Call for Papers
Metrics that Make a Difference: The Use of Indicators of Well-Being and Sustainable Development in Policy

On the 23-24th October 2019, the OECD, in partnership with DANE (National Statistics Office of Colombia), DNP (National Planning Ministry of Colombia) and the Universidad del Rosario will hold the **International Conference on the Policy Uses of Well-being and Sustainable Development Indicators in Latin America and the Caribbean – LAC-** in Bogotá, Colombia. The Conference is organised in the context of the Project on Policy Metrics for Well-being and Sustainable Development in LAC, led by the OECD Statistics Directorate and OECD Development Centre. This project is part of the European Union (EU) Regional Facility for Development in Transition for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), an EU-led initiative, jointly implemented with the OECD and its OECD Development Centre and the ECLAC.

The conference will help to exchange knowledge and experience on the design and use of multidimensional indicator sets in policy-making processes for improving people's well-being and achieving sustainable development. It aims to include a diverse range of perspectives from across the LAC region, and to this end, the organisers are issuing a call for papers on three topics: well-being indicators, data gaps and policy uses of well-being metrics.

The *Call for Papers* is being launched to source relevant research and case studies related to the use of multidimensional indicator sets in well-being and sustainable development policy, that will be presented at the conference and included in an online proceedings document which will be made publicly available following the event.

Selected authors will be invited to present their papers at the conference in Bogotá.

Topics for the conference include the following:

1/ Selecting policy-relevant indicators for improving well-being and sustainable development outcomes
- What are the most important dimensions of well-being to be included in a multi-dimensional measurement framework? How can statisticians and policy actors determine which issues (and which indicators) matter most for shaping national (or local/regional) development policies?
- Regarding the policy-making process, which actors should be included in the indicator selection process and how? What lessons can be learned from public consultations and engagement strategies?
- The UN 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals will clearly provide an essential context for achieving well-being, but how can the complexity of the 169 targets and 232 indicators be streamlined for policy purposes?
- What is the ideal number of indicators to be included in a dashboard for guiding well-being and sustainability policies? What different types of information frameworks are needed for different policy purposes?

2/ Filling data gaps
- The use of new data sources for measuring relevant aspects of well-being and sustainable development, such as administrative data, geo-spatial data, crowd-sourced data or other innovative approaches.

- The development or use of new measures to better understand issues of particular relevance to understanding well-being in Latin America and the Caribbean, including informality, time use (and particularly unpaid work), child labour, personal security, gender equality, culture, subjective well-being, social connections, and indigenous/ethnic minority outcomes, among others.
- The identification of priority areas for statistical development related to well-being and sustainability and the mapping of data availability across Latin America and the Caribbean.

3/ Policy uses of well-being metrics: locally, nationally and internationally

For measurement to make an actual difference in societal outcomes and people's lives, they need to be used in decision making by governments and development agencies at all levels (from local communities up to the national and international level). Papers on this issue will describe experiences with the use of multidimensional indicator frameworks at any stage of the policy or programme process, from agenda setting through to ex-ante design, implementation, monitoring, and ex-post evaluation. Ideally, the papers will provide some background on the development of the measurement framework, explaining how the metrics were used (or are intended to be used) to shape policy and programme discussions and decisions, and setting out any lessons learned. Particularly welcome are examples of the use of well-being and sustainable development metrics in budgeting processes and national or local/regional planning strategies. Finally, the papers could provide background on the value of using well-being indicators and sustainable development metrics at the international level by taking into consideration for instance the changing global landscape. The papers could also explain how to use these indicators or put them into action, as part of a new international co-operation promoting sustainable development for all as analysed in the Development in Transition approach.

Submission process

We invite submissions in two tracks: completed papers and non-completed papers. They can be submitted in either English or Spanish.

- **Completed papers:** We invite the submission of completed papers that match the themes of the conference to wellbeing@oecd.org by **15 June 2019**. The submission should include complete contact information (including institutional affiliation) and an abstract outlining the key findings and methodology of the paper (max. 300 words).

- **Non-completed papers:** Non-completed papers will be evaluated in a two-step submission process. First, 3-page proposals (including a bibliography) should be sent to wellbeing@oecd.org by **15 June 2019**. Authors will receive feedback from the Selection Committee. Based on the results of this first evaluation, as a second step, selected authors will be asked to submit a full paper to wellbeing@oecd.org by **30 August 2019**. This second submission should include complete contact information (including institutional affiliation) and an abstract outlining the key findings and methodology of the paper (max. 300 words).

Finalists

Papers will be reviewed by a multi-stakeholder selection committee (consisting of representatives of the OECD Statistics Directorate, OECD Development Centre, DANE, DNP, Universidad del Rosario and the European Commission) which will assess papers based on their quality, relevance, and concrete (actionable) nature. The submitter of each paper will be informed of the selection committee's decision by **15 September 2019.**

Finalist papers will be presented at the Conference, with travel and accommodation expenses covered for one presenter per paper. Selected papers will be published in a special compendium that will be distributed at the conference, and disseminated on a range of platforms associated with the organising institutions.