Engaging Stakeholders.  
The role of National Councils for Sustainable Development  

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The Sustainability challenge

• All countries need to undertake major transformations of their economies to achieve fairer and more sustainable societies for the longer term.

• SD Strategies are needed covering wide range of topics

• Stakeholders need to be engaged from outset.
Types of Stakeholder

- Many different Government Departments
- Regional and local governments,
- Business and trade unions,
- Science, education and economics,
- Old and young, men and women
- Indigenous peoples, different ethnic groups.
National Councils for Sustainable Development

• Bringing together different stakeholders
• Engaging all in creation of SD Strategies
• Involving in Implementation
• Regular review of progress
Types of NCSD

• Government appointment versus stakeholder appointment
• Levels of independence – and of influence
• Open agenda or specific topics
• One Council – or several
International Encouragement

• 1992 Rio Earth Summit called for National Sustainable Development Strategies (NSDSs) and appropriate governance structures.

• 2012 Rio+20 Outcome Document called on countries to ‘strengthen national, sub-national and/or local institutions or relevant multi-stakeholder bodies and processes, dealing with sustainable development...’ (Para 101).
Map of NCSDs and similar bodies
Global nature of SD challenges: effective national policies require understanding of regional and international contexts

Vertical alignment: between global commitments, national policy and on the ground delivery

Information exchange: experience sharing and learning between NCSDs in different regions

Collaboration: provide an platform for NCSDs across the world to explore joint programmes or activities
Global Network and the SDGs Process

Inputting Global Network recommendations into the intergovernmental process on SDGs

• Developing a survey to gauge national level priorities, experiences of goals and monitoring, and expectations for the new framework
  o With inputs from Network’s IAG and UNDESA

• Identifying NCSDs interested in working on SDGs

• Supporting participating NCSDs with completion of the survey

• Compiling individual studies into a global overview report on the relationship between the SDGs and NCSDs

• Designing and implementing an advocacy strategy to feed the compilation report into the intergovernmental process
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