

Annex: Transformative policies and policy coherence to realize the 2030 Agenda

Country	VNR Year	Description of good practice	Rationale
Andorra	2018	In 2016 the Council of Ministers agreed that all actions that are submitted to the council should be associated with one or more SDGs to receive approval. Through this mechanisms, Agenda 2030 has become the basis for decision-making by the Andorran executive. This process has allowed an assessment of the alignment and conformity between national policies and the SDGs.	The process of ensuring that government actions are aligned with Agenda 2030 moves beyond business as usual. By aligning actions from all different sectors of government with the SDGs there is a greater likelihood of policy coherence.
Armenia	2018	In Armenia the National Council of Sustainable Development under the Prime Minister (set up in 2002), includes representatives from ministries and other state agencies and non-governmental organizations. The council aims to coordinate actions of the government to ensure Armenia fulfills international commitments. They also integrate the SDGs into national strategic documents and support legal and institutional reform for sustainable development.	The focus on coordination and policy alignment with the 2030 Agenda has potential to ensure effective integration of the SDGs into policies and policy coherence.
		The SDG Nationalization Inter-agency Task Force was established in 2017 to coordinate the activities of state agencies and non-governmental organizations in the process of SDG nationalization and implementation. There are four Working Groups under this task force responsible for various aspects of SDG nationalization and implementation.	This approach supports coordination and a whole-of-society approach to implementation.
		The Armenia National SDG Innovation Lab was established between the government and the United Nations to support innovation and accelerate SDG implementation by testing new ideas and drawing on expertise.	The lab has a specific focus on innovation and supporting the development of good practices.
Australia	2018	Australia uses a human rights-based approach to sustainable development as outlined in their VNR. They emphasize the need for countries to protect and promote human rights. Their implementation of Agenda 2030 is in line with international human rights law, meaning ensuring human rights are respected. The VNR outlines legislation, domestic, regional and global efforts to support human rights and points to the use of independent human rights bodies.	Adoption of the human rights-based approach respects the transformative principles of the 2030 Agenda.
Benin	2017	The government developed an application (MeSODD) to evaluate the level of alignment of all government ministries to each SDG and the progress on achieving it. This application is used to assess the alignment and	Using an application to evaluate alignment of government ministries is an innovative use of technology and

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		suggests what is not being done and what could be done for greater alignment.	is participatory by including all different sectors of government and showing their progression on SDG implementation.
Bhutan	2018	Bhutan's Vulnerability Assessment sets a baseline to track vulnerable groups and formulate appropriate policies to leave no one behind in 2030 Agenda implementation. The assessment translated into a number of policy areas, including gender equality, addressing the needs of persons with disabilities and targeted poverty reduction programs. With the Climate Vulnerability Assessment and the Population and Housing Census , the Vulnerability assessment provides a strong baseline to improve development over a five year time period.	Bhutan's Vulnerability Assessment develops a baseline and identifies how various policy areas can increase their impact on the furthest behind. The approach supports evidence-based policy making and policy coherence.
Brazil	2017	The supreme auditing institution (SAI) in Brazil audited the government's preparedness to implement Agenda 2030. A methodological approach was developed that targets policy coherence and integration to realize Agenda 2030. Within the audit, the SAI outlined areas for improving the implementation strategy, coordination and establishing integrated mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation. There were also opportunities identified for better coordination for food production in Brazil.	This approach makes use of existing accountability mechanisms.
Ecuador	2018	The National Assembly of Ecuador approved a binding resolution on the 2030 Agenda as a mandatory reference for the National Assembly and its Permanent Legislative Committees, Parliamentary Groups and other legislative and administrative bodies. A Parliamentary Group for the Eradication of Poverty and the fulfilment of the SDGs was also created. The forum raises awareness about the 2030 Agenda and holds workshops on SDG implementation.	Moves beyond business as usual by mandating that the SDGs be considered in all areas of policy making and creating government bodies to specifically address policy coherence.
Egypt	2018	The Egypt National Committee for the Follow-Up on the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals was established through a decree by the Prime Minister in December 2015. The Committee performs the role of coordinator and rapporteur for the SDGs, and aims to ensure the alignment and integration of the SDGs into Egypt's sustainable development strategies. Specifically, the Committee ensures that there is	The Committee is dedicated to ensuring policy coherence between sectoral strategies and works to ensure a holistic, integrated approach to implementation.

Annex: Transformative policies and policy coherence to realize the 2030 Agenda

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		coherence among the sectoral strategies, plans, and programs, and that the environmental and social dimensions are integrated.	
Finland	2016	Finland uses composite indicators to provide a comprehensive view of sustainable development and has a coordination body to promote policy coherence and intersectoral coherence. The country also highlights the importance of a multi-stakeholder approach to policy coordination to ensure harmonized implementation.	The coordination body promotes policy coherence and supports inclusive and participatory multi-stakeholder implementation efforts.
Germany	2016	Germany views sustainable development as an overarching goal towards which to align all policy decisions. Germany included policy coherence for sustainable development as an overarching framework to Agenda 2030 implementation.	Supports policy alignment with the 2030 Agenda.
Greece	2018	<p>Greece achieves policy coherence both “horizontally” across policy sectors and “vertically” at all levels of government- including national and local governments. The horizontal coherence includes agricultural, tourism and cultural sectors. The OCIIEA plays an instrumental role in promoting and internalizing the ownership of the SDGs in public administration and ensuring that existing or new national priorities, legislation, policies and strategies are closely aligned and consistent with the SDGs, taking due account of particular national needs and circumstances. It also works jointly and constructively with all ministries towards the promotion of an integrated approach to the elaboration and drafting of SDGs-related legislation and policies, the reduction of silos across thematic policies and the advancement of best practices on policy coherence and interlinkages across governance levels and sectors. Greece attaches great importance to the development and sharing of best practices on policy coherence and interlinkages which seek to integrate all dimensions of sustainable development.</p> <p>The National Growth Strategy recognizes the crucial role that coherence, integrated planning and coordination play in achieving the sustainable reconstruction and growth in Greece. Within this framework, the Greek government has been working so far on pursuing initiatives and actions which promote SDG interlinkages in cutting edge policy fields of utmost</p>	The approach aims to promote vertical and horizontal policy coherence and to break down government silos.

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		importance for the sustainable development of Greece.	
Guatemala	2017	The legislature in Guatemala adopted a series of laws in the spirit of the SDGs in areas such as agriculture, food security, youth employment, and education, demonstrating political commitment to the 2030 Agenda. The country's national strategic plan has also harmonized with the SDGs, covering the period 2015—32.	Legislation that supports 2030 Agenda implementation demonstrates political commitment. Ensuring that national plans align with the 2030 Agenda provides a basis for policy integration and coherence.
Hungary	2018	Hungary's Office of the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights has responsibilities in the implementation of the SDGs including monitoring progress on the 2030 Agenda in light of the country's existing human rights monitoring systems and will provide advice and expertise to the government on a human rights-based approach to data. It also provides advice and expertise on the human rights- based approach and supports transparent public participation. Other key roles include developing national indicators and assisting in capacity building for a human rights-based approach to the SDG framework.	Adoption of the human rights-based approach respects the transformative principles of the 2030 Agenda.
		As part of its Office of the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights, Hungary has an Ombudsman for Future Generations . The ombudsman is unique and has an overarching mandate to protect the interests of future generations. The ombudsman has made recommendations for SDG implementation. It is set to play an important role in implementation by supporting inter-generational equity and contributing to temporal policy coherence. The Ombudsman is also the deputy to the parliamentary commissioner and protects the constitutional right to a healthy environment, to the preservation of physical and mental health, and the environmental and cultural heritage of the nation.	Temporal policy coherence is important to ensure protection for future generations. Ensuring that inter-generational equity is included for Agenda 2030 also incorporates the transformative elements of the agenda.
Ireland	2018	Ireland's national implementation plan set out principles to guide implementation. According to the plan, "every person is entitled to a life of dignity in which they can fulfil their full potential" and "economic, social and environmental requirements of such a life are fundamentally linked and interdependent on each other." The plan makes a strong commitment to leaving no one behind.	The plan makes explicit commitments to implementing the 2030 Agenda in line with its transformative elements.

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Japan	2017	At the first meeting of Japan's SDGs Promotion Headquarters , the decision was made to set SDG Implementation Guiding Principles, which represent Japan's strategy in tackling the SDGs. The country identified guiding principles for implementation including universality, inclusiveness, participation, integration, transparency and accountability. These principles were established through a series of roundtables over three months with civil society organizations, academia, the private sector and international organizations. Eight national priority areas were conceived of and grouped under the five principles. For each of these priority areas, specific goals were developed with relevant targets and indicators. The relevant government agency was identified to implement specific SDGs.	Making use of the transformative principles to guide Agenda 2030 implementation is a good practice, including making use of multi-stakeholder approaches to define them.
Kenya	2017	Kenya incorporated the SDGs into national plans and developed a SDGs roadmap to guide the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the SDGs in consultation with national and local governments, civil society and development partners. The country is also using performance contracts and strategic plans for government institutions to mainstream the SDGs. The roadmap includes stakeholder mapping and establishing partnerships, advocacy and sensitization, localization, mainstreaming and accelerating implementation, resource mobilization, tracking and reporting, and capacity building. Kenya aims to follow an integrated policy approach and ensure that local-national linkages are harmonized.	This approach moves beyond business as usual by including the 2030 Agenda in national plans and supporting its implementation through a dedicated roadmap.
Laos	2018	Laos developed a roadmap to support 2030 Agenda implementation that includes awareness-raising strategies and multi-stakeholder engagement. The country has also established mechanisms to create horizontal and vertical policy coherence and to budget for the future.	Articulating how multi-stakeholder engagement will occur is good practice. The establishment of mechanisms to support policy coherence is also good practice.
Lebanon	2018	The SDG parliamentary committee has started mapping existing legislation related to Agenda 2030. They are planning to carry out cross cutting reforms that enable mapping of existing policies to improve future policy making. The parliament has also formed a commission to coordinate on policies to ensure implementation of the SDGs.	Legislative engagement on the 2030 Agenda is good practice, including the focus on ensuring legislation and policies align with the 2030 Agenda.
Malta	2018	Malta's Guardian for Future Generations has a mandate to safeguard both inter and intra-generational sustainable development. This Guardian	Dedication to temporal policy coherence is crucial for future

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		meets four times a year and has a four-person board. There are representatives from civil society, the environment, private sector, the economy, society and community affairs. The Guardian advocates for sustainable development and audits sectors. They also propose actions, solutions and socialize sustainable development for all.	generations and demonstrates how countries can incorporate inter-generational equity in their approaches to 2030 Agenda implementation.
Nepal	2017	Nepal's approach shows good practice by integrating the SDGs into policies and then supporting their implementation through programming and budgeting. The national budget is explicitly linked to the SDGs through an inter-ministerial system and focal points. Under three high-level committees and in Nepal's 14th national plan the country includes the SDGs and national indicators that identify priorities for spending, coded to specific SDGs assigned to all national programs.	Integration of Agenda 2030 into the budget is a standout good practice. This allows for an allocation of financial resources to achieve Agenda 2030 while encouraging policy coherence.
Pakistan	2019	To facilitate integration and coherence for SDG implementation, the government has established SDG Support Units at the federal and provincial levels with UN assistance and has created the SDG Secretariat within the legislature. At the provincial level specifically, the government has begun integrating the SDGs, including establishing approaches for the analysis of annual development plans to identify gaps in progress and financial allocations.	The use of SDG Support Units at federal and provincial levels supports capacity for implementation and policy integration.
Portugal		Portugal's VNR makes significant references to human rights and the international human rights framework as critical elements of their approach. Information on each SDG includes references to relevant human rights frameworks.	Linking 2030 Agenda implementation to international and national human rights frameworks is part of a human rights-based approach.
Romania	2017	The Federation of Romanian Nongovernmental Organizations for Development (FOND) organized training on Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development . This training introduced the concept of PCSD to government and civil society organizations to improve understanding of how to apply it in a national setting for the implementation of the SDGs.	The approach aims to develop capacity to ensure policy coherence within government and to inform civil society organizations of its importance.
Slovenia	2017	The Permanent Inter-Ministerial Working Group on Development Policies was established in 2017 as a coordination mechanism to promote policy	The inter-ministerial working group promotes intersectoral cooperation

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		coherence and to solve possible policy conflicts. The group is coordinated by the Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy and composed of two representatives from each ministry, who represent and work as focal points for development policies and the 2030 Agenda at their ministries.	and aims to solve policy conflicts.
Spain	2018	Spain is developing an impact analysis framework for legislation that evaluates the potential impact of policies on the SDGs. The framework will look at the impact of national policies on other countries and global public goods as well as the expansion of foreign policy initiatives that promote the SDGs. It will be part of parliamentary accountability mechanisms and inform the annual progress report on the 2030 Agenda.	The proposed methods for advancing policy coherence are transformative, including the examination of the impact of national policies on third countries and global public goods.
Sweden	2017	Sweden views its Policy for Global Development and efforts to support the Addis Ababa Action Agenda as important means to implement the 2030 domestically and internationally. Sweden emphasizes that coherence for equitable and sustainable development must permeate all policy areas horizontally between sectors, vertically between levels of governance and on both the domestic and international stage.	Attention to global and domestic policies and horizontal and vertical aspects of policy coherence contributes to domestic and international policy coherence.
Turkey	2016	The Ministry of Development (MoD) is responsible for the preparation of National Development Plans in Turkey. As the central coordinating body, MoD advocates to take the policy coherence approach in implementing the SDGs. MoD is at the top of the policy-making hierarchy in Turkey, thus, all ministries are expected to align their respective policies and fulfil their roles in implementing the SDGs. In addition, the High Planning Council, chaired by the Prime Minister, will serve as the political mechanism for policy coherence in integrating sustainable development principles into the country's development plans.	Leadership and mechanisms established to ensure alignment of sectoral policies in relation to the SDGs.
Uganda	2016	Uganda has adopted a national plan that includes a strategy to coordinate all sectors, ministers, departments, local governments and other stakeholders.	The establishment of a plan for policy coherence and coordination sets clear expectations and direction.