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# VNR LABS

## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM

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### VNR Lab 14: Data innovations for evidence-based VNRs

**Thursday, 14 July 2022**  
**8:00 am to 9:00 am**

**Virtual Event at the HLPF**

#### **Concept Note**

#### **Objective of this event**

Data and statistics are the backbone of meaningful and evidence-based follow-up and review of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Despite facing unprecedented disruptions in statistical operations and a spike in demand for data for policy making during the COVID-pandemic, many countries have stepped up to the challenges in supporting building back better and fulfilling the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda. To do so, they have forged new collaborations and leveraged alternative data solutions while increasing efforts to protect data.

This VNR lab will provide a platform for countries to share their experiences with innovations and tools for SDG monitoring used to prepare their evidence-based and data-driven 2022 VNR. The VNR lab will also identify challenges, opportunities and possible recommendations that countries can use going forward in order to keep data at the center of building back and recovering better.

Representatives from national statistics offices and SDG coordination bodies tasked to develop the VNR are invited to share their experiences. Countries will provide short presentations on their innovations and tools for SDG monitoring and also participate in a panel discussion highlighting lessons learned and recommendations.

The VNR Lab event will take place in English only. Ms. Heather Page, Statistician of the Statistics Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), will moderate the event. The virtual event will be convened on MS Teams. Registration for the event is available here: [REGISTER](#)

For additional information contact Mr. Yuxi Zhang: [yuxi.zhang@un.org](mailto:yuxi.zhang@un.org)



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### Agenda

**8:00-8:05 am Welcome and opening remarks**

**8:05-8:26 am SDG monitoring innovations and tools used for preparing the 2022 VNR**  
*(7 minutes each)—all countries TBC*

- **Somalia (1<sup>st</sup> time presenting VNR):** SDG digital tools goal tracker
- **Pakistan (2<sup>nd</sup> time presenting VNR):** Data collection innovative techniques & digitization of the economy
- **Switzerland (3<sup>rd</sup> time presenting VNR):** SDGital2030

**8:26-8:50 am Panel discussion on lessons learned/recommendations and addressing data challenges and future plans for data collection—*all countries TBC***

#### **Country discussant**

*(5 minute)*

- **Eritrea (1<sup>st</sup> time presenting VNR):** Data challenges faced and measures taken to address them

#### **Panel discussion questions**

1. *What were the main hurdles faced by your country in developing the SDG monitoring tools you've described today? How were those issues overcome?*
2. *What recommendations or lessons learned would you share for ensuring the development of an evidence-based VNR?*
3. *What are your future plans for improving data collection and monitoring of the SDGs?*

**8:50-9:00 am Q&A from audience | Conclusions and closing**