

Case study for Road Map on statistics for SDGs 2.0

Türkiye: National Reporting Platform for Türkiye data for SDG indicators

Description

Until the end of 2022, SDG indicator sets for Türkiye had been monitored and shared with the public through press releases which consisted of static data tables. In order to monitor sustainable development indicators on a more effective, visually powerful and user-oriented internet-based platform as asserted in the 12th National Development Plan, "Sustainable Development Indicators Web Portal" (https://sdg.tuik.gov.tr/en/) has been developed by TurkStat and launched in December 2022.

The portal is structured on Open SDG. It has been made available in Turkish and English for both our Turkish and English speaker users.

At first the existing data structure has been transferred to Open SDG format manually. This was achievable as our time series update frequency was only once a year for the indicators as a whole. However, all of the indicators are not updated at the same time and users had to wait to see the updated data for some time until all the indicators had a new data point in time available. Therefore, our portal had undergone a change in the update policy since 2024, where indicators are updated on the portal when a new data point becomes available. As this had to be done multiple times a year for many indicators, manual data transfer was no longer a feasible option. We studied on a script using R which converted our data into JSON files that Open SDG uses and copies the data for repeating indicators. Additionally, we structured an English-Turkish dictionary for our indicator tables and the script produces both Turkish and English JSON files simultaneously.

Currently the indicators can be monitored timely on the portal with many viewing options such as tables, charts and interactive maps along with global and national metadata information. The portal provides our SDG indicator reporting status as well as a list of recently updated indicators and the update time.

Advantages

- Timely data presentation and frequent update option
- Modifiable structure with options to add new sections
- Data presentation diversity (table, map, chart)
- Textual input availability for national/global metadata and footnotes
- Data download availability
- Appealing to a wider user base with different levels of statistical literacy

Challenges

Chart type options are restrictive in the sense that only line and column charts are available.

Future steps

- Improving the portal to enable the providers of indicators to input and edit data along with a data quality control mechanism
- Continuing the research for indicator availability, increased disaggregation (Organizing thematic workshops/meetings with institutions)

- Increasing the number of available indicators using non-traditional methods such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

More information

Link to platform: https://sdg.tuik.gov.tr/en/

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