Reference metadata template for data reported on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The purpose of this template is for international agencies to submit reference metadata on the agreed upon tier I and II global indicators and associated data for which they are responsible, in order to monitor the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets in a consistent manner. In order to ensure coherence and consistency of the metadata that will be presented alongside the SDG indicator database, we are requesting uniform reference metadata on the global indicators and on associated data that you are reporting using this standard template.

While we realise this form is detailed, your willingness to provide this reference metadata in a standard format will be vital to users better understanding of the global indicators and associated data you have provided. We hope any metadata submitted previously can be copied and pasted into the relevant section of this form. Any metadata that was previously submitted to UNSD prior to July 2016 can be found at: http://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg-sdgs/metadata-compilation/.

This form should be completed by the international agencies that provided their data for inclusion in the SDG progress report and associated database. Please replace the instruction text shaded in yellow with the appropriate text describing the reference metadata for that section (i.e. definition, rationale, etc.). Please try to make your responses as concise as possible while making sure to include all relevant information. For more detailed methodological information, a link can be included in the reference section (see page 4).

If there are any questions regarding SDG metadata or this form, please contact Zin Lin at lin@un.org.

Goal : 15
Target: 15.a.1
Indicator: "Revenue generated and finance mobilised from biodiversity-relevant economic instruments" " – Proposed additional indicator for this target (complementing the existing indicator 15a.1 on ODA for biodiversity)

Institutional information

Organization(s):
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Contact person(s):
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Please note that the contact person for the ODA biodiversity data is Yasmin Ahmad (yasmin.ahmad@oecd.org), and the contact person for data on biodiversity-relevant public expenditure is Myriam Linster (myriam.linster@oecd.org)

Concepts and definitions

Definition:
The proposed indicator would report the revenue generated and finance mobilised from biodiversity-relevant economic instruments, covering biodiversity-relevant taxes, fees and charges, and positive subsidies.

New on-going work is underway to collect data on payments for ecosystem services and biodiversity offsets (including the finance they mobilise for biodiversity).

Rationale:
These economic policy instruments also either generate revenue (e.g. biodiversity-relevant taxes) or mobilise finance directly for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use. The data is collected in a consistent and comparable way across countries.

Concepts:

Comments and limitations:
The database is intended to track the biodiversity-relevant economic instruments that countries have put in place, and countries are encouraged to also provide information on the revenue and finance channelled via each of the instruments. The comprehensiveness of data provided currently varies across the biodiversity-relevant economic instruments. The data on revenue generated by biodiversity-relevant taxes is currently the most comprehensive. For the data on biodiversity-relevant fees and charges, for

example, of the total number of these instruments currently reported to the PINE database, 42% also include data on the finance they generate.

Like all data provided by a diffuse set of respondents, the data is subject to missing values, human error, and differences in interpretation of the provided definitions. However, all possible efforts have been made to ensure that the data is complete, accurate, and comparable across countries.

Methodology

Computation Method:
Countries are requested to report on when the policy instrument was introduced, what it applies to, the geographical coverage, the environmental domain, the industries concerned; the revenues, costs or rates; whether the revenue is earmarked; and exemptions.

Disaggregation:
Information is available by country at the individual policy instrument level.

Treatment of missing values:
No attempt is made to estimate missing values.

Regional aggregates:
Data is reported at national and sub-national level, depending on the scope of the policy instrument.

Sources of discrepancies:
Some countries provide more comprehensive information than others (see computation method above).

Methods and guidance available to countries for the compilation of the data at the national level:
The OECD provides instructions and a formatted questionnaire for countries to provide data.

Quality assurance
Data are provided by competent national authorities. The OECD Secretariat however conducts regular checks to tries and identify errors or missing data.

Data Sources

Description:
Information for the PINE database is collected via a network of 200 country experts, including in government agencies (Ministries of Finance and Environment, statistical institutes) as well as research institutes and international organisations. Data is collected systematically for 36 OECD members as well as the active accession countries. A growing number of non-member countries also provide information. Registered experts are asked to update data at least once a year, typically in January or February, through a password-protected interface. The data collection method may result in some reporting bias, as OECD members and active accession countries are likely to report more data on a regular basis, and all figures should be interpreted in this context.

Collection process:
Via questionnaire and directly via the network of contacts.

Data Availability

Description:
Currently more than 100 countries are contributing data to the PINE database. As of October 2018, the database contained nearly 3 500 policy instruments for the environment, of which 3 100 were in force. The environmental domains covered by the database include biodiversity, climate, air pollution, among others.

Time series:
The data series is annual and data is available from before 1980.
The PINE database exists since before 1980, with the added feature of tagging biodiversity-relevant instruments introduced in 2017. The biodiversity-relevant information in the PINE database is being used to monitor progress towards Aichi Target 3 on positive incentives, under the Convention on Biological Diversity. For more information on this, see Aichi Target 3 under the website of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership (BIP).

Calendar

Data collection:
On an on-going basis.
Data release:
An updated and expanded brochure on "Tracking Economic Instruments and Finance for Biodiversity" is planned to be released at the end of 2019.
The 2018 version is available here: OECD (2018), Tracking Economic Instruments and Finance for Biodiversity.

Data providers

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The OECD Secretariat, in consultation with countries, validates the data before they are published online. The management of PINE is overseen by OECD Committees and Working Parties.

Data compilers

The OECD is the only International Organisation collecting this data.

References

OECD (2018), Tracking Economic Instruments and Finance for Biodiversity.

The brochure also highlights on-going work to scale up the policy instruments to include Payments for Ecosystem Services, and Biodiversity Offsets, and the finance these two policy instruments mobilise. The PINE data is available at https://oe.cd/pine

Additional information extracted from the PINE database, is reported in OECD (2019) Biodiversity: Finance and the Economic and Business Case for Action

Related indicators

A related indicator is that on public expenditure on biodiversity. Public expenditure on biodiversity is currently a Tier III indicator and is to be improved. For expenditure the methodology is agreed upon, i.e. SEEA Environmental Expenditure Accounts and National accounts COFOG.

The other existing indicator for SDG 15a.1 is on biodiversity-relevant ODA, provided by the OECD. This is a Tier I indicator.