

Progressing National SDG Implementation: An independent assessment of the voluntary national review reports submitted to the United Nations High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in 2017

March 15th, 2018, 9:00 - 10:45am (EST)

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OFFICIAL LAUNCH

Background:

Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) are one of the key mechanisms to track the implementation progress of the commitments enshrined in the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Presented annually at the UN High Level Political Forum (HLPF), they aim to promote accountability to citizens, support effective international cooperation and foster exchange of best practices and mutual learning.

This online launch will share the main findings of a study commissioned by civil society, analysing the VNRs and a sample of civil society reports produced in 2017 for the HLPF. The assessment identifies best practices and provides recommendations for improving implementation and the VNR process and reports, as well as strengthening accountability around the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

The launch will also include a roundtable discussion with panellists from different sectors sharing their perspectives on the independent assessment as well as on the VNR process.

DRAFT AGENDA

09:00 - 09:05	<u>Introduction and Review of the Agenda</u> – Fraser Reilly-King , Research and Policy Manager, Canadian Council for International Co-operation (CCIC)
09:05 - 09:35	<u>Presentation of Report</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Methodology and general remarks on VNR reports: Shannon Kindornay, Adjunct Research Professor, Carleton University, Main author <u>Focus on specific report findings:</u>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Universality & Integration: Naiara Costa, International Secretariat, Together 2030 • Civil society engagement & Enabling Environment: Deirdre de Burca, Advocacy Co-ordinator, International Forum of National NGO Platforms (IFP) • Leave No One Behind: Oli Henman, Coordinator, Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD)
09:35 - 09:55	<u>Questions and answers</u>
09:55 - 10:20	<u>Panel discussion</u> - Comments to report and its findings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative of the government of Costa Rica (INVITED) • Representative of the government of Switzerland (INVITED) • Karen Del Biondo, Policy Officer, DG International Cooperation and Development, European Commission • Hitomi Rankine, Environmental Affairs Officer, UN-ESCAP • Florence Syevuo, National Coordinator, SDGs Kenya Forum
10:20 - 10:40	<u>Questions and Answers</u>
10:40 - 10:45	<u>Wrap up and closing remarks</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fraser Reilly-King, Policy and Research Manager, Canadian Council for International Co-operation (CCIC)

Call in Details:

When: Mar 15, 2018 9:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

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