

**Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Committee on Statistics
Eighth session**

Item 5(a) of the provisional agenda

Emerging issues: Measuring progress beyond gross domestic product

Document

From gross domestic product to well-being and sustainability (ESCAP/CST/2022/5)

Statement provided by:

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Statement:

First of all, we would like to express our gratitude to the Bureau of the Committee on Statistics for focusing on measures of well-being and sustainability and identifying them as emerging priority issues.

Japan has experienced many natural disasters, and we recognize that we are always threatened by such disasters, which have become more severe and frequent due to climate change. Based on the lessons learned from these disasters, we are promoting the mainstreaming of disaster risk reduction, prior investment, and better reconstruction ("Build Back Better") by publishing the values of indicators that show progress toward achieving the global targets of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

With regard to people's well-being, Japan conducts the "Survey on Satisfaction and Quality of Life" to grasp people's subjective satisfaction with the structure of the Japanese economy and society. We publish a dataset called the "Well-being Dashboard" by utilizing the result of this survey and objective statistical data. In this way, we work to identify people's satisfaction and quality of life from both subjective and objective perspectives and to reflect the results in our policy management.

Additionally, we have conducted the "Survey on Changes in Attitudes and Behaviours in Daily Life under the Influence of COVID-19". Through this survey, we discovered changes in people's working styles including the rate of remote work, as well as changes in people's lives and attitudes such as spending time with their families, interest in rural migration, and life satisfaction.

We believe that ESCAP member states also conduct their own surveys on well-being and sustainability, depending on their circumstances, but we are aware that their efforts are not necessarily shared. In order to consider regional approaches, we think that it is essential to collect these case studies and to clarify regional issues of common concern based on them.

Submitted on:

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