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Overview

- ❑ The 2030 Agenda and its Implementation in Asia and the Pacific
- ❑ The Follow-up and Review Architecture
- ❑ Unpacking the Theme of the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) and of the Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD)

The 2030 Agenda and its
implementation in Asia and
the Pacific

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



- ❑ On 25 September 2015 world leaders agreed to the new Agenda
- ❑ Builds on lessons from the Millennium Development Goals MDGs
- ❑ Through 17 transformative Sustainable Development Goals
- ❑ To build people-centred, inclusive, peaceful and prosperous societies
- ❑ To end all poverty, everywhere, in all its dimensions

An indivisible tapestry of thinking and action...

“The 17 goals represent an indivisible tapestry of thinking and action that applies in every community everywhere in the world. They are universal... and also indivisible. Though they are presented as individual goals, they actually represent a total, completely intertwined lattice of action that is relevant for every human being everywhere.”

DAVID NABARRO
Under-Secretary General
Special Adviser on 2030 Agenda



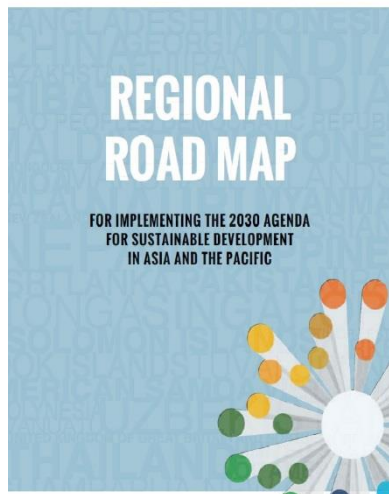
...requiring integrated policy approaches



Whole-of-Government and Whole-of Society embedded throughout the Agenda



A Regional Road Map for Asia and the Pacific



Expected Impacts

- Strengthened regional cooperation on priority issues
- Continued and more efficient and coordinated support
- More effective knowledge sharing

Practical means of implementation

- Data and statistics
- Technology
- Finance
- Policy coherence
- North-South, South-South, international and regional partnerships

Thematic areas

- Leave no one behind
- DRR & resilience
- Climate change
- Management of natural resources
- Connectivity
- Energy

Implementation is faster post-MDGs

- Integration into national development plans & policies and national laws

China, Philippines,
Azerbaijan, others

Indonesia,
Pakistan

- Adaption to national context

Cambodia, Lao PDR

- Institutional strengthening & coordination

- » Mapping responsibilities

India

- » Creation of coordination bodies

- » Creation of dedicated ministry

Sri Lanka

Azerbaijan, Japan,
Indonesia, Philippines,
Turkmenistan, Armenia,
China

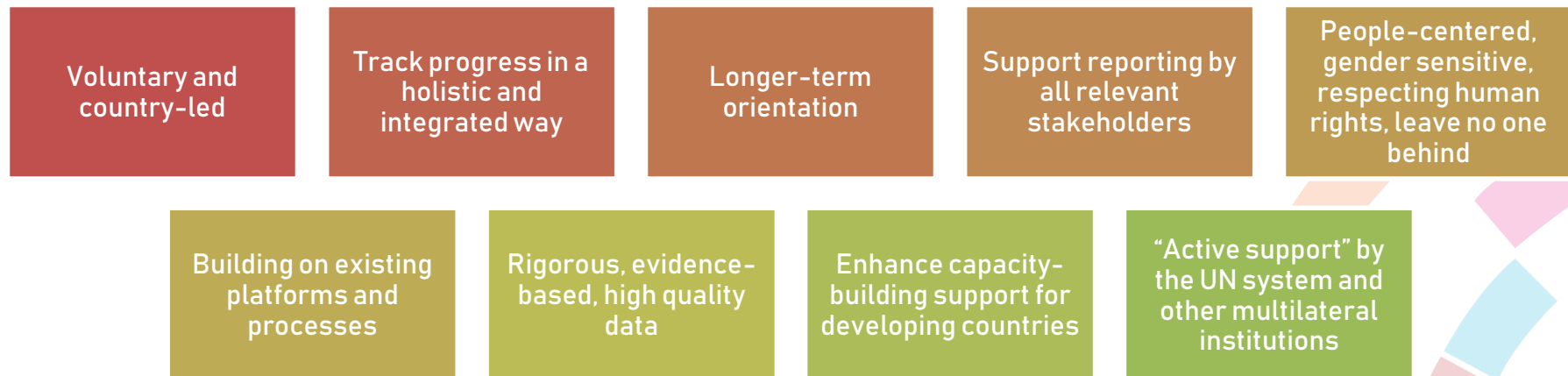
- NGO involvement in implementation structures

Indonesia, Sri Lanka

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The Follow-up and Review Architecture

Guiding principles for Follow-up and Review

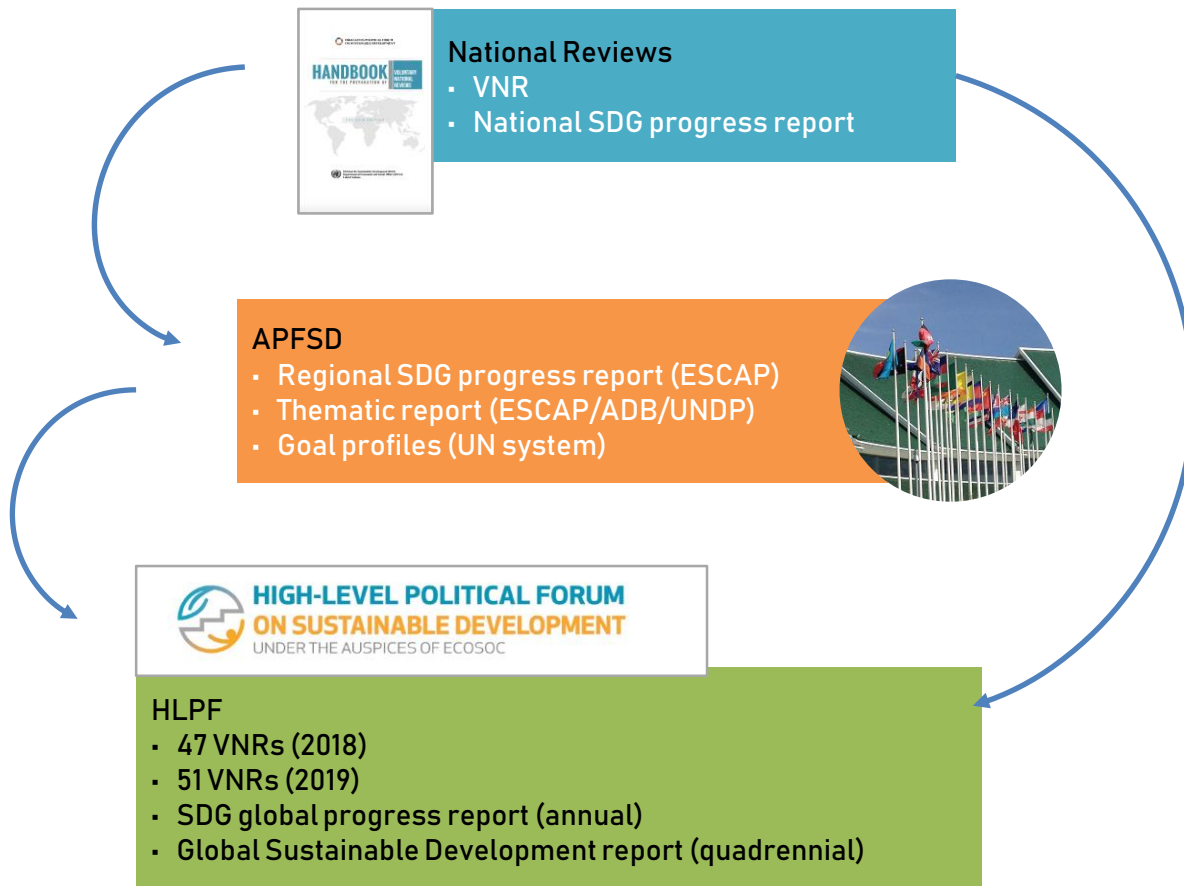


Follow-up and review at the global level: HLPF



- ❑ Central role in overseeing follow-up and review processes at the global level
- ❑ Meets annually in New York
- ❑ Conducts two types of reviews:
  - ❑ **Thematic reviews of progress on SDG**
  - ❑ **National reviews** which are
    - ❑ **voluntary**, while encouraging reporting and include developed and developing countries, as well as relevant United Nations entities
    - ❑ state-led, involving ministerial and other relevant high-level participants
    - ❑ provide a platform for partnerships, including through the participation of major groups and other relevant stakeholders

National, regional and global follow-up and review processes



High-level Political Forum

Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development APFSD

- Annual, inclusive and intergovernmental
- Support countries & enhance their capacity for implementation of the 2030 Agenda
- Provide regional perspective, identify regional trends, share best practices and lessons learned
- Support follow-up and review, assess progress and enable peer learning related to HLPF themes

Sub regional
Preparatory
Meetings

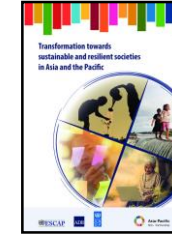
People's Forum
organized by Asia
Pacific Regional CSO
Engagement
Mechanism

Partnerships on Knowledge Products



Sustainable Development Goals

HELPDESK



Asia-Pacific
SDG Partnership



Stakeholder participation at the APFSD

Year	Total Participants	Major Group and Stakeholder Participants	Participants from academia/research/universities
2019	1000	145	45
2018	803	120	70
2017	509	85	20
2016	437	65	6
2015	409	75	10
2014	256	36	7

Highlights of the 2019 APFSD

Empowering people for a more inclusive and equal Asia-Pacific



27-29 March 2019
> 1000 participants
35 side events
7 pre and associated events
Engagement space
VNR Learning Café



Key messages from the 2019 APFSD

- ❑ Empowerment & inclusion to address inequalities spanning the 3D of SD
- ❑ Accountability & multi-stakeholder dialogue key to LNOB
- ❑ Positive impact of VNRs on policy development processes and review of progress
- ❑ APFSD as a regional platform for sharing best practices and building regional capacities for VNRs
- ❑ Reviewed progress on the regional road map
- ❑ ESCAP Resolution 75/2 to strengthen the links between national, regional and global follow-up to and review



Highlights of the 2019 HLPF

Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality

HLPF 2019



DAYS



VOLUNTARY
NATIONAL
REVIEWS



HEADS AND DEPUTY HEADS
OF STATE AND
GOVERNMENT, MINISTERS,
VICE-MINISTERS & OTHER
MINISTERIAL LEVEL
OFFICIALS



SPEAKERS IN
PANELS



REGISTERED
PARTICIPANTS



SDGs
UNDER
REVIEW



MEETINGS



SIDE
EVENTS



SPECIAL
EVENTS



EXHIBITIONS

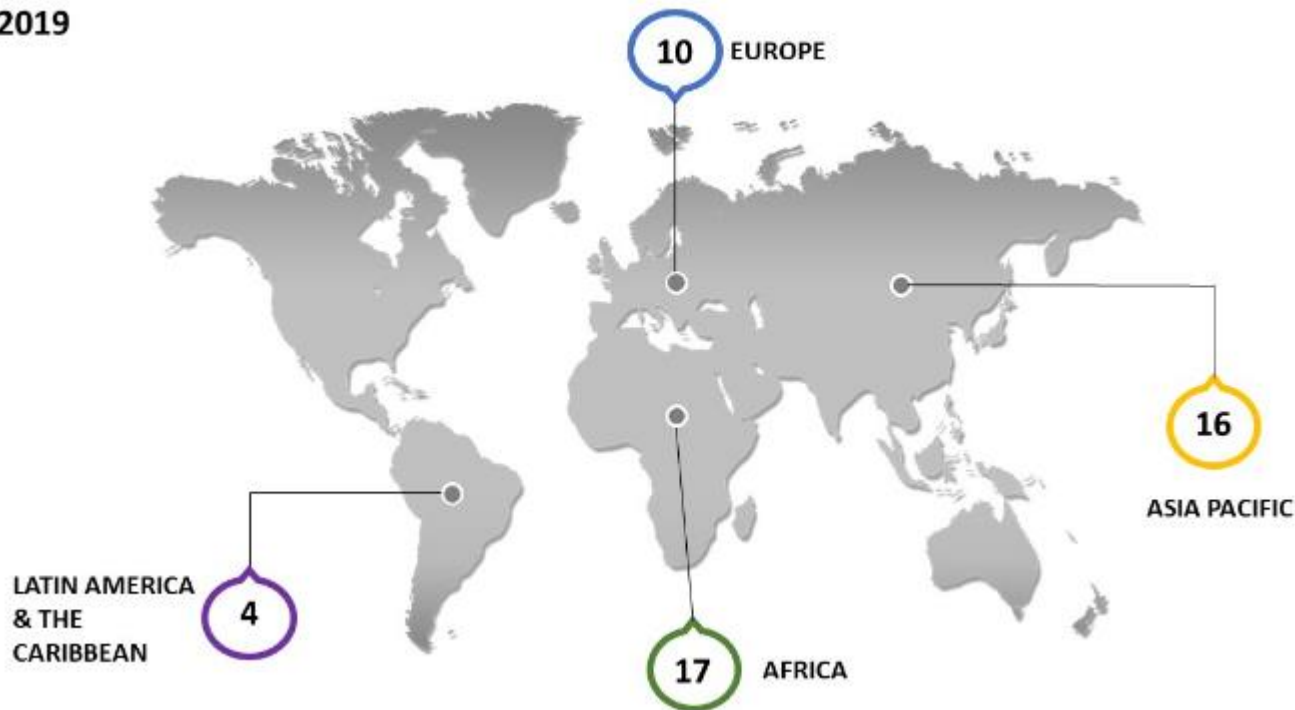


VNR
LABS

Voluntary National Reviews at the 2019 HLPF

Azerbaijan*,
Cambodia, Fiji,
Kazakhstan,
Indonesia*,
Mongolia, Nauru,
New-Zealand,
Pakistan, Palau,
The Philippines*,
Timor-Leste,
Tonga,
Turkmenistan,
Vanuatu

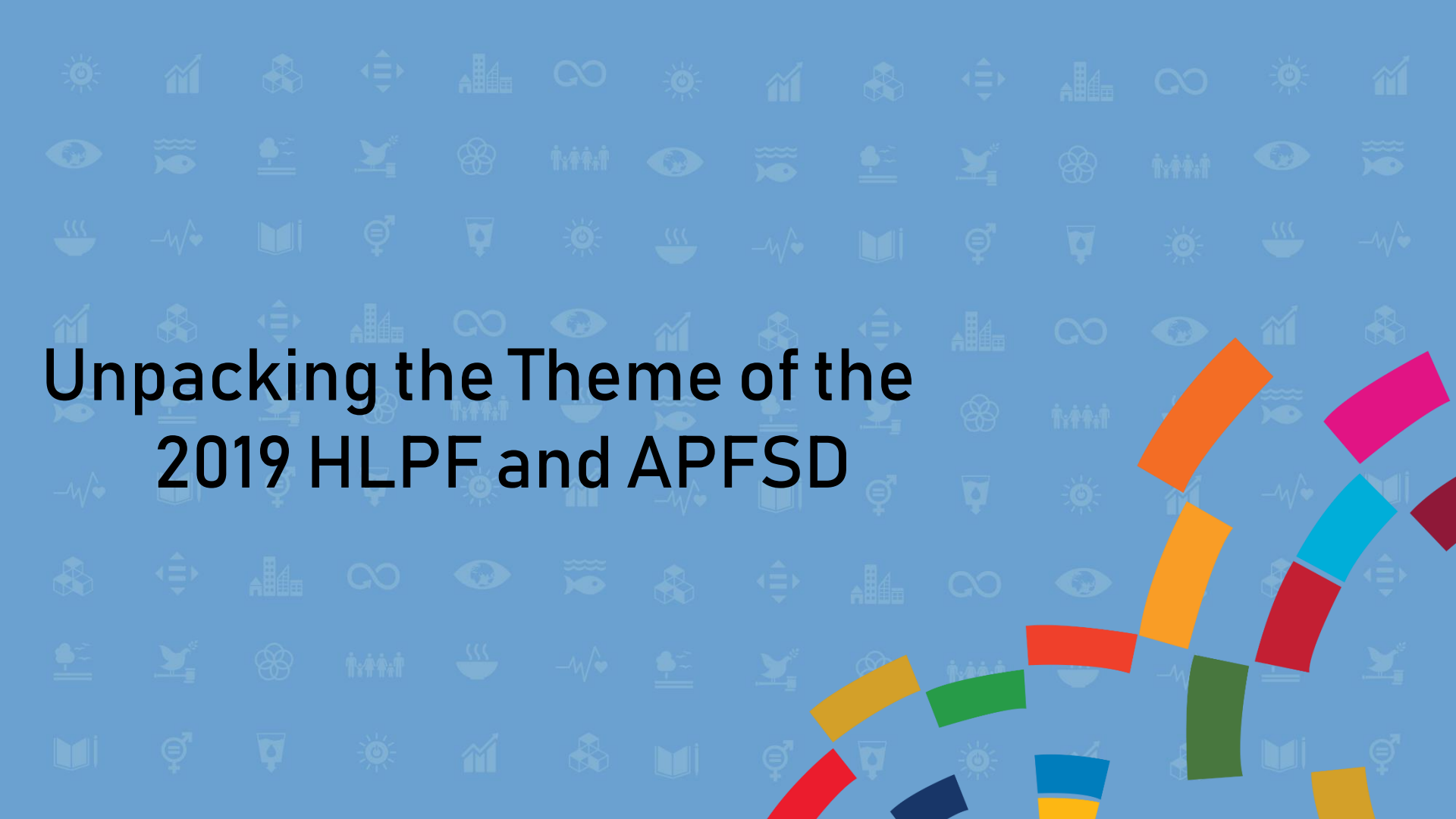
VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEWS 2019



Highlights of the 2019 HLPF

Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality

- ❑ Throughout discussions at the HLPF, the important role of Regional Commissions, and especially the Regional Fora on Sustainable Development, was recognized.
- ❑ The need to better use the inputs developed for the HLPF, including the outcome documents from the Regional Forums for Sustainable Development, was emphasized.
- ❑ The need to strengthen the link between the Regional Forums and the HLPF, as reflected also in ESCAP resolution 75/2, was recognized.
- ❑ The Political Declaration which will formally be adopted by consensus at the opening of the SDGs Summit “Gearing up for a Decade of Action and Delivery for Sustainable Development” on 24 September welcomes efforts at the regional level, explicitly mentioning the Regional Commissions and the Regional Fora for Sustainable Development (para.18)

The background is a solid blue color. It is covered with a repeating grid of small, white, stylized icons. These icons represent various concepts such as nature (sun, water, trees), technology (gears, infinity symbols), social issues (groups of people, gender symbols), and general progress (charts, books). On the right side of the image, there is a large, abstract graphic composed of several thick, curved, overlapping bands in various colors including orange, pink, red, green, and blue, creating a sense of movement and energy.

Unpacking the Theme of the 2019 HLPF and APFSD

The 2019 High-Level Political Forum (and APFSD)

Theme: *Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality*

SDGs under review:



Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

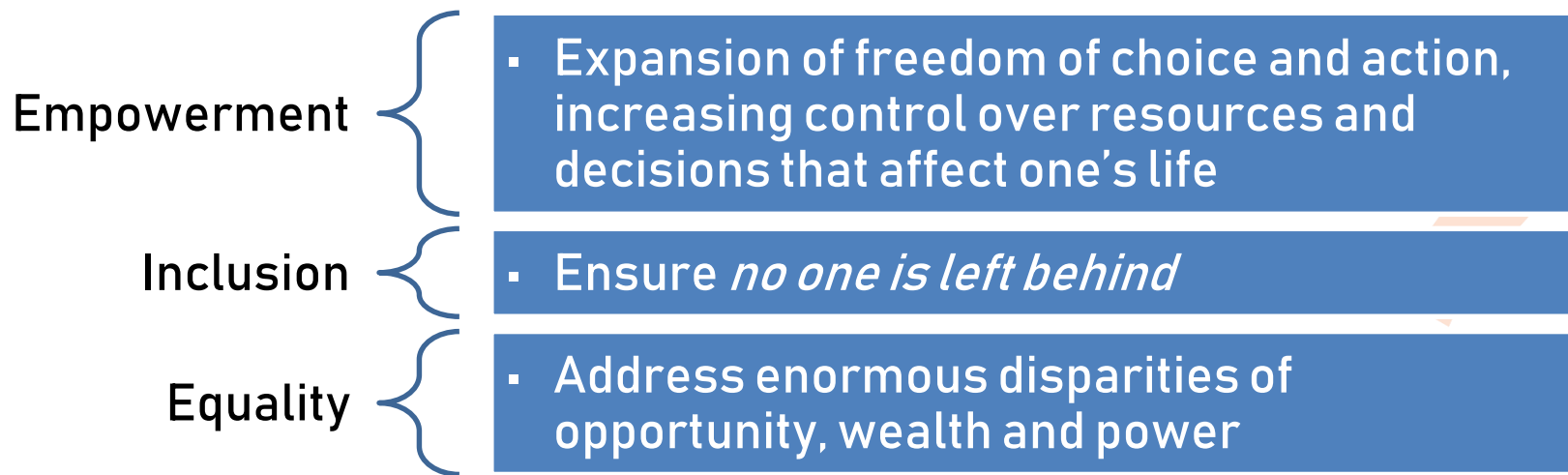
Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries

Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Goal 16: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

Three central concepts of the HLPF 2019 theme



Elements of an empowerment and inclusion framework

Encompassing knowledge and protection of one's rights, why they matter and how to ensure access to justice.



Rights and justice



Participation and voice

Freedom to participate in political activity and community life, to access public resources and services, and to contribute to decisions that impact an individual, as well as the ability of individuals and groups to represent themselves and be heard.

Essential and productive resources including social protection and safety nets, as well as capabilities to control them and have a choice in their use.

Resources and capabilities



Norms and institutions



Informal rules, practices, and shared social expectations that shape individual and societal attitudes and behavior, as well as formal structures, laws and regulations that underpin societal functioning.

The framework is grounded in a review of relevant SDG targets, and consultations with more than 600 participants in a series of workshops held in Nadi, Ulaanbataar, Bangkok, New Delhi and Tbilisi, including government officials, representatives of civil society, business, think tanks and other stakeholders.

Vulnerable groups ..

women and
girls

children &
youth

informal
workers

persons with
disabilities

people living
with HIV/AIDS

older persons

indigenous
peoples

refugees,
internally
displaced persons
and migrants

& others ?



Empowerment, inclusion and equality can accelerate progress towards SDGs

- Where women have a say in decision-making on major household purchases there are better health outcomes for children
- Recognizing environmental rights linked to better environmental performance in countries in the region



1%



Increase in prevalence of child marriages

is associated with

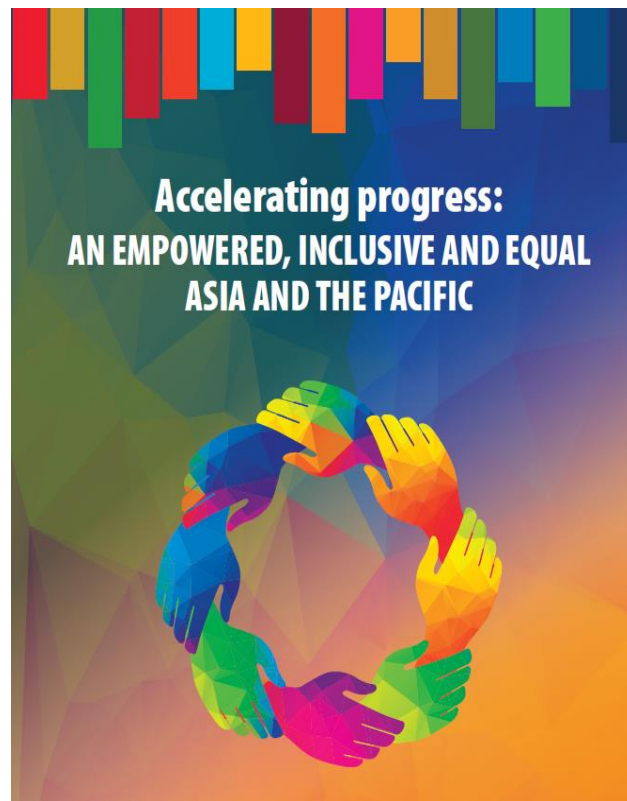
1.1%

reduction in female enrolment in secondary education



What does this mean for policy making?

- ❑ Integrating fundamental rights into modern legal frameworks;
- ❑ Eradicating prejudice from our societies and institutions;
- ❑ Giving vulnerable groups more power over productive resources; and
- ❑ Institutionalizing civil society's role in shaping policies and public services.



Reflections on the review process

HLPF under review in 2019 – member countries and other stakeholders to reflect on the success and limitations of the current process;

Role of the stakeholders to be strengthened – to allow a wider contribution from the different actors at the country level;

Need of a stronger regional and sub-regional follow-up and review – to allow countries to discuss and exchange perspectives in a smaller setting;

Role of South-south cooperation and twinning of countries to support the VNR process.

Thank you!

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