



**United Nations**

Department of  
Economic and  
Social Affairs

# Introduction and Objectives of the workshop

## Improved Local and National Government Capacities for Localizing SDGs Through Voluntary Local Reviews in Eswatini



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# Purpose of the Presentation

- *Provide an overview of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals*
- *What is a Voluntary National Review (VNR)*
- *What is a Voluntary Local Review*
- *Objectives and expectations for the workshop*



# What is the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?

- A comprehensive plan outlining how we can end poverty and transform the world into a peaceful, sustainable environment for all
- Developed over the course of several years, with extensive consultations with Member States and stakeholders around the world
- In 2015, unanimously adopted by all UN member states.

*“On behalf of the peoples we serve, we have adopted a historic decision on a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centered set of universal and transformative goals and targets. We commit ourselves to working tirelessly for the full implementation of this agenda by 2030.”*

Declaration of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development



# The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The 2030 Agenda includes:

- A **Declaration**, in which Member States set out their vision, shared principles and commitments, and a call for action to change our world
- 17 **Sustainable Development Goals** and 169 accompanying targets
- Provisions for **follow up and review** at global, regional and national levels
- Means of **implementation** and global partnership



# Core Principles of the 2030 Agenda

- Universality
- Leaving No One Behind
- Interconnectedness and Indivisibility
- Inclusiveness
- Multi-stakeholder Partnerships



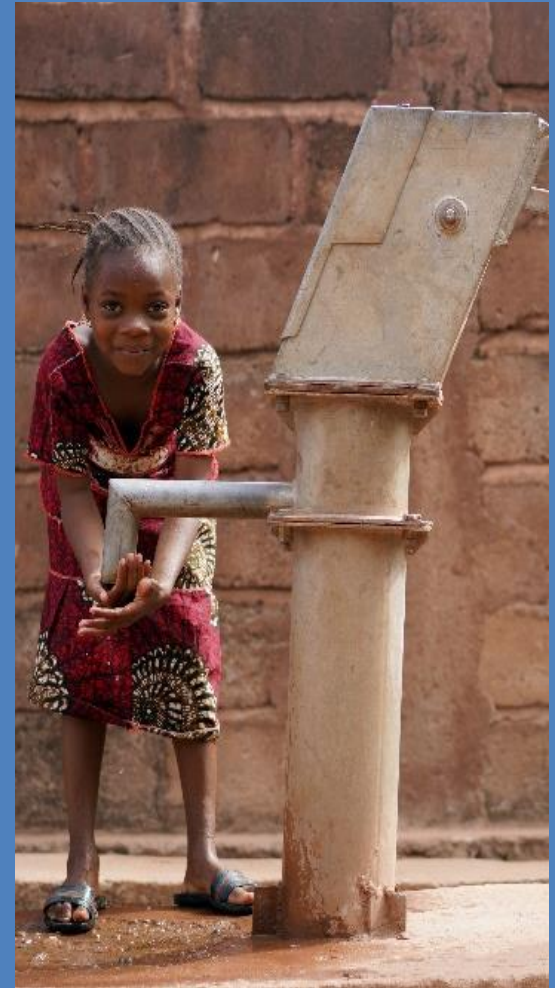
# Who has a role in implementing the SDGs?

- Member States:
  - “...all member states to develop as soon as practicable, ambitious national responses to the overall implementation of this Agenda. These can...build on existing planning instruments, such as national development and sustainable development strategies, as appropriate.”
- Regional and Local Authorities
- Sub-regional institutions
- International institutions
- Academia
- Philanthropic organizations
- Volunteer groups and others
- And many others...



## Local Governments and the SDGs

- Local and regional governments play a very important role in the achievement of the SDGs.
- As the level of government closest to local communities, they best understand local people's needs and priorities.
- **It is estimated that 65% of the targets under the SDGs are linked to the mandates and work of local governments.**



# THE AGENDA 2030 AND VOLUNTARY REVIEWS

The 2030 Agenda creates a system for regular monitoring and review of progress made



“We commit to fully engage in regular and inclusive reviews of progress at subnational, national, regional and global levels”(2030 Agenda, para. 77).





# What are the Voluntary Local Reviews?

- A method for monitoring the implementation of the SDGs carried out by local, municipal and regional governments or their associations.
- Voluntary Local Reviews are similar to Voluntary National Reviews. Both are essential tools to implement the SDGs and monitor progress

# The VNRs and the VLRs

## Voluntary National Reviews (VNR)

- Driven by national governments
- Has an official basis in the 2030 Agenda
- To date, 191 countries have presented at least one VNR
- Presented annually at the High-level Political Forum

## Voluntary Local Reviews (VLR)

- Driven by local and regional governments and their associations
- Unofficial
- To date, local and regional governments and their associations have produced more than 300 VLRS
- Presented in various unofficial formats

The VLRs can inform the VNRs and viceversa. One important Benefit of carrying out the two process Together is that they can strengthen multilevel governance and thus improve the cohesion of policies and programmes.

# Objective of the workshop

- Have acquired enhanced capability and a better understanding of the requirements for localizing the SDGs by successfully undertaking a voluntary local review and how to link it to the national development policy framework.
- Be able to participate in ongoing and planned national development activities to advance the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs implementation at the national, local and regional levels.
- Be able to remain in a community of similar practitioners and experts to support one another in localizing the SDGs and share experiences



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**Thank you.**