Statistical Commission
Fifty-third session
1–4 March 2022
Item 3 (a) of the provisional agenda

Background document Available in English only

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

Detailed information about the work of the IAEG-SDGs Working Group on Measurement of Development Support

Prepared by the Statistics Division

Detailed information about the work of the Working Group

I. Meetings and consultations

At its fifty-first session in March 2020, the Statistical Commission expressed support for the establishment of a United Nations working group to further develop and refine the measurement of development support in line with the 2030 Agenda. In accordance with this decision, the IAEG-SDGs established the Working Group on Measurement of Development Support, consisting of 21 Member States representing all geographic regions (see the terms of reference). Brazil, Germany, Republic of Korea and the Netherlands joined as observers.

From May 2020 to November 2021, the Working Group conducted fifteen virtual meetings following its agreed work plan. At the first meeting Ann Lisbet Brathaug of Norway and Camilo Méndez of Colombia were elected Co-Chairs of the Working Group. Meeting documents were typically shared at least one week ahead of the meeting. A wiki platform was established that contained all meeting information and materials. The wiki platform allowed participants to post comments and additional materials.

The Working Group identified three research items, namely South-South cooperation, International Public Goods and Mobilized Private Finance. The Working Group created a subgroup on South-South cooperation.

The Working Group conducted an open consultation of its draft proposal for a new indicator under SDG Target 17.3 "Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources" during the period of 16 July - 27 August 2021. It received feedback from 112 respondents.

The Working Group regularly informed the IAEG-SDGs about the progress of its work. The IAEG-SDGs reviewed the indicator proposal of the Working Group at its 12th meeting on 2-4 November 2021. The IAEG-SDGs agreed to submit this indicator proposal, as presented during the meeting (see section II.2.) to the Statistical Commission.²

II. Materials and documents

The following documents are available on the webpage of the Working Group at: https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg-sdgs/working-group-on-measurement-of-development-support/">https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg-sdgs/working-group-on-measurement-of-development-support/.

¹ See https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/iaeg-sdgs/open-consultation-5/.

² Please note that in Report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (E/CN.3/2022/2), Annex II - Proposed indicator for Sustainable Development Goal target 17.3 the following footnote was accidentally omitted: "It is expected that existing databases established at the OECD and UNCTAD will serve as a data source. At the OECD, this includes data collected through TOSSD reporting as well as traditional OECD-DAC-CRS reporting, assuming the data will be adjusted in accordance with the requirements of this proposal. Pilot exercises are being conducted or are being planned."

1. Terms of Reference for the Working Group

2. Materials provided to the IAEG-SDGs for its 12th meeting on 2-4 November 2021

- Indicator Proposal Summary Template
- SDG Metadata 17.3.1
- Finalized draft indicator proposal for SDG Target 17.3 and Reporting
- Note on the outcome of the subgroup on SSC
- Response to pilot study data request

3. Working Group documents for each meeting

- First meeting, 27 May 2020
 - o Initial list of introductory materials
- Second meeting, 26 June 2020
 - o Background Paper on Measurement of Development Support
- Third meeting, 11 August 2020
- Fifth meeting, 15 October 2020
 - Presentation of the TOSSD concept and data by TOSSD Task Force members
 - o The ABCs of South-South Cooperation (presentation)
- Sixth meeting, 20 November 2020
 - Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the Measurement of SDG Target 17.3 Background Note
- Seventh meeting, 16 December 2020
 - Research note: Measuring International Public Goods in the Context of the SDG Indicators
 - o Terms of Reference Sub-group on South-South cooperation
- Eighth meeting, 26 January 2021
 - o Background note: Towards a core proposal
 - o Research note: Integrated National Financial Frameworks (INFFs)
- Ninth meeting, 18, 19 and 23 February 2021
 - o Presentation on OECD DAC ODA Statistics
 - Presentation on FDI statistics
- Tenth meeting, 23 March 2021
 - Presentation on Differences in coverage of concessional flows between TOSSD and ODA
- Eleventh meeting, 27-29 April 2021
 - o Towards an indicator proposal for SDG Target 17.3
 - o How to operationalize the criteria of sustainable development as part of an indicator proposal for SDG Target 17.3
 - Summary of discussion on support to international public goods and outlook on how to further address it
 - o Issues to resolve on Mobilized Private Finance (MPF)
 - o What does recipient perspective / recipient inflows mean in practice?
 - o Reasons for excluding debt relief from the proposal

- Twelfth meeting, 8-10 June 2021
 - o Revised indicator proposal for SDG Target 17.3
 - o Measuring debt relief
 - Presentation on Questions and responses of OECD following the eleventh meeting
- Thirteenth meeting, 6 July 2021
 - o Draft proposal for SDG Target 17.3
- Fourteenth meeting, 14, 15 and 20 September 2021
 - o Note on the outcome of the subgroup on South-South cooperation
 - Results of the pilot study conducted by OECD
 - Summary of the open consultation on the draft proposal for SDG Target 17.3
 - o Draft of finalized proposal for SDG Target 17.3 and its reporting
- Fifteenth meeting, 16 November 2021

4. Additional documents shared on the wiki platform

- Research Item 1: South-South cooperation
 - o TOSSD methodology on South-South Co-operation, including the measurement of in-kind technical co-operation
- Research item 2: International Public Goods
 - TOSSD methodology on the reporting and measurement of International Public Goods
 - o Measuring the financing of the SDGs: Should International Public Goods be included?
- Research item 3: Mobilized Private Finance
 - Research note: Mobilization of private finance for developing countries by official bodies
 - TOSSD methodology for the reporting and measurement of private finance mobilized
 - Why mobilised private finance is the "cannot miss" component in a measure of development support for the SDGs?
