Expert Group Meeting on Effective Data Generation
for the Incheon Strategy Indicators
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Country Brief

Country name: **Macao, China**

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1. On the availability of national baseline data for the Incheon Strategy Indicators as reported in the ESCAP survey

Please provide a summary of key findings from country-level work on the ESCAP survey (max. 500 words):

From the questionnaire of the IS baseline survey, it is discovered that the survey involves 51 national indicators, amongst which 37 of them have been acquired by the Macao SAR government (equivalent to 73% of the indicators). Indicators which have not yet been acquired mainly involve: 1) Goal 3 (Accessibility), 2) Goal 6 (Women with disabilities) and Goal 7 (Disaster management).

The reasons for not being able to acquire related data are that in the past period, no tailor-made survey had been done on exploring data concerning persons with disablities, and no assessibility standard has been set in these fields. Therefore, in order to acquire related data, tailor-made surveys focusing on those not yet acquired data involving persons with disabilities will be held regularly in the future. At the same time, we will further explore on the standard of accessibility as well as to design and launch related programmes on disability inclusion.

Currently, Macao SAR government has established an inter-departmental coordination system on rehabilitation affairs. Members of the inter-departmental coordination group used to hold meetings periodically to exchange ideas and discuss on the development and future planning of rehabilitation affairs. In the future, this inter-departmental coordination system will continue to perform its function, including works focusing on the promotion and implementation of Incheon Strategy.

2. Country practices of data collection

Please select 1 to 3 indicators for which data are being collected and describe briefly key aspects of your country's good practices (max. 500 words):

In response to Indicator 1.4 – Proportion of persons with disabilities living below the national poverty line, currently Macao has already set up the minimum subsistence index. For individuals and families with living standard below the minimum substance index, they can apply for financial assistance offered by Social

Welfare Bureau, so that their adequate living standard can be maintained. In addition to this, eligible persons with disabilities / families can also apply for the disability subsidy, which is a kind of special subsidy for disabled persons as they are being regarded as one of the three kinds of vulnerable families. Through such social welfare system, we are able to acquire data of persons with disabilities with income below the minimum subsistence index.

As per Indicator 8.1 - Disability prevalence based on the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) by age, sex, race and socioeconomic status, Macao SAR acquires concrete data from the census which are held every five and ten years. Macao started to conduct disability population census in year 2001, and the ICF concept-based questionnaire was later being introduced into the mid-year population census of 2006 and the population census in year 2011 in order to enhance the collection of data. Whenever Statistics and Census Service design related questionnaires, they will first consult the opinion of Social Welfare Bureau in order to fine-tune the content related to persons with disabilities. The questionnaire will then be mailed to the selected citizens for filling in. In order to increase the response rate, census enumerators offer door-to-door collection service and personal assistance for questionnaire completion. The result of the census will be disclosed to the general public after it is finalized. This serves as an importanct reference for the Macao SAR government.

3. Achievements and lessons learnt

Please describe briefly major achievements in disability data collection in recent years, and the lessons learnt (max. 500 words):

One significant characteristic of Macao is that it is a relative small city (with area less than 30 km^2). Among the six hundred thousand population, 2% of them are persons with disabilities. In this small scale city with such a small population, it is relatively easy to collect data compared to other countries and cities of the Asia Pacific region. For long, the Macao SAR government used to uphold the philosophy of " Scientific Decision-making". In recent years, the government continues to fine-tune its data collection system in order to develop strategies with deeper scientific base. And a number of new policies has also been implemented on data collection related to persons with disabilities.

In year 2011, Macao SAR government introduced the "Evaluation, Registration and Disability Card Issurance System". By introducing this system, persons with disabilities are being assessed by multi-disciplinary professionals in order to define their disability level. Disability cards will then be issued to those who have been offically recognized as persons with disabilities. By developing such a disability assessment and registration database, the government can have a more concrete idea on the situation of disabled persons.

In addition, Macao SAR government has adopted the ICF module of questionnaire

design in the census of year 2011 in order to learn more about the housing and demographic characteristic of persons with disabilities.

However, from the experience of past surveys, it is discovered that some respondents are not willing to disclose the disability condition of oneself or of their families upon considering the issue of personal privacy and have some other personal concerns. This thus affected the result of the survey to a certain extent. On the other hand, in order to motivate the respondents to provide more concrete information so as to enhance the development of the disability database, when launching the "Evaluation, Registration and Disability Card Issuance System", the Macao SAR government announced that all eligible disability cardholders will be granted with an annual disability subsidy. In addition, they can also enjoy free medical and health care service in government hospitals as well as taking buses at discount price. The purpose for holding these welfare policies is to attract more persons with disabilities to register their disability status, so as to build up a comprehensive database gradually and the information obtained will be served as baseline references for implementing, monitoring and evaluating rehabilitation policies.

4. Major challenges to improve the availability and quality of data

Please highlight the institutional, financial and technical constraints in collecting data for the Incheon Strategy Indicators (max. 500 words):

During the process of data collection, we got to know that the related government departments all face the same problem, i.e. it is hard to acquire concrete operational definitions and scope of certain indicators, thus creating difficulties for data collection and affecting accuracy of the information obtained.

In data collection, when involving services for the general public (such as vocational training programmes), though there might be persons with disabilities participating in it, however, as it is not compulsory for participants to report their disability status due to personal privacy protection, thus the data collected may not reflect the full picture of the status.

Apart from the above, as certain services involve a number of government departments and data can only be calculated by no. of times of service, there might be duplication of data if a person enjoys a number of services at the same time. This greatly affects the accuracy of the database. Besides, as the definition of disability by different departments on different services vary, there is the doubt if statistics acquired in this way can be compiled together.

5. National capacity-building needs

Please identify critical capacity-building needs in your office (max. 500 words):

To enhance the establishment of the database, related co-workers need to have a

clearer idea on the meaning and implication of the indicators, as well as definition of terms and their scope.

Referring to the part concerning Goal 3 – Accessibility, Macao SAR needs to further study related information so as to have a deeper understanding on how to set up certain assessibility standard.

As per Goal 7 – Disaster Management, as there has not been serious disaster in the region before, currently we don't have a standard disaster management plan and related training programme involving persons with disabilities. Thus there is the need for Macao SAR to further explore on this issue and learn from the experience of other countries and regions.

6. Action plans to improve the availability and quality of disability data

If an action plan exists, please provide a summary of the plan. Othewise, please describe the modalities you envisage in the development of a national action plan (max. 500 words):

Currently, there is no action plan on data collection of the Incheon Strategy. But in the development plan of the 10-year Planning of Rehabilitation Affairs (2016 -2025), the promotion of Incheon Strategy has already been included into the agenda.

To develop an action plan for data collection of the Incheon Strategy, it is suggested that there should be clear periodical goals, time schedule, divison of work and responsibilities of different departments, modality of cooperation between departments, work strategy and related policies, as well as the allocation of resources.

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