

Sustainable Development Indicators

PRESENTATION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATISTICS FLANDERS - 10/05/2022 - BRUSSELS

REGIONS IN NUMBERS: CONNECTING DIVERSITY

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1. Sustainable Development Goals and Indicators - Institutional context and cooperation in Belgium



United Nations - Sustainable Development Goals

- UN GA resolution of 2015
‘Transforming our world: the 2030 agenda for sustainable development’
 - 17 SDGs
 - 169 targets: Aspirational and global *‘...with each Government setting its own national targets guided by the global level of ambition but taking into account national circumstances...’*
- *“... All of us will work to implement the Agenda within our own countries and at the regional and global levels, ... Regional and sub-regional frameworks can facilitate the effective translation of sustainable development policies into concrete action at national level.” (§21, A/RES/70/1)*
- UN calls on countries to track progress toward the SDGs using indicators.



Interfederal Statistical Institute

- Established in 2016 to strengthen the cooperation between federal and federated states in the compilation of public statistics
 - United Nations General Assembly - Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics
Principle 8: Coordination among statistical agencies within countries is essential to achieve consistency and efficiency in the statistical system.
- Working group “Indicators for Sustainable Development Goals”
 - To **coordinate** the work on the monitoring of the SDGs between the partners of the ISI.
 - To **formulate proposals** for the development of a database of these indicators and for the creation of new indicators.
 - To **follow** the work of the **UN and Eurostat** in this area
 - To formulate, where necessary, **additional** opinions and international positions on statistical issues related to the indicators for the monitoring of the SDGs



Partner organisations of the ISI-WG “Indicators for Sustainable Development Goals”



Chair & secreteriat



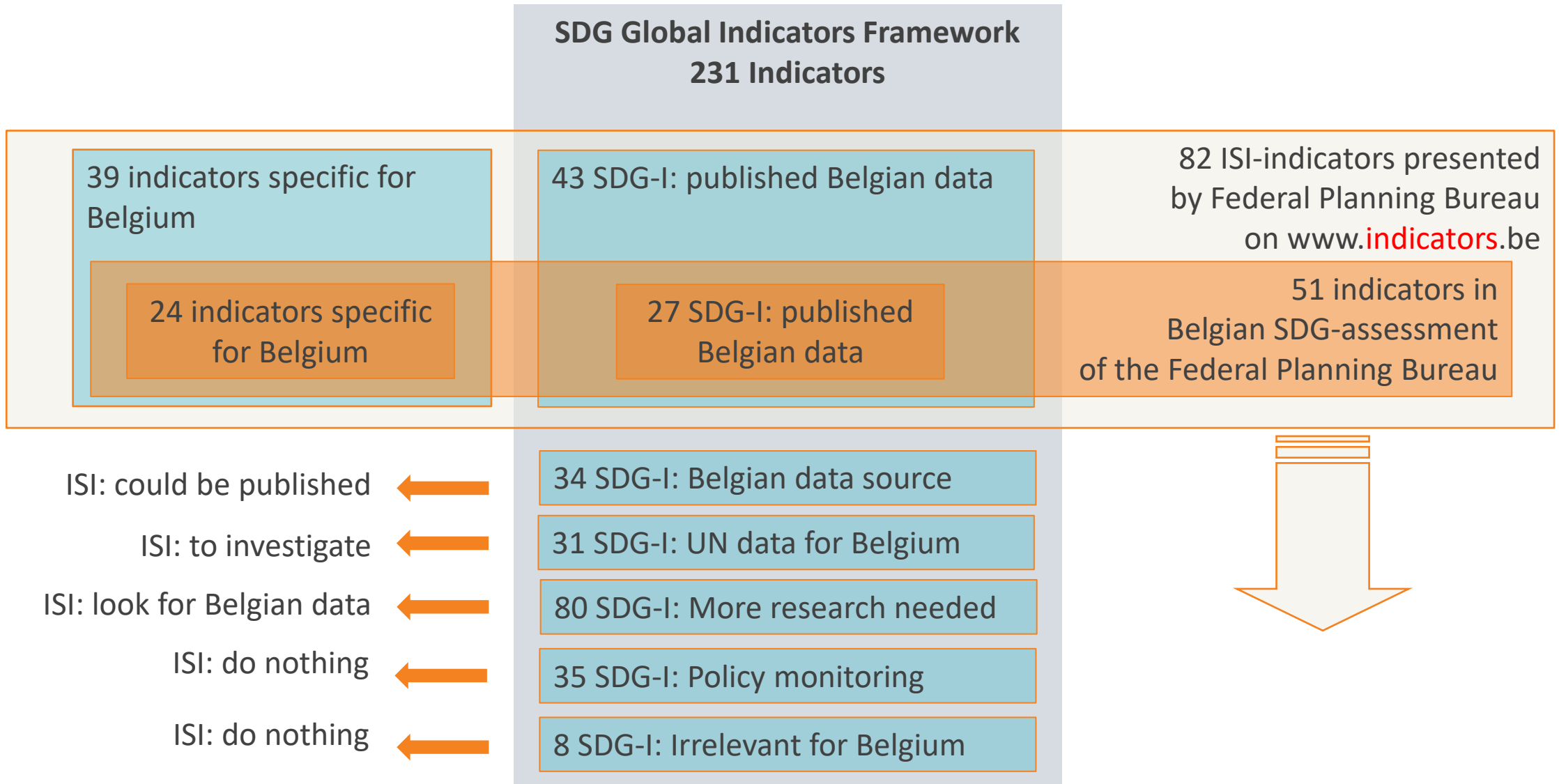
SDG targets & Global indicators framework



- SDG Targets
 - 169 targets:
 - **Results:** quantified objective for a certain year (2030) or desired direction
 - **Means:** for example, encourage, promote, build, upgrade...
 - 133 targets linked to competences shared by communities, regions & federal authority (Court of Audit, SDG Preparedness Review, 2020)
- Global indicators framework (*A/RES/71/313*)
 - 231 unique indicators
 - “...should be **disaggregated**, where relevant, by income, sex, age ... in accordance with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics...”
 - “... complemented by indicators at the regional and national levels, which will be developed by Member States.”
 - Further refined by Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (Metadata repository)



SDG Global Indicators Framework: monitoring in Belgium





www.indicators.be

Sustainable development indicators

Measuring the development of the Belgian society towards the Sustainable Development Goals

17 SDGs, with several indicators per SDG, such as



No poverty



Goal 1
End poverty in all its forms everywhere

- Risk of poverty or social exclusion
- Very low work intensity
- Severe material deprivation
- Guaranteed minimum income beneficiaries
- Over-indebtedness of households
- Postponement or cancellation of health care for financial reasons

Sustainable cities and communities



Goal 11
Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

- Inadequate dwelling
- Exposure to particulate matter
- Nitrogen oxide emissions
- Noise pollution

Climate action



Goal 13
Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

- Greenhouse gas emissions
- Greenhouse gas emissions non-ETS
- CO2 atmospheric concentration
- Natural disaster victims
- Contribution to international climate fund

Since 2012 !



Information for each ISI-indicator on www.indicators.be




Description

- Definition & Goal
- Evolution
- International comparison
- Breakdowns
 - region (43, including where available confidence intervals for latest year)
 - Income, sex, activity status...
- UN indicator
- Sources (general & specific)

Data

- Graphs, tables & xls-downloads
- Assessment + 0 -

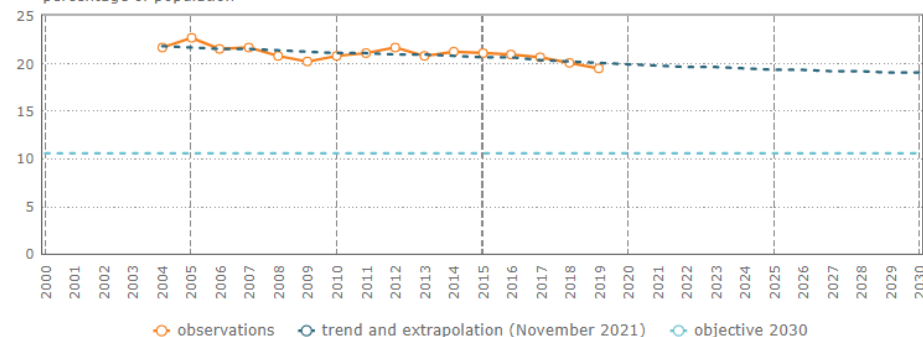
Risk of poverty or social exclusion

 30/11/2021 objective assessment -  assessment 

In 2020, the proportion of the Belgian population at risk of poverty or social exclusion equaled to 18.9%. To achieve the sustainable development goal by 2030, this figure must be reduced to 10.6%. This objective will not be reached by continuing the trend between 2004 and 2019 (assessment of November 2021; without taking into account 2020, because the Covid-19 pandemic impacted data collection). The proportion of the population at risk of poverty or social exclusion is therefore developing unfavourably.

Data Description

Risk of poverty or social exclusion - Belgium - trend assessment
percentage of population



Risk of poverty or social exclusion - Belgium - trend assessment

percentage of population

	2000	2004	2005	2010	2015	2019	2020	2025	2030
observations	--	21.6	22.6	20.8	21.1	19.5	--	--	--
trend and extrapolation (November 2021)	--	21.8	21.7	21.1	20.7	20.1	19.9	19.3	19.0
objective 2030	10.6	10.6	10.6	10.6	10.6	10.6	10.6	10.6	10.6

break in series: 2019; data collection 2020 impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic

Statbel; Eurostat (2021), European Union Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC), ilc_peps01, <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat> (consulted on 21/06/2021) & calculations FPB.



Statistical Annex ‘Pathways to sustainable development’

- First Belgian National Voluntary Review on the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda “Pathways to sustainable development”
 - Presented to the UN at the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development of July 2017
- Statistical Annex with 34 indicators to monitor Belgium’s progress towards the SDG
 - Prepared by ISI
 - 2 short indicator-fiches per SDG
 - Linked to www.indicators.be



SDG 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

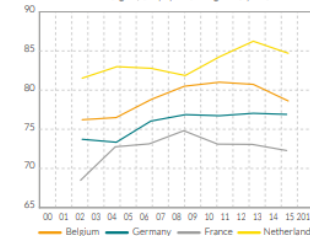
The two indicators selected for this goal have been selected among the few that were readily available. They cover two important dimensions of this goal, peaceful societies and the quality of the institutions (as measured by the trust people have in these institutions).

UN-Target: 16.1 Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere.

UNSTAT-Indicator: 16.1.4 Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live.

NVR-Indicator Security feeling in public space: percentage of the population aged 15 years and over.

Chart 31. Security feeling in public space
Percentage of the population aged 15 years and over



Definition: the security feeling in public space is measured through a survey. In this case the European social survey (ESS). It is estimated as the share of the population that answered 'very safe' or 'safe' to the question: 'How safe do you – or would you – feel walking alone in your neighbourhood after dark?' Objective: to be consistent with target 16.1, this indicator should increase.

Disaggregations: sex, income.

Source: calculations FPB based on ESS (2016), Dataset European Social Survey, <http://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/> (last consulted 2/5/2017).

Source: calculations FPB (based on ESS)



Future work of the Working group “Indicators for Sustainable Development Goals”

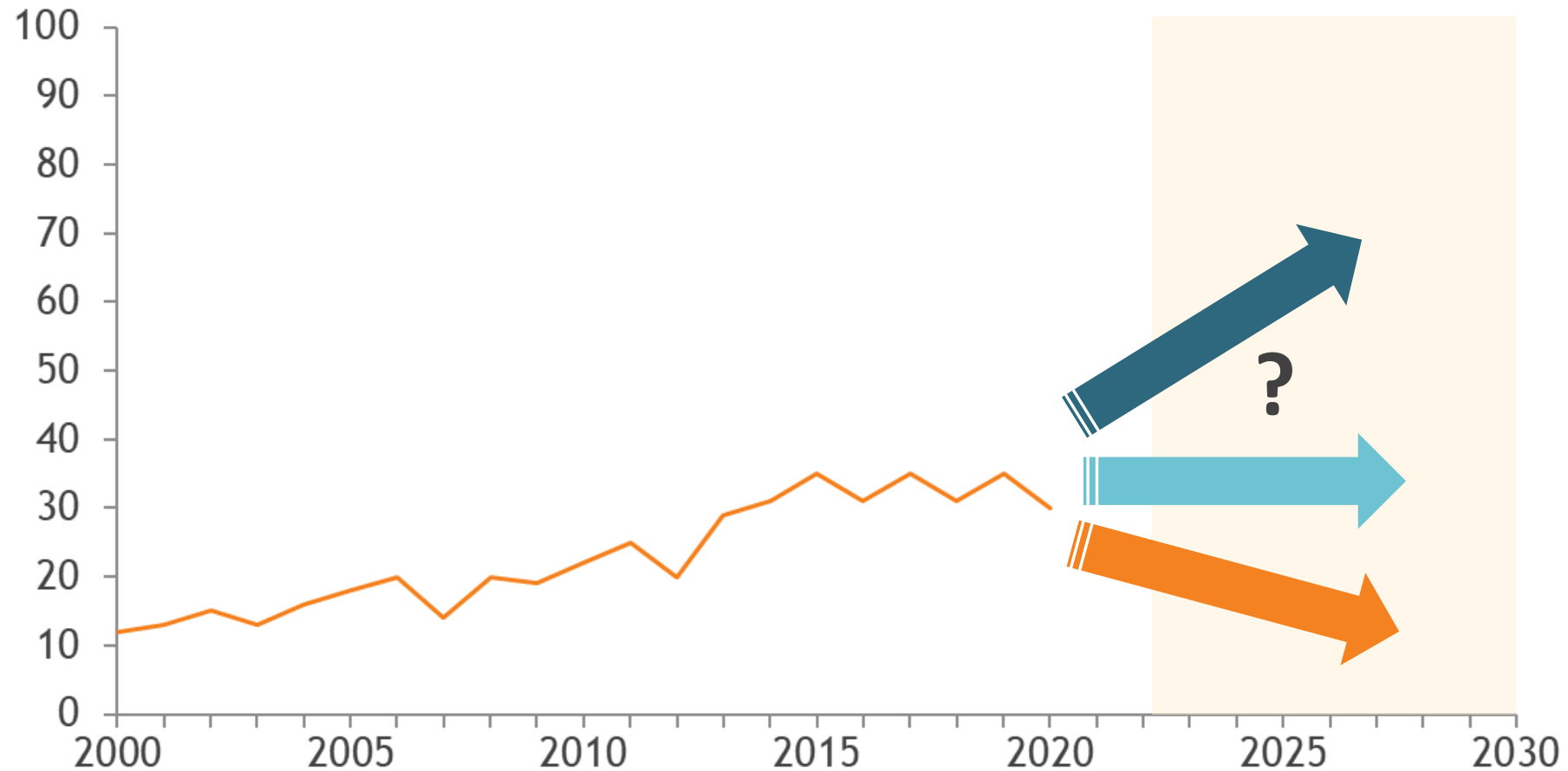
- Societal debate on Belgian SDG Global Indicators Framework in the autumn of 2022 with key federal advisory councils
 - Foreseen in the Federal Plan on Sustainable Development of 2021
 - *“Care will be taken to ensure that these indicators are as consistent as possible with those used to measure the implementation of other plans.”*
 - Implication of ISI and federal administrations
 - Federal authority and regions are represented in ISI
- Further involvement and cooperation with regions is announced
 - Consolidation indispensable for future bilateral and multilateral cooperation regarding SDGs and SDG-I
 - Updated Belgian National Voluntary Review - 2023



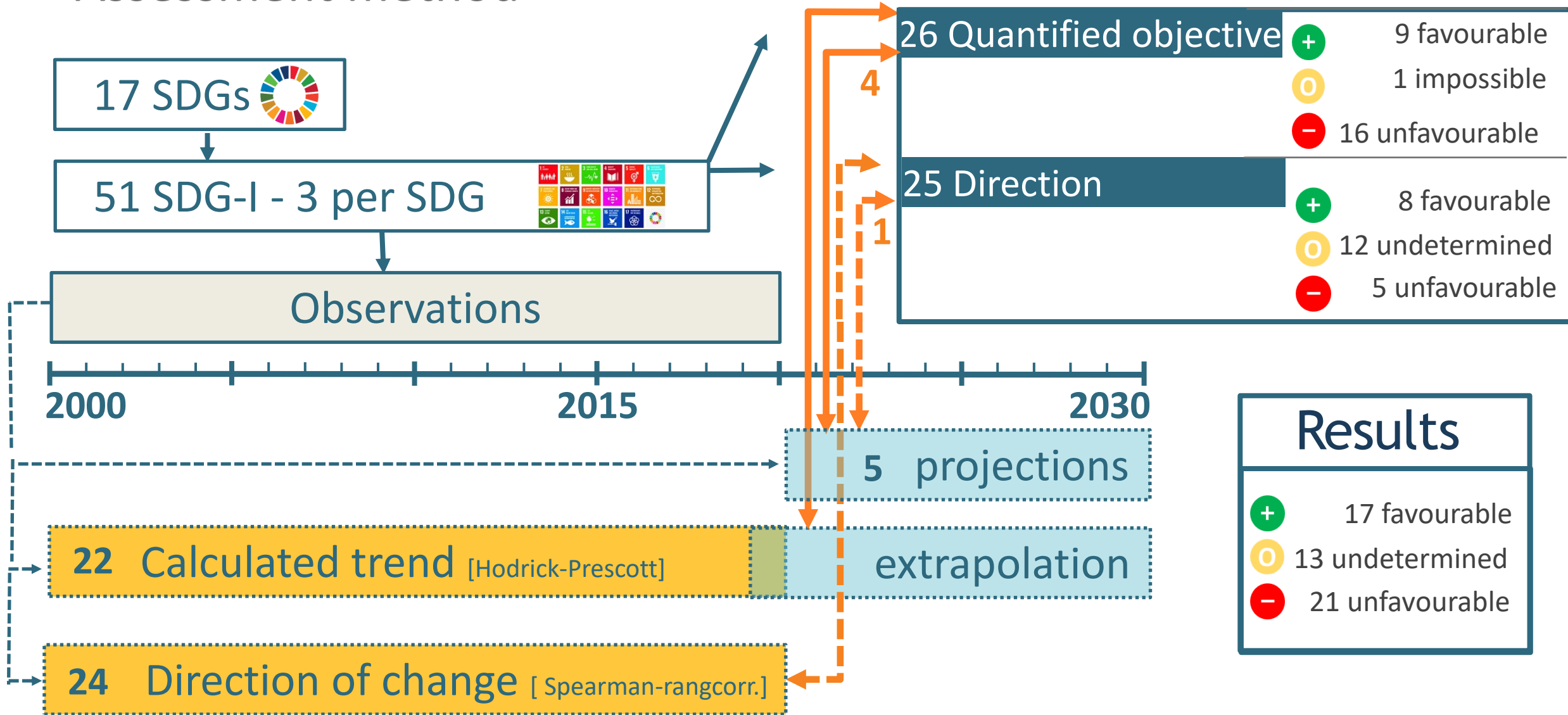
2. Monitoring and assessment of Sustainable Development - Results for Belgium



Starting point of the assessment



Assessment method

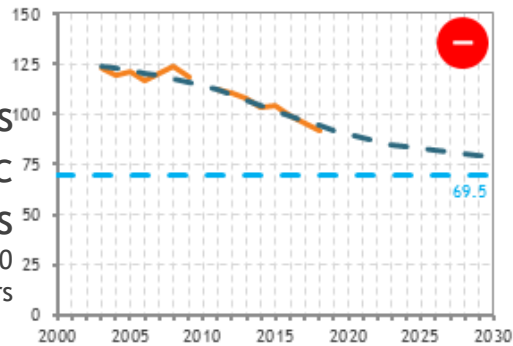


Is Belgium on a path to realise the SDGs by 2030?

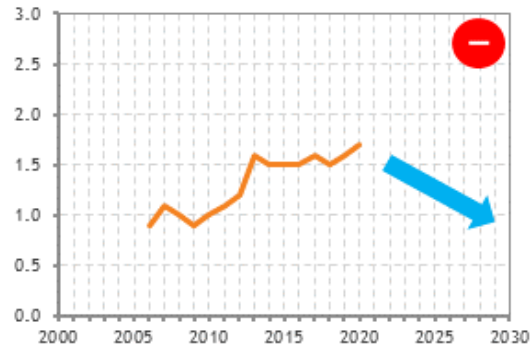
Assessment for Belgium	Total	Soc. component	Env. component	Econ. component	Governance
+ Favourable	17	4	11	2	
o Impossible/undetermined	13	7	2	1	3
- Unfavourable	21	12	3	4	2
Total	51	23	16	7	5

For example

Premature deaths due to chronic diseases
crude death rate per 100,000 inhabitants < 65 years

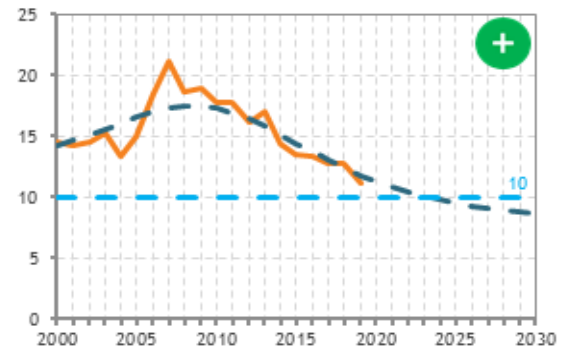


Inactive population due to caring responsibilities
% of population aged 15-64

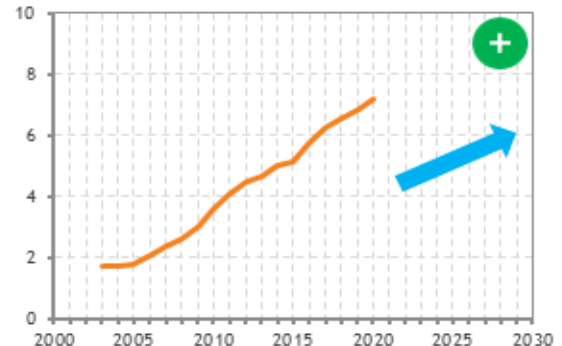


For example

Exposure to particulate matter
micrograms PM2.5 per m³ pop. weighted av.



Organic agriculture area
% of agricultural area

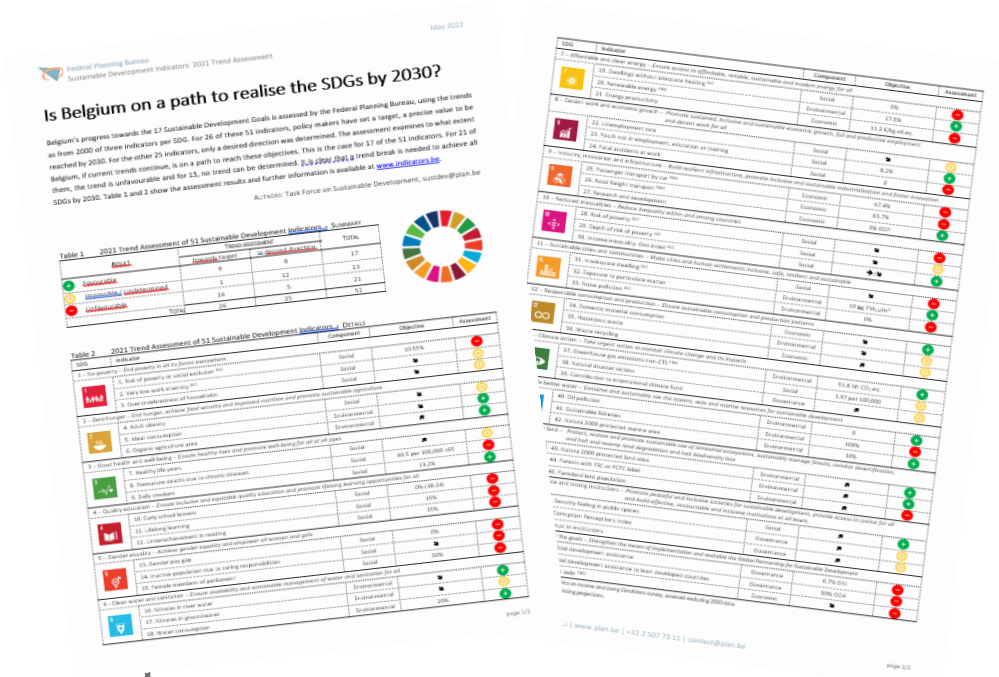


To few indicators to determine a trend



Is Belgium on a path to realise the SDGs by 2030?

Detailed results



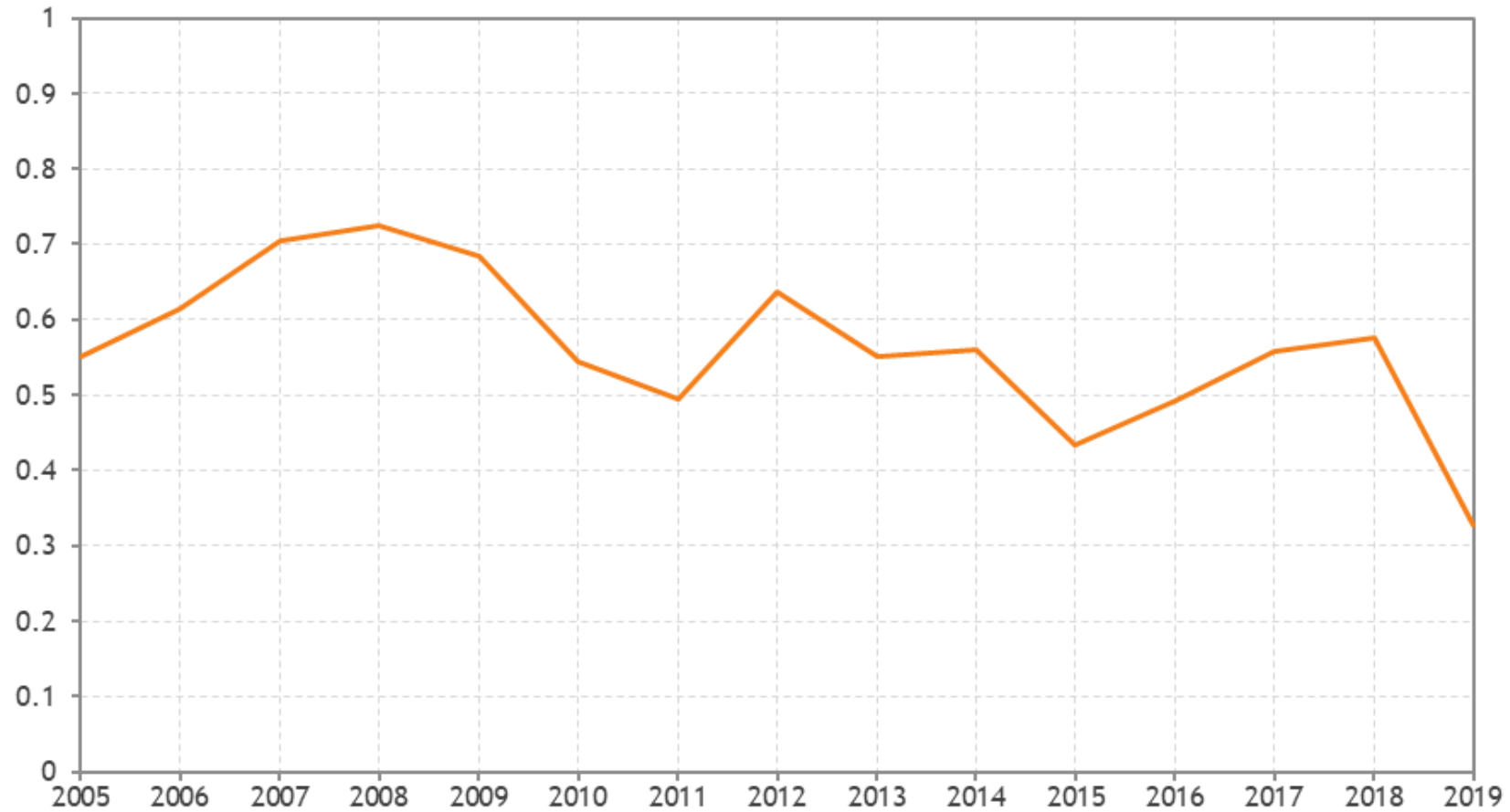
For example

SDG	Indicator	Component	Objective	Assessment
	7. Healthy life years	Social	↗	0
	8. Premature deaths due to chronic diseases	Social	69.5 per 100,000 <65	-
	9. Daily smokers	Social	13.2%	+

- SDG
- 3 SDG-I per SDG
- Component
 - Social
 - Environmental
 - Economic
 - Governance
- Objective
 - Direction, Quantified target
- Assessment



Complementary information: Composite Indicator “Well-being here & now”



Source: Federal Planning Bureau



3. Conclusion

Constructive cooperation and discussions between partners regarding SDG-I list



Societal debate on SDG-I list: Consolidation of SDG-I list for Belgium

➔ input from specialists and regions

Monitoring of Sustainable Development Goals
Results for Belgium: a trendbreak is needed



➔

Save the date
14.06.2022
Webinar
Evaluation des progrès de la Belgique vers les SDG
Evaluatie van de vooruitgang van België naar de SDG's

In Belgium, further cooperation with regions is necessary and evident to monitor the SDGs.

Principle 1. Official statistics provide an indispensable element in the information system of a democratic society ...

United Nations General Assembly – Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics



