



UN Public Administration Programme

Division for Institutions and Digital Government  
UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)



# Capacity Needs Assessment of Government Institutions to Implement the 2030 Agenda

UN Project Office on Governance  
DPIDG / UN DESA



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# Overview of the Capacity Needs Assessment

## UNITED NATIONS SURVEY

Capacity needs assessment of government institutions to implement the 2030 Agenda and identification of priority areas for capacity development in the Asia and Pacific region and Eastern Africa



*Capacity needs assessment of government institutions to implement the 2030 Agenda and identification of priority areas for capacity development in the Asia and Pacific region and Eastern Africa*

**20 country replies**



# 1. Overview of the Capacity Needs Assessment

UNITED NATIONS SURVEY

Capacity needs assessment of government institutions at sub-national level  
to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



*Capacity needs assessment of government institutions at sub-national level to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*

United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)

UN Project Office on Governance (UNPOG) of the  
Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG)  
&

UN Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD) of the  
Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DSDG)

May 2018

**44 replies from 21 countries**



# 1. Overview of the Capacity Needs Assessment



## Objectives

- ✓ To assess public institutions' capacity needs and priorities in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
- ✓ To analyze the progress in the implementation of the SDGs at international level
- ✓ To develop the training and capacity development work of UNPOG/DPADM/UNDESA



## 2. Structure of the Questionnaire

**Part I. Integration of the SDGs in the National Development Process**

**Part II. Public Administration and Public Service in SDGs Implementation**

**Part III. Mobilising Civil Society, the Private Sector, Scientific Community and Citizens**

**Part IV. Resources and Technology**

**Part V. Monitoring, Review and Follow-up**

**Part VI. UNDESA Expected Role in Supporting Capacity Development Efforts of Countries in Special Situations**



### 3. Collaboration with Other UN Agencies



UNITED NATIONS  
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME



United Nations  
Economic Commission for Africa



## 4. Response Status & Ongoing Efforts

SDIS  
(16)

LDCs/LLDCs  
(19)

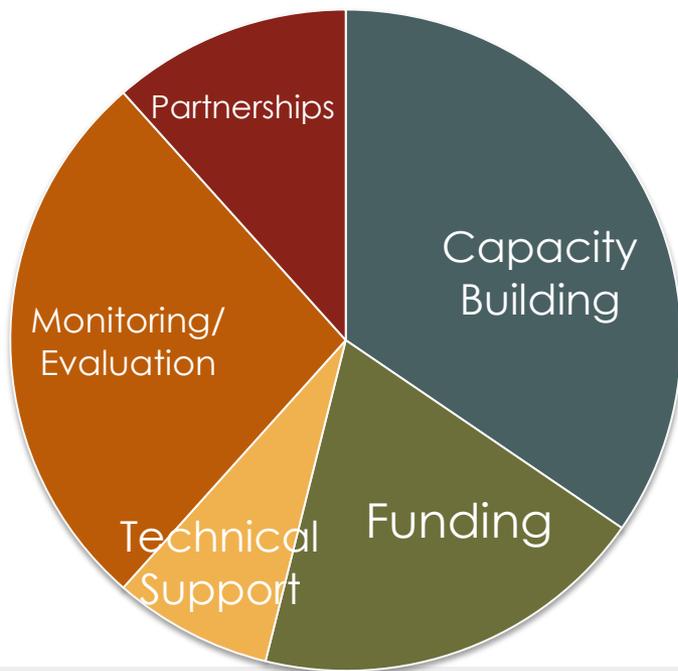
Middle &  
Low  
Income  
(12)

a total of **20** countries out of **47** countries  
in Asia and the Pacific & Eastern Africa



## 5. Analysis on the Collected Responses

Priority areas where countries need support for effective SDGs institutionalization & implementation



- ✓ capacity development training
- ✓ tools for capacity development
- ✓ knowledge exchange
- ✓ learning from other countries' experiences/best practices



## 6. Challenges identified

SIDS	LDCs	LICs / MICs
<p><b>1. Monitoring, review and follow-up</b> Challenges in terms of government and administration capacities to monitor SDG achievements and report on results with limited data collection and statistical capacities as well as capacities for evaluation</p>	<p><b>1. Coordination mechanisms</b> Lack of sufficient mechanisms for coordination across government and non-government stakeholders at national and sub-national levels, limiting engagement of them in SDG implementation processes</p>	<p><b>1. Monitoring, review and follow-up</b> Lack of data, in particular disaggregated data for vulnerable groups in order to inform application of the principle of ‘leaving no one behind’; and the lack of data-sharing with NGOs and insufficient methodological support on data collection and analysis.</p>
<p><b>2. Financial resources</b> Lack of financial resources for development initiatives and combining of domestic and external funding to implement government priorities through the national budget</p>	<p><b>2. Financial resources</b> Limitations in availability of financial resources, with difficulties in mobilizing domestic resources, traditional sources of funding proven insufficient</p>	<p><b>2. Human Resources Technical Capacities</b> Issues regarding human resource capacities are varied and range from ICT, environment, cost-benefit analysis and e-government.</p>
<p><b>3. Limited human resources capacities</b> Lack of technical capacities in a variety of fields needed for SDG implementation with limited number of staff in government agencies</p>	<p><b>3. Monitoring, review and follow-up</b> Limited capacity of data generation systems and challenges in collection, analysis, disaggregation and dissemination of monitoring data and information</p>	<p><b>3. Financial resources</b> The limitation of financial resources compared to the wide range of issues covered through the 17 SDGs and their targets that need to be addressed</p>
<p><b>4. Lack of long term strategic direction</b> Focus on ad hoc rather than long term strategic decision-making with frequent policy level changes in an unstable political environment</p>	<p><b>4. Localization of the SDGs</b> Challenges in localization of the SDGs in line with development plans and strategies at national and sub-national levels and their inclusion in country’s fiscal space</p>	<p><b>4. Means for coordination and integration</b> The silo approach of government agencies is a constraint as well as the lack of tools to integrate cross-cutting aspects across the SDGs.</p>
<p><b>5. Context of SIDS</b> SIDS share a challenging context characterized by their small size, remoteness and isolation, high transportation costs, vulnerability to external shocks and climate change, and dependence on small internal markets and a narrow range of exports.</p>	<p><b>5. Human Resources Capacities</b> Limitations in terms of knowledge, skills and attitudes, including capacity of civil servants at all levels of government, to implement the SDGs</p>	<p><b>5. Sub-national SDG implementation</b> Limitations in the understanding of the SDG at the local level; and in capacities of implementing partners at the sub-national level with the need to have the goals make a real difference at the local level</p>



## 7. Support Expectations from DPIDG/UNPOG

SIDS	LDCs	LICs / MICs
<p><b>Institutional development</b> including supporting innovative public service delivery and ICTs development</p> <p><b>Developing partnerships</b></p> <p><b>Reinforcing transparency and accountability</b> and developing M&amp;E capacities</p> <p><b>Engaging citizens</b> in decision making and implementation</p> <p>Support to <b>programme quality</b> and coordination</p> <p>Mobilizing <b>financial resources</b></p>	<p>Development of <b>capacities of the public administration</b> at national and sub-national level to implement the SDGs in coordination with other stakeholders</p> <p>Development of <b>capacities in monitoring of results</b> towards SDG achievement and SDG indicators and building capacities of statistical agencies</p> <p>Development and implementation of <b>innovative funding mechanisms</b> at national and sub-national level</p> <p><b>Enhance coordination</b> across government stakeholders as well as coordination between governmental and non-governmental stakeholders</p> <p>Support <b>South-South learning</b> across countries</p>	<p>Support to <b>public administration development</b>, Including public service delivery and ICTs for development, and support to integrated policy making</p> <p><b>Reinforcing transparency and accountability</b></p> <p><b>Public awareness raising</b> and participatory decision-making using innovative approaches to public communication</p> <p>Development of <b>partnerships</b></p> <p>Guidance on <b>monitoring, review and follow-up</b>, enhancing comparability across country level VNR reports</p> <p><b>Mobilization of resources</b></p> <p><b>Sub-national</b> SDG implementation</p>



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# Thank You