



United Nations

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs

The VLR preparatory process: overview of approaches, milestones and deliverables

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Towards sustainable development for all



THE AGENDA 2030 AND VOLUNTARY REVIEWS

The 2030 Agenda creates a system for regular monitoring and review of progress made

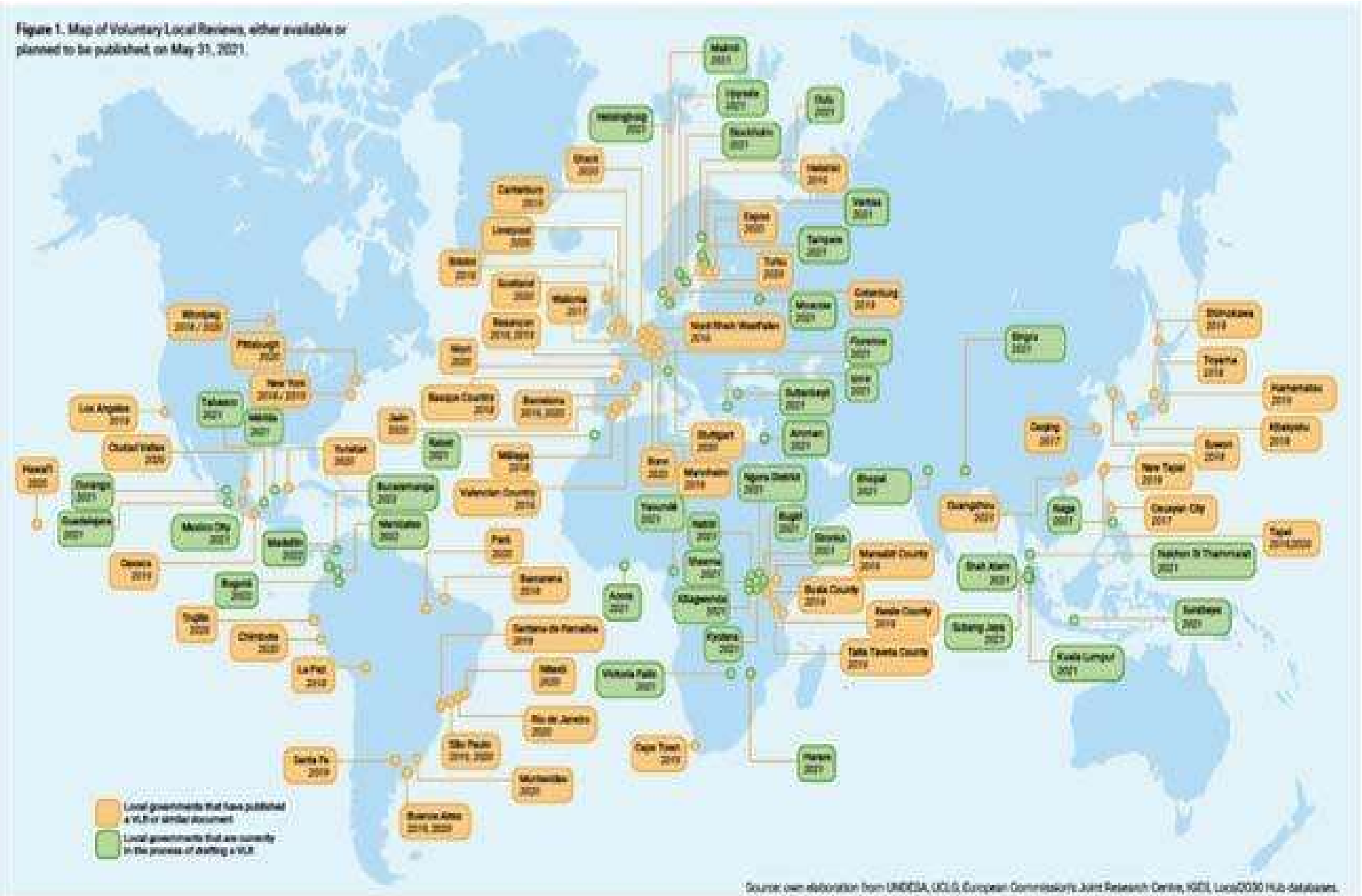


“We commit to fully engage in regular and inclusive reviews of progress at subnational, national, regional and global levels”(2030 Agenda, para. 77).



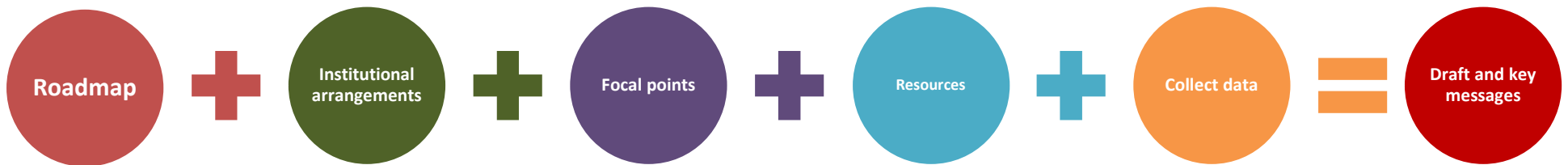
VLRS in the World

Figure 1. Map of Voluntary Local Reviews, either available or planned to be published, on May 31, 2021.



VLR Preparation – Phase I

- Develop a **work plan/roadmap**
- Determine **institutional arrangements**
- Identify additional **focal points**
- Estimate and identify the **resources** required
- **Collect data**
- Prepare the **draft outline** of the VLR and develop **key messages**.



VLR Preparation – Phase II

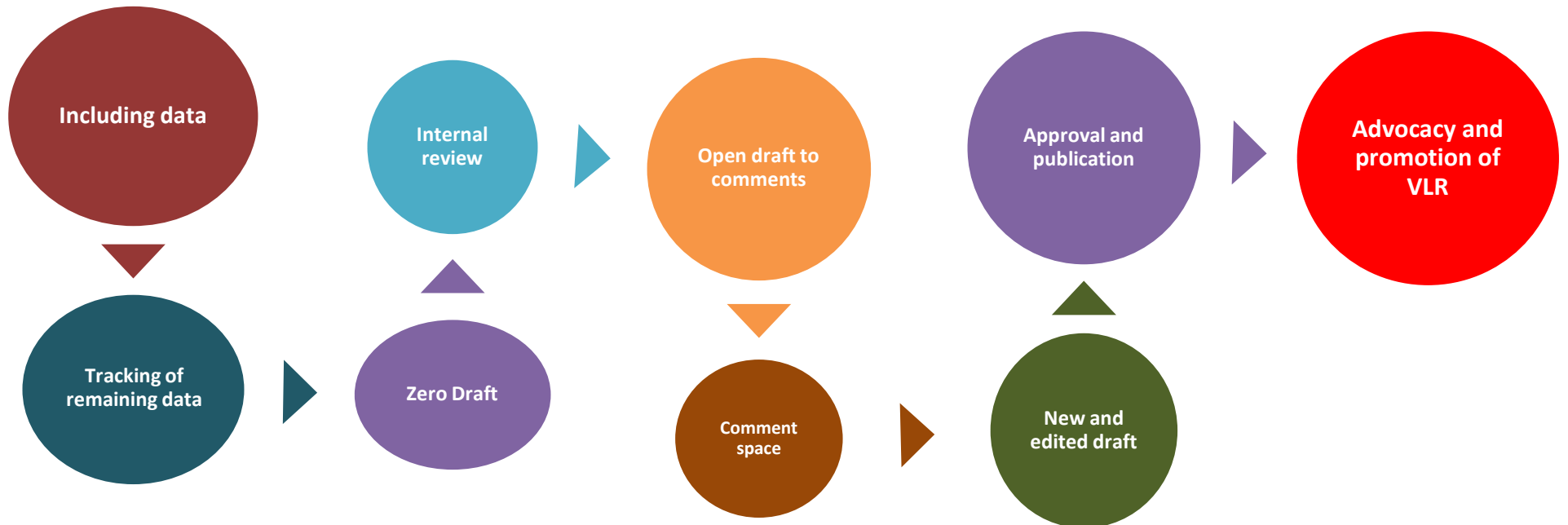
Stakeholder Engagement

- **Make contact** within local government
- Form a **multisectoral committee**
- Develop a **stakeholder engagement plan**
- Establish an **awareness raising and public outreach** component
- **Leave No One Behind** - reach out to groups that are marginalized and at risk of being left behind.



VLR Preparation – Phase III

- Review and incorporate **data** and information received
- Prepare a **zero draft**
- **Internal review + open draft to comment**
- New and edited draft
- **Approval and publication**



GLOBAL GUIDING ELEMENTS FOR VLRS

- Draw from the Secretary-General's common voluntary guidelines for the VNRs
- Provide a proposed shared structure for the reports, and at minimum, give a checklist of issues that could be reflected in the process
- Fully compatible with other, more detailed guidance documents
- Aim at fostering a dialogue between the Voluntary National Reviews and the VLRs, where applicable



Guiding Principles for a VLR

VLRs should be guided by key principles from 2030 Agenda (para. 74) applying to all reviews, i.e.:

- Longer-term orientation, identifying achievements, challenges, gaps and will help mobilize necessary means of implementation and partnerships;
- Open, inclusive, participatory and transparent;
- People-centered, gender-sensitive, respect human rights and have a particular focus on the poorest, most vulnerable and those furthest behind;
- Rigorous and based on evidence

Possible VLR structure

Methodology and process for preparation of the review

Report on the full methodology for the VLR, including:

- Who was in charge of VLR preparation?
- How were stakeholders engaged?
- How was data collected and used?
- How were priority SDGs identified?

Policy and enabling environment

- Describe the relationship between the subnational and national levels
- What activities were undertaken to raise awareness on the SDGs?
- How are SDGs included in local plans
- Leaving no one behind
- Institutional mechanisms/governance
- Barriers faced

Progress on goals and targets

- Analysis of the progress of all/selected SDGs
- Are reference data available? How is progress monitored?
- Means of implementation (financial, capacity building)

Conclusions and next steps

- What next?
- What lessons learned?
- How will progress be monitored



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Thank you.

A low-angle photograph of a modern skyscraper with a glass facade, reaching towards a bright blue sky filled with scattered white clouds. The building's perspective is from the bottom left, creating a sense of height and scale. A semi-transparent white graphic element, resembling a stylized staircase or a series of overlapping rectangular blocks, is positioned on the right side of the image, partially overlapping the building's facade.