

# Comments of CSOs

## On Draft National Progress Report of SDGs' Implementation that prepared by Government of Nepal

### In the context of Voluntary National Review 2017

*(This document is submitted to National Planning Commission on 21 June 2017)*

#### General comments

- NPC is suggested to diminish the volume of the report, covering concrete and specific discussion on relevant data, information, facts and figures. Improvement of language is needed.
- The report could better if it could have incorporated comments and feedback received from the consultations with stakeholders.
- NPC should ensure CSOs representation in the SDGs Coordination and Implementation Committee and Thematic Working Groups.
- Report stated about Triangular partnership, it is fine. But, roles of CSOs should not be limited for managing Means of Implementation. They should be treated as a true development partner.
- The existing legal and operational scenario of the country is unfriendly to CSOs. For implementation of SDGs in true sense, there must be enabling environment for CSOs. The report should articulate the facts about the legal and operational environment for CSOs, and plans/strategies if any adopted or to be adopted.
- Page no 45; please write the correct name of "**Nepal SDGs Forum**". Please mention NGO Federation of Nepal (NFN) is working as the secretariat of this forum.
- It is suggested for formation of multi-stakeholder bodies at province level and in every local government units.

#### Comments of CSOs

##### NGO Federation of Nepal

- The space of private sector has been well-recognized in the high level mechanisms and structures erected for implementation of SDGs. Whereas this is not the case with CSOs. CSOs were totally ignored in the process of developing this VNR report. We urge government to coordinate and collaborate with CSOs in all affairs related to implementation of SDGs in the future.
- The report has failed even to recognize Nepal SDGs Forum of CSOs. In ignorance, it has just mentioned a discussion forum which should be corrected.
- The sources of data referred to this report are problematic as they are not consistent with each other. Therefore, it's confusing to recognize which source is the authentic one.
- SDGs are to be radically localized. However, local government bodies, and their office bearers are not well informed of the importance of SDGs. SDGs are needed to be mainstreamed in the planning processes at local levels.
- The report has not covered all goals of SDGs. It seems only 4/5 goals have been covered in the report. We suggest reporting on progresses, plans and strategies for effective implementation of all goals, targets and indicators.

- Political instability is one of the barriers of national development. This fact should be explicitly spelled out in the report.
- Nepal is one of the highly affected countries by climate change. But, progress against this goal 13 is not adequately presented in the report.
- Country further need to work on policy coherence to implement in SDGs. But, report doesn't speak about its progress status.
- Report stated SDGs Orientation and Planning meeting, but there was no participation of CSOs. Similarly, CSOs are not aware about the briefed to press and CSOs.
- Report stated District Coordination Committees (former DDCs) have mainstreamed SDGs. But, how? It is not clearly mentioned.
- Report stated about formation of NPC-Evaluation Network. But, Nepal SDGs Forum is absent in that network. Community of Evaluators Nepal (COE Nepal) is a professionals' organization. It cannot represent entire CSOs. Nepal SDGs Forum represents more than 500 thousand CSOs throughout the country and COE Nepal is one of them.
- Report is failed to present adequate information about progress on Goal 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17.

#### Alliance for Social Dialogue (ASD)

- In relation to Goal 16.9, the report recognizes only two types of legal identity documents – citizenship certificate and birth registration certificate. It should acknowledge other key legal identity documents such as migration certificate, land registration certificate, etc. and the indicators related to all legal identity documents should be defined and included in the report.
- The report has missed to specify indicators on free legal aid, and justice benchmarks. These should be devised and included promptly.
- Let's include institutional reformations related to transitional justice and access to justice as unfinished agendas for SDGs.
- Situation of political transition should be stated.
- Progress on Goal 16 is overlooked.

#### Beyond Beijing Committee (BBC)

- The report fails to recognize contributions made by women in the country. It has hardly spelled-out the concern of gender equality.
- BBC's continuous and several works/workshops, seminars, IEC materials, flash move, even parallel event in 61 CSW session was completely overlooked. Include contribution of BBC: BBC as the leading organization for women (major group) and girls constituency and women and gender justice theme has done from the inception. The effort done on awareness building, networking, mobilizing and capacity building of more than 600 women CSOs, government gender focal person, planning officers of the ministries, commissions and CSOs, publication and distribution of more than 2000 copies of SDGs booklet, 50:50 leadership across the country campaign for achieving gender equality etc.
- In all the committee developed- High level steering committee, coordination and implementation committee and implementation and monitoring committee, the Ministry for Women, Children and Social Welfare and Women Commission has only been

included in implementation and monitoring committee under the theme of social development. Additionally, a provision for the participation and inclusion of CSOs; especially women CSOs participation needs to be developed (pg-66)

- For goal 5: gender equality and empowerment of women and girls budget- 0.34% has been allocated for the fiscal year of 2016/2017, as a cross cutting issue that raises the question about the budget being allocated across SDGs in gender relevant areas (pg36).
- Goal 5 is a standalone on Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women (GEEOW). However, the reporting largely focuses on the occupation of seats by girls across primary, secondary and tertiary education and seats occupied by women in the parliament, local government and private sector decision making (pp. 55). The occupation of seats in primary and secondary education is the indicators of goal 4 and not goal 5. The GoN claims it is on track on promoting GEEOW (pp.56) and also claims that it “has made strong institutional mechanism for gender equality and empowerment of women” (pp. 57) which really needs deeper analysis on empowerment and capabilities ground rather than on numbers. The way forward also focuses on enrolment of women in tertiary education only remains silent on the quality of education and deeper aspects of empowerment. The term “empowerment” has been overused for only meeting the necessary condition and not the sufficient condition.
- Goal 5 has been perceived largely as a crosscutting goal in terms of consultations and exercises rather than a standalone goal, even budget is allocated as a crosscutting goal (refer to the page 36). In other goals there are no adequate gender disaggregated indicators to ensure budget flow on gender equality and empowerment of women. Deeper consultation with women civil society organisations is strongly suggested to develop GEEOW related indicators across all the goals in SDGs.
- The social systems subsection (pp. 2) of the introduction section largely elaborates on arranged marriage system of marriageable age and has missed to draw attention on child marriage (early/forced marriages) and other harmful practices such as *chhaupadi* which is a more real picture of the broader social context of Nepal.
- Some women civil society organisations from Nepal actively advocated at the global level to mainstream GEEOW across all SDGs and also as a standalone goal in Agenda 2030. These agencies have been vocal in equal participation of women and men across sectors (for details refer to Box 1).
- The report needs to acknowledge women civil society organisations' contributions in other goals beyond goal 5.
- The report has not mentioned about government's plan for making unpaid labour work recognised for gender equality
- The report remains silent on plans to change gender transformative norms in private sphere to reduce gender based violence risks and promote gender equality.
- The report remains silent on the victims of earthquake especially girls who had to drop schools as a result of the disaster.
- The report remains silent on the pathways to achieve ambitious goals such as- 50- 50% enrolment in tertiary education, reducing girls trafficking to zero by 2030 and eliminating harmful practices by 2030 including *chhaupadi*, *children aged 1- 4 years who experience psychological and physical aggression*.

- While addressing GEEOW, inter-sectionality approach is imperative of analysing gender and mainstreaming GEEOW across all the goals and indicators is vital in achieving the SDGs
- Gender equality (goal 5) and related budget provisions have been mentioned as cross-cutting agenda. Cross-cutting budget can be transferred to elsewhere. So, it should be recognized and reported as a standalone issue.

#### CAHURAST

- Let's review data used in the report and make them realistic.

#### CONSORTIUM Nepal

- Can we include the issue of child participation in the report?
- Progress on SDG 16.2 is missed.

#### Care Nepal

- What is the time-frame of the report? It seems the report has collated cumulated progresses of the past, earlier to SDGs.
- The report in overall is gender neutral.
- The report does not speak much about the consequences of disaster.
- The writing is very superficial; it's not specific at all.
- It's not clear how the government will mobilize CSOs for implementation of SDGs.

#### Dalit NGO Federation (DNF)

- The report does not discuss any measures taken or to be taken to reduce widening gap of poverty and inequalities between Dalits and non-Dalits.
- As indicated by various reports, 90% of the school dropout children belong to Dalit community. Yet, this report is silent in explaining how the government of Nepal is working to address this problem.
- The report does not say anything about how the fundamental rights of Dalit community related to access to resources including land, representation in state mechanisms, health, education, housing facilities, among others as enshrined in the article 40 of the Constitution are being guaranteed.
- The report does not embrace any specific targets that aim at reducing caste-based discrimination and untouchability practices against Dalits. The issue of non-discrimination seems to be less-prioritized.
- Most of the indicators in the report have been unidentified. NPC is urged to develop indicators concerning access, representation, fundamental rights and non-discrimination for Dalit community and include them in the report so that the periodic progresses could be measured later on.
- The report does not embrace the agenda of inclusion and issues of Dalit as standalone. Why?
- The narrative on 'social systems' does not mention patriarchy and varnashram system as the evil systems prevailing in Nepalese society. These should be duly included therein.

- We urge NPC to include the issue of representation of Dalit and other marginalized communities in the report.
- What is the way-forward strategy to end inequalities? Let's include in the report.
- What is the approach to materialize the slogan of "leaving no one behind"? Let's specify in the report. In order to meet the slogan of Leave no one behind of SDGs, the slogan of Give first priority to Dalits (Being the most marginalized and excluded groups) must be put in front in the context of Nepal.
- Despite SDGs has significantly prioritized the issues of inclusion, however, this issues has been given much importance to the report and indicators of Nepal government
- The relevant indicators must be provisioned in the report (VNR) to ensure Rights to proportional representation, Rights to free education, rights Health, Righths to social security. Rights to traditional profession and skills, Rights to land and Accommodation guaranteed under the article 40 of new constitution.
- SDGs must be localized in the context of disseminating it to every Dalit settlement for creating ownership on it and it must be used for securing the rights of Dalit development, right to employment and their rights to live dignity and respect.
- To create enabling environment in order to strengthen the capacity of existing stricture of government and non-government Dalit organizations to eliminate caste based discrimination and untouchability practices.
- As envisioned by the Goal no.16 of SDGs, concerned ministries, other law enforcement agencies and civil society must be responsible, effective and accountable to meet the goal.
- To make the indicators for supporting Dalit community to ensure their rights towards access to justice, to reach FIR on Dalit atrocities by 100 percent and proceed the cases to the courts. Besides, to raise wider awareness on caste discrimination and untouchability practices as crime and punishable among public by 2019.
- To create favorable environment to conduct mass awareness for accepting inter-caste marriage from local to national levels.
- As envisioned in goal no. 10 of SDGs, to make strategy to address existing unequal condition in social, cultural, education and political arenas in the country. To declare coming decade as Dalit decade for overall development of Dalit through elimination of Caste discrimination and untouchability practices. For this, adequate policies, structures, programs and budget must be allocated and executed in this regard.
- According to article 40 the constitution, the proportional representation of Dalits must be ensured in the state organs including executive, legislative, judicial and other constitutional and diplomatic agencies, private sectors, political parties and civil society sector.
- To ensure Dalit participation in high level monitoring committee of SDGs implementation mechanism in the country
- To ensure participation of Dalit in the inclusive economy system by improving policy and legal related hurdles, the government must formulate pro-Dalit related policy and programs and allocated adequate budget for the development and upliftment of Dalits.

- To ensure the mediatory participation in National Planning Commission, Poverty Alleviation Fund and Youth Self-employment Fund and other development agencies by improving policy and legal related hurdles.
- To develop local indicators by brining disaggregated data and facts of Dalits while implementing the SDGs in the country.
- To conduct related programmes to increase adaptation capacity at Dalit community in order to minimize the risk due to the effects of climate change.
- To increase access of Dalit into the natural resources and improve their livelihood condition.
- The government must design strategy and indicators by ensuring the participation of Dalits to meet the SDGs in the country.
- The root causes of inequalities being rampant poverty discrimination and exclusion among Dalits, the government must bring specific strategy, plan and programme to address the Dalits issues in the country.

#### Freedom Forum

- Why has been the indicator section of Goal 16 left blank? We have worked on this goal and have made achievements as well. Let's recognize what we have done.
- The report should envisage promoting people's open access to information. For this, the state should manage to have live telecast of the businesses of all three levels of the parliaments.
- Journalist safety is important as promoted by UNESCO. Open budget and open data happening by government, need to incorporate. Establish open parliament can be an indicator.

#### GoGo Foundation

- NPC has produced this report without having any consultations with CSOs before which is worth criticizing.
- The lexical/grammatical configuration of the report is not strong enough. It's too simplistic. Need to improve language (e.g. Nepal is a least development country)
- The report emphasizes on the need to capacitate local bodies of the government. Yet, it does not entail any concerns with regards to promoting accountability and lessening corruption.
- While talking about national vigilance center, it should be linked with Public Procurement Monitoring Office (PPMO).
- Page 62, accountability, transparency, anti-corruption are not touched, need revisit. Let' include anti-corruption bodies in the implementation processes of SDGs.
- We might require rethinking on certain indicators which don't seem to be realistic. For e.g., it says that the government will lower down deaths caused due to armed conflict to zero (0) by 2030 which most probably is impractical. Similarly, some of the indicators lack their baseline values.
- For defining indicators and measuring their outcome values, it is better to adopt sector-wise approach for the purpose of data generation.

- Let's use the terms "civil society" or "civil society organizations" in place of NGOs throughout the report.
- 2030 target of 16.1.1 indicator is not realistic
- 16.3.1, need to rely on international data
- 16.6.2, 95 percent budget expenditure, not realistic

#### JuRi Nepal

- The report has got wider variances of data sources. Such data sources should be consistent while tallied with each other so that the reliability and validity of the report could be ascertained.
- We should be honest enough to share defective socio-cultural value systems prevailing in the country; such as witchcraft, child marriage, caste-based discriminations etc.
- On page 29, the report converses on the housing problem in the urban setting. This problem is too acute and critical when related to the rural hardcore poor which should be stated in the report.
- It draws on the data of CSOs/NGOs referring to the Social Welfare Council. However, it does not present thematic categories of them which would be clearer to make analysis linking up with the SDGs. So, the report on CSOs according to their nature and thematic categories should be included.
- The report prioritizes local level of the state for the implementation of SDGs. Whereas it should be realized that there should be equal liabilities of all the three tiers of the state (Federation level, provinces, and local units) for implementation of SDGs in harmonized manner.

#### Municipal Association of Nepal (MuAN)

- The roles of village councils (rural municipalities) and municipalities in localizing SDGs should be stipulated in the policies. Unfortunately, none of the policies of the Government by now have spelled out the roles of local bodies as explicitly as it could be. Once we have policy provisions in place, we are able to mainstream SDGs in programmes, budget, and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms of the local government bodies.

#### National Campaign for Education (NCE)

- The report envisages partnership merely among government entities. It should be liberal enough to extend partnership with diverse stakeholders including CSOs while endorsing SDGs.
- It would be better if the report could hint about our position in relation to achieving goals, targets and indicators at the moment when we are producing this report.
- **Page XXII:** It says strengthening partnership among the three layers of government. However, the crux of partnership in the framework of action for education 2030 is among government, non-government sector and other stakeholders. So, it is suggested to mention the partnership in this line.
- SDG should be included in the curriculum of school education and let us consider global citizenship target 4.7.

### *Recommendations*

- Institutionalize civil society participation in all aspects of education making as articulated in the Framework for Action for Education 2030 through enactment public policy for CSO participation at the local and national levels.
- In addition to this, the reporting should be in line with the SDG targets. Therefore, reporting of education related information should with line of its target. Following comments on this;

#### ECED Target 4.2:

##### *Recommendations:*

- Governments will make ECCD compulsory and part of the basic education.
- The curricula should also include age-appropriate knowledge and skills on environment sustainability, global citizenship, gender equality and respect for diversity.
- Teachers and caregivers in ECCD should have knowledge and skills not only in effective teaching/learning but importantly on supporting all dimensions of child development.

#### Basic and Secondary Education Target 4.1

##### *Recommendations:*

- To address equity and inclusion, governments should establish complete database on out of school children and the reasons why they are not in school. Governments can collaborate with CSOs in getting data on education needs of marginalized communities and learners in difficult circumstances (e.g. in education in emergencies).
- Invest in affirmative actions to address inequity and inclusion in education by providing subsidies and scholarships to girls and boys, school meals, conditional cash transfers and other safety nets.
- As education is a right, it should be free. There should be policies and actions to abolish all kinds of fees, including voluntary contributions.

#### Gender in education Target 4.5

##### *Recommendations:*

##### Persons with disabilities (PWDs)

- To address the needs of PWDs, the government should establish database on children, youth and adults with disabilities, gather information on where they are, the different impairments/disabilities and what their learning needs are.
- Work with health, social welfare, children-youth, parents, therapists and other sectors that can help in effective multi-disciplinary approach to address learning and development needs of PWDs.
- Bilingual instruction should be in place for deaf and mute learners – sign language in national language and English.

#### Youth/lifelong learning and technical Education Target 4.4: Target 4.6

##### *Recommendations*

- Governments should create a database on youth and adults who have missed out on education, their location, their situations and their education status/needs.



- Enact national policies that promote lifelong learning for all – not only focused on literacy but importantly on providing critical thinking, communications, life skills, civic education and knowledge and skills necessary to cope with the changing realities in life.
- There should be interagency collaboration in addressing youth and adult in skills development for decent work and empowerment.

#### **Border set of skills (CIT, citizenship and sustainability) Target 4.7**

##### ***Recommendations***

1. Government should revise its school curriculum to ensure that ICT, global citizenship, human rights, and sustainability are mainstream

#### **Financing SDG 4**

1. Allocate 6% from GDP and 20% from national budget to education
2. Mobilize domestic resources for education by ensuring that business sector pay proper taxes.
3. Ensure that education in emergencies receive funding over and above the current budget for education.
4. Privatization and commercialization of education is a threat to the right to education and social justice. There should be clear regulatory frameworks wherein government monitors the education provision of the privates.

#### **National Forum for Advocacy Nepal (NAFAN)**

- In page no 25, please keep second paragraph first so that policy, strategy fit in coherently.
- On the same page, strategic target presented in the draft is wrong because according to data 'forest area' is already 44.5% in 2015 (it is not 39.5%) so that target should be more than 40%.
- On the same page, bullet no 2, sustainable forest management in 2015 - 50% is not correct. Community managed forest area is around 29% so this data should be corrected. Again 100% target is also so ambitious. It is not possible to manage 100% forest sustainability, because we need different types of forests for different ecosystem and different propose and use.
- Page no. 26, last bullet; write "community based forest" instead of community forest.
- There should be additional target, such as - Increase access of Dalits, distant users, women and Indigenous Peoples in forestry. Likewise, forest based enterprises will be increased to ..... % by 2030.
- It is also important to mention green job and employment creation through forest management under this section.
- Page no 47, there are number of NGOs working in energy sector which is very important to achieve SDGs so that keep their roles in this page.
- In annex section, title of annex 3 is missing.
- Annex no 9, 11, 12 and 16 have same title, please review it.
- In annex 7, indicator no 2 has 99% target which is not realistic, need to review it. Likewise, projection of indicator no 7.1.3 is also unclear. Indicator 7.3.6 targeted 60% public electric vehicle is also so ambitious, make it realistic.

### National Senior Citizens Federation (NASCIF)

- The goal 2.2 includes addressing 'the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women and OLDER PERSONS.'
- The goal 11.2 includes 'By 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and OLDER PERSONS'
- Goal 11.7 includes 'By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive, and accessible, green and public spaces, particularly for women and children, OLDER PERSONS and persons with disabilities'
- The National Senior Citizen Federation urges strongly that the targets and indicators about these be developed and included in the Baseline report (Updated SDGs national report).

### Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities (NEFIN)

- Does the government have caste/ethnicity-wise data? Whose poverty reduced, where is problem? Should be stated in the report.
- The Government of Nepal, as of yet, has not consulted with Indigenous Peoples with regards to preparation of the VNR report.
- Let's not produce and present the sanitized report. Rather, let's be realistic, and include factual data and information.

### Nepal National Dalit Social Welfare Organization (NNDSWO)

- The report has failed to prioritize certain communities like *Haliya*, *Musahar*, *Badi*, and *Dom*, among others that lie at the lowest rung of the socio-economic ladder. Can SDGs contribute to improving their conditions and positions?

### National Indigenous Disable Women Association Nepal

- The report does not say anything about what the state has done so far to implement SDGs at the grassroots.
- The report does not mention any specific strategy that the government has introduced towards implementation of the slogans "leaving No One behind" and "reaching the farthest behind" targeting to the lower class and excluded communities in the country.
- Let's modify the report in line with the standards of the international treaties, conventions and the Constitution of Nepal.
- Report is not in the linear form, from MDGs report to SDGs report. Let's not forget to highlight the achievements in the report that we have made with regards to implementation of SDGs collectively.
- Indigenous practices should be recognized

### Right to Food Network

- While formulating indicators, let's do it to measure microscopic changes that happen at the level of local bodies.
- Each and every indicator should be devised in such a way that their disaggregated data could be generated when we aim at seeing changes.

#### Transparency International Nepal

- The report should give utmost priority to the issues of anti-corruption and transparency.

#### VSO Nepal

- How can we include the issue of unpaid work in the report? Let's do it.

#### WOREC Nepal

- The report mentions issues related to reproductive health and mortality of women. But it does not contain any concerns related to morbidity. For e.g., uterus prolapse, fistula, cancer etc.
- The issue of mental health has not been incorporated.
- The report does not account for the issues such as violence against women, gender-based discriminations, and traditional practices that are related to targets 5.1/5.2/5.3. These should be included in the revised report.

#### Dr. Netra Prasad Timsina (Former NFN President cum NFN Advisor)

- Let's identify poverty pocket areas, recognize and include them in the way-forward strategies section of the Executive Summary of the report.
- The government has to make adequate investment in order to alleviate poverty. The private sector cannot do it. The report should explicitly state how the Government of Nepal is moving on the path to reducing poverty.
- There is an urgent need of sincerity and political commitment for reducing poverty. The government should be able to commercialize agriculture sector, as well as to mobilize migrant labour force for the sake of eradicating poverty. The report should provide facts and information in this line.
- The governance mechanisms at all levels of the state should be strong enough to contribute to reducing poverty. The report should highlight on the government's commitment towards promoting governance.

#### Dr. Sarba Raj Khadka (NFN Advisor)

- The Government could have sent circulars to the provincial and local governments to localize SDGs in their planning process.
- The process of producing this report was not inclusive. It failed to have consultations with stakeholders as many as possible.
- Can we not foresee where we will be in the report of Transparency International by 2030?
- CSOs and even government people are not well informed of the SDGs. However, the report is too generous to write about their level of awareness on SDGs.



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## **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)

### **Fill-out below fields:**

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: Nepal
- Organization: VSO Nepal & BBC (Beyond Beijing Committee)
- Name: Ratna Shrestha and Geeta Devi Pradhan (VSO) and Rakshya Pouyda (BBC)

### **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?**

- High level steering committee chaired by Prime Minister of Nepal, Vice Chairperson of National Planning Commission (NPC) acts as Vice chairperson of this Committee and other ministries are as follows Finance, Foreign Minister. Chief Secretary of government of Nepal and Secretary of NPC acts as secretary of the committee.
- Coordination and Implementation Committee under the leadership of Vice Chairperson of National Planning Commission. NPC member from economic sector acts as Joint-Coordinator and other members are: Secretary of Ministry of Finance, Foreign Affairs, Chairperson of FNCCI, Chairperson of NCCI, Chairperson from Confederation of Nepalese Industries (CNI) and Joint Secretary at Economic Management Division acts as member secretary of the committee.
- SDG implementation and monitoring thematic committees. The Nepal government has formed 9 SDG Implementation and Monitoring Thematic Committee.
- However, there are no representatives from CSOs in the above committees.



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**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?**

Yes, Nepal government is preparing policy framework to localize SDG in programs and policies and they will incorporate it into the three year 14<sup>th</sup> Periodic plan.

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

High level Steering Committee chaired by Prime Minister

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

There are some activities done jointly with government and development partners, like VSO also organized SDG awareness and sensitization to the Gender Focal Points of the all the government ministries. There are still gaps understanding and implementing the SDGs. Local government and recently newly elected members are not aware and need to be orientated on SDG agenda across Nepal.

**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?**

Yes, it is available in Nepali language and VSO supported Beyond Beijing Committee (BBC), our local partner to translate and print into Nepali language. It has been acknowledged by National Women Commission and has been disseminated widely to various government officials (especially to Gender Focal points and Planning officers of Ministries).

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

Yes, government invited CSO for feedback session on VNR report but it was at the last moment and we are not sure if they will incorporate the feedback in the report. A consultation with CSOs was organized in which basically the brief methodology of report preparation and the data per indicators were presented. National Planning Commission representative also shared that they had similar consultation with private sectors as well.

There is another report being developed by CSO's (almost like shadow report). In Nepal, the NGO federation Nepal along with other 44 organization (including Beyond Beijing Committee) has founded Nepal SDG forum of CSOs. This forum will be developing a report from the CSOs perspective. There will be one more report from Beyond Beijing Committee- the coordinator of



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constituency 'women and girls' which will be producing report from women CSOs perspective.

**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?**

The Nepal SDG forum has been able to do a lot of work towards contributing to implementation, monitoring and review. Beside that Women's Major Group for SDG in Nepal organized separate consultation meeting with professional women to provide feedback on VNR report and conducted provincial level and district level consultation to gather information on the status of implementation. It has also organized National consultation to gather inputs over the findings of various consultation as well as over the position paper that the Women Major Group is going to develop to present at HLPF. Apart from that, the women major group has provided key input to the draft VNR report of Government and submitted written feedback to government. VSO Nepal is also a member of Women's Major Group for SDG in Nepal.

**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?**

We are not aware of it.

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

NA

**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?**

CSO major group on SDG in Nepal has created constituency on major thematic areas and allocated responsibilities to the member organizations.

Constituencies

1. Children-Consortium of Organizations Working for Child Participation (Consortium Nepal)
2. Dalits-Dalit NGO Federation (DNF)
3. Madhesi-Yet to decide
4. Farmers-National Farmers Group Federation Nepal (NFGF)
5. Disadvantage area-Yet to decide
6. Indigenous peoples- NGO-Federation of Nepalese Indigenous Nationalities (NGO FONIN)
7. LGBTIQ-Blue Diamond Society
8. Local authorities-Yet to decide
9. Migrants-National Network for Safe Migration
10. Senior citizens-National Senior Citizens Federation Nepal (NSCIFN)
11. People living with and affected by HIV- National Association of PLHA in Nepal (NAPN)



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12. Persons with disabilities-National Federation of Disabled Nepal (NFDN)
13. Micro-entrepreneurs-National Micro Entrepreneurs Federation Nepal
14. Non-Governmental Organizations-NGO Federation of Nepal (NFN)
15. Business and Industry-Yet to decide
16. Scientific and technological community-Young Innovations
17. Workers and Trade unions (Major group)-Joint Trade Union Coordination Committee (JTUCC)
18. Urban poor-Homenet Nepal
19. Cooperatives-National Cooperative Federation of Nepal (NCF)
20. Media-Association of Community Radio Broadcasters Nepal (ACORAB)
21. Women and Gender Justice-Beyond Beijing Committee Nepal (BBC)
22. Youth and adolescents-Association of Youth Organizations Nepal (AYON)
23. Rural Poor-Action Aid Nepal

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

The Government of Nepal has formed 9 SDG Implementation and Monitoring Thematic Committee under leadership of NPC member in specific sector

- a. Economic Development Thematic Committee
- b. Industrial Development Thematic committee
- c. Urban Development Thematic committee
- d. Social Development Thematic committee
- e. Labor and Employment Thematic committee
- f. Agriculture , Climate Change and Environment
- g. Infrastructure Development Thematic committee
- h. Energy Development Thematic committee
- i. Governance Thematic committee

The CSO platforms are mentioned in No 10 above.

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

The Nepal SDG forum has tried to have several dialogues with Government especially with National Planning Commission, the focal agency for the implementation of SDGs in Nepal however, they didn't participate except in few instances. Beyond Beijing Committee together with VSO Nepal and National Women Commission has conducted workshops inviting the focal point of NPC, Ministry of Women, children and Social Welfare (MoWCSW) etc. Representatives of NPC, MoWCSW, Ministry of foreign Affairs and local development were also present during the national consultation.

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



**ACTION FOR SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT**

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

It is ongoing and CSO actively involved in developing own plan and implementation agenda on localization SDG's into policy and programs by local bodies. VSO Nepal will be conducting orientation workshop to local stakeholders and newly elected representative to raise awareness on SDG Goals at community and national levels.

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

BBC and VSO jointly organized national level orientation workshop to Gender focal person from all sectorial ministries, on Goal #5 and integration and mainstreaming Gender across all the 17 goals in their annual sectorial plans and policies.

VSO Nepal in partnership with National Women Commission, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare and BBC organized Parallel event in CSW61 on "Women Economic Empowerment in Reducing Violence and Achieving Sustainable Development Goals" and flash mob on the occasion of International Women's Day to raise awareness on SDG goals.

Consultations with primary actors, civil society and government on unpaid care work in Nepal and leave no one behind.

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

With the new de-centralized government in Nepal, there are lots of political will in the community level but there are no proper systems and policies in place so there is risk of effective implementation in the local level.

There is also limited awareness and knowledge about SDG by the communities and local stakeholders.

There is CSO's space, but there is lack of national leadership and coordination as the SDG agenda is huge and there are many targets and indicators. How do we track and who is doing what and how we coordinate and avoid duplications will be a challenge.

**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?**

There is very limited engagement of private sector but this is something that there is lots of interest and willingness but real action is a challenge.

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

It is mentioned in the VNR report that Nepal government has started working to prepare SDGs needs assessment, costing and financial strategy, which will explain Nepal financial needs. The assessment report will give the government needs and financial resources that need to be mobilized from the private sector, civil society and development partners from the abroad.