Stefanos Fotiou

Environment and Development Policy Section
ESCAP
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

**National Reviews**
- VNR
- National SDG progress report

**APFSD**
- Regional SDG progress report (ESCAP)
- Thematic report (ESCAP/ADB/UNDP)
- Goal profiles (UN system)

**HLPF**
- 47 VNRs (2018)
- 51 VNRs (2019)
- SDG global progress report (annual)
- Global Sustainable Development report (quadrennial)
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
# Stakeholder participation at the APFSD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Participants</th>
<th>Major Group and Stakeholder Participants</th>
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<td>2019</td>
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Highlights of the 2019 APFSD
Empowering people for a more inclusive and equal Asia-Pacific

- > 1000 participants
- 35 side events
- 7 pre and associated events
- Engagement space
- VNR Learning Café
The 2019 APFSD:

- The Sixth APFSD met from March 27-29, 2019 on the theme: “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”

- Underscored the importance of empowerment and inclusion to address inequalities spanning the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development

- Underlined the importance of accountability and multi-stakeholder dialogue to achieve the central aspiration of the 2030 Agenda: “to leave no one behind”

- Member States who are presenting their Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) at this HLPF emphasized, in a dialogue with United Nations Resident Coordinators, major groups and other stakeholders, the positive impact that the VNRs have on both policy development processes and the review of progress.

- Highlighted the role of APFSD as a regional platform for sharing best practices and building regional capacities for the preparation of these important reports.

- Reviewed progress on the regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific.
Highlights of the 2019 APFSD
Empowering people for a more inclusive and equal Asia-Pacific

- As a follow-up to the APFSD, ESCAP Member Countries approved, during the 75th Commission Session, the Resolution “Committing to strengthening the links between national, regional and global follow-up to and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific”. This resolution emphasizes the importance of strengthening the links between national, regional and global follow-up to and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and recognizes the key role played by the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development in providing a regional space for follow-up and review.

- Resolution 75/2 also calls upon its members, and urges the Economic and Social Council, to ensure that inputs emanating from the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development are adequately reflected annually in the programme and deliberations of the high-level political forum on sustainable development.
Highlights of the 2019 HLPF

Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality

# HLPF 2019

- 8 DAYS
- 47 VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEWS
- >125 HEADS AND DEPUTY HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT, MINISTERS, VICE-MINISTERS & OTHER MINISTERIAL LEVEL OFFICIALS
- 130 SPEAKERS IN PANELS
- >2000 REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS

- 6 SDGs UNDER REVIEW
- 33 MEETINGS
- 156 SIDE EVENTS
- 8 SPECIAL EVENTS
- 36 EXHIBITIONS
- 17 VNR LABS
Voluntary National Reviews at the 2019 HLPF

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)