

Annex X

Proposals for the Titchfield Group workstream on SDGs

Held at Vienna IAEG-SDGs meeting, 11 April 2018

Present

HelpAge International

National Institute of Statistics, Cameroon

Ghana Statistical Service

Office for National Statistics UK

UN Women

UNDP

Purpose of the meeting:

Following endorsement at the UN Statistical Commission, the first formal meeting of the Titchfield Group will take place in Chichester in June 2018. The main output of the meeting will be the workplan for the group which will be submitted for approval to the Stats Commission's 50th session. ONS has invited proposals to flesh out the elements of the draft work plan agreed in the Winchester meeting last year, ahead of the Chichester meeting. This meeting was convened in the margins of the IAEG-SDGs to discuss proposals for the SDG strand of the work plan. The basis for the discussion is the proposed objective of the group:

- To contribute to the review and analysis of the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs from the perspective of age-related measures within the framework and time frame set down by the Inter Agency Expert Group (IAEG) on SDG indicators.

And the proposed activity:

- SDG framework assessment, contributing to the IAEG-SDGs work on data disaggregation and ageing-related SDGs indicators.

(both taken from the report that went to the Stats Commission).

Discussion points:

- The discussion at the Winchester meeting on SDGs reflected the fact that Agenda 2030 provides an opportunity to influence availability of ageing data, building on the momentum of this agenda. It is also timed well with the IAEG's work on data disaggregation taking off.
- This followed a strong call at the side event in March 2017 from Enrique Ordaz (co-chair of the IAEG for Mexico) to start providing something concrete as quickly as possible that can contribute to the work of the IAEG-SDGs.
- We need to have a phased approach, considering what we can do now which is very concrete and what we can do in the medium to longer term.
- Need to link to other dimensions of disaggregation e.g. sex and disability.

- Something very concrete we could have is a list of priority indicators where age disaggregation is necessary, plus other dimensions we consider important. Collating available meta data for each would be important and useful for the IAEG process.
- We need to keep in mind how the work serves to influence implementation of national policies.
- The contribution of older people needs to be adequately captured, along with capturing their situation in relation to relevant areas of the SDGs.
- Taking a case study approach was suggested and considered useful.
- Data availability is an ongoing issue which needs to be addressed, including age caps in major data sources that are used to monitor SDGs. Surveys were discussed as well as availability of data to include older people in the MPI.
- Ideally, we need different options for different countries e.g. requesting removal of upper age caps (South Africa example), removal of upper age caps for a proportion of households, new tools/methods. Costings are useful.
- Requesting removal of age caps in indicators in the IAEG refinements process is an opportunity to make progress on the broader issue of age limited data sources.
- Need to consider those outside household and think about how we get to people. Potential of use of administrative data.
- Some of these issues have a bearing on SDGs but are part of the broader work of the Titchfield Group. We will need to consider what concrete work we do in this work stream, and how we help shape the work planned in other areas and ensure it is aligned and feeding in to the IAEG and other processes for monitoring implementation.
- Advice on standardisation of age cohorts would be very useful – need to work with UNICEF to have a whole of life course approach.
- As well as standardisation and new data sources, we should also consider better use of existing data sources and visualisations. Potentially the group could work on visualisations, using geospatial data and data from an upcoming census related to older people, covering key areas of the SDGs (building on the example of Ireland's Central Stats Office work).
- UK ONS is part of an ECE WG on story maps and the UNSD pilot on geospatial data so could connect with this. UNFPA is also doing a lot of work on geospatial data.
- We should consider how to connect to the work on interlinkages in the IAEG-SDGs, thinking about a life course approach. Can we pick out key life course interlinkages that we would like to monitor?
- The Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Household Surveys could be a venue to address some of the issues with surveys. UN Women has requested to join already but we don't know of any other Titchfield Group members that participate.
- We need to align our workplan with the workplan of the IAEG and the IAEG disaggregation work stream (this should be available next week).

During the discussion, the following proposals were put forward for the workplan:

- 1. Produce a list of priority SDG indicators for age disaggregation (and additional dimensions necessary) and compile available metadata.**
- 2. Produce guidance for the IAEG-SDGs on standardised age cohorts for age disaggregation across the life course.**
- 3. Address remaining age caps in SDG indicators through the IAEG-SDG's review and refinement process (as a contribution to wider group's work with data producers on age caps in surveys)**
- 4. Identify priority life course interlinkages with a view to establishing methods to track these**
- 5. Develop case studies demonstrating use of existing data sources and visualisation to support monitoring and implementation of SDGs (e.g. through story maps). Potential to link with UNECE working group and UN Stats pilot project, as well as UNFPA's work on geospatial data.**
- 6. Ensure the Titchfield Group is represented in the Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Household Surveys**

Key considerations for implementation of SDG focussed workstream:

- 1. Need to align the workplan with the timetable of the IAEG-SDGs and the timetable of the disaggregation working group.**
- 2. A phased approach will be useful given the current opportunities.**
- 3. Need to establish clear outputs from this workstream, but maintain connection with other workstreams where outputs will be very relevant to Agenda 2030 e.g. conceptual framework and addressing age caps.**
- 4. The momentum of the discussion around SDGs and data provide a good opportunity to make progress on broader issues of data availability.**
- 5. Need to keep in mind what is useful for policy making and implementation, as well as global SDG monitoring.**