

Goal 11

Target number: 11.3

Indicator Number and Name: 11.3.2 Proportion of cities with a direct participation structure of civil society in urban planning and management that operate regularly and democratically

Agency: UN-Habitat

Has work for the development of this work begun? Yes

Who are the entities, including national and international experts, directly involved and consulted in developing the methodology/and or data collection tools?

UN-Habitat has led the methodology development of this indicator in close collaboration with several national and international entities such as UN bodies, civil society, academia as well as experts from a representative set of countries participating in pilot exercises. Also selected local governments, municipalities and city management teams have been consulted and will continue to guide the process towards finalization of this indicator. Some of institutions consulted include: Africa Centre for Statistics/UNECA, United Cities and Local Governments, Africa Cities Network, Union of Arab States Mayors, AUDI, NYU, University of Fraser Valley, Kenya council of County Governments, European Commission, NSOs (Kenya, Tunisia, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Vietnam, Ecuador, Jamaica, Spain, South Korea).

The concepts and components used for this indicator are based on a historical analysis of urban governance and management in cities and local governments. Several prior studies and evaluations have examined the extent to which citizen's are involved in urban governance including how to evaluate citizen's voice and participation.

Through a consultative process, UN-Habitat worked with all these team of experts to create a a team of experts that will support and oversee the large scale data collection processes of this indicator. They will work as peer reviewers for all data collected but also support the global nominations of the city based reviewers and experts for this indicator.

Here are references of earlier work for which the methodology was built:

- 1) O'Neill, T., Foresti, M. and Hudson, A. (2007) Evaluation of Citizens' Voice and Accountability: Review of the Literature and Donor Approaches, London: DFID;
- 2) Holland, J. and Thirkell, A., with E. Trepanier and L. Earle, 2009, 'Measuring Change and Results in Voice and Accountability Work', Working Paper 34, Department for International Development, London;
- 3) Various others <http://www.gsdc.org/topic-guides/voice-empowerment-and-accountability/supplements/measuring-empowerment-and-accountability/>

What is the involvement of or how do you plan to involve National Statistical Systems in the development of the methodology?

Selected national statistical offices have participated in several expert group meetings that have been organized to-date to further develop the methodology of this indicator. Selected national statistical systems

/offices have already participated in initial data collection processes of this indicator and more are expected to be involved during the the next 6 months.

Please briefly describe the process of developing the methodology for the indicator

The major principle behind the development of the methodology for the indicator is to ensure that the methodological development is highly linked to how data will be collected at country level, and making sure this is simple and less complex for cities and NSOs to apply

Several rounds of consultations with many stakeholders have been organized and this includes two high level expert group discussions which led to refinements for the methodology and also designing the data collection plans. City urban observatories managed by UN-Habitat were informed about the indicator and the mechanisms of data collection. Questionnaires were sent out to urban observatory focal points and several city contacts. Preliminary data has been collected and analysed from cities, confirming the feasibility of applying the methodology at the global level. The next phase of the indicator methodology development involves building databases for data flow and reporting from sub-national/city to national and global level reporting.

Please indicate new international standards that will need to be proposed and approved by an intergovernmental process (such as UNSC) for this methodology.

This indicator requires embedding into routine data collection processes, as such the methodology was pilot tested in several cities/countries using internationally acceptable standards. The results of this exercise ensured that the methodology for guiding and collection of data for this indicator match international standards. A review body is now in place to check the consistency of reporting of the data.

When do you expect the methodological work on this indicator to be completed?

Methodology work was completed in November 2017. The team is now focussed on collecting initial data from cities as part of the global reporting.

Are data and metadata already being collected from the National Statistical System for one or more components of this indicator?

Yes, special data collection tools have been designed to collect data on this indicator from national to international agencies.

When do you expect work to begin on developing a methodology and with which partners will your organization work?

The work for the methodology development has already started with developing a detailed calendar of events. The first high level expert group discussion was concluded in November 2016 followed by a second EGM in Feb 2017. One on one consultation with other agencies and local governments, NSOs and universities has been on-going. Data has now been collected from over 100 cities.

How do you plan to collect the data?

Efforts are underway to collect the data for this indicator from city based focal points, complemented by routine national surveys and other urban based surveys. The data for this indicator is collected at the city level, and hence a guide for city definition that was developed was also disseminated to NSOs and city teams involved in data collection. Data flow from national to the international bodies is being collected

through specially designed online forms that are managed by national urban observatories at the local level and shared with the global urban observatory team at UN-Habitat for triangulation and validation.

- Custodian agency worked with countries and partners to generate data points for several cities as part of the pilots.
- Several countries also confirmed availability of administrative data to support or complement reporting on civic participation on this indicator.

If the indicator involves multiple components from different data sources, please describe how each individual component of the indicator will be collected here.

Participation is gauged from various dimensions, and for all these dimensions relevant disaggregation by gender and ages are being applied. Detailed data on the various forms of participation are being derived from various institutions—See details on the indicator components. Each national government has the primary responsibility on data collection and validation of this indicator following a programme of capacity strengthening to selected countries to ensure uniformity in the data collection processes globally. Primarily the support is being provided to countries where capacity challenges on data collection exist following a mapping and assessment that was done with UN regional commissions support.

With what frequency is data expected to be collected?

Data will be reported every year, but global aggregated reporting at the global level will be every 3 years.

Is there a process of data validation by countries in place or planned for this indicator?

Yes

If yes, please briefly describe:

Data validation procedures have been developed and packaged for training all national statistical systems (3 regional workshops dedicated to this were concluded in Africa, Asia and Arab regions). As such, all countries collecting data for this indicator will have to follow the strict validation procedures agreed upon internationally. UN-Habitat is providing technical support for both data collection and validation, as well as monitor compliance for agreed procedures.

If you have any additional comments that you believe would be helpful to IAEG-SDG members in analysing the work plan and methodological development of the indicator, please provide them here:

None

(as of July/August 2018)