Understanding SDG indicator availability

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Outline

1. The CES Steering Group for Statistics on SDGs
2. Understanding Indicator Availability
Steering Group on Statistics for SDGs

- Co-chairs: Sweden & Poland
- 16 Countries, four international organizations
- Guides and coordinates the CES work on statistics for SDGs
- Provides guidance to countries on statistical follow-up to 2030 Agenda

Principal products:
- Annual Expert Meetings
- Road Map for Statistics on SDGs
Other recent outputs

**Self-Assessment tool for indicator availability**
- Primary focus on national availability of global indicators
- Doubles as a project management tool
- Very high-level of detail in the assessment possible.

**Communication Fortnights**
- Informal meetings, focusing on discussion
- Various communication topics relevant for SDG Statistics
- Aim is to build a repository of Communication material and guidance.

**Capacity Development Matrix**
- Match capacity development needs of beneficiaries with offers of donors
- Across all statistical activities of NSOs.

**Country progress table**
- Tracks how countries are implementing core recommendations of the Road Map
- Provides links where applicable.
Other major outputs planned

Addendum to Road Map: Indicator Availability
- Discussion of issues relevant to understand indicator availability
- Explains differences between global and national availability
- Guidance on how to assess availability of indicators for different purposes
- Publication planned for 3rd quarter of 2024.

Lessons learned from providing Statistics for SDGs
- Requested by the CES Bureau
- Focus on lessons for countries
- Publication planned for early 2025.
Understanding Availability: The purpose of SDG data

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<th>International</th>
<th>National</th>
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<td>• Global agenda needs global follow-up and review.</td>
<td>• SDGs are implemented nationally.</td>
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<td>• Regional and global estimates.</td>
<td>• Enable policy makers to make informed policy decisions related to SDGs.</td>
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-> Focus on: International comparability

-> Focus on: National relevance
Global Availability ≠ National Availability

National Availability of SDG Indicators is (at least) as important as global availability.

A 2023 questionnaire showed:
• National availability is vastly different from global availability
• Data from survey needs to be taken with a grain of salt.

Aim of this presentation:
• Explain reasons for differences
• Present a tool to assess national availability.
Global availability of indicator 3.6.1

Overall, very widely available

- Most from countries, adjusted by the custodian agency (WHO)
- Some estimated by the custodian agency

**Country adj.:** produced and provided by the country, but adjusted for international comparability

**Estimated** based on national data on the variable being estimated, produced by the international agency
Global availability of indicator 9.1.1

Only one year available for Armenia.
Global availability of indicator 9.1.2

Freight & Passenger volume by Air:
  • Mostly available, directly from countries.

Container port traffic:
  • Many data points estimated for container port traffic.
  • Three data points modelled.

*Modelled by the agency using covariates when no data on the variable being estimated*
Overall good availability.

Not many data points directly from countries.

Most is global monitoring data.

**Global monitoring:** Produced on a regular basis by the designated agency for global monitoring, based on country data.
Globally available but not available nationally:
Custodian Agencies have multiple ways of producing indicators that are not (solely) based on country data.

Nationally available but not available globally
A country may have indicators available, that do not appear in the global database

1. National indicators
capture target in a way that is particularly relevant for its national implementation
2. Proxies
replacement of a global indicator, because of measurement challenges
cannot be submitted for global reporting
3. Experimental indicators
Using methodology not accepted by the custodian agency

Examples: Indicator 9.1.1 (Rural population within 2km of all-season road)
Germany, Poland, United Kingdom
Thank you!

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