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Fifteenth meeting of the Executive Committee of the
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**DRAFT BIENNIAL PROGRAMME OF REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
ACTIVITIES, 2016-2017, OF THE STATISTICAL CONFERENCE OF THE AMERICAS
OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Working Group on Institution-building.....	3
Working Group on Censuses.....	5
Working Group on National Accounts.....	7
Working Group on Quarterly National Accounts.....	11
Working Group on Administrative Records.....	14
Working Group on Poverty Statistics.....	17
Working Group on Labour-Market Indicators	19
Working Group on the Informal Sector.....	23
Working Group on Gender Statistics.....	25
Working Group on Statistics on Childhood and Adolescence	30
Working Group on Disability Measurement	35
Working Group on Environmental Statistics.....	38
Working Group on Agricultural Statistics.....	40
Working Group on Statistics on Public Security and Justice	43
Working Group on Measurement of Information and Communications Technologies	47
Working Group on International Classifications	51

WORKING GROUP ON INSTITUTION-BUILDING

1. Objectives

(a) General: the Working Group on Institution-building of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) aims to strengthen national statistical offices in the region by implementing and monitoring compliance with the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean.

(b) Specific:

- (i) Exchange information on best practices in the implementation of the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- (ii) Monitor and assess compliance with the principles of the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean.

2. Member countries: Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Colombia, Ecuador, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Plurinational State of Bolivia and Suriname.

3. Coordinating country: Colombia (National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE)).

4. Technical secretariat: Statistics Division of ECLAC.

5. Programme of work 2016-2017

Activities	Related actions	Lead entities	Date of implementation ^a	Expected outcomes
Create and formalize a mechanism (a consortium) to ensure continuity in activities undertaken by the Working Group on Institution-building of the Statistical Conference of the Americas	Present the proposal for the configuration of the consortium and the biannual work plan for 2016-2017 to the working group	DANE	March to April 2016	Generate interest among international organizations and bodies, as well as statistical offices, among others, thus consolidating the consortium
	Present the proposal for the configuration of the consortium to various international organizations and bodies and statistical offices, among others	DANE	March to May 2016	A formally organized structure (consortium) that will give continuity to the working group's various activities through capital grants from international organizations and statistical offices
	Configure and formalize a group of donors who permanently fund the working group's activities in the region related to the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean	DANE	November 2016	

Activities	Related actions	Lead entities	Date of implementation ^a	Expected outcomes
Design, plan and implement activities to strengthen and consolidate national statistical offices and legal frameworks that guarantee the professional independence of and compliance with the Code of Good Practice in Statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean (confidentiality, timeliness, punctuality and accessibility)	Identify the strengths and capabilities of the working group members and select the best means of implementing the activities	DANE and all working group members	March to June 2016	The active participation of the working group's members in the proposed activities
	Design activities to be implemented in accordance with the chosen topics	DANE	July to September 2016	Create means of sharing experiences on priority issues among countries
	Implement the activities needed to transfer knowledge on priority issues	DANE and all working group members	September 2016 to September 2017	
Exchange information on best practices for implementing the Code of Good Practice	Hold a face-to-face workshop to follow up on the implementation of the Code of Good Practice in the region's countries (activity subject to the availability of resources)	DANE	July to August 2017	Each of the countries participating in the activities assimilates the Code of Good Practice and shows interest in using it and putting its recommendations into practice
	Inform working group members that they are able to use and consult the regional bank of good practices	DANE	June to November 2016	
Monitor and assess compliance with the principles of the Code of Good Practice	Administer the Code of Good Practice questionnaire to follow up on national statistical offices' implementation of good practices in the member countries of the working group	DANE	October 2016	Countries are made aware of factors that affect the application of the Code of Good Practice and are able to advance its roll-out in national statistical offices
	Implement the Code of Good Practice in the countries of the region, undertake comprehensive compliance assessments and prepare improvement plans for each of the countries (activity subject to the availability of resources)	DANE and all working group members	February to April 2017	Countries show interest in undertaking comprehensive assessments and complete the Code of Good Practice questionnaire
Monitor the improvement plans developed from the assessments carried out (the Code of Good Practice questionnaire and comprehensive assessments)	Hold consultations with the countries assessed to monitor progress on the improvement plans	DANE and all working group members	May to July 2017	Countries start to implement the Code of Good Practice and launch improvement actions, activities and strategies, showing that they are moving forward

^a The development and implementation of these activities are subject to the configuration of the consortium, which will ensure the flow of the necessary resources.

WORKING GROUP ON CENSUSES

1. General objectives: to help countries to evaluate and analyse the 2010 round of housing and population censuses, identify lessons learned from that round, prepare for the 2020 census round, improve vital statistical systems and prepare population estimates and projections; and to boost the exchange of knowledge and experiences among countries, such as those related to the use of new technology.

2. Rationale based on the current Strategic Plan: the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other international agreements will require a great deal of information from countries in order to generate the various indicators for monitoring progress. Data from the housing and population censuses and vital statistics will provide inputs for estimating indicators for small areas and specific population groups, which will form the basis for public policies aimed at reducing the persistent inequality in the region.

3. Member countries: Argentina, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Plurinational State of Bolivia and Uruguay.

4. Coordinating country: Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

5. Technical secretariat: Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE)-Population Division of ECLAC.

6. Programme of work 2016-2017

Activities	Related actions	Participants	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation	Remarks
Workshop on Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System, Revision 3, for Mexico and Central America	Preparatory activities and fundraising	Civil registry offices, statistical offices and health ministries	Report on the workshop on Principles and Recommendations for a Vital Statistics System, Revision 3, for Mexico and Central America	United Nations Statistics Division	August 2016	Workshop organized by the United Nations Statistics Division (subject to funding) with the support of CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC ^a
	Invite participating institutions			CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC		
Survey on the status of the 2020 census round to identify national needs	Request inputs from participants					
	Carry out the workshop					
	Design the questionnaire	CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC	Results of the survey on the status of the 2020 census round to identify national needs	CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC	November 2015 to June 2016	Progress has been made in the first three related actions The information has started to be processed and analysed
	Distribute it to national statistical institutes	Brazilian Geographical and Statistical Institute (IBGE)		National Institute of Statistics of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela		
	National statistical institutes complete it					
	Process and analyse the responses	National Institute of Statistics of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela				
	Prepare the report and results					

Activities	Related actions	Participants	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation	Remarks
Analysis of the importance and drawbacks of using population and housing censuses to obtain indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Montevideo Consensus on Population and Development	Identify indicators that can be calculated using data from censuses, paying particular attention to disaggregated data Discuss potential and emerging issues (such as food security, and refugees) Propose a minimum regional standard	All working group members	Document analysing the importance and drawbacks of using population and housing censuses to obtain indicators for SDGs and the Montevideo Consensus	CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC National Institute of Statistics of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	2016-2017	Work coordinated by the National Institute of Statistics of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, with the support of CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC, which is mainly conducted via videoconferences; resources are being sought for a face-to-face meeting
The third Latin American and Caribbean Course on Population Estimates and Projections	Preparatory activities relating to the selection of the participants Prepare invitations Carry out the workshop	National statistical institutes, planning offices, academia and researchers	Presentations made during the course Documents provided during the course Course report	CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC National Institute of Statistics of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	2017	Third Latin American and Caribbean Course on Population Estimates and Projections ^b

^a The goal is to build technical capacity within civil registry and vital statistics systems by raising awareness of international principles and recommendations —and their recent review— for collecting, processing and disseminating vital statistics, and to build capacity for identifying gaps and opportunities in the application of international standards for strengthening vital statistics systems.

^b The Course objectives are to identify the status of data sources needed to estimate population components and to learn about the different uses of population projections, the tools used in the region to prepare population projections and the impact of demographic changes on the age structure of the population. The National Institute of Statistics of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC will work together to secure the international funding needed to carry out the activity.

7. Financial resources and funding sources: monetary or in-kind resources pledged by participating institutions and possible external sources of funding.

WORKING GROUP ON NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

1. Objectives

(a) General: coordinate and contribute to the implementation of the System of National Accounts 2008 (SNA 2008) in the countries of the region and to strengthen basic economic statistics in order to promote greater integration between the production of these statistics, national accounts and users.

(b) Specific:

- (i) Ascertain the status of implementation of SNA 2008 in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- (ii) Promote the regular publication of the results of annual and quarterly national accounts.
- (iii) Identify and promote horizontal cooperation activities to build national capacities for preparing national accounts and basic statistics.
- (iv) Exchange and document knowledge, experiences and good practices related to national accounts and basic statistics.
- (v) Train human resources in order to ensure basic information and high quality national accounts.

2. Rationale based on the current Strategic Plan: the programme activities include improving the production of basic statistics and facilitating the adoption and implementation of the Luxembourg Recommendations, the general objective of which is to promote the implementation and dissemination of international standards in national accounts and basic economic statistics in developing countries.

The quality of the national accounts largely depends on the quality of basic statistics, which, in turn, depends on the development of national statistical systems.

The basic economic statistics system must be strengthened in a sustainable manner, as sustainability is one of the difficulties countries in the region face when preparing their national accounts and implementing the SNA 2008 recommendations.

The progressive implementation of SNA in the countries of the region is of vital importance because it forms a framework for statistical coordination, and decisions or strategies adopted to implement it will help to develop and strengthen the statistical system of each country.

3. Member countries: Chile (National Institute of Statistics (INE)), Cuba (National Office of Statistics and Information (ONEI)), Dominican Republic (Central Bank of the Dominican Republic (BCRD)), Ecuador (Central Bank of Ecuador (BCE)), Guyana (Statistical Bureau of Guyana), Jamaica (Statistical Institute of Jamaica (STATIN)), Mexico (National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)), Peru (National Institute of Statistics and Informatics (INEI)) and Plurinational State of Bolivia (National Institute of Statistics (INE)).

4. Coordinating country: Peru (INEI).

5. Technical secretariat: Statistics Division of ECLAC.

6. Programme of work 2016-2017

Activity	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
Update of the survey conducted by ECLAC in Latin American and Caribbean countries		Results of the survey on the implementation of SNA 2008 in Latin America and Caribbean countries	INEI of Peru ECLAC	100% in the second half of 2016
	Prepare the questionnaire		ECLAC	100% in the first half of 2016
	Approve the questionnaire (videoconference)		INEI of Peru ECLAC	10% in the first half of 2016 and 90% in the second half of 2016
	Carry out the survey		INEI of Peru ECLAC	100% in the second half of 2016
	Prepare an assessment		ECLAC	100% in the second half of 2016
	Present the results		ECLAC	100% in the second half of 2016
Compilation of the work plans of the countries and subregional organizations for the preparation of the annual and quarterly national accounts		Regional timetable for publishing the results of the annual and quarterly national accounts (as a suggestion for countries of the region)	INEI of Peru ECLAC	100% in the first half of 2017
	Solicit information from all countries of the region		INEI of Peru ECLAC	100% in the second half of 2016
	Compile work plans for preparing annual and quarterly national accounts		Working group, coordinated by INEI of Peru	20% in the second half of 2016 and 80% in the first half of 2017
	Set the regional timetable for publishing the results of the annual and quarterly national accounts (videoconference)		INEI of Peru The working group	100% in the first half of 2017
Online survey on the supply of and demand for horizontal cooperation in the region in preparing national accounts and basic statistics		Results of the online survey on the supply of and demand for horizontal cooperation in the region in preparing national accounts and basic statistics	INEI of Peru ECLAC	100% in the second half of 2017
	Prepare the questionnaire (videoconference)		Working group, coordinated by INEI of Peru	100% in the second half of 2016
	Approve the questionnaire (videoconference)		Working group, coordinated by INEI of Peru ECLAC	100% in the second half of 2016

Activity	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
	Carry out the survey		Working group, coordinated by INEI of Peru	20% in the second half of 2016 and 80% in the first half of 2017
	Present the results		INEI of Peru ECLAC	100% in the second half of 2017
Compilation of methodologies used to produce basic statistics and national accounts		Virtual library of national accounts and basic statistics	Working group, coordinated by INEI of Peru ECLAC	100% in the second half of 2017
	Solicit information from countries of the region		INEI of Peru ECLAC	
	Centralize digital files of the methodologies		Working group, coordinated by INEI of Peru	
	Propose a classification system for the virtual library (videoconference)		Working group, coordinated by INEI of Peru	
	Define the classification system for the virtual library (videoconference)		Working group, coordinated by INEI of Peru ECLAC	
	Disseminate the virtual library		Working group, coordinated by INEI of Peru ECLAC	
Compendium of best practices used to produce basic statistics and national accounts		Compendium of best practices used to produce basic statistics and national accounts (three topics)	Working group, coordinated by INEI of Peru ECLAC	100% in the second half of 2017
	Define topics and countries and decide which countries are responsible for preparing each document (videoconference)		Working group, coordinated by INEI of Peru ECLAC	100% in the second half of 2016
	Prepare the documents		Designated countries	10% in the second half of 2016 and 90% in the first half of 2017
	Present the documents prepared		INEI of Peru	
Forums on improving industrial and services statistics and implementing SNA 2008		Results of the forums on improving industrial and services statistics and implementing SNA 2008	Working group, coordinated by INEI of Peru ECLAC	100% in the second half of 2017
	Define priority topics (four topics, videoconference)		Working group, coordinated by INEI of Peru ECLAC	100% in the second half of 2016
	Define the timeline for videoconferences			100% in the second half of 2016

Activity	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
	Hold the forums (videoconferences)			30% in the second half of 2016 and 70% in the first half of 2017
	Report on the forums held			100% in the second half of 2017
Face-to-face courses		Three face-to-face courses (subject to the availability of funding)	Working group, coordinated by INEI of Peru ECLAC	100% in the first half of 2016
	Course on planning, implementing, processing and analysing the results of industrial and services statistics surveys			100% in the first half of 2017
	Course on basic statistics and volume and price indicators			100% in the first half of 2017
	Course on national accounts			100% in the second half of 2017
Advanced course on national accounts		Advanced course on national accounts	Working group, coordinated by INEI of Peru ECLAC	100% in the second half of 2016
	Define the thematic modules to be discussed (videoconference)		Working group, coordinated by INEI of Peru ECLAC	100% in the first half of 2017
	Advanced course on national accounts (subject to the availability of funding)		Working group, coordinated by INEI of Peru ECLAC	100% in the second half of 2017
Face-to-face meeting of the working group		Evaluation of the progress made in the activities (as part of the annual seminar on national accounts)	Working group, coordinated by INEI of Peru ECLAC	50% in the second half of 2016 and 50% in the second half of 2017

7. Financial resources and funding sources: for face-to-face activities, funding will be sought from international and regional bodies that provide training, technical assistance and, more particularly, financial resources, such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank (IBD) and the Statistical Office of the European Communities (EUROSTAT). It is estimated that in-kind contributions from participating countries and the technical secretariat will total 320 staff-hours per institution, with an estimated total value of US\$ 211,200.

WORKING GROUP ON QUARTERLY NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

1. Objectives:

- (a) Promote the development and improvement of quarterly statistics and their international comparability, bearing in mind the guidelines of leading international agencies in this area.
- (b) Foster the exchange of information, best practices and methodological innovations between the members of the regional statistical community.
- (c) Examine the guidelines of the *Quarterly National Accounts Manual. Concepts, Data Sources and Compilation* of the International Monetary Fund and adapt them to the reality of the region.
- (d) Urge the countries that have not yet integrated quarterly national accounts into their regular work to do so and to support them in the methodological development of the accounts.

2. Rationale based on the current Strategic Plan: growing demand for short-term indicators has led to the need for a robust and consistent set of quarterly national accounts. All countries face multiple and complex problems for the adoption of quarterly national accounts. The technical experts responsible for implementation in the countries of the region frequently request support and ask to participate in forums and groups of specialists in order to expand and update their subject knowledge, to share methodologies for achieving best practices in implementation processes, and to discuss those practices. In this context, it was suggested that the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean should set up a working group in this area to plan, analyse, discuss, agree and produce proposed methodologies for quarterly national accounts that duly reflect the economic structure and evolution of the countries of the region.

3. Member countries: Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (Central Bank of Venezuela), Brazil (Brazilian Geographical and Statistical Institute (IBGE)), Chile (Central Bank of Chile), Colombia (National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE)), Dominican Republic (Central Bank of the Dominican Republic), El Salvador (Central Reserve Bank of El Salvador), Mexico (National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)), Paraguay (Central Bank of Paraguay), Peru (National Institute of Statistics and Informatics (INEI)) and Plurinational State of Bolivia (National Institute of Statistics (INE)).

4. Coordinating country: Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (Central Bank of Venezuela).

5. Technical secretariat: Economic and Environmental Statistics Unit, Statistics Division of ECLAC.

6. Programme of activities 2016-2017

Activity	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
Virtual meeting	Telephone conference	Finalized programme of work and responsibilities of working group participants	ECLAC	Second half of 2016
Analysis of current situation	Request for methodologies used in quarterly national accounts, including both output and expenditure approaches	Analysis of the situation of quarterly national accounts in the region	Central Bank of Venezuela ECLAC	Second half of 2016
Annual seminar on national accounts	Presentation	Report on advances in receiving information and steps to follow	Central Bank of Venezuela	Second half of 2016
Annual seminar on national accounts	Face-to-face meeting	Summary of comments drawn from the annual seminar and decision on steps to follow	Central Bank of Venezuela ECLAC	Second half of 2016
Methodological review	International review of manuals and related studies	Overview of internationally used methodologies	Working group ECLAC	First half of 2017
Virtual meeting	Telephone conference	Analysis of results obtained to date and proposal for follow-up	ECLAC	First half of 2017
Methodological proposals	Adaptation of methodologies to the Latin American context	Proposed methodologies for Latin America and the Caribbean	Working group ECLAC	Second half of 2017
Annual seminar on national accounts	Presentation	Presentation of the working group's proposals to participants from Latin America and the Caribbean for discussion	Central Bank of Venezuela	Second half of 2017
Annual seminar on national accounts	Face-to-face meeting	Summary of the comments made at the annual seminar on national accounts and first steps to prepare the final document	Central Bank of Venezuela ECLAC	Second half of 2017
Preparation of final document	Document in English and Spanish	Publication as a working paper	ECLAC	First half of 2018
Annual seminar on national accounts	Delivery of final document		ECLAC	Second half of 2018

7. Financial resources and funding sources: given that the working group does not have funding prior to the launch of its activities, telephone conferences will be held and a collaborative platform (Quickr or other) established to enable continued communication.

The existing resources and infrastructure of the annual seminar on national accounts will be utilized to hold face-to-face meetings with the work team.

ECLAC will seek resources for the publication of the document as a working paper.

It is calculated that contributions in kind by the participant countries and the technical secretariat will amount to 288 staff-hours for each participating institution, with an estimated total value of US\$ 278,013.

WORKING GROUP ON ADMINISTRATIVE RECORDS

1. Objectives

(a) General: contribute to the development, improvement and use of administrative records for statistical purposes, with a view to compiling basic records on population, real estate, businesses and activities, in order to draw on timely, good quality statistics from alternative sources.

(b) Specific:

- (i) Identify preconditions for the use of administrative records in each country, from a regulatory, technological and institutional perspective that also considers human resources and long-term goals, with a view to setting up an integrated system of statistical records linked by unique identifiers.
- (ii) Select the main administrative records on population, real estate, businesses and activities that will enable the generation of timely, good quality statistical information and whose strengthening as part of an ongoing process will supplement statistics drawn from surveys and censuses.
- (iii) Propose recommendations to strengthen the institutional competencies of national statistical offices and the cross-agency competencies of entities that generate administrative records, in order to coordinate actions that lead to these entities committing to take steps to turn administrative records into statistical records.
- (iv) Bring together best practices and exchange experiences in the use of administrative records through coordination between countries with experience in this area, with a view to replicating them in other countries interested in the use administrative records for statistical purposes.

2. Rationale based on the current Strategic Plan: the new Strategic Plan 2015-2025 underscores the significance of national statistical systems for the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In particular, it considers that meeting the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda will require a data revolution underpinned, in part, by the use of administrative records for statistical purposes.

Accordingly, the proposal of the Working Group on Administrative Records coincides with the Strategic Plan 2015-2025 in relation to strategic goal 1 in terms of using administrative records for statistical purposes and leveraging the opportunities afforded by the data revolution (specific goal 3) and linkages between statistical production and geography (specific goal 4); as well as with strategic goal 2 regarding the exchange of information and best practices between members of the regional statistical community (specific goal 2).

Since there are huge disparities in the region's administrative records, the working group proposes to review the current situation in each of its member countries in relation to the capture, processing, integration and analysis of basic administrative records, and to exchange experience and knowledge on best practices implemented in the use of records for statistical purposes.

In accordance with assessments of the current situation and knowledge of best practices, the formation of this working group will enable feedback into models, methodologies, processes and tools for managing administrative records, and will permit the design of an improvement plan for the entire process flow whereby administrative records are transformed into statistical records.

Various initiatives in the region include the plans drawn up to prepare an inventory of countries' information needs based on an analysis of international commitments, national planning and legislation, and to establish priorities regarding the use of administrative records; this should be accomplished using a standardized mechanism that also assists in finding institutions authorized to capture information in the form of administrative records.

3. Member countries: Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay.

4. Coordinating country: Ecuador (National Statistics and Census Institute (INEC)).

5. Technical secretariat: Statistics Division of ECLAC.

6. Programme of activities 2016-2017

Activity	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
Identification of information needs	Development of the methodology to identify information needs based on analysis of international commitments, national planning and legislation	Document containing an analysis procedure and forms for documenting needs		
Review of existing administrative records in countries	Development of an instrument to collect information on available administrative records	Information collection form (could be provided by INEC)		
National and regional self-assessment of administrative records	Application of the Tool for Quality Assessment of Administrative Registers (HECRA, in Spanish) developed by the World Bank	HECRA report	Technical secretariat and member countries of the working group	120 to 150 days after the approval of the working group
Preparation of a plan to develop and strengthen statistics based on administrative records	Based on the self-assessment, guidelines will be established for the development of administrative records	Plan to develop and strengthen statistics based on administrative records	Consulting firm	120 days after the first activity (self-assessment)
Application of the best practices developed by the member countries of the working group	Detailed presentation by each country, in a pre-established format, on their use of administrative records and best practices	Compilation of best practices in the use of administrative records and dissemination of these practices via relevant networks	Technical secretariat and INEC (Ecuador)	120 days after the second activity (plan to develop and strengthen statistics)
	Preparation of a report on best practices (90 days)			
	Dissemination via the knowledge transfer network (25 days)			
Advice on the use of administrative records for statistical purposes	Technical assistance workshops (30 days' preparation)	Technical assistance for each country	Technical secretariat and member countries of the working group	120 days after the third activity (compilation of best practices)

7. Financial resources and funding sources

Activity	Estimated budget (<i>dollars</i>)
Hiring of a consulting firm to draft the plan to develop and strengthen statistics based on administrative records	84 000
Working group meeting (mid-term)	14 178
Technical assistance visits (2)	6 120
Local contribution	In accordance with each country's commitment
Total	109 298

WORKING GROUP ON POVERTY STATISTICS

1. **Objectives:** prepare an assessment of the way in which certain non-monetary indicators of poverty are currently measured in the countries of the region, and formulate recommendations to improve the harmonization and quality of measurements and better adapt thresholds of deprivation.
2. **Rationale:** using different income criteria to measure poverty is an increasingly crucial requirement, given the importance the issue has assumed for the countries and the demands for information arising from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

While the measurement of non-monetary poverty indicators has a long history in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, until now few comparative assessments have been carried out that could provide inputs to improve the quality and harmonization of non-monetary indicators of poverty and better adapt the thresholds of deprivation employed. Moreover, where assessments have been performed, they have not included national statistical offices as active participants, which would have made the implementation of the assessments' recommendations a more viable prospect.

Accordingly, it is proposed that a diagnostic study be carried out to assess how certain non-monetary indicators of poverty are measured in the countries of the region, and to formulate recommendations for improving the harmonization and quality of the measurements taken by the countries. This activity would require the participation of national statistical offices and ECLAC in selecting the indicators that will be analysed, while the recommendations produced should aim to enhance the quality of the measurements and thresholds of deprivation employed.

3. **Member countries:** In the previous biennium, the working group comprised Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Jamaica, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname and Uruguay.

The countries' interest in joining the working group will be confirmed at a later date.

4. **Coordinating country:** Colombia.
5. **Technical secretariat:** Statistics Division of ECLAC.

6. Programme of work 2016-2017

Activity	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entity or country	Date of implementation
Realization of diagnostic studies	Analysis of the non-monetary indicators of poverty currently utilized by the countries Consultations with member countries to select the indicators that will be focus of the diagnostic studies	Summary document on non-monetary indicators currently utilized by the countries List of selected indicators	Colombia ECLAC	July 2016
	Realization and analysis of diagnostic studies	Document identifying critical areas in which to improve the quality and harmonization of measurements and the adaptation of thresholds	Colombia ECLAC	August to December 2016
Regional discussion workshop	Preparation of the materials that will be used in the regional seminar	Summary presentations of study findings and recommendations for each of the selected indicators	Colombia ECLAC	January 2017
	Regional seminar with national statistical offices to present and validate the study findings and formulate proposals for improvement	Agreements on areas of improvement and on solution strategies	Colombia ECLAC	March 2017
Report on findings and recommendations	Preparation of a report with the main findings of the diagnostic studies and proposed improvements agreed in conjunction with national statistical offices	Draft document with the findings of the diagnostic studies and proposed improvements	Colombia ECLAC	April to June 2017
	Validation of the contents of the report with national statistical offices	Contents of the report approved by national statistical offices	Colombia ECLAC	July to August 2017
	Publication of the report	Final report published	ECLAC	October 2017

7. Financial resources and funding sources: resources in kind committed by participating institutions and possible sources of external financing for holding the regional seminar.

WORKING GROUP ON LABOUR-MARKET INDICATORS

1. Objectives: the Working Group on Labour-Market Indicators arose from the concern expressed by various countries of the region at the sixth meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC, held in Santo Domingo in November 2011, regarding the creation of a technical forum to discuss and share their experiences in the measurement of labour statistics¹ and to propose new labour-market indicators, particularly ones that factor in labour underutilization and progress towards decent work in Latin American and Caribbean countries.

(a) General: Institutionalize a forum for technical discussion focusing on sharing countries' experiences with a view to contributing to developing and strengthening national labour statistics systems in the region by harmonizing methodologies and developing new labour-market indicators.

(b) Specific:

- (i) Review the official tools used by the different countries to measure labour statistics, employment and labour underutilization according to new international recommendations, in order to provide an updated region-wide assessment in terms of the production of the main labour-market indicators and harmonization gaps with respect to the recommendations of the International Labour Organization (ILO).
- (ii) Share member countries' experiences and progress in the adoption of the new international recommendations of the nineteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, with special emphasis on measuring the different forms of work.
- (iii) Establish a regional position on updating the different international standards related to measuring labour statistics, including the recent discussion on the International Classification of Status in Employment, which will be revised during the twentieth International Conference of Labour Statisticians to be held in 2018.
- (iv) Move forward with incorporating informality indicators into the national statistics systems of Latin American and Caribbean countries by harmonizing methodologies and sharing experiences.
- (v) Drive a discussion that would contribute to a more thorough analysis of countries' current information needs in order to improve the monitoring of labour markets, and in which these countries can share their conceptual and methodological experience in specific topics such as labour migration, child labour, transition in and out of employment (measurement of gross flows), employment and income, women and young people in the labour market and other economic and social characteristics.

¹ In line with the new concepts approved at the nineteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians in 2013, including the different forms of work in a broad sense, and in particular, employment.

- (vi) Agree on methodologies and questions that would provide the basic information needed to harmonize and compare traditional labour-market indicators, as well as the new indicators proposed by the ILO, and analyse the methodological implications for each country of adopting the global indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2. Member countries: Argentina, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Plurinational State of Bolivia and Saint Lucia.

3. Coordinating country: the working group is coordinated by the National Institute of Statistics (INE) of Chile, which maintains its commitment to the project and has tasked two of its departments with providing ongoing support for the group's activities. The Department of Labour Studies, through its chief, will be responsible for the technical coordination of the group, while the Office of International Relations will coordinate international cooperation and organize face-to-face meetings, courses and seminars, among other activities.

4. Technical secretariat: International Labour Organization (ILO).

5. Programme of work 2016-2017: this programme is the outcome of the discussions on the challenges and projections for the forthcoming period, which were concluded at the group's most recent face-to-face meeting, held in Santiago in November 2015.

Activities	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
Goal No. 1				
Deepen and standardize the assessment of harmonization gaps in the measurement of labour statistics with respect to the recommendations of the nineteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, which will help start the process of harmonizing statistics in the participating countries.	Design and implement a diagnostic tool that can be applied in all the participating countries to detect harmonization gaps in the measurement of labour statistics.	Systematize measurement tools using metadata (Excel spreadsheets), presentations (PowerPoint) or descriptive documents.	All working group member countries, with the special participation of El Salvador and Uruguay (countries belonging to the IDB Regional Public Goods Initiative).	Second half of 2016 to second half of 2017
	According to the nature of the each country's harmonization gap, explore priority areas for updating respective labour force surveys, which will help produce indicators to monitor the Sustainable Development Goals.	Diagnostic document of harmonization gaps summarizing future challenges and priorities for each country.		
	Propose and explore methodological alternatives that will lead to the validation of new questions and support harmonization efforts (present and analyse experiences under the Regional Public Goods project of carrying out cognitive and field tests).	Document on the outcomes of the Regional Public Goods Initiative of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) on the "Regional adaptation of new international guidelines for measuring labour statistics through the design of questionnaires and methodological guides".		
	Propose and evaluate questions to measure the new indicators proposed by the nineteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians, in order to produce model questionnaires that can be used at the regional level.	Brief outlining the methodological and conceptual difficulties of the new indicators proposed by the ILO (LU1 to LU4) and containing an analysis of these indicators, including how they are being developed and interpreted.		

Activities	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
Goal No. 2	Define key questions and their use with a view to quantifying the number of persons employed and jobs in the informal sector and classifying them according to the recommendations included in the resolutions and guidelines of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians.	Document on the methodological discussions relating to criteria, questions and methodologies for measuring informal indicators (documenting the working sessions of face-to-face meetings).	All working group member countries.	First half of 2017 to second half of 2017
Analyse and reach agreement on the methodological and operational aspects of measuring informal economy indicators in Latin America and the Caribbean, which will play a particular role in the statistical harmonization of the informality indicators proposed by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators, to be included in the indicators for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals.	Agree on a standard methodology to provide comparable measurements of the countries in the region using a set of basic questions.	Brief of each country's considerations regarding the ILO proposal to apply a standardized form of measurement in order to produce an estimation of the employment landscape in Latin America and the Caribbean.		
	Build a regional baseline using those basic questions for the purposes of comparing national results (statistical brief of the previous period) and evaluating the statistical impact of methodological decisions in the establishment of indicators for the informal economy.			
Goal No. 3	Create a discussion forum to generate a regional position on the issues to be considered during the revision of ICSE-93.	Document on the regional position with respect to the updating of ICSE-93, to be presented to the ILO expert group and at the next International Conference of Labour Statisticians.	All working group member countries.	Second half of 2016 to second half of 2017
Discuss the relevance and current applicability of the categories in the International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE-93) in view of the changes in the region's labour markets.	Define indicators to assess the prevalence of "grey areas" or work relationships that are not covered by the original ICSE and that are relevant to the labour market in Latin America and the Caribbean.			
Goal No. 4	Create a discussion forum to propose mechanisms for taking advantage of panel data from labour force surveys (indicators of gross labour-market flows).	Document summarizing the methodological discussions of criteria, concepts, questions and methodologies used by the countries to measure complementary indicators that help improve the monitoring of labour markets (documenting the working sessions of face-to-face meetings).	All working group member countries.	First half of 2017 to second half of 2017
Explore methodological alternatives to meet countries' information requirements in order to improve monitoring of labour markets.	Move forward in the methodological harmonization of indicators related to hours worked and employment income.			

6. Measures related to how the working group operates and its working methods: in accordance with the recommendations made during the most recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, and based on the experience of the existing working groups,² the working group member countries put forward the following measures, which they deem fundamental to achieving the proposed objectives:

- (a) Maintain a regular schedule of meetings, once per year, in order to follow up on the working group's commitments.
- (b) Maintain the group's internal information channels with members remaining in constant touch via e-mail.
- (c) Incorporate other forms of communication (such as videoconferences and forums).
- (d) Use the Knowledge Transfer Network to share the working group's progress.
- (e) Reaffirm the willingness to participate in seminars, workshops and conferences, as well as other activities where themes related to the working group's objectives are discussed.
- (f) Involve other countries in the region (which are not members of the working group) in consultations through questionnaires in order to prepare assessments and an overview of regional practices.

Member countries are strongly urged to seek financing alternatives for face-to-face meetings, and international organizations are once again invited to collaborate in financing the group's activities, which require their support.

For the 2016-2017 period, the working group will receive financial support for its face-to-face meetings from the IDB Regional Public Goods Initiative project entitled "Regional adaptation of new international guidelines for measuring labour statistics through the design of questionnaires and methodological guides".

² See ECLAC, *Report on the review of the operating modalities of the working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC* (LC/L.3285 (CE.10/4)), Santiago, 2011; and *Progress report of the working groups and recommendations for improving their operations* (LC/L.3612 (CE.12/3)), Santiago, 2013.

WORKING GROUP ON THE INFORMAL SECTOR

1. Objectives

(a) General: the objective of the Working Group on the Informal Sector is to support the region's countries in the adoption of the international recommendations of the System of National Accounts 2008 (SNA 2008) on measuring the informal sector.

(b) Specific: share and document experiences, knowledge and good practices with respect to the measurement of the informal sector.

(i) Detail the basic statistics and source data required to make calculations.

(ii) Define a methodology to carry out calculations in the region's countries.

2. Rationale based on the current Strategic Plan: according to the results of the 2014 survey on the progress made in implementing SNA 2008, 87% of countries are in the process of implementing this system or plan to, which will promote the measurement of the informal sector using the new system.

ECLAC receives frequent requests for technical support and training in this area from Latin American and Caribbean countries owing to the complexity of the mechanisms used to produce estimates and the lack of information and know-how about them.

In particular, ECLAC support is required in the following areas: the informal sector, illegal activities, updating national directories of businesses and their premises, obtaining business samples and conducting economic surveys. As a result, the countries attending the Annual Seminar on National Accounts concluded that the informal sector is a priority in the process of improving the measurement of national accounts.

3. Member countries: Dominican Republic (Central Bank), El Salvador (Central Reserve Bank), Honduras (Central Bank), Paraguay (Central Bank), Plurinational State of Bolivia (National Institute of Statistics) and Uruguay (Central Bank).

4. Coordinating country: Honduras (Central Bank).

5. Technical secretariat: Statistics Division of ECLAC.

6. Programme of work 2016-2017

Activities	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
Virtual meeting	Conference call	Definition of final work plan and responsibilities of group members	ECLAC	Second half of 2016
Survey	Request for methodologies of each component of the informal sector	Analysis of the current situation in the informal sector	Central Bank of Honduras ECLAC	Second half of 2016
Annual Seminar on National Accounts	Presentation	Progress report on information received and next steps	Central Bank of Honduras	Second half of 2016
Annual Seminar on National Accounts	Face-to-face meeting	Summary of comments made during the annual seminar and definition of next steps	Central Bank of Honduras ECLAC	Second half of 2016
Review of methodologies	Review of relevant manuals and studies at the international level	Review of methodologies used internationally	Working group ECLAC	First half of 2017
Virtual meeting	Conference call	Analysis of results obtained to date and proposal for follow-up	ECLAC	First half of 2017
Methodological proposals	Adaptation of methodologies to the Latin American and Caribbean context	Proposals of methodologies for Latin America and the Caribbean	Working group ECLAC	Second half of 2017
Annual Seminar on National Accounts	Presentation	Presentation on the working group's proposals for discussion by representatives of Latin America and the Caribbean	Central Bank of Honduras	Second half of 2017
Annual Seminar on National Accounts	Face-to-face meeting	Summary of the comments made during the annual seminar and first steps to prepare the final document	Central Bank of Honduras ECLAC	Second half of 2017
Preparation of the final document	Document in Spanish and English	Publication as a working paper	ECLAC	Second half of 2018
Annual Seminar on National Accounts	Submission of final document		ECLAC	Second half of 2018

7. Financial resources and funding sources: as the working group currently does not have any funding earmarked for its activities, its members will hold meetings via conference calls and will use a collaborative platform (e.g. QuickR) to remain in constant touch.

The available resources and existing infrastructure of the Annual Seminar on National Accounts will be used for face-to-face meetings.

ECLAC will seek funding to publish the document as a working paper.

The contributions in kind of the participating countries and the technical secretariat will amount to a total of 288 staff-hours for each institution, representing an estimated total of US\$ 173,019.

WORKING GROUP ON GENDER STATISTICS

1. Objectives

(a) General: promote the product, development, systematization and consolidation of statistical information and gender indicators in order to design, monitor and evaluate public policies.

(b) Specific:

- (i) Develop the technical, methodological and analytical capacities of national statistical offices and machineries for the advancement of women with regard to gender statistics.
- (ii) Strengthen partnerships between national statistical offices and national machineries for the advancement of women.
- (iii) Foster horizontal and triangular cooperation, international technical assistance and regional collaboration for the development, analysis and dissemination of gender statistics.
- (iv) Promote the use of gender statistics in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of public policies.
- (v) Promote the organization of meetings at the national and regional level to encourage specialized discussion on gender statistics.

2. Rationale based on the current Strategic Plan: the programme of activities 2016-2017—which is aligned with the Strategic Plan 2015-2025— was prepared after comprehensive discussions between the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC, the National Women’s Institute (INMUJERES) of Mexico and the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) of Mexico, which worked in coordination with the member countries of the working group and took the programme of activities 2014-2015 into account so as to give continuity to the projects under way. The programme also coincides with strategic goal 2 of the Strategic Plan 2015-2025, to foster the development of technical and methodological capacities in order to generate high-quality statistical information, and its four associated specific goals, as well as with strategic goal 3, to foster coordination and cooperation between the member countries of the Statistical Conference of the Americas and subregional and international organizations, with particular reference to specific goals 3.1 and 3.2.

3. Member countries: Argentina, Bahamas, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama and Plurinational State of Bolivia.

4. Coordinating country: Mexico.

5. Technical secretariat: Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC.

6. Programme of activities 2016-2017

Activity	Related actions	Expected output	Lead institution	Date of implementation
Develop methodological tools for the economic valuation of unpaid work and for calculating the satellite account on unpaid work. Share these tools with the national statistical offices of the region and discuss them in specialized forums	Organization of the fourteenth International Meeting of Experts on Time Use and Unpaid Work (Mexico City, 2016)	Fourteenth International Meeting of Experts on Time Use and Unpaid Work (Mexico City, 2016)	UN-Women Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC INMUJERES INEGI	100% in the first half of 2016
	Organization of the fifteenth International Meeting of Experts on Time Use and Unpaid Work (Mexico City, 2017)	Fifteenth International Meeting of Experts on Time Use and Unpaid Work (Mexico City, 2017)	UN-Women Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC INMUJERES INEGI	To be confirmed
	Dissemination of the time-use classification for Latin America and the Caribbean (CAUTAL)			
	Working session on CAUTAL at the fourteenth International Meeting of Experts on Time Use and Unpaid Work	Meeting report	UN-Women Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC INMUJERES INEGI	100% in the first half of 2016
	Translation of CAUTAL into English	Publication of CAUTAL in English	Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC	100% in the first half of 2017
	Inclusion of a module on CAUTAL in the virtual course on time-use surveys delivered by ECLAC	Inclusion of the module on CAUTAL in the virtual course on time-use surveys delivered by ECLAC	Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC	100% in the first half of 2017
	Preparation of the methodological guide to the economic valuation of unpaid work and calculation of the satellite account on unpaid work (including the experiences of the region's countries)	Methodological guide to the economic valuation of unpaid work and calculation of the satellite account on unpaid work	Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC	100% in the second half of 2016 and 100% in the second 2017
Strengthen analysis and technical discussions on statistics on paid work and access to financial and production resources	Analysis and technical discussions on paid work statistics with a gender perspective	Reports on the virtual meetings held to discuss paid work statistics with a gender perspective	UN-Women Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC INMUJERES INEGI	100% in the second half of 2016 and 100% in the second half of 2017
	Analysis and technical discussions on statistics regarding access to economic resources	Progress report on the EDGE (Evidence and Data for Gender Equality) project	UN-Women Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC INEGI	100% in the second half of 2016 and 100% in the second half of 2017

Activity	Related actions	Expected output	Lead institution	Date of implementation
	Preparation of a Gender Atlas	Gender Atlas of Mexico	UN-Women INMUJERES INEGI	100% in the second half of 2016 and 100% in the second half of 2017
	Design and preparation of a Gender Atlas for Mexico	- First stage - Second stage		
Promote reflection and technical discussion to strengthen statistics on violence against women and femicide	Evaluation of the national statistics available for calculating the indicator on femicide/feminicide	Evaluation report on the national statistics available for calculating the indicator on femicide/feminicide	UN-Women Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC INMUJERES INEGI	100% in the second half of 2016 and 100% in the second half of 2017
	Reflection on the technical and methodological possibilities of an indicator on femicide/feminicide for Latin America and the Caribbean that may help improve harmonization and comparability	Progress reports on the standardized femicide/feminicide indicator for harmonization and comparability between Latin American and Caribbean countries		
	Development of a conceptual and methodological framework and a measurement instrument for surveys on violence against women in the home in Latin America and the Caribbean	Progress report on the conceptual and methodological framework for surveys on violence against women in the home in Latin America and the Caribbean	Inter-American Development Bank UN-Women Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC INMUJERES INEGI	100% in the second half of 2016 and 100% in the second half of 2017
	Analysis and promotion of gender mainstreaming in victimization surveys and administrative records in the area of criminal justice	Reports on the analysis and promotion of gender mainstreaming in victimization surveys and administrative records in the area of criminal justice	UN-Women INMUJERES INEGI	100% in the second half of 2016 and 100% in the second half of 2017
	Analysis of violence against women and femicide based on different sources of information	Report on the analysis of violence against women and femicide based on different sources of information	UN-Women INMUJERES INEGI	100% in the second half of 2016 and 100% in the second half of 2017
	Promotion of virtual and physical spaces for reflection on conceptual and technical aspects of indicators on violence against women and femicide	Reports on working sessions	UN-Women INMUJERES INEGI	100% in the second half of 2016 and 100% in the second half of 2017
Develop methodologies for gender mainstreaming in poverty measurements	Promotion of reflection, analysis and technical discussions for gender mainstreaming in poverty measurements, including the time dimension	Reports on the technical discussions for gender mainstreaming in poverty measurements	UN-Women Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC INMUJERES INEGI	100% in the second half of 2016 and 100% in the second half of 2017
		Analysis of methodologies for gender mainstreaming in poverty measurements	UN-Women Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC INMUJERES INEGI	100% in the second half of 2016 and 100% in the second half of 2017

Activity	Related actions	Expected output	Lead institution	Date of implementation
Promote reflection and capacity-building among producers and users for gender mainstreaming in the generation and analysis of indicators on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	Promotion of knowledge of the SDG indicators at the International Meeting of Experts on Time Use and Unpaid Work, the International Meeting on Gender Statistics, and other relevant forums	Report on meetings to promote knowledge and disseminate key materials on the topic	UN-Women Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC INMUJERES INEGI	100% in the second half of 2016 and 100% in the second half of 2017
	Dissemination of key materials on SDG statistics and indicators		UN-Women Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC INMUJERES INEGI	
	Preparation of analysis and knowledge products to disseminate gender mainstreaming in the SDG indicators and reflection on the topic	Analytical materials and knowledge products to disseminate gender mainstreaming in the SDG indicators and reflection on the topic, in the framework of the 2030 Agenda		100% in the second half of 2016 and 100% in the second half of 2017
	Creation of spaces for reflection on gender indicators in the framework of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda	Meeting reports		100% in the second half of 2016 and 100% in the second half of 2017
Develop indicators on information and communications technologies (ICTs) with a gender perspective	Promotion of reflection and analysis in technical discussions for gender mainstreaming in ICT indicators	Progress report on proposed ICT indicators with a gender perspective	Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC INEGI	100% in the second half of 2016
	Development of a proposal on ICT indicators with a gender perspective	Proposed ICT indicators with a gender perspective		100% in the second half of 2017
Provide training and technical assistance to strengthen the capacities of national statistical offices in gender mainstreaming in statistics and dialogue with information users	Organization of the seventeenth International Meeting on Gender Statistics in Aguascalientes, Mexico, in 2016	Seventeenth International Meeting on Gender Statistics	UN-Women Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC INMUJERES INEGI	100% in the second half of 2016
	Organization of the eighteenth International Meeting on Gender Statistics in Aguascalientes, Mexico, in 2017	Eighteenth International Meeting on Gender Statistics in Aguascalientes, Mexico, in 2017	UN-Women Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC INMUJERES INEGI	100% in the second half of 2016
	Organization and delivery of courses on statistics, indicators and their application with a gender perspective	Courses delivered on time-use surveys, gender statistics and indicators and other subjects	Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC	100% in the second half of 2017

Activity	Related actions	Expected output	Lead institution	Date of implementation
	Provision of technical assistance and cooperation on statistics and indicators and their application with a gender perspective	Technical assistance and cooperation report provided to requesting countries, subject to availability of resources	UN-Women Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC INMUJERES INEGI	100% in the second half of 2016 and 100% in the second half of 2017
	Provision of technical assistance and cooperation on time use and unpaid work, violence against women and indicators for the follow-up of the SDGs	Report on the strengthening of activities to build capacity among producers and users and the provision of technical assistance to the countries of the region to generate gender-sensitive indicators linked to the follow-up of the 2030 Agenda	UN-Women Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC INMUJERES INEGI	100% in the second half of 2016 and 100% in the second half of 2017
	Other actions		UN-Women Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC INMUJERES INEGI	100% in the second half of 2017

7. Financial resources and funding sources

Source	Monetary resources (Mexican pesos)	Other contributions
UN-Women	1 700 000	In addition to the events, support will be provided for technical assistance missions to the countries and for the preparation of knowledge products and materials
Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC	----	Contribution in kind with support from the staff of the Division
National Women's Institute (INMUJERES) of Mexico	600 000	Support for the International Meeting of Experts on Time Use and Unpaid Work and the International Meeting on Gender Statistics; the Institute's staff will also support the working group's participation in activities
National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) of Mexico	400 000	Support mainly for the International Meeting on Gender Statistics; the Institute will make its headquarters building available for the Meeting, while its personnel will provide logistical support for the event; officials and specialists will participate in the international events of the working group

Financing for international events is supplemented by the direct financial support provided by international institutions, including the World Health Organization and the Pan American Health Organization, for the participation of the working group; support has also been provided by the participants' own departments. In the past year, the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID) funded the participation of officials from six Central American countries. A number of interested parties are seeking resources to participate in the International Meeting on Gender Statistics.

WORKING GROUP ON STATISTICS ON CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENCE

1. Objectives

(a) **General:** the main objective of the working group is to promote the generation, systematization and integration of statistics and indicators on childhood and adolescence with a view to improving the planning, implementation and evaluation of policies and programmes aimed at fulfilling commitments on the rights of children and adolescents undertaken by all the countries of the region.

(b) **Specific:**

- (i) Explore, identify and promote the methodologies available to eliminate information gaps on topics relating to the rights of children and adolescents, with a particular focus on indicators linked to the situation of children and adolescents that help to measure progress in relation to the new Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- (ii) Identify possible areas of synergy between the statistical institutes that are members of the working group, leading institutions on childhood and adolescence, international organizations and the academic world, and promote greater collaboration to strengthen capacities for measuring the situation of children in all countries of the region.
- (iii) Promote the disaggregation of information to shed light on the existence of disparities in the indicators on childhood and adolescence (in rural or urban areas, at the State or municipal level, by wealth indices, ethnicity or taking into account disabilities, among other variables).
- (iv) Analyse the advantages and limitations of administrative records for generating information on the situation of children and take steps to improve their coverage and quality, as well as to create mechanisms for their use.
- (v) Share experiences, methodologies and institutional strengths with a view to advancing the harmonization and comparability of estimates, data and indicators on childhood and adolescence.
- (vi) Promote access to and use of data on childhood and adolescence for the planning, design and evaluation of public policies, as well as for the social mobilization of citizens.

2. Rationale based on the current Strategic Plan: in spite of major advances in statistics in the region, there remain significant information gaps on indicators relating to children and adolescents, especially on topics linked to child protection, early childhood development, children with disabilities and the first years of adolescence.

In the context of the new 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, which include 34 indicators focused on children, the statistical systems of the countries of the region will have to face major challenges in the coming years in order to meet the demand for the good-quality, disaggregated information required to measure and record the progress made towards enforcing children's rights in the different countries of the region.

The information technology revolution also offers a great opportunity to improve the production of timely and reliable data on the situation of children. This revolution embodies a call to make the most of existing information by sharing information and improving accessibility in order to inform the societies in the region's countries and to promote the use of such information in the definition of public policies on children.

In order to meet the new challenges in monitoring the situation of the rights of children and adolescents, one priority is to promote collaboration and synergy between national statistical offices, international organizations working on these issues, leading institutions on childhood and adolescence and academia. This collaboration will strengthen the work of the national statistical offices through exposure to good practices implemented at international level, leading to the dissemination of quality standards and the technical and methodological capacities required to generate disaggregated data on children and adolescents.

3. Member countries: Belize, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Panama and Paraguay.

4. Coordinating country: Panama (National Statistics and Census Institute (INEC)), with support from Mexico (National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)).

5. Technical secretariat: United Nations Children's Fund Americas and Caribbean Regional Office (UNICEF).

6. Programme of work 2016-2017: the group's work will focus primarily on promoting the development of technical and methodological capacities for the generation and dissemination of good-quality statistical information on the situation of children and adolescents.

Activities	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
Development of technical and methodological capacities for the regular compilation of key indicators for monitoring progress on the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals in relation to children and adolescents	Disseminate harmonized methodologies for gathering information on violence against children (Sustainable Development Goal indicator 16.2.1)	Study on the methods of measuring violence against children (modules of multiple indicator cluster surveys (MICS), demographic and health surveys (DHS), national surveys and violence against children surveys (VACS)) used in the countries of the region, including existing disaggregations, the different methodologies used and the information gaps that persist. The terms of reference will be drafted jointly by the working group.	Coordination: INEC (Panama) and INEGI (Mexico) Inputs: all working group members Analysis: UNICEF	Third quarter of 2016
		Online seminar to share the regional analysis on the measurement of violence against children	INEC (Panama), with the support of UNICEF	First quarter of 2017
		Region-specific methodological note on the measurement of violence against children for sharing with all statistical offices in Latin America and the Caribbean	UNICEF, with the support and validation of the working group members	Second quarter of 2017

Activities	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
	Disseminate harmonized methodologies for gathering information on early childhood development (Sustainable Development Goal indicator 4.2.1)	Study on the methods of measuring early childhood development used in the countries of the region, including existing disaggregations, the different methodologies used and the information gaps that persist. The terms of reference will be drafted jointly by the working group.	Coordination: INEC (Panama) and INEGI (Mexico) Inputs: all working group members Analysis: UNICEF	Second quarter of 2017
		Online seminar to share the regional analysis and experiences of the measurement of early childhood development in the region.	INEC (Panama), with the support of UNICEF	Third quarter of 2017
		Region-specific methodological note on the measurement of early childhood development for sharing with all statistical offices in Latin America and the Caribbean	UNICEF, with the support and validation of the working group members	Fourth quarter of 2017
	Develop capacities on harmonized methodologies for gathering information on childhood functionality and disability	Regional Workshop on Methodologies for Measuring Functioning and Disability in Children, using as a basis the second edition of the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health, (ICF) of the World Health Organization (WHO)	UNICEF, with the support of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics (funding to be confirmed)	Third quarter of 2016 (provisional date)
	Promote the regular gathering of disaggregated data on childhood and the harmonization of measurement methodologies for the follow-up indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals focused on children and adolescents.	Two face-to-face meetings to address topics relating to the compiling of harmonized indicators on childhood and adolescence that are comparable at the regional level	UNICEF, with the participation of the working group members	Fourth quarter of 2016 to third quarter of 2017
		Document analysing the situation with respect to gathering data on children and adolescents in the region and evaluating the increase in the number of countries that include the regular compilation of key indicators on the rights of children and adolescents in their national statistical plans	Working group members, with the support of UNICEF (follow-up and compilation)	Third and fourth quarter of 2017

Activities	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
Promote the strengthening of administrative records to increase their use and improve their reliability as official statistics in monitoring the SDG indicators linked to children and adolescents	Disseminate tools for evaluating administrative records	Online seminar on tools for evaluating administrative records	UNICEF, with the support of the World Bank	Fourth quarter of 2016
	Share experiences on the use of administrative records to generate statistics on childhood and to monitor in real time the Sustainable Development Goal indicators linked to children	Three online seminars for sharing successful experiences and methodologies	Coordination: INEC (Panama) Seminars to be organized by: National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) of Colombia, National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INEC) of Costa Rica and INEGI of Mexico	January to December 2017
Effectively disseminate statistics on the situation of children, promote their use in the definition of public policies on children and make such information more accessible for the societies of the region's countries	Raise awareness of existing platforms for the dissemination of statistics on childhood in the region	Online seminar on the platforms for disseminating statistics on childhood in the region	Coordination: INEC (Panama) and INEGI (Mexico)	Second quarter of 2017
	Disseminate the tools available for enhancing the accessibility and use of statistics on children and adolescents through open data platforms	Online seminar to guide statistical offices on the use of Open Government Data Toolkit of the World Bank	World Bank, organized with support from INEGI (Mexico) and UNICEF	First quarter of 2017
		Online seminar to share experiences on the use of open data in the region	INEGI (Mexico)	Fourth quarter of 2017
Promote and support horizontal cooperation between institutions working in areas specifically related to the gathering, analysis and dissemination of data on childhood and adolescence	Conduct an inventory of capacities relating to statistics on childhood and adolescence in the statistical offices of the working group members	Inventory of capacities conducted and distributed among the statistical offices to promote the exchange of experts	All working group members, coordinated by INEC (Panama) and with the support of UNICEF in the analysis	Third quarter of 2016
	Promote and facilitate support missions and exchanges between the statistical offices of the working group members with a view to improving statistical production and the dissemination of indicators on childhood and adolescence	Support missions and exchanges between statistical offices facilitated by the working group	All working group members, with the support of UNICEF	2016-2017

7. Financial resources and funding sources: this biennium, the Americas and Caribbean Regional Office of UNICEF will continue to support the activities of the working group with expert technical support and the financing of projects and seminars, meetings or workshops agreed under the programme of work. UNICEF will organize at least one face-to-face meeting with the focal points of the working group to report on the progress of activities and commitments. It will also provide logistical support for the organization of at least four video conferences each year to discuss issues of interest to working group members. The two coordinators of the working group (INEC of Panama and INEGI of Mexico) will provide staff to follow up on the coordination work and activities of the working group, and will also maintain regular communications with the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC and disseminate the working group's outputs in the region's statistical community through the Knowledge Transfer Network.

WORKING GROUP ON DISABILITY MEASUREMENT

1. Objectives

- (a) Spur measures in the region to generate information on disability in accordance with the approach set down in the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) of the World Health Organization (WHO), as promoted by the Washington Group on Disability Statistics.
- (b) Foster a unified conceptualization and method for measuring disability in the region, on the basis of ICF and the recommendations of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics.
- (c) Improve the technical capacity of countries in the region to compile and disseminate data on disability based on ICF.
- (d) Promote the formulation of a methodological proposal on the design and execution of projects that use administrative records to generate statistics on disability in the countries of the region.
- (e) Support the creation of an information and identification system for persons with disabilities for the purposes of planning, implementing and evaluating policy actions for this social group, as well as building national and regional indicators for monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals.
- (f) Form a support network between institutions, national and international organizations (including other working groups of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC), experts, users and producers of information to implement a single information and identification system for persons with disabilities in the region.

2. Rationale based on the current Strategic Plan: the heterogeneity of the disability measurement criteria in the region's countries points to the need to strengthen harmonization processes in order to obtain comparable regional information. Thus, on the basis of the mandate to promote the adoption of international statistical standards and best practices, and to encourage international, regional, horizontal and South-South cooperation (Strategic Plan 2015-2025), and in keeping with the purpose of the working groups, a proposal is put forward to establish the Working Group on Disability Measurement.

The objectives of this working group are aligned with strategic goal 2 of the Strategic Plan 2015-2025, "To foster the development of technical and methodological capacities in order to generate high-quality statistical information", and specific goal 2.2, "To promote the exchange of information, best practices and methodological innovations between the members of the regional statistical community". They are also consistent with strategic goal 3, "To foster coordination and cooperation between the member countries of the Statistical Conference of the Americas and international organizations", and specific goal 3.1, "To promote horizontal cooperation among the member countries of the Conference".

3. Member countries: Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico and Peru.

4. Coordinating country: Mexico (National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)).

5. **Technical secretariat:** to be determined.

6. **Programme of work 2016-2017**

Activities	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
Promote the standardized interpretation of ICF concepts and methodological categories for the production of statistical information	Second exploratory phase for receiving information on those in charge of compiling statistical information on disability in the region	Complete the directory of those in charge of statistics on disability in national statistical offices or other national bodies and institutions	INEGI (Mexico)	January to April 2016
	First Regional Seminar and Training Workshop on the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health and its Implementation in the Collection and Analysis of Data on Disability (Washington Group on Disability Statistics and Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)/WHO) for national statistical offices, in preparation for the next census round	Obtain financing to hold the seminar	Working group member countries and INEGI (Mexico)	May to August 2016
		Identify problems relating to the interpretation and application of ICF in the production of national statistical information (working document)		September to December 2016
		Promote the design and execution of projects that use administrative records to generate statistics on disability (methodological proposal)		September to December 2016
		Establish a digital library for the working group to store methodological documents, classifications, reports, etc.		September to December 2016
	Second Regional Seminar and Training Workshop on the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health and its Implementation in the Collection and Analysis of Data on Disability (Washington Group on Disability Statistics and PAHO/WHO) for national statistical offices, in preparation for the next census round	Obtain financing to hold the seminar		January to April 2017
		Outline an agenda and the commitments undertaken by the countries or subregions in the Conference in order to spur specific action regarding measurements in household surveys, census rounds and administrative records		May to August 2017
		Regional standards for applying the ICF approach in the gathering, analysis and dissemination of data on disability (working document)		September to December 2017
		Creation of a regional network of experts on the ICF approach to provide technical assistance on gathering and analysing data using the ICF approach to national statistical offices or other bodies responsible for generating statistics on disability		September to December 2017

7. Financial resources and funding sources: contact was made with officials from the Ministry of Health and the National Council for the Development and Integration of Persons with Disabilities (CONADIS) of Mexico to explore possible funding sources. The requirements of the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for the provision of financing were identified, which include the submission of a draft budget in order to assess the possibilities of providing financial support. Before drawing up the budget for the first workshop and seeking international financing, the second exploratory phase with the Caribbean countries must be concluded. At that stage it will be possible to complete the directory of those in charge of statistics on disability in national statistical offices or other national bodies and institutions and obtain the number of potential participants in the workshop.

WORKING GROUP ON ENVIRONMENTAL STATISTICS

1. General objectives

- (i) Strengthen the institutions responsible for producing environmental statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- (ii) Consolidate and expand the production, dissemination and promotion of the use of environmental statistics.
- (iii) Contribute to capacity-building to support the development and improvement of environmental statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- (iv) Strengthen international cooperation in the field of environmental statistics.

2. Rationale based on the current Strategic Plan: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals are at the centre of the Strategic Plan 2015-2025 of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of ECLAC. This document emphasizes the need to create the right conditions to meet the new and demanding requirements of official statistics that call for a continuous flow of good-quality, up-to-date, reliable and accessible data. This will make it possible to generate indicators that constantly measure progress towards achieving the new Goals and targets at the national, regional and global levels. In addition, the Strategic Plan considers environmental statistics to be an emerging domain of official statistics that must be strengthened to address the environmental dimension of sustainable development.

3. Member countries: Bahamas, Belize, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama and Suriname.

4. Coordinating country: Mexico (National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)).

5. Technical secretariat: Statistics Division of ECLAC.

6. Programme of work 2016-2017

Activities	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
Put forward a consensus-based strategy and plan of action for the development and improvement of environmental statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean	Preparation of the strategy and plan of action. Workshop to validate the strategy and plan of action.	Document on the strategy and plan of action. Report on the outcomes of the workshop.	INEGI of Mexico and all working group member countries	January to April 2016
Preparation of a set of methodological and technical tools to support the development and improvement of environmental statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean	Preparation of a set of methodological and technical tools. Workshop to validate the set of methodological and technical tools.	Set of methodological and technical tools. Report on the outcomes of the workshop.	INEGI of Mexico and all working group member countries	June to October 2016
Preparation of a regional plan for capacity-building on environmental statistics	Preparation of a regional plan for capacity-building on environmental statistics. Workshop to validate the regional plan for capacity-building on environmental statistics.	Regional plan for capacity-building on environmental statistics. Report on the outcomes of the workshop.	INEGI of Mexico and all working group member countries	November 2016 to March 2017
Analytical seminar on the scope and limitations of the IDB Regional Public Goods Initiative project entitled “Development and strengthening of official environmental statistics by creating a regional framework in Latin America and the Caribbean: perspectives and challenges”	Preparation of the analysis on the scope and limitations of the IDB Regional Public Goods Initiative project undertaken. Outline the outlook for the future of environmental statistics in the region.	Analytical document on the scope and limitations of the IDB Regional Public Goods Initiative project. Document on the future of environmental statistics in the region.	INEGI of Mexico and all working group member countries	July 2017

7. Financial resources and funding sources: this programme of work is funded by an IDB Regional Public Goods Initiative project, which has non-reimbursable financing of US\$ 1,300,000 granted by IDB, as well as in-kind contributions from the countries and the advisory agencies worth US\$ 408,900.

WORKING GROUP ON AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS

1. Objectives

(a) General: improve and harmonize agricultural statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean; plan the implementation of the Global Strategy in the region, taking into account the current status of statistics; train teams; and design a feasible work programme for improvement under the Global Strategy.

(b) Specific:

- (i) Promotion of the Global Strategy in the region.
- (ii) Institution-building.
- (iii) Assessment of the statistical capacities of countries.
- (iv) Training for institutions.
- (v) Provision of technical assistance.
- (vi) Development of methodologies.

2. Rationale based on the current Strategic Plan: give continuity to the specific plan of action for Latin America and the Caribbean to implement the Global Strategy in the region.

3. Member countries: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Plurinational State of Bolivia and Uruguay.

4. Coordinating country: Brazil.

5. Technical secretariat: Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

6. Programme of work 2016-2017

Activities	Related actions	Lead entities	Date of implementation	Expected outputs
Hold the Second Workshop on the IDB Regional Public Goods Initiative project on Implementing Agricultural Statistics Systems in Latin America and the Caribbean		Mexico, Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO) and FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean	1 to 3 March 2016	Presentation on consultants' findings. Review and discuss consultants' findings. Review and discuss the working group's proposals on training activities.
Conduct a consultancy on the scope and prioritization of products in the implementation of an integrated system of agricultural and rural statistics in the regional setting	Preparation of the terms of reference	Mexico, Brazil, FLACSO and FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean	March and April 2016	Terms of reference prepared on the basis of the definition of the products included in the integrated system of agricultural and rural statistics in Latin America and the Caribbean
	Consultancy	Consultant	June 2016	Final report

Activities	Related actions	Lead entities	Date of implementation	Expected outputs
Prepare fact sheets for training courses	Fact sheet for course 1 on the use of satellite images to prepare maps on land use, area sampling frame and fieldwork cartographic materials	Colombia, Mexico	18 March 2016	Fact sheet finalized
	Fact sheet for course 2 on the use of electronic devices for data capture and processing	Mexico	18 March 2016	Fact sheet finalized
	Fact sheet for course 3 on multiple frame sampling	Uruguay	18 March 2016	Fact sheet finalized
	Fact sheet for course 4 on AGRIS	Brazil, Uruguay	18 March 2016	Fact sheet finalized
	Fact sheet for course 5 on assessing the quality and integration of data sources	Uruguay	18 March 2016	Fact sheet finalized
	Fact sheet for course 6 on the use of administrative records for statistical purposes	Colombia	18 March 2016	Fact sheet finalized
	Fact sheet for course 7 on systematizing the gathering of data from key respondents	Dominican Republic	18 March 2016	Fact sheet finalized
	Fact sheet for course 8 on the dissemination and use of information from a user perspective	Ecuador	18 March 2016	Fact sheet finalized
Hold training courses	Conduct training courses 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 mentioned above	Brazil, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico and Uruguay	To be defined at the third project workshop to be held in June 2016	Courses conducted
Reformulate the consultancy plan		Mexico, Brazil, FLACSO and FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean	June 2016	Procurement plan for the project reformulated
	Prepare a brief to specify the terms of reference for the consultant on the method to identify indicators and gather data from a gender perspective	Uruguay	June 2016	Consultancy contract prepared
	Prepare a brief for the consultant on the method to integrate statistics and geographical information	Mexico	June 2016	Consultancy contract prepared

Activities	Related actions	Lead entities	Date of implementation	Expected outputs
	Send a brief highlighting areas of possible synergy between the IDB Regional Public Goods Initiative project on environmental statistics and the project on agricultural and rural statistics	Ecuador	June 2016	Consultancy contract prepared
Create and maintain a website for the IDB Regional Public Goods Initiative project to facilitate communication and collaborative work between the members and to give greater visibility to its activities and outputs		FLACSO	July 2016	Web page created and operational
Hold the Third Workshop on the IDB Regional Public Goods Initiative project on Implementing Agricultural Statistics Systems in Latin America and the Caribbean	Discuss and approve the training programme Prepare and disseminate the provisional final report of the consultancy on the scope and prioritization of products in the implementation of an integrated system of agricultural and rural statistics in the regional setting Report on progress on the other activities and adopt the measures needed for the successful completion of the project	Brazil, FLACSO and FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean	27 to 29 June 2016	Training programme approved Report prepared and disseminated Progress report on the other activities presented and measures needed for the successful completion of the project defined
Meeting with donors to the Global Strategy for Latin America and the Caribbean		Brazil, FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean and Global Office	30 June 2016	Obtain financial support for the implementation of the Global Strategy in the region

7. Financial resources and funding sources: resources are available from the IDB Regional Public Goods Initiative project “Developing a methodology for implementing agricultural statistics systems in Latin America and the Caribbean”.

WORKING GROUP ON STATISTICS ON PUBLIC SECURITY AND JUSTICE

1. Objectives

(a) General: to coordinate efforts to generate, develop and standardize statistical information on public security and criminal justice in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, focusing on international and regional projects, initiatives and mandates on statistical information on these issues for the purpose of generating better data to support evidence-based public policy design and decision-making, targeting problems related to crime and criminal justice in the region's countries.

(b) Specific:

- (i) Support the development and strengthening of national statistical information systems with regard to public security and justice, in accordance with the relevant international mandates, standards and good practices.
- (ii) Facilitate technical capacity-building in order to implement international and regional standards on public security and justice.
- (iii) Strengthen the generation of statistical information to monitor compliance with Sustainable Development Goal 16 (promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2. Rationale based on the current Strategic Plan: Latin America and the Caribbean is one of the regions most affected by violence and crime in the world. According to the Global Study on Homicide 2013 by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), more than a third of the 437,000 homicides in the world in 2012 occurred in Latin America and the Caribbean, even though only about 10% of the global population lives in the region. At the subregional level, the situation was very different: homicide rates in the countries of the Southern Cone were close to 5 per 100,000 population, while the highest rates of homicide—more than 20 per 100,000 population—were concentrated in Central America.

In addition to this deterioration in public security in the region, there has been an increase in demand for high quality statistical information from society and governments. Various countries of the region have made efforts to generate and analyse information in order to design, analyse, monitor and evaluate crime prevention policies of differing scope and pace. As indicated in the Strategic Plan 2015-2025, some countries have made progress towards harmonizing victim surveys and consolidating administrative records of institutions in the criminal justice system, but others still do not have official data on the subject. These countries have made isolated institutional efforts that have not been integrated into national statistical systems, while a lack of financial and human resources, among other shortcomings, has prevented the development of statistical operations concerning public security and justice matters that will allow data and measurements to be generated continuously and with sufficient levels of disaggregation (the type of measurements and data needed to take public security and justice decisions).

In addition to the challenges arising from the insecurity in the region, there are the statistical issues stemming from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sustainable Development Goals and the data revolution. Discussions to date have identified challenges stemming from the 2030 Agenda that are characterized by, among other things, the need for large amounts of highly complex information in order to monitor the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda and the demand for indicators in various statistical areas, duly disaggregated by age, sex, geographic location, socioeconomic status and other factors. Furthermore, the revolution in information technology and its application to very different areas of peoples' daily lives and government work will provide timely data to generate statistics for evidence-based decision-making. Unfortunately, this has not been sufficiently exploited for official statistics on public security and justice matters.

3. Member countries: Chile (National Institute of Statistics (INE)), Colombia (National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE)), Costa Rica (National Institute of Statistics and Census (INEC)), Cuba (National Office of Statistics and Information (ONEI)), Dominican Republic (National Statistical Office (ONE)), Ecuador (National Statistics and Census Institute (INEC)), El Salvador (Department of Statistics and Censuses (DIGESTYC)), Guatemala (National Institute of Statistics (INE)), Mexico (National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)), Panama (National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INEC)), Peru (National Institute of Statistics and Informatics (INEI)) and Saint Lucia (Central Statistical Office (CSO)).

4. Coordinating country: Mexico (INEGI).

5. Technical secretariat: Centre of Excellence for Statistical Information on Governance, Public Security, Victimization and Justice of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

6. Programme of work 2016-2017

Activities	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
Present the results of the overview of crime and criminal justice statistics of the countries of the region	Send the overall and individual results to the participating countries	General report with the results of the overview of crime and criminal justice statistics of the countries of the region Individual country reports with the results of the overview of crime and criminal justice statistics	Technical secretariat	March to June 2016
Encourage the use and generation of crime and criminal justice statistical information in national statistical programmes	Promote the use of statistical information in international, regional and national forums	Include crime and criminal justice statistical information in national statistical programmes	All working group members	May 2016
Foster inter-institutional cooperation on crime and criminal justice statistical systems	Promote and foster inter-institutional initiatives to create crime and criminal justice statistical systems	Promote and participate in activities that foster inter-institutional cooperation	All working group members	June to February 2017
Examine the data collection instrument and the methodology used for crime victimization surveys undertaken as part of the Latin American and the Caribbean Crime Victimization Survey Initiative (VICLAC)	Examine the data collection instrument and the methodology used for crime victimization surveys as part of VICLAC	Examine and possibly adopt the questionnaire and methodology used as part of that initiative	Technical secretariat, with the support of volunteer countries	Biennium 2016-2017
Establish and launch the crime victimization laboratory	Participate in the expert network on surveys of victims of crimes committed in the home, workplace or prison Participate in the activities of the crime victimization laboratory Participate in the regular VICLAC meetings Produce general, expert group recommendations on surveys of victims of crimes committed in the home, workplace or prison	Expert network on crime victimization surveys International inventory of crime victimization surveys Catalogue of good practices identified in the questionnaires and sample designs Digital library with literature on surveys of victims of crimes committed in the home, workplace or prison	All working group members	Biennium 2016-2017

Activities	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
Participate in the introductory course to the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes, with a view to producing official statistics	Working group members participate in the course	Introductory course to the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes, with a view to producing official statistics	All working group members	January to June 2017
Produce recommendations on the production of high quality statistical information that will allow indicators to be formulated for Sustainable Development Goal 16 (promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	Identify information needed to produce variables for indicators for Goal 16 Review the context, processes and results of statistical operations Produce recommendations to harmonize the production or improve the statistical quality of variables for the indicators for Goal 16, which embodies the objectives of the working group	Report on the information needed to produce variables for indicators for Goal 16 Compilation of recommendations to harmonize the production or improve the statistical quality of variables for the indicators for Goal 16, which embodies the objectives of the working group	Technical secretariat, with the support of countries that request recommendations	June 2016
Help to design training courses on georeferencing, using free, open source statistical software	Establish the teams responsible for designing each course Select literature and resources available Develop the courses	Tailored training course	Technical secretariat, with the support of volunteer countries	Biennium 2016-2017
Prepare and present reports on the working group's activities	Prepare annual reports	Annual report	Technical secretariat	Yearly
Produce a new work plan	Develop the work plan Disseminate the draft Collect comments and amend the document accordingly Publish and circulate the work plan	New work plan	All working group members and the technical secretariat	2018

7. Financial resources and funding sources: US\$ 50,000, provided by the technical secretariat.

WORKING GROUP ON MEASUREMENT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES

1. Objectives

(a) General: the working group's main objective is to build capacities and develop methodologies for measuring information and communications technologies (ICTs).

(b) Specific:

- (i) Facilitate the production in the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean of relevant statistics on the use, availability and impact of ICTs on the economy and society at large, and to establish a baseline for a common set of indicators for the region.
- (ii) Disseminate indicators on access to and use of ICTs.
- (iii) Promote the strengthening of the regional database of the Observatory for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (OSILAC).
- (iv) Contribute to the achievement of Objective 23 of the Digital Agenda for Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC2018) to promote the measurement of access to and use of ICT at the national and regional levels.
- (v) Follow up on the commitment to produce ICTs indicators contained in the Sustainable Development Goals.

The working group also intends to:

- (i) Significantly increase the number of Latin American and Caribbean countries that incorporate the measurement of ICTs into their household and business surveys.
- (ii) Continue fulfilling its commitment to systematize and disseminate ICT statistics and indicators with a gender-based approach.
- (iii) Foster the involvement of the countries of the Caribbean and Central America in the working group's activities.
- (iv) Harmonize techniques for the measurement of ICTs so as to promote their international comparability.

2. Rationale based on the current Strategic Plan: in most of the countries of the region measurements of access to and use of ICTs in different sectors (such as education, health, e-government or trade, to name the most important sectors) are unreliable.

The Working Group on Measurement of Information and Communications Technologies of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) helps to position this type of research.

Among the tasks that this group undertakes are the national statistical offices surveys on ICTs. These surveys provide insight into how ICTs are measured in each country and analysis of the surveys forms the basis for public policy decisions that will promote the development of the information society. The responses of some countries indicate that they are interested in receiving support from organizations, such as ECLAC, and initiatives, such as those of this working group. The results of the surveys also allow harmonized comparisons to be made across the region and highlight the urgent need for technical assistance in some countries, to be provided through South-South cooperation and by local, regional and international organizations.

The parts of the new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals that concern the current Strategic Plan include eight ICT indicators. The national statistical systems of the region and the institutions producing ICT statistics must respond to the demand for disaggregated and high quality information in order to measure and record countries' progress towards meeting these commitments.

There are formidable challenges that must be overcome. To achieve this, regional efforts must be taken even further to consolidate the production of ICT statistics in each country. This requires resolve and effort on the part of national statistical agencies, the Statistical Conference of the Americas and, more particularly, ECLAC.

The cooperation of government institutions from different sectors and technical and financial support from international cooperation and financial agencies are also needed.

3. Member countries: Argentina, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Mexico, Panama, Suriname and Uruguay.

4. Coordinating country: Dominican Republic.

5. Technical secretariat: ECLAC.

6. Programme of work 2016-2017: the focus is on, on the one hand, helping to develop tools and to review and update ICT measurement indicators in the education sector and in household surveys, and, on the other hand, on gradually introducing the production of these statistics into English-speaking Caribbean countries and Haiti.

Regular tasks: monitoring and various support activities for the Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC) of ECLAC as part of a collaboration agreement, as well as encouraging countries to send their national databases to OSILAC.

Activities	Participants	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation	Remarks
Review and update the ICT module for the education sector	Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Panama	Revised and updated ICT module for the education sector	Cuba and Dominican Republic	First half of 2016	Collaborative effort with the Institute for Statistics of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Brazilian Centre of Studies on Information and Communication Technologies (CETIC)
Select a list of ICT indicators for Latin America and the Caribbean with a gender perspective from the document prepared by the Working Group on Gender of the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technology for Development	All working group member countries	List of ICT indicators for Latin America and the Caribbean with a gender perspective, for household surveys and other types of research	Dominican Republic and Mexico	First half of 2016	The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) provided CETIC with the document for translation into Spanish. The Working Group on Gender Statistics of the Statistical Conference of the Americas and the Division for Gender Affairs of ECLAC worked together to produce the list
Organize a workshop for English-speaking Caribbean countries and Haiti with ICT modules, in collaboration with UNCTAD	Colombia and Mexico	Training workshop on ICT measurements for English-speaking Caribbean countries and Haiti	Dominican Republic, with support from UNCTAD, CARICOM and Suriname	First half of 2016	
Carry out a regional review of the methodology of the ICT module of household surveys	Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico	Revised and updated ICT module of household surveys, with a regional approach	Dominican Republic and Uruguay	Second half of 2016	The support of CETIC has been requested
Review and send the 2016 version of the ICT survey for ministries and government institutions responsible for the digital agenda	All working group member countries	ICT survey for ministries and government institutions responsible for the digital agenda (2016 version) revised, updated and submitted	Dominican Republic	Second half of 2016	eLAC of ECLAC
Review and send the 2016 version of the ICT survey for national statistical institutes	All working group member countries	ICT survey for national statistical institutes (2016 version) revised, updated and submitted	Dominican Republic	Second half of 2016	

Activities	Participants	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation	Remarks
Help to organize a workshop on macrodata led by the Plan of Action for the Information Society in Latin America and the Caribbean (eLAC) of ECLAC	All working group member countries		Coordinated under the eLAC Follow-up Mechanism, with support from the working group	Date to be confirmed by eLAC	
Collate the responses to the ICT survey for ministries and government institutions responsible for the digital agenda (2016 version)	Working group member countries	Results of the ICT survey for ministries and government institutions responsible for the digital agenda (2016 version)	Dominican Republic, with distribution and follow-up support from the eLAC Follow-up Mechanism	First half of 2017	
Collate the responses to the ICT survey for national statistical institutes (2016 version)	Working group member countries	Results of the ICT survey for national statistical institutes (2016 version)	Dominican Republic	First half of 2017	
Prepare and circulate tables of the results of the ICT survey for ministries and government institutions responsible for the digital agenda (2016 version), with the support of eLAC	Working group member countries	Tables of the results of the ICT survey for ministries and government institutions responsible for the digital agenda (2016 version), sent to those institutions and the national statistical offices and made available from the ECLAC website	Dominican Republic, with distribution and follow-up support from the eLAC Follow-up Mechanism	Second half of 2017	
Prepare and circulate tables of the results of the ICT survey for national statistical institutes (2016 version)	All working group member countries	Tables of the results of the ICT survey for national statistical institutes (2016 version), sent to those institutions and made available from the ECLAC website		Second half of 2017	
Help to organize an eLAC workshop on e-commerce	All working group member countries		Coordinated under the eLAC Follow-up Mechanism, with support from the working group	Date to be confirmed by eLAC	

7. Financial resources and funding sources: the work plan indicates which tasks require technical and financial support. Requests for support have been submitted to UNCTAD, the Institute for Statistics of UNESCO and CETIC.

WORKING GROUP ON INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATIONS

1. Objectives

(a) General: support the countries in the region in adopting or adapting the new versions of international classifications in order to contribute to the development of official statistics in the various statistical programmes.

(b) Specific:

- (i) Identify and promote regional and subregional cooperation activities to boost the capacity of the member countries in the processes of adopting international classifications.
- (ii) Exchange and document experiences, knowledge and good practices in relation to the implementation of international classifications.
- (iii) Provide regular updates on the progress made in terms of new revisions to international classifications, particularly with a view to conducting economic and population censuses and changing the base year for national accounts in the countries of the region, as well as ensuring the proper management of directories of businesses and establishments.
- (iv) Promote the creation of inter-agency platforms for collaboration in, and coordination and integration of, regional initiatives on international classifications among blocks of countries.
- (v) Prioritize the translation into Spanish of texts on international classifications to enable their timely adoption by the countries of the region.
- (vi) Make the arrangements necessary to hold meetings of the Working Group on International Classifications, with a view to promoting the use and dissemination of economic and social classifications.
- (vii) Promote the establishment of a network of experts on international classifications to provide countries with mechanisms for communication and updating classifications and nomenclature.

2. Rationale based on the current Strategic Plan: the activities of this working group underpin the Strategic Plan by seeking to achieve these general and specific objectives. Activities will be carried out that promote the adoption of international best practices for the proper integration and coordination of national statistical systems by the national statistical offices; the dissemination and implementation of international standards and best practices for the management of national statistical offices; the training and ongoing education of the human resources of statistical offices and other organizations charged with producing official statistics, in order to establish sustainable institutional capacities; and the exchange of information and good practices among members of the regional statistical community.

3. Member countries: Argentina, Barbados, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Plurinational State of Bolivia, Saint Lucia and Uruguay.

4. **Coordinating country:** Mexico.

5. **Technical secretariat:** Statistics Division of ECLAC.

6. **Programme of work 2016-2017**

Activities	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
Carry out the survey on international classifications in Latin America, with regard to the adoption or adaptation of international classifications to be applied in the countries of the region	Design the questionnaire	Results of the survey on international classifications in Latin America, with regard to the adoption or adaptation of international classifications	ECLAC	2016
			The National Institute of Statistics and Census (INEC) of Costa Rica and the National Institute of Statistics (INE) of Chile	100% in the first half of 2016
	Approve the questionnaire		United Nations Statistics Division and ILO (questions on classifications) Working group steering committee (questionnaire, in general)	100% in the first half of 2016
	Carry out the survey		ECLAC	100% in the first half of 2016
	Present the synthesis and analysis of the survey results at the fifth meeting of the working group		ECLAC	100% in the second half of 2016
	Determine the next actions based on the survey results		Steering committee	100% in the second half of 2016
Prepare a preliminary Spanish translation of the Central Product Classification (CPC), version 2.1		Preliminary Spanish translation of CPC, version 2.1	Subcommittee for the translation of CPC	2016
	Obtain CPC, version 2.1, in English from the United Nations Statistics Division		Working group coordinator	100% in the first half of 2016
	Identify the changes in English between version 2.0, and version 2.1 of CPC		United Nations Statistics Division	100% in the first half of 2016
	Circulate the changes between version 2.0 and version 2.1 of CPC to the members of the subcommittee		Subcommittee for the translation of CPC	100% in the first half of 2016
	Produce a preliminary Spanish translation of CPC, version 2.1		Subcommittee for the translation of CPC	70% in the first half of 2016, To be completed in the second half of 2016
	Edit the preliminary Spanish translation of CPC, version 2.1		Subcommittee for the translation of CPC	100% in the second half of 2016

Activities	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
	Submit the preliminary Spanish translation of CPC, version 2.1, to the United Nations Statistics Division and publish it on the Division's web page		Working group coordinator	100% in the second half of 2016
Prepare preliminary Spanish translation of the following concept documents:		Preliminary Spanish translations of the concept documents	Working group coordinator	2016
Report on issues encountered with ISIC Rev.4	Obtain the concept documents in English from the United Nations Statistics Division		Working group coordinator	100% in the first half of 2016
Conclusions of the Technical Subgroup meeting, 14-16 October 2014	Produce preliminary Spanish translations of the concept documents		Working group coordinator	100% in the first half of 2016
The Recording of Factoryless Goods Production in National and International Accounts	Edit the preliminary Spanish translations of the concept documents		Working group coordinator	70% in the first half of 2016, To be completed in the second half of 2016
Appropriateness of retail sales distinguished by sales channels	Upload the preliminary Spanish translations to the working group's electronic forum and send them by e-mail to the working group members		Working group coordinator	100% in the second half of 2016
Classification on Holdings Companies and Head Offices according to NACE Rev.2 (Presentation)				
Classification on Holdings Companies and Head Offices according to NACE Rev.2				
Issue Paper on Classifying Factoryless Good Producers				
Prepare a preliminary Spanish translation of the new International Classification, once it is finalized		Preliminary Spanish translation of the International Classification	Subcommittee for the translation of the International Classification	2017
	Obtain the International Classification in English from the United Nations Statistics Division		Working group coordinator	100% in the first half of 2017
	Produce a preliminary Spanish translation of the International Classification		Subcommittee for the translation of the International Classification	100% in the first half of 2017

Activities	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
	Edit the preliminary Spanish translation of the International Classification		Subcommittee for the translation of the International Classification	80% in the first half of 2017, To be completed in the second half of 2017
	Send the preliminary Spanish translation of the International Classification to the United Nations Statistics Division and publish it on the Division's web page		Working group coordinator	100% in the second half of 2017
Make a training video in Spanish on the International Standard Classification of Occupations (ISCO)		Video in Spanish on ISCO	Subcommittee on training	2016-2017
	Prepare the script		Subcommittee on training	70% in the first half of 2016, To be completed in the second half of 2016
	Review the script		Steering committee	100% in the second half of 2016
	Approve the script		International Labour Organization (ILO)	100% in the second half of 2016
	Make the video		Subcommittee on training	80% in the second half of 2016, To be completed in the first half of 2017
	Present the video		Subcommittee on training	100% in the second half of 2017
	Disseminate the video		Working group coordinator	100% in the second half of 2017
Make a training video in Spanish on the International Standard Industrial Classification of all Economic Activities (ISIC, Rev.4)		Video in Spanish of ISIC Rev.4	Subcommittee on training	Second half of 2016 to the second half of 2017
	Prepare the script		Subcommittee on training	70% in the second half of 2016, To be completed in the second half of 2017
	Review the script		Steering committee	100% in the first half of 2017
	Approve the script		United Nations Statistics Division	100% in the first half of 2017

Activities	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
	Make the video		Subcommittee on training	80% in the first half of 2017, To be completed in the second half of 2017
	Present the video		Subcommittee on training	100% in the second half of 2017
	Disseminate the video		Working group coordinator	100% in the second half of 2017
Prepare a list of agricultural products that are known by different names in different national statistical offices, but which are the same product. Scientific names to be added		List of agricultural products that are known by different names in different national statistical offices	Subcommittee for the translation of CPC	2016
	Gather the names of agricultural products that are known by different names in different national statistical offices		Subcommittee for the translation of CPC	90% in the first half of 2016, To be completed in the second half of 2016
	Edit the list of names of agricultural products		Subcommittee for the translation of CPC	100% in the second half of 2016
	Submit the list of names of agricultural products to the working group coordinator		Subcommittee for the translation of CPC	100% in the second half of 2016
	Circulate the list of names of agricultural products via the forum and by e-mail		Working group coordinator	100% in the second half of 2016
Hold the fifth meeting (face-to-face, subject to the budget) of the working group members to assess the progress made, identify the challenges to and come up with alternative solutions for the implementation of the classifications; assess the progress made in the tasks assigned to the subcommittees; share experiences and take note of the outcome of horizontal cooperation and good practices for classifications	Consider options to obtain the resources needed to hold a face-to-face meeting	List of actions based on assessments of the proposals put forward during the meeting	Working group	2016
	Contact institutions that might provide financial support for the meeting		Steering committee	100% in the first half of 2016
	Send out formal support requests to institutions that might provide financial support for the meeting		Working group coordinator	100% in the first half of 2016
	Hold the fifth meeting		ECLAC	100% in the first half of 2016
			Working group	100% in the second half of 2016

Activities	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
Hold the fifth meeting (face-to-face, subject to the budget) of the members of the steering committee, at which the following matters will be addressed: the functioning of the electronic forum; identifying frequently asked questions and common problems; support provided to countries for the adoption or adaptation of classifications; evaluating face-to-face working meetings and the usefulness of uploaded documents; and identifying areas of opportunity and progress made in tasks assigned to the subcommittees and others				
Prepare the report of the fifth meeting		Report of the fifth meeting	Working group coordinator	100% in the second half of 2016
	Draft the report		Working group coordinator	100% in the second half of 2016
	Approve the report		Steering committee	100% in the second half of 2016
	Circulate the report by e-mail to the national statistical offices		Working group coordinator	100% in the second half of 2016
	Disseminate the report via the working group's forum		Working group coordinator	100% in the second half of 2016
Hold the sixth meeting (face-to-face, subject to the budget) of the working group members to assess the progress made, identify the challenges to and come up with alternative solutions for the implementation of the classifications; assess the progress made in the tasks assigned to the subcommittees; share experiences and take note of the outcome of horizontal cooperation and good practices for classifications		List of actions based on assessments of the proposals put forward during the meeting	Working group	2017
	Consider options to obtain the resources needed to hold a face-to-face meeting		Steering committee	100% in the first half of 2017
	Contact institutions that might provide financial support for the meeting		Working group coordinator	100% in the first half of 2017
	Send out formal support requests to institutions that might provide financial support for the meeting		ECLAC	100% in the first half of 2017
	Hold the sixth meeting		Working group	100% in the second half of 2017

Activities	Related actions	Expected output	Lead entities	Date of implementation
Hold the sixth meeting (face-to-face, subject to the budget) of the members of the steering committee, at which the following matters will be addressed: the functioning of the electronic forum; identifying frequently asked questions and common problems; support provided to countries for the adoption or adaptation of classifications; evaluating face-to-face working meetings and the usefulness of uploaded documents; and identifying areas of opportunity and progress made in tasks assigned to the subcommittees and others				
Prepare the report of the sixth meeting		Report of the sixth meeting	Working group coordinator	100% in the second half of 2017
	Draft the report		Working group coordinator	100% in the second half of 2017
	Approve the report		Steering committee	100% in the second half of 2017
	Circulate the report by e-mail to the national statistical offices		Working group coordinator	100% in the second half of 2017
	Disseminate the report via the working group's forum		Working group coordinator	100% in the second half of 2017
Prepare the report on the activities of the working group, to be presented at the Meeting of the Expert Group on International Statistical Classifications	Draft the report	Report on the activities of the working group, to be presented at the Meeting of the Expert Group on International Statistical Classifications	Working group coordinator	First half of 2017
	Approve the report		Working group coordinator	100% in the first half of 2017
	Present the report		Steering committee	100% in the first half of 2017
			Working group coordinator	100% in the first half of 2017

7. Financial resources and funding sources: this working group does not have a regular budget. At the end of each face-to-face meeting, the steering committee of the working group decides which strategy to follow to obtain funding.