

United Nations Statistical Commission

Fifty-second session

1–3 and 5 March 2022

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.3/2022/2 - Report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators

Statement provided by: StatsNZ

Overview:

the Expert Group describes the activities undertaken in 2021 pursuant to Statistical Commission decision 52/101, including:

- (a) methodology review of the indicator framework and tier classification updates;
- (b) work stream on data disaggregation;
- (c) indicator refinements;
- (d) improvement of data flows and global data reporting for the Sustainable Development Goals; and
- (e) work carried out by the three working groups on the measurement of development support, Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange (SDMX), and geospatial information.

The Commission will also have before it the following background documents: the report of the Working Group on Measurement of Development Support on its work and the indicator proposal for target 17.3; the SDGs Geospatial Roadmap; and practical guidelines on small area estimation for the Goals. The Commission is invited to comment on progress made by the Expert Group and the direction of its future work.

Action to be taken by the Statistical Commission:

The Commission is invited:

- (a) To take note of the work conducted by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators in response to the decisions of the Commission;
- (b) To express its views on and adopt the annual refinements (as contained in annex I to the present report);
- (c) To take note of the background documents on the report of the Working Group on Measurement of Development Support on its work and the indicator proposal for target 17.3 and on the toolkit for using small area estimation for the Goals;
- (d) To express its views and adopt the SDGs Geospatial Roadmap (as contained in a background document);
- (e) To express its views on and adopt new indicator 17.3.1 and request to have OECD and UNCTAD be the co-custodians of the indicator; and to agree to dissolve the Working Group on Measurement of Development Support as it has completed its mandate;
- (f) To express its views and approve the proposed way forward on a further review of the issue of measurement of the global and regional efforts in support of the Goals, as outlined in paragraph 39 above, and provide suggestions on how to address it;
- (g) To express its views and adopt the proposed work programme of the Expert Group for 2022.

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Stats NZ commends the Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators for the progress made over the last 12 months, particularly in the context of the ongoing disruptions and challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The group's work on developing practical guidelines and resources on data disaggregation is especially timely. Data disaggregation is critical to measuring the progress of vulnerable populations towards the 2030 Agenda. The need for this data has become even more pressing given the disproportionate impacts of the global pandemic on the most vulnerable and marginalised groups in society. This is reflected in the New Zealand context where there is a significant and growing demand for more granular data to measure the wellbeing of small populations and geographical communities.

The work of the IEAG in reviewing the global indicators framework tier 1 classification updates, considering the global pandemic to identify areas of high impact is also commendable.

StatsNZ takes note of the work conducted by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal indicators in response to the decisions of the Commission. StatsNZ also takes note of the background documents on the report of the Working Group on Measurement of Development Support on its work and the indicator proposal for target 17.3 and on the toolkit for using small area estimation for the Goals;

Submitted on:

2/25/2022