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Civil Society Reports: Countries under review at 2017

High Level Political Forum

Guiding Questions for a Template for CSO engagement for Voluntary National Review
at the UN High-level Political Forum (HLPF)

This template aims to identify what mechanisms are in place for government engagement with the SDGs, civil society, local governments, and current initiatives from all actors in realizing the SDGs at a national and international level.

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A. State of national government's preparation for the implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development / SDGs – domestic and international

- 1. Which ministry (or other institution e.g. in the Prime Minister's office) is now leading or in charge of the planning for the domestic implementation of the SDGs in your country?**

A national Council for Agenda 2030 implementation has been established (composed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Social Development, the Ministry of the Economy and tourism and the Ministry of the Environment). The MFA has the presidency of the Council, and the Ministry of Social Development hosts the Technical Secretariat. Under this Council, the government has established a Governmental network on SDGs, which includes focal points from every ministry, legislative branch, the judiciary and the office of the comptroller general. Civil society, private sector and academia can participate through sectoral Commissions and transversal working groups).

- 2. Does your government have a policy framework on SDG implementation? How does this relate to existing or other policy frameworks as national development plans?**



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In Chile there isn't a ethos of transversal long-term planning. The few long-term planning instruments that exist are mostly sectoral. For this reason, the main policy framework are governmental programs, which are medium-term at best, The current government has thus tried to align or retrofit their political program and the policies through which they have implemented it, with the SDG framework and their underlying principles. Although it's true that the overall philosophy can be assimilated to a certain extent to the SDGs, the exercise seems a bit contrived and limited in scope.

3. Is there parliamentary/congressional scrutiny of the framework? If so please list the relevant committee and its activity

The legislative branch is included within the governmental network through a focal point, but as far as we know, not on a scrutinizing capacity.

4. Are local governments in your countries actively engaged in the 2030 Agenda / SDGs? If so, how

To a certain extent, the Chilean Association of Municipalities is aware of the Agenda and we are trying to build synergies with them on order to get local governments fully engaged - but the process is just beginning.

B. CSO engagement with the government in the implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development / SDGs

5. Is the full text of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and SDGs available in your local languages? Which language(s)? Who translated it?

It UN official translation into spanish is available. It is not available in indigenous languages, like Mapudungun.

6. Was there any invitation to public consultation on the voluntary national review at HLPF? If so, who was invited?

To some extent yes, in the form of the presentation of a preliminary baseline - but to say it was a consultation would be a bit of a reach. The participation process is just starting and even though the VNR process contributed to accelerate things, the process has been mainly informative. The positive aspect is that it's open to any organization that is interested in participating. The methodologies and mandate of the Committees and working group still has to be clearly established to be able to talk in a more concrete way about the scope of the participatory process.

7. Have there been any other ways in which civil society has been able to contribute to the implementation, monitoring or review, including national reporting at HLPF

There have been civil-society initiatives in order to contribute, in the form of reports on Agenda 2030 and citizen participation, seminars and workshops, as well as the elaboration of a spotlight report by a coalition CSO networks.



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- 8. Has your government invited CSO representatives to be a member of its delegation to participate in the HLPF 2017 and/or make a presentation at the VNR?**

No.

- 9. In case you say “YES”, has your government provided financial support for this participation?**

C. CSO national coalition-building for the implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development / SDGs

- 10. Is there any CSO national platform or network focusing on the SDGs?**

Yes, there is a coalition constituted by ACCION (platform of human-rights and development NGOs), COS (platform of philanthropic NGOs), and Red de Voluntarios (network of volunteer-based organizations). We are currently developing a project that has Agenda 2030 implementation as its main framework, approaching it under different angles.

- 11. Are there national platforms that work on specific goals or targets?**

Foro Chileno por el Derecho a la Educación focuses mainly on SDG 4 and Mesa Ciudadana sobre Cambio Climático on Goal 13 and all the environment-related targets.

- 12. Have you had a regular policy dialogue with relevant government ministries during the preparation and since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda?**

Yes, Ministry of Social Development and MFA.

D. CSOs own implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development/SDGs

- 13. How far are CSOs developing their own plans on implementation of the agenda in your country?**

For now, CSOs are focusing more on advocacy - since Chile isn't a recipient of ODA since a couple of years ago (Chile has OCDE status), and financing for implementation projects comes largely from the government through general and ministry budgets. There are also project funded through private-sector donations - but they are limited in scope and based on philanthropic principles. That said, in some way or another, the internationally-funded grassroots level projects that still exist are in line with the SDGs (mainly because Chile is still a recipient of Climate-change related development assistance and there are international foundations and embassies that still have cooperations lines with Chile).

- 14. Are there particular case studies of effective delivery by CSOs already underway?**



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No.

15. Are there challenges to prevent CSO delivery of this agenda in your country?

Funding-wise and at the level of government programs that aren't necessarily aligned with SDG principles, or are too narrow in scope. Also, the traditional conception of participation -based on a subordination of society to the established power structures- prevents the government from designing participation spaces and mechanisms that are fully participatory at the decision-making level.

16. What is the engagement of other stakeholders like the private sector in the national implementation plan? Is there a broader partnership across sectors for implementation? Have any challenges or opportunities been identified in terms of broader partnerships?

The private sector is starting to get engaged, but if it's done in a traditional way, it could imply that the prevailing interpretation of sustainable development -and the Agenda, by extension- could be too neoliberal in nature, away from a human-rights based approach. There is still work to be done for the private sector to fully incorporate sustainable development and human-rights principles in their core business plans and activities.

17. Is there any clear national plan in terms of funding the delivery of the 2030 Agenda?

No, but it something that we are working on advocacy-wise.