the standards used in the region to compile statistics on work relationships, ILO launched a review of existing standards that culminated in the adoption, at the twentieth International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) in 2018, of a new resolution on these statistics, which included the new International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE), among other recommendations.[11]

Updated labour force surveys will help to measure the nature of the economic risks to which workers are exposed and the authority they are able to exercise, the strength and nature of their attachment to the economic unit in which they work, and the impact of economic and social changes on their occupation.

Measurement on the basis of ICSE will help to strengthen labour force statistics, as status in employment is a key variable in socioeconomic analysis. It is also crucial to the development and interpretation of other labour indicators, such as informal economy and labour income indicators.

Given the diversity in statistical data collection contexts and capacities in the region, and in order to preserve the comparability of labour statistics, a process was begun in 2020 to support the countries of the region in identifying good practices that allow them to jointly resolve statistical gaps, within the

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[11] The International Classification of Status at Work (ICSaW-18), which covers the different forms of work, was also included.

framework of a participatory process in which the methodological challenges relating to adoption of ICSE in household or labour force surveys are considered. As part of this process, countries' experiences and progress were shared through joint learning exercises that included regional consultations, technical meetings, online workshops and the systematization and preparation of methodological documents incorporating the good practices employed to date. However, determining the most suitable strategies for identifying different categories of the new classification in surveys and, in particular, dependent contractors, remains a challenge.

Informality, not only in the traditional sense of the informal sector but also in the broader sense of work relationships becoming increasingly informal, continues to play a central role in the structure of labour markets in Latin America and the Caribbean. It therefore remains a significant public policy challenge, highlighting the enormous gaps that must be overcome to incorporate broad swathes of the population into a system of contractual guarantees, and thus consolidate legal regimes. Underlying much of the existing inequality and vulnerability is insufficient coverage of guarantees and inadequate institutional protection, which would otherwise provide certainty to those who in their day-to-day lives participate in the production of goods and services.

Although important steps were taken at the fifteenth and seventeenth International Conferences of Labour Statisticians with regard to measurement of informality, the measurement of broad aggregates of informality is insufficient, given the changes that are taking place in labour market participation. The platform economy and telework, as well as different modalities of what the twentieth ICLS (2018) called dependent contractors, insofar as they combine characteristics of dependent and independent work, represent a challenge to existing labour laws; it is therefore not surprising that these workers operate, to a large extent, informally. Thus, a new type of informality increasingly coexists with the pre-existing informality, meaning that a statistic of broad aggregates that encompasses a growing heterogeneity is losing its capacity to guide public policy. That is why better characterization of informality is needed, along with identification of components or subuniverses that can be targeted by differentiated policy measures.

Furthermore, there is not only the problem of new issues, but also of other issues that have not been solved, which are a historical debt of current conceptual frameworks, one example being the pressing realities of informality in farming. As this area is often subject to specific legislation or exemptions, it has not yet become clear how to address it from the point of view of informality. A broader and more nuanced understanding is needed of the gradients of vulnerability of those who work in this sector, who are often governed by social policy rather than labour policy per se, or any other policy focused on their activity.

Likewise, for systems of national accounts and national statistical offices, there is a growing need to better understand the linkages between the formal economy, the informal economy and the illegal economy.

Bearing all of this in mind, in the 2022–2023 biennium, the current situation with regard to statistics on informality in Latin American and Caribbean countries and the adoption of international recommendations has been documented. However, the twenty-first ICLS, which will take place in 2023, will mark a historic milestone for labour statistics, since the expected adoption of a resolution on informal economy statistics at that Conference will imply an in-depth analysis of labour force surveys and changes in the quantification of the dimension of labour informality in labour markets. The challenge will then be to study and document the impact of these changes in the countries and to motivate those with wider gaps to move forward in adopting the recommendations.

Lastly, the countries of the region are highly motivated to advance in the measurement of phenomena underlying the most recent ILO resolutions on statistics that have been proposed as statistical

guidelines or concept notes, on the basis of which some countries have implemented pilot tests and complementary modules, and even developed estimates of experimental statistics on these topics, always taking into consideration the context and needs of each country. The working group, as a forum for discussion of topics of interest relating to labour statistics, has decided to focus the exchange of good practices on the following topics: labour migration statistics; telework or remote work statistics; and digital platform statistics.

4. Objectives

(a) General objective

Document progress in the measurement of dependent contractors and the informal economy and its impact in the region.

(b) Specific objectives

(i) Document progress in the conceptual and methodological harmonization of labour statistics on dependent contractors within the framework of the ILO international standards adopted at the twentieth ICLS (2018) relating to statistics on work relationships and in particular on dependent contractors.

(ii) Study and document the effects observed in the labour informality indicators published by the countries of the region when incorporating the new recommendations on informal economy statistics to be adopted at the twenty-first ICLS (2023).

(iii) Document, through online workshops, good practices in the region relating to new dimensions of analysis or emerging issues linked to labour statistics that have been prioritized, labour migration statistics, telework or remote work statistics and digital platform statistics.

(iv) Provide spaces for dissemination of the working group's progress, through virtual meetings, regional workshops and other activities.

(v) Contribute to gender equality by identifying the impact of statistical standards relating to work relationships and labour informality on the analysis of gender gaps in the labour market.

(vi) Prepare a technical document compiling regional progress in the measurement of dependent contractors and the impact of the twenty-first ICLS on labour informality indicators, to serve as a reference for the countries.

5. Expected outcome

Exchange of experiences relating to emerging issues of regional interest and a technical document that systematizes the progress made by the countries in the adoption and adaptation of the latest ILO recommendations (twentieth ICLS) in the measurement of dependent contractors and the impact of the twenty-first ICLS on labour informality indicators, to guide and support those countries that are at different stages of that process.

Benefits are expected to be derived from the national capacities that will be developed and established in each participating country, constituting a wealth of knowledge and experiences that can be exchanged among the countries of the region when measurement instruments are adjusted in response to changes in the labour market, the recommendations adopted at the twentieth and twenty-first ICLS, or new statistical information needs.

6.   Gender mainstreaming

This proposal is expected to contribute to gender equality by identifying the impact of statistical standards relating to work relationships, labour informality and topics of interest in the analysis of gender gaps in the labour market. In addition, the documents on good practices relating to the study of new dimensions will emphasize how countries incorporate the gender perspective in their measurements and interpretation of results.

Gender-inclusive language will be used, to avoid expressions that perpetuate gender stereotypes or bias the activities and outputs of the working group.

7.   Workplan

Activities		Start date	End date	Remarks
Activity 1: Formation of the working group				
Objective: Formation of the working group	Activity 1.1: Confirmation of the focal points of the working group's member countries	January 2024	February 2024	Countries' participation will be confirmed via an informative email. This will be used as an opportunity to update focal points and contact information.
Objective: To advance in the adoption of the latest recommendations relating to statistics on work relationships and, in particular, in the identification of dependent contractors	**Activity 2: Follow-up of the adoption of the recommendations of the twentieth International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) in the measurement of the 2018 International Classification of Status in Occupation (ICSE) in Latin American and Caribbean countries**			
	Activity 2.1: Preparation of a regional consultation.	March 2024	April 2024	The main focus will be on specific examples of strategies used to identify dependent contractors.
	Activity 2.2: A regional consultation of member countries.	May 2024	June 2024	Countries will have one month to complete the survey.
	Activity 2.3: Preparation of a regional assessment document.	July 2024	September 2024	The coordinating country in charge of activity 2.1 will prepare the document.
	Activity 2.4: Dissemination of the regional assessment document through an online workshop.	October 2024	November 2024	All member countries will participate and the workshop will be recorded and later uploaded to the Knowledge Transfer Network repository.
Objective: To study and document the impact on labour informality	**Activity 3: Impact of the twenty-first ICLS on the measurement of labour informality in Latin American and Caribbean countries**			
	Activity 3.1: Preparation of a regional consultation.	January 2025	February 2025	Preparation of the guide on documenting the impact of the twenty-first ICLS.

indicators published by countries, incorporating future recommendations on informal economy statistics	Activity 3.2: A regional consultation of member countries.	March 2025	April 2025	Countries will have one month to complete the guide and will have time to resolve specific doubts.
	Activity 3.3: Preparation of a regional assessment document.	May 2025	July 2025	The coordinating country will include the regional assessment document with the results of the consultation of member countries.
	Activity 3.4: Dissemination of the regional assessment document through an online workshop.	August 2025	September 2025	The coordinating country will present a general report of the assessment results and two or three countries will be selected to share their experience.
Objective:	**Activity 4: Good practices in the measurement of new dimensions of analysis**			
Documenting countries' good practices in the measurement of statistics on labour migration, telework or remote work and digital platforms, through regional online workshops.	Activity 4.1: Online workshop on labour migration statistics.	April 2024	April 2024	All member countries will participate in the workshops, which will be recorded and later uploaded to the Knowledge Transfer Network repository. Documents will be prepared by one of the countries coordinating the workshop and will be incorporated into the technical document to be prepared for the biennium.
	Activity 4.2: Online workshop on telework or remote work statistics.	August 2024	August 2024	
	Activity 4.3: Online workshop on digital platforms.	April 2025	April 2025	

XI. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STRENGTHENING OFFICIAL ENVIRONMENTAL STATISTICS SYSTEMS

1. Coordinating country

Costa Rica: National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INEC)

2. Technical secretariats

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Statistics Division of ECLAC

3. Background

Generating, analysing and publishing accurate and reliable environmental information is fundamental to understanding and addressing the environmental challenges facing Costa Rica and the other countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. In this context, both the Ministry of Environment and Energy and the National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INEC) of Costa Rica play a crucial role in the collection, analysis and dissemination of environment-related data in the country. However, to further strengthen this work, the creation of a specific working group for environmental statistics, indicators and information (in its broadest sense) is considered timely, in order to strengthen the official systems of environmental statistics, integrated into the national statistical systems of the countries of the region, within the framework of the Statistical Conference of the Americas.

It is a good opportunity to leverage the inter-institutional experience of the Ministry of Environment and Energy and INEC in the management of environmental information. Both institutions collaborate closely on a variety of projects and programmes linked to information and data collection systems relating to various environmental factors, such as air quality, biodiversity, land and water use, pollution and climate change.

However, there are also clear opportunities to strengthen the mechanisms for coordination, generation, analysis and publication of environmental information, including training and continuously updating experts in the field, and gender mainstreaming in the production and dissemination of environmental statistics. Therefore, the creation of a specific working group within the framework of the Statistical Conference of the Americas would make it possible to update the assessment of the status and governance of environmental statistics in the countries of the region, learn about the experiences of good statistical practices that countries have implemented to strengthen environmental statistics, and offer recommendations for strengthening official environmental statistics systems, integrated into the national statistical systems of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

In conclusion, the creation of a specific working group for environmental statistics and information, within the framework of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, would create a valuable space for exchange and cooperation to strengthen the management of environmental information, leverage existing strengths and address the many challenges facing the region.

4. Objectives

(a) General objective

Strengthen official environmental statistics systems, integrated into the national statistical systems of Latin American and Caribbean countries, through the preparation and dissemination of a document of recommendations.

(b) Specific objectives

(i) Contribute to updating information on the status and governance of environmental statistics in the region.

(ii) Identify experiences on good statistical practices in the countries to strengthen environmental statistics.

(iii) Recognize opportunities for collaboration to strengthen the capacities of national statistical offices in the generation, dissemination and systematization of statistics, indicators and environmental accounts, through the exchange of experiences and good statistical practices.

5. Expected outcome

Exchange of experiences and capacities among countries to improve the generation of environmental statistics, indicators and accounts, and thus strengthen official environmental statistics systems, integrated into the national statistical systems of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

6. Gender mainstreaming

According to the *Guidelines for gender mainstreaming in the working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas*,[12] the outputs will incorporate the gender perspective, encouraging the mainstreaming of gender in environmental statistics in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean. At the same time, awareness will be raised and experiences will be shared on the inclusion of the gender perspective in environmental statistics. Moreover, inclusive language will be included in outputs and gender specialists will be consulted.

7. Workplan

Activities	Start date	End date
Formation of the working group	October 2023	December 2023
Consider and analyse the findings of the assessment of the status and governance of environmental statistics, which is being carried out by the Environment and Climate Change Statistics Unit of the Statistics Division of ECLAC	January 2024	May 2024
Collection and systematization of information and experiences relating to countries' good statistical practices to strengthen environmental statistics	June 2024	October 2024
Compilation and systematization of collaboration opportunities for statistical capacity-building	October 2024	December 2024

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[12] LC/CEA.11/9.

Regional and national meetings and workshops to exchange experiences relating to countries' good statistical practices and to learn about opportunities for bilateral collaboration to strengthen environmental statistics	October 2024	November 2024
Preparation of a document including recommendations for strengthening official environmental statistics systems, integrated into the national statistical systems of Latin American and Caribbean countries	January 2024	June 2025
Regional and national meetings and workshops to formulate recommendations for strengthening official environmental statistics systems, integrated into the national statistical systems of Latin American and Caribbean countries	January 2024	June 2025

XII. ANALYSIS OF AREA FRAMES IN AGRICULTURAL SURVEYS

1.   Coordinating countries

Brazil: Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE)
Ecuador: National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INEC)

2.   Technical secretariats

Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Statistics Division of ECLAC

3.   Background

In statistics, agricultural surveys are a source of reliable and up-to-date information on a country's agricultural sector. In essence, the data deriving from this type of survey allow users to direct public policy related to food security and the sustainability of the agricultural sector, as these data provide information on the production of crops, livestock, milk and other products. In addition to the economic dimension, surveys should cover the social and environmental dimensions, according to the international recommendations of the initiative known as the Global Strategy to Improve Agricultural and Rural Statistics (World Bank/FAO). To achieve these objectives, it is recommended that national agricultural surveys use probability sampling.

As with any probabilistic statistical operation, national agricultural surveys need a complete and up-to-date sampling frame to guarantee the quality of the results. For national agricultural surveys, most countries in the region use the multiple frame method, which includes a list frame (a list of agricultural production units that are of strategic importance or correspond to a significant percentage of national production, or that are rare cases, and whose presence in the sample must be guaranteed and controlled) and an area frame (a set of geographical production units normally stratified by the degree of intensity of agriculture, in which small agricultural production units, which are not found in the list frames, are usually included). Together with the list frame, the area frame guarantees the coverage of the population corresponding to the agricultural production units and their agricultural producers.

The area frame component is particularly important for public policy because in some countries, small producers, altogether, account for a significant percentage of national production, and phenomena such as food insecurity and poverty tend to have a greater impact on this segment of the population. Thus, the quality of the framework has a direct impact on the quality and effectiveness of public policies based on its results.

There is currently no regional standard or guidance on the development, updating and use of multiple frames for national agricultural surveys. Experiences vary widely across the region and each country does the best it can with the information and tools at its disposal. This variety of experiences presents an opportunity to catalogue them, identify good practices and evaluate common challenges, as well as to propose solutions and tools that may benefit all countries in the region.

In the light of this challenge, at the thirty-first session of the FAO-OEA/CIE-IICA Working Group on Agricultural and Livestock Statistics for Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Chile from 28 to 30 March 2023 in hybrid format, the countries requested the formation of the working group within the

framework of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, with the objective of designing a plan to adopt multiple frames for agricultural surveys, prioritizing and ensuring as a first step an up-to-date assessment of area frames in the region.

4. Objectives

(a) General objective

Prepare an assessment of the status of the area frames for agricultural surveys in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean.

(b) Specific objectives

(i) Systematize the experiences of Latin America and the Caribbean in the development and use of multiple frames in agricultural surveys.

(ii) Identify common challenges among countries.

(iii) Propose methodologies and tools that can be adopted or created to facilitate the development, use and maintenance of multiple frames.

(iv) Contribute to the use and improvement of area frames for agricultural surveys in Latin American and Caribbean countries.

5. Expected outcome

The area frame assessment document will present the current status of countries' agricultural surveys, which will make it possible to prepare a road map to assist the countries of the region in improving their area frames in order to produce better quality statistics.

6. Gender mainstreaming

The development of better area frames will allow for better quality agricultural surveys, ensuring more effective sample selection and better coverage of the target population. As a result, it will be possible to analyse gender inequalities in environments where it is known that women are rendered invisible and their work is unpaid, which will contribute to the development of crucial measurements to close the gaps between men and women, and thus make the best possible contribution to the design of public policies for gender equality.

7. Workplan

Activities	Start date	End date
First official meeting of the working group	November 2023	November 2023
Collection of information through virtual meetings and literature analysis	January 2024	June 2024
Development of the document structure	July 2024	September 2024
Drafting of the document	October 2024	March 2025
Review of the draft, contributions, changes made by countries and formulation of recommendations	July 2025	August 2025
Presentation of the final document	September 2025	September 2025

XIII. REFERENCE GUIDE ON POLICE ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS

1.   Coordinating country

Mexico: National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)

2.   Technical secretariats

Center of Excellence for Statistical Information on Government, Crime, Victimization and Justice
Statistics Division of ECLAC

3.   Background

According to the *Global Study on Homicide*, published in 2019 by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the homicide rate per 100,000 inhabitants worldwide was 6.1 in 2017.[13] That same year, Central America and South America were the subregions with the highest homicide rates, with 25.9 and 24.2 for every 100,000 inhabitants, respectively, followed by the Caribbean, with 15.1.[14] Owing to the grimness of these figures for Latin America and the Caribbean, the development and improvement of official and high-quality statistics on security and criminal justice is an increasingly crucial input for the formulation and monitoring of evidence-based public policies aimed at sustained improvement in security and crime prevention.

For these purposes, both at the international and regional levels, efforts have been made to guide the production of high-quality, timely and comparable statistical information related to the different stages of the security and criminal justice process.

UNODC, together with the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) of Mexico, developed a road map for the improvement of national and international crime statistics in 2012. This road map proposes a series of priority activities aimed at establishing an international crime classification, developing statistical tools for hard-to-measure crimes, supporting victimization surveys and strengthening national crime statistical systems. National statistical offices should play a strategic role in these activities, facilitating coordination among the national institutions involved, implementing statistical standards and ensuring data quality.[15] Also noteworthy is *The United Nations Survey on Crime Trends and the Operations of Criminal Justice Systems (UN-CTS)*, which compiles official statistical information on the subject every year.[16]

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[13]   United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), *Global Study on Homicide*, Vienna, 2019 [online] https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/global-study-on-homicide.html.

[14]   Ibid.

[15]   United Nations, *Report of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography of Mexico and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on a road map to improve the quality and availability of crime statistics at the national and international levels* (E/CN.3/2013/11), 19 December 2012 [online] https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N12/656/65/PDF/N1265665.pdf?OpenElement.

[16]   United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), *The United Nations Survey on Crime Trends and the Operations of Criminal Justice Systems (UN-CTS)* [online] https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/Data-collection/Doc_1_ExplanatoryNote_UN_CTS_English.pdf.

In 2022, UNODC produced the document *Guidelines for the Production of Statistical Data by the Police,*[17] which is aimed at supporting public security institutions in the collection, production and dissemination of high-quality statistical information retrieved from administrative records related to their activities. Specifically, these guidelines help to determine the focus of the collection of data by the police. The document proposes 12 dimensions that constitute a statistical framework for the aforementioned purposes.

At the regional level, *Documento conceptual de los Sistemas Estadísticos de Seguridad Pública y Justicia en los países de América Latina y el Caribe*[18] was produced within the framework of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, during the 2014–2015 biennium. Subsequently, in the 2020–2021 biennium, the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC created a working group to develop a manual on the design of security and criminal justice statistical systems in the countries of the region, which in turn produced the *Reference framework for security and criminal justice statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean.*[19]

In sum, these efforts recognize and highlight the need to generate and improve statistical information on security and criminal justice. Although the region has made great strides in designing and conducting victimization surveys,[20] administrative records, particularly those of police institutions, still pose considerable challenges.[21] This is significant, as data from police institutions represent the primary input for the improvement of public policies to prevent violence and crime. Specifically, police institutions in the region may benefit from a data strategy that allows them to allocate resources and conduct evidence-based strategic, tactical and operational planning.

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[17]   United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), *Guidelines for the Production of Statistical Data by the Police*, Vienna, 2022.

[18]   Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), *Documento conceptual de los Sistemas Estadísticos de Seguridad Pública y Justicia en los países de América Latina y el Caribe*, 2014 [online] https://rtc-cea.cepal.org/sites/default/files/document/files/GT-Seguridad-SE-seguridad-publicaALC.pdf.

[19]   Working group of the Statistical Conference of the Americas to develop a manual on the design of security and criminal justice statistical systems in the countries of the region, *Reference framework for security and criminal justice statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean* (LC/CEA.11/15), Santiago, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), 2022.

[20]   For further information, see Center of Excellence for Statistical Information on Government, Crime, Victimization and Justice, "Atlas: descubriendo datos sobre victimización" [online] https://www.cdeunodc.inegi.org.mx/index.php/atlas-sobre-victimizacion/, and J. Rojas López, "La medición de la victimización desde una perspectiva internacional: un atlas que facilita su análisis", Center of Excellence for Statistical Information on Government, Crime, Victimization and Justice, 12 July 2022 [online] https://cdeunodc.wordpress.com/2022/07/12/la-medicion-de-la-victimizacion-desde-una-perspectiva-internacional-un-atlas-que-facilita-su-analisis/.

[21]   For further information, see Center of Excellence for Statistical Information on Government, Crime, Victimization and Justice, "Evaluación de la calidad estadística" [online] https://www. cdeunodc. inegi.org.mx/index.php/inicio-evaluacion-de-la-calidad-estadistica/, and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), *Reporte del proceso de evaluación de calidad estadística del Sistema Nacional de Información Criminal (SNIC) del Ministerio de Seguridad de la República de Argentina*, 2019 [online] https://www.cdeunodc.inegi.org.mx/unodc/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/repSNICArgentina.pdf and *Resultados y plan de mejoras 2020-2022 de la evaluación de calidad estadística del Sistema de Gestión de Seguridad Pública (SGSP) del Ministerio del Interior de la República Oriental de Uruguay*, 2020 [online] https://www.cdeunodc.inegi.org.mx/unodc/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/SGSP-Resultados-y-plan-de-mejoras-2020-2022_web.pdf.

The purpose of this work is to create a baseline of indispensable data on police institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean, which will help to advance the implementation of the guidelines included in *Guidelines for the Production of Statistical Data by the Police* and their adaptation to the context and needs of the region.

4.   Objectives

(a)   General objective

Guide the implementation of the guidelines established in *Guidelines for the Production of Statistical Data by the Police* of UNODC, adapting them to the Latin American and Caribbean context, in order to create a baseline for the improvement of administrative records produced by police institutions in the region.

(b)   Specific objectives

(i) Compare, on the basis of the guidelines, the statistical information recorded by police institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean, how it is generated and produced (tools, mechanisms or recording formats), its periodicity and its use in decision-making.

(ii) Generate baseline data in accordance with the dimensions of the guidelines: human resources, financial resources, physical resources, staff safety and well-being, criminal offences, arrest and detention, seizure operations, stop and search, public assembly, outreach, use of force and firearms, and professional conduct.

(iii) Identify current practices in the region and foster technical cooperation for their improvement or adoption, particularly in relation to the recording and classification of emergency calls, crimes, administrative offences, seizures and use of force.

(iv) Mainstream the gender perspective in the statistics generated and collected by police institutions.

5.   Expected outcome

The immediate effect will be to map the availability of data and the practices of generating, collecting and using statistical information by police institutions in the countries of the region.

In the medium term, coordination and synergies between national statistical offices and police institutions are expected to be strengthened in order to generate and improve official statistical information in this area, in accordance with the *Guidelines for the Production of Statistical Data by the Police*.

In the long term, the guide is expected to be used as a regional standard to make the statistical information available on police institutions comparable, providing a common resource that confirms its relevance and necessity for public security policies at the national and regional levels, thus facilitating the identification of trends and emerging problems.

6.   Gender mainstreaming

On the basis of the identification of the information collected by police institutions, it will be necessary to determine whether disaggregated data are available that will make it possible to track crime trends by

gender. In parallel, the proposed framework will include disaggregation by sex for the relevant variables. Moreover, to ensure no one is left behind, data will be disaggregated on the basis of other relevant variables, such as age, history of violence or victimization, sexual orientation, self-identification with a group of the LGBTIQ+ community and membership in an Indigenous community.

7. Workplan

Activity	Start date	End date
Meeting of the working group to determine content	December 2023	December 2023
Preparation of and comments on the annotated table of contents	December 2023	March 2024
First partial submission (annotated index)	March 2024	March 2024
Data collection and analysis	April 2024	October 2024
Meeting to present preliminary findings	October 2024	October 2024
Drafting of and comments on the document	October 2024	March 2025
Second partial submission (draft)	March 2025	March 2025
Follow-up meeting of the working group	April 2025	April 2025
Drafting of and comments on the final version of the document	April 2025	June 2025
Final submission (final version)	July 2025	July 2025