High-level political forum on sustainable development,
convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social
Council
6 – 15 July 2021
Item 2 of the provisional agenda*
Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic
that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions
of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path
for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade
of action and delivery for sustainable development

Compilation of main messages for the 2021 voluntary
national reviews

Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat transmits herewith the main messages of voluntary
national reviews presented by 44 States members of the high-level political
forum on sustainable development at its 2021 meeting, in accordance with
General Assembly resolutions 67/290, 70/1 and 70/299.

*E/HLPF/2021/1.

1/ Those messages represent the views of the Government concerned and their content is
reproduced by the United Nations as it was received, with only purely editorial adjustments.
**Afghanistan**

**Realizing Self-Reliance by Accelerating SDG implementation**

Afghanistan has the privilege to present its second Voluntary National Review (VNR) report on progress towards the SDGs this year. Since the adoption of the SDGs, the Afghan government has committed to the attainment of this global development agenda. To demonstrate political will and promote national ownership, Afghanistan integrated the SDGs into its national development framework, created an institutional mechanism to enable an environment for policy and technical innovation, and successfully developed national SDGs through robust consultations with all stakeholders.

Alongside government efforts to achieve the targeted economic, social and environmental goals, Afghanistan faced significant existing and emerging challenges, which affected Afghanistan’s development efforts, including the overall achievement of the SDGs. The COVID-19 pandemic and its socio-economic consequences, a decrease in economic growth, the prolongation of the peace process and the associated increase in civilian and military casualties, the negative impact of the withdrawal of the international coalition forces and the government’s increased security burden, and the impact of climate change have all directly impacted Afghanistan’s socio-economic and environmental progress, including the achievement of the SDGs.

Considering the situation, the Afghan government launched the second National Peace and Development Framework (ANPDFII) in July 2020, to continue the agenda of eradicating poverty, developing the country into a self-reliant and productive economy connected with the region and the world, investing in strong institutions, while continuing our endeavors to address the risks imposed by COVID-19. Our development focus for the next five years will be on peace-building, state-building, and market-building.

At the core of our vision lies the principle of state response to citizens’ demands, especially those of women and the most vulnerable, in a direct, accountable, and transparent manner. The Government has taken concrete steps since its last VNR in 2017. These steps include but are not limited to:

1) Nationalizing the SDGs with 16 goals, 110 targets, and 177 indicators

2) To further improve the political and technical enabling environment, a new institutional set up under the chairmanship of the Chief Executive with four thematic committees established to provide a sustained high-level platform to engage various stakeholders, including the government, the private sector, civil society organizations, academia, and development partners.

3) The National SDGs aligned with the national development plan (ANPDF), which are now being aligning with the second version (ANPDF II)

4) The national Afghanistan SDGs (A-SDGs) were aligned with 10 national priority programs (NPPs)

5) Prioritization of the A-SDGs using the Multi-Criteria Analysis methodology, which scored all SDG targets based on a weighted linear average of the level of urgency, the systemic impact and the policy gap analysis indicators,

6) Completion of the Data Gap Analysis on the A-SDGs

7) The Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) model for the SDGs was developed. The SDGs Dashboard and M&E framework, SDGs financing strategy and SDGs costing are under process.

The COVID-19 pandemic had a substantial negative impact on Afghanistan’s accelerated efforts to achieve the planned economic, social, and environmental targets and overall the SDGs. The government quickly recognized the seriousness of the COVID-19 pandemic and mapped its trajectory into five phases of; acknowledgment, diffusion, adversity, relief, and recovery phases and organized a whole-of-state response, delegating unprecedented authority to the Ministry of Public Health and the provincial governors.
The government, considering fiscal realities, undertook a restructuring of its existing programs, closed non-performing projects, and aligned all resources to help meet the immediate needs of citizens, relief, response, recovery, and resilience objectives related to COVID-19. Given the vast impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, in the short to medium-term, Afghanistan will be unable to meet all financing needs from domestic revenue sources.

We commit and meanwhile attach much importance to meaningful international cooperation for attaining the SDGs. Global partnership is required in the form of finance, technology, and trade, particularly for countries in special situations to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs and the realization of its core philosophy of leaving no one behind.

Successful implementation of the SDGs complements our endeavors to achieve our national aspiration for granting lasting peace, self-reliance, and economic growth as we move into the second half of Afghanistan’s decade of transformation, from 2021-2025.

**Angola**

Highlights

Angola presents its Voluntary National Report (VNR) on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for the first time, committing itself to the voluntary and participatory review of its implementation and follow-up. Under the leadership of the Presidency of the Republic and the coordination of the Ministry of Economy and Planning, and in partnership with the United Nations System in Angola, the Platform for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) was set up in June 2020, with the participation of several relevant sectors.

Since 2014 the Angolan economy has been facing a recession caused by falling oil prices and declining production, and recently exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to deal with this crisis with greater resilience and revert its dependence on oil, Angola is focused on carrying out a series of important reforms in the economic domain, articulated in the National Development Plan (NDP 2018-2022) and aiming especially at macroeconomic stabilisation, privatisation and diversification. On the one hand, these crises further exposed the vulnerability of the Angolan economy and its limited structural transformation, with high dependence on oil and unemployment rates especially among the youth (54.4% in 2019). On the other hand, Angola rapidly adopted a response plan to COVID-19 (the National Plan aims at vaccinating around 17 million people), together with a package of measures to alleviate the economic impact for businesses, families and the informal economy.

The government’s past efforts to improve social and economic conditions have also started yielding some results. Angola turned into a country with medium Human Development Index. Among others, the mortality rate of children under five fell from almost 300 per 100,000 live births at the beginning of the century to around 68 in 2015. The net attendance rate for secondary education is situated at 39.9% (2019) and, between 1990 and 2019, the average life expectancy increased by 15.8 years to 61.2 years. The country has also managed to make great strides in the eradication of hunger, reducing the prevalence of malnutrition from 52.2% (2004-2006) to 19% (2017-2019).

Challenges and opportunities

Angola is endowed with important human and natural resources, essential for structural transformation and diversification and to enhance inclusive and sustainable productivity and prosperity, underpinned by solid institutions.

One of the main challenges is to ensure that the reforms translate into an increase in quality/decent employment and a reduction in multidimensional poverty, which remains high, with more than half of Angolans living in this condition, especially in rural areas. To this end, it is necessary to improve inclusive
access to a series of services, including quality education, technical and professional training, drinking water, electricity, internet and credit, in general reducing the main inequalities, between urban and rural areas, and the economic – about 23% of the population live on less than half of the average income – and between men and women. The gender inequality index in 2019 was 0.536 and women and girls generally have less access to education, are more affected by HIV-AIDS, suffer more from gender violence, are less represented in decision-making bodies and have lower access to employment.

The country also reaffirms the importance of sustainability in this process. Angola ratified the Paris Agreement and boasts a rich biodiversity and abundant natural resources to manage. However, the impacts from climate change are visible, especially in the South and coastal areas, with the 2012-2016 and 2019-2021 droughts causing serious damage, threatening progress in eradicating hunger.

Way forward

In February 2021 the United Nations General Assembly approved Resolution A/75/57 on the request for extension of the preparatory period for the graduation of Angola from Least Developed Country to 2024, due to the high socio-economic vulnerability. This extension is an opportunity to review and strengthen relevant international support measures of the government programme and to enhance partnerships with the United Nations system and development partners through a national smooth transition strategy.

The preparation of the VNR provides also an opportunity to develop systems for producing, collecting, compiling and analysing the statistical data necessary to continue to monitor and evaluate the SDGs progress in the next VNRs until 2030.

The NDP 2018-2022 aims at accelerating this progress towards achieving the SDGs, through enhanced monitoring of their implementation, integrated in the annual plans and in the national budget, and through a greater engagement of the private sector in increasing investments in productive value chains, aiming at substantial employment, targeting especially youth and women.

Antigua and Barbuda

Introduction

The twin-island state of Antigua and Barbuda resides in the Northern Caribbean and includes the uninhabited Redonda, a nature reserve. November 1st 2021, will mark 40 years of our political independence. We are pleased to present our first Voluntary National Review (VNR), highlighting the Government and people’s commitment towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. In 2016, a ban on single-use plastic bags was instituted- a bold action by a small nation focused on improving the lives of its people and the environment in pursuit of sustainable national development. Despite this commendable feat, pursuit of the SDGs continues to be daunting due to vulnerabilities including, high indebtedness; susceptibility to exogenous shocks including natural disasters, extra territorial laws and health crises; an unstable global economy and a hostile multilateral trading system.

Nevertheless, the Government remains resolute in its nation-building objectives putting people at the center of development with the VNR reflecting our unwavering commitment towards advancing the 2030 Agenda, leaving no one behind. The VNR was informed by participatory stakeholder engagements with public and private sectors, civil society, academia, media and our youth.

Antigua and Barbuda’s Development Thrust within the Context of Agenda 2030

Our people enjoy relatively high incomes, allowing them to live better, longer and healthier. Classified as a high-income country by the United Nations with a HDI value of 0.778 or 78th of 189 countries, is one of the highest in our region. A testament to deliberate efforts of advancing the economic and social transformation of our country towards putting people first. However, this accomplishment has
inhibited our access to concessional financing constraining our ability to have a country with “no poverty”.

Regardless, we continue to place strategic focus on reducing poverty and income inequalities whilst investing in education and training. Juxtaposed, is our thrust to support the private sector through loans and technical assistance ensuring their internationally competitiveness and innovative. However, their level of global competitiveness and innovation continues to be stymied by unilateral economic blacklisting, threats to correspondent banking relationships and a hostile multilateral trading architecture.

A nation surrounded by water, presents an untapped potential for development that needs to be sustainably managed for current and future generations. In pursuit of a sustainable blue economy, Antigua and Barbuda is actively participating in the WTO Fisheries Subsidies Negotiations aimed at eliminating fisheries subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing leading to overcapacity, and overfishing.

**Antigua and Barbuda’s Progress to Achieving the SDGs within the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic and Other Exogenous Shocks**

Our thrust post-COVID is to “build forward stronger”, as we have approached the recovery of Barbuda which was devastated by Hurricane Irma in 2017. We are amongst the few countries in the world with a low rate of death and infection, a high rate of recovery, and no known community spread of COVID-19. Notwithstanding our efforts, the virus has caused many disruptions to our economy and citizens. Our recovery will be dependent on the equitable access to vaccines, global management of the virus and support of our development partners.

We have accomplished much under the SDGs related to People, particularly SDGs 1, 2, 3 and 4, in addition to SDG 8 which focuses on Prosperity as well as our foresight to prioritize the blue economy embodied under SDG 14; although challenges remain. We continue to be severely impacted by climate change; increasing incidence of non-communicable diseases and our inability to access concessional financing emphasising the need for a recognised vulnerability index as a tool of measurement.

**Our Next Steps to Accelerate the Localization of the Global Agenda**

This is an opportune time to advance the global agenda realising the enhanced development gains to be achieved by implementing the SDGs, given we are in the process of reviewing our national development plan.

A national SDG Committee has been established and efforts ongoing, seeking assistance to develop a comprehensive communications and stakeholder engagement strategy and a MAPS Mission to aid in aligning the goals across policies and programmes and identifying accelerators to realise our development prospects.

We are motivated, determined and committed to achieving the SDGs-making our country a good place to live, where everyone is included.

**Azerbaijan**

[Original: English]

**Ownership of the SDGs**

The establishment of a just, equitable and inclusive model of sustainable development for everyone is one of the key priorities for the Republic of Azerbaijan. This is the third VNR presented by Azerbaijan since the adoption and integration of the Agenda 2030 to its national policy and development strategies. The National Coordination Council on Sustainable Development and the Ministry of Economy lead VNR process with the support of UNDP country office through the consultation with various stakeholders including the parliament, line ministries, public institutions, NGOs, private sector and academic institutions.
National Development Priorities (NDP) of Azerbaijan, 2030

Azerbaijan is entering a strategic phase in this new post-pandemic and post-conflict era which spans from 2021 to 2030. Acknowledging global trends and challenges, the Government of Azerbaijan sets the country’s long-term development vector and pathways to socio-economic and environmental development through five corresponding national priorities (approved by Presidential decree) for the subsequent decade. These priorities aligned with Azerbaijan commitments under the 2030 Agenda, are as follows:

- steadily growing competitive economy;
- society based on dynamic, inclusive and social justice;
- competitive human capital and space for modern innovations;
- great return to the liberated territories;
- clean environment and green growth country.

The end of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan creates new economic opportunities not only for Azerbaijan but also for the region. In this regard, rehabilitation, reconstruction and reintegration of the liberated and conflict-affected areas will be one of the main directions of the development priority of Azerbaijan in coming years.

Building Back Better from the COVID-19 Pandemic

COVID-19 pandemic caused massive disruption in people's lives around the world and seriously affected the implementation of SDGs in Azerbaijan in several areas – economic growth, employment, healthcare, education and tourism. Since the first quarter of 2020, spread of COVID-19 in Azerbaijan and the subsequent obligatory lockdowns naturally had a negative impact on economic activity and led to 4.3% decrease in GDP in 2020. To mitigate the impact of COVID-19, Government of Azerbaijan approved support programs to provide direct financial assistance (overall 1.5 billion USD in 2020) through wage subsidies to entrepreneurs, tax concessions, customs and insurance payments, benefits to unemployed and public works, covering education and health expenses. As a result of effective support it is assumed that 2021-2022 will be a recovery period for Azerbaijan. Parallel to internal measures, the Government actively participates in fighting COVID-19 globally through bilateral and multilateral programs and has supported 33 countries with humanitarian aid and financial assistance.

Green Growth

The Government of Azerbaijan admits that global climate change should be based on the introduction of clean technologies, encouraging the use of clean energy sources, recycling and remediation of contaminated areas. In this regard, selected priorities include a high quality ecological environment and spaces for green energy, and building smart cities and smart villages based on NDP and SDG 11.

Next Steps on Challenges

- **Driven by COVID-19 challenges**, strengthening health care system and enlarging the coverage of vaccination process. Meanwhile, recovering the economic activity by gradual elimination of mandatory lockdowns;

- **Accelerate economic diversification** and ensure dynamic development of the non-oil sector contributing to the implementation of SDG. This will be through clustering, the formation of a favorable business environment, development of a national innovation system, and the formation of a favorable institutional framework;

- **Develop competitive human capital** through expand the scope of active labor market programs, increasing investment in education and ensuring full accessibility to the compulsory health insurance system;
- **Strengthening the use of alternative energy sources and protecting biodiversity.** Ensure government agencies take measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in order to fulfill the obligations arising from the Paris Agreement on Climate Change;

- **Ensure sustainable development through the rehabilitation, reconstruction and reintegration of the liberated territories,** consideration of the SDGs and other international challenges, resources and perspectives;

- **Improve data collection and analysis** on sustainable development, including strengthening capacity for analysis and generating detailed disaggregated data on gender, ethnicity, age groups, habitats and regions/administrative districts;

- **Establish of SDG Financing Mechanism** with the engagement of private sectors and government institutions to achieve the selected targets of SDGs.

**Bahamas**

[Original: English]

In September of 2019, just one year after The Bahamas presented its first Voluntary National Review (VNR) to the United Nations, Hurricane Dorian made landfall on the islands of Abaco and Grand Bahama where entire towns were destroyed by Category 5 winds and storm surges of over 20 feet. As a Small Island Developing State, the effects of climate change impact us the most, even though we contribute to it the least. Hurricane Dorian was a devastating example of just how strong these effects have become.

In September 2019 Government authorities responded quickly by creating the Ministry of Disaster Preparedness, Management and Reconstruction, thus, making a significant step towards strengthening the national disaster preparedness and response capabilities. The new ministry is comprised of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the Disaster Reconstruction Authority (DRA) which work together to facilitate mitigation planning, community preparedness, public information-sharing and recovery coordination.

Many organizations and countries lent a hand to assist with building The Bahamas back better. NEMA coordinated emergency response with support from the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), and various countries and agencies including those in the UN System, particularly the humanitarian agencies. During his visit to The Bahamas, the United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres commended the Government’s response to the disaster and pledged the full support of the United Nations. These partnerships were instrumental in The Bahamas’ recovery efforts.

In March 2020, the Government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas announced the first confirmed COVID 19 case. Immediately, the country began to prepare for the varying effects of the pandemic. This came in the form of Emergency Orders from the Prime Minister that instituted, *inter alia*, a lockdown schedule for the country. Mandatory mask-wearing and increased sanitation protocols were made mandatory along with nightly curfews and the shutdown of all non-essential businesses and organizations, commercial sailing, public transportation, and gatherings. The COVID 19 Protocols were also accompanied by the creation of a COVID 19 Enforcement Unit (CEU) which is located within the Royal Bahamas Police Force. The purpose of the Unit is to curb breaches of quarantine protocols and to patrol public spaces to ensure health guidelines are being adhered to.

Like many other countries, The Bahamas was shaken in unprecedented ways by the global COVID 19 pandemic which is occurring while the country is still rebuilding and recovering from the most catastrophic hurricane experienced in the country, to date. Both historic events have affected progress towards the implementation of the SDGs. While there has been some set back, The Bahamas remains resilient and has responded quickly and strategically towards the nation’s ongoing efforts to achieve Vision 2030, The National Development Plan.

The Bahamas’ economy is heavily dependent on tourism and financial services. COVID 19 brought the tourism industry to a halt, creating a domino effect on hotel and tourism-dependent jobs. To mitigate the stress caused by the lack of employment, the Government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas launched the National Food Distribution Taskforce which delivered emergency food assistance. To date, it
is one of the largest public-private social care initiatives in The Bahamas. To facilitate the packaging and
distribution of food items, the government partnered with Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) and Non-
Governmental Organizations (NGOs). The Ministry of Social Services and Urban Development also
provided emergency food assistance and made special provisions for tourism workers. The National
Insurance Board paid out over $45 million in unemployment benefits to assist those in need.

The Small Business Development Centre (SBDC) was launched and has invested over $2 million
into over 550 small businesses through their grant programmes which remained accessible throughout
COVID-19. The SBDC serves to provide existing and budding entrepreneurs with the resources and funds
needed to open and maintain a successful business. Through their Access Accelerator programme and other
initiatives, the SBDC ultimately works to improve the economy.

Notwithstanding the varying challenges of the past two years, The Bahamas reaffirms its
commitment and the high priority attached to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable
Development in national programmes and policies. The country is making strides across all sectors to
ensure that we create the sustainable future that we wish to see and that we remain committed to leaving no
one behind.

The Bahamas’ delegation looks forward to participating in the High-Level Political Forum of the
Economic and Social Council of July 2021 and values the opportunities that will be garnered from the
productive exchanges with other delegations and stakeholders.

**Bhutan**

While Bhutan’s progress towards implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has been
impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, it has handled the situation well—given strong preventative and inclusive
response measures in place since early 2020. A total of 1111 positive cases were recorded as of 2nd May 2021, of which
117 were active, and only one related death. More than 93% of the eligible population have been vaccinated, and
efforts to ensure administration of the second dose are underway.

An Economic Contingency Plan of Nu. 4.492 billion provides priority support to the tourism and construction
sectors, agriculture and livestock production, and towards stocking essential food and non-food items. The Druk
Gyalpo’s Relief Kidu—an important social protection prerogative of His Majesty the King—has helped sustain
livelihoods of about 52,644 individuals, besides supporting interest payment of more than 139,096 loan account
holders. Several monetary and fiscal measures are also in place.

Meanwhile—with Bhutan’s Gross National Happiness (GNH) philosophy resonating strongly with the SDGs
and forming the basis of its Five-Year Plans (FYP)—priority concerns identified in its first Voluntary National Review
(VNR) report continue to be addressed through the 12th FYP (November 2018-October 2023). The Dewa Platform, an
integrated dashboard to monitor GNH, SDGs and FYP progress, has also been developed.

Towards ensuring quality and inclusiveness of key social outcomes, a health flagship programme is under
implementation. National policies on gender equality, disabilities, and mother and child health have been endorsed.
Flagship programmes on sustainable tourism, organic agriculture, cottage and small industries, and digital
transformation are being implemented to enhance productive capacity of the economy.

Bhutan’s smooth transition strategy, for graduation from Least Developed Country (LDC) category by 2023,
has been prepared; and a 21st Century Economic Roadmap is currently under formulation. Meanwhile, emphasis on
improved efficiency and sustainable use of natural resources will be reinforced by the recently developed Sustainable
Consumption and Production Strategy.

A national climate change policy, REDD+ strategy, and updated environment strategy, among others, have
been adopted as part of efforts to manage climate change impacts. Bhutan has submitted its Third National
Communication to the UNFCCC, and is developing its second Nationally Determined Contribution alongside sectoral
low-emission strategies. Gender-climate analyses have been initiated; and a roadmap for disaster risk management
is in place.

However, impacts of the pandemic have been deep and far-reaching. While GDP had grown from 3% in 2018
to 5.46% in 2019, and was projected at 6.9% in 2020, growth projection decelerated to -6.1% by year-end given
containment measures. A large number of people dependent on tourism and allied sectors were displaced, and many
Bhutanese working overseas returned home. Overall unemployment reached 5% in 2020 as compared to 2.7% in 2019; and youth unemployment, a long-standing concern, has reached an all-time high of 22.6% as compared to 11.9% in 2019.

Domestic violence and protection issues emerged as a ‘shadow pandemic’, exposing an area that is yet to have effective systems and essential services fully in place. Issues of online safety, cyber security and the digital divide were highlighted, as education and public services went online. Concerns over food and nutrition security were amplified as weaknesses in value chain management and distribution became apparent. The health system’s capacity to deal with a prolonged pandemic is an additional concern—with epidemiological changes already placing pressure on the sustainability of free healthcare services.

Meanwhile, Bhutan remains highly vulnerable to climate change impacts and natural disasters, which pose serious threats to its nature-dependent livelihoods and hydropower- and agriculture-based economy. As it maintains its carbon neutral status in the face of mounting pressure to accelerate economic growth, the additional burden of adaptation and mitigation entail huge costs.

Going forward, Bhutan is drawing important lessons from the pandemic—including the need and possibilities for long-term, transformative and green solutions for its food system, local economy, public services delivery, approaches to learning, data ecosystem, and preparedness for disasters and future pandemics. Therefore, while working to “build back better”, Bhutan remains committed to accelerating the SDGs so that progress towards an inclusive, low-carbon and resilient development pathway—as envisioned by its GNH approach—is sustained.

Bolivia (Plurinational State of)

El Estado Plurinacional de Bolivia emprendió una Revolución Democrática y Cultural para construir un país descolonizado, despatriarcalizado, sin racismo, sin discriminación, con justicia social, bienestar común, solidaridad, complementariedad y cuidado de la Madre Tierra; principios que han sido establecidos en la Constitución Política del Estado.

Es en este marco que en el período 2006 – 2018, con la implementación del Modelo Económico Social Comunitario Productivo (MESCP), se han alcanzado progresos tangibles en materia de reducción de la pobreza y desigualdad, cierre de brechas entre ricos y pobres, lucha contra el hambre, acceso a la salud, mayores logros en educación, acceso a vivienda y servicios básicos, y consolidación de instituciones sólidas, entre otros. En este periodo, la pobreza extrema se redujo de 38,2% a 15,3%, el coeficiente de Gini disminuyó de 0,59 a 0,43, se implementó el Sistema Único de Salud, la tasa de abandono en educación disminuyó de 6,4% a 2,5% y el déficit habitacional de 60,4% a 47,5%.

El éxito en materia económica y social se debe a que el MESCP reconoce el rol activo del Estado como redistribuidor, transfiriendo los excedentes económicos desde los sectores estratégicos (hidrocarburos, minería, electricidad, entre otros), hacia los sectores generadores de ingreso y empleo (industria manufacturera, turismo, vivienda, desarrollo agropecuario y otros), y hacia la población de escasos recursos a través de programas sociales.

A través de la inversión estatal se liderizó el crecimiento económico del país inyectando recursos de inversión pública hacia los sectores productivos, de infraestructura, salud y educación prioritariamente, en miras de alcanzar el desarrollo integral de los bolivianos.

En noviembre de 2019, los importantes avances logrados hasta esa fecha se vieron truncados y amenazados por una súbita ruptura del orden constitucional y democrático.

El accionar de las descartadas medidas de política económica tuvo efectos negativos en los ámbitos económico, social y ambiental, que fueron ahondados por la pandemia de la COVID-19. Hasta junio de la gestión 2020 la economía se contrajo en 11,1%, cifra que no se había registrado en la historia del país; la desocupación se incrementó de 4,3% a 11,6%, la pobreza y la desigualdad que durante catorce años se encontraban en constante disminución tuvieron retrocesos significativos.

El Informe Voluntario Nacional de Bolivia refleja el compromiso con la Agenda 2030, consciente que se constituye en una política de Estado que retome la senda del crecimiento económico y los logros sociales alcanzados hasta octubre del 2019. Este primer informe presenta los progresos y desafíos de la
implementación de los ODS en el país, que debido a la crisis política y sanitaria vivida en el país no pudo contar con el aporte de actores externos al Órgano Ejecutivo.

Para alcanzar los ODS en el año 2030, Bolivia ha establecido la Agenda Patriótica 2025 que contiene 13 pilares para construir un país digno y soberano, con el objetivo de levantar una sociedad y un Estado más incluyente, participativo, democrático, sin discriminación, racismo, odio, ni división.

La ejecución de la Agenda Patriótica es una responsabilidad compartida de todos los niveles de gobierno, sociedad civil, organizaciones sociales y sector privado, que ya tuvo una primera fase de implementación a través del Plan Nacional de Desarrollo Económico y Social (PDES) 2016-2020 y tendrá continuación con el PDES 2021-2025.

A pesar de los importantes progresos alcanzados, siguen existiendo desafíos. Para el futuro, queremos continuar construyendo una Bolivia en la que las nuevas generaciones, todos los hombres y las mujeres jóvenes de nuestro país puedan acceder a un empleo digno y a oportunidades económicas y sociales, que cuenten con educación y salud de calidad, que gocen de servicios universales. El futuro está basado en la diversificación económica con industrialización y sustitución de importaciones, la modernización del aparato productivo, la generación de empleo, mejor distribución de ingreso, la equidad y el afianzamiento de los derechos ciudadanos.

Cabo Verde

1. Facing COVID-19

In the last 5 years Cabo Verde faced 3 terrible years of drought but still recovered its economic growth, but in 2020, like other SIDS, the country faced a harsh recession of 14.8%, due to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic. The year 2021 should be the year of consolidation of the first cycle of sustainable development, but instead it will be the year of sustainable recovery. The existing social vulnerabilities are amplified, therefore health, economic and social emergency are the budget priorities, with the support of the international community specially on the implementation of the National Plan for Response, Recovery and Promotion of the Economy. Also, with the support of the international community, Cabo Verde aims to vaccinate a minimum of 70% of adults in 2021 with full coverage by 2023.

2. Gender Parity

Cabo Verde made remarkable progress in the area of gender equality that will be shared with the international community, with emphasis on significant and sustainable reduction of GBV crimes, and full achievement of gender parity in political decision-making bodies, with the implementation of the parity law. Cabo Verde aspire to be a country without gender discrimination, by promoting economic opportunities for women and girls, stimulating diversified educational and professional paths, deepening the equal participation of women and men in spaces and positions of power and decision-making, and developing policies and measures to eliminate all forms of gender-based violence.

3. Human capital

Cabo Verde elected the development of human capital as the main accelerator of sustainable development and young people are the most important segment, with increasing elderly population. The country made remarkable progress in the last 4 years on education, becoming one of the few countries with free primary and secondary education. Reforms to promote technical and professional education from the 9th grade onwards will contribute to the massification of the professional qualification of young people. With these reforms coupled with those underway in higher education, and with investment in health for all, the aim is to develop human capital, to accelerate economic growth and reduce inequality and poverty. We urge the international community to accompany the country’s efforts, within the framework of the strategic plan for human capital development.

4. Diversifying the economy
This pandemic reinforces the imperative of diversifying the economy as an essential measure of resilience to external shocks. Cabo Verde Ambition 2030 set the commitment for the diversification of the economy, by integrating the country into new global value chains. The Cabo Verdean authorities prioritize, the acceleration of energy transition, development of sustainable tourism, digital economy, industry, culture and creative industries, transition to the blue economy, international health platform and transformation of agriculture. The national authorities invite the international community to invest in Cabo Verde, especially through public-private partnerships.

5. **SIDS the financing of sustainable development**

The losses suffered by SIDS economies and the slow recovery, jeopardizes the continuity of the national effort for financing development under the Addis Ababa Action Plan. The need for better consideration of the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index as a specific criterion for these states, subject to disasters and more vulnerable to climate change, in accessing official development assistance and concessional financing is deepened, as well as the creation of a SIDS Compact as the mechanism per excellence for financing sustainable recovery. The national authorities propose to promote with other SIDS countries and with the support of the United Nations and other development partners, the creation of an international commitment on "Post-COVID-19 economic recovery and sustainable development financing in SIDS".

6. **Debt Forgiveness**

From the COVID-19 pandemic and Cabo Verde Ambition 2030, structural changes and priorities emerge, regarding the fight against impoverishment, health security and specially the diversification of the economy. It’s therefore, unavoidable the expansion of public investment, in a context of over-indebtedness aggravated by the pandemic and of Middle-Income Countries. It is therefore vital to forgive, even partially, the foreign debt, so that investments with a transformative impact are not postponed, but also to avoid the blockage, if not the collapse of the state, the regression and the destruction of the dreams of all Cabo Verdeans.

**China**

Over the past five years, under the strong leadership of President Xi Jinping, China has put people’s well-being front and center, followed a new vision of innovative, coordinated, green, open and shared development, and taken comprehensive measures to implement the 2030 Agenda according to its national implementation plan that was among the first of the kind in the world, and through an inter-ministerial coordination mechanism made up of 45 ministries and agencies, integrating its implementation efforts with the country’s 13th Five-Year Plan and other medium-to-long-term development strategies. China has also actively participated in international development cooperation to promote global implementation endeavors. All these efforts have yielded remarkable results.

**China has eradicated extreme poverty, and ensured food security.** At the end of 2020, China won its fight against poverty as scheduled, ending poverty for the 98.99 million rural residents living below the current poverty line, and meeting the targets of SDG 1 ten years ahead of schedule. Building on these achievements, China is prioritizing the development of agriculture and rural areas, and implementing the rural revitalization strategy in a comprehensive manner. In 2020, China reaped bumper harvest in grain production for the 17th year in a row. The “rice bowl” of the Chinese people is tightly held in the hands of the Chinese themselves.

**China has actively taken climate actions, and contributed to global green development.** Following the philosophy that lucid water and lush mountain are invaluable assets, China has accelerated the transition towards green development. China has won the three critical battles to keep its sky blue, water clear, and soil pollution-free and made remarkable headway in holistic protection and treatment of its mountains, rivers, forests, farmland, lakes, grassland and deserts. China has firmly implemented the Paris Agreement and actively participated in global climate governance. Carbon intensity in China has accumulatively dropped by 18.8%. Clean energy now accounts for 23.4% of China’s energy mix. China leads the world in installed capacity and output of photovoltaic and wind power generation. China has
scaled up its nationally determined contributions and aims to peak its carbon dioxide emissions before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060, injecting strong impetus into global climate actions as well as green and low-carbon development worldwide.

**China has met the challenge of the pandemic with success and improved public health governance.** Putting people and their lives above everything else, China has scored major strategic achievements in fighting COVID-19 and protected people’s rights to life and health. China has increased investment in public health infrastructure and woven the world’s largest social safety net with basic medical insurance covering more than 1.3 billion people. With upgraded public health services, Chinese people’s sense of fulfillment, happiness and security is steadily increased.

**China has registered steady economic growth and enhanced development resilience.** China’s GDP has increased from less than 70 trillion yuan to over 100 trillion yuan. Steady progress has been made in infrastructure connectivity and sustainable transportation. Pandemic control goes hand in hand with economic and social development. A new development paradigm is forming with domestic circulation as the mainstay and domestic and international circulations reinforcing each other. In 2020, China’s GDP grew by 2.3%, making China the only major world economy to grow.

**China has shouldered its responsibilities as a major country and advanced international development cooperation.** China champions mankind’s common values of peace, development, fairness, justice, democracy and freedom, and strives to build a community of shared future for mankind. It has stepped up efforts to promote synergy between the Belt and Road Initiative and the 2030 Agenda, promoted the green BRI, deepened South-South cooperation, and helped other developing countries implement the 2030 Agenda to the best of its capability. China has provided assistance to more than 160 countries and international organizations in combating COVID-19, and donated and exported pandemic response supplies to over 200 countries and regions. China has joined the COVAX, provided or is providing vaccine assistance to more than 80 developing countries most in need, and exported vaccines to more than 40 countries, making its due contribution to the global fight against the pandemic.

China’s remarkable achievements in implementing the 2030 Agenda are attributable to the strong leadership of the Communist Party of China, to the advantages of socialism with Chinese characteristics, to China’s comprehensive drive to deepen reforms and expand opening-up, and to the joint efforts of the people of all ethnic groups in China.

Likewise, the global implementation of the 2030 Agenda calls for strong political leadership, effective institutional guarantees, scientific and technological innovation, extensive social mobilization and pragmatic global partnership. The COVID-19 pandemic has dealt a severe blow to the global implementation of the 2030 Agenda. China stands ready to work with other countries to consolidate political will, put development first, strengthen the means of implementation, take joint actions and address special difficulties of developing countries to leave no one and no country behind.

**Chad**

Après avoir présenté en 2019 sa première revue sur les ODD au FPHN sur le développement durable, le Tchad renoue en 2021 avec cet exercice.

En effet, l’Agenda 2030 constitue pour le Tchad une opportunité pour les politiques publiques du développement durable et inclusif.

En s’engageant pour le deuxième ENV, les Hautes autorités du pays ont démontré leur volonté de réaliser avec toutes les parties prenantes les 16 ODD contextualisés pour respecter le principe de « ne laisser personne de côté » afin de bâtir un monde juste et une paix durable.

L’évaluation de la mise en œuvre des ODD montre que les résultats atteints restent mitigés, du fait que le Tchad fait face à de multiples défis malgré les efforts déployés dans les domaines économique, social et sécuritaire.
En outre, la crise économique liée à la baisse du prix du pétrole brut, à l’instabilité politique et à la pandémie de COVID-19 ont influencé par leurs effets négatifs sur l’ensemble de l’économie, les efforts du gouvernement, et par conséquent exposé une grande partie de la population à la pauvreté et à la vulnérabilité.

L’ENV 2021 a été préparé selon une approche participative impliquant l’ensemble des parties prenantes de la mise en œuvre des ODD. Il a été bâti sur le rapport de suivi conjoint des agendas african et mondial du développement durable élaboré par le Tchad en 2020.

Le présent ENV permet d’approfondir la réflexion sur les défis de développement durable, d’analyser les progrès et surtout d’identifier les opportunités et actions d’accélération des ODD au Tchad.

Malgré la conjoncture économique liée à la baisse des ressources de l’Etat et à la lutte contre l’extrémisme violent, le Tchad a fait des progrès dans la mise en œuvre des ODD. Le taux de pauvreté est passé de 46,7% en 2011 à 42,3% en 2019 ; le taux d’accès à l’eau potable est passé de 56,1% en 2014 à 61,8% en 2019 ; la proportion d’accouchements assistés par du personnel de santé qualifié est passée de 24,3% en 2015 à 34,5% en 2019 ; l’amélioration du taux de maintien des filles à l’école et l’amélioration du taux d’alphabétisation des adultes qui est passé de 28,8% à 41,5% entre 2011 et 2019.

Cependant, on note un accès limité à l’électricité (8,4% de la population) et seulement 1,6% de la population est couvert par le socle de protection sociale. De plus, il persiste une faible conjoncture économique caractérisée par une nouvelle récession en 2020 suite à la survenue de la pandémie de COVID-19, après celle des années 2016 et 2017 liées à la chute du prix du pétrole brut.

En exécutant la « Vision 2030, le Tchad que nous voulons », déclinée en trois plans nationaux de développement, le Tchad compte mettre en œuvre de manière intégrale et indivisible les ODD, pour réduire considérablement le niveau de pauvreté et d’inégalités, et promouvoir l’autonomisation des femmes et des filles.

Le plan d’action de la Stratégie Nationale de Développement de la Statistique (2018-2021) devrait permettre de renforcer les capacités opérationnelles des services en charge de la planification et de la statistique pour améliorer la fréquence de collecte et de diffusion de données.

L’approche inclusive intégrant toutes les parties prenantes, les partenaires techniques et financiers et surtout l’implication du parlement et de l’institution supérieure de contrôle public dans le processus de revue des ODD est un acquis qu’il convient de capitaliser. Il en est de même pour le suivi conjoint des agendas 2063 et 2030 initié par le Tchad en 2020.

Il faut signaler qu’en raison de la COVID – 19, les partages d’expériences et les échanges virtuels privilégiés entre pays et les institutions multilatérales pendant la préparation de l’Examen National Volontaire se sont révélés efficaces.

En dépit des progrès réalisés dans la mise en œuvre des ODD, les défis ci – après sont à relever : (i) la production régulière des données statistiques de qualité ; (ii) la meilleure intégration de l’agenda 2030 dans les politiques et stratégies de développement ; (iii) la mobilisation des ressources financières ; (iv) l’évaluation systématique des projets et programmes ; et (v) le faible renforcement des capacités des parties prenantes.

Colombia

[Original: Spanish]

ODS COLOMBIA: ACCELERAR LA IMPLEMENTACIÓN PARA UNA RECUPERACIÓN SOSTENIBLE

Mensaje principal

En 2016, Colombia presentó su primer Reporte Nacional Voluntario (RNV) para ratificar su compromiso de implementar los ODS y presentar a la Comunidad Internacional la gobernanza institucional que está asociada al cumplimiento de la Agenda 2030 en el país. En 2018, con el segundo RNV, se presentaron los avances en la
implementación de los ODS con la formulación del marco de política pública “Estrategia para la Implementación de los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible (ODS) en Colombia”. El documento CONPES 3918, que constituye la hoja de ruta país a 2030, presenta cuatro líneas de acción: seguimiento y reportes, disponibilidad de información, estrategia territorial, estrategia de involucramiento y financiamiento de otros actores no gubernamentales.

Este tercer RNV, además de reafirmar el compromiso con los ODS como una Política de Estado, pretende presentar un balance en la actual coyuntura donde convergen el llamado de la Década de Acción y la convicción de avanzar de manera inclusiva, resiliente y sostenible en la recuperación, luego de enfrentar la pandemia del COVID-19.

El porcentaje de avance general ODS, con corte a diciembre de 2020, es de 72,1 % de acuerdo con las metas fijadas por el Gobierno nacional. Estos avances son el producto de un esfuerzo nacional en torno al mejoramiento de las condiciones de vida de toda la población colombiana, así como del compromiso por materializar el objetivo de no dejar a nadie atrás.

La Agenda 2030 es un marco de referencia para los planes de desarrollo como instrumentos de clasificación de la inversión pública, tanto a nivel nacional como territorial. En el Plan Nacional de Desarrollo 2018-2022, más de 98 % de los indicadores están asociados a una o más metas ODS. Con el ejercicio de análisis descriptivo y el cálculo de las medidas de similitud entre los ODS y los Planes Territoriales de Desarrollo 2020-2023, realizado a través de técnicas de análisis de texto y minería de datos, se presentan los avances en cuanto a la territorialización de los ODS como estrategia para vincular a diferentes actores en la consecución de un modelo de desarrollo sostenible en Colombia. Este es un avance significativo para el cierre de brechas sociales y económicas en Colombia, más aún cuando la desigualdad en el país no solamente debe analizarse a nivel de personas, sino también entre territorios.

Como avances en materia de disponibilidad de información oportuna se destacan los avances en materia estadística: en el marco del Grupo de trabajo Inter-Agencial de Naciones Unidas para los ODS y las entidades del Gobierno Nacional, se han desarrollado planes de producción para indicadores, junto con una innovadora estrategia de seguimiento denominada Barómetro. En 2020, se logró la producción de ocho nuevos indicadores globales que complementarán el sistema de seguimiento nacional a los ODS.

La entrada en la Década de Acción es una oportunidad de fortalecer la participación de actores no gubernamentales en torno al cumplimiento de las metas ODS, para así materializar el enfoque multiactor de la Agenda 2030, acelerar la implementación de los ODS y lograr una recuperación resiliente y sostenible. Después del piloto presentado en el RNV 2018, el país cuenta hoy con una metodología robusta para medir la contribución del sector privado al cumplimiento de los ODS. A través de la plataforma SDG Corporate Tracker, los aliados implementadores han aportado más de 311 empresas con reportes de información para 2018 y 2019.

En este mismo contexto, se ha avanzado en la estructura y la hoja de ruta que permitirá el funcionamiento de la plataforma multiactor, entendida como un espacio de diálogo y participación cuyo objetivo principal es la alineación de esfuerzos para avanzar hacia el desarrollo sostenible. A lo anterior se suma el compromiso del país para elaborar una estrategia que posibilite la concurrencia de diversas fuentes de financiamiento. Los mencionados avances representan el esfuerzo conjunto de actores públicos, privados y de sociedad civil para la recuperación económica con sostenibilidad ambiental y el cierre de brechas sin dejar a nadie atrás.

Finalmente, este reporte compila los avances en la implementación de políticas para continuar con la trayectoria de Colombia hacia un modelo de desarrollo sostenible y duradero que integre las dimensiones social, económica y ambiental, evitando los efectos adversos causados por el COVID-19.
Cuba

Para Cuba, el cumplimiento de la Agenda 2030 constituye un compromiso de Estado y una prioridad nacional.

El Grupo Nacional para la Implementación de la Agenda 2030 constituye el mecanismo institucional para el seguimiento de los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible (ODS) en el país. El establecimiento de alianzas es uno de los factores clave de la estrategia cubana para el cumplimiento de la Agenda 2030. La nueva Constitución incluye también elementos que brindan soporte jurídico a su consecución.

El Plan Nacional de Desarrollo Económico y Social hasta 2030 (PNDES 2030) se encuentra alineado a los 17 ODS. El país trabaja para poner en funcionamiento su Portal de los ODS y cuenta con la Campaña Comunicacional Nacional: Cuba, Con Paso 2030, que contribuye a impulsar la Agenda 2030 y el PNDES.

Las políticas públicas priorizan alcanzar y mantener importantes logros sociales, bajo el principio de no dejar a nadie atrás.

Acceso universal y gratuito a importantes servicios sociales como la salud, integrado a la industria biotecnológica y farmacéutica; la educación, que ha contribuido a formar un capital humano altamente calificado que alinea los resultados de la ciencia, la tecnología y la innovación en función del desarrollo sostenible; la cultura y el deporte como derechos legítimos de las personas.

Fuerte capacidad institucional para brindar una red de protección social que considera la equidad de género, la seguridad y tranquilidad ciudadanas y el respeto a los derechos, con énfasis en la atención a las personas y grupos vulnerables.

Respuesta ágil, eficaz y universal en el enfrentamiento a la pandemia, con un sistema de protección social que ha contribuido a brindar garantías sociales para todos. El país cuenta con cinco candidatos vacunales contra la COVID-19, todos en fase de ensayos clínicos, y a lo largo de 2021 se proyecta vacunar a toda la población.

El país fortalece la dimensión ambiental del desarrollo sostenible.

El Plan de Estado para el enfrentamiento al Cambio Climático (Tarea Vida), incluye acciones para la protección del medio ambiente mediante la promoción de prácticas de consumo y producción sostenibles, la gestión sostenible de recursos naturales y la adopción de medidas de mitigación y adaptación que garanticen seguridad física y alimentaria de la sociedad y los asentamientos más vulnerables.

La reducción de riesgos de desastres constituye prioridad para el Gobierno, debido al alto grado de vulnerabilidad ambiental asociado a la condición de país insular y su ubicación geográfica.

Cuba comparte sus experiencias y buenas prácticas y las pone al servicio de otras naciones mediante la Cooperación Sur-Sur y Triangular.

Cuba apuesta por un multilateralismo renovado y fortalecido, por la cooperación solidaria y la búsqueda de soluciones concertadas e innovadoras. Ocupa una posición de liderazgo en la cooperación Sur-Sur y Triangular, cooperando con 170 naciones. En un lugar destacado se sitúan las brigadas del contingente médico Henry Reeve, especializadas en la atención a situaciones de desastres y graves epidemias.

El compromiso de Cuba con la implementación de la Agenda 2030 enfrenta importantes desafíos.

El principal obstáculo para la consecución de la Agenda 2030 en Cuba lo constituye el bloqueo económico, comercial y financiero de los Estados Unidos, con un daño acumulado que alcanza la cifra de 147 mil 853,3 millones de dólares a precios corrientes.
Cuba ha reconocido como desafíos la necesidad de diversificar y ampliar las fuentes de financiamiento externas e internas para el desarrollo, superar las deformaciones en su estructura productiva, el atraso tecnológico y la alta dependencia de las importaciones, la producción nacional de alimentos, así como la transformación de la matriz energética hacia una mayor participación de fuentes renovables de energía.

**El país no renuncia a los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenibles por difíciles que sean las condiciones.**

Cuba implementa su Estrategia Económico-Social para impulsar la economía y avanzar hacia la recuperación, y trabaja por el cumplimiento de los ODS y el PNDES 2030, sobre la base de la complementariedad de todos los actores económicos. Cuba se ha propuesto construir una sociedad soberana, independiente, socialista, democrática, próspera y sostenible y ratifica su compromiso con el desarrollo sostenible y la voluntad de fortalecer alianzas eficaces que contribuyan a su consecución.

**Cyprus**

**Introduction**

Cyprus’ 2nd voluntary national review (VNR) provides an overview of the progress and the remaining challenges in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The challenges have been aggravated by the Covid-19 pandemic which halted socio-economic and environmental progress.

**Governance / Stakeholder Engagement**

Building on a lesson learned from the 2017 VNR, an Intergovernmental Commission has been established for the implementation of the SDGs under the coordination of the Ministry of Finance, while the responsibility for each SDG target remaining with the competent ministry. Under the adopted integrated policy framework, stakeholders from Civil Society, Active Citizenship, Volunteerism and Non-Governmental Organizations play a pivotal role in the implementation of SDGs.

**Response to Covid-19**

The Covid-19 reality, brought unprecedented challenges and changes to everyday life. Cyprus’ government top priority was the protection and health of its citizens as well as the support of the social and economic fallout of the pandemic. The prompt public health interventions, including non-pharmaceutical measures and active contact tracing, with extensive and targeted testing, proved to be a valuable combination of strategies to effectively control the COVID-19 outbreak. Furthermore, to mitigate the negative impact of the pandemic on the economy, the government has adopted a support package for employees, the self-employed, vulnerable groups and businesses, which in 2020 amounted to €2.6 bln or 12.5% of GDP. Cyprus’ pioneering mobilization of its volunteer network, under the coordination of the Office of the Commissioner for Volunteerism and NGOs, received EU wide recognition for its prompt and effective support of vulnerable groups following prescribed security protocols.

**Progress Overview**

In the period that elapsed since its first VNR in 2017, and given the five years of continuous high economic growth, Cyprus has shown progress in most SDG indicators, even though it continues to rank low among the EU countries. Cyprus performs well with regard to reducing poverty, securing good health and high tertiary educational attainment, but falls behind in quality education. It is ahead of many EU countries in terms of the gender pay gap and shows some improvement in the number of women in leadership positions. On the other hand, Cyprus experiences the highest influx of migrants in the EU with the number of asylum applications rising to 8746 in 2019 compared to the EU average of 1411 applications. Finally, regarding the environment, Cyprus’ performance is below the EU average in most SDGs. Severe challenges exist with respect to sustainable agriculture, clean water and sanitation. Cyprus continues to lack behind with respect to affordable and clean energy, responsible consumption and production and climate action.
However, the data show a continuous improvement towards most environmental goals, reflecting the fruition of targeted government policies and initiatives.

**Building Forward Better**

Cyprus is in the process of preparing a Long-Term Strategy in order to adopt a robust new growth model to strengthen the economy’s resilience and the country’s potential for economically, socially and environmentally sustainable long-term growth and welfare. This objective will be achieved through an appropriate country-specific mix of investments and reforms included in the National Recovery and Resilience Plan, with an overall budget exceeding €1.0 bln of investment for the period 2021-2026. The NRRP takes into account the need to mitigate the economic and social impacts of the COVID-19 crisis and the need to strengthen the foundations of the economy.

At the Governance level for the SDGs, Cyprus is implementing a project in cooperation with UNITAR aiming towards a whole-of-government approach in implementing a sustainable Development Agenda and at a stronger partnership with all stakeholders. Next steps include among others:

- A broader awareness around the SDGs within the Cypriot society, involvement and commitment of all stakeholders including the creation of an online platform: www.initiative2030.gov.cy.
- The training of government employees to contribute to the implementation of the national SDG strategy.
- A pioneering educational program for children with activities for each of the 17 SDGs.

Cyprus’ coordinated efforts to implement projects, initiatives and actions reflect its commitment towards achieving the vision of the 2030 UN Agenda. The National Recovery and Resilience Plan is a key tool towards Cyprus’ effective green and digital transition while leaving no one behind.

**Czech Republic**

**Introduction**

The transformation from authoritarianism to democracy which Czechia has gone through over the last 30 years has in many ways been led by the principles of sustainable development and strengthened by membership in the EU. This successful transformation is evident in the benchmarks in which Czechia ranks near the forefront (8. rank in SDG Index, 10. Rank in SDG Europe Index, 17. rank in Transformation Performance Index). But still, success must be measured comprehensively. As such we consider the VNR an opportunity for a thorough and objective evaluation that will help us find ways out of the Covid-19 pandemic. Tangible steps to improving the wellbeing of Czech citizens and sustainability for the next generation are indeed our key priorities.

**Progress and challenges since 2017**

Czechia is well aware of the prominence of climate change and meets the EU’s climate commitments. Over the last 20 years, Czechia has significantly reduced its GHG emissions but the downward trend is currently stagnating because of the emission intensive energy sector and energy-intensive industry. GHG emission intensity per capita remains one of the highest in the EU since the Czechia is an open economy with a strong industrial base. Decarbonization poses a major challenge, not only at environmental, but also at the economic and social level. Therefore, the just transition of coal regions is in preparation and the coal phase-out is expected by 2038 at the latest.

The impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic have reminded us of the fragility of our achievements. Income inequality and at-risk-of-poverty rate are low due to the effective social protection system and increases to the minimum wage in recent years. Czechia was severely affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, but the healthcare system withstood the pressure. Nevertheless, the pandemic has deepened the long-term shortcoming in the availability and financing of social services. Vulnerable groups have lost their primary earners, especially single parents who must
remain at home to look after their children, despite Czechia's unemployment rate remaining at record low levels during the pandemic.

The social system now stands as the greatest challenge, which consists of maintaining the successes achieved so far, while dealing with increasing pressure. Leaving no one behind will now be more relevant than ever before, especially in regard to gender equality. Women still earn on average 20% less than men, and in combination with other disadvantages, are generally more vulnerable.

Currently the National Recovery Plan (approx. 7 bil. EUR) is being prepared which focuses on several transformative areas such as decarbonization, circularity, digitalization, climate change adaptation and the resilience of the health-care system. Coping with lockdown also continues inclusive education reform.

Although Czechia is a small country, it does not neglect its global responsibility. The SDGs have been fully incorporated into its development cooperation strategy and activities. Czechia has not yet fulfilled its commitment to provide 0.33% of GNI for ODA despite its slight gradual increase in real terms (until 2019). In line with the 2030 Agenda and the global financing for development policies, Czechia has also made progress in mobilizing private finances and promoting innovation.

**Implementation tools**

The long-term vision is embodied within the Strategic Framework Czech Republic 2030, which aims to coordinate public administration and deploys a PCSD lens. Since 2019, a focal points network has been in place to ensure fulfilment of the SDGs at each ministry. Czechia strives to mainstream sustainable development perspective in day-to-day "policy-making" processes. Regulatory impact assessment especially has the potential to be the most appropriate tool for this purpose, if it is amended to include a sustainability perspective.

Progress is monitored by three sets of indicators circa 500 - the 2030 Agenda global indicators, the national indicator set linked with the Czech Republic 2030 and national well-being indicators. Nevertheless, well-being perspective has to be further elaborated to be incorporated into policy making processes.

In 2020, Czechia conducted its first overview of state budget expenditures with regard to SDGs (SDG tagging). The 75% government expenditures are in compliance with SDGs’ priorities. However, budgeting directly based on SDGs requires major adjustments in the structure of the budget and the process of its preparation.

**Democratic People’s Republic of Korea**

On 25 September 215, the UN Summit on Sustainable Development adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development committing to build a new world by eradicating inequality and poverty at the global level and ensuring human dignity and its potential and healthy lives for not only this generation but also posterity.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPR Korea) expressed its full support to the 2030 Agenda, recognizing that 17 Sustainable Development Goals outlined in the 2030 Agenda conform to its national development strategy (NDS) for building a powerful socialist country centered on the popular masses.

For the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the Government of the DPR Korea set up the National Task Force for Sustainable Development (NTF) which include representatives from relevant line ministries and agencies, and appointed the Vice-Premier and Chairman of the State Planning Commission (SPC) as the Chair and the Deputy Director-General of the Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) as the Vice Chair. The Technical Committee (TC) under the NTF was formed, composing of CBS statisticians.

The NTF is responsible for nationalizing the global SDSs, targets and indicators to establish country-specific 2030 SDSs in conformity with the national development goals and coordinating activities...
for the implementation of SDSs at all levels, while the TC compiles and evaluates data by indicators through national statistics system and surveys, and reports them to the NTF.

The DPR Korea SDGs include 17 goals, 95 targets and 132 indicators. It is underlined in the national SDGs to consolidate the foundations of the self-supporting economy by placing emphasis on the line of prioritizing science and education and provide people with more affluent and cultured life through giving priority to energy, agriculture, water, sanitation and hygiene and environment as well as fully enforcing social welfare policies.

The DPRK Korea SDGs, the successor of the National Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), have been set based on the indicators of off-track MDGs, and successes and lessons learnt during the implementation of the NDS and sectoral plans. Those targets and indicators will be further updated in conformity with the country's context based on the results of necessary national surveys, evaluation of international practices, and the five year (2021-2025) plan.

The Voluntary National Review (NNR), the first national report of the DPR Korea to be presented at the High-Level Political Forum 2021, describes successes and lessons learnt, challenges and way forward for the implementation of each goal.

Continued sanctions and blockade on the DPR Korea, severe natural disasters that hit the country each year and the protracted global health crisis since 2020 are the main obstacles in the Government's efforts to achieve sustainable development of the country and improve the people's livelihood, causing off-track tendency in several indicators of national SDGs.

The VNR process offered the Government a valuable opportunity to readjust and decide on future directions and plans for SDG implementation, mainly as follows:

First, the national SDGs should be achieved through optimizing the use of its own resources, technology and internal force under the ideals of "The People are God", self-reliance and single-minded unity while intensifying the emergency anti-epidemic campaign to cope with the protracted worldwide health crisis for the safety of the country and the people. Bringing the advantages of people-centered socialism into full play, the Government will make its every possible effort to achieve the SDGs through the rational use of national resources and nation-wide campaign.

Second, the capacity to collect and analyze the statistical data should be improved and the national system of unified statistics be strengthened. The role of the national statistics will be ensured in such a way as to establish M&E system for tracking progress towards SDGs implementation, regularly review the attainment of each indicator and decide on the right directions to achieve the goals. International standard indicators and methodologies will be widely adopted.

Third, it is essential to raise awareness on SDGs and promote partnership with other courtiers and international organizations. The review of SDG progress will be disseminated to the ministries, agencies, people's government at all levels, research institutes and civil society to inform them of the current status, challenges and the ways forward and to timely readjust and reinforce relevant plans. In addition, the bilateral and multilateral cooperation will be enhanced to achieve the national SDGs.

The Government of DPR Korea, with its own resources, technologies and the concerted efforts of the masses of people, will overcome all challenges and difficulties and further strengthen collaboration with the international community in the course of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Denmark

[Original: English]

Voluntary National Review 2021: Progress on Sustainable Development Goals, 2017-2021
In 2021, Denmark presents the second Voluntary National Review. Globally, Denmark is at the forefront of sustainable development according to the SDSN and has successfully implemented numerous Sustainable Development Goals, but there are still important challenges to face. Further action is needed.

The VNR is coordinated by the Ministry of Finance and prepared by combined work of all ministries and stakeholders in the Danish society. A significant improvement of the second VNR relates to the inclusion of two independent assessments of the progress on each SDG by government officials as well as civil society actors. It also includes uncensored chapters written by actors of the parliament, civil society, the private sector, organizations, academic institutions, municipalities, and regions. Another new element of the VNR is a peer review process with Norway.

The review also builds on newly established institutional mechanisms and research. In 2018, Statistics Denmark launched a unique statistical database that allows for monitoring of the development of the SDGs. This work provides a necessary tool for the follow-up of the assessments.

According to the assessment of the government, Denmark is in a strong position in relation to many SDGs, especially in terms of health and well-being, education, sustainable energy, peace, justice and strong institutions. Denmark’s key challenges relate to responsible consumption and production as well as climate action, and further attention is needed to improve life in the ocean and life on land. As a nation with an ambitious green agenda, Denmark feels significantly responsible contributing to the green transition as well as assuming global responsibility and collaborate on long-term sustainable solutions with other countries.

Recovery from COVID-19

The foundation of the Danish Recovery and Resilience Plan is to utilize the need to stimulate the economy to sup-port and frontload investments in the green transition.

While the funds will help stimulate the economy and support jobs and companies in the short run, they will also contribute to speeding up the green transition in the medium to long run. This effort is crucial to meet Denmark’s ambitious climate target of lowering greenhouse gas emissions in Denmark by 70 per cent in 2030.

Leaving No One Behind

The SDGs are not fulfilled until they are fulfilled for everyone. While the Danish welfare state constitutes a good starting point for equal opportunities, some vulnerable groups are still subject to discrimination and less able or even unable to participate in society.

While the agenda is receiving increasing attention, more remains to be done. The Danish government is working actively with the agenda, where initiatives include, but are not limited to, improvement of labor market conditions for vulnerable groups, due diligence, and LGBTI rights. Denmark is committed to not only include, but also empower. An example of this approach is the initiative “Children First”, which seeks to ensure better conditions for equal opportunities in childhood.

Engagement and Commitment

The VNR is based on two fundamental principles of transparency and involvement, which is reflected in the scope of stakeholder engagement. The VNR demonstrates how civil society, the private sector, organizations, academic institutions, municipalities, and regions continue to integrate the SDGs into their core strategies.

The SDGs are increasingly anchored among actors in society, of whom the government has received knowledge, inspirational material, and valuable recommendations for the preparations of the new national Action Plan and the VNR as well as specific input for policy initiatives. Several meetings, hearings, and conferences have provided platforms for necessary mutual exchange and increased awareness.

The Next Step is Further Action
Denmark is currently working on new policy initiatives in a new national Action Plan, which will be launched in the coming months. The 2022 progress report will review the progress on each national goal following the Action Plan. Both large and small steps have been taken, and these will be followed by even more in the coming years, where the government continues to integrate sustainability in political initiatives, and stakeholders in society continue to contribute on all levels. A significant example is the decision to conduct a screening process of all legislative proposals with respect to their impact in terms of the 2030 Agenda.

Dominican Republic

[Original: Spanish]

**MENSAJES PRINCIPALES INFORME NACIONAL VOLUNTARIO 2021**

**La incidencia de la pobreza disminuyó** en los primeros cuatro años de la Agenda 2030, tendencia que fue revertida (aumentó 2.1 pp) por la pandemia.

**Los bajos niveles de productividad e ingresos de la actividad agropecuaria** constituyen un importante reto en materia de seguridad alimentaria y mejora de las condiciones de vida de la población rural.

**Los principales indicadores de cobertura de salud** muestran reducidos avances (se intervinieron simultáneamente 57 hospitales) y aun se tienen retos de calidad del servicio.

**El acceso a las vacunas y el fortalecimiento de los servicios de salud** es vital para reducir los riesgos de prolongación y profundización de la crisis.

**El país ha experimentado un alto crecimiento económico en las últimas décadas, la pandemia lo frenó abruptamente en el 2020.** El PIB descendió 6.7%, siendo el turismo más afectado con reducción 62.7% de visitantes extranjeros y de 47.5% en valor agregado de hoteles, bares y restaurantes. Recuperar el crecimiento implica enfrentar múltiples desafíos, entre ellos: revisar modelo de desarrollo del sector, mejora condiciones laborales, impulsar desarrollo productivo, reducir la desigualdad, aumentar resiliencia al cambio climático y la capacidad de respuesta ante fenómenos naturales.

**La tasa de desocupación** ha descendido, pero aún tiene espacios de mejora para generar más y mejores empleos. Más de la mitad de la población ocupada trabaja en el sector informal. Se mantienen amplias brechas de acceso al mercado laboral de mujeres y hombres, grupos de edad y territorios.

**La concentración del ingreso**, medida por el coeficiente Gini, se ha reducido. Sin embargo, el país pierde más de la quinta parte en el IDH por desigualdad.

**Permanecen brechas estructurales de desarrollo entre los territorios que están siendo abordadas.** El país planifica políticas a mediano plazo con enfoque territorial.

**Se cuenta con una Hoja de Ruta de Producción y Consumo Sostenibles, pero se enfrenta a desafíos de articulación y apropiación nacional.** Los actores involucrados han presentado rezagos en su integración efectiva.

**El país es muy vulnerable a fenómenos climatológicos.** En el último quinquenio, aproximadamente 11% de la población ha sido afectada por huracanes, tormentas y vaguadas. El impacto negativo de las emisiones de CO2 y la huella material en el IDH del país se estima en alrededor de 4%.

**La seguridad ciudadana y el acceso a justicia presentan desafíos.** La tasa de homicidios muestra tendencia a la baja (más alta en hombres y jóvenes). No se evidencia avances hacia la erradicación del maltrato y la trata de personas, cuyas víctimas son en su mayoría mujeres. Persisten barreras de acceso a la justicia, aunque ha mejorado notablemente la independencia del poder judicial.
Según cifras del 2019, los indicadores de institucionalidad muestran deterioro, principalmente la confianza en los partidos políticos y la percepción de la corrupción. Se ha acelerado la lucha contra la corrupción e impunidad.

Para enfrentar los grandes desafíos, tanto estructurales como emergentes, el país está transitando hacia un Estado con mayor fortaleza institucional. Además, procura mejorar sustancialmente la situación fiscal con un régimen tributario que garantice mayores ingresos con equidad y gasto público de calidad.

El crecimiento de la deuda pública, acelerado por el impacto de la Covid-19, ha comprometido una alta proporción del presupuesto al pago de intereses de un 17.4% del gasto del Gobierno Central de los últimos 5 años.

La generación de divisas depende fundamentalmente del turismo, las remesas y zonas francas. Estos venían creciendo a un buen ritmo frenado por la pandemia. Tanto las remesas como las exportaciones de zonas francas se han reactivado a niveles pre-covid. Por su parte, las exportaciones han presentado un escaso dinamismo. Se esperan mejoras de este rubro con las políticas públicas vigentes.

El fortalecimiento de la cooperación y la solidaridad internacional es clave para enfrentar los desafíos y superar problemas como los señalados, mucho más ahora, ante la urgente necesidad de mitigar las repercusiones de la pandemia. Los organismos multilaterales son esenciales para conseguir un reperfilamiento de la deuda pública consolidada.

El nivel de alineación de los ODS con la planificación nacional es alto (88%). Se está procurando su integración plena a través de la planificación de mediano plazo, aunque se requiere avanzar hacia el cierre de brechas entre lo planeado y lo ejecutado.

Egypt

- Egypt is among 10 countries worldwide that is submitting its third VNR this year. While the first was submitted in 2016, following the launch of the national sustainable development strategy “Egypt vision 2030”, the second VNR presented in 2018 marked the successful implementation of the economic stabilization and reform program, whereas the third VNR would share with the international community Egypt’s strides to lay the foundations for more resilient economy and community capable of weathering adverse unexpected shocks such as COVID-19 pandemic.

- Before the outbreak of COVID-19, Egypt was on an upbeat trajectory to achieve its development targets. Unfortunately, the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic and its socio-economic impacts stormed the whole world leading to an unprecedented global recession. Despite the adverse shock on the Egyptian economy, still the successful implementation of the economic stabilization and reform program which enhanced the resilience of the economy diluted the effect of the pandemic leaving the Egyptian economy among the very few and the only country in the MENA region to register positive growth.

- The Government of Egypt (GoE) is convinced that despite the woes of the pandemic, it can be rendered as a catalyst to expedite the implementation of reforms. Consequently, GoE has launched the second phase of the economic reform program in 2021 aiming at streamlining the structure of the Egyptian economy and raising its competitiveness by targeting sectoral bottlenecks.

- The GoE together with all the stakeholders have worked together to deal with the challenges identified in Egypt’s second VNR (2018). In terms of FfD, 2020 marked the issuing of the first green bond in Egypt and the in the MENA region. The issuing which was extremely successful not only adds to the diversification of finance tools at the disposal of the GoE but also would push the agenda of “greenifying” public projects. Additionally, the GoE in collaboration with the League of Arab States and the UN will launch this year the first ever comprehensive national report on FfD to give an objective taxonomy of FfD in Egypt. As for the issue of the population growth, the GoE has embarked on the national project for family development where ministries, civil society organizations and international organizations
collaborate not only to curb population growth but equally important to improve the characteristics of human capital. The GoE has also exerted significant efforts to improve the stance of governance in Egypt which was identified as another major challenge. In this regard, the GoE adopted the second version of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy (NACS) aiming at promoting transparency and integrity in the government units and enhancing prompt justice. Additionally, to enhance the public financial management, the Electronic Government Payment System and the Electronic Government procurement and Contracting System were launched. These systems help in simplifying and enhancing the transparency of the contracting procedures as well as the revenue collection system and ameliorating the competition base.

- To accelerate the achievement of the SDGs and to reinforce the concept of “Leaving no One Behind”, Egypt was successful in cutting poverty which has been rising for almost 20 years with the help of better targeted social protection programs. In the same vein and in its quest to prioritize the localization of sustainable development, the GoE in collaboration with UNFPA have produced localization reports for all Egyptian governorates which depict the current values and the targets of SDGs indicators in all governorates in order to target local developmental gaps. Another important pioneering initiative is the construction of the first competitiveness governorate-based index in collaboration with the civil society in Egypt and UN-ESCWA. To culminate these efforts, the GoE has launched the Descent Life initiative to improve the lives of millions of poor in rural areas across Egypt by providing quality government services to the dwellers of the poorest 1500 villages in phase one.

- Egypt is always committed to an inclusive and participatory approach. The identification of the issues as well as the content of the third VNR has involved a series of consultations with government entities, private sector and civil society representatives as well as development partners.

Germany

[Original: English]

In September 2019, Heads of State and Government stated at the SDG Summit that the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development could not be reached if the trend in their implementation remained unchanged. It is imperative that we finally achieve effective progress on sustainability, including climate protection over the Decade of Action.

On the basis of the decisions of the European Union and of the recent ruling of the German Federal Constitutional Court, Germany aims at a reduction of its greenhouse gas emissions of at least 65% by 2030 compared to 1990 levels. The German Federal Government will set yearly reduction targets in order to reach greenhouse gas emission neutrality by 2045. This needs to be accompanied by an increased effort in climate and sustainability diplomacy, based on a whole-of-government approach.

The COVID-19 pandemic and its worldwide effects have sharply increased the urgency of social and ecological transformation. It has been and remains strategically important to set the tracks for a socially and environmentally more sustainable and thus more future-proof society to pursue a better and green recovery worldwide, in Europe and in Germany. The 2030 Agenda and its SDGs as well as the Paris Agreement should serve as the guiding framework at the national, European and global levels, to redirect policies and programmes in response to the pandemic to “recover better”, guided by the principle of “leave no one behind”.

Progress in the following six transition areas is key to SDG implementation in, with and by Germany:

1. Human well-being and capabilities, social justice (SDGs 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10)
2. Climate action and energy transition (SDGs 7, 13)
3. Circular economy (SDGs 8, 9, 12)
4. Sustainable building and transport (SDGs 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13)
5. Sustainable agricultural and food systems (SDGs 2, 3, 8, 12, 13)
6. A pollutant-free environment (SDGs 6, 8, 9, 14, 15)

In its new Sustainability Strategy adopted in March 2021, coordinated by the Federal Chancellery, the German Government has identified transformative policies and measures for these six areas, which are designed to achieve measurable progress. The policies and measures are undertaken at three levels, focusing
- on implementation and effect in Germany,
- on international impact and
- on supporting partner countries.

Global responsibility is one of the principles of the German Sustainability Strategy and part of a comprehensive vision for a sustainable future in Germany. Thus, the German Federal Government aligns its international activities with the principle of sustainability. As part of the European Union and together with our European partners, Germany makes an important contribution to coping with global challenges in the long term.

The German Federal Government will continue its efforts in Germany and in its international engagement with partner countries. This commitment is reflected in our position as the second largest donor of Official Development Assistance (ODA).

Sustainable development serves as a guiding principle for German foreign and development policy. Since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, Germany has played a pivotal role in its implementation and the pursuit of its SDGs world-wide.

Peace and security, human rights and sustainable development are all interdependent. Our policy is to strengthen and promote a rules-based international order and multilateral cooperation. The German Federal Government promotes these principles i.a. through the work of the “Alliance for Multilateralism”, which we have initiated together with France and other partners.

The successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda is only possible if the effort is based on broad support from society as a whole. The Federal Government has included civil society, business and science in the process of the development of the German Sustainability Strategy as well as in the dialogue process accompanying the preparation of its voluntary national report. The transition to a sustainable Germany can only succeed if understood as a joint endeavor – that is, as a road that the federal, Land and local authorities and the various groups within society will travel together.

Guatemala

Para Guatemala, es de gran satisfacción estar entre los países que presentan el III Informe de Revisión Nacional Voluntaria 2021, en el cual, se destacan las acciones realizadas por el país en el proceso de implementación de los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible -ODS-. Es importante mencionar, que Guatemala fue uno de los países pioneros en incorporar los ODS a los instrumentos de planificación nacional, a través de la metodología de nodos y eslabones críticos, definiendo así las diez Prioridades Nacionales de Desarrollo y dieciséis metas estratégicas de desarrollo, mediante las cuales se implementan los ODS a nivel nacional.

Para el efecto, Guatemala cuenta con una estrategia de implementación, conformada por ocho grandes componentes, en los cuales, se han presentado avances significativos, principalmente en la planificación y el financiamiento. Aquí se destaca la Política General de Gobierno 2020-2024, que se encuentra alineada a las prioridades nacionales de desarrollo y, por lo tanto, se ha constituido en el principal referente de los procesos de planificación anual y multianual, es así, como se ha vinculado la planificación y presupuestación, con el propósito de lograr mejores resultados.

Por otra parte, se presenta el avance en el desempeño de las metas de desarrollo sostenible de seis de las prioridades definidas por Guatemala, siendo el acceso a los servicios de salud, la prioridad con un mayor avance, seguida del empleo e inversión; fortalecimiento institucional, seguridad y justicia; y la reducción de la pobreza y protección social.

En la prioridad de fortalecimiento institucional, el Estado de Guatemala se ha modernizado en el acceso a la transparencia del uso de los recursos públicos, mediante el diseño e implementación de plataformas que permiten dar seguimiento al que hacer público, entre ellas, se mencionan el portal de ley de acceso a la información pública, SNIPGT, entre otros.
Considerando que el cumplimiento de la Agenda 2030 requiere la participación de todos los actores, en el informe presentado, se incluye el aporte del sector público, el sector privado, las agencias de cooperación internacional, las organizaciones de sociedad civil, entre otros, quienes, atendiendo a su mandato y naturaleza, han desarrollado acciones que no solo contribuyen de manera directa al proceso de implementación de las metas de desarrollo sostenible del país, sino que han mitigado el impacto de la pandemia COVID-19.

Una de las principales recomendaciones emitidas para la elaboración de informes nacionales voluntarios, es que los mismos, sean elaborados de manera altamente participativa, es por ello, que Guatemala se complace en incluir la percepción de ciertos sectores de la población en cuanto al avance que ha tenido el país en las metas de desarrollo sostenible presentadas en el informe. Dentro de estos sectores, destaca la participación de niñas, niños y adolescentes, quienes a través de una serie de talleres virtuales manifestaron sus opiniones y principales demandas.

En cuanto al seguimiento y la evaluación, se ha presentado un avance en el tema de indicadores y en la implementación de una plataforma informática que permita visualizar los indicadores vinculados a las metas de desarrollo sostenible, esta plataforma podrá ser utilizada por diferentes actores, para que puedan priorizar planes, programas y proyectos que contribuyan a alcanzar las metas de país.

Finalmente, se presentan los principales retos y desafíos que debe afrontar el país, desde la óptica de los distintos actores de desarrollo, en los próximos años.

Estamos conscientes que hemos avanzado, que deben sostenerse las acciones positivas y construir el camino de la resiliencia en el contexto de COVID-19.

Es importante recordar que, en el avance hacia la década de acción, no hay camino por retroceder, debemos reducir la brecha de la inequidad y fortalecer el sistema estadístico, construir un país donde nadie se quede atrás y en donde se puedan garantizar los derechos y la vida digna para toda la población guatemalteca.

**Indonesia**

[Original: English]
The COVID-19 pandemic poses challenges towards SDGs progress, but also underlined the need for greater international cooperation.

To ensure sustainable and resilient recovery, Indonesia has embarked upon systemic reforms in four key areas: social protection system, national health system, disaster resilience system, as well as industry recovery, tourism and investment towards green economy.

Notwithstanding social distancing and health protocols, Indonesia has developed this VNR in an inclusive approach, through online consultations. Going forward, we highlight the SDGs achievement and efforts to recover from the pandemic.

Notable SDGs achievement, effects of the pandemic, and recovery efforts, include:

**Social Protection**


- From 2015 to 2019, Gini Ratio fell from 0.402 to 0.380, but increased to 0.385 (2020) due to the pandemic. Indonesia strengthened social spending from 12.3% in 2019 to 12.7% in 2020, the highest ever recorded.

**National Health**

- The pandemic has impacted several key health indicators.

- More than 1.6 million Indonesians were infected by COVID-19 since March 2020, putting pressure on the health system and affecting treatment of communicable and non-communicable diseases.

- Tuberculosis incidence rate dropped from 312 (2019) to 182 (2020) per 100,000 population, attributed to the disruption of diagnosis and treatment during pandemic.
• Prevalence of Undernourishment fell from 10.73% to 7.63% in 2015-2019, but increased to 8.45% (2020).

• Stunting prevalence in children under five declined from 37.2% to 27.67% (2019), and wasting prevalence from 12.1% to 7.44% from 2013-2019.

• Food Insecurity Experience Scale fell from 8.66% (2015) to 5.12% (2020).

• The national health insurance system has covered 222.5 million people (82.51%) in 2020, but unmet need for health service rose from 4.66% (2015) to 5.44% (2020).

Disaster Resilience

• Indonesia is focused on achieving lowering GHG emission and disaster risk reduction, to enhance disaster resilience.

• GHG emission level in 2019 was 1,866,500 Gg CO2e. Potential GHG emission reduced to 23.46% (2019) and GHG emission intensity reduced to 20.77% (2019) from the baseline.

• The total government budget (2018-2020) for low-carbon development activities is IDR 54.57 trillion (approximately USD 3.8 billion).

• On disaster management in 2020: 409 deaths and disappearances, and 6,451,439 people affected and evacuated due to disasters.

Industry, Tourism and Investment Recovery towards Green Economy

• The pandemic has affected economic indicators: income per capita fell from USD 4,174.9 (2019) to USD 3,911.7 (2020); Economic growth contracted from 5.02% (2019) to minus 2.07% (2020); Informal sector economy grew to 60.47% (2020); Unemployment rate increased from 5.23% (2019) to 7.07% (2020); Youth not in employment, education or training (NEET) rose 21.21 (2019) to 23.85% (2020), while disabled youth rose 52.32 (2019) to 53.37 (2020); Foreign tourist arrival declined from 16.1 million (2019) to 4.1 million (2020).

• The reduction and handling of waste reached 14.58% and 67.40% consecutively, and 68.35% from 132.7 million tons of hazardous waste has been treated (2019). Approximately 100 companies have released Sustainability Reports in 2020, compared to 54 in 2016.

Means of Implementation

• On an enabling environment: increased public awareness on corruption; increased number of informative state institutions and improved freedom of the press index; expanding legal aid budgets; and increased of legal identity, such as 77.2% of children under-fives and 58.03% of children under-ones have obtained legal identity (2020).

• Internet users reached 73.7% (2019), with challenges remaining on digital divide and literacy.

• The internet-based 2020 Population Census was successfully implemented, with no major impediments in cooperation among stakeholders.

The Way forward

Indonesia will undertake and strengthen policy reform on:

• Improving social protection system by improving mechanism and widening coverage of social security and assistance.
Improving the health system, focusing on disease control, health security, promotive-preventive actions, and supply side readiness.

Developing a holistic and integrated approach of food system to overcome malnutrition.

Promoting an inclusive economy system through sustainable investment, innovative financing, sustainable tourism, MSME support, and digital technology.

Implementing sustainable production and consumption patterns through circular economy system by developing green industries and integrated waste and hazardous waste management, including medical waste.

Strengthening disaster resilience through early warning systems, preparedness, capacity building, low carbon and climate resilient development.

Iraq

[Original: Arabic]
الرسائل الداخلية

الشباب محرك التغيير وإدارة التطوير
- الحراك الشبابي أعلان للتغيير نحو عقد اجتماعي جديد (الدولة والمجتمع).
- فئة الشباب تمثل ذروة الهيئة الديموغرافية المؤهلة للتغيير والبناء والمشاركة.
- المواطنة الفاعلة (الحاضنة للتنوع، المعززة للمشاركات، والحافزة للحقوق والخصوصيات).

خلال التنافس الإيجابي على المستوى المحلي (الحكومي والمجتمعي)
- استلهام روح التنمية وطنية ومحلياً لتعزيز التنافس البناء.
- اللامركزية النهج المعزز للمساواة والعدالة.
- التخطيط التكامل وتنسيق السياسات يعزز من النهج التشاركي والتنمية المحلية المستدامة (التنمية المكانية).

لن نترك أحداً في الخلف (المسؤولية التضامنية بين شراء التنمية في ظل أزمة كوفيد)
- احتواء الازمة المركبة (الصحية- الاقتصادية) والحد من تداعياتها وتخفيف آثارها على الفئات الهشة مسؤولية الدولة.
المسؤولية التضامنية بين شركاء التنمية تُعزز الحماية والأمن المجتمعي

- في ظروف الأزمات.
- الأدوار والوظائف التنموية للمجتمع المدني والقطاع الخاص قصص نجاح
- في التماسك الاجتماعي.

المصادر الخارجية

الاضرار في البقاء على المسار (ادامة زخم روح التنمية)

- الاستجابة للتحديات التي يفرضها الواقع العالمي والمحلي.
- استعداد الأزمات ايجابيا عبر التركيز في المحافظة على مسارات أهداف التنمية المستدامة.
- المضي في بناء المنعة والصعود لدرء المخاطر والازمات.

الشراكات الدولية عنوان للتضامن في وقت الازمة.

- الأيمن بالشراكة العالمية المعززة للأمن الإنساني.
- الشراكات الدولية فرصة لبناء المعرفة وتبادل الخبرات.
- الشراكات مرتكز لضمان تكافؤ الفرص بين الدول بدعم يحققه التكافل الدولي
- ويتفق من معاناة الدول الأقل نموا والأكثر حاجة.

ان تحليل وفهم التهديدات والمخاطر المتعددة والفرص المعقدة من خلال عمليات الرصد والتقديم، لن تؤدي الى تطوير واعي بالمخاطر المحدقة والتهديدات المعاظمة. إذ ان الوعي فيها يتطلب أن تكون عملية صنع قرار التنمية قائمة على دمج الإحاطة والوعي بالمخاطر بالآفاق المعرفية والإجراءات العملية لمعالجة المخاطر واستثمار الفرص في خطط التنمية والسياسات والبرامج وتأكيد مرونة الإجراءات لضمان استدامتها، وهو ما يتطلب:

• الإقرار بالترابط بين التهديدات العالمية المعقدة مثل الإرهاب والجريمة المنظمة والأوبئة، وعدم الاستقرار الاقتصادي والجرائم الإلكترونية، والأخطار الطبيعية والتغيرات المناخية والمخاطر المعقدة والفرص المقدمة على المستوى المحلي وصولا إلى المستوى العالمي.
• ان درء المخاطر واستثمار الفرص وتحفيز من التداعيات المعقدة المرتبطة بها يتم بحاجة معرفية مهذبة لتعزيز الاستدامة وتطوير بنائي مرن يمنع المخاطر الجديدة ويقلل من حدة الموجودة.
Japan

The COVID-19 pandemic occurred immediately after the international community had reaffirmed its commitment to accelerate its efforts to achieve the SDGs based on the declaration of “the Decade of Action”. The Pandemic has since been threatening the lives, livelihoods and dignity of people around the world, especially those in vulnerable situations. It has also greatly affected efforts to achieve the SDGs. It is indeed causing a human security crisis. Under these circumstances, the SDGs will be an important roadmap for social transformation that looks ahead to a new era and anticipates the future. Therefore, in this VNR, we look back at how Japan has been working to promote the SDGs and check the progress toward achieving the SDGs in order to overcome and “build back better” from the COVID-19 pandemic.

In order to achieve the SDGs, it is critical for all stakeholders to work together to promote their efforts. In this VNR, through reviewing Japan's domestic institutions to promote the SDGs, it was confirmed that through such frameworks as the “Japan SDGs Award” organized under the SDGs Promotion Headquarters headed by the Prime Minister, which recognizes leading companies and organizations working on the SDGs, collaboration among various stakeholders has been broadened, leading to increased awareness throughout Japan and progress on the SDGs.

In particular, with regard to local governments, those that proposed outstanding initiatives to achieve the SDGs have been selected as "SDG Future Cities" since 2018, and leading model cases have been disseminated throughout the country. In addition to “SDG Future Cities”, other initiatives such as the "Public-Private Partnership Platform for Local SDGs" and "Local SDG Finance" have created momentum to promote the SDGs and encouraged every citizen to treat the SDGs as their own concern. As a result, a movement to promote the resolution of regional issues, such as declining birthrates, aging communities, and declining populations, through the principles of the SDGs has been gaining momentum throughout the country. In 2017, when Japan submitted its last VNR, the percentage of local governments working on the SDGs was only 1%, but by 2020, it had risen to 39.7%, and the Government of Japan is working to increase it to 60% by the end of FY2024. In this connection, in this VNR, we have included several positive examples of local governments that have taken the lead to promote the SDGs as model cities in Japan, including four cities that have conducted their own Voluntary Local Reviews.

In its “SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles”, the Government of Japan has identified eight priority issues that Japan should focus on in particular. This VNR describes major efforts that have been made for each priority issue in terms of both domestic implementation and international cooperation, as well as the progress that has been made on the 17 goals through such efforts, taking into account the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since the achievement of the SDGs requires the efforts of a wide range of stakeholders, this VNR was prepared not only through discussions within the government, but through discussions at the “SDGs Promotion Roundtable”, which consists of representatives from various fields, discussions with civil society and the youth generation who will lead the society in the future, and through public comments in order to incorporate the opinions of a wide range of people. In addition, in order to evaluate our progress, we have included evaluations from the private sector members of the “SDGs Promotion Roundtable”, considering that it would be desirable to include evaluations of progress from other perspectives other than the government’s.

The drafting process of the VNR provided us an opportunity to review the institutions for promoting the SDGs and major initiatives, and to consider how Japan should promote the SDGs in the future. Therefore, based on the opinions of experts and citizens, the VNR concludes with a description of how Japan will promote initiatives to achieve the SDGs henceforth.

Japan will continue to work with the international community based on the principle of human security, in order to address global health, including the achievement of universal health coverage, and realize a society where the SDGs have been achieved and "no one is left behind".

Lao People’s Democratic Republic

[Original: English]
Lao PDR is at an important stage of its national development planning process. 2020 marked the conclusion of the implementation of the 8th National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSEDP 2016-2020) and the development of the 9th NSEDP 2021-2025, which would guide the country development for the next five years. This development has been dominated by the challenges associated with COVID-19 response and recovery, sustainability and climate change, quality and inclusive growth, human capital, infrastructure development and the graduation from Least Developed Country status, which Lao PDR hopes to achieve.

The conclusion of 8th NSEDP and the development of 9th NSEDP come in a time where the country is in the process of preparation for the second Voluntary National Review (VNR) of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Therefore, when possible, progress of SDG implementation in Lao PDR since the first VNR (2018) will have key elements of COVID-19 on the top of various challenges that the country has already encountered for the past two years.

The National Steering Committee (NSC) for SDGs implementation was set up in 2017 chaired by the Prime Minister, with members of the Committee from all concerned ministries and agencies. The National SDGs Secretariat and focal points in line ministries were appointed to lead and take ownership of each SDG to ensure smooth coordination and collaboration. Since the first VNR in 2018, there have been some key milestones on SDGs as follows:

The SDG Roadmap including the SDG advocacy and communication was finalised and approved by the NSC in 2019. It includes the institutional strengthening and partnerships, awareness-raising strategies, multi-stakeholder consultations, mechanisms to create horizontal-vertical policy coherence, and budgeting and plans for monitoring, reporting and accountability.

In 2019, 238 SDG indictors or around 60% of indicators were integrated into 8th NSEDP (2016-2020), and the remaining indicators will continue to be integrated into the up-coming development circles, respectively.

The VNR was developed based on the principle of leaving no one behind, which its process also builds on key recommendations from the first VNR and the conclusion of 8th NSEDP. The Secretariat conducted series of consultations with different stakeholders. Public officials from all 18 provinces have also been engaged with the aims to increase their understanding of the SDGs and implement relevant strategies in each province.

Securing data on localized SDGs in advance of the VNR has been challenging as a result of COVID-19 disruption. While this second VNR provides snapshot of progress toward all SDGs, the detailed discussion is on selected Nine SDGs, which are also in-line with the theme of the 2021 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

From LDC Graduation to the 2030 Agenda, it is a platform for the future. The country is on-track to graduate from the LDC status by having reached the threshold for graduation in the two consecutive Triennial Reviews in 2018 and 2021. This means that the country is eligible to be recommended for graduation in 2024. However, due to COVID-19 and the already existing challenges, a longer preparatory period of transition has been granted.

In addition, various SDGs have been greatly impacted. Therefore, some COVID-19 recovery measures will be implemented during the course of SDG implementation in-line with 9th NSEDP, including on the efforts to improve financing, macroeconomic management, business environment and investment, human capital development, job creation, macro-fiscal stability, and economic diversification to achieve more resilient, green, inclusive and sustainable growth.

Lessons Learnt and Way Forward

- First, the Government’s strong commitment to the 2030 Agenda lies within the greater involvement of line ministries and provincial authorities, making them strong ownership of SDG localization and implementation.
• **Second**, administrative data systems in many goals still need to be harmonized, streamlined and strengthened while enhancing institutional and statistical capacity building. Importantly, high quality and disaggregated data is essential to ensure equitable progress against SDG goals and targets.

• **Third**, collaboration and coordination across line ministries and between central-local levels and across different stakeholders will be built on multi-stakeholder engagement approach.

• **Fourth**, the Government will continue working with all partners and identify practical development financing strategy needed for implementing the 2030 Agenda.

• **Last but not least**, public awareness for SDGs are important for ensuring greater support and partnerships which are essential for SDG realization.

**Madagascar**

Depuis l’engagement de Madagascar en 2015 dans l’atteinte de l’Agenda 2030, le pays a mis en place deux cadres institutionnels pour en assurer le suivi : le Comité d’Orientation et de Suivi et le Comité Technique. Dans le cadre de l’élaboration de ce deuxième rapport, une consultation nationale, ayant vu la participation des points focaux des ministères, sociétés civiles, secteurs privés, associations et partenaires techniques et financiers, a été organisée pour que personne ne soit laissé pour compte.


Malgré la survenance d’aléas climatiques (cyclones et sécheresse) et de la pandémie du Covid-19, des progrès sont enregistrées dans l’atteinte de l’agenda 2030 :

• Sur le plan environnemental, Madagascar intensifie ses efforts pour préserver sa biodiversité. La superficie reboisée est passée de 4,739 ha en 2016 à 45,003 ha en 2020. La Superficie des aires protégées abritant des sites de conservation de la biodiversité atteint 7.099.000 ha en 2020 contre 7.000.828 ha en 2016 (ODD 15). Toutefois le taux de déforestation reste élevé, exposant le pays aux vulnérabilités liées au changement climatique.

• La croissance économique affichait une tendance ascendante avant la crise sanitaire, pour arriver à un taux de 4,4% en 2019. Le taux de chômage est évalué à 1,9% de la population active en 2020. Le secteur informel reste le principal pourvoyeur d’emploi et le taux de pauvreté multidimensionnelle s’élève à 70,3% avec une intensité de la pauvreté\(^1\) estimée à 54,9% (ODD 1).

• Au niveau social, les engagements pour assurer un accès universel aux services de santé se sont traduits en actions à travers l’élaboration d’un cadre d’investissement SRMNIA et la promulgation de la loi sur la Santé de Reproduction et la Planification Familiale. En matière de lutte contre les violences basées sur les genres, la loi N°2019-008 du 16 janvier 2020 a été promulguée pour renforcer le régime juridique sur la prévention, la poursuite, la répression, la prise en charge et la réparation ainsi que la protection des victimes.

Madagascar dispose d’un Plan Multisectoriel d’Urgence pour lutter contre le COVID-19 et atténuer ses conséquences socioéconomiques. Ce plan prévoit l’affectation de ressources dans les transferts monétaires, filets de sécurité et actions en faveur des personnes vulnérables. Cependant, la pandémie a mis à mal les efforts entrepris dans la mise en œuvre des ODD. Sur le plan économique, le PIB a diminué de -4,2% en 2020 (ODD 8). Les risques en termes de santé (ODD 3) sont réels avec la diminution de la fréquentation des structures sanitaires entrainant une diminution de la couverture vaccinale, des

\(^1\) Proportion pondérée de privations sur différents indicateurs de l’indice de la Pauvreté Multidimensionnelle (Privation sur l’accès à la santé, accès à l’éducation et niveau de vie)

E/HLPF/2021/5
accouchements assistés par un personnel de santé, accès aux informations et services relatifs à la santé sexuelle et reproductive (ODD 5). En matière d’éducation, la prise de mesure de fermeture temporaire des écoles a des influences négatives sur le taux d’accès et la qualité de l’enseignement.

Plusieurs défis restent à relever :

- Renforcement de la coordination, du suivi et de l’évaluation des ODD ;
- Mobilisation des ressources par la mise en place d’une stratégie de financement des ODD ;
- Reprise de la croissance économique après le COVID19 ;
- Lutte contre l’insécurité alimentaire, notamment la famine, qui sévit dans le Sud du pays.


Malaysia

[Original: English]

Introduction

Sustainable and inclusive development has always been a key principle in the nation’s development planning. Efforts to mainstream SDGs in national development planning were undertaken via the alignment of SDGs in the five-year national development plans, the development of the SDG data and the establishment of a multi-stakeholder institutional framework. Malaysia’s VNR 2021 is the second report submitted as part of the review of the 2030 Agenda. The stakeholder engagement for the VNR 2021 commenced with a formal online inception workshop attended by more than 300 participants. The findings and data collected for the upcoming 12th Malaysia Plan (12th MP) and the SDG Indicators Malaysia 2019 report are also utilised in the VNR 2021. Following the improvement in data collection, the VNR 2021 will provide a more comprehensive evidence-based data as compared to the first VNR in 2017.

National Key Achievements and Progress

Malaysia has successfully transformed its economy, raised living standards, and moved from a low-income to an upper-middle-income economy within a generation. The gross national income (GNI) per capita, expanded about 29-fold, from US$347 in 1970 to US$10,118 in 2020. Among the significant achievements are in eradicating poverty and narrowing inequalities as well as providing better quality of life for the people. The incidence of absolute poverty reduced from 7.6 per cent in 2016 to 5.6 per cent in 2019. Hardcore poverty has almost been eradicated, though pockets among selected groups, and multidimensional deprivations remain. The COVID-19 crisis resulted in some vulnerable households within the B40 income group fell into higher incidence of poverty and widened the inequality. In response, the government has implemented a series of special economic recovery packages to boost growth and protect the vulnerable. Malaysia has also enhanced its food production, where the self-sufficiency levels of 10 major agri-food commodities continue to improve. However, the nutritional aspect of food security has become more pertinent as Malaysia faces double burden of malnutrition, particularly involving vulnerable groups and in times of unexpected emergencies.

Malaysia has been successful in providing quality, accessible and affordable healthcare, on par with those in more developed countries, based on the principle of universal health coverage. The country’s health security preparedness was demonstrated by successfully managing the COVID-19 outbreak. However, health burdens are rising due to an aging population, demands for better healthcare, and the
increasing NCDs, which currently is responsible for more than 70% of deaths. Initiatives to enhance the healthcare delivery system to promote a better and healthier lifestyle through a multi-sectoral nutrition framework are currently being implemented.

Malaysia is also making progress towards sustainability and managing climate change by adopting a resource efficient and climate resilient development model. The sustainable consumption and production (SCP) approach was undertaken through creating green market, managing waste holistically, and increasing the share of renewable in energy mix. While various efforts are being made to better coordinate SCP, and climate change at the policy level, technical and financial support are still required in the implementation.

Malaysia continues to practice a unity in diversity approach, while emphasising governance, social cohesion and partnership. It is committed to South-South Cooperation through the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme, supporting 144 developing countries through technical and capacity building initiatives. In addition, the All-Party Parliamentary Group on SDGs was established to enhance SDG localisation. The Voluntary Local Reviews have also been initiated to ensure local authorities’ programmes and initiatives are in line with the SDGs.

Way Forward

Moving towards 2030, the national development priorities will continue to be aligned and integrated to the SDGs. The SDG Roadmap Phase 2 (2021-2025) will be formulated to advance the SDG agenda by identifying priority areas, key enablers and critical ‘accelerator points’ for lagging SDGs, ensuring policy coherence across all levels of governments, and recommending strategies and plan of actions. Localising SDGs initiatives will also be further strengthened. The 12th MP will ensure that the people will benefit from socioeconomic development, achieve inclusivity and social cohesion, and improve general wellbeing. Malaysia will advance green growth towards a low-carbon nation, ultimately attaining carbon neutral future. Effective execution of the 12th MP will contribute to achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

Marshall Islands

[Original: English]

Our commitment to sustainable development

We have a clear vision for the Republic of the Marshall Islands, “in our hands is our future”. This vision guides our efforts as a resilient, productive, and self-supportive nation. Embracing the inherent challenges faced as a small island developing state, including geographic isolation, rising sea levels and the impacts of climate change, and diseconomies of scale, we remain resolute to transform our development pathway, in a manner which maintains and enhances a united and inclusive Marshallese identity.

Achieving this will require building our resilience to the damaging effects of climate change, global pandemics such as COVID-19, and improving our social and wellbeing concerns. Moreover, we need to continue developing an economy that delivers effective public services, and productive opportunities for all Marshallese children, women and men, living in urban areas and the outer islands.

Our National Strategic Plan (NSP) provides a roadmap for our approach to sustainable development and inclusive growth. The Plan is aligned to the 2030 Agenda and the SAMOA Pathway, with relevant aspects of global initiatives already integrated in relevant national strategies and policies. The Plan prioritizes five strategic areas, namely social services and cultural identity, economic development, infrastructure, environmental awareness and climate change, and good governance.

Negative impact of COVID-19 pandemic

The RMI has successfully ensured the safety of our people from the COVID-19 pandemic. We have received budget support and supplies from our development partners and have provided support to our people and local businesses to ensure the economic and social fabric of the Marshall Islands remains
resilient. Despite this, COVID-19 has negatively impacted our economy and progress against specific development priorities.

**VNR issues of focus**

The VNR reporting allows RMI stakeholders to reflect on progress made against the strategic areas and respective commitments in the NSP. The process also underscores the value of partnerships with local stakeholders and development partners, and highlights the need for collectively responsibility to achieve the desired results.

RMI’s VNR will share achievements in issues of strategic importance contained in the NSP, and related SDG implementation. It will also highlight challenges and opportunities for accelerated implementation. Issues of strategic importance include:

- **Good health and wellbeing** - while RMI’s broad human development indicators such as infant and child mortality rates and educational attainment have steadily improved since independence, the overall progress in building human capital can still be improved. Our strategy embraces the value of “Kumiti Ejmour” or “health is a shared responsibility”.

- **Reduced inequalities** - between rural-urban areas continue to exist. The economies of the outer atoll communities have not fundamentally changed over the past century, with reliance on copra and handicraft production and limited commercial fisheries and farming activities for their livelihoods. An inclusive, “One Nation Concept of Vision” aims to integrate the unique development needs of each atoll.

- **Decent work and economic growth** - urban economies in Majuro and Kwajalein rely heavily on government bureaucracy and the Kwajalein missile base for employment and income. These economies are dominated by the wholesale and retail trade, construction, banking and insurance. The productive economy has evidenced great potential in harnessing the “blue economy”, as evidenced already in commercial fisheries as well as tourism, trade and investment.

- **Climate change** - sea level rise combined with more frequent and severe periodic wave surges are creating tipping points for tolerability of habitation. Accelerated and targeted adaptation measures for well-being and livelihood of atoll communities are being pursued, with additional and accessible resources needed to support further climate proofing and resilience building efforts. At the same time, RMI calls for decisive global action, especially from the larger emitters, to reduce greenhouse gases.

**Conclusion**

RMI is committed to implementing its NSP, which integrates the SDGs and the SAMOA Pathway commitments as relevant. We acknowledge that reaching the targets in the NSP and the 2030 Agenda remains a challenge, noting the capacity and resource constraints we face. It requires the collective efforts of all stakeholders, including for the transboundary issues such as marine resource management and climate change which depend on global leadership and action. Notwithstanding, we strive to achieve our national development priorities for the benefit of all Marshallese people.

**Mexico**

[Original: Spanish]

El Tercer Informe Nacional Voluntario de México retoma las recomendaciones de los informes previos, y enfatiza que el avance en la Agenda 2030 para el Desarrollo Sostenible en México es un compromiso de todos los sectores de la sociedad mexicana. Por ello, por primera vez se redacta en diálogo con un Comité conformado por representantes de sociedad civil, sector privado, academia, Ejecutivo y Legislativo federal y estatales, cooperación bilateral y Sistema de las Naciones Unidas, quienes realizan sus propias consultas y elaboran estudios independientes que alimentan al informe.

La administración federal que inició su gestión en diciembre de 2018 dio continuidad al Consejo Nacional de la Agenda 2030, sus Comités y Secretaría Técnica. Desde entonces, ha transversalizado la
perspectiva de desarrollo sostenible en su plan de gobierno, programas sectoriales, proceso de presupuestación y proyectos insignia, y ha impulsado el seguimiento independiente de indicadores, lanzado iniciativas novedosas como la emisión de un bono soberano vinculado a los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible (ODS), y generado herramientas para impulsar el avance en la Agenda 2030 con el apoyo de la cooperación bilateral y multilateral.

Los 32 estados y diversos municipios han establecido Órganos para el Seguimiento e Implementación de la Agenda 2030, y han impulsado revisiones subnacionales voluntarias y herramientas para su avance con apoyo de sus asociaciones nacionales y la cooperación bilateral y multilateral. Sus logros son tan heterogéneos como el país mismo, y muchos de ellos necesitan acompañamiento para fortalecer sus capacidades. A través de sus asociaciones buscan ocupar más espacio en las instancias de coordinación nacional de la Agenda 2030, y varios consideran necesario revisar los sistemas nacionales de planeación democrática y coordinación fiscal en beneficio de la misma.

El Poder Legislativo instaló una Comisión Especial en el Senado de la República y un Grupo de Trabajo en la Cámara de Diputados con el compromiso de todos sus liderazgos políticos, para dar seguimiento a la implementación de la Agenda 2030. Desde ellos se promueven legislación, presupuesto, agendas, capacitaciones y diagnósticos con perspectiva de desarrollo sostenible, herramientas inéditas como la Estrategia Legislativa para la Agenda 2030, y colaboración con los Congresos Estatales para alcanzar los ODS desde el ámbito local.

En el sector privado se han sumado a la Agenda 2030 empresas individuales y organizaciones gremiales con acciones en sus procesos productivos, medición de logros, análisis de legislación y estrategias de articulación como la creación de 19 Grupos de Trabajo multiactor para impulsar temas estratégicos en los ODS. Grupos diversos de empresas consideran necesario fortalecer los argumentos para motivar a más empresas a sumarse a la Agenda 2030, incorporar proactivamente a micro, pequeñas y medianas empresas, mejorar el monitoreo de avances y aumentar el conocimiento de la opinión pública en la materia.

Desde la academia, con apoyo de cooperación bilateral, se estableció el capítulo mexicano de la Red de Soluciones para el Desarrollo Sostenible, que cuenta hoy con 73 instituciones afiliadas en más del 70% del territorio, y fomenta la capacitación y el análisis y monitoreo de políticas que impactan a la Agenda 2030. Diversas integrantes de la Red consideran necesario mejorar la coordinación entre niveles y órdenes de gobierno; promover legislación sostenible; atraer financiamiento en investigación, desarrollo e innovación, y fortalecer el conocimiento y la acción por el desarrollo sostenible al interior de las propias instituciones académicas, a través de más alianzas multiactor.

En la sociedad civil, personas y organizaciones diversas consideran que la estrategia de implementación de la Agenda 2030 es adecuada al contexto general, pero que debe fortalecer su perspectiva multidimensional y mejorar su desempeño en materia de género, medio ambiente, empresas y derechos humanos, participación ciudadana y financiamiento, particularmente en estados y municipios. Estos esfuerzos deben apuntar a un cambio de paradigma de desarrollo en el que todas las comunidades cobren un papel protagónico que conduzca a fortalecer la gobernanza local y nacional.

La pandemia por COVID-19 no ha revelado todavía sus efectos de largo plazo, pero ya afecta las perspectivas de la Agenda 2030, y ésta deberá adaptarse al nuevo contexto nacional y global con responsabilidad compartida entre todos los sectores de la sociedad, perspectiva de recuperación sostenible que privilegie los derechos, y una mirada reflexiva que considere las condiciones estructurales que afectan las alternativas y el alcance de acciones puntuales.

**Myanmar**

[Original: English]

**Introduction**

Myanmar with the population of 55 million, has moved from low-income country into lower middle-income country in 2018. The economic growth has been supported by steady progress in structural
transformation since 2010. However, the COVID-19 pandemic hit the economy that started slowing in 2019-2020 and it will continue till this year.

**Engagement in International Commitments**

Myanmar continues to collaborate with international organizations and fulfills its international obligations. Myanmar has ratified four main international instruments, namely, the CRC, CEDAW, CRPD, and ICESCR, as well as two optional protocols, CRC-OPSC and CRC-OPAC, over the last three decades. The CRC’s combined fifth and sixth reports are near completion. In addition, Myanmar’s third UPR report was reviewed in 2021. It clearly demonstrates that Myanmar’s adherence to its treaty obligations.

**SDGs into National Development plan**

Myanmar has committed to implementing the 2030SDGs agenda in 2015. The SDG related issues are included in the national development context as part of the annual plan. Myanmar has collaborated closely with UNDP to create the SDGs baseline study in 2017, aiming to measure the availability of SDGs indicators.

The Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (MSDP) was developed with the structure around three Pillars, five Goals, 28 Strategies and 251 Action Plans together with the implementation matrix. Those are firmly aligned with the SDGs, and various regional commitments such as GMS Strategic Framework, the ASEAN Economic Community and many others. To access the implementation of the MSDP and the SDGs, Myanmar National Indicator Framework has been created in 2020.

**Methodology and Process for the Preparation of the Review**

Myanmar has divided the report-writing process into four stages: planning process, collecting inputs and relevant data, writing the report, conducting review and presentation, and follow-up.

Myanmar has formed a Coordinating Committee, headed by the Deputy Minister of Planning, Finance and Industry, comprised of high-ranking senior officials from various ministries, to prepare the report. Inputs and data for accessing inclusiveness are from various sources of public and private entities and thus ensure the participation of all stakeholders. The Report Writing Committee makes every effort to complete the report despite its challenges in obtaining international assistance.

**Status of Goals and Targets**

In terms of poverty, the rate has decreased from 48.2% in 2005 to 24.8 percent in 2017 according to Myanmar Living Condition Survey. Poverty and vulnerability continue to be significant factors in Myanmar.

The ratio of spending on education, health and social protection are becoming increasingly. Myanmar has also made substantial progress in minimizing mortality among children under the age of five and infants. However, a child under the age of five living in a rural environment is nearly twice as likely to die as a child who lives in an urban setting.

The government has granted scholarships and stipends to disabled children living in remote areas totaling more than 18 billion kyats. The employment ratio by sex and disable are also progressing.

From 2015 to 2019, the number of students who finished primary and secondary school increased.

Between 2016 and 2019, the rate of antenatal treatment, institutional delivery, and qualified birth attendants has improved.

Clean water and sanitation indicate that the facility has improved; however, Myanmar will need to spend a certain amount of investment to reach the 2030 SDGs target.

As a result of increased power and renewable energy installations, the use of clean energy and access to electricity have increased.
Myanmar has signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Decent Work that focuses on three priority areas, and the increased of minimum wage has improved the living condition of the labor.

In terms of forest protection as of March 2021, there are 46 protected areas totaling 15,889.79 square miles, or 6.08 percent of the total land area. Reserved Forests and Protected Public Forests with a total area of 66,735.8341 square miles, 25.55 percent of the country’s area, have been established.

**New and emerging challenges**

The pandemic has wreaked havoc on Myanmar's economy, and create a shortfall in revenue, which can lead to a higher budget deficit. Nevertheless, the government is carrying out several initiatives under the Covid-19 Economic Relief Plan (CERP) and helping the businesses recover rapidly.

**Namibia**

[Original: English]

**Summary of Key Messages**

Reflecting its commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Namibia volunteered to undertake a second national review of SDGs in 2021. The focus will be on three SDGs dimensions, namely, Economic, Social and Environmental which are comprehensively integrated in the fifth National Development Plan (NDP 5) pillars: “Economic Progression, Social Transformation, Environmental Sustainability and Good Governance.

**Economic progression**

In 2020, Namibia recorded the deepest economic contraction of 8.0% on account of the COVID-19 pandemic which appears to have exacerbated the already slow economic growth due to, amongst others, the persistent drought. However, it is expected to gradually rebound to above 3% in the medium-term owing to the recuperation of the external demand and commodity prices in the mining sector. The unemployment rate remained high at 33.4% in 2018, the highest being amongst the youth at 46.1%. Namibia’s target is to reduce unemployment rate to 24.2% by 2022.

The World Economic Forum’s Global Competitiveness Report of 2019 ranks Namibia as one of the African Countries with good roads infrastructures, scoring 5.3 out of 7. Namibia developed the Logistics Master Plan (2015), aimed at making her an international logistics hub through the utilization of potential benefits such as the country’s geographic location to provide safe, efficient, and effective Transport Infrastructure and services for social and economic development.

**Social transformation**

In the spirit of Leaving no One Behind (LNOB), Namibia passed the Social Protection Policy in 2021, progress has also been made in addressing risks and vulnerabilities that people face throughout their life cycles, through social assistance programs targeting the poor and vulnerable, as the non-contributory grant spending increased from N$5.1 billion in the 2018/2019 fiscal year to N$6.2 billion in the 2020/2021 fiscal year. The coverage rate of the main social grants for the same period has increased with old age grant coverage from 95 to 98 %, disability grant coverage from 71% to 74% and child grant from 60% to 66%.

In response to the Covid 19 pandemic, the country implemented three new non-contributory programs in the areas of housing/basic services, economic stimulus and relief package, and special allowance/grant targeting the poor and vulnerable population, as well as workers and/or dependents. The government spent N$560 million on the Emergency Income Grant, which benefited 769,000 Namibians, above the age of 16 years, which in relative terms presents one of the highest coverage rates in the world. Equally, the economic stimulus and relief package benefited 230 employers and 21,359 employees through wage subsidy while employee salary protection programs cost a total of N$ 8.1 billion.
Environmental sustainability

In reducing to wildlife, Namibia has made considerable efforts in combating poaching by strengthening institutional coordination to combat wildlife crimes, resulting in the reduction of about 70% of poached elephants and rhinos falling from 97 and 49 in 2015 to 31 and 11 in 2020, respectively.

In terms of climate change, Namibia’s resource mobilization towards the climate change mitigation and adaptation measures have improved drastically since 2015. To date, the Fund has mobilized about USD 90 million.

Good governance

Namibia lauds itself on the global gender gap index rankings, being number 6 out of 156 countries. Further strides were made with regards to women representation adopted by the ruling party, attributed to the “zebra-style” gender representation in parliament which has seen the Namibian bicameral parliament having 48% of its members as women since the 2019 Elections. Namibia ranks number one in Africa for the World Press Freedom index owing to public access to information and protection of fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

Lessons learned

Integration and alignment of the SDGs in national development frameworks: Namibia mainstreamed and integrated the SDG implementation into NDP 5 to secure successful implementation.

Partnership: Extensive consultations with all stakeholders, all citizens in setting of policies and priorities, including parliamentarians, are key in the domestication, ownership, and continuity of the SDGs.

Affirmation of Commitment

Amongst other efforts, Namibia launched the Development Finance Assessment (DFA) Report in 2021, as part of the holistic approach on the financing frameworks in achieving Sustainable Development Goals, Vision 2030 and the National Development Plans.

Nicaragua

[Original: Spanish]

1. Según la CEPAL, existen cuatro crisis en la economía mundial, cuyos impactos negativos se profundizan en los países en desarrollo:
   a) LA COVID-19 ESTÁ AFECTANDO EL CRECIMIENTO ECONÓMICO. Se estima que en 2020 el PIB per cápita en América Latina y el Caribe fue similar a 2010.
   b) LA DESIGUALDAD COMO BARRERA AL DESARROLLO. Según OXFAM, el 1% más rico de la población posee más del doble de la riqueza que 6,900 millones de personas.
   c) LOS UMBRALES PLANETARIOS ESTÁN LLEGANDO AL PUNTO DE "NO RETORNO". Por ello, la meta de estabilizar el incremento de la temperatura promedio global en 1.5°C es impostergable.
   d) LA DOBLE ASIMETRÍA EN TEMAS AMBIENTALES: Los costos de mitigación y adaptación no deben recaer a todos por igual. Nicaragua, emite el 0.02% de las emisiones de gases de efecto invernadero globales, pero es altamente sensible a los impactos del cambio climático.

2. El lento ritmo de implementación de los ODS está vinculado con déficits financieros, volviéndose urgente que, en el marco de la Alianza Global, todos cumplan nuestros compromisos, bajo el principio de Responsabilidades Comunes pero Diferenciadas y Capacidades Respectivas; sin medidas coercitivas unilaterales e ilegales que no abonen al cumplimiento de los ODS. Nuestra brecha para enfrentar la crisis ambiental es de US$2,000 millones anuales.
3. Nicaragua crecía vigorosamente (5.3% del PIB en promedio anual entre 2011-2017), con reducción de la pobreza general (48.3% en 2005 a 24.9% en 2016), y la pobreza extrema (17.2% a 6.9%). Sin embargo, el Intento Fallido de Golpe de Estado en 2018, los Huracanes ETA e IOTA en 2020 y la Pandemia, dejan pérdidas por US$29,543.8 millones entre 2018-2023 (2.3 veces el PIB nominal 2021). Pero, las fortalezas de la economía y la voluntad del Pueblo, permitieron en 2020 ser una de las economías que menos decreció en la región (-2.0%).

4. Por ello, desde nuestro Modelo Cristiano y Solidario, seguiremos restituyendo derechos y satisfaciendo necesidades, sin dejar a nadie atrás, con:

a) Gratuidad de la Educación Pública a más de 1.7 millones de estudiantes y Merienda Escolar a 1.2 millones de niños/as y jóvenes; entregando 5,760,560 Paquetes Escolares Solidarios, construyendo 35,393 escuelas y otros programas sociales.

b) Gratuidad de la Salud Pública y construcción de la Red Hospitalaria más grande de Centroamérica: 70 Hospitales; 1,259 puestos médicos; 192 centros de salud; y un Laboratorio de Biología Molecular, el segundo más avanzado de la Región según la OMS.

c) Más equidad de género. Según el “Índice Global de Brecha de Género 2020” del WEF, Nicaragua pasó de la posición 90 en 2007 a la 5 en 2020 (la mejor de América Latina).

d) Incrementamos las coberturas de agua potable urbana (65.0% en 2007 a 91.5% en 2020), de alcantarillado sanitario (33.0% a 54.0%), y de agua rural (41.77% a 54.9%).

e) Incrementamos la cobertura eléctrica de 54% en 2006 a 98.5% en 2020, y transformamos la matriz energética hasta 75.94% de generación renovable (26.15% en 2007).

f) Aumentamos de 2,044 a 4,538 kilómetros de carreteras pavimentados entre 2006-2020. Según el WEF estamos entre los 5 países con mejores carreteras en América Latina.

5. En este contexto, mantenemos el compromiso invariable de salvaguardar nuestro Patrimonio Natural, que también es de Todos/as:

a) 7% de la Biodiversidad mundial.

b) 4.7 millones de hectáreas de bosque: 35% del territorio nacional, con capacidad de almacenar 869 millones de toneladas de dióxido de carbono; de las cuales el 50% son auto-gestionadas por comunidades indígenas, afrodescendientes y rurales.

c) Las Áreas Protegidas: 30% del territorio nacional.

d) 47,000 Km² de mares y recursos marinos.

e) 4 reservas de Biosfera: 3 reconocidas por la UNESCO.

f) El primer Geoparque de América Central.

6. En consecuencia, reafirmamos nuestro compromiso de continuar implementando la Política Nacional de Mitigación y Adaptación al Cambio Climático con justicia social y ambiental; el Sistema Nacional de Respuesta, las Contribuciones Nacionalmente Determinadas, inversiones de transición ecológica bajas en emisiones de carbono y soluciones basadas en la naturaleza, para profundizar el desarrollo humano nacional, regional y mundial.
Niger

Messages clés dans le cadre de la Revue Nationale Volontaire (RNV) 2021 sur les Objectifs de Développement Durable (ODD)

Le rapport national volontaire 2021 est issu de larges consultations malgré la pandémie du Covid-19 et couvre les ODD 1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16 et 17.

Ce rapport a été participatif et inclusif conformément au principe de « ne laisser personne de côté ». Le Niger a réalisé d’importants progrès de 2015 à 2020 dans l’atteinte des ODD.

ODD 16 : La bonne qualité de la gouvernance politique et socio-économique a favorisé la progression des indicateurs – accroissement du Produit intérieur brut (PIB) de 16% – les dix dernières années.


ODD 1 : le seuil de pauvreté connaît une baisse d’un point de pourcentage par an avec une baisse plus sensible en milieu rural en lien avec les résultats de la mise en œuvre de l’Initiative 3N. Cependant, le nombre de pauvres s’est accru sur la période de 438.000. Une enquête téléphonique longitudinale sur l’impact de la COVID-19 réalisée en 2020 par l’INS a révélé que cette pandémie n’a pas eu beaucoup d’effets sur l’accès des ménages aux produits de première nécessité et 80% des ménages ruraux et urbains s’approvisionnaient régulièrement au marché.

ODD 2 et 3 : l’état nutritionnel de la population de 2015 à 2020 s’est amélioré. Cela est reflété par la baisse de 2,3 points de pourcentage de la malnutrition aigüe globale, et près de 2 points de pourcentage de la malnutrition aigüe sévère. Par ailleurs, l’état de santé de la population s’est amélioré ayant permis un gain de l’espérance de vie à la naissance d’un an de 2016 à 2019. Une enquête téléphonique longitudinale réalisée par l’INS sur l’impact de la COVID 19 a révélé que la majorité (97,4%) de ceux qui avaient besoin des services de santé pour une autre maladie a pu se faire soigner. Le principal obstacle à l’accès aux services de santé en cas de besoin étant le manque de ressources.

ODD 10 : Les inégalités sont moindres par rapport à certains pays, notamment le Bénin (0,478 en 2015), le Togo (0,43 en 2015) ou encore la Côte d’ivoire (0,42 en 2015), bien que l’indice de Gini ait connu une faible augmentation de 0,05 le portant à 0,35 en 2019.

ODD 13 : En matière du changement climatique, le Niger s’est doté de cadres stratégiques pour faire face aux chocs et autres aléas climatiques. Toutefois, le nombre de personnes victimes des inondations s’est accru entre 2018 et 2020 passant de 142715 à 639870 et le nombre de décès a aussi augmenté en passant de 40 à 65 sur la même période.

ODD 17 : Grâce à la mise en œuvre des réformes structurelles, la mobilisation des recettes fiscales a connu un nouveau dynamisme, avec une amélioration de 2% par an. Quant aux IDE, ils ont augmenté en valeur absolue de plus de 250% entre 2016 et 2020. La dette publique reste viable et le risque de surendettement est «modéré» suite à une politique d’endettement prudente.

La décennie d’action 2020-2030, pour l’accélération des ODD, cible la promotion d’une bonne gouvernance politique et économique et la refonte du système éducatif dans l’optique de faire des actifs

Selon le Fonds Monétaire International (FMI)
Voluntary national review process

Norway's second voluntary national review (VNR) describe Norway's continuous efforts towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and provide an overview of the progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) from 2016 until 2021.

The Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are responsible for the preparation of this VNR. The Office of the Prime Minister, all Ministries and several government agencies contribute to the review.

The Main focus of the VNR is local and regional commitment to achieve the SDGs. To gain insights on the work with sustainability in Norwegian municipalities and regions a partnership agreement with the Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS) was established.

Three key actors from the civil society are involved to coordinate feedback from a vast group of stakeholders. The Norwegian Forum for Development and Environment (ForUM) coordinates feedback on Norway's progress on all 17 SDGs from their network of 50 organizations working with development, environment, peace and human rights. UN Global Compact Norway and SDG Norway contribute with views and recommendations on the government implementation of the SDGs from the business and industry sector, and the education and academic sector.

The Governments of Indonesia and Denmark cooperated with Norway in the preparation of the VNR by reviewing the draft report and sharing their recommendations.

Policy and enabling environment

In January 2020, the Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation was appointed coordinating body for national implementation of the SDGs. This has increased cross-sectoral cooperation and a more holistic approach to sustainable development. The government will submit Norway’s first national Action Plan for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda to Parliament in 2021. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs coordinates Norway’s global efforts on SDG implementation.

Progress on SDGs

According to the SDG Index, Norway’s performance for goals 1 (no poverty), 3 (good health and well-being), 5 (gender equality), 7 (affordable and clean energy), 10 (reduced inequalities) and 17 (partnerships for the goals) in particular is high. On the SDG Index, Norway currently ranks as number 6. The key challenges for achieving the SDGs in Norway are related to unsustainable consumption patterns, climate gas emissions and the state of biodiversity. Gender-based violence and labour market disparities remain and show that persisting or rising inequalities between groups of society must be addressed.

Leaving no one behind

The Norwegian welfare society is key to ensure that no one is left behind, by securing opportunities for income, providing education and health services for everyone. A strong focus on equality and non-discrimination is also key to ensure that no one is left behind. Norway is at the forefront of developing legislation to ensure non-
discrimination online. The LNOB principle is mainstreamed also throughout Norwegian foreign- and development policy.

SDGs in Norwegian municipalities and regions

The SDGs are relevant to all aspects of the local government activities. Since 2016 implementation has gained momentum in municipalities and in regional authorities. Their experience indicate that political commitment is vital for the direction and speed and that knowledge sharing and collaboration across levels of government foster success.

The context of COVID-19

Covid-19 measures have led to severe social and economic setbacks that cannot be ignored. Structural issues that were present in Norway before the COVID-19 pandemic have become more prominent. At the same time, the pandemic has also accelerated ongoing processes such as the digitalisation of society.

Governance for sustainable development

Human rights and gender equality are an integral part of Norwegian foreign and development policy. Norway seek to increase awareness about discriminatory practices and reduce inequalities and promote inclusion on a global scale. Norway provides financial and political support to a pluralistic civil society, which contributes significantly to the objective of leaving no one behind.

The 2030 agenda including the Sustainable Development Goals is the framework for Norwegian foreign- and development policy. The Norwegian Prime Minister is co-chair, together with The President of Ghana in the Sustainable Development Goals Advocacy Group. Norwegian development policy will contribute to getting the world back on track in achieving the SDGs, in a greener, fairer and more resilient manner. The Government’s long term commitment to allocate 1 % of GNI to development will continue.

Paraguay
[Original: Spanish]

“Caminando Juntos hacia un Paraguay más Inclusivo, Participativo y Resiliente”

Mensajes Principales

La presentación del Segundo Informe Nacional Voluntario representa un hito para el país. Con la consigna de un Paraguay de la Gente, comprendimos que, para avanzar hacia la senda de un Paraguay más inclusivo, participativo y resiliente, es necesario aunar esfuerzos de todos. Por ello, el proceso de construcción de este informe innovó en la manera de realizar la revisión del país, al abordar los desafíos de forma participativa e inclusiva, poniendo a la gente en el centro de nuestros esfuerzos. Este informe se basa en los resultados de los diferentes espacios de diálogo y colaboración generados durante meses, que se espera se consoliden y fortalezcan con el tiempo.

La crisis sanitaria mundial generada por el COVID-19 visibilizó los problemas estructurales del país. Las respuestas rápidas que esta crisis requería, exigieron un compromiso político del más alto nivel. Por ello, en el 2020, Paraguay se embarcó en un proceso de fortalecimiento institucional que acelere la implementación de la Agenda 2030, a través de la reestructuración y jerarquización de la Comisión ODS Paraguay que ahora cuenta con representación de los tres poderes el estado, con un cambio de visión fundado en la lógica de un presupuesto por resultados alineados a los ODS, y del lanzamiento de la Plataforma Congresopy2030 que hace lo propio con los procesos legislativos.

Estas acciones e iniciativas, así como las políticas públicas implementadas recientemente, han surgido a través de procesos participativos, liderados por diferentes sectores, teniendo un alto impacto en la ciudadanía. Bajo la premisa de No Dejar a Nadie Atrás, hemos forjado una particular resiliencia
económica, social y ambiental, que permitirá avanzar y dar cuenta del cumplimiento de las prioridades nacionales de desarrollo.

Hemos abordado los desafíos y las desigualdades que afectan a la población, en especial a aquellas más vulnerables. En este espíritu, hemos comprendido que no podremos visibilizar a aquellos más rezagados ni implementar políticas adecuadas a sus necesidades sin datos desglosados que nos permita contar con un diagnóstico acabado de su realidad. Es así, que, a finales del 2020 se promulgó la ley de creación del nuevo Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas (INE), hito que nos acerca hacia la implementación de políticas basadas en evidencia.

Asimismo, en base al consenso global de que la pobreza es un fenómeno multidimensional, el INE ha liderado un proceso participativo de construcción del Índice de Pobreza Multidimensional. Esta medida permitirá visibilizar a una parte de la población hasta hoy ausente para las políticas públicas. Adicionalmente, el gobierno ha empezado a adoptar políticas de protección más integrales que busquen mejorar la calidad de vida de todos, con un enfoque de derechos, y a lo largo del ciclo de vida de las personas. Esto se ha plasmado en el lanzamiento del Sistema de Protección Social ¡Vamos!

Con la implementación participativa y multisectorial de la Estrategia de Transformación Educativa del Paraguay 2030, se ha iniciado un proceso que busca responder a los desafíos que conllevan la provisión de una educación de calidad, inclusiva y equitativa, mediante el desarrollo de capacidades y competencias acordes a la demanda actual de trabajo, atendiendo las necesidades de niñas, niños y adolescentes con discapacidad, enfatizando en los desafíos de mayor acceso a la conectividad, a la innovación y a las tecnologías. De esta manera, Paraguay redobla sus esfuerzos hacia el cumplimiento del ODS 4, consciente de que la educación es la base de su Desarrollo Sostenible, y éste no es posible sin una decidida inversión en su recurso más valioso: su capital humano.

Estos últimos tres años han sido testigos de acciones colaborativas multisectoriales que han permitido llegar a soluciones innovadoras para los desafíos de desarrollo nacional con una visión participativa. Algunas de ellas son: PROEZA, proyecto que combina elementos de pobreza, reforestación, energía y cambio climático; Wendá, plataforma de iniciativas ciudadanas; E-Heka SIIS, plataforma de visualización de datos sociales, ASU+B, mentorías ODS, los Espacios de Diálogo Multisectorial ODS, entre muchas otras. Estas experiencias de gobernanza multisectorial constituyen en sí mismas el resultado de alianzas que demuestran que juntos podemos afrontar los retos de la Agenda 2030, y construir así el Paraguay que queremos. Finalmente, la Cooperación internacional ha sido un vector importante de aceleración de estos procesos en el Paraguay.

Qatar

[Original: Arabic]

1. طورت دولة قطر نظامًا فعالًا للحماية الاجتماعية لجميع القاطنين، يرفع حقوقهم المدنية، ويتبني مشاركتهم الفعالة في تطوير المجتمع، ويؤمن لهم دخلا كافياً للمحافظة على الكرامة والصحة، وقد تمكنت الدولة من إقامة نظام محكم للحماية الاجتماعية بمشاركة فاعلة من المنظمات المجتمع المدني والقطاع الخاص، بالإضافة إلى توفير خدمات الصحة والتعليم للمجتمع والتي أدت إلى إحراز دولة قطر مراكز متقدمة في دليل التنمية البشرية عالمياً وإقليمياً.

2. تعتبر قضية الأمن الغذائي من أولويات السياسات الوطنية للتنمية المستدامة في قطر. وتمدد الدولة على بلوغ الاقتناع الذاتي من الأغذية بنسبة 70% بحلول عام 2023، وتحقيق الأمن الغذائي بنسبة 100% بحلول عام 2030.
3. حققت دولة قطر إنجازات بارزة في الرعاية الوقائية البدنية والنفسية في مجالات مختلفة، منها الكشف المبكر عن الأمراض، وتشجيع الجمهور على ممارسة سلوكيات صحية، وتحسين الشفافية على صعيد حقوق المرضى ومسؤولياتهم. وقد بلغ مؤشر توافر الخدمات الصحية الأساسية حد الشمول الكامل (100%) لجميع السكان المشمولين بالرعاية الصحية الأولية.

4. شكلت سياسات التوظيف وتطوير تشريعات سوق العمل وتشجيع ريادة الأعمال وخلق فرص العمل، وتشجيع مشاركة المرأة في القوة العاملة واتحاد التدابير الفعالة لحماية حقوق العاملين في البنية التحتية، والتهويض بالصحة والسلامة المهنية للعمال، عوامل حاسمة في سبيل تحقيق هدف العملة الكاملة والمنتجة والعمل اللائق لجميع النساء والرجال في دولة قطر بحلول عام 2030.

5. تهدف رؤية قطر الوطنية 2030 إلى تحقيق التنمية الاقتصادية المستدامة من منظور تحقيق المساواة والعدالة الاجتماعية على النحو الذي يجسده الدستور. فسياسات وبرامج ومشاريع استراتيجيات التنمية الوطنية في مجالها تهدف إلى تحسين رفاهية المجتمع القطرى بغض النظر عن العمر أو الجنس أو العرق أو الدين أو الوضع الاقتصادي.
6. تأثرت العديد من الأنشطة الاقتصادية بإجراءات احتواء تفشي وباء كوفيد-19، ولكن الأكثر
تضررًها هي تلك تقوم بها المؤسسات الصغيرة والمهتمة ذات الكثافة العمالية العالية. وتخفيف
هذه الأزمة على العمال، إنشأت الحكومة برنامج ضمانات وطنية كجزء من حزمة السياسة
الاقتصادية لمواجهة تداعيات كوفيد-19، بعده المساعدة في تسديد رواتب الموظفين، حيث
استفاد من البرنامج أكثر من أربعة آلاف شركة، توظف حوالي 320 ألف موظف.

7. عملت دولة قطر على تنويع قاعدة الإنتاج عن طريق تطوير البنية التحتية الاقتصادية
وشجيع الاستثمار وإنشاء مناطق صناعية وخدمية، ودعم وتطوير المشاريع الصغيرة
المتوسطة وزيادة مساهمتها في تنويع قاعدة الإنتاج، وتعزيز ثقافة تشريده الاستهلاك
والاستهلاك المسؤول كي تصبح جزءا لا يتجزأ من حياة المجتمع وصولا إلى بناء نمط
استهلاكي متوازن.

8. تجنب دولة قطر وشيك قوي إلى الحلول الصادقة للبيئة كتدوين مصادر الطاقة،
والاستثمار في الطاقة الشمسية، والتوجه نحو نظام النقل العام الكهربائي، والتحول إلى المباني
الخضرة والتوسع في الحلول الطبيعية مثل مشروع المليون شجرة. وفي هذا
السياق، تتزامن دولة قطر بإعداد أول بطولة كأس عالم خليجي من الكران في عام 2022.

9. حققت دولة قطر مراتب متقدمة من خلال إشرازها معدلات تقييم عالية في بعض المحاورمن
أبرزها، انخفاض معدلات ارتكاب جرائم القتل وأعمال العنف، والحد من انتشار الجريمة في المجتمع،
и مستقر الأوضاع السياسية، وبناء مجتمع عاليم خال من الإرهاب وتأثيراته، وعدم وجود تحديثات أو
صراعات سواء كانت داخليا أو خارجيا. كما حافظت دولة قطر على صدارتها للسنة الثالثة على
التوالي (2017-2019) في ترتيبها لائحة الدول الأكثر أمنا وأمانا وخلو من الجريمة على
المستويين العالمي والعبري، فيما حافظت على المركز

10. تعتبر بطولة كأس العالم التي ستنظمها دولة قطر عام 2022، واحدة من أهم الشاركات
الدولية، وواحدة من أكثر الأحداث أهداف أجندة التنمية المستدامة 2030، حيث سترتكب إرنا وطنيا
ومها، وستوفر لقطر ولشعوب المنطقة، فرصا لنشر رسالة ترحيب مستدامة
لملايين من سكان العالم، وبناء جسور من المحبة والسلام وتعزيز التسامح والاحترام،
والتفاهم بين الحضارات، وعرض هوية قطر الوطنية.

11. في شهر مارس عام 2020، وضعت دولة قطر خطة عمل عامة للإسحابة لجائزة كوفيد-19،
تهدف إلى الإعداد والمرافقة والاستجابة وتعويضات من انتشار هذا الجائحة، وأذكى على الزائرين
بدعم توجيهات الأمم المتحدة، وعلى أهمية التعاون الدولي لمواجهة جائحة كورونا عن طريق
المبادرة العالمية كوفاكس، وطورت منصة إلكترونية وطنية لجذب كافة
المعلومات المتعلقة بهذه الجائحة، حيث مكتبها من إدراة التصدى لجائحة بشكل جيد.
MESSAGE OF THEIR EXCELLENCIES THE CAPTAINS REGENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SAN MARINO
ON THE VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW ON THE 2030 AGENDA ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

We live in a time of unprecedented challenges. The need for cooperation and solidarity between nations to address the difficulties affecting all of us is more tangible than ever before. Issues such as climate change, the COVID-19 pandemic and migration have made this even more evident. These are epoch-making challenges that know no frontiers and no country can face them alone.

In recent years, some of the inhabitants of our planet have experienced an unprecedented period of peace, prosperity and technological progress, which has enabled significant groups of women and men to free themselves from the terrible evils that have plagued their lives for too many years, such as hunger, poverty and inequality. Nevertheless, we must leave no one behind.

Many people still suffer from discriminations on the basis of their identity, the most vulnerable and marginalised groups of our society are still affected by violence, lot of people still face enormous economic difficulties. These facts are a call to increase our individual and common efforts.

The 2030 Agenda represents the hope for the entire family of nations living on this planet to find synergies and solutions to achieve a more prosperous future for all, especially for those whose expectations and needs have been neglected for far too long.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda help us to imagine and reach a shared target of economic growth, social inclusion and environmental protection.

The Republic of San Marino strongly believes in the principles enshrined in the 2030 Agenda and in the opportunity we have to improve living conditions at home and globally through it.

Therefore, we are pleased to present the Republic of San Marino’s first Voluntary National Review. This work represents a tool to help us better understand our achievements and the goals that our Country still wants and needs to achieve in the remaining years to 2030.

This report also testifies to the concrete commitment of the institutions and citizens of the Republic of San Marino to promote multilateralism and protect the principles that inspired the birth of the United Nations Organisation. We congratulate and thank the UN institutions for their tireless work in affirming, promoting and protecting these principles and for their continuous efforts to make such principles a daily reality for all people.
With this report, finally, the Republic of San Marino wants to renew its commitment to a better, fairer and more sustainable world, not only for the benefit of its citizens today but also for future generations, in our Country and everywhere else.

THE CAPTAINS REGENT
Gian Carlo Venturini – Marco Nicolini

Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone remains steadfast in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. It is presenting an evaluative third VNR report, following its second review in 2019. The country continues to give great focus to its accelerator Goals: SDG4 (education) and SDG16 (justice). The two Goals were informed by the national development context, as the most crucial to the socioeconomic transformation of the state.

Ensuring basic, inclusive, and free quality education is a top priority in the Government’s Human Capital Development flagship programme within the country’s Medium-Term National Development Plan (2019-2023). Accordingly, national budget allocation to the education sector has remained around 21 percent since 2018 to ensure all public-school pupils have access to basic and senior school education; free access to textbooks for core subjects; and school feeding. With regard to the latter, the Government provided food for more than 300,000 pupils in 2020, besides efforts by Development Partners in the same area. This initiative has generally benefitted 2.5 million pupils and saved parents an estimated US$500 per year per beneficiary pupil, coupled with free school bus service for all districts headquarter towns. This has seen significant increases in the Gross Enrolment Rate for the primary level which exceeded 135 percent in 2019 and 2020, compared to 109 percent in 2018.

Also, the country’s efforts on SDG16 (justice) remains laudable. Internationally, it continues to provide leadership to the g7+, which secured a UN Observer Status in December 2019 to leverage more support to walk this group out of fragility into sustainable development. Sierra Leone is also Co-Chair of the International Dialogue on Peace-building and State-building. In December 2020, the country exited the formal agenda of the UN Peacebuilding Commission Configuration, as a show of remarkable achievement towards resilience and sustainable development. Nationally, the Government has scaled up efforts towards establishing the planned Commission of Peace and National Cohesion, with a Bill enacted in parliament to this effect. The justice sector has accelerated strides in promoting access to justice for the underprivileged. With the establishment of the Legal Aid Board in 2015, those benefiting from free legal representation, advice and related services reached a total of 413,169 people in 2020 (including persons in pre-trial detention and prisons); recording a 93 percent increase from 2018. Interventions covered child and women rights issues, land disputes, and criminal cases including domestic violence, rape, and juvenile offences; rural communities provided with special attention. To reinforce this, the number of Magistrates and Judges have increased from 63 in 2019 to 77 across the country.

Prioritising education (SDG4) and justice (SDG16) is central to pursuing other Goals, such as 1 (ending poverty), 2 (zero hunger) and 10 (inequality), as well as 3 (healthcare) and 5 (gender). For instance, increasing access to justice as an entitlement and basic need is fundamental to stemming rural multidimensional poverty in the country, currently estimated as 86.3 percent, and income poverty 73.9 percent, compared to 37.6 and 34.8 percent for urban areas, respectively. Reducing school fee burden on poor households will increase their access to basic needs, including healthcare services and investment in small businesses consistent with SDG8 (decent work), and even 11 (responsible production and consumption) and 13 (climate change). Additionally, we have continued to maintain gender parity in primary education and achieved parity in junior secondary education.

With regard to localising the SDGs, the Government has revitalised district development coordination structures, alongside scaling up the “People’s Planning Process” model integrating chiefdom/village level planning into district/national planning processes.

On partnerships and financing for development (SDG17), a range of initiatives have been pursued, largely informed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Among them, we currently implement a strengthening domestic resource mobilisation for SDGs financing project aimed at driving innovation in domestic revenue collection and
management at central and local levels and financial sector capitalisation through deploying digitalisation and financial literacy.

In terms of challenges, Government has experienced dwindling domestic revenues, especially with the COVID pandemic that has extremely constrained private sector operations. To this end, debt relief and cancellation would be critical to sustaining SDGs financing, in addition to ongoing efforts at strengthening general public financial management.

Spain

Compromiso con la Agenda 2030 y con una reconstrucción post COVID-19 alineada con sus principios.

España ha renovado su compromiso con los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible, a través de la adopción de la Estrategia de Desarrollo Sostenible 2030 (EDS 2030), un marco para la acción que posibilitará acelerar las trasformaciones estructurales necesarias para hacer realidad la Agenda 2030, dentro y fuera de sus fronteras. La Estrategia representa un gran acuerdo político y social para garantizar, tras el impacto causado por la COVID-19, una recuperación que aborde una transición social y ecológica que sitúe la sostenibilidad y los derechos de las personas en el centro de la acción. Con ello, se hace realidad el compromiso adquirido en el Plan de Acción para la Implementación de la Agenda 2030, presentado por España en el marco del primer Examen Nacional Voluntario realizado en 2018.

La EDS 2030 identifica ocho Retos País, configurados como los principales desafíos a enfrentar, cuyo abordaje será articulado a través de ocho Políticas Aceleradoras del Desarrollo Sostenible, definidas desde una perspectiva multidimensional y multinivel con el objeto de posibilitar un impacto sostenido de medio y largo plazo. Estas políticas han sido diseñadas para posibilitar un abordaje integral de problemáticas como la pobreza y las desigualdades—con un foco particular en aquellas que afectan a las mujeres, la infancia y las personas LGTBIQ, entre otros—, la falta de garantía y acceso efectivo a los derechos sociales o el fin de la precariedad laboral a través de la generación de empleo de calidad. Compromete una acción decidida en materia ambiental y climática, en cumplimiento de compromisos internacionales como el Acuerdo de París, impulsando la transformación del sistema económico, fortaleciendo los servicios públicos y afianzando derechos para no dejar a nadie atrás. Renueva, además, el compromiso de España con la construcción de una globalización más justa, democrática y sostenible, a través de la apuesta por un multilateralismo reforzado con Naciones Unidas en el centro de estos esfuerzos.

La EDS 2030 muestra también el compromiso con la Coherencia de Políticas para el Desarrollo Sostenible como principio que deberá guiar todas las actuaciones, así como con la continuación de los esfuerzos en materia de alineamiento presupuestario y normativo con los ODS. Además, garantiza una rendición de cuentas sostenida, a través de la presentación anual de Informes de Progreso. Por último, promueve una contribución reforzada de los actores no públicos en el impulso de la Agenda 2030.

Gobernanza

El compromiso renovado de España de situar el desarrollo sostenible en el centro de su acción de gobierno se pone de manifiesto con la creación de un Ministerio de Derechos Sociales y Agenda 2030 con competencias ejecutivas para el desarrollo y coordinación de actuaciones para el impulso de los ODS. Además, se ha conformado un Sistema Integral de Gobernanza que incluye tres niveles de articulación complementarios: la Comisión Delegada del Gobierno para la Agenda 2030, para reforzar el diálogo y la coordinación interministerial; la Conferencia Sectorial para la Agenda 2030, que posibilita la coordinación con los niveles de gobierno subnacional, favoreciendo la localización de los ODS. Por último, el Consejo de Desarrollo Sostenible, órgano asesor y de colaboración en el que participan sesenta representantes del sector privado, los sindicatos, la academia y de las organizaciones de la sociedad civil. Este Sistema se complementa con la imprescindible labor parlamentaria a través de la Comisión Mixta para la Coordinación y Seguimiento de la Estrategia Española para alcanzar los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible, garantizando así una respuesta integral de los esfuerzos para hacer realidad la Agenda 2030.
Elaboración participativa de la Estrategia de Desarrollo Sostenible 2030.

La EDS 2030 ha sido definida a través de un proceso de amplia participación y consulta a las distintas instancias que integran el Sistema de Gobernanza, lo que ha permitido alcanzar consensos sólidos entorno a la que debe ser la hoja de ruta común para hacer realidad la Agenda 2030. Además, se han desarrollado seis consultas específicas para recabar las contribuciones de niños, niñas y adolescentes, jóvenes, movimientos sociales, entidades locales, sector privado y actores culturales.

Sweden


Sweden is well ahead in achieving the SDGs but some challenges remain

Sweden is in a favourable position in its implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Peaceful and democratic conditions, ambitious national targets for a sustainable transition, openness to collaboration with others at home and abroad, and a dynamic business climate have together created a strong foundation for sustainable development and welfare. Sweden ranks highly in many international comparisons on SDG implementation. However, consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic are hampering progress and exacerbating existing challenges. Economic and social inequalities in Sweden are increasing. Young people are exposed to more mental health challenges, violence and bullying. Sweden also has challenges relating to sustainable consumption and production, and the transition towards a circular economy.

SDG delivery and accelerated actions require:

- Political commitment to policy coherence for sustainable development

In December 2020, the Swedish Riksdag (Parliament) approved a government bill with an overarching objective for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda: Sweden will implement the 2030 Agenda to achieve economically, socially and environmentally sustainable development through a coherent policy nationally and internationally. Implementation will be guided by the Agenda’s ‘leave no one behind’ principle.

- Delivery on leaving no one behind

Sweden is committed to delivering on the principle of leaving no one behind. This is a commitment to realising human rights, gender equality, addressing inequalities within and between countries, universal social protection, strengthening empowerment and participation, and the transition towards resource-efficient, resilient and climate neutral economies. Moreover, Sweden views promoting multidimensional poverty reduction, social dialogue and decent work as critical elements, as well as improving data to monitor progress on compliance with the principle.

- Child and youth perspectives

The perspectives, engagement and innovation of young people are of great importance to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Issues of importance to Swedish young people include the environment and climate, gender equality and preventing oppression and discrimination.

- A whole-of-society approach

Multiple actors in Sweden are involved in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Government agencies and municipalities are working together to implement the 2030 Agenda. The research community is contributing with cutting-edge research and innovation on sustainable development. Civil society is paving the way through its own efforts and by pushing decision-makers to act. The business community is at the forefront of integrating
the 2030 Agenda into their business models and driving new innovations. Trade unions are pushing for social dialogue and decent working conditions.

- Going local

Municipalities and regions play an important role in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The SDGs are put in practice and innovations are developed and tested at the local level, which in turn contributes to implementation nationally and globally. In conjunction with Sweden’s VNR, the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions has conducted a voluntary regional review. Helsingborg, Malmö, Stockholm and Uppsala have also carried out voluntary local reviews for the first time.

- Going global

Sweden will remain a strong voice for the global implementation of the 2030 Agenda and be a trusted partner worldwide. Sweden will work to build back better and greener in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. Mitigating and adapting to climate change, and halting biodiversity loss and restoring ecosystems, are necessary to achieve all SDGs. Sweden has increased funding to tackle climate change and has stepped up efforts to safeguard biodiversity and ecosystems. Sweden will continue to focus on global health, including the fair distribution of vaccines. Sweden will always stand up for democracy, the rule of law and equality, including gender equality.

- Financing for development

Sweden is one of the most generous aid contributors globally and the Government is committed to allocating 1 percent of Sweden’s GNI to official development assistance (ODA). However, ODA is not enough. New forms of partnerships and innovative financing are needed, and domestic resource mobilisation must be strengthened. Debt vulnerabilities in low-income countries need to be addressed by engaging all official and private creditors. Financial flows need to shift by adopting green financial instruments and stopping investment in fossil fuels.

Thailand

Thailand attaches great importance to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly within the context of the Decade of Action for the SDGs. Since the last official submission in 2017, Thailand has made significant strides across all 17 SDGs. However, as with other countries, the COVID-19 pandemic has adversely impacted our economy and society, and hampered our efforts to achieve the SDGs.

The achievement of the SDGs, especially within the context of the Decade of Action and COVID-19, will not come without drastic transformative change and multi-stakeholder partnerships. This edition of the Voluntary National Review highlights Thailand’s application of the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy as our homegrown approach that focuses on human empowerment, resilience, and environmental conservation, along with the application of technology and local wisdom in addressing development challenges and promoting recovery efforts. This VNR underlines the importance of a whole-of-society approach and the interconnectedness of the SDGs, showcasing key examples of the role of the private sector, civil society, academia, youth networks, and ordinary citizens in advancing the SDGs at the national level. The VNR itself has provided an opportunity for stakeholders to engage and discuss SDG implementation.

The SDG landscape in Thailand is well-established. The SDGs have been integrated into the 20-Year National Strategy, which is the country’s main development framework. The National Committee for Sustainable Development (CSD), chaired by the Prime Minister, represents the central mechanism to advance all 17 Goals. The CSD has designated government focal points for each of the 169 targets, while its four sub-committees provide the driving force for SDG implementation, application of the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy for the SDGs, monitoring and evaluation, and environmental assessments. Thailand’s SDGs Roadmap provides the blueprint to move forward in six key areas, namely, policy integration and coherence, enabling mechanisms, partnerships, pilot projects, monitoring and evaluation, and awareness-raising.
Key highlights from this VNR cover examples from all sectors. Thailand has achieved considerable success in eradicating extreme poverty as part of SDG1, and is committed to developing a national multi-dimensional poverty index. Projects aimed at improving nutrition for school children and food security boost progress on SDG2. With regards to SDG3, the country’s Universal Health Coverage and Village Health Volunteers played an integral role in the effective management of the COVID-19 crisis. On SDG4, efforts have been expanded to provide financial support for poor students through the use of digital tools and the Education Equality Fund (EEF). Gender equality initiatives, including efforts to address domestic violence, are the cornerstone of Thailand’s implementation of SDG5.

The highlight on SDG6 is the increased access to clean water sources and sanitation. The development of a SMART Grid is underway to increase energy efficiency in accordance with SDG7. Workforce capacities are continuing to be strengthened to correspond to the needs of the global economy as part of SDG8. The promotion of a Bio-Circular-Green (BCG) Economy Model through the development of sustainable infrastructure will advance SDG9. To support the achievement of SDG10, the Government has applied the Thai People Map and Analytics Platform to help identify vulnerable groups who require support, while projects such as Baan Mankong (Stable Home) support impoverished communities to achieve secure and sustainable housing as part of SDG11.

On SDGs 12, 13, 14, and 15, Thailand has advanced actions on climate change and sustainable consumption and production, strengthened efforts to protect marine and coastal ecosystems, and increased stakeholder engagement on forest area management. Thailand’s implementation of SDG16 centres on promoting fair and equal access to justice for all, and multi-stakeholder cooperation on human rights promotion, as well as anti-trafficking and anti-corruption efforts. Lastly, Thailand has forged effective partnerships among all sectors in line with SDG17, including civil society, private sector networks, and academia. Beyond our borders, we have expanded our role as a development partner to exchange knowledge, experiences, and best practices with neighbouring countries and countries in other regions.

These are some examples of Thailand’s SDG implementation. We aim to build on the momentum of this VNR in ensuring a whole-of-society approach as we move forward. Together with the Sufficiency Economy Philosophy as our pathway, Thailand is confident that balanced and sustainable development for all is within reach.

Tunisia [Original: French]

Dans la continuité de ses engagements à la mise en œuvre du Programme de développement durable à l’horizon 2030, la Tunisie présente son second Rapport National Volontaire 2021 et réaffirme sa volonté et sa détermination de mettre en œuvre les ODD malgré un contexte de pandémie du COVID 19 très difficile.

La mise en œuvre des ODD en Tunisie s’est amorcée avec l’adoption du premier plan de développement post révolution (2016-2020), et 80 % des cibles ODD étaient en alignement avec ce plan.

La Tunisie a enregistré des progrès sur le plan démocratique, une démocratie jeune née d’un dialogue ouvert et inclusif, et a organisé fin 2019 des élections présidentielles et législatives libres et transparentes.

En Tunisie l’accès à l’électrification et à l’eau potable est quasi généralisé dans tout le pays. L’école est obligatoire et gratuite pour les enfants de 6 à 16 ans. Le taux de scolarisation des enfants de 6 ans a atteint 99.5 % pour 2019-2020.

L’État garantit l’accès aux services de santé aux populations vulnérables, 263 mille familles en 2020 bénéficient du "Programme d’Assistance Médicale Gratuite" et 470 mille familles bénéficient de l’assistance médicale à tarif réduit.

Depuis l’adoption le 13 aout 1956 du Code du statut personnel, les acquis de la femme tunisienne sont considérés comme un acquis sociétal irréversible. Un arsenal juridique et institutionnel est mis en place pour
Promouvoir l'égalité entre femme et homme et pour éliminer toute forme de violence faite aux femmes. La Tunisie occupe la deuxième place à l'échelle mondiale concernant le pourcentage des femmes diplômées des filières scientifiques de l’enseignement supérieur.

Pour assurer la coordination des ODD et le suivi-évaluation, un Comité Technique National a été mis en place composé des points focaux sectoriels gouvernementaux ODD, des représentants des organisations nationales, des élus locaux, des parlementaires, de la société civile, du secteur privé et des universitaires. Ce comité est appuyé par des groupes de travail ODD, créés au sein de chaque ministère. Un portail ODD a été mis en service par le ministère de l’Économie, des Finances et de l’Appui à l’Investissement en 2021 et sert comme plateforme de discussion et d’échange.

La Tunisie s’est engagée dans l’élaboration de sa vision 2030, la stratégie de développement qui en découle et le plan quinquennal de développement 2021-2025.


La Tunisie a été réactive dans l’atténuation des effets de la première vague de la pandémie COVID 19. Elle a eu recours au confinement général, ce qui a permis de maîtriser la pression sur son système sanitaire. Elle a aussi engagé un ensemble d’actions pour garantir la continuité des services sociaux publics de base. Un fonds spécial (18-18) a été créé pour collecter les dons et renforcer le secteur de la santé.

Pour soutenir les populations vulnérables, le gouvernement a pris des mesures compensatoires au profit de 260 mille familles nécessiteuses, 370 mille familles à revenus limité, 140 mille personnes à retraite peu élevée et 301 mille personnes exerçant des métiers à revenu variable. Un plan de 23 mesures a été mis en place pour soutenir les entreprises au Covid-19 dont la création de deux fonds d’investissement de 500 MDT chacun.

La gestion de la deuxième et troisième vague de la pandémie COVID 19 n’était pas aussi efficace et la situation socioéconomique s’est détériorée; la campagne de vaccination n’a débuté que début Mars 2021.

L’impact de la pandémie COVID 19 a été sévère. L’économie tunisienne a enregistré une baisse de 8,8% en 2020, avec comme effets directs, une baisse des recettes fiscales, une augmentation du déficit budgétaire et de la dette publique, un chômage préoccupant, une hausse de pauvreté et une baisse de l’investissement.

La lutte contre la pauvreté dans ses diverses formes, le chômage et surtout des jeunes diplômés, les inégalités entre hommes et femmes et les disparités régionales sont des défis auxquels la Tunisie devra encore faire face et constituent des priorités dans son plan quinquennal de développement.

Uruguay

[Original: Spanish]

En el año 2020 una nueva administración asumió la conducción del país con el propósito de llevar adelante una serie de transformaciones que apuntan a mejorar las condiciones de vida de todos sus habitantes.

El lineamiento estratégico para alcanzar tales objetivos en los próximos años está estructurado sobre las siguientes prioridades : [1] avanzar hacia una economía que innova, que genera empleo y que garantiza la sostenibilidad del desarrollo; [2] transformar las instituciones estatales para contar con un Estado eficiente, presente en el territorio y que rinde cuentas a los ciudadanos; [3] desarrollar políticas públicas que aseguren educación, protección social y salud de calidad a todas las personas; [4] avanzar hacia una sociedad que promueve el desarrollo y los derechos de las personas y no deja a nadie atrás.

En la base de esta primera prioridad estratégica está una visión del crecimiento económico que asegure la sostenibilidad, que cuide los recursos naturales, proteja la biodiversidad y sea capaz de enfrentar y mitigar los efectos del cambio climático.
Es prioritaria la formación y materialización plena de las capacidades de los ciudadanos, sin lo que resulta imposible pensar en un desarrollo individual y mucho menos colectivo.

Se apuesta asimismo a la conformación de alianzas entre el sector público, el sector privado, los centros académicos, las organizaciones sociales, las comunidades y las familias como motor del desarrollo.

Esta primera prioridad reúne los esfuerzos que el país viene haciendo a través de innovaciones normativas, creación y/o fortalecimiento de instituciones públicas, implementación de políticas y programas y la acción de los agentes privados y la sociedad civil para alcanzar en 2030 algunos de los Objetivos y Metas de la Agenda 2030: en particular, los ODS N°12 (producción y consumo sostenibles), N°9 (industria, innovación e infraestructuras resilientes) y N°8 (trabajo decente y crecimiento económico), los ODS N°6, N°7, N°13, N°14 y N°15 referidos a la agenda de sostenibilidad ambiental, el ODS N°17 sobre las alianzas para el desarrollo y el ODS N°5 (igualdad de género).

La segunda prioridad estratégica ("un Estado eficiente, presente en el territorio y que rinde cuentas a los ciudadanos") expresa, de forma más directa, dos de las prioridades de la Agenda 2030: la centralidad de las personas y la paz (la construcción de sociedades pacíficas).

Mejorar las capacidades del Estado para gestionar los recursos de los ciudadanos y maximizar su eficacia y eficiencia impactará, necesariamente, sobre el área económica y el área ambiental, contribuyendo así a otras dos prioridades de la Agenda 2030: la prosperidad y el planeta.

La tercera área de prioridad tiene que ver con el desarrollo de las capacidades y el bienestar de la población. Refiere a las políticas y programas sociales que constituyen los pilares del sistema o régimen de bienestar. En particular cabe destacar las reformas en materia de educación y previsión social como hitos que apuntan a superar varios de los problemas que dificultan el aprovechamiento pleno de las capacidades del país y que tienen como norte contribuir a un desarrollo sostenible de la sociedad.

La reforma del sistema educativo contribuirá al logro del ODS N°4 pero también a las Metas relacionadas con el empleo del ODS N°8. Las acciones que se impulsen para fortalecer el sistema de previsión social contribuirán a varias Metas de los ODS N°1, N°8 y N°10.

Por último, las acciones programáticas que se desarrollarán dentro de la cuarta área de prioridad ("una sociedad que promueve las capacidades de las personas y no deja a nadie atrás") se vinculan con dos pilares o principios de la Agenda 2030, como son la paz y las alianzas por el desarrollo, ya que algunas de los resultados refieren a la eliminación de todas las expresiones o manifestaciones de violencia basada en género (hacia mujeres y niñas). De esta manera contribuirán al progreso del país hacia el cumplimiento del ODS N°5 precisamente en cuanto a sus metas sobre la igualdad de género y empoderamiento de las mujeres en todos los ámbitos.

Zimbabwe

Zimbabwe has made significant progress in the implementation of SDGs underpinned by the following policy frameworks: Zimbabwe Agenda for Sustainable Economic Transformation (ZIMASSET, 2013 – 2018); Transitional Stabilisation Programme (TSP, 2018 - 2020); and the current National Development Strategy 1 (NDS1, 2021 - 2025) and the country’s Vision 2030 which mainstreamed the Global 2030 Agenda to facilitate joint implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Key messages emanating from Zimbabwe’s 2021 Voluntary National Review are as follows:

1. Building on the SDGs implementation and co-ordination framework presented in 2017 VNR Government is further strengthening the institutional framework by establishing a dedicated SDGs Secretariat to co-ordinate SDGs implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Further improvements on the Institutional architecture include the alignment of NDS1 to SDGs as well as the coordination and information sharing within NDS1 and SDGs implementation Clusters. The NDS 1 monitoring and evaluation will be tracked through an e-enabled Whole of Government Performance Management System.
2. Government recognizes that development will only be sustainable if it is inclusive and has embedded the principle of leaving no one behind within all its development policy framework. Government commits to further institutionalise the Whole of Government and Society Approach to the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of SDGs. Pursuit of an inclusive development strategy; building climate resilience; natural resources management; value addition and beneficiation; sustaining macroeconomic stability; investment promotion and infrastructure development are key enablers for the attainment of the country’s Vision 2030 and the SDGs. Provision of Improved Infrastructure and Services is key to achievement of SDGs. The prioritised infrastructure and utilities areas within the NDS1 include Energy, Water & Sanitation, Housing, Information Communication Technology and Transport sectors.

3. Enhancing domestic resource mobilisation will be a key pillar in our funding mix to finance NDS1 and SDGs in addition to the traditional sources of funding including loans, grants and foreign direct investment. In this regard Government is focusing on plugging illicit financial flows through zero tolerance to corruption and capacitating the relevant institutions such as the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission (ZACC) and Zimbabwe Revenue Authority (ZIMRA). Enhancing the country’s competitiveness and investment inflows; leveraging on diaspora remittances and promotion of public private partnerships will be prioritised.

4. Progress has been recorded in reducing all forms of violence and related deaths. This has been achieved through: awareness raising campaigns on exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against vulnerable groups; enhancing law enforcement visibility in crime hotspot areas and establishment of crime prevention and peace committees. Alignment of laws to the Constitution, improved inclusive access to justice and creation of new laws that promote human rights further entrenched the rule of law. Improved coordination and collaboration with multi stakeholders, justice sector members, civil society and the community has reduced fragmentation and parallel processes.

5. The country is promoting high agricultural production and productivity through improving land and water utilisation; adopting climate smart agricultural innovations like the Pfumvudza/intwasa (climate proofing agriculture) supported by government and the private sector. Improved agricultural production and productivity is addressing SDGs 1, 2, 5 and 8 through increased agricultural output; incomes; participation of women and throughput from agriculture to agro-processing industries. The Presidential Input scheme is also addressing the needs of under resourced marginalised groups and communities.

6. Progress has been made towards universal health coverage through sustained investment in public health infrastructure, equipment, capacitation of human resources for health, procurement and distribution of medicines and sundries as well as development, review of health related legal and policy frameworks. This resulted in reduced maternal mortality ratio, reduced under five mortality, and the general decline in HIV prevalence. In the education sector there has been increased access through inclusive programmes, infrastructure, human skills capital development and innovation. Gender has been mainstreamed in most of the country’s legislative frameworks, policies and empowerment programmes which has resulted in increased participation in politics and decision making as well as access to productive and financial resources by women.

7. Government of Zimbabwe is committed to supporting full and productive employment and decent work; addressing informality; casualisation of labour and erosion of value of workers’ salaries and wages. The engagement and re-engagement drive in support of a shift from traditional to economic diplomacy will improve the country’s image, strengthen relations with the international community and will boost trade and investment as we march towards Vision 2030.