

指標 16.10.2

Indicator Name, Target and Goal

Indicator 16.10.2 Number of countries that adopt and implement constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information

Target 16.10 Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

Goal 16 Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Definition and Rationale

○ Definition

The indicator is defined as a measure: whether a country adopts and implements constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information.

○ Concepts

Conceptually, 'public access to information' refers to "the presence of a robust system through which information is made available to citizens and others." Such a system represents a combination of intellectual, physical, and social elements that affect the availability of information to individuals. In other words, in discussing the issue of public access to information, it is important to recognize that any measurement of its practical outworking needs to take into account how individuals perceive the quality of information in the public domain, the nature of the communicative infrastructure in place to facilitate access, and how that information is ultimately utilized by individuals as members of a particular polity.

In general, then, these are the issues that go into legislation and policy on public access. More specifically, such legislation and policy take the form of Freedom of Information laws (FOI laws) which are aimed at allowing access by the general public to data held by national governments, etc.

○ Rationale and Interpretation:

The indicator seems to be selected considering the importance of public access to information.

Data Sources and Collection Method

N/A

Method of Computation and Other Methodological Considerations

○ Computation Method

Based on the metadata provided by UNESCO, it is considered that the following key variables should be assessed as the method of computation:

1. Does a country have constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information?
2. Do those constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees reflect known international agreements (e.g. the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, etc.)?
3. Are implementation mechanisms in place to ensure that such guarantees work?

In Japan, there is the Act on Access to Information Held by Administrative Organs(Act No. 42 of 1999). Pursuant to the provisions of the Act, any person can request the head of an Administrative Organ the disclosure of Administrative Documents held by the Administrative Organ concerned.

Thus, it can be said that Japan is a country that adopts and implements constitutional, statutory and/or policy guarantees for public access to information.

○ Comments and limitations

N/A

Data Disaggregation

N/A

References

Japanese Law Translation(The page of the Act on Access to Information Held

by Administrative Organs)

<http://www.japaneselawtranslation.go.jp/law/detail/?id=99&vm=04&re=01&new=1>

Custodian Ministries of Data

Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

Custodian Ministries of Related Policies

Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

International Organizations

UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UNESCO-UIS)