



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS

Accelerating FAO support on SDG monitoring

Meeting with FAO Representatives
and Decentralized Offices
(Near East and North Africa Region)

Thursday, 8 April 2021 (Rome, Italy)



[Link to the Implementation Plan for the Modernization Strategy of FAO Statistics](#)

The objective of these Videoconferences we are organizing in every region is to kick-start the implementation of the 2nd Priority Action Area of the *Implementation Plan for the Modernization Strategy of FAO Statistics*, which aims to “Strengthen the statistical capacity of decentralized offices” so that they can accelerate FAO support on SDG monitoring at regional/country-level.

Rationale for meetings with FAO Regional and Country Offices

- In preparation for these VCs, OCS has prepared a Toolkit which comprises a number of documents and tools to be used in decentralized offices to support SDG monitoring.
- The Toolkit, for example, proposes new data collection methods to take into account the social distancing measures adopted for the COVID pandemic.
- The Chief Economist has recently transmitted the Toolkit on “**Accelerating FAO support on SDG monitoring**” to all Regional ADGs, requesting that they further share this to all FAO Country Offices.
- The Office of the Chief Statistician is organizing follow-up meetings in each region with all respective FAO REPS.
- These meetings aim to discuss with FAO representatives and staff in decentralized offices how they could better support countries in the production, reporting and use of SDG indicators under FAO custodianship.

Purpose of the meetings with FAO Regional and Country Offices

In particular, the objectives of these meetings is to:

- Raise awareness of staff in decentralized offices on the importance of FAO's work on SDG monitoring and possible actions at regional/national level in support of this work;
- Increase their knowledge of resources and initiatives available to them in order to initiate or facilitate these concrete actions at country level;
- Discuss specific needs and main challenges in supporting SDG reporting faced by decentralized offices and ways to best address them;
- Identify resources mobilization opportunities and discuss the most effective actions to benefit from them;
- Improve the overall FAO coordination of country-level activities in support to SDG monitoring.

1. Role of FAO on
SDG monitoring
and involvement
of decentralized
offices



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Importance of FAO's work on SDG indicators at country level

- Help National Institutions in monitoring progress towards the **achievement of SDG targets** and in preparing credible voluntary national reviews
- Raise awareness on the **challenges faced in the food and agricultural sector** (e.g. through Country Profiles, the State of the World collection, **NENA Regional Overview of Food Security and Nutrition 2020**, **RNE Factsheets**)
- Support **evidence-based decision-making** for priority policy interventions, sustainable public and private investments and the transformation of the agri-food sector
- Monitor countries' contribution to the achievement of other key **international and regional initiatives** (e.g. Malabo Declaration, Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Agenda and Regional initiatives)
- Assess the **results of FAO's and UN system's work at country level** (i.e. SDG indicators embedded in UNSDCF and FAO results framework)

Main challenges to achieving the SDGs

1. **Non-alignment** of national/regional indicators with the global indicator framework;
2. **Lack of proper SDG coordination** at country level, particularly across government organizations/ministries and across UN agencies;
3. **Capacity gaps** to collect, compile, report and use SDG indicators (In 2020, the overall reporting rate for the 21 SDG indicators was 46%. More than 80% of countries report that they need some form of assistance);
4. **Low/Inefficient investments** in SDG data production and use both from national governments and custodian agencies;
5. **Vicious circle** bad data quality – bad/non effective policies – no SDG progress

Role of the FAOR in addressing data and capacity gaps on SDGs

- 1 Promote FAO's work on SDG monitoring and the importance of aligning SDG national indicator frameworks with the global indicator framework
- 2 **Identify data and statistical capacity gaps during the CCA process and include UN coordinated data collection and statistical capacity development activities in the UNSDCF and CPF**
- 3 **Ensure the integration of SDG indicators in UNSDCF/CPF and Projects Monitoring and Evaluation frameworks**
- 4 **Initiate TCPs and/or mobilize resources to support SDG monitoring and alignment of SDG national and global framework**

Role of the FAOR in addressing data and capacity gaps on SDGs

5 Support FAO data collection processes by facilitating the identification of and communication with national focal points and by following up on data requests








6 **Communicate countries' needs and facilitate pilot testing of new methodologies**

7 **Communicate country experiences and achievements in monitoring the SDGs**

Role of the FAOR in addressing data and capacity gaps on SDGs

1




Promote FAO's work on SDG monitoring and the importance of aligning SDG national indicator frameworks with the global indicator framework

-  **Raise awareness** on the Global indicator framework for monitoring the targets of the 2030 Agenda
-  **Highlight** the benefits of a better alignment of SDG national/regional framework with the global indicator framework
-  **Explain** the role of custodian agencies in general and of FAO in particular
-  **Adapt and disseminate** the generic presentations on each SDG indicator
-  **Promote and raise awareness** on the FAO's SDG-indicators Portal
-  **Help** national governments navigate through the latest SDG progress report
-  **Promote and help countries** apply to FAO's statistical capacity development programmes

Role of the FAOR in addressing data and capacity gaps on SDGs

2




Identify data and statistical capacity gaps during the CCA process and include UN coordinated data collection and statistical capacity development activities in the UNSDCF and CPF

-  **Consult and share with the UN Country Team** the guidelines on mainstreaming SDG monitoring in CCA, UNSDCF and CPF and the SDG performance country profiles (under development)
-  **Be aware of and promote** FAO statistical capacity development programmes and services
-  **Re-Watch** the recording of the 2019 webinar that aimed to support countries in collecting, analysing and using the SDG indicators in decision-making.

Role of the FAOR in addressing data and capacity gaps on SDGs

3






Ensure the integration of SDG indicators in UNSDCF/CPF and Projects Monitoring and Evaluation frameworks

-  **Promote the inclusion of** FAO SDG indicators in the UN Country team, FAO and country level M&E frameworks
-  **Consider adding statistical capacity development activities** in large projects for which outcome and/or outputs can be monitored by SDG indicators not already produced by the country.
-  Specific country's needs can be communicated to OCS (Chief-Statistician@fao.org), with copy to the regional and sub-regional statistician

Role of the FAOR in addressing data and capacity gaps on SDGs





4

Initiate TCPs and/or mobilize resources to support SDG monitoring and alignment of SDG national and global framework

-  **Consult, promote and use** the portfolio of four-pagers designed to support project formulation and resources mobilization on key SDG indicators at national level.
-  **Consult** the Field Programme Management Information System (FPMIS)
-  **Contact** the relevant regional and sub-regional statisticians and FAO's SDG indicator focal points to receive support to develop country-level projects
-  **Promote and help countries apply to** FAO's statistical capacity development programmes supporting the production of SDG indicators
-  **Disseminate** information on how FAO can support countries collect data and strengthen their statistical capacity



Role of the FAOR in addressing data and capacity gaps on SDGs

5 Support FAO data collection processes by facilitating the identification of and communication with national focal points and by following up on data requests

-  **Visit** the Calendar of FAO data collections available on the Statistics website
-  **Share with the relevant SDG focal points at HQ level** difficulties countries may face in reporting data in order to help strengthen data collection and capacity building support
-  **Contact** the relevant focal points to help you identify what kind of support FAO can offer in terms of statistical capacity building
-  Specific country's needs can be communicated to OCS (Chief-Statistician@fao.org), with copy to the regional and sub-regional statistician

Role of the FAOR in addressing data and capacity gaps on SDGs

6 Communicate countries' needs and facilitate pilot testing of new methodologies

-  Countries can participate in pilot testing new methodologies including the **data disaggregation** of the indicators, the **assessment progress** and **use of alternative data sources** in the compilation of indicators
-  Specific country's needs can be communicated to OCS (Chief-Statistician@fao.org), with copy to the regional and sub-regional statistician

Role of the FAOR in addressing data and capacity gaps on SDGs

7 Communicate country experiences and achievements in monitoring the SDGs

-  Countries' experiences and final project reports related to SDG monitoring can be communicated to OCS (Chief-Statistician@fao.org), with copy to the regional and sub-regional statisticians.

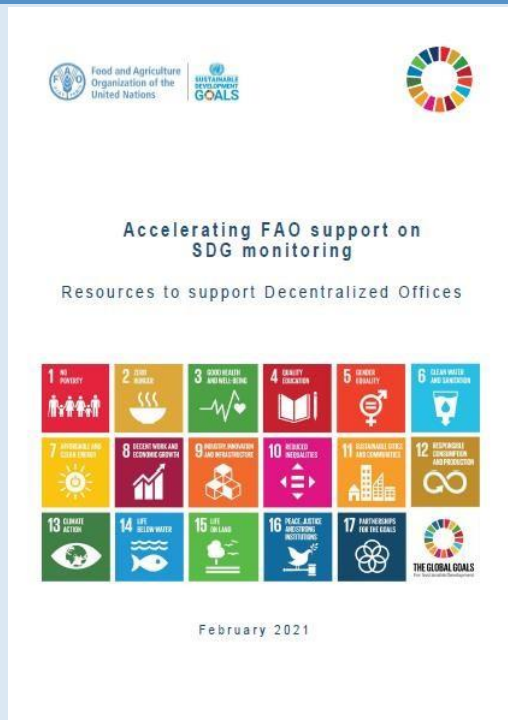
2a. Presentation of the SDG monitoring toolkit for Decentralized Offices



New toolkit to support decentralized offices in SDG monitoring

The **Toolkit of resources to support decentralized offices accelerate FAO support on SDG monitoring** enumerates **key potential actions that FAORs can take in scaling up support to SDG monitoring.**

It provides an **inventory of all relevant FAO resources**, including websites, publications, articles, e-learning courses, the SDG-indicators newsletter, multimedia, as well as the FAO Intranet resources.



FAO SDG-Indicators portal

[Webpages](#) for the 21 indicators under FAO custodianship and five indicators where FAO is a contributing agency (available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish).

Sustainable Development Goals

	Overview	News	Events	Goals	Partnerships in action	Tracking progress	Indicators
--	----------	------	--------	-------	------------------------	-------------------	------------



Greater investments in the agricultural sector can counter the current setbacks in reaching the Sustainable Development Goals

FAO has launched its second comprehensive assessment of 22 indicators across 6 SDGs (2, 5, ...)



Fish gives **3 bn people** 20% of daily animal protein



FAO's Country Profiles

The [SDG performance country profiles](#) highlight the current data availability of SDG indicators and capacity development needs.


[Country profiles also available on food security and nutrition and basic statistics on food and agriculture.](#)



FAO's Statistical Capacity Assessment

Results of the Statistical Capacity Assessment conducted by FAO in early 2019 (available in English, French and Spanish)

Sustainable Development Goals

	Overview	News	Goals	Partnerships in action	Tracking progress	Indicators
---	----------	------	-------	------------------------	-------------------	------------

Statistical Capacity Assessment for the FAO-SDG Indicators
















The **Office of the Chief Statistician (OCS)** conducted the Statistical Capacity Assessment for the FAO-relevant SDG indicators in early 2019 to provide insights about member countries' national statistical systems in regard to their capacity to monitor and report the **21 SDG indicators under FAO custodianship**. The survey collected information on the national coordination mechanisms for the SDG reporting, current data availability and plans for filling data gaps, and needs for technical assistance. The respondents were mainly the National Coordinators for SDG Monitoring or the SDG focal points nominated by the Directors General of National Statistics Offices. The results will assist FAO-HQ and decentralized offices in designing targeted interventions and mobilizing resources to support countries in collecting, analyzing and using the SDG indicators in decision-making.

Questionnaire: English | French | Spanish | Arabic | Chinese | Russian

Contact us: Ayca.Donmez@fao.org; SDG-Questionnaires@fao.org.



Countries

A	F	M	S
 Albania	 Fiji	 Madagascar	 Saint Kitts and Nevis
 Algeria	 Finland	 Malawi	 Samoa
 Angola	 France	 Malaysia	 São Tomé e Príncipe
 Argentina	G	 Mali	 Saudi Arabia

Global FAO statistical capacity development programmes and services

[Detailed information](#) about what FAO offers in terms of technical assistance and capacity building activities, and the different ways to request assistance.

Statistical capacity development

One of the key missions of FAO is to **support member countries** develop the capacity of their statistical systems and enable them to collect, disseminate and use relevant, reliable and timely data. By strengthening countries' capacity in this area, FAO contributes to make available **key analytical and decision-making support tools** for national, regional and global evidence-based actions.

FAO capacity development programmes and services for statistics

► SDG Monitoring

- UN-Water Integrated Monitoring Initiative for SDG 6
- Food security and nutrition indicators (Voices of the Hungry)
- Food Balance Sheets
- World Programme for the Census of Agriculture
- Agricultural Integrated Surveys Programme
- The SDG2030 Initiative to Close the Agricultural Data Gap
- Agricultural Market Information System
- Country Capacity Development on Forest Products Statistics Programme
- Global Forest Resources Assessment
- Other capacity development services

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



SDG Monitoring

As the designated custodian agency for 21 SDG indicators, and a contributing agency for five others, FAO provides statistical capacity development support to countries on SDG monitoring and the measurement, dissemination and use of the indicators.

Support can be provided through regional and national-level capacity development activities in the following areas:

- comprehensive assessments of SDG data and capacity gaps;
- alignment of national SDG indicators with the global monitoring framework;
- development of SDG compliant National Statistics Master Plans;

Resource mobilization portfolio

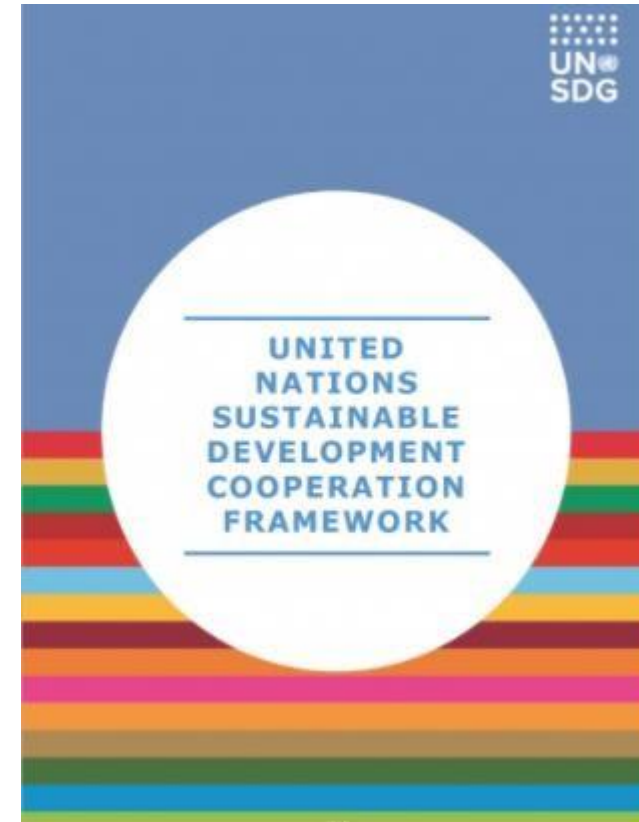
The [portfolio of four-pagers](#) is designed to support project formulation and resources mobilization on key SDG indicators at national level.



Mainstreaming statistics in UNSDCF/CPF process

Draft guidance on how to mainstream statistics and SDG monitoring in UNSDCF/CPF process.

Comments from FAORs would be appreciated to finalize the document



Calendar of FAO data collection

[New interface](#) to consult the calendar of FAO data collections, the questionnaires to be dispatched and their respective focal point in the Organization.

Data collection



In accordance to its mandate, FAO is responsible for the **worldwide collection, validation and dissemination of data and information related to food and agriculture**. As such, FAO collects relevant national statistical information on a regular basis.

The **questionnaires designed by FAO** are part of the organization's effort to systematically collect and report national data on a wide range of topics. The **data collection processes** presented below offer an entry point to each FAO questionnaire and provide up-to-date information on the **data collection periods**, as well as the primary **focal point** for each questionnaire and associated **methodological resources**. Such information is **freely accessible** and designed to inform data users and data providers on the FAO data collection and production practices.

- For more information regarding a specific questionnaire or data collection process, please contact the designated focal point in the organization.

- For general inquiries, please contact: FAO-Statistics@fao.org.

General

Agriculture

Crop and Livestock Production and Utilization

Forestry

Fishery and Aquaculture

Natural Resources

E-learning courses

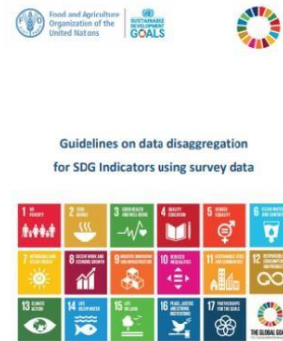
A series of free multilingual e-learning courses to foster country adoption of best practices in data collection, analysis, and reporting of 21 SDG indicators.



Publications



[SDG progress digital report](#)



[Guidelines on data disaggregation](#)



[Factsheets on the 21 SDG indicators](#)

Statistics Coordination Portal and STN SharePoint

A [one-stop shop](#) for all information on the Organization's statistical work. It includes a dedicated page on the SDG indicators, which contains background information, resources and meeting minutes of the IDWG Sub-Group on SDG Indicators.

The screenshot shows the inFAO Statistics Coordination Portal homepage. At the top, the inFAO logo is displayed next to the breadcrumb trail "> Statistics Coordination Portal > Home" and the date "Tuesday, 26 November 2019". Below this, the title "Statistics Coordination Portal" is centered. The main content area features a 3x3 grid of colored tiles, each with a title and a right-pointing arrow icon. The tiles are: Row 1 (red): "SDG indicators", "Statistical Working System (SWS)", and "FAO's Statistics Activities"; Row 2 (green): "Governance and Coordination", "Standards for quality compliance", and "Requests for clearance"; Row 3 (blue): "Corporate Monitoring and Reporting", "Statistics Technical Network", and "Discussion Forum". To the right of the grid is a "Welcome" section with two paragraphs of text explaining the portal's purpose and recent changes.

inFAO > Statistics Coordination Portal > Home
Tuesday, 26 November 2019

Statistics Coordination Portal

SDG indicators	Statistical Working System (SWS)	FAO's Statistics Activities
Governance and Coordination	Standards for quality compliance	Requests for clearance
Corporate Monitoring and Reporting	Statistics Technical Network	Discussion Forum

Welcome

The Statistics Coordination Portal is a resource for people working in the field of statistics at FAO. It provides access to technical information on ongoing and past work, and an entry point to the Statistics Technical Network and discussion Forum.

Given the recent changes to Statistics Governance at FAO, the Portal presents key information on statistical standards and quality assurance procedures. Users can also submit and track requests for clearance of ToRs, VAs, questionnaires and statistical activities.

2b. Regional support on SDG monitoring

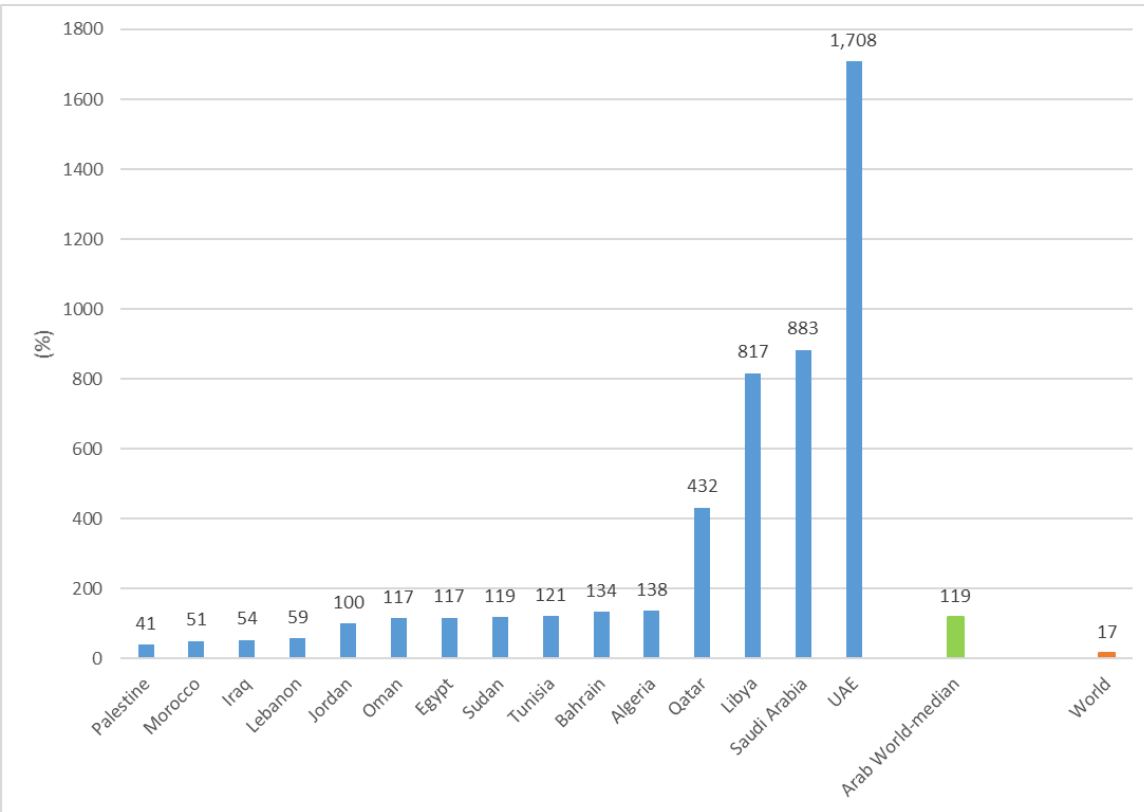


SUPPORT TO PROMOTE AND COMMUNICATE **FAO's** WORK ON SDGs



- **AGRIS Survey** methodology
Bahrain, Syria
- **World Census of Agriculture** Egypt, Tunisia, Sudan, Palestine
- **Voices of the Hungry FIES** -HQ Lead Activities and Project– several countries
- SDGs 2.1.1,2.1.2, 2.c.1 and SDG Coordination- **Iraq**
- Translation and creation of **Arabic SDG e-learning**: 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 12.3.1 and 6.4.1

SDG-RELATED DATA FOR UN COUNTRY TEAM DECISION MAKING



- NENA Regional Overview of Food Security and Nutrition 2020
 - Provides regional and sub-regional aggregates - SDGs 2.1.1 and 2.1.2
- RNE Factsheets – regional/sub-regional - environment, agricultural productivity, poverty, migration, macro-economy, trade, employment, nutrition etc.

PROMOTION OF SDGS & CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES



CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

- **SDG 2.a.1** Cairo, April 2019
- **SDG Farm Survey Based Indicators: 2.3.1, 2.3.2, 2.4.1, 5.a.1, 12.3.1**, Cairo, October 2019
- **SDG 1.5.2** Measuring Disaster & Loss Methodology, November 2019
- **Statistical infrastructure for SDGs:** World Census of Agriculture 2020 Vol 2 Agriculture Census, Jordan, April 2019 (with AITRS)
- **SDG Data Disaggregation:** Gender Statistics, Cairo, November 2020

TCP AND OTHER PROJECTS: SUPPORT TO COUNTRY OFFICES



- Place SDGs into TCP/UTF statistical project activities
- Technical assistance on:
 - Agriculture censuses: Egypt, Sudan, Tunisia
 - Agriculture surveys & AGRI Survey methodology: Bahrain, Syria
 - Innovative data collection: CAPI and Tablets: Bahrain
- Support monitoring of SDGs in country: Iraq
- TA for analytical products: Food Balance Sheets, SEEA-AFF: Jordan, Morocco
- Strategic Plans for Agriculture Statistics: Bahrain

How can country offices get support?

Specific projects at country level: Contact designated regional Statistician (Nancy.Chin@fao.org) as LTO as per project cycle guidelines.

Ad-hoc country-level technical assistance requests: Send statistics-related requests to designated regional statistician (Nancy.Chin@fao.org). This also applies to assistance requests on monitoring framework for non-statistical projects being managed by other RNE technical officers.

Global technical assistance initiatives (e.g. 50x2030, Global Strategy, FIES, SDG monitoring projects): Contact [project focal point](#) directly with regional statistician (Nancy.Chin@fao.org) in copy.

Country-level capacity development workshops: Contact both the Office of Chief Statistician (Chief-Statistician@fao.org) and to the regional statistician (Nancy.Chin@fao.org).

Other: Contact to both the Office of Chief Statistician (Chief-Statistician@fao.org) and to the regional statistician (Nancy.Chin@fao.org).

Discussion

- Do you agree with the potential actions presented?
- Are there resources presented adequate to support these actions? If not, which additional support would you need?
- Are you facing additional or specific challenges in supporting SDG monitoring at country level for which you would like to have more guidance and support?
- Is the process request assistance on SDG monitoring actions from the regional offices and HQ clear?

Thank you