

# Capacity Building for the SDGs in Asia

Insights into National Preparedness for  
SDG Implementation



# ASEF & THE ASEM PROCESS



## Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

- Founded in 1997 (26 partners; 2014: 53)
- Inter-governmental not-for-profit organisation
- Only permanently established institution of the **Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)** process
- Originally initiated under the aegis of the 3<sup>rd</sup> (socio-cultural) pillar of ASEM
- Funded by annual voluntary contributions from the 53 ASEM partners

# ASEF'S MANDATE

- Promote better **understanding** between Asians & Europeans
- Enable **exchanges** between people, institutions & organisations of Asia & Europe
- Organise & implement **projects** in Asia & Europe

*(Dublin Agreed Principles, 1996; amended 2004)*

18 years

Over 700 projects

About 750 partners

More than 20,000 active participants

#### Tangible Results (Outputs):

- Publications
- Reports
- Web-portals
- Networks
- Collaborations

#### Intangible Results (Outcomes):

- Sharing of knowledge & practices
- Networking
- Added value to the ASEM process by
  - increased knowledge on Asia-Europe relations
  - enhanced mutual understanding among the people
  - better conditions for future cooperation

# THE ASIA-EUROPE ENVIRONMENT FORUM (ENVFORUM)

CAPACITY BUILDING



RESEARCH

**ASIA-EUROPE ENVIRONMENT FORUM**  
Sustainable Development Goals and Indicators for a Small Planet  
Part I: Methodology and Goal Framework

**ASIA-EUROPE ENVIRONMENT FORUM**  
Sustainable Development Goals and Indicators for a Small Planet  
Part II: Measuring Sustainability

**ASIA-EUROPE ENVIRONMENT FORUM**  
Sustainable Development Goals and Indicators for a Small Planet  
Securing Means of Implementation in Viet Nam

**ASIA-EUROPE ENVIRONMENT FORUM**  
Sustainable Development Goals and Indicators for a Small Planet  
Securing Means of Implementation in Poland

**ASIA-EUROPE ENVIRONMENT FORUM**  
Who Will Pay for the Sustainable Development Goals?  
Addressing Development Challenges in ASEAN Countries

# BUILDING CAPACITY IN SDG IMPLEMENTATION

- **Raise awareness** on guiding principles of the SDGs and global SDG negotiations
- Provide insight into practical matters in implementing SDGs (esp. **financing, monitoring, governance**)
- **Map existing national policies** to evaluate alignment with SDGs

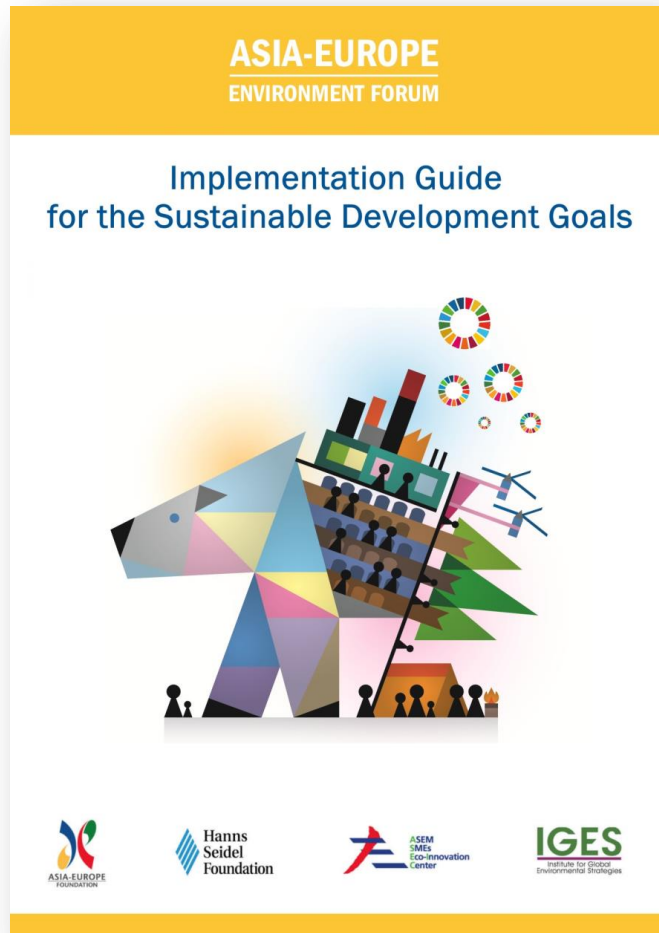


# BUILDING CAPACITY IN SDG IMPLEMENTATION

- Assess how **SDGs** can be **tailored** and integrated
- Set national **targets** based on an assessment of **priorities, capacities, and resources**
- Prepare **implementation and monitoring frameworks**



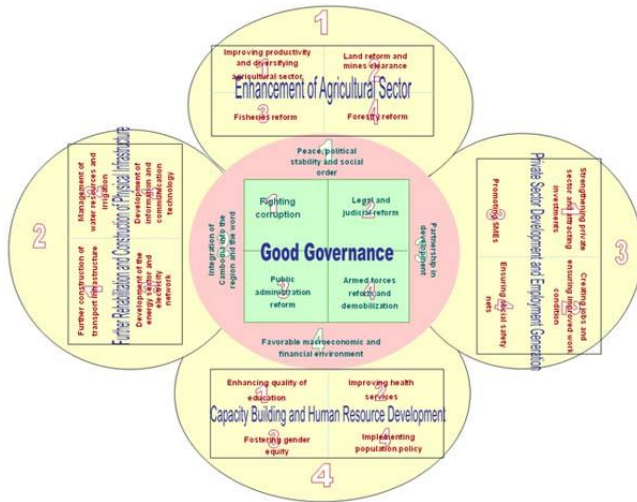
# IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE FOR THE SDGs



- Researched in close consultation with development experts and government
- Designed to support policymakers in getting started with implementing SDGs

*Ch. 1 Introduction to the SDGs*  
*Ch. 2 Global mechanism for SDGs*  
*Ch. 3 Step-by-step guidance for implementing SDGs*  
*Ch. 4 Country case studies in SDG implementation*

# NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS FOR SDG IMPLEMENTATION IN ASIA



Source: Chuop, P. "Tailoring SDGs into National Policies"

## Institutional Framework

- Begun/completed mapping existing national policies to SDGs
- Taking ownership of tailoring SDGs into their national contexts (e.g. CSDGs, VSDGs, etc.) and mainstreaming them into national policy documents
- Established inter-agency bodies to coordinate action on SDGs



Source: Murniningtyas, E.. "How to make Development Sustainable"

# NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS FOR SDG IMPLEMENTATION IN ASIA

## Monitoring Frameworks

Progress is being made in:

- Mapping existing national indicators to global SDG indicators
- Data assessment
- Data disaggregation
- Coordination among gov't agencies and external stakeholders



Get Every Pinoy and Pinay in the Picture

Source: Bersales, L. "How will Countries in Asia Monitor SDGs?"

# COMMON CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED

- Funding and external support
  - Reliable, timely external funding
  - Reconciling national development with access to ODA
- Implementation/monitoring
  - Political commitment for environmental protection
  - Limited capacity for data collection and analysis
- Internal/external cooperation
  - Inter-agency/inter-sector cooperation
  - Varying levels of expertise across countries, within countries

# OPPORTUNITIES MOVING FORWARD: Needs Assessment for SDG Implementation



- Support for M&E frameworks
- Technology transfer
- HR development (e.g. experts, statisticians)
- Resource mobilization for financing SDGs
- Platforms for int'l/regional exchange on experiences/best practices

**Implementation Guide for the SDGs**  
Practical guidance for policymakers  
in getting started with SDGs

**Implementation Guide  
for the Sustainable Development Goals**





**Thank you for your kind attention.**

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