SDGs Workshop: National Implementation Challenges

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• advisory committee consisting of representatives from EU&EEA, ASEAN and recognised think tanks from Asia and Europe
Overview of SDGs related studies

- Research on Sustainable Development Goals
  - Part I: Goals and Methodology
  - Part II: Measuring Sustainability
  - Part III: Who Will Pay for SDGs?
  - National Case Studies: Poland and Viet Nam
Tailoring – where do we start?
Small Planet Study

Global Level

1. Rio+20 themes
   MDGs
   SDSN, HLP, UNCT,
   planetary and social
   boundaries and other
   proposals

2. Priority themes
   + goals in 14
   ASEM countries

3. 11 SDGs and
   sub-goals

4. Goals, sub-
   goals, targets +
   indicators in 14
   ASEM countries

5. Dashboard of goals + indicators

National Level

Process and conceptual insights
What’s next? Like MDGs, SDGs should be about priorities

If everything is a priority, nothing is a priority

SET YOUR PRIORITIES
Implementation Guide

Step 1: Baseline assessment of SDGs alignment with national goals

Step 2: Customising SDGs to the national planning based on priorities and capacity

Step 3: Developing an implementation and monitoring framework

*How a strong national strategic SDG framework can contribute to resource mobilisation
Step 1: Baseline Assessment

• Cross check 17 SDGs with national priorities
• No size can fit all
• Some models can be only implemented if regional and global cooperation is assured / international commitment is in place
Step 2: Customising based on priorities and capacity

• Focus on existing foundations: work closely with national strategic documents
• Select targets and matching indicators that are already reflected and measured on the country level
• Decide on what is realistic to achieve
• Formulate nationally relevant CSDGs
Step 3: Developing implementation & monitoring framework

- How? Possibly following INDCs process
- Assessing resource: national budget / other funding sources
- Expertise & experience – country specific governance models
- Identifying the gap between existing priorities and country capacity (case study examples)
Step *: Resource mobilisation

- Stakeholder involvement in the process
- Integrating SDGs in the national planning process and consistently focusing on bridging the gap during programming periods
- Awareness rising
- Climate funding
CSDGs

• Step 1: Baseline Assessment
CSDGs

Step 1: Baseline Assessment

- SDGs have been designed to account for differences in national realities and priorities
- Countries are encouraged to assess national policies and priorities to capture the coherence between the global and national level
- Mapping national planning documents to identify:
  - the overlap with the SDGs
  - how the SDGs can enhance existing development plans
CSDGs

Step 1: Baseline Assessment

- Progress with MDG 1, halved the poverty rate, decreasing from 53% in 2004 to 16% in 2013 – even through three quarter of the population remains below or slightly above the poverty line.
- Lack of progress on Goal 7 – environmental sustainability
- Cambodia has compiled 71 indicators (35%)
CSDGs

Step 2: Customising based on priorities and capacity
**CSDGs**

Step 2: Customising based on priorities and capacity

- Policy makers may consider integrating new goals and targets into existing or new policy documents on sustainable development (also adding country specific goals)
- The type and quality of progress depends on two factors:
  - the quality of statistical capabilities and input;
  - the character of stakeholder consultations.
- In the planning process, interlinkages between policy areas should also be considered.
CSDGs

Step 2: Customising based on priorities and capacity

- Transition from the MDGs to the SDGs required restructuring national plans and institutional bodies in line with SDG requirements.
- In the localisation process: 18 goals, 151 targets & 371 indicators
- The overarching document guiding national development planning is the Rectangular Strategy (RS) for Growth, Employment, Equity and Efficiency, which outlines the country’s five-year developmental roadmap.
- The most recent RS Phase III has reformulated the development agenda to balance economic growth with sustainability.
- Unfinished progress on the MDGs has been acknowledged together with the commitment to further the integration of the SDGs.
- This strategy is operationalised in the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP).
- The new NSDP will run from 2018-2023.
- It is the key policy document for CSDGs mainstreaming.
CSDGs

Step 3: Developing a Monitoring and Implementation Framework
CSDGs

Step 3: Developing a Monitoring and Implementation Framework

- The coordination of the SDG implementation requires mechanisms to ensure horizontal and vertical policy coherence.
- Likewise, the national, sub-national and local level as well as civil society and private sector stakeholders all play a role in implementation.
- The standard practice here is to create an intra-governmental national council on sustainable development (NCSD). This council may include representatives from civil society, academia or the private sector.
- Monitoring is usually done under the auspices of the national statistical office.
- Successful monitoring frameworks require strong statistical capacities capable of conducting indicator tracking, policy reviews as well as other reporting.
- Specifically, SDG costing exercises rely on a strong statistical background on the policy area in question.
Step 3: Developing a Monitoring and Implementation Framework

- The general planning & implementation process is top-down
- The health and education sectors have been named as relatively good examples regarding stakeholder participation
- Cambodia has moved towards the standard-structure of national councils for sustainable development: the National Council of Sustainable Development was created in May 2015:
  - mainstreaming programs, coordinating implementation and evaluation and leading tasks on sustainable development, balancing economic growth, environmental protection and social well-being.
  - this includes a focus on green economy, climate change, biodiversity and biosafety.
  - it is a high-level national body containing the Prime Minister as well as 29 secretaries of state and 8 Secretary Generals from ministries and councils.
  - it is being supported by a General Secretariat with 8 departments. It has an executive committee consisting of several secretaries of state that reports quarterly as well as a general secretariat.
- Assessment of national statistical capacity to compile the SDGs indicators:
CSDGs
Step *: Resource mobilisation

- Financing for implementation
- Advocacy
- Stakeholders’ involvement
- Planning for future capacity and resource mobilisation