



SDG Metadata Structure Definition

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What is Metadata:

- **Metadata** is "[data](#) [information] that provides information about other data". *Source Wikipedia*



Structural vs Reference

- Structural Metadata: Identifiers and Descriptors, e.g.
 - Data Structure Definition
 - Concept Scheme
 - Code
- Reference Metadata: Describes contents and quality of data, e.g.
 - Indicator definition
 - Comments



Metadata that travels with data

- Attributes attached to an observation such as :
 - OBS_STATUS *“Information on the quality of a value or an unusual or missing value”*
 - TIME_DETAIL *“metadata on the actual range the observation refers to ”*
 - BASE_PER *“Period of time used as the base of an index number..”*
 - UNIT_MEASURE *“Unit in which the data values are expressed”*
 - NATURE *“Information on the production and dissemination of the data”*
 - SOURCE_DETAIL *“additional textual information on the data source”*
 - COMMENT_OBS *“Additional information on specific aspects of each observation”*
- Those are part of the SDG DSD



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7 main concepts are suggested:

- Data reporter
- Definition and concepts
- Data source type and data collection method
- Other methodological considerations (such as method of computation)
- Data availability and disaggregation
- Comparability / Deviation from international standards
- References and Documentation



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- Work in progress, expected by the end of 2018.
- Based on:
 - The metadata template agreed by the IAEG-SDGs:
<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/meetings/iaeg-sdgs-meeting-03/3rd-IAEG-SDGs-Draft-template-for-metadata.pdf>.
 - The Metadata Structure Definition used for the MDGs.
 - Global Reference Metadata Concept Scheme (MCS) and default Metadata Structure Definition (MSD), *Version 1.0 – 26/6/2017*.



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Current thoughts:

- For countries and national authorities:
 - Country code and series code
- Regional and international authorities:
 - Attached regional (i.e. “EU”) or global level (i.e. “World”) and series
- Global reporting:
 - Metadata currently prepared and disseminated at the SDG indicator level rather than the series level.



Thank you !