

2016/2017 Work Plan

Objective

The primary objective of the Working Group is to ensure from a statistical and geographic location perspective that the key principle of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to leave no one behind, is reflected in the global indicator framework.

Preamble: Global indicator framework

An overarching principle of data disaggregation to accompany the list of indicators is as follows:

“Sustainable Development Goal indicators should be disaggregated, where relevant, by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability and geographic location, or other characteristics, in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics”

The indicators are classified into three tiers:

- Tier I - a first tier for which an established methodology exists and data are already widely available;
- Tier II - a second tier for which a methodology has been established but for which data are not easily available; and,
- Tier III - a third tier for which an internationally agreed methodology has not yet been developed.

Indicators under Tier II and especially under Tier III, are those where refinements and improvements will be needed over the coming years as better tools and more data become available.

This global indicator framework will be the basis for the annual progress report on the Sustainable Development Goals that will be prepared by the Secretary-General in cooperation with the United Nations system and made available to Member States to inform their deliberations at the High-level Political Forum.

Activities

The Terms of Reference called for an initial analysis of geospatial inputs and metadata needs for the indicators to be developed and presented to the IAEG-SDGs for consideration in the near horizon. For this 2016/2017 period, the work plan will thus focus on a series of activities as follows –

- a) Review the agreed global indicators through a ‘geographic location’ lens;
- b) Review the metadata compiled for the global indicators through a ‘geographic location’ lens;
- c) Consider and review the tier classifications for the agreed global indicator, their level of “maturity” and appropriateness from a ‘geographic location’ lens;
- d) Identify existing geospatial data gaps, geospatial methodological and measurement issues;



- e) Consider how geospatial information can contribute¹ to the indicators and metadata;
- f) Prepare report to IAEG-SDGs on this review and analysis; and
- g) Propose means of addressing these data gaps and issues.

Beyond the 2016/2017 period, the work plan will include the following activities, generally in order of priority –

- h) Propose strategies for undertaking methodological work on specific areas for improving disaggregation by geographic location and in particular for national and sub-national reporting
 - And in this regard, to report to the High-Level Group, Statistical Commission and Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management; and
- i) Review options and provides guidance to IAEG-SDGs on the role of National Statistical Offices in considering and applying Earth observations and geospatial information primarily as a means to contribute to and validate data as part of official statistics.

The Working Group recognises that the following are continual activities –

- j) Provide expertise and advice to IAEG-SDGs and the larger statistical community as to how Earth Observation, geospatial information and other new data sources can reliably and consistently contribute to the indicators; and
- k) Provide national and regional experiences and good practices including case studies in geospatial data generation to monitor “leaving no one behind”.

Reporting

The working group is cognizant of the following reporting opportunities –

- a) IAEG-SDGs Fourth Meeting, 18 – 19 October, 2016, Addis Ababa
- b) 48th Session of the Statistical Commission, 7 – 10 March, 2017, New York
- c) IAEG-SDGs Fifth Meeting, 2017
- d) 7th Session of UN-GGIM, 2 – 4 August, 2017, New York

Review

The co-Chairs with the support of the Secretariat, will undertake an annual stock-take of this work plan, review and thereafter revise the work plan for the ensuing period.

(October 2016)

¹ i) as a direct indicator; ii) to support and augment statistical data; iii) to improve the production process of statistical data; iv) to validate national statistical data inputs; v) to communicate and visualize the geographic dimensions and context of the indicators; and vi) to provide granularity and disaggregation of the indicators where appropriate

