

Launch of a new phase: Advancing the development and use of metrics for policymaking beyond GDP

Information sessions

21 October 2026, 14:00 - 15:30 (UTC)¹

22 October 2026, 7:00 - 8:30 (UTC)²

The international community has long recognized that Gross Domestic Product (GDP), while an essential measure of economic activity, does not capture key dimensions of progress that matter for people, societies and the planet. Addressing this gap has become a shared international priority, consistent with the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and reaffirmed by Member States in a 2024 General Assembly resolution titled “the Pact for the Future”.

The publication [*Counting What Counts: A Compass of Progress for People and Planet*](#), released in May 2026 by the Secretary-General's High-Level Expert Group, has increased Member States' interest in testing metrics to measure progress Beyond GDP and their integration in policy making.

While an intergovernmental process continues to unfold, individual Member States are increasingly looking to the United Nations for support in their efforts to test, embed or deepen Beyond GDP approaches. The United Nations is, therefore, organizing two similar information sessions to facilitate participation across time zones.

The sessions will provide an overview of the conceptual framing and dashboard proposed in the Counting What Counts report; and describe how the new UN initiative will provide

¹ Example of local starting times: Geneva 4:00 PM CEST, New York 10:00 AM EDT, Brasília 11:00 AM BRT (UTC-3), Nairobi 05:00 PM EAT, Delhi 07:30 PM IST, Bangkok 09:00 PM ICT, Peking/Singapore 10:00 PM CST.

² Geneva 9:00 AM CEST, New York 3:00 AM EDT, Brasília 4:00 AM BRT, Nairobi 10:00 AM EAT, Delhi 12:30 PM IST, Bangkok 2:00 PM ICT, and Peking / Singapore 3:00 PM CST.

opportunities for countries for engagement and peer learning to advance Beyond GDP metrics and use.

The sessions are held with support from the United Nations Peace and Development Trust Fund (UNPDF) and its project on *Advancing global and national initiatives to develop, compile and integrate Beyond GDP metrics to foster inclusive, sustainable, and forward-thinking policy making*. The sessions are organized jointly by UNCTAD, UNDP, and DESA in coordination with the Executive Office of the Secretary General, UN Regional Commissions, Resident Coordinator Offices and UN Country Teams.

Participating countries will have access to peer-learning activities, webinars, and knowledge-sharing opportunities. The Beyond GDP Data for Action Hub, an open platform, will support the exchange of tools, guidance, experiences and good practices.

The information sessions are open to all interested Member States and stakeholders wishing to learn about the new UN initiative and early resources designed to support experimenting with Beyond GDP indicators, assessing data availability and statistical capacity, exploring practical policy applications, and sharing experiences.

Lessons from Member States will help inform future refinement of the proposed indicator dashboard, informing discussions within the Statistical Commission and the ongoing intergovernmental process on Beyond GDP.

By the end of the webinar:

- ✓ Participants will have a clearer understanding of the recommended Beyond GDP framework and metrics, their links to the 2030 Agenda and the Pact for the Future, as well as related intergovernmental processes and country initiatives.
- ✓ Member States will be informed about the opportunities and tools available and upcoming through the UN-supported project and the Beyond GDP Data for Action Hub.
- ✓ A peer-learning network to share good practices, tools and solutions among Member States and stakeholders will begin to form around compilation and policy application of Beyond GDP metrics.
- ✓ Initial feedback and expressions of interest highlighting national priorities will help shape future work, tools and solutions to support countries in testing and using the metrics.

Please register for the webinar using this below: [Webinar Registration - Zoom](#)

For further information, please contact us by email at: beyondgdp@un.org