



**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

**Third Meeting of the Inter-agency and Expert Group
on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators**

**Introduction to Provisional Tiers of
Global SDG Indicators**

30 March – 1 April 2016

Mexico City, Mexico

Tier Questionnaire

- At the request of the IAEG-SDGs Co-Chairs, the Secretariat circulated an online questionnaire to UN agencies, entities and organisations requesting information on the agreed global SDG indicators.
- The questionnaire sought information on metadata, methodology, international standards and data availability for the indicators.

Responses to Questionnaire

- Over 380 individual responses were received by the Secretariat on the indicator tier questionnaire.
- At least one response was received for all but 30 indicators.
- These responses were compiled into one Excel document by the Secretariat and then summarised in the document shared at this meeting.

Criteria for Indicator Tiers

- Tier I: Indicator conceptually clear, established methodology and standards available and data regularly produced by countries.
- Tier II: Indicator conceptually clear, established methodology and standards available but data are not regularly produced by countries.
- Tier III: Indicator for which there are no established methodology and standards or methodology/standards are being developed/tested.

Verification of Tier Selection

- The Secretariat verified the tier selection made by agencies in order to ensure consistency in the tiering system across indicators compiled by different agencies/entities.
- Changes were made to the initial proposed tier in about 35 cases.
- In cases where no agency provided information on an indicator, a proposed tier was sometimes provided by the Secretariat.

Reasons for Changes in Tier

- Indicators that were classified tier I or II did not have an agreed methodology that had been tested.
- The data coverage of the indicator differed from that of its initial tier assignment.
- Conflicting methodologies among agencies working on indicators.
- Some indicators were assigned multiple tiers based on the different aspects in the indicator.

Results of Tiering Questionnaire

| | Tier I | Tier II | Tier III | Blank or combination of Tiers |
|---------|--------|---------|----------|-------------------------------|
| Goal 1 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 1 |
| Goal 2 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 0 |
| Goal 3 | 15 | 7 | 3 | 1 |
| Goal 4 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 2 |
| Goal 5 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 1 |
| Goal 6 | 6 | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| Goal 7 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Goal 8 | 10 | 6 | 1 | 0 |
| Goal 9 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 0 |
| Goal 10 | 4 | 0 | 5 | 2 |
| Goal 11 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 0 |

Results of tiering questionnaire (cont'd)

| | Tier I | Tier II | Tier III | Blank or combination of Tiers |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Goal 12 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 1 |
| Goal 13 | 0 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| Goal 14 | 2 | 0 | 8 | 0 |
| Goal 15 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 2 |
| Goal 16 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 1 |
| Goal 17 | 15 | 2 | 5 | 3 |
| Total Tiers | 98 | 50 | 78 | 15 |

Next Steps with Indicator Tiers

- This document is a living document and is a draft proposal.
- Proposed changes to the tiers or methodological information or data to support a specific tier should be provided to the Secretariat as soon as it is available.
- This document will be updated based on the discussions at the 3rd IAEG-SDG meeting and will continue to be updated moving forward as more information is provided.
- Indicators without a custodian agency need to be discussed.

Indicator Tiers and Pre-Bangkok Classifications

| | Green | Yellow | Grey |
|----------|-------|--------|------|
| Tier I | 53 | 29 | 6 |
| Tier II | 9 | 14 | 4 |
| Tier III | 25 | 21 | 9 |

Note: The numbers do not add up to the 241 indicators agreed upon at the commission due to indicator additions, subtractions and modifications that occurred during and following the meeting in Bangkok