

# Towards an indicator framework for the post-2015 development agenda

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# Expert Group Meeting on the indicator framework for the post-2015 development agenda

- New York, 25 and 26 February 2015
  - Main points of consensus:
    - Define an architecture for an **integrated** monitoring framework
    - Select a **small number of global indicators** based on an agreed set of criteria
    - Ensure **national ownership** of indicators
    - Ensure appropriate **disaggregation** of indicators and include a **human-rights dimension** (no-one-left-behind principle)
    - Strengthen **national statistical capacity**
    - Draw from **existing integrated statistical frameworks**
    - Build on the **MDG experience**
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# An integrated architecture with different levels of monitoring and reporting

- Purpose:
    - Review progress towards, and follow up on, the commitments and objectives of the post-2015 development agenda
  - There are many levels of decision making and monitoring:
    - Global
    - Regional
    - National / Sub-national
    - Thematic
  - Each level needs a different set of information and different elements of disaggregation
  - Interdependencies and interlinkages transcend individual sectors and national borders
    - Need to monitor synergies and trade-offs (where gains in one area may have a positive or negative impact on others)
    - Need to involve all relevant stakeholders
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# Global indicators

- Inform the political discussion and decision making at the global level
  - Should be:
    - Limited in number
    - Universally relevant
    - Effective in detecting changes resulting from policy interventions in different contexts
    - Methodologically sound
    - Internationally comparable
    - Timely and regularly produced over time
  - Challenge:

*How to select only a few global indicators per goal, while addressing with the same level of attention all aspects of every target?*
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# Thematic, regional, national and sub-national indicators

- Allowing for more levels of disaggregation
  - Covering a broader set of policy issues
  - Addressing different policy priorities and contexts
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# Need for flexibility

- A certain level of flexibility should be allowed in the indicator framework
  - Need to refine or adjust the indicator framework over the next 15 years, in order to:
    - Reflect new and emerging issues
    - Adapt to changing policy priorities
    - Incorporate new developments in statistical methodology and data availability.
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# Build on existing statistical frameworks

- The SDG indicator framework should draw from existing integrated statistical frameworks such as:
    - Recommendations for measuring sustainable development by the Conference of European Statisticians,
    - Standards of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians,
    - System of National Accounts, and
    - System of Environmental-Economic Accounting
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# Continuity from MDG to SDG monitoring framework

- There is value in integrating work on MDG indicators into the new SDG monitoring framework
    - Particularly in cases where MDG indicators provide appropriate measures for specific SDG targets
  - Building on work already done (both at the national and international levels):
    - Statistical methodologies
    - Data sources
    - Statistical compilation programmes
    - Data exchange and dissemination mechanisms
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# Multi-tier set of indicators

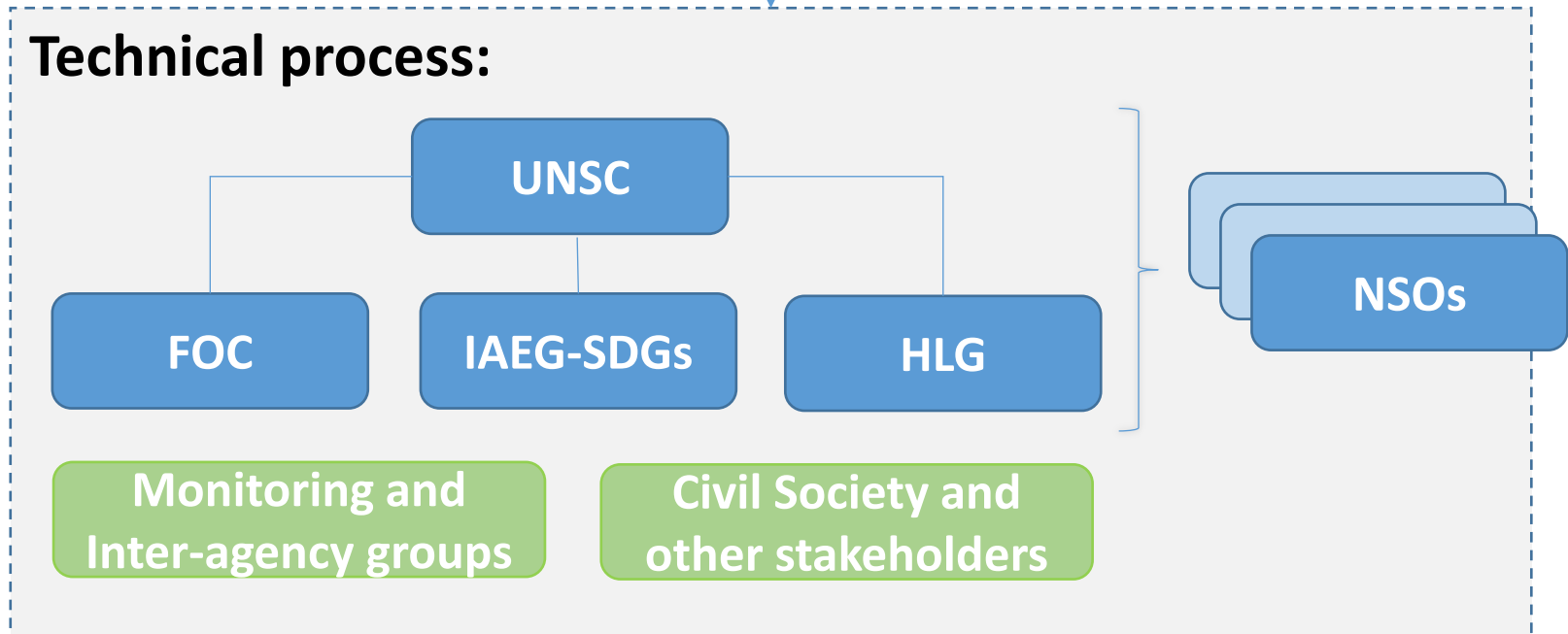
- Tier 1: Satisfy all criteria
  - Tier 2: Satisfy most criteria but data coverage is insufficient
  - Tier 3: Methodology still being developed
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# Need for national capacity building

- Effective monitoring of the post-2015 development agenda will be a significant challenge for the national statistical systems
  - There will be need for
    - Increased efforts to strengthen national statistical capacities, especially in developing and least developed countries
    - Increased coordination among all members of NSS
    - Development of new data sources and data compilation methods in the field
  - Implementation of national and regional indicators needs to be aligned with the overall architecture for an integrated monitoring framework at all levels
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# Process and key actors

**Political process:**  
Inter-Governmental Negotiations on the  
post-2015 development agenda



# Timeline: Past milestones

- 25-25 Feb 2015 Expert Group Meeting on SDG indicators
  - 27 Feb 2015 UNSC Friday Seminar on Indicator Framework
  - 3-6 Mar 2015 UNSC 46th session
    - Roadmap for Indicator Framework
    - Creation of IAEG-SDGs and HLG
  - 23 Mar 2015 Technical report by the Bureau of the Statistical Commission (presented at the March Session of the Inter-Governmental Negotiations)
    - Initial assessment by NSOs of 304 provisional indicators submitted by experts from Technical Support Team
  - 21 May 2015 Update by Chair of UNSC to Inter-Governmental Negotiations
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# Timeline: Upcoming milestones

- 1-2 Jun 2015      First meeting of the IAEG-SDGs
  - Process for development of indicator framework
  - Work plan and way forward
  - Methods of work
  - Technical issues
- Jun-Jul 2015      Inter-Governmental Negotiations
- Sep 2015          Adoption of post-2015 development agenda by General Assembly
- Mar 2016          Adoption of Indicator Framework by UNSC

→ *Implementation and further refinement of the indicator framework*

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# Concluding remarks

- The development of a robust and high-quality indicator framework is a technical process to be conducted in stages
  - As the available knowledge evolves, the global SDG indicator framework may need to be further refined.
  - The IAEG-SDGs will conduct its work in an open, inclusive and transparent manner
  - Effective monitoring of the post-2015 development agenda will be a significant challenge for the national statistical systems
  - In addition to the development of an integrated global indicator framework, there will be a need to develop appropriate mechanisms and platforms to exchange and disseminate data on global progress on all goals and targets
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Thank you

For further information, visit:

[unstats.un.org/sdgs/](https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/)

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