Establishing National SDG indicators

French organisation

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French NSO’s role in SDG monitoring

- For global SDG monitoring
  - Providing the indicators and the underlying data to the custodian agencies to calculate the global indicators adopted by the UN Statistical Commission

- For national SDG monitoring
  - Providing data and indicators for national monitoring
French NSO’s role at global SDG monitoring

- Insee, as coordinator of National Statistical System, has carried out a survey last year to identify:
  - data providers and data sources
  - current and future availability of indicators in an exact or an approximate version
- Main results were published in October 2016:
  - Concerning statistical indicators, 84% of data producers were identified
  - 65% of these indicators are available or will be available in an exact or approximate version in the three coming years.
- A first data base was published on 24 March 2017 on Insee’s website:
  - 110 indicators with time series 2010-2015 and with metadata
  - [https://www.insee.fr/fr/statistiques/2654964](https://www.insee.fr/fr/statistiques/2654964)

National SDG monitoring: what to measure?

- Progress towards the SDGs in a national context:
  - Has strong links with national policies and national private actions
  - Should be structured along the 17 goals
  - Be aligned as far as possible with the UN list of global indicators
National reporting on SDGs: General French organisation

SDGs Communication  →  Steering Committee for interdepartmental coordination  →  National Council for Statistical Information

17 Working Groups on SDGs
Pilot Ministry, Other Ministries involved and stakeholders

Working Group on SDGs indicators

Political sphere

Statistical sphere with representatives of Ministries involved in public policies

French governance for implementing SDGs in a national context

- A Steering Committee led by the Interdepartmental Delegate for Sustainable Development with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
  - Composed of representatives of various ministries
  - NSO is a member of this Committee to ensure links with the political governance

- 17 working groups (one by goal). Each group is composed of representatives of ministries involved in the goal and of other stakeholders
  - Review of public policies through the SDGs lens
  - National action plan for each goal
  - Follow-up of the implementation and of the report to National bodies and to the HLPF

- A working group on indicators under the aegis of National Council for Statistical Information (CNSI) assisted by two rapporteurs (one from Insee and one from the Ministry of Ecology’s Statistical Department)
  - Evidence-based decision-making
  - Statistics ensure measurability
Composition of the working group on indicators

- To foster consultation between users and producers of statistics and to guarantee the relevance of measures, the group will be composed of:
  - Members of the French National Statistical system which are competent on each theme
  - Representatives of each ministry responsible for the thematic policies concerned
  - Representative of local authorities for each theme
  - Academia, researchers, statistical experts
  - Representative of civil society: trade unions, NGO, and other stakeholders in specific themes such as health, consumption, environment..
  - Members of the National Council for ecological transition and of the National council for international solidarity
- The aim is to facilitate communication with policy level and other stakeholders in the country

Mandate of the working group on indicators

- Select National indicators
  - from the UN global SDGs indicator list
  - Add, when necessary, national indicators to track national policies
- Identify data gaps
- Present and debate its selection of indicators in the various NCSI task forces
  - Demography and social issues; Employment; skills and earned income;
  - Business and market strategies; Environment and Sustainable development;
  - Public services; Financial system; Territorial units
- Report to the NCIS executive Committee and to the Steering Committee on SDGs
  - Make suggestions for the development of the National Statistical System and recommendations on the communication of statistics for SDGs
Criteria of selection of indicators

- The selection of indicators will be based on
  - the global indicators already available (data base produced end March 2017)
  - complemented by national indicators relevant for national policies or for national stakeholders when necessary

- The indicators should be
  - Political relevant and of high statistical quality according to the Code of Practice
  - Easy to communicate
  - Already available or available in medium term
  - Limited in number (around 100 to facilitate the communication) but contribute to a well-balanced dashboard on different themes

- The group could suggest developments of the statistical system to fill the data gaps
  - The selection of indicators will be regularly refined and will benefit from statistical improvements

French Indicator sets referring to SDG monitoring at global and national level

- 244 Global SDG indicators (UN list)
- Around 100 National SDG indicators
French NSO, as coordinator of the Statistical system

- Has provided in March 2017, a first data base of 110 SDGs indicators which was published on Insee’s web site
- Will coordinate the collection of new indicators selected by the working group on statistics for national SDGs reporting (and new global indicators which become available for global reporting)
- Will publish the various indicators with underlying data in an unique data base.
  - With metadata and all information needed to well interpret indicators and their evolutions
  - With a clear identification of national and global indicators, so that custodian agencies can easily collect the data they need for global reporting
- The database will be available on Insee’s website
  - The current Excel Format might be revised to facilitate dissemination. The working group on SDGs will examine this question and will give guidelines to Insee
- Work in progress, not everything is yet precisely decided

Time planning

- 24 March 2017- Insee published a first data base with 110 SDGs indicators
- End of first semester 2017
  - An experimental organization with a small working group on indicators will agree on methods to produce a dashboard and criteria to select indicators and will contribute to the report to the HLPF of July 2017 (goal 1,2,3,5, 9 and 14)
  - Will report to the NCSI’s executive committee in October 2017
- Second semester 2017
  - Launch of the working group on SDGs
  - First task: mapping national policies with SDGs and for each goal, identifying which NCSI task forces are involved in order to invite the best relevant experts
  - Production of a work plan taking into account the HLPF agenda (Goal 6,7, 11,12 and 15 in 2018 and goal 4,8, 10, 13 and 16 in 2019)
  - First selection of national indicators
The Working Group on SDGs indicators in the NCSI organization and units

The CNIS Units

Establishing National SDGs indicators
French organization

Many thanks for your attention!

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Annex: the organisation of the French National Statistical System

The institutional framework of French official statistics was reshaped by the Economic Modernization Act of August 4, 2006, and two implementation decrees in 2009. There are now three players: the official statistical service (Service Statistique Public: SSP), the National Council for Statistical Information (Conseil National de l’Information Statistique: CNS), and the Official Statistical Authority (Autorité de la Statistique Publique).

The National Council for Statistical Information acts as a forum for consultations between producers and users of official statistics, ranging from identification of areas to be covered to evaluation of surveys performed. The CNS annual report provides a detailed follow-up of the opinions issued in the previous year and assessments of the annual and medium-term work programs carried out by statistics producers.

The Official Statistical Service comprises INSEE and ministerial statistical offices (Services Statistiques Ministeriels: SSMs). The law defines official statistics as information gathered in statistical surveys whose list is published every year in the Journal Officiel, the government paper of record. Official statistics also include material obtained by the processing, for general information purposes, of data collected for other purposes by government units, public entities, and private entities acting in the public interest.

The Official Statistical Authority, the most recently established player, is tasked with guaranteeing the independence of official statisticians attested by law, along the lines of existing practices in several European countries. The Authority’s mission is to ensure compliance with the principles of the EU Statistics Code of Practice promulgated in 2005. In particular, it oversees the application of the principles of professional independence, objectivity, relevance, and quality at each stage in the design, production, and dissemination of official statistics.