Statement provided by:
Central Statistical Organization, Myanmar

Statement: Linking National Indicator Framework and SDG Indicators

At the General Assembly held on 28-30 September 2015, world leaders from 193 countries adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As a member of the United Nations, Myanmar Government has committed to implement those 17 global goals that provide a vision for ending poverty, fighting inequality and injustice, and tackling climate change over the next 15 years.

Like other countries around the world, the Central Statistical Organization (CSO) has been taking the role of Monitoring and Evaluation (M & E) on the progress of the SDG implementation. To know the readiness of Myanmar Statistics Office for the Sustainable Development Goals, the CSO and UNDP published the SDG Data Assessment Report in May 2016. The report described the “readiness” status for each SDG indicator and much more detailed information (existing data sources, disaggregation, etc.). In August 2017, Central Statistical Organization published the SDG Indicator Baseline Report to measure the Myanmar’s starting point for the Sustainable Development Goals.

The SDG Indicator Baseline Report was comprised of 17 goals, 169 targets and 320 indicators including split indicators. Among those 320 indicators, 196 indicators were presented in the baseline report. Therefore, 61 % of SDG indicators were available at the starting point. Indicator availability was highest for goal 8 with 85% and lowest for goals 13 and 14 with 30% and 37.5% respectively.

In August 2018, Myanmar launched the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (MSDP). MSDP is a localized plan of 2030 global development agenda and organized with 3 pillars, 5 goals, 28 strategies and 251 action plans. MSDP aims to provide a long-term vision until 2030 to a peaceful, prosperous and democratic country. Moreover, Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan has aligned with not only SDGs but also 12 points economic policies of Myanmar, agreements on ASEAN Economic Community and other regional commitments.

Central Statistical Organization is taking a leading role in developing indicators for the National Indicator Framework (NIF) as a part of monitoring and evaluation process of MSDP implementation. 289 Indicators were identified against the 28 MSDP Strategies according to their thematic relevance, and then analyzed using the following criteria: focus level (input, process, output, outcome or impact indicator), measurement readiness and coverage of cross-cutting themes (social inclusion, environmental sustainability and conflict sensitivity). Among those, 69% of the indicators focus on the
Strategy/Goal level while 31% on the Action Plan level. In the National Indicator Framework, 114 indicators are SDG indicators. The highest rate of SDG indicators is found in Strategy 4.1 (Improve equitable access to high quality lifelong educational opportunities), with 91% while Strategy 1.1(Secure and further foster Union-wide peace) has the lowest rate of SDG indicators, with 7%. Nearly three-quarters (71%) of indicators can be measured yearly while 6% will be measured every 2 years and the rest (23%) need to be measured through wide-scale surveys that usually take place every 3-5 years. Moreover, social inclusion, environmental sustainability and conflict sensitivity were considered as cross-cutting issues.

Date for National Indicator Framework will be updated annually and SDG data every 4 years by the technical assistance of UNDP.