



VNR Data Lab:

Deepening the data analysis in VNRs: showcasing country experiences

Date: Friday, 14 July 2023 | Time: 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm, New York | Conference Room 11

[Registration](#)

The UN Statistics Division (UNSD) will host a VNR data lab showcasing country experiences in deepening data analyses in VNRs.

As one of the critical follow-up and review mechanisms for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Voluntary National Review (VNR) prepared by Member States and presented at the UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), provides an opportunity for countries to share their experiences, successes, challenges, and lessons learned in implementing the SDGs.

To ensure a meaningful assessment of progress on the SDGs, reliable data and statistics are a crucial foundation for evidence-based VNRs. Over the years, countries have made significant strides in enhancing their monitoring frameworks for the SDGs, leading to improved inclusion of data and progress assessments in VNRs. This progress was evident in the 2022 VNRs, where countries not only emphasized the growing importance of data and statistics for policymaking but also demonstrated advancements in monitoring a broader range of indicators and cross-cutting issues within the SDGs.

Despite these positive developments, countries continue to encounter challenges in SDG monitoring, which have been further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and other crises. These challenges encompass limited data availability, insufficient timeliness or disaggregated data, as well as various human and financial constraints. As a result, the breadth of analysis accessible for the VNRs may be affected.

Nonetheless, countries have proactively taken steps to bolster their national statistical capacities and have instigated methods for deepening the data analysis in VNRs. For instance, countries have embraced new technologies and non-traditional data sources to enhance data collection, analysis, and accessibility. They have also forged new partnerships aimed at improving monitoring mechanisms to facilitate better implementation of the SDGs and improved input to the VNRs. They have also included cross-sectoral analyses across the SDGs as well as progress assessments and enhanced statistical annexes.

The main objectives of this VNR data lab are to:

- Enable countries to share experiences and best practices on various data-related topics such as cross-sectoral analyses, SDG progress assessments, and the use of qualitative data in the VNR;
- Serve as a platform for peer learning, networking, and support among countries preparing VNRs.



Agenda

Moderator: Ms. Yongyi Min, Chief, SDG Monitoring Section, Development Data and Outreach Branch, UN Statistics Division

Deepening the data analysis in VNRs: Country experiences (2023 VNR presenters)

- a) **Chile- qualitative information and improving data collection:** H.E. Ms. Carla Serazzi, Ambassador and Director of Multilateral Affairs and Mr. Andrés Borlone Díaz, Multilateral Policy Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- b) **Mongolia- cross-sectoral analysis, LNOB:** Ms. Enkhmunkh Otgontogtokh, Specialist, Integrated Development Policy Department, Ministry of Economy and Development and Mr. Mungunskh Batchuluun, Director, Social Development Policy Division, Integrated Development Policy Department, Ministry of Economy and Development
- c) **Brunei Darussalam- qualitative information:** Mr. Yusri Yahya, Acting Senior Special Duties Officer, Head Sustainable Development Goals Unit, Prime Minister's Office
- d) **Canada- SDG progress assessment and statistical annex:** Mr. Julien Lambert, Economist, International Cooperation and Sustainable Development Goals Secretariat, Statistics Canada

Discussant:

- e) **UN ESCAP- overview of LNOB platform and lessons learned:** Mr. Selahattin Selsah Pasali, Social Affairs Officer, Sustainable Socioeconomic Transformation Section, UNESCAP

Q&A and discussion

Discussion Questions

- *What are the lessons learned from this VNR process regarding SDG data that you would highlight for other countries? How do you see these lessons being incorporated into the overall SDG monitoring in country?*
- *How do you plan to share the data insights gained from the VNR experience with your constituents in country?*
- *What partnerships and data innovations have been the most helpful and how will they be continued?*
- *Overall, how will data collection and analysis for SDGs be improved following this VNR experience?*