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Coordination of Sustainable Development Indicators in Lithuania

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10/04/2017 EXPERT MEETING ON STATISTICS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

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From MDG to SDG indicators

- Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on the Approval & Implementation of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development (2003) served as a prerequisite for identification & production of MDG or related indicators
- Strategic directions were identified

The initiative resulted in 81 indicator published, of which 21 indicator is covered by the list of indicators of Agenda 2030



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Background for starting SDG framework

- Initiatives discussed since 45th sessions of the United Nations Economic and Social Council
- Work undertaken by UNECE, CES, OECD, Eurostat in various fora
- Declaration on the role of national statistical offices in measuring & monitoring the Sustainable Development Goals approved in the plenary session of the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) in June 2015

The Declaration:

“Calls upon national governments to support national statistical offices in their key role in measuring & monitoring SDGs in countries”

Lithuania's position on SDG

Position of Statistics Lithuania on SDG initiative :

- importance of comparability of indicators
- preparation of methodologies for calculation of indicators
- development of the system of indicators & monitoring must be implemented by the country
- detailed level of indicator aggregation will require additional resources & raises confidentiality issues
- cooperation of international organizations in developing missing methodologies & establishing clear data transfer mechanisms to avoid duplication of efforts

Current coordination activities in Lithuania

- National Commission on Sustainable Development of the Government of Lithuania established (chaired by Prime minister)
- Inter-institutional Working Group on Sustainable Development led by Ministry of Environment established (ministries & NGOs)
- Working Group set up at Statistics Lithuania (specialists of various fields of statistics)
- Translation of the list of indicators into Lithuanian performed
- List of indicators provided to ministries for coordination
- Situation concerning SDG indicators presented to the National Commission on Sustainable Development

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- Meetings with representatives of ministries organized
- UN & other international organizations' databases, definitions of indicators & sources analyzed
- Availability of indicators in various databases assessed
- Responsible national institutions attributed to each indicator
- List of indicators & responsible institutions provided to the National Commission on Sustainable Development & Ministry of Environment for agreement on clear distribution of responsibilities
- Since 2017, Statistics Lithuania releases a set of SDG indicators on Official Statistics Portal in both Lithuanian & English. Metadata to be added in the future

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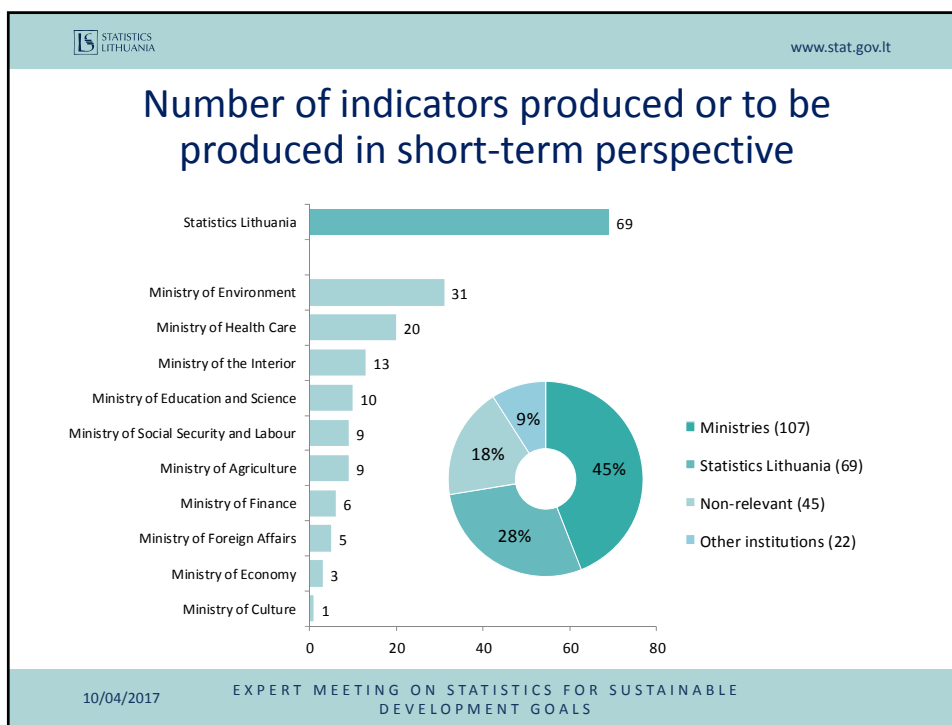
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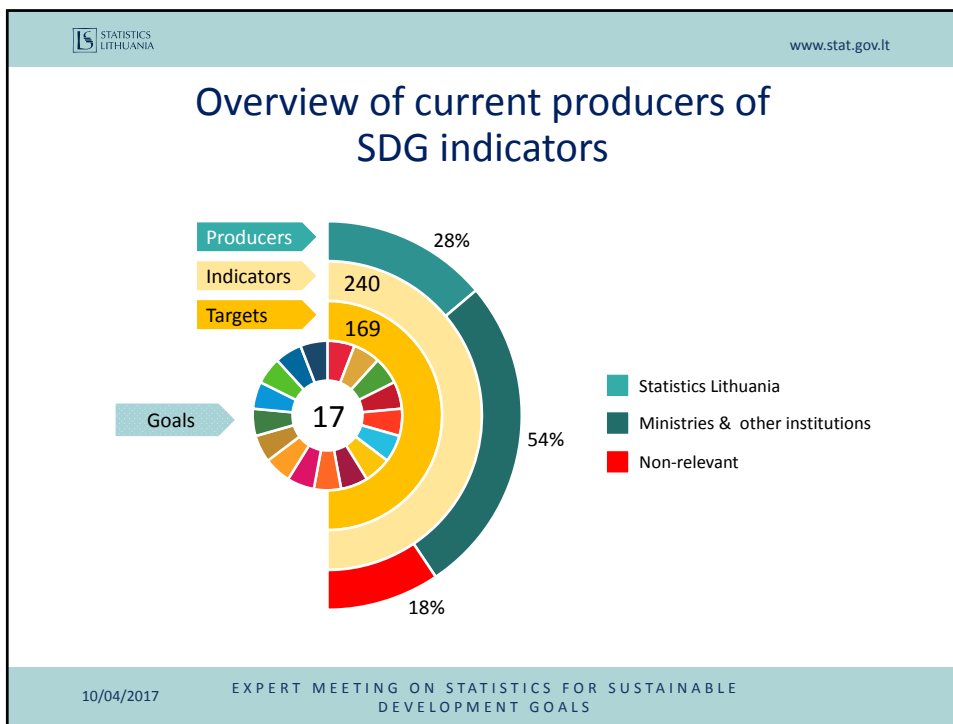
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National SDG indicators in Lithuania

- Indicators of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development prepared & published on Official Statistics Portal in 2017
- Agreements with 20 ONAs signed on cooperation in provision of information & release of indicators on the single Official Statistics Portal
- Further work with ministries & other institutions continued in terms of data provision by supplementing with the national indicators on sustainable development

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SDGs related plans

- Resolution of the Government of Lithuania (13 March 2017) on the Approval of the Plan of Implementation of the Programme of the Government foresees setting of coordination mechanism in 2017
- Tasks to be set in Statistics Lithuania Strategy for 2018–2022 related to implementing Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development
- Contribute to improvement of the UN, CES, OECD & Eurostat list of sustainable development indicators, development of methodologies

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- Update national indicators of sustainable development
- Efficiently coordinate work with institutions responsible for SDGs
- Maintain close cooperation with the country's scientific community
- Inform the public about objectives of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development & progress in implementation
- Identify new data sources & partnerships for developing of missing indicators

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Challenges encountered

- Very long & non-exhaustive list of indicators
- Lack of definitions of indicators & data sources
- New surveys needed & new data sources & partnerships to be identified
- Some indicators do not belong to official statistics
- Clear distribution of responsibilities in the country to be finalized & formalized
- Increased burden on NSI

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Thank you

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