Integrating the 2030 Agenda into national plans and strategies: Considering COVID-19 response and recovery

Although countries have made significant progress translating the 2030 Agenda into national policy frameworks, major gaps and challenges remain. In this regard, the 2030 Agenda calls on countries to “develop as soon as practicable ambitious national responses to the overall implementation of this Agenda. These can support the transition to the SDGs and build on existing planning instruments, such as national development and sustainable development strategies, as appropriate”.

The gaps and challenges of integrating the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs into national policy frameworks is leading to renewed interest in national development planning. Major development challenges that countries are confronting, from the climate crisis and rising inequalities to rapid technological change and protracted conflicts have also placed added pressure on the need for innovative and integrated solutions. New and emerging challenges such as the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic are also affecting societies and economies at their core, reversing development gains.

The aim of the webinar is to identify good practices and approaches for the integration of the 2030 Agenda into national development plans, national sustainable development strategies, and related instruments, taking into account the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the capacity of countries to implement the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development.

PART 1

12 May 2020

9:00 – 11:00 a.m. New York (EST) - click here to find your time

Introduction
Mr. Alexander Trepelkov, Officer-in-Charge, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, DESA

Moderator: Mr. Amson Sibanda, Chief, National Strategies and Capacity Building Branch, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, DESA

Topic 1: National planning – responding to changing circumstances
Kick-off presentation: Mr. Lauchlan Munro, Associate Professor, International Development & Global Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ottawa (10 minutes)
Respondents: *(5 minutes each)*
- Mr. Admos Chimhowu, Director, Rory and Elizabeth Brooks Doctoral College, University of Manchester
- Mr. Barry Dalal-Clayton, Director, Environment and Development Services International

**Guiding questions:**
- What are the drivers of the “new development planning”? How does it differ from past practice?
- What lessons can we learn from the experience with national sustainable development strategies?
- What are the implications of the COVID-19 crisis for national planning?
- How can plans and strategies help make countries more resilient to future shocks?

**Q&A**

**Topic 2: Integration at the country level: good practices and lessons learned, including COVID-19 response measures**

**Kick-off presentation:** Ms. Boitumelo Gofhamodimo, SDGs project manager, UNDP Botswana *(10 minutes)*

Respondents: *(5 minutes each)*
- Ms. Suzanna Sumkhuu, Senior Specialist, Development Policy and Planning Department, National Development Agency, Mongolia
- Ms. Kari Grenade, Macroeconomic Adviser, Ministry of Finance, Grenada

**Guiding questions:**
- What are good practices in moving beyond alignment of plans and the SDGs – and towards fundamental integration?
- How is development planning helping countries respond to the COVID-19 crisis? What are good practices can be shared?
- How can development planning be made more adaptive to shocks like the COVID-19 crisis?

**Q&A and discussion**

**Closing**
PART 2

14 May 2020, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. New York (EST) - click here to find your time

Introduction
Mr. Amson Sibanda, Chief, National Strategies and Capacity Building Branch, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, DESA

Moderator: Mr. Darren Swanson, Director, Novel Futures Corporation

Topic 3: Exploring interlinkages – informing plans and strategies
Kick-off presentation: Mr. Cameron Allen, Adjunct Research Fellow at Monash Sustainable Development Institute, Monash University and Researcher at PANGEA Centre, UNSW (10 minutes)

Respondents: (5 minutes each)
- Ms. Xin Zhou, Research Leader, Strategic and Quantitative Analysis Centre, IGES
- Mr. Matteo Pedercini, Millennium Institute

Guiding questions:
- What practical tools and engagement processes are available to assess interlinkages?
- What are good practices about feeding modelling outputs and other analyses into plans and strategies?
- What does country experience tell us about the policy relevance of models and tools?
- What are policymakers' priority needs?

Q&A and discussion

Topic 4: Institutions for integration and planning – key lessons learned
Kick-off presentation: Mr. Louis Meuleman, Member, UN Committee on Public Administration, Visiting professor, Public Governance Institute, University of Leuven, Belgium (10 minutes)

Respondents: (5 minutes each)
- Ms. Margarita Cano, Adviser to Secretary of Planning, Guatemala
- Ms. Anita Breuer, Senior Researcher, German Development Institute

Guiding questions:
- What institutional innovations can help drive deeper integration of the SDG?
• What are some of the first, rapid lessons from the ground as countries respond to the COVID-19 crisis?
• How can institutions be made more adaptive to shocks like the COVID-19 crisis?

Q&A and discussion

Closing