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**Items for discussion and decision: Data and Indicators
for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

Background document

Available in English only

**Data Disaggregation and SDG Indicators: Policy Priorities and Current and Future
Disaggregation Plans**

Prepared by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on
Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs)

Introduction

In committing to the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Member States recognized that the dignity of the individual 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. To properly measure this, statistics need to be presented for different population groups and geographical areas. The Global Sustainable Development Goal indicator framework has included an overarching principle of data disaggregation:

Sustainable Development Goal indicators should be disaggregated, where relevant, by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability and geographic location, or other characteristics, in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. .¹

Recognizing the importance and need for disaggregated data, the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) at its 47th session in 2016 requested the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) to form a working group on data disaggregation in order to strengthen national capacities and to develop the necessary statistical standards and tools.² The IAEG-SDGs immediately began this work and since all members of the expert group expressed an interest in working on this important topic, the IAEG-SDGs created a designated work stream on data disaggregation rather than a working group.

Throughout much of 2016 and 2017, the IAEG-SDGs developed consistent terminology for different aspects of disaggregation and defined the minimum disaggregation set. The IAEG-SDGs proposed using the term *dimensions* to refer to the characteristics by which data are disaggregated (such as age, sex, disability, etc.) and *categories* to refer to the different characteristics under a certain disaggregation dimension (such as male/female under the sex dimension, etc.). The group also defined the *minimum disaggregation set*, a set that includes all disaggregation dimensions explicitly referenced in the target or indicator name. A draft overview of standards for data disaggregation and a review of data availability of minimum disaggregation³ prepared by the IAEG-SDGs was presented and discussed at its sixth and seventh meetings. This document included a compilation of the different data disaggregation dimensions and categories currently being used by custodian agencies in the compilation of global indicators. The IAEG-SDGs also received some inputs from custodian agencies on the work they were undertaking to ensure data are adequately disaggregated and agreed to develop a mechanism to request and receive inputs from different expert groups, custodian agencies and stakeholders that are working on these issues.

At the 49th session of UNSC in March 2018, the Commission requested the IAEG-SDGs “to clearly determine the dimensions and categories of data disaggregation required for the indicators in the framework, keeping in mind the resources needed and the key principle of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of no one left behind” (decision 49/101 (e)). The group decided to prepare a background document on data disaggregation for the 2030 Agenda that would be submitted to the 50th session of UNSC

In 2018, the IAEG-SDGs continued its discussions on data disaggregation and presented some initial ideas for the background document to be submitted to the Commission. In addition, a one-day working meeting was organized back to back to the 8th IAEG-SDG meeting. At the working meeting, it was agreed that the background document should focus on two topics: a comprehensive

¹ General Assembly Resolution [68/261](#).

² Report of the 47th Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission [47/101\(n\)](#)

³ [Overview of Standards of Data Disaggregation](#) and [Review of data availability of minimum disaggregation \(excel table\)](#)

compilation of all currently available data disaggregates for all indicators and future plans that custodian agencies have for additional data disaggregation; and identification of the policy priorities of different vulnerable population groups to advice on future focus of data disaggregation.⁴

In order to compile the requisite information for the background document, the IAEG-SDGs requested the Secretariat to consult with custodian agencies to compile a list of all current and future data disaggregation dimensions and categories (based on data in the Global SDG Indicator Database, metadata and Tier III workplans). The results of this work are presented in Part I of this background document. The group also held consultations with major groups and some international agencies on the policy priority areas for their respectively vulnerable population groups and the results of the consultation are presented in part II of this document.

The compilation of data disaggregation dimensions and categories and the policy priorities are living documents and will be updated as new information is received. Inputs were not received for all policy priority areas during the consultations that took place in December 2018 and January 2019 and as a result, certain priority areas (for example, race and youth) are not included in the policy priority section of this document, but this information will be included in an updated version of this document. Similarly, custodian agencies may develop new plans regarding data disaggregation for some indicators and these new plans will be included in an updated table when received.

Future work on ensuring that disaggregated data are available for SDG indicators will require an immense effort from all parties and will require new tools, capacities and funding to ensure that the requisite data are available to ensure that no one is left behind. The minimum set of disaggregation should be the starting point for this work, as certain dimensions of disaggregation are mentioned in the target and indicator names themselves, while taking into account national priorities and realities.

Part I: Compilation of Data Disaggregation Dimensions and Categories for Global SDG Indicators

The IAEG-SDGs compiled all data disaggregation categories and dimensions into a document, which is available at <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg-sdgs/data-disaggregation/>. This compilation was based on an initial version of this document prepared by the IAEG-SDGs and presented at the 6th meeting of the group in November 2017. The document classifies all data disaggregation dimensions into three categories: those in the minimum set of data disaggregation (the dimension mentioned in the goal or target), other data disaggregation dimensions for which data are currently available, and additional disaggregation dimensions for which the custodian agency has future plans. In addition, the minimum set of data disaggregation dimensions are split into those for which data are already available and those that are not. This file is a working document and will be updated as agencies provide new and updated information. This would be especially relevant for indicators that are still classified as Tier III, as the dimensions for data disaggregation are many times difficult to identify while the methodological work on the indicator itself is still ongoing.

In addition to this file, a table that provides all indicators for which data are disaggregated by the different dimensions is included below. This table makes it easy to see all indicators disaggregated by age, sex, etc. and all the indicators where custodian agencies have future plans to disaggregate information by these dimensions. The first part of the table presents all of the data disaggregation dimensions mentioned in the chapeau, while the second part presents all other disaggregation dimensions included in the global indicator framework, ordered by those included for the highest number of indicators to the lowest. This table will also be updated as new information is provided by

⁴ This compilation matrix was based on the initial document prepared by the IAEG-SDGs that was presented and discussed at its 6th meeting in November 2017.

custodian agencies and when more disaggregated data becomes available (as this would move an indicator from being in the “Future Available” column to the “Current Available” one.

Table 1: Indicators that disaggregate data or have plans to disaggregate data for the different data disaggregation dimensions ⁵

Dimension	Current Available	Future Available	Note
Disaggregation Dimensions Included in Chapeau			
Age	1.1.1, 1.3.1, 1.4.1, 3.2.1, 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.4, 3.4.2, 3.5.2, 3.7.1, 3.7.2, 3.a.1, 5.2.1, 5.3.1, 5.4.1, 5.5.1, 8.5.2, 16.2.2	1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.5.1, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.2, 3.3.5, 3.6.1, 3.8.2, 3.9.1, 3.9.2, 3.9.3, 4.2.1, 4.3.1, 4.4.1, 4.6.1, 5.2.2, 5.3.2, 5.6.1, 5.6.2, 5.b.1, 8.5.1, 8.7.1, 8.10.2, 9.5.2, 10.1.1, 10.2.1, 10.7.1, 11.1.1, 11.2.1, 11.5.1, 11.7.1, 11.7.2, 13.1.1, 13.b.1, 16.1.1, 16.1.2, 16.1.3, 16.1.4, 16.2.1, 16.2.3, 16.3.2, 16.5.1, 16.6.2, 16.7.1, 16.7.2, 16.9.1, 16.10.1, 17.8.1, 17.19.2	1.1.1: Only for Employed 1.4.1, 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 3.8.2: Household Head 3.1.2: Maternal Age
Disability Status	1.3.1, 8.5.2	1.5.1, 5.2.1, 5.2.2, 8.5.1, 10.2.1, 11.1.1, 11.2.1, 11.5.1, 11.7.1, 11.7.2, 13.1.1, 16.6.2, 16.7.1, 16.7.2, 17.19.2	
Ethnicity		3.1.1, 4.1.1, 5.2.1, 5.2.2, 5.3.1, 5.3.2, 11.1.1, 11.2.1, 16.1.3, 16.3.1	
Geographical Location	1.4.1, 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 4.1.1, 5.4.1, 6.1.1, 6.2.1, 7.1.1, 11.6.1, 11.6.2, 15.4.2, 17.19.2	1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.5.1, 1.5.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.4.1, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.7.1, 3.7.2, 3.8.1, 3.8.2, 3.b.1, 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.3.1, 4.4.1, 4.6.1, 5.2.1, 5.2.2, 5.3.1, 5.3.2, 5.6.1, 5.b.1, 6.4.1, 6.6.1, 7.1.2, 8.5.2, 8.10.2, 9.3.2, 10.1.1, 10.2.1, 11.1.1, 11.2.1, 11.3.1, 11.5.1, 11.5.2, 11.7.1, 13.1.1, 16.2.1, 16.2.3, 16.5.2, 16.6.2, 16.7.2, 16.9.1, 17.8.1	

⁵ A complete table with all dimensions can be accessed on the website <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg-sdgs/disaggregation/>

Dimension	Current Available	Future Available	Note
Income (Wealth)	1.3.1, 1.4.1, 3.1.1, 10.1.1	1.5.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.6.1, 3.8.1, 3.8.2, 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.3.1, 4.4.1, 4.6.1, 5.2.1, 5.2.2, 5.3.1, 5.3.2, 5.6.1, 7.1.1, 8.10.2, 11.1.1, 11.2.1, 11.3.1, 11.5.1, 11.5.2, 13.1.1, 16.1.3, 16.2.1, 16.2.3, 16.5.1, 16.9.1, 17.10.1, 17.11.1, 17.19.2	
Migrant Status	4.1.1, 4.6.1, 8.8.1	8.8.2, 10.7.1, 11.1.1, 11.2.1, 16.3.1	4.1.1, 4.6.1, 8.8.1, 8.8.2: Migrant / Non-migrant 10.7.1: Type of Migration Process (Documented / Undocumented)
Race		11.1.1, 11.2.1	
Sex	1.1.1, 1.4.1, 3.2.1, 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.4.1, 3.4.2, 3.5.2, 3.a.1, 4.1.1, 4.2.2, 4.3.1, 4.4.1, 4.c.1, 5.4.1, 5.6.2, 5.b.1, 8.3.1, 8.5.1, 8.5.2, 8.6.1, 8.7.1, 8.8.1, 16.2.2, 16.2.3, 16.10.1	1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.3.1, 1.4.2, 1.5.1, 1.b.1, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 3.2.2, 3.3.4, 3.6.1, 3.8.2, 3.9.1, 3.9.2, 3.9.3, 4.2.1, 4.6.1, 5.a.1, 7.1.1, 8.8.2, 8.10.2, 9.2.2, 9.3.2, 9.5.2, 10.1.1, 10.2.1, 10.7.1, 11.2.1, 11.5.1, 11.7.1, 11.7.2, 13.1.1, 13.b.1, 16.1.1, 16.1.2, 16.1.3, 16.1.4, 16.2.1, 16.3.1, 16.3.2, 16.5.1, 16.5.2, 16.6.2, 16.7.1, 16.7.2, 16.9.1, 17.8.1, 17.19.2	1.1.1: Only for Employed 1.4.1, 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 3.8.2: Household Head 9.3.2, 16.5.2: Manager, ownership
Some Other Disaggregation Dimensions included in global indicator framework*			
Education Level	4.1.1, 4.a.1, 4.c.1	1.1.1, 2.1.2, 3.1.1, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 3.7.2, 3.8.2, 4.2.1, 5.2.1, 5.2.2, 5.3.1, 5.3.2, 5.6.1, 5.b.1, 8.5.2, 8.10.2, 10.1.1, 10.2.1, 10.7.1, 13.3.1, 16.1.3, 16.2.3, 16.5.1, 17.8.1	1.1.1, 10.1.1, 10.2.1: No primary / Primary / Secondary / Tertiary and higher 3.1.1: Educational Attainment 3.2.1, 3.2.2: Mother's Education Level 3.8.2: Householed Head 4.1.1: Grade 2/3 / End of primary / End of lower secondary 4.2.1: Caregiver

Dimension	Current Available	Future Available	Note
			Education 4.a.1: Primary / Lower Secondary / Upper Secondary 4.c.1: Pre-primary / Primary / Lower Secondary / Upper Secondary 5.6.1: No education / Incomplete Primary / Complete Primary / Incomplete Secondary / Complete Secondary / Higher 8.5.2: Less than basic / Basic / Intermediate / Advanced 13.3.1: Primary / Secondary / Tertiary
Countries in Special Situation	8.1.1, 8.a.1, 9.2.1, 9.2.2, 9.3.1, 9.3.2, 9.a.1, 10.a.1, 10.b.1, 17.2.1, 17.11.1, 17.12.1, 17.18.2, 17.18.3, 17.19.1	1.a.1, 1.a.3, 2.a.2, 3.c.1, 11.c.1, 13.b.1, 14.a.1, 17.18.1	LDCs / LLDCs / SIDS / Developing countries 10.a.1: Country Income Level (Developed / Developing / LDCs)
Type of Ecosystem	6.3.2, 6.6.1, 14.5.1, 15.1.2, 15.4.1		6.3.2: Water body type / River basin district 6.6.1: Vegetated wetlands / Rivers and estuaries / Lakes / Aquifers / Artificial waterbodies 14.5.1: Marine 15.1.2: Terrestrial / Freshwater 15.4.1: Mountains
Type of Raw Material	8.4.1, 8.4.2, 12.2.1, 12.2.2		8.4.1, 8.4.2, 12.2.1, 12.2.2: Biomass / Fossil fuels / Metal ores / Non-metallic minerals / Total
Type of Products	2.c.1, 17.10.1, 17.12.1	2.4.1, 2.b.1	2.4.1: Crop / Livestock / Mixed 2.c.1: Wheat / Rice / Maize / Millet / Sorghum 17.10.1: Agriculture / Arms / Clothing / Industrial Products / Oil / Textiles 17.12.1: Agriculture /

Dimension	Current Available	Future Available	Note
			Textile / Environmental Goods
Employment Status	1.3.1, 1.4.1	1.1.1, 10.1.1, 10.2.1	1.1.1, 1.3.1, 1.4.1, 10.1.1, 10.2.1: Employed / Unemployed 1.4.1: Household Head
Service Level	6.1.1, 6.2.1	7.1.1	6.1.1, 6.2.1: Service / Unimproved / Limited / Basic / Safely Managed 7.1.1: MTF tiers or at least hours of service
Sector	10.a.1	4.b.1, 7.2.1, 7.3.1, 8.3.1, 9.4.1, 9.5.1, 9.5.2, 12.1.1, 12.6.1, 15.a.1, 15.b.1, 16.6.1, 17.9.1, 17.11.1	7.3.1: Energy consumption per unit of value added by relevant sector (Industry/Services/Agr iculture) 8.3.1: Agriculture / Industry / Services 9.4.1: Manufacturing / Industrial subsector 9.5.1: Sector of Performance (Business enterprise / Government / Higher education / Private non-profit) 9.5.2: Sector of Employment (Business enterprise / Government / Higher education / Private non-profit) 10.a.1, 17.11.1: Agriculture / Textile / Environmental Goods
Population Type	3.8.2	3.3.1, 3.8.1, 5.6.2, 16.6.2, 16.7.1, 16.7.2	3.3.1: Key Population (Men who have sex with men / sex workers / people who inject drugs / transgender people / prisoners) 3.8.1: General Population / Most Disadvantaged Population 3.8.2: Population with

Dimension	Current Available	Future Available	Note
			a Health Expenditure Budget Share > 10% and 25% 5.6.2: Age, Marital Status, Sex, Citizenship/Residency
Socio-Economic Status	4.1.1, 4.6.1	3.7.1, 3.7.2, 6.1.1, 6.2.1	4.1.1: Very affluent / Very poor 4.6.1: High / Low
Residence		3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.3.1, 4.2.1, 5.3.1, 5.3.2, 5.6.1, 16.2.1, 16.2.3, 16.9.1,	
Hazard Type		1.5.1, 1.5.2, 11.5.1, 11.5.2, 13.1.1	
Occupation		5.b.1, 8.5.1, 9.2.2, 10.7.1, 17.8.1	10.7.1: ISCO-08
Economic Sector		6.4.1, 6.4.2, 8.4.1, 12.2.1	

Part II: Data Disaggregation and Policy Priority Areas

1. List of priority areas

The below sections address the current policy priority areas and describe where attention and resources should be focused to ensure adequate representation of vulnerable groups in the global follow-up and review of the SDGs. Political will and commitment (including financial commitments) from governments and all interested parties that embraces the idea of leaving no one behind will be imperative to ensure sufficiently disaggregated information is available to allow for evidence-based planning and policy formulation and to ensure marginalised groups are counted.

To understand the priority areas for different vulnerable population groups and to provide advice on the dimensions and categories necessary for disaggregation of these priority areas, the IAEG-SDGs requested that major groups and international organizations with expertise in the disaggregation areas hold consultations to identify a minimum set of policy priorities. The groups were requested to map those policy priority areas to SDG targets and indicators in order to provide countries with concrete suggestions of areas for data disaggregation. UNSD has compiled a summary of the inputs received and all detailed inputs are available at <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg-sdgs/data-disaggregation/>.⁶

2. Policy priority areas for different population groups

a. The poor

⁶ The information included for each vulnerable population group was produced by different organizations and groups that are focused on disaggregation data in their specific areas. While every attempt was made to harmonize the structure of these sub-sections, in some cases, the presentation may vary. More work will be done in the updated version of this document.

Economic growth alone will not be sufficient to eliminate poverty. Enjoyment of adequate standards of living, food, water, sanitation, employment, health, education and other rights remain elusive for many people, often determined by their socioeconomic status, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location or other status. As poverty may be both a cause and a consequence of discrimination and inequality, policies to reduce poverty should be coordinated with policies to combat discrimination and inequality.⁷ Moreover, the multidimensional nature of poverty is clearly recognized in the 2030 Agenda. Malnutrition, job or income insecurity, poor health, social exclusion, discrimination, a lack of personal security or participation in decision-making are examples of non-purely economic aspects of poverty.

The following three policy priorities—**inclusive and pro-poor growth; social protection systems and floors; and effective governance, including participation and use of available resources**—were selected and mapped against SDG targets and indicators concerning or measuring the situation about or regarding people, with a focus on those living in poverty and extreme poverty. They can be considered as a preliminary step, seeking first to be consistent with the agreed 2030 Agenda and with the rights and obligations of States under international law.⁸

i. Inclusive and pro-poor growth

Economies need to grow in an inclusive way, guaranteeing equal opportunities and access to economic resources, such as the right to work, just and favourable conditions of work, land ownership and other forms of assets, enabling people to rise and stay out of poverty. Decent work remains one of the best means to escape and stay out of poverty. However, economies have not managed to create enough decent jobs, leaving far too many people unemployed, underemployed or in positions generating inadequate income or means of subsistence (the ‘working poor’). Countries with widening inequality gaps have difficulty sustaining growth and social stability. Gender discrimination and inequality is a driver of poverty. For instance, women and girls tend to bear a disproportionate burden of unpaid care and low paid work, undermining their access to labour markets and income security. Migrants, refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), peoples with disabilities, indigenous peoples, people of African descent, ethnic and other minorities are also over-represented in the poor and extreme poor.

The SDG targets and indicators that are most important towards monitoring inclusive and pro-poor growth are including in the table below.

Table 2: Priority Targets and Indicators for Inclusive and pro-poor growth

SDG targets	Indicators (prioritized people-centred indicators)
1.1 – 1.b	1.1.1 – 1.5.1 ; 1.a.1 – 1.b.1
2.1 – 2.c	2.1.1 – 2.2.2 , 2.3.1, 2.3.2
4.1 – 4.c	4.1.1 – 4.6.1 , 4.7.1 – 4.c.1
5.1 – 5.c	5.1.1, 5.2.1 – 5.4.1 , 5.5.1, 5.5.2, 5.6.1 , 5.6.2, 5.a.1 , 5.a.2, 5.b.1 , 5.c.1
8.1 – 8.b	8.3.1 , 8.5.1 – 8.8.1 , 8.8.2, 8.9.2, 8.10.2 , 8.a.1, 8.b.1
9.1 – 9.c	9.1.1 , 9.2.2, 9.5.2, 9.a.1, 9.c.1
10.1 – 10.c	10.1.1 – 10.3.1 , 10.4.1, 10.6.1 – 10.c.1
16.1 – 16.b	16.1.3 , 16.2.1 – 16.3.2 , 16.5.1 , 16.7.1 , 16.7.2 , 16.9.1 , 16.b.1
17.3 – 17.17	17.8.1

ii. Social protection systems and floors

⁷ Promoting equality – An interregional perspective. Report by ECA, ECLAC, ESCAP and ESCWA. United Nations Publication. LC/TS. 2018/50/Rev.1.

⁸ Paragraph 18 of the resolution A/RES/70/1 specifies that the *Agenda is to be implemented in a manner consistent with the rights and obligations of States under international law* (paragraph 18, A/RES/70/1).

Social protection systems or floors are central for efforts to eradicate poverty enshrined in the SDGs. They are also an essential element of the right to social security.⁹ The establishment of nationally defined social protection floors¹⁰ as a basic set of essential social guarantees, in cash and in kind, is considered pivotal in promoting basic income security and access to health care, and in facilitating the enjoyment of several economic and social rights by the most marginalized groups of the population.¹¹ Social protection systems and floors play an essential role in promoting social inclusion by ensuring social security and providing, together with adequate access to essential services, a minimum level of benefits to all individuals and families that enable them to acquire at least essential health care, basic shelter and housing, water and sanitation, food and the most basic forms of education. National protection floors aim at guaranteeing income security and access to basic services throughout the life cycle, paying particular attention to the most vulnerable and disadvantaged, including children, older persons, person with disabilities, informal workers, non-nationals and migrants.¹² Maternal health, child-care and maternity benefits, and pensions contribute to decrease gender inequality and protect women, who are disproportionately vulnerable to poverty. Access to social protection systems/floors should also be non-discriminatory.

Table 3: Priority Targets and Indicators for Social protection systems and floors

SDG targets	Indicators (prioritized people-centred indicators)
1.5	1.3.1 - 1.4.2, 1.a.1 – 1.b.1
3.1 – 3.d	3.1.1 – 3.4.2, 3.5.2 – 3.7.2, 3.8.2 – 3.b.1, 3.b.2 - 3.d.1
4.1 – 4.c	4.1.1 – 4.6.1, 4.7.1 - 4.c.1
5.1 – 5.c	5.1.1, 5.2.1 – 5.4.1 , 5.5.1, 5.5.2, 5.6.1 , 5.6.2, 5.a.1 , 5.a.2, 5.b.1 , 5.c.1
6.1 – 6.b	6.1.1, 6.2.1
7.1	7.1.1, 7.1.2
9.1 – 9.c	9.1.1 , 9.2.2, 9.5.2, 9.a.1, 9.c.1
10.1 – 10.c	10.3.1, 10.4.1
11.1, 11.2	11.1.1, 11.2.1
16.5 - 16.7, 16.9, 16.a, 16.b.1	16.5.1, 16.6.1, 16.6.2, 16.9.1, 16.b.1
17.2	17.2.1

iii. Effective governance, including participation and use of available resources

Good governance is central to the success and sustainability of poverty reduction strategies. The 2030 Agenda's call for the empowerment of people who are left behind echoes "the right of those affected by key decisions to participate in relevant decision-making processes".¹³ The right to participate is reflected in the international human rights normative framework, including the Declaration on the Right to Development.¹⁴ Non-discrimination and equality are also integral elements of this normative framework and of the 2030 Agenda. "Discrimination may cause poverty, just as poverty may cause discrimination."¹⁵ Good governance also requires States to take steps, individually and through international assistance and cooperation, to *the maximum of available*

⁹ Article 22 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

¹⁰ International Labour Organization (ILO) recommendation concerning National Floors of Social Protection, Recommendation No. 202 (2012).

¹¹ Statement adopted by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights at its fifty-fourth session, held from 23 February to 6 March 2015, and prepared pursuant to the Committee's practice on the adoption of statements (see *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2011, Supplement No. 2 (E/2011/22)*, chap. II, sect. K).

¹² Ibid.

¹³ Statement on 'Poverty and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights' adopted by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights as its twenty-fifth session, held from 23 April to 11 May 2001.

¹⁴ For instance, see article 2.3 of the Declaration on the Right to Development: *States have the right and the duty to formulate appropriate national development policies that aim at the constant improvement of the well-being of the entire population and of all individuals, on the basis of their active, free and meaningful participation in development and in the fair distribution of the benefits resulting therefrom.*

¹⁵ Statement on 'Poverty and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights' adopted by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights as its twenty-fifth session, held from 23 April to 11 May 2001

resources to ensure the provision of basic goods and services (e.g. food, water, healthcare, sanitation, housing, education and social security) to vulnerable groups, including the poor and extreme poor.¹⁶ Expanding fiscal space, reallocating public expenditures, adapting macroeconomic frameworks, trade policy, fighting corruption and illicit financial flows, reducing debt servicing, increasing international aid, increasing tax and social security revenues, adoption of national disaster risk reduction strategies, especially for the poor, are part of these policy priorities.

Table 4: Priority Targets and Indicators for Effective governance, including participation and use of available resources

SDG targets	Indicators (prioritized people-centred indicators)
1.1 - 1.b	1.5.3, 1.5.4, 1.a.1 - 1.b.1
2.1 - 2.c	2.3.2 , 2.a.1 – 2.c.1
5.1 – 5.c	5.1.1, 5.5.1, 5.5.2, 5.6.1 , 5.6.2, 5.a.1 , 5.a.2, 5.c.1
10.1 – 10.c	10.3.1 , 10.4.1 - 10.c.1
16.1 – 16.b	16.1.1 – 16.3.2 , 16.4.1, 16.4.2, 16.5.1 , 16.5.2 – 16.6.1, 16.6.2 , 16.7.1 , 16.7.2 , 16.8.1, 16.9.1 , 16.10.1 , 16.10.2, 16.a.1, 16.b.1
17.1 – 17.19	17.1.1 – 17.19.2

b. Women and girls

Stakeholders working in the area of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls identified priorities for disaggregation from a gender perspective. Along the lines requested, the stakeholders identified the following five policy priority areas: **poverty eradication; food insecurity and health; education; access to economic resources and decent work for all; and gendered impacts of climate change**. These policy priority areas are mapped against the relevant SDG Goals and indicators below:

i. Poverty eradication (SDG1)

Globally, women are 4 per cent more likely than men to live in extreme poverty.¹⁷ The gender gap is the largest among individuals aged 25-34: with 122 women aged 25-34 living in extreme poverty for every 100 men of the same age group. Disaggregation by sex alone would mask this picture. To capture the gender dimensions of poverty across the life cycle, data disaggregated by sex and age is necessary. Other dimensions that often intersect with gender to produce a heightened risk of poverty include disability status, geography, sexual orientation and race/ethnicity, and these should also be prioritized.

Table 5: Priority Indicators for Sex and poverty eradication

SDG indicator	Additional disaggregation priority recommended
1.1.1	simultaneous disaggregation by sex and age, where age is in 5-year intervals. As well as, simultaneously by sex, age (15-24, 25-54 and 55+) and marital status

ii. Food insecurity and Health (SDG 2 & 3)

In the area of health, many issues are relevant for women and girls, but two are highlighted: 1. The right to adequate food and freedom from hunger and 2. sexual and reproductive health and rights. Food insecurity results in poor health and decreased nutrient intake. This is a particular challenge for children, older women, and pregnant and lactating women, who often suffer from anaemia as a result - a leading cause of maternal mortality. Measuring food insecurity for women and men separately requires surveys with samples that are nationally representative, over the life course and where the unit of analysis is the individual and not the household. In the area of sexual and

¹⁶ International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Art. 2.1).

¹⁷ UN Women Report: [“Turning promises into action: Gender equality in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”](http://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/sdg-report) (http://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/sdg-report)

reproductive health and rights, adolescent girls face acute vulnerabilities, including complications related to childbirth and pregnancy, which is a leading cause of death for girls aged 15–19.

Table 6: Priority Indicators for Sex and food insecurity and health

SDG indicator	Additional disaggregation priority recommended
2.1.2	disaggregation by sex. The pilot data is collected at the individual level
3.7.1	disaggregation by age, location, education and income/wealth
3.7.2	Simultaneous disaggregation by location, wealth/income, and race/ethnicity, compare results with national average

iii. Education (SDG 4)

Poverty plays a key role in driving exclusion from education. Analysis of illiteracy data among women and men aged 15–49 across 41 developing countries shows that women and girls living in poor households are consistently the most disadvantaged when compared to all other groups.¹⁸

Moreover, geography, race/ethnicity and other characteristics including disability status and sexual orientation compound to produce deep barriers in access to education, which later in life contribute to deprivations in other areas including inferior employment opportunities.

Table 7: Priority Indicators for Sex and education

SDG indicator	Additional disaggregation priority recommended
2.1.2	Simultaneous disaggregation by sex and location, sex and wealth and by sex, location and income/wealth quintiles (i.e. rural girls in poorest households compared to urban boys in richest households and the intervening categories).
4.4.1	disaggregation by sex, age group of students, location and income/wealth and by the intersection of sex, location and income/wealth

iv. Access to economic resources and decent work for all (SDG 1, 5 & 8)

A regular and independent source of income not only provides women with a greater voice and agency in the household, but has also been shown to increase investment in the well-being of other household members, particularly children, with benefits for long-term growth. Migrant women of all ages are often over-represented in low pay, low quality and unregulated employment, such as domestic work, and they experience a heightened risk of gender-based violence. Women with disability status face similar barriers to decent work. The paid work women do is often carried out on top of unpaid care work. Due to a lifetime of economic disadvantage and discrimination, women are less able to rely on savings and productive assets in older age and are less likely than men to receive a pension; when they do, they generally have much lower benefit levels.

Table 8: Priority Indicators for Sex and Access to economic resources and decent work for all

SDG indicator	Additional disaggregation priority recommended
1.3.1	simultaneous disaggregation by sex and age
5.4.1	by income/wealth and presence of children under school age (0-5)
8.3.1	Simultaneous disaggregation by sex and age (15-24, 25-54, 55+)
8.5.1	Simultaneous disaggregation by sex and migration status
8.6.1	by sex and simultaneous disaggregation by sex and disability status

v. Gendered impacts of climate change (SDG 13)

¹⁸ Ibid

Significant changes in the temperature of land and water bodies are increasing the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events and natural disasters, including droughts, fires and floods. This has a disproportionately negative impact on women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities.

Table 9: Priority Indicators for Gendered impacts of climate change

SDG indicator	Additional disaggregation priority recommended
13.1.1	by sex and simultaneous disaggregation of sex and age

c. *Children*

When considering requirements for SDG data disaggregation about children, it is necessary to keep in mind three issues. The first regards identifying the SDG targets that directly address children and issues about them and the following five policy priority areas were identified: **Every child survives and thrives; Every child learns; Every child is protected from violence and exploitation; Every child lives in a safe and clean environment; and Every child has an equitable chance in life.** These policy areas represent the results of UNICEF's Strategic Plan 2018-2021 to advance the rights and improve the lives of children.

The second is to look at the relevance of SDG targets to children more broadly. This can be done by mapping the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, an international treaty that recognizes the human rights of children, defined as persons up to the age of 18 years. From this broader perspective, all of the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are relevant to the realization of the rights of the child as contained in the Convention. For example, Goal 9 (Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation) corresponds – amongst other things - to Article 29.1(a) and (e) of the Convention (education of the child shall be directed to the development of the child's personality, talents and mental and physical abilities to their fullest potential and the development of respect for the natural environment), which is seen as essential to the fostering of innovation.

Thirdly, many factors contribute to the disadvantage of children. For instance, children from the poorest families are much more likely to die before age 5. Adolescent girls are more likely to be illiterate than boys. An equitable chance in life remains a distant dream for children with disabilities. Because of these and other instances, it is critical for data disaggregation to take into consideration a multitude of factors in order to “leave no one behind”.

Table 10: Priority Areas and SDG Goals for Children

Key policy priority areas	SDG Goals
Every child survives and thrives	SDG 2: Stunting, wasting, overweight SDG 3: Births attended by skilled personnel, under-five mortality, neonatal mortality, new HIV infections (children under 5, adolescent girls and boys 10-19 years), essential health services, MCV1, DTP3, maternal mortality ratio, malaria incidence, adolescent birth rate
Every child learns	SDG 4: Minimum proficiency in reading and mathematics in lower secondary, children under-five developmentally on track, participation in organized learning one year before primary, proportion of schools with access to WASH

Every child is protected from violence and exploitation	SDG 5: Violence against girls by intimate partner, violence against girls by someone other than intimate partner, child marriage, female genital mutilation/cutting SDG 8: Child labour SDG 16: Intentional homicide, conflict-related deaths, violence from caregiver, sexual violence on girls and boys under 18, birth registration
Every child lives in a safe and clean environment	SDG 1: Basic drinking water, sanitation and hygiene services SDG 1: Extreme poverty, below national poverty line, multi-dimensional poverty, social protection floors/system SDG 3: Mortality rate from household/ambient air pollution SDG 6: Safely managed drinking water, safely managed sanitation services, handwashing facilities, open defecation SDG 7: Clean fuels used SDG 13: Deaths from natural disasters
Every child has an equitable chance in life	SDG 1: Extreme poverty, below national poverty line, multi-dimensional poverty, social protection floors/system

d. Older Persons

Outlined below are the policy priorities within the SDGs that should be measured and reported for older persons. It should be noted that policy areas and corresponding indicators are intended as a constructive contribution in terms of priority, but that there are many other areas where further efforts must be made to improve age disaggregation so that progress can be measured across the life course. These priority areas are the result of consultations with civil society organisations and members of the Titchfield City Group on Ageing.¹⁹ The policy priority areas include **health; income security; violence, abuse and safety; and empowerment and participation as full members of society**.

i. Health

Population ageing is transforming economies and societies across the world, placing new demands on health systems. Meanwhile, older people worldwide experience significant deficits in health and wellbeing and face a range of barriers accessing health services that must be addressed if Universal Health Coverage is to be achieved. Alongside population ageing, the global pattern of disease has been shifting over recent years away from communicable diseases and towards non-communicable diseases (NCDs), which have a disproportionate impact on older persons. In addition to cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cancers, chronic respiratory disease and musculoskeletal disease; neurological conditions and mental health disorders have a major impact on older people with depression and suicide being areas of particular concern.

ii. Income security

Older age is often a precarious time in terms of income security, and social pensions provide an important source of regular income for older people. It is overly simplistic to characterise later life as

¹⁹ The 'Titchfield City Group on Ageing and Age-disaggregated Data,' endorsed at the United Nations Statistical Commission in 2018, is a global initiative aimed at improving data that provide an in-depth understanding of the situation of older persons and inform decision-making processes.

a time of economic inactivity, and many older people continue to work, often in the informal sector. In lower- and middle-income countries, agriculture continues to be the most important source of livelihood for the vast majority of economically active older people, particularly older women. These more vulnerable forms of work are often linked to relatively low earnings and it is unclear whether older people continue to work out of choice or necessity, as pension benefit levels are often inadequate. Understanding old age poverty, alongside employment and access to social protection, is therefore critical.

iii. Violence, abuse and safety

In consultations with older people, high levels of violence and abuse are frequently reported by both men and women, often committed with impunity and little access to redress. A 2017 study²⁰ across diverse regions estimated that 15.7% of people aged 60 years and older were subjected to some form of abuse in the past year. According to the WHO, this is likely to be an underestimation, as only 1 in 24 cases of elder abuse is reported. Such abuse occurs in different settings and is perpetrated by a variety of individuals including family members, partners, as well as health and care providers. In addition to physical, sexual, and psychological abuse and neglect, older people can be subject to financial abuse as well.

iv. Empowerment and participation as full members of society

Older women and men reported that discrimination on the basis of their age was a regular and common experience in their lives. A common narrative that presents older people as a burden overlooks their numerous contributions to society, including the unpaid care they provide within families and communities. These negative perceptions can have an impact on older people's experience of public services and the responsiveness of decision making to older people's rights and age limits, mean older people are frequently denied access to social benefits and support. Ageism is common in humanitarian settings where older people are regularly excluded or discounted in response planning and implementation. Lifelong learning opportunities are critical for enabling older people's participation both in the labour force and in society more broadly. Access to reliable, safe, physically accessible and affordable public transport can also support older people's right to participate, while safe and accessible -green and public spaces can further enhance social inclusion.

Table 11: Priority Areas and SDG Indicators for Older persons

Policy area	Priority indicators
Health	Indicators 2.1.1, 3.3.1, 3.4.1, 3.4.2, 3.8.1, 3.8.2, 3.b.3
Income security	Indicators 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.2.2, 1.3.1, 2.3.2, 1.4.1, 5.a.1, 8.3.1, 8.5.1, 8.5.2, 10.2.1
Violence, abuse and safety	Indicators 1.4.2, 1.5.1, 5.2.1, 5.2.2, 11.7.2, 16.1.3, 16.1.4, 16.3.1
Empowerment and participation as full members of society	Indicators 4.3.1, 4.4.1, 4.5.1, 4.6.1, 5.4.1, 10.3.1, 11.2.1, 11.7.1, 16.6.2, 16.7.2

e. International Migrants

The following policy priorities for international migrants is anchored in the recently adopted Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM)²¹ and has drawn heavily from the recommendations of the 2017 United Nations Expert Group Meeting on Improving Migration Data in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.²² The definition of migratory status

²⁰ Elder abuse prevalence in community settings: a systematic review and meta-analysis. Yon Y, Mikton CR, Gassoumis ZD, Wilber KH. Lancet Glob Health. 2017 Feb;5(2):e147-e156. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28104184>

²¹ https://refugeemigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/180713_agreed_outcome_global_compact_for_migration.pdf

²² https://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic-social/meetings/2017/new-york--egm-migration-data/EGM%20Recommendations_FINAL.pdf

for SDG data disaggregation purposes proposed by the Expert Group takes a stepwise approach as described below:

Step 1: Migratory status for the purpose of disaggregation of relevant SDG indicators is defined by one of the following two variables: Country of birth: foreign-born and native-born population; Country of citizenship: foreigners (including stateless persons) and citizens.

Step 2: If there is a need to distinguish between first-generation migrants and second-generation migrants, then migratory status is defined by: Country of birth of the person and country of birth of the parents: foreign-born persons; native-born persons with both parents born abroad; and native-born persons with at least one parent born in the country.

Step 3: Other disaggregation dimensions: Countries interested in other migration-related population groups could further disaggregate the data by country of birth of the parents, duration of stay in country, and reason for migration. Internal migrants and internally displaced persons could also be considered if countries are interested in population mobility within the country.

Key policy priority areas: **Provide access to basic services (education and health care) and social protection for migrants; Ensure fair recruitment, decent work and labour rights protection for migrants; Eliminate all forms of discrimination and reduce violence against migrants; and Ensure access to information for migrants.**

i. Provide access to basic services (education and health care), housing and social protection for migrants

Objective 15 of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM)²³ is to “provide access to basic services for migrants.” Non-discriminatory access to two basic services for migrants – education and health care – are specifically mentioned. The objective covers commitments to ensure that all migrants, regardless of their migration status,²⁴ can exercise their human rights through safe and regular access to basic services. It further commits to strengthen migrant-inclusive service delivery systems, notwithstanding that nationals and regular migrants may be entitled to more comprehensive service provision, while ensuring that any differential treatment must be based on law, proportionate, pursue a legitimate aim, in accordance with international human rights law.

ii. Ensure fair recruitment, decent work and labour rights protection for migrants

Labour migration is one of the most common types of migration. Objective 6 of the Global Compact is to ensure fair and ethical recruitment mechanisms and protect migrant workers from exploitation and abuse to guarantee decent work and migrants’ full contribution to countries of origin and destination. Objective 16 action e) asks to empower migrant women by eliminating gender-based discriminatory restrictions on formal employment and ensuring the right to freedom of association.

iii. Eliminate all forms of discrimination and reduce violence against migrants

GCM Objective 17 commits to eliminate all forms of discrimination, condemn and counter expressions, acts and manifestations of racism, racial discrimination, violence, xenophobia and related intolerance against all migrants in conformity with international human rights laws. Such actions also help in empowering migrants and societies to realize full inclusion and social cohesion (Objective 16).

iv. Ensure access to information for migrants

Access to information is extremely important to migrants in many respects. In fact, Objective 3 is to “provide accurate and timely information at all stages of migration.” Information specified in the GCM includes: visas required and associated fees, ways to obtain an employment permit, the qualification requirements, and the costs required to live in the destination country, options for regular migration, immigration laws and migration procedures, rights and obligations in the

²³ https://refugeesmigrants.un.org/sites/default/files/180713_agreed_outcome_global_compact_for_migration.pdf

²⁴ Exact wording used in GCM, while slightly differed from “migratory status”

destination country, skill or qualification assessment at the destination country, ways to seek basic services and protection, and remittance costs and channels. To create the conditions for migrants and diasporas to fully contribute to sustainable development in all countries, information shall also be made available for their financial, voluntary and philanthropical engagement. Information should be made available at all stages of migration (Objective 3), through different platforms at different levels (local, regional and national).

Table 12: Priority Areas and Targets for Migration

Policy area	Priority targets
Provide access to basic services (education and health care) and social protection for migrants	Targets 1.3, 3.8, 4.5, 11.1
Ensure fair recruitment, decent work and labour rights protection for migrants	Targets 8.3, 8.5, 8.7, 8.8
Eliminate all forms of discrimination and reduce violence against migrants	Targets 10.3, 16.1, 16.9
Ensure access to information for migrants	Targets 9.c, 16.10

f. Forcibly displaced persons (i.e. refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs))

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development makes an ambitious commitment of leaving no one behind in its implementation. In order to ensure that this commitment is effectively met for forcibly displaced persons, this section, developed by the Expert Group on Refugee and IDP Statistics (EGRIS),²⁵ identifies policy priority areas for these vulnerable population groups, and corresponding SDG indicators to be disaggregated by displacement status. The vulnerable groups included in this proposal are **forcibly displaced persons, i.e. refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs)**.

This proposal is based on an evaluation of the 2030 Agenda in terms of priority areas deemed relevant for forced displacement. In particular, the International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics (IRRS) include a recommendation for a common set of indicators to measure refugees' integration in host communities. Indicators were selected pragmatically as the most salient and those for which data are most likely to become available. As a result, **three key policy priority areas** for forcibly displaced populations were identified, and 12 priority SDG indicators were directly mapped to these areas:

i. Basic needs and living conditions

Forcibly displaced people are particularly vulnerable to disease and more likely to experience uncertain supplies of safe food and water. This policy area focuses on measuring the ability of forcibly displaced persons to provide for their most immediate and basic needs, such as access to food, adequate health care services, water and sanitation facilities, as well as appropriate shelter.

ii. Livelihoods and economic self-reliance

The long-term wellbeing of forcibly displaced persons cannot be achieved without the enjoyment of the right to work, the access to income generating opportunities, and admission to education. This policy area measures the ability of refugees and IDPs to be economically self-reliant and to benefit from the goods and services considered to be necessary to lead an adequate life.

iii. Civil, political and legal rights

The enjoyment of civil, political and legal rights is a necessary requisite so that forcibly displaced persons can integrate in the host society. These include access to documentation for both IDPs and refugees, as well as, for refugees, permanent or renewable legal residency status in the host State.

²⁵ <https://jips.org/jips-publication/egris-info-flyer/>

In addition, these rights include equitable and non-discriminatory access to judicial procedures, and freedom of movement without being subject to harassment or violence.

Table 13: Priority Areas and Indicators for Forcibly Displaced Persons

Policy area	Priority indicators
Basic needs and living conditions	Indicators 2.2.1; 3.1.2; 6.1.1; 11.1.1
Livelihoods and economic self-reliance	Indicators 1.2.1; 4.1.1; 7.1.1; 8.3.1; 8.5.2
Civil, political and legal rights	Indicators 1.4.2; 16.1.4; 16.9.1

The indicators are recommended to be prioritized for disaggregation by refugees and IDP status, as well as further broken down by age and sex whenever possible. In order to ensure availability of minimum quality statistics on refugees and IDPs, it is recommended that national statistics providers include statistics on these priority indicators in the reporting plans for the 2030 Agenda. However, governments should not feel limited to this priority list, and data collection on additional indicators is encouraged.

The majority of the proposed indicators can be calculated using data sourced from surveys, censuses and administrative records. Data for indicators of population living conditions are commonly found in national surveys and censuses, making them available for most countries. These indicators can be disaggregated by forced displacement if core questions for the identification of refugees and IDPs are added to these surveys. Additionally, a large number of the proposed indicators are already available from global surveys such as MICS and DHS, however identification of refugees and IDPs in these surveys and ensuring adequate representation in samples is not a routine practice to date. Furthermore, in many household surveys, refugee camps, reception centers, informal settlements and other collective housing units where refugees and IDPs may reside are not always covered in the sample frame. The reporting on the suggested list of indicators for refugees and IDPs will therefore require the extension of the scope of many survey sampling frames to cover camps and institutional buildings housing displaced populations, in addition to the usual residential dwellings.

g. Persons with disabilities

The lack of data on persons with disabilities increases marginalization and fails to address the situation and discrimination encountered by persons with disabilities. As a result, planning and budgeting for reasonable accommodations with effective policymaking have suffered and persons with disabilities have largely fallen off the statistical “map.” Evidence-based data on persons with disabilities at the national and global levels are instrumental in identifying the gaps and challenges of persons with disabilities that can support policymakers to address gaps and amend existing policies and regulations.

The Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities (SGPwD) has identified five key policy areas to be disaggregated by disability to assess the situation of persons with disabilities to support policymakers to address gaps and amend existing policies and regulations: **poverty eradication, education, employment, health, and accessibility.** These areas have been identified form a larger priority list of indicators.²⁶ However, the SGPwD considers these five policy areas critical for persons with disabilities, but at the same time welcomes and encourages the IAEG and Member States to collect and disaggregate data by disability from other policy areas as well. The lack of data on persons with disabilities increases marginalization and fails to address the situation and

²⁶ Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities. (2018). Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities: List of SDG indicators to be disaggregated by disability. Retrieved from: <http://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/prioritylist-ofindicators>

discrimination encountered by persons with disabilities. As a result, planning and budgeting for reasonable accommodations with effective policymaking have suffered and persons with disabilities have largely fallen off the statistical “map.” Evidence-based data on persons with disabilities at the national and global levels are instrumental in identifying the gaps and challenges of persons with disabilities that can support policymakers to address gaps and amend existing policies and regulations.

i. Poverty Eradication

Globally, persons with disabilities - 15 per cent of the world’s population²⁷ - do not adequately benefit from funds and resources spent by the public sector, from the actions of the private sector, or economic, social and cultural development. Persons with disabilities face widespread exclusion from all areas of society and experience higher rates of poverty and deprivation and lower levels of income than the general population. This stems from pervasive discrimination and stigma, unequal opportunities, and physical and attitudinal barriers. During recent economic crises, many countries have reduced public funds that support social participation of persons with disabilities. Consequently, the poverty rate has increased for persons with disabilities and their families. Furthermore, without access to digital infrastructure and accessible ICT, persons with disabilities are at risk to be excluded from statistics and surveys, which leads to exclusion from programs and policies.

ii. Education

Exclusion from education may lead to lower employment and earning potential for persons with disabilities. Not only does this make individuals and their families more vulnerable to poverty, but it can also limit national economic growth. This significantly affects persons with disabilities since approximately half of children and youth with disabilities currently aged 0-14 years either do not begin their primary education or will not progress beyond primary-level schooling. Furthermore, girls with disabilities are far less likely than either boys with disabilities or girls without disabilities to attend primary school. If they do attend, they are less likely to complete primary school and progress to secondary education or undertake vocational training that would enable them to become economically self-sufficient.²⁸

iii. Employment

The exclusion from employment for persons with disabilities may lead to lower incomes due to disproportionately high levels of underemployment and unemployment as well as lower pay-scales for performing the same work as individuals without disabilities.²⁹ Moreover, persons with disabilities also face barriers to gaining and keeping informal work and self-employment, and caregivers may forgo work opportunities to assist family members with disabilities.

iv. Health

The inability to access and receive appropriate and timely health care may also adversely affect persons with disabilities. The failure to include persons with disabilities in public health interventions can impede the effectiveness and efficiency of healthcare programs, and as a result of this exclusion, persons with disabilities may experience avoidable medical and/or productivity costs. Consequently, governments may end up spending more in parallel care and treatment programs.

v. Accessibility

Due to pervasive barriers in accessing the built environment, information, and communication, persons with disabilities are often denied access to basic urban services, including housing, roads, public spaces, transportation, sanitation and water, health, education, emergency and disaster response. Yet, it is generally feasible to meet accessibility requirements at one percent of the total

²⁷ World Report on disability (https://www.who.int/disabilities/world_report/2011/report/en/)

²⁸ Leonard Cheshire Disability. (2014). Realising the Rights of Women and Girls with Disabilities.

²⁹ WHO & The World Bank. (2011). World Report on Disability, WHO Press, Geneva.

cost. The reality is that retrofitting for accessibility is more expensive, costing up to 20 percent of the original cost, compared to integrating accessibility and universal design principles into new buildings.³⁰

Table 14: Priority Areas and Indicators for Persons with Disabilities

Policy area	Priority indicators
Poverty eradication for persons with disabilities	Indicators 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.3.1, 10.2.1
Education for persons with disabilities	Indicators 4.1.1, 4.2.2, 4.3.1, 4.4.1, 4.5.1, 4.6.1, 4.a.1
Employment for persons with disabilities	Indicators 8.5.1, 8.5.2, 10.3.1, 16.7.1
Health for persons with disabilities	Indicators 3.3.1, 3.8.1, 3.8.2, 5.6.1
Accessibility for persons with disabilities	Indicators 11.2.1, 11.7.1, 11.7.2, 16.1.4, 16.7.2, 17.8.1

h. Geographic Location

Rural

The persistently higher percentage of poor living in rural areas and, more generally, the reduced access to services of the rural population has traditionally triggered in many countries the need to design policies specifically aimed at rural development and at improving the livelihood of people who live outside cities. Compared to the urban areas, living in rural areas present the following unique challenges:

- (1) The dispersion of people over the landscape means that public and private services must extend farther than in more densely populated areas, and, as a result, may be more costly to provide and to access.
- (2) Policies aimed at improving the well-being of rural people are more difficult to implement than in urban areas.
- (3) Higher costs are due not just to distance, but to terrain that can present barriers to efficient provision of physical and technological infrastructure.
- (4) Given the significant position of agriculture in the rural economy, the slow dynamic of farm productivity, especially for small holders, leads to a deterioration of the living conditions of rural populations, triggering massive migration flows to urban areas. This in turn leads to depopulation of rural areas and to a reduction in the preservation of natural resources and maintenance of environmental services.

In a broad context, rural development is a key part of the overall structural transformation of a country's economy and its society. What happens in rural areas is related to what happens in urban areas through migration of people as well as through stronger linkages in commerce and information sharing.

The preferred policy approach to rural development seeks territorial rather than sectoral development, having the entire rural economy as its scope rather than only agriculture. Therefore, a number of SDG targets, not only under Goal 2, but also under Goals 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, should be measured by indicators disaggregated by geographical location (rural/urban). Indicators already stipulating this disaggregation in their title formulation include 1.1.1 (extreme poverty), 4.5.1 (gender equality in education), 5.4.1 (unpaid domestic work), and 9.1.1 (access to roads). Other indicators that would clearly benefit from a geographical disaggregation include 1.3.1 (social

³⁰ WHO & The World Bank. (2011). World Report on Disability, WHO Press, Geneva.

protection), 1.4.1 (basic services), 2.1.1 and 2.1.2 (hunger and food insecurity), 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 (malnutrition), 8.5.2 (unemployment), and 11.2.1 (public transport access).

In order to inform policies at national and global levels, a common definition of rural/urban areas applicable to all countries is needed. Currently, however, large differences in the national definitions exist hampering international comparability. To address this problem, an international definition of rural and urban areas was developed in a partnership between the European Commission and the Joint Research Centre (JRC), FAO, World Bank, UN-HABITAT, and the OECD. In a similar way to other international definitions that have been established for SDG indicators (e.g. small-scale food producers), the international definition of rural and urban areas would complement, rather than replace, national definitions. Therefore, countries may continue using their own definitions for national monitoring, while they would use the international definition for global monitoring, in particular for addressing the challenge of producing SDG indicators disaggregation by geographic location.

Table 15: Priority Areas, Goals and SDG Indicators for Rural Locations

Policy area	Priority Goals/Indicators
Rural policy priority	1, 2, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11
Rural disaggregation already included	Indicators 1.1.1, 4.5.1, 5.4.1, 9.1.1
Other indicators that would benefit from a geographical disaggregation	Indicators 1.3.1, 1.4.1, 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 8.5.2, 11.2.1

Urban

Disaggregating data along the rural/urban dimension requires a harmonized system of classification or a common conceptual understanding of what a city or an urban area means. For example, are cities defined by officially set administrative boundaries, or a specific set of attributes such as population size or density? Growing cities often go beyond traditional administrative boundaries, and different concepts/attributes used in defining cities produce different city areas and corresponding statistics. This lack of a consistent definition hinders comparability and regional and global aggregations, even if disaggregated data exist.

Therefore, concrete guidance on definitions, measurements, and unified standards is a key priority for meaningful data disaggregation involving urban issues.

Table 16: Priority Areas, Goals and SDG Indicators for Urban Locations

Policy area	Priority Goals/Indicators
Quality of life in cities	Goal 11; targets 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 11.7, and 11a.1
Access to services, and poverty	Goal 1, targets 1.1, 1.4;
Impact of natural disasters on cities	Goal 11; target 11.5, 11.b