

Thematic Discussion 1: Challenges in SCP implementation

Moderator: Dr Lewis Akenji, Director of SCP, IGES

- Ms Viengdalat Somphet, Officer, UN Social and Economic Division, Department of International Organization, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lao PDR
- Mr Chorn VANTHOU, Deputy Director, Department of Planning, Ministry of Industry and Handicraft, Cambodia
- Ms. Jillian Kazumi V. IPAC, Senior Economic Development Specialist, National Economic & Development Authority (NEDA), Philippines
- Dr San Oo, Deputy Director General, Environmental Conservation Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (MoNREC), Myanmar

Common challenges:

1) Financing

2) Monitoring

e.g. Lao PDR: lacking of systematic data collection, where are the data, what targets should be set, data disaggregation, consistency of data

e.g. Cambodia: Lack of data, no universal system of data storage, most of data are from surveys, data not reliable, quality not ensured; data collection by sectors are considered not reliable. (4 indicators for SDG12)

e.g. Philippines: attributable to the lack of 1 overarching SCP framework, 1 indicator for SDG12 = percentage of treated hazardous waste in type of hazardous waste

Other challenges:

- 1) Lack of a universal, overarching policy framework dedicated specifically for SCP (Philippines, Lao, Myanmar)
- 2) Coordination process (interministerial, from central to local government) (e.g.: Myanmar, Cambodia)

The challenges facing CLMV+P countries are so similar.

Are there solutions?

Some suggestions:

- Most countries mention challenges with data, with monitoring, but it appears that countries are too ambitious.

e.g.: Cambodia: 18 CSDGs, 88 targets, 148 indicators

e.g.: Vietnam: 17 VSDGs, 115 targets, about 132 indicators

→ Set priorities, take simple, small specific measure to achieve these limited priorities and focus on indicators needed for those prioritized targets

- There are 2 sources of info which should be exploited better: university and business. Businesses have data for their own operation but don't communicate or are not encouraged to share.

e.g. Vietnam: 6000 employees in the central and local statistic institution, excl. sectoral statistic staff, still not enough capacity to monitor the proposed VSDGs

- Green finance: how much are we aware of the circle of green finance available in house. One potential source is resource efficiency, energy efficiency. The more you show that your house is in order, the more likely that outside partners will come to you.
- SCP: There is no need to label things as SCP because it might cause confusion. Use simple measures: energy efficiency, less package ..., and when the package is complete, you call it SCP.