



VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW

EXPERIENCES FROM ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Kathmandu, Nepal 01-02 November 2017

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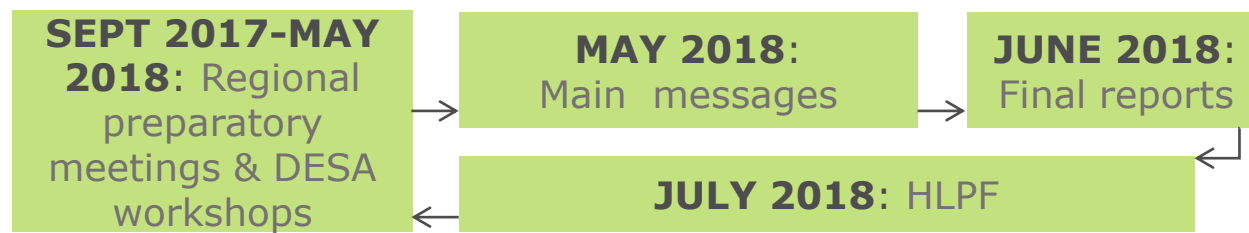
I. Background: the VNR process



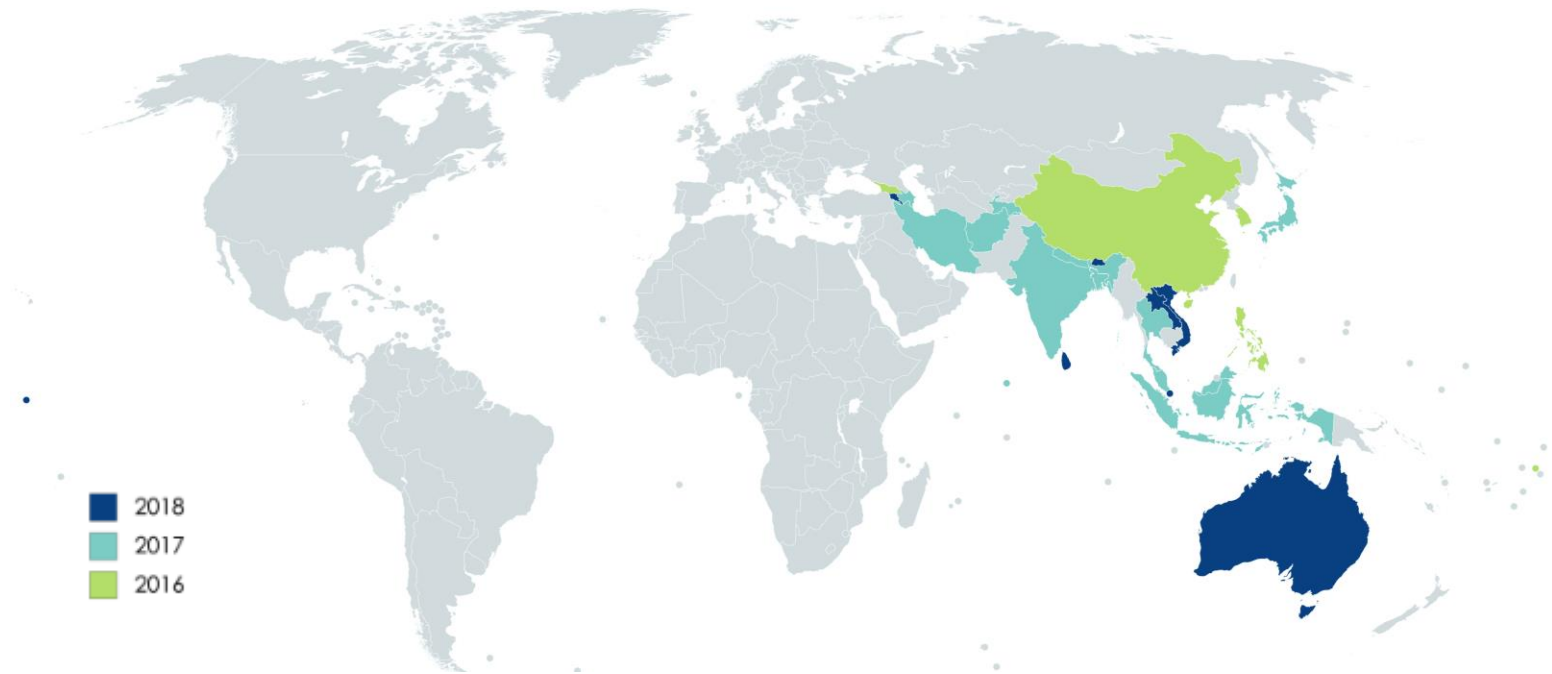
VNRs

- ❑ Link the national and global
- ❑ Are voluntary and state-led
- ❑ Outline progress, share successes and challenges
- ❑ Guidelines for presentation at HLPF
- ❑ Regional frameworks facilitate sharing experiences and learning from other's experiences

TIMELINE



II. Reporting Countries from AP

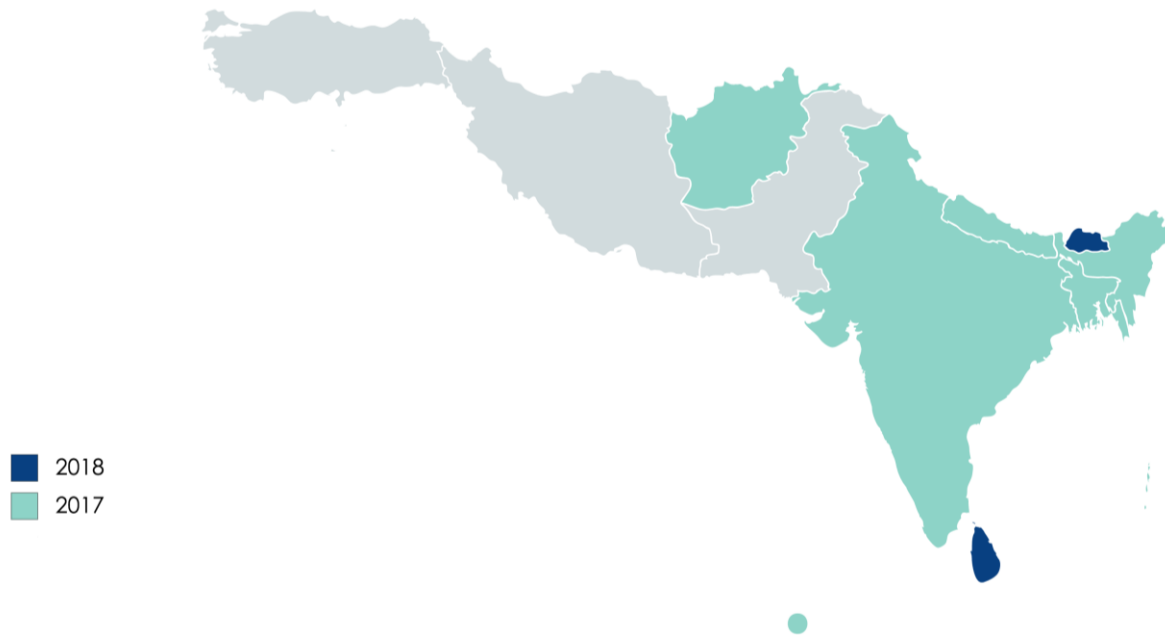


2016 22 countries, 5 from the Asia Pacific Region

2017 43 countries, 11 from the Asia Pacific Region

2018 48 countries, 8 from the Asia Pacific Region

III.VNR in South and South-West Asia



2017 Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Maldives and Nepal; **2018** Bhutan and Sri Lanka

IV. Emerging issues

❑ **Partnerships**

❑ **Financing** → *Means of Implementation*

❑ **Data Availability** → *Accountability, Monitoring and Evaluation, Reporting*

❑ **Integration of the 3D for SD**

❑ **Policy coherence** → *Political will, lack of effective policy coordination and coherence*

❑ **Stakeholder participation and engagement** → *Leaving no one behind*

V. Mainstreaming SDGs at the National Level

- ❑ **Institutional capacity** → *Coordination of the SDGs*
- ❑ **Prioritization** → *Localization of the SDGs and gaps analysis*
- ❑ **Vertical/Horizontal Policy Coherence** → *SDG integration into national planning*
- ❑ **Multi stakeholder approaches** → *Inclusiveness for SDG integration*
- ❑ **Follow up & review** → *Design national reporting and review framework*

VI. Stakeholder Engagement – basic questions & challenges

- ❑ Who are the stakeholders? How do we choose the “right” ones?
- ❑ Ensuring inclusion & self-representation > addressing marginalization, geographic isolation, socio-cultural discrimination, language barriers, fear of retaliation
- ❑ How to conduct public outreach?
- ❑ How to go beyond consultation and committees to activation > engagement for transformation through a whole-of-society approach
- ❑ Effectively dealing with internal (within-government) & external stakeholders?
- ❑ What should be the engagement objectives in different 2030 Agenda implementation activities?

**BETTER
PLANNING/
METHODS/
TOOLS**

SYSTEMIC ISSUES

- ❑ Political commitment, awareness, trust deficits
- ❑ Ensuring meaningful engagement > keeping the “promise”
- ❑ Legal mandates, robust civic education, engagement capacity etc.
- ❑ Common understanding re: quality engagement

VII. Support for VNRs

REGIONAL & SUBREGIONAL FORA support VNR countries

- ❑ Facilitate peer learning & partnerships
- ❑ Strengthen follow up & review
- ❑ Promote integration
- ❑ In-depth review of the cluster of goals
- ❑ Discussion on the theme for the HLPF

a. CAPACITY BUILDING

- ❑ Workshop with VNR countries to prepare national review
- ❑ Share regional commonalities, challenges, lessons learned, progress
- ❑ Presenting format at HLPF: HL presenter, elements, panel, audio-visual aids

b. VNR Session & informal exchange @ the VNR Learning Café (APFSD)

c. Targeted technical support for regional learning

VIII. Lessons learned (from VNR main messages)

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- ❑ Most vulnerable groups tend to be excluded
- ❑ Role of media in creating awareness
- ❑ Cross-sector communication
- ❑ Inclusion in high-level meetings
- ❑ CSOs key to SDG implementation

- ❑ Role of startups in transferring environmentally sound technologies

REGIONAL COLLABORATION TO INCREASE CAPACITY

MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION & VNRs

- ❑ Data collection & sharing should be transparent
- ❑ Benchmarking is essential when preparing VNRs
- ❑ Share best practice & innovative solutions to achieve ambitious targets
- ❑ Language as a barrier for awareness & implementation
- ❑ Targets must be localized to fit national context

Thank you

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