



VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW

EXPERIENCE FROM ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

UNESCAP

Background: the VNR process

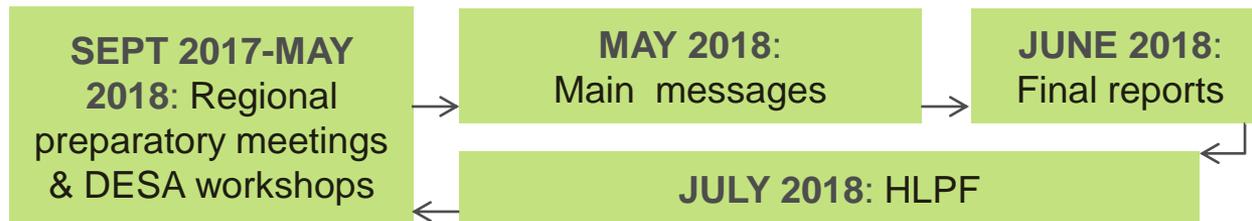
3 TIERS



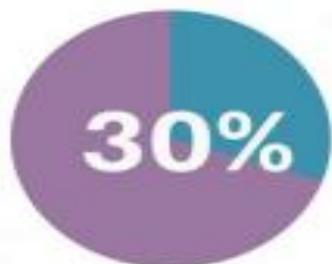
VNRs

- ❑ Link the national and global
- ❑ Are voluntary and state-led
- ❑ Outline progress, share successes and challenges
- ❑ Guidelines for presentation at HLPF
- ❑ Regional frameworks facilitate

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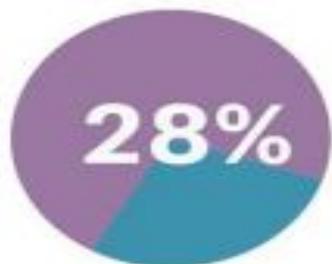


Topics for VNRs (global)



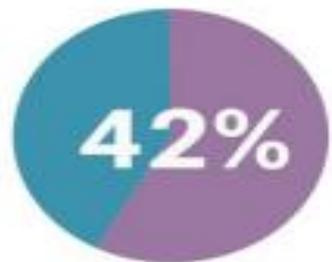
▶ ALL 17 GOALS

Many countries included dedicated sections on each of the 17 SDGs. A few countries addressed all SDGs in a cross-cutting way through their own national frameworks.



▶ GOALS UNDER IN-DEPTH REVIEW AT 2017 HLPF

These countries included specific sections focusing on the set of goals that are under in-depth review at the 2017 HLPF. Some also included a statistical annex covering more goals.

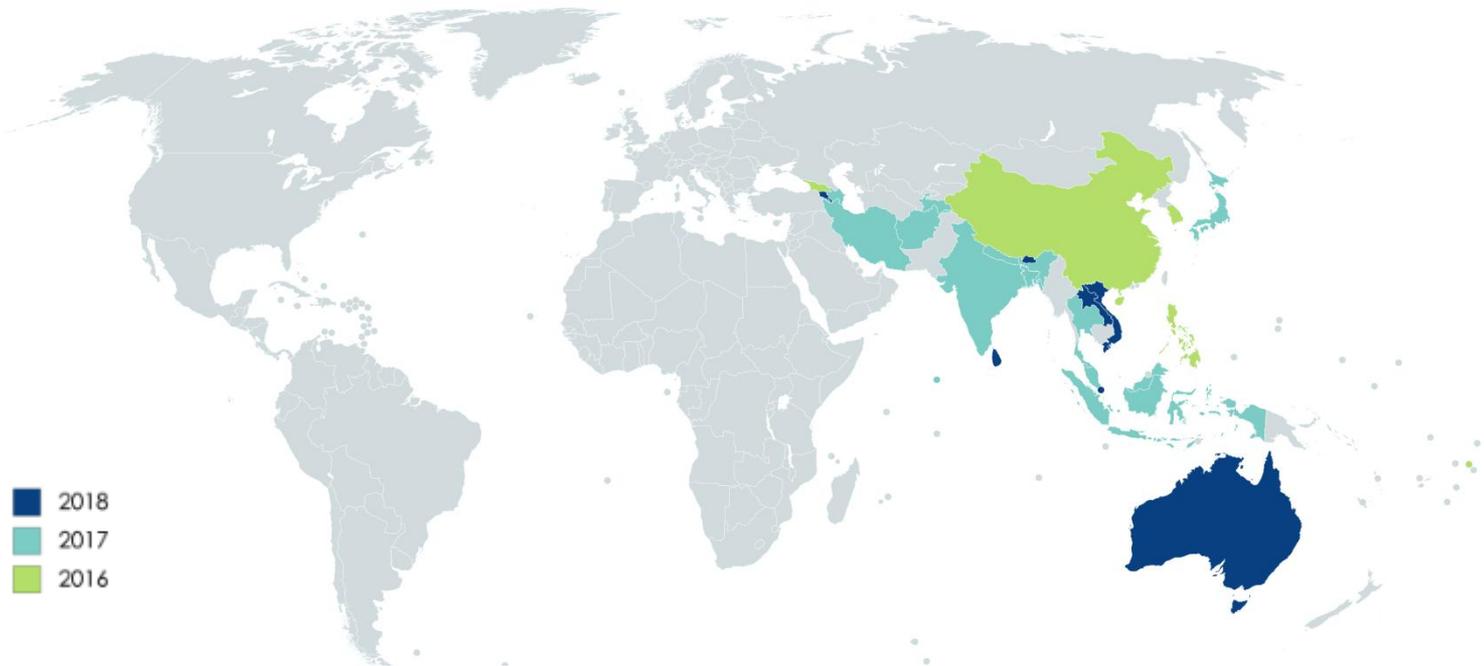


▶ GOALS OF OWN CHOICE

Some countries chose to focus on their priority goals within the 2030 Agenda. Some decided to report on the most relevant ones within the set of goals under in-depth review.

Synthesis of
Voluntary National
Reviews 2017

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

Emerging issues

- ❑ **Partnerships**
- ❑ **Financing** → *Means of Implementation*
- ❑ **Data Availability** → *Need for disaggregated data; data availability, sources, methodologies, coverage and dissemination, data gaps*
- ❑ **Integration** → *inter-ministerial and multi-sectoral coordination and coherence*
- ❑ **Policy coherence** → *Political will, lack of effective policy coordination and coherence*
- ❑ **Stakeholder participation and engagement** → *Leaving no one behind/Hearing everyone's voices*

Challenges identified in NEA's VNRs

China

- Eradicating poverty and hunger
- Mobilizing domestic resources
- Raising public awareness
- Creating favorable social environment for the implementation
- Strengthening inter-sector policy coordination
- Revising and reviewing relevant laws and regulations
- Engaging with all stakeholders
- Creating an enabling international environment for development, building a balanced, win-win and inclusive multilateral trading system and improving global economic governance

Japan

- Public awareness of the SDGs is not yet sufficient
- Public Private Action for Partnership (PPAP) in cooperation with a wide range of stakeholders

Republic of Korea

- Policy efforts of ministries and agencies to address SDGs
- Coordinating the various plans and policies related to the SDGs
- Reaching out and including various stakeholders
- exploring and institutionalizing innovative approaches to means of implementation

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*

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

Support for VNRs

REGIONAL 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

Lesson learned

BENCHMARKING IS ESSENTIAL
WHEN PREPARING VNRS

SHARE BEST PRACTICE & INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS
TO ACHIEVE AMBITIOUS TARGETS

CSOS KEY TO SDG
IMPLEMENTATION

REGIONAL COLLABORATION
TO INCREASE CAPACITY

TARGETS MUST BE LOCALIZED TO FIT NATIONAL
CONTEXT

Regional Road Map for Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific

Means of Implementation and Partnership

- (a) Data and statistics
- (b) Technology
- (c) Finance
- (d) Policy coherence
- (e) North-South, South-South, international and regional partnerships

Thematic Issues

- (a) Leaving no one behind
- (b) Disaster risk reduction and resilience
- (c) Climate change
- (d) Management of natural resources
- (e) Connectivity for the 2030 Agenda
- (f) Energy

A world map is centered in the background, rendered in a light teal color. It is surrounded by numerous colorful, swirling lines in shades of blue, green, yellow, and grey, creating a sense of motion and global connectivity. The lines swirl around the map and extend across the frame.

Thank you