

Big Data for the SDG

Side-event at the UN Statisitcal Commission 9 March 2021 Niels Ploug



Big Data and the SDGs



- Thank you very much for interest in the event and your questions!
- Global Working Group on Big Data and its Task Teams
 - Task Team on Big Data for the SDGs.
- ...the main objective of the Task Team is to provide examples of the potential use of non-traditional data, including Big Data and citizen generated data for monitoring the SDGs that can be applied by countries.
 - Make an inventory of past and ongoing research work on Big Data that could be used to calculate one or more SDGs.
 - Pilot research in a few countries on calculating specific SDG indicators using non-traditional data.
 - Encouragement and assistance in propagation of methodologies/approaches that seem scalable.
 - Developing guidelines for cases that seem to work and are scalable

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- Lots of ongoing work some concrete pilot projects, but not yet concrete methodology that can be used across countries.
- Different modalities of using Big Data in monitoring the SDGs 'replacement', 'new', and 'integration'.
- Different initiatives citizen generated data/company data/phone data
 - Examples:
 - Indonesia monitoring of the indicator 9.c.1 'Proportion of population covered by a mobile network, by technology' by mobile phone data
 - Colombia is working on measuring poverty using non-traditional data sources
- The purpose of the event: to inform where we are at, to share knowledge about ongoing initiatives, and most importantly, to start a wider exchange of experiences

Denmark and the SDG



- How much 'non-traditional' data is used for the follow-up?
- In Denmark we define administrative data as 'traditional data' so....not so much
- 11.2.1 Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities
- Administrative data is used for absolute majority of the SDG indicators
 - Three main registers: population, business, and dwelling.
 - Unique identifier
- However, Big Data is used for other statistics scanner data for price statistics, AIS data – experimental statistics...
- Access to Big Data is still a challenge legislation issues.
- Discussions on how to include citizen generated data (civil society) in the monitoring of the SDGs