



Eurostat statistical cooperation - Experiences with use of indicators in assistance programmes

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Experiences with indicators

- 2000: Lisbon Strategy launched with 79 indicators (economic & social)
- 2001: EU leaders launched the first EU sustainable development strategy (added an environmental dimension to the Lisbon Strategy)
- 2010: Europe2020 indicators launched

Experiences with indicators

- 2013-2014: SEE2020 indicators
- 2013-2014: IPAII indicators
- MDGs and the post 2015 development agenda – the SDGs

Role of statistics in indicator development

- Often suitable measures for outcome and impact indicators
- Balance availability with accuracy
- Quality assurance

Risks in indicator development

- Monitoring indicators specific to the assistance programme
- Availability:
 - **Too broad or too few indicators and targets available**
 - **How specific should an indicator be?**
 - Often trade-off between 'noise' and availability
 - Ideally the indicator will measure closely the effect of the assistance, without measuring 'other' effects

Experiences with identifying indicators

- Close cooperation between policymakers and statisticians is essential throughout all stages
- Quality of the statistics used needs to be as high as possible to ensure the robustness of the indicator (and reduce risk that indicators are undermined as a performance measure)

Experiences with identifying indicators

- Think not only about individual indicators but also of the indicator group as a whole (issues such as correlation, coherence, inter-linkages, overlap etc.)
- Coherence – only achieved if indicators originate from a standardised data compilation/accounting framework (NA), this is however rare case and horizontal effort is needed to ensure coherence

Experiences with identifying indicators

- Limit number indicator: No more indicators than necessary for following the effects that should be monitored
 - **Europe 2020 – 8 indicators for 5 headline targets**
 - **EU SDS – more than 100 indicators**
- Timing of involvement is crucial – both regarding beneficiary countries and statisticians
 - **Ideally statisticians and NSIs are involved early in the process**