Monitoring sustainable development strategies and integrated approach for policy making

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Indicators for Decision Making and Monitoring
Growing complexity of modern societies

Need of multidimensional information to support decision making of policy makers.

Multi-source production system + Dissemination and communication of broader pictures.
Some recent experiences at Istat

- Building a statistical system able to face the challenges of measuring well-being and sustainable development and to support policy making (BES, SDGs).

- Producing and communicating integrated statistics and indicators responding to different user needs (eg. New formats for short term economic trends, design of new voting districts).

- Advantages of new technologies (nowcasting and forecasting based on Google Trends data, scanner data, Mobile Phone Data).
Measuring Sustainable Development and Well-being

BES – Equitable and Sustainable Well-being

Annual survey on what is important for wellbeing (24,000 households)

Steering Committee

12 Dimensions

Scientific Commission

134 Indicators

Meetings in every region and Blog

Final report

Open research line: possible synthesis in order to enter systematically in the planning and evaluation of policies.
Measuring Sustainable Development and Well-being

SDGs must be challenging and achievable, as far as possible limited in number, and clearly measurable:

✓ feasible and measurable targets,
✓ modernization of statistical production at country level,
✓ strengthening of international technical cooperation.

Multidimensionality and complex phenomena impose to improve statistical capacity and strengthen international cooperation.

For most countries in the world it will be hard to organize the production of such a broad set of indicators in a short time.
New data (Big data)

The use of big data must enter in the global strategy on integrated statistics.

Together we need to cooperate in order to achieve:
✓ access to data sets owned by global companies,
✓ a legal and privacy framework,
✓ enhance methodologies, skills, IT instruments.

Steps ahead:
• make use of the results achieved by others,
• share tools and laboratories,
• start the production soon.
At Istat:

✓ **Persons and Places based on Mobile Phone Data**: starting from phone-tracking-data, to estimate daily mobility at the municipality level, and commuting flows for other reasons);

✓ **Scanner data for the compilation of Consumer Price Statistics**;

✓ **ICT Usage by enterprises based on Internet** as a Data Source evaluating the possibility of adopting Web scraping and text mining techniques for estimates on the use of ICT by enterprises and public institutions);

Nowcasting and forecasting with Google Trends

Use Google Trends (GT) time series as auxiliary to improve the estimates produced by Istat

**Use of data for nowcasting and forecasting:**
GT Early estimates at time $t$ or $t + 1$ of economic indicators. Many phenomena can be represented.

**Use of data for small areas:**
Territorial estimates at time $t$ produced by ISTAT can be improved by the use of GT local data.

Monthly Unemployment rate (Labour Force) and Labour supply (Google Trend) Index 2004=100
Dissemination formats for short term economic trends

- General picture of economic indicators.
- Integrated view.
- Use of graphic tools.
- Automatic link in order to adjourn figures and data automatically.
- Joint work of different department.

New quarterly release on the labour market: data on enterprises' labour demand and on people's labour supply presented jointly.
Design of new voting districts

According to the existing legal framework, the Government entrusted a Commission of experts chaired by the Istat President the task of proposing the new voting districts.

Huge responsibility and opportunity to show its capacity of interpreting the law and give complex information, through indicators.

Voting district in Sicily 2015
Conclusions

NSIs need to move away from a fragmented and silo approach and step towards an integrated system, by redesigning the production processes at the country level, within a global strategy on integrated statistics.

Modernisation is the right answer,

through the sharing of experiences and participation of NSIs to joint projects between.

Istat has an active role in the current debate on the future of official statistics in Italy, and will keep on fulfilling its responsibility for setting up a global favourable environment to make the so-called “data revolution” real.
Thank you for your attention!

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