

The SDGs and the private sector – work on the follow-up

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What's eating measuring business and sustainability?

- Work on monitoring the private sector in the light of the SDG has developed in recent years.
- Two major aspects:
 - Well-being - relationship between business and households and individuals
 - Quality of life, social inclusion (poverty and inequality), inclusive growth
 - Sustainable development – relationship between business and environment
 - Green economy, biodiversity, climate change, circular economy, waste, renewable energy
- Many initiatives – still lack of comparability in CSR reports and challenges in measuring impact of the private sector.
- **And the overall question is still: How to quantify the private sector's contribution to sustainability in a comparable way across countries and sectors?**

Task Team on Well-being and Sustainability

- Task Team focuses on fostering collaboration, integration and complementarity of tasks relevant to the area of Well-being and Sustainability. Task Team is developing proposals and methodology for statistical indicators which will help to improve understanding of enterprises' impact on well-being and sustainability.
- Indicators proposed by the Task Team will be included in The United Nations Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics (UNCEBTS) global core set of principal business and trade indicators under the heading of *well-being and sustainability*.
- Global core indicators to be submitted to the UN Statistical Commission in 2022 as a recommended international indicator list (after taking into consideration the comments and suggestions from the global consultation).

Suggested indicators

39. Proportion of women in managerial positions
40. Annual growth rate of real total gross value added per employed person
41. Average hourly earnings for employees in businesses by sex
42. Unemployment rate, by sex, age and persons with disabilities
43. Gross value added of businesses per employed person
44. Sector employment as a proportion of total employment
45. Water-use efficiency in businesses
46. Water stress in businesses
47. Share of renewable energy consumption in businesses
48. Energy efficiency in businesses
49. Green investment by businesses
50. Greenhouse gas emissions generated by businesses per unit of value added
51. Research and development expenditure as a proportion of gross value added
52. Researchers (in full-time equivalent) per million inhabitants
53. Number of companies publishing sustainability reports
54. Job Openings (vacancies) in businesses
55. Taxes and other payments of businesses to the Government
56. Total taxes paid by businesses as a proportion of total government tax revenues

Zooming in on Denmark

- Statistics Denmark conducted a project on the Danish business sector and Sustainable Development Goals, complementing the 2030 Agenda.
 - Pilot project on a sample of Danish companies – a survey on company strategies.
 - Inspired by UNCTAD core indicators.
 - Indicators on economy, environment and social issues – based on existing statistics and compiled for 14 types of industry.
 - Results and development since 2010 – updated time-series for 17 indicators.
 - Conducted in a dialogue with a follow-up group comprised of representatives of the private sector.
- Resulted in:
 - Statistical publication: The Danish business sector and the SDG 2020
<https://www.dst.dk/en/Statistik/Publikationer/VisPub?cid=44794>
 - Article in the Statistical Journal of the IAOS: New measures on contribution of corporations towards sustainability: <https://content.iospress.com/download/statistical-journal-of-the-iaos/sji200659?id=statistical-journal-of-the-iaos%2Fsji200659>

Ongoing activities in Denmark

- SDG relevant questions in statistical surveys (Innovation survey).
- Comparing Danish business indicators with other countries (publication February 2022).
- Plan on more focus on transport sector, agricultural sector, and tourism and sustainability.

Thank you