

EGRIS - NEWSLETTER

EXPERT GROUP ON REFUGEE AND IDP STATISTICS

The United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC), at its 47th session in 2016, decided to establish an international **Expert Group on Refugee and Internally Displaced Persons Statistics (EGRIS)**. The group consists of participants from national authorities, regional and international organizations and other technical experts. Since its establishment, EGRIS has produced a set of International Recommendations on Refugee and IDP Statistics, which have been endorsed by the UN Statistical Commission. Following these achievements, the group is currently developing its third phase of work, which focuses on the implementation of the recommendations.



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JIPS-EGRIS CONFERENCE

On the 8th of September, the **JIPS-EGRIS Conference on "Building Capacity to improve Statistics on Forced Displacement"** took place virtually. It brought together a diverse range of decision makers and experts from the national, regional, and global levels – governments and statistical offices, humanitarian and development actors from the UN and civil society, and academia. The conference reinforced the need for improved availability and quality data on refugees, asylum seekers, and IDPs in order to ensure that their needs and rights are fulfilled following global commitments.

It showcased concrete efforts already made by actors at the national, regional, and international levels towards implementing the International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics (IRRS) and IDP Statistics (IRIS). Finally, it emphasized the importance of sustainable funding for long-term capacity development and the need to promote statistics as an area for donor investments. This, we hope, will inspire other countries and actors to take action and contribute to continuous conversations and efforts in this area.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **1st Dec** - Stakeholder Meeting on Refugee Resettlement in the United States
- **2nd Dec** - Online Training with African NSOs
- **8th Dec** - UN-ESCAP Stats Café: Statistics on displacement
- **18th Dec** - International Recommendations and IDP Statistics in Ukraine

PAST EVENTS

- **19-21 Oct** - EGRIS presented during UN World Data Forum
- **16 Oct** - JDC Strategy Consultation with EGRIS members

The conference report and videos of the conference are available [here](#). Spanish and French subtitles of the recordings will be available soon.



EGRIS THIRD PHASE OF WORK

• NEW STEERING COMMITTEE

In September 2020, new members have joined the **EGRIS Steering Committee**. It followed a transparent and inclusive process of restructuring, in which EGRIS members were able to express their interest in joining the Steering Committee through a letter of interest. After a thorough review, seven new members were invited to join the SC: **Colombia, Kurdistan Region of Iraq, Ukraine, IDMC, IOM, JDC, and UN-ESCWA**. These members have joined previous SC members: Norway, Eurostat, JIPS, UNHCR, UNSD and World Bank.

• PROGRESS IN THE SUBGROUPS

Since subgroups have been virtually established, several meetings have been organized between co-leads and members of the subgroups. Currently, the subgroups are in the process of defining their workplans for the coming year. This is a participative process in which all members of the subgroups are included to provide inputs and feedback. It is expected that **workplans will be finalized by the beginning of 2021**, when activities will start to be developed and implemented.

SUBGROUP CO-LEADS

Promotion & Dissemination

Hungary
Eurostat
UN-ECA

Capacity Building

Cote D'Ivoire
IOM
JIPS
UNHCR

Knowledge Sharing & Refinement of CM

Somalia
JDC
UN-ESCWA

EGRIS ENGAGEMENT

• HLP SUBMISSION

In response to the call for submissions by the **High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement**, EGRIS is currently developing a paper focusing on the topic of official statistics for improving national policy and response to internal displacement. The paper will contribute to the development of recommendations around data and statistics on internal forced displacement. EGRIS members, especially those from IDP affected states/NSOs, are very much welcome to contribute to the paper. More information on the High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement can be found [here](#). Please contact the EGRIS secretariat by the [3rd of December](#) in case your organization would be interested in contributing to the submission.

• SIDE EVENTS DURING THE UN STATISTICAL COMMISSION IN MARCH 2021

It is foreseen that EGRIS will be responsible for organizing two side events during the **UN Statistical Commission**. The first event will showcase progress in the activities implemented by the Expert Group of Refugee and IDP Statistics. The second will be a side event with the objective of raising awareness and giving visibility to the work on the International Recommendations on Statelessness Statistics (IROSS). More information will follow.

IRIS IN UKRAINE

Access the article:

[Displaced but Not Disappeared: What do we know and don't know about internally displaced people in Ukraine](#)

[Olena Shevtsova \(State Statistics Service of Ukraine, member of the EGRIS Steering Committee\) & Tetyana TyshchukiMoRe \(Project manager and editor\)](#)



INCLUSION STATELESSNESS STATISTICS WORK

The **Expert Group on Statelessness Statistics (EGSS)** was established in 2019 with the aim of developing and adopting common standards and definitions to improve the quality and relevance of statistics on stateless populations. In December 2019, the Expert Group gathered together in Bangkok to discuss the development of International Recommendations on Statelessness Statistics. **Representatives from 16 countries, including experts from national statistical offices and line ministries, as well as UNHCR, the United Nations Population Fund and UN regional commissions** participated in this meeting. The group developed an ambitious work plan to deliver the recommendations on statistics on statelessness by the end of 2021. The ultimate objective is to submit the **International Recommendations to the United Nations Statistical Commission for its adoption in March 2022.**

During the 51st UN Statistical Commission, UNHCR presented the work and received strong support from several Member States. Since then, the work of the Expert Group has made great progress, being **modeled on the work and methodology of EGRIS.**

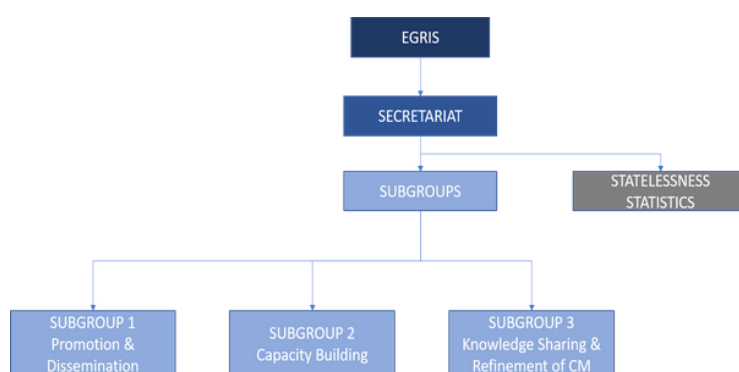
A first draft of the International Recommendations on Statelessness Statistics has been already developed with the following overarching chapter structure: 1) Introduction; 2) Legal background and context; 3) Statistical definitions and processes; 4) Assessment of data sources: 4b) Census; 4c) Sample Surveys; 4d) Administrative Data; 5) Measurement of socio-demographic characteristics of stateless populations and SDG Indicators; 6) Coordination of statistics at national and international levels; 7) Conclusion.

In November, a **virtual Chapter leads meeting** was organized to identify and address existing gaps in the draft of the recommendations.

Until the finalization of the recommendations, the group will use the time to **build strong political understanding and commitment.**

Given the multiple intersections between this work and EGRIS, the EGRIS Steering Committee recently endorsed the inclusion of the IROSS work under its umbrella. With the Global EGRIS approval the EGRIS ToR will be updated to reflect this addition. Please let us know if you would like to engage in the development of IROSS.

EGRIS STRUCTURE WITH THE INCLUSION OF THE WORK ON STATELESSNESS STATISTICS



“Frequently stateless persons are not only undocumented but also ignored by the authorities and uncounted in national administrative registries and databases. Most often they go uncounted in population censuses.”

AFRICAN UNION WORKING DOCUMENT

For more information,
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