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Nations**

Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
Statistics

# SDMX-SDG Working Group

15<sup>th</sup> IAEG-SDG Meeting  
21 Oct 2024

# Working Group on SDMX for SDG Indicators

- Established in 2016
- Composed of 12 countries and 10 international agencies
- Currently chaired by Mexico
- UNSD acts as the Secretariat
- Monthly virtual meetings through 2022; bi-monthly virtual meetings since 2023
- Annual in-person meetings in the margins of global events including the SDMX Global Conference and SDMX Experts Workshop

# Accomplishments

- Developed and published global SDG Data Structure Definition (2019) and Metadata Structure Definition (2021) and guidelines for their use
- Maintains and regularly publishes updates to the SDG DSD and MSD
- Assists with implementation of SDG data and metadata flows
  - SDMX data and metadata available at APIs in a machine-readable format
  - Contribution to the implementation of the Open SDG dissemination platform
  - Extensive ongoing capacity building for the Member States
  - Data exchange established with countries and with custodian agencies
  - Assistance in the implementation of regional data flows (e.g., ESCWA)
- Developed e-learning course on SDMX for the SDGs (2023)
- In addition, the Working Group made very significant contributions to the development of SDMX 3.0 and SDMX 3.1

# Data exchange and dissemination

- SDG global dataset and metadata set published at UNSD's Application Programming Interface
- Over 40% of the global dataset reported to UNSD as SDMX
- Data exchange with SDG Lab has been established with about 40 countries.
- Proven reduction of the reporting burden for both the reporters and collector
- SDMX actively used by UN Regional Commissions for data exchange with their Member States: UNESCWA in place, UNECA in progress
- The OpenSDG Platform, which uses the global SDG DSD and MSD, is used by about 18 countries

# Revision of the Terms Of Reference: Proposed updates

- New tasks proposed for the period 2025-2030
- Active participation in the Working Group meetings emphasized
- Focus on facilitating data interoperability in countries and custodian agencies
- Focus on common tools including OpenSDG
- Focus on sharing the knowledge and experience
- Additional IAEG-SDG members (and their experts) invited to engage with the Working Group and attend its meetings

# Proposed new tasks for 2025-2030

- a) Maintenance of the existing DSD and MSD including the 2025 Review and routine updates
- b) Development of Validation and Transformation Language (VTL) scripts for advanced validation of national and global SDG datasets and its implementation in common tools
- c) Implementation of SDMX 3.1 and later versions to significantly simplify data modeling, exchange, and dissemination
- d) Georeferencing and integration of statistical and geospatial information
- e) Preparation of guidance materials for implementation and coordination of capacity building
- f) Exchange of information and experiences of experts of countries and international and regional organizations on the latest developments in the use of SDMX for SDG data and metadata.
- g) Preparation of lessons learned and good practices established in the process of implementation of the exchange of SDG indicators.

# Proposed work plan for 2025: Highlights

- Maintain SDG DSD and MSD
- Expand data and metadata exchange for the SDG indicators
- Complete pilot of Validation and Transformation Language for SDG indicators
- Continue capacity building in Member States and Custodian Agencies
- Support for SDMX dissemination through OpenSDG
- Complete implementation of geospatial support
- Initiate preparations for implementation of SDMX 3.1
- Sharing of knowledge and experience

# Invitation to participate

- IAEG-SDGs members (and their experts) are invited to participate in meetings of the Working Group
- Propose a special session for IAEG-SDGs members wishing to learn more

THANK YOU!