Fiji’s SDG Implementation and Monitoring VNRs

Holistic Approaches for Implementing the 2030 Agenda

9th IAEG SDG INDICATOR MEETING – Beirut, Lebanon.

26th March 2019
Overview

1. Background
2. Introduction
3. NDP Targets
4. SDGs Update
5. VNR Preparation
6. SDG Challenges and Lessons
7. Conclusion
Background

• Fiji is an island nation in Oceania in the South Pacific Ocean

• Archipelago of more than 330 islands – 110 are permanently inhabited and more than 500 islets

• Total land area is about 18,300 square kilometres (7,100 sq mi)

• There are two major islands, Viti Levu and Vanua Levu

• Total population is close to 900,000

• Capital is Suva the other major area is Nadi

• Economy is agro-based (agriculture, fisheries and forestry) with some reliance on Tourism
Introduction

• National Development Plan - 20-Year and 5-Year Development Plan

• Detailed action agenda with specific targets and policies that are aligned to the long-term transformation of the country

• The plan for each Government Ministry/Agency is aligned to the NDP through their own costed operational plans

• The SDG priorities are integrated into the NDP and clearly linked

• Criteria for annual funding includes the alignment of projects/programmes with the NDP (and SDGs) and other national plans such as the Green Growth Framework
NDP Targets

• Outcome of a nationwide consultation process
• Aligned to global commitments including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change
• Inclusive of critical cross-cutting issues
• Financing through private sector partnerships and climate finance
• With key national development targets for the next 20 years.
SDGs Update

• Fiji’s first draft submitted on 31 January, 2019

• Relevant consultations have been undertaken with line Ministries

• Lead role given to staff in the composition of the SDGs chapters

• Engagement of a Data Consultant

• Senior officials to undertake content validation

• SDGs Self Assessment submitted to Fijian Parliament in 2017

Source: 2018 Pacific SDGs Progress Wheels
VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW PREPARATION

• Phase 1: Planning & institutionalizing
  • Initiate Coordination structure
  • Assess existing data sources
  • Develop communication strategy
  • Stakeholder engagement
  • Taskforce meeting
  • Finalize coordination structures
  • Seek Minister’s Endorsement

• Phase 2: Gather inputs and data
  • Define sources of information
  • Establish baseline
  • Plan inputs from stakeholders

• Phase 3: Writing and review of the VNR
  • Draft reviews
  • Minister
  • Cabinet
  • DESA
  • Final Review

Goals and Target of VNR
• a snapshot of the status of the goals and targets;
• achievements and good practices;
• the impact of country interventions at home and abroad;
• gaps and challenges;
• interlinkages with other goals;
• an analysis of emerging issues; and
• plans for future enhanced implementation.
VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW PREPARATION

• Phase 4: Prepare for the Presentation at the HLPF (July 2019)
  • Inform DESA/DSD of preferred presentation format (panel / individual), presenter, and composition of delegation.
  • Select key messages for VNR presentation

• Phase 5: Follow-up
  • Report to parliament/ cabinet on HLPF (Aug 2019 onwards)
  • Report back to stakeholders
  • Agree on follow-up actions and define a time-plan

Goals and Target of VNR
• a snapshot of the status of the goals and targets;
• achievements and good practices;
• the impact of country interventions at home and abroad;
• gaps and challenges;
• interlinkages with other goals;
• an analysis of emerging issues; and
• plans for future enhanced implementation.
SDGs Challenges

• Need to strengthen the collaboration and discussion at the state agency level. Weak institutional links in government, private sector, general public and stakeholders.

• Ensuring that responsible state agencies place proper priority in ensuring that timelines are met.

• Difficulty in identify and synergizing existing Data and its sources. Agreeing on credible, reliable and clear sources is important. Agencies are sensitive to the sharing of information and its management.

Solutions Going Forward

• Commitment to improve and implement consistent dialogue with line Ministries. Important step towards this was the integration of SDGs into NDP, which is the whole of government strategic plan.

• Development of a NSDS.

• Improving the existing resource base including technical capacity within Fiji institutions and through training/learnings with development partners.

• Engaging political support through regular updates to heads of government and policy makers, both national and internationally.
Conclusion

• Fiji’s commitment to the 2030 global sustainable development agenda is absolute and is a cornerstone of our national policies.

• Climate change is threatening the social and economic wellbeing not only of Fijians but the people of small and vulnerable developing states the world over.

• Engagement and dialogue, intertwined with genuine actionable commitment, is the only significant means of achieving success not just for us, but for our children.

• Fiji’s first VNR Submission scheduled July 2019.
Thank you!