The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:
Getting started in the region and next steps

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SDGs: Promising first steps in the UNECE region

• Many early implementers and good examples

• Getting started with SDGs has focused on:
  – Institutional and coordination structures
    National Coordinating Council on Sustainable Development established in Azerbaijan in 2016
  – Policy and legal frameworks
    New or updated National Sustainable Development Strategies in Montenegro, Germany, Switzerland
  – Assessments of SDG gaps
    Estonia, international organizations (SDSN, OECD)

• Challenges and next steps:
  policy integration and linkages, data, finance, advocacy, stakeholder engagement
SDG Follow-up and Review

High-Level Political Forum

Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

National review and monitoring
Follow-up and Review: Global level

High-level Political Forum

- New York, 10-19 July 2017: **Second HLPF** after SDG adoption and first with thematic clustering
- Thematic sessions, regional window, 44 Voluntary National Reviews (14 from UNECE region)
- **HLPF themes:**
  - 2017: Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world (SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 14)
  - 2018: Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies (SDGs 6, 7, 11, 12 and 15)
  - 2019: Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality (SDGs 4, 8, 10, 13 and 16)
Follow-up and Review: Regional level

Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

• **First stand-alone** Regional Forum on 25 April 2017 [unece.org/rfsd2017](http://unece.org/rfsd2017)

• Regional Forum **established** and will be convened in 2018 and 2019

• Open platform to **build on existing mechanisms**, integrate actors and increase cooperation

• **Focus on peer learning and exchange of experiences**

• **Aligned with HLPF** and provides **regional input**
1. Better infrastructure (9.1) enhancing road safety (3.6) and access to health services (3.4). Clean and environmentally sound industry and infrastructure (9.4) reducing air, water and soil pollution (3.9). Using technology and innovation (9.5) to improve health services.

2. Health system without discrimination against women and girls (5.1), achieving universal health coverage (3.8) for women and girls and enabling women’s participation and leadership in political, economic and public life (5.5). Eliminating violence against women and girls (5.2), reducing maternal mortality (3.1), ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights (3.7; 5.6), and ending communicable diseases such as HIV/AIDS (3.3).

3. Promoting infrastructure (9.1), industry and employment (9.2) and increasing access of small-scale enterprises to financing (9.3) for women’s participation in the economy (5.5). Enhancing the use of communications and technology, in particular information and communications technology, to promote women’s empowerment (5.8) and close the digital gender divide.

4. Improving health through sustainable ocean management and fishing practices (14.4; 14.6).

5. Managing impacts of higher share of industry (9.2) on marine pollution (14.1), oceans and fishery management (14.4; 14.6) and coastal and marine conservation (14.5). Increase science, research and technology (9.5) for ocean management (14.A).

6. Ensuring access to food (2.1) and agricultural markets (2.3) through better infrastructure (9.1). Increasing agricultural productivity (2.3) through science, technology and innovation (9.5).

7. Improving health, reducing child mortality (3.2) and non-communicable diseases (3.4) through access to food (2.1), ending malnutrition (2.2) and reducing pollutants (3.9) in the food chain.

8. Improving health and reducing health inequalities through poverty reduction (1.2) and social protection (1.3) and vice versa.

9. Reducing poverty (1.2) and discrimination of women and girls (5.1). Social protection (1.3) of vulnerable women and girls.

10. Enhancing women’s resilience against unsustainable management of oceans and marine and coastal resources (14.2) and destructive fishing practices (14.4; 14.6). Increasing women’s role in marine science, research and technology (14.A).

11. Ending women’s discrimination (5.1) in agriculture, including through access to land and other productive resources (2.3). Ensuring access of women and girls to food (2.1) and addressing the nutritional needs of adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women (2.2).

12. Reducing poverty (1.2) through promoting industry and employment (9.2). Developing infrastructure (9.1) to ensure access to economic resources and basic services (1.4).