



**SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT GOALS**



**NATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING  
WORKSHOP ON IMPROVED LOCAL AND  
NATIONAL GOVERNMENT CAPACITIES  
FOR LOCALISING SDGs THROUGH  
VOLUNTARY LOCAL REVIEWS IN GHANA**



**14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023  
Lancaster Hotel. Kumasi**



Republic of Ghana



**United  
Nations**

Department of  
Economic and  
Social Affairs



United Nations  
Economic Commission for Africa



# **NATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP ON IMPROVED LOCAL AND NATIONAL GOVERNMENT CAPACITIES FOR LOCALISING SDGs THROUGH VOLUNTARY LOCAL REVIEWS IN GHANA**

**Published by:**

**National Development Planning Commission,  
No.13 Switchback Road, Cantonments,  
Accra.**

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**2023**

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# LIST OF ACRONYMS

<b>APRM</b>	African Peer Review Mechanism
<b>ECA</b>	Economic Commission for Africa
<b>GSS</b>	Ghana Statistical Service
<b>MDAs</b>	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
<b>MLGDRD</b>	Ministry of Local Government, Decentralisation and Rural Development
<b>MMDAs</b>	Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies
<b>MoF</b>	Ministry of Finance
<b>MTNDPF</b>	Medium-Term National Development Policy Framework
<b>NDPC</b>	National Development Planning Commission
<b>NPoA</b>	National Programme of Action
<b>OHLGS</b>	Office of the Head of Local Government Service
<b>PWDs</b>	Persons with Disabilities
<b>RCC</b>	Regional Coordinating Council
<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>UNDESA</b>	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNECA</b>	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
<b>VLRs</b>	Voluntary Local Reviews
<b>VNRs</b>	Voluntary National Reviews

# CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background

In 2020, the Accra Metropolitan Assembly conducted the first Voluntary Local Review (VLR) in Ghana with technical support from the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) and Ghana Statistical Service (GSS). Key stakeholders including the Government appreciated the significance of VLRs as an effective mechanism for monitoring and tracking progress in Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) implementation at the sub-national level. Subsequently, the NDPC launched a Voluntary Local Review Programme for the period 2023-2025 aiming to holistically involve local authorities in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Accordingly, the Government requested assistance in supporting interested Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) for the preparation of VLRs. The preparation of VLRs is expected to: 1) Enable Local Authorities to assess their achievement of the SDGs; 2) Attract resources to key areas identified in the VLRs as a priority to advance the achievement of the SDGs at the local level; and 3) contribute to accelerating progress and reporting on SDG achievement at the national level.

Ghana has mainstreamed the SDGs and the AU Agenda 2063 into the Medium-Term National Development Policy Framework (MTNDPF) as well as the Medium-Term Development Plans. As required by statute, the MDAs as well as MMDAs derive their plans from the MTNDPF. Therefore, the implementation of plans of the MDAs and MMDAs unvaryingly implies

the implementation of the SDGs and the AU Agenda 2063.

Hence, there is recognition that localizing the national and internationally agreed development goals is essential for ensuring that these goals reflect local needs, norms, and values, thus ensuring that local actors find them relevant and meaningful. With regard to the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals, local and sub-national governments are increasingly playing a pivotal role in implementation, addressing core issues including poverty, food security, access to quality education, health care and water and sanitation services, and in advancing gender equality, youth empowerment and reducing inequalities, among others. It is estimated that at least 100 of the 169 SDG targets will not be reached without proper engagement and coordination with local and regional governments.

The 2030 Agenda (A/RES/70/1: *Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*) recognizes this important role, pledging that **“Governments and public institutions will also work closely on implementation with regional and local authorities”**. In paragraph 27 (e) of the Political Declaration of the 2019 SDG Summit (A/RES/74/4), member states commit to empowering and supporting cities, local authorities and communities in pursuing the 2030 Agenda, and recognize their critical role in implementing and realizing the Sustainable

Development Goals.

Further, the 2030 Agenda encourages member states to **“conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national and sub-national levels, which are country-led and country-driven”** (paragraph 79). This further underscores the critical importance of implementing the SDGs at the local level while empowering local authorities and actors as stewards of monitoring and reviewing the Goals. Furthermore, the Ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the 2022 session of the Economic and Social Council and the 2022 high-level political forum on sustainable development (E/HLS/2022/1) encourages **“... the full, equal and meaningful participation of all relevant stakeholders, including local governments, civil society organisations and academia, in the design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of national sustainable development strategies and the preparation of voluntary national reviews. ... We further encourage the involvement and empowerment of local authorities, to ensure ownership and localisation of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular by citizens, communities, civil society, local organisations, the private sector and academia. In this regard, we welcome voluntary subnational and local reviews as an essential tool to show progress and foster exchange on local implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, in coordination and synergy with national actors.”**

In that regard, local and regional governments are increasingly engaging in sub-national reviews of their SDG implementation to reinforce vertical and horizontal policy coherence and complement, VLRs that have been prepared in developed and developing countries have demonstrated that they can be a powerful accelerator of SDG implementation; contribute to the collection and analysis of

timely, accurate and disaggregated data on SDG implementation and the furthest behind at the local level; bring stakeholders, including those in vulnerable conditions, closer to decision-making processes; strengthen multilevel governance and inform the elaboration of Voluntary National Reviews; and foster integration of the SDGs into national and local planning. VLRs can also help to better respond to the specific needs of local communities and geographical areas.

The value of VLRs in advancing SDG implementation has been increasingly recognized at national and international levels. In his 2023 report on Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, the Secretary-General notes that, since 2018, the voluntary local review global movement has provided **“an unprecedented push towards localisation,”** contributing **“to advances in all dimensions of localisation of the Goals – from data innovation to planning and policy coherence to project development and financing.”**<sup>1</sup>

SDG localisation was further identified as one of 12 high-impact initiatives, to be showcased at the SDG Summit at UN Headquarters in September 2023. In this regard, strengthening multi-level governance and SDG localisation can address key challenges Ghana expressed in its 2022 Voluntary National Review such as: i) The need to restore the economy amidst current global and national economic challenges such as rising oil prices, fiscal deficits, depreciation of the local currency, and youth unemployment, ii) Broadening social protection coverage for the vulnerable including PWDs towards social and economic inclusion, iii) Addressing infrastructure inadequacies in key sectors such as health, education, and sanitation services as well as supporting digitalisation drive; and iv) Mitigating impacts of climate change and variability for green growth.

1 A/78/80-E/2023/64, Para. 52

In light of the above, the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) in collaboration with the Division for Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DSDG/UNDESA), the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), the United Nations Resident Coordinator (RCO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Ghana, organised a national capacity building workshop on **“Improved Local and National Government Capacities for Localising SDGs Through Voluntary Local Reviews in Ghana”** .

## 1.2 Objectives

The general objective of the workshop is to support the acceleration and scaling up of SDGs implementation and localization in Ghana through the preparations of voluntary local reviews and their linkages to national development plans. Specifically, the objectives are to:

- i. Strengthen the capacity of local, regional and national government officials to conduct inclusive sub-national reviews of SDGs implementation, including reporting, and identifying main messages, challenges and opportunities;
- ii. Enhance the capacity of local and regional government officials to integrate the SDGs into local plans and strategies, and enhance policy coherence of these plans with national development plans and national to local financing gaps;

- iii. Strengthen awareness and multi-stakeholder partnerships for sub-national implementation and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs through the Global Guiding Elements for VLRs;
- iv. Building the capacity of government officials for integrating Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) into local plans and strategies;
- v. Strengthen multi-stakeholder cooperation and experience sharing on the SDGs monitoring and review at the local level; and
- vi. Strengthen awareness regarding how the VLR process can be utilised to enhance data gathering and analysis for tackling urban-rural inequalities and prioritisation of vulnerabilities within Ghana.

## 1.3 Participant Analysis

The workshop had diverse participants from Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs), Regional Coordinating Councils, Civil Society Organisations, Development Partners, Private Sector Organisations, and the Media. In all, there were 75 participants including a few virtual participants. The virtual participants were experts and practitioners who were mostly engaged in the panel discussions (See Appendix 1 for the list of participants).





# CHAPTER TWO: PROCEEDINGS

## 2.1 Introduction

The VLRs present an effective mechanism for monitoring progress in SDGs implementation at the sub-national level. This section presents the key messages from keynote speakers, panel discussions, presentations, next steps and closing remarks.

## 2.2 Summary of Opening Remarks

### 2.2.1 Welcome Remarks (Ashanti Regional Minister's Representative)

The Regional Coordinating Director of Ashanti Region, Mrs. Emelia Ayeberg Botchway, on behalf of the Regional Minister expressed appreciation to the National Development Planning Commission and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) for choosing the Region, specifically Kumasi, for this august national engagement. She indicated that the workshop marked a significant step and milestone in our commitment as a nation, to fostering sustainable development and inclusive governance. She further indicated that the workshop recognises the critical role national governments play in achieving the ambitious targets set forth by the SDGs and Agenda 2063. As a result, the workshop reflects a collective vision **“to empower local authorities to drive the transformation at the sub-national level”**

Also, the collective effort to integrate the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 clearly shows

Ghana's commitment to these targets. The **'3As'** approach – Align, Adapt, and Adopt – have made it easy to report on the SDGs and Agenda 2063. The workshop indeed offers an opportunity for discussions to strengthen the reporting mechanisms and build the capacity for reporting at the local levels.



### 2.2.2 Statement by Head of Local Government Service

The Head of Local Government Service, Dr. Nana Ato Arthur in his speech indicated that the workshop is aimed at creating an avenue for the regional and district level actors to review the state of implementation of the Agenda 2030 in their areas of jurisdiction. In addition, it is aimed at bringing the SDGs closer to the people and within the existing framework of implementation, monitoring and evaluation. He indicated that the roles at the various levels of governance; ranging from supervisory, coordinating, and direct implementation were clearly defined and the

roles of the MMDAs remain very important.

He further indicated that it would be difficult to fully achieve the SDG targets if the country is to continue on its current path regarding the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Hence, one of the mechanisms to fully achieve the SDGs is to strengthen reporting systems, and for this reason the VLRs have become a significant tool to be used. Given this, he encouraged all the assemblies to be actively involved in the preparation of the VLR.

In this light, the Office of the Head of Local Government Service (OHLGS) is rolling out programmes on VLR preparations to strengthen implementation and reporting on SDGs at the local level. This is being done in collaboration with NDPC, GSS and Ministry of Local Government, Decentralisation, and Rural Development (MLGDRD) with support from Engagement Global, Germany.



### 2.2.3 Statement by APRM Continental Secretariat, Africa Union

The representative from African Peer Review Mechanism Governing Council (APRM-GC), Ghana, Mr. David Asante-Apeatu indicated that the collaboration between NDPC and APRM-GC was a long-standing one. Picking it up from when the first National Programme of Action (NPOA) was integrated into the national development framework, to collaborations in preparing the implementation reports of Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030. The workshop is timely as reporting on the continent's

ambitious Agendas for good governance is concerned.

He indicated that the gathering was a testament to the collective commitment to advancing sustainable development and ensuring that no one is left behind in our pursuit of the SDGs. The APRM in Ghana serves as a valuable framework for fostering good governance, accountability, and transparency, aligning seamlessly with the global agenda set by the SDGs. He expressed that localizing these goals means recognizing the importance of tailoring strategies to address the unique challenges and opportunities that exist within our local communities. He further admonished that all participants should take note that the success of our efforts depends on the active involvement and commitment of all stakeholders.



### 2.2.4 Statement by NDPC and Purpose of the Workshop

The SDGs National Coordinator, Dr. Richard Osei Bofah, on behalf of the Director General of NDPC, indicated that significant progress had been made over the years, both in the implementation of the Goals as well as reporting on performance. Similarly, the Agenda 2063 has also experienced improvement in terms of implementation and reporting.

Largely, both Agenda 2063 and 2030 have been integrated into the national and sub-

national planning and budgeting systems. He indicated that as part of efforts to measure the progress of implementation, so far two (2) Voluntary National Reviews have been conducted in addition to a Technical Report on SDGs prioritisation and national commitment.

Given the global call to strengthen the reporting mechanism through Voluntary Local Reviews, NDPC with support from other key stakeholders have prepared VLR guidelines to guide the preparation of the local reports on the implementation of SDGs. Therefore, the three-day workshop was designed to build the capacity of selected MMDAs on the preparation of their VLRs.



## 2.3 Summary of Day One Technical Sessions

### 2.3.1 Summary of Panel Discussion on setting the national context: National Development Policy Framework (2022-2025), the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, the Agenda 2063

The panel discussion was moderated by Mr. Peter Aidoo of the UN Resident Coordinator's Office, Ghana. The members comprised; Dr. Felix Addo-Yobo (Deputy Director & Advisor, SDG Advisory Unit, Office of the President), Mr. Jürgen Gafke, (Senior Programme Management Officer, DSDG/DESA) and Ms Sara Hamouda (Agenda 2063 Expert, APRM Continental Secretariat).



The discussions provided an overview of the national, regional and international frameworks that guide sustainable development in Ghana. It also focused on efforts to align National and Sub-national plans with the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. Some of the major highlights from the discussions included the following:

- i. Lessons from the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals have resulted in the development of SDG implementation arrangements with an emphasis on coordination across various sectors.
- ii. Integration of the SDGs and Agenda 2063 into National and Sub-national planning and budgeting processes to the extent that it makes it easy to track various expenditure lines.
- iii. Existence of a CSO platform for dialogue and also the promotion of whole-society-approach to the implementation of SDGs and Agenda 2063.
- iv. Existence of challenges such as financial constraints, inadequate data, and inadequate technical capacity at the local level, among others.
- v. Data challenges being addressed through the development of a uniform template to collect administrative data and integration of the SDGs and Agenda 2063 indicators.
- vi. Achieving the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 require countries to periodically report on the progress of implementation.

### 2.3.2 Summary of Panel Discussion on using VLRs to drive localization of the SDGs and inform VNRs: Sharing of experiences and lessons learned

This session was moderated by Dr. Ing. Nana Ato Arthur, Head of Local Government Service with the panel members being Mr. Modou Jonga (CEO of Brikan Area Council, Gambia), Mr Robert Papa (from Busia County, Kenya), Dr. Stefano Marta (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development), and Rev. Isaac Tettey (Regional Economic Planning Officer, Volta Region - Ghana). The discussions focused on experiences, best practices and challenges from the preparation of VLRs. Some of the issues raised include the following:

- i. In Gambia, there are significant efforts to build capacity at the local level to be able to localise the SDGs. There is an active participation and inclusivity approach to the preparation of SDGs reports.
- ii. In Kenya, the VLR provides information for the preparation of VNR. **“Without VLR, there will be no VNR”**. The local authorities have prioritised the SDGs based on its applicability in the locality. There is a conscious effort to integrate the SDGs into planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation. The preparation of VLR is faced with challenges such as insufficient budget, inadequate data, and difficulty in defining who constitutes the vulnerable - leading to some poor people being left behind.
- iii. OECD indicated that there are efforts to localise SDG indicators, with focus on SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities); mainstreaming the SDGs in cities and region’s policies and strategies; strengthening multi-level governance; mobilising financing and budgeting for the SDGs; engaging public and private stakeholders, among others.
- iv. Some of the benefits of preparing VLRs include awareness creation on the targets and goals of the 2030 Agenda, enhancing

local-level interest in the implementation of the SDGs, and attracting investment through transparency and accountability.



### 2.3.3 Summary of Panel Discussion on interactive session on the status of SDG and MTNDPF implementation in Ghana

In this section, the discussions focused on exploring Ghana’s journey towards implementing the 2030 Agenda and MTNDPF 2022-2025, particularly assessing how Ghana has integrated the SDGs into the national and local policy process, budgeting and the role of various stakeholders.

Presentations were made by some selected Districts including: Amansie West District, North East Gonja District, Bibiani-Anhwiaso-Bekwai Municipal and Sunyani Municipal. The presentations highlighted the process adopted by the districts to integrate the Agenda 2030 and Agenda 2063 into their medium-term development plans as well as the programmes, projects and activities being implemented and the level of implementation of the

In addition, there was a panel discussion moderated by Ms. Beauty Narteh, Executive Secretary, GACC, with a panel comprising the planning officers of the selected districts and review comments on the presentations from Ms Jemima Lomotey (Regional Economic Planning Officer, Greater Accra), and Mr Charles Konglo (Principal Planning Analyst, NDPC). Some of the highlights from the

discussions include the following:

- i. District annual progress report can help to provide data for the preparation of VLR.
- ii. Consider rebranding the district annual progress report to serve as the VLR report.
- iii. Need to intensify the participatory processes in the preparation of the district annual progress reports.
- iv. VLR will help to package the opportunities at the local level to attract investment.
- v. Consider including political leaders in the capacity training on VLR to ensure their commitment towards the preparation of VLR at the local.



#### **2.3.4 Summary of Panel Discussion on strengthening local and national coordination for the SDGs**

**M**ultilevel governance is critical to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals. This session focused on exploring the guidance from the international level on effective governance, as well as good practices from the region and within Ghana in

ensuring coordination among various levels of government. The panel members included Ms. Winnie Asare, (Principal Officer, APRM National Secretariat), Mr. Charles Konglo (Principal Planning Analyst, NDPC), Ms. Sara Jagwanth (DESA/DPIDG) and Ms Hilde Opoku, (UN-HABBITAT). The session was moderated by Dr. Felix Addo-Yobo (SDG Advisory Unit, Office of the President). Some of the issues raised at the discussion include the following:

- i. The implementation arrangement has been set up with a leadership structure to support the implementation and reporting on SDGs. The arrangement has also made provisions for a coordination platform for key stakeholders such as MDAs, MMDAs, private sector, CSOs, and traditional leaders to support the implementation of SDGs.
- ii. There is significant effort to improve data collection for reporting on SDGs.
- iii. The Implementation Coordination Committee (ICC) has been working actively and together to support the implementation and reporting on the SDGs.
- iv. There are efforts to intensify awareness creation on the implementation of SDGs.
- v. Smart Cities project in Ghana which is being supported by UN-HABITAT has strengthened planning and data collection processes among others to support the preparation of VLR.
- vi. An effective communication strategy guide has been developed to ensure active participation in the preparation of VLR.
- vii. There is a need to activate and strengthen the coordination mechanism for reporting on SDGs at the local level.

## 2.4 Summary of Day Two Technical Session

### 2.4.1 Summary of Panel Discussion on the VLR participatory process: an overview of approaches, milestones and deliverables



The discussions were centred on the mechanisms developed so far to help create awareness of the SDGs. The achievement at the national level in respect of localising the SDGs, the preparation of VLR guide to support the preparation of VLRS, making provision for extensive stakeholder consultation, and discussions related to the policy environment were highlighted. Also, country experiences on localising the SDGs and VLRS were discussed. The session was moderated by Dr. Richard Osei Bofah (SDGs National Coordinator, NDPC) with the panel comprising Mr. Jürgen Gafke, (Senior Programme Management Officer, DSDG/DESA), Ms. Lusungu Kayani (Social Affairs Officer, UN Economic Commission for Africa), Ms. Claudia Garcia Zaragoza and Mr. Telman Maharraamov (UPB, UN-Habitat), and Ms Vera Baffoe (Senior Planning Analyst, NDPC). Some of the highlights of the discussion included the following:

- i. At the international level, there is a VLR guide that has been prepared to guide cities and localities in their preparatory efforts. The guide is simple, easy to follow, and provides best practices and lessons.
- ii. The VLR conducted so far, especially

from the developing countries shows that there are data gaps, particularly on gender-specific data.

- iii. The VLR guide developed by NDPC took inspiration from the international guide.
- iv. Efforts have been made to intensify awareness through engagement with stakeholders and dissemination of SDG reports at the sub-national level.

### 2.4.2 Presentation on VLR: The Ghana Context Using the VLR Guide

This session of the workshop focused on the presentation of the Ghana context using the VLR guide and break-out session for group discussions. In respect of the presentation, it was done by Ms. Patience Ampomah and Mr. Charles Konglo of NDPC.

#### *I. Highlights of the Presentation*

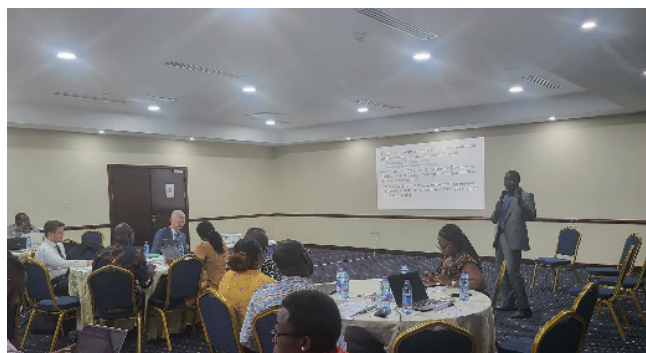


The need for VLR guidelines gained recognition in 2017, with the 2021 UN High-Level Political Forum confirming its role in localizing the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. VLRS are crucial for accelerating SDG implementation and strengthening subnational reporting structures. In 2019, New York City launched the VLR Declaration, and 22 cities, including three African cities, pledged to use the SDG framework to end

poverty and combat inequality. The guide looks at five main chapters, as was presented by the NDPC team.

Chapter One provides a brief background on the VLR process, its reasons for preparation, and main benefits. It emphasizes the relationship between VLR, local ownership, and accelerating the 2030 Agenda. The VLR adds value to national reports on the SDGs. The district profile includes demographics, economy, education, health, geography, governance, community engagement, and supportive services.

Chapter two discusses the methodology and process for preparing a VLR report, including stakeholder engagement, indicator gathering, and data sources. It highlights innovative processes and challenges in ensuring inclusivity. The report also discusses strategies for agreeing on indicators and highlights the use of visualization tools. Addressing data challenges involves using case studies, rapid assessments, and proxies, prioritizing data collection on district-specific goals, and prioritizing goals at high-level political forums, and continental, national, regional and local forums.



Chapter three focuses on the integration of sustainable development dimensions and the principle of leaving no one behind in Ghana's development. It also discusses the process of integrating vulnerable groups like women, children, and PWDs. Ghana's development focuses on integrating socio-cultural, economic, and natural resources into policies, plans, and programs. Institutional

development is also identified as a fourth pillar of sustainability.

The fourth chapter discusses the progress made in implementing 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. It provides a report on progress on all 17 Sustainable Development Goals and AU Agenda 2063 20 targets, with a broad heading for each goal and target.

The fifth chapter discusses financing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and investment opportunities. It discusses the alignment of financial systems, statistical data, and resource allocations, as well as the effectiveness of existing financing strategies and policies. It also highlights the success of mobilizing domestic resources and the experiences of MMDAs with gender-responsive budgeting. The chapter also highlights key investment opportunities at the MMDA level, its challenges and strategies to attract investors. It also highlights the importance of aligning these opportunities to measure their contribution to achieving the SDGs.



## II. Summary of Breakout Session

The breakout exercise focused on stakeholder mapping for the preparation of VLRS. The exercise sought to identify key stakeholders and also measure their impact in terms of significance and potential

contribution to SDG implementation at the local level. It also identified the capacity of the stakeholders to participate in the stakeholder's engagement. To achieve this, participants were grouped into five (5) with facilitators to map the stakeholders. Some of the highlights of the group discussion included the following:

- i. Generally, there are stakeholders such as non-governmental organisations, businesses and industry, children and youth, farmer groups, cooperatives, women's groups, workers and trade unions, among others.
- ii. Stakeholders such as non-governmental organisations, businesses and industry, cooperatives, workers and trade unions, typically have a high capacity to participate in stakeholder engagement sessions as well as targeted activities.
- iii. Other stakeholders such as children and youth, farmer groups, faith leaders, PWDs, and older persons generally have low capacities. There is therefore the need to build capacity for these stakeholder groups.
- iv. Stakeholders such as non-governmental organisations, business and industry, cooperatives, worker and trade unions, traditional leaders, and faith groups are also of high significance with the potential to contribute to the implementation of SDG at the local level.

### 2.4.3 Summary of Panel Discussion on data for enhancing SDGs and MTNDPF follow-up and review process at the national and sub-national levels



This session focused on the uses of quantitative and qualitative data in monitoring progress towards attainment of the global goals at the national and sub-national levels. It provided opportunities regarding how cities and regions can access data for VLRs and also for planning purposes. The panel included Mr. Daniel Amofa (Principal Planning Analyst, NDPC), Mr. Vitus Bobrnuo (Senior Statistician, GSS), Mr. Amson Sibanda (Chief, National Strategies and Capacity Building Branch, DSDG/DESA), Mr. Nana Yamoah Asafu-Adjaye (CSIR-STEPRI) and Mr. Tinfissi-Joseph Ilboudo (Chief, Statistical Development, Data Innovation and Outreach, UNECA). The session was moderated by Dr. Felix Addo-Yobo (SDG Advisory Unit, Office of the President). Some of the issues raised included the following:

- i. There are significant efforts on the part of GSS to strengthen data collection systems and management. This includes activities to build the capacity of institutions on capitalising on internal structures for data collection. Nonetheless, there are structures in place supported by legislative instruments to manage data collection and management.
- ii. GSS has conducted an assessment of data availability for reporting on SDGs.



Data gaps are being addressed through the development of standard template for data collection at the MMDA level.

- iii. There should be efforts to improve citizen-generated data for reporting on the SDGs, especially at the local level.

#### 2.4.4 Summary of Breakout Session

The breakout session was meant to identify interventions contributing to attainment of the SDGs. It focused on local actions, local indicators for measuring the actions and the SDG indicators that these actions are contributing towards its attainment. Participants were also supposed to indicate the data sources and collection mechanisms for reporting on the performance of the various actions. To achieve this, participants were grouped into five (5) with facilitators to map the various SDG interventions.



## 2.5 Summary of Day Three Technical Session

### 2.5.1 Summary of Feedback from Group Sessions

This session of the workshop focused on group presentations on the mapping of local interventions contributing to achieving the

SDGs. The group presentations identified local actions such as: street naming and property addressing; water and sanitation management including solid/liquid waste management; training people in income-generating activities and supporting them with start-up capital; capitalising on the planting for food and jobs flagship programme; and sensitization on gender-based violence. In addition, there were specific indicators to measure these actions and the SDG indicators these actions are contributing to their achievement (see appendix 2 for mapping interventions).

### 2.5.2 Next steps for the VLR process

The activities proposed to be implemented for the VLR processes included the following:

- » Continuous capacity building on the VLR process for MMDAs.
- » The National Development Planning Commission will review the VLR guide to incorporate comments from participants.
- » Implement targeted capacity building sessions to strengthen coordination mechanisms at the local level.
- » MMDAs are to initiate the preparation of the VLR.
- » NDPC and Development Partners to continue to provide technical support for local authorities on the VLR processes.

## 2.6 Closing Remarks

The Head of Local Government Service, Dr. Ing. Nana Ato Arthur expressed heartfelt gratitude to all the participants for their active participation. He indicated that to be able to achieve the SDGs, there is the need to strengthen the VLR process since it promotes accountability, helps attract investment,

and builds the capacity of the local people, among others. He recommended that given the importance of the VLR process, there is the need to introduce means of verification mechanisms as part of the process for

verifying the local interventions. To end with, he indicated that there will be an effort to establish an SDGs desk in each of the MMDAs to ensure consistency in reporting on SDGs at the local level.

# APPENDICES

## Appendix 1: Participant List

No.	Name	Institution
1.	Douglas Danso	Bibiani-Anhwiaso-Bekwai Municipal Assembly
2.	Seth Addae	Sefwi Wiawso Municipal Assembly
3.	Louis Aggrey	Sefwi Wiawso Municipal Assembly
4.	Jacob Adade Ntiamoah	Ahafo Regional Coordinating Council
5.	James ata-Era Akularemi	Asunafo South District Assembly
6.	Bismark Kyereh Asante	Asutifi North
7.	Samuel Amponsah Yeboah	Sunyani Municipality
8.	Usama Samu	Sunyani Municipality
9.	Ibrahim Musah Duwally	Kintampo Municipal Assembly
10.	Thomas Atibilla	Kintampo Municipal Assembly
11.	John Bada	Jasikan Municipal
12.	Isaac Adjeapon	Jasikan Municipal
13.	Yussif Yakubu	Wa Municipal
14.	Abubakar Adjetey Siddiqi	Wa Municipal
15.	Belko Awudu	North East Gonja
16.	Adams Abudu	North East Gonja
17.	Abdul Aziz Haleem	West Gonja
18.	Ibrahim Issah Bukari	West Gonja
19.	Ebenezer Hadzide	Western RCC
20.	Abu A. Mahama	Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly
21.	Beatrice K Osei Asare	Ashanti Regional Coordinating
22.	Timothy Fordjour Kanyebui	Amansie West
23.	Derrick Kofi Ampaw	Amansie West
24.	Alfred Atimba	Amansie West
25.	Charles Kwesi Adjei	Kumasi Metropolitan Assembly
26.	Jemima Lomotey	Greater Accra Regional Coordinating Council
27.	Kester Agyekum	Tema West Municipal Assembly
28.	Cynthia Okoe-Martey	Ga West Municipal Assembly

No.	Name	Institution
29.	Richard Oduro	Accra Metropolitan Assembly
30.	Sawudatu Yahaya	Ayawaso North
31.	Moses Mohammed Dumah	Ayawaso North
32.	Isaac Adza Tettey	Volta Regional Coordinating Council
33.	John Ntibrey	Ho Municipal Assembly
34.	Delight Dzahene	Ho Municipal Assembly
35.	Ernest Adarkwa Yiadom	Krachi East Municipality
36.	Ernest Mwinbong	Krachi East Municipality
37.	David Frimpong Obeng	Upper West Akim District Assembly
38.	Aaron Addo Yirenkye	Abuakwa South Municipal Assembly
39.	Mick Mawuli Kordzo Doe	Twifo Hemang Lower Denkyira District
40.	Degraft Johnson -Taylor	KEEA Municipal Assembly
41.	Kenneth Yaoh Ketor	Cape Coast Metropolitan
42.	Ibrahim Mustapha	Tamale Metropolitan Assembly
43.	Patrick Apraku	Land Use and Spatial Planning Authority
44.	Ing. Stephen Nana Ato Arthur (PhD)	Office of the Head of the Local Government Service
45.	Audrey Smock-Amoah (PhD)	Office of the Head of the Local Government Service
46.	David Asante Apeatu	African Peer Review Mechanism
47.	Winnie Asare	African Peer Review Mechanism
48.	Patrick Adu Osei	African Peer Review Mechanism
49.	Asafu-Adjaye Nana Yamoah	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research- Science and Technology Policy Research Institute
50.	Beauty Emefa Narteh	Ghana Anti-Corruption Coalition/CSO Platform on SDGs
51.	Joshua Nyame	National Association of Local Authorities of Ghana
52.	Vitus Bobrnuo	Ghana Statistical Service
53.	Richard Osei Bofah	National Development Planning Commission
54.	Daniel Amofa	National Development Planning Commission
55.	Eric Agyei	National Development Planning Commission
56.	Wilfred Ebo Sam-Awortwi	National Development Planning Commission
57.	Charles Konglo	National Development Planning Commission

No.	Name	Institution
58.	Patience Ampomah	National Development Planning Commission
59.	Philip Acheampong	National Development Planning Commission
60.	Stephen Ampem-Darko	National Development Planning Commission
61.	Vera Baffoe	National Development Planning Commission
62.	Felix Addo-Yobo (PhD)	SDG Advisory Unit
63.	Modou Jonga	Brikama Area Council, Gambia
64.	Robert Papa	Busia County, Kenya
65.	Telman Maharraamov	UPB, UN-Habitat
66.	Claudia Garcia Zaragoza	UPB, UN-Habitat
67.	Hilde Opoku	UN-Habitat, Ghana
68.	Emelia Ayebeng Botchway	Ashanti Regional Coordinating Council
69.	Beatrice K. Osei Asare	Ashanti Regional Coordinating Council
70.	Patrick Adu Osei	African Peer Review Mechanism
71.	Myra Togobo	United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office
72.	Peter Aidoo	United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office
73.	Jürgen Gafke	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
74.	Amson Sibanda	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
75.	Lusungu Kayani	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
76.	Tinfissi-Joseph Ilboudo	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
77.	Stefano MARTA (PhD)	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

## Appendix 2: Mapping Interventions Contributing to the attainment of SDGs

<b>SDG 11</b> <b>SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES</b>	<b>LOCAL ACTION:</b> Each group selects one local action that helps to advance the selected SDG in your territory.	<b>Indicators:</b> Define 5 indicators to measure progress on the selected Local Action, and write them under the Local column. Align each local indicator with a global (SDG) indicator. It might happen that some of your local indicators do not correspond with the global one, leave the Global square empty if that happens. Read the SDG 11 indicator on the information sheet.	<b>Data sources and collection:</b> The following questions will guide a reflection on data collection												
Relevant SDG and Agenda 2063 Target:  <i>List the targets that your action will contribute to. Read SDG 11 targets in the information sheet</i>  11.1 11.3 11.5 11.7 11.9	Street Naming and Property Addressing.	<table border="1" data-bbox="625 741 1153 1864"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="625 741 966 793">Local</th> <th data-bbox="966 741 1153 793">Global</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="625 793 966 940">                     Percentage of streets Identified and named                 </td> <td data-bbox="966 793 1153 940">                     11.1.1, 11.3.2                 </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="625 940 966 1087">                     Number of street signals Installed.                 </td> <td data-bbox="966 940 1153 1087">                     11.3.2                 </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="625 1087 966 1308">                     Number of properties Numbered, identified &amp; valued                 </td> <td data-bbox="966 1087 1153 1308">                     11.5.2                 </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="625 1308 966 1539">                     1. Number of local plans Prepared and approved.                 </td> <td data-bbox="966 1308 1153 1539">                     11.9.1                 </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="625 1539 966 1864">                     2. Proportion of property Rate of total IGF.                 </td> <td data-bbox="966 1539 1153 1864">                     11.5.2                 </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Local	Global	Percentage of streets Identified and named	11.1.1, 11.3.2	Number of street signals Installed.	11.3.2	Number of properties Numbered, identified & valued	11.5.2	1. Number of local plans Prepared and approved.	11.9.1	2. Proportion of property Rate of total IGF.	11.5.2	How would you collect existing data to measure progress?  DLREV/DDDP/ administrative data/MCE's Dashboard/APR  If data is not available, which stakeholders would you consult to collect primary data?  1. Physical Planning 2. Traditional Authorities 3. LUSPA
Local	Global														
Percentage of streets Identified and named	11.1.1, 11.3.2														
Number of street signals Installed.	11.3.2														
Number of properties Numbered, identified & valued	11.5.2														
1. Number of local plans Prepared and approved.	11.9.1														
2. Proportion of property Rate of total IGF.	11.5.2														

<p><b>SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES</b></p>	<p><b>LOCAL ACTION:</b></p> <p>Each group selects one local action that helps to advance the selected</p>	<p><b>Indicators:</b></p> <p>Define 5 indicators to measure progress on the selected Local Action, and write them under the Local column. Align each local indicator with a global (SDG) indicator. It might happen that some of your local indicators do not correspond with the global one, leave the Global square empty if that happens. Read the SDG 11 indicator on the information sheet.</p>	<p><b>Data sources and collection:</b></p> <p>The following questions will guide a reflection on data collection</p>										
<p>Relevant SDG and Agenda 2063 Target:</p> <p>List the targets that your action will contribute to. Read SDG 11 targets in the information sheet</p>	<p>SDG in your territory.</p> <p>Water and Sanitation management or Solid / Liquid Waste Management</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="649 615 1036 682">Local</th> <th data-bbox="1036 615 1182 682">Global</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="649 682 1036 787">           Proportion of solid waste Generated quarterly         </td> <td data-bbox="1036 682 1182 787">           11.6.1         </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="649 787 1036 1018">           Numbers of waste Management facilities         </td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="649 1018 1036 1375">           Proportion of population having access to waste collection         </td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="649 1375 1036 1528">           Proportion of the population having access to portable water         </td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Local	Global	Proportion of solid waste Generated quarterly	11.6.1	Numbers of waste Management facilities		Proportion of population having access to waste collection		Proportion of the population having access to portable water		<p>How would you collect existing data to measure progress?</p> <p>Citizen generated data</p> <p>Administrative data</p> <p>If data is not available, which stakeholders would you consult to collect primary data?</p> <p>Service Providers (Zoom lion)</p> <p>Waste Man</p>
Local	Global												
Proportion of solid waste Generated quarterly	11.6.1												
Numbers of waste Management facilities													
Proportion of population having access to waste collection													
Proportion of the population having access to portable water													

<p><b>SDG 1</b></p>	<p><b>LOCAL ACTION:</b></p> <p>Each group selects one local action that helps to advance the selected</p>	<p><b>Indicators:</b></p> <p>Define 5 indicators to measure progress on the selected Local Action, and write them under the Local column. Align each local indicator with a global (SDG) indicator. It might happen that some of your local indicators do not correspond with the global one, leave the Global square empty if that happens. Read the SDG 11 indicator on the information sheet.</p>	<p><b>Data sources and collection:</b></p> <p>The following questions will guide a reflection on data collection</p>
<p>Relevant SDG and Agenda 2063 Target:</p> <p>List the targets that your action will contribute to. Read SDG 11 targets in the information sheet</p>	<p>SDG in your territory.</p> <p>Train 100 people in income-generated activities and support them with start-up capital</p>	<p>Local</p> <p>Global</p> <p>Proportion of with employable 1.1.1, 1.2.1, 1.2.2</p> <p>Skills</p> <p>No of Business Established</p> <p>Number of Jobs created</p>	<p>How would you collect existing data to measure progress?</p> <p>Administrative data</p> <p>If data is not available, which stakeholders would you consult to collect primary data?</p> <p>Citizen generated data</p>



<p><b>SDG 1</b></p>	<p><b>LOCAL ACTION:</b></p> <p>Each group selects one local action that helps to advance the selected</p>	<p><b>Indicators:</b></p> <p>Define 5 indicators to measure progress on the selected Local Action, and write them under the Local column. Align each local indicator with a global (SDG) indicator. It might happen that some of your local indicators do not correspond with the global one, leave the Global square empty if that happens. Read the SDG 11 indicator on the information sheet.</p>	<p><b>Data sources and collection:</b></p> <p>The following questions will guide a reflection on data collection</p>										
<p>Relevant SDG and Agenda 2063 Target:</p> <p>List the targets that your action will contribute to. Read SDG 11 targets in the information sheet</p>	<p>SDG in your territory.</p> <p>Planting for food and jobs</p> <p>-Supply of improved seeds</p> <p>-fertilizer subsidies</p> <p>-Combat FAW</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="649 615 1047 667">Local</th> <th data-bbox="1047 615 1177 667">Global</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="649 741 1047 835">1.No of farmers engaged on PFJ</td> <td data-bbox="1047 741 1177 835">1.1.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="649 856 1047 951">2. Proportion of farmers adopting new technology</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="649 972 1047 1066">3. Proportion of farmers having access to improved seedlings</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="649 1087 1047 1182">4.% of increase in annual Production of crops</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Local	Global	1.No of farmers engaged on PFJ	1.1.1	2. Proportion of farmers adopting new technology		3. Proportion of farmers having access to improved seedlings		4.% of increase in annual Production of crops		<p>How would you collect existing data to measure progress?</p> <p>Annual progress Report</p> <p>Annual Agric department report</p> <p>MIS</p> <p>If data is not available, which stakeholders would you consult to collect primary data?</p> <p>Citizen generated data</p>
Local	Global												
1.No of farmers engaged on PFJ	1.1.1												
2. Proportion of farmers adopting new technology													
3. Proportion of farmers having access to improved seedlings													
4.% of increase in annual Production of crops													

<p><b>SDG 5</b></p>	<p><b>LOCAL ACTION:</b></p> <p>Each group selects one local action that helps to advance the selected SDG in your territory.</p>	<p><b>Indicators:</b></p> <p>Define 5 indicators to measure progress on the selected Local Action, and write them under the Local column. Align each local indicator with a global (SDG) indicator. It might happen that some of your local indicators do not correspond with the global one, leave the Global square empty if that happens. Read the SDG 11 indicator on the information sheet.</p>	<p><b>Data sources and collection:</b></p> <p>The following questions will guide a reflection on data collection</p>						
<p>Relevant SDG and Agenda 2063 Target:</p> <p>List the targets that your action will contribute to. Read SDG 11 targets in the information sheet</p>	<p>Sensitization on gender-based violence</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="651 579 1117 632">Local</th> <th data-bbox="1117 579 1243 632">Global</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="651 632 1117 1045"> <p>The proportion of women sensitise on gender-based violence who can report to the appropriate institutions</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1117 632 1243 1045"> <p>5.2.2</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="651 1045 1117 1150"> <p>Number of gender-based violence Issues addressed</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1117 1045 1243 1150"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Local	Global	<p>The proportion of women sensitise on gender-based violence who can report to the appropriate institutions</p>	<p>5.2.2</p>	<p>Number of gender-based violence Issues addressed</p>		<p>How would you collect existing data to measure progress?</p> <p>SWCD</p> <p>DOVVSU Report</p> <p>Domestic Violence Survey</p> <p>If data is not available, which stakeholders would you consult to collect primary data?</p> <p>Women</p> <p>Market Queens</p> <p>Schools</p> <p>Health Coordinators</p> <p>Girl Child</p>
Local	Global								
<p>The proportion of women sensitise on gender-based violence who can report to the appropriate institutions</p>	<p>5.2.2</p>								
<p>Number of gender-based violence Issues addressed</p>									

### Appendix 3: List of Workshop Coordination Team Members

Name	Organisation	Position
Richard Osei Bofah (PhD)	National Development Planning Commission	SDGs National Coordinator
Patience Ampomah	National Development Planning Commission	Senior Planning Analyst/ Deputy Workshop Coordinator
Charles Konglo	National Development Planning Commission	Principal Planning Analyst
Stephen Ampem-Darko	National Development Planning Commission	Principal Planning Analyst
Daniel Amofa	National Development Planning Commission	Principal Planning Analyst
Philip Marfo Acheampong	National Development Planning Commission	Principal Planning Analyst
Vera Baffoe	National Development Planning Commission	Senior Planning Analyst
Wilfred Ebo Sam-Awortwi	National Development Planning Commission	Planning Analyst
Eric Agyei	National Development Planning Commission	Planning Analyst

**Appendix 4: Gallery**







