SDG-VNR Status Report - Excerpts APFSD CSO Forum - Nouvo Hotel, Bangkok- 26-28 March-2017 Submitted by APSD and ADA

Reporting Countries in Asia in the Excerpts here

- 1. Afghanistan
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General Remark and submission: Institutionalization and localization of SDGs and their indicators and Capacity building of the local institutions, highly recommended by the CSOs across all the 10 countries

Country	Background	Advocacy on	SDGs	Remark
		Government	CSOs	
Afghanistan	In Afghanistan, Directorate of	In the Brussels conference held in	A civil society formation in	The government
	Policy in the Ministry of	October 2016 on Afghanistan hosted	has come up in Afghanistan	and the CSOs are
	Economy leads the	by European Union, an "Outcome	to engage in 2030 Agenda.	into making review
	implementation of 2030	Document" has been prepared	Its led by GCAP Afghanistan	of the government
	Agenda.	keeping SDGs in mind. 24	(Sanayee Development	initiative fulfilling
		commitments have been made by	Organization (SDO)). It is	

		the government in six areas e.g. peace and security. No information on VNR as of now, as how the government is going to do it. In June 2017, the CSO groups in Afghanistan are going to organise a national workshop on VNR process. The Asia level regional formations: Asia Civil Society Partnership on Sustainable Development (APSD) - ADA—GCAP-ADN have offered to support the process	commitments in this document. •
Bangladesh	Bangladesh is pursuing implementation efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as continuation of MDG achievements	 A new high level position; the Principal Coordinator for SDGs Affairs, has been created in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) to spearhead the process and coordination A 16-member SDGs Implementation and Monitoring Committee has been formed consist of high level officials; A new high level position; the Principal Coordinator for SDGs 	 Proposal for joint actions at national level to build the capacity of grassroots organization. Joint intervention with government with national actors in

- Affairs, has been created in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) to spearhead the process and coordination.
- Planning Commission has formulated and published the mapping of the Ministries/Divisions by each of the 169 targets and 230 indicators of SDGs to identify responsible Ministries/Divisions for preparing action plans in achieving the SDGs
- Data Gap Analysis of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Bangladesh Perspective' has been published in January 2017 to identify benchmark data and to see yearly progress to monitor the impact of plans and policies for achieving the SDGs.
- Government is in a process of preparation for voluntary review of SDGs for HLPF following the target and indicators integrated with 7th NFYP of Bangladesh.

- CSO had very little space to engage except organizing few consultation and advocacy meetings with parliamentarians through Parliamentary Caucus
- CSOs could not maximize coordinated advocacy efforts to engage with policy leaders and government agencies.
- Implementation plan is basically based on growth model although inequalities are not clearly identified in targets and indicators.
- Tracking budget and financial mechanism including work for a progressive tax reform for FFD.
- SDG localization and building Grassroots capacity to hold government and LGs

- periodic review and monitoring of SDGs.
- Evidence based data generation and grassroots campaign and advocacy initiative should be encouraged.
- Government also need to be accountable and transparent in their actions.

India	 Identified Institution (NITI AYOG) and nodal Ministry (MOSPI) for planning, implementation and Review Increased awareness among the 	holding accountable including data for SDG monitoring and review by grassroots CSOs. The NITI Aayog is anchoring the official VNR process. The other agencies involved in the process are the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI), RIS (Research and Information holding accountable including data for SDG monitoring and review by grassroots CSOs. The civil society in India feels that it should also do an independent shadow report on all 17 goals of 2030 Agenda. The process is led by	SDGs indicators put on the public domain for inputs from
	parliamentarians on the SDGs (workshops and five hours discussion in each session) Coming up with a long term (15 year) vision document on the	System for Developing Countries), NIPFP (National Institute of Public Finance and Policy). They have invited the civil society to provide inputs. The inputs from the civil society may comprise a Wada Na Todo Abhiyan (WNTA/GCAP India). Several other organisations working on different themes	wider civil societies, which is a good signal of maintaining
	Sustainable Development, and a new energy policy • Mapping of the SDGs, allocating Nodal ministries	section of the official report or will go as annexe outcome report will be a "Civil Society Shadow Report" The following methodology	transparency and being 'inclusive'.
	 and existing programmes State governments have been asked to come up with their own Action Plans on the SDGs Organized workshops to 	 will be adopted: 1. Discuss the policy/programme and budgetary layout against each goal 	SDG policy does not affect pre dominant sectoral
	come up with indicators on		policies

	education, health, sanitation, gender etc. Come up with draft National Indicators minus indicators on goal 10 and 16 Wada Na Todo Abhiyan, NFI are now lading the process of engagement with the government in the VNR process. Key meetings have been held by some CSO leaders with the government think tank - NITI Aayog and RIS (Research and Information Systems for Developing Countries). The CSOs have been urged to provide key inputs to the VNR process.		 2. Review the performance of the concerned government programme associated with a particular goal 3. Collect case studies from ground 4. Link to the official indicators, indicators developed by UN and Global and other indicators developed by the civil society (Wherever applicable) 5. It will be looked at from the point of view of excluded communities The over-acrhing theme will of course be: Leave No One Behind . 	(economic, poverty reduction, energy, water, environmenta I etc.), remain icing on the BAU cake
Indonesia	Political Transition: Convincing the new elected administration that the SDGs are important for Indonesia Focus on Substance:	 In January 2017, Ministry of Foreign Affairs organized the first meeting for VNR preparation – the core team 	 CSO sent letter to the government – requested government to 	Governance of SDGs: Final Draft of Presidential Regulation for SDGs implementation

Inequality, Access to Justice and Good Governance
Focus on Governance:

HLPF

Process:

Indonesia is preparing the National Review now The Government of Indonesia together with CSO and Academia are writing the **National Review** In the context to keep "quality" of the review, there are core team - government and CSO (INFID) Plan at HLPF Event INFID will organize two Side Event during HLPF event in New York (will get support from Government of Indonesia) INFID is trying to get money (fundraising) right now to organize the side event

- In February 2017, National Development Planning Agency was organized the second meeting- working group for writing the report (based on focus of goals at HLPF 2017)
- The VNR is in writing process
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- participate at HLPF 2017
- Promoting Joint Secretariat for SDGs Implementation at National Level
- Developed working papers in various SDGs issues, such as access to justice, good governance, water and sanitation, poverty, and others
- Developed "SDGs Guide Book for Local Government and Stakeholders"
- Writing SDGs technical book – goal 1, 5, 8, 10
- Preparing the annual of report of SDGs implementation in Indonesia
- CSO Coalition on SDGs in Indonesia has been formed
- Join SDGs Network on international level

Will set up a National **Coordination Team** for the SDGs implementation at national level Networking: Increasing of CSOs knowledge about SDGs Some of Local Governments and Universities are committed to implement the SDGs Substance: Some specific goals i.e. inequality, justice and transparent. accountable and participatory government institutions were already become focuses of Indonesian Mid-term National **Development Plans** (2015-2019)

Politic:

		Held annual SDGs NationalConference for CSO (since 2013) Hosting 3 side event in the United Nation General Assembly (2014 and 2015) Launch SDGs Civil Ambassador 1. Abdul Kholiq Arif (Formerr Regent of Wonosobo) 2. Alissa Wahid (National Coordinator of Gusdurian) 3. Muhammad Farhan (Presenter) 4. Sophia Latjuba (Actress) 5. Zoemrotin K. Soesilo (CSO Figure)	SDGs should be able to become a solution for every country Network and Campaign: Improving the understanding of SDGs for the citizens Support for CSOs especially at local level Ensuring the involvement of marginalized group in the implementation of SDGs Build a strong CSO network at the national level and its roles at regional and global level Governance: Increasing of Local Government commitment to implement the SDGs
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deliver its own self- assessment report, in July 2017, on progress made on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Iran's National Committee On Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Iran's National Committee Development Goals (SDGs) In Development Goal	VNR has been made an inclusive process having involvement of all the stakeholders of development in the country
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Japan	- 20 May, 2016: (Right before the Ise-Shima	 Vice President for Women and Family Affairs- Goal 5 Department of the Environment Goal 13, 14, 15 Statistical Centre of Iran- 15 SDGs Promotion Headquarters (May~) 	Dissemination	Well Developed SDGs plan and
	G7 Summit) SDGs Promotion Headquarters was established with Prime Minister Abe as the chair, involving all ministries	 Led by the Cabinet office Cross ministerial structure SDGs Promotion Roundtable Multi-stakeholder network formed by representatives of each stakeholders Development of guidelines for SDGs implementation Development of national plan and policy Represents different stakeholders (eg.) NGOs, youth, disabled, women, local government, consumers, labor union, private sector, academics, agriculture, etc After having two rounds of the Roundtable sessions, along with 	through events, SNS, publications, etc. • Establishment of the SDGs Civil Society Network in April, 2016 (The Post 2015 NGO Platform has been "upgraded") - Representing environment, development, gender, disability, DRR, youth, domestic poverty and inequality, regional revitalization, and social responsibility - GCAP Japan as secretariat • Dialogue with various sectors - Academia, private sector, trade union,	implementation having multi stakeholder approach

public comments and other engagement, the Government on 22 Dec 2016 adopted the SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles Full text http://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/singi/sdgs/dai2/siryou1e.pdf Indicators http://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/singi/sdgs/dai2/siryou2e.pdf Summary http://www.kantei.go.jp/jp/singi/sdgs/dai2/siryou3e.pdf

consumer organizations, etc.

- Dialogue on the next
 15 years with 15 yearolds and
 Parliamentarians
- Child-friendly SDGs
 Japanese version by
 Save the Children
 Japan

Full Formation of Japan Civil Society Network on SDGs

- Incorporation in February 2017
- Thematic Working
 Groups –
 International
 Development,
 Environment,
 Education, Gender,
 Disaster Prevention
 and Response, Youth,
 Domestic Poverty and
 Inequality, Local
 Revitalization, etc. –
 expected
- Communication, public awareness-

	raising, campaigns (to be planned) • Strong connection with the Government and Parliamentarians etc) • Engagement with the Private Sector • Building relationship with other sectors (labor, consumers, cooperatives • Building international civil society alliance (Global) Action for Sustainable Development (Asia) Asia Civil Society Platform on Sustainable Development (North America and Europe) • Civil Society Working Group on the SDGs (USA) • SDG Watch Europe
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Malaysia

- Malaysia has a very good planning process namely the five year development plans.
- The Government has had good consultations with civil society organisations (CSO), private sector and academic community through the development planning process.
- The annual budget dialogues have been another good opportunity for engagement and many CSOs have had a good level of interaction.

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This was not same for human rights based CSOs involved in the Universal Periodic Review Process (UPR) when the Ministry of Home affairs banned the coalition as an illegal groups although they were the ones who prepared the CSO Shadow report and were engaged in the UPR review process with the

- NATIONAL SDG COUNCIL, as part of the National action Committee, chaired by the Prime Minister
- Establish direction for SDG implementation, set national agenda and milestones and prepare reporting to UN High Level Political Forum
- Steering Committee chaired by the director general of the EPU
- Formulate SDG Roadmap, monitor progress of targets, identify issues and report to National SDG Council
- Working groups on Well being, inclusivity, human capital, ,environment & Natural resource and economic growth
- Each Working Group will be represented by members of the private sector, NGOs, CSOs and academia
- Mapping by EPU of 11MP programs and projects that are in line with SDGs
- Mapping by CSO Alliance on activities in line with SDGs

- A series of meeting were hosted to undertake an initial mapping exercises to note which CSO were undertaking services and programs related to the SDG goals and targets.
- The CSOs have organised themselves as a loose alliance, have a flat governance structure and an open door policy to all CSOs who are interested to participate.
- good working relationship with the major groups of CSOs such as environment, gender, youth and human rights including the UPR set of NGOs as well as a number of think tanks

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 CSOs were formally invited two national level government organised and sponsored events.

- Each CSO has its own work and therefore with limited personal and financial resources, participation in meetings and report writing is a time consuming process.
- while CSOs are part of the five cluster working groups and 17 taskforces, many names and organisations submitted have not received invitations for participation. This could be merely an operational issues however some complaints are from human rights based CSOs who have not

Human Rights Council in Geneva on both the UPR reviews on Malaysia.

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- The SDG discussions post Rio plus 20 provided CSOs with opportunities to flag up the concerns.
- The first formal discussions on SDGs by CSOs was hosted on Oct 27, 2015 in Kuala Lumpur organised by the Society for promotion of Human Rights (PROHAM).
- The CSOs resolved to organise themselves as a loose Alliance and provided some input to the SDG readiness report.

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- Workshop by all 5 Clusters to get feedback on progress so far, issues/challenges, gaps
- DOS in all clusters to ascertain whether data available, partially available, not available, not relevant, and gaps
- EPU now focused on preparing the VNR to be presented to the NSC and then to the National SDG Council before submitting

- The first was the National SDG Symposium in Feb 2016.
- CSOs were invited to participate and a number were speakers on the panels.
- The CSOs prepared a statement which was handed over to the EPU Minister at this gathering. The findings of the Oct 27, 2015 discussions was also published and handed over to the EPU as CSO findings on SDGs.

 Another two day National SDG Roadmap workshop was hosted in Nov 2016.

- Highlights: the weak or complete absence of reference to human rights in the discussions.
- CSOs wanted a partnership approach of being directly involved in the various formal mechanisms of the SDG when government

- received the invitations while their names have been submitted
- been submitted many CSOs are keen in long-term policy and development concerns but the current priority among the agencies is to get the report completed as the dateline for report writing and submission is within March 2017. So the initial focus of the cluster working groups and taskforces is on the National Voluntary report preparation
- there seems to be very little public discussion nationally in

	establishes the implementation mechanisms rather than in ad hoc ways CSOs have now been incorporated into the formal mechanism of the government for SDG implementation at the National steering committee, cluster working groups and in the taskforce specific working.	Malaysia on the SDGs. Very few of the Ministers make reference and there is not a lot of public attention to Malaysia's commitment to the global community in September 2015 challenges in reviewing the SDGs from the cross cutting agenda collection and access to data-CSO's case studies could be very useful CSO strongly feel that while they participate in these discussions they want to continue an independent process of
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				discussions and feedback which they like to document and release as independent opinions
Maldives	 In Maldives the VNR is not officially launched yet. The VNR process is ongoing, led by the government, specially the SDG unit based in the Ministry of Environment. 	 The government in coordination with the UN body in Maldives is planning to hold a NGO forum this year (2017), to consult with CSOs in the country on SDG implementation. Maldives has not published a situational report on SDGs however the country was a MDG plus country and achieved the MDG goals except for 3, 7 and 8 before 2015. The NGO forum has not officially communicated with CSOs but is tentatively scheduled for End of April, 2017. 	 Under "leaving no one behind" and the progress that has been made in the country with reference to the status of persons with Disabilities. CSOs/NGOs find it more difficult to reach other NGOS in the country due to geographically dispersed 200 inhabited islands, since the cost of implementing programmers for the communities is huge. Through fund raising and by partnering with the private sector, under their CSR programmes, there have been few campaigns. The Maldives Association of physical disabled 	 Capacity building is hugely required among the CSOs as the country very much lacks on trained professionals.

			 (MAPD) run numerous awareness and advocacy campaigns through media including TV/Radio an d social media. Recently the MAPD also established CBR programmes and branches in selected in prominent atolls. 	
Nepal	 Unable to reform policy, system and practices Instable government, development is not priority agenda political leadership Weak government mechanism Unable to engage with CSO and other stakeholders Insufficient awareness No campaign on SDGs localization yet 	 Envisioning Nepal 2030 (28 March 2016) Nepal and the Millennium Development Goals, Final Status Report 2000-2015 14th National Development Plan (2016/17-2018/2019) Economic Poverty Reduction (1, 2, 10) Production and Economic Growth (2, 8, 9) Infrastructure Development (6, 9, 11) Social Social and Human 	Nepal SDG Forum A common platform of CSOs Assembly of Nepalese CSOs on 25 February 2016 in Kathmandu Formed a common civil society platform entitled "CSOs Forum on Sustainable Development in Nepal" Main aim is to engage CSOs on sustainable development process in effective, accountable and systematic manner Engagement with other stakeholders Involved in the process of National SDG Report 2015	 Cross sharing of experiences and lessons Effective monitoring, review and follow-up

Planning Commission

Central Steering Committee on	
Sustainable Development	
(Proposed)	
– Prime Minister	
Vice chair of National	
Planning Commission	
Minster, Ministry of	
Foreign Affair	
– Minister, Ministry of	
Finance	
officer occinetary of	
Government of Nepal	
- Secretary, National	
Planning Commission	
Secretariat (Member	
Secretary)	
SDG Implementation and	
Coordination Committee	
(Proposed)	
 Vice Chair of National 	
Planning Commission	
Member of NPC	
(Economic	
development)	
 Secretary, Ministry of 	
Finance	
 Secretary, Ministry of 	
Foreign Affair	

		 Umbrella organizations of private sector (FNCCI, CCI, CC) Joint Secretary, Financial management section, National Planning Commission (Member Secretary) 		
Thailand	 National Committee on Sustainable Development chaired by the Prime Minister to oversee the implementation and three sub-committees were established in 2015 to be responsible for implementation, monitoring and database development. The 12th five-year National Economic and Social Development Plan, 2017-2021 mapped out in line with the long-term national strategy specifically referred to the SDGs. 	 Three SDG forum were organized among representatives of government agencies while only one each for CSOs and private sector to discuss about their roles and opportunities for collaboration with the government. Thirty targets of SDG were prioritized with identification of road map for each target. Ministerial focal points were established. Six-month progress report is expected from key and relevant responsible government agencies. 	 CSOs were invited to the only forum organized in 2016 to discuss the role of CSOs to collaboratively work with the government and road map for Thailand implementation, a number of CSOs, having links with government agencies, were invited and participated. Vulnerable, and human right groups were barely invited 	 Most of government agencies have provided online information on SDGs relevant to their respective agencies such as priority targets, indicators, road map for different stages, no clear information on how

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	There was proposal to	expertise of
•	have a forum on SDG	CSOs would
	5, but nothing has	be utilized in
	been heard on this	such
	Foundation for	implementati
	Women (FFW) will	on or budget
	bring up own shadow	allocation for
	report with	collaboration
	Indigenous Women	between GOs
	Network of Thailand	and CSOs.
	(IWNT) and Women's	 administrativ
	Network for Progress	e data and
	and Peace (WNPP).	information
	FFW has engaged	from
	with NGO COD in	government
	Thailand and Thai	agencies
	CSOs on SDGs which	which is
	this network has been	crucial for
	approached to MOFA	SDGs
	and NESDB.	implementati
	NESDB had invited	on are not
	FFW to participate	gathered and
	one time on 26	classified by
	January 2017.	sex, age
	and Ministry of	group,
	Interior has invited	ethnicity and
	FFW as a working	

	group on SDGs #Goal1	administrativ
	and #Goal11	e areas,
	PEF (People	
	empowerment	
	foundation together	
	with 11 networks) will	
	come with their own	
	shadow reports on	
	Goals 1,2,3,4,5,8,	
	10,11,13,16 and 17.	