Engagement of CSOs in SDG Implementation and and Voluntary National Review in NEA Region

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How much progress has been made in the Asia-Pacific region?

Figure 1.1 Estimated year to achieve the SDGs at the current pace in Asia and the Pacific, 2017–2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Progress</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>11.9%</td>
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Korea

- South Korea enacted <the Framework Act on Sustainable Development>
- Article 2 (2) suggested
  - stakeholder a public forum for deliberative discussion as a multi-stakeholder engagement system be operated regularly every five years when establishing and reviewing basic national strategies in a pre-announcement.
- However, a public forum for deliberative discussion were reduced
  - The status and function of the deliberative a public forum for deliberative discussion as a multi-stakeholder engagement system were reduced by arbitrary procedures operated according to the needs of the committee, when the enforcement ordinance announced on July 5.
- The Korean Civil Society SDGs Network expressed great regret
  - The function of the public forum for deliberative discussion as a multi-stakeholder system, has been weakened by the committee's need only for "administrative costs."
  - If a regular public forum for deliberative discussion as a multi-stakeholder engagement system is not specified, the establishment and implementation of national SDGs can be only with a small number of experts.
Japan

- Cooperation among stakeholders in Japan’s efforts to achieve SDGs: **roundtables will be held twice a year since 2016.** Members’ review and evaluation of Japan’s SDGs implementation, were included in the 2nd VNR in 2021.

- **Youth participation** to SDGs Promotion Roundtable meetings was finally approved in 2020, after several requests from existing members.

- SDGs Promotion Roundtable: 15 Members from different sectors - Business 3, Labor 1, Cooperative 2, Academia 3, UN 3, Civil Society 3, Youth 1

- Direct dialogue between CSOs and the department in charge of the SDGs at MoFA (Global Issues Cooperation Division) **has ceased since 2019,** which was frequent even before the adoption of SDGs.
Russia

- **does not have documents** exclusively devoted to the implementation of the SDGs as adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2015, nor a separate road map for the implementation.

- **lacks a coordinating state structure** responsible for the implementation of the SDGs in the country.

- **does not report regularly** on the implementation of the SDGs, despite the fact that the UN recommends presenting an annual review on attaining the 2030 Agenda, supplemented by sub-national reviews, in parliament.

- **does not have an engagement mechanism** for CSOs.

- Special Representative of Russian president to the international organizations on SDG implementation Anatoly Chubais quitted his position. No one replaced him on this position.
Mongolia

- There are some multi-stakeholder structures which may contribute in policy coherence for SDGs such as National SDG Committee lead by the Prime Minister and recently a Multi-stakeholder Council on SDGs has been set up under the Parliament Subcommittee on SDGs.

- Civil society participation is not fully effective in their engagements. The reasons are many: lack of understanding of CSOs role and practice of partnership with CSOs among government officials.

- There is low awareness of the principles “leaving no one behind”, “ whole of society approach” required for effective implementation of SDGs. There is not enough efforts have been made to mobilize knowledge and expertise of CSOs.

- CSOs as an important driving force for acceleration of SDGs have very limited technical, and financial resources.
Governments are meant to, according to the 2030 Agenda:

- Develop a **stakeholder engagement plan** during VNR preparations which identifies key stakeholders
- Develop **methods of engagement** (to consider offline and online options)
- Establish **awareness-raising and public outreach** components to disseminate avenues for stakeholder engagement in the VNR process, making use of government communication services, social media, etc.
- Make sure targeted efforts are made to reach groups that are **marginalised and at risk of being left behind**
The actions we call on:

1. Clarify the roadmap on the **budget for a sufficient amount of ODA** and for cooperation with CSOs.
2. Provide appropriate budget and, human resources allocation and secure public space, and public forum on SDGs with diverse participation in order to build a **multi-stakeholder engagement mechanisms**.
3. Provide more **open space for marginalized social groups** through cooperation with CSOs, during all the policy processes.
4. Review and assess each country’s progress on their **SDGs targets with local indicators** continuously with the participation of residents with partnership with CSOs in the whole process.
5. Follow the principles of the 2030 Agenda, aiming at international mutual cooperation in terms of **international policy and peace building**.
6. Appoint an appropriate coordinating structures or **focal point for achieving the SDGs**.
We encourage international engagement of CSOs from around the world
Thank you

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