

# Civil Society Reports: Countries under review at 2017 High Level Political Forum

Guiding questions to evaluate state of multi-stakeholder partnerships for SDG delivery in countries being reviewed at this year's UN High-level Political Forum (list below)

Afghanistan; Argentina; Azerbaijan; Bangladesh; Belarus; Belgium; Belize; Benin; Botswana; Brazil; Chile; Costa Rica; Cyprus; Czech Republic; Denmark; El Salvador; Ethiopia; Guatemala; Honduras; India; Indonesia; Iran; Italy; Japan; Jordan; Kenya; Luxembourg; Malaysia; Maldives; Monaco; Nepal; Netherlands; Nigeria; Panama; Peru; Portugal; Qatar; Slovenia; Sweden; Tajikistan; Thailand; Togo; Uruguay; Zimbabwe (Participate in the civil society reports from the countries under review in 2016)

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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.

- ➤ Country: Kenya
- Organization: SDGs Kenya Forum (A civil society platform on SDGs in Kenya)
- Name: Florence Syevuo (Coordinator SDG Kenya Forum) & George Awalla (Co-chair-SDG Kenya Forum & Country Director-VSO Kenya)
  - A. <u>State of national government's preparation for the implementation of 2030</u>

    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?



Ministry of Devolution and Planning: Enablers Coordinating Department-SDGs Unit

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?

There exists a Kenya SDGs Roadmap. During the launch of the SDG Roadmap the Cabinet Secretary [Minister] for Devolution and Planning said "the road map under implementation envisages to work under 5 thematic areas which are: to conduct extensive advocacy and awareness creation, to map out and engage all stakeholders, mainstream the SDGs into National Development Process, Domesticate and Localize the SDGs agenda, Monitor and Evaluate progress and to support building capacity for devolved governments to implement the process." The Domestication and integration of the Sustainable development Goals will be embedded nationally in the third medium term Plan and at the County Integrated development Plans. The SDGs implementation will also be linked to Vision 2030, and the devolved system of Governance.

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

The government is working towards establishing a Parliamentary Committee or Parliamentary Desk to deal with SDGs

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

Kenya has 47 county governments that are mandated in the implementation of Kenya's Vision 2030 and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through Alignment of County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs). The counties are in the process of aligning existing plans, budgets and implementation plans to the SDGs. Different counties are at different levels in regards to this process.

### 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?

The 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, SDGs are currently in English; no official translation has been done into local languages. We hope that this will be a consideration for the government and development partners to ensure no one is left behind in the implementation of sustainable development in Kenya



- 6. Was there any invitation to public consultation on the voluntary national review at HLPF? If so, who was invited?
- YES-The Ministry of Devolution and planning lead by the SDGs Unit invited all 44 state departments to submit progress report on SDGs implementation. Development partners including the different arms of the UN actively participated. The Civil Society members were invited to participate and follow the process, after negotiations, the CSOs were given the go ahead to have their input integrated directly into the national report along side the input of the private sector who were also invited into the Kenyan VNR process. SDG Kenya Forum a CSO platform on SDGs coordinated the submission of a majority of CSOs input.
- 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?
  - Civil Society through the SDGs Kenya Forum Produced a Kenyan CSOs Voluntary Review Report that was integrated into the main report and also published independently along side the national report as an appendix.
- 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?

The government of Kenya invited members of civil society organization under the SDGs Kenya Forum as part of the Kenyan government delegation to the HLPF.

9. In case you say "YES", has your government provided financial support for this participation?

The support accorded is getting visas for those without and accreditation to all invited in the government delegation. The agreement was for CSOs to participate on a self funded basis.

# 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?

The SDGs Kenya Forum is a platform with a growing membership of over 100 affiliate organizations. The forum resulted from a transition process by Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) who came together about 3 years ago as the Kenya CSOs Reference Group on Post 2015 and contributed to discussions that culminated into the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs). The SDG Kenya



forum organized for community dialogues on SDGs and has been reaching out to MPs, Private sector and Donors on engagement on SDGs

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

#### YES

- Children Agenda Forum
- Persons with Disability Networks
- Goal 5 Champions
- Goal 16
- The Older Persons Network
- · Elimu Yetu (Education for All) Coalition Goal 4

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

YES - Civil Society Organizations under different thematic goals have continuously pursued policy dialogues with the relevant ministries. Seeking opportunities to lobby and deliver change. The SDGs Kenya Forum role is to coordinate action around partnership for policy alignment/change and overall implementation of SDGs in Kenya.

The SDGs Kenya Forum is part of The Interagency Committee comprising of different sectors chaired by the Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Devolution and Planning. The Forum is a key stakeholder in the ongoing SDGs implementation plan in Kenya. SDG Kenya Forum is negotiating with the government team to establish a formal partnership towards HLPF.

#### 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?

Most local CSOs have not been able to develop robust plans on implementation of the agenda, however Majority are in the process of consultations communities on SDGs to prioritise and are also aligning their work to government and donor agenda

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

There are a couple of NGOs that have been making good strides in the SDGs agenda.

SaferWorld who are members of SDG Kenya Forum made a report titled 'The 2030 Agenda's commitment to peaceful, just and inclusive societies – making it count'. The report identified six conditions that can help ensure the 2030 commitment brings about real change on the ground - 1) Political as well as technical support; 2) Relevance and utility for national actors; 3) Space for vibrant civil society and engagement; 4) Effective



accountability mechanisms; 5) Connecting across siloes; and 6) Staying true to the spirit of Goal 16:

Groots Kenya has also had engagement with grassroots women and young persons on SDGs in Kenya and championed community dialogues.

FEMNET has organized meetings to sentise women rights organisations across Africa on SDGs

VSO has organized Community Dialogues on SDGs and also is mobilizing the volunteering fraternity through the volunteer involving Organisations networks to be able to tract and monitor government effortst towards delivery of SDGs

Help Age are mobilizing older persons on SDGs and advocating for their interests

WWF has produced a report on how sustainability standards can help 'scale-up' efforts to achieve the SDGs: "Credible sustainability standards and certification schemes are a key tool in market transformation and its contribution to the SDGs

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

- · Limited access to resources to meet the high demand of interventions required
- Duplication of efforts by stakeholders
- Low understanding on the SDGs process and importance among County Government officials, among development workers and among citizens
- Lack of a multi-stakeholders platform on SDGs (NB: SDG Kenya forum working towards putting in place a high level multi-stakeholders platform)

### 16. What is the engagement of other stakeholders like the private sector in the national implementation plan?

The SDG Philanthropy Platform has had engagement with institutional donors, trusts, foundations and philanthropists on SDGs. There is the Kenya private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) which has been participating in SDG events; Safaricom (the largest mobile phone services provider) has also organized meetings on SDGs.

Is there a broader partnership across sectors for implementation? Have any challenges or opportunities been identified in terms of broader partnerships?

No there isn't an inclusive multi-stakeholders platform on SDGs; however the SDG Kenya forum working towards putting in place a high level multi-stakeholders platform and is in discussions with a donor on the setting up of a multi-stakeholder platform



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

NO

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