



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
EUROSTAT

Directorate E: Sectoral and Regional Statistics
Unit E-2: Environmental statistics and accounts; sustainable development

Eurostat, 31 May 2017

EU SDG INDICATOR SET

Final version of 28 April 2017 as agreed with Commission Services,
which received a favourable opinion by the European Statistical System Committee
at its meeting of 17-18 May 2017.

INDICATORS FOR MONITORING THE
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)
IN AN EU CONTEXT

1 Purpose of this document

This document presents the EU SDG indicator set, developed by the European Commission to monitor the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in an EU context. This EU SDG indicator set received a favourable opinion by the European Statistical System Committee at its meeting on 17-18 May 2017.

This document provides the policy background for the indicator set, describes the process to develop it, outlines its main characteristics and informs on the next steps. The full set of selected EU SDG indicators is provided in the Annex. More details are available in the Excel file on Eurostat's sustainable development indicators website

<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/sdi/overview>.

2 Policy background

At the UN Sustainable Development Summit held in September 2015 in New York, the World leaders adopted the document "[Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#)". The document includes a list of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets which the subscribing national governments committed to pursue.

In the section on follow-up and review, the 2030 Agenda foresees to evaluate at national, regional and global level the progress made in implementing the goals and targets over the coming 15 years. *Global, regional and national indicator sets* are being established for this purpose.

At global level, the 48th UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) in March 2017 approved a [global list of 244 SDG indicators](#)¹ to monitor the 17 SDGs and 169 targets worldwide. Not all indicators in the list are immediately available at global level – in fact data are currently widely available worldwide only for about 1/3 of the indicators².

On 22 November 2016, the European Commission adopted the Communication "[Next steps for a sustainable European future](#)" (COM(2016)739). This Communication presents the EU's answer to the 2030 Agenda and includes two work streams. The first work stream is to fully integrate the SDGs in the European policy framework and current Commission priorities, assessing where we stand and identifying the most relevant sustainability concerns. A second track is related to reflection work on further developing our longer term vision and the focus of sectoral policies after 2020, preparing for the long term implementation of the SDGs. The Communication also announces a detailed regular monitoring of the SDGs in an EU context

¹ The SDG global indicator list includes 232 different indicators as nine are used to measure two or three targets (multipurpose indicators). The list approved in 2017 is a refined version of a list agreed by the UNSC in 2016 "as a practical starting point".

² A first UN [SDG progress report was published](#) on 3 June 2016, followed by a [SDG glossy report 2016](#). They only include 50 indicators.

from 2017 onwards, and the *development of a reference indicator framework* for this purpose.

3 Development of the EU SDG indicator set: actors and requirements

The EU SDG indicator set is the result of a broad consultative process, which Eurostat coordinated. The work was carried out in close cooperation with other Commission services and with Eurostat's partners in the European Statistical System (ESS). Several bodies have been consulted, including Council Committees (Employment Committee, Social Protection Committee and Economic and Financial Committee), the European Statistical Advisory Committee (ESAC), non-governmental organisations, academia and other international organisations. Many proposals have been screened in the light of pre-established principles and criteria on policy relevance and quality requirements.

Concerning policy relevance, the aim of the EU SDG indicator set is to monitor progress towards the SDGs *in an EU context*. The indicators selected have strong links with the Commission Communication "[Next steps for a sustainable European future](#)". In addition, all selected indicators allow an unambiguous interpretation of the desired direction of change as set out in the relevant EU policies and initiatives. Preference has been given to performance indicators measuring impacts and outcomes of EU policies and initiatives in a simple, clear and easy to understand way. The indicator set looks at how the EU policies contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In this respect, it complements from an EU perspective the UN global indicators, which refer instead to the goals and targets as specified in the 2030 Agenda.

Concerning quality requirements, the EU SDG indicator set only includes indicators which are ready to use (i.e. data are available) and for which regular data production is ensured. Contrary to the UN global indicator list, placeholders have been excluded. In addition, data must be accessible online and metadata must be publicly available. The selection of the indicators also considers the standard quality criteria for European statistics in the [European statistics Code of Practice](#): frequency of dissemination, timeliness, geographical coverage, comparability between countries and over time as well as the length of time series. The selected EU SDG indicators comply with international or EU standards where they exist.

Indicators based on European statistics produced within the European Statistical System meet these requirements. The EU SDG indicator set also includes several non-European Statistical System indicators, especially in areas which European statistics do not sufficiently cover but for which data from external sources exist and meet the quality requirements (e.g. on climate change, marine or land ecosystems). For these indicators, Eurostat shares responsibility with the producer institutions, which have to disseminate data and metadata in the first place.

4 Main characteristics of the EU SDG indicator set

The EU SDG indicator set is structured along the 17 SDGs and includes 100 different indicators. Experience at national and international level suggests that this is an appropriate

upper limit of indicators for an effective monitoring and communication. An even distribution of indicators across the 17 SDGs has been applied to ensure a balance between the different policy areas. As a result, each goal is covered by 6 indicators, except goals 14 and 17 which only have 5 indicators.

41 indicators are multi-purpose indicators (MPIs). These are indicators primarily assigned to one goal, but used to monitor also other goals. This means that each goal will be monitored through 5 to 12 indicators in total. Multipurpose indicators are useful to highlight the links between the different goals and to enhance the narrative in the monitoring reports.

88 indicators can be updated annually while 12 have a lower frequency. 69 indicators are derived from European statistics and 31 come from other sources. The EU SDG indicator set is aligned as much as possible with the UN list, so that 51 indicators are also part of the UN global indicator list. Finally, the EU SDG indicator set includes breakdowns by gender, age groups, educational level, NUTS 2 region, degree of urbanisation, income and disability. The table below provides a summary view of the main characteristics of the EU SDG indicator set.

		Indicators, of which				MPIs
		Total	Annual freq.	Provider Eurostat	In UN list ^{*)}	
SDG 1	Poverty	6	6	6	5	4
SDG 2	Agriculture & nutrition	6	5	4	3	3
SDG 3	Health	6	5	6	3	5
SDG 4	Education	6	5	5	3	1
SDG 5	Gender equality	6	5	3	2	3
SDG 6	Water	6	4	3	4	1
SDG 7	Energy	6	6	6	2	1
SDG 8	Economy & labour	6	6	6	3	2
SDG 9	Infrastructure & innovation	6	6	6	5	1
SDG 10	Inequality	6	6	6	1	3
SDG 11	Cities	6	5	4	4	6
SDG 12	Consumption & production	6	6	4	4	3
SDG 13	Climate	6	6		2	4
SDG 14	Oceans	5	4	1	3	
SDG 15	Ecosystems	6	2	3	3	3
SDG 16	Institutions	6	6	3	3	1
SDG 17	Global partnership	5	5	3	1	
Total		100	88	69	51	41

*) Taking also into account editorial clarifications to the UN SDG indicator list that were released after the 5th IAEG-SDGs meeting end April 2017, the number of aligned indicators is expected to slightly increase.

5 Next steps

The EU SDG indicator set will be used to produce a first regular EU SDG monitoring report by end 2017³, continuing the tradition of Eurostat's monitoring reports on sustainable development in the European Union produced between 2005 and 2015 and focused on the EU sustainable development strategy.

At the same time, the EU SDG indicator set will also be implemented online on Eurostat's website and database. The section dedicated to sustainable development in the EU on Eurostat's website will be adapted, while the Sustainable Development Indicators used so far to monitor the EU sustainable development strategy will be frozen.

The EU SDG indicator set will stay open to future changes, to incorporate indicators from new data sources which should become available over time and to take into account new EU policy priorities.

³ A first overview of where the EU and its Member States stand in view of the SDGs can be found in the Eurostat publication '[Sustainable Development in the European Union — A statistical glance from the viewpoint of the UN Sustainable Development Goals](#)', released in parallel with Commission Communication "[Next steps for a sustainable European future](#)" and referenced there.

Annex – EU SDG indicator set

Code	MPI	Indicator name	Frequency of data collection	Data (indicator) provider
Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere				
01.11		People at risk of poverty or social exclusion	every year	Eurostat
01.12		People at risk of poverty after social transfers	every year	Eurostat
01.13		Severely materially deprived people	every year	Eurostat
01.14		People living in households with very low work intensity	every year	Eurostat
01.21		Housing cost overburden rate	every year	Eurostat
01.22		Share of total population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation, or rot in window frames or floor	every year	Eurostat
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>				
03.41	mpi <- 3	Self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care	every year	Eurostat
06.11	mpi <- 6	Share of total population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household	every year	Eurostat
07.10	mpi <- 7	Percentage of people affected by fuel poverty (inability to keep home adequately warm)	every year	Eurostat
10.11	mpi <- 10	Real adjusted gross disposable income of households per capita in PPS	every year	Eurostat
Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture				
02.11		Obesity rate	every > 3 years	Eurostat
02.21		Agricultural factor income per annual work unit (AWU)	every year	Eurostat
02.26		Government support to agricultural research and development	every year	Eurostat; OECD
02.31		Area under organic farming	every year	Eurostat
02.52		Ammonia emissions from agriculture	every year	EEA
02.54		Gross nutrient balance on agricultural land	every year	Eurostat
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>				
06.24	mpi <- 6	Nitrate in groundwater	every year	EEA
15.31	mpi <- 15	Common bird index	every year	European Bird Census Council
15.41	mpi <- 15	Estimated soil erosion by water	a-periodic	JRC
Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages				
03.11		Life expectancy at birth	every year	Eurostat
03.14		Self-perceived health	every year	Eurostat
03.25		Death rate due to chronic diseases	every year	Eurostat
03.31		Suicide death rate	every year	Eurostat
03.36		Smoking prevalence	every > 3 years	Eurostat
03.41		Self-reported unmet need for medical examination and care	every year	Eurostat
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>				
02.11	mpi <- 2	Obesity rate	every > 3 years	Eurostat

<i>Code</i>	<i>MPI</i>	<i>Indicator name</i>	<i>Frequency of data collection</i>	<i>Data (indicator) provider</i>
08.60	mpi <- 8	Fatal accidents at work by sex (NACE Rev. 2, A, C-N) - Unstandardised incidence rate	every year	Eurostat
11.25	mpi <- 11	People killed in road accidents	every year	DG MOVE
11.31	mpi <- 11	Urban population exposure to air pollution by particulate matter	every year	EEA
11.36	mpi <- 11	Proportion of population living in households considering that they suffer from noise	every year	Eurostat
Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all				
04.10		Early childhood education and care	every year	Eurostat
04.20		Early leavers from education and training	every year	Eurostat
04.30		Tertiary educational attainment	every year	Eurostat
04.31		Employment rate of recent graduates	every year	Eurostat
04.40		Adult participation in learning	every year	Eurostat
04.50		Underachievement in reading, maths and science	every 3 years	OECD
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>				
08.20	mpi <- 8	Young people neither in employment nor in education and training	every year	Eurostat
Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls				
05.10		Gender pay gap	every year	Eurostat
05.12		Gender employment gap	every year	Eurostat
05.20		Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments and local government	every year	EIGE; DG JUST
05.21		Proportion of women in senior management positions	every year	EIGE; DG JUST
05.33		Physical and sexual violence by a partner or a non-partner	a-periodic	EU Agency for Fundamental Rights
05.44		Inactivity rates due to caring responsibilities	every year	Eurostat
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>				
04.20	mpi <- 4	Early leavers from education and training	every year	Eurostat
04.30	mpi <- 4	Tertiary educational attainment	every year	Eurostat
04.31	mpi <- 4	Employment rate of recent graduates	every year	Eurostat
Goal 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all				
06.11		Share of total population having neither a bath, nor a shower, nor indoor flushing toilet in their household	every year	Eurostat
06.13		Population connected to urban wastewater treatment with at least secondary treatment	every 2 years	Eurostat
06.21		Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers	every year	EEA
06.24		Nitrate in groundwater	every year	EEA
06.26		Phosphate in rivers	every year	EEA
06.41		Water exploitation index (WEI)	every 2 years	Eurostat
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>				
14.13	mpi <- 14	Bathing water quality	every year	EEA

Code	MPI	Indicator name	Frequency of data collection	Data (indicator) provider
Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all				
07.10		Percentage of people affected by fuel poverty (inability to keep home adequately warm)	every year	Eurostat
07.20		Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption	every year	Eurostat
07.30		Primary energy consumption; final energy consumption by sector	every year	Eurostat
07.32		Final energy consumption in households per capita	every year	Eurostat
07.33		Energy dependence	every year	Eurostat
07.35		Energy productivity	every year	Eurostat
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>				
13.14	mpi <- 13	Greenhouse gas emissions intensity of energy consumption	every year	EEA; Eurostat
Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all				
08.10		Real GDP per capita - growth rate	every year	Eurostat
08.20		Young people neither in employment nor in education and training	every year	Eurostat
08.30		Total employment rate	every year	Eurostat
08.31		Long-term unemployment rate	every year	Eurostat
08.35		Involuntary temporary employment	every year	Eurostat
08.60		Fatal accidents at work by sex (NACE Rev. 2, A, C-N) - Unstandardised incidence rate	every year	Eurostat
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>				
05.44	mpi <- 5	Inactivity rates due to caring responsibilities	every year	Eurostat
12.40	mpi <- 12	Resource productivity	every year	Eurostat
Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation				
09.10		Gross domestic expenditure on R&D	every year	Eurostat
09.11		Employment in high- and medium-high technology manufacturing sectors and knowledge-intensive service sectors	every year	Eurostat
09.13		Total R&D personnel	every year	Eurostat
09.14		Patent applications to the European Patent Office (EPO)	every year	Eurostat
09.40		Share of collective transport modes in total passenger land transport	every year	Eurostat
09.41		Share of rail and inland waterways activity in total freight transport	every year	Eurostat
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>				
12.51	mpi <- 12	Average CO2 emissions per km from new passenger cars	every year	EEA
Goal 10. Reduce inequality within and among countries				
10.101		GDP per capita in PPS	every year	Eurostat
10.11		Real adjusted gross disposable income of households per capita in PPS	every year	Eurostat
10.22		Relative median at-risk-of-poverty gap	every year	Eurostat
10.24		Gini coefficient of equivalised disposable income	every year	Eurostat

Code	MPI	Indicator name	Frequency of data collection	Data (indicator) provider
10.25		Income growth of the bottom 40 per cent of the population and the total population	every year	Eurostat
10.31		Number of first time asylum applications (total and accepted) per capita	every year	Eurostat
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>				
01.12	mpi <- 1	People at risk of poverty after social transfers	every year	Eurostat
17.11	mpi <- 17	EU financing for developing countries	every year	OECD (DAC)
17.12	mpi <- 17	EU Imports from developing countries	every year	Eurostat
Goal 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable				
11.12		Overcrowding rate by degree of urbanisation	every year	Eurostat
11.21		Distribution of population by level of difficulty in accessing public transport	a-periodic	Eurostat
11.25		People killed in road accidents	every year	DG MOVE
11.31		Urban population exposure to air pollution by particulate matter	every year	EEA
11.36		Proportion of population living in households considering that they suffer from noise	every year	Eurostat
11.52		Recycling rate of municipal waste	every year	Eurostat
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>				
01.22	mpi <- 1	Share of total population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, floors or foundation, or rot in window frames or floor	every year	Eurostat
06.13	mpi <- 6	Population connected to urban wastewater treatment with at least secondary treatment	every 2 years	Eurostat
09.40	mpi <- 9	Share of collective transport modes in total passenger land transport	every year	Eurostat
15.21	mpi <- 15	Artificial land cover per capita	every 3 years	Eurostat
15.24	mpi <- 15	Change in artificial land cover per year	every 3 years	Eurostat
16.19	mpi <- 16	Share of population which reported occurrence of crime, violence or vandalism in their area	every year	Eurostat
Goal 12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns				
12.10		Generation of waste excluding major mineral wastes	every year	Eurostat
12.11		Recycling and landfill rate of waste excluding major mineral wastes	every year	Eurostat
12.30		Consumption of toxic chemicals	every year	Eurostat, PRODCOM and COMEXT
12.40		Resource productivity	every year	Eurostat
12.51		Average CO2 emissions per km from new passenger cars	every year	EEA
12.54		Volume of freight transport relative to GDP	every year	Eurostat
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>				
07.20	mpi <- 7	Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption	every year	Eurostat
07.30	mpi <- 7	Primary energy consumption; final energy consumption by sector	every year	Eurostat
07.35	mpi <- 7	Energy productivity	every year	Eurostat

Code	MPI	Indicator name	Frequency of data collection	Data (indicator) provider
Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts				
13.11		Greenhouse gas emissions (indexed totals and per capita)	every year	EEA
13.14		Greenhouse gas emissions intensity of energy consumption	every year	EEA; Eurostat
13.21		Global (and European) near surface average temperature	every year	EEA
13.45		Economic losses caused by climate extremes (consider climatological, hydrological, meteorological)	every year	EEA
13.51		Contribution to the 100bn international commitment on climate related expending (public finance)	every year	EIONet; DG CLIMA
13.63		Share of EU population covered by the new Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (integrating mitigation, adaptation, and access to clean and affordable energy). Continuously updated.	every year	Covenant of Mayors office
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>				
07.20	mpi <- 7	Share of renewable energy in gross final energy consumption	every year	Eurostat
07.30	mpi <- 7	Primary energy consumption; final energy consumption by sector	every year	Eurostat
12.51	mpi <- 12	Average CO2 emissions per km from new passenger cars	every year	EEA
14.31	mpi <- 14	Ocean acidification (CLIM 043)	every > 3 years	EEA / The Laboratory for Microbial Oceanography (Hawaii); CMIP Coupled Model Intercomparison Project, Copernicus
Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development				
14.13		Bathing water quality	every year	EEA
14.21		Sufficiency of marine sites designated under the EU habitats directive	every year	EEA; DG ENV
14.31		Ocean acidification (CLIM 043)	every > 3 years	EEA / The Laboratory for Microbial Oceanography (Hawaii); CMIP Coupled Model Intercomparison Project, Copernicus
14.41		Catches in major fishing areas	every year	Eurostat
14.43		Assessed fish stocks exceeding fishing mortality at maximum sustainable yield (Fmsy)	every year	STECF (JRC)

Code	MPI	Indicator name	Frequency of data collection	Data (indicator) provider
Goal 15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss				
15.11		Forest area as a proportion of total land area	every 5 years	Eurostat
15.21		Artificial land cover per capita	every 3 years	Eurostat
15.24		Change in artificial land cover per year	every 3 years	Eurostat
15.31		Common bird index	every year	European Bird Census Council
15.32		Sufficiency of terrestrial sites designated under the EU habitats directive	every year	EEA; DG ENV
15.41		Estimated soil erosion by water	a-periodic	JRC
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>				
06.21	mpi <- 6	Biochemical oxygen demand in rivers	every year	EEA
06.24	mpi <- 6	Nitrate in groundwater	every year	EEA
06.26	mpi <- 6	Phosphate in rivers	every year	EEA
Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels				
16.10		Death due to homicide, assault, by sex	every year	Eurostat
16.19		Share of population which reported occurrence of crime, violence or vandalism in their area	every year	Eurostat
16.32		General government total expenditure on law courts	every year	Eurostat
16.50		Corruption Perception Index	every year	Transparency International
16.61		Perceived independence of the justice system	every year	DG COMM
16.62		Level of citizens' confidence in EU institutions	every year	DG COMM
<i>Multipurpose indicators: Supplementary indicators of other goals which complement the monitoring of this goal</i>				
05.33	mpi <- 5	Physical and sexual violence by a partner or a non-partner	a-periodic	EU Agency for Fundamental Rights
Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development				
17.10		Official development assistance as share of gross national income	every year	OECD (DAC)
17.11		EU financing for developing countries	every year	OECD (DAC)
17.12		EU Imports from developing countries	every year	Eurostat
17.13		General government gross debt	every year	Eurostat
17.19		Shares of environmental and labour taxes in total tax revenues	every year	Eurostat