

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

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).
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If yes:

(i) When was it established?

The Ministry of the Environment commissioned Statistics Sweden to develop the first set of SD indicators in the fall of 2000. A first set of national indicators was presented in May 2001. This set of indicators will be revised to better reflect the core issues in the National SDS.

(ii) What is the name of the programme or initiative? _____

Sustainable Development Indicators for Sweden – a first set 2001._

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

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The first set of indicators covers the three pillars of sustainability as well as the interaction between them. The first area covers: Efficiency (in total 5 indicators). The second area focuses on Contribution and Equality (9 different indicators). The third area deals with Adaptability (7 indicators). The final area covers Values and resources for coming generations (9 different indicators). You can read more about the indicators in the following publication available on the Internet:

www.scb.se/statistik/MI/MI1103/2003M00/Preface1to52.pdf

(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 ___

Yes, the indicators can be seen as an agreed set of indicators that are continuously developed.

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

Yes, there is an Inter-agency/Ministerial Working Group that follows and coordinates this work.

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:

Sweden participates within the work of the European Union regarding structural indicators (to monitor the Lisbon process including the environmental aspects from the Gothenburg summit). In addition to this there are also other indicator processes within the EU that the Swedish Government is following mainly through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). One of the most important is the Task Force on Indicators for SD that EUROSTAT has set up, where Sweden participates through Statistics Sweden and Swedish EPA.

Internationally Sweden also takes active part in the work of the Nordic Council of Ministers, the OECD and the UN system wide work on indicators.

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
- Communication with other agencies responsible for indicators
- Basic data and/or statistics – quality and quantity
- Human resources
- Financial resources
- Information management system, including equipment
- Monitoring mechanisms
- Other ____ **1. The comparability of indicators, methodology when compiling data etc**

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

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