The status of SDG indicators and related training efforts in Asia and the Pacific

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Empowering and Strengthening National Statistical Systems for Monitoring SDG Indicators

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SIAP
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Asia and the Pacific

Current global indicator framework

- Set of **232 indicators** under 3 tiers:

- **Tier 1**: Indicator is conceptually clear, has an internationally established methodology and standards are available, and data are regularly produced by countries for at least **50% of countries and population in every region where indicator is relevant**

  - See regional groupings

  - 82 indicators

- **Tier 2**: As Tier 1, but data aren't regularly produced by countries

  - 61 indicators

- **Tier 3**: No internationally established methodology or standards are yet available for indicator, but methodology/standards are being (or will be) developed or tested

  - 84 indicators

The remaining 5 indicators fall under multiple tiers

The number 232 is ...

Probably not very useful in the context of the development of national SDG indicator frameworks

- Global indicator framework is intended for **global follow-up and review**

- Many indicators are **compound** indicators (more in a sec ...)

- 9 indicators **not measured at developing country level**, but estimated by custodian agencies:

  - 2.1.2 & 11.6.1: for groups of countries (regions, LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS)

  - 10.1.1, 17.11.1 & 17.12.1: for LDCs as a group

  - 10.c.1: for world and major regions

  - 14.4.1: for world

  - 17.2.1: for OECD/DAC members

  - 17.10.1 for regions

- 84 indicators in **tier 3** (for now)

Compound indicators and disaggregation

- Many indicators embody **multiple concepts**

    - E.g. 1.5.1: **deaths** is clearly different from **missing persons**, and either or both might or might not be included in **affected persons**

    - A **separate indicator** is needed to measure each of the concepts embedded in these **compound indicators**

- Moreover, many indicators require **disaggregation**

    - E.g. 1.1.1: **by sex, age, employment status and geographical location (urban/rural)**

    - Plus, target 17.18 calls for, by 2020, ... to **increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts**

    - Each dimension of disaggregation is, again in fact, a separate indicator

SDG indicators global database

Platform providing access to data compiled through the UN System

- Official list of SDG indicators

- Global database

    - By SDG indicator

    - By country or area

- Metadata repository

Compound indicators in the global database

- Referred to as **series**

    - E.g., 1.3.1 has **15** series

- "Hidden" indicators

    - E.g., 1.1.1 has, in addition to *Proportion of population below the international poverty line of US$1.90 per day*, a series on *Proportion of employed population below the international poverty line of US$1.90 per day (the working poor)*

Data currently in the global database

The global database currently contains data on:

- **15 Goals**

- **66 targets**

- **131 indicators**, of which:

    - 103 SDG indicators, and

    - 29 "additional" indicators

- **466 series**, of which

    - 254 SDG series, and

    - 212 "additional" series

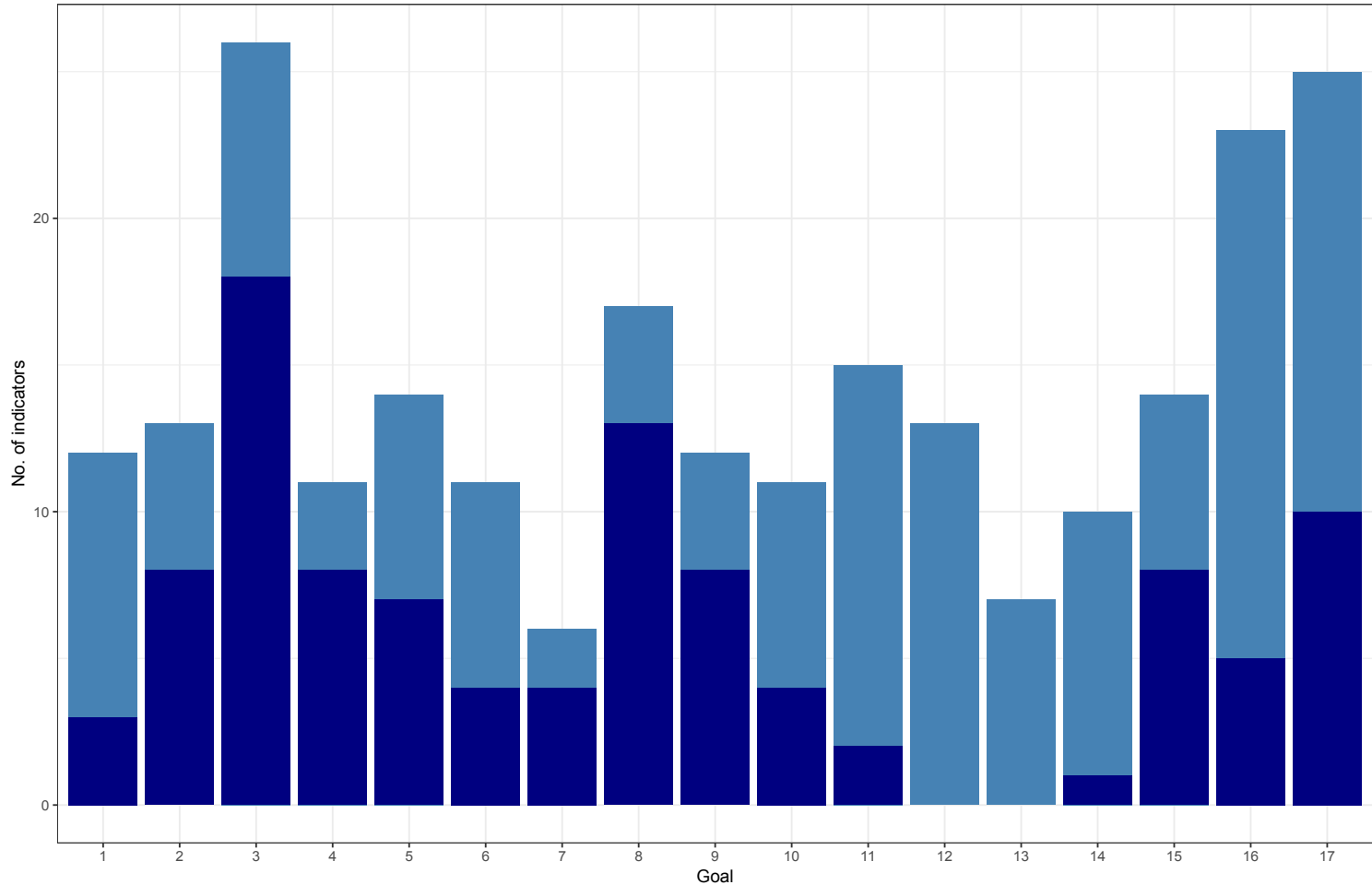- and **522 series with disaggregations** (age group, location and/or sex)

National vs. global data

Discrepancies between national and global data have been a consistent concern since the MDG era:
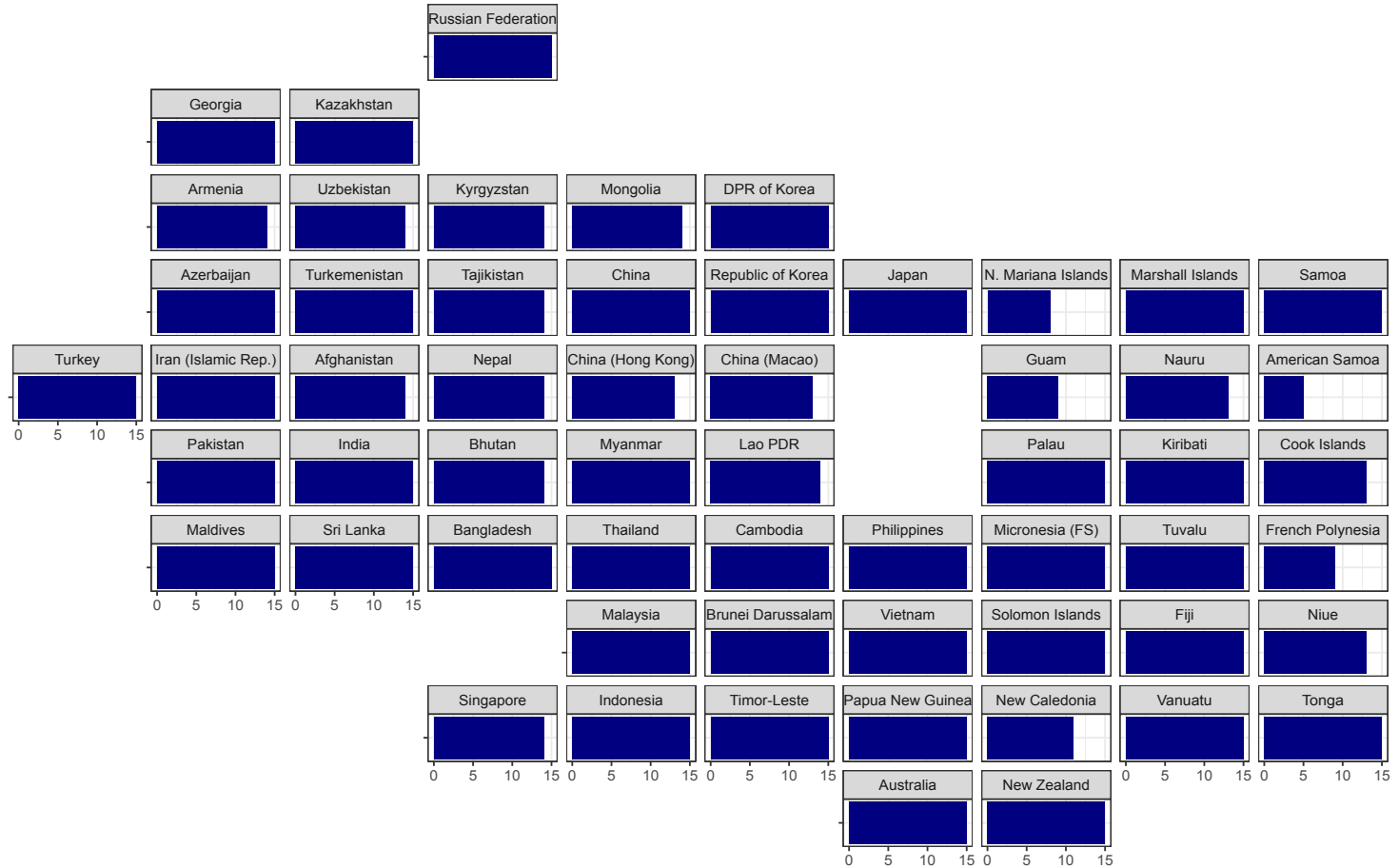
- Often discussed, many reasons

- Solutions

  - **Strengthened capacity** of NSSs to produce official statistics in line with internationally established methodology and standards

  - Adjustments / estimates of country data be undertaken in **full consultation with countries** and through **fully transparent mechanisms**

    - As recommended by UNSC48

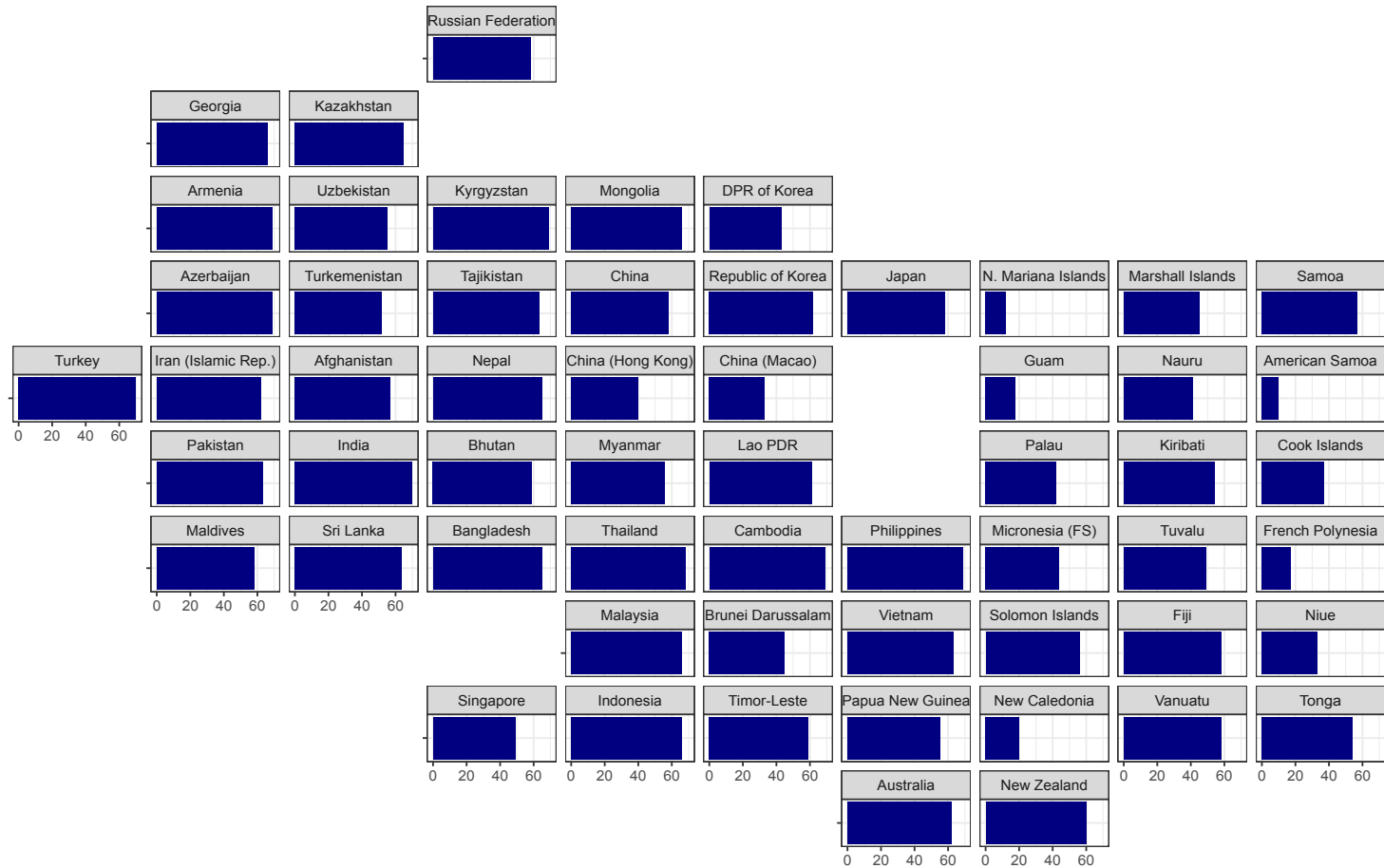# SDG indicators: Agenda vs global database
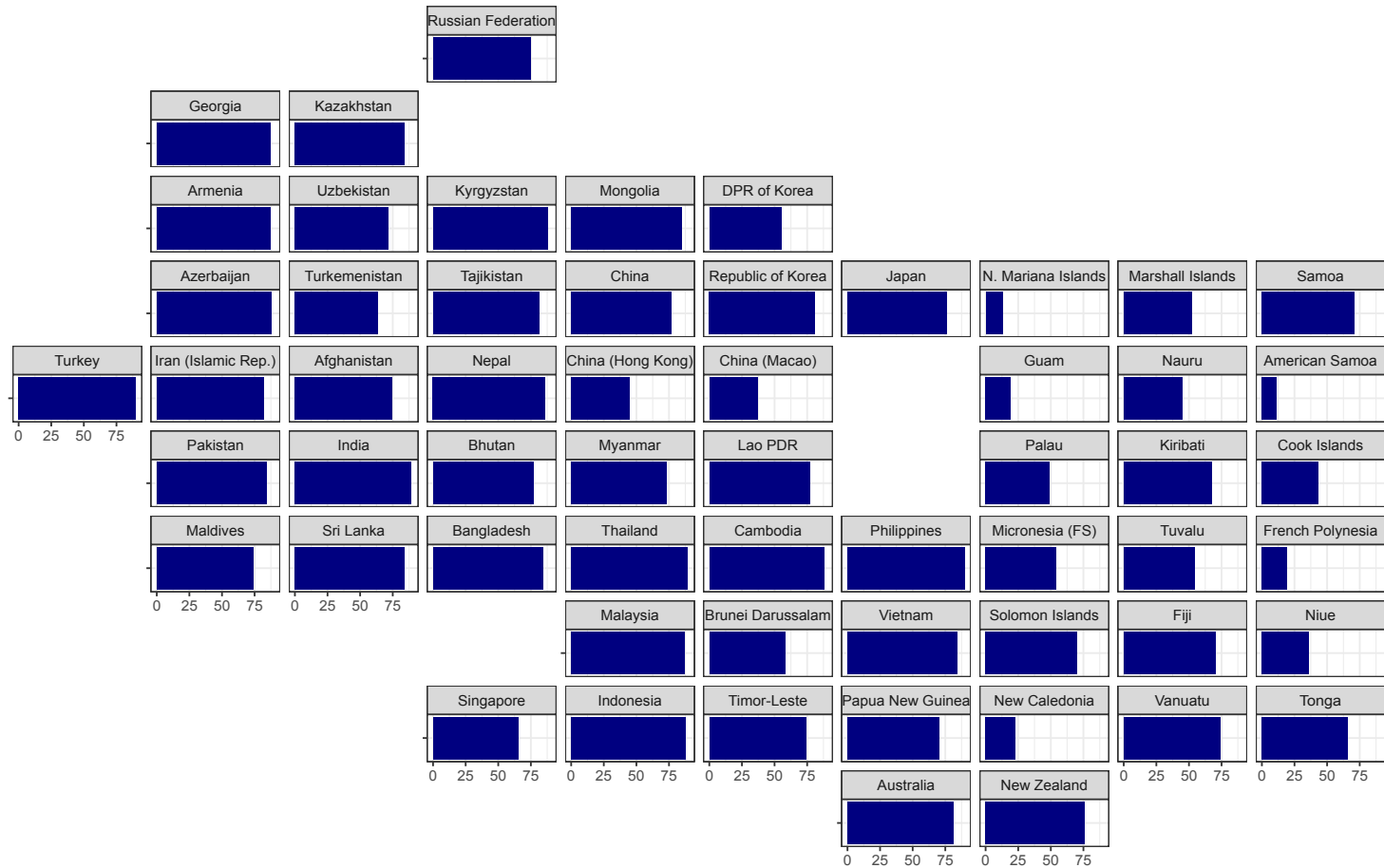
No. of Goals with at least 1 data point

As of July 2017; data on 15 SDGs in global database

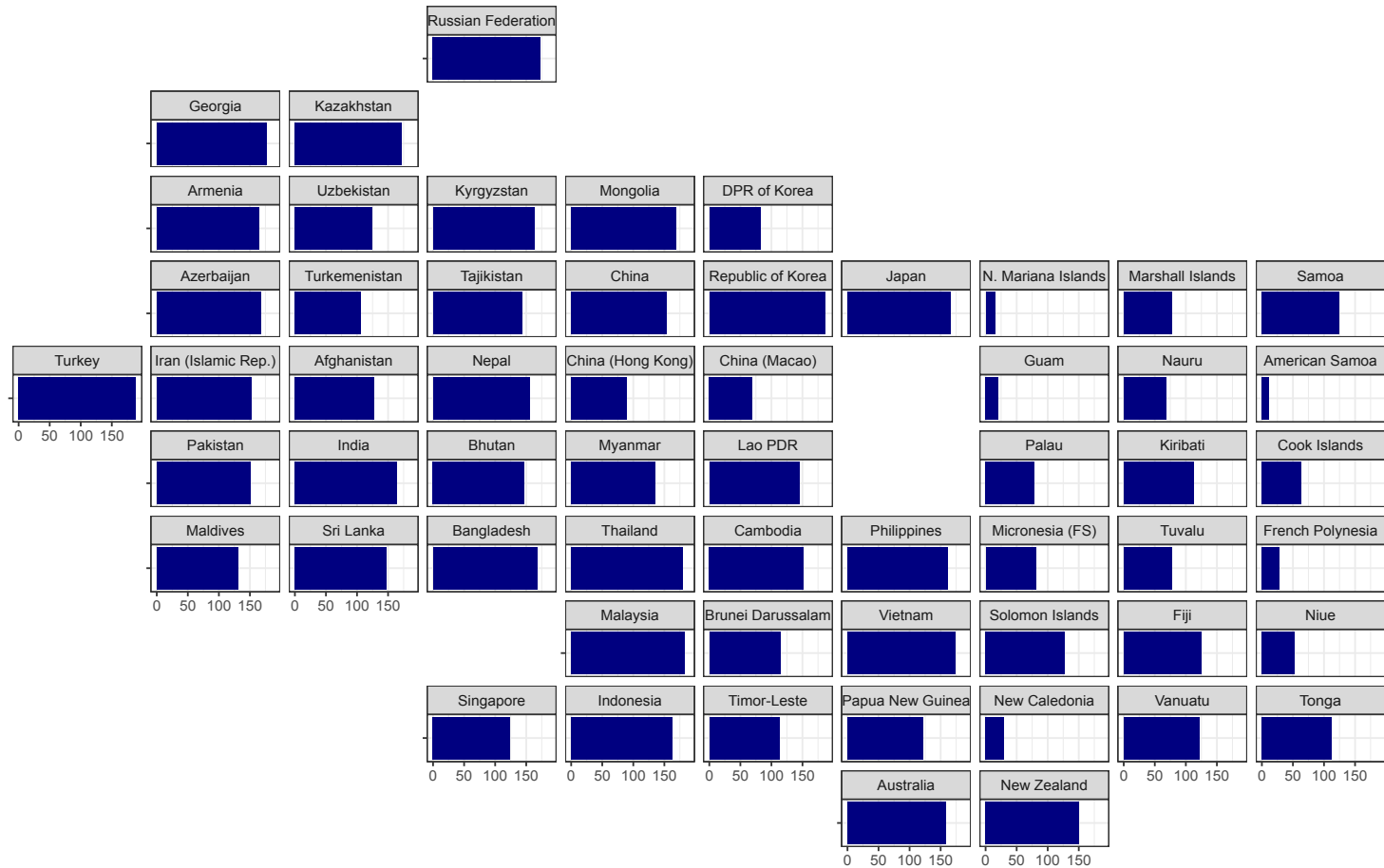# No. of targets with at least 1 data point

As of July 2017; data on 66 targets in global database

No. of indicators with at least 1 data point

As of July 2017; data on 103 SDG indicators in global database

No. of series with at least 1 data point

As of July 2017; data on 254 SDG series in global database

No. of countries in region with data: Goals