

Case study for Road Map on Statistics for SDGs 2.0 Armenia: National Reporting Platform for Armenia data for SDG indicators

Description

Studying the experience of developing a National Reporting Platform (NRP) for the U.S. SDGs indicators and Training Materials, Armstat has developed a similar platform for Armenia, with the support of the UNFPA Armenia Country Office, and launched it on 29 December 2017.

On 17 September 2019, thanks to invaluable support of Ms. Kali Kong (U.S.), Ms. Tiina Luige (UNECE) and Ms. Jennifer Park (UNECE), Mr. Brock Fanning, Data Scientist, Center for Open Data Enterprise (CODE, U.S.) and financial assistance of the UNFPA and IOM Armenia Country Offices, Armstat launched the new NRP on SDGs indicators (https://sdg.armstat.am/), which is a tool for disseminating and reporting national statistics for the global SDG indicators that provides the framework for monitoring progress towards SDGs.

Armstat has successfully adapted and customized NRP for statistics on SDGs anchored on Open Data Source. Open SDG was chosen based on the example and recommendation of the teams behind the U.S. national reporting platform, which also uses Open SDG.

The setup of the platform up was done in several steps. First, Armstat went through the Quick Start in the Open SDG documentation. Next, Armstat wrote scripts to convert the existing data into the CSV format that Open SDG uses. Then Armstat performed some translations of content into Armenian and Russian. Finally, Armstat configured the hosting server and deployment workflows. The initial setup took about 1 week. This setup was done with the help of an on-site consultant, Mr. Brock Fanning, Data Scientist, CODE.

Armstat's staging environment is hosted on GitHub, and production environment is hosted on a local server.

The platform is available in English, Armenian, and Russian.

Customizations added to the Open SDG platform:

- Armstat preferred to see the goal layout as a two-column target/indicator arrangement. This customization was performed on Armstat's NRP and then later contributed back to the Open SDG community, to become part of the core platform.
- Armstat also wanted national indicators to be distinct from the global indicators, and this suggestion led to a tagging feature being added to Open SDG.

In 2022 Armstat has introduced the upgraded version of Open SDG Platform.

Advantages

The most appealing aspects of Open SDG were the ease of maintenance, the high level of control, and the country ownership.

Challenges

When the same indicator is provided by more than one source, in the table and graph it is not possible to distinguish the source of the indicator.

Future steps

- Continue collaboration with CODE.
- Provide administrative registers with an on-line access and a possibility to edit indicators.
- Organize trainings on NRP administration for data providers and awareness workshops for users.
- Introduce data visualization in maps, use of SDMX standard.

More information

Link to Armenia - Case Study:

https://open-sdg.org/community/armenia

Link to platform:

https://sdg.armstat.am/ e-mail: safyan@armstat.am