Overview of the SDGs and progress in their implementation at global level (HLPF/VNR 2017)

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The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Global partnership for development
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (and their 169 Targets)
SDGs’ holistic approach: (universal and integrated Agenda)  
5 elements underpinning the Agenda 2030

The Goals are meant to stimulate action over the next 15 years in 5 areas of critical importance:

- People
- Planet
- Prosperity
- Peace (and Justice)
- Partnership
The 7 People Goals: 1 to 7

1. No Poverty
2. Zero Hunger
3. Good Health and Well-being
4. Quality Education
5. Gender Equality
6. Clean Water and Sanitation
7. Affordable and Clean Energy
The 5 Prosperity Goals: 8 to 12

8. Good Jobs and Economic Growth
9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
10. Reduced Inequalities
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
12. Responsible Consumption and Production

Prosperity
Ensure prosperous and fulfilling lives in harmony with nature
The 3 Planet Goals: 13 - 15
The Peace & Justice Goal (16)
The Partnership Goal (17)

Implement the agenda through a solid global partnership

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
SDGs as an Integrated System (a network of targets?)

Source: David Le Blanc, “Towards Integration at Last? The SDGs as a Network of Targets,” Rio+20 Working Paper 4
https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/1613SDGs%20as%20a%20Network%20of%20Targets%20Rio20%20Working%20Papers%20pdf
SDGs as an Integrated System: A Scientists’ Perspective


Source: David Le Blanc, “Towards Integration at Last? The SDGs as a Network of Targets,” DESA Working Paper No. 141
https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/1613SDGs%20as%20a%20network%20of%20targets%20Rio20%20working%20papers%20.pdf
High-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF)
HLPF TIMELINE (2013-2019)

2013
Building the future we want: from Rio+20 to the post-2015 development agenda

2014
Achieving the MDGs and charting the way for an ambitious post-2015 agenda

2015
Strengthening integration, implementation and review - the HLPF after 2015

2016
Ensuring that no one is left behind

2017
Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world

2018
Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies

2019
Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality

The set of goals to be reviewed in depth will be the following, including Goal 17.
Overview of the 2017 HLPF:
(10-19 July 2017, UN Headquarters, New York)
Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world

The set of goals for the in-depth review on progress

1. No Poverty
2. Zero Hunger
3. Good Health and Well-being
4. Gender Equality
5. Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure
6. Life Below Water
7. Partnerships for the Goals
Overview of the 2017 HLPF (VNRs):
(10-19 July 2017, UN Headquarters, New York)

Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world

Geographic/Regional Distribution
Overview of the 2017 HLPF (VNRs):
(10-19 July 2017, UN Headquarters, New York)
Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world

VNR Countries’ SDG reporting choice

- **30%**
  - **ALL 17 GOALS**
  
  Many countries included dedicated sections on each of the 17 SDGs. A few countries addressed all SDGs in a cross-cutting way through their own national frameworks.

- **28%**
  - **GOALS UNDER IN-DEPTH REVIEW AT 2017 HLPF**
  
  These countries included specific sections focusing on the set of goals that are under in-depth review at the 2017 HLPF. Some also included a statistical annex covering more goals.

- **42%**
  - **GOALS OF OWN CHOICE**
  
  Some countries chose to focus on their priority goals within the 2030 Agenda. Some decided to report on the most relevant ones within the set of goals under in-depth review.

- All reviews addressed **SDG1** on eradicating poverty; Poverty related to social inequalities
- **SDG2** (food Security) interlinked with other SDGs (1, 8 and 5 + 13 in particular)
- Countries have sectoral policies and strategies to ensure affordable, accessible, quality healthcare for all (**SDG3**).
- Advancement of **SDG4**, with increase of attendance in early learning centres, and in secondary school attendance and decrease of drop-out rates. Universal access remains a challenge ($).
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- **On SDG 5**, gender equality is a prerequisite to achieving the 2030 Agenda. Violence against women and girls, and low participation of women in decision making or leadership positions are main challenges.

- Progressed were made on **SDG 6**, but challenges in rural areas. Water shortage foreseen in the future (competing demands, impact of CC, conflict, natural disasters and excessive groundwater consumption)

- Countries have taken measures on **SDG 7** (diversifying energy sources, developing renewable energy sources, improving energy efficiency, awareness-raising...)

- **On SDG 8**, countries stressed the importance of having sufficient investment in both capital and human resources. Impact of climate change and transnational crime were also stressed.

- **On SDG 9**, many countries reported on improving transport infrastructure (airports, roads, harbours and road and rail links), alongside irrigation, clean drinking water, and power supply.

- The use of social protection policies and social security systems were among the measures reported to reduce inequality within and among countries (**SDG 10**).
Overview of the 2017 HLPF (VNRs):  
(10-19 July 2017, UN Headquarters, New York)

**Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world**

- On **SDG 11**, countries recognized major role of cities for economic development, but also showed concerns about rapid urbanization, particularly in developing countries.

- Countries reported on significant challenges in achieving sustainable consumption and production (**SDG 12**), and highlighted their aims and policies for achieving circular or green economies.

- Countries outlined the consequences of climate change (**SDG 13**), and several policies and actions for both climate mitigation and adaptation were reported on.

- On **SDG 14**, measures and tools listed by some countries to address the major threats affecting the oceans included integrated coastal management, application of an ecosystem approach, and the establishment of marine protected areas.

- On **SDG 15**, countries highlighted actions taken to preserve biological diversity, such as integration and mainstreaming of ecosystem and biodiversity conservation into sectoral plans, sustainable forest management, and policies to tackle poaching and trafficking of endangered species and products derived from them.
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- **On SDG 16**, countries reported on good governance, strong and transparent institutions, rule of law, protection of human rights, anti-corruption and preventing illicit flows, access to government and information, and strengthening peace and security through strong institutions and good governance.

- **On SDG 17**, calls to honour commitments made about official development assistance (ODA) were made, while several donor countries reported on their ODA contributions.

- Numerous countries stressed the significance of data, monitoring and accountability mechanisms;

- Many countries addressed ICT and internet services, and it was stressed that internet access can serve as a catalyst for development.
2017 HLPF: Some key points

- National governments strongly committed to transformative shift for 2030 Agenda and “Leave no one behind”
- Policy-making more science- and evidenced-based & aligned with national budgets
- Decentralization is occurring – Local governments & communities adapting SDGs to their particular circumstances
- Multi-stakeholder engagement is increasing
- Partnerships gaining momentum (led by financial & business sectors)
- Need to address SDGs interlinkages in an integrated way (particularly through means of implementation)
- Importance of coherence between SDGs and other intern.-agreed instruments (such as those related to climate change, disaster risk reduction, and trade and human rights)
- Science and technology must be brought in, and knowledge and know-how should be made accessible to all
2017 HLPF: Lessons learned

• Pivotal role of strong partnerships for SDGs;

• Means for stakeholder engagement, including the private sector; and

• Importance of policy coherence and multi-sectoral coordination
2017 HLPF: Lessons learned

Areas requiring additional effort include:

• Achieving real policy coherence and implementing “whole-of-government” approaches;

• Addressing low capacity of many national statistical institutions to meet new challenges;

• Improving the institutional capacity of local governments;

• Promoting greater coordination between the different spheres of public administration;

• Accelerating the integration of the SDGs into the policies and programmes of all relevant line ministries; and

• Inculcating a “whole-of-society” approach so that the SDGs become a truly national endeavour
Resources

• UN Secretary-General’s voluntary common reporting guidelines for VNRs at the HLPF (available in 6 UN languages)
• Q&A for Voluntary National Reviews at the 2017 HLPF
• Synthesis of Voluntary National Reviews 2016
• Voluntary National Reviews 2017 - Synthesis Report
• Handbook for the Preparation of Voluntary National Reviews
Zikomo kwambiri!

Thank you very much for your attention!

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