STATUS OF SDG PROGRESS IN MALAWI

Department of Economic Planning & Development
Monitoring & Evaluation Division
PRESENTATION OUTLINE

1. Overview of SDGs
2. Measuring progress of SDGs
3. Accelerating SDG Achievement
4. SDG Priority Commitments
5. SDG Midterm Review
6. Challenges in implementing SDGs
7. Development Achievements Made
Overview of SDGs

✓ Progress on the 17 SDGs is tracked through 169 sub-targets, which in turn are measured using 248 indicators.
✓ Understanding how the country performs against these targets provides a comprehensive assessment of the current trends and the baseline landscape against which to build SDG policy pathways.
Measuring Progress of SDGs

✓ The Malawi Government is dedicated to ensuring that the commitments made in the SDGs are achieved.
✓ So far, the following steps have been put forward to measure the progress made in the SDGs:

- Produced an SDG baseline report in 2018
- Conducted a Voluntary National Review in 2020
- Conducted a second VNR in 2022
- Currently conducting a Midterm Review to be completed by 2025
- 81.62% of SDGs have been domesticated in the MIP-1
Current Achievement Progress of SDGs

✓ The latest figures on progress that has been made come from VNR 2022.

✓ As of 2022, only 5/17 SDGs made significant progress; SDGs 2, 3, 4, 6 and 14.

✓ 6/17 SDGs had moderate progress; SDGs 5, 7, 8, 9, 13 and 17.

✓ 3/17 SDGs made little to no progress; SDGs 1, 10 and 15.

✓ 3/17 SDGs had insufficient Data; 11, 12 and 16.
Steps to Accelerate SDG Achievement

✓ Recent economic shocks; **wars, COVID-19, cyclones, droughts**; have contributed to the slow progress made to achieve SDGs.

✓ If the SDGs are to be achieved, there is a need for intervention measures to accelerate the progress being made.

✓ Malawi has put in place the following measures:

- **SDG Priority Targets** identified to accelerate achievement of SDGs.

- **MDAs provided SDG policy priority areas as well as high impact interventions.**

- The **M&E framework and the Roadmap for policy priority areas to be formulated this year**

- **Currently, a midterm review for the SDGs is underway**
SDG Priority Commitments

✓ The national priorities were generated using machine learning to reveal the most prominent SDGs referenced in national policy documents.

✓ These areas have been identified because of their ability to achieve the following:

i. Highlight areas for investment that will help maximize progress across the SDGs.

ii. Provide a national benchmark for reducing poverty and inequality by 2027.

iii. Strengthen national planning and institutional frameworks to support progress in achieving SDGs.
Target 5.4: Value unpaid care and promote shared domestic responsibilities

Target 8.5: Full employment and decent work with equal pay

Target 11.b: Sustainable and resilient cities and human settlements

Target 9.2: Promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization.

Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable, and transparent institutions
SDG Midterm Review

✓ Countries that signed the SDGs are expected to produce annual progress reports for the SDGs.

✓ Malawi produced a VNR in 2022. Since then, no other report has been produced to review the achievement progress and yet a lot has happened between then and now.

✓ The SDG midterm review seeks to gauge the progress that has been made so far to achieve SDGs, accounting for economic shocks experienced in the country from 2017 to date.

✓ The process commenced in November 2023 and is expected to be completed by December 2025.
Progress on the SDG Midterm Review

✓ Formulation of a steering committee to oversee the implementation of the review - headed by the Secretary to the President and Cabinet.

✓ Formulation of a Technical working group to carry out the midterm review - headed by EP&D. The TWG comprises of members from Government, UN agencies, CSO representatives and private sector representatives.

✓ Development of a roadmap and a budget for the SDG midterm review which has been approved by the Government, UN agencies and CSO representatives.

✓ Reviewing the SDG indicator framework to identify data gaps and identify potential sources of data.
What lies ahead on the SDG Midterm Review?

✓ **Data collection and analysis** – Most of the data for the 248 indicators comes from administrative records routinely collected from MDAs and national surveys.

✓ **A survey** to collect data on indicators whose data cannot be found from administrative records and the national surveys.

✓ **A comprehensive evaluation** to analyze a select high impact SDG indicators in the country.
Challenges to achieve SDG Targets

i. Gaps in M&E and data systems in various MDAs make it hard to track the implementation progress.

ii. Health pandemics such as COVID-19 and the cholera outbreak in 2022.

iii. Natural disasters such as cyclones, floods and droughts.

iv. Macroeconomic instabilities as a result of wars, high inflation, reduced import cover from 2.7 months to less than a month, devaluation of the Malawi Kwacha and increase in the policy rate.
Development Achievements towards SDGs

✓ The Government is committed to speed up establishing an Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) and has made the following strides in the IFF blocks:

i. Made a Development Finance Assessment/Local Level Finance Assessment (DFA/LLFA) to list finance sources available for Malawi.

ii. Developed the Integrated National Financing Strategy (INFS) that guides resource mobilization, and the Digital Finance Ecosystem Assessment and Strategy (DFEAS) that embraces innovation in financing for SDGs.

iii. Developed a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Policy that will enhance M&E for the MIP-1 and hence SDGs.

iv. The country has also established a multi-stakeholder coordination mechanism called Pillar and Enabler Coordination Groups (PECGs) to guide SDGs realization through MIP-1, bringing together both state and non-state actors.

✓ The Government is establishing a Government-Wide Monitoring and Evaluation Management Information System (GWME-MIS) which will have SDG tracking modules.
SUMMARY OF SDG IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE

**SIGNING THE SDGs**
2017 marked the onset of the SDGs as the successor of the Millenium Development Goals (MDGs) through the Agenda 2030.

**FIRST VNR**
The first attempt made at measuring the progress made in achieving SDG targets.

**SECOND VNR**
The second VNRs built on the findings made in the first VNR. However, they did not account for the various shocks Malawi experienced.

**MDTERM REVIEW**
2024 marks the halfway point of implementing the SDGs. A midterm review has therefore been commissioned, spearheaded by EP&D and will re-strategize the commitments made.

**END OF SDGs**
The SDGs will be finalized in 2030. An endline report to be produced.

**SDG Baseline Survey**
Malawi produced its SDG baseline report in 2018, soon after signing the Agenda 2030.
THANK YOU!