

10 Years of VNRs: Reflecting on Progress and Inclusive Approaches to SDG Reporting

Monday, July 21, 2025, 2:00 - 3:00 pm
Room 1522/1523, UN Secretariat

Background

As the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) mark their 10-year anniversary in 2025, this VNR Lab offers a space to reflect on how inclusive approaches to SDG reporting have evolved and where they can take us in the final stretch toward 2030. The session will bring together Member States and stakeholders to share lessons learned, highlight effective collaboration throughout the VNR process, and explore how multi-stakeholder engagement can enhance accountability and accelerate progress on the Sustainable Development Goals amid ongoing global challenges.

Objectives

- **Provide a platform** for Member States and stakeholders to discuss challenges, opportunities, and good practices in SDG reporting.
- **Create an opportunity** to spotlight examples of successful collaboration between Member States and stakeholders in support of measuring the SDG implementation and progress through VNRs.
- **To reflect on lessons** from a decade of Voluntary National Reviews and explore ways to accelerate SDG progress through inclusive approaches.
- **Build momentum and synergy** around the key moments as we approach 2030.

Programme

2:00 - 2:05 pm	Opening remarks (5 minutes)
2:05 - 2:25 pm	Panel discussion (20 minutes)
2:25 - 2:55 pm	Q&A and interventions from the floor (20 minutes)
2:55 - 3:00 pm	Summary and closing (5 minutes)

- **Speakers:**
 - **Mr. Hugo Allan García**, Undersecretary of Strategic Analysis for Sustainable Development of Guatemala

- **Mr. Diky Avianto**, Assistant Manager, Monitoring & Evaluation at National Secretariat for Sustainable Development Goals, Ministry of National Development Planning/Bappenas, Indonesia
- **Ms. Nelya Rakhimova**, Sustainable Development Specialist, Major Groups and Other Stakeholders - opening remarks
- **Ms. Naiara Costa**, Senior Sustainable Development Officer, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, UN DESA - closing remarks
- **Respondents:**
 - **Velegreat**, South Africa, Empowered Child Human Rights Defender & Climate Activist
 - **Mr. Kofi Kankam**, Co-Chair, Africa Regional Mechanism for Major Groups and Other Stakeholders, Ghana
- **Moderator:**
 - **Ms. Julie Kofoed**, Senior Director, Sustainable Development Initiatives, UN Foundation

Proposed discussion questions:

- How can countries effectively engage a diverse range of stakeholders, including marginalized communities, in the VNR process to ensure comprehensive and inclusive SDG reporting?
- What are the most significant challenges faced by Member States in integrating multi-stakeholder feedback into their VNRs, and what best practices can be adopted to overcome these challenges?
- How did your organization engage in the VNR processes? How have you seen the engagement of civil society in the process evolve over time?
- How can the VNRs and the preparatory process be more accessible to stakeholders? What could governments do to better include stakeholders in their VNR process?
- In what ways can civil society organizations contribute to enhancing the transparency and accountability of the VNR process?
- Looking back over the past decade of VNRs, how have countries that have submitted multiple reports seen progress toward their SDG commitments? What lessons can be drawn from their experiences?
- For countries that have completed more than one VNR, have you observed a shift in how stakeholders are engaged? Has stakeholder inclusion become more meaningful or systematic over time?