

Multilevel governance for SDG implementation: the role of VNRs and VLRs

*Presented at
Capacity Development Workshop on Effective
National to Local Governance for SDGs
Implementation in Rwanda*

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by
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Outline

- Development Planning Process in Malawi
 - Our Vision, MW2063
 - Domestication of SDGs and AU Agenda 2063
- Lessons from VNRs & VLR
- The Role of VNR and VLR in SDG implementation
- Risks of Multi-level coordination



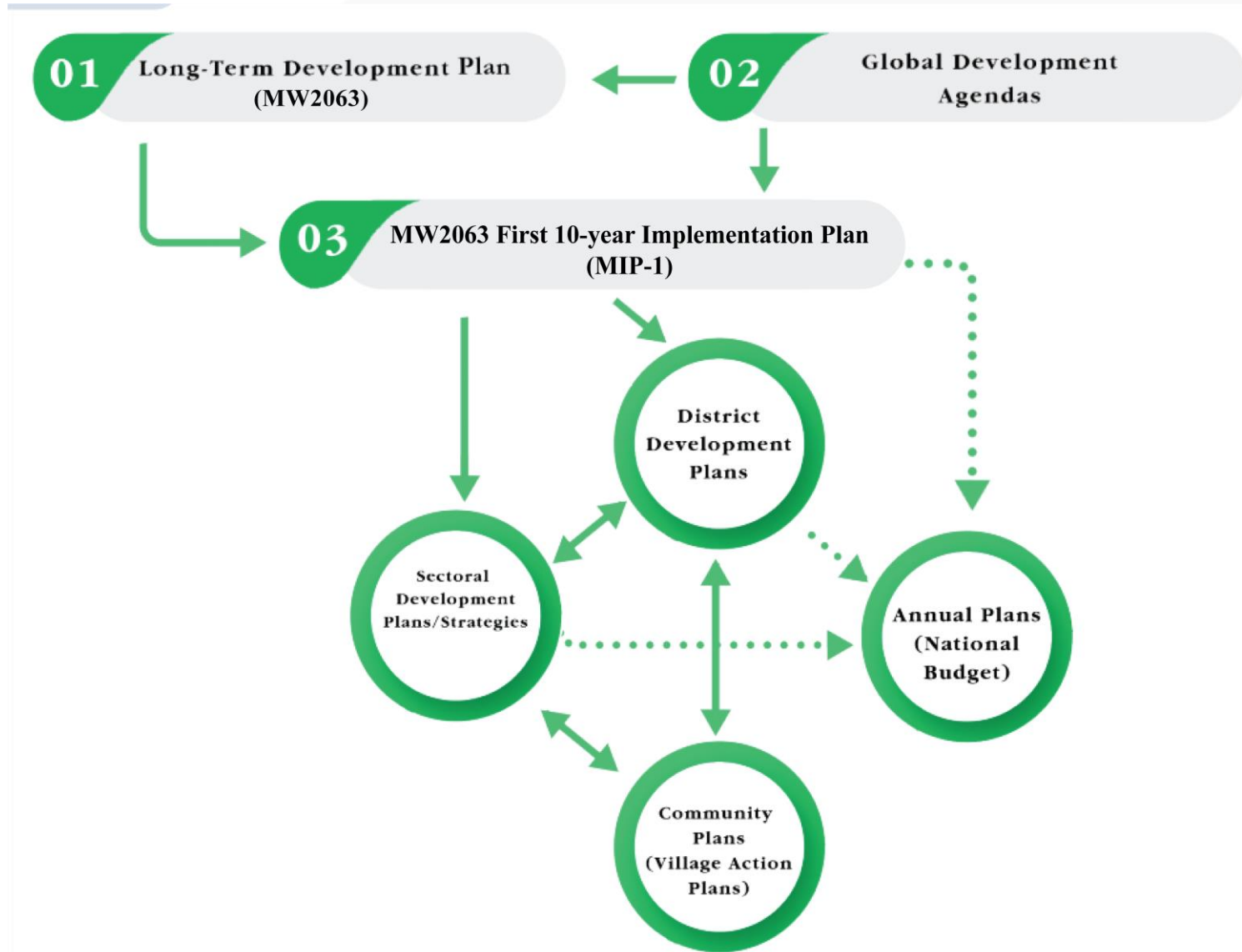
Reflection

‘Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence win championships

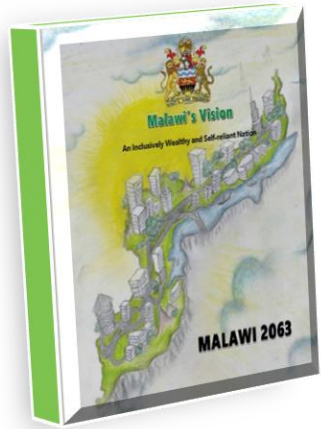
Michael Jordan



National Development Planning

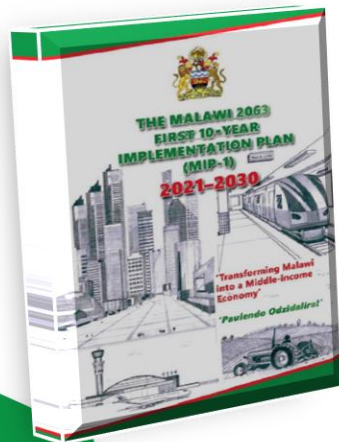


Malawi 2063 and MIP-1



2063 Milestone:

Graduating the country into an industrialized upper middle-income economy (GNI, US\$4,045 per capita)



2030 Milestones:

1. Graduating the country into a low middle-income economy (GNI, US\$1,036 per capita)
2. Meeting most of the SDGs



Domesticating and Implementation SDGs

- MIP-1 has aligned and domesticated SDGs and Agenda 2063
 - Allowing SDGs and Agenda 2063 to be financed and implemented through national and local structures



MIP-1 and Agenda 2063 are aligned at 73.7%



Dashboard

81.62%

SDGs Alignment

Goals = 98.53% Targets = 72.19% Indicators = 53.48%

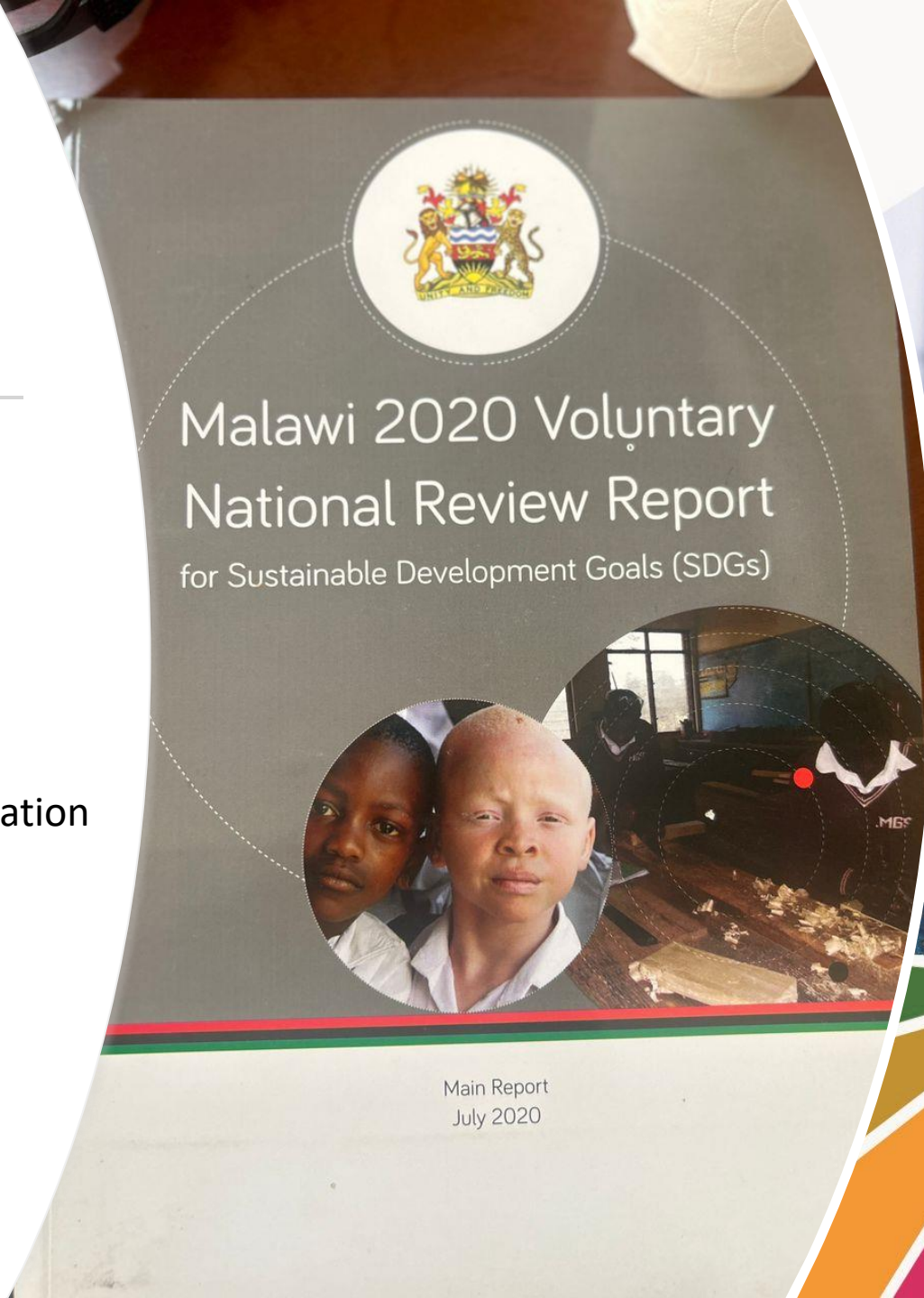


Lessons from VNRs & VLRs



Malawi's VNR & VLR so far

- 2017: Baseline
- 2018: SDG Annual Review
- 2020: VNR
- 2022: VNR
- 2024: VLR (on going)
- 2024 SDG mid-term evaluation (On going)



MALAWI 2022 VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW REPORT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)



JUNE 2022

Structured Coordination & Governance Mechanism

- Four-levelled structures
 - National Steering Committee (NSC)
 - Core Technical Committee (CTC)
 - Thematic Working Groups (TWG)
 - A secretariat
- With well-detailed TORs



Coordination & Governance Mechanism cont...

1. *National Steering Committee (NSC)*

- Overall oversight and policy direction
- Co-chaired by SPC and UN resident coordinator
- Comprising heads of key institutions:
 - Government coordinating institutions – NPC, EP&D, Finance, Local government and OPC
 - Development partners – UN agencies and development partners rep
 - Private sector- MCCCCI
 - Academia
 - Faith leaders
 - Traditional leaders



Coordination & Governance Mechanism cont...

2. ***Core Technical Committee (CTC)***

- Responsible for all technical work including:
 - Conceptualisation,
 - Data collection and analysis
 - Report writing
 - Developing documentary
- Technical staff of key institutions with leadership and interest in at least one SDG
 - Government MDAs
 - Development partners
 - Private sector associations
 - Academia representative
 - Faith leaders
 - Traditional leaders
 - CSOs



Coordination & Governance Mechanism cont...

3) *Thematic Working Groups (TWG)*

- Acted as the reference group, ensuring the needs of special groups and sectors are well addressed
 - Five technical thematic groups
 - Prosperity
 - Strong Institutions and Partnerships
 - Sustainable Environment
 - Social Goals (Health/Education/Gender)
 - Economic Infrastructure (Energy/Transport)
 - Three special interest thematic groups
 1. Women and children
 2. People with disability, elderly
 3. Youth and marginalized people



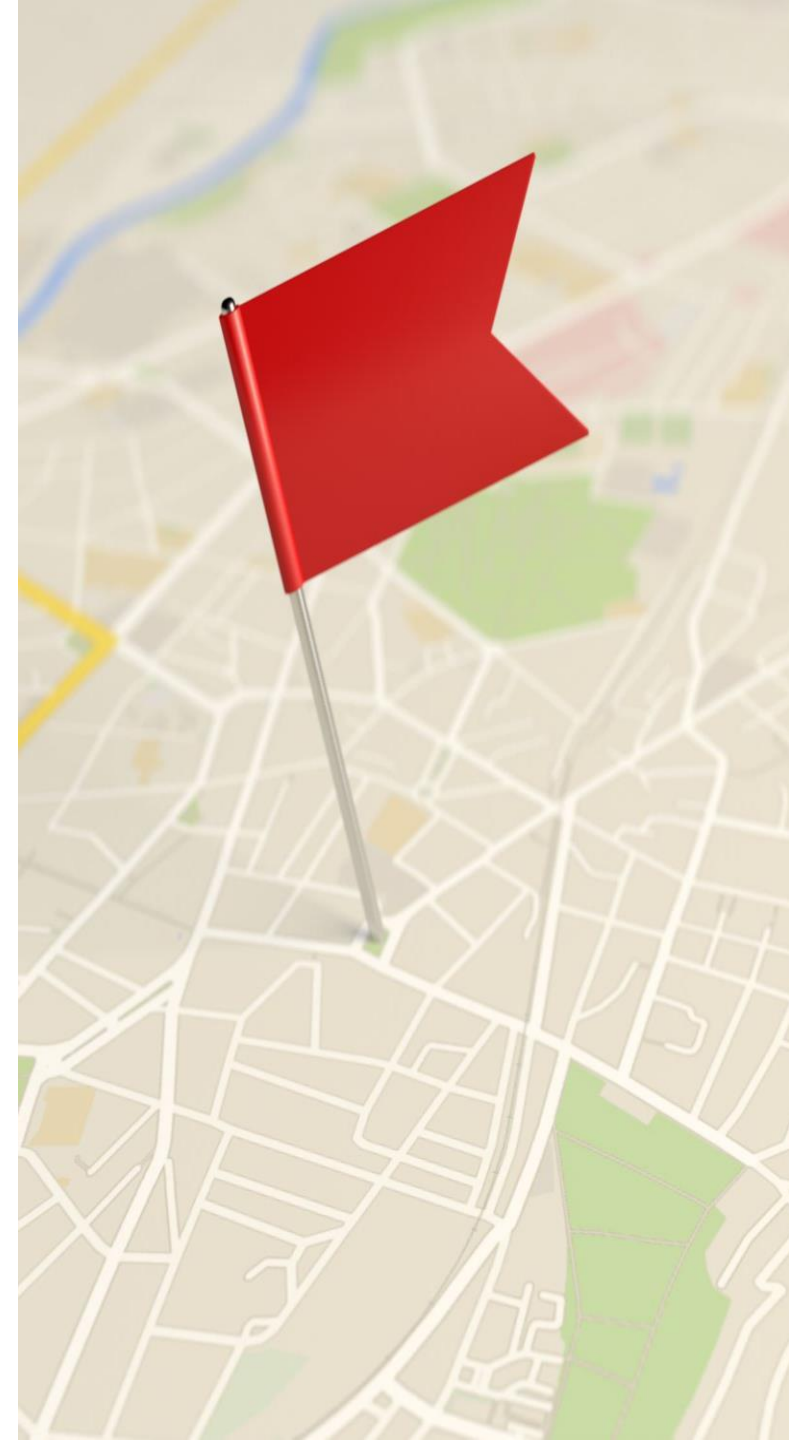
4) *Secretariat*

- For all operational, administrative and logistical support to all VNR structures
- NPC provided secretariate services, co-led with EP&D



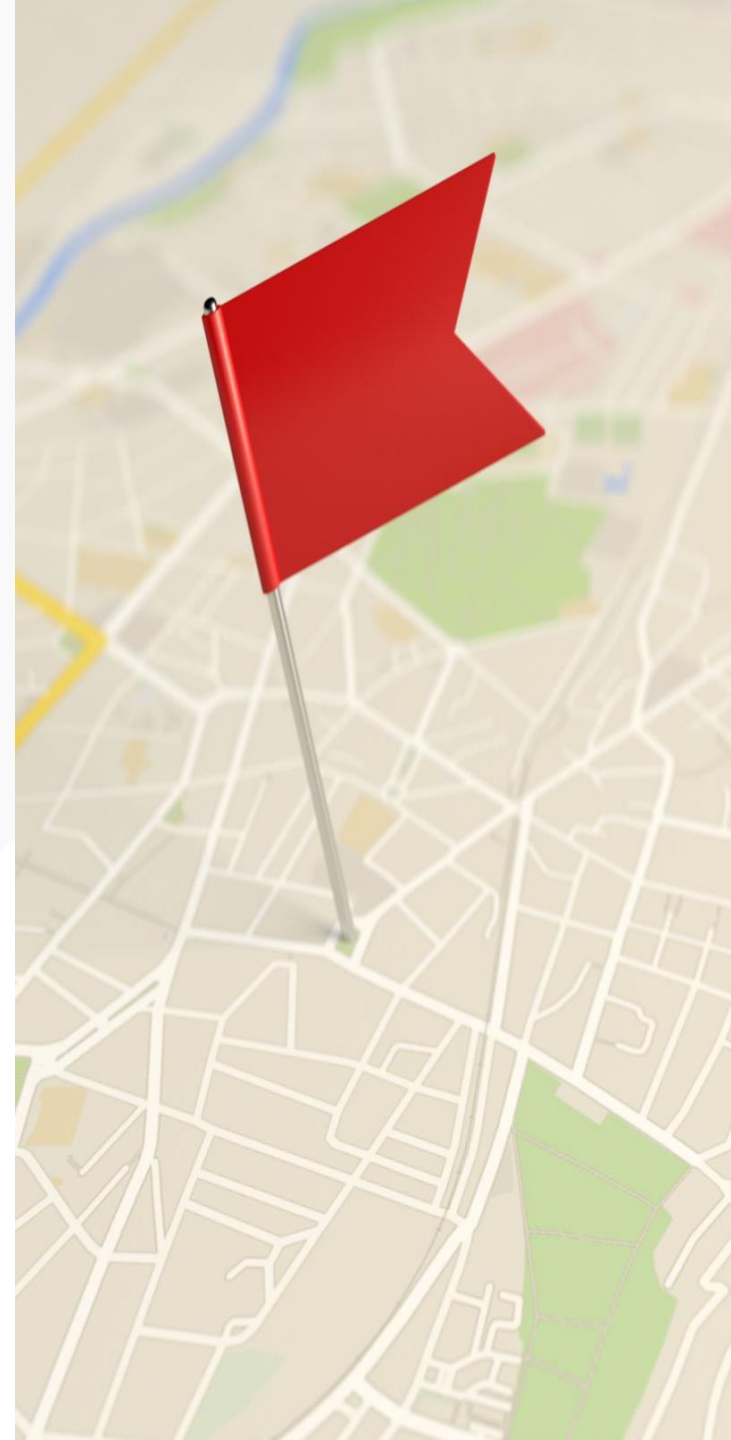
Well-documented Processes

- Concept detailed road map that guided the VNR processes.
 1. A reflective workshop for the 2020 VNR.
 2. Participation in regional and global conferences
 3. The official launch of the 2022 VNR
 4. Technical working sessions to develop tools
 5. Awareness campaigns
 6. Stakeholder engagements and Data collection
Workshop, town hall meetings, interviews (FGDs, KII and surveys), U-reporting, phone in radio programmes, secondary data etc.



Well-documented Processes

6. Stakeholder engagements and Data collection
 - Workshop, town hall meetings, interviews (FGDs, KII and surveys), U-reporting, phone in radio programmes, secondary data etc.
7. A write shop by the CTC - Draft the 2022 VNR report and Key Messages.
8. A video documentary and other visual productions are being developed to document all VNR Processes.
9. National and regional Validation meetings
10. Production of the report
11. Presentation at the HLPF



The Role of VNRs & VLRs in SDGs Implementation



Awareness raising

Reignites the interest and attention to SDGs- 14% of citizens then able to relate the SDGs

Implementing Agencies started refocusing to provide linkages with SDGs



Coordination Across Governance Levels

VNRs structures have reinforced implementation modalities - PECGs

Help to reflect on alignment of national, local governments and non-state actors plans.

Kickstarted integration of contributions of the players in the margins e.g. especially private sector and local CSOs in national reporting



Capacity Building for Local Governments

VNR and VLR helped us identify planning and implementation gaps resulting in tailor-made technical assistance.



Call to Action

VNRs highlight progress and challenges in the implementation of SDGs for immediate action.

Bottlenecks to Multilevel coordination in VLR and VNR

1. Limited Capacity of other categories:

- More especially at subnational and local structures
- ✓ The VNR and VLR acted as a catalyzing process for technical assistance and skills transfer.

2. Resource intensive

- Both financial and time-taxing canvassing multiple stakeholders with diverging interests

3. Fragmented Data and Reporting Mechanisms:

- Misalignment of indicators between VNRs and VLRs can limit their integration.
- ✓ Develop harmonised reporting frameworks with clear data-sharing protocols.





Collaboration and persistence are key to success

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

For more information, visit: www.npc.mw or write to dg@npc.mw

