Fourth Meeting of the Praia Group Task Team on Participation in Political and Public Affairs

Design of a Harmonized Survey Module on Participation:

REVISED First Question Set on Electoral Participation Based on Feedback Received

Tuesday, 22 March 2022, 9.00-10:30 EST
The Statistical Commission:

a) Welcomed the report; acknowledged and supported the work of the Praia Group on Governance Statistics; and appreciated the products developed, particularly the COVID-19 guidance note;

b) Commended the Handbook on governance statistics to be used for producing national statistics on governance especially for monitoring and implementing SDG 16; noted that there are methodological elements in the production of governance statistics that require more attention; and noted that they should be consistent with the 2030 Agenda.

c) Supported the workplan of the Praia Group for the period 2020–2025 and its three pillars:
   a) improving and standardizing methodologies to measure governance
   b) strengthening the capacities of statistical offices to produce reliable statistics on governance, and
   c) advocacy to increase the demand for governance statistics and to mobilize national and international resources to facilitate producing those statistics;

d) Welcomed the establishment of the task teams on non-discrimination and equality, and on participation in political and public affairs, supported their workplans, encouraged broad participation, especially from African countries, in the work of these task teams, and supported the establishment of additional task teams on other dimensions of governance that require further methodological work while ensuring synergies and coordination with other relevant workstreams.
Steps taken so far

1. Conceptual & measurement framework
2. Global mapping of relevant survey questions
3. Experience-sharing among NSOs and expert orgs
4. Design of harmonized survey module
5. Guidance on use of admin data for statistics on Participation
6. Field testing of two ‘products’ & finalization

Question set 1: Electoral Participation
Question set 2: Participation in Political and Civic Life
Guide on the Use of Administrative Data for Statistics on Non-Discrimination & Equality

Mapping of national experiences

Focus on:

1. Electoral participation (data collected by Electoral Management Bodies)

2. Representation in public institutions
   a. In Political Office (in parliaments, local governments, Ministers)
   b. In the Public Service
   c. In the Judiciary

Please contact us at group.praia@gmail.com
Today: REVISED first question set on Electoral Participation

5 discussion points:
1. Which elections / what timeframe?
2. Different types of voter registration systems & implications for questionnaire flow (2 options)
3. Wording of (2) questions on voter registration
4. Wording of (4) questions on voting
5. Wording of (4) questions on voter intimidation / violence
1. Which elections / what timeframe?
2. Different types of voter registration systems & implications for questionnaire flow (2 options)
Voter registration methods

Active voter registration

- **Voter-initiated**
  - Voters have the responsibility to register (i.e. to apply to be included into a voter’s register), or to **update** changes to personal information to ensure eligibility (e.g. residency)
  - Done either prior to each election (periodic) or on an ongoing basis (continuous)

- **Most common method of voter registration** (used in around 150 nations/territories)

Passive voter registration

- **State-initiated**
  - Voters are **automatically registered** by national or local authorities based on civil records or registries (e.g. civil registries, national ID records, driver’s license databases or tax records)

- **Used in 20-30 nations/territories**

Source: https://aceproject.org/ace-en/topics/vr
3. Wording of 2 questions on voter registration
4. Wording of 4 questions on voting
5. Wording of 4 questions on voter intimidation / violence
Next steps

• We will send you an updated version which incorporates the feedback received at this meeting
• Please review it & tell us if anything would not work well in your country: Consult your country’s Electoral Management Body!
• If need be, we can have another meeting to examine in more depth the diversity in electoral practices (and the implications for a harmonized questionnaire)
• Otherwise, our next meeting will focus on the 2nd question set, i.e., on the many other forms of Participation in Political and Civic Life beyond elections
Extra slides, if necessary
Is voting on the national level voluntary or compulsory?
What is the legal voting age in the national elections?

Choose a subject:
- a. 16 :
- b. 17 :
- c. 18 :
- d. 19 :
- e. 20 :
- f. 21 :
- g. Other (specify) :
- h. No information available :
- i. Not applicable :
- multiple values:
Beyond age, what other qualifications exist for registering to vote and voting in the national elections?
Which is the authority responsible for the registration of voters for national elections?

Choose a subject:
- a. Central Government Department (specify):
- b. Regional Government Authority:
- c. Local Government Authority:
- d. Election Management Body (specify):
- e. Other:
- f. No information available:
- g. Not applicable:
- multiple values:
Is it compulsory to be on the voters register?

Choose a subject:

- a. Yes:
- b. No:
- c. No information available:
- d. Not applicable:

- a 127 (55%)
- b 88 (38%)
- c 6 (2%)
- d 4 (2%)