

UNSC 54th Session Side Event

Start your Small Area Estimation eLearning journey today

Friday, 17 February 2023 | 8:00-9:30 am EST (virtual)

Organized by: UN Statistics Division, UN ECLAC Statistics Division and UNFPA

Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/bdfktume>

Concept Note

In committing to the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to leave no one behind, Member States recognized that **the dignity of the individuals is fundamental**, and that the Agenda's Goals and targets should be met for all nations and people and for all segments of society. Ensuring that these commitments are translated into effective action requires a precise understanding of the target populations and progress made in addressing their particular priorities. This will require disaggregating data to identify who is being excluded or discriminated against, how and why, as well as who is experiencing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and inequalities.

However, for many important indicators, such data are not available at high enough resolution. Small Area Estimation (SAE) offers a means of estimating indicators when critical data are not available at lower levels of geography (i.e., district or municipality levels) and for population groups that are typically difficult to obtain data through household surveys. It covers a variety of methods used to produce survey-based estimates for geographical areas or domains of study in which the sample sizes are too small, or even absent, to provide valid estimates. In order to obtain reliable estimates, additional datasets are generally brought to bear upon the process through a modelling procedure.

To support countries in adopting SAE for more disaggregated data, the United Nations Statistics Division launched a [SAE4SDG Toolkit](#) in March 2022 that provides information on methods to produce disaggregated data through small area estimation and key steps for countries to move from SAE experiment to official data production. The Toolkit is an evolving project and has been updated regularly with more country case studies and new guidance.

Various training workshops and webinars on SAE were also carried out by the three partners with the objective of enhancing the capability of relevant government departments, ministries, and other counterparts to assess and harmonize census and survey data for use in small area estimation; develop predictive models and select models for the indicators of interest; and generate reliable small-area-level estimates for key indicators.

To continue its support to countries, the UN Statistics Division, the ECLAC Statistics Division and UNFPA have jointly developed an eLearning course on SAE, consisting of 10 modules in a total of 50 videos that covers key methods and national examples on SAE.

This session will officially launch and present the eLearning course and invite countries and experts to join the conversation on how collaborative efforts can be made to promote the use of the eLearning

course and what additional support is needed for countries to use the methodology for more disaggregated data.

Opening (8:00 – 8:05):

- Rolando Ocampo, Director, Statistics Division, ECLAC.

Global Training overview (8:05 – 8:20)

- Andrés Gutiérrez, Regional Advisor, Statistics Division, ECLAC

Round table discussion: We have the eLearning course, now what?

(8:20 – 9:15)

Moderator:

- Francesca Perucci, Assistant Director, UNSD

Panelists:

- Amiek Chamami, Coordinator, Household Statistics Function on Welfare Statistics Directorate, Indonesian BPS
- Jenny Encina, Ministerio de Desarrollo Social, Chile
- Partha Lahiri, Professor, University of Maryland and Director, Joint Program in Survey Methodology
- Isabel Molina, Associate Professor, Universidad Complutense de Madrid
- Paul Andres Corral Rodas, Senior Economist, Poverty and Equity Global Practice, World Bank

Q&A (9:15 – 9:25)

Closing and next steps (9:25 – 9:30)

- Sabrina Juran, Regional Technical Advisor on Population and Development / Youth for Latin America and the Caribbean, UNFPA
- Haoyi Chen, Coordinator, Inter-Secretariat Working Group on Household Surveys