

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by all member states of the United Nations in September 2015 set ambitious objectives to be realized by 2030. Sound metrics and data are critical for turning the SDGs into practical tools in order to extend awareness, inform governments and public opinion, identify the most critical issues and monitor the behavior of systems in time.

The UN started to develop the indicator framework for the 17 SDGs and 169 targets producing a preliminary set of 231 indicators.

But the SDG framework can be adapted to subsystems and/or to a smaller subset of SDGs, trying to have a contribution in the direction of the goals. We provide an example of how the SDGs framework can be used as a monitoring system of the sustainability of food production and water provision.