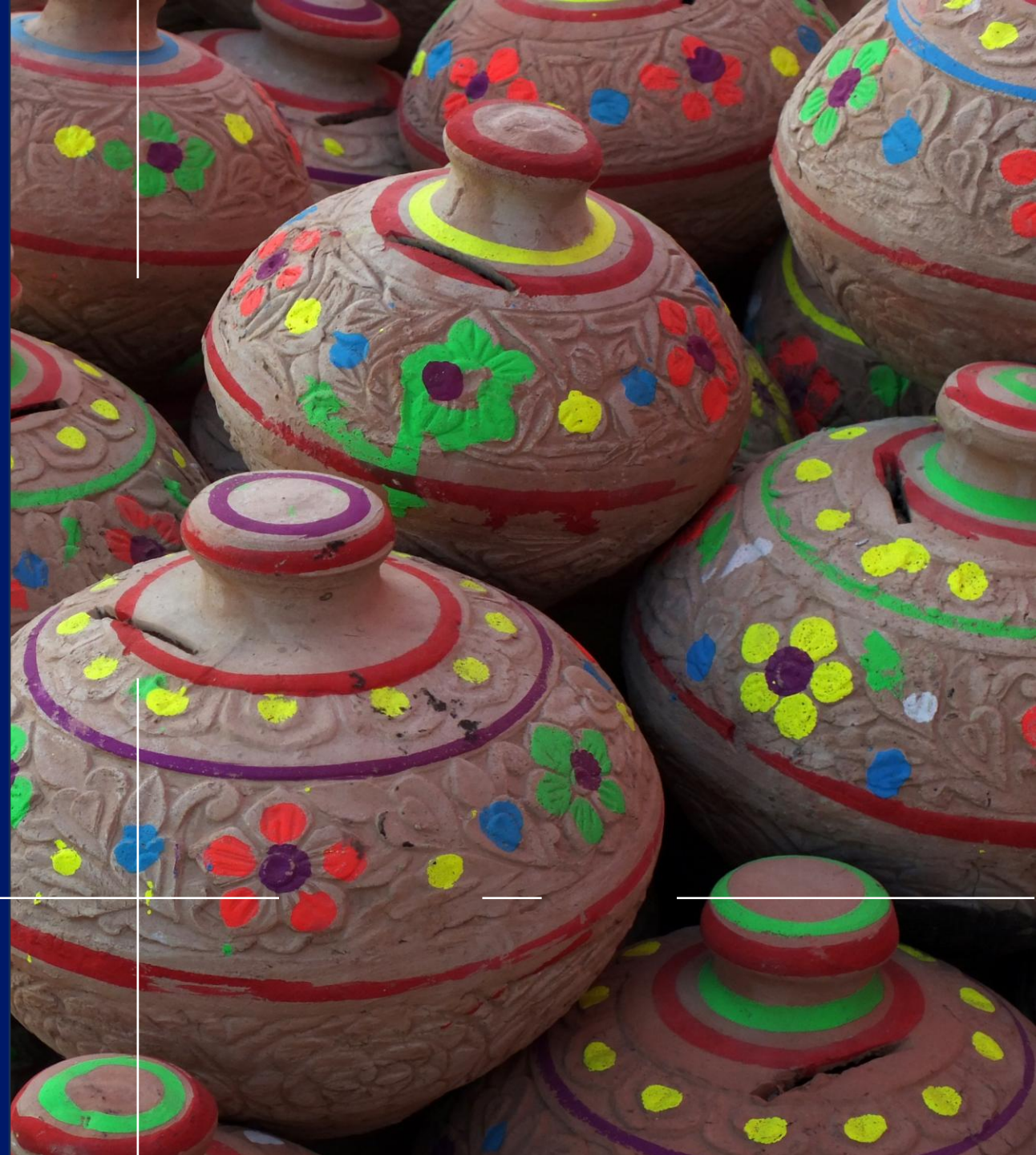


The 2025 SDG Indicator Review: Enhancing the Global Monitoring Framework for Greater Impact

Target 8.9 - Employed persons in the tourism industries

Ms. Clara van der Pol
Director a.i.
Statistics, Standards and Data Department

19 February 2025





“By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products”



Copyright: Ryan Bolton. Cover of the UN Tourism Global Report on Women in Tourism, Second Edition (2019)



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Only monitored by indicator 8.9.1

Tourism direct GDP as a proportion of total GDP



Crucial aspect not monitored: "creates jobs"



Critical policy issue in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic: millions of people out of work in tourism



UN Statistical Commission decisions on tourism indicators

2020

Agreed changes in 2020 comprehensive review, while **noting concerns** regarding specific indicators and asked the IAEG-SDG to improve the global indicator framework, including **addressing important policy issues, such as sustainable tourism**

[Report E/2020/24-E/CN.3/2020/37](#)

2021

Requested the IAEG-SDG to work with relevant custodian agencies to develop and test a methodology **for indicators on sustainable tourism**, in preparation for **submission at the 2025 comprehensive review**

[Report E/2021/24-E/CN.3/2021/30](#)

2022

Requested the IAEG-SDGs to work in close coordination with the custodian agency [UN Tourism] on a proposal for **indicators on sustainable tourism to better monitor target 8.9**

[Report E/2022/24-E/CN.3/2022/41](#)

2023

Welcomed the establishment of a task team on sustainable tourism to develop a **detailed proposal for better monitoring of target 8.9 for submission to the 2025 comprehensive review**, considering and leveraging the work being done by other groups working in this domain and existing statistical infrastructure in countries

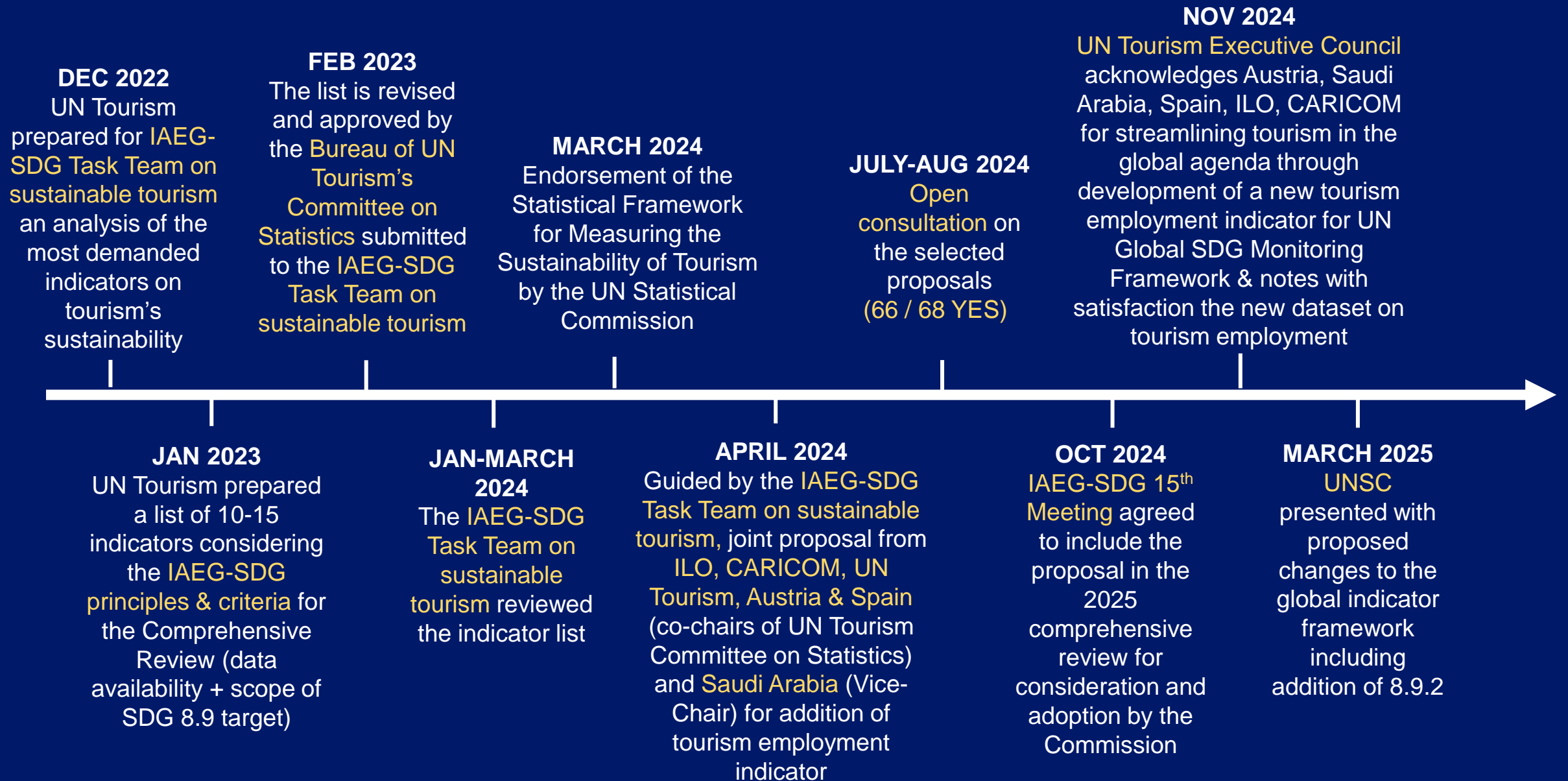
[Report E/2023/24-E/CN.3/2023/37](#)

2024

Expressed its appreciation for the progress made by the **task team on sustainable tourism**

[Report E/2024/24-E/CN.3/2024/36](#)

Process of the IAEG-SDG Task Team on Sustainable Tourism



8.9.2 Employed persons in the tourism industries

Jointly proposed by

- Austria and Spain (Chairs of the UN Tourism Committee on Statistics)
- Saudi Arabia (Vice Chair of the UN Tourism Committee on Statistics)
- CARICOM
- ILO
- UN Tourism

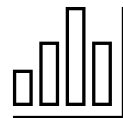
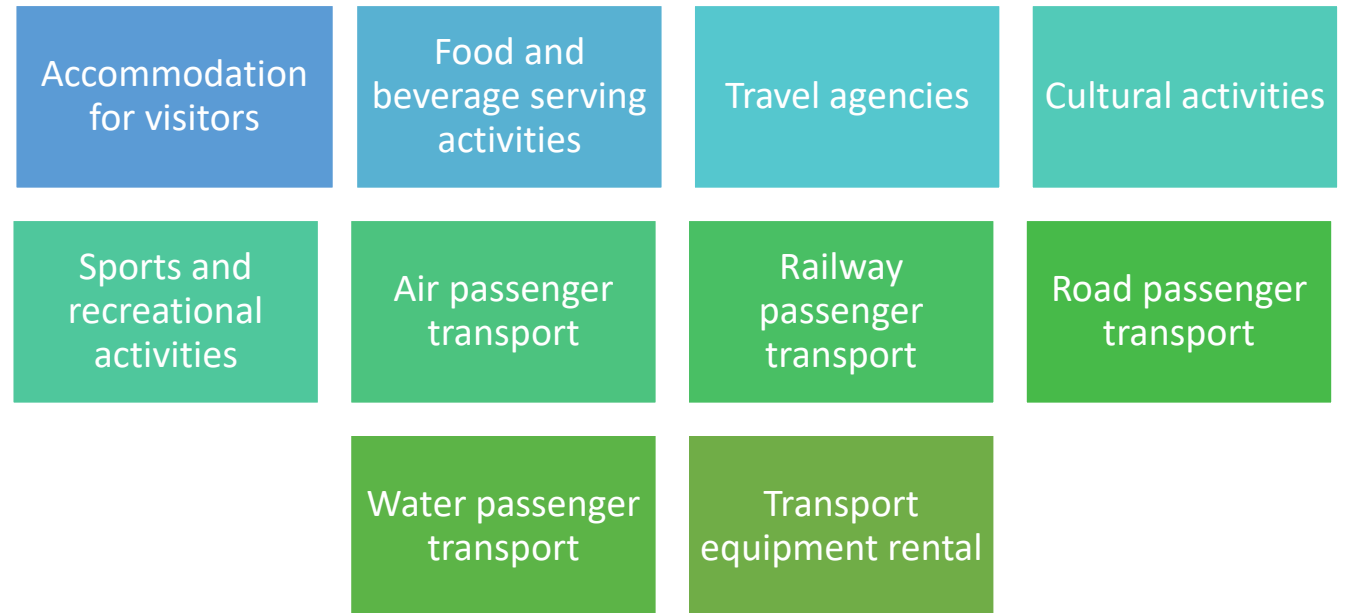


All persons of working age with

- **Paid employment** (whether at work, or with a job but not at work); or
- **Self-employment** (whether at work, or with an enterprise but not at work)



In the 10 tourism industries (according to ISIC)



Main data source in countries: household-based labour force surveys



Leveraging existing ILO and UN Tourism Databases

Rooted in the Statistical Framework for Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism



“Framework for Measuring the Sustainability of Tourism will offer us more data and a better insight into challenges we are trying to solve”

Csaba Körösi, President of the United Nations General Assembly at the High-Level Political Forum official side event on the Economic, Social and Environmental Sustainability of Tourism, 14 July 2023



Internationally agreed framework with key concepts, definitions and data organization structures for measuring the main economic, social and environmental aspects of tourism



Endorsed by UNSC (55th session, 2024), supporting interventions:

- 34 countries,
- 3 regional joint statements: Africa (voiced by Benin), European Statistical System (voiced by Finland), Gulf Cooperation Council (voiced by Saudi Arabia)
- ILO



Acknowledged by UN High-Level Committee on Programmes Core Group on Beyond GDP as first sectoral example of moving beyond GDP in the report “Valuing what counts”



Recognized in key international and regional policy instruments

- Manila Call for Action on Measuring Sustainable Tourism
- European Parliament Resolution on establishing an EU strategy for sustainable tourism
- Sustainable Tourism Policy Framework for the Pacific
- High Level Political Forum on sustainable development 2023
- Adopted by UN Tourism General Assembly resolution A/RES/756(XXV)
- G20 Declarations under the Presidencies of Saudi Arabia, India and Brazil



Download the framework

Employed persons in tourism industries

Data availability

World

+ 61% countries

+ 77% population

Regions	Countries	Population
Australia and New Zealand	100%	100%
Central Asia and Southern Asia	64%	92%
Eastern Asia and South-eastern Asia	69%	90%
Latin America and the Caribbean	52%	85%
Northern America and Europe	76%	53%
Oceania excluding Australia and New Zealand	75%	98%
Sub-Saharan Africa	48%	43%
Western Asia and Northern Africa	57%	68%



Employed persons in tourism industries

Potential for disaggregation

(examples)

- ✓ By sex
- ✓ By status

...to leave no one behind



Source: UN Tourism and ILO datasets (as of October 2024)



Thank you!



UN Tourism

UNITED NATIONS
WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION