# **SDGP Indicators**

## **Guidance note for SDGP partnerships**

This guidance note helps you develop, monitor and evaluate your SDGP project. It will also help you collect consistent data to report on your SDGP project to the Netherlands Enterprise Agency and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. We use this data to track progress and report yearly policy priorities. In this way, you contribute to optimal service delivery and better visibility of the results from the SDGP programme.

This guidance note includes the overarching indicators that are mandatory for all SDGP projects. Also, it includes the mandatory indicators for the following 4 SDGP result areas:

1. Result area 1 - Nutritional value

2. Result area 2 – Sustainable value chains

3. Result area 3 – Sustainable and resilient food production systems

4. Result area 4 – Better work and higher incomes

The guidance note contains all mandatory indicator definitions and profiles grouped around the 4 SDGP result areas. We expect you to include the overarching indicators and the indicators from the project-specific result area. Also, we welcome the inclusion of indicators from other result areas if the project also contributes to the realisation of these result areas.

We expect you to align your project's M&E indicators with the listed indicators as much as possible. You may find that some indicators or sub-indicators (disaggregation levels) are more applicable than others.

Please note the following when collecting your final set of indicators for your M&E framework:

* Always start your indicator selection with the mandatory indicators in this guidance note;
* The less you follow the mandatory indicators, the more argumentation you will need to justify your choice;
* The selected mandatory indicators are only part of your M&E framework, besides more project-specific indicators.

If you need help with this guidance note, please contact your programme advisor.

## Overarching Indicators - mandatory for all projects

**0.1. Indicator:** Number of companies with a supported plan to invest, trade or provide services

* **Disaggregation levels:** Dutch, Local, Other.

Dutch: Enterprises located in the Netherlands.  
Local: Enterprises located in the target country where the project takes place. This does not include foreign multinationals.

Other: Enterprises located in a country other than the Netherlands or a target country.

* **Results level:** Outcome.
* **Definition:** Number of Dutch and local enterprises with a supported plan to invest or trade or deliver services in the target country. Supported plan: project plan, proven by a contract with the development organisation. This includes the plans of existing private partners of the partnership.
* **Reporting frequency:** Yearly.
* **Calculation method:** Every reporting year, determine the total number of companies with a supported plan to invest, trade or provide services due to the intervention. This is the current stock of plans to date.
* **Data collection method:** Data from project records.

**0.2. Indicator:** Number of direct jobs supported

* **Disaggregation levels:** Female, Youth (18-35 years), Total.
* **Results level:** Outcome.
* **Definition:** Jobs created by the project, in full-time equivalent (FTE). This indicator reflects the number of people that can provide for themselves through a decent job created with Dutch development aid.
* **Reporting frequency:** Yearly.
* **Calculation method:**
* Private Sector jobs: Every reporting year, determine the total number of FTE jobs created by the project so far. This is the current stock of private-sector jobs to date. The indicator includes FTE jobs provided by companies (seasonal, contractual and part-time employees) and informal employment.
* Farmer jobs: Every reporting year, determine the total number of farmer (commercial/market-oriented) FTE jobs the project has created so far. This is the current stock of farmer jobs to date. The indicator only relates to people (and their employees) targeted by the intervention that started farming (became self-employed) due to the intervention.
* Convert part-time/informal jobs to FTE jobs on a pro-rata basis, based on the local definition of a working week. Seasonal or short-term jobs are prorated based on the worked reporting period. For example, a 3-month full-time job during the harvest season equals a 0.25 FTE job for the reporting period of one year. If the information is not available, convert 2 part-time jobs to one full-time job.
* **Data collection method:** Data from project records.

**0.3. Indicator:** Number of people trained or skills developed

* **Disaggregation levels:** Female, Youth (18-35 years), Total.
* **Results level:** Output.
* **Definition:** Number of people that verifiably have received training through the project, including but not limited to skills development, vocational training and incubation programmes.
* **Reporting frequency:** Yearly.
* **Calculation method:** Every reporting year, count the unique number of people who have participated in a training course.
* **Data collection method:** Data from project records.

## Result area 1 - mandatory for theme 1 projects

## Nutritional value

**1.1. Indicator:** Number of people directly reached

* **Disaggregation levels**: Female, Children under 5 years, Total.
* **Results level:** Output.
* **Definition:** People are reached directly when they benefit from activities that improve nutrition. These activities can relate to improved knowledge, attitudes and practices about food intake (for example behaviour change, communication or distribution of supplements), improved access to food or to more resilience to stresses and/or shocks (see indicators below).
* **Reporting frequency**: Yearly.
* **Calculation:** Every reporting year, count the unique number of people reached with project activities to improve nutrition. Do not include the numbers from previous years.
* **Data collection method:** Data from project records, that is, registration of participants, preferably including coding to identify and follow individuals and households, considering context-specific regulations for privacy.

**1.2. Indicator:** Number of people with improved food intake

* **Disaggregation levels**: Female, Children under 5 years, Total
* **Results level:** Outcome.
* **Definition:** Improved food intake refers to a more diverse and adequate diet, especially for women of reproductive age and children under 5. This could be based on the intake of more food and/or more nutritious food, including fortified foods or supplements, year-round.
* **Reporting frequency:** Data from baseline and endline surveys, and possibly mid-term for projects longer than 5 years.
* **Calculation**: At mid-term and/or endline, count the unique number of people who have an improved food intake due to the intervention.
* **Data collection method**: We recommend using an internationally-validated indicator as part of the project level baseline and endline study. Possible indicators are [Minimum Acceptable Diet](https://inddex.nutrition.tufts.edu/data4diets/indicator/minimum-acceptable-diet-mad?back=/data4diets/indicators) (MAD) and [Minimum Dietary Diversity (for Women](https://inddex.nutrition.tufts.edu/data4diets/indicator/minimum-dietary-diversity-women-mdd-w?back=/data4diets/indicators)) (MDD-W). You can apply these among a representative sample of directly targeted people. In the case of fortified foods and/or supplement-specific questions on access and intake, add these to the baseline and endline studies.

**1.3. Indicator**: Number of people with improved access to appropriate food

* **Disaggregation levels:** Female, Children under 5 years, Total
* **Results level:** Outcome.
* **Definition:** The number of people who have improved access to food through
  + own production, for example, kitchen gardens
  + increased income, for example, through cash crops or other income-generating activities

in combination with adequate local supply of food, for example, through locally-processed complementary food or diversified/improved food items in local shops, and so on.

* **Reporting frequency:** Data from baseline and endline surveys, and possibly mid-term for projects longer than 5 years.
* **Calculation:** At mid-term and/or endline, count the unique number of people who have improved their access to appropriate food due to the intervention.
* **Data collection method:** We recommend using an internationally-validated indicator as part of the project level baseline (mid-term) and endine study that measures food security, meaning access to appropriate food. Possible indicators are [Household Food Insecurity Access Scale](https://inddex.nutrition.tufts.edu/data4diets/indicator/household-food-insecurity-access-scale-hfias?back=/data4diets/indicators) (HFIAS) or [Food Insecurity Experience Scale](https://inddex.nutrition.tufts.edu/data4diets/indicator/food-insecurity-experience-scale-fies?back=/data4diets/indicators) (FIES), which can be applied among a representative sample of directly targeted households or persons. In the case of household-level data, you can convert this to person-level data based on the composition of households.

**1.4. Indicator:** Number of people whose nutritional situation became more resilient to possible stresses and/or shocks

* **Disaggregation levels:** Female, Children under 5 years, Total
* **Results level:** Outcome.
* **Definition:** Number of people who have benefited from environmental improvements that make their food security and nutritional situation less vulnerable to seasonal variation and shocks. These improvements could include better (drought-resistant) water management, increased production and/or income, access to saving groups to buffer periods of scarce resources, and so on. In this way, people’s food security and nutritional situation are strengthened for a longer period.
* **Reporting frequency:** Data from baseline and endline surveys, and possibly mid-term for projects longer than 5 years.
* **Calculation method:** At mid-term and/or endline, count the unique number of people whose nutritional situation has become more resilient to possible stress and/or shock.
* **Data collection method:** We recommend using an internationally-validated indicator in the project level baseline (mid-term) and endline study, such as the abovementioned HFIAS or FIES in combination with [Months of Adequate Household Food Provisioning](http://www.fao.org/3/a-i6275e.pdf) (MAHFP). This indicator is relatively easy to apply and provides complementary data generated with, for example, the HFIAS or FIES indicator. You can also apply MAHFP with a representative sample of directly targeted households. Subsequently, you can convert the number of households to people.

## Result area 2 - mandatory for theme 2 projects

## Sustainable value chains: result area 2 and/or result area 4 indicators are mandatory

**2.1. Indicator:** Number of small-scale food producers directly reached

* **Disaggregation levels:** Female, Youth (18-35 years), Total.
* **Results level:** Output.
* **Definition:** Small-scale food producers are farmers with land to produce food for their own consumption or the market. Farmers can own or rent land, or they may have user rights. Directly reached refers to beneficiaries being reached with structural activities or services, such as regular advice, training programmes or visits.
* **Reporting frequency:** Yearly.
* **Calculation:** Every reporting year, count the unique number of small-scale food producers reached with project activities. Do not include the numbers from previous years. Count members from the same household as individual small-scale food producers if they are targetted individually.
* **Data collection method:** Data from project M&E mechanism and related records. This requires the registration of participants, including coding and basic data to identify individuals and households and record their participation in different project activities, considering context-specific regulations for privacy.

**2.2. Indicator:** Number of small-scale food producers with improved productivity

* **Disaggregation levels:** Female, Youth (18-35 years), Total.
* **Results level:** Outcome.
* **Definition:** Increased productivity refers to the quantitative and/or qualitative improvement of the production of a particular crop: more value of crop output in kilogrammes in a given year. In smallholder producer systems, this is usually measured in increased volume and value of specific crop output per hectare per period, for example, a season or year.
* **Reporting frequency:** Data from baseline and endline surveys, and possibly mid-term for projects longer than 5 years.
* **Calculation method:** At mid-term and/or endline, count the unique number of small-scale food producers that have increased their productivity due to the intervention.
* **Data collection method:** At the project level, it is essential to get reliable information on production volumes, related costs for inputs, services and labour and sales prices and volumes to monitor the results and estimate whether producers have realised a net income increase.

**2.3. Indicator:** Number of small-scale food producers with increased income

* **Disaggregation levels:** Female, Youth (18-35 years), Total.
* **Results level:** Outcome.
* **Definition:** Increased income refers to net benefit from producing a particular crop(s) through for example lower production costs, better selling prices and/or increased volumes sold.
* **Reporting frequency:** Data from baseline and endline surveys, and possibly mid-term for projects longer than 5 years.
* **Calculation method:** At mid-term and/or endline, count the unique number of small-scale food producers that have increased their income due to the intervention.
* **Data collection method:** At the project level, it is essential to get reliable information on production volumes, related input costs, services and labour, as well as sales prices and volumes to monitor the results and estimate whether producers have realised a net increase in income.

**2.4. Indicator:** Number of small-scale food producers with improved access to input or output markets

* **Disaggregation levels**: Female, Youth (18-35 years), Total.
* **Results level**: Outcome.
* **Definition**: Improved access to input refers to better access (quality, quantity, price and/or regular availability) to seeds, fertilisers, breeding stock, materials and tools, and/or labour and liquidity - related to the primary process of the farm. Improved access to output markets refers to better access (distance, logistics, demand for farming products and pricing) to distribution systems for farmers' yields.
* **Reporting frequency**: Yearly.
* **Calculation method**: Every reporting year, count the unique number of small-scale food producers that have improved their access to input or output markets due to the intervention. Do not include the numbers from previous years.
* **Data collection method:** Data from project M&E mechanism and related records. This requires the registration of family farmers, including coding and basic data, to follow them during the project period and register their access to input and/or output markets while considering context-specific regulations for privacy.

**2.5. Indicator:** Number of small-scale food producers whose livelihood became more resilient to shocks

* **Disaggregation levels**: Female, Youth (18-35 years), Total.
* **Results level**: Outcome.
* **Definition**: Number of small-scale food producers that now use more climate-resilient production methods and have sustainably increased their production and income, resulting in a sustainably improved livelihood.
* **Reporting frequency**: Data from baseline and endline surveys, and possibly mid-term for projects longer than 5 years.
* **Calculation method**: At mid-term and/or endline, count the unique number of small-scale food producers whose lives have become more resilient to shocks due to the intervention.
* **Data collection method:** We recommend applying an internationally-validated tool to measure the improvement of livelihoods, such as the [Poverty Probability Index](https://www.povertyindex.org/ppi-country) (PPI). Also, apply the tool Months of Adequate Household Food Provisioning (MAHFP) as mentioned under indicator 1.4.

## Result area 3 - mandatory for theme 3 projects

## Sustainable and climate-resilient food production systems

**3.1. Indicator**: Number of hectares of farmland directly reached

* **Disaggregation levels**: does not apply here.
* **Results level:** Output.
* **Definition**: Farmland, including pastures and fishing grounds, reached with interventions contributing to sustainable and climate-resilient production practices. The interventions improve soil health, biodiversity, ecosystem services, resilient livelihoods, ecosystems, and reduce the effects of climate change.
* **Reporting frequency:** Yearly.
* **Calculation method**: Every reporting year, count the unique number of hectares of farmland reached with project activities that make the farmland more sustainable and climate-resilient. Do not include hectares reached from previous years.
* **Data collection method:** Information from a project-level database, including the registration of participating small-scale food producers, their land tenure and use.

**3.2. Indicator:** Number of hectares of farmland used more eco-friendly

* **Disaggregation levels**: does not apply here.
* **Results level**: Outcome.
* **Definition**: Eco-friendly refers to ecologically beneficial. Eco-friendly practices improve soil health, biodiversity and ecosystem services, resilient livelihoods and ecosystems, and reduce the effects of climate change. They include but are not limited to:
* reducing the use of pesticides, for example, by using banker plants, catch crops, intercropping, crop rotation, pest-resilient varieties, and biological pest control;
* reducing the use of chemical fertilisers, for example, by green manuring, mulching, crop rotation (with nitrogen-fixing crops), agroforestry and using compost and/or other natural fertilisers;
* reducing greenhouse gas emissions, for example, by capturing carbon through tree crops and using fewer chemical agri-inputs;
* reducing water use, for example, by using drought-resistant varieties, planting trees, mulching to maintain soil moisture content, erosion control, contour farming, and water harvesting;
* increasing biodiversity, for example, through crop rotation, intercropping, agroforestry, regenerative agricultural practices, and planting indigenous species;
* increasing the soil's fertility and organic matter content, for example, by minimum soil tillage, composting, mulching, green manuring, erosion control, and so on.
* **Reporting frequency**: Yearly.
* **Calculation method**: Every reporting year, count the unique number of hectares of farmland used in a more eco-friendly way due to the intervention. Do not include the hectares from previous years.
* **Data collection method:** Information from a project-level database, including the registration of participating small-scale food producers, their land tenure and use.

**3.3. Indicator**: Number of hectares of farmland that agro-ecologically became more resilient to possible stresses and/or shocks

* **Disaggregation levels**: does not apply here.
* **Results level**: Outcome.
* **Definition:** Farmland that has benefited from more climate-resilient and eco-friendly production practices described under indicator 3.2. This has resulted in increased sustainability of the agroecosystem as a whole, making the farmland less susceptible to stresses (increasing temperatures, pests and diseases) and/or shocks (floods and prolonged droughts).
* **Reporting frequency**: Data to be gathered through baseline and endline surveys, and possibly at mid-term for projects longer than 5 years.
* **Calculation method**: at mid-term and/or endline, count the unique number of hectares of farmland that has become more resilient to possible stress and/or shocks due to the intervention.
* **Data collection method:** We recommend using internationally-validated tools or methods. For example, [Standard Assessment of Agricultural Mitigation Potential and Livelihoods](https://ccafs.cgiar.org/samples-standard-assessment-agricultural-mitigation-potential-and-livelihoods#.XsugYGj7Q2x) (SAMPLES), supported by CGIAR. Another option is to use applied technology such as the [SoilCares](https://www.agrocares.com/en/services/soilcares/) package of AgroCares, for analysing and monitoring nutrients and organic matter in the soil.

## Result area 4 - mandatory for theme 4 projects

## Better work and higher incomes for young people (<35) and women

## Optional for theme 2 projects: efficient value chains for which result area 2 and/or result area 4 indicators are mandatory.

**4.1. Indicator:** Number of land and production workers with improved labour conditions in accordance with international agreements

* **Disaggregation levels:** Female, Youth (18 - 35 years), Total.
* **Results level:** Outcome.
* **Definition:** Workers refers to paid (seasonal) land and production workers and people working in micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). Small-scale food producers are not counted here as they are included in the indicators under Result Area 2. Make sure to meet the following conditions:
* improved labour conditions: working techniques that protect labour rights and promote safe and secure environments for all workers, especially those in precarious employment;
* in accordance with international agreements: compliance with labour rights (freedom of association and collective bargaining) based on International Labour Organization (ILO) standards and national legislation.
* **Reporting frequency:** Yearly.
* **Calculation method:** Every reporting year, count the unique number of land and production workers with improved labour conditions following international agreements. Do not include the numbers from previous years.

**4.2. Indicator:** Number of land and production workers with improved labour productivity

* **Disaggregation levels:** Female, Youth (18-35 years), Total.
* **Results level:** Outcome.
* **Definition:** Workers who have better skills and/or access to better (more efficient, productive, safe, and so on) working techniques such as new machines or other infrastructure due to the intervention. Consider paid (seasonal) land and production workers and people involved in micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). Small-scale food producers (farmers) are not counted here as they are included in indicator 2.2.
* **Reporting frequency:** Yearly.
* **Calculation method:** Every reporting year, count the unique number of workers with improved labour productivity. Do not include the numbers from previous years.

**4.3. Indicator:** Number of land and production workers with increased income

* **Disaggregation levels:** Female, Youth (18-35 years), Total.
* **Results level:** Outcome.
* **Definition:** Workers who have a higher income due to the intervention. Consider hired (seasonal) land and production workers and people involved in micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). Small-scale food producers (farmers) are not counted here as they are included in indicator 2.3.
* **Reporting frequency:** Yearly.
* **Calculation method:** Every reporting year, count the unique number of workers with an increased income. Do not include the workers from previous years.

**4.4. Indicator:** Number of people assisted to develop economic income generating activities

* **Disaggregation levels:** Female, Youth (18-35 years), Total.
* **Results level:** Outcome.
* **Definition:** People assisted refers to (micro/small) entrepreneurs that the intervention has helped start up, revive or scale their income-generating activity/business via a project plan, confirmed by a contract with the development organisation. Small-scale food producers (farmers) are not counted here. Economic income-generating activities: access to funding such as loans or grants, business development services, entrepreneurship and financial education awareness programmes.
* **Reporting frequency:** Yearly.
* **Calculation method:** Every reporting year, count the unique number of people assisted in developing economic income-generating activities. Do not include the number of people from previous years.