

**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS**

Joint UNECE/OECD/Eurostat Working Group on Statistics for Sustainable Development
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SUMMARY OF THE PORTUGUESE WORK ON SDI

Prepared by the National Statistics Institute of Portugal

NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (ENDS)

1. Portugal is now having a public consultation on the third version of its National Strategy for Sustainable Development. The first version was discussed in 2002, the second one in 2004 and the last and final one has been elaborated during 2005 and 2006.
2. One of the reasons for these successive versions was the decision taken in 2004 by the former government, and approved by the present one, to envision ENDS as a document that can integrate in a unified perspective several other strategic documents – some sectoral, some transversal – linking economic, social, environmental and territorial options for the public policies and the elaboration of the National Strategic Framework (QREN) to be presented to the European Commission as the guideline to the utilisation of the European Structural Funds during the 2007/13 period.
3. The final version defines seven Strategic Objectives that must be made compatible as a result of the options taken in each of them:
 - preparing of Portugal for the knowledge society;
 - obtaining growth and competitiveness in the global economy, with more efficient use of Energy;
 - better environment and use of natural resources;
 - more equity, equal opportunities and social cohesion;
 - better international connectivity of the country and an equilibrated development of the regions;
 - active participation of Portugal in European construction and international cooperation;
 - efficiency and modernization of the public administration.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT INDICATORS

4. The three versions of the ENDS had distinct approaches to the list of Indicators to monitor the execution of the Strategy. The first version included a detailed list of indicators, but mainly from the environmental perspective. The second version had a small list of indicators monitoring some macro variables, but had a detailed list of for “goals” for each of its Strategic Objectives.

5. The present set of Sustainable Development Indicators was compiled by the National Statistics Institute together with experts from ministries and other institutions and includes two types of indicators.

- The first type includes indicators of the short list of Structural Indicators of the Lisbon Strategy and level one of the Sustainable Development Indicators proposed by the European Commission.
- The second type is a very detailed list of complementary indicators covering all the seven strategic objectives of the ENDS and most of their 114 Implementing Vectors.

6. Data will be obtained from the National Statistic Institute and from other governmental departments responsible for environment protection, agriculture, etc.

INSTITUTIONAL ASPECTS

7. As for the EU, sustainable development is an important goal for the Portuguese government. Concerted efforts and global cooperation among the different actors to the development and implementation of sustainable development indicators is relevant to provide guidance for policy makers. In order to organise and to follow closely the ENDS, a sustainability commission/group (CNEL) including different departments was created.

REFERENCES AND WEBSITES

8. The Portuguese “National Strategy for Sustainable Development” which is now in public discussion can be consulted at: www.desenvolvimentosustentável.pt

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