Leaving no one behind – sampling the vulnerable populations

Introduction

Why and for whom:

Introducing the background, why is the Guidelines important for SDG data disaggregation and leaving no one behind. Who are the users of the book (NSOs and major policy groups that are interested in collecting data for vulnerable populations)

The publication does not intend to be a sampling textbook. Technical discussion related to different stages of sampling will be directed to other guidance. Instead the publication aims to focus on specificities related to vulnerable population groups.

Examples of how to identify specific vulnerable groups will be provided.

Chapter 1. SDG data disaggregation and leaving no one behind – challenges in reaching the vulnerable population groups in sample surveys

Who are the vulnerable population groups that are hidden and difficult to reach? Why? They are typically difficult to reach due to its small population size, their special economic or social conditions, unevenly distributed geographically or difficult to identify from common sample frames.

Chapter 2. Basic sampling elements

The chapter explains briefly key elements of sampling so users are familiar with the terms. These would include target population, sampling frame, simple random sampling, cluster, stratification, post-stratification and calibration, weights and precision.

What areas in each of the above elements require specific attention for sampling vulnerable population groups?

Chapter 3. How to calculate sample size

The chapter describes how the required sample size can be calculated based on the measurement objective, non-response rate and precision requirement. The chapter will address the question on sufficient sample size for statistically-sound analysis. Links for online sample size calculation and other sampling tools will be provided.

Chapter 4. Sampling rare and elusive population

The chapter describes the sampling specificities for rare and hard-to-reach populations. Why are they difficult to reach? Is it because they are small in size, distributed unevenly, living in institutions (or streets) rather than households? Or the topic is too sensitive and challenging to get responses?

What are the different sampling approaches (probability and non-probability sampling) that have been used to sampling rare and elusive population?

What are the considerations in choosing the appropriate sampling approach(es)?

Discussion will also cover how sampling approaches appropriate for rare and elusive population could be introduced to an integrated survey.

Chapter 5. National examples for sampling different vulnerable populations

The chapter will provide national examples in sampling vulnerable populations. Groups such as rural-urban population, older persons, children, migrants, IDPs, indigenous population (non-exhaustive, depending how many examples can be found) will be covered.

The national examples will illustrate the specific features related to sampling vulnerable populations, including the following:

- Specific challenges in sampling the vulnerable population
- Describing the target population
- Available sampling frames in the country
- The survey and the original sampling plan that are in place
- Special sampling strategy that is used and explanation of the issue the strategy addresses
- Results in covering the vulnerable population

Annex. Useful resources

The Annex will provide a list of weblinks and publications that provide further information that countries may refer to in applying the guidance notes to their needs.