



**United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
Statistical Division**

Task Force on Ageing-related Statistics

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7th meeting of the UNECE Working Group on Ageing
Geneva, 20-21 November 2014

Task Force on Ageing-related Statistics



- ❖ Conference of European Statisticians in-depth review of ageing-related statistics in November 2012
- ❖ February 2013: terms of reference approved
- ❖ Statisticians, policymakers, researchers
- ❖ Objective: to improve the availability, accessibility and comparability of statistical data in support of ageing-related policymaking in the framework of the MIPAA/RIS



Membership

- ❖ 14 national statistical offices:
 - Azerbaijan
 - Belgium
 - Canada
 - Hungary
 - Israel
 - Italy
 - Mexico
 - New Zealand
 - Poland
 - Slovakia
 - Switzerland
 - Tajikistan
 - United Kingdom
 - United States
- ❖ Eurostat, UNECE
- ❖ 8 government agencies dealing with ageing:
 - Austria
 - Belgium
 - Czech Republic
 - Georgia
 - Italy
 - Portugal
 - Serbia
 - United States
- ❖ Academic:
 - University of Southampton
 - European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research

Chair: Emma Wright, UK Office for National Statistics

Topics

- ❖ Topics mapped onto four policy goals of the Vienna Ministerial Declaration:
 - Longer working life
 - Social inclusion
 - Health, independence
 - Intergenerational solidarity
- ❖ Demographic measures - standalone topic





Topics and Policy Goals

- ❖ Demographic measures of ageing
- ❖ Longer working life
 - Education, training and labour market participation
 - Health risks and health behaviours
- ❖ Social inclusion
 - Financial security
 - Social inclusion/exclusion
- ❖ Health and independence
 - Health status
 - Health and social care needs and access to services
 - Subjective well-being
- ❖ Intergenerational solidarity
 - Caring, transfers

Existing Indicators and Data

- ❖ Review of existing frameworks:
 - UNECE MIPAA Synthesis Report
 - MA:IMI
 - Active Ageing Index
 - Eurostat database
 - OECD reports and databases
- ❖ 84 indicators
- ❖ Availability, use by policymakers, dissemination, source, periodicity, available breakdowns and inclusion of institutional populations
- ❖ Replies from 18 countries represented in the task force



Available statistics shape the way we think about ageing.

First Meeting in November 2013



- ❖ Discussion of the collected information on the indicators and their policy use
- ❖ Good practice examples from countries in compiling and disseminating ageing-related statistics and indicators
- ❖ Decisions on next steps
- ❖ Formation of 5 teams: 4 Vienna domains + Demography

Teams

- ❖ Using online workspace (wiki)
- ❖ Analysis of indicators and data
 - Relevance to policy needs
 - Availability. Identifying gaps:
 - ◆ Conceptual
 - ◆ Data collection
 - ◆ Tabulation
 - International comparability
- ❖ Drafting recommendations
- ❖ Proposals for further methodological work



Second Meeting 18-19 Nov 2014



- ❖ Discuss concept notes by teams
- ❖ Principles for revising and streamlining
- ❖ Separate chapters:
 - Communication and dissemination
 - Institutional population
- ❖ Timetable: full report in January





Examples of Recommendations

- ❖ Use modules in existing regular surveys
- ❖ Combine data across several instances of the same survey (data pooling) to get sufficient statistical power for estimates for older age-groups
- ❖ Harmonized 5 or 10 year age-groups, not just 65+
- ❖ Include institutional population in estimates, otherwise potentially severe underestimation of e.g. health problems
- ❖ Better use of administrative sources, e.g. for measuring formal care provision, and health and social care needs



Concluding remarks

- ❖ Uniting producers and users in one task force \Rightarrow challenging organizationally, potential positive effect on outcome
- ❖ Practical guidance to statisticians
- ❖ More and better accessible data for policymaking