Assessment of Capacities to Produce SDG Indicators in Denmark
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Slow start to the national process

Denmark was not an early starter in the work on national implementation of the SDGs.

Currently, work is underway to draft a National Action Plan on the SDG. Two approaches are considered:

- To base National Action Plan only on intragovernmental process - time frame - 2-3 months (less probable);

Lack of clear decision on the further process contributes to uncertainty on the handling of the SDG indicators.
Statistics Denmark’s current involvement in the national process

- Frequent contacts with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark;
- Presentations in the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Danish Parliament;
- Assistance in answering SDG related questions to the Minister of Foreign Affairs;
- Clear and open ambition to be part of the ‘drafting team’ of National Action Plan;
- Wide contacts to the IO’s, NGO and business.

Statistics Denmark’s current involvement in the international process

- Member of the High Level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- Observer in the IAEG-SDG – technical coordinator of the Danish contributions;
- Advocating for a wider use of administrative data in production of official statistics in general and SDG indicators in particular:
  - Participant in various seminars and events on the subject;
  - Wide contacts to different IO’s on use of administrative data, including UNFPA, ADB, UNESCAP and various NSO’s;
  - Working on a pilot project on a wider use of administrative data in social statistics.
Current situation in Statistics Denmark – the data

A comprehensive data mapping is currently being conducted:

1. To begin with, internally in Statistics Denmark, where data availability will be identified in accordance with the Tier system;
2. Next step – if the data is not covered by Statistics Denmark, identification of government agencies (or non-governmental institutions) that hold the requested data;
3. Subsequently, probably with the help of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark or Ministry of Finance, a nationwide hearing on data availability;
4. Considerations and proposals on how to approach Tier III indicators in the Danish context.

The outcome of the mapping process will be used as input to the intragovernmental group working on the National Action Plan.

Questions on the set-up for reporting indicators

- How will responsibilities for individual indicators be allocated? Will a single institution be in charge of collecting and coordinating all indicators?
  - SD is obvious choice
- What mandate and leverage will this institution have vis-à-vis (other) indicator producing institutions?
  - Muscle is needed
- Will a single institution be responsible for reporting and the indicators?
  - SD has the capacity
- What will be the international reporting “architecture”, including the UN NY, UN regional, EU and Nordic?
  - Clarity is needed
- How can the necessary resources for the indicator work be found?
  - Political recognition of the importance of indicators is necessary
Thank you