

# Experiences and reflections of Nepal

## **National Process of Voluntary National Review and improving accountability**

Daya Sagar Shrestha  
NGO Federation of Nepal  
18 July 2017

# National facts and figure

- Human Development Index is 0.558 (ranked 144)
- One of the least developed country
- 1 in 4 people live on less than \$ 1 a day
- 48 percent students complete secondary education
- Female literacy rate is 57.4%
- Ranked 4<sup>th</sup> high risk country from climate change
- 1 in 5 youth are fully unemployed

# National Dialogue in Nepal

- **25 February 2016:** Formed Nepal SDGs Forum
- **December 2016** - Government decided to participate in VNR
- **29 December 2016** – Organized coordination meeting of CSOs
  - Decided to work out on indicators
  - To start dialogues/meetings with government



# VNR review process

- **23 March 2017** – Government decided to form 3 high level bodies, released a [press statement](#)
  - National Steering Committee, headed by Prime Minister
  - Implementation Coordination and Monitoring Committee
    - Private sector (*Nepal Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Nepalese Chamber of Commerce and Industries and Confederation of Nepalese Industries*)
    - These Committees are also mandated to include representatives of civil society and other stakeholders as 'Invited Members'.
  - 9 Thematic Working Groups
    - To support above committees
    - These thematic groups will comprise of members from concerned ministries, private sector, civil society and senior officials of the National Planning Commission Secretariat.
- **27 March 2017** – Released [joint statement by CSOs](#)

# Civil society meetings

- **12 April 2017**-Coordination Meeting of CSOs
  - Decided to prepare on SDGs' implementation through civil society perspective
  - Decided to involve in government process



# Civil society report

- **19 June** - CSOs organized a discussion programme on draft report, in presence of the officer from National Planning Commission



# Observations

- **Meetings:** No meetings of two high level bodies yet
- **Timing:** VNR process was not started on time
- **Participation and inclusiveness:**
  - No consultations at province and local levels
  - Not involved MGoS from the beginning
  - No consultation with Indigenous Peoples
  - Thematic working groups' meetings did not invite CSOs and other stakeholders
- **Incorporation of comments/inputs:** VNR Report could not include
  - Contribution's of CSOs sufficiently
  - Comments of CSOs

# Positive aspects

- Preparation of Nepal SDGs Report/Preliminary baseline report
- Decision to take part in VNR process
- Formation of high level bodies
- Meetings of Thematic Working Groups
- Tailoring SDGs to National Development Plan and System
  - Align in 14<sup>th</sup> National Development Plan
  - Align in annual programme and budget (introduced separate budget code)
  - Budget audit
  - M & E Framework
- Initiatives to review existing sector development plans: horizontal policy coherence
- Preparation of Baseline Report on SDGs
  - Determined 414 indicators
  - Set targets to be achieved in 5-5 years and by 2030
- Preparation of VNR Report



# Issues and challenges

- Lack of awareness on SDGs
- Political transition
- Unstable government and frequent change of government officers
- **Localizations**
  - Institutional set up
  - Integration in local planning system
- **Partnership and ownership:**
  - Clarity of roles and building synergies among the actors
  - Representation and participation of CSOs and other stakeholders
- **Data:** Data gap and lack of disaggregated data
- Absence of implementation strategy/framework
- Absence of concrete programmes targeted to those who have been left behind
- No will power to address structural and systematic causes and barriers of development
- Enabling environment to actors
- Managing resources
- Synergy and coordination among Ministries/agencies and their implementation capacity

Thank You for Your Attention