



# **Data issues in policy analyses for disability inclusion**

**Maria Martinho, UNDESA/DISD/Program on Disability/SCRPD**

---

- The forthcoming 2018 UN Flagship Report on Disability and Development
- Data available and usable for policy analysis
- Data challenges

# Outline

---



- Report requested by the UN General Assembly (A/RES/69/142)

- Flagship report:

“to compile and analyse national policies,

programmes, best practices and available

statistics regarding persons with disabilities,

reflecting progress made in addressing the relevant internationally agreed development

goals and the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

(CRPD)”

- To be submitted to the General Assembly during 2018



## **UN Flagship Report on Disability & Development**

---

Focus on:

Realizing the SDGs by, for and with persons with disabilities



Report structured around 13 SDGs



# UN Flagship Report on Disability & Development

## Report aims

- at contributing to the full and effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- In line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

It will be the first publication at global level on disability and the SDGs

## Release date

- International Day of Persons with Disabilities, 3 December 2018

# **UN Flagship Report on Disability & Development**

---

To produce the UN Flagship Report on Disability and Development

- Collaboration of UNDESA and experts from
  - UN agencies and international financial institutions
  - Member States
  - academia, research institutions, non-profits, foundations
  - the private sector
  - and non-governmental organisations, especially from organisations of persons with disabilities

## **UN Flagship Report on Disability & Development**

---

- Sources of evidence:

- disability data sets of

DHS

ECLAC

ESCWA

ESCAP

Eurostat

ILO

IPUMS

SINTEF

UNDESA/Statistics Division

UNESCO

WHO

- repositories of national and best practices from various UN and other organizations

- other sources of evidence and expert knowledge

# **UN Flagship Report on Disability & Development**

---

- ❑ Group of experts on disability and development
  - ❑ To take stock of progress made in monitoring and evaluation of disability-inclusive development
  - ❑ To provide inputs to the 2018 UN Flagship Report on Disability and Development
  
- ❑ Started in 2015
  
- ❑ Five Expert Group Meetings organized so far:
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting, 13 – 14 Dec 2017, NY
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting, 10 – 11 May 2017, Geneva
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting, 28 – 29 Nov 2016, NY
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting, 3 – 4 May 2016, NY
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting, 6 – 7 Oct 2015, NY

## **Network of research experts**

---



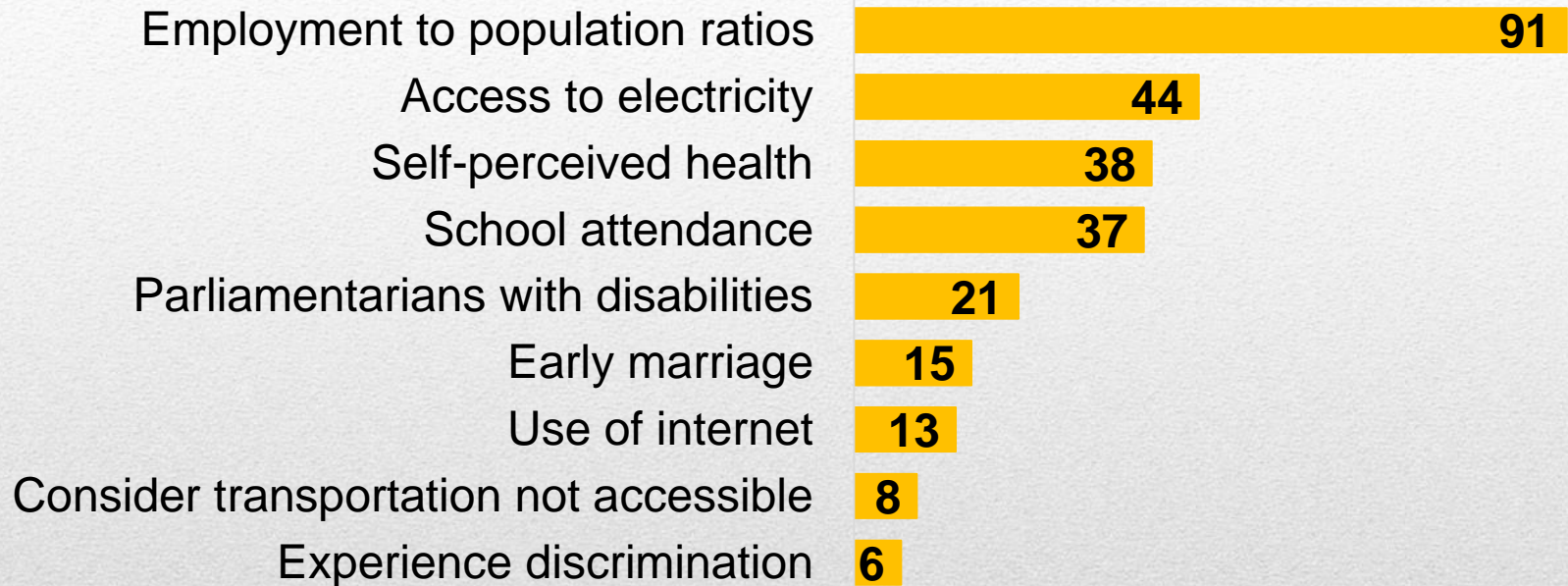
## Data for the report

1. Data found
2. Comparable data
3. Explanatory factors
4. Alternatives forms of evidence
5. Issues with indicators
6. Challenges

**Ongoing evidence and policy research**

---

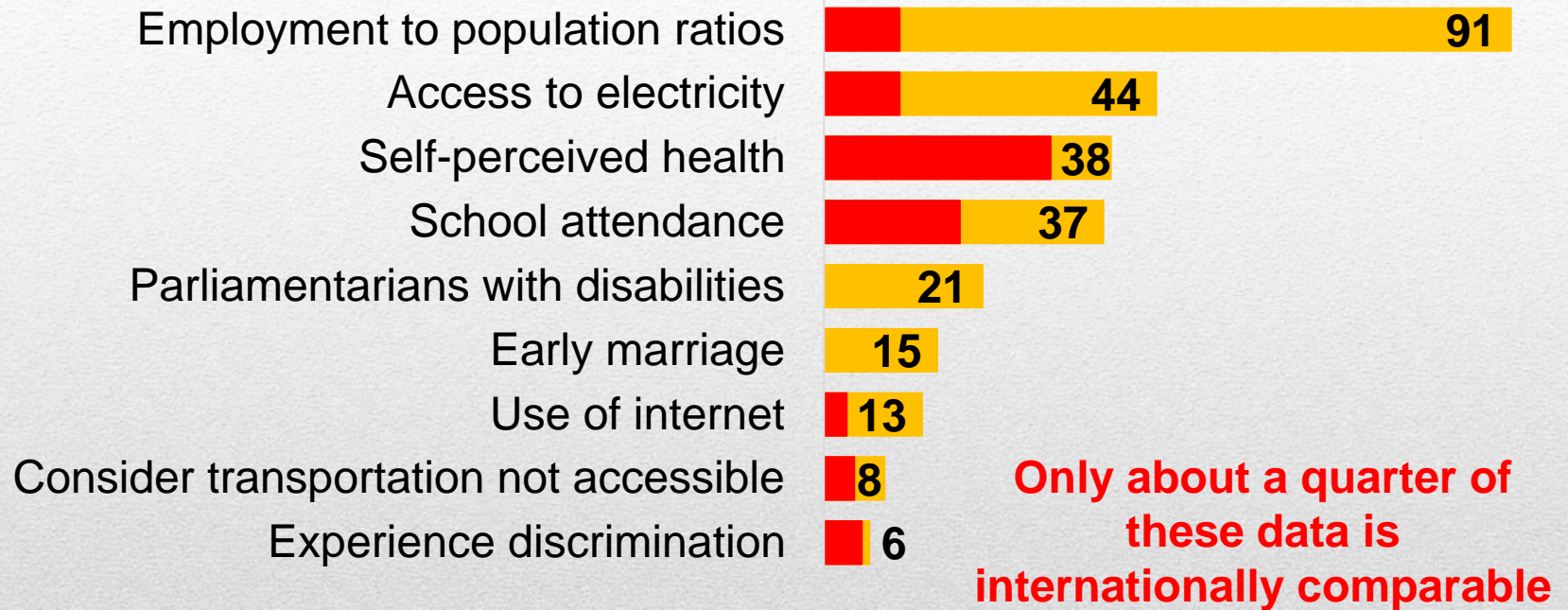
## Number of countries with data points



# Data available in selected databases

---

## Number of countries with data points



# Data available in selected databases

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



CRPD Art.5  
Equality and  
non-  
discrimination

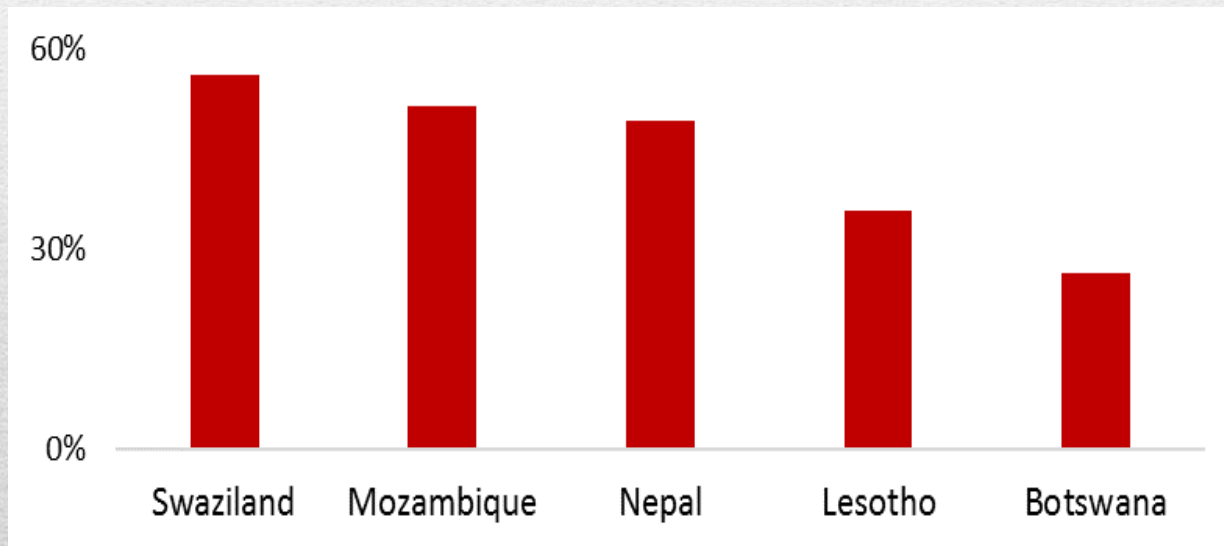
The data show that

Many persons with disabilities report being discriminated

Percentage of persons with disabilities who experience being discriminated, around 2011

Data produced using the Washington Group short set of questions.

Source:  
SINTEF.



**Internationally comparable data**

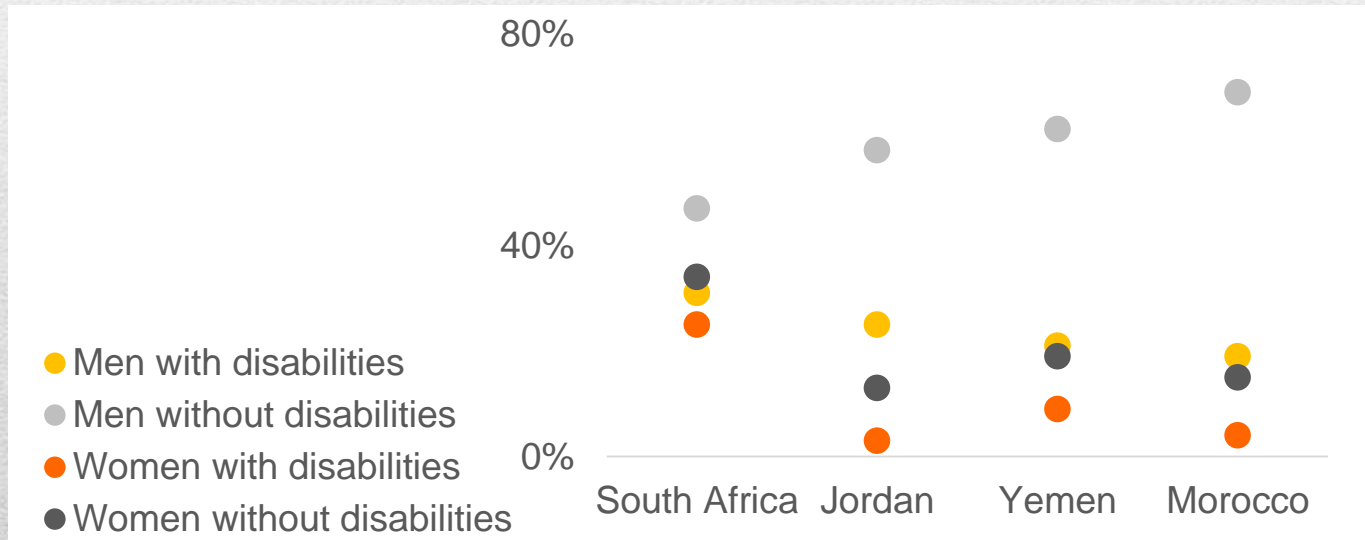


The data show that

Persons with disabilities are less likely to be employed, women with disabilities have the lowest participation in employment

Percentage of persons employed aged 15 and over, around 2013  
Data produced using the Washington Group short set of questions.

Source:  
ESCWA  
and  
IPUMS

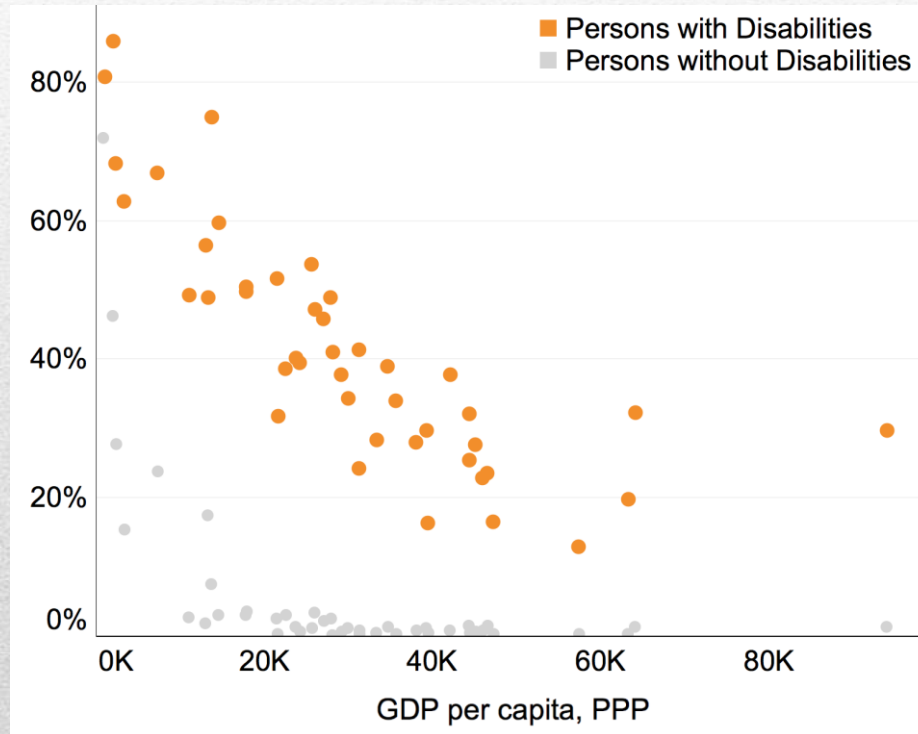


**Internationally comparable data**

The data show that

**Persons with disabilities are more likely to report poorer health in countries with lower GDP per capita**

Percentage of persons who report poor health, around 2012

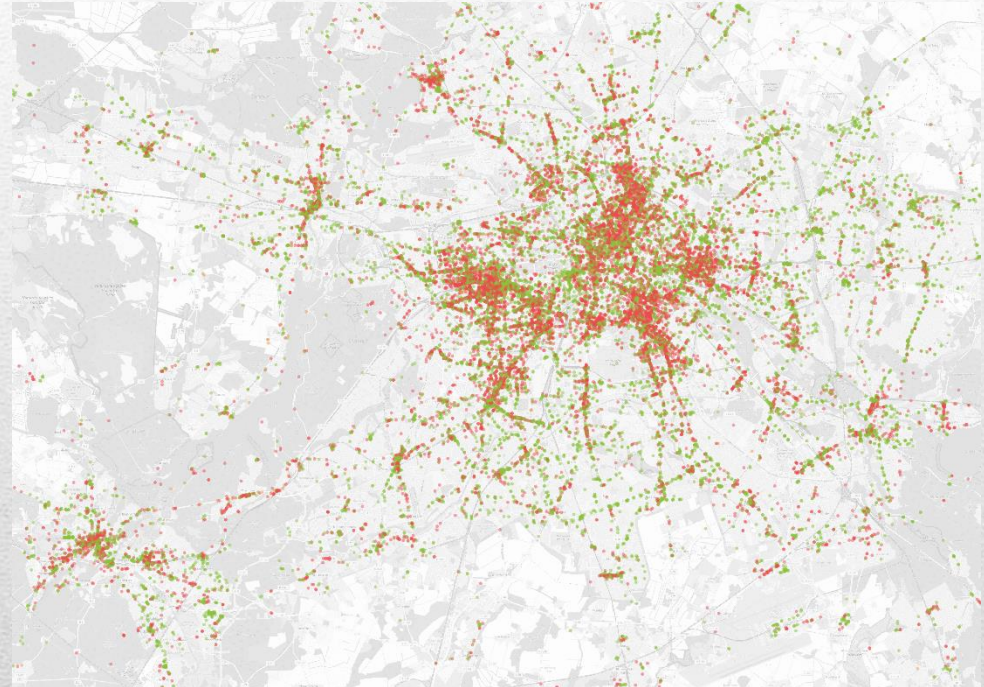


Source:  
EUROSTAT,  
SINTEF, WHO,  
World Bank.

# Explanatory factors

## Accessible public spaces as reported by “the crowd” in smartphone/online applications

**green:** wheelchair accessible  
**yellow:** partially wheelchair accessible  
**red:** not wheelchair accessible



Source:  
[www.accessibility.cloud](http://www.accessibility.cloud)

# Alternatives forms of evidence

---

## Accessible public spaces as reported by “the crowd” in smartphone/online applications

**green:** wheelchair accessible  
**yellow:** partially wheelchair accessible  
**red:** not wheelchair accessible



Source:  
[www.accessibility.cloud](http://www.accessibility.cloud)

# Alternatives forms of evidence

---



- **Persons with disabilities remain invisible in most statistics and political commitment and support from the statistical community is needed to address the following gaps:**
  1. Most data are not comparable across time and across countries
    - Challenging to assess trends over time
    - Difficult to identify best country practices with reliable evidence

## **Disability data for policy making: challenges**

---

2. Many countries collect disability data but only release estimates of disability prevalence
  - Fewer data available to analyse gaps in inclusion & participation in education, employment, voting, access to health services, access to transport, etc.
  - Data particularly scarce for violence and sexual and reproductive health

## **Disability data for policy making: challenges**

---

4. Indicators released may not portrait the full picture for persons with disabilities (e.g. unemployment rates)
5. Data not available in formats suitable for insightful policy analysis (no age disaggregation, no microdata, etc.)
6. Small sample sizes for persons with disabilities. There is a need to produce reliable estimates

## **Disability data for policy making: challenges**

---



# Thank you

**Maria Martinho**

Programme on Disability/Secretariat for the  
Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities  
Division for Inclusive Social Development  
Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
United Nations

[enable@un.org](mailto:enable@un.org)  
[www.un.org/disabilities](http://www.un.org/disabilities)

---