



# The SIDS Perspective

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# Outline

## Palau's VNR outlook

- Challenges
- Improvements

## 2nd VNR Progress: SDG 1, 2, 13, 16 & 17

- Highlights
- Challenges
- Opportunities

## Looking ahead

- Leveraging data and digitalization for sustainable decision-making in SIDS.
- Advancing SDGs in SIDS through technology and innovation partnerships.
- Enhancing global, regional, and national coordination for effective partnerships.

# Experience: Palau's VNRs 2019 -> 2024

- Embracing Inclusivity
- Improving data sources and ownership
- Forward-thinking framework



## Pathway to 2030

Progressing with Our Past  
Toward a Resilient, Sustainable,  
and Equitable Future



1st Voluntary National Review on the SDGs  
Republic of Palau June 2019



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### Executive Order No. 483

*Establishing a Framework for the Monitoring and Evaluation of the Implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda*

WHEREAS, in 2015, the United Nations adopted the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, also known as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), expanding on the Millennium Development Goals and calling for the revitalization of the global partnership for sustainable development, more aid effectiveness, increased access to technology, and more efficient means of implementation; and

WHEREAS, effective implementation of these 17 UN SDGs, along with their 169 corresponding targets and over 230 associated indicators, is best accomplished by incorporating them into the overall planning framework of the National Government; this allows the government to monitor progress and improve performance where necessary while working to expand economic, social, and environmental opportunities and protections; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the UN, the Republic of Palau has committed to the 2030 Agenda as it is in line with national priorities, has nationalized the SDGs and its targets, has conducted two national consultations to collect available data, raised bring awareness to the SDGs, has set up a working group in support of their implementation; and has submitted its first Voluntary National Review (VNR) in 2019, which was co-presented by the Government and civil society with the Belau Association of Non-Government Organizations (BANGO), representing the Civil Society Organizations (CSO); and

WHEREAS, multiple key sector plans, policies, and strategies have been developed and adopted, including the National Climate Change Policy, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Framework, the Nationally Determined Contribution, and National Infrastructure Investment Plan, among others; and

WHEREAS, the ministries and agencies of the National Government must report on their efforts in progressing national priorities, including on nationalized SDGs goals, targets, and indicators, as well as the sector targets, and an effective SDG Monitoring and Evaluation Framework (SDG M&E Framework) will not only strengthen these efforts, it will provide a more holistic nation-wide reporting structure and process, and will also enhance the link between national priorities and global priorities via the assessment on the progress of SDG implementation efforts.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Palau, I hereby establish a framework for SDGs Monitoring and



# ***EO 483: Establishing a Framework for the Monitoring and Evaluation of the Implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda***

## Steering Committee



### **Executive Leadership**

President  
Ministers



### **Traditional & State Leadership**

Rubekul Belau  
Mechesil Belau  
Governors  
Speakers  
Local Communities

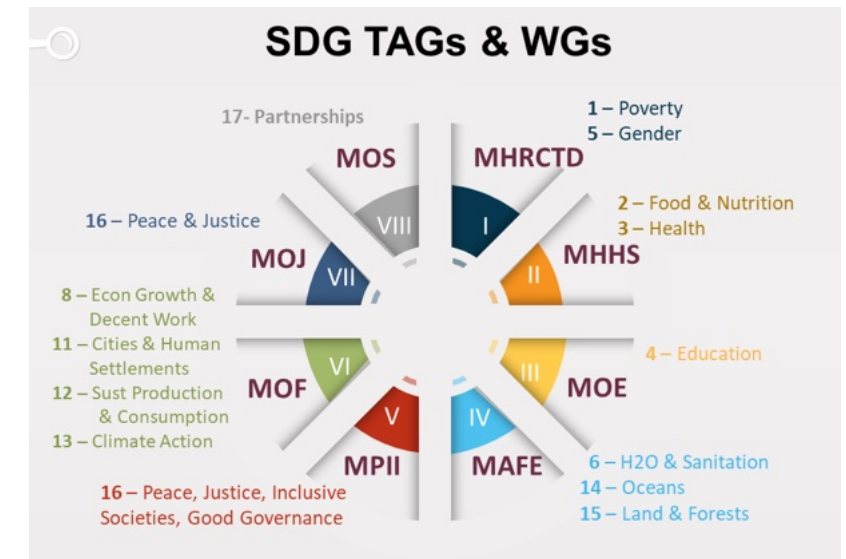


### **NGO and Private Sector**

BANGO  
PCOC



### **Partners Volunteers**



**1** NO  
POVERTY



**16** PEACE, JUSTICE  
AND STRONG  
INSTITUTIONS



**17** PARTNERSHIPS  
FOR THE GOALS



**2** ZERO  
HUNGER



**13** CLIMATE  
ACTION



## Highlights:

- Significant progress in social protection and access to basic services.
- Implementation of new programs to support vulnerable groups.

## Challenges:

- Insufficient data for updated poverty profiles.

## Opportunities:

- Continued expansion and improvement of social protection programs.
- Opportunity for comprehensive poverty data collection post-2025.



## Highlights:

- Palau aligns with SDG 2 targets on nutrition and sustainable food systems.
- Progress in addressing undernutrition and initiatives to tackle overnutrition.
- National priority to enhance food security and reduce food imports by 2030.

## Challenges:

- High rates of overnutrition, especially among children.
- Heavy reliance (80%) on food imports poses health and economic risks.

## Opportunities:

- Ongoing efforts to combat overnutrition through various measures.
- Target to reduce food imports by 2030 offers a chance to bolster food security and economic resilience.



## Highlights:

- Integration of climate action into policies and plans, including adoption of a National Climate Change Policy.
- Programs underway for adaptation, with progress in renewable energy targets.

## Challenges:

- Vulnerability to climate change impacts affecting all residents and development sectors.
- Off-track progress in achieving renewable energy targets for transportation.

## Opportunities:

- Ongoing efforts to build adaptation knowledge and implement climate action.
- Recognition of co-benefits in meeting UNFCCC targets.
- On-track progress to achieve renewable energy targets by 2025.





## Highlights:

- Ensure public access to information and promotes women's representation in parliament.

## Challenges:

- Persistent challenges in addressing assault convictions and domestic violence cases.
- Need for improved monitoring mechanisms to combat human trafficking.

## Opportunities:

- Balanced gender composition in Palau's Supreme Court.
- Opportunities to increase women's representation in elected seats.



## Highlights:

- Strong domestic partnerships established for the 2030 agenda involving national and state governments, civil society, and businesses, especially for environmental goals.

## Challenges:

- Sustainability and effectiveness of domestic partnerships.
- Addressing potential gaps in international partnerships.

## Opportunities:

- Strengthening domestic partnerships for enhanced goal achievement.
- Leveraging international partnerships for broader impact.

# 17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS





Leveraging data and digitalization for evidence-based decision-making.

- Monitor progress using data.
- Make evidence-based decisions.
- Enhance transparency and efficiency.
- Target interventions effectively.



Advancing sustainable development goals through science, technology, innovation, and digitalization.

- Drive innovation and technology.
- Foster stakeholder collaboration.
- Address complex challenges effectively.
- Promote sustainable practices adoption.



Enhancing coordination at global, regional, and national levels to foster effective partnerships.

- Ensure international alignment.
- Facilitate regional collaboration.
- Optimize resource allocation.
- Streamline policy coherence.

## Acknowledgements:

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- **Mr James Uong Yalap**, 2<sup>nd</sup> VNR UN Consultant, Sustainable Development Assistant, Subregional Office for the Pacific, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia, and the Pacific (ESCAP)

# Thank you. Mesulang.

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