Measuring Australia’s progress in a Post-2015 environment

Peter Harper*

Australian Bureau of Statistics, Canberra, Australia – peter.harper@abs.gov.au

Over a decade ago, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) first released *Measures of Australia’s Progress* (MAP). MAP presented a comprehensive set of indicators from across the domains of economy, society and environment to provide insights on how life and societal wellbeing in Australia were improving and at what rate. In 2011-12, the ABS led a national public consultation to ensure MAP remains relevant to today’s society – that the ABS is measuring what matters most to Australians. The consultation led to the development of a conceptual framework underpinned by a set of aspirations from Australians about what matters most. The measurement framework included a new domain of governance (in addition to society, economy and environment) and there was a stronger societal focus strengthening links to human wellbeing, more explicit inclusion of cross cutting themes, and recurring themes that highlight big ideas that appear across domains.

This paper presents the ABS experience in developing and implementing the conceptual and measurement framework used to paint a statistical picture of whether life in Australia is getting better and considers this in light of discussions and proposed goals for a Post-2015 development agenda.

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