



## Draft Workshop Programme

### National Capacity Building Workshop on Improved Local and National Government Capacities for Localizing SDGs Through Voluntary Local Reviews in Malawi

Sunbird Lilongwe Hotel

24-26 April 2024

#### Draft Programme

Wednesday, 24 April – Day 1	
8:30 – 9:00	<b>Registration</b>
9:00 – 9:30	<p><b>Opening Session</b></p> <p>Director of Ceremonies: Mr. Martin Mwale, Principal Economist, Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs</p> <p>Opening prayer (Volunteer)</p> <p>Opening Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Challa Getachew, Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP Malawi, on behalf of the UN Resident Coordinator</li> <li>• His Worship Mr. Richard Banda, Mayor, Lilongwe City Council</li> <li>• Mr. Hadrod Mkandawire, Executive Director, Malawi Local Government Association (MALGA)</li> <li>• Mr. Richard Hara, Secretary for Local Government, Unity and Culture</li> </ul>
9:30 – 10:00	<b>Introductions</b> – Facilitated by Mr. Martin Mwale, Principal Economist, Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs
10:00 – 10:30	<p><b>Session 1: The 2030 Agenda and the SDGs</b></p> <p>Presenters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Lana Zaman, Sustainable Development Officer, UNDESA/DSDG (Moderator) – <i>Introduction to the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs and their key features and principles</i></li> <li>• Mr. Patrick Kamwendo, Economics Specialist, UNDP – <i>Overview of the SDGs and the role of Local Authorities in their implementation</i></li> </ul>
10:30 – 10:45	<b>Coffee Break</b>
10:45-11:45	<p><b>Session 2: Status of SDG implementation in Malawi and Malawi 2063</b></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Jabusile Shumba, Development Coordination Officer (Economist), UN Resident Coordinator Office</p> <p>Presenters</p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Bartholomew Armah, Chief of Section, Economic Affairs, UNECA – <i>The Integrated Planning and Reporting Toolkit – Aligning National Development Plans and Agenda 2063 in Malawi</i></li> <li>• Mr. Joseph Nagoli, Monitoring and Evaluation Manager, National Planning Commission– <i>Implementing Malawi 2063 and the 2030 Agenda in Malawi: Progress, gaps, and challenges</i></li> <li>• Mr. Hermes Mauwa &amp; Dr. Mwale, Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs –<i>The status of SDG Progress in Malawi</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Guiding questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are the priority areas of action for national development in Malawi, how have they been identified?</li> <li>2. What are the main development achievements and challenges in the country?</li> <li>3. How have the SDGs been integrated into national development plans and strategies? How has the integration assisted in implementation, tracking and reporting of SDGs?</li> <li>4. What is the status of SDG implementation to date, and what are some of the SDG priorities going forward?</li> </ol>
11:45-13:00	<p><b>Session 3: Lessons from the Global Sustainable Development Report and Localizing the SDGs in Malawi</b></p> <p><i>“Lessons from the Global Sustainable Development Report for Accelerating SDG Progress and Localizing Action”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Nyovani Madise, Director of Research for Sustainable Development Policies and Head of Malawi office, AFIDEP; Co-author of the Global Sustainable Development Report 2023 (Virtual)</li> <li>• Q&amp;A</li> </ul> <p>Moderator: Mr. Hadrod Mkandawire, Executive Director, Malawi Local Government Association (MALGA)</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Walusungu Kayira, Ministry of Local Government – <i>The role of local government in implementing, monitoring, and reporting on the SDGs and Malawi 2063</i></li> <li>• Ronald Mtonga, Chief Executive Officer &amp; Simekina Kaluzi, Programmes Manager, The Council for Non-governmental Organizations in Malawi (CONGOMA) – <i>Multistakeholder approaches to SDG localization: Civil society perspectives on and contributions to the implementation of the SDGs</i></li> <li>• Open Discussion with local officials (led by moderator) – <i>Experiences in local government: Challenges, opportunities, and promising practices in implementing the SDGs and Malawi 2063</i></li> </ul>



	<p><i>Guiding questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How have the SDGs been integrated into local, district and provincial development plans and strategies?</li> <li>2. What actions have been taken on SDG implementation? What are some of the key success stories and bottle necks?</li> <li>3. What are areas of priority action and how have they been identified? Have the priority areas been aligned with the national or local/district/provincial budget?</li> <li>4. What are key challenges facing implementation of SDGs at local level, and what mechanisms/processes or systems need to be strengthened or instituted to improve to improve implementation of SDGs at local level</li> <li>5. How can VLRs be a useful tool for enhancing SDG implementation in the local context?</li> </ol>
13:00 – 14:00	<b>Lunch</b>
14:00 – 14:45	<p><b>Session 4: Using VLRs to drive localization of the SDGs and inform VNRs: Sharing of experiences and lessons learned</b></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Jabusile Shumba, Development Coordination Officer (Economist), UN Resident Coordinator Office</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Lana Zaman, Sustainable Development Officer, UNDESA – <i>Introduction and Lessons Learned from the VLRs</i></li> <li>• Ms. Andrid Booysen, Director, Statistics South Africa (Virtual) – <i>Drawing on lessons from the experiences of VLRs in South Africa</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Guiding questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the role of local and regional governments in the implementation of the SDGs?</li> <li>2. What are the benefits of performing a VLR?</li> <li>3. What gaps in SDG implementation did the VLRs highlight?</li> <li>4. Did the VLR process lead to changes in SDG strategies, plans, coordination mechanisms or other areas of implementation?</li> <li>5. How is the VLR used after the report is published?</li> <li>6. How do VLRs contribute to VNRs?</li> </ol> <p>Q&amp;A</p>
14:45 – 15:00	<b>Coffee Break</b>
15:00 – 16:00	<p><b>Session 5: SDGs Planning Tools</b></p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Claudia Garcia Zaragoza, Partnerships and Programme Officer, UN Habitat</p>



	<p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Wilmot Reeves, Economics Adviser, UNDP – <i>SDG Push Diagnostic Tool: UNDP’s Integrated SDG Insights for How to achieve the SDGs by 2030 so that no one is left behind</i></li> <li>• Mr. Efraim Hernandez Orozco, Research Associate II, Stockholm Environment Institute – <i>The SDG Interlinkages tool for SDG analysis</i></li> <li>• Mr. Steven Gondwe, Malawi University of Science and Technology (MUST) – <i>The City Resilience Action Planning Tool (CityRAP) for step-by step participatory resilience planning</i></li> </ul> <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are some of the existing tools and frameworks that can support SDG planning and coordination?</li> <li>2. How can these tools support the development of the VLRs?</li> </ol> <p>Interactive Discussion</p>
16:00 – 17:00	<b>SDG Localization Working Session</b>
<b>Thursday, 25 April – Day 2</b>	
9:00 – 10:30	<p><b>Session 6: Data for enhanced SDGs follow-up and review processes at the national and sub-national levels</b></p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Claudia Garcia Zaragoza, Partnerships and Programme Officer, UN Habitat</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Ezizgeldi Hellenov, Deputy Representative and Chair of Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Group, UNFPA – <i>Data management, results monitoring and reporting: The work of the UN system in supporting monitoring and evaluation of the SDGs in Malawi</i></li> <li>• Mr. Alick Mphonda, Deputy Director and SDG Coordinator, National Statistical Office – <i>Data sources for the SDGs and Malawi 2063: Challenges and opportunities in monitoring and evaluation at national and subnational levels</i></li> <li>• Ronald Mtonga, Chief Executive Officer &amp; Simekina Kaluzi, Programmes Manager, CONGOMA – <i>Findings from the Malawian Civil Society Report on the Progress of Sustainable Development Goals at Mid-point - 2023</i></li> </ul> <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are the challenges regarding data in monitoring and reviewing the sub-national implementation of the 2030 Agenda?</li> </ol>



	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. How should data comparability and suitability for the local context be balanced? What data is available?</li> <li>3. How to prepare the statistical annex for a VLR report?</li> <li>4. How best to analyse and communicate information on data so that it can be used as broadly as possible?</li> </ol>
10:30– 10:45	<b>Coffee Break</b>
10:45 – 11:45	<p><b>Session 7: The VLR preparatory process: overview of approaches, milestones and deliverables</b></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (Moderator) Ms. Lana Zaman, Sustainable Development Officer, UNDESA – <i>Global Guiding Elements for the Voluntary Local Reviews of SDG Implementation</i></li> <li>• Ms. Lusungu Kayani, Social Affairs Officer, UNECA – <i>Africa Voluntary Local Review Guidelines</i> (Virtual)</li> <li>• Ms. Claudia Garcia Zaragoza, Partnerships and Programme Officer, UN Habitat – <i>Action-Oriented Voluntary Local Reviews Methodology</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Guiding questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How to begin a VLR process?</li> <li>2. What are the key elements and milestones in the process?</li> <li>3. Who leads the process and who is engaged? What works and why?</li> <li>4. What are the lessons learned from the process and how has it contributed to the local implementation of the 2030 Agenda?</li> <li>5. How to prepare a roadmap?</li> </ol> <p>Interactive Discussion</p>
11:45-12:45	<b>Break-out Group 1: Preparing the road map and next steps</b>
12:45 – 13:45	<b>Lunch</b>
13:45 – -- 15:00	<p><b>Session 8: Inclusive approaches to awareness-raising and engaging stakeholders</b></p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Kebedech Ambaye, Acting Country Representative, UN Women Malawi</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Lana Zaman, Sustainable Development Officer, UNDESA – <i>Stakeholder Engagement in the Voluntary Local Reviews</i></li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chief Theresa Kachindaamoto, Inkosi, Dedza District – <i>Abolishing Child Marriage: Driving transformation through local policy change and cultural shifts</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Guiding questions</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How do we identify those who are being left behind, or who are at risk of being left behind?</li> <li>2. How can the VLRs help ensure that no one is left behind?</li> <li>3. What approaches to designing inclusive processes to ensure no one is left behind are available?</li> </ol> <p>Interactive Discussion</p>
15:00 – 16:00	<p><b>Session 9: Other Experiences in Accelerating and tracking SDG Implementation at local levels</b></p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Claudia Garcia Zaragoza, Partnerships and Programme Officer, UN Habitat</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Raphael Lali, Economist, Ministry of Local Government, Unity, and Culture – <i>UNDP Hotspot Initiative in Malawi: New sources of data to help reach those furthest behind</i></li> <li>• Mr. Smith Mnenula, DPD Nsanje, Local government official – <i>Promising practices in local SDG monitoring and opportunities for multilevel data collaboration</i></li> <li>• Mr. George Wasonga, VLR Expert, Nakuru, Kenya (Virtual) – <i>Experiences developing SDG dashboards in Kenya: Challenges, opportunities, and promising practices</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Guiding questions</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What solutions or innovative approaches are local governments implementing to track progress?</li> <li>2. How can dashboard help improve SDG monitoring and implementation?</li> <li>3. What are some of the key challenges and lessons learned in developing dashboards?</li> </ol> <p>Interactive Discussion</p>
16:00 – 17:00	<b>Break-out Group 2: Stakeholder mapping exercise</b>
<b>Friday, 26 April – Day 3</b>	
9:00 – 11:00	<b>Session 10: Report back from Day 2 break-out groups</b>



11:00– 11:15	Coffee Break
11:15-12:00	<p><b>Next Steps in the VLR Process</b></p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Claudia Garcia Zaragoza, Partnerships and Programme Officer, UN Habitat</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ms. Sophie Kang’oma, Director for Monitoring and Evaluation, Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs</li><li>• Ms. Sara Castro De Hallgren, Sustainable Development Officer, UNDESA, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, Office for Sustainable Development (Virtual)</li><li>• Ms. Lana Zaman, Sustainable Development Officer, UNDESA</li></ul>
12:00 – 12:30	<p><b>Conclusions</b></p> <p>Director of Ceremonies: Mr. Martin Mwale, Principal Economist, Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs</p> <p><b>Closing Statements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ms. Mickelle Hughes, Head of UN Resident Coordinator Office Malawi,</li><li>• Mr. Hadrod Mkandawire, Executive Director, Malawi Local Government Association (MALGA)</li><li>• Walusungu Kayira, Director of Planning and Policy, Ministry of Local Government</li></ul>