

What are key steps in identifying stakeholders and preparing a stakeholder engagement plan?

- Meaningful engagement demands transparency, accountability and commitment and must be inclusive and representative.
- Participation by multiple actors emerges when there is genuine interest to engage, space for collective work and co-creation of knowledge.
- Who is impacted by your work/actions

What are key steps in identifying stakeholders and preparing a stakeholder engagement plan?

- An appreciation of the different degrees of non-state actors engagement with government:
- **Informative level-** mechanisms to spread and share information among actors
- **Consultative-** opens space for non-state actors to voice concerns and share their knowledge with government.
- **Empowering level-** allows non-state actors to strengthen their connections and become a key visible actor to partner with government.
- **Partnership level-** enables government and non-state actors to partner on specific issues/actions.

How can the engagement of various stakeholders contribute to a robust sub-national review?

- **VLRs and VNRs tell the government's SDGs implementation story BUT it can not be a single story.**
- **The indivisible social, economic and environmental pillars of the 2030 Agenda require different actors (state and non-state) from different sectors and disciplines to work together.**
- **To undertake joint diagnosis of the progress.**
- Holding government accountable for actions / failures.
- Through monitoring & evaluation (Spotlight reporting), continuous advocacy activities.

-
- **CSOs are closer to the people through the various work they do across all the 17 SDGs.**
 - **Hence CSOs are conduit for the voice of the ordinary and often marginalized citizens ,**
 - **Numbers are important but sometimes don't tell the lived realities.**
 - **CSOs then inform the review process from a qualitative perspective**

How can the VLRs help to ensure that no one is left behind?

- The inclusive and collective action by diverse stakeholders help to put people at the centre, and provides substantial feedback that improves government's delivery on policies
- When VLRs genuinely respond to the needs of the locals in a particular area.
- It is therefore essential that “the processes, policies and institutions to implement and follow-up and review the 2030 Agenda are open, inclusive and transparent and respect human rights”.

What are some of the good practices for awareness-raising?

- **Continuous Advocacy and engagement related activities.**
- Awareness raising through various platforms (public dialogues, Radio/TV programs, facebook, twitter,
- **Spotlight Reporting-** in the process of monitoring, evaluating SDGs progress, the citizens are becoming more aware of the SDGs and their expectations from the duty bearers as well as their own responsibilities.
- **The Spotlight reports are a vital accountability tool, providing CSOs perspectives of local authorities' progress towards the SDGs implementation claims.**

ZIM CSO REFERENCE GROUP ON SDGs

