

Case study for Road Map on Statistics for SDGs 2.0 Armenia: SDG indicators related to children's rights and situation

Description

Armstat has developed a child-related dataset, with the UNICEF and UNDP support. The dataset is a system of national indicators built upon SDGs, which allow to monitor services provided to children and assess their impact from the perspective of elimination of violence against children and ensuring equal rights for all children.

The list of 50 child-related baseline indicators offered by UNICEF within the scope of the SDGs global indicators served as a guideline for the selection of indicators. The dataset was enriched with other child-related indicators, not initially included, that were considered to be useful or essential by the experts' team of Armstat. The aim was to enable policymakers and other stakeholders to analyze thoroughly the current situation relying on evidence-based data.

The dataset comprises 30 child-related national indicators corresponding to global indicators, 4 national indicators (supplementary), 29 substituting indicators and 18 supplementary indicators (81 indicators in total).

In view of the objectives defined, the population aged 0-17 was identified as a target group.

For proper interpretation of indicators, explanatory annexes with definitions of terms, abbreviations, symbols, sources of indicators, calculation methodologies and relevant references are provided.

To expand the possibilities of data analysis and to make better-targeted policy decisions, the mentioned indicators were compiled, based on various sources, and disseminated with relevant explanatory notes; disaggregated by sex, type of residence (urban/rural), age groups, social groups etc.

The dataset serves as a basis for the first comprehensive report on the *Children's situation in Armenia/SDG Baseline study for Children*. It is a contribution for the reduction of child poverty, as well as to elimination of problems related to social inclusion and accessibility of services, targeting specifically the vulnerable, unsecure, deprived and excluded children.

Advantages

The dataset of SDGs indicators related to children's rights and situation allows to monitor the services provided to children and assess their impact from the perspective of elimination of violence against children, problems related to social inclusion and accessibility of services, targeting specifically the vulnerable, unsecure, deprived and excluded children, and ensuring equal rights for all children.

Challenges

Significant part of used statistical tools and sources provided limited possibility to calculate indicators for the target 0-17 age group or even if they allowed, disaggregated data had poor or not enough representativeness.

Since the SDG global indicators system includes few indicators intended for monitoring children's situation, and because the dataset's target age group (0-17 years old) falls out of the statistical standard age groups, the majority of the indicators has been calculated specifically for the dataset.

Difficulties are also related to extra burden on staff. Filling data gaps requires additional financial resources to conduct thematic surveys or improve existing

administrative registers. For some indicators methodological expert support is needed.

Future steps

If possible, to conduct relevant focused surveys, improve methodologies, tools and sources, and data communication and visualization.

More information

Link to Child related SDG dataset: https://armstat.am/en/?nid=14

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