The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Implication for Migration Data

UN Statistics Division

UN Expert Group Meeting on Improving Migration Data in the context of the 2020 Agenda
20-22 June 2017
New York

Outline

- Key feature of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Development of SDG Monitoring Framework
- Reflection of Migration Issues in SDGs
- Statistical Challenges and Opportunities in Monitoring Progress towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda

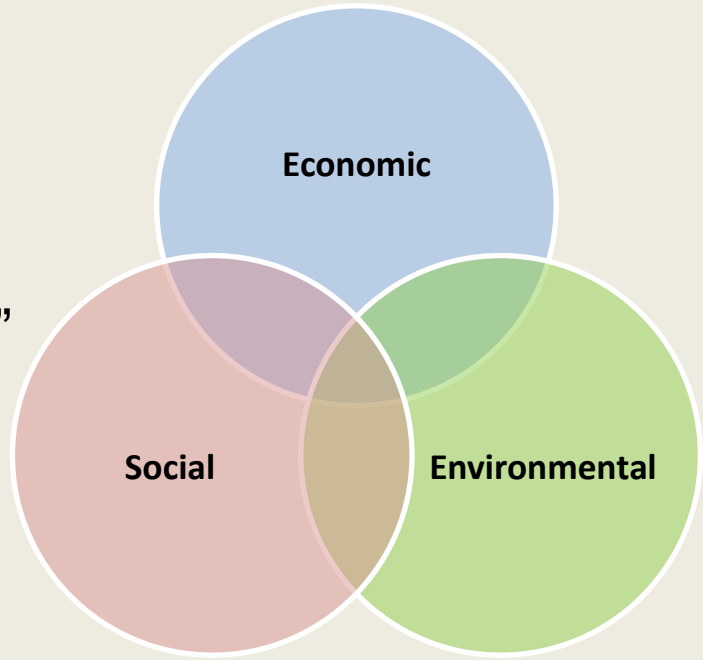
2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- Adopted by all Member States at the UN Summit for Sustainable Development in September 2015 (GA resolution 70/1)
- A new global development framework for 2015-2030, following the MDG era
- A roadmap that aims at tackling key systemic barriers to sustainable development
- Global in nature and universally applicable

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- Has at its core the integration of the **economic**, **social** and **environmental** dimensions of development.

- The principle of "*leaving no one behind*"
  - Inclusive development
  - Reduction of inequality



17 Goals x 169 Targets

Global SDGs Indicators Framework

- **SDG Indicators** for “follow up and review” of the 2030 Agenda
  - identified by the Inter-agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goals Indicators (IAEG-SDGs)
  - Officially adopted as a resolution at ECOSOC on 7 July 2017

- 17 Goals, 169 Targets to be assessed by **244 Indicators** (232 *unique* indicators)

- The indicators are for global reviews. Regional and national applications are expected

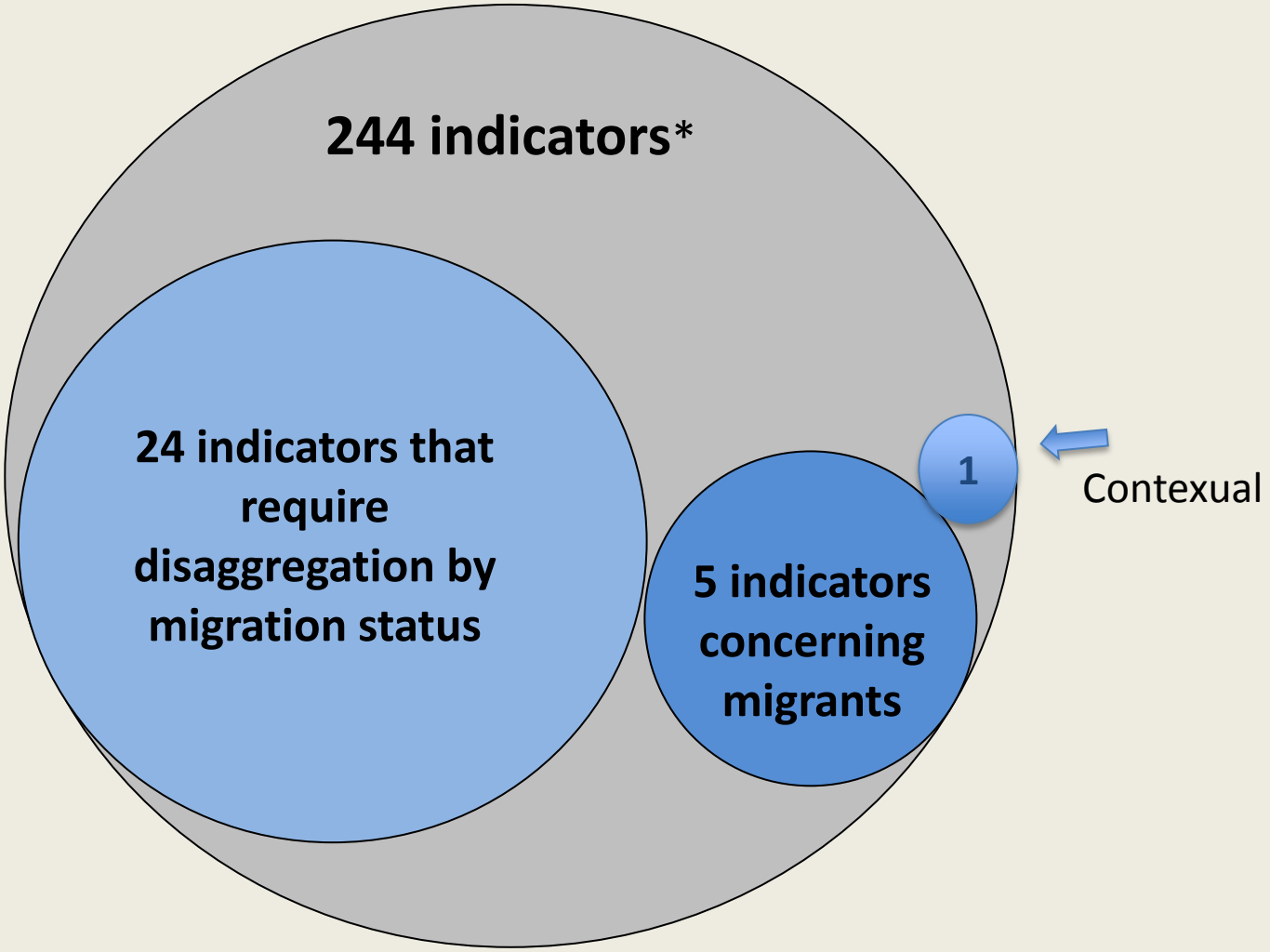
Migration in the 2030 Agenda

- For the first time, international Migration was integrated into development goals and targets
- Addresses the need for orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration (target 10.7)
- Recognizes positive contribution of migrants for inclusive and sustainable development
- The principle of “**leave no one behind**” urges Governments to look into the plights of special population groups, such as migrants.

Migration in the 2030 Agenda

- 11 out of 17 Goals are relevant to migration
- 10+ Targets include reference to issues pertaining to migration

SDG Indicators for Global Monitoring



* include 9 duplicates and 3 triplicates

Challenges in Measurement and Monitoring

Data Gaps and Challenges in Monitoring

SDG monitoring presents enormous challenges for national statistical systems:

- ✓ to produce voluminous amount of data
- ✓ to refine some concepts statistically (ex. what are well-managed migration policies?)
- ✓ to disaggregate the data by “migratory status”
- ✓ to explore new sources of information
- ✓ to produce high-quality data, regularly
- ✓ to gather statistics from statistical offices of various relevant ministries and agencies

Challenges or Opportunities ?

How do we fill the data gaps?

- More investments in methodological work
- Fuller utilization of existing data/information
- Urgent needs to enhance national statistical capacities especially in developing countries
- The experience of MDG monitoring shows that the efforts to monitor the global development agenda can empower national statistics capacities, contributing to the improved availability of internationally comparable statistics

Summary

- Concerns on the rights and plights of migrants “reflected” well in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- Unprecedented demands for data and statistics for effective SDG monitoring
- Need careful assessments of data requirements and data gaps
- Opportunity for national, regional, international statistical communities to work together to ensure high-quality, timely and reliable data are available
- Beginning of a long journey !

Thank you !

Challenges of Data Disaggregation

- Principle of "**leave no one behind**" demands **data disaggregation**:

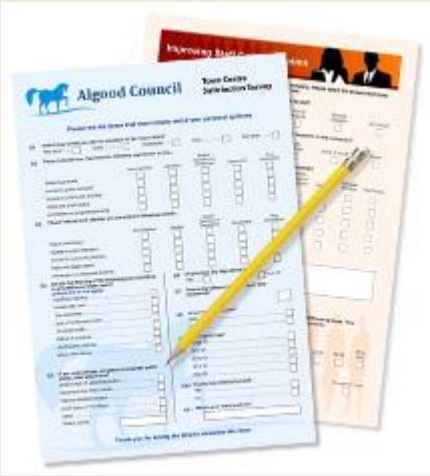
  *"Sustainable Development Goal indicators should be disaggregated, where relevant, by income, sex, age, race, ethnicity, **migratory status,** disability and geographic location, or other characteristics, in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (GA resolution 68/261)."*

- How to **operationalize "migratory status"**?

Where Do We Obtain Data?

- Censuses, Surveys, Administrative Records
- Explore non-traditional sources or big data?

- Frequency of data obtainable differs among statistical sources
- Surveys: few countries conduct a migration survey, sample size constraints
- Administrative Records: no fully explored/utilized as statistical sources, coverage issue



Challenges to Regular Monitoring

- How to strike balance between global monitoring and national relevance. International migration is not relevant to all countries

- Migration-related SDG data need to be gathered from statistical offices of various relevant Ministries and Agencies

- For reporting, a coordination mechanism needs to be established

SDG Monitoring: Challenges or Opportunities ?

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