What is IAEG-SDGs?

“On 6 March 2015, at its forty-sixth session, the United Nations Statistical Commission created the Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs), composed of Member States and including regional and international agencies as observers. The IAEG-SDGs was tasked to develop and implement the global indicator framework for the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda. The global indicator framework was developed by the IAEG-SDGs and agreed upon, including refinements on several indicators, at the 48th session of the United Nations Statistical Commission held in March 2017.

The global indicator framework was subsequently adopted by the General Assembly on 6 July 2017 and is contained in the Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on Work of the Statistical Commission pertaining to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/RES/71/313).

The group’s current terms of reference are below, as found in E/CN.3/2017/2, Annex I.

- Terms of reference

In establishing the IAEG-SDGs, the United Nations Statistical Commission requested the use of existing regional mechanisms in order to ensure equitable regional representation and technical expertise. The Chair of the United Nations Statistical Commission is an ex-officio member of the IAEG-SDGs. In accordance with its terms of reference, the IAEG-SDGs updated its membership in May 2017 (see list of IAEG-SDG Members at the link below).

- List of IAEG-SDG Members


Tier Classification:

“To facilitate the implementation of the global indicator framework, all indicators are classified by the IAEG-SDGs into three tiers based on their level of methodological development and the availability of data at the global level, as follows:

**Tier Classification Criteria/Definitions:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier</th>
<th>Classification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tier 1</td>
<td>Indicator is conceptually clear, has an internationally established methodology and standards are available, and data are regularly produced by countries for at least 50 per cent of countries and of the population in every region where the indicator is relevant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tier 2</td>
<td>Indicator is conceptually clear, has an internationally established methodology and standards are available, but data are not regularly produced by countries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tier 3</td>
<td>No internationally established methodology or standards are yet available for the indicator, but methodology/standards are being (or will be) developed or tested.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All indicators are equally important, and the establishment of the tier system is intended solely to assist in the development of global implementation strategies. For tier I and II indicators, the availability of data at the national level may not necessarily align with the global tier classification and countries can create their own tier classification for implementation.”

From the most recent “Tier Classification for Global SDG Indicators,” released 20 November 2019:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Initial Proposed Tier (by Secretariat)</th>
<th>Possible Custodian Agency(ies)</th>
<th>Partner Agency(ies)</th>
<th>Updated Tier Classification (by IAEG-SDG Members)</th>
<th>Notes (including timing of review and explanation for change in Tier)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 4.7 By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development | 4.7.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development, including gender equality and human rights, are mainstreamed at all levels in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment | Tier III                          | UNESCO-UIS                 | OECD, UNEP, UN WOMEN            | Tier III                         | Reviewed at Dec. 2018 WebEx meeting: request additional work on questionnaire methodology (classified as Tier III)  
Reviewed at 8th IAEG-SDG meeting: request additional work on methodology |