SDG indicators: the OECD contribution

2016 InterEnerStat Workshop
Paris, 13 December 2016

Simon Scott
Counsellor, Statistics Directorate
Origin of the SDGs

• 25 September 2015: UN adopts the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, featuring 17 Sustainable Development Goals, with 169 targets

• SDGs apply to all countries, but with differing responsibilities
The 17 SDGs
2030 Agenda follow-up and review

- On global review, OECD is already playing “best supporting actor” role with data, storylines, advice on indicators etc.
  - UN has identified 230 global indicators covering the 169 targets
  - But nearly one-third are “Tier III”, i.e. largely non-existent
  - Quality of other indicators varies considerably
  - Environmental indicators (Goals 6, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15) especially patchy

- Agenda also encourages regional, thematic and national follow-up and review
  - UN regards OECD as “regional organisation”
  - OECD directorates integrating SDGs into their work where appropriate
Measuring progress is part of the OECD’s “DNA”

OECD’s special advantages in tracking SDG progress include:

- Extensive data
- Statistical expertise
- Experience in measuring multi-dimensional well-being
- Broad coverage of economy, society, environment
- Approach of “Better data for better policies for better lives”
- Member/Secretariat dynamic boosts quality and relevance
Mapping of OECD well-being dimensions and SDGs

- OECD dimensions of current well-being
- Inequalities in current well-being
- Sustainability
- Included in OECD well-being framework but not in SDGs
- Included in SDGs but not in OECD well-being framework

“Global contributions, trans-boundary effects, international efforts”
Basic features of the OECD’s new Pilot Study

• Starts from UN set-up: 169 targets, 230 global indicators

• Selects **relevant** targets with **available** indicators

• Identifies 73 relevant targets and finds 86 indicators
Baseline levels and 2030 targets

1. Baseline level: bottom 10% of OECD country scores now

2. Target level for 2030:
   a. explicitly from Agenda (e.g. ODA/GNI target of 0.7%), or
   b. implicit ideal level (e.g. 50% women members of parliament), or
   c. Top 10% of recent OECD country performance (e.g. 3.47% growth)

3. Then set all baselines to 0 and all 2030 target levels to 100

All scores thus measure “distance to target”
Performance varies by Goal
The range of country performance also varies
Smaller variation among the “5 Ps”
Wide variation within some Goals
Varying transboundary impacts

- Average ODA Score
- Unsubsidised agricultural production
- Demand-based CO2 productivity
Sample country findings

Goals

1: Poverty
2: Food
3: Health
4: Education
5: Women
6: Water
7: Energy
8: Economy
9: Infrastructure
10: Inequality
11: Cities
12: Sustainable Production
13: Climate
14: Oceans
15: Biodiversity
16: Institutions
17: Implementation
A country compared to the OECD average
A country’s transboundary effects

- Average ODA Score
- Unsubsidised agricultural production
- Demand-based CO2 productivity

Norway vs OECD

Norway:
- Average ODA Score: 75
- Unsubsidised agricultural production: 25
- Demand-based CO2 productivity: 100

OECD:
- Average ODA Score: 50
- Unsubsidised agricultural production: 50
- Demand-based CO2 productivity: 75
Next steps

• Follow-up on methodological workshop held on 7 December
• Pilot the method with willing members
• Report on experience to 2017 MCM

*  

• Continue to assist UN using existing products
• Work with agencies including IEA to fill gaps in global dataset
Thank you.