



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



-  **Inactive NCSD**
-  **Active NCSD**
-  **Forthcoming NCSD**
-  **Active ESC**
-  **Inactive ESC**

Global Network of NCSDs

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
 - 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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