

# 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics

---



Jennifer Madans (U.S.A.)

National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS)/  
Washington Group on Disability Statistics

# Meeting Objectives and Agenda

---

# Summary of annual meetings

---

1. Washington, DC 2/2002

2. Canada 1/2003

3. Belgium 2/2004

4. Thailand 9/2004

5. Brazil 9/2005

6. Uganda 10/2006

7. Ireland 9/2007

8. Philippines 10/2008

9. Tanzania 10/2009

10. Luxembourg 11/2010

11. Bermuda 11/2011

12. Thailand 10/2012

13. Jordan 10/2013

14. Argentina 10/2014

15. Denmark 10/2015

16. South Africa 12/2016

17. Australia 10/2017

18. Rome, Italy 11/2018

19. Argentina 09/2019

# WG-18 in Rome, Italy; Nov, 2018:

---

The 18<sup>th</sup> meeting was hosted by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the World Bank and the Italian National Statistical Institute (ISTAT) and attended by 97 persons:

- 57 representing national statistical authorities from 49 countries,
- 13 representatives from universities or national institutes of public health or other national research bodies or ministries,
- 4 representatives from the US NCHS (WG Secretariat),
- 10 representatives from organizations representing persons with disabilities (DPOs), and
- 13 representatives from international organizations

# WG-18 Key Agreements:

---

- Continue to develop guidance for the analysis and presentation of data collected using WG tools
- Continue the development of the Inclusive Education Module and the Disability Module for use in Labor Force Surveys
- Continue work on the measurement of psychosocial functioning

# WG-18 Key Agreements:

---

- Further address the feasibility of collecting information on disability through administrative data systems
- Address the feasibility of continuing with Environment and Participation Workgroup
- Continue development of the WG Website
- Translation of WG questions and documents
- Continue regional workshops and the support for regional activities

# WG: Workgroups / Leaders

---

- Analysis / NCHS
- Child Functioning & Inclusive Education / NCHS
- Psychosocial Functioning and Mental Health /  
Margie Schneider (South Africa); Elena De  
Palma (Italy)
- Disability Module for Labor Force Surveys /  
Daniel Mont (UCL/CIP)
- Administrative Data / NCHS; Xoliswa Ndamase  
(South Africa)
- Environmental Factors and Participation / NCHS

# WG-19: Agenda

---

# WG19: Pre-meeting Sessions

---

## Pre-meeting Session I: Regional meeting – Latin American and Caribbean countries

- Building on growing country-specific interest in utilizing the WG tools, the WG has begun to lay the groundwork for the establishment of regional entities that would collaborate on implementation activities and share best practices for the collection of disability data at the regional level.
- This session focused on the establishing a similar regional entity for Latin American and Caribbean countries.

# WG19: Pre-meeting Sessions

---

## Pre-meeting Session II: Background, History, and Development of WG's Data Collection Tools & Considerations for Implementation and Analysis

- This session provided a brief orientation for new Washington Group (WG) members including background on the history and the development of the WG's data collection tools.
- Directed to representatives from national statistical offices (NSOs), it also focused on issues related to the implementation of the WG questions and the analysis of the resulting data.

# Agenda: Sessions Overview

---

## Wednesday 25 September

1. Opening Session
  2. Workgroup Updates: Psychosocial Functioning and Mental Health
  3. Workgroup Update: Use of Administrative Systems to Collect Information on Disability
  4. Workgroup Updates: Disability Module for Labor Force Surveys
  5. Workgroup Updates: Child Functioning and Disability
  6. Translation of the WG Questions
-

# Agenda: Sessions Overview

---

## 7. Country Experiences and Activities Related to Disability Statistics – Part 1

Welcome reception

Thursday 26 September

## 8. Workgroup Updates: Analysis & Using the WG Questions

## 9. WG Website Redesign

## 10. WG's Efforts to Support Regional Capacity Building

## 11. Disability Measurement in the 2020 Census Round in Latin America and the Caribbean

---

# Agenda: Sessions Overview

---

Friday 27 September

12. Country Experiences and Activities Related to Disability Statistics – Part 2

13. Next steps and Objectives for the 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting

# Main Action Items for 19<sup>th</sup> meeting

---

- Seek consensus on Analysis Workgroup proposal for creating a Disability Severity Indicator;
- Seek consensus for Data Dissemination Templates;
- Discuss next steps in finalizing the Inclusive Education;
- Seek consensus on further development of the Teacher Version of the CFM;
- Endorse the periodic use of the WG-SS as implemented by ILO in ongoing Labor Force Surveys;

# Main Action Items for 19<sup>th</sup> meeting

---

- Agree on next steps in finalizing Translations;
- Agree on next steps in the development of measures of Psychosocial Functioning;
- Seek consensus on whether/how to move forward with Use of Administrative Systems for Disability Data Collection;
- Seeks consensus on whether/how to move forward in other areas of the Environment and Participation; and
- Discuss the way forward: Regional Capacity Building and Collaborations.

# Activities and Accomplishments

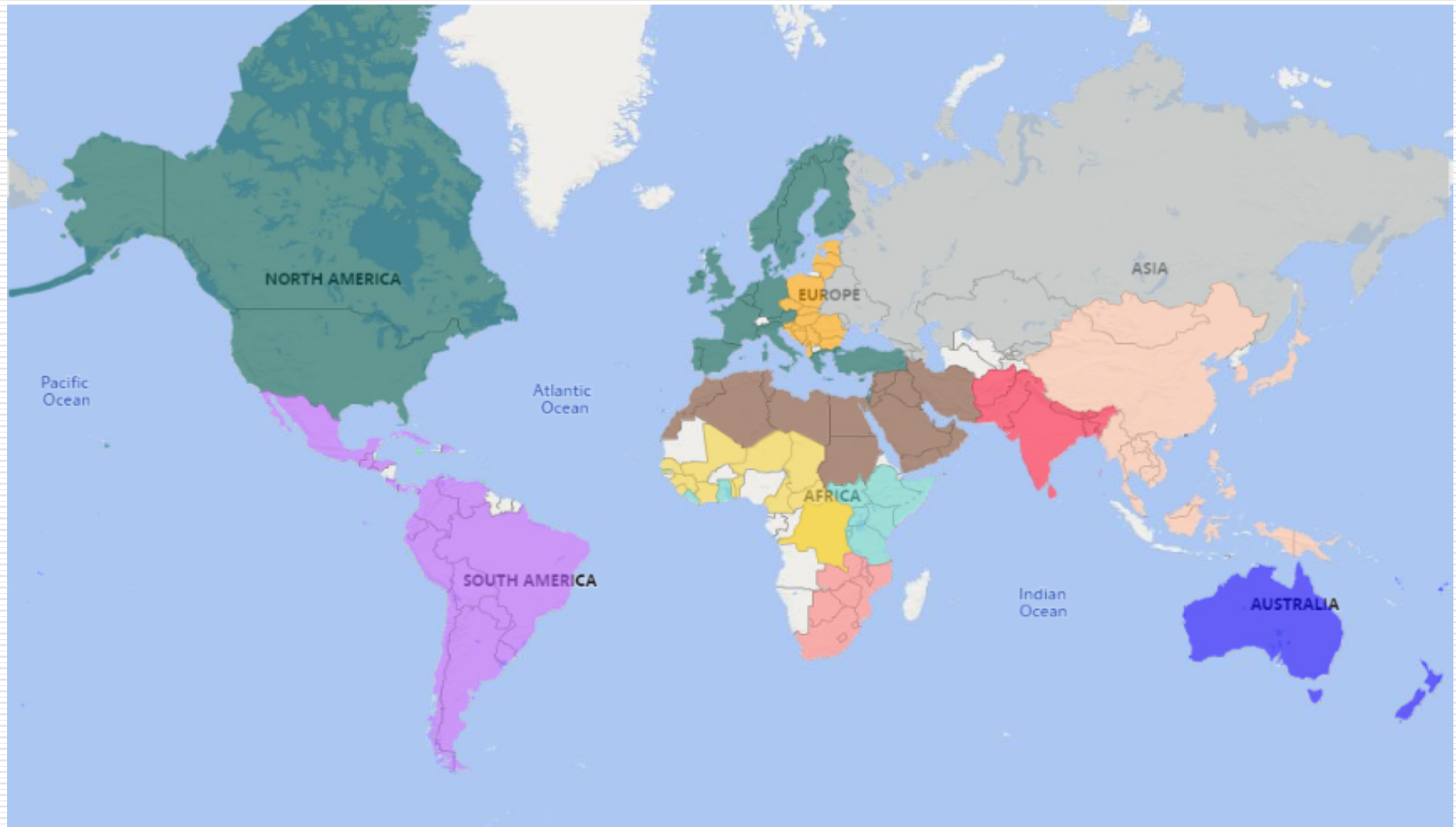
---

# WG – objectives:

---

1. Develop internationally comparable disability measures for censuses and surveys – that can be used for **prevalence** estimates and for **disaggregation** of outcome indicators by disability status
2. Using the ICF as a framework to operationalize a **social model** of disability
3. Develop a **testing methodology** to ensure validity and cross-national comparability

# WG Membership by Region



● Brazzaville Grp ● Caricom ● Casablanca Grp ● East/English Africa ● Eastern Europe ● Kathmandu Grp  
● Latin America ● Moscow Grp ● North America & "EU" ● SE Asia ● South Pacific ● Sub Saharan Africa

# WG Tools

---

1. WG Short Set - adopted 2006
  2. WG Extended Set on Functioning for Adults - adopted 2010
  3. WG/UNICEF Child Functioning Module – adopted 2016
  4. WG/UNICEF Module on Inclusive Education – final testing stage
  5. Disability Module for Labor Force Surveys (with ILO) – final testing stage
  6. Module on Psychosocial Functioning - under development
  7. Module on other aspects of the environment and participation - currently under consideration
-

# Regional Workshops (2017)

---

**UNSD:** on Disability Measurement and Statistics focusing on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 2020 Round of Population and Housing Censuses

Bangkok, Thailand (SE Asia)\*

Bridgetown, Barbados  
(Caribbean)

Kampala, Uganda (Africa)

Muscat, Oman (Western Asia)

Santiago, Chile (Latin America)

Almaty, Kazakhstan (Central Asia)

\* No WG representation

**UNICEF:** on Disability Measurement with a focus on Child Functioning and Disability

Tunis, Tunisia (National)

Geneva, Switzerland  
(Central Asia)

Westchester, NY (Latin America)

Westchester, NY (SE Asia+)

Dakar, Senegal (Africa)

**WG:** on Disability Measurement with a focus on the Implementation of WG tools in National Statistical Systems

Suva, Fiji (South Pacific)

Casablanca, Morocco  
(Western Asia)

Rome, Italy (non-regional)

Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago (Caribbean)

Mexico City, Mexico (Latin America)

# WG Regional Workshops (2018/2019)

---

## Implementation Workshops:

- *Bangkok, Thailand (SE Asia) April 2018*
- *Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (Africa) June 2018*
- **Dakar, Senegal (West Africa) Feb 2019**
- **Moscow, Russia (CIS countries) April 2019**
- **London, UK (South Asia/non-regional) May 2019**

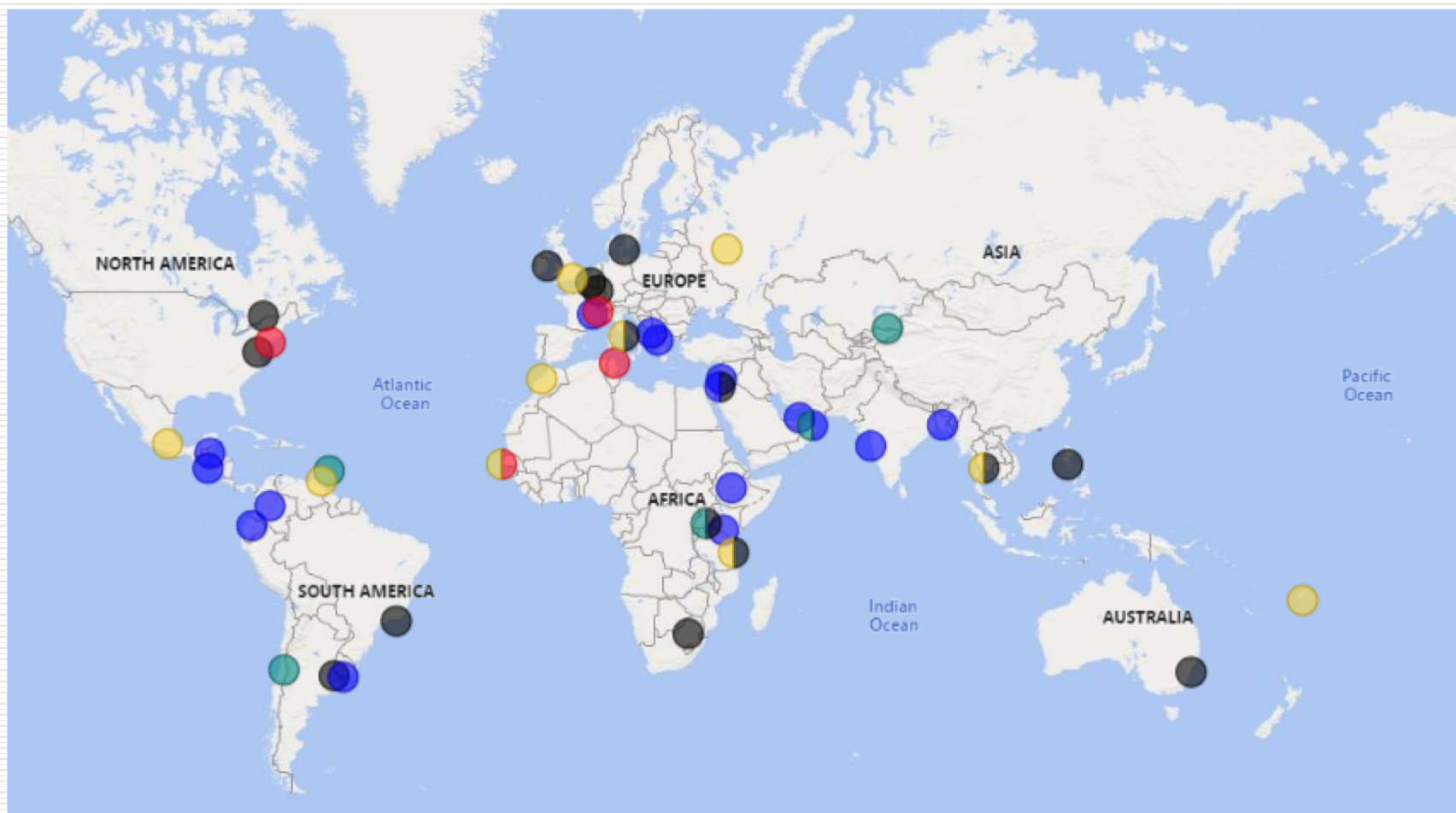
# WG National Training (2019)

---

## National Training:

- Machakos, Kenya Training in preparation for 2019 Census – May 2019
- Montevideo, Uruguay to discuss tools for the systematization of data on population and disability – June 2019

# WG Meetings/Workshops by City



● Annual Meetings ● National workshops ● UNICEF Workshops ● UNSD Workshops ● WG Regional Workshops

# WG Webinars/Remote Connections

---

February 2019:

- Review of Major Outcomes from the 18<sup>th</sup> WG Meeting

August 2019:

- Botswana – Capacity Building in preparation for 2021 Census

September 2019:

- Dominican Republic: International Seminar on Disability and Statistics in preparation for the upcoming Census
- Namibia - Capacity Building in preparation for 2021 Census

# WG/DPO Activities (*2018/2019*)

---

## DPO Training:

- *NYC (with UNICEF) June 2018*
- *Quito, Ecuador December 2018*
- Buenos Aires, Argentina June 2019
- NYC (with IDA/UNICEF) June 2019

## IDA-hosted Webinars:

### *April 2018:*

- *DPO webinar: Mobilizing Disability Data*

### February 2019:

- DPO webinar: Practical guidance on gathering and analyzing disability data
-

# WG – Development Ministry Collaborations

---

## Australia

- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)

## UK

- Department for International Development (DFID)

## Norway

- Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)

## Finland

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs

## USA

- US Agency for International Development (USAID)

# WG – INGO Collaborations

---

The WG has a long history of collaboration with other international organizations:

UNSD  
UNDP  
UNICEF  
UNFPA  
UN Women  
UNPRPD

OHCHR  
World Bank  
ILO  
UNESCO  
UNDESA  
WHO

UN Regional Commissions: ESCAP / ESCWA / ECLAC  
UN Secretariat for the CRPD

# WG – NGO/DPO Collaborations

---

Tools developed by the WG have been championed by DPOs and NGOs internationally - in particular IDA, IDDC, Sightsavers, CBM, HI and others.

Examples:

- Sightsavers:
  - Blog contribution: The Washington Group Questions In Action: Six Lessons Sightsavers Has Learned So Far...
- Humanity and Inclusion (HI):
  - Developed e-learning modules on use of the WG-SS,
  - Assisted in initial testing of the CFM for Teachers,
  - Blog contribution: Learning from the Use of the Washington Group Questions in Development and Humanitarian Programs

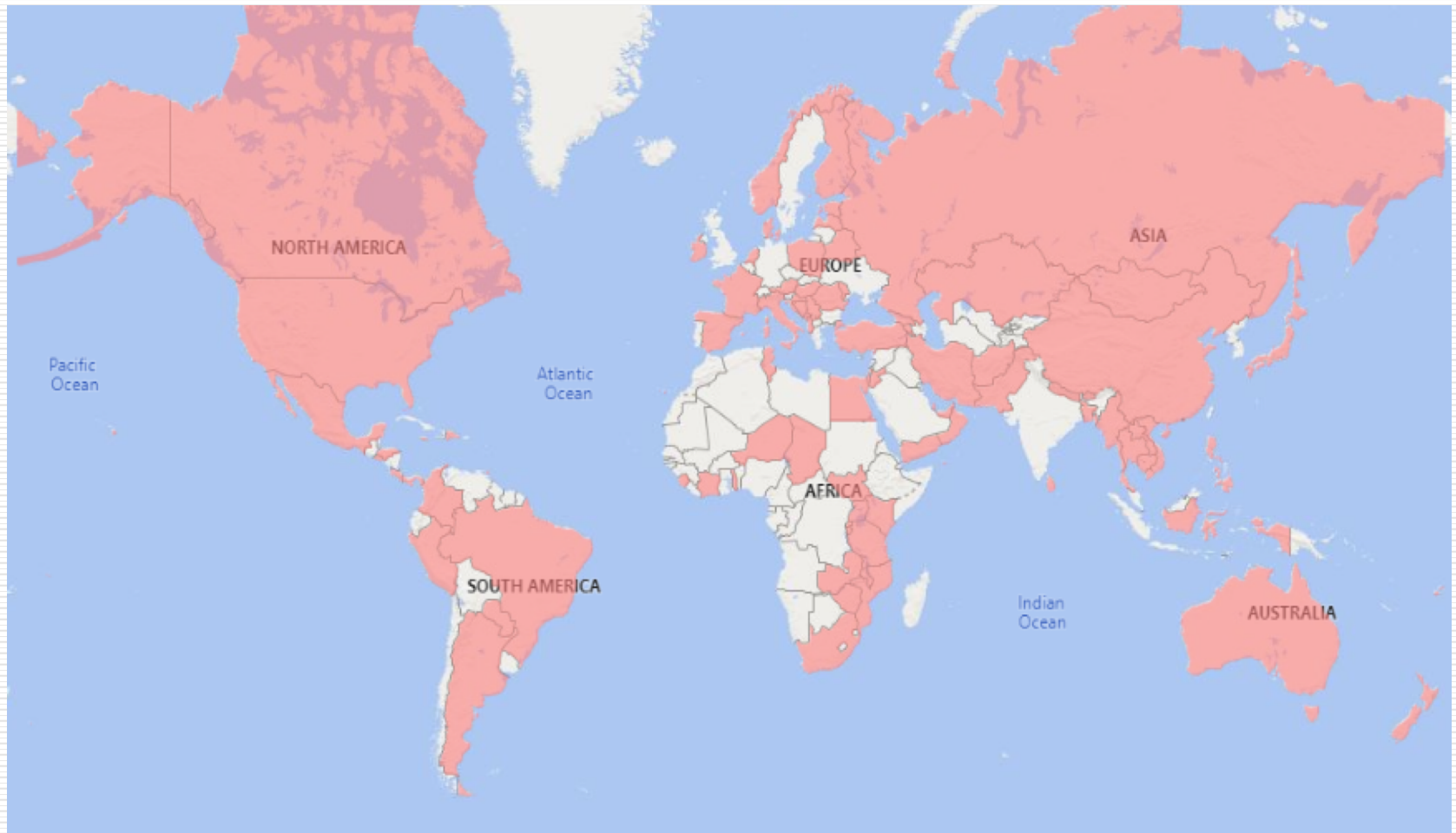
# Adoption of the WG-SS:

---

## The WG-SS

- has been used in censuses or surveys in over 75 countries,
- has been promoted by international aid programs (DFID/UK and DFAT/Australia) as the means to collect disability data in all programs and projects, and
- has been introduced as the means for collecting disability data by the UN Statistical Division (UNSD) and the UN Economic Commission for Europe for the 2020 round of censuses.

# Where in the world is the WG-SS?



Source: Based on information obtained from 2009-2018 WG Country Reports (n=95).

# Adoption of the WG-SS:

---

## UNICEF:

- deployment of the Child Functioning Module (CFM) and WG SS in the **Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS)**

## US AID:

- development of a disability module to include the WG SS in the **Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS)**

## World Bank:

- scaling up the inclusion of the WG-SS into future WB-sponsored household surveys, including the **Living Standards Measurement Study (LSMS)**

# WG: An International Presence

---

# Global Disability Summit (Buenos Aires, Argentina)

---



# WG Events at the Summit

---

- Civil Society side event on 6 June: presented the work of the Washington Group: History of Disability Measurement and Data Production and Analysis using the WG tools. Approximately 50 participants attended the event.
- June 7, plenary session – presented the UNICEF/WG Child Functioning Module. Session attended by approximately about 150 participants.

# WG: Resources

---

# Resources: Guidelines and documentation (Completed)

---

- Data Collection Tools Developed by the WG (Conceptualization and Measurement of Disability)
- WG Short Set Implementation Guidelines (Includes some FAQs and Do's & Don'ts)
- WG Short Set Question by Question Specifications
- Translation Protocol
- Cognitive Testing of Translated Questionnaires
- Analytic Guidelines WG-SS and WG-ES-F including SPSS and SAS syntax (also available in CPro)

Available in: Spanish, Russian, Arabic & French

# Resources: Guidelines and documentation (2019)

---

- Interviewer Guidelines (under revision)
- WG-ES-F Question by Question Specifications (finalized)
- Translations of WG question modules in the official UN languages

# Resources: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) - Examples

---

1. What is the purpose of the introductory statement?
2. How should the questions be administered?
3. What about short-term or temporary difficulties?  
Are they included?
4. Do the questions refer to the use of assistive devices?
5. Can the Short Set be answered by a proxy respondent?
6. Does the Short Set apply to all age groups?
7. Where is the best place to add the Short Set to a census or survey?

# Resources:

## The WG Blog series - Examples

---

1. How are the Washington Group Questions Consistent with the Social Model of Disability?
2. Translating the Washington Group Short Set Questions
3. Washington Group Questions and the Sustainable Development Goals
4. How does the WG-SS Differ from Disability Eligibility Determination?
5. Everybody Counts: Putting the Washington Group Questions into Action
6. Does the WG-SS Identify all People with Disabilities, and Does it Matter?

# Resources:

## The WG Blog series - Examples

---

7. The Washington Group Questions in Action: Six Lessons Sightsavers has Learned so Far...
8. Cognitive Interviewing for the Washington Group
9. Using the Washington Group Questions to Monitor Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Nepal, Cameroon, India and Guatemala
10. Basic Guide to Sampling for Disability Surveys
11. Training on How to Ask "Disability" Questions on Censuses and Surveys
12. Should the Washington Group Questions Determine if Difficulties are Long-term or Short-term?
- 13....and more

# Questions / Discussion

---