UNSC Guidelines on Data Flows and Global Data Reporting for SDGs

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Background

Lessons learned from the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) process

» Importance of robust and reliable data
» Strengthened statistical capacities
» Increased availability of more and better data
» Concepts of cooperation, coordination and transparency of utmost importance

-> it is crucial to understand the data flows and reporting structures between national and international organisations

-> find a common ground on how to work together
Provisions

Member states play the central role in the Agenda 2030

» Global review is to be primarily based on national official data sources

» Coordinating role of National Statistical Offices in the National Statistical Systems (A/RES/71/313 para. 6)

“all activities of the global statistical system must be conducted in full adherence to the FPOS”
(A/RES/71/313 para. 8)

Adjustments or estimates of country data to be done in full consultation with the concerned country (StatCom 48/101 para. 1) and methodologies used for harmonisation disclosed (A/RES/71/313 para. 7)
Key guiding principles

Transparency

Collaboration and communication

Professional and scientific standards
Compilation of data for SDG indicators

**NSO/ NSS makes country data available to CAs**

**Aim:** Most transparent and efficient way of reporting SDG indicators for both National and International Statistical Systems
- Utilizing NRPs where available
- Taking into account already well-established data reporting mechanisms

If no country data is provided

CA and NSO/NSS discuss together:
- Availability of other data sources, including data from outside of NSS and new data sources;
- National plans for future production of this data;
- Agree on a mechanism to validate and transmit the data.
Processing of data for SDG indicators

If data is provided by an entity outside of NSS

Consultation with data provider, national contact point and NSO on use of data

If no agreement is reached:
- national data should not be published in Global Database
- but may be used for the calculation of regional and global aggregates
Processing of data for SDG indicators

If adjustments or estimates are necessary

Technical consultation between NSO/ NSS and CA through a fully transparent mechanism

If no agreement is reached:
- national data should not be published in Global Database
- but may be used for the calculation of regional and global aggregates

In case of non-response by NSO/ NSS within one month: this can be taken as agreement
Some further principles I

Communication via contact points

» **Aim:** One lead CA per indicator

» Contact point at national level who will be informed when CAs are collecting, processing and disseminating data for SDGs

Common timetable with reasonable & workable timeframes

Some further principles II

Three types of metadata:

» Metadata provided by CA to NSS for the production of SDG data (updates to be documented)

» National Metadata provided by national data provider to CA along with data

» Global metadata provided by CAs to UNSD explaining the data in the global data reporting (including adjustments and estimates made and their methodology)

Data dissemination

» **Aim:** Use identical data sets for SDG-indicators in thematically connected publications and databases by CAs
Way forward

UN Statistical Commission 49th session:

“(f) …Welcomed the draft guidelines on data flows and global data reporting for the SDGs as an initial step“

“(g) Requested the IAEG-SDGs to work jointly with custodian agencies and establish a fruitful dialogue between all parties, to further refine the guidelines by taking into account concerns raised at UNSC…”

» prepare criteria for implementation based on best practices,

» limit the burden that the envisaged procedures may represent in terms of time and resources for both national and international statistical systems,

» resolve outstanding issues.
Work together

232 global indicators

60+ Custodian Agencies

193 National Statistical Systems

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THANK YOU!

Miriam Blumers

Environmental-Economic Accounts, Sustainable Development Indicators

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