

Introduction to methodology for SDG indicator 17.14.1

Number of countries with mechanisms in place
to enhance policy coherence for sustainable development

Hyun Sung, Law Division, UNEP
23 November 2021

1

Presentation

1. Policy coherence for sustainable development (PCSD)
2. Introduction to SDG 17.14.1
3. Methodology development process
4. Methodology framework



2018 World Habitat Day Children's Drawing Competition
Children's Future Award
Fahmida Jahan Arpa (Bangladesh, 5th Grade)

2

2

1. Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development (PCSD)

- ✓ Developing mutually reinforcing policies across all relevant sectors and government departments so that policies work together effectively to achieve national development goals, minimizing the negative impacts that policies in one area can have on policies in another area (UN DESA)
- ✓ Requires meaningful collaboration and coordinated action across policy sectors (horizontal coherence, as well as between different levels of government (vertical coherence))
- ✓ Also requires balancing short-term priorities with long-term sustainability objectives



3

3

2. Introduction to SDG 17.14.1

- ✓ SDG 17 Partnership for the Goals: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development
- ✓ SDG Target 17.14: Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development
- ✓ SDG Indicator 17.14.1: Number of countries with mechanisms in place to enhance policy coherence for sustainable development

4

4



3. Methodology Development Process

- ✓ Internal UN Environment working group
- ✓ Draft methodology based on research, literature and existing indicators, etc.
- ✓ External Expert group (academics, NGO, IGOs, civil society, Governments)
- ✓ Close collaboration with OECD
- ✓ Consultations from July 2018 until October 2019
- ✓ Pilot testing in Burkina Faso, Guyana, Kenya and Tanzania
- ✓ Tier 2 reclassification in February 2020



5

5

4. Methodology

1. Institutionalization of political commitment	2. Long-term considerations in decision-making	3. Inter-ministerial and cross-sectoral coordination	4. Participatory processes
5. Policy linkages	6. Alignment across government levels	7. Monitoring and reporting for policy coherence	8. Financing for policy coherence

PCSD = whole of government or integrated approach
PCSD ≠ policy coherence for development

6

6

4.1 Institutionalization of political commitment

Domain	Points
Political commitment expressed/endorsed by the highest level	5
Additional specific commitments (1 point each, max 5 points): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set timelines for the achievement of policy coherence objectives; • A dedicated budget; • Defined roles and responsibilities; • Regular reporting mechanism; • Explicit consideration of international commitments; • Other nationally relevant commitment. 	5



Finland VNR 2020 - "All line Ministries are included in the Sustainable Development Coordination Network, thus enhancing Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development through sectors."

7

7

4.2 Long-term considerations in decision-making

Domain	Points
Long-term objectives going beyond the current electoral cycle included in national strategies	5
Additional specific mechanisms (1 point each, max 5 points): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A commissioner, council or ombudsperson for future generations; • Other mechanisms of scrutiny or oversight on possible future effects; • Mechanisms for regular appraisal of policies; • Impact assessment mechanisms; and • Other nationally relevant factors. 	5




Bangladesh VNR 2020 - "The government has integrated the SDG targets into the Annual Performance Appraisal system so that the long-term objectives can be translated into the annual work plan of the Ministries/Divisions."

8

8

4.3 Inter-ministerial and cross-sectoral coordination

Domain	Points
National mechanism for regular coordination	5
Additional elements (scored as follows):	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A mandate to make decisions regarding trade-offs (2); • Coordination body is convened by a centralized government body (1); • Coordination at both political level and technical level (1); • Mandate for aligning internal and external policies (1). 	


 *Burkina Faso- National Policy for Sustainable Development and related sustainable development law adopted in 2014*

9

9

4.4 Participatory processes

Domain	Points
Relevant stakeholders are consulted at the early stages of development of laws, policies, plans, etc.	5
Additional elements (scored as follows):	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultations take place in a comprehensive manner at various stages of the policy cycle (1); • Institutions disclose the rationale for not including inputs from consultations (2); • An accountability mechanism that allows public intervention (2). 	

 *State of Palestine VNR 2019 – “The Palestinian council of ministers issued a decree establishing a national team to lead the implementation of the SDGs under the overview of the Prime Minister’s Office. Tasked with coordination for the implementation and follow-up of the SDGs amongst all related stakeholders, including members from NGOs and the private sector... the establishment of the National SDG Team was based on lessons learned from the MDGs to allow different partners to participate in the monitoring and implementation of the SDGs in all stages of the process.”*

10

10

4.5 Policy linkages: Assessment of policy effects and linkages

Domain	Points
A mechanism for assessing and embedding the contribution of a policy (new or existing) to broader sustainable development, including transboundary elements.	5
Additional mechanisms (1 point each, max 5 points): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The application of the above mechanisms at all levels of government; • An indicator framework for tracking policy effectiveness towards sustainable development; • A cost-benefit analysis of policy impacts across all sectors; • The identification of measures to mitigate negative effects and to optimize; • The specific consideration of international spill-overs, such as cross-border and international impacts • Other nationally relevant mechanisms. 	5



Cabo Verde VNR 2021: Strategic Sustainable Development Plan (PEDS) and the Implementation Coordination Mechanism

11

11

4.6 Alignment across government levels

Domain	Points
Any of following mechanisms (5 points each, 10 total – two mechanisms is enough for 10): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mechanisms to systematically collect the inputs of sub-national government entities and share them among those entities and entities at different levels; • Arrangements for regular formal exchange between central government and subnational levels and among sub-national levels; • Mechanisms to ensure enhance substantive coherence (templates & checklists); • Planning cycle timeframes that facilitate alignment; cooperation between national level focal points and focal points for international negotiations on given issues 	10



Kenya pilot testing report 2020 - "The National and County Government Co-ordinating Summit chaired by the president meets at least twice a year and brings together the national government and the 47 counties in Kenya" (self-assessed 10 points)

12

12

4.7 Monitoring and reporting for policy coherence

Domain	Points
Monitoring and evaluation framework for policy coherence for sustainable development.	5
Aspects of policy coherence for sustainable development are integrated into SDG related reporting processes.	2
Data and information management system for sustainable development data.	3



Turkey VNR 2019 – “MPs who are members of the Inter-Parliamentary Union Group of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey are regularly informed on the progress and status of SDGs by Presidency of Strategy and Budget as the national SDGs focal point. In this way, policy coherence is ensured at various levels.”

13

13

4.8 Financing for policy coherence

Domain	Points
Any of following (5 points each, 10 total): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check-lists to ensure that plans and budgets reflect policy coherence for sustainable development; • Integrated financial information systems. • Mechanisms to ensure that cooperation funds are aligned with national policies and priorities. 	10



Guyana pilot testing report 2019 - “The Integrated Financial Information System led by the Ministry of Finance was suggested as a mechanism to build on Financing Policy Coherence” (self-assessed 5 points).

14

14



Thank you

Hyun Sung
Law Division
Hyun.sung@un.org

United Nations Avenue, Gigiri
PO Box 30552 – 00100 GPO Nairobi, Kenya

www.unep.org