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Towards the incorporation of perceptions indicators in household surveys in LAC countries

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Why use subjective information in the measurement of well-being?

Together with material indicators, it allows a more comprehensive (complete) measurement of quality of life

It reports on patterns not reflected in conventional indicators, complementing them.

Reduce the gap between official statistics and people's perception of their well-being

The welfare judgment is not neutral for the actor. Giving the subject a voice is consistent with democratic practice.

Conjuncture: wave of social unrest and crisis unleashed by the pandemic ... growing disconnection between elites and citizens

SDG: Indicators based on subjective information

10.3.1

Proportion of population reporting having personally felt discriminated against or harassed in the previous 12 months on the basis of a ground of discrimination prohibited under international human rights law

16.1.4

Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live

16.6.2

Proportion of population satisfied with their last experience of public services

16.7.2

Exploring data sources
Proportion of population who believe decision-making is inclusive and responsive, by sex, age, disability and population group



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Source: own elaboration, based on <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/indicators-list/>

How's life (OECD) Multidimensional Framework of Indicators in 11 dimensions of well-being (1)



Subjective well-being

- Satisfaction with life
- Emotional balance



Work life balance

- Satisfaction with the use of time



Social connections

- Social support: population that reports having close people they can count on in times of difficulty
- Satisfaction with personal relationships



Civic engagement

Population that claims they have no voice in what the government does



Security

- Population that feels safe walking alone at night



Health

Perceived health status



Social capital

- Interpersonal trust
- Trust in the government
- Trust in the police



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What about the NSO in the region?

- In the surveys of some NSOs, information has begun to be collected on:
 - Subjective well-being
 - Assessment of public services
 - Trust in institutions
 - Experienced discrimination
 - Perceptions of insecurity
- These experiences can be very useful for NSOs who want to start collecting this type of information.
- In any case, the NSOs that are capturing subjective information are few. There is still a long way to go.



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How to move forward? (1)



The prioritization of subjective indicators can contribute to public policy and statistical improvement

- The international monitoring bodies (ODS, How's life) should be a reference
- Regional consultations can serve to identify common priorities, beyond the national



The harmonization of subjective indicators will contribute to international monitoring

- Instances of search for agreements regarding how to measure the prioritized indicators



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How to move forward? (2)



Within the framework of the Statistical Conference of the Americas, it is proposed to advance through an “Initiative Group”, which will assume the following tasks:

- Determine the areas of interest of the countries of the region on the subject
- Develop the terms of reference for the creation of a working group at the XI Meeting of the Conference



The objective of this working group would be to prepare a basic questionnaire for measuring perceptions, based on the review of international experiences and the selection of best practices.



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THANK YOU

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