



International Workshop on Sustainable Development Goals

Gemma Van Halderen
Director, Statistics Division
UN ESCAP



Regional Monitoring of the SDGs

Session 1

International Workshop on SDG Indicators
China, 26-29 June 2018

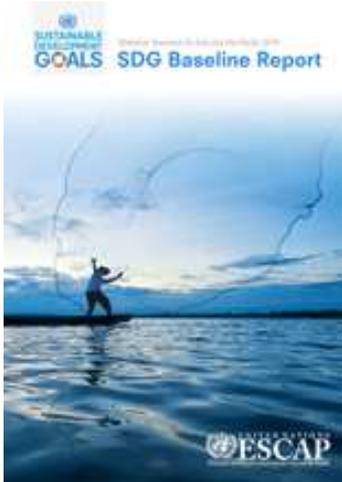


What do regional commission statistical bodies do?

*“Regional Commission statistical bodies **are the nexus** between the Statistical Commission at the global level and the implementation at the national level of the norms endorsed by the Commission.*

*In the context of the 2030 Agenda, the support provided by the regional commissions to assist Member States in **adapting, implementing and measuring progress towards** the implementation of national development plans is of particular significance as it influences the quality of statistics and methodologies used, as well as the use of new and innovative methodologies and sources of data, known as the **transformative agenda for official statistics.***

*The regional commissions carry out activities to **strengthen the capacity** of Member States to produce, use and dissemination official statistics and also provide a regional platform for sharing experiences and **practices in statistics work.**”*



**ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
SDG PROGRESS REPORT
2017**



“At the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a pledge to leave no one behind.

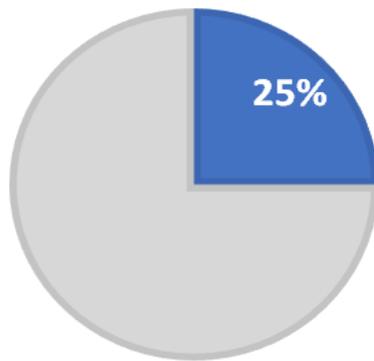
To deliver on this promise as we implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we need a reliable evidence base. One which provides a complete picture of progress towards the SDGs at regional and subregional level, and highlights areas where further action is required.

That is the purpose of this report. The analysis it contains should help sharpen our focus as we work to achieve sustainable development across Asia and the Pacific.”

Dr Shamshad Akhtar, Executive Secretary, UN ESCAP



Asia and the Pacific: Data availability

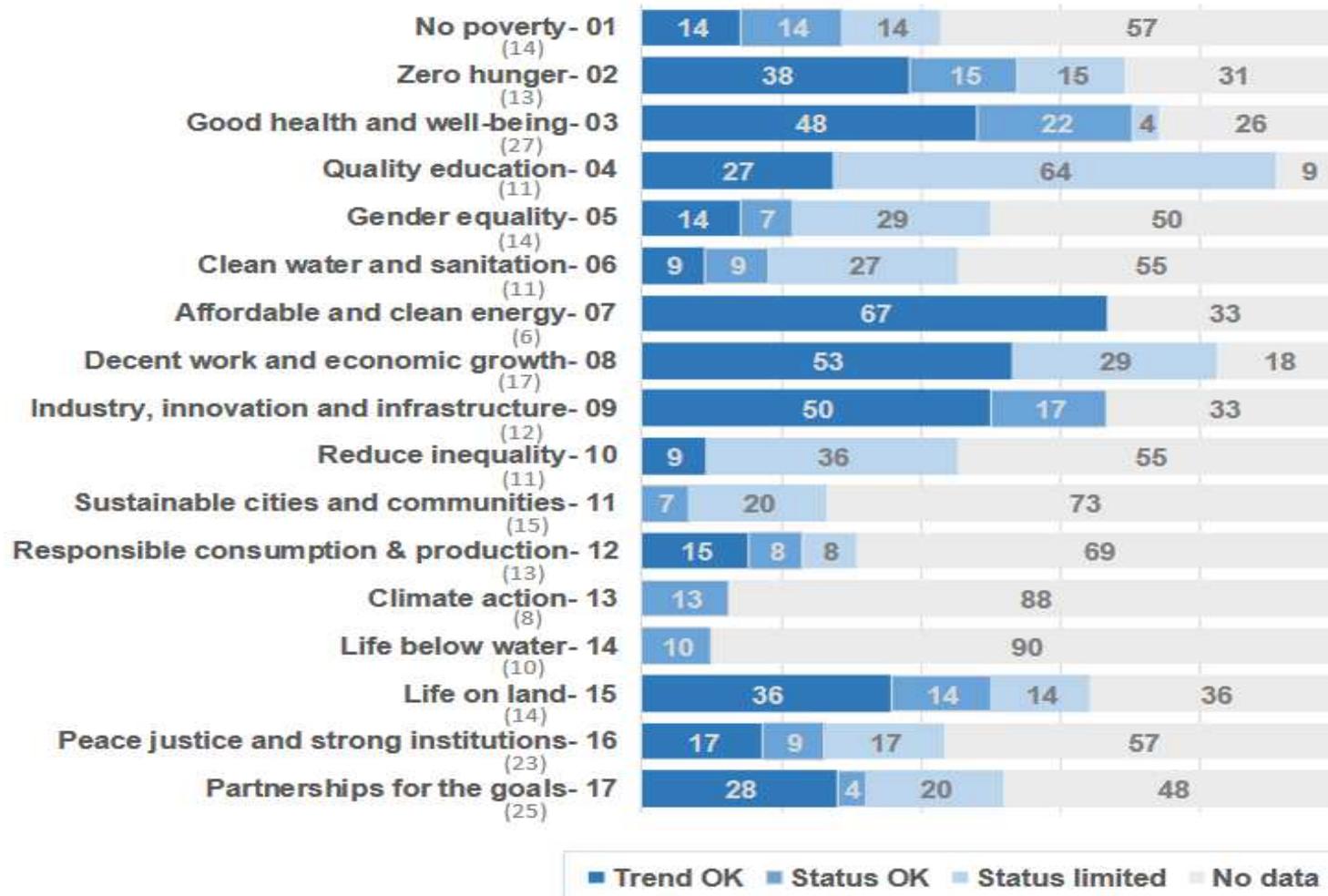


■ Progress assessment possible

“Across the board, the assessment of progress contained in this report is limited by data availability. Only 25 per cent of the official SDG indicators can be used to assess progress in Asia and the Pacific. For this reason, we have had to use proxy indicators to cover goals for which insufficient evidence is available. These large data gaps limit robust progress assessments and impede targeted solutions to overcome development challenges. These data gaps must be plugged by building new partnerships and embracing new data sources across the region.”

Dr Shamshad Akhtar, Executive Secretary, UN ESCAP

Asia and the Pacific: Data availability





Monitoring and Reporting - Key messages

The 169 SDG targets are “aspirational and global”

- National targets to be set by governments, guided by global ambition
- This implies that national indicators are to be set to monitor national targets
- Global indicator framework is developed for global monitoring

Global indicators at the national level are

- A reference point (common language)
- A resource (advocacy, statistical guidance)
- Not the full solution

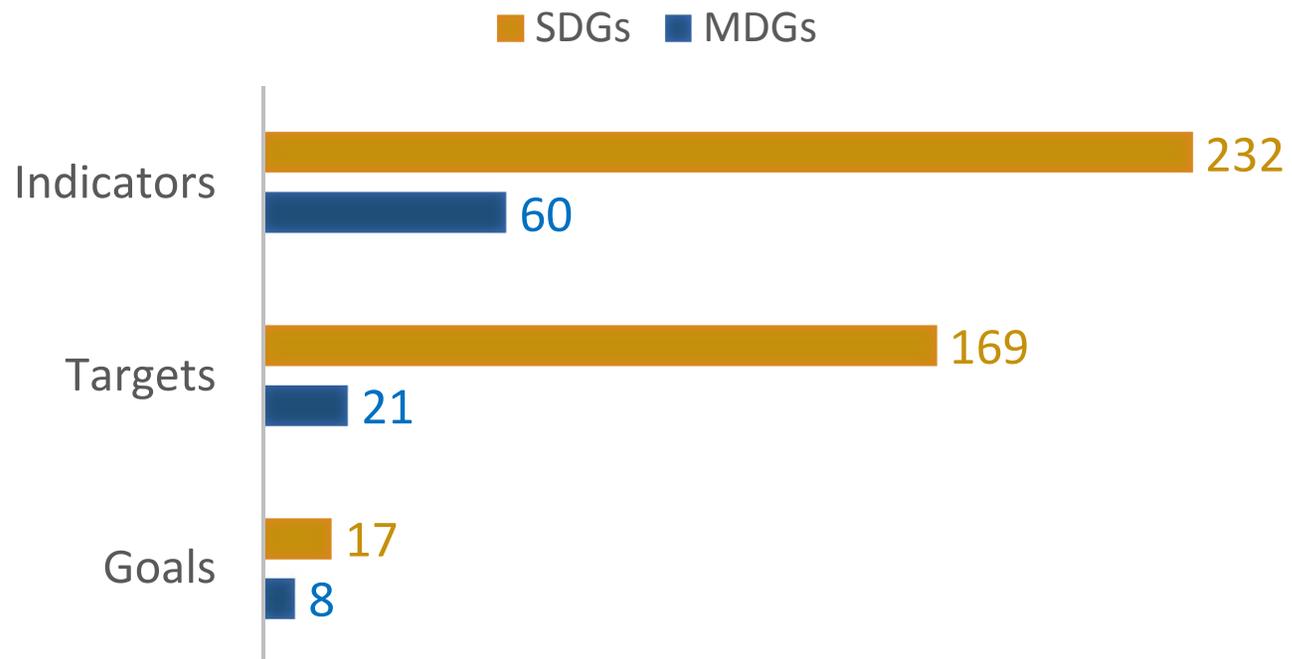


Monitoring challenges (some of them)

The 169 SDG targets

- Many targets vaguely formulated
- Not all targets relevant to all countries
- Some targets global in nature
- Many targets without target values for 2030

Global indicator framework





Indicators: Tier-based approach

Tier I

- Established methodology and data widely available

Tier II

- Established methodology but data not easily available

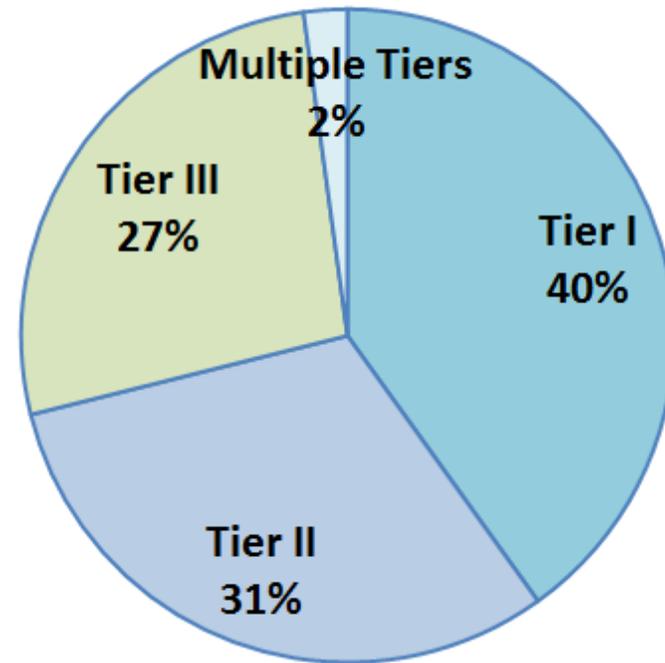
Tier III

- No established methodology yet



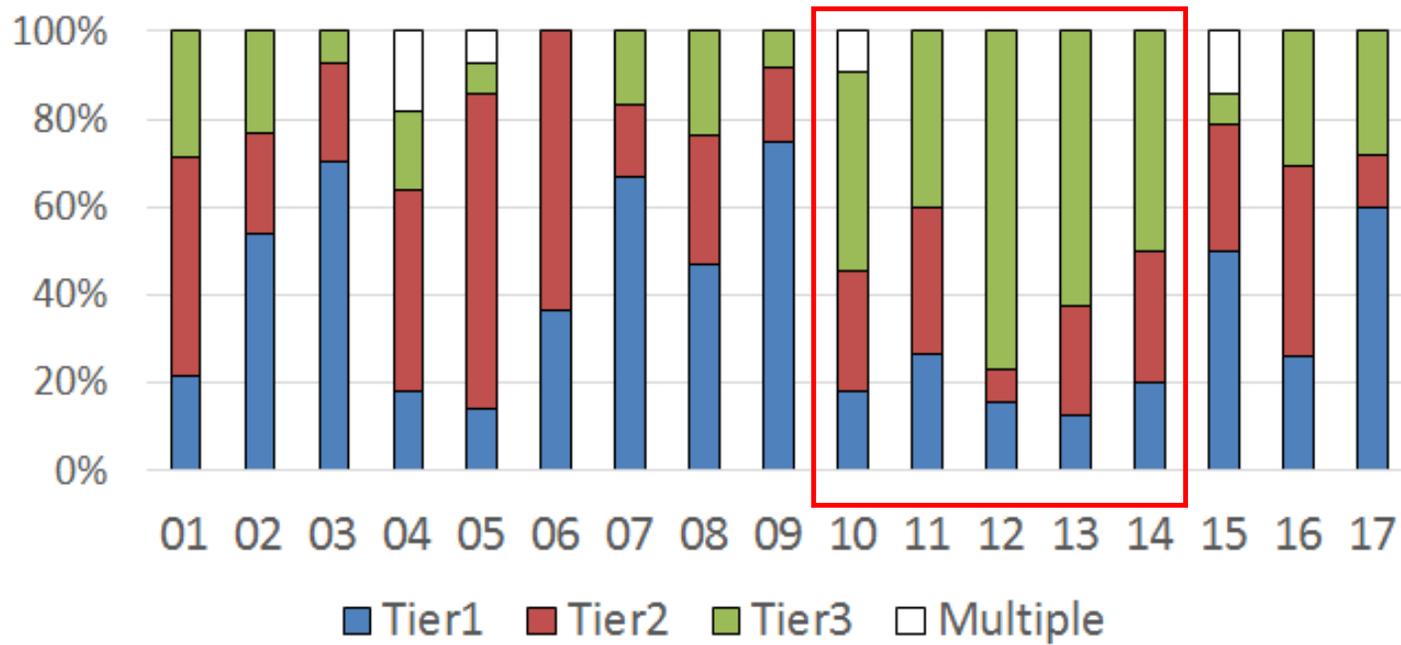
Indicators: Tier classification

<i>Tier I</i>	93
<i>Tier II</i>	72
<i>Tier III</i>	62
<i>Multiple Tiers</i>	5
<i>Total</i>	232





Indicators: Tiers by Goal





For increased availability and disaggregation - we are getting close to 2020

SDG Target 17.18

- By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts

Agreed Indicators

17.18.1

- Proportion of sustainable development indicators produced at the national level with full disaggregation when relevant to the target, in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

17.18.2

- Number of countries that have national statistical legislation that complies with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

17.18.3

- Number of countries with a national statistical plan that is fully funded and under implementation, by source of funding



Progress is mixed

Data, monitoring and accountability

- More than half of the countries or areas (81 of 154 countries) for which information is available were implementing national statistical plans in 2016.
- However, only 37 of 83 countries or areas with pertinent data had national statistical legislation in place that complied with all 10 Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics.
- In 2014, developing countries received \$338 million in financial support for statistics. While that amount represented an increase of nearly 2.9 per cent from 2010, it accounted for only 0.18 per cent of total ODA. In order to meet the data requirements of the Sustainable Development Goals, developing countries will need an estimated \$1 billion in statistical support annually from domestic and donor sources.



Perspectives from chair, ESCAP Regional Steering Committee on Population and Social Statistics

- “It has been a great challenges to narrowing the gap in the development of NSOs in the region. Some countries have experienced well developed statistical institution with its rich data available, but some still lag behind.
- We still have to focus on how the poor data countries could provide data as rich as possible in the areas of core sets as well as SDGs data on population and social statistics.
- The availability of data in poor countries still depend on how they can develop integrated surveys, instead of administrative data. No developing countries in the region have good administrative data. Survey still the main sources. The challenges are: how they can conduct an integrated survey and how to guarantee data qualities.
- Another challenge is that of how NSOs in most developing countries to have stronger engagement with media. This should be the focus. If data produced by NSOs/NSS could be sources for media news as well as for data driven journalism, the role of data producers/NSS will be stronger and would be respected more by line ministries/stakeholders.”



For complementary measures of GDP and supporting statistical capacity building, we still have some time

SDG Target 17.19

- By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries

Agreed Indicators

17.19.1

- Dollar value of all resources made available to strengthen statistical capacity in developing countries

17.19.2

- Proportion of countries that (a) have conducted at least one population and housing census in the last 10 years; and (b) have achieved 100 per cent birth registration and 80 per cent death registration



Progress is reasonable

Data, monitoring and accountability

- Population and housing censuses are a primary source of disaggregated data needed to formulate, implement and monitor development policies and programmes. During the 10-year period from 2007 to 2016, 89 per cent of countries or areas around the world conducted at least one population and housing census, while 25 countries or areas did not have such a fundamental data source.
- During the period from 2010 to 2015, more than half (56 per cent) of the world's countries or areas (138 of 246 countries) had birth registration data that were at least 90 per cent complete. In sub-Saharan Africa, only 8 of 53 countries reached that level of coverage. During the same period, 144 countries or areas, or 59 per cent, had death registration data that were at least 75 per cent complete. In sub-Saharan Africa, only 9 in 53 countries met that standard. Even in countries with functioning civil registration systems, coverage of birth and death registration and complete reporting of vital statistics remain a challenge.



International Workshop on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators

Key messages

- Listen and learn from each other
 - what are countries doing to address and implement gaps and challenges found in the alignment of national priorities with regional and global indicator frameworks?
 - How can international organisations help?
 - How can regional bodies help?
- Using administrative data for SDGs – what are the opportunities
- Using household survey data for SDGs – what are the key issues
- New data sources for SDGs – what opportunities exist?
- National data reporting mechanisms – what can we learn?



Thank you

International Workshop on SDG Indicators
China, 26-29 June 2018