



Shared Prosperity Dignified Life



Series of SDG Webinars for the Arab Region:  
UNODC  
SDG 16.1.1, SDG 16.2.2

*An Interagency and Experts Collaboration to Improve the Production and Dissemination of SDG Indicators from Official National Sources*

*27 July 2021*

**Report of the Meeting**

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## BACKGROUND

### The need to improve the production and dissemination of reliable comparable, and timely data on SDG

In September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted consensus Resolution 70/1: Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (the 2030 Agenda). The Resolution reaffirms the need for the strengthening of national data systems through “collaboration between national statistical systems and the relevant international and regional organizations to enhance data reporting channels and ensure the harmonization and consistency of data and statistics for the indicators used to follow up and review the Sustainable Development Goals and targets.”

The resolution also urges countries, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions, and the Bretton Woods institutions, among others, “to intensify their support for strengthening data collection and statistical capacity-building, including capacity-building that strengthens coordination among national statistical offices.” Moreover, the resolution “Urges international organizations to base the global review on data produced by national statistical systems and, if specific country data are not available for reliable estimation, to consult with concerned countries to produce and validate modeled estimates before publication, urges that communication and coordination among international organizations be enhanced to avoid duplicate reports, ensure consistency of data and reduce response burdens on countries, and urges international organizations to provide the methodologies used to harmonize country data for international comparability and produce estimates through transparent mechanisms.”

Five years after adopting the 2030 Agenda, several countries are facing considerable challenges in monitoring targets in many policy areas. The current COVID-19 pandemic highlights the value of measuring and monitoring: no strategy can be developed, and no measure can be implemented without a proper monitoring and evaluation system.

Many countries in the Arab region are reporting on SDG indicators; however, reporting on the progress on many SDG indicators remains limited. Insufficient availability and quality of statistical information on SDG indicators hamper the capacity of policymakers to generate evidence-based and effective policy responses and implement the 2030 Agenda.

Translating these recommendations and resolutions into tangible results is imperative and will require intensive collaboration at the national, regional, and global levels. Regional Commissions’ Statistical bodies “are the nexus between the Statistical Commission at the global level and the implementation at the national level of the norms endorsed by the Commission. In the context of the 2030 Agenda, the support provided by the regional commissions to assist the Member States in adapting, implementing, and measuring progress towards the implementation of national development plans is of particular significance as it influences the quality of statistics and methodologies used, as well as the use of new and innovative methodologies and sources of data, known as the transformative agenda for official statistics. The regional commissions carry out activities to strengthen the capacity of Member States to produce, use and dissemination official statistics and also provide a regional platform for sharing experiences and practices in statistics work<sup>1</sup>.”

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<sup>1</sup> Source: Relevance and effectiveness of the statistical work of regional commissions - thematic evaluation of regional commissions, Committee for Programme and Coordination, 57th session, April 2017 (E/AC.51/2017/8)

## Interagency and Experts Collaboration- ESCWA & UNEP

In this context, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) implemented an assessment of data disseminated through the UNSD SDG Global database and those in national SDG official sources to identify those less produced, disseminated, or less understood by national statistical offices (NSOs), and are more available in UN Agencies' and UNSD databases.

Based on the assessment results, ESCWA in collaboration with UNODC met on 9 April 2021, to discuss the organization of a joint webinar to build capacities of Arab countries to produce and disseminate indicators 16.1.1 and 16.2.2

### OBJECTIVE- WHY?

ESCWA and UNODC organized jointly a webinar on SDG indicators 16.1.1 and 16.2.2 that are less produced/disseminated in the Arab region to create a common understanding among data producers on how to collect, measure and disseminate SDG indicators to increase data availability and enhance national data flow to national policy makers, regional users including the custodian agency.

The main objectives of the regional training are:

- Enhancing understanding of metadata and nature of data in the UNSD SDG database.
- Improving statistical capacities to invigorate production and use of comparable SDG indicators.
- Strengthening inter-institutional coordination to invigorate production of SDG indicators and data flow.
- Sharing and discussing country challenges in measuring SDG indicators

### TARGET AUDIENCE - WHO?

The meeting was attended by 59 representatives from 19 national statistical offices namely: Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Mauritania, Libya, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, Yemen, United Kingdom and France. Also, there were representatives from UNODC and UNRCO.

### SCHEDULE AND LANGUAGE– PLATFORM?

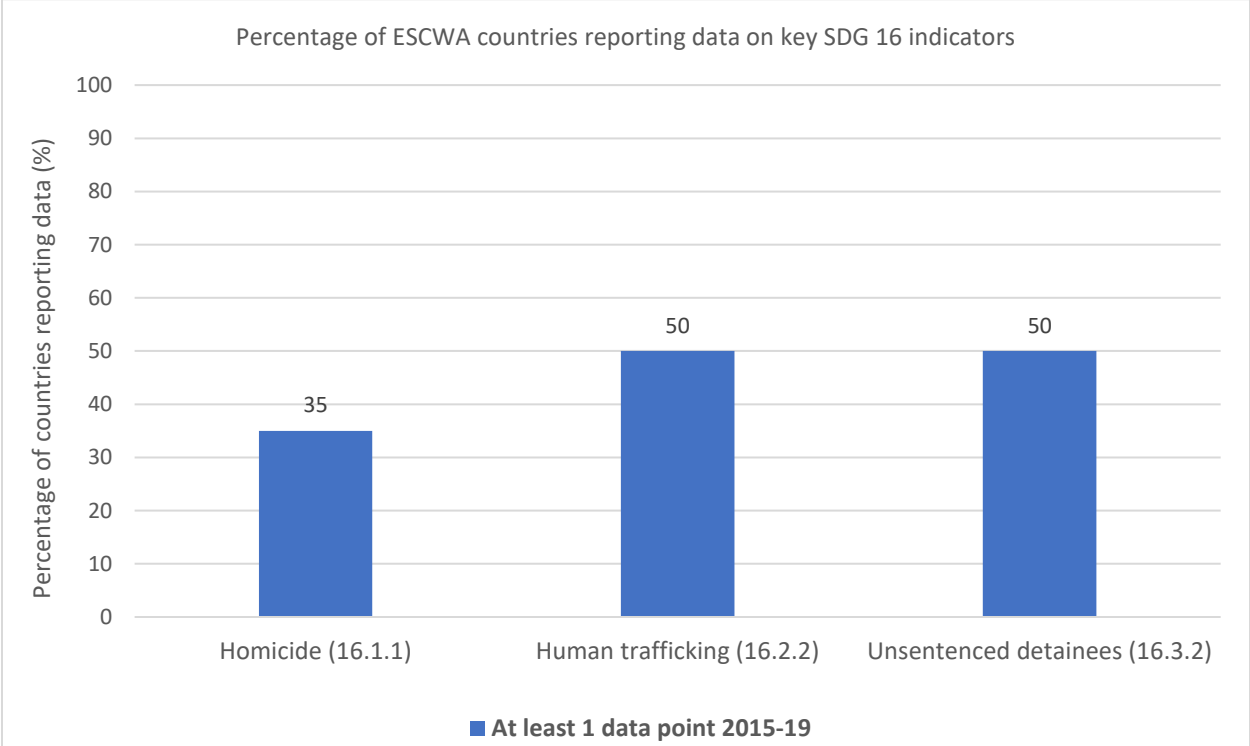
The regional training was held on 27 July 2021 from 10:00 to 11:40 A.M. (Beirut time) on Zoom (Agenda attached) with simultaneous interpretation in both English and Arabic languages.

### OUTCOME- FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The participants from NSOs and other relevant stakeholders were familiarized with concepts, methods including data flow and dissemination channels. The webinar encouraged interactive dialogue and participants were invited to share national experiences in data collection and dissemination including challenges and concerns. Presentations to the meetings were made available in the Arabic and English languages. A record of the discussions is provided in Annex on Q&A of this report. The full webinar proceedings were recorded to develop training materials.

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

The capacities of countries and international community to monitor whether a progress is being made in the 14 indicators of SDG 16 is still very shallow, limiting the possibility of establishing just societies, transparent and solid government, and achieving other Sustainable Development Goals in areas related to poverty, education, labor or environment. Moreover, the availability of disaggregated survey-based and administrative data indicators is still very limited in the Arab Region. Only between one third and a half of the countries have reported on indicators 16.1.1, 16.2.2 and 16.3.3.at least one data point during the period 2015-2019.



Therefore, to help countries collect data on SDG 16, UNODC has developed a series of methodological tools with other UN agencies:

- 1- International Classification of Crimes for Statistical Purposes (ICCS) was developed to solve the issues of multiple definitions of crimes at the national levels by bringing a standard definition to help comparability of data at the international level and at the national level across different years and agencies.
- 2- UNODC Manual on victimization surveys is a survey methodology manual with a specific focus on victimization surveys. This manual provides extremely practical advice on how to develop, implement a victimization survey that measures the experience of the crime at the national level, the perception of the state of security and the functioning of the criminal justice system and analyze the collected data. Without this representative and reliable data, no other source of data can be compared in a reliable manner.

- 3- Manual on corruption surveys: it follows the same international standards and survey methodology of the manual on victimization surveys but with focus on corruption. It is extremely useful for ensuring accountability and countering corruption at the national level with the increasing interest of citizens to understand the level of corruption within their countries.
- 4- UN Crime Trends Survey (UN-CTS) collects data both from administrative data and surveys on an annual basis. It collects data from police prosecution courts, prisons and NSOs or also, other organizations responsible for victimization survey. UN-CTS is extremely useful for collecting data at the global and national levels which help countries understand where they fit within the global transnational organized crime scenario, and especially to understand how the regional criminal threats affects the country. It helps establishing policies at the international and national level to combat crimes.

UNODC is also engaged in developing a series of survey modules on goal 16 indicators together with UNDP Office High Commission of Human Rights and UNESCO to help countries produce indicators of SDG 16.

#### 16.1.1 Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age

Intentional Homicide, as defined in the ICCS, is the unlawful death inflicted upon a person with the intent to cause death or serious injury. This definition contains three elements characterizing the killing of a person as intentional homicide:

1. The killing of a person by another person (objective element);
2. The intent of the perpetrator to kill or seriously injure the victim (subjective element);
3. The unlawfulness of the killing, which means that the law considers the perpetrator liable for the unlawful death (legal element).

All killings corresponding to the three criteria above should be considered as intentional homicides, irrespective of definitions provided by national legislations or practices. The definition of the indicator itself calls for disaggregation by sex and age. But the ICCS recommends Member States to collect also disaggregated data on victim's citizenship to understand the victim-perpetrator relationship such as intimate partner homicides. It is also important to collect information on the location and the context of the crime and lastly on the mechanism.

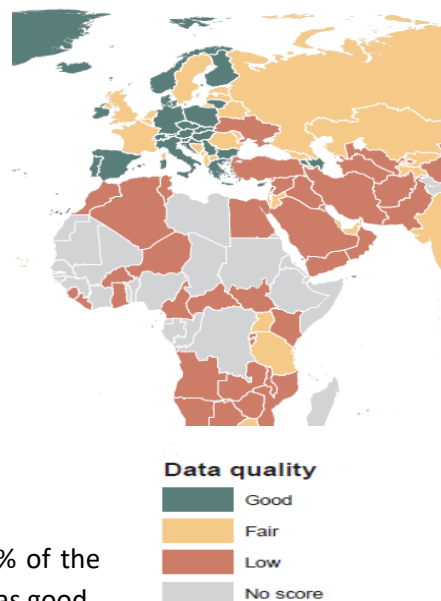
Homicide data provide key information on all forms of violent crimes which can be used to track progress in terms of combating all types of crime, including organized crime, interpersonal violence, armed violence, as well as urban security, to monitor policies and share good practices to prevent homicides. Intentional homicides have globally decreased over the past five years by about 6%, unlike the West Asia and North Africa region, where the number has increased during these years with women bearing the greatest burden of intimate partner homicide.

Two data sources exist for this indicator at the national level: criminal justice administrative data and public health records. UNODC collects and publishes data on this indicator through the annual data UN Crime Trends Survey, UN-CTS sent to national focal points and or the permanent missions in Vienna. The

agency is responsible for assessing the quality of data as well as validating the data received from Member States, including disaggregated data. UNODC then produces regional and global estimates to track progress over time.

Five dimensions are used to assess the quality of the data:

- 1 – Comparability of the data between countries and over the years, when the definition of intentional homicide used by countries adheres to the definition of homicide included in the ICCS.
- 2- Completeness of the homicide count and desegregated data
- 3- Timeliness: availability of the data in recent years
- 4-Internal consistency: desegregated indicators sum up to the total number of homicides.
- 5- External consistency: Correspondence of homicide victim counts from different official sources.



Global data quality assessment of SDG16.1.1 shows that only 20% of the countries worldwide with available data on homicide were scored as good.

As for the ESCWA region, 11 out of 22 countries have been disseminating data, however data quality is low. Three countries have reported on this indicator in their VNR and SDG reports, however, the data is discrepant from country data reported to UNDOC and disseminated in the UNSD SDG database as shown below.

Indicators	UNSD SDG Database (C-CA)	UNSD SDG Database (E-M-N-NA-G)	SDG in national report
16.1.1 Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age	11 (C)	0	≠ Morocco, Oman, Palestine

*C: country data, CA: country adjusted data, E: estimated data, G: global monitoring data, M: modeled data, N: non-relevant data, NA: data nature not available as presented in UNSD SDG database, = : National data same as Country data, ≈: National data nearly same as Country data, ≠National data is not equal to Country data*

#### Recommendations for the countries:

- Countries to participate in the annual data collection of the UN Crime Trends Survey.
- Countries to refer to the ICCS standards to collect additional information on the context of violence.
- Countries to modernize their administrative records to compile disaggregated data.
- Countries to nominate national focal points for sustainable reporting.

#### Recommendations for ESCWA/UNODC:

- UNODC to provide additional capacity development workshops on the methodology of data collection to nominated focal points from administrative sources
- ESCWA to follow up with countries to nominate the experts in the field on this indicator.

### Jordan experience:

In Jordan, the problem lies in the shared databases between different stakeholders. There are challenges and difficulties in accessing data by the Department of Statistics. To some extent, the Department of Statistics relies on paper reports or the exchange of Excel files based on official registers.

Building the methodology of collecting data is not an easy process and requires the concerted efforts of all stakeholders, as well as spreading awareness of the importance of data and statistical concepts, especially the issue of coding. Work must begin to standardize the methodologies of collecting these data in cooperation with international organizations.

### Oman Experience:

The problem we face in Oman in registering homicide data, lies in the fact that the registered data and the one sent to UNODC changes with time. For example, if the number of victims of intentional homicide were counted as 9 in the past year, this number will be reduced to 7 this year because as result of investigation 2 out of 9 crimes turn out to be suicide crimes. Therefore, we appreciate that data will be sent again in the following year for a backward revision.

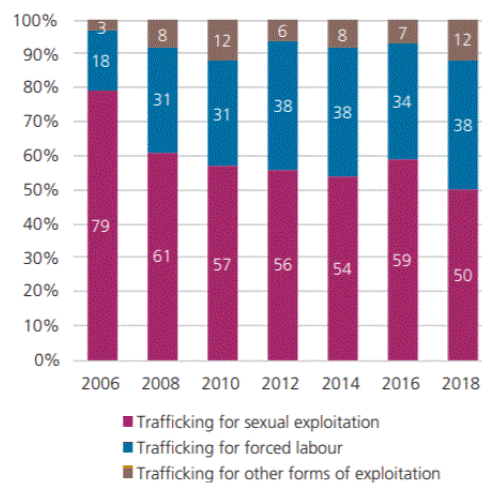
### 16.2.2 Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation

For the purpose of this indicator, human trafficking is defined as per the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol as “the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs”.

This indicator is disaggregated by sex, age, and forms of exploitation. Different forms of exploitation have been recorded over the years with an increasing share of victims in forced labor that have been detected Worldwide.

Data on detected victims of trafficking are provided annually by national authorities competent in detecting trafficking victims like police, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice, through UN GLOTIP questionnaire. It is to note that the number of detected victims as reported by law enforcement

FIG. 10 Trends in the shares of forms of exploitation among detected trafficking victims, 2006–2018



Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.

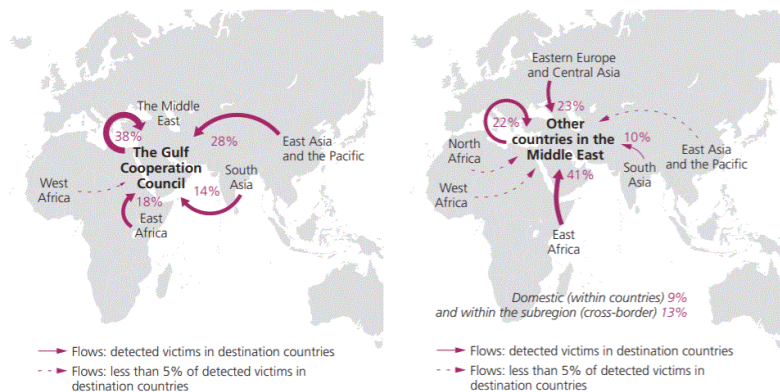


authorities does not monitor the level of trafficking of persons in a given country as it only refers to the number of victims that were identified by national authorities and reported on.

The progress in coverage of this indicator has gone hand in hand with tailored legislations. Countries which have introduced a specific offense on trafficking in persons in line with the UN Protocol and trafficking in persons, have also built up a stronger data collection system. With this progress in data coverage, the profile of the victims has changed over the years, showing a decreasing share of women in the total number of victims and increasing share of boys.

As per the global report on trafficking, the origins of trafficking victims detected in the Middle East and the Gulf Cooperation Council are from East Asia and the Pacific and East Africa, but also in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

MAP. 26 Origins of trafficking victims detected in the Middle East, 2018 (or most recent)



Source: UNODC elaboration of national data.  
 Note: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Out of the 148 countries that are currently disseminating data on this indicator, only 14 countries are from the Arab Region. Only Bahrain has been reporting on this indicator in their VNR and SDG reports with same information as reported to UNODC, the rest of countries have not used available data for policy analysis.

Indicators	UNSD SDG Database (C-CA)	UNSD SDG Database (E-M-N-NA-G)	SDG in national report
16.2.2 Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation	14 (C)	0	= Bahrain

C: country data, CA: country adjusted data, E: estimated data, G: global monitoring data, M: modeled data, N: non-relevant data, NA: data nature not available as presented in UNSD SDG database, = : National data same as Country data, ≈: National data nearly same as Country data, ≠National data is not equal to Country data

#### Recommendations for the countries:

- Countries to participate in the data collection and submit the UN GLOTIP questionnaire in September 15, 2021.
- Countries to nominate focal points for data collection and to establish a data collection system

- Countries to consider producing national reports on trafficking in persons for policy analysis for combating crime and adopting protection procedures.

#### Recommendations for ESCWA/UNODC:

- UNODC to support in the process of capacity development of focal points for collection of data
- ESCWA to support countries in establishing a national network of data focal points.

#### ATTENDANCE AND EVALUATION

An electronic evaluation was completed by 19 participants during the webinar. The results were as follows:

- 84 per cent of respondents rated the overall quality of the webinar as “Excellent” and 16 per cent as “good”.
- 74 per cent indicated that the webinar was successful in reaching its intended objectives as “Excellent”, 26 per cent as “good”.
- 74 per cent rated the inputs provided by presenters in reaching the intended outcome of the webinar as “Excellent”, 21 per cent as “Good” and 5 per cent as “Fair”.
- 68 per cent rated the overall organization and logistics of the webinar as “Excellent” and 32 per cent assessed it as “Good”.

#### TRAINING CERTIFICATION

Participants who successfully attended the ESCWA SDG webinar were awarded a training certificate by the organizers.

# GROUP PHOTOS

Zoom Meeting

Recording...

View

Joelle Atallah	Wejdan Alhedy...	Maurice Dunaiki	ESCWA Zoom-5	Giulia Serio
Enrico Bisogno	Guilherme Mira...	sawsan abd razq	Wejdan Alhedy...	BADAR ALGHAFRI
Talib Al Wahshi	Zahir Mohamed...	Nadia Touhri	Zeinab Ali	safaa Lazim- U...
hala hadi	Wejdan Alhedy...	Mariam Muthafer	Hamad alshaya...	Abdulwahab Bu...
Neda Jafar	Fatima Kassem	Interpreter Han...	Wejdan Alhedy...	Hamid Abdulla...

Click to join audio

Join Audio Stop Video Security Participants 44 Polls Chat Share Screen Pause/Stop Recording Breakout Rooms Reactions Leave

11:43 AM 27/07/2021

## LIST OF ANNEXES

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Annex 2: LIST OF ORGANIZERS & PARTICIPANTS

Annex 3: RESOURCES

Annex 4: Q & A

Annex 5: METADATA

## Annex 1: AGENDA

Day: 27 July (Beirut Time)		Speakers
10:00 – 10:05 A.M.	Introduction to the Webinar (objective, speakers, and content)	ESCWA – Neda Jafar
10:05 – 10:10 A.M.	Introduction to measuring SDG 16 in Latin America	UNODC – Enrico Bisogno
10:10 – 10:20 A.M.	UNODC methodological tools and data collection for SDG 16	UNODC - Guilherme Miranda Dutra
10:20 – 10:35 A.M.	16.1.1 Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age	UNODC – Maurice Dunaiski
10:35 – 10:50 A.M.	Jordan country experience Oman country experience Discussion – Q&A	Enas Arabyat Talib Al Wahshi
10:50 – 11:05 A.M.	16.2.2 Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation	UNODC – Giulia Serio
11:05 – 11:15 A.M.	Discussion – Q&A	
11:15 – 11:20 A.M.	Way forward and conclusion	ESCWA – Neda Jafar UNODC – Enrico Bisogno

## Annex 2: LIST OF ORGANIZERS & PARTICIPANTS

### LIST OF ORGANIZERS

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### Annex 3: RESOURCES

- <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/statistics/iccs.html>
- <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/measuring-sdg16-webinar-series.html>
- <https://dataunodc.un.org/>
- <https://data.unescwa.org/>
- <https://www.cdeunodc.inegi.org.mx/index.php/home-mesurement-of-sdgs-reginonal-trining-for-measuring-sdg16-in-latin-america/>
- Global study on homicide: <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/global-study-on-homicide.html>
- UNCTS survey: <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/data-and-analysis/United-Nations-Surveys-on-Crime-Trends-and-the-Operations-of-Criminal-Justice-Systems.html>
- Global Study on Homicide 2019 – Methodological annex:  
[https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/gsh/Meth\\_Annex\\_GHS.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/gsh/Meth_Annex_GHS.pdf)

Annex 4: Q & A

Country /Name	Questions	Answers
<b>Indicator 16.1.1</b>		
ESCWA	What is the main issue of data quality in the region? Was it the timeliness, or was it the completeness of the time series? We know that disaggregation is one of them.	Timeliness seems to be a quite an issue when you look at the time series that we have on intentional homicide in the region. Many countries do report, but they report only very periodically and for some countries the latest available data go back to, 2010 for example. So, we don't know what happened over the last 10 years. Therefore, timeliness as well as of course collecting information on these disaggregating variables are the key issues in the region.
ESCWA	Can you give us direction on how to deal with this indicator that comes from police records that have not been finalized by the country?	In the UN-CTS which UNODC send out annually, there's always a scope backward revision. The questionnaire is populated with data points previously received and where there is a second column next to it which Member States can then use to adjust previous values. If there are any discrepancies between the two values UNODC goes back to the Member States directly. But this is one way of ensuring that even if it turns out, for example, that a couple of homicide cases were suicides, it is reflected in the data. And of course, this means that for some time the data will be inaccurate, but the agency always makes sure that after a while to adjust the value after revision by the Member States.
<b>Indicator 16.2.2</b>		
ESCWA	For these two indicators, how do UNODC do data verification? Do you go back with the focal point and do you do the any data verification with the with the with these focal points?	Of course, data collection does not end with the submission of the question. Once the questionnaire is submitted, we of course review it and then make sure that the data is correct and comparable and then complement this information with many other sources of data. So, for instance we are in touch with our focal points at national level which include UN colleagues, but also focal points from national authorities who have provided the information. And then we ask for clarification and we also complement this data by collecting qualitative information on trafficking. And as in other exercise, data are collected every year and Member States are asked to revise and update the data submitted if needed.

Safa	Should countries collect data directly from the court? Or should they still provide you with data from any source they have like the primary source, which is the police records?	<p>In the UN-CTS survey, there are options for the different agencies within the criminal justice system to report their data, so oftentimes UNODC would be interested in getting data from all these agencies. But as previously said, if the data changed because of a specific case going through the system, there's always the possibility to then revise it in subsequent years.</p> <p>In the case of homicide data for example, countries are asked to provide data at all the levels: how many cases were detected or reported by the police, how many prosecutions were started and then how many cases were brought into courts. It is important to collect data from the police because this source of data applies in all countries. Of course, the numbers provided are an approximation of the reality, but data taken from police because it would give a clearer image as not all cases end up in court.</p>
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Annex 5: METADATA

Indicators	Data Source	Summary of Metadata
<p>16.1.1 Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population, by sex and age</p>	<p>Main source: Administrative records (NSO, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior,...)</p>	<p>In the ICCS intentional homicide is defined as the “Unlawful death inflicted upon a person with the intent to cause death or serious injury”. This definition contains three elements characterizing the killing of a person as intentional homicide: 1. The killing of a person by another person (objective element); 2. The intent of the perpetrator to kill or seriously injure the victim (subjective element); 3. The unlawfulness of the killing, which means that the law considers the perpetrator liable for the unlawful death (legal element). Last updated: 19 July 2016 This definition states that, for statistical purposes, all killings corresponding to the three criteria above should be considered as intentional homicides, irrespective of definitions provided by national legislations or practices.</p> <p>The ICCS provides important clarifications on the definition of intentional homicide. In particular, it states that the following killings are included in the count of homicide: - Murder - Honour killing - Serious assault leading to death - Death as a result of terrorist activities - Dowry-related killings - Femicide - Infanticide - Voluntary manslaughter - Extrajudicial killings - Killings caused by excessive force by law enforcement/state officials</p> <p>Computation method: The indicator is calculated as the total number of victims of intentional homicide recorded in a given year divided by the total resident population in the same year, multiplied by 100,000.</p>
<p>16.2.2 Number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population, by sex, age and form of exploitation</p>	<p>Main source: Administrative records (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)</p>	<p>According to Article 3, paragraph (a) of the UN Trafficking in Persons Protocol, trafficking in persons is defined as “the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs”. Article 3, (b) states “the consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation set forth in subparagraph (a) of this</p>

		<p>article shall be irrelevant where any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a) have been used”; Article 3, (c) states “the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered trafficking in persons even if this does not involve any of the means set forth in subparagraph (a);”</p> <p>Computation method: The indicator is defined as the ratio between the total number of victims of trafficking in persons detected or living in a country and the population resident in the country, expressed per 100,000 populations.</p>
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