Meeting Notes – 8th Communication Fortnight

SDG Thematic Products

7 March 2024

The TTCOM (AL, AT, CH, DK, IE, IS, NL, PL, PT, SK, UNECE, UK, ZA) gathered for its 8th fortnight, devoted to SDG thematic products. The meeting recording and transcript are available on Teams (restricted to members) whereas the meeting summary and additional materials will be made available on the [UNECE Knowledge Hub on SDGs](#), under the [Communication page](#). Due to some constraints in the use of UNECE Statistics wiki, the Task Team material (except for the recordings), will be moved to the UNECE website and thus increase their visibility. The relevant link will be shared soon.

Aleksandra Kubecka (Statistics Poland) presented the Polish experience with the development of SDG thematic products, i.e. products that cater to different user needs and themes within SDG monitoring. The presentation focused on two types of products: a recent innovative product, "Experimental statistics" webpage, digital SDG reports and the national reporting platform (NRP).

Polish efforts in increasing and improving SDG monitoring resulted in a different communication product "Experimental SDG statistics", which aimed to disseminate statistics which did not have the "official brand" but were already sufficiently developed to be shared with the broader public. To prevent confusion or misuse, this page is solely devoted to experimental SDG indicators, with a strong focus on Earth Observation data and geospatial visuals. The page currently disseminates data on 3 SDG indicators: 9.1.1, 11.3.1 and 11.7.1. The website, accessible from the NRP, has a "FAQs" section to better inform users and clarify the experimental natural of these data. The page was designed to be user-friendly, concise, and attractive, enabling the user to explore all features with little effort, namely: maps (with additional data and interpretation), context indicators with different disaggregation levels, methodological information, data sources and important information about the underlying meaning of these metrics for sustainable development and its potential use for policymaking. New indicators are expected to be released soon, such as 11.2.1, more granular data for 9.1.1 and biodiversity indicators for SDG 15.

The SDG Digital report was the first digital-based publication in Statistics Poland. These reports are focused on specific themes, analysing the SDGs, through a thematic lens, such as the [environment](#) and, in the most recent report, [women on the way to sustainable development](#).

The national reporting platform enables the consultation of both [national](#) and [global](#) SDG indicators, including, data, metadata and the relevant graphs to highlight the most important takeaways.

Main takeaways from the Q&A session:

1. **Organizational Structure for Product Development**: The development of products related to the 2030 Agenda, particularly the SDGs, involves a dedicated division for development monitoring. The team responsible for these reports collaborates closely with other teams, including the IT team and regional offices responsible for calculating indicators.

2. **Utilization of GIS Skills**: GIS (Geographic Information System) skills are mainly within the regional branches, which contribute expertise in geospatial data and IT tools necessary for graphical representations in the SDG team's work.

3. **Policymaking reference**: The section which highlights the meaning and potential policy making use of SDG metrics is based on the official UN methodology but presented in a clear and user-friendly manner.

4. **Collaboration for National Reporting Platform**: The national reporting platform involves collaboration with other national agencies. It incorporates both global indicators, sourced partly from the National Statistical Service (NSS) and partly from ministries and governmental agencies, as well as national indicator sets.

5. **Impact of New Product Releases**: Each time a new product is released, there is an increase in visits to the platform. Notable goals attracting traffic include Goals 1 and 15.

6. **Simplifying Data Presentation**: There's some debate around creating an index based on regional data to address user requests for simpler data representation. Balancing the need for greater disaggregation with user-friendly interpretation is essential, bearing in minds the specific needs of national users (in some countries the pressure is higher for indexes, whereas in other, further geographical breakdown, as well as other types of disaggregation are required).

7. **Importance of Cooperation**: Cooperation among different teams with diverse skills is crucial for successful product development. The task requires combining efforts effectively to achieve the desired outcomes. Regarding international cooperation, additional FAQs could enhance user experience on the website, so the TTCOM is highly encouraged to submit any additional ideas for the Polish team.

These takeaways highlight the collaborative nature of product development, the emphasis on clear and user-friendly presentation, and ongoing efforts to improve data accessibility and interpretation.

The next fortnight is scheduled for **21 March, 3pm (CET),** and will focus on **national reporting platforms**, benefitting the Dutch experience shared by Bo Hoogerwerf.

Links

[please insert your link for a noteworthy national practice]

Statistics Poland – Experimental SDG Statistics - https://sdg.gov.pl/en/statistics_exp/

SDG Digital Report 2023 (Women) - https://raportsdg.stat.gov.pl/en/index.html

SDG Digital Report 2022 (Environment) - https://raportsdg.stat.gov.pl/2022/en/index.html

SDG National reporting platform (national SDG indicators) - https://sdg.gov.pl/en/statistics_nat/

SDG National reporting platform (global SDG indicators) - https://sdg.gov.pl/en/