The Future of Labor Statistics
Inclusivity, Capacity, Usability and Funding

A 2030 vision for labor statistics to support the Sustainable Development Agenda
Four priority areas for building the future of labor statistics

- Inclusivity of the data
- Capacity of agencies and offices
- Usability of the data
- Funding and resources

I. Inclusivity of the data

Labor statistics that leave no one behind.

- Gender dimension to measure and understand new classifications of work
- Identification of persons with disabilities
- Stronger understanding of informal economy, care economy, and unpaid work
Women’s Work and Employment (WW+E)

Capacity of agencies and national statistical offices

Build capacity to meet demand for labor statistics.

- Support all stages of the data value chain – not only collection and production
- Build a system that can support actors in data ecosystem – not piecemeal approach
- Strengthen all instruments for a more comprehensive picture
Status of current capacity to meet data demands

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selected Instruments</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Coverage of low- and middle-income countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population census</td>
<td>Every decade</td>
<td>11% had not conducted a census in last 10 years. It may be higher in 2020 Census Round.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural census</td>
<td>Every decade</td>
<td>31% have not conducted an agricultural census in last 10 years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty survey (IES, LSMS)</td>
<td>At least once every five years</td>
<td>46% have not conducted a poverty-related survey at the recommended frequency.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Labor force survey</strong></td>
<td><strong>Annually</strong></td>
<td><strong>23% of 123 LMICs in ILOSTAT do not have sex-disaggregated labor force data over the period 2012 to 2017.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Findex</td>
<td>Every three years since 2011</td>
<td>62% participated in all three years and 18% did not participate at all.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education data reporting</td>
<td>Annually</td>
<td>31% have not reported annually.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health-related survey (DHS, MICS, Priority survey)</td>
<td>Every two or three years</td>
<td>Only 50% have met the recommended standard of three years or less.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vital registration system</td>
<td>Record more than 90% of live births and deaths</td>
<td>69% do not have complete vital registration system coverage.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time use survey</td>
<td>Varies by country, typically five years</td>
<td>As of 2017, 88 countries have conducted time use surveys. (Invisible No More, Data2X)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Increasing usability of the data

The future of labor statistics need to be open and interoperable.

- Openness and interoperability can not be afterthoughts; must be considered at earlier stages of data value chain
- Operationalizing definitions and standard to achieve semantic and syntactic interoperability
- Encourage use and document impact
Most countries have little open data.

Labor data is more open than other data.
Leaders in labor statistics are no surprise.

Most countries publish labor data.
### Labor data are more open but less comprehensive

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COVERAGE</th>
<th>OPENNESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Second administrative level</td>
<td>Terms of use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First administrative level</td>
<td>Download options</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data available last 10 years</td>
<td>Machine readable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data available last 5 years</td>
<td>Metadata available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indicator coverage &amp; disaggregation</td>
<td>Non-proprietary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### More funding is needed to fulfill data obligations

**PRESS 2018 GLOBAL TRENDS IN FUNDING FOR STATISTICS**

The 2018 PRESS highlights the international community's support to statistics in 2016. The report highlights positive trends in investments for statistics and a growing diversification of donors.

- **623 Million USD** for statistics
- **0.33%** of ODA for statistics

Commitments to statistical development increased by 5% in 2016, up from 591 Million USD in 2015.

The share of Official Development Assistance (ODA) focused on data and statistics was 0.33% in 2016, an increase from 0.30% the previous year.
Closing the funding gap for better labor statistics.

- Average cost of survey is $464 thousand (SDDF, 2016)
- Need to build resources to meet demands and increase capacity
- Funders are not only a resource provider but users of data
- Donors play an important role in partnerships and convening

A Vision for Better Data

Data to support a sustainable world where all people can escape poverty, all citizens can enjoy decent work while caring for the planet and all women and girls are afforded equal rights and equal opportunities.
Shaida Badiee
Managing Director, Open Data Watch
Senior Adviser, Data2x