

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-second session

1–3 and 5 March 2021

Item 3 (a) of the provisional agenda

Items for discussion and decision: data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Document E/CN.3/2021/3–Report of the Secretary-General on work for the review of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals

Statement provided by:

National Statistical Office, Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, Government of India

Statement:

India appreciates the efforts of UNSD and IAEG-SDGs on monitoring of SDGs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

India appreciates and supports regular review of methodological developments and issues related to indicators and their metadata. The methodologies for indicators are often pilot tested in countries which are smaller in size and less diverse, which sometimes not applicable to large countries with great diversity, making it difficult for some countries, especially larger and diverse countries, to adopt the methodology in national context. NSO, India is of the view that these methodologies may also be piloted in larger countries for having larger acceptability and adoptability of indicators at national level.

Custodian Agencies (CAs) may also be encouraged to work closely with NSOs for adaptation of methodologies at national level and to develop and strengthen statistical capacity of countries.

India appreciates the attempt made by IAEG-SDGs to look at the Global Indicator Framework (GIF) in light of the global pandemic so as to examine areas that have been highly impacted.

India appreciates the effort made by UN to release the report “Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals” during the COVID-19 pandemic.

India appreciates and supports development of compilation of existing tools and methodologies for data disaggregation and establishing a task force on small area estimation for SDG indicators. India recommends development of guidelines on adoption of disaggregated estimates generated through small area estimation in the Official Statistical System along with case studies for facilitating countries to use small area estimation for monitoring of SDGs.

India appreciates and supports the development of Data Structure Definition along with establishing a production metadata exchange by the Working Group on SDMX. Custodian Agencies/Member countries of the Working Group on SDMX may facilitate all the NSOs to build similar structures at national level as well.

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India supports the Data for Now initiative and launch of a collaborative on use of administrative data for statistical purposes.

India supports Survey to monitor the impact of the corona virus disease crisis on national statistical offices. India has furnished its timely response on the Survey.

India also supports the proposed changes in the GIF.

India has been member of the IAEG-SDGs representing South Asia during 2015-19. Presently, India is not a member of the IAEG-SDGs. India's stance of renewal of membership is reiterated as India has been contributing actively in all fora/discussions on development of methodologies, tier reclassifications and bridging the data gaps.

Submitted on:

2/19/2021