

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

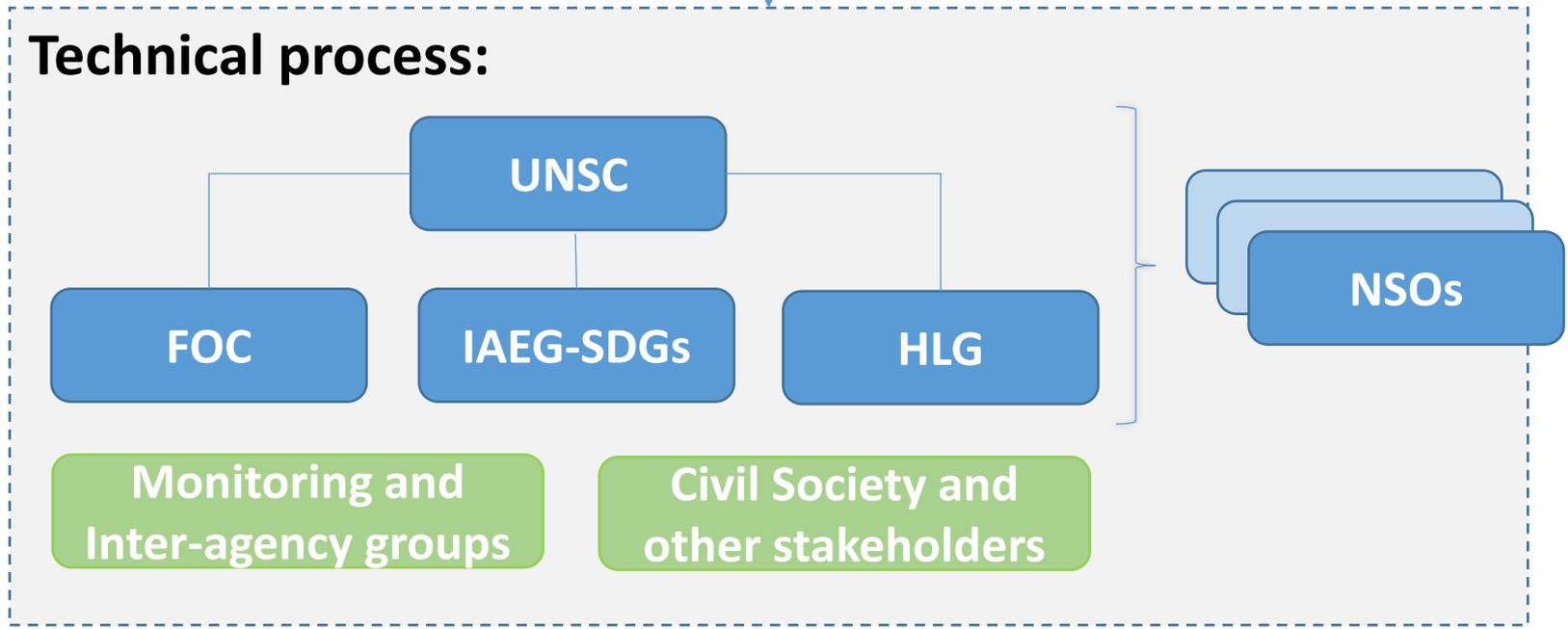
- Tier 1: Satisfy all criteria
 - Tier 2: Satisfy most criteria but data coverage is insufficient
 - Tier 3: Methodology still being developed
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Need for national capacity building

- 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*

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/
