

# The FPOS 30 years after: challenges in a changing context<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Fundamental principles of official statistics:30 years after its development, webinar organized by ECLAC,INE Chile, IAOS

- The UN FPOS has remained relevant in the changing context of the official statistics community
- They provided the fundamental guiding principles that National Statistics Offices/Institutes(NSOs/NSIs) and National Statistical Systems(NSSs) needed as they met the challenges of the past decade and gain the trust of their users

# Challenges

- Sustainable Development Goals
- Data Revolution
- Covid-19 pandemic
- Political upheavals

# Updated Documents and Supplements

- 2015 of the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics Implementation guidelines<sup>1</sup>
- 2020 Supplementary chapter to the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics Implementation Guidelines published <sup>2</sup>
- 2020 Mapping of traditional and non-traditional sources<sup>3</sup>
- 4th Edition of the Handbook of Statistical Organization With its Beta version 2.3 dated August 2021<sup>4</sup>

1[https://unstats.un.org/unsd/dnss/gp/Implementation\\_Guidelines\\_FINAL\\_without\\_edit.pdf](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/dnss/gp/Implementation_Guidelines_FINAL_without_edit.pdf)

2[https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/51st-session/documents/BG-Item3q-Supplementary\\_chapter-E.pdf](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/51st-session/documents/BG-Item3q-Supplementary_chapter-E.pdf)

3[Supplementing the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics: Mapping and Guidance for the United Nations Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics against non-conventional and nontraditional data sources \(March 2020\)](#)

4<https://unstats.un.org/development/handbook/>

# Assessments by the UNSC on Implementing UN FPOS

- 2003
- 2012
- 2018

# 2018 Assessment Highlights<sup>1</sup>

- high level of awareness regarding the FPOS within National Statistical Offices/Institutes BUT not so for the whole NSS
- UNFPOS are fully integrated in the statistical law or legal framework of over 60 percent of responding countries, whereas about 27 and 6` percent of respondents reported partial and no integration, respectively.( Philippines' case)
- lack of knowledge about Principle 2 on professional standards, scientific principles and professional ethics for those working on the production of statistics among line ministries

<sup>1</sup>Assessment survey of the implementation of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, 50<sup>th</sup> session of the UNSC, March 2019

# 2018 Assessment Highlights

- sample surveys, administrative data, and censuses are the most common sources of data for the production of official statistics BUT use of innovative sources of data, such as big data and citizen-generated data, is still very limited
- NSOs engage with users mostly on obtaining feedback through surveys, workshops, and web traffic analysis , NEED to keep users informed about the quality of statistical data published by National Statistical Offices

# 2018 Assessment Highlights

- Other weaknesses > coordination among national statistical system, and between national and international statistical agencies : implementing anonymization techniques
- level of implementation of international statistical standards is very heterogeneous across countries and regions



# 2018 Assessment Highlights

- most countries value international cooperation and dedicate substantial time and efforts to participate in international and regional working groups BUT need to strengthen coordination mechanisms among donors to make sure that such support is in alignment with FPOS
- with respect to open data and interoperability, it is worth reiterating that a large majority of countries still provides data downloads in proprietary formats for data analysis software, while the dissemination in open, machine-readable formats or through online APIs is not as common

# Moving forward

- it is clear what needs to be done to implement UN FPOS but do we need new principles or just provide supplementary documents and guidelines
- Partnerships need to continue
- UN SC, UN Regional Commissions(ECLAC), Professional Societies(IAOS) to continue support to NSOs and NSSs

Thank you!