

SDG Agenda as it currently stands: 17 goals, 169 Targets, 320+ indicators

Implications for monitoring, TYPSS implementation, NSOs and their development partners

Monitoring development progress, from MDGs to SDGs: the “good news”

- **MDG Platform successfully established**
- National collections -> Regional MDG database/regional Reporting (PIFS) -> Global reporting (feeding into UN specialist agencies + UNSD Global MDG database)
- **From that experience, should augur well for developing/maintaining SDG Platform**

Monitoring development progress, from MDGs to SDGs: the “not so good news”

- SDG platform development, on the basis of where things are at the moment: will be near impossible
- From MDGs -> SDGs: daunting monitoring challenge

Framework	Goals	Targets	Indicators
MDG	8	18	60
SDG	17	169	320+

- **Even with the best will – PSIDS (and most other developing countries) will not be able monitor 320 indicators – let alone collect the underlying statistics**
- 3 compelling reasons:
 - Most of the data for new goals/targets and associated indicators are not yet collected (at least not on a regular basis)
 - Between 2000 – 2015 (MDG period), most PSIDS have not been able to conduct a census with their own budget, and no PSIDS has been able to undertake a HIES/DHS without external finance
 - Given current financial climate, NSO domestic budgets + international development support remaining at current status as likely best-case scenario, situation looks grim.

Monitoring development progress, from MDGs to SDGs: “a manageable scenario”

- Accept/embrace the total number of SDGs = 17 (**untouchable**)
- Accept/embrace reality, that 169 Targets and indicators are **unworkable** (Both from a global development financing support for implementation, as well as regards regular monitoring)
- Agree on a limited set of targets/associated **headline indicators** (between 2 – 4) **all countries can commit to for global monitoring.**
Caveat: this should not, however, “allow” countries (political/regional groupings) to opt out of the difficult challenges.
- This is something, that some members of the SDG Inter-Agency Expert Group on indicators will raise at its inaugural first working group meeting 1 - 2 June: to review the feasibility of coming up with a shortened set of a limited number (2 – 4) of headline indicators for all SDGs.
- Preliminary attempts at prioritizing from a strictly technical/professional angle of what targets/associated indicators are most feasible, suitable and relevant, involving key technical divisions at SPC, Forum Secretariat and SPREP, as well as some interdisciplinary/agency working groups (CC-DRM; NCDs-Food Security; Marine Sector Working Group, involving SPC, SPREP, FFA, PIFS), came up with a first cut of 62 target/indicator combinations.

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