



System of
Environmental
Economic
Accounting

Monitoring SDGs with NCA

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United Nations

Outline

- 2030 Agenda
- International Process and Coordination mechanisms
- SDG indicator Framework
- Monitoring SDGs by NCA/SEEA

2030 Agenda

- September 2015 – General Assembly adopted resolution 70/1, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”
 - Key elements / principles:
 - > no one will be left behind
 - > 2030 Agenda is people-centered, universal and transformative
 - > SDGs: integrated, indivisible and balance 3 dimensions of SD
 - > plan of action for people, planet and prosperity that also seeks to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom
 - > to be implemented by all countries and stakeholders, acting in collaborative partnership
 - > eradicating poverty as greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development
 - Brings together SD and Development agenda (MDGs)
-

IAEG-SDGs

- GA mandated a global indicator framework to be developed by an Expert Group, to be agreed by the UN Statistical Commission
- Lead to Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDG)
- IAEG: met several times -> developed a **global indicator framework**:
 - > agreed upon by the Statistical Commission (2017) as a voluntary and country-led instrument
 - > initial set of indicators to be refined annually and reviewed comprehensively in 2020 in 2025
 - > will be complemented by indicators at the regional and national levels, which will be developed by Member States;
 - > Adopted by the General Assembly on 6 July 2017

Current IAEG Membership

Chair of UN Statistical Commission:*

- Brazil

Eastern Africa:

- Ethiopia
- Tanzania

Middle and Southern Africa:

- Botswana
- Cameroon

Western Africa:

- Ghana
- Niger

Northern Africa:

- Algeria
- Egypt

Western Asia:

- Bahrain

Central, Eastern, Southern, and South-Eastern Asia:

- China
- India
- Tajikistan
- The Philippines

Oceania:

- Fiji
- Samoa

The Caribbean:

- Grenada
- Trinidad and Tobago

Central and South America:

- Brazil
- Colombia
- Mexico

Eastern Europe:

- Belarus
- Russian Federation

North America and Northern, Southern and Western Europe:

- Canada
- France
- Germany
- The Netherlands
- Sweden

* The Chair of the United Nations Statistical Commission is a member of the IAEG-SDGs ex-officio.

IAEG

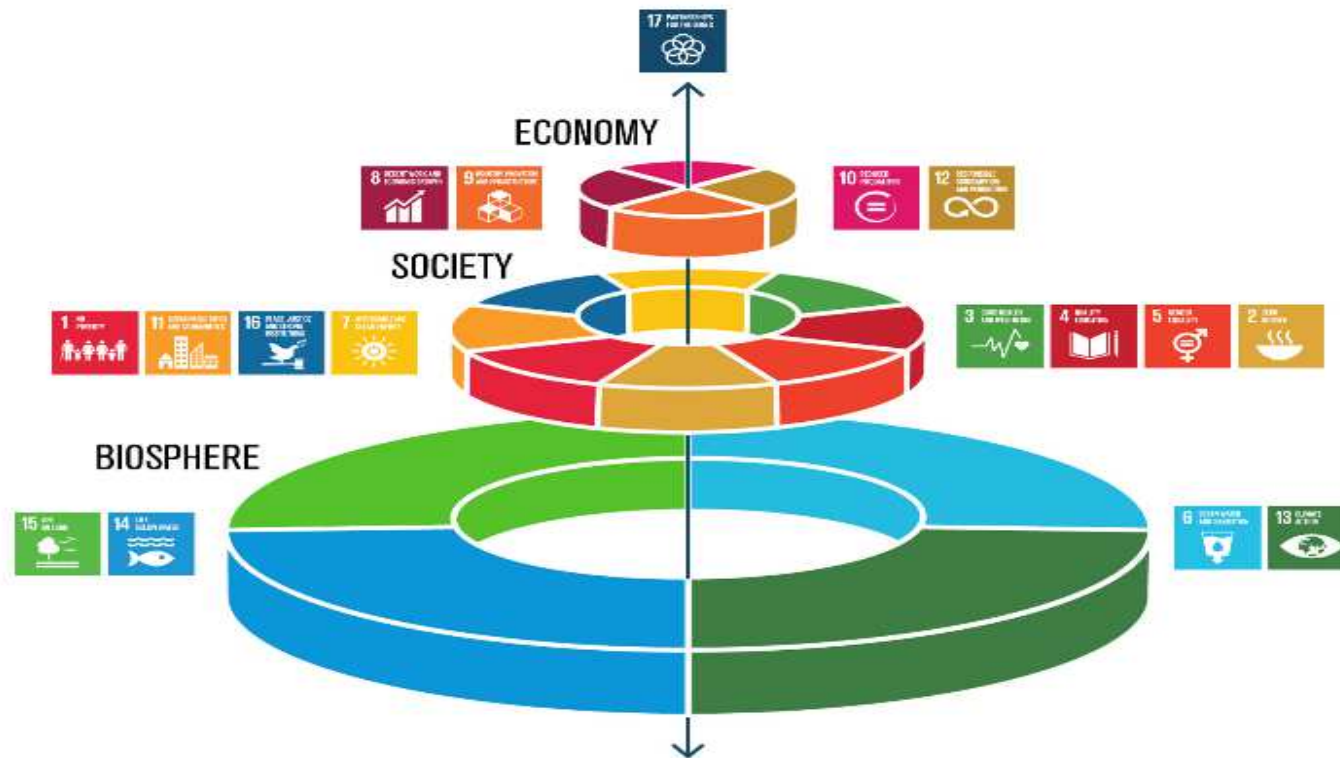
- IAEG, 3 working groups
 - > Working group on statistical data and metadata exchange
 - > Working group on geospatial information
 - > Working group on interlinkages
 - > Separate workstream on data disaggregation
- A joint subgroup of the IAEG and the HLG-PCCB
 - > tasked with developing a plan to address immediate priorities, including statistical capacity-building

Other bodies

- HLG-PCCB
 - > High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
 - > Focus on implementation process and capacity development
- World Data Fora
 - > Following "A World That Counts" – report (2014) calling for a "Data Revolution for Sustainable Development"
 - > Platform for intensifying cooperation with a.o. information technology, geospatial information managers, data scientists, and users, as well as civil society stakeholders
 - > Cape Town 2017 -> Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data
 - > October 2018, United Arab Emirates
- High-Level Political Forum -> reviews annually subset of SDGs

SDG indicator framework

- 17 Goals, 169 Targets, 232 SDGs
- Tier System
 - > Tier I: indicator conceptually clear, established methodology and standards available, data regularly produced by countries;
 - > Tier II: indicator conceptually clear, established methodology and standards available, data are not regularly produced by countries;
 - > Tier III: no established methodology or standards are available for the indicator or methodology/standards are being developed or tested
 - > 65% Tier I and II, 35% Tier III
 - > Yearly review process of Tier classification

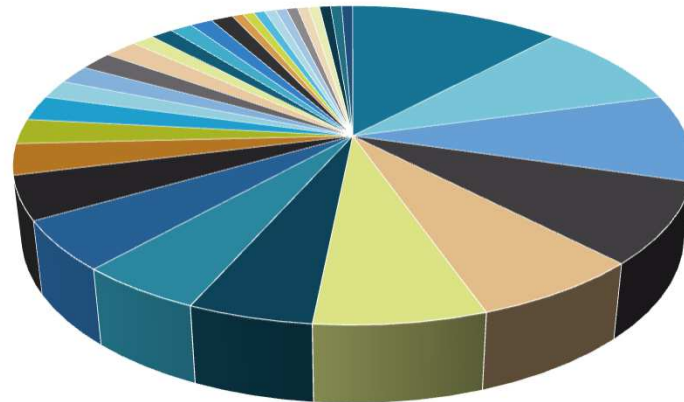


The Sustainable Development Goals 'wedding cake'
[\(http://eatforum.org/event/eat-stockholm-food-forum-2016/\)](http://eatforum.org/event/eat-stockholm-food-forum-2016/)

Custodian agencies

- Each indicator has a custodian agency (agencies)
- Responsibilities:
 - > Collect data from countries
 - > Support increased adoption and compliance with standards
 - > Strengthen national statistical capacity
 - > Communicating and coordinating with national statistical systems .. including on the validation of estimates and data adjustments
 - > Compiling international data series, global and regional aggregates and providing them, along with the metadata, to the Statistics Division;
 - > Preparing storyline for the annual global progress report;
 - > Coordinating on indicator development with national statistical systems, other international agencies and stakeholders





- WHO
- UNEP
- UNESCO-UIS
- World Bank
- ILO
- UNISDR
- OECD
- UN-Habitat
- UNICEF
- UNODC
- OHCHR
- IMF
- ITU
- UNDP
- UNIDO
- UNSD
- UNWTO
- DESA Population Division
- IUCN
- PARIS21
- UNFPA
- UNICEF
- IOC-UNESCO
- UNEP-CTCN
- UNIDO
- CBD-Secretariat
- IEA
- IOC-UNESCO
- UNAIDS
- UNCCD
- UNCTAD
- UNFCCC
- WTO

Indicator frameworks

- In addition to SDGs, a multitude of complementary indicator frameworks being developed
 - > National / countries;
 - > Supra-national level (e.g. EU);
 - > Corporate reporting
- Often “indicator-based” (rather than target/goals first)
- Indicators chosen on range of criteria
 - > Data availability;
 - > Links to existing policies
 - > Etc.

SDGs and SEEA/NCA

- SEEA recognized as useful framework for informing SDG agenda
- SDG agenda move towards integrated policy making -> useful to have an integrated information system
 - > Integration: economic and environmental information in one system using common classifications, concepts and definitions
 - > SEEA satellite system to SNA
 - Ensures internal consistency between all derived indicators
 - Allows various breakdowns for all indicators
 - Indicators derived from accounts -> allow analyses
- International level:
 - > UNSD works with many custodian agencies on specific indicators
 - > Broadbrush exercise -> assess relevant account(s)

Broadbrush

GROUP	Suggested Indicator	Definition	SEEA Relevance?	SEEA Accounts	Comments
	SCOPING OF SPREADSHEET: A scoping was done in full for the following goals: 2 - Agriculture 6 - Water 7 - Energy 11 - Cities 12 - Sustainable Consumption and Production 14 - Marine and Coastal 15 - Ecosystems Other targets which had indicators which were SEEA relevant, in that they could be aligned to be informed by the SEEA, were also included under 'other targets'.			Defining 'SEEA Relevant': A: Indicator as currently proposed can be informed by the SEEA Accounts B: Either current wording and concepts of indicator needs to be aligned to be SEEA compliant; or indicator needs to be further defined to ensure SEEA compliance (i.e. detailed definitions added) C: While the indicator cannot be informed by the SEEA, either; a) the SEEA can provide important contextual information and the indicator should be developed with the SEEA approach in mind; or b) there is some overlap with SEEA methodology which should be considered when formulating this indicator. No: SEEA is not relevant. Black Text: indicator proposed as "suggested indicator" by UNSD in spreadsheet sent by UNSD to IAEG on 7 July 2015. Grey Text: Other indicator suggested in spreadsheet, which is not identified as priority indicator but which can be informed by the SEEA or is a "disaggregation" of the priority indicator which can be compiled using the SEEA accounting structure.	
Other Targets					
i/A	8.4	Resource Productivity	A	Material Flow Accounts	This indicator could be informed by the SEEA Accounts if defined in alignment with the SEEA standard. <i>(SEEA aligned definition could be: Resource productivity - gross domestic product (GDP) divided by domestic material consumption (DMC). DMC measures the total amount of materials directly used by an economy. It is defined as the annual quantity of raw materials extracted from the domestic territory of the focal economy, plus all physical imports minus all physical exports.)</i>
i/A	8.4 <i>Other indicator suggested</i>	Sectoral material efficiency	A	Material Flow Accounts	The above SEEA-aligned indicator for 'resource productivity' could theoretically be disaggregated by ISIC to calculate sectoral efficiencies, along with Value-Added information by ISIC category from the SNA. In reality, this is very data intensive and potentially unrealistic.
-	8.9	Tourism direct GDP (as % of total GDP and in growth rate); and Number of jobs in tourism industries (as % total jobs and growth rate of jobs, by gender)	C	SNA tourism satellite account It is proposed that in the longer term, a SEEA-Tourism is developed to measure environmental impacts of tourism activity.	Indicator could be defined in alignment with SNA satellite account for tourism, and eventually with the SEEA-tourism when it is developed; Tourism consumption and Employment in Tourism industries as derived from the Tourism Satellite Account (TSA) at national and sub-national level, combined with an eventual extended version of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) for Tourism

Source: Contributions to the IAEG-SDGs <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/envaccounting/ceea/>

Examples of accounts for SDGs

8.4	Resource Productivity	Material Flow Accounts
9.4	Carbon emission per unit of value added	SEEA Emission Accounts; SNA
17.1	Composition of Tax Revenues (by sources), including revenues derived from environmental taxes, and as % of GDP	Environmental Taxes and Subsidies Accounts (SEEA) SNA
2.4	Percentage of agricultural area under sustainable agricultural practices.	SEEA AFF; SEEA Land Accounts
6.4.1	Percentage change in water use efficiency over time.	PSUT Water; SNA
6.6	Percentage of change in wetlands extent over time	Ecosystem Accounts
7.3	Rate of improvement in energy intensity (%) measured in terms of primary energy and GDP	PSUT for Energy Value-add by industry from SNA
11.6.1	Percentage of urban solid waste regularly collected and well managed (disaggregated by type of waste)	Solid Waste Accounts
11.7	The average share of the built-up areas of cities in open space in public ownership and use.	Land Use Accounts
12.2	Material footprint (MF) and MF/capita	Material Flow Accounts
12.5	National recycling rate, tonnes of material recycled	Solid Waste Accounts
14.1	Nitrogen use efficiency composite indicator	SEEA Emission Accounts; SEEA AFF
14.4	Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable level	SEEA Asset Accounts for Aquatic Resources
14.5	Coverage of protected areas	SEEA Land Accounts
14.7	Fisheries as a % of GDP	SEEA AFF
15.1	Forest area as a percentage of total land area	SEEA Land Accounts
15.2	Forest cover under sustainable forest management	SEEA Land Accounts
15.3	Trends in land degradation	Ecosystem Accounts
15.4.1	Coverage of protected areas	SEEA Land Accounts



Key messages

- SDG indicators to be refined annually and reviewed comprehensively in 2020 in 2025
- Coordination mechanisms in place to facilitate collaboration and partnerships with range of stakeholders
- International and national indicator processes complementary
- SEEA/NCA relevant for deriving consistent and coherent indicators
 - > Underpinning by an accounting framework fits the integrated SDG approach
 - > Allows the accounts to be used beyond monitoring, also for analysis and policy development



THANK YOU

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