VNR Lab 7:

Leveraging Data and Innovative Tools to Monitor Achievements and Inequalities in VNRs

Date: Friday, 12 July 2024 | 09:00am – 10:00am

Venue: UN HQ Conference Room: 1522

Registration Link

Link to Join Meeting

Background

This VNR data lab, hosted by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) will showcase country experiences from Asia and the Pacific that leverage data along with rigorous methodologies and innovative tools to enrich the Voluntary National Reviews (VNR).

Since adoption of the 2030 Agenda and its follow-up and review process in 2015, the production of VNRs has evolved considerably. As more data has become available and is being used to inform the VNRs, the importance of applying more rigorous statistical analysis and presenting results in a user-friendly manner has become equally important. Leveraging innovative approaches and utilizing aggregate and micro-data have enabled member States to track progress on SDGs over time in a consistent and transparent manner, and also facilitated an assessment on progress on the "Leave No One Behind" pledge of the Agenda 2030 by identifying inequalities in SDG achievements at national and sub-national levels. Generating such evidence during the VNR production process encourages discussion on what works and what does not and inspires stakeholders to engage in interactive policy dialogue. It also informs policy recommendations committed in the VNR and sets a baseline for monitoring and evaluating policy actions in the next VNR.

Objective

The main objectives of this VNR data lab are to

- Provide a space for countries to share experiences and best practices on SDG progress assessments, data disaggregation and leaving no one behind
- Serve as a platform for peer learning and networking among countries that are presenting their VNRs in 2024 or preparing for their VNRs in 2025.

Tentative Agenda for VNR Lab

Time	Activity
09:00-09:10	Welcome and Overview Katinka Weinberger, Chief, Sustainable Socioeconomic Transformation, Section, Social Development Division, ESCAP
09:10 – 09:30	Panel Discussion • **Davit Manukyan**, Head, UN and Sustainable Development Division, Department of Multilateral Policy and Development Cooperation, Government of **Armenia** • **Natia Tsikaradze**, Head of Policy Planning and Coordination Unit, Administration of the Government of **Georgia** • **Mahesh Bhattarai**, Joint Secretary, National Planning Commission, Government of **Nepal** • **Fatimath Riyaza**, Statistician, Maldives Bureau of Statistics, Government of **Maldives**
09:30 - 09:50	Open Discussion • **Liliana Suchodolska,** Policy Analyst, Paris 21, OECD **Moderator**: Selsah Pasali, Social Affairs Officer, Social Development Division, ESCAP
09:55 - 10:00	Closing