

Inter-Agency Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs).
United Nations, New York
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Statement by Major Groups and other Stakeholders

Theme 2: Identification of interlinkages of targets

Theme 3: Use of multi-purpose indicators

Theme 4: Integrated statistical frameworks

Post-2015 Volunteering Working Group
Johns Hopkins Center for Civil Society Studies
Beyond 2015 Campaign
Gray Panthers
Education International
WaterAid
International Association of Applied Psychology
Sustainable Development Solutions Network
World Youth Alliance

We agree that the indicators should be relevant, objective, measurable, reliable, and comparative, and they should be efficient and collect the maximum amount of information across multiple purposes through the leveraging of existing statistical frameworks.

Involving all people in the SDGs is the best way to make them person-centered and effective, and is the key to ensuring transparency and accountability. We have two specific recommendations:

- 1. We recommend the IAEG develop an inclusive process for identifying potential indicators, data sources, or ways that existing variables might be disaggregated, that would help to address multiple Goals and/or Targets.** Identifying multipurpose indicators and data sources would benefit from the inputs of CSOs, volunteer groups, academia, industry groups, and local communities to help keep the indicator framework as concise as possible. For example, indicators that are important to sustainable cities will also be important in providing equal access to infrastructure for disabled and older persons.¹ The IAEG could facilitate

¹In some cases, multipurpose indicators have already been identified through collaborations across multiple groups. The *Indicators and a Monitoring Framework for the SDGs* report produced by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network provides a number of examples in this regard, such as a proposed measure of Nitrogen use efficiency in food systems (#15), in their report , which identifies a science-based indicator of

the collaboration in the development of priority indicators and data sources, and ultimately in the production of these data, that will strengthen the power of the SDGs.

- 2. We further recommend integrating with the SDG framework existing frameworks for the measurement of civil society and volunteering.** The importance of engaging local CSOs and volunteers has been recognized repeatedly in SDG-related documents because they represent a built-in, experienced, local, people-centered vehicle necessary for the implementation of all 17 SDGs. Yet, none of the goals, targets, or indicators identify the need for information about CSOs and volunteers themselves, or on the enabling environment they will need to fulfill their roles as partners with governments in serving local communities and providing unpaid care.

Fortunately, the solution lies within the integrated frameworks of the UN's statistical mechanisms itself through 1) the refined guidelines for the identification of Non-Profit Institutions (NPIs) within the institutional sectors of the 2008 SNA, 2) the development of satellite accounts on NPIs and volunteering,² and 3) the recently expanded definition of decent work, which includes volunteer work, adopted by the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians.³

Many NSOs already produce these data with the cooperation of CSOs, volunteers, and academics, including several NSOs represented in the IAEG.⁴

Integrating these harmonized frameworks into the SDGs will have a multiplying effect by assessing key vehicles for implementation of the SDGs (**Goal 17**), bolstering the achievement of multiple targets across **Goals 1-15**, and providing a concrete way to demonstrate progress in the establishment of the peaceful and just societies we seek, and the existence of the “fundamental freedoms,” described in **Goal 16**.

nitrogen use efficiency, and addresses issues of agricultural production (targets 2.3 and 2.4), the environmental impact of excessive fertilizer use, and marine nutrient pollution (target 14.1).

²As described in the United Nations' *Handbook on Nonprofit Institutions in the System of National Accounts*, issued in 2003 by the UN Statistics Division, with the support of the UN Statistical Commission, and the 2011 International Labour Organization's *Manual on the Measurement of Volunteer Work*
http://www.ilo.org/stat/Publications/WCMS_162119/lang--en/index.htm.

³Resolution concerning statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization, 19th ICLS:
http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---stat/documents/normativeinstrument/wcms_230304.pdf

⁴These resulting data show that the nonprofit and volunteer sector is a massive global force, outdistancing most industries as employers of both paid and volunteer workers and contributors to the GDP. Nonprofits account for an estimated 4.5% of global GDP, and conservatively estimated engage nearly 1 billion people in volunteer work in a typical year, see <http://ccss.jhu.edu/state-of-global-civil-society-volunteering/>