Valuing What Counts

A UN Systemwide Contribution on progress beyond Gross Domestic Product (GDP)



Why do we need to go beyond GDP and why now?

- We need a new policy paradigm and metrics to tackle today's challenges and secure our future:
  - Crises: climate change, environment, pandemic, conflict, inequalities - GDP alone is not enough
  - Assess progress from environmental, social, digital, distributional and vulnerability aspects
  - Go beyond income, beyond today, beyond averages
- The UN-wide contribution aimed to inform the Secretary-General with:
  - 1. A narrative on why we must go Beyond GDP
  - 2. Conceptual Framework for Valuing What Counts
  - 3. Recommended next steps for consideration

#### Background

Our Common Agenda report called for action to "urgently find measures of progress that complement GDP"

The UN systemwide contribution focuses on the conceptual and foundational CEB aspects of beyond GDP. deliberated It does not aim to resolve on the topic of all the granular progress beyond methodological or GDP in November 2021 technical and tasked HLCP to develop a questions. United Nations system-wide contribution on Beyond GDP

d GDP. SDG 17 resolve Target 19: ar "develop lor measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product"



### Framework for Valuing What Counts LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND SUSTAINABLE AND JUST FUTURE **OUTCOMES Reduced** inequalities **Respect for life** Wellbeing and greater solidarity and the planet and agency



# Links to SDGs

SDGs	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Respect for life and the planet																	
From vulnerability to resilience																-	
Participatory governance and stronger institutions																	
Innovative and ethical economies																	
Wellbeing and agency																	
Reduced inequalities and greater solidarity																	

# Links to Our Common Agenda





Criteria for assessing Beyond GDP metrics

### To be informed by a set of 10-20 headline indicators:

- Comparable across time and countries, wellestablished and trusted.
- Quality criteria for official statistics.
- Complementary to GDP to enrich the story.
- Convey strong and clear messages that are actionable and intuitive.
- Put people at the centre. Measurement units may vary.
- Feasible to compile across countries.
- Conceptually in line with the Beyond GDP framework.
- Ambitious: placeholders for metrics of the future to measure what matters.

Next steps

It is anticipated that the need to go beyond GDP can be discussed at the Summit of the Future to consider current challenges and a vision at the political level

**If a** new set of metrics needs to be selected to inform these efforts, **a technical process** would be needed based on the:

- Update and extension of SNA with countries' early engagement in testing
- Supporting countries' statistical capacity to fill gaps in priority areas

# Thank you!