

Mapping sustainability at regional and local level at Eurostat: visualization and data dissemination

With the ongoing implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the ability to measure these goals at regional levels has become critical for informed decision-making. Eurostat has developed a comprehensive database of SDG indicators, offering insights not only at the national level but, in certain cases, down to regional and local scales. At local level this helps to distinguish between cities, towns and suburbs, and rural areas, enabling more precise targeting of policy interventions. Together with advanced geospatial visualization techniques, this allows for a deeper understanding of sustainability challenges.

Eurostat's SDG indicators provide a quantitative foundation for assessing sustainability across various regions, but their true value emerges when they are spatially represented. GIS and interactive mapping tools enable the visualization of regional disparities, highlighting areas that are particularly vulnerable to climate change or are experiencing lack of progress towards SDGs.

The presentation focuses on Eurostat's contribution to sustainability analysis through sub-national SDG data. I emphasise the importance of translating raw statistical data into visual, spatial formats making sustainability challenges and progress more comprehensible. Through mapping regional differences and visualizing data in an interactive format, we can identify geographic areas that require immediate attention. Such spatial analyses offer valuable insights not only to policymakers but also to local authorities. Eurostat's work in integrating statistical and geospatial data for sustainability analysis can also be a powerful example of how data-driven insights can inform policy and drive positive outcomes.