

Government of Pakistan
Planning Commission
Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives
(International Trade & Finance Section)

F. No. 7(86)ITF/PD/19

Islamabad, the 27th October, 2020

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

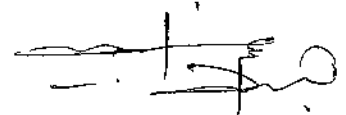
Subject: Regional Workshops on Implementing Data Integration in Asia and the Pacific (Virtual), 24-27 November and 1-4 December 2020

The undersigned is directed to enclose herewith Ministry of Foreign Affairs' U.O.No. UN(IV)-2/1/2020 dated 21st October, 2020 along with Parep Bangkok Fax Message No. UNESCAP-XI/2020 dated 16th October, 2020 on the above noted subject wherein Ms. Petra Nahmias, Chief of Population and Social Statistics Section of UNESCAP has extended invitation for participation in the "Regional Workshops on Implementing Data Integration in Asia and the Pacific". The workshops will take place in two rounds from 24-27 November and 1-4 December 2020 in virtual mode.

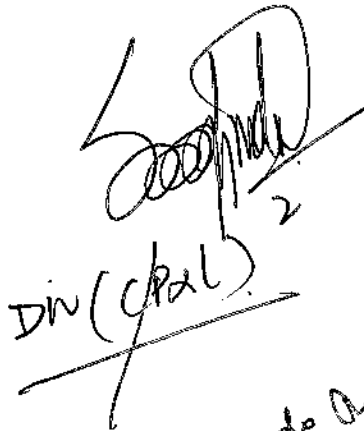
Apropos, it is kindly requested to nominate a suitable officer to attend the subject meeting. The nomination may please be conveyed to this Ministry latest by 29-10-2020 for processing further in the matter please.

Encl: As above

Member (HR),
Pakistan Bureau of Statistics,
Government of Pakistan,
Islamabad.

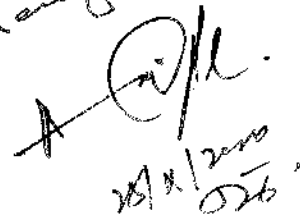


(Hina Afzal)
Assistant Chief
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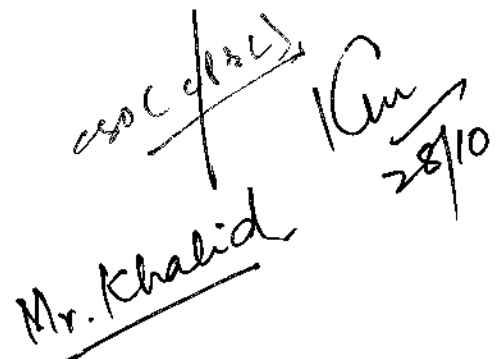


Div (CP&L) 2

Pl. do as requested.



A. Khalid
28/10/2020



Mr. Khalid
28/10

Member (R.M)
Diary No. 3031
Dated 28/10/20
LIRELION (NA)
Diary No. 735

CPK-484
28/10/20

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Most Immediate/
Special Messenger

Government of Pakistan
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Islamabad

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10/20
AEE Raza Chag

Subject: Regional Workshops on Implementing Data Integration in Asia and the Pacific, 24-27 November and 1-4 December 2020

MAINTAINANCE UNIT

Kindly find enclosed a copy of fax message no. UNESCAP-XI/2020 dated 16 October 2020 received from our Mission in Bangkok on the subject noted above.

Geo (EP)

2. Our Mission has informed that it has received an invitation letter from the Chief of Population and Social Statistics Section of UNESCAP, Ms. Ferrá Nahmias, for participation in the 'Regional Workshops on Implementing Data Integration in Asia and the Pacific' that is scheduled to take place in two rounds from 24-27 November and 1-4 December 2020.

3. UNESCAP is organizing these workshops to strengthen awareness and capacity for data integration in countries of Asia and the Pacific using poverty-related statistics. These workshops provide an opportunity to share and document national and regional examples of data integration. UNESCAP has requested to nominate a country team of maximum four members who are involved in data integration projects with a focus on poverty-related statistics. Participants have to submit the attached registration form by 10 November 2020 at rattanakitriaporn@un.org with a copy at afsaneh.vazdani@un.org. The concept note and registration form are enclosed.

4. Foregoing in view, it is requested to kindly consider participation in the subject regional workshops of UNESCAP.

Encl: As above

Chirag W/P

22/10/20
Economic Point

(Umer Younis)
Assistant Director (UN-IV)
051-9206143

[Mr. Noor Ahmed, Secretary], Economic Affairs Division, Islamabad
[Mr. Mathar Niaz Rana, Secretary], Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Islamabad

Ministry of Foreign Affairs' U.O. No. UN(IV)-2/1/2020, dated 21 October 2020

PBS may be the focal agency for this exercise. ITP should also participate. May consider this also.

Office of the Secretary
Dy. Secy
Date: 21-10-2020

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Office of the Secretary
Dy. Secy
Date: 21-10-2020

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Most Immediate

E-mail/Fax Message

From : Parep Bangkok
To : Foreign Islamabad
Rptd : Economic Affairs Division
: Ministry of Planning Development & Special Initiatives
: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics
No : UNESCAP-XI/2020
Dated : 16 October 2020

BMI-43

Director General (UN) from Counsellor/DHM
Copy to: Secretary, M/o PD&SI, DDG (PBS)
DS (UN) EAD, Dir (UN-III) MOFA

Subject: **Regional Workshops on Implementing Data Integration in Asia and the Pacific (Virtual) on 24-27 November and 1-4 December 2020**

Attached please find a self-explanatory invitation letter from Ms. Petra Nahmias, Chief of Population and Social Statistics Section of UNESCAP, to Virtual Workshops on Implementing Data Integration in Asia and the Pacific, on 24-27 November and 1-4 December 2020. Concept note and registration form are also enclosed.

2. Ministry is requested to forward the above-mentioned invitation to the concerned Ministry/Division for nomination. Registration can also be done online at <https://bit.ly/34HJXy2> by 10 November 2020.

warm regards

Yasir Iqbal Butt
(Yasir Iqbal Butt)



ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

THE UNITED NATIONS BUILDING, RAJADAMNERNI NOK AVENUE, BANGKOK 10200, THAILAND
 TEL.: +66-2-2881787 FAX: +66-2-2881082 E-mail: stat.unescap@un.org www.unescap.org/our-work/statistics

2020/SD/PSS/2020.082

14 October 2020

Dear Head of National Statistics Offices

Regional Workshops on Implementing Data Integration in Asia and the Pacific
24-27 November and 1-4 December 2020

It is my pleasure to inform you the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) jointly with partners is organizing a series of regional Workshops on Implementing Data Integration in Asia and the Pacific. Two rounds of identical workshops with the same content will be organised at the following dates and hours, duplicated to accommodate participants from different time zones.

ROUND 1 (preferably for countries from western part of the region)	
24 October (12:00-15:00 BKK time)	Data integration from a management perspective <i>Target group: managers, with experts to participate as observers</i>
25-27 November (12:00-15:00 BKK time)	Technical issues and solutions for data integration <i>Target group: experts</i>
27 November (17:00-18:00 BKK time)	Concluding session <i>Target group: both managers and experts</i>
ROUND 2 (preferably for countries from eastern part of the region)	
1 December (08:00-11:00 BKK time)	Data integration from a management perspective <i>Target group: managers, with experts to participate as observers</i>
2-4 December (08:00-11:00 BKK time)	Technical issues and solutions for data integration <i>Target group: experts</i>
4 December (13:00-14:00 BKK time)	Concluding session <i>Target group: both managers and experts</i>

These workshops aim to strengthen awareness and capacity on data integration, with a focus on improving poverty-related statistics. They target official statisticians, both at the management and expert level, from National Statistical Offices (NSOs) as well as other parts of the National Statistical Systems (NSS). Further information is available in the enclosed concept note and more details will be provided to confirmed participants in advance of the workshops.

With this letter, we would like to invite you to nominate a country team of **maximum four members** including manager(s) and experts from your organisation and other relevant national organisations who are (or plan to be) involved in data integration projects, with a focus on poverty-related statistics.

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To keep the balance of participations in different rounds of workshops, we kindly recommend your country team to select one round which is more convenient to your time zone.

We do appreciate receiving completed registration form of your nominees either through online (<https://bit.ly/34HjXy2>) or the file attached **by 10 November 2020 at the latest.**

Should you need any further information, please contact Ms. Afsaneh Yazdani, Statistics Division, ESCAP by email Afsaneh.Yazdani@un.org.

We thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Petra Nahmias
Chief, Population and Social Statistics Section
Statistics Division

Enclosures: 1. Concept note
2. Registration form

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Concept Note

Regional Workshops on Implementing Data Integration in Asia and the Pacific

24-27 November and 1-4 December 2020

1. Background

The ambitious vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the focus on leaving no one behind requires quality, timely, reliable, and disaggregated statistics. Despite the commitment to achieving the SDGs, *in Asia and the Pacific data are lacking on over half of the SDG indicators*¹.

Data integration could provide efficient solutions for countries of Asia and the Pacific and there are some excellent examples emerging from this region, including application of data integration in register-based population censuses, compiling accounts, producing environmental statistics, etc. They show that techniques can be used to link and combine data from different sources, multiplying the value of available data and enabling production of new statistics to fill data gaps. However, data integration is a challenging area. Limited technical capacity, access to data and metadata, data quality and interoperability, and public acceptance can limit data integration by the national statistical systems.

Recognizing the benefits and challenges, in 2019, the ESCAP Committee on Statistics *Regional Steering Group on Population and Social Statistics of Asia and the Pacific* recommended building capacity for data integration. Later in 2020, the establishment of the Asia and the Pacific Data Integration Community of Practice (DI-CoP), as a virtual collaboration space reinforced the usefulness of capacity building in this area. In this regard, a face-to-face workshop on data integration for poverty-related statistics (including indicators to measure SDG targets 1.1 to 1.4) was planned for November 2020. The travel restrictions brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic have meant plans need to be changed and a series of virtual workshops will be offered instead.

2. Workshops objectives and outcomes

ESCAP is organizing these workshops² jointly with partners to strengthen awareness and capacity for data integration in countries of Asia and the Pacific, using poverty-related statistics (including indicators to measure SDG targets 1.1 to 1.4) as a working example.

The workshops provide the opportunity to share and document national and regional examples of data integration. By involving volunteer members of the DI-CoP, workshops will also contribute to strengthening the DI-CoP through the opportunity to meet and work together in a virtual setting.

The workshops will generate information that can be used to enhance the regional guidelines on data integration. They will also allow countries to identify potential partnerships and opportunities for South-South cooperation. The content generated at the workshops will contribute to documenting available case studies of data integration in the region, as well as identifying national requirements for new data integration projects with a focus on improving poverty-related statistics (including indicators to measure SDG targets 1.1 to 1.4).

3. Target audience

These workshops will bring together statisticians from National Statistical Offices (NSOs) and other

¹ Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2020

² ESCAP is organizing these workshops as part of the Development Account project.

parts of the National Statistical Systems (NSSs) to strengthen their capacity on data integration, with a focus on improving poverty-related statistics (including indicators to measure SDG targets 1.1 to 1.4). The workshops target two groups:

- Managers from NSOs and other relevant data producers in NSS
- Experts from NSOs and other relevant data producers in NSS, including those with experience in data integration and those likely to work on data integration in the future

4. Modalities and tentative agenda

Two rounds of identical workshops with the same content will be organised at the following dates and hours, duplicated to accommodate participants from different time zones of the region.

Each round includes a one-day workshop for managers, and a three-day workshop for experts and a one-hour concluding session to bring together all participant groups to share the outcomes.

The tentative dates and times for the workshops are:

ROUND 1	
<i>24-27 November at 12:00-15:00 Bangkok time (GMT +7) plus concluding session</i>	
<i>24 November (12:00-15:00 BKK time)</i>	Data integration from a management perspective <i>Target group: managers, with experts to participate as observers</i>
<i>25-27 November (12:00-15:00 BKK time)</i>	Technical issues and solutions for data integration <i>Target group: experts</i>
<i>27 November (17:00-18:00 BKK time)</i>	One-hour concluding session for sharing experiences and recommendations between managers and experts <i>Target group: both managers and experts</i>
ROUND 2	
<i>1-4 December at 08:00-11:00 Bangkok time (GMT +7) plus concluding session</i>	
<i>1 December (08:00-11:00 BKK time)</i>	Data integration from a management perspective <i>Target group: managers, with experts to participate as observers</i>
<i>2-4 December (08:00-11:00 BKK time)</i>	Technical issues and solutions for data integration <i>Target group: experts</i>
<i>4 December (13:00-14:00 BKK time)</i>	One-hour concluding session for sharing experiences and recommendations between managers and experts <i>Target group: both managers and experts</i>

The tentative agenda for each round of workshops is:

- **Data integration from a management perspective**
 1. Introduction to data integration – history, recent developments, and future direction
 2. Data integration and the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics – frameworks for ethical and safe practices
 3. Prerequisites and consideration requirements – what is needed to do ‘data integration’?
 4. Challenges and solutions
 5. Costs and benefits

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Session includes trigger presentations, presentations by selected countries, and discussion. Outcome of the session is a "summary of management perspectives" to be feed into experts' workshop on the next day.

▪ **Technical issues and solutions for data integration**

1. Summary of management perspectives
2. Prerequisites and consideration requirements – what is needed to do 'data integration'?
3. Data considerations and quality
4. Methods and tools
5. Types of data integration
6. Communicating integrated data
7. Data integration to improve the availability of poverty-related statistics (including indicators to measure SDG targets 1.1 to 1.4)

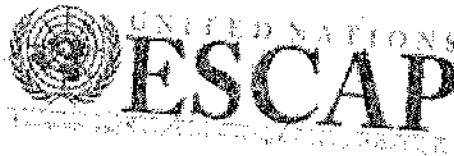
The workshop will use a combination of trigger presentations, country presentations on how data integration has contributed or can contribute to improving availability of poverty-related statistics, group work and discussion.

▪ **Sharing experiences and recommendation**

The one-hour concluding session includes a presentation by experts about using data integration to improve the availability of statistics with a focus on poverty-related statistics (including indicators to measure SDG targets 1.1 to 1.4) and feedback from managers in response to expert recommendations.

5. Further information

Please contact Afsaneh Yazdani (afsaneh.yazdani@un.org), Statistician with the ESCAP Statistics Division.



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Regional Workshops on Implementing Data Integration in Asia and the Pacific

REGISTRATION FORM

Please return the form by e-mail to rattanakittiaporn@un.org; and copy afsaneh.yazdani@un.org

1. Title: Mr. Ms. Other, please specify _____
2. First Name: _____
3. Last Name: _____
4. Official Job Title: _____
5. Organization Name: _____
6. Country: _____
7. E-mail address: _____
8. Please select the round of workshop your country team wishes to attend.
(Each country is requested to select only one round):
 - Round 1: 24-27 November 2020, 12.00-15.00 pm (Bangkok time)
 - Round 2: 1-4 December 2020, 8.00-11.00 am (Bangkok time)