Effective and sustained stakeholder engagement for implementation of national and SDG priorities

Friedrich Soltau, DESA and Sanjesh Naidu, ESCAP Pacific Office
A founding principle

“All countries and all stakeholders” will act in a collaborative partnership to implement the 2030 agenda.

Paragraph 74 of the 2030 Agenda underscores the importance of stakeholder engagement. It states the follow-up implementation and review processes will be:

• open;
• inclusive; and
• participatory.
Who to engage and why?

Who?

- all levels and sectors of government; civil society; gender focused and youth groups; trade unions; private sector; members of parliament; national human rights institutions; supreme audit institutions; academia; media, among others.

Why participation and consultation?

- builds wider societal ownership of the 2030 Agenda;
- promote partnerships for implementing the Goals and raising public awareness; and
- allows public policy to be informed by needs of all affected groups.
Governments inform stakeholders of their plans for implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda.

Government meaningfully consults on plans and options for Implementation, and review of the 2030 Agenda.

Governments and stakeholders work together on the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda. An iterative process.
Good practices in PSIDS

- Informal mechanisms for stakeholder engagement provide a starting point, e.g. Tonga and RMI VNR process
- The VNR and national planning processes can also be used to institutionalize mechanisms to allows for ongoing engagement. E.g. Taskforces, Working Groups, Committees etc. in a number of Pacific countries, including FSM, RMI, Tonga
- Capacity building for CSOs to facilitate effective self-organization – and umbrella regional CSOs, e.g. PIANGO, PIPSO
- Active engagement of local governments and CSO stakeholder in follow-up and implementation, e.g. Marshall Islands Council of NGO
Enhancing quality of stakeholder engagement

What is a "good practice"? A framework to analyse the quality of stakeholder analysis in implementation and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda: DESA, UNDP (2021)
Global good practices

• Promote active coalitions and strengthen collective ability to influence national processes.

• Why effective coalitions?
  o Promote a unified position and voice;
  o Raise the legitimacy of the messages presented to governments; and
  o Build a strong relationship with governments.
For discussion

What actions can be taken to improve stakeholder engagement in the implementation process – at national and regional levels?
Thank you for your attention/
Vinaka vakalevu!