



-Government of Pakistan  
Ministry of Planning Development & Special Initiatives  
Pakistan Bureau of Statistics



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**PRESS RELEASE**

27th November, 2023, Karachi: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics is creating a National Data Dissemination Policy is crucial for ensuring that the statistics produced by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics that should reach and benefit a wide range of users. Engaging both data producers and users in dialogue workshops is a remarkable approach to gather diverse perspectives, identify needs, and bridge any existing gaps in the data dissemination process. Collaborating with organizations like UNFPA adds value by leveraging expertise and resources.

These workshops will likely foster collaboration between various government bodies, ensuring a more comprehensive understanding of data requirements and consequently enhancing the quality and accessibility of statistical information for policymakers and planners. It's an excellent strategy for ensuring evidence-based decision-making across different levels of governance.

Second workshop of this series of data works shops was held today in Karachi. The workshop was attended by data users, researchers, demographers and other stakeholders Dr. Naeem uz Zafar, Chief statistician, Member (SS/RM), Muhammad Sarwar Gondal, Member (C & S) Ayazuddin and other senior officers of PBS welcome the distinguished guests.

Dr. Naeem uz Zafar, Chief statistician apprised the forum that, PBS has taken a proactive approach to address the challenges faced by data users in accessing necessary information. The initiative of hosting nationwide workshops will bridge the gap between the availability of data and the needs of users. By understanding the emerging needs of data users and acknowledging the accessibility challenges, PBS is paving the way for a more inclusive and informed data dissemination process. These workshops can be instrumental in gathering feedback, educating users, and fostering collaboration to improve data accessibility and usability.

Member (SS/RM) highlighted that Developing strategies for web-based data dissemination is crucial in today's digital landscape. Creating partnerships for data dissemination can amplify the reach and impact of the information shared. The idea of establishing a systematic feedback mechanism in Pakistan can help ensure continuous improvement in data dissemination practices.

He further added that, the workshop will focus on addressing challenges in Census data accessibility, understanding the barriers and finding solutions can significantly improve



the usefulness and accessibility of this vital information. As easily accessible data plays a pivotal role in facilitating informed and timely decision-making processes.

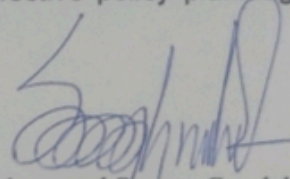
Mr. Bahram Gul, representative of UNFPA Pakistan, emphasized on the value of sharing anonymized micro-level data. By making this data accessible, it becomes a valuable resource for research and analysis, particularly in understanding localized trends and needs. This approach offers policymakers a granular view of communities, enabling them to create more precisely targeted interventions and policies that address specific local challenges.

Member C&S, Mr. Ayazuddin while talking at the occasion focused on the transformative power of data in fostering positive change and sustainable development cannot be understated. When utilized responsibly and ethically, Data can serve as a catalyst for informed decision-making and action. Ensuring the availability of anonymized micro-level data can promote transparency and empowers researchers and policymakers to work towards solutions that resonate deeply within communities. This kind of approach not only enhances the effectiveness of interventions but also fosters a sense of inclusivity and responsiveness to the diverse needs of different regions or populations.

Five groups comprising of participants of the workshop, having versatile background constituted for deliberation and formulate their recommendations on the following thematic areas of the workshop: Emerging user needs and data requirements, Challenges in data dissemination and accessibility, Strategies for web-based data dissemination, Partnerships for data dissemination, Mechanism for systemic feedback on data dissemination in Pakistan. All groups presented their suggestions and recommendation relating to the thematic areas.

The workshop was successful in engaging participants, discussing pertinent issues, collecting valuable feedback, and fostering anticipation for strengthened collaboration between data producers and users.

This workshop will help in Strengthening the statistical process and fostering trust between data producers and users These are crucial steps in ensuring the reliability and accessibility of information. A well-formulated national data dissemination policy is indeed fundamental for evidence-based decision-making and effective policy planning, which ultimately contributes to a nation's prosperity.



(Muhammad Sarwar Gondal)  
Member (Support Services)  
Official Spokesperson PBS



Some Glimpses of an event:

