

The Way Forward: Meeting the SDG Measurement Challenges Together

Decisions from the April 2017 UNECE Expert Meeting on Statistics for SDGs



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Sessions of the Expert Meeting

- National strategies and plans for measuring SDGs
- National reporting on global SDG indicators
- Coordination of data flows and harmonization of statistics for SDGs in the region
- Coordination of capacity building



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Decision 1: Facilitate National Plans for SDG Statistics



Issue: A national road map/work plan is essential.

- The UNECE Steering Group will develop a generic outline/template for national road maps

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Decision 2: Facilitate Communication

Issue: Developing an effective communication strategy is essential for successful reporting.



The Steering Group will:

- Develop guidance/narrative for NSOs
- Request (through IAEG-SDGs and UNSD):
 - Contact lists for SDG leads at **custodian agencies** from custodian agencies and NSOs
 - Contact lists for SDG leads at **countries** from custodian agencies and NSOs
 - Schedule of reporting deadlines for SDG indicators from custodian agencies and from UNSD
 - Revisions to the deadline for country data validation to align with preparations for UNSC meetings

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Decision 3: Leverage Innovation



Issue: Several models of national reporting platforms now exist.

[Follow up to be presented by CES Task Force on NRPs]

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Decision 4: Mapping Data Flows



Issue: Several **global** data flow scenarios are possible. Establishing responsibilities for NSOs and custodian agencies while maintaining flexibility to address national circumstances is essential.

- A task team (led by France and Turkey) will conduct a pilot to map specific data flow processes. This will help identify practical needs.
- This pilot will include NSOs with different reporting circumstances and custodian agencies, and will cover a few selected indicators from economic, social, and environmental area.
- The outcome of pilot will be provided to IAEG-SDGs (Fall 2017).

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Decision 5: Think Differently about Capacity Building



Issue: The SDGs require **all countries** to (re)consider capacity building. Sustainable Capacity Building needs consistency, patience, and fostering NSO management skills.

- Task Team (Switzerland, Norway, Italy, Montenegro) will develop a concept note on capacity building taking into account the unique needs and opportunities relevant to UNECE CES countries.

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Decision 6: Staying on Track



Issue: Need to maintain momentum without running out of gas!

- The UNECE Steering Group has updated the regional **road map** based on the electronic consultation as well as on the discussions during the expert meeting.
- The next SG meeting will cover: **a)** results of the pilot study on data flows and **b)** what capacity building means for this region.
- A **second Expert Meeting** on statistics for SDGs will be organized (tentatively in April 2018).

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