

UPDATE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL INDICATORS 30 July 2019, Windhoek

Release of Sustainable Development Goals Baseline Report Namibia 2019

The Namibia Statistics Agency hereby releases the Release of Sustainable Development Goals Baseline Report Namibia 2019

1. The United Nations Agenda 2030 on Sustainable Development is the most holistic and ambitious global agenda that the international community has committed to in order to address the diverse challenges we face.
2. Through the implementation of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) all countries have agreed to align national priorities to clear and transparent measures to overcome these global challenges.
3. Namibia joined the international community in this call for actions and recognises that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that build economic growth and addresses a range of social needs including education, health, social protection and job opportunities while tackling climate change and environmental protection. One precondition for these actions is the reliable knowledge on the state of the country.
4. In its mandate to provide a comprehensive picture on the starting conditions in Namibia for the implementation of the SDGs, the Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA) is now releasing the first national

SDGs Baseline Report, together with its braille copy. This release is embedded in the national efforts to strive for an evidence-based policy planning process and is a supplement to the voluntary national review report released by the National Planning Commission (NPC) in 2018 as input for the United Nations High Level Political Forum.

5. Throughout the next years, until 2030, this report will serve as a reference on how Namibia is monitoring the SDGs and the progress towards the achievement of the targets of the SDGs. Further investigations are necessary in the next years on how to broaden the monitoring scope at best in terms of horizontal and vertical data gaps.
6. This SDGs Baseline Report is the result of multi-stakeholder consultations among various Offices, Ministries and Agencies, extensive data mining and literacy scans and research on integration of new innovative monitoring opportunities. It is with that in mind that we would like to thank all contributors to these efforts for investing their time, information and expertise in the past months. Furthermore, to the producers who have not provided the data yet, we urge you to do so on time to ensure a full harvesting of all available data before new and potentially redundant data production efforts are considered.
7. Despite the challenges, I am proud to inform the nation that in general, substantial data speaking to the SDGs indicators is produced in Namibia. Nonetheless, it can be concluded that the quality of the information to serve as input for a continuous and consistent monitoring system is still limited.
8. The localisation of data is remarkably high in Namibia and almost the same proportion, around 50 per cent, of the national sources

provide updated values compared to the updates coming from international sources.

9. Overall, the timeliness of information is low, placing obstacles in the way of a responsive iterative planning process. This can be seen by the fact that only 57 per cent of validated indicators have been updated since 2015 and even a slightly lower number, at 54 per cent, are produced on an annual basis. Nonetheless, the data production in the country is very good, and I would like us to keep it that way and improve where we could do better.
10. The Sustainable Development Goals Baseline Report is something we would recommend to all policy makers in all positions to ensure we monitor how we fare with our development goals. The continuation of the monitoring of the implementation of Agenda 2030 is ensured through the alignment of the report with the national indicators framework and the SDGs Data Portal which are accessible through the NSA website at <https://www.nsa.org.na>.

I thank you



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