

A stylized world map is centered in the upper half of the image. The continents are depicted in a light grey color, while the oceans are a light blue. Overlaid on the map are numerous colorful, curved lines in shades of blue, green, yellow, and orange, which resemble orbital paths or data trajectories, creating a sense of global connectivity and movement. The background is a plain, light cream color.

# **VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW**

**EXPERIENCE FROM ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

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**UNESCAP**

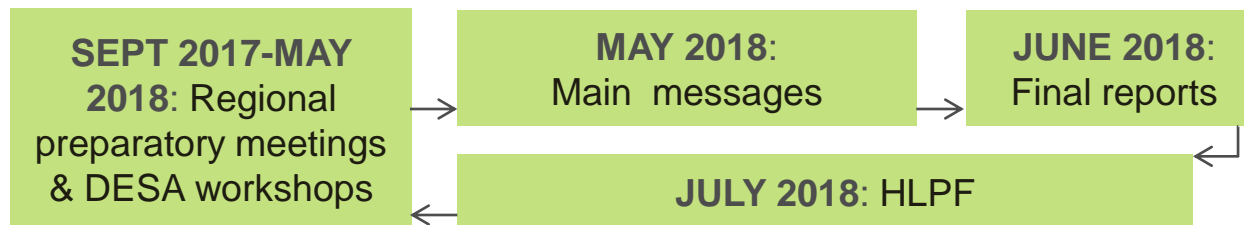
# Background: the VNR process



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

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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.

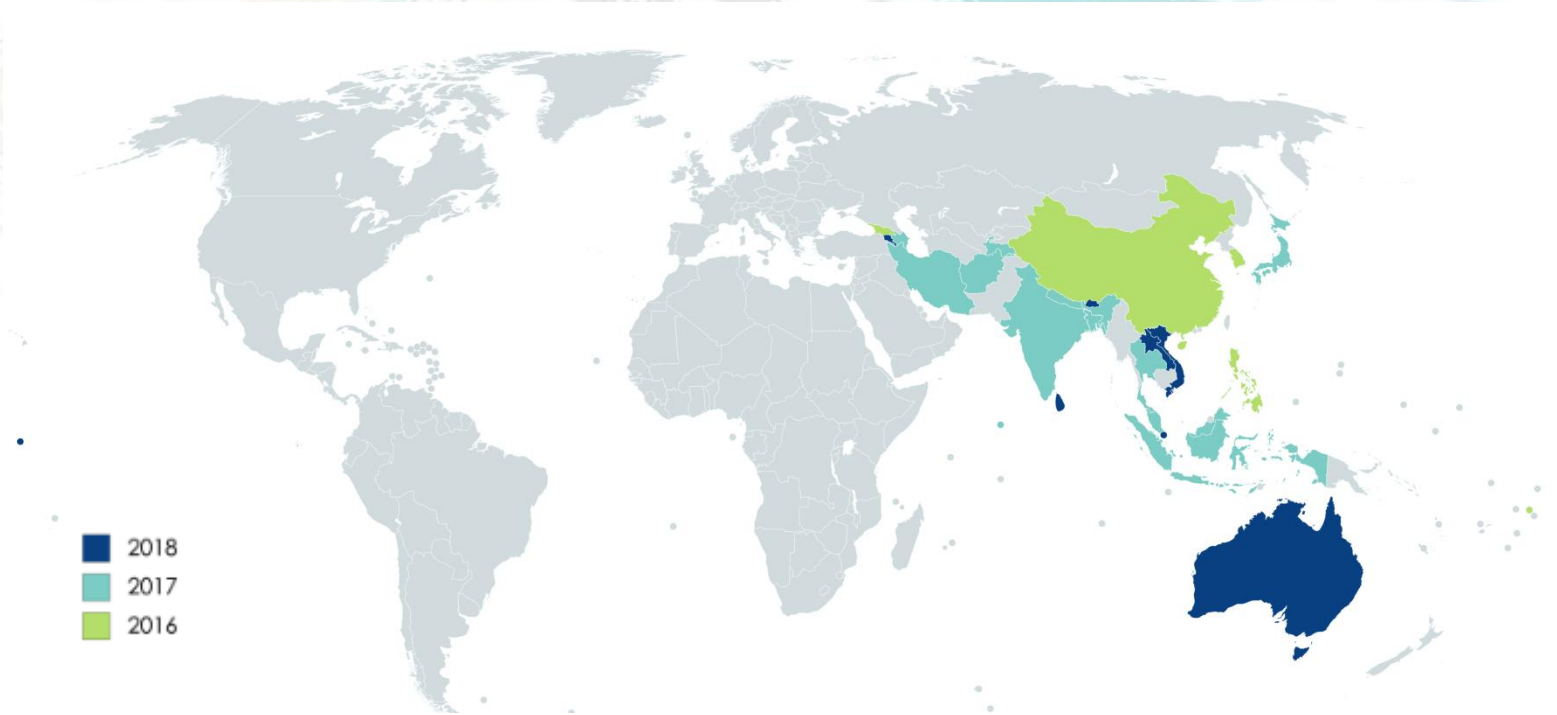


## **GOALS OF OWN CHOICE**

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 stylized world map is centered in the upper half of the image. The map uses a muted color palette with teal for landmasses and light grey for oceans. Overlaid on the map are numerous thin, colorful, swirling lines in shades of teal, yellow, and grey, creating a sense of global connectivity and movement. The text "Thank you" is centered below the map in a bold, dark blue font.

# Thank you