

# Conference of European Statisticians

## Road Map on Statistics for Sustainable Development Goals

Second Edition



UNITED NATIONS



UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

# Conference of European Statisticians

## Road Map on Statistics for Sustainable Development Goals

2<sup>nd</sup> edition



**UNITED NATIONS**

Geneva, 2022

---

## NOTE

---

Requests to reproduce excerpts or to photocopy should be addressed to the Copyright Clearance Center at: [copyright.com](https://copyright.com)

All other queries on rights and licenses, including subsidiary rights, should be addressed to:

United Nations Publications  
405 East 42nd Street  
S-09FW001  
New York, NY 10017  
United States of America

Email: [permissions@un.org](mailto:permissions@un.org)

Website: <https://shop.un.org>

The findings, interpretations, and conclusions expressed herein are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations or its officials or member States.

Links contained in the present publication are provided for the convenience of the reader and are correct at the time of issue. The United Nations takes no responsibility for the continued accuracy of that information or for the content of any external website.

The designations employed and the presentation of material on any map in this work do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

ECE/CES/STAT/2021/5
---------------------

UNITED NATIONS PUBLICATION
----------------------------

Sales No.: E.22.II.E.3
------------------------

ISBN: 978-92-1-117280-5
-------------------------

eISBN: 978-92-1-001079-5
--------------------------

© 2022 United Nations

All rights reserved worldwide

United Nations publication issued by the  
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

---

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

---

The Road Map on Statistics for SDGs was prepared by a team composed of members of the Conference of European Statisticians' Steering Group on Statistics for SDGs: Renata Bielak (co-chair, Poland), Sara Frankl (co-chair, Sweden), Cara Williams (Canada), Maciej Truszczynski (Denmark), Claire Plateau (France), Kerstin Wichmann (Germany), Marina Gandolfo (Italy), Nazira Kerimalieva (Kyrgyzstan), Jelena Markovic (Montenegro), Lieneke Hoeksma (Netherlands), Natalia Ignatova (Russian Federation), Benjamin Rothen (Switzerland), Övünç Uysal (Turkey), Joanne Evans (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Kali Kong (United States of America), Elena Vosmirko (Interstate Statistical Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States), Fritz Gebhard (Eurostat), Miriam Blumers (Eurostat), Guillaume Cohen (OECD), Tiina Luige (UNECE), Stela Derivolcov (UNECE), and the following contributing experts: Vjollca Simoni (Albania), Anahit Safyan (Armenia), Alexandra Wegscheider-Pichler (Austria), Charlotte Juul Hansen (Denmark), Mary Smyth-McCarthy (Ireland), Amit Yagur-Kroll (Israel), Magdalena Ambroch and Olga Swierkot-Struzewska (Poland), Carolina Santos and Ana Simão (Portugal), Ana Carmen Saura Vinuesa (Spain), Lisa Lundström and Cathy Krüger (Sweden), Ann Corp (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) and Julia Schmidt (PARIS 21).

The Road Map was developed jointly by the team in a number of virtual and physical meetings, co-chaired by Renata Bielak and Sara Frankl. The team members worked on the Road Map in various groups and cross-checked each other's work. All sections and annexes represent joint considerations and views of the Road Map team.

The following persons led the drafting of sections:

- **Sara Frankl and Ana Carmen Saura Vinuesa:**  
[Section 1](#) – Use of Statistics for the SDGs
- **Lisa Lundstrom:**  
[Section 2](#) – Quality assurance of SDG indicators
- **Kali Kong, Maciej Truszczynski and Cara Williams:**  
[Section 3](#) – National coordination mechanisms
- **Miriam Blumers, Ann Corp, Claire Plateau, Övünç Uysal and Kerstin Wichmann:**  
[Section 4](#) – Reporting on global SDG indicators
- **Renata Bielak and Tiina Luige:**  
[Section 5](#) – Tracking progress at various levels
- **Lieneke Hoeksma:**  
[Section 6](#) – Leave no one behind
- **Joanne Evans and Natalia Ignatova:**  
[Section 7](#) – Communication of statistics for the SDGs
- **Magdalena Ambroch:**  
[Section 8](#) – Voluntary National Reviews
- **Marina Gandolfo and Jelena Markovic:**  
[Section 9](#) – Capacity development for SDG statistics

We also thank the experts of NSOs and international organisations who contributed with country case studies: Albania, Armenia, Austria, Canada, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Tonga, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Eurostat, OECD and UNESCO.

**Lieneke Hoeksma** (Statistics Netherlands) edited the text.

**Stela Derivolcov** (UNECE) served as Secretary of the Steering Group.

**Martijn Kind** (UNECE) worked on finalising the publication.

# CONTENTS

<b>Acknowledgements</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>Acronyms / Abbreviations</b>	<b>vi</b>
<b>Key messages</b>	<b>.viii</b>
<b>Executive summary</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1. USE OF STATISTICS FOR THE SDGs</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1. Statistics in the context of the SDGs	3
1.2. How are SDG statistics used?	5
1.3. Summary of uses of different kinds of statistics and data in the context of the 2030 Agenda	.12
<b>2. QUALITY ASSURANCE OF SDG INDICATORS</b>	<b>.15</b>
2.1. Why quality assurance of SDG indicators requires more attention	.15
2.2. Quality assurance challenges	.17
2.3. Metadata	.18
2.4. Recommendations for NSOs	.20
<b>3. NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS</b>	<b>.21</b>
3.1. Role of the NSO	.21
3.2. Factors that may influence the coordination role of NSO	.21
3.3. Coordination and collaboration of data producers	.22
3.4. Recommendations for NSOs	.24
<b>4. REPORTING GLOBAL SDG INDICATORS</b>	<b>.25</b>
4.1. Global data-flows framework	.25
4.2. Identifying national data providers	.32
4.3. Automation of data flows	.33
4.4. Validation	.39
4.5. Recommendations for NSOs	.45
<b>5. TRACKING PROGRESS AT VARIOUS LEVELS</b>	<b>.47</b>
5.1. Measuring progress in regions	.47
5.2. Measuring thematic progress at global level	.51
5.3. Tracking the SDGs at national level	.53
5.4. Recommendations for NSOs	.57
<b>6. LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND</b>	<b>.59</b>
6.1. Target population groups	.59
6.2. Data for LNOB	.60
6.3. Data challenges for LNOB	.64
6.4. Recommendations for NSOs	.68

<b>7.</b>	<b>COMMUNICATION OF STATISTICS FOR THE SDGs</b>	<b>.69</b>
7.1.	Internal communication	.69
7.2.	Communication with various users	.70
7.3.	Non-official SDG progress assessments	.74
7.4.	How do different countries communicate?	.75
7.5.	Recommendations for NSOs	.78
<b>8.</b>	<b>VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEWS</b>	<b>.79</b>
8.1.	UN guidelines and handbook on VNRs	.79
8.2.	Statistical annexes: best practices	.80
8.3.	Recommendations for NSOs	.83
<b>9.</b>	<b>CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR SDG STATISTICS</b>	<b>.85</b>
9.1.	Developing official statistics for the SDGs – rationale and scope	.85
9.2.	Main sources of donor support in statistics	.92
9.3.	Methods and tools for capacity development	.94
9.4.	Coordination of capacity development	.99
9.5.	Recommendations for NSOs	101
	<b>Annex 1 – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS</b>	<b>103</b>
	<b>Annex 2 – GLOSSARY</b>	<b>115</b>

## LIST OF TABLES AND BOXES

Table 1.1	Examples of websites and reports with thematic content	7
Table 1.2	Types of use of different kinds of data and statistics	.12
Table 4.1	An example of data concepts Total population, 1980-2015 (Thousands)	.37
Box 5.1	OECD example of SDG indicators selection	.49
Table 7.1	User profiles developed by Switzerland, the UK, and Eurostat	.72

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 3.1	Role of NSOs for the SDGs	.22
Figure 4.1	Custodian agencies responsible for SDG indicators	.30
Figure 4.2	A centralized model for reporting, including an NRP and quality assurance mechanism	.31
Figure 4.3	A model of decentralized responsibilities for SDG indicator reporting.	.31
Figure 4.4	Example of a potential data flow using APIs.	.35
Figure 4.5	High-level overview of the conversion process	.38
Figure 4.6	Data validation process	.40
Figure 7.1	Users of official statistics and their data needs	.73
Figure 9.1	Ecosystems, the role of NSO and NSS	.88
Figure 9.2	Levels of Capacity Development	.89
Figure 9.3	The impact of COVID-19 on the data value chain (Source: PARIS21, 2020)	.90
Figure 9.4	Top donors 2016-2018 (Percentage)	.93

## ACRONYMS / ABBREVIATIONS

<b>API</b>	. . . . .	Application Programming Interface
<b>CES</b>	. . . . .	Conference of European Statisticians
<b>CISSTAT</b>	. . . . .	Interstate Statistical Committee of Commonwealth of Independent States
<b>CSO</b>	. . . . .	Central Statistical Office
<b>CSSA</b>	. . . . .	Committee of Coordination of Statistical Activities
<b>DSD</b>	. . . . .	Data Structure Definition
<b>e.g.</b>	. . . . .	for example (exempli gratia)
<b>ESCAP</b>	. . . . .	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
<b>ESS</b>	. . . . .	European Statistical System
<b>ESSC</b>	. . . . .	European Statistical System Committee
<b>ECLAC</b>	. . . . .	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
<b>EU</b>	. . . . .	European Union
<b>etc.</b>	. . . . .	et cetera
<b>FAO</b>	. . . . .	Food and Agriculture Organisation
<b>GRI</b>	. . . . .	Global Reporting Initiative
<b>HLG-PCCB</b>	. . . . .	High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
<b>HLPF</b>	. . . . .	High Level Political Forum
<b>HTML</b>	. . . . .	Hypertext Markup Language
<b>IAEG-SDGs</b>	. . . . .	Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators
<b>IDC</b>	. . . . .	Inclusive Data Charter
<b>i.e.</b>	. . . . .	in other words (id est)
<b>INE</b>	. . . . .	Statistics Portugal
<b>INSEE</b>	. . . . .	National Institute of Statistics and Economic Studies (France)

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

[https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5\\_89](https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_89)

