MERGE Roundtable: Challenges and opportunities for monitoring sustainable and inclusive well-being in EU countries

Date & Time: November 20, 2025, 10:00-12:00 am CET **(**Amsterdam, Berlin, Rome, Stockholm, Vienna)
Location: Online

ZOE Institute and Hot or Cool Institute are pleased to invite you to **our online roundtable "Challenges and opportunities for monitoring sustainable and inclusive well-being in EU countries".**

This roundtable is organised as part of MERGE, a Horizon Europe project, which explores the usability and accessibility of policy frameworks and indicators for Sustainable and Inclusive Well-Being in the European Union. ZOE Institute for Future-fit Economies and the Hot or Cool Institute are collaborating **to address challenges in data collection, harmonisation, and coordination across EU Member States**.

The roundtable comes at a time of **growing international momentum** to advance sustainable and inclusive well-being (SIW) indicators to assess "the wellbeing of all people of current and future generations, and of the planet" as complements to GDP in measuring progress. According to the European Commission's 2025 Strategic Foresight Report, its work on developing an SIW dashboard is now advanced enough to support policy evaluation and decision-making. At the same time, global initiatives such as the United Nations' *Pact for the Future* recognised the need to develop a limited, coherent set of "beyond GDP" indicators and tasked a High-Level Expert Group to develop this conceptual framework. In parallel, the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) published new guidelines on measuring well-being for national statistical offices, government agencies and international organizations. A new MERGE study, led by University College London (UCL) shows that many existing well-being indicators converge around a common set of priorities, suggesting that consensus is within reach**.**

The roundtable will bring together experts from National Statistical Institutes to exchange experiences on integrating holistic progress measurement frameworks into policymaking and to discuss related national-level challenges and opportunities. The roundtable discussion will focus on the results and recommendations stemming from a series of interviews with experts from National Statistical Institutes in the EU and beyond. Ahead of the roundtable, **we will share a**

discussion paper summarising the key findings to facilitate the exchange. We hope you will be able to join and share your expertise with us.

To confirm your participation please **register** here: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/M-0Z2gjYS1COdHyzqd8N5g#/registration

Agenda

10:00 - Welcome
10:05 - MERGE project presentation
10:10 - Presentation of research results
10:20 - Speakers' presentations
10:30 - Recommendations
10:35 - Q&A
10:45 - Discussing challenges
11:15 - Break
11:20 - Discussing opportunities & recommendations
11:50 – Closing

MERGE

Measuring what matters – policy pathways to sustainable and inclusive wellbeing

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