Bhutan’s Journey in Localizing the SDGs

South and South-West Asia Forum on Implementation of SDGs
1-2 November, Kathmandu, Nepal

Pema Bazar, GNH Commission Secretariat
Outline

- Gross National Happiness and SDGs
- Bhutan and SDGs
- Journey of Localization
- Current Status
- Way Forward
GNH & SDGs

- GNH 4P: Good Governance, Sustainable Socio-economic development, Environmental Conservation and Cultural Preservation
- SDGs 3D: Economic, Social and Environmental
- 3D of SDGs are subsumed under 3P of GNH, culture is an extra pillar
- GNH at the helm of development agenda has made the adoption of SDGs a seamless process
Bhutan and SDGs
Bhutan and SDGs

- Transforming our world: Agenda 2030 for sustainable development adopted at UN Summit for Sustainable Development on 25 September 2015
- Bhutan’s representation in the SDG Open Working Group in 2013
- Bhutan became one of the early mover countries in the Asia Pacific region for SDG localization – identified by United Nations Development Programme in September 2015
- High level sensitization workshop on the SDGs, convened in Thimphu, 30th October 2015.
- In-house Mapping exercise conducted by RGoB
- SDG Rapid Integrated Policy Assessment by UNDP
Journey of Localization

Screening of Public Policies through the GNH lens

- All public policies tabled for adoption will have to be screened using the GNH policy screening tool

Eleventh Plan vis-à-vis SDGs

- 3 SDGs prioritized for 11FYP
- National Key Result Areas (NKRAs)
  - 16 Outcome (key Result Areas)
  - 61 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
- Sustainable Development Goals
  - 17 Goals
  - 169 Targets
- Internal Mapping Exercise
  - 16 Goals of the 17 SDGs already integrated in the NKRAs
Eleventh Plan and SDG- An Assessment

- **Rapid Impact Policy Assessment conducted by UNDP**
  - High level of Integration at both goal and target level
  - Target level assessment
  - 169 targets against the 11th FYP (2013-2018)
  - 143 targets found relevant for Bhutan
  - 134 targets already integrated in our 11th Plan
Gap Analysis findings

- At the target level, some gaps identified through RIPA are:
  - Financial inclusion
  - Migration
  - Gender and
  - Social protection
Institutional mechanisms in place

- GPMD under the Office of the Prime Minister
- APA signing
- Annual Budget linked to APA
- Web based online M&E system in place
Some Major Programs targeted towards realizing these SDGs

- Enhancing Sustainability and Climate Resilience of Forest and Agriculture Landscape and Community Livelihoods in Bhutan funded by GEF-LDCF (USD 13.9 million)
  - Resilient Communities, Effective Corridors – a climate action in Bhutan, the first integrated project in Bhutan

- Bhutan for Life Initiative (USD 40 million)
  - Operationalizing the Protected Areas and Biological Corridors

- Rural Economic Advancement Program (REAP) and Targeted Household Poverty Program (THPP)
  - Targeted Poverty Intervention Program
12 FYP and SDGs

- Integration of SDGs in the 12th Plan
  - A preliminary assessment of 12th plan NKRA vis-à-vis the SDGs reveal that 16 SDG goals have been integrated into the 16 NKRA (except for SDG 14 life below water)
  - Approximately 63 targets have been integrated into the 12th plan KPIs for 16 NKRA
  - 107 indicators integrated into the NKRA
  - There will be further integration of the SDGs as we formulate the Sector and Local Government Key Result Areas and corresponding KPIs.
In order to ensure that no one is left behind, for the first time in the history of plan formulation, Private sector and civil society are engaged in plan formulation.

The civil society engagement as partners in progress are given more focus by engaging them in the program implementation.

UNDP assisted the review of the National Assembly’s Strategic Plans to achieve the SDGs.

Issues & Way forward

- SDG Costing exercise-Funding the SDGs
- SDG modelling
- Data Harmonization
- Capacity Building
- Awareness and sensitization program