

# State of play and future options re TT Well-being and Sustainability

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# State of play

- At the plenary meeting in 2022 a draft work programme for the TT WBS for 2022-2024 with four main topics, including broader involvement, was supported.
- In the autumn of 2022 the TT discussed how to initiate and distribute work on the four topics. In this context, it was discussed whether and how the TT could be organised in a more sustainable way with sub-teams and co-chairs for ‘environmental business statistics’ and ‘social business statistics’, respectively.
- Unfortunately, the chair was not able to generate a broader involvement in the work between TT meetings, and the approached possible co-chairs could not (or were not allowed by their hierarchy to) spend the necessary time on CEBTS work.
- Against that background, Denmark concluded 1) that it was time to ‘hand over the TT baton’ and 2) that TT activities until the 2023 CEBTS plenary would focus on topic 1 “Support of the implementation of the already agreed-upon CEBTS indicators”. This decision was communicated to the CEBTS Bureau.

# Activities in 2023

- Together with SIAP, UNSD and TT members, **three webinars** were planned and delivered where WBS indicators cf. CEBTS' handbook were explained and 'country practice' was presented.
- The **1<sup>st</sup>** webinar (26 April) introduced the **relevance and importance of measuring the impact of businesses on WBS**, the rationale and purpose of the suggested indicators, their link to the SDGs indicators and the role of non-financial reporting in producing these indicators.
- The **2<sup>nd</sup>** (31 May) focused on the compilation of **business statistics indicators related to selected aspects of environmental sustainability** (water, energy, emission etc.), cf. the reference list.
- The **3<sup>rd</sup>** (13 Sept.) focused on compiling indicators of **business performance related to selected social aspects of WBS**, e.g. gender, employment, productivity etc.
- The webinars were well attended with a majority from developing countries in Asia and the Pacific, but also countries from other parts of the world as well as from international organisations attended.
- The webinars were recorded: See SIAP's website.
- Big thanks to all contributors, attendants, UNSD and SIAP!

# Possible questions to consider

- Is the topic of the business sector's impact on sustainability *too broad* for one TT and should the TT thus be discontinued in its current form – either stopped, split up in more than one TT and/or combined with other CEBTS TTs?
- Are countries' situation and statistical capacities (data access, experience/skills, methods, infrastructure etc.) *too diverse* to embrace in one TT?
- Are there *too many* other forums working with statistics on sustainability, making it difficult to have an overview and to find a value-adding role?
- If CEBTS decides to continue the TT, should it then keep the work programme decided in 2022, or should it form a new work programme – 'a *fresh start*'?
- How could interest for *active contribution* from more participants – preferably from countries with different characteristics and framework conditions – be sparked and organised?

# Possible overall strategies

- A. **Keep the TT** with current mandate, tasks and work programme - find new chair (or co-chairs) and additional members
- B. **Split-up / restructure TT**; either as separate TTs or merged with other existing CEBTS TTs – adapt work programme(s)
- C. **Change orientation of the TTs work**: One possibility could be to move from the current **output orientation** ('which new statistical indicators and tables do we know/expect users to demand?') to an **input orientation** ('which new data sources – other than traditional surveys – re enterprises' ESG situation are emerging and how can we access and utilize them for statistical services on indicator, tabular and micro data level, respectively?')
- D. **Set the TT on 'hold'** for a while / take a pause and reassess the situation and context, including work in other international fora with overlapping work.
- E. **Discontinue / dissolve TT** and stop the work

# What to cover, where to focus?

