

# SWP

Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik

German Institute for International and Security Affairs

## Monitoring, Follow-up and Review

UNOSD, Sustainable Development Transition Forum - 26 October 2016

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# Why monitoring, follow-up and review ?



Monitoring, follow-up and review  
= means to an end → **implementation**



# Structure

- 1) Wording** in the relevant UN documents (purpose, principles ...)
- 2) Elements** of Monitoring, Follow-up and Review
- 3) Lessons: 2016 HLPF** first round of **voluntary national reviews** and their **future**



## Resolution 67/290, July 2013

*“Decides that the forum, under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, shall conduct **regular reviews, starting in 2016**, on the **follow-up and implementation** of sustainable development commitments and objectives, including those related to the *means of implementation*, within the context of the post-2015 development agenda,*

and further decides that those reviews:

## Resolution 67/290, July 2013

- (a) Shall be *voluntary*, while *encouraging reporting*, and shall include *developed and developing* countries, as well as relevant *UN entities*;
- (b) Shall be *State-led*, involving ministerial and other relevant high-level participants;
- (c) Shall provide a *platform for partnerships*, including through the *participation of major groups and other relevant stakeholders*;
- (d) Shall *replace* the *national voluntary presentations* held in the context of the ... [AMR], building upon (...) experiences and lessons learned in this context”



UNITED NATIONS  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
SUMMIT 2015  
25-27 SEPTEMBER



## 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

1. Declaration
2. SDGs
3. Means of Implementation (Mol)
4. Follow-up and Review

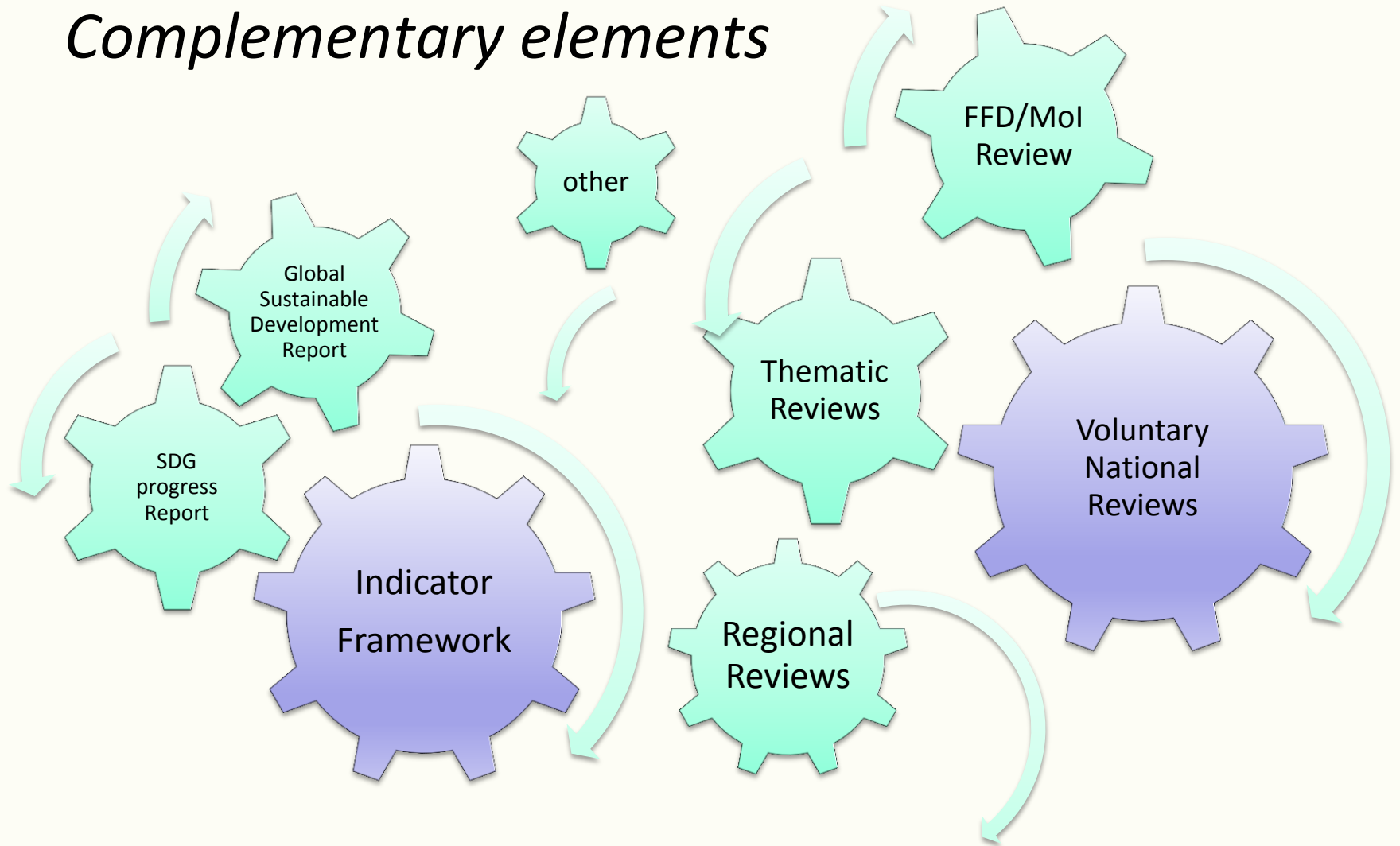
# 2030 Agenda on Follow-up and Review

- We *commit* to fully engage in conducting *regular* and *inclusive* reviews of progress at sub-national, national, regional and global levels,
- *principles*: robust, voluntary, effective, participatory, inclusive, transparent and integrated, people-centered and gender-sensitive, respect human rights and have particular focus on the poorest, most vulnerable and those furthest behind.
- promote *accountability to our citizens*



# Follow-up and Review

## *Complementary elements*



# Annual SDG Progress Report

United Nations

E/2016/75\*



**Economic and Social Council**

Distr.: General  
3 June 2016

Original: English

## 2016 session

24 July 2015-27 July 2016

Agenda items 5, 6 and 18 (a)

## High-level segment

High-level political forum on sustainable development, convened  
under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council

Economic and environmental questions: sustainable development

**Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals**

**Report of the Secretary-General**

## The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2016



➤ global indicator  
framework

# Global Sustainable Development Report - GSDR



- science-policy interface
- Independent Group of Scientists (15 experts)
- comprehensive, in-depth report every 4 years
- each year scientific input into HLPF

# HLPF Thematic Reviews

SDGs plus cross-cutting HLPF *annual theme*

- 2016: Ensuring that no one is left behind
- 2017: Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity
- 2018: Transformation toward sustainable and resilient societies
- 2019: Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness + equality

plus new and emerging issues, countries in special situations

# HLPF MoI/FFD Review

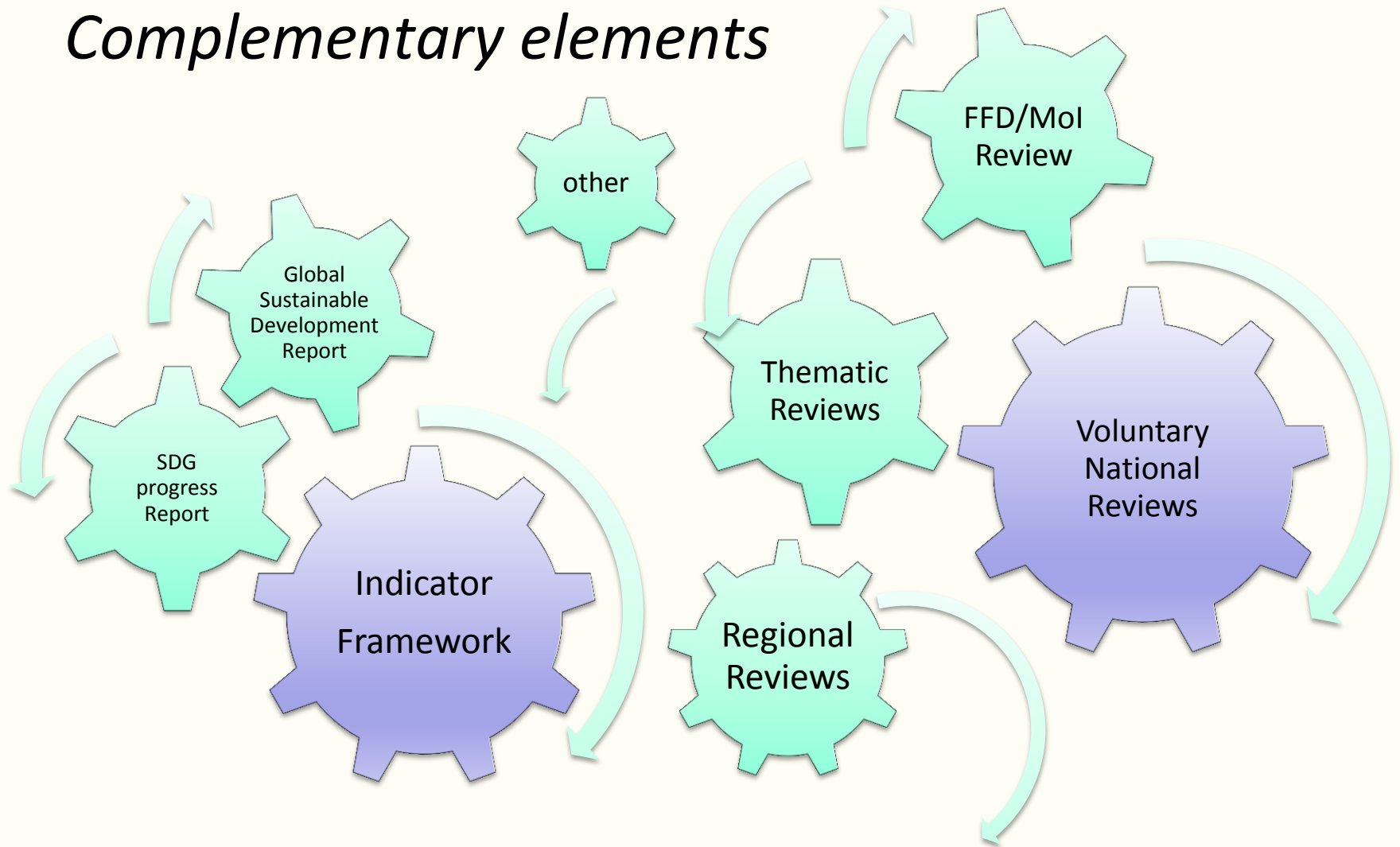
- *Annual ECOSOC **Forum on FFD follow-up**,*  
recommendations feed into HLPF follow-up and review
- *High-level Dialogue of the General Assembly on FFD*  
back to back with the HLPF under the auspices of the GA
- *Inter-agency Task Force (IATF) Report*
- identify **gaps** in financing and other capacity problems
- assess how to mobilize potential **domestic** sources
- provide for **access** to financial and technical **support**
- also **innovative** sources of financing, partnerships etc.
- assess **compliance** with financial and other commitments

# 2030 Agenda on HLPF Follow-up and Review

- HLPF will have central role in overseeing a *network* of follow-up and review processes at the global level, building on existing platforms and processes, institutions and mechanisms
- Input from intergovernmental platforms – synthesis report (E/HLPF/2016/5)

# Follow-up and Review

## *Complementary elements*





# HLPF Voluntary National Reviews

Countries voluntarily report on their implementation, for sharing experiences and mutual learning





# 2030 Agenda on national-level & HLPF VNRs

- informed by *country-led evaluations and data*
- draw on contributions from *national parliaments* and *stakeholders* (indigenous peoples, civil society, private sector et al.) in line with national circumstances, policies and priorities
- foster exchange of *best practices* – but also challenges
- 2016: 22 countries volunteered
- 2017: 30 countries want to go!

# HLPF Voluntary National Reviews

## Voluntary common reporting guidelines (UNDESA):

- methodology and process (for preparation of review)
- national level action/trends on all SDGs  
(adjustment of development plans or sustainability strategies, national targets & indicators, policies, measures & budgets, gaps & challenges, areas requiring advice and support)
- institutional framework (responsibilities, coordination, integration for coherent implementation)
- means of implementation
- statistical annex using the global SDG indicators and additional regional and national ones

# Future HLPF Voluntary National Reviews

## **Resolution A/70/L.60**

*“[The GA] urges that **experience gained** from this and future sessions be taken into consideration ... (for subsequent sessions)”.*

*Ask SG “to **update**, as appropriate and taking into account **feedback** from countries participating in the high-level political forum, the **voluntary common reporting guidelines** (...) and to make them available to Member States as a **suggested tool** in the preparations for VNRs”.*

*→ UN DESA Questionnaire on (1) Preparatory Process, (2) Guidelines, (3) format of VNRs at HLPF*

?

How can monitoring,  
follow-up and review processes  
be *improved*  
to better inform  
actions for sustainable development  
in “a changing world”

?

# Learning loops

- Keep focus on *national-level* process and progress
- *whole-of-government* (policy coherence for SD)
- *whole-of-society* (incl. Parliaments, local authorities, civil society, business, identify and empower marginalized groups to participate)
- *process*: present and discuss *draft* report, evaluate feedback, *revise*, *communicate* results at national level, mobilize public support and ownership
- 2016 VNRs produced good ideas for institutions and process – work with it! (DESA-Policy Brief Kim/Soltau)
- *analyze* the *causes* of trends, encourage *self-critical* assessments, analyzing gaps, challenges, also external effects of domestic policies and behavior

# Learning loops

- *do it yourself* – do not outsource to external consultants
- consider going *regional* for peer learning
- consider to participate in *HLPF VNRs*
- *universal participation* should become the norm, all MS should participate at least 2-3 times until 2030
- further develop common reporting *guidelines*
- *interactive* debate: discussants need to be able to better prepare
- *written* reports, early deadline
- Improve overall *access* to information (DESA website)
- uphold *participation* rights of MGoSH (Res. 67/290)

# Learning loops

- provide *feedback* on these reviews' format
- on-going learning process, improve over time, support from UNDESA, UNOSD, UNDP, UNITAR, and German initiative "*Partners for Review*" (a multi-stakeholder network to facilitate dialogue & learning)
- link to *existing* review formats (to reduce reporting burden)
- work with results: *follow-up* at national and UN-level
- aim for *on-going learning processes/loops*
- national, regional and global reviews are not an end in itself but *means of implementation*!

For more see SWP-Dossier on SD Governance: [bit.ly/29Vfm4Q](https://bit.ly/29Vfm4Q)



Now It's Up to You.

?

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