Adoption, localization and integration of SDGs in Uzbekistan

2015 YEAR
Uzbekistan committed to implement the Global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

May 2018 YEAR
Joint UN-WB mission on Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support (MAPS) for SDGs. 50 recommendations and 3 areas of acceleration.

In February 2019 YEAR
206 national SDG indicators were approved

September 2019 ГОДА
Roadmap for the preparation of the first Voluntary National Review of Uzbekistan approved.

November 2019–May 2020 YEAR
Public consultations and review of the national SDGs and the draft VNR report in the regions of the country, as well as with parliament and NGOs held.

01
03
05
07
08
02
04
06
October 2018 YEAR
16 National Sustainable Development Goals and 125 Targets approved. An interagency Coordination Council headed by the Deputy Prime Minister created and Roadmap for the implementation of the national SDGs adopted.

2019 YEAR
Web-portal on SDG indicators launched by the State Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan nsg.stat.uz

February 2020 YEAR
Parliamentary Commission to monitor and facilitate the implementation of the SDGs in Uzbekistan established

Integration of SDG targets and indicators into national development strategies and programs. Current coverage of SDG target by the national programs and strategies is 84%.

Strengthening the capacity to collect data on SDGs indicators, including with the support from the UN. Currently, data is available for around 100 out of 206 approved national SDG indicators.

SDGs financing; The annual publication “the Citizens Budget” includes a section on public financing of national SDGs.
The implementation of the SDGs in the Republic of Uzbekistan coincided with large-scale reforms in the framework of the National Action Strategy for 2017-2021.

The integration of National SDGs into all sectors and regional strategies and development programs.

Development Strategy of the Republic of Uzbekistan until 2035.

The concept of integrated socio-economic development of the Republic of Uzbekistan until 2030.

№1. IMPROVEMENT OF THE STATE AND PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION SYSTEM

№2. ENSURING THE RULE OF LAW AND FURTHER REFORM OF THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM

№3. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND LIBERALIZATION

№4. SOCIAL SPHERE DEVELOPMENT

№5. ENSURING SECURITY, INTERNATIONAL CONSENT AND RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE, AS WELL AS IMPLEMENTING THE BALANCED, MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL AND CONSTRUCTIVE FOREIGN POLICY
The VNR was prepared by the government ministries and agencies of the Republic of Uzbekistan under the overall coordination of the Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction and the Institute for Forecasting and Macroeconomic Research. The main information sources for the report were data from the State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Statistics, as well as information received from governmental agencies.
# Achievements and challenges of Uzbekistan in the National Sustainable Development Goals

## Achievements

### Poverty reduction
- **The share of the poor decreased from 12.8% in 2015 to 11.4% in 2018** (poverty threshold of $3.2 per day)
- **Poverty reduction**: 11.4% decrease
- **Growth in pre-school education coverage from 27.7% in 2017 to 52% in 2019**
- **Quality education**: 100% coverage by secondary education
- **Food security**: In 2018, Uzbekistan ranked 71st among 113 countries in the global food security rating.

### Challenges

### Poverty reduction
- **Presidential Decree on establishment of a new Ministry of economic development and poverty reduction, which is charged with implementing measures to reduce poverty**
- **High regional differences in poverty levels**

### Food security
- **Low proportion of agricultural land areas where sustainable productive and agricultural methods are applied**

### Health and well-being
- **Life expectancy increase from 73.5 in 2015 to 74.6 in 2018**
- **The shortage of medical personnel and the uneven distribution of personnel**
- **High mortality rate from cardiovascular diseases and cancer**

### Quality education
- **Differences in the functional competencies of students in urban and rural educational institutions**
- **Shortage of highly qualified teachers and high staff turnover**
- **Lack of adequate education quality assessment system**
- **Low enrollment in higher education**
- **Gender disparities in higher and technical education**
Achievements and challenges of Uzbekistan in the National Sustainable Development Goals

Achievements

Gender equality
- Female employees in the healthcare sector: 76.6%
- 33.0% of women in parliament
- 45% of women in the total workforce

Pure water and sanitation
- In 2019, 67.8% of the population was covered by centralized water supply.
- The proportion of the population that complies with the safety requirements for sanitation and water services was 95.3% in 2018 compared with 82.6% in 2015.

Sustainable and reliable energy
- Access to natural gas increased from 62 to 67%.
- The share of enterprises implementing energy efficiency measure (rational use of electricity) is growing.
- Access to electricity in rural areas increased from 74% to 78%.

Decent work and economic growth
- In 2015-2018, overall GDP per capita increased by 1.3 times.
- Employment to labour force ratio increased by 67.4%.
- Three quarters of jobs are created due to the accelerated development of small business, private and individual entrepreneurship.

Challenges

Gender equality
- Reducing Domestic Violence
- Gender disparities in higher and technical education
- The registered female unemployment is more than that of male and makes up 12.7%.
- Still low proportion of women in leadership positions.

Pure water and sanitation
- The increase in coverage by centralized water supply from 67.8% of the population (in 2019) to 91.2% by 2030.
- The increase in the coverage of the population with a centralized sewage system from 15.6% to 31.4% by 2030.
- To improve the efficiency of cleaning wastewater from 55% to 80% by 2030.

Sustainable and reliable energy
- Loss of energy during transportation (large area, low population density)
- The increase in the share of renewable energy in the balance of electricity - up to 20-25% by 2030.
- The level of gasification of the population remains low (in 2018, 67.0%).

Decent work and economic growth
- Slowdown in real GDP growth per employed person.
- High proportion of informally employed people in agricultural sectors.
Achievements and challenges of Uzbekistan in the National Sustainable Development Goals

**Achievements**

**Industrialization, innovation and infrastructure**

- The share of gross value added of manufacturing in the sectors of the economy increased from 14.9% in 2015 to 21.5% in 2019.

- The share of gross value added of manufacturing in the sectors of the economy increased from 14.9% in 2015 to 21.5% in 2019.

**Inequality reduction**

- Growth of per capita income by 27.1% (8664.8 thousand sums) in 2018
- The income stratification index (Gini) fell from 0.39 in 2000 to 0.25 in 2019

**Sustainable cities and human settlements**

- Housing supply in 2018 is 16.0 sq.m. per person in 2018, the share of households not owning their own housing in 2018 is 2.0%

**Responsible Production and Consumption**

- The level of solid waste processing for the year increased from 9.0% in 2017 to 19.1% in 2018

- Creation of a digital platform Center for regional management in Tashkent in a pilot mode

**Challenges**

**Industrialization, innovation and infrastructure**

- Low level of raw material processing
- High level of wear on machinery and equipment at 50.5%

**Inequality reduction**

- Income differentiation between urban and rural areas (the level of poverty in villages is 2.7 times higher than in cities)

**Sustainable cities and human settlements**

- Development of norms and regulation for creating necessary conditions for accessibility for people with disabilities
- Poor service provision in housing and utilities sectors

**Responsible Production and Consumption**

- Low share of waste processing
- Toxic waste products generation of 1-3 hazard classes was 13.7 per capita in 2018

CLEAN CITY

Clean city project (modern communal billing system)

On-the-ground metro

Prevention of excessive social stratification
Achievements and challenges of Uzbekistan in the National Sustainable Development Goals

**Достижения**

**Protection and restoration land ecosystems**
- Growth of share of forest area to total land area from 6.5% in 2015 to 7.1% in 2018

**Forestry Development Program 2020–2024**

**Safe and peaceful society, strong institutions and justice**
- From 100th place in 2014 to 81st in 2018 (out of 193 countries) in the UN Electronic Government Development Index
- The number of people in respect of whom a preventive measure in the form of detention was applied in comparison with 2015 decreased by 1,947 people, or down by 18.5%.

**Climate change**
- Reduction of CO2 emissions from 121.2 (million tons) in 2000 up to 101.9 (million tons) in 2018

**Global partnership**
- Significant growth in gross savings (up to 40.2% of GDP in 2018 against 26.4% in 2016)
- Increase in the average annual growth rate of gross investment in 2017–2018 to 12.0%
- (the share of investments in GDP expected in 2020 can reach the highest level – up to 30.0%)
- In 2017–2018, the growth rate of exports amounted to 13–14% compared to 5.2% in 2014–2016
- Qualitative shifts in the structure of GDP are associated with an increase in the share of industry (without construction) from 20.6% to 26.3% for the period under review

**Ратификация Парижского соглашения с обязательством снизить выбросы газов, traps (представляет собой долю каждой страны в общем объеме годовых выбросов в атмосферу) в 2030 году**

**Вызовы**

**Protection and restoration land ecosystems**
- By 2030, it is necessary to increase the net forest area - 6,750 thousand hectares.
- To achieve this, it is necessary to increase it to 295.7 thousand hectares or 4.4% per year

**Safe and peaceful society, strong institutions and justice**
- Improving the state and public administration and governance
- Effective, flexible, transparent and accountable public administration is needed
- Strengthening the rule of law and further reforming the judicial system
- Strengthening the institution of the Commissioner for the Rights of the Child

**Climate change**
- Development a comprehensive National strategy for climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Measures to adopt the agreement on enhanced partnership and cooperation between the European Union and the Republic of Uzbekistan
- Measures to adopt the CIS agreement on free trade in services

**Global partnership**
- Membership in the Eurasian Economic Union
- WTO Accession
Further steps

1. Increasing the **integration of the national SDGs, targets and indicators** from 84% to 100%, by integrating them into sectoral and regional development strategies and programs, taking into account the country’s national priorities and the principle of “Leave no one behind”

2. Facilitating the establishment of an **Integrated National Financing Framework for development in the country**, the mobilization of domestic and external, public and private funds for implementation of SDGs

3. Development of **annual parameters of the State budget**, taking into account the implementation of national SDGs and targets

4. Continue to building capacity to **collect statistics on the remaining 100 SDG indicators in collaboration with UN Agencies and the international community**, and set 2030 target values the for the SDG indicators

5. Increase involvement of **civil societies, business communities, international organizations, NGOs** and other stakeholders to Strengthen dialogue and partnership in the implementation of National SDGs
The COVID-19 pandemic threatens to slow Uzbekistan’s progress towards the SDGs. A sharp slowdown in GDP growth is projected from 5.6% in 2019 to 1.5% in 2020.

About 475,000 or 85% of small businesses were temporarily closed.

1.3 percent of the population, or 448,000 people, have probably already fallen into poverty as a result of the crisis.

A budget deficit of 4 percent of GDP is projected in 2020.

Of particular concern are the disproportionate impacts on vulnerable groups of the population (persons with disabilities, the elderly, people in closed institutions, including children).

Employment declined sharply, especially among self-employed people and labor migrants.

There is a negative impact on the access of children and students to education, despite the strong efforts of the Government to introduce distant learning opportunities.

Lockdown measures in Uzbekistan, as elsewhere, have reduced the pressure on the environment to reduce emissions of air pollutants, which has led to some improvement in air quality in large cities.
Measures to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic

The government of Uzbekistan has adopted a package of anti-crisis measures to provide social and economic support to the population:

- Support for low-income families, disabled people and single pensioners
- Increase in recipients of benefits and provision of tax benefits;
- Allowances expanded for families with children under 14 years of age, child care for children under 2 years of age, and financial assistance.

A Strategy is being developed to combat poverty, the main measures that will be, including protecting the population in pandemic conditions.

The Government of Uzbekistan is taking initiatives that will help all those affected due to this crisis to recover effectively and move on to the course of further sustainable development.

An anti-crisis fund in the amount of $1 billion has been created, the main areas of use of which are:

- Containment of the spread of Coronavirus;
- Support for entrepreneurship and employment;
- Expansion of measures of social protection of the population and ensuring the sustainable functioning of economic sectors.
Measures to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic

The Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan has announced two major anti-crisis packages, including financial and legislative measures, to support the response measures in the health sector and socio-economic areas.

**Healthcare expenditures** are aimed at a major increase in testing (and the formation of the potential for the production of domestic test kits), the purchase of new medical equipment, an increase in salaries for first-line workers, as well as the creation of temporary medical infrastructure facilities.

**Social measures** include expanding the benefits for low-income individuals, as well as the number of beneficiaries, unilateral extension of the period of targeted social assistance, measures to expand disability benefits for people who are quarantined or infected, regulations to protect parents and other categories of infected people, provisions to expand unemployment insurance payments, as well as measures to simplify application and eligibility assessment procedures.

**Economic measures** include a number of tax and spending measures to grant exemptions, as well as non-enforcement of tax and debt payments, as well as measures to ease restrictions on cash flows for businesses. The measures also provide debt relief and financial support for key state-owned enterprises (SOEs), such as the national airline and the main gas exporter.

The first anti-crisis package, with a budget of approximately $1 billion, was announced on March 20.

The second anti-crisis package, announced on April 3, is aimed at supporting the economy through a number of tax benefits, lowering import tariffs for medical supplies and food, extending the terms of payment of debts, as well as additional payments under the social security system.
Uzbekistan reaffirms its commitment to the Global Agenda 2030, the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as their main principle of “Leaving no one behind.”

Thanks to the comprehensive and structural reforms carried out in the country in recent years, noticeable progress has been observed in Uzbekistan in almost all of the SDGs.

However, problems such as certain weaknesses in the effectiveness of public administration, the rule of law, weak market institutions, structural imbalances in the economy, insufficient capacity to collect statistics, lack of funding, and the impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic threaten to slow the country’s progress in achieving the SDGs.

The Government of Uzbekistan intends to accelerate progress in achieving the SDGs despite the challenges outlined above. In addressing these issues, the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan is ready and hopes for close cooperation with the UN, the international community, civil society, the private sector and all interested partners.
THANK YOU FOR THE ATTENTION