



PILOT SDMX-SDGs DATA AND METADATA EXCHANGE

Abdulla Gozalov, UNSD

28 Feb 2018

SDMX-SDGs WORKING GROUP

- 12 countries
 - Brazil, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Colombia, Egypt, France, Mexico, Russian Federation, United States
 - 2 vacant slots
- 10 international agencies
 - AfDB, Eurostat, FAO, ILO, OECD, PARIS21, UNEP, UNICEF, World Bank, WHO
- Chaired by Colombia
- UNSD acts as the Secretariat

TIMELINE

- 2016 April: IAEG-SDGs approves tentative ToR of the Working Group on SDMX for SDG Indicators
- 2016 October: First physical meeting
- 2017 Jan-May: Collection of information on prospective series/breakdown availability
- 2017 May – Dec: Development of pilot Data Structure Definition (DSD) for SDG Indicators
- 2018 Feb: First draft pilot DSD released, work begins on Metadata Structure Definition (MSD)
- 2018 Mar: Finalized pilot DSD
- 2018 Mar – May: Pilot SDG Data Exchange
- 2018 Dec: Production DSD and draft MSD released

OBJECTIVES

- Develop global Data Structure Definition(s) and Metadata Structure Definition(s) for SDG Indicators
 - Standards for the packaging of SDGs data and metadata including concepts, codes, structures
- Develop, pilot, and establish data exchange mechanisms for SDG indicators
 - Reporting from international agencies to UNSD and dissemination at UNSD
 - Dissemination and reporting at national level

CHALLENGES

- Uncertainty over the global SDGs dataset
 - Unclear specifically what series or breakdowns to expect
 - As a mitigating measure, collected information on prospective availability of indicators/disaggregation
- Heterogeneity of SDG indicators
 - Typical of multi-domain datasets, makes it more difficult to optimize the DSD
 - Need to create a DSD that is easy enough to use, to minimize the potential for errors
- Customization for national dissemination
 - Need to provide guidance on how to accommodate custom disaggregation at national level

PILOT DSD

- First draft pilot DSD released on 16 Feb 2018
- Final draft pilot DSD to be released on 21 Mar 2018
- Pilot data exchange to start in March 2018

PILOT DATA EXCHANGE: THE ROLE OF UNSD

- Implement support for national datasets, in addition to the global dataset
- Develop SDMX Import Module for SDG indicators
- Implement SDMX Web Service for SDG national and global SDG Indicators
- Develop a visualization and comparison web site
 - Keep national and global datasets clearly delineated
 - Facilitate easy comparison between global indicators and their national counterparts
 - Password protected at the pilot stage

PILOT DATA EXCHANGE: THE ROLE OF PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

- Map all SDG Indicators in their purview to the DSD
 - Document every case mapping fails, to adjust the DSD accordingly for production
- Set up SDMX export for their SDG indicators
 - Either into a file or through a Web service
- For 2018, the indicators will still be submitted the conventional way in addition to SDMX to facilitate testing

PILOT SDG DATA EXCHANGE: THE ROLE OF PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

- The countries are expected to publish in SDMX all or part of their available SDG indicators
 - The availability is generally low
- As in the case of custodian agencies, any anomalies are to be documented for a possible follow-up action
- UNSD will provide technical assistance to 2 countries that participate in the UNSD-DFID Project on SDG Monitoring to set up SDMX exchange from their indicator databases
 - 20-30 indicators

METADATA STRUCTURE DEFINITION

- Metadata key to explaining differences between global and national datasets
- Development of metadata structures must follow the development of DSDs because metadata depends on data
- A list of metadata concepts has been proposed and is under discussion
- Work on the Metadata Structure Definition has now begun

PRODUCTION DATA EXCHANGE

- Following the pilot data exchange, the DSD will be adjusted based on the experience
- Production DSD for SDG indicators is expected to be published at the end of 2018
- Following the release of the production DSD, all custodian agencies, as well as countries, will be invited to submit their SDG indicators in the SDMX format
- **Very important:** to facilitate SDMX exchange, agencies will need to inform UNSD in advance of new series/breakdowns/codes they intend to submit compared to the previous year
 - This will enable the Working Group to update the DSD in time for data submission

Thank you!

