

SDMX-SDGs Working Group Progress Update

IAEG-SDGs Meeting

8 Nov 2022

Progress 2022 (1)

- Maintain the SDG DSD and MSD
 - The SDG Data Structure Definition has been updated and released simultaneously with the Global SDG Database. Three releases have been issued this year, in March, July, and October. The latest version is 1.10. No update has been necessary for the SDG Metadata Structure Definition.
- Establish and maintain production metadata exchange
 - All global SDG metadata sets have been converted to SDMX and published at the UNSD SDMX API. Furthermore, a visualization website was built that enables the user to dynamically query for metadata by indicator or concept, while the Global SDG Database visualization web site now links data to metadata, made possible by the metadata API. Metadata is also harvested from the API to facilitate automated translation from English into other languages.

Progress 2022(2)

- Expand Data Exchange with countries and custodian agencies
 - Data exchange has been established with 36 countries and 6 custodian agencies.
- Outreach with the Custodian Agencies
 - UNSD has engaged with the Custodian Agencies beyond members of the SDMX-SDG Working Group, holding several meetings and carrying out a survey to identify data exchange training needs. Training in SDMX is planned for the Custodian Agencies before the end of the year.
- Capacity building
 - Development of an e-learning course on SDMX for SDG indicators, led by UNSD with active participation of the SDMX-SDG Working Group, is in the final stages. The e-learning course is expected to be released in Oct 2022. UNSD has continued capacity building activities, including an Advanced SDMX Workshop for UNESCWA region countries, and a basic SDMX Workshop for 6 countries of the African region as part of a UNECA project.

Progress 2022 (3)

- Maintain information portal for the SDMX-SDG data exchange
 - The SDMX-SDG portal has been maintained and will be further updated once the e-learning course becomes available.
- Publish DSD translations in multiple languages
 - The translation effort has focused on automated translation of reference metadata as part of a World Bank initiative. All SDG metadata were harvested from the SDMX Metadata API on a quarterly basis for translation, including all tier 1 and 2 metadata sets. Routine harvesting allows translators to accommodate new and updated metadata using computer-assisted translation with surgical updating of content. Translations were completed in French (Statistics Canada), continue in Spanish (ECLAC and IADB), and have currently paused in Russian (ROSSTAT and UNECE).
- Plan implementation of SDMX 3.0
 - Tentative plans will be developed following the SDMX Experts Meeting in Nov-Dec 2022

Workplan Priorities for 2023 (1)

- Continue to maintain the global SDG DSD and MSD (ongoing)
- Continue to maintain and expand the SDMX data and metadata exchange. Continue to publish global SDG data and metadata sets at UNSD SDMX APIs (ongoing).
- Identify common issues with data exchange and ways for their resolution. Tentative delivery date: Q3 2023.
- Develop SDMX annotations to optimize the dissemination of SDG indicators using the global dataflows. Tentative delivery date: Q2 2023 (Q2 release of the Global Database)
- Expand capacity building for countries and SDG Custodian Agencies using a combination of online, e-learning, and in-person training (ongoing).

Workplan Priorities for 2023 (2)

- Update the SDMX-SDG web page. Add references to e-learning and other training resources.
Tentative delivery date: Q1 2023.
- Continue to support the World Bank project on the translation of reference metadata (ongoing)
- Explore possibilities for the implementation of SDMX 3.0 data exchange.
Tentative delivery date: Q4 2023.

Annual Meeting

- Annual meeting of the SDMX-SDGs Working Group will take place on 2 Dec 2022 in Aguascalientes, Mexico, in the margins of the 11th SDMX Experts Meeting
 - Returning to the pre-pandemic practice of annual in-person meetings
- The 2023 Work Plan will be agreed and subsequently submitted to the IAEG-SDGs for approval
- ToR of the Working Group will be reviewed and proposed amendments, if any, will be submitted to the IAEG-SDGs for approval.