



Plenary session

8th Meeting of the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs)

Agenda Item 9. Use of proxy indicators to monitor targets where indicators are currently Tier III

6-8 November 2018
Stockholm, Sweden

UNSC49 Decision & IAEG Workplan

- (d) Requested the IAEG-SDGs to consider the feasibility of using tentative existing indicators as proxies for immediate use to monitor targets, while Tier III indicators are finalized

IAEG Workplan for Proxies developed at 7th IAEG-SDG Meeting

- Priorities:
 - Goals with major indicators that are in Tier III category (Goals 10, 12-14)
 - MOI targets with only Tier III indicators
 - Targets with 2020 deadline with only Tier III indicators
 - Tier III indicators with slow progress
- Review indicator proposals for these targets from initial SDG indicator discussion
- Additional proposals from IAEG-SDGs members
- Review an initial list of proxy indicators at the 8th IAEG-SDGs meeting
- Suggest a list of proxy indicators for the 50th session of Statistical Commission

Proxy process

- Identified 26 indicators based on the criteria developed at the 7th IAEG meeting
- Requested feedback from IAEG members on these possible proxies, in particular, if they agree that the indicator needs a proxy
- Sent compiled information, including IAEG feedback on possible proxies, to agencies for proxy proposals and feedback
- Requested from agencies proxy proposals to be a well established indicator including link to data and metadata

Summary of issues on proposed proxies

1. For some indicators, IAEG members overwhelmingly are not in favor of the proxy proposed (i.e. 10.5.1) and/or there is no agency recommendation for a global indicator proxy (i.e. 1.b.1)
 - For these indicators no global proxy will be proposed, but potential proxy could be proposed for national or regional use
2. Originally proposed indicator is an orphan or agency has determined that it cannot be measured, therefore propose an existing indicator that can be used as a proxy (i.e. 11.a.1, 12.b.1)
 - These proxies will be reviewed by the IAEG and considered if proposal meets the agreed criteria

Summary of issues on proposed proxies

3. For some indicators, the intergovernmental process is still determining indicators for measuring the targets (i.e. UNFCCC, Tier III under Goal 13)
 - IAEG members want to consider currently available climate indicators as proxies for immediate use, particularly to meet the needs of SIDS countries, while the UNFCCC process continues to develop modalities for measuring the targets
4. Methodology is underway, with completion in 2019 and agency is not in favor of a proxy (i.e. 15.9.1)
 - IAEG will review status of Tier III workplan to determine if it is sufficiently advancing to therefore not require a proxy

Summary of issues on proposed proxies

5. Support by IAEG for a proxy indicator, but no proposals received or orphan indicator with no proposal.
 - IAEG may also conduct additional analysis on possible proxies engaging academia and other partners with technical expertise

Next Steps

- IAEG will conduct review of material received from agencies/organizations on proxy proposals, along with Tier III workplan status, focusing on the priority areas for proxies as determined by the criteria
- IAEG will hold a follow-up WebEx to be held late Nov./early Dec. to decide on recommendations for the possible proxies
- Proxy recommendations will be posted on the IAEG website and reference included in the UNSC50 report