

North-East Asian Multistakeholder Forum on Sustainable Development Goals

15-16 October 2019

Far Eastern Federal University, Vladivostok, Russian Federation

Background

The North-East Asian subregion is ahead of other subregions in Asia and the Pacific in achieving many of the SDGs, such as poverty reduction, access to basic services, school enrollment, etc., while there are significant differences between countries. Nonetheless, the Asia and the Pacific SDG Progress Report 2019 presents that North-East Asia has regressed in sustainable cities and communities (Goal 11), climate action (Goal 13) and life on land (Goal 15), and also requires intensified efforts in Goals 4 (quality education), 5 (gender equality), 7 (affordable and clean energy), 11 (sustainable cities and communities), 12 (responsible consumption and production), 13 (climate action) and 14 (life below water), with some needing a dramatic turnaround in order to be achieved.

All the countries in the subregion have submitted or are planning to submit their Voluntary National Review by 2020. China (2016 and 2021), Japan (2017), Mongolia (2019), Republic of Korea (2016) have already submitted its first VNR, while Democratic People's Republic of Korea (2020) and Russian Federation (2020 will be presenting the report at the next High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). The progress and approaches in implementing the 2030 Agenda vary across countries, but the common requirement is the effective operation of extensive partnership among state and non-state actors within country as well as partnership across countries. The 6th Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) also emphasized the need for a whole-of-society approach for the delivery of the SDGs and the importance of partnerships and participation as key success factors. APFSD underlined the need to accelerate efforts and adopt coherent and integrated policies that looked at the interlinkages between the Goals.

Regional and Global context of the North-East Asia Forum

The **North-East Asia Multistakeholder Forum on Sustainable Development Goals** is a part of the preparatory process for the 7th Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) in 2020, which itself is one of the regional consultations towards the HLPF 2020 and provides a unique opportunity to share sub-regional perspectives on the proposed theme of "Accelerating progress towards SDGs in Asia and the Pacific" to be addressed at the APFSD in 2020¹.

¹ The Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development is an inclusive regional intergovernmental forum which supports the preparations for the High-level Political Forum (HLPF). ESCAP resolution 73/1 indicates that the theme of the APFSD is aligned with the theme of the HLPF and will support an in-depth discussion of the cluster of goals under review at the HLPF. The HLPF structure is currently under review by member States and as of yet no decision has been taken on the format, theme and SDGs under review during the next cycle. As such, ESCAP has decided to focus the 7th APFSD on opportunities for accelerated action, responding to paragraph 26 of the Political Declaration to be adopted at the SDG Summit in September 2019, which requests

At the same time, at the regional level, countries in the Asia and the Pacific have developed the “Regional Roadmap for Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific”. The Road Map was adopted by the member states of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its 73rd Commission session in 2017² and identifies opportunities for regional cooperation on identified Means of Implementation, and thematic issues. The means of implementation include (a) Data and statistics, (b) Technology, (c) Finance, (d) Policy coherence, and (e) North-South, South-South, international and regional partnerships. The identified thematic issues are (a) Leaving no one behind, (b) Disaster risk reduction and resilience, (c) Climate change, (d) Management of natural resources, (e) Connectivity for the 2030 Agenda, and (f) Energy. The Road Map also prompt the ESCAP secretariat to “promote multi-stakeholder engagement by facilitating inputs and views from various stakeholders” in the implementation of Road Map.

With completion of the first cycle of follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level and the HLPF structure currently being under review by member States, ESCAP has decided to focus the 7th APFSD on opportunities for accelerated action. Thus, 2019 North-East Asian Multistakeholder Forum on Sustainable Development Goals will focus on national and subregional perspective and stock-taking the lessons learned in implementation of SDGs, as well as forward-looking dialogue on partnership to accelerate the progress of SDGs. The Forum will be informed by the decision of the UNGA Summit on SDGs.

The Forum will bring together and connect key stakeholders from government, academia, civil society, the private sector, and international community in the North-East Asia.

Objectives

The main objective of the Forum is to enable an inclusive dialogue among multistakeholder groups in North-East Asia on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to reflect subregional perspectives into the relevant regional and global processes. To achieve this, the forum will:

1. Enhance awareness and understanding of the key challenges and opportunities for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in North-East Asia and the Regional Roadmap through sharing of experiences and knowledge;
2. Provide good practices in the national and subregional contexts in policies, actions and partnerships for accelerating the progress of SDGs; and
3. Support capacity building for countries in the subregion ahead of their presentations in 2020, building on presentations from VNR countries at the HLPF

Participants

About 150 people from all 6 countries in the North-East Asia (China, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, Russian Federatin), participated in the Forum.

the Secretary General.... to engage governments, civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders, in generating solutions and accelerating action to address systemic gaps in implementation.

² ESCAP Resolution 73/9: “Regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific”

- Government officials, representatives of institutions in ESCAP member States responsible for various aspects of implementing the SDG in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- VNR focal points and ESCAP focal points for sustainable development;
- Representatives of local government (representatives of the municipality);
- Representatives of civil society organizations and private sector organizations;
- Representatives of regional and sub-regional organizations that support SDG implementation;
- Experts from think tanks and academia; and
- Other stakeholders involved in SDG implementation at national, regional & global levels

Proceedings

The Forum was co-organized by ESCAP East and North-East Asia Office, Government of the Russian Federation and Far Eastern Federal University.

The Forum was opened by *Mr Ganbold BAASANJAV*, Head, East and North-East Asia Office, ESCAP; *Ms Vera SHCHERBINA*, First Vice Governor, Primorsky Kray; *H.E Mr Evgeny TOMIKHIN*, Ambassador and Permanent Representative to ESCAP; and *Ms Victoria PANOVA*, Vice President, Far Eastern Federal University.

The subsequent sessions on the first day were moderated by *Mr. Ganbold BAASANJAV* (Challenges and review of progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in the East and North-East Asia); *Mr. Li Hong*, Permanent Representative of China to ESCAP (SDGs in action in North-East Asia – sharing experiences of multi-stakeholder engagement and inter-agency coordination for shared goals).

Two special sessions were organized on the second day of the Forum. The special session on “Russia’s response towards implementation of SDGs and VNR process” was moderated by *Ms. Victoria PANOVA*, Vice President, Far Eastern Federal University and *Mr. Alexei BORISOV*, Vice President, Russian UN Association (Special session: Engaging business sector in SDG implementation). The session highlighted perspectives and experiences of Russian government department and civil society organizations, as well as engagement of business sector in implementing SDGs.

The special session on “Leaving no one behind in accelerating SDGs - Integrating persons with disability in the North-East Asian countries” was moderated by *Ms LEE Reena*, Secretary-General, Korea Disability Forum, with participants. CSO participants from disability group from 4 countries in the North-East Asia shared their experiences and perspectives of inclusive SDG implementation.

The subsequent sessions, moderated by *Mr. NAM Sangmin*, Deputy Head, East and North-East Asia Office, ESCAP, reviewed sub-regional context of the SDG Follow-up and review and SDG financing and discussed the way forward for accelerating SDG implementation through multi-stakeholder engagement.

Summary of discussion

Challenges and review of progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in the East and North-East Asia

China developed the National Plan on Implementation of the 2030 Agenda, which is aligned with the 2030 Agenda and its 13th Five-Year Plan for Economic and Social Development of China. China's key achievements in the implementation of Agenda 2030 include poverty reduction through targeted approach; fight against corruption, as well as environment protection through, for instance, low carbon development and investment in energy. The targeted poverty reduction led to the reduction of people living in poverty in rural areas from 55.75 million in 2015 to 16.6 million in 2018. Challenge in poverty reduction remains with pockets of deep poverty that is affecting large populations, along with weak infrastructure. The safety-net function also needs to be further strengthened. With the concept of green development, the government promotes low-carbon development of key areas, strengthens domestic actions on climate change adaptation and pursues international cooperation. China emphasizes its strong support to multilateralism and international system with the United Nations, as exemplified with China-UN Peace and Development Fund and China-ESCAP Fund. It promotes international cooperation within the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative and South-South Cooperation. Challenges in implementation of the 2030 Agenda still remain, for instance, in distribution of responsibility among offices within the government, data for measuring the achievement, and uneven and inadequate development.

DPRK institutionalized SDGs. It developed its national SDGs, combining the global SDGs and National Economic Development Strategy (2016-2020) for building the sci-tech, economic and civilized power and sectoral plans. On the other hand, each goal of the development strategy corresponds to various goals of SDGs. For example, national Goal 4: Build a civilized power corresponds to SDG Goal 1, 3, 4, 9, 13 and 14. With the scope of "Leaving no one behind", the Government enforces the public supply and distribution system (PSDS) covering all the households in the country and social benefits and security system. For the SDG implementation and VNR process, the Government also sets up an institutional mechanism. National Task Force was established under the cabinet in 2018, headed by the Vice Prime Minister and supported by six technical committees. The Central Bureau of Statistics plays a major role in data collection and assessment of the progress. The Government is currently preparing VNR based on the national statistics and results of surveys including 2012 nutrition survey, 2014 reproductive health survey, 2014 Socio-economic Demographic Health Survey (SDHS) and 2015 Malaria Awareness Survey that the CBS conducted with line ministries and agencies and 2017 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) in cooperation with UNICEF. DPRK's (national) SDG Goal 1 and 2 are amongst the top priorities. Improvement of water supply system in connection with Goal 6 is supported by UNICEF and NGOs. Progress is off-track in Goal 7 with challenges for increasing renewable energy due to lack of technology, capacity and funds. Capacity building and collaboration with international communities are vital in addressing issues such as natural disaster risks (Goal 11) and climate change (Goal 13).

The Government of **Japan** established the SDG Promotion Headquarter (SDG HQ) in 2016, which is led by the Prime Minister. Promotion of SDGs by the SDG HQ includes the Japan SDGs Award since 2017 aiming to encourage private sector's engagement in SDG implementation; development of SDGs implementation guiding principles; and SDG Action Plans, which have evolved into Expanded SDG Action Plan 2019 issued in June 2019. The Plan is developed in line with Japan's SDG Model, which is based on three pillars, i.e., (i) promotion of Society 5.0 that correspond to the SDGs, including STI for SDGs; (ii) regional revitalization driven by the SDGs; and (iii) empowerment of the next generation and women. With G20 Presidency in 2019, Japan also took leadership in highlighting priorities in (1) quality infrastructure, (2) disaster risk reduction, (3) marine plastic litter, (4) climate change, (5) empowerment of women, (6) health and (7) education. Furthermore, the SDG Implementation Guiding Principles initially issued in 2016 was in the process of revision in 2019, aiming to reflect views and ideas of a wide range of stakeholders on Civil Society, Private Companies, Financing, Local Initiatives, Academic and Education Communities, and Governance for Effective Implementation, Follow-up and Review.

Mongolia's sustainable development vision 2030 approved in 2016, spells out its long-term strategy to achieve sustainable economic, social and environmental development with democratic governance. It identifies priority sectors and goals for each pillar. For instance, sustainable social development involves 3 priority areas, namely, inclusive growth and equality; healthy and accessible system; knowledge-based society, while priority areas in sustainable environmental development are integrated water resource management; adapting to climate change and; ecosystem balance. For sustainable governance, 4 priority areas are identified, i.e., establishing a system for implementing the Sustainable Development Concept; all-inclusive governance; active international cooperation; and eliminating corruption and bribery. Along with the long term strategy, the Government also initiated its work to align medium and short-term policies with the SDGs. Mongolia is an early adopter of the SDGs. The country achieved a further reduction of poverty rate in the past 2 years from 29.6% in 2016 to 28.4%, lifting 39,000 people out of poverty. Mongolia is classified as a medium-low income country and with high human development. Challenges in implementing SDGs remain, however, as it is vulnerable to external factors including uncertainties in commodity prices. Despite the achievement in poverty reduction, disparities are growing in various front, including poverty and inequality, social service delivery and opportunities for decent work. At policy front, incoherent policies and weak institutional coordination is also a challenge in achieving SDGs.

Republic of Korea initiated policy framework for sustainable development well before the launch of the SDGs, as seen in the launch of Presidential Committee on Sustainable Development in 2000, the first National Sustainable Development Strategy and Implementation Plan in 2006 and the Framework Act on Sustainable Development in 2007. The 3rd National Basic Plan for Sustainable Development (2016 ~ 2035) reflects the vision of harmonious development of the environment, society and economy, that is coherent with the principles of the SDGs. In 2018, ROK government developed K-SDGs with its own set of targets and indicators reflecting domestic and local situation. The process of K-SDGs development involved engagement with various stakeholder groups, private, public sectors and academia; public participation through National SDG Forum and public surveys; as well as consultation with line ministries. Assessment of ROK's progress in SDGs is mixed. National Sustainable Development Report 2018 shows regressing achievement in several goals including zero hunger (Goals 2), sustainable consumption & production (Goal 12), water and sanitation (Goal 6), gender equality (Goal 5). In supporting the implementation of the SDGs of the international community, ROK's policies of international development cooperation also reflect the SDGs, aiming to "create an equitable global community through self-sustained growth" and "support humanitarian assistance and peacebuilding".

Russian Federation's political response to sustainable development can be traced back to the Concept for Transition of Russian Federation to Sustainable Development. For Russia's Voluntary National Review (VNR), the Analytical Center of the Government is tasked to coordinate the preparation in collaboration with the Foreign Ministry and the Federal State Statistics Service (ROSSTAT). Thematic working groups are formed for each SDGs, consisting of representatives of federal government bodies, public and expert organizations, as well as the business community. Each group is tasked to prepare the respective chapter, while the Analytical Center is tasked consolidate these inputs. The draft will be discussed at a series of public discussions. These public discussions, as well as the multilateral composition of the TWG, are aimed to take into account the interests and positions of different groups of the population and organizations. In view of preparation for the VNR, the government is also developing SDG indicators and establishing a reporting system, which is to be presented in 2020. The Presidential Decree on "National Goals and Strategic Objectives of the Russian Federation for the Period up to 2024", issued in 2018, identifies 12 national priority areas which are critical to ensure sustainable development. The priority areas are mapped out for corresponding SDGs, for example, demography (SDG 1, 2, 3, 5 and 10), healthcare (SDG 3), housing

and urban environment (SDG 11), safe and high-quality infrastructure (SDG 9), ecology and environment (SDG 6, 9, 11, 12, 14, and 15). For a review of SDG progress, ROSSTAT is authorized to coordinate the activities of the federal authorities for collection of official statistical information on SDG indicators. The ROSSTAT publishes status of data availability of SDG indicators.

Sharing experiences of VNR preparation:

With DPRK and Russian Federation's Voluntary National Review (VNR) expected in 2020, all the countries in the North-East Asian subregion will have experienced VNR (China and ROK in 2016, Japan in 2017, and Mongolia in 2019). Countries shared some experiences in VNR process, particularly Mongolia, which presented its report in 2019.

In Mongolia, the CSO network actively engaged in the national review process and produced a joint VNR report. Government was very welcoming CSO participation in the process, which mobilized the interest and enthusiasm on SDGs, while how to maintain the momentum will be the challenge. Like other countries, Mongolia faced challenges of generating interest of private sector. Japan's CSO network prepared CSO shadow report prior to the government's VNR and issued post-VNR assessment report on Japan's VNR process. During the 2017 HLPF, CSO networks of Japan and ROK jointly organized a side event on SDG progress.

Ensuring the engagement of multi-stakeholders at various stage of VNR are strongly emphasized, including the consultation, communication with respective communities, partnership in promoting SDGs.

Accelerating implementation of SDGs through multi-stakeholder engagement

Multi-stakeholder engagement as a means of implementation:

Ensuring equality: Inclusion of persons with disabilities offers insights for equitable and inclusive achievement of SDGs in such areas as education (Goal 4), employment (Goal 8), social, economic and political inclusion (Goal 10), creative accessible cities (Goal 11), and monitoring disability aggregated data (Goal 17). As the experience from the ROK shows, persons with disabilities face a significantly higher incidence of poverty, a significantly lower rate of school enrolment and employment, compared to the overall population. Empowering and including persons with disabilities is critical in ensuring equality and leaving no one behind. With multistakeholder engagement in drafting K-SDGs and inclusion of disability group in the process, 9 Goals and 7 indicators of K-SDGs make reference to disabilities (vis-à-vis 7 Goals and 5 indicators in UN SDGs).

Building resilient society: North-East Asia faces a high risk of natural disasters. Key stakeholders in disaster risk reduction and building resilience, besides the community at risk, include (1) government - for humanitarian assistance, development and investment; (2) private sector - for resilient infrastructure, innovations and entrepreneurship; (3) academia - for knowledge, innovations and intellectual capital and (4) civil society - humanitarian assistance, awareness building and outreaching the 'last mile'. The United Nations and international / regional organizations can support the collaboration of these stakeholders for disaster risk reduction and building resilience. Given the various agencies involved in different kind of natural hazards, coordination and partnership of different actors are also crucial at institutional / network levels. For instance, Asia-Pacific Disaster Resilience Network is a network of networks (of extreme weather events, geophysical hazards, slow-onset hazards, etc) offering a regional platform for multi-hazard early warning systems.

Safeguarding environment: Multi-stakeholder engagement and inter-agency coordination in North-East

North-East Asian countries share various environmental challenges including air pollution, climate change, biodiversity, desertification, marine pollution of which most have transboundary nature. In particular, air pollution represents transboundary nature of environmental challenges and complicated interlinkages of policy interventions addressing varying priorities of SDGs as highlighted by the Mongolia VNR report. Multistakeholders play a crucial role in all major environmental challenges such as public awareness and advocacy in driving climate action; building knowledge foundation on air pollution; implementing field projects on biodiversity conservation; and building cross-border networks and platforms. Multi-stakeholder engagement enables governments' policy-making and programme design to reflect and utilize the resources (knowledge, experiences, financial, etc) of various stakeholders such as civil societies, academia, local communities, private sectors, etc.

Ensuring participation: Involving civil society voices to national strategy.

There are various initiatives to involve multi-stakeholders in the countries' national strategies for SDGs. For example, the Government of Japan established SDG promotion roundtable in the process of developing its SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles. While the number of civil society representative in the roundtable was limited, civil society gathered the voices of civil society and utilized the roundtable as a channel to reflect their views in the Guiding Principles. Thus, the Principles issued in 2016 highlights the importance of cooperation with CSOs, private sector, consumers, local governments, academia and labour unions. Some key takeaway in these experiences are; multi-stakeholder engagement from early stage; leaving no one behind; accountability; mutual learning approach; and involving key participants affected.

Accelerating implementation of SDGs

Views, country experiences and discussion on SDG implementations include the following.

Data and technologies

- Appropriate use of the latest technology would help the involvement of multi-stakeholders including the private sector in achieving SDGs. Example in China shows the use of technology and e-commerce to reduce poverty – such as Alibaba's initiative in the western part of China to teach farmers how to sell melons online. ROK government and Samsung mobile phone jointly developed smartphone application for SDG through which people can donate money to UNDP.
- Knowledge and technologies can increase resilience to disasters. Resilience building for zud (severe winter conditions) with early warning capacity in Mongolia help people to better prepared, for example by saving the livestock in meat. The renewable-energy driven (solar) meat storage system is being tested. These efforts can prepare people for natural disasters, while cost of meat storage system, lack of technicians and lack of funding remain a challenge. Hazard mapping in Japan distributed by local governments and through online raises awareness of the public for evacuation in the case of emergency. The initiative involves various stakeholders including local government, communities etc, although challenges remain in coverage of various hazards, no availability in other languages, etc. In ROK, government and telephone companies took an initiative for dissemination of disaster information through mobile phone, enabling faster information sharing in multiple languages, although the challenge is that it leaves persons without updated phones.

- Institutional infrastructure for disaster management and data is crucial for building a resilient society. For example, DPRK established state committee for emergency and disaster management. Consequently, the national strategy for disaster risk reduction is adopted and disaster management database was created for better management of flood risks, although disaster database is yet to cover the entire country.

Participation

- For acceleration of SDGs, a more extensive range of participation, including from academia and private sectors will fill the remaining gap in “ensuring equality” in policies and in the society.
- Government engagement in SDG implementation is required at both national and local levels, along with awareness-raising and a better understanding of SDGs (particularly for local government). National governments’ SDG process also need to involve various ministries, not only the key focal office such as MOFA.
- Countries have or are trying to involve multi-stakeholders in VNR and other SDG initiatives. For instance, preparation of Mongolia’s VNR includes national working group involving about 30 civil society organizations. In ROK, the CSOs engagement led to setting up of public forums organized by Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Environment. Work in progress in Russia. Hosting of the subregional SDG Forum in Vladivostok demonstrates its strong commitment to support the SDGs.
- Participation from the academia will increase the awareness of SDGs as well as the academic enquiry on SDGs, as seen in increased published articles on SDGs in recent years.

Private sector engagement

- Engaging the private sector is often pointed out as a challenge. On the other hand, some views that the private sector also has increasingly keen interest to engage in SDGs and collaborate with the government, while there is gap in how they understand the SDGs.
- Experiences in Russia include corporate social responsibility of private companies in line with SDGs, National Council for Corporate Volunteering (NCCV) which is a partnership of corporations to collectively organize volunteering to undertake activities addressing societal issues.

Finance

- At the national level, policy priority is reflected in the budget allocation. Thus, financial resources are influenced by the political decision and power structure in the country. However, in other cases, the issue is not only about financial resources but is a lack of understanding of issues. For example, wheel-chair accessible buildings is more of a matter of understanding the problems people in wheel-chair face, rather than financial resources per se.
- Local government can also take initiative in encouraging private sector through tax incentives to investors. In Toyama Japan, the local government offers tax incentives to investors to reduce CO₂ emission for businesses operating in developing countries.
- Donors of development assistance should see how to strengthen “vertical” coordination among countries, i.e., developed and developing countries. Such discussion has stalled as CBDR become too political. International community may need upgrade to CBDR2. Developing countries would also need to set their own goals for their own financial resource mobilization.

Building awareness

- Awareness / understanding of SDG among general public is still insufficient. For instance, in countries like Japan and ROK, people often perceive SDGs as international affair, rather than the goals addressing the challenges in their own countries as well. Also in China, while SDGs have been incorporated in its national policy with input from academia, the public has yet to become familiar with the term SDG. In fact, the public are more familiar with the term 'high quality development', which is essentially part of national strategy in line with SDGs.
- Education and awareness building is important aspect including in disaster risk reduction. In Russia (Sakhalin), initiative to ensure safety includes children's education on early warning, teachers education and high risk places. It involves various stakeholders including Ministry of education, disaster management office in Sakhalin, schools / kindergartens and NGOs. The initiative help develop culture and awareness on safety and emergency.

Policy coherence

- Follow-up and review at subregional and regional level should be strengthened.
- SDG implementation has shifted from rule-based approach to indicator based governance, concerning more on results, rather than processes. It may worth re-visit rule based governance.
- Lack of legal structure for ensuring the multi-stakeholder engagement is a weakness in many countries.
- Policy coherence is often lacking in addressing CO₂ emissions.

The perspective of the civil society organizations in North-East Asia

The participants from civil society organizations in China, Japan, Mongolia, the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation jointly made a statement on the North-East Asian Subregional Multistakeholder Forum on SDGs. It recognizing the Forum as an important and unique opportunity for dialogue on achieving SDGs among multi-stakeholders in North-East Asia. Stating the commitment for stronger ties and democratic governance among multi-stakeholders at local, national, sub-regional levels, the statement highlighted the needs for effective mechanism for monitoring and review of SDG progress at various level. It also urged ESCAP and the governments of North-East Asia to strengthen the mechanism of stakeholder engagement (establishing constituency engagement mechanism for the subregion, creating multi-stakeholder platform at the local and national levels as a follow-up of the forum, etc) with stronger link of the Forum outcome with APFSD, as well as to expand the scope of the subregional Forum (support CSO Forum back-to-back with the subregional Forum, etc).

Programme

Day 1 (15 October 2019)

08:30-09:00	Registration
09:00-09:30	Opening <i>Opening and Welcoming remarks</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ganbold BAASANJAV</i>, Head, East and North-East Asia Office, ESCAP • <i>Vera SHCHERBINA</i>, First Vice Governor, Primorsky Kray • <i>Evgeny TOMIKHIN</i>, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative to ESCAP • <i>Victoria PANOVA</i>, Vice President, Far Eastern Federal University
09:30–10:00	Coffee break
10:00-12:00	Challenges and review of progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in the East and North-East Asia Moderator: <i>Ganbold BAASANJAV</i> , Head, East and North-East Asia Office, ESCAP <p>The session's aim is to reflect on the current situation of the subregion in terms of progress on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda – five years since its adoption, presenting data from the ESCAP SDG Progress report and other sub-regional assessments. This will enhance awareness and understanding on key challenges and opportunities for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the sub-region.</p> <p>Main messages from the past HLPF and the SDG Summit will be presented and discussed in relation to the subregional agenda. The session will also share views from various stakeholders on countries' experiences in the follow-up and review.</p> <p>Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESCAP - Brief on the subregional progress and key messages from the past HLPF and the SDG Summit • Country representatives - Progress and challenges in implementation of SDGs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ China: <i>LI Hong</i>, Permanent Representative of China to ESCAP ○ Democratic People's Republic of Korea: <i>KIM Tong Ho</i>, National Focal Point for ESCAP, Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs ○ Japan: <i>IWASAKI Tetsuya</i>, Deputy Director, Global Issues Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs ○ Republic of Korea: <i>JEON Hyun Jin</i>, Second Secretary, Development Policy Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs ○ Mongolia: <i>Tugsbilguun TAMIR</i>, Officer, Research and Analysis Department, National Development Agency ○ Russian Federation: <i>Evgeny TOMIKHIN</i>, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Permanent Representative to ESCAP <p>Q & A and discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSO representatives – CSO experiences in follow-up and review of progress in the country • Views of other stakeholders on their experiences in the follow-up and review of progress

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open discussion
12:00-13:30	Lunch
13:30-17:45	<p>SDGs in action in North-East Asia – sharing experiences of multi-stakeholder engagement and inter-agency coordination for shared goals</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Li Hong</i>, Permanent Representative of China to ESCAP</p> <p>In this session, participants will highlight “best practices” of multistakeholders engagement and inter-agency coordination (including government and non-governments agencies) to find solution for the following topics related to “<i>Regional Road Map for implementing the 2030 for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific</i>”. Through identification of best practices, the session will also identify some of the key cross-border/cross-sectoral challenges as well as challenges in subregional cooperation in the implementation of the SDGs and discuss how the means of implementations in the Regional Road Map for Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific can address these challenges. The means of implementation in the Regional Road Map: a) Data and statistics b) Technology c) Finance d) Policy coherence e) North-South, South-South, international and regional partnerships.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ensuring equality</i>³ – including inclusion and empowerment of people with disability, to leave no one behind • <i>Building resilient society</i>⁴ – including addressing disaster risk reduction • <i>Safeguarding environment</i>⁵ – including natural resource management and climate change • <i>Ensuring participation</i>⁶ – including the local governments’ engagement with multi-stakeholders
13:30–15:00	<p>Plenary: Presentations of the breakout session topics to set the tone of discussion at the breakout session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ensuring equality</i> – “experience in empowering the persons with disabilities through multi-stakeholder engagement and inclusion”, <i>LEE Reena</i>, Secretary-General, Korea Disability Forum • <i>Building resilient society</i> – “disaster risks in North-East Asia”, <i>SungEun KIM</i>, Programme Officer, East and North-East Asia Office, ESCAP • <i>Safeguarding environment</i> – “multi-stakeholder engagement and inter-agency coordination in North-East Asia”, <i>NAM Sangmin</i>, Deputy Head, East and North-East Asia Office, ESCAP • <i>Ensuring participation</i> – “Japanese CSO’s experience”, <i>INABA Masaki</i>, Policy Advocacy Adviser, Japan Civil Society Network on SDGs • “Measuring the impact and progress of SDGs”, <i>Jargalsaikhan DUGAR</i>, Founder, Young Researchers Support Foundation, Mongolia

³ This topic is associated with Regional Road Map 2(a) “Leaving no one behind”

⁴ Regional Road Map 2(b) “Disaster risk reduction and resilience”

⁵ Regional Road Map 2(c) “Climate change” and 2(d) Management of natural resources

⁶ Regional Road Map 3(a) Promote multi-stakeholder engagement by facilitating input and views from various stakeholders as appropriate

15:00-17:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Interlinkages of SDGs”, <i>Aneta NIKOLOVA</i>, Environment Affairs Officer, Environment and Development Division, ESCAP <p>Breakout: Group session to discuss on the specific topics as follows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 1: Ensuring equality • Group 2: Building resilient society • Group 3: Safeguarding environment • Group 4: Ensuring participation <p><i>(including 15 minutes coffee break)</i></p>
17:45–18:00	<p>Wrap up (in each breakout group)</p>
18:30-	<p>Welcome reception</p> <p>co-hosted by ESCAP / Government of the Russian Federation / FEPU</p>
Day 2 (16 October 2019)	
09:00-10:30	<p>Special session: Russia’s response towards implementation of SDGs and VNR process</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Victoria PANOVA</i>, Vice President, Far Eastern Federal University</p> <p><Government perspectives></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ksenia SUKHORUKOVA</i>, Head of the Department for Foreign Economic Activity, Analytical Center, Government of the Russian Federation • <i>Natalia IGNATOVA</i>, Deputy Director, Department of Foreign Statistics and International Statistics Project, Federal State Statistics Service <p><CSO perspectives></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Alexei BORISOV</i>, Vice President, Russian UN Association • <i>Vladimir KALUGIN</i>, Executive Director, NGO "For School Feeding" <p>Q & A and discussion</p>
10:30-10:45	Coffee break
10:45–12:00	<p>Special session: Engaging business sector in SDG implementation</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Alexei BORISOV</i>, Vice President, Russian UN Association</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vladimir KUZNETSOV</i>, Director, UN Information Centre in Moscow • <i>Larisa OVCHINNIKOVA</i>, Director for Development, Global Compact Network Russia

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dmitry SHARKOV</i>, Chair, Regional Office of the National Council for Corporate Volunteering in Novosibirsk • <i>Oksana EVSEEVA</i>, Manager, MTS, Human resources functional group in Primorsky Kray • <i>Natalia GONCHAR</i>, Press-Secretary, Sakhalin Energy
12:00-13:30	Lunch 12:00 – 12:30 Side event: The Disaster Riskscape Across Asia-Pacific – Key takeaways for policy makers in North-East Asia
13:30–14:30	Leaving no one behind in accelerating SDGs - Integrating persons with disability in the North-East Asian countries Special session presents experiences of North-East Asian countries in inclusion of voices of persons with disabilities; and mainstreaming disability perspectives in national policies through SDGs. Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>PENG Yujiao</i>, Development Director, Beijing Tongzhou Leyirong Social Worker Institution • <i>Gerel DONDOVDORJ</i>, President, Mongolian National Federation of the Blind • <i>LEE Hyungsuk</i>, Director, Nodl Center for Independent Living • <i>Dmitry DITTS</i>, Vice President, Sail of Hope
14:30–16:00	Sub-regional context of the SDG Follow-up and review and SDG financing The session's aim is to have a closer look at the regional and global follow-up and review processes for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Financing for Development as interlinked and integrated agendas. The session will be based on an interactive discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Outcomes of the sixth APFSD and the 2019 HLPF under ECOSOC and UNGA”, <i>Aneta NIKOLOVA</i>, Environmental Affairs Officer, Environment and Development Division, ESCAP • “The role of financing in supporting the implementation of SDGs”, <i>Hamza Ali MALIK</i>, Director, Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division, ESCAP Interactive discussion
16:00–16:45	The way forward for accelerating SDG implementation through multi-stakeholder engagement: perspectives from governments and multi-stakeholders on cooperation and partnerships Moderator: <i>NAM Sangmin</i> , Deputy Head, East and North-East Asia Office, ESCAP Drawing from the breakout session on the first day, the session will gather inputs for effective multi-stakeholder engagement and partnership to accelerate SDG implementation Brief presentation by each group on the key discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 1: Ensuring equality

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 2: Building resilient society • Group 3: Safeguarding environment • Group 4: Ensuring participation <p>This last session will also feature a discussion on the way forward, including the process leading to the APFSD and HLPF.</p>
16:45-17:00	<p>Closing</p> <p>Concluding remarks by the organizers</p>