

# The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have a new diet indicator

Minimum Dietary Diversity (MDD) was approved as a new SDG indicator in 2025 (FAO and UNICEF).

## Minimum Dietary Diversity (MDD)

There's also a simple, validated way to collect it.

## Diet Quality Questionnaire (DQQ)

The DQQ is the most widely used, lowest-cost method of gathering MDD data.

100% of the MDD-W data in the new SDG indicator proposal were collected using the country-adapted DQQ questions, implemented in the Gallup World Poll and the Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS).

The DQQ is a country-specific survey module to measure the quality of diets, including MDD and other indicators.

Administration takes **5 minutes per respondent**. The survey questions can be read by any enumerator, no special training required.

The DQQ questions were adapted for each country following the **FAO MDD-W guide for measurement (2021)**, operationalizing FAO guidance for seamless implementation at low cost in each country.

The DQQ for children operationalizes **WHO and UNICEF indicator guidance (2021)**.

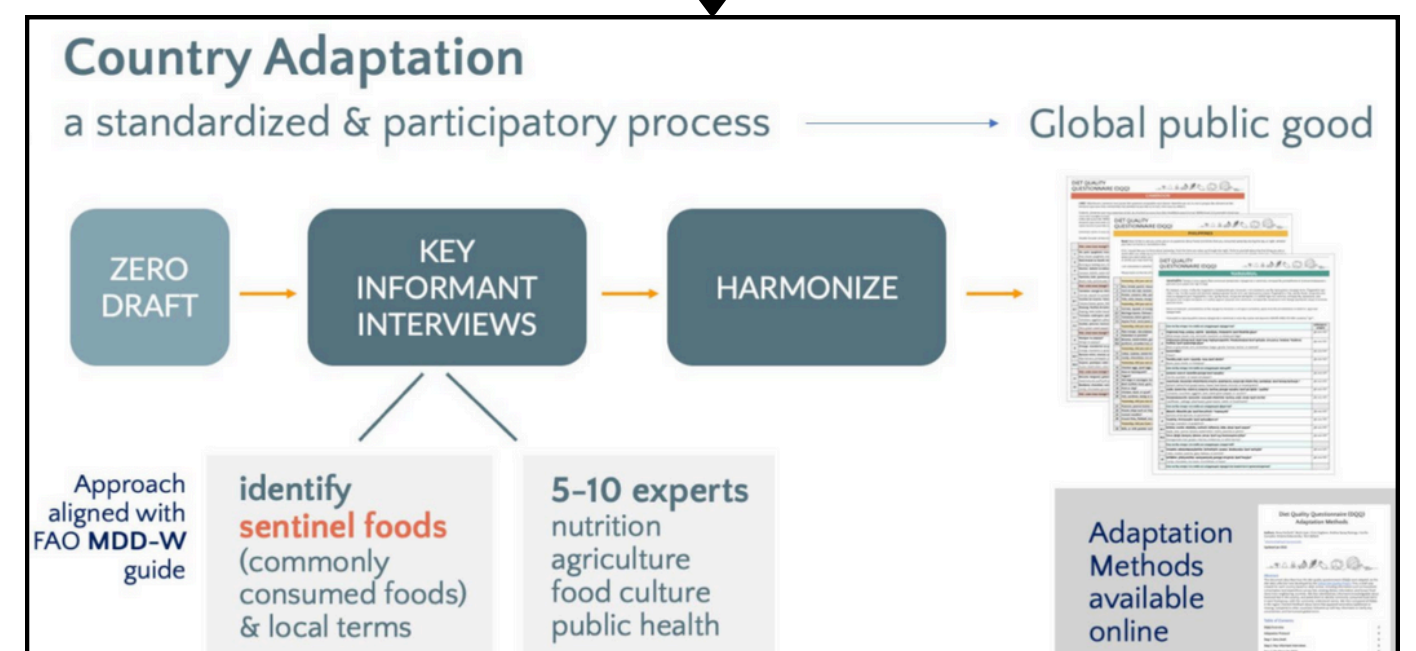
DQQ questions were used in all women's & children's modules to measure MDD-W & MDD-C in DHS-8 (2020-24).

The DQQ also includes questions on food groups to limit (e.g. fried and salty foods, sweet foods, and sweet beverages). The FAO MDD-W Guide and the WHO and UNICEF Guide recommend including these questions.

All the major surveys - DHS, MICS, LSMS, and Gallup World Poll - have used / recommended the DQQ for collecting MDD.

The DQQ questions were developed in collaboration with **FAO, UNICEF, and WHO** staff and guidance.

Possible only through a globally collaborative effort based on 1000+ key informant interviews, with the support of staff and country teams from FAO, UNICEF, WHO, WFP, IFAD, USAID & DHS.



DQQ tools are adapted and translated for 140 countries. Nationally representative diet quality data available in 93 countries, sourced from the Gallup World Poll.



Global Diet Quality Project

Download the Country-Adapted DQQ tools + View national data

<https://www.dietquality.org>

Calculation of indicators can be automated: [dietquality.org/calculator](https://www.dietquality.org/calculator)