NATIONAL DATA REPORTING MECHANISMS

Shaswat Sapkota
United Nations Statistics Division

International Workshop on SDG Indicators
Beijing, China, 27 June 2018
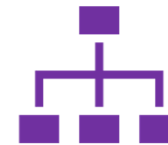
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

National Data Reporting Mechanisms: Context

- SDGs require **data to be reported on a wide range of topics** where data was not collected before.

- High-quality **disaggregated data** required for accurately measuring progress.

- Data also required from **various sources**, including exploration of new sources

Elements that shape reporting mechanisms

- **Legal framework** in the country for example: Statistical act, Information Act etc.

- **Institutional arrangements**, for example committees, coordination bodies, partnerships, collaborative arrangements, data flow mechanisms, working groups etc.

- **Strategies and plans** for statistical development.

- **Tools and systems** throughout the data life cycle

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Successful institutional mechanisms for national reporting include

Clear mandates and responsibilities

-Responsible for monitoring and reporting on progress

-Responsibility for indicator compilation

-Responsibility for SDG database

-Responsibility for data quality

Coordination and cooperation bodies

-Working groups and task forces

-Coordination unit

-Data/statistics focal points in MDAs

Strengthening coordination

-Between members of national statistical systems (eg. data sets formats, schedules of data submissions for inclusion in national SDG indicators databases have to be agreed; clarity on the SDGs focal points in all relevant NSS members)

-Within members of the NSS

-Among national/regional and international organizations

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National reporting platforms

National **reporting platforms** refers to a **web site, database, and associated IT infrastructure** used to collect, store, secure, and ultimately disseminate data and related metadata and documentation in an **easily accessible way** to reach all target users.

Target users may encompass government officials and policy makers, members of academia, non-governmental organizations and non-profits, international organizations, media and other information providers, business community, as well as individual users.[1]

National reporting platforms play important roles
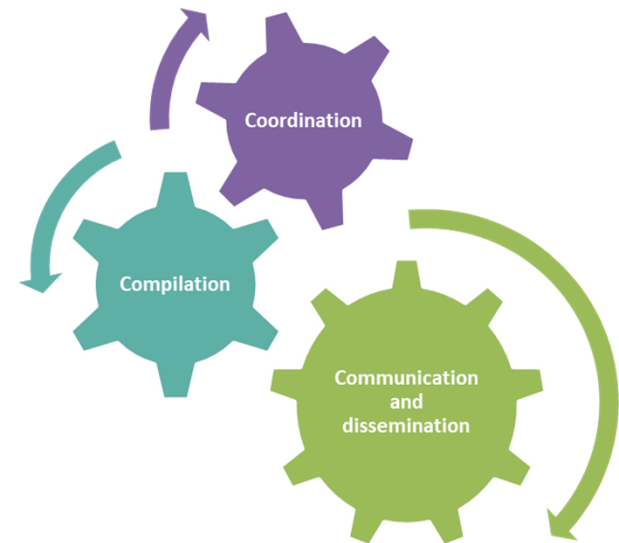
Communication and dissemination

Communicating SDG data and indicators to policy makers and all stakeholders and making SDG data available as widely as possible

Compilation

Bringing together data and metadata from across the entire national statistical system and beyond

Coordination

Providing an instrument for the coordination the statistical activities carried out by different members of the national statistical system

What makes a successful national reporting platform

- Broad and continuous engagement with users, including advocacy

- Visibility and accessibility

- Country ownership and buy-in at all levels

- Having "core" datasets (of indicators) that are aligned with the national development priorities

- Statistical capacity and coordination within the national statistical system

- Capacity building and training

- Support of partners and coordination of their efforts

- Open data as an operating principle;

Current challenges in national reporting platforms

- No common core reporting platform like DevInfo as in the MDG era

- The frequent establishment of multiple parallel platforms has often resulted in
  - a **duplication of workload** for already resource-constrained NSOs, which have to maintain several portals and update information manually,
  - **confusion** for users, who consult the various portals with often conflicting results, and
  - overall **high costs** for demonstrably low usage of these portals.

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Conference on National Reporting and Dissemination Platforms

New York, 22-24 January 2018

Conference

-Brought together representatives from NSOs, international organizations and regional organizations with programmes or initiatives that support data platform in countries

-Donors and other providers of data platform solutions

-Representatives from countries where the solutions are already implemented and countries where no SDG data platform has been established yet.

Objectives

-Discussed user needs, reviewed best practices, showcased possible solutions, and discussed ways forward for countries.

-The conference reviewed efforts by countries, partners and solution providers.

 -The conference discussed possible recommendations and guidelines for basic requisites of national reporting and dissemination platforms suitable to SDG follow-up and review, which aim to facilitate

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Some key messages from the Conference

- Different countries are in **different stages of their statistical development**, and solutions need to be **flexible and respond to the countries' respective needs**.

- This requires that **solutions are interoperable** following established statistical standards. **Principles and guidelines** should facilitate the implementation of these standards and establish common ground rules

- Continual **user engagement** is required, as there are different users of SDG related data.

- To be successful, national reporting and dissemination platforms must be **easy to use and engaging**, regularly updated and be a trusted, independent and authoritative source of SDG data.

- Success of a national reporting and dissemination platform depends on its **integration with the implementation of the national development agenda.**

- A national reporting and dissemination platform should be seen as a **building block in the overall statistical information system** that facilitates the coordination of the national statistical system.

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Conference on National Reporting and Dissemination Platforms

4 key principles

Clear institutional arrangements and management

National Reporting and Dissemination Platform, including the required coordination and cooperation within the national statistical system should be clearly established.

Fitness for purpose

Platforms should comply with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and should address the priority needs and requirements of subnational, national, regional and global monitoring and reporting

Sustainability

Needs to take into consideration availability of resources and capacities, both external and internal over both medium and long term.

Interoperability and statistical standards

Platforms should follow international and national statistical standards and best practices with the aim to facilitate data harmonization and exchange across different stages of the statistical production and across institutions.

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Conference on National Reporting and Dissemination Platforms

Guidelines

National Ownership. Collaboration. Multilingualism and accessibility. User-centered Design. Data Communication. Data disaggregation. Modularity and extensibility. Standardized interfaces. Scalability. Metadata. Open Data. Linked Data.

Meeting report and guidelines available at

https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/49th-session/documents/BG-Item3a-NRDP-E.pdf

Event page

https://unstats.un.org/unsd/capacity-building/meetings/National_Platforms_for_SDGs

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Thank you for your attention