

Chapter 3

SDG Measurement

ABSTRACT

The chapter describes the Sustainable Development Goals measurement. It involves the mobilization of the national statistical system to make available data for the internationally-agreed harmonized measurement indicators. The chapter addresses integration of measurement indicators and geolocated national data to design systems that can provide easily usable information to support the decision process in the perspective of open and multidisciplinary consultations. The capacity of national statistical systems to meet the challenge of data availability is presented.

INTRODUCTION

Quality data is essential for governments, international organizations, civil society, the private sector and the general public to make informed decisions and make a clear assessment of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Monitoring progress towards the SDGs requires the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of unprecedented amounts of data and statistics at sub-national, national, regional and global levels, including those from official statistical agencies and new and innovative sources of data.

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BACKGROUND

On 6 July 2017, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a global indicator framework to monitor the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a voluntary and country-led endeavour.

Among the different categories of disaggregation called for in the 2030 Agenda, “place”, or geographic location, is critical. Geographic location is needed to know where a situation is present or where an event has occurred, and to allow decision makers to respond.

The integration of geospatial information with data and statistics for SDGs is also instrumental in enabling data inter-operability across data ecosystems and linking data sets within and across countries.

MAIN FOCUS OF THE CHAPTER

The production of data for the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda requires strong political commitment and increased resources to support global and national efforts to strengthen statistical systems. New data sources and technologies for data collection and integration of different data sources will need to be explored, including in partnership with civil society, the private sector and academia. The integration of geospatial information and statistical data will be particularly important for the production of many indicators.

Definitions of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and their 169 targets using measurable indicators, as well as the seven African aspirations, are accompanied by indicators that will provide a sound gauge of progress towards the targets (Leadership Council of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, 2015, Sustainable Development Sustainable Network, 2015).

Framework of SDG Indicators

The overall framework of SDG indicators should include five levels of indicators (Figure 1) and (Figure 2).

The Global indicators are completed by Regional indicators, national indicators and Subnational Indicators and Additional indicators for Thematic monitoring (Economic Commission for Africa, 2017).

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