

Side Event on SDG Country Reporting
4th IAEG-SDG Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland
18 November 2016 | 1:45 pm – 2:30 pm

Introduction

Following the adoption of the SDGs, countries around the world have turned their attention to implementation. The experience with the MDGs tells us that with determined leaders, the right policies, collaboration and local engagement, the SDGs can be achieved. Over the 15 year period of MDG implementation, UNDP supported more than 140 countries to integrate MDG goals and targets within their existing and future plans and strategies; and to track, review, accelerate and report on progress made on the MDGs. In their efforts to implement and realize the SDGs, countries should not start from the scratch but they should actively seek to build on the shared understanding and successes of the MDG era. Drawing on UN's experiences over the last 15 years, the role of international organizations in supporting countries to achieve the SDGs can be identified as the following:

- **Championing the SDGs:** International Organizations will need to advocate for the SDGs among civil society, governments and other stakeholders. International Organizations will also need to engage national stakeholders in target setting, tracking and progress review of the SDGs while playing a key role in dialogue with donors and other partners to mobilize funding for the SDGs.
- **Helping countries to localize the SDG agenda:** International Organizations will need to support countries to integrate the SDGs within their national development plans and formulate locally relevant SDG targets, indicators and strategies. International Organizations will be at the forefront of rolling out a package of tools and services to support the localization of the SDG agenda at the national level.
- **Acting as a scorekeeper by assisting countries to keep track of their progress on the SDGs:** International Organizations will need to support governments to produce regular national SDG reports.

Objectives of the Side Event

- Help illuminate and provide information on the guidelines for SDG country reporting

Concept Note

- Highlight the relevance of MDG-related lessons learned and reflect on ways to bring governments, civil society and the private sector behind national and local efforts to produce country-led SDG reports.
- Reflect on what the United Nations can contribute on SDG country reporting in terms of championing the SDGs, localizing the SDG agenda, and helping countries to keep track of their progress on the SDGs.

Outcome - At the end of the side event, participants will better understand the guidelines for SDG country reporting. Participants will also better understand what varied MDG experiences tell us about producing country-led SDG reports. Participants will have a sense of the best ways to harmonize efforts of all relevant players to support SDG reporting at the country level.

Format - The event is expected to last approximately 45 minutes. UNDP's Head of Development Planning and Co-Chair of the UN Inter Agency Task Team for SDG Country Reporting will present the guidelines for SDG Country Reporting. Chief of Statistical Office of UNDESA and Co-Chair of the UN Inter Agency Task Team for SDG Country Reporting will moderate the side event. Three to four rounds of "conversation" will follow. The moderator will close the session.