



United Nations Office for Sustainable Development

Executive Training Course for Policymakers on the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Songdo Central Park Hotel

Incheon, Republic of Korea, 23-27 April 2018

Substantive Report

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Group Photo, Opening Ceremony, 23 April 2018

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1. Introduction

The present report documents the implementation of Executive Training Course for Policymakers on the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) held during 23-27 April 2018 in Incheon, Republic of Korea.

The Executive Training Course sought to bring policymakers in national governments learning from each other and from experts, practitioners and other non-state policy shapers to acquire the concepts and tools and enhance collaborative knowledge-building, critical thinking, creativity and responsibility among participants for mainstreaming and implementing the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs through their work.

The specific objectives of the course were:

- Knowledge and skills acquisition for integrating Agenda 2030 and the SDGs into ongoing and future activities;
- Networking among public policymakers and non-state policy shapers;
- Sharing experiences and peer-to-peer collaboration, across sectors and countries;
- Learning from best practices and pitfalls in implementation;
- Capacity building for sustainable development policymaking and policy-shaping; and
- Learning how to integrate sustainable development policy and practice using whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches.

Reflecting the high-level political forum on sustainable development (2018 HLPF) in July 2018, in which Goals 6, 7, 11, 12, 15, and 17 will go under in-depth review under the overarching theme “Transformation towards sustainable and resilient society”, the course was structured around the five pillars of Agenda 2030 – people, prosperity, planet, peace and justice and partnership. In this way, the course recognized that the five pillars are interconnected and need to be integrated in practical policymaking and operational activities for development.

The Executive Training Course consisted of 10 interrelated modules. Following an introductory module on the main concepts of Agenda 2030 and the SDGs and progress so far, successive modules covered the people, prosperity and planet, and peace and justice modules. There was a module on the whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches to sustainable development governance. Another module was devoted to the global partnership and multi-stakeholder partnerships. A final module explored the way forward and enable participating policymakers and policy shapers to return to the job with individual action plans.

The modules consisted of formal presentations, group work and plenary seminar sessions. Preparatory readings and assignments was requested to participants. Group work involved concrete policy exercise to apply the issues reviewed and assignments undertaken. The group work also involved some role-playing simulation and discussions. A half-day field trip to Incheon City Museum, G Tower Observatory Tower and Songdo Central Park River Cruise in Incheon city, which exposed participants to different Korean initiatives and experiences in implementing Agenda 2030 and the SDGs and development of a sustainable city.

2. Context/Background

The executive course takes place as the 2030 agenda enters the third year of its 15 years of implementation. In 2018, the high-level political forum on sustainable development (9-18 July) will review progress towards the 2030 agenda under the overarching theme "Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies" with Goals 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), 7 (Affordable and Clean

Energy), 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production) and 15 Life on Land) in addition to SDG 17 (means of implementation and the global partnership). Some 48 countries will present their progress towards the 2030 Agenda with a focus on the above SDGs during the voluntary national reviews (VNRs).

During the 2017 HLPF, which was under the overarching theme “Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world” 43 countries have volunteered to present their national voluntary reviews to the HLPF, with Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 14 (and 17) under in-depth review, whereas 22 had done so in 2016, including the Republic of Korea. The work of the HLPF will serve as a backdrop to the course, but the course itself will focus on implementing Agenda 2030 through the daily work of the participating policymakers and policy shapers. In collaboration with the United Nations Project Office on Governance (UNPOG), this course relied on a whole-of- government approach as well as a whole-of-society approach to the implementation of Agenda 2030.

3. Opening Session and Outline of the Course

The training course began with the opening remark by Dr. Jong-Soo Yoon, head of UNOSD. Welcoming the delegates and guests, he expressed his gratitude to Mr. Keewon Hong, Ambassador for International Relations of Incheon Metropolitan City, and Mr. Mario Tuason, Chief of Capacity Development Office of United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) who delivered the statement from Under-Secretary-General (USG), Mr. LIU Zhenmin. Then he stated that the objective of the executive training course is to support policymakers mainstreaming the SDGs into national planning and to facilitate peer-to-peer learning. Presentations and discussions in this course with experts and participants for specific SDGs will contribute to how to implement SDGs in their own countries.

Following the opening remark, Mr. Keewon Hong, Ambassador for International Relations of Incheon Metropolitan City delivered his welcome address, highlighting how Incheon has been working with UNOSD and other international organizations and its efforts relevant to implementation of the SDGs. Then Mario Tuason, Chief of Capacity Development Office of UN DESA delivered the opening statement from USG, Mr. LIU Zhenmin. The opening statement welcomed all guests, expressed gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Korea, reviewed and previewed the past HLPFs and the upcoming 2018 HLPF, emphasizing that eradicating poverty would remain the top priority in the achievement of the SDGs. After the opening and welcome remarks, the outline of the course was presented to the audience by the course coordinator, Dr. Jean D’Aragon, Senior Sustainable Development Expert, UNOSD.

4. Description and Analysis of Modules

4.1 Module 1: Overview of Progress towards Agenda 2030 and the SDGs

This module was an introduction to the main concepts of Agenda 2030 and the SDG and progress so far. Mr. Jean D’Aragon, Senior Sustainable Development Expert at UNOSD made a presentation on the module agenda.

His presentation introduced the SDGs as integrated systems, five goals of SDGs (People, Planet Prosperity, Peace and Justice, and Partnership), and overview of 2017 HLPF.

For more information, the presentation material is available in the following link:

[Module 1 Presentation](#)

After the presentation, a group work assignment followed with role-play discussion and plenary presentation. In this exercise, all participants were divided into five working groups of 10 to 12 participants. These groups were further divided into four teams representing (1) national governments; (2) global governance mechanisms such as the UN system and intergovernmental organizations (IGOs); (3) private business sector; and (4) non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society organizations (CSOs) and academia which watching and influencing the Agenda 2030.

The four teams within each working group interacted, presenting their points of view to the following challenge: “The successful monitoring of progress towards Agenda 2030 and the SDGs requires an integration of policymaking with the gathering of accurate and disaggregated data and statistics, and with policy analysis. What measures need to be taken to ensure effective policymaking with incomplete data and statistics and only partial information?”

Each working group nominated a rapporteur, who summarized the discussion and presented it in plenary on behalf of their respective working group.

Each working group highlighted that the integration of SDGs into the national development plans or strategies is the main task at the central government level. In order to implement SDGs effectively, the interaction with relevant ministries and local governments and with monitoring and evaluation system is crucial. Capacity building programs on SDGs for developing countries by global organizations is also key component. Private business sectors and civil society play their roles in order to integrate SDGs into their main activities.

In summary of the discussion for Module 1, the following measures that need to be taken to ensure effective policymaking with incomplete data and statistics and only partial information were identified by the working groups:

I. National Government

- Integrate SDGs into national development plans
- Assess SDG indicators if they overlap with existing national datasets
- Reporting agency dedicated to coordinating overall data
- Establish monitoring and evaluation mechanisms
- Promote sharing of data between local and national government
- Strengthen sources of statistics through capacity building or increasing the financial budget (including bureau of statistics and NGOs)
- Strong political will

II. Global Governance:

- Support developing countries through capacity building
- Capacity development at all levels from local to national-level
- Enhance coordination of SDGs with national development plan
- Provide more disaggregated data by sector, goal and more

III. Private Sector

- Engage the specific ministry to implement actions and activities (Exchange of data between government and private sector)
- Public-private partnership (PPP) Policy to attract private sector with business opportunities
- Incentivize private sectors into SDG focus areas and national plan

IV. Civil Society and Academia

- Integrate data collected by civil society organizations (CSOs) and academia into national system
- Use their closer insights on social challenges to build disaggregated data

4.2 Module 2: SDG Goal 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation

Module 2 covered SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, which is a part of People Goals of SDGs. Dr. Hyun Jung Park, Institute for Climate Change Action, made a presentation on the module agenda.

The presentation showed the importance of water in the context of sustainable development, key drivers of water, and how the water-related SDG has been implemented. Then the presentation covered how the water-related SDG should be implemented, and critical roles in achieving the SDG 6.

For a more information, the presentation material is available at the following link:

[Module 2 presentation](#)

After the presentation, a group work assignment followed with role-play discussion and plenary presentation. In this exercise, all participants were divided into five working groups of 10 to 12 participants. These groups were further divided into four teams representing (1) national governments; (2) global governance mechanisms such as the UN system and IGOs; (3) private business sector; and (4) NGOs, CSOs and academia which watching water and sanitation policies.

The four teams within each working group interacted, presenting their points of view to the following challenge: “The access to clean water and sanitation services requires water management, cross-sectoral governance, sustained investment in infrastructure and international partnerships. What concrete measures need to be taken at the national and international levels to promote these policies??”

Each working group nominated a rapporteur, who summarized the discussion and present it in plenary on behalf of each working group.

Each working group pointed out that the integrated water policies should be developed in order to implement SDG 6. Water access, better water quality with water infrastructure is the main responsibility of the government. At the global level, knowledge sharing on water activities through South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation should be developed. For PPP in this sector, tax incentives should be considered. Private sectors and civil society pay more attention to this sector in order to promote many related activities.

In summary of the discussion for Module 2, the following measures that need to be taken at the national and international levels to promote these policies have been identified by the working groups:

I. National Government

- Develop water policies for water access, preventing water pollution, and better water quality
- PPP and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)
- Advocacy and Education
 - Prevent harmful cultural practices
 - Spread awareness of water-borne diseases
 - Promote good practices
- Investment in infrastructure such as sanitation system and water pipes

II. Global Governance:

- Strengthening Knowledge Sharing through South-South Cooperation and Triangular Cooperation
- Strengthen regional agreements on trans-boundary water use and management especially for flooding during raining season
- Technology transfer and financing
- Guide to whom the investment is directed

III. Private Sector

- PPP and tax incentives on water supplies
- Incubation of research (technology), government (law and regulation), and business (production) collaboration
- Business opportunities in water management

IV. Civil Society and Academia

- Research and advisory services
- Analysis and policy recommendations
- Support advocating good practices on sanitation
- Provide local water supply and consumption patterns
- Mediate international water use conflict and compliance on policies

4.3 Module 3: SDG 15 – Life on Land

Module 3 covered SDG 15: Life on Land, which is a part of Planet Goals of SDGs. Dr. Tetsuro Yoshida, Research Manager of The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), made a presentation on the module agenda.

The key points of the presentation included the need of monetizing the value of biodiversity, more sustainable diet, and incorporating biodiversity in the parts of government planning. It also suggested that the government needs to consider more long-term environmental costs and benefits rather than short-term economic costs and benefits.

For more information, the presentation material is available at the following link:

[Module 3 presentation](#)

After the presentation, a group work assignment followed with role-play discussion and plenary presentation. In this exercise, all participants were divided into five working groups of 10 to 12 participants. These groups were further divided into four teams representing (1) national governments; (2) global governance mechanisms such as the UN system and IGOs; (3) private business sector; and (4) NGOs, CSOs and academia which watching biodiversity and environmental policies.

The four teams within each working group interacted, presenting their points of view to the following challenge: “Protecting the Earth’s ecosystems requires promoting sustainable use and management of terrestrial resources, restoring degraded forests and lands, integrating ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning and global effort. What concrete measures need to be taken at the national and international levels to preserve and sustainably use the Earth’s terrestrial species and ecosystems?”

Each working group nominated a rapporteur, who summarized the discussion and present it in plenary on behalf of each working group.

Each working group made points that the government enforced strong legal framework and clear targets for biodiversity and ecosystem services agreed by the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) that defines protected area and other policy measures to protect biodiversity. Global institutions should provide technical and grant resources to enhance the capacity of developing countries to deal with this issue. Special attention should be paid on the public awareness of local residents, which is the main responsibility of local government and civil society.

In summary of the discussion for Module 3, the following measures that need to be taken at the national and international levels to preserve and sustainably use the Earth's terrestrial species and ecosystems have been identified by the working groups:

I. National Government

- Stronger Legal Framework and Enforcement
- Establish action plans
- Advocacy and education on awareness on ecosystem, deforestation, etc.
- Define the protected areas, species, and ecosystems
- Promote eco-friendly industries such as eco-tourism, recycling, and land use management

II. Global Governance:

- Awareness education
- International cooperation through North-South, and South-South cooperation
- Measures for protecting ecosystem as conditions in grant and loan agreements
- Facilitate the Ratification of conventions
- Capacity building and technology transfer

III. Private Sector

- Incentives to take social and ecological responsibilities in the process of production like green certificates
- Sustainable Practices: procurement of sustainable raw materials
- PPP
- Research and Innovation for eco-friendly technologies

IV. Civil Society and Academia

- Monitoring compliance of conventions and regulations
- Awareness and education
- Provide better quality information for all stakeholders

4.4 Module 4: SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities

Module 4 covered SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities, which is a part of Prosperity Goals of SDGs. Ms. Chikako Takase, former Director of the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) and Professor Jae Min Song, University of Seoul, made presentations on the module agenda.

The presentation of Ms. Takase covered the key elements, challenges and opportunities in urban development in areas of urban sprawl, transportation, municipal waste management, disasters etc. With case studies and examples, it concluded with the roles of stakeholders in sustainable cities that while governments cannot address those issues alone, governments act as enablers besides leading the decision-making and implementation processes with a wide range of actors in partnership.

Professor Song's presentation showed Seoul's experience in implementation of SDG 11, in housing, transportation, and environment. Two lessons were highlighted 1) The development of Seoul has been achieved by the combination of continuous rigorous efforts to "keep up with demands of each time period" and "ambitious plan with a vision for future" and 2) Compact urban form with proximity and accessibility reduces travel demands and increases the efficiency of public service.

For more information, the presentation material is available at the following links.

[Module 4 presentation by Ms. Takase](#)

[Module 4 Presentation by Professor Song](#)

After the presentation, a group work assignment followed with role-play discussion and plenary presentation. In this exercise, all participants were divided into five working groups of 10 to 12 participants. These groups were further divided into five teams representing (1) national governments; (2) global governance mechanisms such as the UN system and IGOs; (3) private business sector; (4) UN system and IGOs; and (5) NGOs, CSOs, academia and private sector which watch and influence urban policies.

The four teams within each working group interacted, presenting their points of view to the following challenge: "Building sustainable cities and communities require sustained investment in resilient infrastructure and housing, cooperative governance, and international partnership. What measures need to be taken at the subnational, national and international levels to ensure inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities and communities?"

Each working group nominated a rapporteur, who summarized the discussion and presented it in plenary on behalf of each working group.

Each working group pointed out that sustainable city and community development is one of key areas for the sustainable development in most developing countries. Since the process of city development is complex, the coordination between central and local governments is essential for the efficient resource allocations for the urban infrastructures that requires vast financial investments. For sustainable city development public transportation system should be a top priority sector. To create decent jobs in cities, the incentives for the private business sector to join the sustainable city development could be considered. Special attention should be given by civil society and academia to take care of the minority and vulnerable groups during city development.

In summary of the discussion for Module 4, the following measures that need to be taken at the national and international levels to ensure inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities and communities have been identified by the working groups:

I. National Government

- Comprehensive urban development planning and policies
- Develop policy and framework for decentralization (finance, human resources)
- Investment in Infrastructure
- Develop incentives to encourage local governments and agencies to adopt sustainable and inclusive practices
- Promotion of efficient public transportation

II. Local Government

- Promote job opportunities in rural areas to reduce urban migration
- Efficient use of land by multi-story buildings
- Promote networking and sharing of best practices on waste management practices, preserving natural and historical heritages

III. Global Governance:

- Strengthening and sharing technical know-how
- Focus on long-term investments along with humanitarian supports
- Focus on cross-border issues such as migration and refugees

IV. Private Sector

- PPP in construction, transportation, etc.
- Encourage and incentivize private sector investment in modern urbanization and urban services
- Introduce proper technologies

V. Civil Society and Academia

- Assure needs of minorities and vulnerable groups
- Should be included in the development of urban policies and planning processes
- Monitoring the quality of urban services

4.5 Module 5: SDG 12 – Sustainable Consumption and Production

Module 5 covered SDG 12: Sustainable Consumption and Production, which is a part of Prosperity Goals of SDGs. Professor Rae-kwon Chung, Incheon National University & Former Director of UN ESCAP and Ms. Sara Castro-Hallgren, Program Expert, UNPOG, made presentations on the module agenda.

In his presentation, Professor Chung presented 5 tracks of Policy Innovation for sustainable consumption and production (SCP): 1) From quantity to quality of growth; 2) Internalizing ecological price; 3) Sustainable Infrastructure: Re-design city, building, transport, energy, water system; 4) Promoting Green Business; and 5) Enabling Low Carbon Economics.

Ms. Castro-Hallgren's presentation examined concepts and public governance for SDG 12, introducing various SCP policies from multiple countries. It highlight some key lessons to achieve SDG 12 such as behavior change, developing national and vertical cooperation, policy champions.

For more information, the presentation material is available at the following links:

[Module 5 presentation by Professor Chung](#)

[Module 5 presentation by Ms. Castro-Hallgren](#)

After the presentation, a group work assignment followed with role-play discussion and plenary presentation. In this exercise, all participants were divided into five working groups of 10 to 12 participants. These groups were further divided into five teams representing (1) national governments; (2) global governance mechanisms such as the UN system and IGOs; (3) Private sector; (4) consumer; and (5) NGOs, CSOs, academia which watching economic and industrial activities.

The five teams within each working group interacted, presenting their points of view to the following challenge: "Achieving responsible consumption and production requires a strong national framework for sustainable consumption and production that is integrated into national and sectoral plans, sustainable business practices and consumer behavior, together with adherence to international norms on the management of hazardous chemicals and wastes. What concrete measures need to be taken at the national and international levels to promote these policies?"

Each working group nominated a rapporteur, who summarized the discussion and present it in plenary on behalf of each working group.

Each working group pointed out that cooperation among government and private sector is essential for implementing sustainable consumption and production. To facilitate the private sector to involve the green economy and practices, legal framework, corresponding policies and the incentives for the private business sector should be developed. International cooperation and discussion should be promoted on topics of trade, waste and others while promoting technology transfer. The private sector could take an important role by incorporating green initiatives into its corporate social responsibility (CSR) and promoting sustainable practices into business. As change in consumer behavior and standard of norms is a key, civil society and academia could reach out to the public for raising awareness, education and support for entrepreneurship for sustainable production and consumption.

In summary of the discussion for Module 5, the following measures that need to be taken at the national and international levels to promote such policies for sustainable consumption and production have been identified by the working groups:

I. National Government

- Legal Framework and Policy Development
 - Public Procurement, Land use, energy, waste, entrepreneurship
- Political Will
- Assist and support research and/or scale up existing research
- Incentivize private sector to involve the green economy and practices
 - Tax exemption, reduction of import duties
- Promote to change standards of norms, change consumer behavior

II. Global Governance:

- Facilitate international cooperation and discussion on trade, waste, and others
 - Technology transfer

III. Private Sector

- Incorporate green initiatives into CSR
- Participate in research and development of new technologies
- Promote sustainable practices like charging plastic bags
- Industrial symbiosis business centers
- Creation of networks among private companies (e.g. World Business Council for Sustainable Development)

IV. Civil Society and Academia

- Public awareness and education
- Academia can support the development and testing of new technologies
- Support entrepreneurs for sustainable production, especially for women (e.g. clean cook stoves)

4.6 Module 6: SDG 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy

Module 6 covered SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy, which is a part of People Goals of SDGs. Mr. Michael Williamson, Section Chief of Energy Division in UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), made a presentation on the module agenda.

Mr. Williamson's presentation first reviewed the drivers for a global transition to sustainable energy and three components of SDG7 and their progress towards 2030 targets. Then it presented five factors

that will help delivery of SDG7, which are electric vehicles, solar, bringing renewable resources to load centers, energy storage, and global commitment.

For more information, the presentation material is available at the following link.

[Module 6 presentation](#)

After the presentation, a group work assignment followed with role-play discussion and plenary presentation. In this exercise, all participants were divided into five working groups of 10 to 12 participants. These groups were further divided into four teams representing (1) national governments; (2) global governance mechanisms such as the UN system and IGOs; (3) private business sector; and (4) NGOs, CSOs and academia which watching energy policies.

The four teams within each working group interacted, presenting their points of view to the following challenge: “The successful implementation of affordable and clean energy requires investing in renewable energy resources, prioritizing energy efficient practices, adopting clean energy technologies and infrastructure, scaling finance and public partnership. What concrete measures need to be taken at the national and international levels to promote these policies?”

Each working group nominated a rapporteur, who summarized the discussion and present it in plenary on behalf of each working group.

Each working group agreed that the energy access and efficiency improvement is one of key factors for the sustainable development of a country. For the promotion of renewable energy sources the central and local governments provide financial incentives for end-users and sectors to install renewable energy options. Open competitive energy market conditions in developing countries will be favorable for both domestic and international private business sectors to join it. Since energy sector investment requires huge financial resources, the public and private partnership and the participation of international organizations help more financial resources allocated to the developing countries in order to develop low carbon energy systems. The public awareness on energy savings and efficiency improvement is another option to be achieved with low marginal cost. If public and end-users are aware of low and even negative marginal cost of greenhouse gas reduction by energy efficiency improvement, the SDG 7 in developing countries could be achieved with lower social cost.

In summary of the discussion for Module 6, the following concrete measures that need to be taken at the national and international levels to promote such policies for affordable and clean energy have been identified by the working groups:

I. National Government

- Law enforcement and long-term sustainable plan for sustainable energy in clean energy and energy efficiency
- Incentives for Clean Energy such as tax exemption, subsidies
- Encourage electric, hydrogen, and hybrid vehicles
- Open competitive energy markets to private sector
- Capacity building on operation and maintenance

II. Global Governance:

- Cooperation with neighboring countries
- Facilitate technology transfer and knowledge sharing
- A dedicated entity may help giving more attention on energy
- Encourage public and private investment from both national and international sources

III. Private Sector

- Install small electricity power stations
- Trade electricity into the national grid

- Empower local domestic companies and encourage technology transfer
- Access to financial resources (lower interest rate and subsidies) for companies investing in renewables

IV. Civil Society and Academia

- Raise awareness and make community to get involved in saving energy, energy efficiency, and knowledge sharing
- Research and Development
- Implementation of small renewable energy projects
- Teach communities (women and housekeeper) substitute for firewood

4.7 Module 7: SDG 17 – Partnership for the Goals

Module 7 covered SDG 17: Partnership for the Goals, which is a part of Partnership Goals of SDGs. Dr. Karen Holm Olsen in UNEP, DTU, and Ms. Sara Castro-Hallgren, Program Expert in UNPOG, made presentations on the global partnership and multi-stakeholder partnerships.

Dr. Orsen's presentation reviewed SDG17 and its targets, then covered UNEP DTU Partnership, climate and sustainable development linkages and other multi-stakeholder partnerships. It also presented five shifts for a transformation change to sustainable development.

In her presentation, Ms. Castro-Hallgren covered whole-of-government, and whole-of-society approach, public private partnership and collective impact. With examples, she highlighted outcomes of collective impact and the success factors for collective impact.

For more information, the presentation material is available at the following links:

[Module 7 presentation by Dr. Olsen](#)

[Module 7 presentation by Ms. Castro-Hallgren](#)

After the presentation, group work assignment followed with group discussion and plenary presentation. In this exercise, all participants were divided into 3 working groups of 20 participants. Each group decided an agenda to work on, then interacted and presenting their points of view to the following challenge: "Agenda 2030 requires both a renewed global partnership as well as many multi-stakeholder partnerships to address the SDGs. Describe what additional partnerships, in areas not currently covered in the portfolio on the SDG Partnerships Platform, are needed to help achieve Agenda 2030 and the SDGs?"

Each working group nominated a rapporteur, who summarized the discussion and present it in plenary on behalf of each working group.

In this module, each working group faced different situation where each group did some experiments to shape up partnership among stakeholders to solve the given issue. The first group deals with waste management initiatives, where shared values and the concept of public goods is key to solve the waste problem. How to lead the participation of all stakeholders is the essential task to tackle this issue with stable channels of continuous communications. The second group was assigned to deal with over-fishing and poor fishing practices. How to make local people understand the concept of the long-term and economic valuation of fishing practice is essential for the sustainable fishing. Without legal framework and coordination among stakeholders, the sustainable fishing practice would be a difficult goal to achieve. The third group discussed on how to develop a sustainable energy option, which is hydro energy development. In this case, the legal framework and coordination, and continuous communication to install hydro energy system requires solid partnership at every level.

In summary of the discussion for Module 7, the following additional partnerships that are needed to achieve the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs have been identified by the working groups:

Agenda 1: Waste Management Initiatives

- **Shared Measurement:**
 - Estimation and classification of waste
 - How much is the waste reduced?
 - How X number of employment is made by X number of business using recycled materials to produce
- **Mutually Reinforcing Activities**
 - Pilot Projects
 - Government, Private Sector, Civil Society, and Foreign Visitors
- **Continuous Communication**
 - Activities + Communication = Bazaar
 - Use of Media like radio or TV
 - Periodic Community Meeting
- **Backbone Support**
 - NGOs, CSR from private sector, Committee to support the whole agenda, Government

Agenda 2: Over and Poor Fishing Practices

- **Shared Measurement:**
 - Coordination Body and Permanent Dialogues
 - Economic value of a more sustainable fishery
 - Improvement and long-term viability of the fishing sector
- **Mutually Reinforcing Activities**
 - Regulations and Agreements (prevent over fishing...)
 - Monitoring and Reporting apps
 - Media attention and campaigns
 - Enforcement of Flow
 - Renewal of Licenses
- **Continuous Communication**
 - Coordinate stakeholders, incl. private sector, and discuss challenges together
 - Dialogues and continuous communication
 - Table of Engagement
- **Backbone Support**
 - Creation of independent body/taskforce and coordination body

Agenda 3: Enhancement and Diversification of Energy Mix (Hydro Power)

- **Shared Measurement:**
 - Indicators for making feasibility report (SDG 7.1.1, 7.2.1)
 - Category: Cost, Execution of Project, Progress
- **Mutually Reinforcing Activities**
 - Start mobilizing the available resources and arranging the deficient funds from donors
 - Collaborative/Coordinate with other ministries
 - Regulatory framework for procurement rules
 - Create the steering committee
- **Continuous Communication**
 - Steering committee should oversee the needs of stakeholders at every level and allocate challenges to corresponding entities for the best solution
 - Partnership, Coherence, and Coordination

- **Backbone Support**
 - Central Government

4.8 Module 8: SDG 13 – Climate Action

Module 8 covered SDG 13: Climate Action, which is a part of Planet Goals of SDGs. Professor Tae Yong Jung, Yonsei University and Dr. Jennifer Lenhart, Project manager/expert, Expert, One Planet Cities at Världsnaturfonden WWF / WWF Sweden, made a presentation on the module agenda.

Professor Jung's presentation covered the background and updated data about climate change, development of climate conventions and Paris Agreement. It concluded that since our understanding of the risks of climate change has advanced strongly, we are in a much better position now to use our shared understanding to agree on what goals to adopt and what action to take.

Dr. Lenhart's presentation presented examples of engagement of non-state actors on climate change, and WWF One Planet City Challenges. Key point of the presentation is that these participatory initiatives by non-state actors made climate change tangible for citizen, linking the SDGs in the city and community.

For more information, the presentation materials are available at the following links:

[Module 8 presentation by Professor Jung](#)

[Module 8 presentation by Dr. Lenhart](#)

After the presentation, a group work assignment followed with role-play discussion and plenary presentation. In this exercise, all participants were divided into five working groups of 10 to 12 participants. These groups were further divided into four teams representing (1) national governments; (2) global governance mechanisms such as the UN system and IGOs; (3) private business sector; and (4) NGOs, CSOs and academia which watching climate change policies.

The four teams within each working group interacted, presenting their points of view to the following challenge: "Successful implementation of action to combat climate change and its impact requires Integrating climate change measures into national planning, cross-sectoral governance, strengthening mitigation and adaptation capacity and international partnership, What concrete measures need to be taken at the national and international levels to promote these policies?"

Each working group nominated a rapporteur, who summarized the discussion and present it in plenary on behalf of each working group.

Each working group were fully aware that the climate change agenda should be integrated into their long-term national development plans or strategies, meeting the voluntary national targets on mitigating greenhouse gas emissions through the Paris Agreement. The coordination among relevant ministries to handle climate change issues is one of key factors. International communities and organizations should pay more attention to the climate change adaptation policies of developing countries, who are more vulnerable to the impact of climate change. Capacity building programs for the developing countries at every level by various groups and agencies should be highlighted to develop effective climate policies that require actions by the people. The role of small and medium enterprise (SME) is also recognized to develop localized climate change policies and measures. Small community-based projects and public awareness on climate change will be actively implemented by various civil society.

In summary of the discussion for Module 8, the following concrete measures that need to be taken at the national and international levels to promote these policies that are needed to achieve the climate action goal have been identified by the working groups:

I. National Government

- Integrate climate change into the national development strategies and align them to the Paris Agreement
- Cooperation among ministries and local government
- Develop monitoring mechanism
- Establish early warning system, post disaster management
- Facilitate more research on climate change
- Community-based adaptation activities/projects
- Raise public awareness

II. Global Governance:

- Capacity building to tap the financial resources (green bond, Green Climate Fund)
- Facilitate regional cooperation, South-South cooperation
- Balance resource allocation between adaptation and mitigation

III. Private Sector

- Comply with international norms and standards to reduce and report carbon footprint (Make carbon reporting publicly available)
- Challenges in regulating multinational companies
- Increase the CSR activities
- Change the cultural practices and norms from SMEs

IV. Civil Society and Academia

- Research, information sharing, raising public awareness especially at local level
- Small scale community-based project
- Expand educational opportunities in Environmental Engineering/Climate Change etc.

4.9 Module 9: The Way Forward for Agenda 2030

Module 9 explored the way forward and enabled participating policymakers and policy shapers to more effectively develop their action plan once back in their countries.

Professor Tae Yong Jung, Yonsei University reviewed the agenda and discussions covered during the Training Course. He briefly highlighted the views and discussion points of participants on the selected SDGs covered in the course as summarized in each module. He observed that the key objectives of the training courses, which are knowledge and skills acquisition, networking among participants, sharing experiences and peer-to-peer collaboration, across sectors and countries and learning from best practices and pitfalls in implementation with capacity building for sustainable development policymaking and policy-shaping were achieved by the active participation.

For more information, the presentation material is available at the following links:

[Module 9 presentation by Professor Jung](#)

Then some voluntary participants made presentations on case studies of their representing countries. The following case studies were summarized.

- Swaziland

The highlight of the presentation is that by the Year 2022 the Kingdom of Swaziland will have attained a level of development akin to that of developed countries while ensuring, that all citizens are able to sustainably pursue their life goals, enjoy lives of value and dignity in a safe and secure environment in line with the objectives of Sustainable Development. The National Development Strategies (NDS) focused on macro thematic areas: Governance and Sound Economic Management; Economic

Acceleration, Industrialization and Diversification; Agricultural Development; Research for Development; Human Capital Development; Strategic Infrastructure Development, Balanced Regional Growth and Urbanization; and Environmental Management and Sustainable Development. The localization of SDGs is ongoing.

- Myanmar

There have 15 States and Regions in Myanmar. The Plan and Implementation Committees in 15 States and the Regions have already founded, which included local government decision maker, Parliamentarian, Community elder, Departmental, Business man and Civil Society Organizations (CSO). Since Regional plan is actually needed as efficient plan, without that people who lived in this area cannot result whatever they needs such as electricity clean water and sanitation, housing, transportation and so on in line with SDGs. In the Plan and Implementation Committee, the various committee members discuss together and find out their effective regional plan which actually can fulfill for their regional needs. After getting Plan proposal as priorities needed and it was allocated with budget .Finally it is summited to parliament to promulgate as plan law. After that Plan Implementation and Monitoring and evaluation process will be done. This is a brief summary of Myanmar's Plan formulation and Implementation process as well as to conduct SDG Goals.

- Bangladesh

Bangladesh integrated SDGs into the National Plan. The 7th 5-year plan (2016-2020) is the base for implementing SDGs. The national goal is to develop two more Five Year Plans in order to strive to achieve SDGs by 2030. In the National Plan, 56 specific targets of SDGs are directly aligned with partial alignment of 103 targets. However, it is worthwhile to note that there are data gap for SDGs. One third of the indicators are only readily available, which requires a new mechanism for data mining. Assimilation of SDGs targets in Performance Agreement is one of unique features of Bangladesh's implementation of SDGs. Annual Performance Agreement (APA), a result based performance management system is integrated with SDGs.

- Cambodia

Cambodia highlighted that SDGs localization process. Ministry of Planning gained the permission from the Prime Minister to lead the process of localization of SDGs into Cambodia in 2015. During the processes, there were a lot of consultative workshops conducted. For example, in 2015, an orientation meeting in November was initiated and in 2016, 7 workshops and in 2017, 2 workshops were conducted. The criteria set for ministries to prepare their indicators based on the SDGs indicators by identifying the definition, method of calculation, baseline, target value, data source, and data cycle along with the responsible units. The last high level meeting to discuss and finalize Cambodia SDGs Framework was conducted on 24 April 2018 before submitting for approval from the Prime Minister. The Cambodia SDGs Framework will be adopted by the Government next month. In Cambodia challenges during the SDGs localization process are identified that officials in relevant ministries have limited capacity to prepare their sectoral indicators based on the set criteria. The existing national data produced by censuses, surveys and administrative data are not adequate to support the measurement of the SDGs indicators. There is no Technical Assistance (TA) from international agencies for the localization process of SDGs. Since the budget is limited, the consultations for SDGs were not conducted with the sub-national administration as the localization of MDGs.

- Iran

In Iran, 14 Ministries & 4 organization are the focal custodian in implementing SDGs to incorporate the SDGs in national frameworks. In the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the 2025 Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, The Islamic Republic of Iran General Policies, and the Sixth National Development Plan, SDGs are all incorporated. There are 17 committees were organized for each SDG and one extra committee for statistics. A national sustainable development strategy and

roadmap were prepared in collaboration with all stakeholders, including baselines for indicators, creating an interdisciplinary coordination mechanism which will include all stakeholders with an emphasis on a special network for civil society. An integrated monitoring framework and database for the SDGs were established, strengthening the national statistical capacities. Designing and implementing training courses on the themes of the SDGs in the formal education system and further develop the national SDG experts' network were included. Mobilizing financial resources and reinforcing collaboration mechanisms and institutional structures between various sectors for the effective implementation of the SDGs were key elements for the effective implementation of SDGs.

- Tajikistan

The ultimate goal of the long-term development of Tajikistan is to improve the standards of living of people based on sustainable economic development. To achieve this goal the National Development Strategy of the Republic of Tajikistan for the period up to 2030 were planned. The SDGs 1, 7, 8, and 9 are specific SDGs to achieve by 2030. At the First stage (2016-2020) investments and development of export-oriented and import substitution production is focused for the national development. At the second stage (2021-2025), fast growth of investments in the real sector and infrastructure are identified. At the third stage (2026-2030), the transition from investments based industrial growth strategy to knowledge and innovation based development are planned. SDGs are incorporated into the Sectoral strategies and programs Local Development Programs.

- Sudan

In Sudan, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, State ministries of physical planning and State councils for environment are main governmental bodies to implement SDGs. SDGs special accelerators in Sudan is agricultural transformation. In this sector, productivity improvement was remarkably achieved through using modern technologies like: Zero-Tillage, or No till farming (preserving soil, increase productivity). For SDG 6, development of monitoring system for water quality control by Ministry of health and ministry of water resources and electricity were focused. To achieve SDG 7, solar energy project in the Northern states and energy efficiency measurements for hydro produced energy by ministry of water resources and electricity are implemented. For SDG 13, National Adaptation Plan (NAP), National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA), Low Carbon Development Strategy (LDCS), national policy and measurement for climate change adaptation and mitigation for various sectors were prepared. For energy, industry, forestry, waste, agriculture, water and health sectors, the implementation of climate change insurance project during 2014-2018 were planned, which is risk based insurance measures in selected states. Effective partnership to support and financing the implementation of SDGs, horizontal and vertical coordination, localizing indicators, migration and refugees, youth bulge and sustainable peace are the challenging issues to implement SDGs.

- China

Proactive participation and active implementation of SDGs is national development objectives of China. Specific challenges are forming better synergy between domestic reforms and the development agenda, turning SDGs into specific tasks in economic, social and environmental fields, improving institutional support, coordinating mechanisms between government ministries to formulate implementation plans and information sharing, reviewing progress, and strengthening policy coordination among delegated 17 SDGs 169 targets to specific departments. It is crucial to set up internal working mechanisms, to develop detailed implementation plan and to securing "early harvests" within first 5 years to be achieved by 2020. Specific agenda for SDGs are listed as follows: poverty reduction of more than 55 million domestic rural poor, double the GDP and per capita income of urban and rural residents, creating over 50 million new urban jobs, reduction of energy consumption per unit of GDP by 15%, reduction of CO2 emission per unit of GDP by 18%, promotion of South-South Cooperation, efficient, pragmatic and mutually beneficial partnerships globally, China-

UN Peace Development Fund established, instituting South-South Cooperation and Development doctoral and master degree programs, short-term training opportunities, and Assistance Fund for South-South Cooperation.

- Bhutan

In Bhutan, rapid integrated assessment on SDGs carried out in 2015. Out of 169 SDG targets, 143 targets are relevant to Bhutan. At the 11th Fiscal Year Plan (FYP) of National Key Result Areas (NKRAs) and State Key Result Areas (SKRAs) aligned with 134 targets of SDGs. SDG14 and 17 were not considered in developing national plan. No targets related to unpaid care and domestic work, water use efficiency, regulation and monitoring of financial markets are set up. The protocol for policy formulation requires that all public policies integrate GNH, which implies Socio Economic Development, Environmental Conservation, Cultural Preservation, Good Governance and other cross cutting issues GECDP (Gender, Environment, Climate Change, Disaster, and Poverty). Central and local governments, private sector, NGOs, and individuals jointly formulated the NKRAs aligned to GNH and SDGs. Triple C (Coordination, Collaboration, and Consolidation) should be strengthened. It is worthwhile to note that annual performance management process should be instituted.

- Morocco

On 25 June 2017, Morocco has adopted a new National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS) which seeks to lay the foundations for a green and inclusive economy by 2030. The vision of NSDS includes the four fundamental pillars of Sustainable Development, which are Economic, Social, Environmental and Cultural. To ensure Morocco's territory and society are more resilient to climate change while rapidly transitioning to a low-carbon economy, SDG 13 was highlighted. Low carbon renewable energy options such as solar and wind will be ambitiously implemented. For the climate adaptation strategies, specific action plans are desalination of 285 million m³/year of drinking water supply to several cities and centres, substituting 85 million m³/year of water withdrawal from overexploited aquifers to surface water and saving 2.8 billion m³/year of irrigation water. To construct 38 new dams and develop an inventory of all sites vulnerable to flooding are also included in order to treat all vulnerable sites

Each country shows unique implementation of SDGs, reflecting their socio-economic conditions and priority of national development plan. For example, Sudan emphasizes concrete plans for the rural development with the advancement of agricultural sector. In case of Bhutan, step-by-step approach to achieve national goals by 2030 was planned with the implementation of SDGs7 specific priority stakes are identified in Morocco to implement SDGs. Especially, the climate resilient and low carbon society was vision in this country. The common challenges from all presentations are that most of developing countries need vast amount of resources to enhance their capacity in order to implement SDGs. We observed that most of presentation showed that SDGs are already implemented at the national and local planning and strategies. However, there are some gaps in data availability to implement 167 targets of SDGs, monitoring the performance of SDG implementation.

4.10 Module 10: Concluding Plenary and Formal Closure

In Module 10, Mr. Jong-Soo Yoon, Head, UNOSD, and Senior Government Representative made Concluding Plenary and Formal Closure of the Executive Training Course. His closing speech summarized the overall training course that the course covered both the retrospective and prospective views on the implementation of the SDGs topics from water to global partnership, informative presentations provide us insights for active discussions, and our efforts made comprehensive and practical suggestions, such as integrating SDGS into national planning and PPP. He also expressed his special thanks to Mr. LIU Zhenmin and Mr. Mario Tuason, participants, presenters, partners, colleagues and facilitators.

5. Conclusion and Recommendations

During the executive training course 2018, each participant showed strong interest in learning the selected SDGs and was keen to apply them in their country, considering the national conditions. The format of each module was planned to promote the internal discussions among participants on specific SDG, playing a specific role to achieve such SDG. General observation is that each participating country may have own version of SDG development and implementation plans and long-term development plans. However, the constraints and limitation on implementing SDGs at the national and local level are also discussed. Most common constraint is that the human and resource capacity of a country to implement SDGs. The common recommendations from the participants could be summarized.

- Integrate long-term national development plans and strategies should incorporate specific SDGs to make such plans effective. Ministries coordination and active participation of local governments and local agencies are required.
- Laws legal frameworks should be prepared and enforced to achieve SDGs.
- Capacity building programs for the long-term national plan to achieve SDGs is critical.
- Public and private Investment plans for the infrastructures should be well prepared by the national governments, which is one of key elements to achieve SDGs.
- Comprehensive legal frameworks to implement SDGs is recommendable.
- Incentives to take social and ecological responsibilities in the process of production is recommended.
- It is desirable for central government to develop mechanisms to encourage local governments and agencies to adopt sustainable and inclusive policies and practices.
- Research, information sharing, small scale community-based project raising public awareness especially at local level is strongly recommended.
- To achieve SDGs, regional cooperation and south-South cooperation should be encouraged.

The objectives of the Executive Training Course of 2018 were designed for policymakers in national governments to learn from each other and from experts, practitioners and other non-state policy shapers to acquire the concepts and tools and enhance collaborative knowledge-building, critical thinking, creativity and responsibility among participants for mainstreaming and implementing the 2030 Agenda and some SDGs during the course through their active participations. The objectives were successfully achieved. The specific objectives of the course were to have knowledge and skills acquisition for integrating Agenda 2030 and the SDGs into ongoing and future activities, networking among public policymakers and non-state policy shapers. To learn from best practices and pitfalls in implementation, sharing experiences and peer-to-peer collaboration, across sectors and countries was also achieved.

The overall evaluation of the participants on the executive training program indicate that the program was generally satisfactory in terms of the relevance of sessions and topics, the quality of presentations and the overall organization of the course and participants total experience at the course. The format of the course and mix of training techniques is relatively the area to improve, even if the number of participants are more than 40, which is 25% more than that of last year. Twenty nine participants provided narrative comments on their suggestions for improving future courses, as reproduced below: (1) expressed thanks and appreciation for the conduct of the course, (2) called for earlier provision of presentations, (3) suggested focusing more on specific challenges in implementing SDGs than

overview, (4) provision of non-English materials for non-English speaking participants, (5) more innovative group work, (6) more informative field trip, (7) inviting varied stakeholder including the private sectors and NGOs, (8) more country specific, and successful case examples, and (9) provide airport pickup, more food options and more improvement in accommodation. Some of the comments could be considered for the future editions of the executive training course or similar capacity building programs to be planned by the UNOSD.

Annexes:

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Links to Concept Note, Agenda, List of Participants and other resources

[Course Concept Note](#)

[Annotated Course Agenda](#)

[List of Participants](#)

[Photos from the Training Course](#)

Photos from the Training Course







