

VNR Lab 2021
Enhancing the dialogue between the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) and the Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs)

Monday, 12 July 2021, 8:00 AM (EDT / New York time)

Programme	
8:00 – 8:10	Opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alexander Trepelkov, Officer-in-Charge, Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DSDG), UN DESA
8:10- 8:40	Ensuring a dialogue between the VNRs and VLRs – Experiences from the 2021 and 2022 VNR countries <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Japan<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Ms. Yoshida Aya, Director, Global Issues Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan- Ms. Hitomi Shimizu, SDGs Ambassador, Shimokawa Town• Sweden<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Ms. Mia Crawford, Coordinator 2030 Agenda, Deputy Director Global Agenda, Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs- Ms. Heidi Englund, Senior Strategist, Human Rights and SDGs, City of Stockholm Executive Office• Argentina<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mr. Fernando Quiroga, Director of International Relations and Institutional Communication, Coordination of the SDG-2030 Agenda project, National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies- Mr. Fernando Collizzolli, Director of International Relations of the Municipality of Quilmes <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How can the Voluntary Local Reviews best enhance local and national level SDG implementation?2. In what ways can the VLRs feed into the VNRs? How in practice can local and regional governments contribute to the national review?3. How has the VNR process supported SDG localization in your country? How can cities and regions utilize the findings of a VNR in their work?4. What were the main lessons learned and challenges in utilizing the VLRs in a Voluntary National Review?

8:40 – 9:00

Building on the regional dimension – the role of the United Nations Regional Commissions

Presenters:

- Mr. Curt Garrigan, Chief, Sustainable Urban Development Section, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
- Ms. Edlam Abera Yemeru; Chief of Urbanization and Development; Gender, Poverty and Social Policy Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
- Ms. Gulnara Roll, Secretary to the Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.(ECE)
- Ms. Cielo Morales, Director, Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES), United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
- Ms. Sukaina Al-Nasrawi, Sustainable Urban Development Lead, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

Guiding questions:

1. What is the added value of regional instruments and processes to the Voluntary Local Review?
2. How can the Regional Commissions facilitate the use of VLRs as a tool to support economic and social recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic?
3. How can the Regional Forums on Sustainable Development be best utilized to address the findings of the Voluntary Local Reviews?
4. Through what ways can the Regional Commissions support enhanced linkages between the VNRs and VLRs?
5. What can the Regional Commissions offer to local governments interested in conducting a VLR?

Q&A Session

Facilitator:

- Riina Jussila, Sustainable Development Officer, Division for Sustainable Development Goals (DSDG), DESA