

July 2019

# **The Data Landscape in the United Arab Emirates Strategic Action Plan**

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# Introduction

UNICEF has developed a global Data for Children Strategic Framework<sup>1</sup> which outlines UNICEF's general approach to data work – including the full spectrum of work required to drive demand for, strengthen the supply of, and enable the use of data – as well as some concrete directions for the organization as a whole.

UNICEF's approach to data is based on a commitment to strengthening government systems. Because data is a core element of every part of government with which UNICEF interacts, it is not limited to a single government office or sector. UNICEF's approach seeks to reflect this and take a broader view of demand, supply and use across government at all levels and the larger data ecosystem.

In July 2017, the UAE launched two national strategies: the National Strategy for Motherhood and Childhood (2017–2021) and the Strategic Plan for the Rights of Children with Disabilities (2017–2021), after the Cabinet Office had approved them in March 2017.<sup>2</sup> The development of the strategies was informed by international instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities<sup>3</sup> and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.<sup>4</sup> In addition, they are fully aligned with the United Arab Emirates Vision 2021<sup>5</sup> and with the United Arab Emirates Child Rights (Wadeema's) Law.<sup>6</sup> There is a strong emphasis on the importance of early years child development and opportunities to learn.

Development Initiatives was contracted to work with UNICEF's Gulf Area Office in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) between October 2018 and April 2019 to strengthen the collection, analysis and use of child-related data in UAE, in order to improve results for women and children. It has produced a Diagnostic Report,<sup>7</sup> surveying the data landscape in the UAE and setting out key issues, challenges and opportunities for the UAE's evolving federal statistics institutions. This accompanying Strategic Action Plan suggests some recommendations of ways to enhance data governance and improve collaboration and openness. These will help to facilitate global reporting of UAE's considerable data on children, and decision-making based on more holistic evidence.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://data.unicef.org/resources/data-children-strategic-framework/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://uaecabinet.ae/en/details/news/uae-cabinet-unveils-first-national-strategy-for-children-with-disabilities>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities.html>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/crc.aspx>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.vision2021.ae/en>

<sup>6</sup> <https://government.ae/en/information-and-services/social-affairs/children/childrenrights>

<sup>7</sup> Development Initiatives, 2019, [The Data Landscape in the United Arab Emirates: Diagnostic Report](#)

# Summary of findings in the Diagnostic Report

The United Arab Emirates is a young country, with an even newer federal statistics architecture. The Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority (FCSA) was only created in 2015.<sup>8</sup> Since then it has been working to plan and oversee the transition of data governance to federal level, and to create comprehensive federal registries.<sup>9</sup>

As in all countries, a key challenge is to increase the interoperability of management information systems between different line ministries, in order to generate better, more comprehensive, evidence for strategic planning, budgeting and policy-making. In the UAE, this challenge is multiplied by the complexities of the federal system. The transitions from emirate to federal level decision-making, and statistical governance, are still ongoing. The FCSA is therefore in the process of overseeing, simultaneously:

- Improved information flows from emirate-level to federal ministries
- Improved information flows from federal ministries to the FCSA itself
- Consolidation of information flows from emirate-level statistics centres to the FCSA
- Enhanced data sharing protocols and open data principles.

In addition, the FCSA is seeking to encourage better data collection and storage by some emirate authorities. To be completed thoroughly and carefully, this transition process cannot be rushed. It will be some time before all information is collected according to agreed classifications, flows in real time into central registries and is shared according to open data standards.

Once relationships – and their governance – between federal and emirate authorities have matured, however, the UAE will have an excellent data landscape. Though data collection and analysis varies, the best information and statistics, grounded in comprehensive metadata – notably in the federal Ministry of Health and Prevention – are world class.

The United Arab Emirates Cabinet Office approved a new National Strategy for Motherhood and Children in 2017. It runs until 2021. This ambitious framework is clearly aligned with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). It also includes an aspiration to improve child-related data systems, in order to strengthen evidence-based planning and knowledge development, and therefore to improve outcomes.

In order to demonstrate its excellent progress – both in enhancing children's rights and in managing statistics – the UAE needs to provide detailed information according to CRC reporting guidelines, by the next deadline in 2020. This will be challenging – especially as it is not yet clear who will take responsibility for providing the information. However, a good first step would be to combine this task with that of reporting on the fifty child-related indicators of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). For this, the FCSA has set up a National Committee to identify priorities.

Research into the data landscape in the UAE by Development Initiatives has identified:

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<sup>8</sup> The FCSA grew out of the National Bureau of Statistics, which was established in 2009.

<sup>9</sup> See Development Initiatives, *op. cit.* Chapter 3 for further detail.

- 22 indicators that are similar in both the CRC and the SDGs, enabling reporting on both using the same data.
- 31 CRC indicators for which UAE already has data sources, plus a further 34 for which partial data exists.
- 27 child-related SDG indicators for which UAE already has data sources, plus a further eight for which partial data exists. This compares with just 20 indicators for which the UN's own externally-generated SDG database provides information about the UAE.

It is clear that the UAE currently collects far more data than is made available for public uses such as reporting on international commitments. With strong, ambitious, forward-looking leadership from the FCSA to enhance data collaboration, coordination and openness, immense progress can be made in the near future. All that is required for the UAE to become a world-leading provider of statistics on children will be improved data governance structures and the adoption of open data standards.

This Strategic Action Plan suggests recommendations to put them in place. They are presented in a logical order, starting with the building blocks for the creation of open data standards, in the form of consistent data systems, classifications and indicators. These are set out in the section on Data Governance. Once these have been agreed, it will be possible to increase collaboration (Interoperability section) and data sharing (Usability section), particularly between ministries. This in turn will make it possible for the UAE to deliver Global Reporting to a high standard, without any additional data collection. It will also facilitate government-wide decision-making, with all available facts at the federal Supreme Council's fingertips, discussed in the final section on Policy Frameworks.

# Data Governance

The Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority is responsible for developing and overseeing a unified, comprehensive, accurate, consistent and up-to-date national statistical system across different sectors. It is also responsible for setting data collection standards, by consolidating definitions, methodologies and classifications, in coordination with governmental and international authorities. The FCSA relies on emirate-level statistics centres for census and survey data collection, and line ministries (and authorities at emirate level) for administrative data collection. It is not responsible for the design and prioritisation of required data, which is the business of sectoral and subject matter experts. Its role in data production is thus primarily as a curator and aggregator.

Its main challenge is that it is not possible to tell, at present, exactly what data exists, because some is only collected for internal use by individual departments, and not made available to other government bodies. In addition, data is currently being collected in different formats by different ministries and at different levels. This makes it very difficult to consolidate, compare and analyse, even when it is shared. It is therefore essential to agree specific definitions of terms and classifications and ensure that they are applied consistently across all departments. All data needs to be accurate, comprehensive and comparable.

## Recommendation 1 – Systems Registry

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**The FCSA should create and maintain a central registry of information systems covering all sources of primary data in the UAE.**

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The first step is for the FCSA to develop a comprehensive registry of data sources, including metadata on:

- Who collects data?
- What collection methods are used?
- How often data is collected and disseminated
- How data is stored and managed
- How accessible it is
- Whether it conforms to consistent standard

From this, the next step is to produce a registry of indicators currently being used – and to determine:

- What different sectors and institutions need from data
- What data needs to be prioritised

This can only be done in collaboration with all data collectors, managers and potential users. This approach was successfully demonstrated by the federal Ministry of Health and Prevention, which formed a committee – including representatives from other relevant ministries – to produce its exemplary data dictionary.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> Ibid, pp. 24-25 & 32.

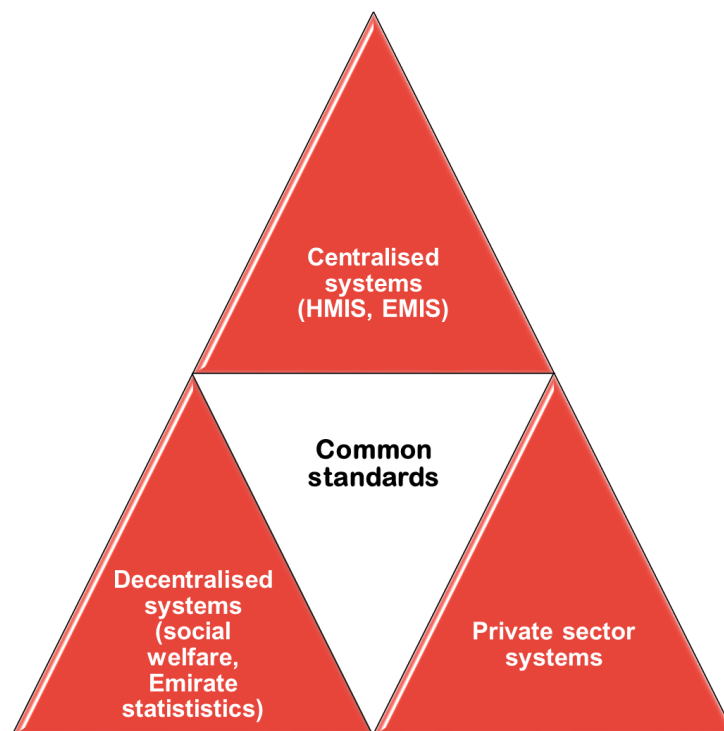
Looking at each indicator in turn, participants need to agree fixed definitions based on:

- What data is needed for
- What processes are – or will be – used to collect and analyse it
- How it will be used.
- Compliance with international metadata standards

Data required for national statistics come from a range of sources, each with their particular governance frameworks.

- Centralised administrative systems such as the health and education management information systems
- Decentralised administrative systems such as child protection, community development and social welfare
- Decentralised conduct of surveys and censuses, and collection of administrative data, by emirate-level statistics centres
- Data from the private sector and NGOs

**Figure 1 - Common standards for distributed implementations**



## **Recommendation 2 – Indicator Framework**

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**The FCSA should coordinate, facilitate and maintain, in conjunction with sectoral and sub-national authorities, a national statistical indicator framework**

**containing definitions and metadata on all indicators required for national, regional and global monitoring frameworks.**

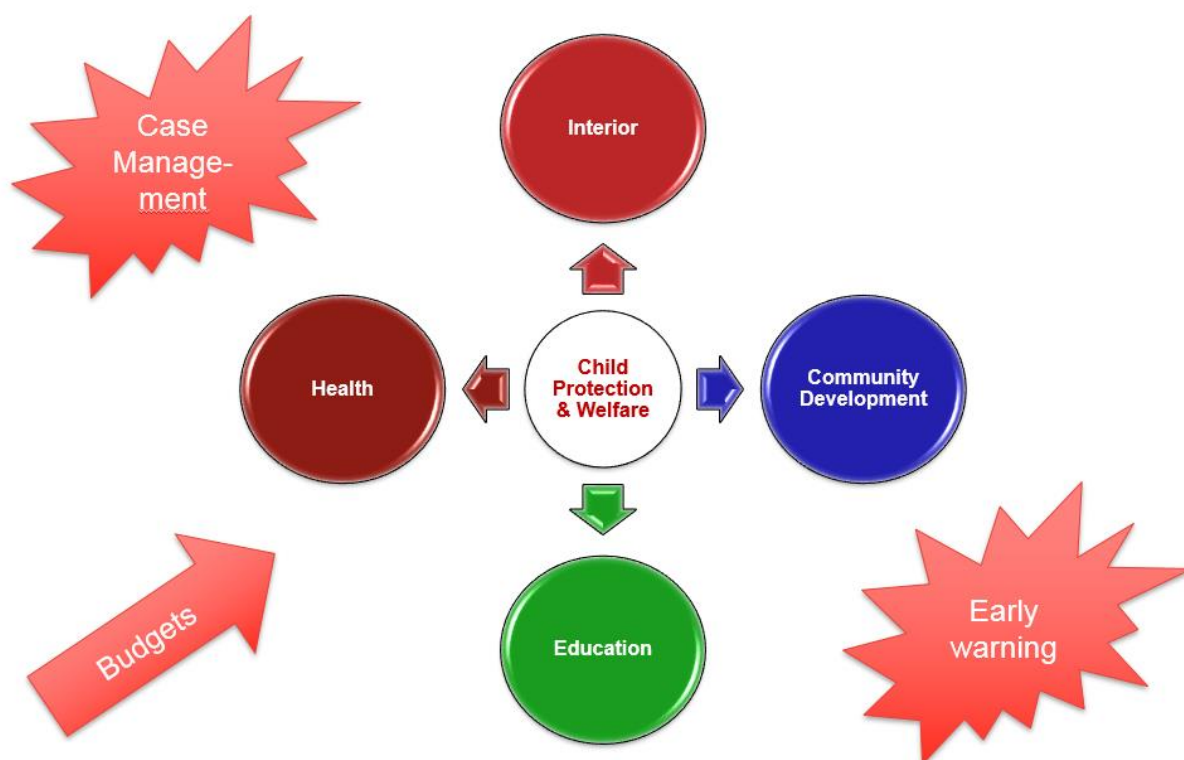
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# Data Interoperability

For data and statistics to be useful, they need to be easy to access and easy to use. For example, survey data collected manually, on paper, needs to be entered digitally before it can be analysed. Similarly, information kept in inaccessible formats, such as PDFs, cannot be collated. To enable big picture, cross-cutting analysis, all data needs to be kept in machine-readable formats, consistent with agreed standards.<sup>11</sup>

The majority of data collected by ministries in the UAE is kept in machine-readable spreadsheets. However, it is not all accessible or consistent. For example, the Child Protection Centre, within the Ministry of Interior, keeps internal records on all child protection cases brought to the police. If a case manager wants to find important background information on a child's health or education status, they will not be able to find it themselves, because all data is kept in individual ministry data silos.<sup>12</sup>

Figure 2 - The need for cross-sector collaboration



<sup>11</sup> Ibid, Chapter 7.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid, Chapter 7

### Recommendation 3 - Institutional collaboration

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**Both the federal government of the UAE and Emirate executive councils should ensure that the establishment of multi-stakeholder, cross-departmental working groups is authorised to collaborate on all cross-cutting data issues.**

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A change of culture requires strong leadership. Cooperation can all too easily be undermined by one or two individuals refusing to participate. Executive directives are the key to transforming ministerial competitions and silos into collaboration that brings greater benefits to all. This is supported by evidence from the very successful Community Development Authority in Dubai, which is working to create an integrated reporting platform for local needs, with the aim of coordinating all data collection, data definitions and priorities. Opposition to inter-departmental collaboration in the early stages was overridden by the authority of the Dubai Executive Council. Without an executive directive from above, it is unlikely that this outstanding programme would have got off the ground, despite the enthusiasm of several individuals who understood the huge benefits of interoperability. If all ministries commit to sharing data openly with each other, they will all benefit from having more comprehensive linked-up data. This will also help in identifying overall priorities.

### Recommendation 4 – Interoperable systems

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**Both the federal government of the UAE and Emirate executive councils should authorise cross-departmental interoperability of information systems wherever required taking into account all necessary security and privacy measures.**

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First, agreement is needed on how to link data. The logical starting point is to create unique identifiers for each individual resident. For UAE-born citizens, this can simply be based on the identity numbers allocated during birth registration – especially as, unlike many countries, this system is robust and comprehensive. Non-citizens' data can also be linked via their identity card details. This will enable authorities to visualise and analyse connections between children's (and adults') information, whether at the individual level, in aggregate or for specific groups (for example by location, or socio-economic status).

To make this work, agreement is needed on which fields will be useful for others to be able to use, so as to ensure that data in all those fields is recorded according to agreed standards. Once content questions have been resolved, the next step is to make management information systems interoperable with each other, so that data searches and analyses can be done automatically. It is a positive advantage to be in the early stages of development of statistical systems. Setting up systems that work together in different ministries is easier at the start than later. However, this is not necessarily a question of developing expensive matching software, or the creation of fully interactive databases. Interoperability can be achieved simply by ensuring that all data is comprehensive, up-to-date, accessible, standardised and machine-readable.

Given the strength of the UAE's ID system there is an opportunity to improve the coordination of services without the full integration of systems containing sensitive data. The ministries and local authorities of Interior, Health, Education and Community Development all maintain registries and case

management systems holding personal data linked to identity numbers. If the Federal Authority for Identity and Citizenship was to maintain a central database that contained ONLY cross-referenced identifiers to these systems (not the personal data itself), collaboration on specific cases as well as alerts on potential problems could be facilitated. A case worker in one institution could be made aware of the existence of records for the same subject maintained in other systems and then follow authorised protocols to access the required data.

# Usability of data

There is not currently a culture of sharing government-held information in the UAE. Although some ministries are leading the way, there is room for further improvement in data sharing between ministries and between emirates and the federal government. The notion of open data, whereby members of the public can access information on government activities, is fairly new. UAE has an official Open Data Portal,<sup>13</sup> reflecting the federal government's commitment to the principles of participation and transparency. Most ministry websites also have an open data section, with a common format. The sites typically then set out headline figures, backed up by some published data.<sup>14</sup> The UAE has not yet fulfilled its international obligations to report monitoring data according to the guidelines set in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Nor has it published its own information in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) indicators, although plans are in place to do this shortly.<sup>15</sup>

When dealing with sensitive issues – especially relating to children – it is essential to ensure confidentiality in individual cases, particularly given that many of the indicators required for national and global statistics are dependent on the anonymisation and aggregation of administrative data. There are also understandable reasons not to encourage public alarm or debate about anti-social or criminal behaviour by publicising data.<sup>16</sup> However, keeping information secret within single ministries can create its own problems, ultimately reducing the effectiveness of government. If ministries – and ministers – do not know what each other are doing, or what information they hold, they cannot easily come together to devise mutually reinforcing strategies. Making anonymised, aggregated data available for public scrutiny has also been shown, in several countries, both to incentivise increased quality of service delivery and to reduce volumes of ill-informed media speculation and criticism.<sup>17</sup> In relation to global reporting requirements, the UAE has an excellent opportunity to show the world how well it is doing. It already holds good volumes of useful, relevant data on children – which reveal successful policies that have improved children's lives.

## Recommendation 5 – Making administrative data usable

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**The FCSA and emirate statistics centres should ensure that anonymisation and aggregation standards and procedures are in place to maximise the use of administrative data.**

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By applying the standards and principles of interoperability, as set out above, the FCSA can oversee a culture shift whereby all data is stored in a way that allows all parts of government to gain access to the resulting statistics easily. This will facilitate more cross-departmental working – whether on everyday individual cases or holistic strategic planning. It will also encourage government staff to use a wide range of data routinely when making decisions. This may require some investment in statistical tools and training but will greatly enhance capacity to identify issues and devise effective solutions.

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<sup>13</sup> <https://bayanat.ae/en>

<sup>14</sup> See Development Initiatives, op. cit., Chapter 6, for further detail.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid, Chapter 5

<sup>16</sup> Ibid, Chapter 6

<sup>17</sup> Ibid, Chapter 6

## Recommendation 6 – Openness

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**Building on existing open data policies the federal government of the UAE should continue to encourage and incentivise the publication of disaggregated data sets that are of benefit to all communities.**

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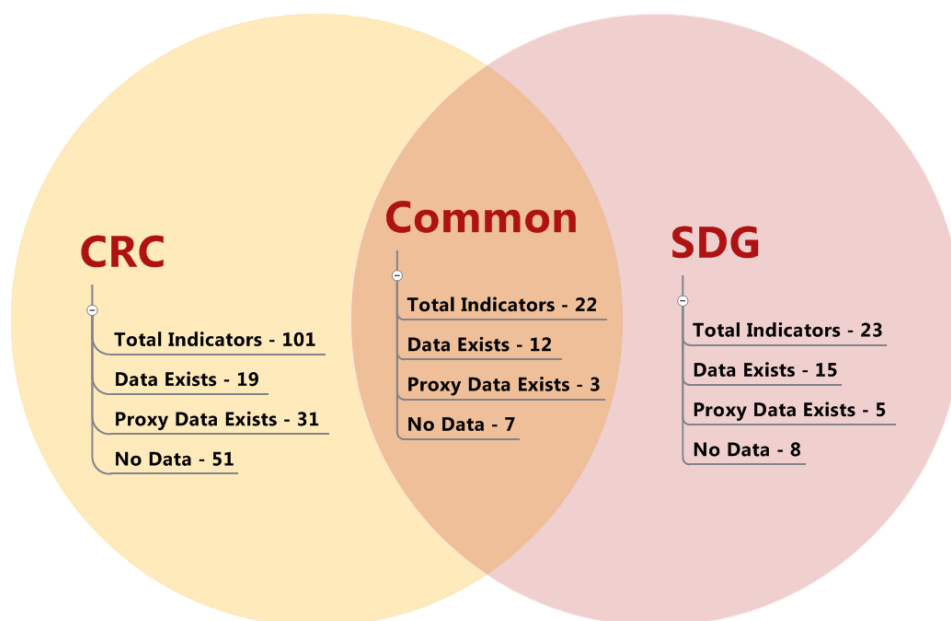
Information that is reported to global bodies will be published for all to see, including by citizens of the UAE. It is natural for governments not to want to provide ammunition to potential critics. However, the UAE government has little to fear. First, the quality of the data is good – making it less open to misinterpretation. Second, the story it tells is good. When compared with other nations, the standards of health, education, child protection and so on are high. Third – and most importantly – the government already routinely uses the data it collects to focus on key problems. By making data available in searchable formats, the government can demonstrate its responsiveness and effectiveness. In general, the public want to be informed – and they want to see that the government’s strategic priorities are based on evidence. Where that is already the case, the government can only gain by allowing data-savvy citizens to access information on social statistics, as well as on its own activities and plans.

# Global Reporting

The United Arab Emirates ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1997. Signatory countries are expected to collect data relating to CRC's reporting guidelines,<sup>18</sup> use it to assess progress and design policies to ensure implementation of the convention. UAE first reported to the CRC in 2012.<sup>19</sup> That report highlighted legislation that serves to protect children and to support their rights. However, it did not include data on the progress or status of children in relation to the various CRC reporting guidelines. The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has asked for specific data to be provided. The next reporting deadline is 2020 but, as yet, it is not clear who in the UAE should take responsibility for supplying the FCSA with the relevant information.<sup>20</sup>

By contrast, the FCSA has made progress towards meeting the UAE's reporting responsibilities in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals, setting up a cross-departmental committee to agree priorities. Its next step will be to present data already held by various official bodies in the UAE in accordance with the internationally agreed SDG indicator standards. Research by DI suggests that UAE could provide higher quality information on a larger number of child-related SDG indicators than is currently held in the UN's SDG database (drawn from external sources).<sup>21</sup>

**Figure 3 - Overlap between CRC and SDG indicators**



<sup>18</sup>

<http://docstore.ohchr.org/SelfServices/FilesHandler.ashx?enc=6QkG1d%2fPPRiCAqhKb7yhsr1ZWeb%2bRuDNd9qD0ICL6ikRB2cfJhMR51%2f10eGSYFCtruq1QI9a7QWVRO8Mi60ohmvtNns63WFivVgw0QS1DEXzSOoUgSyF86P%2fvdRoD5Jx>

<sup>19</sup> [https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/\\_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fARE%2f2&Lang=en](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fARE%2f2&Lang=en)

<sup>20</sup> See Development Initiatives, op. cit., Chapter 5, for further detail.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid, Chapter 5.

## Recommendation 7 - Joint reporting

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**The FCSA, in conjunction with the appropriate line ministries and authorities, should adopt a common approach to fulfil the data requirements for the UAE to meet its commitments to the CRC and SDGs.**

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To save duplication of effort, and to make a good start in meeting its CRC obligations before the impending 2020 deadline, it would make sense for the FCSA's SDG committee to start by standardising held data that can be published to both the SDGs and the CRC. Research for the Diagnostic Report identified 22 indicators that are similar in both the CRC and the SDGs, enabling reporting on both using the same data.<sup>22</sup>

Our research has found that there are:

- 31 CRC indicators for which UAE already has data sources, plus a further 34 for which partial or proxy data exists.
- 27 child-related SDG indicators for which UAE already has data sources, plus a further eight for which partial or proxy data exists. This compares with just 20 indicators for which the UN's own externally-generated SDG database provides information about the UAE.

There is therefore a tremendous opportunity for the UAE to consolidate and publish its own locally collected data. The task will not be straightforward, as data is currently held in multiple locations and formats. However, if it is made available systematically in a consistent, comparable, accessible format, the data will enable UAE to demonstrate to the world its ambition, achievements and progress in relation to the CRC and SDG targets – and to be compared favourably with other nations. This can be achieved without collecting any new data.

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<sup>22</sup> Ibid, Chapter 5.

# Policy Frameworks

As seen above, UAE is perfectly capable of producing all the data required to meet both national needs and global reporting. It already produces a high volume of data – much of it of very good quality. Making the best use of this data will depend on a greater degree of cooperation and sharing between institutions. A more open and collaborative approach would be certain to yield significant outcome improvements. With better standardisation and openness, the FCSA has the opportunity to produce world-class statistics that also reveal world-leading performance against child-related SDG and CRC indicators.

However, current legal and policy mandates under which institutions operate tend to produce a siloed approach to problem-solving. Without clear instructions, both individuals and institutions are reluctant to reach out to each other, in order to learn from each other's best practices, or to attempt cooperation. Even where the benefits are clear, and the implementation costs are low – for example of standardisation – ministries are unlikely to change current practices and forms unless they are given specific executive directions to do so.

In order to implement the seven recommendations outlined above, a joined-up government approach is required. This will need to be mandated by the Federal Supreme Council. The FCSA should take responsibility for overseeing a national data strategy, based on standardisation of all and full interoperability of systems.

## Recommendation 8 – Executive authority

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**All executive bodies responsible for elements of the data ecosystem should be encouraged to issue decisive instructions that will lead to the implementation of the recommendations in this action plan.**

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The data landscape in the United Arab Emirates is very good. Systems and processes are in a transition phase and there are variable levels of investment in good quality data management across different emirates and ministries. This simply reflects different levels of priority. If the right people recognise that good data governance and open data standards are the best way forward for the UAE to become a world leader, there are no substantive obstacles. The UAE already collects good data on children and is already in the process of organising and managing it better at the federal level. Its best practices are world class – they simply need to be replicated across the board. All that is needed is for the right people to give the right mandates.

Data collaboration and clear, open standards need to be given the highest priority. This will not only demonstrate the UAE's excellence in statistical management, it will also significantly enhance the federal Supreme Council's ability to make effective evidence-based policy – and thus to improve the lives of all its residents, especially including mothers and children. Anything is possible if executive decisions are made at the right level of authority to deliver what is required.

# Implementation considerations

The recommendations proposed in this Action Plan are purposely aimed to be non-disruptive to existing practices within and across government, and to make minimum demands on additional resources. This section reflects the thinking of the consultants, with their limited understanding of the inner workings of government.

## Authority and accountability

Implementation of this Action Plan will require:

- A firm commitment from the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood to champion its goals at the highest level of government, and to monitor its inputs, outputs and outcomes globally, nationally and sub-nationally.
- Proactive backing from the Cabinet of the UAE and, at sub-national level, from the Executive Councils of the emirates to ensure overall strategic direction and a joined-up government-wide approach.
- Explicit operational decision-making by ministries and departments at national and sub-national level.

## Management

- The bulk of implementation will take place within ministries and departments. The day-to-day management, execution, and reporting of progress will reside here. The work of the Ministry of Health and Prevention in the development of its data dictionary provides a useful template of *intra*-departmental management.
- The larger challenge lies in the establishment of *inter*-departmental working groups that have the authority to fast-track collaboration in areas where siloed approaches are more commonplace.
- The role of the FCSA at national-level, supported by the emirate-level statistics centres will be critical for the governance and oversight of the content of the work: setting standards and procedures as well as aggregating the outputs into a coherent national narrative. The FCSA needs to be provided with the authority to be the driver of coordination, content and quality. It cannot, however, be held responsible for the implementation of departmental plans.

## Data use

- The best incentives available to ensure good execution of this plan lie in the actual usage of its outputs, particularly at the point of service delivery. If those responsible for collecting data – in schools, health facilities and welfare offices – have operational access to the data that they and their colleagues across related disciplines compile, the plan is far more likely to succeed. The importance of data is, in the first instance, to *meet* not just to *monitor* the goals set by national development plans, the CRC and SDG.

- An equally fruitful challenge is to ensure that data is turned into useful information which, in the hands of policy-makers results in real decisions that transform peoples' lives. There is a particular need for more suitably trained data and policy analysts to have access to timely, joined-up data, and for their efforts to feed in to both sub-national and national decision-making processes.

## Technology

- This plan does not recommend the adoption of any new technology.
- Most of the participating institutions already have all the technical capacity they require. Where it is missing the needs are likely to be outstanding already, driven by existing requirements.
- The interoperability outlined in this plan can be achieved through institutional collaboration and the adoption of standards that define the intersections between different datasets.
- Furthermore, systems interoperability can be achieved through cross-mapping and translation across systems rather than any need for the systems themselves to conform to anything but the most basic connectivity standards.

## Technical capacity

- It is assumed that most of the institutions concerned have within their staff personnel with the necessary systems expertise to review data governance and management procedures.

## Cost Effectiveness

- This plan is about working smarter on managing and sharing existing resources. Its primary investment lies in the better use of existing human capacity through the development of standards and registries for defining, managing and sharing content.
- A joined-up approach to sharing data across sectors and departments should, in fact, save money. Sharing controlled access to child welfare data across all concerned departments (as outlined in the section on Interoperability above) would lead to improved efficiency of systems and remove duplication of effort.
- It is assumed that existing departmental budgets contain certain leeway to accommodate revised data governance and management procedures.
- Similarly, the cost of cross-department collaboration, is assumed to be relatively trivial. Meetings involving managers, technicians and content experts from different departments is a cost-effective approach to peer learning and review.

## First Steps

Given the UAE government's clear commitments to both the CRC and SDGs, 2020 provides two short-term targets on which to focus this Action Plan:

- The August 2020 reporting deadline for the CRC
- The first Comprehensive Review of the SDGs in March 2020.

To work within such short timelines will require a concerted effort including:

- Obtaining political commitment and executive authority at the highest level
- Establishing both political and technical steering groups to coordinate efforts
- Establishing, under the leadership of the FCSA, centralised registries of existing systems, sources and indicators, as well as common standards for metadata, data accuracy and procedures to ensure a harmonised approach across all sectors.
- Agreeing on the set of CRC and SDG indicators that the UAE commits to report on.
- Identifying data gaps and ensuring that the ministries and departments concerned prioritise their efforts in filling them.

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We work to ensure that decisions about the allocation of finance and resources result in an end to poverty, increase the resilience of the world's most vulnerable people, and ensure no one is left behind.

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