

Country Report - India

Capacity Building Activities under the European Commission funded project on Enhancing capacity for measuring progress towards the Environmental Dimension of the SDGs, 2020-2023



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1. Introduction

The project Enhancing Capacity for Measuring Progress towards the Environmental Dimension of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), funded by the European Commission, was instituted to strengthen national capacity for monitoring and reporting on the environmental dimension of the SDGs, including SDG indicators 8.4.1/12.2.1 on material footprint, 8.4.2/12.2.2 on domestic material consumption, 12.3.1b on food waste, 12.4.2 on hazardous waste generated and treated, 12.5.1 on national recycling rate and 17.14.1 on policy coherence.

National activities were implemented in different formats in beneficiary countries in Africa and Asia. The aims of the national activities were to deepen government officials' understanding of the adopted methodologies for SDG indicators, to equip them with the necessary statistical capacity to report on these indicators and as these indicators require data from multiple national stakeholders, engage all stakeholders together for future collaborations.

As part of the project, an out-of-country training on food waste indicator (SDG indicator 12.3.1b) was implemented in Paris, France from 28 to 29 November 2023. The representatives from India were invited to participate in the planned training with representatives from other countries.

2. SDG food waste indicator: out-of-country training (28-29 November 2023)

Key Observations

- The representatives of India were contacted in advance to prepare information that is relevant to food waste in their country, so available information can be identified in advance.
- The representatives showed high interest in the training; multiple questions were asked to clarify information and discussions took place regarding the actual status in India, and how they can leverage their country's data circumstances to be able to collect and report on SDG indicator 12.3.1b.

Conclusions

The training concluded with a brainstorming on a national action plan to start the collection of food waste related information. As the participants were representing different institutions, it was beneficial for them to discuss how they can collaborate to collect food waste data.

Way forward

- The representatives from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation and the National Institute of Urban Affairs will collaborate to collect and compile data about food waste and draft an initial starting point to plan the collection of food waste data;

3. Additional Resources

Technical materials

All relevant technical materials are available on the [project website](#) under 'Output I'.

List of participants – Food waste indicator (28-29 November 2023)

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Agenda – Food waste indicator (28-29 November 2023)

TUESDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2023		
09:30 – 10:00	OPENING AND INTRODUCTIONS	UNEP
10:00 – 10:30	SDG indicator 12.3.1b	UNEP
10:30 – 11:00	Definitions: food, sectors, measurement methods	WRAP

11:00 – 11:30	COFFEE BREAK	
11:30 – 12:00	Household: measuring in a Level 2 approach	WRAP
12:00 – 12:30	Approaches to sampling and designing representative samples	WRAP
12:30 – 13:00	Household measurement planning exercise	WRAP
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH BREAK	
14:00 – 14:30	Household level 3: Edible/inedible, destinations, other useful information for strategies	WRAP
14:30 – 15:00	Diaries, causes and drivers of waste	WRAP
15:00 – 15:30	Edible/inedible food exercise	WRAP
15:30 – 16:00	COFFEE BREAK	
16:00 – 16:30	Looking ahead to tomorrow: food service and retail subsectors	WRAP
16:30 – 17:00	Defining priority subsectors	WRAP

WEDNESDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2023		
09:30 – 10:00	Food service introduction and sector definition	WRAP
10:00 – 10:30	Measurement methods	WRAP
10:30 – 11:00	Sampling and scaling	WRAP
11:00 – 11:30	COFFEE BREAK	
11:30 – 12:00	Retail measurement methods	WRAP
12:00 – 12:30	Sampling and scaling	WRAP
12:30 – 13:00	Retail Level 3: edible/inedible and food surplus	WRAP
13:00 – 14:00	LUNCH BREAK	
14:00 – 16:45	Working on a measurement strategy in your country: Filling in measurement strategy template Finding and using data for purposes of designing samples Thinking about mapping stakeholders, identifying responsibility and putting the systems in place to make the most of data	WRAP
16:45 – 17:00	Next steps and conclusions	UNEP