Presenting the Voluntary National Review

Aishath Saadh
Deputy Director General
SDGs Division, Min. of Environment and Energy
Republic of Maldives
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WHAT IS A VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW (VNR) ?

• VNR is a voluntary, state-led, undertaken by countries with a view to accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda
  • Sharing of experiences: integration into national plans, Implementation mechanisms, process of the VNR, stakeholders involved etc
  • Progress of goals: what is achieved and what needs to be achieved, localization of indicators and targets, data management
  • Successes: innovative things done, what eased the process, collaborations and partnerships
  • Challenges: data issues, coordination, taking the SDGs to local levels, reaching the furthest
  • Lessons learned

• The process of carrying out the voluntary national review should not be seen as separate from implementation of the SDGs.
  • Takes stock of and assess the shortcomings in implementation
  • allows a country to plan more appropriate policies, structures and processes,
  • revise its national development goals, to effectively achieve them.

• Countries present their VNRs during the three-day ministerial segment of the HLPF.

• To facilitate an in-depth review of progress, the HLPF annually discusses a set of SDGs and their interlinkages of the Goals 2018
  HLPF focused in-depth review of SDGs 6, 7, 11, 12 and 15, as well as 17, which is reviewed annually.

• 112 countries have already conducted VNRs at the HLPF
  • 22 countries in 2016,
  • 43 countries in 2017, (Togo presenting at both forums).
  • 47 countries presented their VNRs in 2018.
The Report

- UN Secretary-General’s voluntary common reporting guidelines
- The guidelines provide a framework for certain common elements within reviews

**BUT**

- it is up to countries to decide how to carry out their reviews, in accordance with their national contexts and circumstances.
- Norm is to report at least 3 VNRs before 2030
- You can use VNR framework as national reports

Presentation at HLPF

- Time available for each presentation will depend on the number of countries that are due to present their VNRs each year.
  - Present in a group or panel
  - Individual countries
- The time allocated for a country’s VNR presentation includes that for sharing any videos, as well as time provided to stakeholders.
- Each VNR session also allocates time for questions from other countries, as well as from stakeholders.
- Recommended that a minister or person of higher rank lead the presentation of the VNR at the HLPF.
VNR PRESENTATION AT THE HLPF

• Make the best of the limited time
• Audio visuals are exciting and impactful
• Highlight what you want to ‘sell’
  • Key findings
  • Lessons for others
  • Pioneering or new areas that are being explored
  • Focus areas you want to advocate or unique challenges faced: *LDCs, SIDs, Landlocked countries, Climate change* etc
• Way forward

• You don’t need to repeat your report
• Keep the statements and marital used simple and clear
• Be creative and think outside the box
THANK YOU