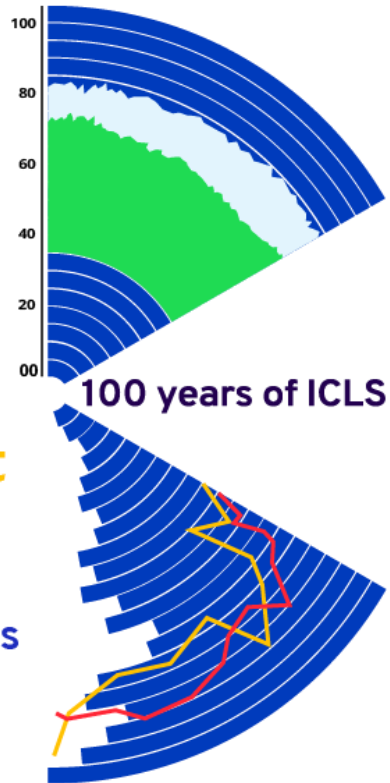




International  
Conference of  
Labour Statisticians

11-20 October 2023



## Introduction

- ▶ Centenary
- ▶ Statistical Activities in the ILO
- ▶ Labour statistics in COVID-19 times
- ▶ Monitoring decent work in 2030 Agenda
- ▶ Measuring Social Justice
- ▶ Labour statistics and the “Beyond GDP discussions”

# ► 100 year of standard-setting in labour statistics

- ▶ **Treaty of Versailles (1919):** Preamble and Art.387 calls on the ILO to collect and distribute information on all subjects relating to “conditions of industrial life and labour” around the world. Universal peace only based upon social justice.
- ▶ **1923:** ILO Governing Body creates the ICLS “*for the purpose of considering the problems involved in the compilation of such statistics and of agreeing, if possible, upon certain methods and standards with a view to rendering labour statistics more comparable as between different countries*” (ILO GB)
- ▶ **ILO Conventions (legal instruments) and Recommendations (supplement conventions):** monitored by ILO supervisory mechanism. Conv. 160 calls to consider “the latest standards and guidelines” established by the auspices of ICLS.
- ▶ **Statistical standard setting (operational):** resolutions backed by recommendations, guidelines on a myriad of topics, along with views on governance, dissemination and communication.
- ▶ The ICLS is a process, not only an event. **It does not stop.**
- ▶ Hosted by the ILO, is owned by countries and the labour statisticians’ community of practices.

## ► Main Resolutions adopted by ICLS in the last 100 years (1)

- **International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO):** 9<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1957), 11<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1966), 14<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1987); 17<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2003);
- **International Classification of Status in Employment and at Work (ICSE and ICSaW ):** 6<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1947), 8<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1954), 9<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1957), 15<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1993), 20<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2018);
- **Labour force, Economically active population, employment & unemployment:** 2<sup>nd</sup> ICLS (1925), 6<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1947), 8<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1954), 13<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1982); 18<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2008), 19<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2013);
- **Underemployment and underutilization:** 9<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1957), 11<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1966), 13<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1982), 16<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1998), 18<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2008), 19<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2013).

## ► Main Resolutions adopted by ICLS in the last 100 years (2)

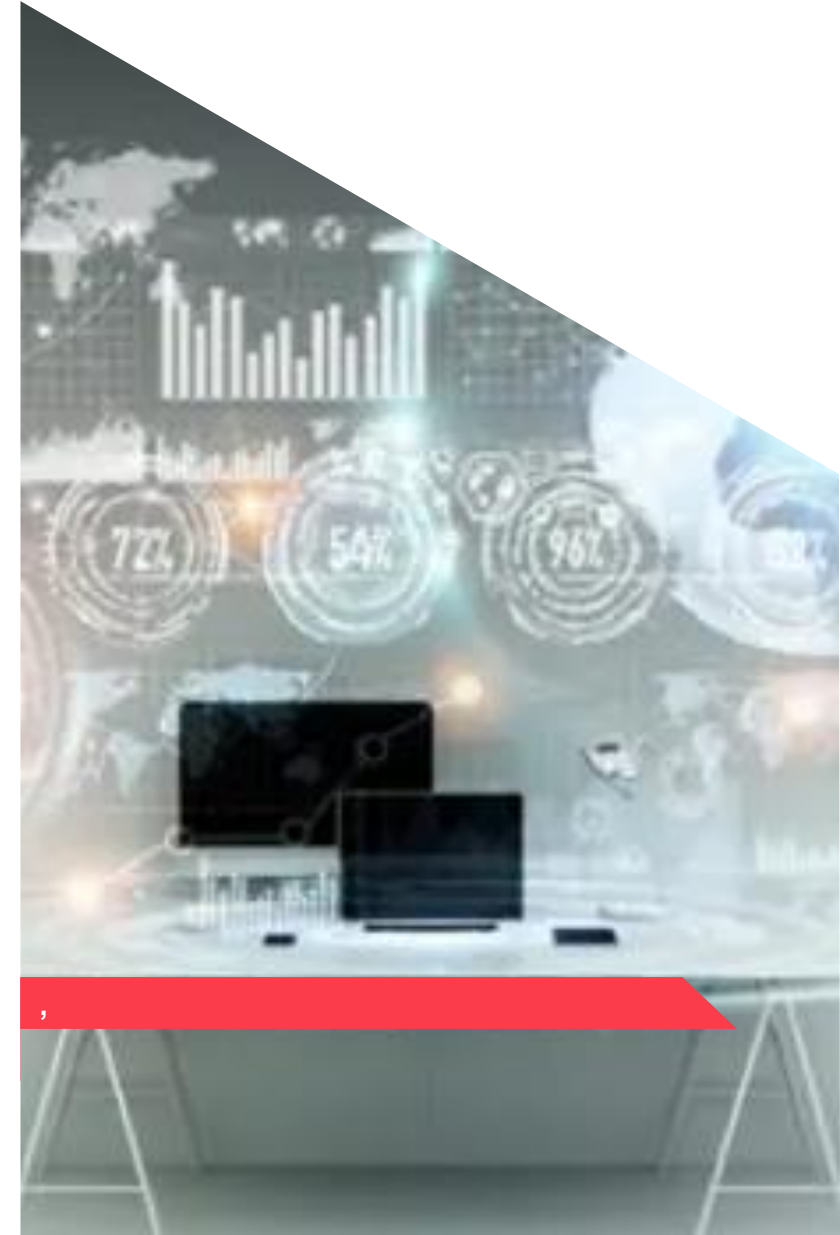
- **Informality:** 15<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1993), *21<sup>st</sup> ICLS (2023)?*;
- **Working time:** 1<sup>st</sup> ICLS (1923), 5<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1937), 10<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1962); 18<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2008);
- **Labour cost:** 11<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1966);
- **Wages/employment-related income:** 1<sup>st</sup> ICLS (1923), 4<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1931), *5<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1937)*, 7<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1949), 12<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1973), 16<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1998), *21<sup>st</sup> ICLS (2023)?*;
- **Household income & expenditure:** 3<sup>rd</sup> ICLS (1926), 7<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1949), 12<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1973), 17<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2003);
- **Consumer price indices:** 2<sup>nd</sup> ICLS (1925), 6<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1947), 10<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1962), 14<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1987), 17<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2003).

## ► Main Resolutions adopted by ICLS in the last 100 years (3)

- **Social security:** 9<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1957);
- **Occupational injuries & diseases:** 1<sup>st</sup> ICLS (1923), 6<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1947), 8<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1954), 10<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1962), 13<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1982), 16<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1998);
- **Strikes, lock-outs & other action due to labour disputes:** 3<sup>rd</sup> ICLS (1926), 14<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1987), 15<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1993);
- **Collective agreements and labour rights:** 3<sup>rd</sup> ICLS (1926), 20<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2018);
- **Statistics of Cooperatives:** 19<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2013);
- **Forced labour:** 19<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2013);
- **Child labour:** 18<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2008), 20<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2018);
- **Labour Migration:** 19<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2013);
- **Measurement of decent work:** 18<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2008);

## ► Main Guidelines (1)

- Implications of employment promotion schemes on the **measurement of employment and unemployment**: 14<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1987);
- Treatment in **employment and unemployment statistics** of persons on extended absences from work: 16<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1998);
- Dissemination practices for labour statistics: 16<sup>th</sup> ICLS (1998);
- Statistical definition of **informal employment**: 17<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2003);
- Mainstreaming **gender** in labour statistics: 17<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2003).
- Guidelines concerning statistics on international labour migration: 20<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2018)
- Guidelines concerning the measurement of forced labour: 20<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2018)



## ► Main Guidelines (2)

- Guidelines concerning measurement of qualifications and skills mismatches of persons in employment: 20<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2018)
- Guidelines concerning statistics of cooperatives: 20<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2018)
- Guidelines concerning a statistical definition of employment in the environmental sector : 19<sup>th</sup> ICLS (2013)

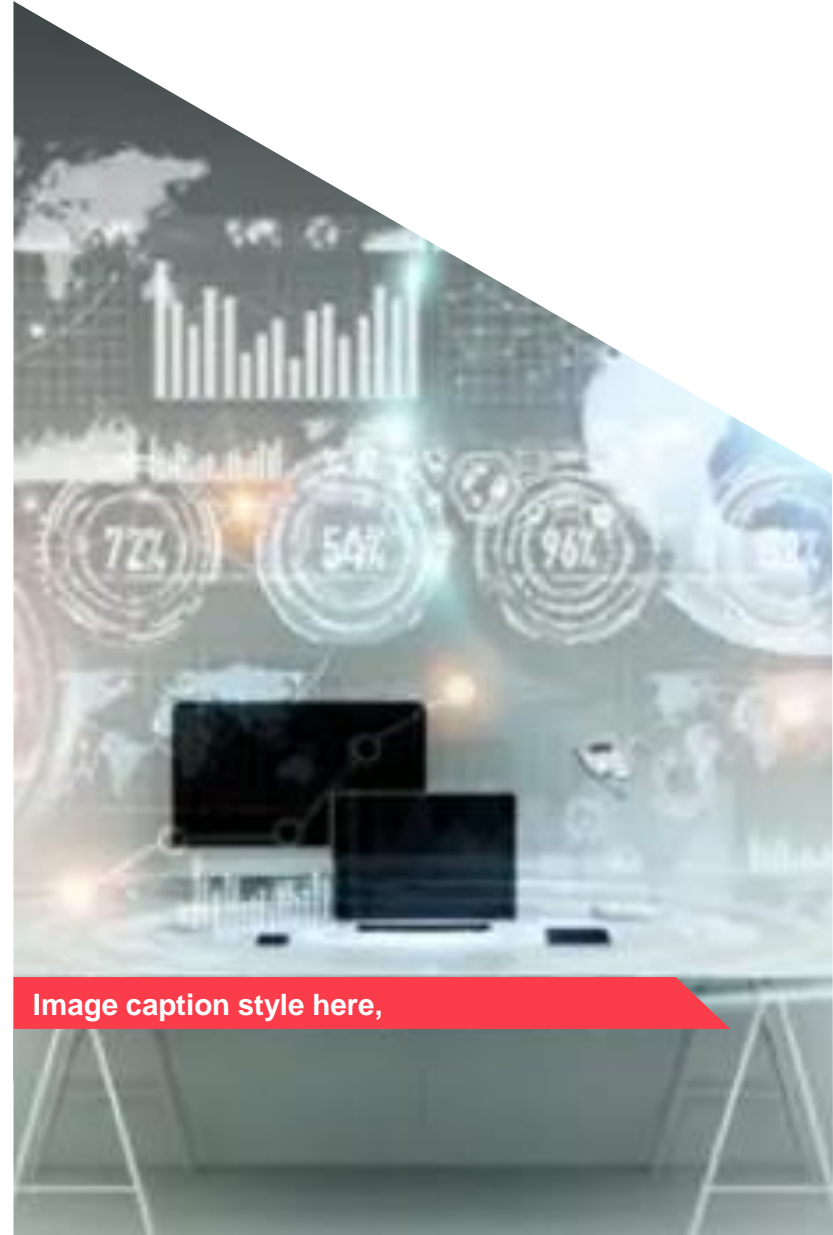
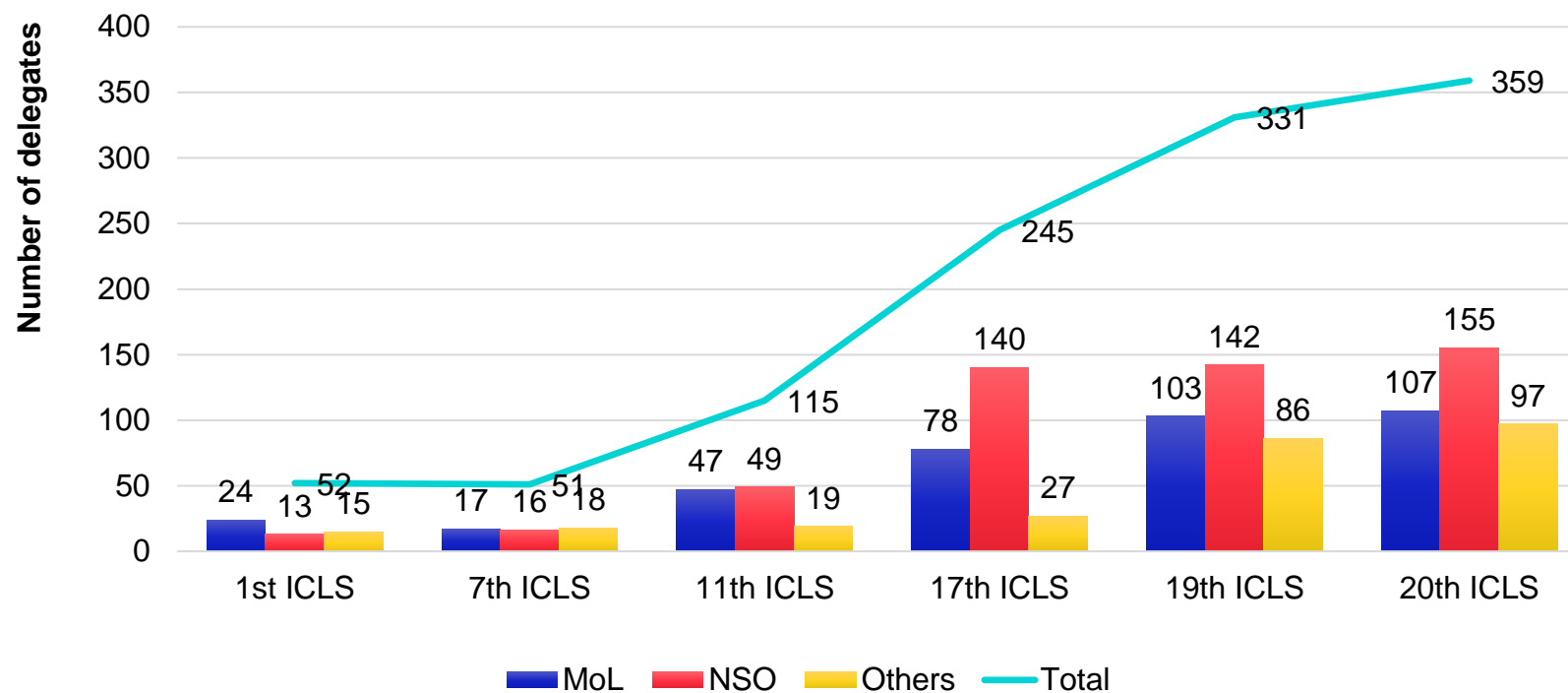


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## Participation and attendance

### Evolution and Composition of Delegations at selected ICLS





# ► Statistical Activities in the ILO

- ▶ The ILO Department of Statistics (2009) reports to the DDG alongside the Research Department and the Priority Action Programmes defined by the ILO;
- ▶ Mandate: a) Standard Setting; b) Technical Assistance; c) Data compilation in ILOSTAT; d) Capacity Building
- ▶ ILO representation in UNSC, CCS-UN, CCSA; responsible for ensuring compliance of the FPOS adopted by the UNGA and the Principles Governing International Statistical Activities, endorsed by the CCSA;
- ▶ Closed linked to the UN SG's Data Strategy in place for 2022 and endorses the "System-Wide road for Innovating UN Data and Statistics" adopted by the CEB in 2020;
- ▶ The internal data ecosystem is coordinated by the Department of Statistics but it also includes other Departments: Governance and Tripartism; Workquality; Social Protection, Enterprises, Employment;
- ▶ The ILO Programme & Budget links closely with the various SDG indicators under ILO's custodianship.
- ▶ The Department of Statistics is responsible for coordinating an Enabler Outcome related to knowledge, innovation, partnerships and communication to advance social justice;
- ▶ Regional Structure: network of Regional Labour Statisticians in most of the ILO regional Offices.



# ► Labour Statistics in times of COVID-19

- ▶ Major disruption and urgency in demand for information about the impact of the pandemic in the world of work.
- ▶ Economic and social impact from lockdowns, downturns and health emergencies.
- ▶ Tripartite response.
- ▶ Response of the international statistical system: enhanced role of close coordination of all CCSA
- ▶ Response to national realities: quick back-up modalities of capture statistics, alternative methods, technical notes and remote support.
- ▶ Adequacy of existing concepts to the emergency mode: employment, unemployment, work statistics in general, telework status, effects on the informal work.
- ▶ ILO assessment of the impact of the pandemic in the World of Work: *ILO Monitor on Covid-19 and the world of Work*, joint effort by most of the Departments of the ILO and its field structures. Use of nowcasting techniques, focusing on highlighting vulnerable groups especially affected.



# ► Monitoring decent work in the 2030 Development Agenda

- ▶ Progress on the SDGs are tracked through the Global Indicator Framework
- ▶ Joint work with the IAEG-SDG on the custodianship of 11 indicators, joint custodian for 3 and partner agency of additional 3 indicators
- ▶ Progress made in methodologies: Indicator 8.8.2 on labour rights: final refinements in 2022;
- ▶ Most are/will be soon Tier I indicators
- ▶ Exceptions: 8.7.1, 8.8.1 and 10.7.1 whose methodologies have been established but the availability is still a problem. Refinements towards 2025.
- ▶ Reporting to the UN, joint work with UN regional commissions for regional estimations
- ▶ Capacity building to member States
- ▶ Capacity building to UN country teams (planned)

# Measuring Social Justice



- ▶ Social justice is prominent in the ILO constitution and the 1944 ILO Declaration of Philadelphia.
- ▶ Report “**Advancing Social Justice**” was the first Report of the ILO Director-General Gilbert Houngbo to the International Labour Conference in 2023.
- ▶ About fairness, equality, voice; rule of law and access to justice; more cohesion and less poverty for inclusive growth.
- ▶ Four dimensions: a) Universal rights and capabilities; b) equal access to opportunities; c) fair distribution and d) just transitions (globalization, technology, demographics, environment transformation, crises). How they all affect the world of work.
- ▶ Calls to advance SJ actively implementing the decent work agenda.
- ▶ How to have benchmarks, monitor progress and support advancement on social justice? Metrics
- ▶ 18<sup>th</sup> ICLS discussed the Decent Work indicators Framework through a dedicated Working group.
- ▶ The 2030 Development Agenda has provided consensus around agreed Indicator Frameworks
- ▶ Need to coordinate and find a parsimonious set of indicators around the combination of the 4 dimensions with the four dimensions of decent work: no composite indices are going to be used. Global coalition.
- ▶ Special Panel in the 21<sup>st</sup> ICLS



# ► Labour Statistics and the “Beyond GDP” discussions

- ▶ 2009: ILO DG Juan Somavía participated in the launching of the Report by the Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress (Stiglitz, Sen, Fitoussi) conceived by France, along with OECD and IMF;
- ▶ Limitations of existing SNA and the GDP as the main Headline Indicator.
- ▶ Need to include well-being, environmental aspects, non-market activities, better measures of inequality, time-use use, gender, among others.
- ▶ Various initiatives by many organizations: national, regional and global (OECD, Eurostat, etc)
- ▶ Other initiatives: HDR, SEEA (2021).
- ▶ 2021: UN High-level Committee of Programmes established a core group within the UN.
- ▶ The report of this group was endorsed by the UN Chief Executive Board in 2022, as central to the SG's report "Our Common Agenda".
- ▶ A Policy Brief was issued to be an input for the Summit of the Future (2024).
- ▶ SNA is to be refined in 2025 after the discussions of the UNSC.
- ▶ Need to include unpaid work (particularly care work), inequalities (rights, income, gender, education and health). Need for SNA and labour statistics to converge actively adopting the concept of work in all its dimensions as defined by the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> ICLS.
- ▶ Informal economy and the forthcoming SNA: major contributions to the SNA 2025.

► **Thank you and welcome to  
the 21<sup>st</sup> ICLS**

