

# Lilongwe International Mayors Forum

## Lilongwe, Malawi

16-19 May 2018



Government of Malawi



City of Lilongwe



UNOSD



UNPOG



Overview of the SDGs and progress  
in their implementation at global level (HLPF/VNR 2017)

Jean D'Aragon  
Senior Sustainable Development Expert

Lilongwe, 16 May 2018

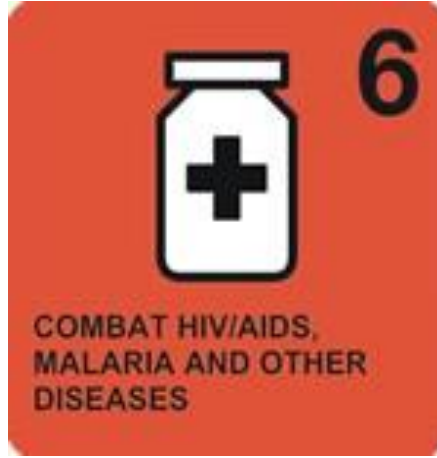
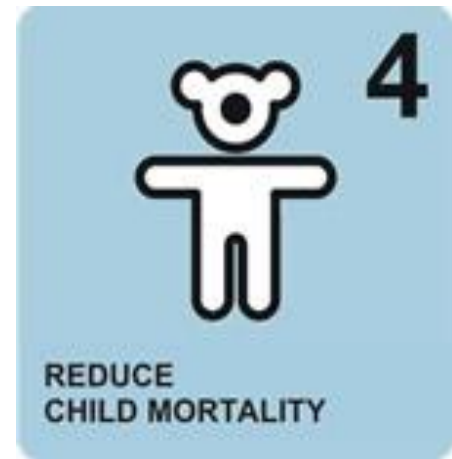
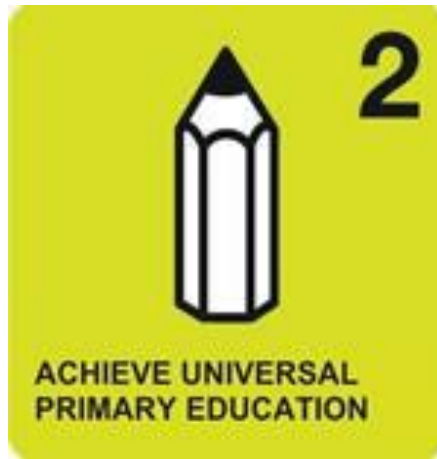


**United Nations**  
Office for Sustainable Development



UNOSD

# The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)



# Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (and their 169 Targets)

**1** NO  
POVERTY



**2** ZERO  
HUNGER



**3** GOOD HEALTH  
AND WELL-BEING



**4** QUALITY  
EDUCATION



**5** GENDER  
EQUALITY



**6** CLEAN WATER  
AND SANITATION



**7** AFFORDABLE AND  
CLEAN ENERGY



**8** DECENT WORK AND  
ECONOMIC GROWTH



**9** INDUSTRY, INNOVATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



**10** REDUCED  
INEQUALITIES



**11** SUSTAINABLE CITIES  
AND COMMUNITIES



**12** RESPONSIBLE  
CONSUMPTION  
AND PRODUCTION



**13** CLIMATE  
ACTION



**14** LIFE  
BELOW WATER



**15** LIFE  
ON LAND



**16** PEACE, JUSTICE  
AND STRONG  
INSTITUTIONS



**17** PARTNERSHIPS  
FOR THE GOALS



**SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS**

# SDGs' holistic approach: (universal and integrated Agenda) 5 elements underpinning the Agenda 2030

The Goals are meant to stimulate action over the next ~~15~~ ~~14~~ ~~13~~ ~~12~~ years  
in 5 areas of critical importance:

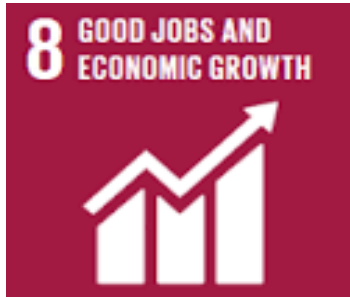


- People
- Planet
- Prosperity
- Peace (and Justice)
- Partnership

# The 7 People Goals: 1 to 7



# The 5 Prosperity Goals: 8 to 12



# The 3 Planet Goals: 13 -15





# The Peace & Justice Goal (16)

16

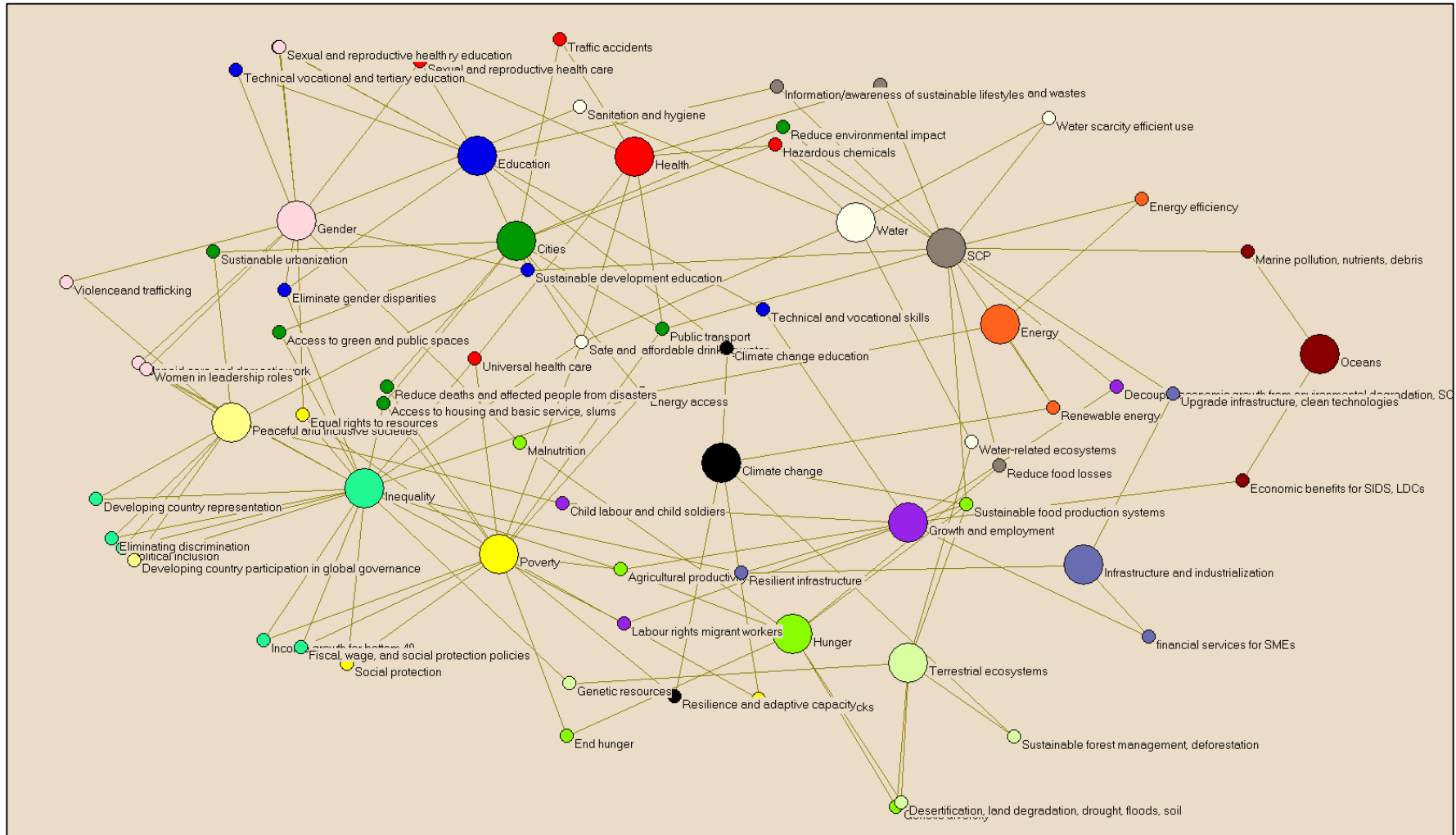




# The Partnership Goal (17)

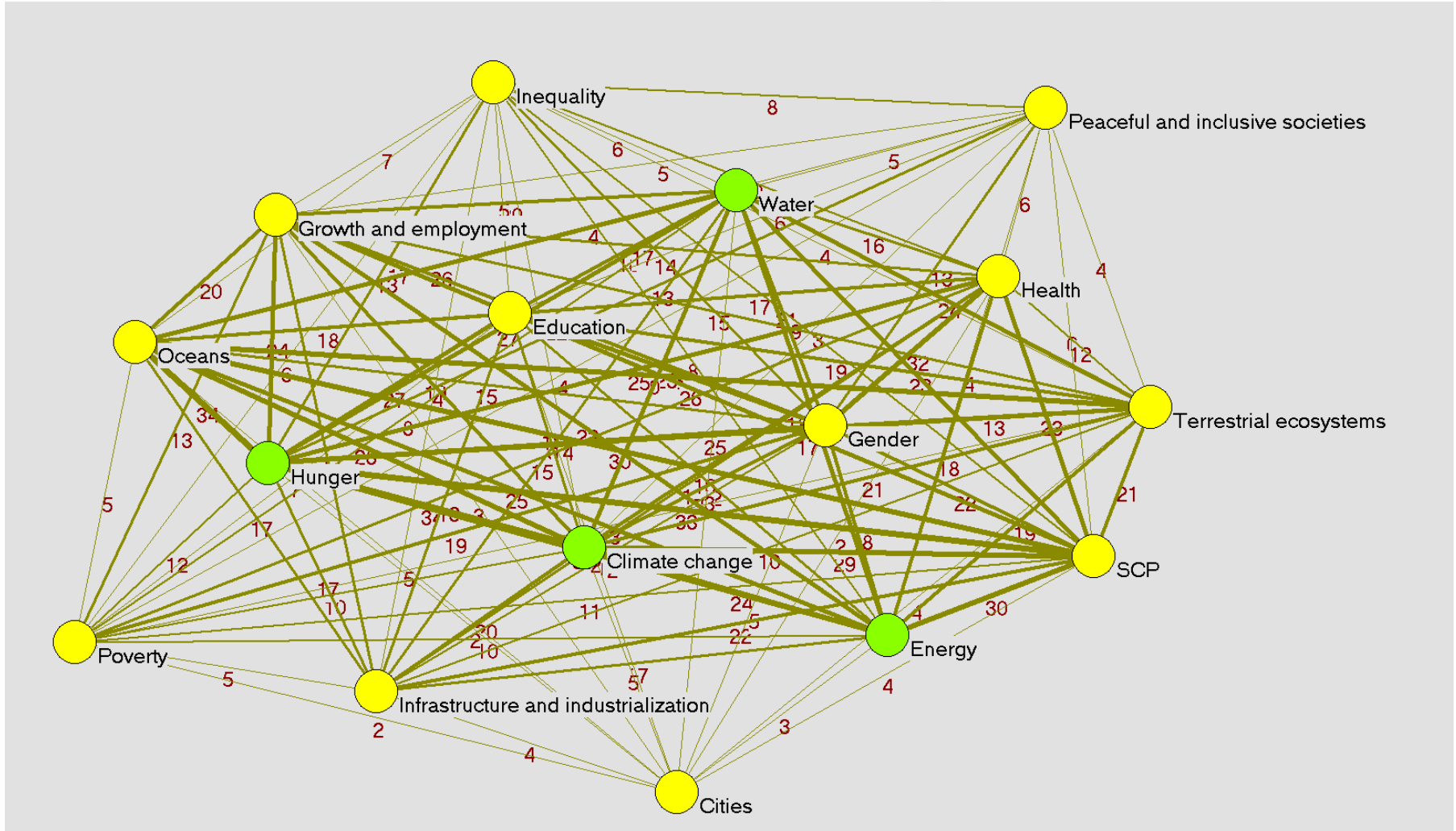


# SDGs as an Integrated System (a network of targets?)



Source: David Le Blanc, "Towards Integration at Last? The SDGs as a Network of Targets," Rio+20 Working Paper 4  
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/1613SDGs%20as%20a%20network%20of%20targets%20Rio20%20working%20papers%20.pdf>

# SDGs as an Integrated System: A Scientists' Perspective



David Le Blanc's elaboration of ICSU, ISSC (2015), Review of the Sustainable Goals: The Science Perspective.  
Source: David Le Blanc, "Towards Integration at Last? The SDGs as a Network of Targets," DESA Working Paper No. 141  
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/1613SDGs%20as%20a%20network%20of%20targets%20Rio%20working%20papers%20.pdf>


# High-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF)



Credit: Bill Bly

# HLPF TIMELINE (2013-2019)

## HLPF TIMELINE

 The set of goals to be reviewed in depth will be the following, including Goal 17.

**2013**

Building the future we want: from Rio+20 to the post-2015 development agenda

**2015**

Strengthening integration, implementation and review - the HLPF after 2015

**2017**

Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world



**2019**

Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality

**2014**

Achieving the MDGs and charting the way for an ambitious post-2015 agenda

**2016**

Ensuring that no one is left behind



**2018**

Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies

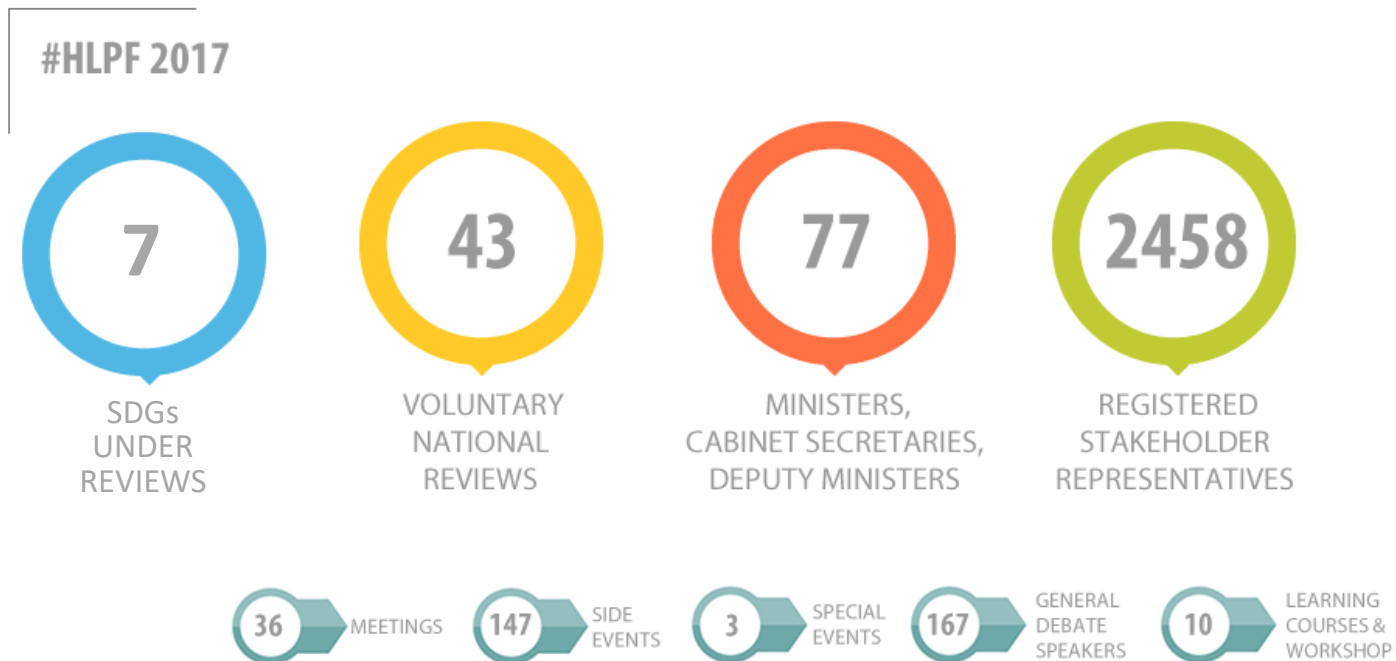




# Overview of the 2017 HLPF:

(10-19 July 2017, UN Headquarters, New York)

*Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world*



## The set of goals for the in-depth review on progress



# Overview of the 2017 HLPF (VNRs):

(10-19 July 2017, UN Headquarters, New York)

*Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world*

## Geographic/Regional Distribution

VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEWS  
TO BE PRESENTED (2017)

UN ECLAC
Argentina
Belize
Brazil
Chile
Costa Rica
El Salvador
Guatemala
Honduras
Panama
Peru
Uruguay

LATIN AMERICA  
AND CARIBBEAN

11

12

EUROPE

7

AFRICA

ECA
Benin
Botswana
Ethiopia
Kenya
Nigeria
Togo
Zimbabwe

ECE
Azerbaijan*
Belarus
Belgium
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Italy†
Luxembourg
Monaco
Netherlands**†
Portugal†
Slovenia
Sweden
Tajikistan*

ESCWA
Jordan
Qatar

13

ASIA PACIFIC

ESCAP
Afghanistan
Bangladesh
India
Indonesia
Japan
Malaysia
Maldives
Nepal
Thailand

\*Also member of ESCAP  
†Also member of ECLAC



# Overview of the 2017 HLPF (VNRs):

(10-19 July 2017, UN Headquarters, New York)

*Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world*

## VNR Countries' SDG reporting choice



### 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.

- All reviews addressed **SDG1** on eradicating poverty; Poverty related to social inequalities
- **SDG2** (food Security) interlinked with other SDGs (1, 8 and 5 + 13 in particular)
- Countries have sectoral policies and strategies to ensure affordable, accessible, quality healthcare for all (**SDG3**).
- Advancement of **SDG4**, with increase of attendance in early learning centres, and in secondary school attendance and decrease of drop-out rates. Universal access remains a challenge (\$)

# Overview of the 2017 HLPF (VNRs):

(10-19 July 2017, UN Headquarters, New York)

## *Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world*

- On **SDG 5**, gender equality is a prerequisite to achieving the 2030 Agenda. Violence against women and girls, and low participation of women in decision making or leadership positions are main challenges.
- Progressed were made on **SDG 6**, but challenges in rural areas. Water shortage foreseen in the future (competing demands, impact of CC, conflict, natural disasters and excessive groundwater consumption)
- Countries have taken measures on **SDG 7** (diversifying energy sources, developing renewable energy sources, improving energy efficiency, awareness-raising...)
- On **SDG 8**, countries stressed the importance of having sufficient investment in both capital and human resources. Impact of climate change and transnational crime were also stressed.
- On **SDG 9**, many countries reported on improving transport. infrastructure (airports, roads, harbours and road and rail links), alongside irrigation, clean drinking water, and power supply.
- The use of social protection policies and social security systems were among the measures reported to reduce inequality within and among countries (**SDG 10**).

# Overview of the 2017 HLPF (VNRs):

(10-19 July 2017, UN Headquarters, New York)

## *Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world*

- On **SDG 11**, countries recognized major role of cities for economic development, but also showed concerns about rapid urbanization, particularly in developing countries.
- Countries reported on significant challenges in achieving sustainable consumption and production (**SDG 12**), and highlighted their aims and policies for achieving circular or green economies.
- Countries outlined the consequences of climate change (**SDG 13**), and several policies and actions for both climate mitigation and adaptation were reported on.
- On **SDG 14**, measures and tools listed by some countries to address the major threats affecting the oceans included integrated coastal management, application of an ecosystem approach, and the establishment of marine protected areas.
- On **SDG 15**, countries highlighted actions taken to preserve biological diversity, such as integration and mainstreaming of ecosystem and biodiversity conservation into sectoral plans, sustainable forest management, and policies to tackle poaching and trafficking of endangered species and products derived from them.

# Overview of the 2017 HLPF (VNRs):

(10-19 July 2017, UN Headquarters, New York)

## *Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world*

- On **SDG 16**, countries reported on good governance, strong and transparent institutions, rule of law, protection of human rights, anti-corruption and preventing illicit flows, access to government and information, and strengthening peace and security through strong institutions and good governance.
- On **SDG 17**, calls to honour commitments made about official development assistance (ODA) were made, while several donor countries reported on their ODA contributions.
- Numerous countries stressed the significance of data, monitoring and accountability mechanisms;
- Many countries addressed ICT and internet services, and it was stressed that internet access can serve as a catalyst for development.

# 2017 HLPF: Some key points

- National governments strongly committed to transformative shift for 2030 Agenda and “Leave no one behind”
- Policy-making more science- and evidenced-based & aligned with national budgets
- Decentralization is occurring – Local governments & communities adapting SDGs to their particular circumstances
- Multi-stakeholder engagement is increasing
- Partnerships gaining momentum (led by financial & business sectors)
- Need to address SDGs interlinkages in an integrated way (particularly through means of implementation)
- Importance of coherence between SDGs and other intern.-agreed instruments (such as those related to climate change, disaster risk reduction, and trade and human rights)
- Science and technology must be brought in, and knowledge and know-how should be made accessible to all

# 2017 HLPF: Lessons learned

- Pivotal role of strong partnerships for SDGs;
- Means for stakeholder engagement, including the private sector; and
- Importance of policy coherence and multi-sectoral coordination

# 2017 HLPF: Lessons learned

## Areas requiring additional effort include:

- Achieving real policy coherence and implementing “whole-of-government” approaches;
- Addressing low capacity of many national statistical institutions to meet new challenges;
- Improving the institutional capacity of local governments;
- Promoting greater coordination between the different spheres of public administration;
- Accelerating the integration of the SDGs into the policies and programmes of all relevant line ministries; and
- Inculcating a “whole-of-society” approach so that the SDGs become a truly national endeavour



# Resources

- UN Secretary-General's [voluntary common reporting guidelines for VNRs](#) at the HLPF (available in 6 UN languages)
- [Q&A for Voluntary National Reviews](#) at the 2017 HLPF
- [Synthesis of Voluntary National Reviews 2016](#)
- [Voluntary National Reviews 2017 - Synthesis Report](#)
- [Handbook for the Preparation of Voluntary National Reviews](#)

**Zikomo kwambiri!**

**Thank you very much for your attention!**



**United Nations**  
**Office for Sustainable Development**

**Dr. Jean D'Aragon**  
**Senior Sustainable Development Expert**  
**Email: [daragon@un.org](mailto:daragon@un.org)**  
**Web site: [www.unosd.org](http://www.unosd.org)**