

# TENTATIVE PROGRAMME: JOINT VALIDATION WORKSHOP FOR THE VNR AND VLR DRAFT REPORTS

**Venue:** The George Hotel

**Dates:** 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025

**Programme Director:** Principal Economist, Lungile Mndzebele

Day 1, Wednesday, 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	
08:30 – 09:00	<b>Registration</b>
09:00 – 09:40:	<b>Opening Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Principal Secretary, Ministry of Economic Planning and Development, Ms. Thabsile Mlangeni</li> <li>Principal Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, Dr Simon Zwane</li> <li>UNDP Deputy Resident Representative in Eswatini is Nessie Golakai-Gould</li> <li>UNRCO Representative</li> </ul>
09:40 – 09:50	<b>Objectives of the workshop</b> Jurgen Gafke
09:50 – 10:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation on the Integrated VNR &amp; VLR process by MEPD, Senior Economist, <i>Nonhlanhla Shongwe</i></li> <li><i>Profile of the VNR cities/ towns – by the city/ town representatives</i></li> </ul> Q & A
10:00 – 11:00	<b>Progress on Social Goals (SDGs 3,4,5,&amp;16 )</b>  <b>Moderator:</b> Benjamin Ofosu-Koranteng <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation on the Social Goals progress at national level by MEPD, Nonhlanhla Shongwe - <i>(5 Minutes)</i></li> <li><i>Presentation on the Social Goals by Local Governments: Ezulwini, Manzini, Matsapha, Mbabane, Ngwenya, Nhlanguano and Siteki - (5 minutes/ panelist)</i></li> </ul> Discussion – 20 minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>What are the main findings from the VLRs?</i></li> <li><i>Are the findings accurate?</i></li> <li><i>Do they reflect true progress made at local, regional and national level?</i></li> <li><i>Is there coherence of data reported at local and national levels?</i></li> </ul>
11:00 – 11:20	<b>Group Photo &amp; Health Break</b>
11:20 – 12:20	<b>Progress on Economic Goals (SDGs 8, 9, 10 &amp; 17)</b>  <b>Moderator:</b> Mangaliso Mohammed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation on the Economic Goals progress at national level by MEPD, Banele Mavimbela - <i>(5 Minutes)</i></li> <li>Presentation on the Economic Goals progress at Local Governments: Ezulwini, Manzini, Matsapha, Mbabane, Ngwenya, Nhlanguano and Siteki - <i>(5 Minutes)</i></li> </ul> Discussion – 20 Minutes
12:20– 13:00	<b>Progress on Poverty Goals (SDGs 1 &amp; 2)</b>  <b>Moderator:</b> Banele Mavimbela <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Presentation on the Poverty Goals progress by MEPD, Nonhlanhla Shongwe (5 Minutes) 5 minutes</i></li> <li><i>Presentation on the Poverty Goals by Local Governments: Ezulwini, Manzini, Matsapha, Mbabane, Ngwenya, Nhlanguano and Siteki (5 minutes/ panelist)</i></li> </ul>

1300 – 14:00	<b>Lunch Break</b>
14:00 - 15:30	<b>Progress on the Environmental Goals (SDG 6,7, 11, 12,13, 14 &amp; 15)</b> <b>Moderator:</b> Jurgen Gafke <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VNR presentation on by MEPD, Banele Mavimbela</li> <li>• <b>Panelists:</b> Mbabane, Manzini, Siteki, Nhlangano, Ezulwini, Matsapha, Ngwenya</li> </ul> <p><i>Discussion: 20 minutes</i></p>
15:30 – 16:00	<b>Wrap- up and Closing</b>
16:00	<b>Afternoon Tea</b>
<b>Day 2: Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b>	
<b>Programme Director:</b> Principal Economist, Lungile Mndzebele	
08:30 – 09:00	<b>Registration</b>
09:00 – 09:15	<b>Recap</b> - Jurgen Gafke/ Nokwazi Mhlanga
09:15 – 10:15	<b>Reflection on Challenges and Recommendations - Jurgen Gafke (10 minutes)</b>  <i>Guiding questions for groupwork</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the key challenges hindering SDG progress at local, regional and national levels?</li> <li>• What recommendations in the VLR need action at national level?</li> <li>• What can be actioned at national level?</li> <li>• What can be actioned at local level?</li> <li>• What recommendations at local level requires support from national level?</li> </ul> <p>Groupwork:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poverty Goals (SDGs 1,2 ) – Lucky &amp; Lungile</li> <li>• Social Goals (SDGs 3,4,5 &amp;16) – Nonhlanhla &amp; Njabulo</li> <li>• Environmental Goals (SDGs 6,7, 11, 12,13,14 &amp;15) – Robert &amp; Mangaliso</li> <li>• Economic Goals (SDGs 8,9, 10 &amp;17) – Banele &amp; Nomkhosi</li> </ul>
10:40 – 11:00	<b>Health Break</b>
11:00- 11:30	Report back to plenary – 20 minutes
11:30 – 12:30	<b>Plenary Discussions:</b> Development of Key Messages: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SDGs progress (SDGs 3, 5, 8, 14 and 17)</li> <li>• Lessons Learnt</li> <li>• Data</li> <li>• SDG Financing</li> <li>• Strengthening policy coherence (vertical and horizontal integration)</li> </ul>
12:30 – 13:00	Plenary Discussion
13:00 – 14:00	<b>Lunch Break</b>
14:00 – 14:30	<b>Wrap-up session and Evaluations</b>
14:30 – 15:00	<b>Closing remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ELGA, Gordon Mbuli</li> <li>• LG CEOs Chairperson, Mathokoza Shongwe</li> <li>• MHUD, Director Urban Government, Queeneth Masuku</li> <li>• MEPD, Chief Economist, Sifiso Mamba</li> </ul>