



How can data be best used for national implementation of the SDGs and VNRs

Workshop on Data and Statistics for Evidence Based VNRs

Vienna, Austria

10 December 2019

Data and Statistics in Voluntary National Reviews

- Countries have taken important steps to incorporate more data and statistics in the VNRs, with over half of all VNRs in 2019 including a statistical annex
- Countries highlighted the steps they have taken to modify and adapt the global indicator framework to fit national contexts, conditions and priorities and have developed and launched SDG data reporting platforms
- Reporting on data availability for global and national indicators for monitoring progress on SDGs also included
- Countries also are reporting their baseline data for those indicators where data are available



Data Challenges and Voluntary National Reviews

- Data gaps and data collection challenges were frequently cited as difficulties in preparing evidence-based VNRs
- Need for timely data with little lag in order for data to be useful for policymakers
- Many countries highlight the need to produce disaggregated data, but also stress they are facing difficulties in producing sufficiently disaggregated data
- Countries highlight the need for increased financial and technical support for monitoring SDGs with statistics and surveys and the need for increased support in order to have sufficient data and statistics to produce a more evidence-based VNR



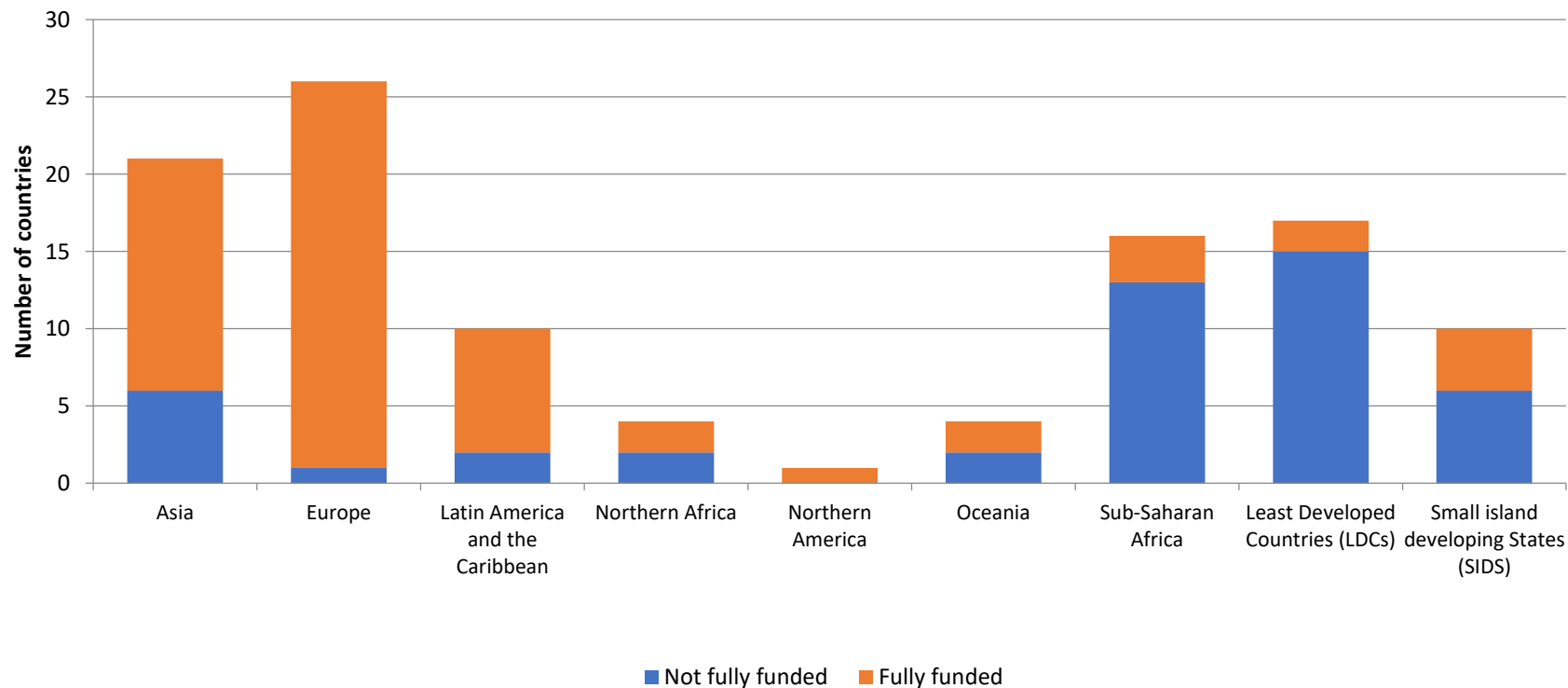
Data Challenges and Voluntary National Reviews

- How to include and develop other indicators not within global indicator set
- How to decide what to report in the VNR when there is a tendency to include everything
- Differing calculation methods used by different stakeholders



Gaps in data and capacity are a major obstacle to measuring and achieving SDGs

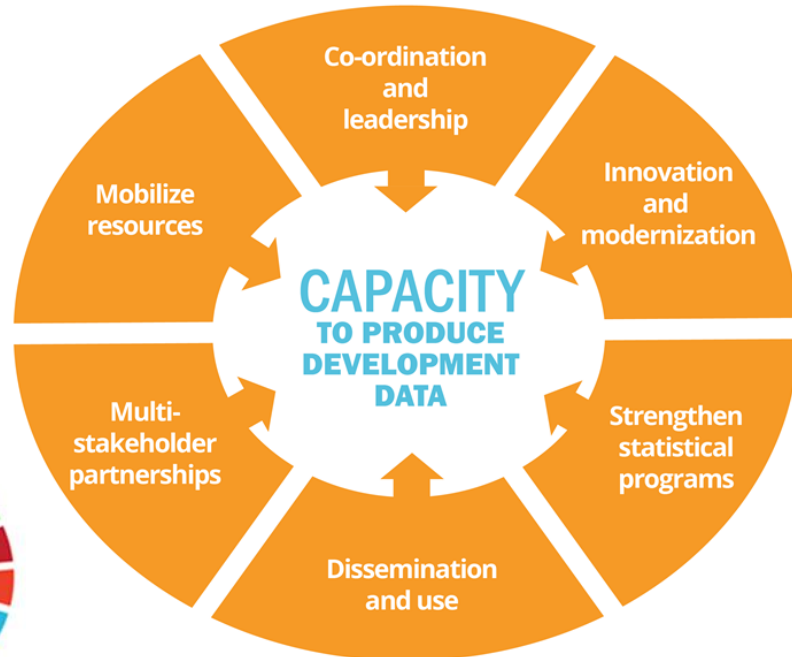
- Most countries have data to measure 25% - 50% of the SDG targets
- 44% of countries worldwide do not have comprehensive birth and death registration data
- Few of the countries in sub-Saharan Africa, LDCs and SIDS that have national statistical plans are fully funded



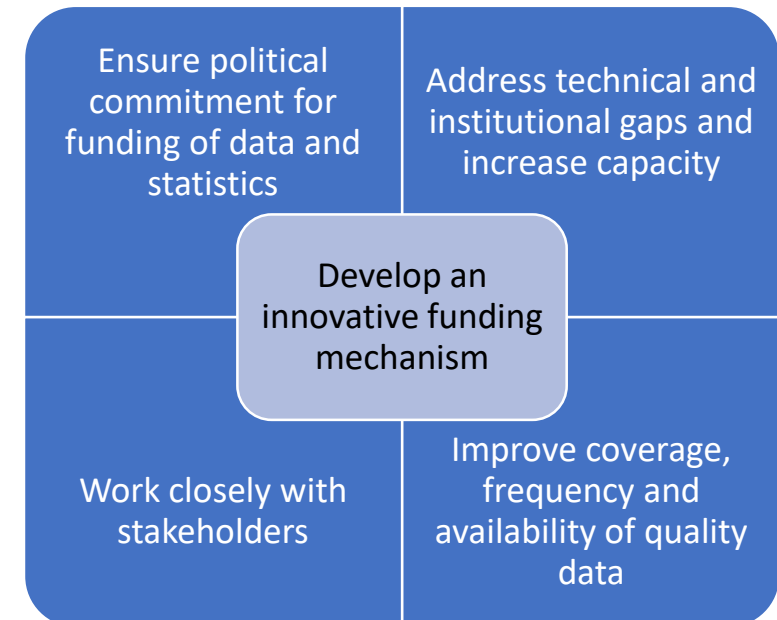
Addressing Data Gaps

- Filling data gaps requires more statistical capacity in national statistical offices and national statistical systems

The Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data



Dubai Declaration: Supporting the Implementation of CTGAP



Addressing data gaps when preparing VNRs

- No country has available data for all 232 global indicators
- Countries can and should prioritize indicators based on national priorities and situations and focus on those global indicators most relevant to their situation
- While countries should try to use the global indicators to the extent possible, national indicators and proxies should be used to fill data gaps
- The United Nations Statistical Commission has developed a list of some global and national proxies that can be used for monitoring and this will be available in advance of the 50th session of UNSC



Role of National Statistical Office in SDG monitoring



→
Coordination
and quality
assurance

→
Complex data
ecosystem



How countries are strengthening national statistical capacity for evidence-based VNRs

- Creating ownership for data collection and reporting by designating the national statistical office as coordinator of the national statistical system
- Using technology to improve data collection, analysis and accessibility
- Mobilization and assistance from partnerships and other stakeholders
- Identification of non-traditional data sources to fill in data gaps



Thank You!

