

Comments on Morocco HLPF Report

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Outline

- 1 Morocco key report highlights
- 2 CSO Inclusion
- 3 Opportunities and Challenges

1 Key report highlights

- 1.1 Contextualizing the 2030 Agenda
- 1.2 Recommendations regarding the SDGs implementation

1 Contd

- 1.1 Contextualizing SDGs
- Government Led SDGs Workshop (3/4 May 2016) with the participation of parliamentarians, local governments, CSO and UN System.
- 4 panels: Humanity, Planet, Peace and Partnerships
- One day (5 May 2016) devoted to CSOs and local governments

1 Contd

- 1.2 Report Recommendations :
- --The need to extend SDGs ownership process (esp. by ministerial departments and public institutions)
- --Necessity to ensure the coherence between SDGs and national priorities (sectoral strategies, advanced regionalization, etc.);
- Promote convergence and coordination of public policies; and
- Strengthen the statistical information system

2 CSOs Inclusion

- 2.1 the 2030 Agenda: A UN-Driven Process
- -UN Agencies in Morocco designed the whole process of national consultations, mobilized international resources (esp. from the EU) and identified the partners (government bodies, parliamentarians, local governments and CSOs)
- -This approach raises the issue of national and local ownership.
- -Being non-mandatory, the Agenda's implementation might turn into a race to international funding.
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2 CSOs Inclusion

- 2.2 Upstream consultations on the Post 2015 Agenda (in 2013): ‘consult people about our common future in order to set broad guidelines’.
- Partners: UN , Moroccan government, civil society
- - 2 months, 30 consultations, 14 focus groups , esp. with vulnerable populations, 800 participants.
- -Of special interest:
 - -workshop on ‘Youths in Post 2015 Development Agenda in Morocco’.
 - 40/50 youths from various cities and backgrounds representing CSOs.
 - 2 days workshop focused on 3 themes: Right to Information and Sexual Reproductive Health and Equality, Education and Employment , Governance and Participation

2 Contd

- Debate and recommendations focused on:
Finance for Development; Human Rights and Good Governance; Education, Employment and Training; Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

2 Contd

- 2.3 After the adoption of 2030 Agenda:
- National consultation with CSOs and other national stakeholders in preparation of HLPF (May 5th,2016)
- --100 participants
- Objectives:
- --Raising awareness of the 2030 Agenda and the HLPF
- --Supporting CSO and OS agreement on a strategy for better coordinating their engagement at the national level

3 Opportunities and Challenges

- --Opportunities:
 - --National strategies (esp. renewable energy)
 - --COP22 to be held in Marrakech (focus on action items to achieve the priorities of the Paris Agreement) :
 - --A great opportunity to raise awareness of climate change and get Moroccan civil society involved in the 2030 Agenda.
 - -- CSO Coalitions and associations are mushrooming in Morocco.

3 Contd

- Challenges
- -- Morocco is still in the planning phase in terms of its approach . The problem is that if no action is taken in the first 1000 days of the SDGs , then governments risk leaving behind people behind and failing to achieve certain goals altogether . Morocco implementing neoliberal policies and austerity measures harmful for gender equality, women's empowerment and social justice
- --UN System taking the lead, which raises questions about national ownership
- --Coordination and convergence challenges of public policies+ these policies are rarely assessed and subjected to follow up mechanisms

3 Contd

- --Limited participation of CSOs: in terms of interactions with public officials, incorporation of CS inputs in the government review report+
- --Moroccan civil society is still fragmented (no national CS platform on the SDGs
- --Expertise, capacity building and access to information are badly needed if CS is to live up to its responsibilities in monitoring and challenging government commitments regarding SDGs>> CS not proactive
- --The civic space is constrained by the Moroccan government (freedom of press..)
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3 Contd

- CSOs should fight for a Permanent and independent Forum for sustainable development and present shadow reports.