The process of nationalization and implementation plans of the SDGs in Georgia

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Outline of presentation

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- Partnership with International Organizations Towards SDGs
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- National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) 2017-2020
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The process of nationalization of the SDGs and Development targets

- The nationalization process was guided by the global level of ambition, but taking into account national circumstances – goals and targets were set considering national context, challenges and opportunities
- Government of Georgia established a joint technical working group including National Statistics Office, experts from different line ministries and UN country team; The consultation process started in 2015
- All government bodies were asked to provide evidence-based priorities and relevant indicators in line with SDG goals
- The technical thematic working sub-groups on Human Rights and Gender Equality, Social Inclusion, Economic Growth and Environment Protection have analyzed the SDGs
- Government of Georgia foresees the establishment of the SDG Coordination Council involving the business, civil society and academia
- Awareness building and engagement, especially on local level will be generated through consultative efforts supported by Georgia’s development partners

Partnership with International Organizations Towards SDGs

- Coordination of external aid through mobilization of government counterparts and development partners
- Communication of Georgia’s government priorities and development agenda for increased aid effectiveness
- Implementation of principles of aid effectiveness in Georgia
  - Analysis of key priorities of development agenda
  - Government’s annual work plan & longer term policy directions
  - Communication and coordination within the government about implementation, challenges and potential intervention of external aid in the development agenda
- Appropriate Government Decree on Coordination of External Assistance was adopted:
  - Determines the coordination rules and mechanisms of the government in support of the better targeted aid efforts and resources towards the state priorities
  - Determines roles and responsibilities within the government
  - Describes key mechanisms for donor coordination
- Development Partnership Forum carried out; several Donor Coordination Round Tables & 6 Thematic Coordination Group Meetings with in-depth discussion and gap analysis held. External Aid Report presented accordingly.
- International partners from the UN family (UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, Eurostat, FAO, ILO, Efta etc.), many other international organizations and NGOs have helped shape the strategic policy documents, and are helping on a daily basis to implement them.
The process of defining adjusted SDG targets, development of relevant indicators has drawn on a set of strategic and multi-sectoral development documents on a national level, especially:

- EU–Georgia Association Agenda
- Social and Economic Development Strategy “Georgia 2020”
- National Strategy for the Protection of Human Rights in Georgia

Thematic Analysis have been conducted

Government Policy Priorities in pursuit to SDGs:

- 4 point reform plan of the Government of Georgia: Economic reform; Education reform; Spatial development: Regional and Infrastructural Development; Governance reform
- Healthcare – increase the efficiency of public spending on healthcare through improved administration and placing greater emphasis on preventive measures
- Energy – develop stable and reliable energy sector and construction of new hydropower stations
- Environment – maintenance of economic development from the perspective of environmental protection and rational use of natural resources
- IDPs & Refugees – facilitation of platforms for promoting social inclusion and trust building between societies separated by dividing occupation lines; ensure decent conditions for internally displaced population in accordance with the National Strategy and its relevant Action Plan.

Integration of SDGs into National Policy Framework and Thematic Analysis

- Assessment of Georgia’s capacity to produce the global SDG indicators have been conducted
- At the first stage, Georgia prioritized set of 15 goals out of the total 17, as well as 90 global targets mid term
- 125 indicators has been identified as a baseline data
- The adjusted goals and targets will be reviewed in a 5-year span to cover full scope of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals by 2030
  - Goal 1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere
  - Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
  - Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
  - Goal 4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
  - Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
  - Goal 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
  - Goal 8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
  - Goal 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation
  - Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
  - Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
  - Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
  - Goal 15: Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss
  - Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
  - Goal 17. Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

SDGs and development targets Georgia

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Example From the Assessment of Georgia’s SDG targets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Global Target</th>
<th>Georgia Adjusted Target</th>
<th>Global Indicator</th>
<th>Georgia Adjusted Indicator - Target2030</th>
<th>Baseline Indicator</th>
<th>UN comments</th>
<th>GoG comments</th>
<th>Data Source</th>
<th>Lead/Line Ministry/Agency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.2 By 2030, reduce at least by half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions</td>
<td>1.2 By 2030, absolute proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions</td>
<td>1.2.1: Proportion of population below the national poverty line by sex and age</td>
<td>1.2.1. National poverty definition to be set in 2017 and new baseline to be set in 2018</td>
<td>Target Indicator 1.2.1</td>
<td>QIs it relative poverty, people living under 60% of medium consumption? - FAO</td>
<td>Baseline Indicator 1.2.1</td>
<td>Does it mean Geostat will introduce the new methodology of relative poverty? - FAO</td>
<td>Geostat will set a national poverty line in 2017 and baseline will be known in 2018. The indicator might be revised and adjusted based on the needs. Geostat: This indicator is about absolute poverty. Geostat will start producing absolute poverty calculations.</td>
</tr>
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The role of Geostat in the Production of SDGs

✓ Geostat will play a central role in reporting on the SDGs
✓ Geostat is a member of the body coordinating SDGs at the policy level in the country (through regular meetings, consultations, MOA etc.)
✓ Strengthening national cooperation mechanisms with other stakeholders (such as research, private sector, etc., either as producers or users of statistics). The Government of Georgia foresees the establishment of the SDG Coordination Council involving the business, civil society and academia. Inputs from the local government level will gradually be incorporated in Georgia-adjusted SDGs. In 2016, 5 awareness-building activities were already held in several regions of the country at the local level.
✓ Producing statistics and metadata for statistical global SDG indicators
✓ Developing SDG indicators tailored to national context
✓ Development of new data sources when required. For non-existing indicators – identify potential producers and possibility to produce.
✓ Dissemination and communication
✓ Quality assurance (UN Fundamental principles, COP, GSBPM, etc)
✓ Define areas for strengthening national statistical capacities
The role of Geostat in the Monitoring of SDGs

✓ Data collection & national statistical system will be the cornerstone for SDG national monitoring and evaluation
✓ Government will establish SDG Monitoring and Evaluation system at both central and local levels to track progress: annual reporting cycle will be upheld
✓ Monitoring SDGs – Government With the support of the National Statistics Office of Georgia:
  • Fix the baseline indicator to each target
  • See the right directions and a certain level of obvious progress in future
  • Work with the line Ministries to collect the relevant data
  • Analyze certain weaknesses of disaggregated statistics
✓ The SDG national review process will be achieved through monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework for national strategies and annual action plans
✓ Government will capture the specificities of the development needs and strengthen national statistical capacities & data collection as far as possible;
✓ Government will set the strong Coordination framework to serve as a floor for the development of more comprehensive implementation and accountability mechanisms
✓ Awareness building and engagement, especially on local level will be generated through consultative efforts supported by Georgia’s development partners

National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) 2017-2020

✓ Geostat is preparing a new National Strategy for Developments Statistics (NSDS)
  • In Line with international recommendations (TAIEX TA -Statistics Lithuania)
  • Development of NSDS tailored to the SDG context & linkage with SDG Goals- It will set out how the Georgian Statistical System can be aligned more closely with the SDG
  • Covers a short-term 2017-2020 action plan
  • Long-term perspectives and vision for the future
  • Detailed work programme, based on the main priorities
  • Assessment of the current situation, main constraints and challenges
Strategic Issues and Challenges

✓ Discussions about Setting up a national reporting platform (website) for global SDG indicators (Snapshot, ADAPT, etc)

✓ Supplementary sector researches – financial and capacity development needs

✓ Assessments and identification of data gaps will be directed by NSOs in close coordination with relevant data producers and international organisations (Disaggregated sectoral data, Use of administrative records, Development of registers, Big data)

✓ Development of a national road map/work plan on statistics for SDGs

✓ Insufficient financial and human resources to produce statistics on SDGs

✓ Lack of knowledge, guidance and recommendations on specific issues (support from UN agencies is needed)

Time to complete our unfinished work!
Thank you for your attention!

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