

**Department of Economic and Social Affairs - Statistics Division**      ESA/ST/AC.300/4.1

**First Meeting of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on the Sustainable  
Development Goal Indicators**

New York, 1-2 June 2015

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# **Process of selecting indicators**

## **An introduction**



**First Inter-agency and Expert Group Meeting on Sustainable  
Development Goal Indicators, New York, 1-2 June 2015**

# Process of selecting indicators

(item 4 of the provisional agenda)

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# Guidance received at the intergovernmental negotiations on the post-2015 DA in March 2015

- **Member States stressed that the indicators**
  - ◆ **must directly respond to the goals and targets agreed in the Open Working Group and their level of ambition,**
  - ◆ **must not undermine or re-interpret the targets,**
  - ◆ **cover all targets including targets on means of implementation,**
  - ◆ **give equal weight to all targets, maintain the balance achieved,**
  - ◆ **and should not introduce any new or contentious issues.**
- **There was also wide consensus that the number of global indicators should be limited and should include multi-purpose indicators that address several targets at the same time.**

## **Results of the Expert Group Meeting in February 2015 on indicator selection**

- 1. The global level monitoring framework should be limited to a small number of indicators;**
- 2. Such indicators should be selected on the basis of an agreed set of criteria;**
- 3. It is necessary to ensure national ownership of indicators (including of the estimation process);**
- 4. It is necessary to ensure disaggregation of indicators and to include a human rights dimension to the indicator framework (following the “no one left behind” principle);**
- 5. It is important to draw from existing integrated statistical frameworks;**
- 6. One important point: flexibility**

## **Criteria for Indicator selection**

**SDGs are to be accompanied by indicators that “are action-oriented, global in nature and universally applicable” and**

**“take into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respect national policies and priorities”**

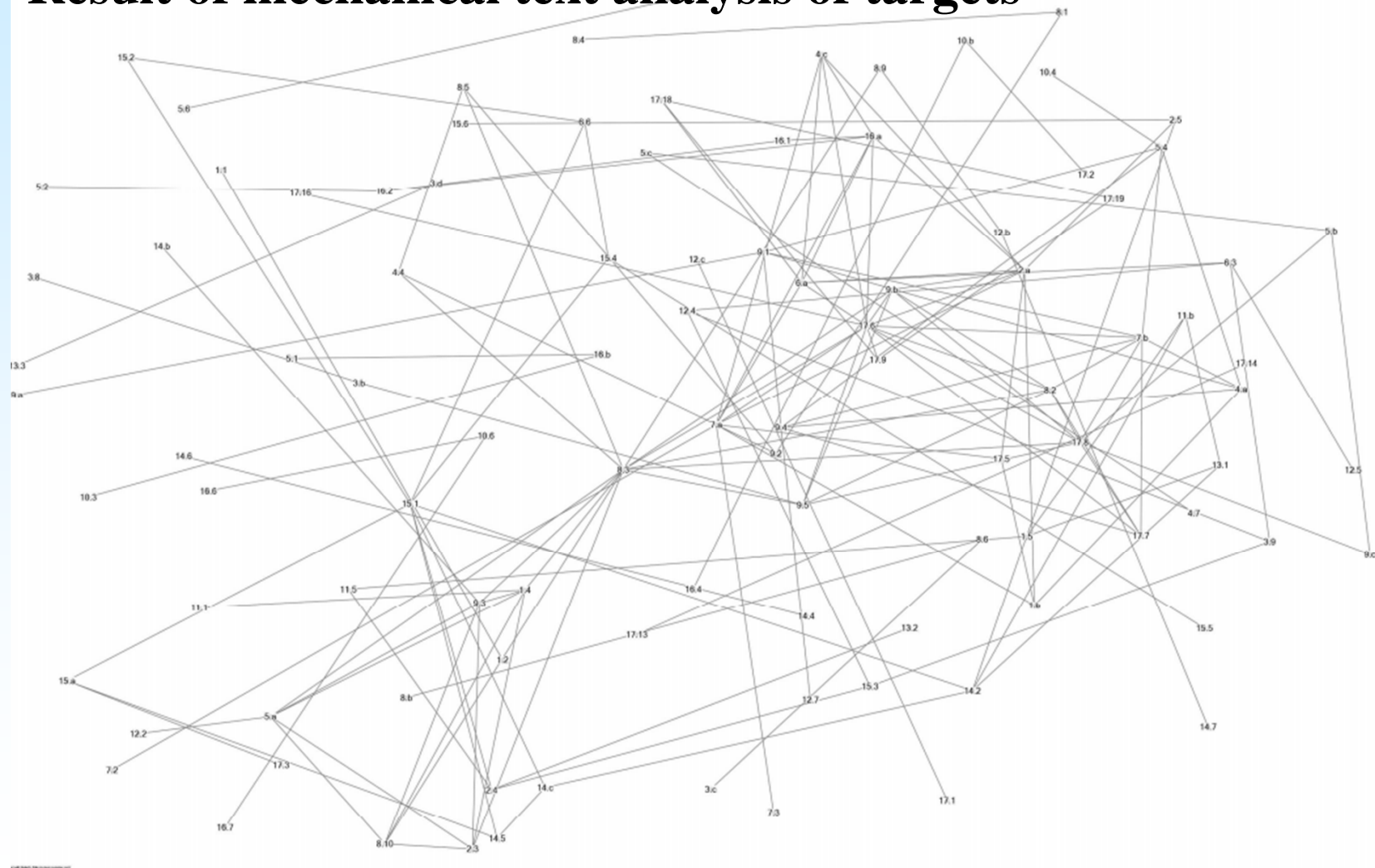
**(Open Working Group, July 2014)**

## Criteria for Indicator selection

- 1. Relevant:** Linked to the target, Policy relevant, Applicable at the appropriate level of monitoring; Consistent with international law
- 2. Methodologically sound:** Based on sound methodology; Tested to be valuable; Coherent and complementary to other indicators in the framework.
- 3. Measurable:** Sustainable and of high quality; Allowing disaggregation; Managed by one or more responsible agencies:
- 4. Easy to communicate and access:** Easy to interpret and communicate; Easily accessible.
- 5. Limited in number and outcome focused at the global level**  
Limited in number; Flexible; Outcome focused (for non-MOI target)

# Interlinkages and multipurpose indicators

## Result of mechanical text analysis of targets



# Interlinkages and multipurpose indicators

## Example of a possible multi-purpose indicator

Target 1.5	By 2030, build the resilience of the poor and those in vulnerable situations and reduce their exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters.
Target 11.5	By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and decrease by [x] per cent the economic losses relative to gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations
Target 13.1	Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries

Number of people affected by hazardous events by age and sex (including deaths, missing people, injured, relocated or evacuated due to disasters per 100,000)



**Thank You !**