



América Latina y el Caribe

SIGOB

UNDP-SIGOB

Sustainable Development Goals Platform:

**A tool to support the SDG implementation
throughout the span of the 2030 agenda**



**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

Executive Summary

We are currently facing an unprecedented opportunity to bring the countries and citizens of the world together in a new path to improve the lives of people, leaving no one behind. Formally adopted at the United Nations General Assembly in 2015, the new sustainable development agenda is an urgent call by all countries in a global partnership to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all.

While global, the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals are to be implemented in each country to deliver on the commitments to eradicate poverty, reduce inequalities, improve health and education, build peaceful, inclusive, and resilient societies, tackle climate change, and work to preserve our oceans and forests. the future of the planet and the wellbeing of future generations.

The UNDP-SIGOB SDG Platform is a tool to support the SDG implementation throughout the span of the 2030 Agenda. This platform has been developed in collaboration with the UNDP-SIGOB regional team, the UN Country Team in Panamá and the Government of Panamá.

Background: Implementation Challenges of the SDG's and the United Nation's Response

If 2015 was a landmark in terms of the global agreements signed by UN Member States, 2016 marks the beginning of an *Era of Implementation* to deliver on the bold commitments made. Compared to the Millenium Development Goals (MDGs), the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have a broader and more ambitious scope, are more interconnected and will need the involvement of a wider network of stakeholders. Due to the wide scope, the implementation of the SDGs includes numerous challenges for both governments and the United Nations system as a whole.

The SDG agenda requires countries to step up their implementation strategies. Effective implementation of the SDG agenda will require countries to use innovative approaches to address the challenges. Implementing the SDG will require new consensus across stakeholders, new institutional capabilities to effectively address goals that require collaboration across sectors, and new capabilities to collect and analyze data and information.

The SDG agenda also poses a challenge to the UN development system as to how better support the implementation with greater coherence, collaboration, innovation and the promotion of ownership among countries. In this regards, the UNDG has agreed on a set of core principles and on a group of strategic initiatives in implementing those principles into practice, including the MAPS (Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support) framework for program, mainstreaming of the SOPs across all UNCTs, system-wide adoption of best business practices, and streamline strategic partnership frameworks with the World Bank and the EU for joint funding approaches, among others. All these initiatives aim to improve the support from the UN system to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

MAPS provides resources from across the UN system for UNCTs substantive engagement with governments and partners on the SDGs, **paying special attention to the crosscutting elements of partnerships, data and accountability.**

The UNDP-SIGOB SDG Platform

As UNDP summoned its capacity to contribute to the implementation of the SDG agenda, UNDP-SIGOB envisioned what type of support would a steering SDG body need to be successful in delivering results on a broad and complex agenda like the SDGs.

UNDP-SIGOB is a **regional project with global products that works towards more effective, responsive and accountable public institutions through innovation in management methods and tools**. UNDP-SIGOB has a team of management, governance and IT experts that work with public institutions to improve capacities to deliver results (implementation of policies and programs) by strengthening effectiveness, coordination, transparency and accountability through better work methods and information tools.

Paying special attention to partnerships, data and accountability (MAPS crosscutting elements) and leveraging on the team's experience, the concept of such a tool is one that helps not only monitor activities and progress on the agenda, but also engage people from all sectors.

Early in 2016 the UN Country Team in Panama¹ was requested to provide support on the SDG implementation. One of the components to that support was one initiative with UNDP-SIGOB to develop a multi-purpose management and information tool to support the implementation of the SDGs throughout the span of the agenda in the country.²

The Concept and Purpose



The UNDP-SIGOB SDG platform is an information tool to be used by the highest Executive Office (President or Prime Minister) and/or the institutional body mandated to follow-up on the SDG implementation. In particular, it is designed to:

- (1) Manage the implementation of the agenda**, by helping coordination across institutions and identifying synergies and gaps to accelerate progress.
- (2) Serve as engagement mechanism with non-government actors around the SDG agenda**, by mapping how different actors in the delivery networks contribute to particular targets and goals,
- (3) Support monitoring progress and country-led reporting on the SDGs** to the appropriate in-country and international audiences

Based on the UNDP-SIGOB experience supporting the implementation of government programs and development strategies, this tool along with a capable political team at the steering body of the SDG agenda, will be able to coordinate at the highest levels and foster long-term stakeholders to the agenda to create public support beyond the political cycle, both critical for the success of the implementation.

¹ In Panama there are 18 UN agencies and programs under the leadership of the UN RC/RR, Mr. Martin Santiago

² In Panama, UNDP-SIGOB has worked with the CO strengthening institutions at the Center-of-Government, including working with the team of the President-elect (2014) for supporting the kick-off of a new government program; developing within the Office of the President a results-based management system and information tools for delivering results on 8 top presidential priorities and more than 1,800 social programs and investment projects; as well as strengthening the Executive Office to the President and Executive Offices in key government institutions (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Finance, etc.). As part of this work, UNDP has provided technical assistance and software to run a massive RBM dataset of government programs and policies.

The Tool

The UNDP-SIGOB SDG platform is a massive aggregator of data that combines information on initiatives (programs, projects and services) that contribute to the delivery of the SDGs and indicators from different sources. It has the capacity to produce automated reports and also has an alignment functionality. The initial analysis of on-going initiatives is akin to a rapid assessment but the platform allows to keep the data “alive” to produce updated reports throughout the implementation of the SDG agenda.



Main features of the platform:

1. Uses big data
2. Allows for recurrent and systematic updating of data
3. Is interactive to explore data for management, monitoring and reporting purposes
4. Can bring in data from different sources of information and present in various formats
5. Its interface can be customized to different users and audiences.

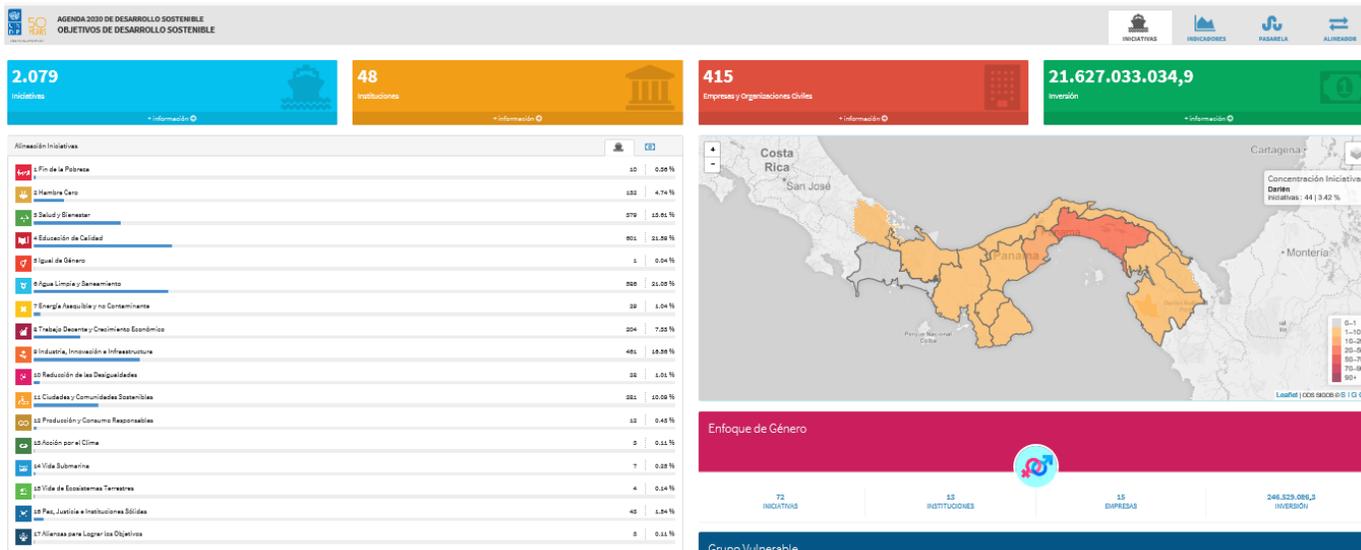
In the pilot done in Panamá, the UNDP-SIGOB SDG Platform compiled information from the results-based management system of the Presidency. Initial alignment exercise involved more than 2K on-going government initiatives and a total investment of USD. 25+ billion that were under the supervision of the Office of the President (*Secretaría de Metas*) and are part of the Government priorities.

Additional portfolios of programs, projects and services were added from sectorial implementing bodies, as well as non-government initiatives coordinated by actors of the the private sector and civil organizations

Looking at initiatives

The SDG platform allows to combine and explore massive data from initiatives across sectors and from various sources. Through a methodology of alignment, each of the initiatives:

- Is **aligned to the SDG goal (s) and target (s)** it contributes to
- Is **interconnected** to as many goals and targets the initiative impacts
- Is **georeferenced** by municipality, to the level of granularity for which the country has information
- Is tagged by **gender approach, life cycle and vulnerable group(s)** targeted
- Is linked to the **public and private institutions** involved in the delivery of the initiative, and
- Has information on **investment**



The platform allows to explore the data along several dimensions:

Concentration	<i>Analysis of SDG profile.</i>	How are activities distributed across SDG goals/targets? Where is it concentrated? Where is it sparse?
	<i>Analysis of interconnectedness</i>	How are the SDG goals/targets interconnected in the country?
Location	<i>Analysis by territory</i>	How are the activities distributed across provinces? Is it concentrated or distributed? Is it in line with needs?
Actors	<i>Analysis by target groups</i>	How are activities targeting special groups? How prevalent is the gender approach in the portfolio?
	<i>Analysis by delivery network</i>	What public and private actors are linked to each of the SDG goals/targets? How thick/thin are the delivery networks by goal/target and province?
Investment	<i>Analysis of investment priorities and profile</i>	How are financial investments distributed across SDG goals/targets? Is it concentrated? Is investment aligned with priorities?

Moving Forward

The UNDP-SIGOB SDG Platform is an innovative tool that is constantly evolving and transforming, and in response:

1. It will incorporate UN guidelines and recommendations to come. For example, Inter-Agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDGs) recommendations on indicators, the outcome of the High-Level Political Forum and the UNDP guidelines for country-led SDG reports.
2. It will evolve in response to the political and management requirements of the SDG agenda in Panama (pilot country). As the SDG institutional body get established and stakeholder get involved, there may be additional demand for expanding functionalities and/or reporting capabilities
3. It will benefit from a round of consultations with experts in human development, governance and related areas
4. It will be informed by lessons learned in MDG/SDG dashboard from across Latin America as a mapping and analysis of experiences moves forward.

Comments, suggestions and recommendations are always welcome!³

Implementing the UNDP-SIGOB SDG Platform

The SDG Platform has been designed to be easy to replicate and escalate. It is available for Country Offices to include in programming with counterparts and the UNDP-SIGOB team is available to engage at the request of Country Office once funding has been secured.

The UNDP-SIGOB SDG Platform includes:

- Software for administration and alignment of big data
- Software for administration and analysis of SDG communities
- Services to adapt software to existing database and to develop custom-made interfaces, etc
- Alignment methodology
- Expert team to conduct alignment exercise and hands-on training
- Communication tool for positioning key SDG concepts and segmenting audiences
- PRODODC Pro forma
- Power Point slides and presentation materials
- Manual for on-line alignment
- Manual for analysis and identification of SDG communities
- Manual for IT administrators
- TORS pro forma for alignment specialist and platform coordinator
- Hardware, connectivity and technology requirements

³ For feedback please contact Miguel Cereceda (miguel.cereceda@undp.org) or María Boza (maria.eugenia.boza@undp.org)

IMPLEMENTING THE SDG Platform
Estimated costs, resources and delivery times

RESOURCES
(work days)

CALENDAR
TIME
(months)

TOTAL		
From kick start to a fully functional SDG Platform	260	4,5
PHASE 1: INITIAL MISION	30	0,5
Identification of institutional arrangements and steering group designated for monitoring and following-up the SDG agenda		
<u>Identification of bid data sources and meta-data availability – initiatives</u>	-	-
Identification of institutional sources and interface with sources of result indicator data		
PHASE 2: IMPLEMENTATION	200	4
Hands-on workshop with in-country team for alignment		
Hands-on workshop with SDG platform coordinators (IT)		
Interactive workshop with leadership in the steering group on the use of the SDG Platform		
Technical assistance in doing big-data alignment and in introducing the SDG platform to different audiences		
PHASE 3: A YEAR OF ACCOMPANING (optional)	30	12
Update to new versions of the SDG Platform		
Remote assistance in adding up new big-data sources		
Cross-country exchange of experiences among users of SGD Platform and similar tools		

Annex

UNDP-SIGOB: A regional project with global products

UNDP-SIGOB is a regional project that has a team of management, governance and IT developers to work with public institutions to improve capacities to deliver results (implementation of policies and programs) by strengthening effectiveness, coordination, transparency and accountability through better work methods and information tools (www.sigob.org). Regional Project UNDP-SIGOB functions as an umbrella project to conceptualize, design and carry-on on the ground implementations, each one them signed as a “national implementation projects” between Country Offices and their counterparts. UNDP-SIGOB is fully funded through national implementation projects.

Since 1991, the SIGOB team has worked in problem-driven collaborative innovation with high-level officials throughout Latin America and elsewhere innovating on finding solutions for typical problems of public administration. SIGOB grew driven by the demand of governments in Latin America and became a platform for innovation and dissemination of innovations across institutions and across countries. Within UNDP, SIGOB was pioneer in systematizing lessons learned into very detailed how-to practice-based knowledge products or modules. To counterparts and development partners, SIGOB offers cumulative know-how on public management and change management in public institutions through innovation in methods, processes, work systems and information technology tools that bring fast, visible and sustainable change to how institutions work.

Through more the 200 national implementation projects, UNDP-SIGOB has developed a portfolio of 14 development products to address strategic alignment of organizations to commitments with citizens, results-oriented management, coordination, proactive communications and accountability, time management, process management and knowledge management, among others. Each product is a bundle of approach, methodology, processes, IT tools as well as supporting manuals and proforma documents. At the beginning, SIGOB national projects were usually large tailored-made projects to improve work processes. At the time, the team would usually engage in about 4 projects every year. As experience accumulated, the team was able to synthesize lessons and learn faster and from a wider variety of institutions and countries. By 2003 a formal portfolio of “modular” methodologies had emerged. This piece-meal approach of stand-alone smaller interventions to address typical public management challenges allowed faster assessment and project design. With this innovation, delivery jumped from 4 to about 12 national projects per year. Nowadays, UNDP-SIGOB with an in-house team of about 25 people implements about 20 projects per year. UNDP-SIGOB continues innovating to tackle development challenges.

Some of SIGOB’s products

1. SIGOB-Goals: result-oriented management of government policies & programs
2. Management Center: to support the functioning of Executive Offices
3. TRANSDOC: management of correspondence, documents and archives
4. TRE: to support workflow and tackle bottle-necks
5. ACOM: management of proactive public communication and support to functions of communication and spokesperson.
6. SIMAT: systems for monitoring media and social media.
7. Citizen fora: to support the production and follow-up town hall meeting, fora and other direct interactions with citizens.
8. SIGOB-Linking, to support the kick-off of a new government or a new strategy.

