



Special Session 11

Data in conflict and humanitarian settings in the Arab region

Thursday, 7 March 2024, 03:30 – 05:00 p.m. Beirut time

Background and objective

Conflicts pose significant challenges to the collection, management, dissemination, and utilization of statistical data. Reliable and timely data is crucial for effective policymaking, emergency response and humanitarian aid delivery as well as relief and post-conflict recovery planning. In several Arab countries, the National Statistical Systems have been negatively affected by conflict, resulting in limited data collection procedures, a disfunction of statistical systems, and difficulty or inability of having large statistical operations such as undertaking a population and housing census. In addition, conflicts caused damages to civil registration records, or their loss thereof, and limited registration of vital events in the absence of a legal authority.

To ensure the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and that no one is left behind, the session will aim to:

- Enhance the common understanding of the importance of ensuring statistical data and functional National Statistical Systems in conflict and humanitarian settings;
- Explore a methodological framework for using multiple data sources to strengthen statistical data and operations in conflict and humanitarian settings;
- Strengthen the understanding of country stakeholders of the potential of registration data for compiling SDG indicators;
- Discuss policy recommendations for data collection and dissemination in conflict and humanitarian settings.

Questions to be addressed

- What are the challenges faced in ensuring business continuity and data flow in National Statistical Offices, including those related to undertaking censuses and maintaining civil registration and vital statistics and legal identity, for countries in conflict and humanitarian settings? What are potential solutions for generating population estimates and other indicators?
- How can emerging technologies be used to ensure data in humanitarian settings?
- How are data, including data from administrative systems, being used in countries in conflict? What interventions are required to strengthen the generation and use of data in these settings?

Moderator

- **Dr. Ismail Lubbad**, OiC, Demographic and Social Statistics Section, ESCWA

Opening Remarks

- **Dr. Nibal Idlebi**, Acting Director, Statistics, Information Society and Technology Cluster, ESCWA

Panelists

- **Dr. Safa Mautee**, Head of Central Statistical Organization, Aden, Yemen
- **Dr. Ali Mohamed Abbas Ahmed**, Director General, Central Bureau of Statistics, Sudan
- **Mr. Khalid Abu Khalid**, Director General, Registers and Statistical Monitoring Directorate, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, Palestine
- **Dr. Magued Osman**, CEO, The Egyptian Center for Public Opinion Research “Baseera”, Egypt
- **Mr. Emad ElHajj Chehade**, Head of Buildings Directorate and Acting Director of Sidon Port, Lebanon

Discussants

- World Health Organization Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (WHO-EMRO)
- United Nations Population Fund Regional Office for Arab States (UNFPA-ASRO)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

This Special Session will be organized as a hybrid event. To participate over Zoom, please [register here](#).

Those physically present at the UN House can attend the session in Committee Room 2 (CR-2), B1 floor.

