



Sustainable Data to Support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Robert S. Chen

NASA Socioeconomic Data and Applications Center

bchen@ciesin.columbia.edu

The international community agreed on an ambitious set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in September 2015, aimed at achieving a broad range of development and environment targets by the year 2030. Credible, consistent, and widely shared data are central not only to monitoring progress towards the SDGs over the next 15 years, but also to successful, evidence-based sustainable development decision-making. The World Data System can and should play a key role in this global effort, working with national statistical offices and other organizations to support the quality, stewardship, and accessibility of scientific data relevant to the SDGs and the involvement of scientists and scientific data managers in meeting the data needs of the sustainable development community from global to local levels.