



DEVELOPMENT PLANNING IN SEYCHELLES

VNR LAB 9: INTEGRATING THE 2030 AGENDA INTO NATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND STRATEGIES

10TH JULY 2020

Country context

- A Small Island Developing State located in the Indian Ocean northeast of Madagascar and about 1,600 km east of Kenya
- 1.4 million km² EEZ and a total landmass of 459km²
- Population size: 98,055
- High income country since 2015 (only one in Africa)
- Main economic pillars: tourism and fisheries
- Human Development Index (HDI) of 0.801 and categorized as a country with a very high level of human development – the first in Africa (UNDP Human Development Report 2019)



Institutional Arrangements

- The Economic Planning Department (EPD) within the Ministry of Finance, Trade, Investment and Economic Planning (MOFTIEP) is responsible for planning the economic development of the country to ensure continued economic growth and equitable distribution of the benefits of development in alignment with the National Development Strategy.
- The Department is also the national focal institution for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- The 'National Oversight Strategic Committee for the Implementation of Seychelles' Regional and Global Commitments (NOSCIS)' was formed to oversee the implementation of all regional and global commitments was formed.
- This high-level committee – chaired by the Minister of MOFTIEP – has the mandate of ensuring that the SDGs are integrated in the national planning process as well as of providing oversight and strategic guidance to the coordinating unit within EPD.

Institutional Arrangements



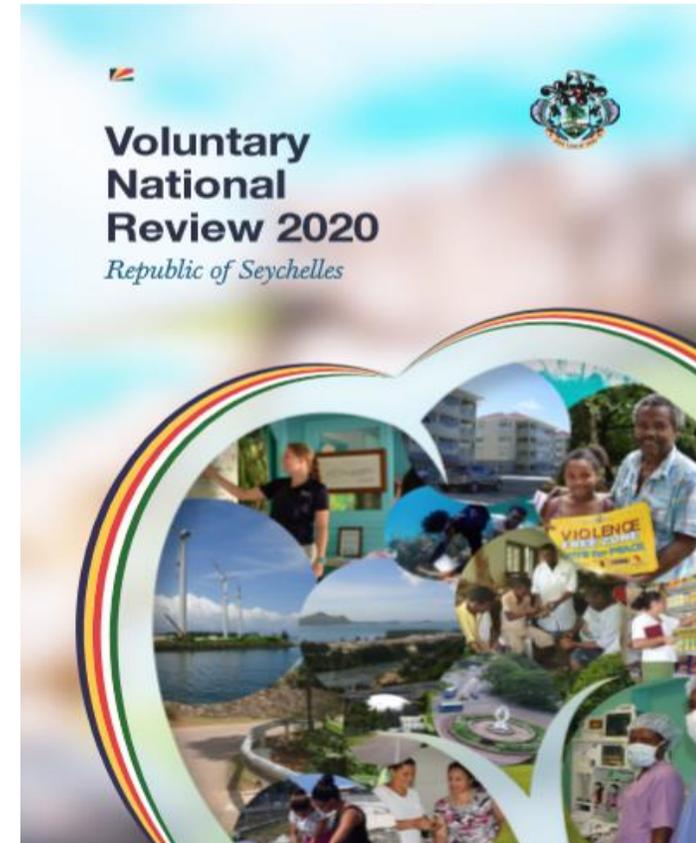
Creating ownership of the SDGs

- Elaboration of the country's long-term vision, Vision 2033 and the first National Development Strategy, NDS 2019-2023 were created through a consultative process with the public.
- These mainstreamed the SDGs, Agenda 2063 and the SAMOA Pathway into the broad national aspirations and strategies.
- The NDS is further supported by the sectoral and institutional strategies currently being developed by the sectors and Ministries, Departments & Agencies who must ensure that the global commitments in general are taken into account.



Creating ownership of the SDGs

- NDS 2019-2023 focuses on all 17 SDGs and also identifies which associated targets and indicators to prioritize.
- As part of the Voluntary National Review process, workshops have been conducted on the SDGs with different stakeholder groupings.
- The ongoing Vision, NDS and SDG communication strategies target the general public.
- The main objective is to ensure that transparency, accountability, wide ownership and engagement are achieved.



Integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development

- The mainstreaming of the SDGs into Vision 2033 and the first NDS guarantees integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development.
- These take into account the growth of all sectors and groups and include many crosscutting issues such as gender, youth, culture and climate change.
- The Cabinet of Ministers meets every Wednesday to discuss the state of the different sectors that the ministers oversee, as well as new policies and plans. This ensures that issues are discussed in a holistic way.
- Various committees have been created to address crosscutting issues. For example, the Tourism Multi-sectorial Committee was formed to discuss the challenges in the tourism sector and opportunities that exist to make Seychelles more competitive.





- Seychelles has free healthcare and education, universal retirement pensions for Seychellois aged 63 and above, and various social safety nets to protect the most vulnerable.
- The Government is extending its efforts to leave no one behind through various new policies and programmes.
- For example, “My First Job Scheme”, was launched to assist young graduates of professional centres find employment, as well as assist youth interested in entrepreneurship. This helping to address the issue of youth unemployment.
- A “bottom-up” approach was used for Vision 2033. Widespread consultations were important to understand people’s aspirations and the challenges they face. Vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities and elderly persons were identified and consulted.

Vision 2033

“A resilient, responsible and prosperous nation of healthy, educated and empowered Seychellois living together in harmony with nature and engaged with the wider world.”

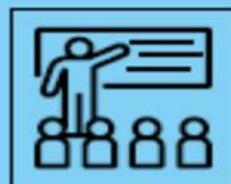
- Vision 2033 provides the roadmap as to what kind of society we want, and where we want to be in the next 15 years.
- The implementation of Vision 2033 will be through a series of 3 five-year National Development Strategies (NDS).



NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY / (2019-2023)



good
governance



people at the centre
of development



social
cohesion



innovative
economy



economic
transformation



environmental
sustainability
& resilience

Strong moral & spiritual values

Upholding of the Creole and island culture

Centrality of environmental sustainability & resilience

Government plays a strong enabling & facilitating role

Excellent delivery of Public Sector Services

Empowered, adaptive, responsible & sustainable communities

Embrace new relevant and appropriate technology underpins solutions (technological solutions)

Conducive environment for global partnerships in relevant science & technology

Democratic, accountable & transparent governance

Inclusivity & social cohesion

People-centred development

Private sector led economic growth

NDS 2019 - 2023

National Development Strategy 2019-2023



Six Thematic Pillars



14 National Goals



36 National Strategies

Example: Pillar 2

2. People at the Centre of Development

2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development Goals



SAMOA Pathway

11. Health and non-communicable diseases

Agenda 2063 goals

1. A high standard of living, quality of life and wellbeing for all citizens
2. Well educated citizens and skills revolution underpinned by science, technology and innovation
3. Healthy and well-nourished citizens
18. Engaged and empowered youth and Children

What future: Alternative Scenarios

- NDS therefore adopted a scenario planning approach to promote systemic thinking about the past, present and the future.
- In order to set goals, develop strategies and to put in place systems for ongoing review.
- Scenarios allow one to envision multiple futures—bad and good—to be better prepared to create the desired future.
- The process is about exploring the future narratives in order to provoke insights and unlock hidden potential to drive meaningful change in Seychelles over the next 15 years.



Constructing the scenarios

➤ The scenarios were constructed in a series of workshops and in a process that involved identification, exploration and analyses of :

- SWOT
- main trends of the future
- future bearing events
- key predetermined elements
- the main actors and their roles
- critical uncertainties that are expected to drive the future of Seychelles in one direction or the other.

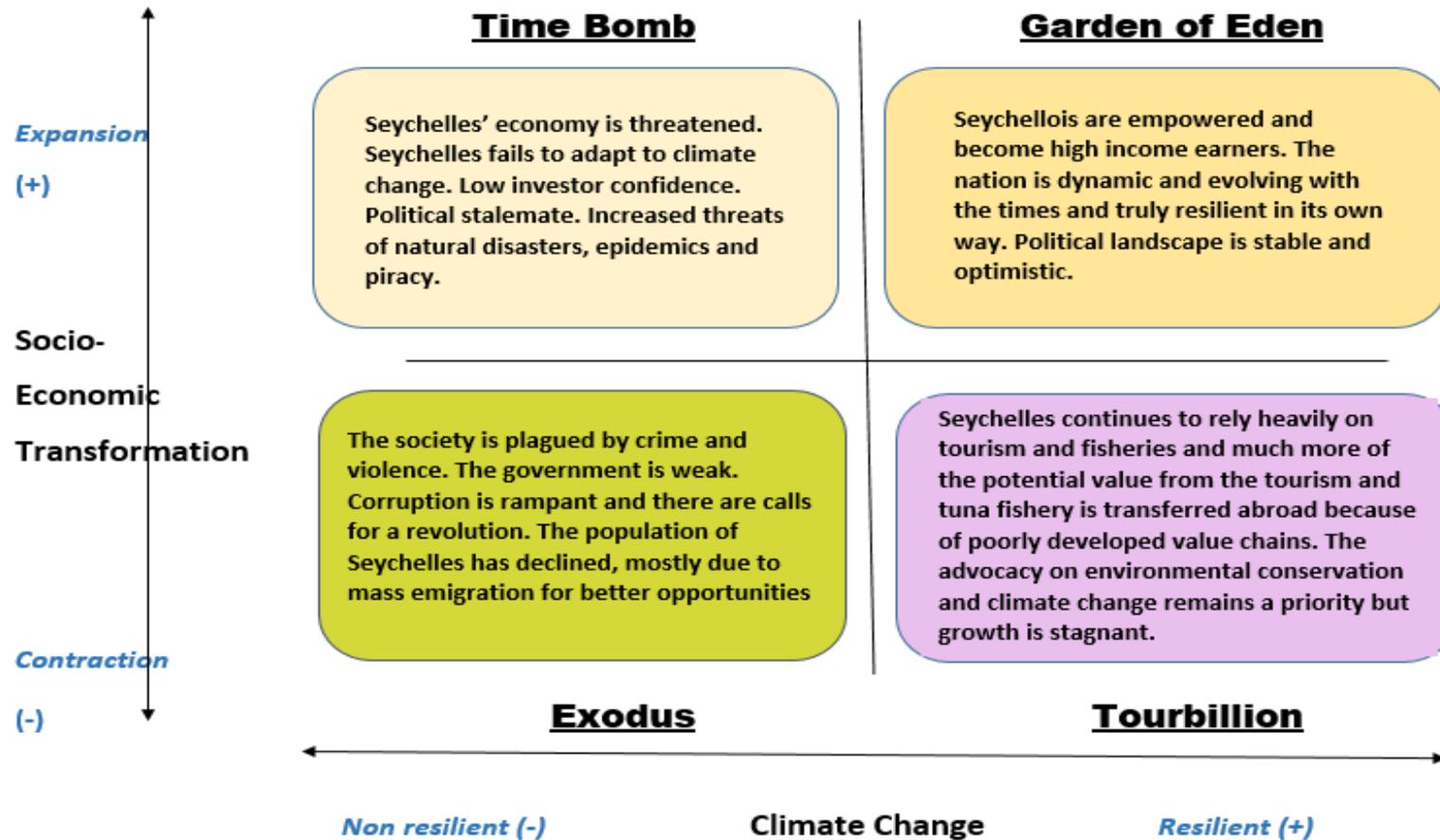


Constructing the scenarios

- Seychelles is a country of the SIDS group. SIDS are a distinct group of developing countries facing specific social, economic and environmental vulnerabilities.
- Key considerations include the geographical location, topography and time zone of Seychelles.
- The scenarios must therefore reflect the possible eventualities faced by Seychelles in particular.
- The four scenarios were therefore developed and elaborated using two qualitative parameters; i. the resilience to climate change and other external factors and ii. socio-economic transformation.

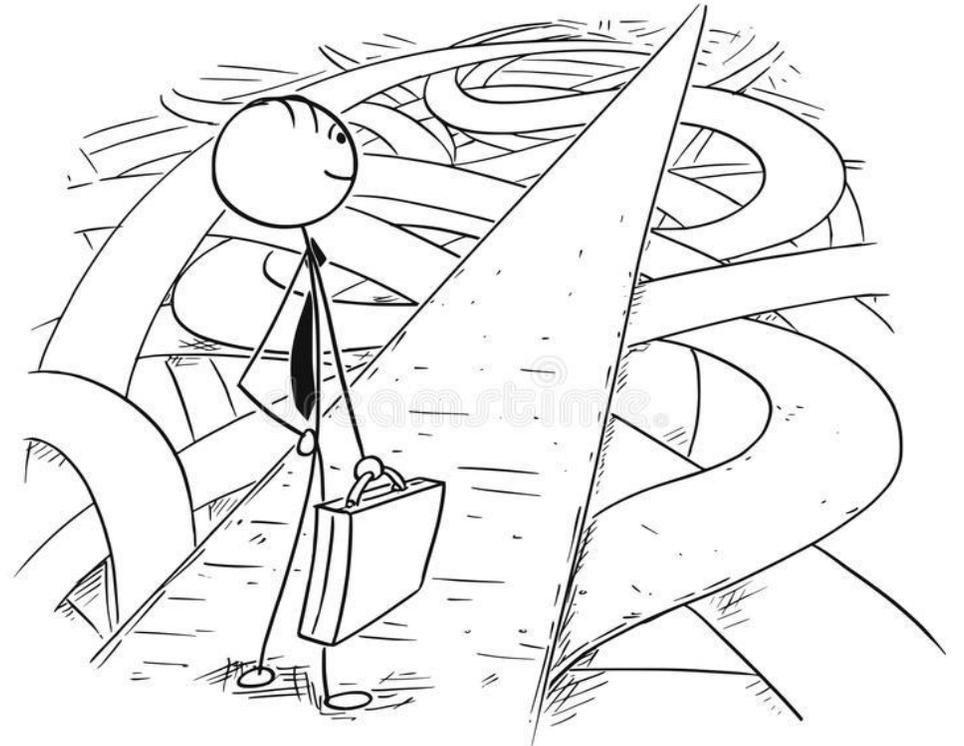


The Four Scenarios

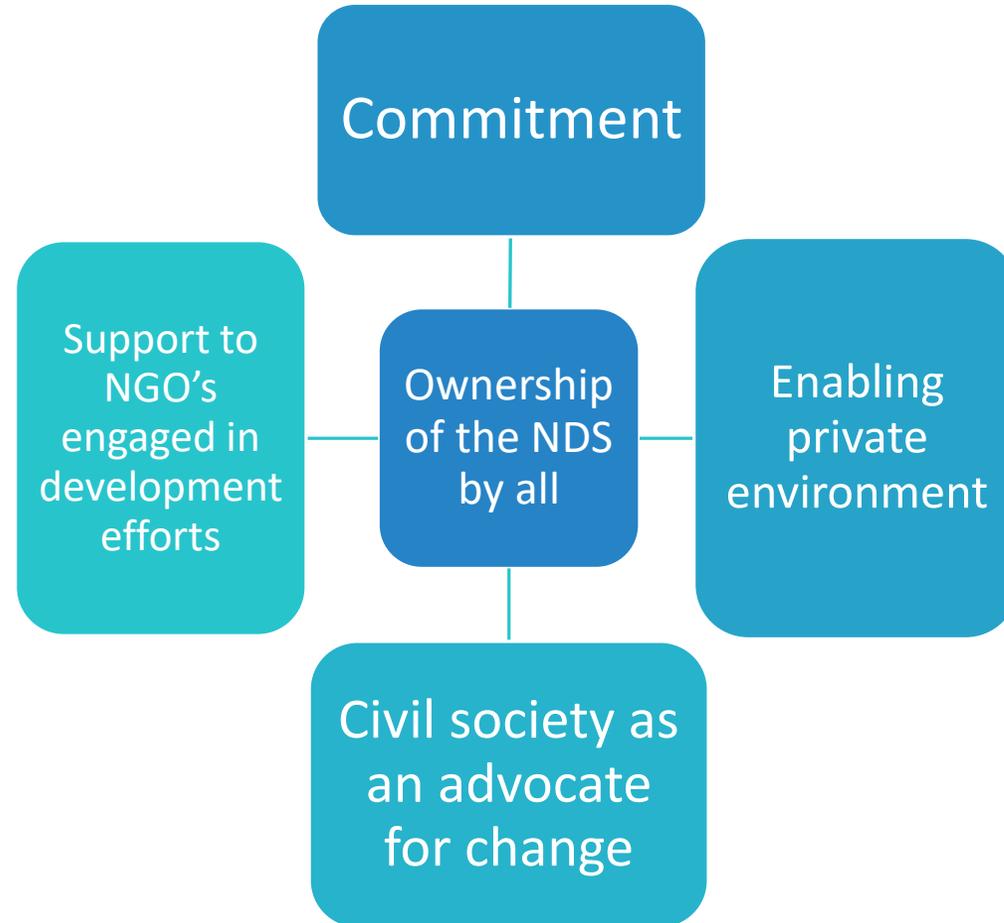


Contingency planning and crisis response

- NDS' risk analysis highlighted pandemic as a likely crisis with extreme negative consequences.
- Contingency planning exercises where extreme, negative scenarios are envisaged and lessons learned from previous crises are applied e.g. 2008 global financial crisis.
- The value of a high-quality strategic planning system becomes evident as strategic planning methodologies and tools must be applied to support leaders' efforts to combat the crisis.
- The development of a recovery plan will replicate the process through which national and sector priorities are established.



Implementation of the NDS



Next Steps

- Continue to address the numerous challenges faced by SIDS, example, the adverse effects of climate change, limited access to funds for implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of SDGs.
- Strengthen the inter-governmental coordination mechanism for Agenda 2030 to enable better synergy and coherence for policy planning across government.
- More robust data collection, processing and dissemination efforts for the SDGs.
- Intensify efforts to raise awareness at all levels in the spirit of 'Leaving no one behind'.
- As the NDS 2019-2023 is strongly linked to the SDGs, a similar approach will be used going forward, with the development of sector plans in order to maintain similar coherence.





Thank you!

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