UN initiative on Beyond GDP

Beyond GDP and the SDGs

15th IAEG-SDGs, October 2024

Yongyi Min, Bojan Nastav based on UNCTAD, UNDESA and UNDP co-led effort









Why beyond GDP and why now?



UN Secretary General's call (2021):

a new policy paradigm and metrics for today

- Crises: climate change, environment, pandemic, conflict, inequalities -GDP alone is not enough
- Wellbeing disconnected from the economy

- Assess progress from environmental, social, digital, distributional and vulnerability aspects
- Put people and the planet at the centre, be guided by balanced metrics, harness data revolution and new technologies















Respect for life and the planet



PROCESSES











Mandate / Background



Our Common **Agenda** report called for action to "urgently find measures of progress that complement GDP"

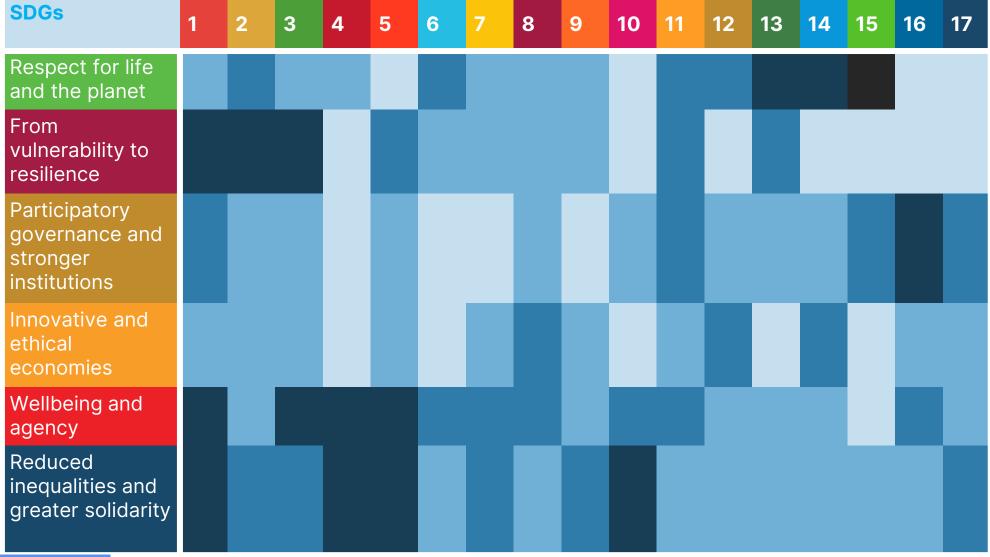
CEB (=SG and **UN entity heads)** discussed progress beyond GDP in **November** 2021 and tasked HLCP to develop a UN system-wide contribution on Beyond GDP

SDG 17 Target 19: "develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product"



Links to SDGs

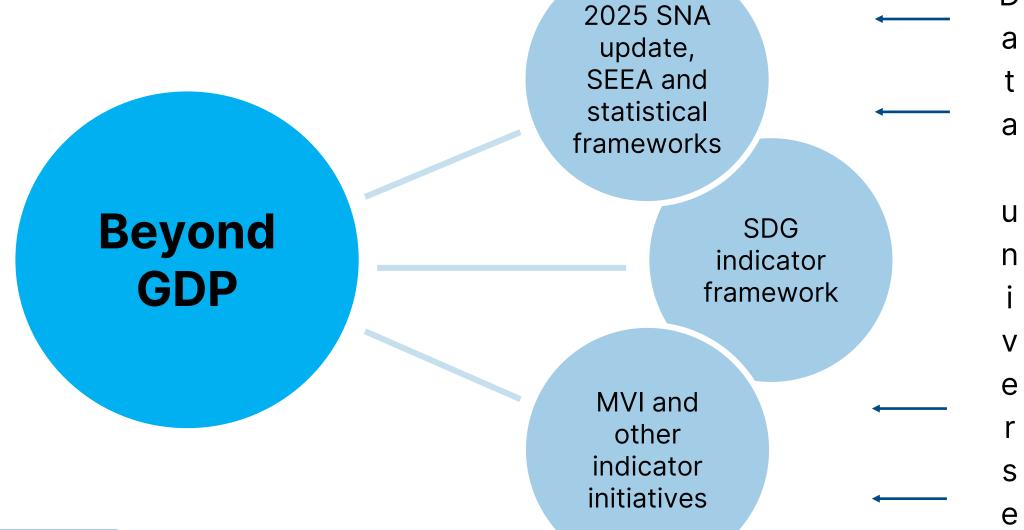






Links to other processes







> SG's policy brief



- Renew political commitment on a conceptual framework anchored in the 2030 Agenda to Value What Counts
- Launch a robust technical and scientific process, resulting in a United Nations value dashboard of a limited number of key indicators that go beyond GDP
- Undertake a major capacity-building and resourcing initiative for Member States



Pact for the Future and next steps:

Action 53. We will develop a framework on measures of progress on sustainable development to **complement and go beyond gross domestic product**.

These measures should reflect progress on the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, including in the consideration of informing access to development finance and technical cooperation.

- a) Request the Secretary-General to establish an independent high-level expert group to develop recommendations for a limited number of country-owned and universally applicable indicators of sustainable development that complement and go beyond gross domestic product, ..., building on the global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to present the outcome of its work during the eightieth session of the General Assembly;
- b) Initiate a United Nations-led intergovernmental process ... on measures of progress on sustainable development that complement or go beyond gross domestic product, considering the recommendations of the Secretary General's high-level expert group.

BEYOND GDP ESSAY WINNERS 💥







Thank you!

UN SG's POLICY BRIEF

 https://www.un.org/en/comm on-agenda/policy-briefs

UN-SYSTEM LONG REPORT:

 https://unsceb.org/topics/be yond-gdp

YOUTH ESSAY COMPETITION

 Beyond GDP Essay Competition (thebeyondlab.org)

