Concept Note of the VNR Lab

National experience of the SDG implementation and review processes: Republic of Moldova

The Republic of Moldova is part of the 2020 Voluntary National Review of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and is to conduct its first VNR Lab during the 2020 HLPF. The objective of the VNR Lab is to present the country’s experience in incorporating the 2030 Agenda into national policy and statistical frameworks, to present some of the lessons learned during the SDG implementation, to present the core principles that guided the 2020 VNR process and last but not least to present the country’s opportunities in terms of sustainable development.

The Republic of Moldova committed to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals, hence announcing that by 2030, the combined efforts of key stakeholders would be mobilized to eliminate all forms of poverty, to combat inequalities and to tackle environmental and climate change problems, ensuring that no one is left behind.

Hence, during July 2016 – March 2017 there were a series of activities conducted and designed for (i) identifying the relevance of SDG (goals and targets) and analyzing the correlation between the 2030 Agenda and the national policy priorities; (ii) adapting (formulating) the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda according to the national priorities and needs, and identifying policy papers that are to be mainstreamed; (iii) identifying the data ecosystem necessary for monitoring and evaluation of the SDG implementation. Representatives from the public authorities will present details about the measures and efforts undertaken for SDG nationalization, underlying the challenges and lessons learned. The valuable and longstanding support offered by the Donor Community is also worth to be mentioned when referring to SDG nationalization and implementation.

The lessons learned in the process of implementing the Sustainable Development Goals will be reflected by presenting some success stories that demonstrate that even the most, at first sight, challenging dream, can become reality through sustainable partnerships. Also, social inequalities and discrimination have no place in a society that confidently follows the principles of the 2030 Agenda.

Despite the inconveniences induced by the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown, a number of initiatives were introduced in line with the principle of “leaving no one behind,” ensuring that the report was developed in a participatory, interactive and inclusive manner. The broad stakeholder consultative process included online and offline consultations with all relevant actors from civil society (youth, human rights organizations etc), the business community, academia, development partners and all levels of Government. The experience of involving Youth in the SDG implementation and review process will be presented during the VNR Lab.

The impact of COVID-19 on sustainable development is considerable, but efforts to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda need to be undertaken. The last part of VNR Lab will be dedicated to the emerging fields of sustainable development opportunities of the country. As mentioned before, partnerships are essential for the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda.