Network Meeting of National Statistical Offices
In Europe and Central Asia

TransMonEE: 30 years of monitoring child rights and inequities

Taking stock and growing stronger towards a comprehensive child rights monitoring framework

Concept note

Location: Ankara
Date: 1-2 November 2022

1. Background on TransMonEE

TransMonEE is a three-decade-old regional partnership initiative among the National Statistics Offices (NSOs) that aims to strengthen the coverage, quality, disaggregation, accessibility, and use of data on children, across a breadth of areas relevant to children's rights and wellbeing, aligned with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The review of the most recent concluding observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to State parties has pointed out that all countries, without any exception, received at least one recommendation recently to improve the availability or disaggregation of data on children. Forty-one countries have been recommended to improve data disaggregation while 30 countries need to develop or include child-specific indicators in the national data collection framework. Furthermore, the availability of cross-national data is insufficient for many child-related SDG indicators and other measures of children's well-being. UNICEF recently undertook a comparative assessment of data availability for the 44 SDG indicators that directly concern children and found that 75 per cent of child-related SDG indicators have insufficient data. The assessment revealed that Europe ranks second worst among regions in terms of the share of indicators for which data are missing.

Against this background, the TransMonEE partnership seeks to enhance the generation, comparability, systematization, and integration of statistics and indicators on childhood and adolescence in the region of Europe and Central Asia, as they are instrumental to improve the planning, implementation, and evaluation of policies and programmes for children and adolescents. The partnership contributes to:

- **Enhancing** technical and methodological capacities for the regular compilation and use of indicators for monitoring the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and child-related SDG targets.
- **Promoting** the disaggregation of data (by sex, age, disability, geographic location, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, or other markers) to shed light on disparities in access to services and entitlements.
- **Supporting** governments in improving accessibility, dissemination, and use of quality data and statistics on children to drive effective public policies and investments for children.
- **Identifying** possible areas of synergy among NSOs, leading institutions for childhood and adolescence, international organizations, and the academic world, and promoting greater collaboration among them to strengthen their capacity for measuring the situation of children in all the countries in the region.

The main comparative advantage of TransMonEE is to serve as a platform for guiding discussions between NSOs as main data producers and policymakers as main data users on how to improve the availability, disaggregation, and use of data on children, particularly vulnerable children, usually not well captured in official statistics.

The TransMonEE regional database and website are useful tools for capturing and disseminating a vast range of data on all issues affecting children. TransMonEE annual meetings serve as a platform

where UNICEF, NSOs, and other key partners discuss and reflect on child-related data that is collected or ought to be collected by National Statistical Systems and how data collection systems can be improved to produce better quality and comparable statistics.

3. Objective of the 2022 TransMonEE Meeting

After a pause of three years, following the successful 2019 TransMonEE meeting, this year's TransMonEE meeting will seek

- to review the recently adopted Guidance of the Conference of European Statisticians for improving statistics on selected vulnerable groups of children.
- to take stock of the application of the new list of minimum child protection indicators in the region and specifically explore good practices related to the generation of statistics on children in alternative care,
- to discuss and reach a broad consensus on a regional monitoring framework for child rights with its key domains, sub-domains, and indicators and the adjustments needed in the post-COVID period to capture the realization of child rights and challenges children face in today's world.

4. Audience

The participants (90-110) will include delegations of 3-4 persons per country. These will include:

- Representatives of National Statistical Offices (Social Statistics /focal points for TransMonEE)
- Representatives of line ministries responsible for the collection, analysis, and use of alternative care data
- For selected countries, if there is a counterpart dealing with data/evidence/planning in the national child rights coordinating body/council (responsible for child rights monitoring/implementation)
- Partners, researchers, academics, and civil society
- UNICEF global statistics experts, and Child Rights Monitoring specialists from the region

5. Format

The TransMonEE network meeting will take place on 1-2 November 2022 in a presential format and will include expert and panel presentations, group discussions, and plenary sessions. A full agenda and administrative note will be circulated in due course.

6. Logistics and budget

The meeting will be held in Ankara at Turkstat facilities. The cost of travel is to be borne by participants. Lunch and refreshments during breaks will be provided throughout the 2-day event.

Should you have any questions, please contact ecarodata@unicef.org.