Tenth Meeting of the UN Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting
New York, 24-26 June 2015

Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators

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Mandate and roadmap

• The Commission, at its forty-sixth session (3-6 March 2015),
  – endorsed the roadmap for the development and implementation of a global indicator framework and,
  – in particular, the formation of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs), to be tasked with fully developing a proposal for the indicator framework for the monitoring of the goals and targets of the post-2015 development agenda at the global level,
  – under the leadership of the national statistical offices, in an open and transparent manner.

• The Commission also endorsed the suggested timetable that foresees the presentation by the IAEG-SDGs of an indicator framework at the forty-seventh session of the Commission in March 2016 for its review and approval;
Indicators process: Timeline
Intergovernmental negotiations on the post 2015 dev’t agenda

Work on indicators for SDGs
Coordinated by the UN Stat Commission (UNSC)
UNSD as secretariat

UNSC-FOC Group on Broader Measures of Progress
UNSD as secretariat

IAEG – SDG Indicators
⇒Established by UNSC
⇒28 Member States plus international agencies and other stakeholders

National Statistical Offices

Statistical experts from international agencies (CCSA, former IAEG on MDG Indicators, etc.) UNSD as secretariat
Way forward

First Meeting of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on the Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) New York, 1-2 June 2015 – draft conclusions are available

Expected way forward

• Establishment of two discussion streams, first compilation of possible indicators for a global indicator framework
• Second round of consultation, updated compilation of possible indicators
• Next meeting of the IAEG-SDGs, tentatively 26-28 Oct. 2015
• Finalization of proposal for a global indicator framework by the end of November
• Setting-up of an electronic collaboration platform
Why a “framework” of indicators?

• Global indicators for global monitoring
• Additional indicators for “thematic” monitoring
• National and sub-national indicators
A “framework” of indicators?

**Global indicators Include:**
- Elements of disaggregation
- Special groups
- Inequality issues

**Thematic/sectorial indicators Include:**
- Additional indicators on each of the elements covered by the global indicators
- Indicators that are only relevant at the national level

**National indicators Include:**
- Some of the thematic indicators?
- Some (all?) of the global indicators

**Sub-national indicators Include:**
- Global indicators
- National indicators
- Additional data sources (most innovative?)
Multidimensional indicator framework architecture

- National
- Regional
- Global
- Sub-national

Thematic
Development of a global indicator framework

• Need to respond to all targets
• Limited set of global indicators
• The global indicators should be an integral part of regional, national, sub-national and thematic indicator frameworks
• Global indicator framework is important because it:
  – Informs the global political discussion
  – Provides a structure for the development agenda
  – Informs communication/advocacy campaigns
Development of a global indicator framework

• And from the point of view of statistical development:
  ✓ Consistency and collaboration in data compilation
  ✓ Harmonization and rationalization of development indicators
  ✓ Policy-oriented statistics
  ✓ Framework for coordination for data production
  ✓ Framework for statistical capacity-building
Selecting the indicators

Indicators should be:

• Methodologically sound (internationally agreed definition)
• Measurable
• Accessible and easy to interpret
• Relevant
• Timely
• Regularly produced over time

And for global indicators:
• Internationally comparable
Should we include all indicators irrespective of their level of development?

Tier 1: Satisfy all criteria
Tier 2: Satisfy most criteria but data coverage is insufficient
Tier 3: Methodology still being developed
Where are the gaps?

Results of an initial assessment of proposed indicators (technical report of the UNSC on the process of the development of an indicator framework, March 2015) (continued)

• In terms of feasibility,
  – 51 proposed indicators were rated “Easily feasible (methodology exists and data is available)” by at least 60 percent of respondents,
  – For 161 overall rating of “Feasible with strong effort”,
  – For 92 overall rating “Difficult, even with strong effort”

• Gaps exist especially in “new areas” – see technical report for details (http://unstats.un.org/unsD/broaderprogress/work.html)
Policy Level Developments

The zero draft of the outcome document for the UN summit was just released and these are 3 main points from it:

• Contains the full list of 17 goals and 169 targets
• Poverty eradication and leaving no one behind are highlighted throughout the document
• Proposes an SDG Progress Report, that would be prepared by the IAEG-SDGs
THANK YOU