Well-being and sustainability – outcome of the work and next steps

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Aim of the Task Team

- Request for more non-financial information on business activity – how can business statistics deliver?
- Contribute to the fulfilment of the SDG’s
  - Transition and innovation
  - The environmental/climate impact and performance
  - The social dimension, including diversity, equality and human rights responsibility
  - Contribution to the society (taxes, job creation)
- Need for relevant and feasible indicators
- Need for integration of data / statistics
The Task Team - a broad and active group

- Several Statistical bureaus
- International statistics organisations (OECD, EU)
- Business reporting organisation (Global Compact, Global Reporting Initiative, UNCTAD)
- Inspired by the SDG’s and UNCTAD’s ”Guidance on core for entity reporting on contribution towards implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals”
- Frequent meetings since CEBTS’ start in 2018
- 18 indicators produced / selected
- Innovative work presented by TT members
Indicators proposed (1)

- Proportion of women in managerial positions
- Annual growth rate of real total gross value added per employed person (productivity indicator)
- Average hourly earnings for employees in businesses by sex
- Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities
- Gross value added of businesses per employed person (growth indicator)
- Sector employment as a proportion of total employment
Indicators proposed (2)

- Water-use efficiency in businesses (per unit of value added)
- Level of water stress attributable to businesses
- Share of renewable energy consumption in businesses
- Energy efficiency in businesses (per unit of value added)
- Green investment by businesses
- Greenhouse gas emissions generated by businesses per unit of value added
The indicators proposed (3)

- Research and development expenditure as a proportion of gross value added
- Researchers (in full-time equivalent) per million inhabitants
- Number of companies publishing sustainability reports
- Openings (vacancies) in businesses
- Taxes and other payments of businesses to the Government
- Total taxes paid by businesses as a proportion of total government tax revenues
The indicators in practice

• Technical sheets developed
  ▪ Definitions and classifications
  ▪ Data source guidance
  ▪ Algorithms for compiling
  ▪ Proposal for breakdowns (by ISIC, size and ownership)
  ▪ Frequency

• Further guidance in the “Manual on the Principal Indicators for Business and Trade Statistics”

• Prioritization:
  ▪ Difficult to prioritize further among indicators
  ▪ Start with ISIC breakdown (and maybe not at two-digit level) – others can come later
Challenges for producing the indicators

• Somewhat different coverage of different statistics
  ▪ National Accounts
  ▪ Environment / energy statistics
  ▪ Labour force statistics
  ▪ Business statistics

• Weak definition on e.g. green investments

• Often only NA-statistics are compiled in constant prices

• Different breakdowns in different statistics

• Lack of data in many countries

• Lack of resources
The way ahead – draft work programme

• The headlines (based on discussions in the TT:
  ▪ Support of the implementation of the already agreed-upon CEBTS indicators
  ▪ Develop indicators on selected key aspects about the enterprise sector’s effect on equality and social inclusion
  ▪ Develop indicators on selected key aspects about the enterprise sector’s ‘green transition’ and its environmental / climate effects
  ▪ Contribute to further develop and promote integration of data and statistics from different domains, including micro data linking (MDL) with a focus on data related to well-being and sustainability
Support of the implementation

• The aim: Encourage the production of the indicators

• The methods:
  ▪ Promotion of the manual / the indicators
  ▪ Offer (on-line) seminars and training courses to (group of) countries on production of indicators – broken down by e.g. environmental and social indicators
  ▪ Offer (further) guidance as follow up, in example on establishing (new) data sources for the indicators

• Establish data collection at UN level (via int. org.?)

• Timeframe – 2023 and onwards
Develop new indicators

- The aim: More statistical information on the business sector on social and environmental aspects, respectively

- The methods:
  - Formation of small subgroups
  - Analyses on the specific needs
  - Look for data sources on employments/employees
  - Look for data sources on environmental issues
  - Generation of new (ESG) data
  - Propose relevant and feasible indicators
  - Drafting of technical sheets
  - Contributions to Handbook volume 2

- Timeframe: 2023: Analyses, 2024: Indicators developed
Integration of data and statistics from different domains

• The aim: Work with coherence and integration between data and statistics

• The methods:
  ▪ Studies at country level on options for Micro Data Linking and integration
  ▪ Sharing of experience via wiki
  ▪ Highlighting needs for harmonisation
  ▪ Discussions within CEBTS and with other domains on adjustments

• Timeframe: 2023 and 2024
Points for discussion

- Recruitment to the task team – a broader participation and representation is necessary to continue – *WHO is interested? 😊*
- The topics and the prioritization – *can we manage* all proposed tasks?
- Implementation: *Ideas re how* we can support the development and delivery of the indicators?
THANK YOU!