Case study for Road Map on Statistics for SDGs 2.0

Portugal: Coordinating the statistical follow up of the 2030 Agenda

Description
Statistics Portugal has been included at an early stage in the national coordination structures for the implementation and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda. As the main body producing and disseminating official statistics, Statistics Portugal is part of the Interministerial Commission on Foreign Policy (CIPE) for matters related to statistics for SDGs. In Portugal, CIPE is the forum for coordinating the national implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Statistics Portugal has also contributed to the Voluntary National Review (coordinated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) with a chapter on the statistical monitoring of SDGs at the national level.

In response to growing demands for SDG data, Statistics Portugal created an in-house multidisciplinary working group on the statistical follow-up of the 2030 Agenda working in close cooperation with several ministries to map existing indicators and sources, as well as disseminating relevant information.

According to the current availability status for Portugal of UN SDG global indicators (as of 17 July 2020), information is available for 129 of the global SDG indicators: 74 are identical, 42 are proxies and 13 have partial information.

As the national focal point for SDG statistical monitoring, Statistics Portugal coordinates (in close cooperation with relevant national bodies) the reporting of SDG indicators and receives validation requests from custodian agencies.

Cooperating with line ministries and relevant official bodies
Statistics Portugal organized several meetings with line ministries responsible for each SDG to map the existing information. Some of these bodies act as Other National Authorities within the Statistical System, while others are regular data providers (but not statistical authorities). These meetings had two main goals: 1) decide on the relevance for the country of the indicators not being produced; and 2) identify potential data sources or create data production roadmaps for the indicators deemed relevant and possible to produce, but not yet available.

Advantages
Coordination meetings with potential data providers proved essential to:

- Identify the information that could eventually become available.
- Raise crosscutting awareness on the Agenda 2030 monitoring process.
- Establish communication routines with other national bodies.

Through the integration of the national reporting platform in the IT infrastructure, all data produced by NSO is linked to the Dissemination Database, providing users with a set of analytical features, as well as direct access to the full time series available and to all available dimensions (sex, age, etc.).

Challenges
Need to close data gaps on the goals with the lowest coverage, especially on environment statistics. Need to improve communication of the SDG indicators.

Future steps
Statistics Portugal will continue to actively participate in the methodological work promoted by UNGGIM-Europe. The National SDG Platform will be improved.
For more information on Portugal’s statistical follow-up of the 2030 Agenda, please consult the national SDG platform:


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