

New UN Beyond GDP Country Engagement

Country Engagement and Expression of Interest Form

While GDP remains an essential measure of economic activity, it does not capture many dimensions of progress that matter for people and the planet. Addressing this gap has become a shared international priority, consistent with the vision of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which calls for the development of measures of sustainable development that complement GDP (SDG target 17.19).

This agenda has taken an important step forward following the commitment expressed by Member States in the UN General Assembly in 2024, in an agreement titled the “Pact for the Future”. This led to the establishment of the Secretary-General's High-Level Expert Group and the publication of its report, *Counting What Counts: A Compass of Progress for People and Planet*, presented in May 2026 for consideration by the General Assembly. The report proposes a conceptual framework, and a dashboard of 31 indicators organized around four components: foundational principles, current well-being, equity and inclusion, and sustainability and resilience. Around half of these indicators are already included in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) indicator framework.

While an intergovernmental process continues to unfold, individual Member States are increasingly looking to the UN for statistical and policy-related support in their efforts to test, embed or deepen Beyond GDP approaches. To respond to that demand and generate learning, the UN is taking stock of current approaches, establishing a community of practice, and assessing demand for support to interested countries.

Countries’ experiences and lessons learned will help inform further development of Beyond GDP indicators and methodologies. They will also contribute to ongoing discussions on how these measures can be integrated into national statistical systems and decision-making processes with a forward-looking lens.

The attached form asks countries about their interest in experimenting on Beyond GDP and consider national priorities, strengths and gaps related to Beyond GDP metrics and their use. It also provides an opportunity to identify areas of interest and support needs, and to indicate where further

collaboration, knowledge exchange or support may be beneficial. The information collected will help the United Nations and its partners plan future statistical and policy support.

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

Early support is provided by the United Nations Peace and Development Trust Fund (UNPDF) enabling the development of shared tools and approaches. This work will be implemented jointly by UNCTAD, UNDP, and UN DESA, in close coordination with the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, United Nations Regional Commissions, United Nations Resident Coordinator Offices, and United Nations Country Teams.

The online form will be available here from 21 October: [Beyond GDP Expression of Interest Form](#).

Submissions will open following the conclusion of the first information session on 21 October,

Countries are invited to complete the online form and **submit it by 30 November 2026**.

Submissions received after that date will be welcomed and considered on a rolling basis. The responses will inform further engagement and support activities under the Beyond GDP agenda.