**United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia**



**Regional Workshop on Poverty Measurement and Monitoring in the Era of Big Data**

**22-23 December 2020**

**Provisional Agenda**

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| **Day 1. Tuesday, 22 December 2020 (Beirut Time)** | |
| **13:30-13:45** | **Opening Remarks:**   * United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (UN-ESCWA) * Objectives of the workshop |
| **13:45-15:00** | **Session 1: Big Data to measure and monitor SDGs**  **Moderator: Mr. Fouad Mrad, UN-ESCWA**   * Setting the stage (Mr. Fouad Mrad, UN-ESCWA) * The feasibility of using Big Data for development (Mr. Vedran Sekara, UNICEF) * The status of using Big Data/ non-traditional data in the compilation of SDGs indicators in Arab countries: an overview (Mr. Ismail Lubbad, UN-ESCWA) * Poverty measurement – case of Denmark and some global aspects (Mr. Maciej Truszczynski and Mr. Niels Ploug, Statistics Denmark) * **Discussion** |
| **15:00-15:15** | **Break** |
| **15:15-16:45** | **Session 2: Statistical methodologies and the use of Big Data for poverty measurement**    **Moderador: Mr. Jawad Al Saleh, Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics**   * Mapping poverty with remote sensing and other Big Data sources (Mr. Giovanni Savio, Expert on Big Data for SDGs); * Using financial transaction Big Data to support household surveys: the case of monitoring consumer spending behaviors during COVID19 pandemic (Mr. Hatem ElSherif, Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Centre, UAE) * Which model for poverty predictions? (Mr. Paolo Verme, World Bank) * **Discussion.** |

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| **Day 2. Wednesday, 23 December 2020 (Beirut Time)** | |
| **11:00- 12:30** | **Session 3: Statistical methodologies and the use of Big Data for poverty measurement among migrants and refugees**    **Moderator: Mr. Heidi Saidi, AITRS**   * Using social media advertising data to map poverty among migrants and refugees (Mr. Ingmar Weber, Qatar Computing Research Institute); * Assessing the living conditions of refugee communities in Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan through the lens of cellphone metadata: promise, challenges, and future directions (Mr. Emmanuel Letouzé and Ms. Roaa Al Feel, Data-Pop Alliance) * Lebanon case: Assessing non-traditional data sources for the conditions of refugees and host communities (Mr. Fouad Mrad, UN-ESCWA); * **Discussion** |
| **12:30-12:45** | **Break** |
| **12:45-14:15** | **Session 4: High frequency phone surveys to measure and monitor poverty and living conditions**  **Moderator: Mr. Ismail Lubbad, UN-ESCWA**   * Monitoring COVID-19 impacts and poverty using innovative methods (Mr. Utz Pape, World Bank) * Statistical and operational challenges of shifting from face-to-face to CATI LFS |(Mr. Nader Keyrouz, ILO Regional Office) * **Discussion** |
| **Closing session: Conclusion and Way Forward**   * Evaluation of the workshop * Conclusion and recommendations * General discussion |