



UNITED NATIONS
DEVELOPMENT GROUP



SIDE EVENT

“New platforms for civil society engagement with governments for realizing the 2030 Agenda”

Venue: UNCC Meeting Room F

Date: 31 March 2017

Time: 11.30 am – 12.30 pm

Organizers: UNDG-AP Human Rights Network, RCEM

Background

The 2030 Agenda calls for new partnerships to achieve the SDGs, not only at global and regional levels but also at national and sub-national levels, in which civil society is an essential partner, particularly in ensuring that participation, transparency and accountability are not only targets within the SDGs, but become key principles of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda itself.

While considerable momentum is already gathering around such partnerships especially at global and regional levels, to date the progress at national and sub-national levels, and in relation to Voluntary National Reviews has been more uneven. For instance, while other intergovernmental processes such as the Universal Periodic Review of Human Rights have developed clear processes for the engagement of civil society in the reporting process and, increasingly, in relation to implementation and monitoring at national level, there is as yet no clear space for civil society to engage in Voluntary National Reviews, nor any clear guidance on partnership frameworks at national/subnational levels.

The Side Event will take stock of the developing engagement between governments and civil society in SDG monitoring and implementation in Asia and the Pacific, and offer an opportunity to reflect on the key elements for successful multi-stakeholder platforms, and the role that UN agencies can play.

Scope

The Side Event will present the experience of Malaysia and Indonesia in developing platforms for civil society engagement with governments in SDG monitoring and implementation mechanisms, and offer an opportunity to reflect on the key elements for successful collaboration between civil society and government, and the role that UN agencies can play.

Key Questions

The key questions to be discussed in this side event are

- What progress has been made in strengthening civil society engagement with governments in processes for monitoring and implementing the SDGs
- What are the main challenges which have been identified so far, and what good practices and lessons learned can be shared with other countries which have yet to set up mechanisms for such engagement?
- What scope is there for engaging civil society in localization of the SDGs at sub-national levels? How to ensure that grassroots and community-based groups are fully empowered to participate in the process, to help ensure that no one is left behind?
- What roles can UN agencies play, at national and regional levels, in supporting such engagements?

Moderator: Hannie Meesters, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub

Panelists

- Datuk Dr K Yogeesvaran, Deputy Director General, Economic Planning Unit, Malaysia
- Mr. Denison Jayasooria, Malaysian CSO SDG Alliance, Member of National SDG Steering Committee, Malaysia
- Mr. Mohd Rizal bin Rozhan, Persatuan Kesedaran Komuniti Selangor (EMPOWER), Member of National SDG Steering Committee, Malaysia
- Mr. Hamong Santono, International NGO Forum on Indonesian Development (INFID)

Discussants

- Ms. Kate Lappin, Asia-Pacific Forum for Women, Law and Development (Current RCEM Chair)

Programme

1. Opening & Introduction by Moderator (5 mins)
2. Panelist interventions (30 mins)
3. Q&A and discussion (20 mins)
4. Key messages and closing (5 mins)

For more details and information contact:

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