

Data Flows and Global SDG Reporting

Cara Williams and Angela Me

12th Meeting of the IAEG-SDGs, 3 November 2021

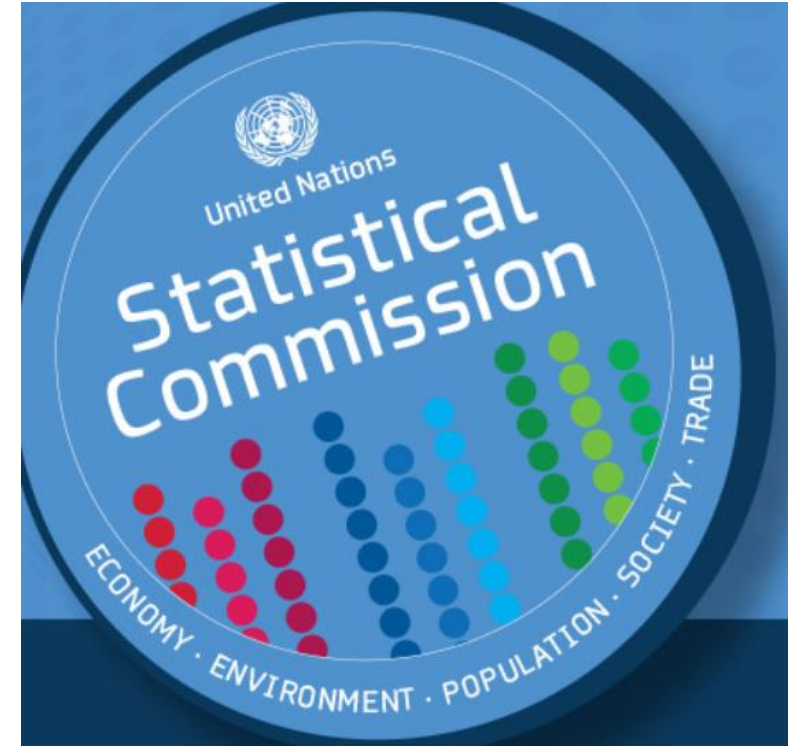


IMPROVING DATA FLOWS AND GLOBAL SDG REPORTING

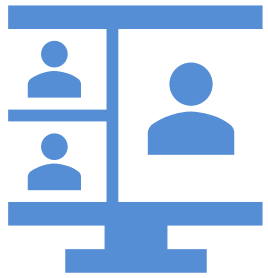
The Statistical Commission at its 52nd session in March 2021:

“Requested the Group and the custodian agencies

- to continue their dialogue to enhance the data flow process for global reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals, including by identifying good practices in the implementation of the guidelines on data flows and global data reporting for the Goals, and*
- to further refine tools to effectively coordinate data requests to countries, enabling more comprehensive reporting and validation and dissemination of data, and*
- to reduce the national reporting burden, including by making efficient use of existing regional mechanisms or data platforms where possible”*



MEETINGS BETWEEN IAEG-SDGS AND CCSA/CCS-UN



- **Co-chairs** of the IAEG-SDGs and CCSA/CCS-UN, together with some key custodian agencies, held two meetings **in April and September 2021**, to discuss how to implement the decision of UNSC52 and address countries' concerns.
- It was acknowledged that over the years the partnership between countries and custodian agencies has ensured the dissemination of a large quantity of SDG data. **The common objective of countries and agencies is to produce good data for SDG monitoring.**
- It was noted there are many **different situations** in different countries.
- It was agreed the IAEG-SDGs and CCSA/CCS-UN to have **regular meetings** and keep the dialogues open.
- The meetings suggested some key recommendations and follow-ups to improve data flows and global SDG reporting,



Recommendations by IAEG-SDGs and CCSA (1)

Improving the SDG global data collection/validation process:

- a. to spread the validation process more evenly during the year as much as possible to avoid the concentration of all requests in the period November-December considering also the long holiday period of Christmas and New Year;
- b. to be more transparent with the source of data;
- c. to use user-friendly IT validation systems so the it can be easily shared among concerned agencies within country;

Recommendations by IAEG-SDGs and CCSA (2)

Improving the SDG global data collection/validation process:

- d. to be more transparent with the names of institutions that are contacted for the validation in the same country together with the NSO (avoiding bcc so that the NSO can easily liaison with other national institutions)
- e. to give enough time for the validation and avoid short windows that make the validation unrealistic
- f. to be more explicit if the validation process of SDG indicators comes with other non-SDG related data and their deadline, as countries try to prioritize data for SDG indicators

Recommendations by IAEG-SDGs and CCSA (3)

Following up on the use of population data:

- The major issue of discrepancy between national and international data series remain the population estimates.
- The IAEG selected a few members to provide concrete examples comparing national and international data with the purpose of identifying possible discrepancies.
- Two countries examples have been shared with the CCSA task team on the use of population data for the global monitoring of progress toward the SDGs

Recommendations by IAEG-SDGs and CCSA (4)

Validation of data based on Satellite images/ Earth observations:

- IAEG countries noted the challenge of reviewing/validating data based on satellite images in terms of time and resources needed and the lack of detailed information on the type of satellite images used.
- IAEG asked the Working Group on Geospatial Information (WGGI) to look into the possibility of identifying minimum validation criteria or common parameters that custodian agencies should submit as metadata.
- The WGGI will start this work and will involve the custodian agencies that use earth observations for calculating the SDG indicators.

Recommendations by IAEG-SDGs and CCSA (5)

Indicator Framework implementation:

- At the 52 session of UNSC, Member States would like the custodian agencies to provide capacity building support, particularly for indicators with low data coverage
 - CCSA sent a survey to its members to collect information on existing and planned capacity building activities.
 - The IAEG-SDGs will create a capacity building website to disseminate this information.

THANK YOU!

