Human rights measurement in the Philippines

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Human rights and statistics communities in the Philippines have a history of dialogues towards measurement of human rights. In 2008, the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines (CHRP) and the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB) conducted a survey on indigenous peoples’ rights. In 2012, the U.N. Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights (OHCHR) conducted a national workshop on using human rights indicators to implement and measure human rights in collaboration with the CHRP and supported by the NSCB.

The merging of NSCB with three other major statistics agencies in the Philippines to create the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) and the Post-2015 Sustainable Agenda have created opportunities to build on these previous efforts to actualize the regular generation of human rights indicators. Specifically, the Philippines is actively participating in introducing Data Revolution with PARIS21 and in expert group meetings on the indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals. However, challenges exist moving forward – development of the human rights indicator system/database; strengthening of offices involved in the regular generation of the indicators, including capacity building for staff in human rights-based approach to statistics and setting up of appropriate processes to ensure quality and timeliness of data.

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