5th NCA Subregional SDG Forum

Session 3: Strengthening the second generation VNR processes

5 October 2021, 15:30 – 17:20, (UTC+6)

Lessons on developing a 2nd VNR

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UN ESCAP
Topics for today!

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Revisiting the purpose of a VNR

- Build momentum among all parts of society for a national conversation about how to accelerate progress on the SDGs

- Track progress on the SDGs and understand what is driving the setbacks and successes

- Identifying concrete actions, next steps and partnerships to accelerate progress
Expectations for 2\textsuperscript{nd} VNRs

- Use the 1\textsuperscript{st} VNR as a starting point and directly link the two reports.

- Identifies steps to address findings and next steps from the previous report.

- More in-depth analysis of the causes of implementation challenges.

- Engages more stakeholders in a comprehensive way throughout the entire VNR process.
Lessons for 2\textsuperscript{nd} VNRs

- Develop a narrative/story line on focus SDGs
- Disaggregate data in the report to get the story
- Focused Stakeholder plan & feedback mechanisms
- Develop actionable next steps
Taking stock of the 1st VNR

- How the process for the 1st VNR went
- SDG Progress since 1st VNR
- Implementation Challenges

Taking stock of the 1st VNR
# Taking stock of the 1st VNR

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<th>Worked well</th>
<th>Would do differently next time....</th>
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<td>Structure and decision-making process of VNR</td>
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<td>Stakeholder engagement and communication</td>
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Phase of the VNR process

- Planning and institutional phase
- Gathering inputs and data
- Drafting and reviewing VNR
- HLPF preparation and participation
- Immediate post-VNR activities
Integrating stakeholder engagement

Planning and institutional phase
- Get input on stakeholder engagement plan, communicate timeline & explain VNR process and institutional mechanisms

Gathering inputs and data
- Invite stakeholders to provide data & input on SDG progress & topics through many channels

Drafting and reviewing VNR
- Share drafts and get feedback through workshops, feedback forums and targeted meetings

HLPF preparation and participation
- Invite stakeholders to provide input to the HLPF presentation and present as part of the HLPF panel

Immediate post-VNR activities
- Translate & communicate report and organise strategic initiatives to discuss next steps
Data & evidence-based approaches to the VNR

- The collection and analysis of high-quality disaggregated data is crucial to assess progress and track the country’s trajectory between the 1st and 2nd VNRs
- Reliable data is vital for determining evidence-based interventions needed to address key blockages hindering implementation since the 1st VNR

See section 8 in the Practical Guidance tool on VNRs
- Data planning tips
- Data gap analysis
- Problem solving data gaps
- Using disaggregated data that you have collected
- Non-traditional forms of data
- Communicating data
## Data planning

### Data planning tips when starting your 2\textsuperscript{nd} VNR

- Ensure representation of the **National Statistical Office** in the VNR team to lead coordination, analysis and presentation of data. Make sure there is a dedicated person in the VNR team for coordinating and presenting the data for the report.

- Engage with, and support, **sector ministries** from the beginning to collect administrative data.

- Conduct a **data mapping/data gap analysis** to assess the level, type, quality and coverage of data. It might be useful to use the ‘end-to-end framework, produced by UNESCAP which outlines the role of data gap analysis in the Follow Up and Review process of Agenda 2030.

- **Develop a plan to address challenges** in data collection and coordination from the 1\textsuperscript{st} VNR and address data gaps.

- Consider developing a **national indicator matrix**, using a mix of local, global and proxy indicators? Many countries adapt the global indicator framework to their national contexts.
Resources and training

- E-tutorial on 2nd Generation VNRs
- Practical Guidance Tool on 2nd VNRs
- VNR Policy Briefs
A practical guidance tool for 2nd VNRs

REPORT
16 November 2020

The purpose of this tool is to provide practical advice and concrete tips to countries on how to develop a 2nd (or 3rd) generation Voluntary National Review (VNR). The objective of this tool is to help countries to connect their 1st and 2nd VNR to ensure that there is continuity between the reports and that their 2nd takes stock of progress made since the previous review.

Share this article
Resources and training

PUTTING THE VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW INTO ACTION
Developing practical next steps and planning the post-VNR period

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT IN VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEWS
Feedback and follow-up
Resources and training

SDG Help Desk E-Learning

The thematic areas are focused on "Developing a 2nd Generation Voluntary National Review". This course is the second course in the Follow-up and Review series. It builds on the e-learning tutorial on "Follow-up and Review (FUR) and the Voluntary National Review (VNR)". The purpose of this e-learning tutorial is to help countries develop their 2nd or 3rd generation Voluntary National Review. This tool aims to complement the VNR handbook.
Resources and training

**VNR Brief # 1:** Putting the VNR into action: Developing practical next steps and planning the post-VNR period


**VNR Brief # 2:** Stakeholder engagement in Voluntary National Reviews: Feedback and follow-up


**2nd VNR Guidance tool:** A practical guidance tool for 2nd VNRs

https://www.unescap.org/resources/practical-guidance-tool-2nd-vnrs
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