

PART III: GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING ON INDICATORS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

Background

The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) and the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), at its 11th session, re-affirmed the importance of indicators for sustainable development and encouraged further work on indicators for sustainable development by countries at the national level, including integration of gender aspects, on a voluntary basis, in line with national conditions and priorities.

Questions

NOTE: The answers refer to the arrangements in place for the UK Government; and do not include information about the devolved administrations.

1. Do you have a national programme or initiative to develop and/or use indicators for sustainable development?

- Yes**
 No (Please describe your plans to develop such a programme or initiative).

If yes:

- (i) When was it established? **1996**
(ii) What is the name of the programme or initiative?

Indicators of sustainable development

The 1999 UK Sustainable Development Strategy ‘A better quality of life’ and ‘Quality of life counts’ (A baseline assessment of UK Indicators of Sustainable Development) sets out 15 headline and 132 core indicators.

In addition the devolved administrations of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have, or are developing, their own indicators.

- (iii) What are the specific areas of sustainable development for which your country is developing or monitoring indicators?

Broad framework of areas in which indicators have been developed is:

A sustainable economy
Building sustainable communities
Managing the environment and resources
Sending the right signals

International cooperation and development

Headline indicators are:

Economic output
Investment
Employment
Poverty and social exclusion
Education
Health
Housing
Crime
Climate change
Air quality
Road traffic
River water quality
Wildlife
Land use
Waste

With 132 additional core indicators on specific issues

(iv) Have you developed a set of indicators of sustainable development in your country?

- ✓ Yes
 No

If yes, please describe the status:

- ✓ **agreed set of indicators**
 draft set of indicators
 other _____

2. Is there an established coordinating mechanism in the country at the national level for indicators for sustainable development?

- National Commission/Council on Sustainable Development
 Steering Committee
 ✓ **Inter-agency/Ministerial Working Group**
 Other
 None

3. Do you participate in any regional or international programmes on indicators of sustainable development?

- ✓ Yes

No

If yes, please provide the names of these programmes:

UK Regional headline indicators of sustainable development

EU Indicators of sustainable development

4. What are the 3 most difficult problem areas in the establishment of indicators of sustainable development in your country? Please indicate the order of priority.

- Training in methodologies relating to indicators of sustainable development
- 1 Communication with other agencies responsible for indicators**
- 2 Basic data and/or statistics – quality and quantity**
- Human resources
- Financial resources
- Information management system, including equipment
- Monitoring mechanisms
- 3 Other Promotion of the indicators within Government and with the public**

5. Please provide the name of a contact person responsible for indicators of sustainable development.

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