

Effective multi-stakeholder engagement to realize the 2030 Agenda in Canada

Annex

Good practices in multi-stakeholder engagement			
Country	VNR year	Description of good practices	Rationale
Benin	2018	Benin established a framework for consultation with civil society organizations to create a dialogue on the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs. Four thematic groups are included in the framework (social, economic, environmental and institutional) and each group has a representative of the federal government.	Framework for consultation allows engagement to be transparent. The inclusion of a representative from government for each thematic group allows for iterative engagement.
		Stakeholders were engaged in both the identification of national priorities and in creating the VNR report.	Collaboration on national priorities ensures better responsiveness, as organizations in contact with effected groups can offer a nuanced articulation of areas for improvement. This approach works to ensure engagement is open and inclusive.
		An initiative in Benin has trained 120 city ambassadors to implement the SDGs at the local level. All projects were implemented in a local language and the project is going to be expanded to 77 cities.	This approach supports the capacity of ambassadors to facilitate further engagement and progress within their local communities.
Brazil	2017	Brazil set up a National SDG Commission, composed of sixteen people from the federal government, sub-national governments, civil society and the private sector. It is tasked with review and follow up national progress on the SDGs. Civil society's role was also institutionalized in the CSO Working Group for the 2030 Agenda , made up of various CSOs, some on the National Commission. It monitors the SDGs in Brazil and is responsible for disseminating the SDGs among different stakeholders at both the national and sub-national levels. It has been quite successful in pushing progress on the SDGs, helping to create trust among civil	This approach embodies openness and inclusivity in engagement, reflecting a whole-of-society approach to SDG attainment. These mechanisms improve accountability and transparency. Interviewees note that civil society institutionalization has facilitated partnership with the government. The working group's role in disseminating information allows more direct, meaningful engagement, as representatives can share personal thoughts and experiences in their

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		society stakeholders, ensure their commitment and hold them accountable to the 2030 Agenda.	interactions with others. Multi-stakeholder engagement mechanisms are iterative and will help to increase the collective strength of civil society.
Canada	2018	Canada’s approach to preparing Federal Sustainable Development Strategies is grounded in legislation that sets out an obligation for the government to carry out extensive consultations according to a predetermined timetable. By law, Canada is required to prepare a Federal Sustainable Development Strategy every three years for parliamentary approval. Previous consultations have had demonstrable impacts on Federal Sustainable Development Strategies as well as the consultation process. For example, consultations for the 2016-19 strategy led to the inclusion of more ambitious targets for the government and greater linkages to the SDGs, particularly the integration of the social and economic dimensions of sustainability. The 2019-22 draft strategy is now out for consultation. To improve the accessibility of the consultation process based on feedback from the consultations for the previous strategy, the government has prepared a portal that enables citizens to more easily search and sort information in the draft strategy for commenting. Finally, Canada’s approach is iterative. A Sustainable Development Advisory Council that comprises representatives from across the country, including Indigenous peoples, civil society, the private sector and trade unions, provides advice on draft strategies.	This approach provides a legal basis for ensuring that consultations are timely, informed, transparent and iterative. The Advisory Council is ensures the process is open and inclusive and serves as an example of institutionalized multi-stakeholder engagement.
Cameroon	2019	Civil society organizations that are part of Cameroon’s National Strategic Group for the SDGs and Development Effectiveness have been implementing a programme to ensure African CSOs are key actors in the implementation, review and follow-up of the SDGs. A number of tools have also been developed for SDG implementation that promote effective multi-stakeholder engagement including the Civil Society Engagement Charter for	The multi-stakeholder engagement mechanisms, plans and initiatives ensure sub-national and national stakeholder inclusion, allow citizens to participate in 2030 Agenda, and create a constructive dialogue between civil society and the government to ensure accountability. This example suggests that multi-stakeholder engagement is

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		the SDGs, a monitoring and accountability framework, common working and collaboration platforms.	timely, informed, open and inclusive, transparent and iterative.
Colombia	2018	In 2014, Colombia established a highly inclusive and engaging National Development Plan. The plan provides an inclusive platform for local policy-making, giving a voice to previously marginalized groups. It deepens democracy and people’s participation in decisions that affect them.	The plan creates a timely method of engagement. It also is inclusive and open and attempts to include those who are usually left behind.
Finland	2016	Two committees, the Development Policy Committee and the National Commission on Sustainable Development , consist of members from civil society organizations, private sector, interest groups, and other stakeholders. The committees focus on the 2030 Agenda and its implementation. Finland also has an interdisciplinary Expert Panel on Sustainable Development , comprised of eight professors and senior academics that critiques the work of the National Commission on Sustainable Development.	The committees embody a high-level, iterative mechanisms for multi-stakeholder engagement. The expert panel engages academia according to their comparative advantage in implementing the SDGs through an iterative mechanism.
		Finland’s approach to gap analysis involved a multi-stakeholder consultation in the process and provided an opportunity for analysis of international studies performed on Finland's readiness to implement the SDGs.	This approach showed a commitment to inclusive and participatory engagement on a key aspect of 2030 Agenda implementation.
		The national implementation plan, Society’s Commitment to Sustainable Development , is a multi-stakeholder operational tool intended to boost community ownership over the SDGs. In 2016, the Society’s Commitment was updated through conversations with committees responsible for sustainable development, civil society, industry, business, labour organizations, educational organizations, government, religious groups, and local indigenous peoples, the Sami.	The national implementation plan was updated through an inclusive and participatory process, and set out provisions related to partnerships. Finland’s approach demonstrates a commitment to multi-stakeholder engagement in SDG implementation through institutional and ad hoc approaches.

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Germany	2016	In 2001, the German Council for Sustainable Development was created to support the Federal Chancellery in its work on the SDGs. The Council is an independent advisory panel consisting of 15 figures who represent economic, environmental and social aspects of sustainable development. The Council advises the Government of Germany on all issues related to sustainable development and to fosters dialogue on sustainability within German society.	The Council serves as an institutionalized form of multi-stakeholder engagement that reflects a whole-of-society approach to 2030 Agenda implementation.
		In 2010, the Council established a Sustainability Network of Lord Mayors, complemented with regional hubs for sustainability strategies to manage subnational engagement. The Network’s purpose is to strengthen nationwide networking on sustainability initiatives launched by federal, state and local governments.	A formally managed network allows longer term, interactive engagement with local communities, fostering trust, collaboration and ownership.
Ireland	2018	A National SDG Stakeholder Forum was established, including civil society, the private sector, trade unions, the agricultural sector, youth, academia, the education sector, government institutions and the local government sector. It allows for ongoing engagement between non-state actors and the government on national SDG implementation. The forum had its first meeting in June 2018, providing an opportunity for stakeholders to discuss national implementation and reporting, and share their experiences in implementing the SDGs. During the forum, participants look at who is missing and ways to include them.	The annual forum-style event allows for high-level but diverse engagement that is open and inclusive to wide range of stakeholders and iterative in nature. In addition, by asking “who is not in the room,” the forum seeks to expand the group of stakeholders engaged, improving openness and inclusiveness to leave no one behind.
		Non-state actors participated in the section of national sustainable development priorities and the development of Ireland’s VNR report. The 2018 VNR report includes a summary of the Stakeholder Consultation Workshop.	This approach exemplifies openness, transparency, and efforts to ensure multi-stakeholder engagement is informed through reporting back on the consultation process.
Latvia	2018	There was an informal working group created which included non-governmental actors to create the VNR including selecting	Latvia’s approach allows for inclusion and participation in policymaking according to

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		the SDG National priorities. This VNR draft was made public for citizens to debate. Draft SDG documents are published on the government’s website under a section titled “Public Participation,” which provides transparency on the policy-making process and an open opportunity for engagement. Citizens have the right to comment and make suggestions on all draft SDG documents.	established methods for engagement.
Nepal	2017	The NGO Federation of Nepal hosted a civil society workshop on SDG 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions providing a chance for national civil society organizations to define what they want their government to do. Civil society called for an institutionalized mechanism for the government to follow up on SDG 16 that included civil society. To this effect, a forum was established in 2017 where civil society and the government could come together and discuss issues relating to SDG 16 with the aim of prioritizing the goal in the National Development Plan and the VNR.	An institutional mechanism for input from civil society ensures openness, inclusivity and iterative engagement.
Spain	2018	The main mechanism for multi-stakeholder engagement consists of Spain’s Sustainable Development Council , a knowledge and information sharing platform. The platform promotes learning and mobilization of stakeholders across Spain, including academia and civil society, and provides a forum for them to share their 2030 Agenda commitments. A multi-stakeholder platform called Futuro en Común was also created in Spain to promote learning among and mobilization of stakeholder on the 2030 Agenda.	Spain’s approach includes a range of open, inclusive and iterative mechanisms for multi-stakeholder engagement.
Sri Lanka	2018	A Stakeholder Engagement Plan was established and developed. The Ministry of Tourism Development, Wildlife and Christian Religious Affairs established platforms in which stakeholders from government, civil society, academia and the private sector can engage on the implementation of the SDGs. This has included	These efforts contribute to timely engagement on 2030 Agenda implementation as well as other principles for effective engagement—ensuring engagement efforts are transparent, informed and iterative.

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		preparing the VNR report.	
		Stakeholders across the country participated in workshops to contribute to the VNR and an online platform was also used for VNR engagement.	Sri Lanka's approach to the VNR supported open and inclusive multi-stakeholder engagement.
United Arab Emirates	2018	The National Committee on the SDGs established an engagement strategy which brings together non-state actors annually to discuss and coordinate implementation. The committee also focuses on engagement and maintaining that engagement.	Holding annually organized conferences creates an iterative process for stakeholder engagement.
		Youth councils have been established in local communities also provide SDG implementation inputs and have identified SDG priorities in their communities.	Establishing youth councils for input ensures a group often marginalized has the opportunity to provide input and implement the goals locally.
Uganda		In the development of the Uganda's second National Development Plan (NDP II), which has formally incorporated Agenda 2030, a broad range of stakeholders were consulted including civil society, academia, development partners, the private sector, cultural and religious organizations, and citizens.	The consultative approach supports open and inclusive engagement.
		The 2030 Agenda Core Reference Group , a consortium of civil society organizations, has engaged civil raising awareness on the SDGs and monitoring their progress.	Working with the 2030 Agenda Core Reference groups respects the right of civil society to self-organize and increases transparency.
		The VNR included consultations and engagement with representatives from civil society, a multi-sector technical committee, private sector, academia, special interest groups, and development partners.	Including stakeholders in the monitoring and review process increases the transparency, openness and inclusivity in SDG implementation.
Vietnam	2018	The government holds annual conferences and meetings to engage a wide range of stakeholders including the private and development sector. The private sector is also encouraged to share good practices for sustainable development. Development partners are strengthening cooperation and knowledge	Holding annual conferences creates an iterative process for stakeholder engagement. Engaging stakeholders in the VNR process supports transparency.

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		exchange. Non-state actors also participated in preparing the VNR report.	
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