

The Sustainable Development Goals and their Adaptation at Country Level in Eastern Europe and Central Asia

REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

Country presentation

Geneva, 2 – 4 November 2016

1. Creating ownership of the SDGs

- Government of the Republic of Serbia has directly participated in the development and writing of Sustainable Development Agenda by involving its citizens in the process through Post 2015 Development Agenda consultations, and also by direct participation of the state representatives in the global forums where Sustainable Development Goals were define.
- Within 188th session of the Government of the Republic of Serbia held on 30 December 2015 the Interdepartmental working group for the implementation of the United Nations Agenda on Sustainable Development by 2030 was formed “which is assigned to carry out the nationalization, implementation and monitoring of SDG in the Republic of Serbia”

2. Incorporation of the SDGs in national development frameworks

- The first formal meeting of Interdepartmental working group was held on 25 April 2016 when the ministries and special organizations have presented their initial plans for implementation of Sustainable Development Goals, linking their realization with implementation of legislative and strategic documents falling in the framework of their competencies
- Civil society organizations were involved in the consultative process of preparation for the future “Agenda 2030” through inclusive discussion that was organized by the United Nations Office in Serbia with the support of SeConS – Development Initiative Group, a research organization from Belgrade

3. Integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development

- During 2013 within the project “Serbia We Want” the priorities were defined by assisting institutions of the Republic of Serbia in the process of national priorities preparation
- There were 28,000 people directly involved in the process of consultation and over 250,000 citizens of Republic of Serbia have directly learned about the details of global future agenda. Within the final report there were nine (9) priority topics defined with the guidelines for undertaking defined priorities
- A large number of UN agencies and civil society organisations from Republic of Serbia were directly involved in this process, as well as Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia, European Integration Office, Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit and Office for Cooperation with Civil Society

4. Goals and targets

- Series of meetings have been held with Governmental and Nongovernmental agencies to position SDGs within existing strategic frameworks
- Although data availability for SDG indicators and the plans to develop methodologies for indicators are not yet available, the general obstacle when it comes to the monitoring of the SDGs is lack of human and financial resources within NSO

5. Institutional mechanisms

- Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS) and UNFPA supported the development the Report on models of Sustainable Development Goals realisation by the means of youth policy and monitoring the work of youth umbrella organisations in the Republic of Serbia
- It gathered inputs from different ministries, agencies, levels of government and non-governmental stakeholders, and its recommendations will support the SDG localization through youth policies in the country
- There is a challenge on potential data gaps and among different territorial levels (regional, sub-regional, municipality...) of Government on SDGs
- Previous experience in work with the MDGs will be model of SDG implementation (working groups organized by sectors)

6. Means of implementation

- There is a need for continuous capacity development of the Government officials in order to enable them to implement and monitor the SDGs
- The Road Map on statistics for SDG that is planned for 2017 aims to guide NSO's work on data availability and development of the indicators
- Exchange of experience among the countries is highly recommended in order to improve reporting, data collection, analysis....

Thank you!