Defining and Implementing the SDG Global and Thematic Education Indicator Frameworks

Technical Cooperation Group
Madrid, Spain  October 2016
Outline

1. Objectives of the second meeting
2. Implementation of the SDG4-Education 2030 indicators
3. Data Governance for SDG4
4. Reporting to SDG4
1. Objectives of Second Meeting
Objectives of Second meeting

- Discuss and agree the list of thematic indicators (including necessary placeholders) to be recommended by the TCG for adoption by the Education 2030 SC.
- Update participants on the implementation process regarding the SDG global indicators led by the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs).
- Clarify the Data Governance Structure for SDG 4
Objectives of Second meeting

- Identify the steps needed to operationalize the thematic indicators and establish working groups for this purpose.
- Agree on the terms of reference and the main elements of the TCG’s work plan in 2017-2018.
- Walking through the agenda: informative sessions, core sessions with technical discussion based on surveys results and a group of sessions related to the operational plan of TCG (Structure, governance, Task forces, membership).
2. Implementation of Indicators Framework
Global and thematic indicator frameworks include different tracks of development and many players

**Global track:** Led by UN Member States  
**Technical lead:** Interagency expert group for the Sustainable Development Goals (IAEG-SDGs)  
**Meets next:** Nov 15-18, Geneva  
*Adoption of global indicator framework*

**Thematic track:** Led by Education 2030 Steering Committee  
**Technical lead:** Technical Cooperation Group (TCG)  
**Meets next:** Oct 26-28, Madrid  
*Aligns work to results of the global track and further develops thematic indicators*
Defining SDG4 indicators: the global track

- IAEG-SDG submitted proposal for 11 global indicators to UN statistical Commission (UNSC) (February 2016)
- 47th Session of UNSC approved IAEG report and so adopted the indicators (March 2016)
- ECOSOC noted the decisions regarding the indicator framework made by UNSC (June 2016)
- United National General Assembly (UNGA) – September 2016
- Open consultation on refining indicators – SDG 4 not changed
- Adoption of refined global indicators in 2017
Defining SDG4 indicators: the thematic track

- TAG expanded in 2015 to Member States and CSOs to further refine the framework
- New thematic indicators incorporated in Annex II of the E2030 FFA as working draft
- Education 2030 Steering Committee to consider proposal
Implementing the SDG4 framework: defining the Tiers based on methodology and data coverage

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<td>I</td>
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<td>Global indicators</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Thematic indicators</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>20</td>
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Next steps: what is required to improve thematic reporting for the SDGs

- Identify problems in data coverage of Tier I indicators - take actions to improve national reporting
- Improve data coverage for Tier II indicators - move to Tier I in 2017 where possible (should be the rule not the exception)
- Develop methodologies for Tier III indicators
- UIS to discuss SDG4 work plans with countries that start from regional survey results and link into the country guidelines and a set of tools for working with countries
3. Data Governance at a Glance
Three main functions to generate globally comparable data

- Agenda - Setting
- Collecting Global Comparable Data
  - Methodology development
  - Standards and Quality Assurance
  - Data production
  - Data collection
  - Data reporting and sharing
- Monitoring: track progress
Advancing the data reporting and sharing

11 global indicators
- Defining policy targets
  - UN General Assembly
- Assigning mandates for indicators
  - UN Statistical Commission
- Establishing mechanisms to shape indicator frameworks
  - Inter-Agency Group on the Sustainable Development Goals (IAEG-SDGs)
- Reporting and sharing data
  - UN Statistical Division (SDG Database)

43 thematic indicators
- UNESCO / E2030 SC
  - UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UNSD Mandate since 1999 – Endorsed by the E2030 Framework for Action
  - UIS integrates global indicators from IAEG-SDGs
  - Lead and Participate in IAGs to ensure the technical development
  - Convenes Technical Cooperation Gro
Flows of data reporting, dissemination and development

Source: UNESCO Institute for Statistics
4. Reporting for SDG4
Background

- The SDG agenda represents an unprecedented demand for the statistical information systems, both at the national and international level
- Insufficient statistics with some problems of quality in almost all sectors (education is not the exception)
- Emergence of new sources for global monitoring
- Different sources of information
- Less discussion (and thinking about how to support national statistical systems); the key building block of global monitoring
The many ways Member States define SDG monitoring

- SDG Agenda Setting
  - Global Monitoring
    - Political Level: UNGA
    - Global Framework: IAEG-SDG (28 countries) define, refine and revise list of indicators
  - Thematic Monitoring
    - Participate in the ETAG (Extended Technical Advisory Group) in defining the thematic set
    - Member of the EFA SC and the Education 2030 SC
- Regional Monitoring
The many ways Member States define SDG monitoring

- SDG Implementation of data production, collection, reporting and sharing
  - All countries represent by the MS of the UNSC that approves principles and guidelines for the Statistical Activities
  - All countries represented by the MS in the HLPF
  - Produce, report and validate data to be published with UIS/ /UOE (OECD/Eurostat)
  - Produce data in the extended UN Statistical Programmes (OECD, UNICEF, WBG, etc.)
  - Participate in the Technical Cooperation group that define implementation issues related to the SDG agenda
What a country needs to do for national statistical systems and global reporting for the SDGs

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<th>For national statistical systems</th>
<th>For global reporting on the SDGs</th>
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<td>Establish national standards and protocols</td>
<td>Align relevant constructs/data collections to meet standards</td>
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<td>Integrate regional recommendations</td>
<td>Fulfil minimum quality assurance related to data</td>
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<td>Adopt international codes of practice and classifications</td>
<td>Harmonise data global reporting metrics</td>
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Reporting Comparable data

- Countries are the primary source of data
- UN agencies “gather data for a range of countries and typically adds value by verifying the data, combining them, harmonizing them, aggregating them, analysing them across countries”.
- The reporting value at the national level could be changing when data is submitted for international reporting
  - Process of harmonization that might changed according to the global/international reporting
  - Might be changing across agencies due to different procedures of harmonization
Country Reporting

- There are some cases there is not “official data”, there are two special ones.
  - The first one is when information is clearly implausible, also because lacking information on methodology (lack of metadata).
  - A second situations arises for international agencies using non-official data when national data are missing or not complying with int. standards or clearly implausible.

- Process of consultation and validation with countries is also needed in these cases
Standards and Methods to harmonize data production

- Statistical Coordination in data reporting
  - Within countries
  - Within UN organizations
  - Across the systems
- Methodologies and transparency about when to input data, projections and other sources
Typical issues in data reporting

- data accuracy: not compliance with international standards and thus lacking international comparability;
- the lack of coordination at national level, i.e. discrepancies between different national data sources and
- the lack of metadata and challenges in understanding data
Coordination among statistical agencies

- Lack of coordination among international agencies (i.e. data on the same topic collected and disseminated by multiple agencies)
- Difficulties in data collection and dissemination (coverage issues, need to disseminate all collected data, etc.)
- Issues of data discrepancy or duplication within the same int. agency
- Lack of international standards in certain areas
Ensuring the production of high quality data

Data Quality should be at the center of data production process

Guidelines provided by the Statistical Quality Assessment Frameworks

Looks at the overall production process and outputs, identify strengths and areas for improvement, according to identified best practices

Education Sector-Wide
Agreeing on some principles and guidelines for country reporting

- Data for SDG indicators need to be primarily based on data produced by national statistical systems
- Need to maximise international comparability and time trends consistency in data produced at international level
- Need of national coordination to produce data reported from national to international level
- Data collection from national to international level should primarily be based on existing reporting mechanisms to avoid duplication
- International data need to be properly sourced
Agreeing on some principles and guidelines for country reporting

- All international data should comply with methodological international standards and with Fund. Principles of Official Statistics
- International agencies should ensure coordination so that only one data value is internationally reported for each data point
- National and international agencies need to report data jointly with clear and comprehensive metadata
- Guidelines need to be produced when national data can be adjusted or estimated, including on the technical consultation process with countries
Thank you

www.uis.unesco.org
http://data.uis.unesco.org/