



Streamlining the Metadata Update Process



13th IAEG-SDGs Meeting

Bangkok, Thailand

8 November 2022

Guiding principles for this proposal

This proposal seeks to make improvements to the current process for any requests for significant changes to metadata so that it becomes more:

- **Predictable**: The end-to-end process and an indicative timeline are understood for the custodian agencies and Members from the beginning.
- **User-friendly**: The documents that need to be submitted are simple to complete and available online.
- **Timely**: All requests for significant changes to metadata are dealt with promptly by UNSD; decision-making by IAEG-SDGs also follows a systematic timeline.
- **Efficient**: The roles and responsibilities of stakeholders (custodian agencies, IAEG-SDGs, UNSD) are clear, thus enabling decision-making with the shortest possible timeline and streamlined efforts by all.

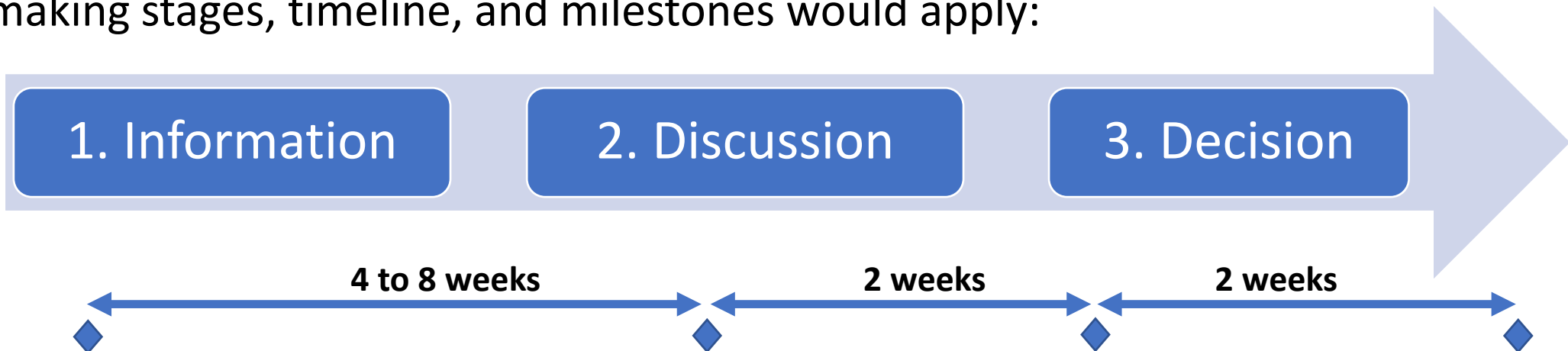
Streamlining the metadata update process:

Criteria for metadata update requests

- Current criteria for determining whether the changes in the metadata are significant and require IAEG-SDGs' review and approval:
 1. Are there any changes in **concepts** and **definitions**?
 2. Are there any changes in the **method of computation**?
 3. Any there any changes in the **name/description of the indicator**?
 4. Are there any changes that that may impact the definition or meaning of the indicator and **comparability of data** with previously submitted data (such as different coverage)?

Streamlining the metadata update process: Decision-making timeline

- If the changes in the metadata are significant, the following IAEG-SDGs decision-making stages, timeline, and milestones would apply:



Start of process

- Custodian agency(ies) submit metadata update request package to UNSD by email
- UNSD determines if requested changes to metadata are significant and require IAEG-SDGs' attention based on established criteria
- If significant, UNSD forwards metadata update request package to IAEG-SDGs members for their review. This should still be at least 4 weeks in advance of an IAEG-SDGs meeting.

Next available IAEG-SDGs monthly meeting

- Custodian agency(ies) present nature of and reason(s) for metadata update request to members
- IAEG-SDGs members ask questions and provide comments. Additional questions/comments are requested via online form following meeting

2 weeks after presentation at monthly meeting

- Deadline for IAEG-SDGs members to submit additional questions and comments via online form
- Custodian agency(ies) provide responses to any additional questions and comments

Next IAEG-SDGs monthly meeting

- IAEG-SDGs members decide to approve, not approve, or require more time to review the metadata update request

In summary: What's new

1. A section will be added to the metadata repository webpage with **clear instructions and documents** for processing requests for significant updates to the metadata by agencies.
2. Members will have **about 4-6 weeks** for review of the metadata update requests (and **up to 10 weeks**).
3. A **standing agenda item on 'Metadata update requests'** will be added to each member meeting to discuss any new requests and decide on requests discussed at the previous meeting (if none, then skip).

THANK YOU!

