

Goal 17

Target number: 17.7

Indicator Number and Name: 17.7.1 Total amount of approved funding for developing countries to promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies.

Agency: UN Environment

Has work for the development of this indicator 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 Environment and the OECD are the primary entities involved. However, the methodology will also be shared for comments with relevant stakeholders.

- 1) From UN Environment: Economy Division (contact people: Rashmi Jawahar Ganesh, Rashmi.Jawahar.Affiliate@un.org and Lily Riahi, lily.riahi@un.org), and from the Science Division (Lowri Angharad Rees, lowri.rees@un.org, and Jillian Campbell, jillian.campbell@un.org)

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

The Expert Group has reached out to a sample of governments to assess data availability in relation to ESTs at the national level. Once a draft methodology is available, they will also reach out to a sample of governments in order to test the methodology with them before submission to the IAEG-SDG.

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

UN Environment tested the suitability of using the OECD International Development Statistics database which covers bilateral and multilateral overseas development assistance (ODA), private provider aid and other resources flows purpose codes for measuring this indicator. The outcome of the testing was that the DAC does not have the level of detail needed and is not suitable for measuring this indicator. UN Environment therefore established an international Technical Expert Group to support the methodological development of the indicator, composed of experts from relevant UN agencies, other International and Regional Organisations, National Governments, Research organisations, and Academia representing all global regions.

The Technical Expert Group has recognized that an Environmentally-Sound Technology cannot be defined in absolute terms. The environmental performance of technologies is highly contextual, depending on factors such as socio-economic aspects, geographic location, management practices, and the local energy mix. It would also not be feasible for all countries to strive towards the best available technologies globally, and an approach whereby countries and other actors would strive towards incremental changes, based upon their resources, capacity, and national technological context, could achieve greater impact. The Group therefore proposed to develop a set of international criteria for ESTs, which could be applied by national governments, taking into account their national and local context. These would include a mix of impact-based, performance based and environmental purpose-based criteria, which would support governments and other actors with decision-making and defining the most nationally or locally appropriate technologies.

In addition to the current indicator wording, which focuses on funding for developing countries, the expert group suggested to include a second indicator to track the total uptake of ESTs globally. They felt this was important to provide a complete picture of the EST market globally, including the influence of the global market on access to ESTs by developing countries. For example, this would help in assessing the impact of the falling costs of different technologies as they are deployed globally. They are also exploring the possibility of examining alternative metrics for the uptake of ESTs.

The Expert Group is currently split into two Task Teams – one exploring potential data sources and metrics at both national and global levels, and the other developing the criteria to guide the identification of ESTs.

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

No new international standard will be proposed.

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

We expect to submit the proposed metadata guidance to the IAEG-SDG by the end of 2018/beginning of 2019.

Date	Meeting/deadline
January –October 2018	Development of draft methodology with support of Expert Group
October-November 2018	Testing of draft methodology with member states
November - December 2018	Revision/finalisation of methodology based on feedback received from member states
December-January 2019	Consultation with technical committee of the Statistical Commission
February 2019	Submission of methodology proposal to IAEG-SDG for validation and Tier upgrade
March 2019	Review by IAEG-SDG
2019-2030	Data collection for all UN member countries

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

The feasibility of collecting data from the National Statistical Systems is currently being explored through consultations with a selection of members states to determine data availability.

How do you plan to collect the data?

One Task Team under the Technical Expert Group is currently exploring data sources at both national and global levels to assess the feasibility of a) gathering data on funding towards ESTs directly from national governments, and b) the feasibility of using global data sources or developing a proxy.

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

The Expert Group has not yet defined the data sources that will be proposed for the methodology, and whether a) nationally-acquired data, b) a proxy based on global data source(s) or c) a combination of both will be used.

With what frequency is data expected to be collected?

Annually.

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

Yes

If yes, please briefly describe:

As previously mentioned, the group is currently exploring the feasibility of data for the indicator being collected nationally versus a proxy based on a global data source or sources. In the latter case, the data would be sent to member states for consultation and validation before aggregation and publication.

(as of July/August 2018)