

Algeria

1) What work, reports or other contributions have been produced in your country?

. *Progress*

Periodic assessments of the growth generator parameters are performed in the annual balance sheets and the economic and social reports of the sectors and institutions. The CNES (*Conseil National Économique et Social* – National Economic and Social Committee) produces a six-monthly report on the economy and an annual report on the Economic and Social State of the Nation. One of the objectives set is to arrive at regionalising economic growth and to provide infra-annual indicators.

. *Well-being*

The differences in sustainable human development between the territories and their dismemberments are being developed in the context of the RNDH (*Rapport National sur le Développement Humain* – National Report on Human Development) to report on the disparities that may exist between population groups and social groups with reference to access to services. The implementation of a poverty observatory has provided us with more refined indicators and to monitor the development of the standard of living of populations.

. *Quality of life*

Two publications are produced regularly:

- The National Report on Human Development
- The assessment report on the Millennium Development Goals (MDG)

The reports on human development were founded annually on specific themes such as human capital, the MDG, the Nation's social budget, humanitarian mine-clearance, etc.

. *Sustainable development*

The CNES has retained the principle of an annual report on sustainable development which covers the quality of growth, the quality of the distribution and the preservation/development of environmental resources. The first report of this type has already been drafted and a process of cooperation has been engaged with the World Bank to select the relevant indicators for sustainable development and to calculate a summary index.

. *Going beyond the simple logic of GDP*

This indicator must be refined before considering going beyond it. There are two pitfalls:

- The capabilities and resources for statistical collection
- The substitution indicators must be validated in practice and by the international institutions, on condition of being able to develop a summary or composite indicator.

We are more concerned with providing impact indicators (in terms of target populations and the environment) than volume indicators, due to the immensity of the territory and the unbalanced occupation of the space. In the same way, development programmes are massively focused on remedying the social deficits between regions and social groups.

. Relation between societal progress and individual conditions

There is no sense to economic progress unless it produces impacts at the social level and is accompanied by significant individual progress at the level of capabilities.

. Taking account of environmental phenomena

- The last delivery was the national report on climatic changes under the auspices of the CCNUCC (*Convention-Cadre des Nations Unies sur les Changements Climatiques* - United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change UNFCCC) and the GIEC (*Groupe d'experts intergouvernemental sur l'évolution du climat* - Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)). Algeria is currently preparing its third communication in this field, under the supervision of the CNES, who had to hear the institutions but also to seek the opinions of the main players in civil society (associations, NGOs, economic partners).
- An Environmental Observatory produces an annual report on the status of the environment and in this context uses a battery of criteria to draw comparisons over time.
- The CNES national report on sustainable development covers the environmental aspects from the concept of the consumption of resources and the reproduction of species in relation to biodiversity.

. Population access to public services (education, health, transport, etc.)

The different indicators of the WHO, UNESCO, BIT, UNEP, etc, are taken into account and periodically assessed through sectoral supports and standardising assessment grids.

2) What topics are your ESC currently working on?

The framing and assessment of public policies dedicated to well-being and the on-going improvement of the standard of living are covered by six topics which constitute the substrata of the CNES road map and which are: human development, a knowledge based economy, governance, poverty, sustainable development and economic freedoms. These permanent topics are completed by the establishment of fifteen ad hoc committees: food security, energy security, the demographic dynamic and social needs, health security, energy security, the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, climatic changes, the national economic and social pact, etc. The road map topics and the work of the ad hoc committees are based on the pillars of the kit of indicators inspired by the international institutions such as the UNDP, WBI, OECD, the African Development Bank, the African Union, the FAO, the WHO, etc. These files also have the objective of implementing measurement, monitoring and assessment indicators based on international reference systems and with benchmarking adapted to the different situations.

3) What topics will your ESC be working on in the future?

The CNES is endeavouring to implement good practice in the matter of assessment and is concentrating on the statistical collection of data in order to have more refined information which would enable qualitative and discriminative analyses. A knowledge-based economy is another theme currently being worked on. The production of volume 1 "A knowledge-based Economy: an Inventory" in December 2008 was validated by the Experts of the WBI. The second volume "Implementation strategies" is being drafted.

4) If you are not working on these topics, or you have not yet considered that possibility, are you nevertheless interested in doing so in the near future? And if so, on what subjects precisely?

The questions in relation to measurement are important. The use of available heuristic resources enabled considerable progress to be achieved in the field of analysis. Nevertheless, these analyses must be refined and we are in the process of on-going steps to bring new visions of development. Without altering or causing new resurgences, the detachment of questions of development from questions of growth must also relate to structural changes. This is not a philosophical question, rather a practical one, being directly related to the progress of societies seen from the angle of their social practices. This dimension questions the universality of measurements.

5) What is the interest of your institution in the different topics related to the measurement of progress, development and well-being?

Our Council is convinced of the need to go beyond measurements of a quantitative type, without, for all that, breaking away from existing referential frameworks. Nevertheless we must bear in mind the operational feasibility of such approaches. This is another calculation ethic that should be invoked.

6) Which of the fields referred to interest you most, either currently or in the future?

Sustainable development and the measurement of disparities in terms of the standard and quality of life are the major centres of interest.

7) What is the interest of civil society in the different topics?

Civil society has a genuine preoccupation with questions related to the standard of living, the environment and sustainable development.

8) What are the main challenges and what are the main practical applications you expect?

Having an adaptable referential not marred by ideological values or over-rated templates. From the known limits of traditional indicators, improve the reference criteria and the calculation protocols thereto related. We must leave the current tropisms which induced negative effects and avoid becoming involved in value judgements. The databases of the international institutions are the subject of caution from the time when they created their own data. Our Council has already made the proposal, accepted by the Central Bureau of the UNDP to organise regional workshops to look at these questions and to make a certain number of proposals to improve the approaches and the statistical quality of measurements.

9) What are the dimensions you consider to be especially important for the measurement of societal progress, development and well-being?

The aspects related to governance in a general sense (political, territorial, economic, etc. governance) and the aspects related to citizenship.

10) Have you suggestions, proposals or good practices to present?

The development of a social matrix or a social well-being matrix, on condition that the measurement criteria are specified in order of priority.

11) Have you suggestions, proposals or good practices to present to ensure consultation with or participation by civil society in moving this work forward?

One of the good practices is the step taken by our Council to develop its report on governance, to combine the approach of the WBI (World Bank Institute) and the MAEP (*Mécanisme Africain d'Evaluation par les Pairs* – African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM)) and to be a centre of reference for the methodologies, instruments and assessment indicators. The need to move toward relevant hybrids to establish good practices but also for the true challenges of development has been acknowledged. Otherwise one of the major suggestions is to reflect on the manner of improving the collection of statistics and the reliability of data.

Indicators

GDP growth rate	potable water, gas and electricity supply, etc.)
GDP regional growth rate	Level of access to potable water
Overall GNP	Quality of potable water
GNP/per head	Processing of domestic and industrial waste
Standard of living	Knowledge Economy Index
Household consumption expenditure	Knowledge Index
Disparities in terms of living standards	Education rate
Disparities in terms of quality of life	Rate of access to secondary level
Regional disparities	Rate of access to higher education
Unemployment rate	Rate of access to professional training
Self-employment rate	Share of own energy
Individual employment initiatives	Energy efficiency
Development of services	Forest fires (number or surface burnt)
Development of CITs	Greenhouse Gas Emissions
National HDI	Air quality
Regional HDI	Water quality
Human Poverty Index	Waste management
WBI Poverty Index	Available water resources
Human Development Gender-Specific Index	Environmental resources
Housing occupation rate	Household energy renovation
Rate of supply of potable water	Share of Hybrid Power Stations
Linear roadway per inhabitant	Share of solar industry
Postal density	Reconversion of plants to natural gas
Telephone density	Political governance
Rate of use of CITs	Territorial governance
Internet penetration density	Economic governance
Level of access of populations to basic public services (access to health services,	Index on the participation of women
	Life expectancy
	Nutritional consumption