Belize’s National Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy: Lessons from the integration process

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Sustainable Development Workshop
May 27, 2015
Belize: A Natural Resource Based Economy
Belize has always developed medium term (3 year) macro-economic development plans and a poverty reduction strategy.

- 2007 - Amidst political pressure the Government agrees to develop one coherent long-term vision to guide the development of medium term plans.
- 2008 – Resources are mobilized.
- 2009 – The long-term visioning process begins.
- 2010 – The process if finalized in the Horizon 2030 Long-Term Vision for Belize.
Belize is a country of peace and tranquility, where citizens live in harmony with the natural environment and enjoy a high quality of life. Belizeans are an energetic, resourceful and independent people looking after their own development in a sustainable way.
Development Pillars

- Democratic governance for effective public administration and sustainable development
- Education for Development - Education for Life
- Economic Resilience: Generating resources for long term development
- Healthy Citizens and a Healthy Environment.
A Long-term Development Vision for Belize

A Global Long-term Development Goals

Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy

National Sustainable Development Strategy

• Consultative process
• Systems approach
• Goals, targets, gaps
• Analytical thinking re: gaps, challenges and solutions
• Prioritization framework
• Managing for Results - M&E
The National Sustainable Development Planning Process

- 2012 - SD integrated into a Ministerial portfolio
- Ministerial mandate to define its role in relation to SD
- 2013 – an SD pilot country
- 2014 – SDGs to replace the MDGs
- 2014 - receives financial and technical support (UNDESA and UNDP) to develop an NSDS
- 2014 Stakeholder consultations (NSDS Framework)
Merging the two processes

- NSDS stakeholders voted “yes” to the merger
- CEOs from two key Ministries agree
- UN Agencies (UNDP and UNDESA) support the merger of the GPRS and the NSDS into one coherent medium term planning document
- Two lead consultants agree to work together on the merged document
- A merger action plan is developed and executed
Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy

- Optimal national income and investment
- Governance and citizen security
- Social cohesion and resilience
- Natural, environmental, historical, and cultural assets

A better quality of life for all Belizeans, living now and in the future

Adapted from the Sustainable Development Framework of the United Nations Task Team 2012 and used in a presentation by Atkison and Vital, February, 2015
To improve the quality of life of all Belizeans, living now and in the future

OVERARCHING GOAL

CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

**CSF1:** Optimal national income and investment

**CSF2:** Enhanced social cohesion and resilience (enhanced equity)

**CSF3:** Sustained or improved health of environmental, historical, and cultural assets

**CSF4:** Enhanced governance and citizen security

Necessary Conditions to achieve CSF1

NC1 ... NC2 ... etc.

Necessary Conditions to achieve CSF2

NC1 ... NC2 ... etc.

Necessary Conditions to achieve CSF3

NC1 ... NC2 ... etc.

Necessary Conditions to achieve CSF4

NC1 ... NC2 ... etc.

Taken from a presentation by Atkison and Vital, February, 2015
Alignment with H2030

- About economic resilience (growth, skills, infrastructure)
- Understand poverty as a multi-dimensional issue
- Integrate people and equity issues into planning
- Recognize the role of natural and cultural assets in promoting economic development and human well-being
- Place governance as a central pillar of development
- Education and capacity building needs highlighted
Challenges

- Alignment of national budgeting and human resources operations with national plans and priorities

- Human resource capacity for: a) achieve the priorities and b.) understanding SD framework

- Monitoring and evaluation re: capacity to collect, analyze and report on progress in a timely manner
Next Steps

- Formal approval of the GSDS
- Transitioning of the SD functions to the central planning Ministry (MFED)
- Establishment of Advisory Body and Technical Committees
- Completion of the M&E Framework (working groups)
- Implementation, M&E