



National Capacity Building Workshop on “Improved Local and National Government Capacities for Localizing SDGs Through Voluntary Local Reviews in Eswatini”

Eсібayeni Lodge, Eswatini

15-17 October 2024

Workshop Programme

Programme Director: Nonhlanhla Shongwe

15 October	
8:30 – 9:00	Registration of participants
9:00 – 10:00	<p>Opening ceremony</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deputy Mayor of Matsapha, Siphesihle Nsibande • Mr. Benjamin Ofosu-koranteng, Head of UN Resident Coordinator’s Office • Ms. Thabsile Mlangeni, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Economic Planning and Development • Dr Simon Zwane, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Development
10:00– 10:15	<p>Overview of the objectives of the workshop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Jurgen Gafke, Senior Programme Management Officer, UN DESA/DSDG
10:15 – 10:30	Photo Shoot
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 – 12:15	<p>Session 1: Status of SDG implementation in Eswatini, the National Development Plan 2023-2028 and the Voluntary National Review 2025</p> <p>Moderator: UN Resident Coordinator Office (Benjamin-Ofosu Koranteng)</p> <p>Presenters (15 minutes each):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Nonhlanhla Shongwe, Senior Economist, Ministry of Economic Planning and Development – Overview of the National Development Plan • Mr. Banele Mavimbela, Economist, Ministry of Economic Planning and Development – SDG progress

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Mphucuko Mamba, Economist, UN Resident Coordinator’s Office, Eswatini – Eswatini SDG recovery and Acceleration Plan (ESRAP) <p><i>Guiding questions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the priority areas of action for national development in Eswatini? How have they been identified? • What are the main development achievements and challenges in Eswatini? • How have the SDGs been integrated into national development plans and strategies? • What were the main conclusions of the 2022 VNR and outlook for the 2025 VNR? • What support is provided by the UN Development System? • What are possible SDG accelerators in Eswatini and what is the role of local governments to advance SDG implementation? <p>Interactive Discussions</p>
<p>12:15– 13:15</p>	<p>Session 2: SDGs Planning Tools</p> <p>Moderator: Mr Melusi Hlanze, Community Liaison Officer (CLO), Ministry of Housing and Urban Development</p> <p>Presenters (10 minutes each):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Thandazani Sibiyi, Economist, Ministry of Economic Planning and Development – The SDGs Data Matrix • Ms. Citra Kumala, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, Development Planning Section, Macroeconomics, Finance and Governance Division, UN Economic Commission for Africa - <i>Integrated Planning and Reporting Toolkit (IPRT)</i> (virtual) • Mr. Jurgen Gafke, Senior Programme Management Officer, UN DESA/DSDG – <i>Entry Points and Levers of Transformation for the SDGs</i> <p><i>Guiding questions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are some of the existing tools and frameworks that can support SDG planning and coordination? • How can these tools support the development of the Voluntary Local Reviews? <p>Interactive Discussion</p>
<p>13:15 – 14:15</p>	<p>Lunch</p>
<p>14:30- 16:00</p>	<p>Session 3: The VLR preparatory process: overview of approaches, milestones and deliverables</p> <p>Moderator: Mr Sifiso Mamba, Chief Economist, MEPD</p>

	<p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Jurgen Gafke, Senior Programme Management Officer, DESA – <i>Global Guiding Elements for Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) of SDG implementation</i> • Ms. Lusungu Kayani, Social Affairs Officer, UN Economic Commission for Africa – <i>Africa Voluntary Local Review Guidelines (Virtual)</i> • Mr. Julian Nkoana, Rustenburg Local Municipality, South Africa, <i>Local level reporting to accelerate implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals</i> <p><i>Guiding questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the global and regional recommendations to approach a VLR 2. How to begin a VLR process? 3. What are the key elements and milestones in the process? 4. Who leads the process and who is engaged? 5. What are some of the good practices? 6. What are the lessons learned from the process and how has it contributed to the local implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Agenda 2063? <p>Format: Presentations followed by Q&A</p>
<p>16:00– 16:30</p>	<p>Coffee break</p>
<p>16:30- 17:45</p>	<p>Session 4: Data for SDGs and review processes at the national and sub-national levels</p> <p><i>This session will focus on the use of quantitative and qualitative data in monitoring progress towards global goals at the national and sub-national levels. It will provide an opportunity for discussion regarding how cities and regions can access data for VLRs and for development planning, as well as existing challenges and innovative approaches.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Zandile Charity Simelane, UN Resident Coordinator’s Office (tbc)</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr Lucky/Robert, Statistician, Central Statistical Office of Eswatini 2. Mr. Daniel Eshetie, Statistician, DESA – Statistics Division <p><i>Guiding questions:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the challenges regarding data in monitoring and reviewing the sub-national implementation of the 2030 Agenda? 2. What data is available at national level and disaggregated at local level? What are the data sources? 3. How to prepare the statistical annex for a VLR report? 4. How best to analyse and communicate information on data so that it can be used as broadly as possible? 5. How to align VLR reporting with Agenda 2063 reporting framework to overcome reporting fatigue?

	Q&A
16 October: Day 2	
9:00 – 09:30	<p>Session 5: Recap of day 1 and Report back from day 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Session 1: Piggs Peak • Session 2: Ngwenya • Session 3: Mbabane • Session 4: Manzini
09:30 – 10:30	<p>Group Work exercise: VLR Roadmap, data gathering and sources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare draft VLR roadmaps - Facilitated working groups on indicators, data gathering and sources - Game on SDG alignment with local indicators. <p>Regional:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 1: Hhohho • Group 2: Manzini • Group 3: Lubombo • Group 4: Shiselweni • Group 5: Matsapha & Ezulwini <p>Group Facilitation : Mr Jurgen Gafke, UNDESA</p>
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 – 12:00	<p>Group Work exercise: VLR Roadmap, data gathering and sources Continued</p> <p>Prepare group presentation on draft VLR roadmaps and data localization</p> <p>Group Facilitation : Mr Jurgen Gafke, UNDESA</p>
12:00 - 13:00	<p>Session 6: Report back from break-out groups</p> <p>Plenary: Report back on data gathering Moderator: Mr Jurgen Gafke, UNDESA</p>
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00- 15:30	<p>Session 7: Inclusive approaches to awareness-raising and engaging stakeholders</p> <p><i>This session will explore guidance from the international level on effective governance, as well as good practices from the region and within Eswatini in ensuring coordination amongst various levels of government and engagement with stakeholders.</i></p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Bongani Dlamini, Partnership Officer, UN Resident Coordinator’s Office</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Nomzamo Dlamini, Director, Deputy Prime Minister's Office

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Jurgen Gafke, Senior Programme Management Officer, DESA/DSDG – <i>Stakeholder Engagement in the Voluntary Local Reviews</i> • Mr. Julian Nkoana, Rustenburg Local Municipality, South Africa, <i>Lessons learned on stakeholder engagement</i> • Mr. Gordon Mbuli, Director, Eswatini Local Government Association • Mr Thembinkosi Dlamini, CEO, CANGO <p><i>Guiding questions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we identify those who are being left behind, or who are at risk of being left behind? • How can the VLRs help ensure that no one is left behind? • What approaches to designing inclusive processes to ensure no one is left behind are available? • Which entities are data stakeholders <p>Q & A</p>
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee Break
16:00 – 17:00	Group exercise/facilitated follow-up - Stakeholder mapping exercise
17 October: Day 3	
9:00 – 10:00	Session 8: Report back from Day 2 break-out groups
10:00 – 10:30	Coffee Break
10:30 - 11:15	<p>Session 9: Next Steps in the VLR Process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Mr. Mathokoza Shongwe, CEO – Ezulwini Town Council <p><i>Which municipalities will conduct VLR this year?</i> <i>What support is required?</i></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Banele Mavimbela & Mr. Lucky Mngometulu - Ministry of Economic Planning and Development • Mr. Jurgen Gafke, Senior Programme Management Officer, DESA/DSDG <p>Guiding Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the work plan for the VNR/VLR process for the 2025? • Data from CSO for the VLR
11:15 – 12:00	<p>Closing Statements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Benjamin Ofosu, Head of UN Resident Coordinator’s Office • Qeeneth Masuku, Director - Ministry of Housing and Urban Development • Youth Representative • Mr. Bongani Makama, Persons with disabilities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mr Sifiso Mamba, Chief Economist - Ministry of Economic Planning and Development
12:00 – 13:00	Lunch