Good Governance and United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

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GANDHIJI'S TALISMAN

"I will give you a talisman. Whenever you are in doubt or when the self becomes too much with you, apply the following test:

Recall the face of the poorest and the weakest man whom you may have seen and ask yourself if the step you contemplate is going to be of any use to him. Will he gain anything by it? Will it restore him to a control over his own life and destiny? In other words, will it lead to Swaraj for the hungry and spiritually starving millions?

Then you will find your doubts and your self melting away"

**YEARS OF
CELEBRATING
THE MAHATMA**

**Mohandas
Karamchand Gandhi**

GOOD GOVERNANCE AND UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

**Theme Paper for the
Sixty-Third Members' Annual Conference 2019**

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FOREWORD

The Members' Annual Conference organized usually in the month of October at Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) is a prestigious event and an intellectually stimulating exercise. The occasion provides a platform to reflect on key thematic issues of administration and governance. It is a matter of pride that so far sixty-two Conferences have been organized producing forty-five pertinent and remarkable theme papers.

The theme for the Conference is finalized after due deliberation in the meeting of the Executive Council, the Governing Body of IIPA. The task of drafting a research paper on the identified theme for the Conference is entrusted to a faculty member of IIPA. The faculty concerned, who undertakes the responsibility, after a rigorous and thorough study with requisite analysis, develops a comprehensive theme paper.

The paper is shared well in advance with the Local and Regional branches of IIPA who organize prelude Conferences on the theme. Subsequently, the branches present their reports and perceptions on the day of the Conference after the presentation by IIPA faculty. IIPA immensely values the contribution of the branches whose proactive participation enriches the deliberations of the Conference. It is through branches that IIPA widens the horizons on the themes of Good Governance and Public Administration across the length and breadth of the country.

Knowledge shared is knowledge gained. IIPA has been continuing with the significant tradition of nurturing an ecosystem to build perspectives on societal concerns. In an ever changing and dynamic world, 'My IIPA' has been consistently and persistently making endeavors to keep pace with times. The themes of Members' Annual Conference evoke fruitful discussions and offer valuable insights on contemporary aspects of administration and governance adding to the knowledge pool.

In the recent past, the faculty brought out papers on important themes pertaining to Role of Digital Technologies in Governance, Demonetization and its impact, Strengthening of Ethical and Moral Values in Governance, Trends in Centre-State Relations, Food Security in India, which were well received and appreciated in the academic and administrative circles.

The 2019 sixty-third Members' Annual Conference theme on Good Governance and United Nations Sustainable Development Goals echoes the spirit of 'shared responsibility and shared prosperity'. I compliment the sincere efforts of Prof. C. Sheela Reddy for writing an insightful theme paper.

'My IIPA' is highly beholden to Shri T. N. Chaturvedi, Chairman, IIPA, the guiding and driving force, whose guidance and suggestions sustain the momentum for all creative and innovative activities at IIPA.

(S. N. Tripathi)
Director, IIPA

PREFACE

The Members' Annual Conference at Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) provides a unique opportunity to delve on topical governance issues and concerns. The theme for the 2019 conference, 'Good Governance and United Nations Sustainable Development Goals,' reinforces the world's shared commitment to the Transformative Agenda 2030, for peace and prosperity to all. In the era of rapid economic progress, actions should be linked to sustainable development for ensuring inclusiveness, equity and progress of entire humanity. In this context, the pearls of wisdom as enunciated by Mahatma Gandhi, "The world has enough for everyone's needs, but not everyone's greed", has significance for all times to come, reminding the responsibility human beings owe to the Mother Earth.

Sustainable development and good governance are the buzzwords of our times and thrust areas of research towards which the contribution of 'My IIPA' is noteworthy. IIPA, being one of the premier think tanks in the domain of public policy and governance, spearheads multidimensional research, conducts multifarious training programmes and widely disseminates knowledge through quality publications and value adding workshops. IIPA has been undertaking major research projects in the critical areas of governance: social justice, gender budgeting, poverty alleviation, climate change, e-governance, energy efficiency, etc. The research outcomes in the form of policy inputs are valuable insights for directing actions in alignment with the targets of SDGs and furthering the advancement of the goals.

In bringing out the theme paper, I wish to place on record my sincere gratitude to Shri T. N. Chaturvedi, Chairman, IIPA for his unstinted support and encouragement. I extend my heartfelt thanks to Shri S. N. Tripathi, Director, IIPA for his constant guidance. Indeed, I am thankful to Shri Amitabh Ranjan, Registrar, Shri H. C. Yadav, Librarian in-charge and Staff, IIPA for the necessary administrative and academic support. I am indebted to my friends and colleagues at IIPA for the moral support in completing the task.

Finally, I will be failing in my duty if I do not acknowledge the support received from the staff of Dr. Ambedkar Chair in Social Justice, Ms. Debashree Roy, Research Officer and Mr. Anil, Computer Operator.

ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
BRICS	Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa
CEPA	Committee of Experts on Public Administration
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DESA	Department of Economic and Social Affairs
GIF	Global Indicator Framework
GPDP	Gram Panchayat Development Plan
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IAEG	Inter- Agency and Expert Groups
ILGLD	Integrated Local Governance and Local Development
IMR	Infant Mortality Rate
IT	Information Technology
LNOB	Leaving No One Behind
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MMR	Measles, Mumps and Rubella
MoPR	Ministry of Panchayati Raj
MoSPI	Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NIF	National Indicator Framework
OBC	Other Backward Classes
ODF	Open Defecation Free
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
PHC	Primary Health Care
PRIs	Panchayati Raj Institutions
SC	Scheduled Caste
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
ST	Scheduled Tribe
TFR	Total Fertility Rate
ULBs	Urban Local Bodies
UN	United Nations
UNCDF	United Nations Capital Development Fund
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNSC	United Nations Statistical Commission
UNU-IAS	United Nations University - Institute of Advanced Studies
UNV	United Nations Volunteers
UNWCED	United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development
UTs	Union Territories
VNR	Voluntary National Reviews

GOOD GOVERNANCE AND UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

C. Sheela Reddy*

ABSTRACT

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) building upon the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), are universal call to action towards reorienting the world on to a more sustainable path. They express a bold commitment and reflect an approach that perceives the environment, economy and society as embedded systems. The goals, being universal and country driven, are aspirational and interconnected. The success of one goal involves tackling related issues more commonly associated with others. They are key to 'Leaving No One Behind (LNOB)', encompassing comprehensiveness, inclusiveness and equity; making the quality of governance crucial. This resonates with the spirit of India's national development goals and agenda of, 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas' or 'Collective efforts, Inclusive growth'. The path towards SDGs requires dynamic channels of Good Governance constituting effective linkages. It is imperative to initiate actions towards key governance issues like rule based governance, quality administration and management, transparency, accountability, anti- corruption mechanisms, etc. This entails integration, participation and reflexivity at multiple levels in governance. The coordination between different policy levels and sectors by integrating horizontal and vertical integration mechanisms; participatory arrangements incorporating stakeholders into decision-making processes and the role of effective quantitative and qualitative monitoring mechanisms to constantly review and revise the strategies assume significance. The SDG agenda being transformative necessitates the effective use of public resources, fostering inclusive and accountable processes and ensuring robustness of data for good governance.

Against this backdrop, this paper is an attempt to validate the interlinkages of SDGs and the varied facets of good governance advanced through schemes and policy rubrics endorsed by the present Government of India. Additionally, it will also accentuate the interventions of different ministries (state and local level), civil societies, democratic institutions in this direction, facilitating a paradigm shift in nurturing and bringing out a positive and desired impact nationally. The paper will dwell on aspects that need strengthening for improved governance to leverage full potential and further partnerships for accomplishing the SDGs. It will also endeavour to make suggestions and recommendations which could serve as a catalyst for coordinated efforts in the realization of SDGs.

Keywords: SDGs, Good Governance, Integration, Participation, Reflexivity

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BACKGROUND

Global promises for reducing and eradicating human deprivation were made even long before Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) came into the picture. Antecedents can be found stretching back to U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt's 'Four Freedoms' speech of January 1941 and in the Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 where it was stipulated that 'Everyone has a right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care…' (UN Declaration of Human Rights, Article 25). In fact, 1960s was unanimously declared in the General Assembly as the first UN Development Decade, sparking off target setting. However, the enthusiasm to set targets ran ahead of commitment to action. Besides, development was co-terminus only with economic development with the focus on per capita national income, industrial growth, urbanization, etc. The impact economic growth had on the quality of life of the poor, ecology and the way income was distributed were not considered to be of pertinent concerns. The mad rush for material prosperity made it difficult to distinguish between what is sustainable and ecologically untenable. The processes for monitoring targets and mechanisms for producing plans of action were also not created and the results often fell far short of the rhetoric. As a consequence, the 1980s witnessed the stalling of global summitry and goal-setting with a dramatic change in the global intellectual environment due to liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation measures. Towards the end of the 1980s, evidences began to emerge that structural adjustments imposed by the World Bank and the associated conditionalities were not delivering on the promise of growth and prosperity and that the fiscal restraint they called for were damaging education, health and other essential services. Political space began to open up searching for alternatives to structural adjustments. The year 1990 can be considered pivotal as against the backdrop of the end of the Cold War. The World Bank's World Development Report 1990, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) first Human Development Report and World Summit for Children (September 29-30, 1990, New York) were three significant events which brought poverty into the forefront of global agenda. They argued for embracing policies to shift the focus from economic growth to improving quality of life and advanced the view that successful summits were the only way to generate political commitment and obtain additional financial resources. It has been systemically analysed by (Bradford. C, 2002) that 'the development of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) has its roots in the World Summit for Children in 1990'. John F. Kennedy way back in 1953 put forth the case for goal based success stating that, "by defining our goals more clearly, by making it seem more manageable and less remote, we can help all people to see it, to draw hope from it and to move irresistibly towards it."

> **Eight MDGs**
> - Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
> - Achieve universal primary education
> - Promote gender equality and empower women
> - Reduce child mortality
> - Improve maternal health
> - Combat HIV / AIDS, Malaria and other diseases
> - Ensure environmental sustainability
> - Global partnership for development

The MDGs were indeed the first global attempt to establish measurable goals and targets on key challenges facing the world. The landmark commitment entered into by world leaders in the year 2000 to 'spare no effort to free our fellow men, women and children from the abject and dehumanizing conditions of extreme poverty' was translated into an inspiring framework of eight goals and, then, into wide-ranging practical steps to enable people improve their lives. The MDGs helped to lift more than one billion people out of extreme poverty, made inroads against hunger, helped more girls to attend school than ever before and initiated actions towards protecting the planet. They reshaped decision-making in developed and developing countries alike by putting people and their immediate needs at the forefront. In India too, poverty reduction since 2005 was much faster than the earlier decade as a result of broad-based growth across most geographic areas. However, the progress on the specific targets set out by the MDGs were found to be both regionally and thematically unbalanced. This was because many countries adopted a 'piecemeal approach', choosing to engage with some but not all of the MDGs. The global South had a minimal role in the design of MDGs which were perceived to be imposed on the developing countries by the more developed.

CONGRUENCE AND CONTINUITY: MDGS TO SDGS

The MDG framework was driven by the triad 'United States, Europe and Japan', and co-sponsored by the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), (Amin, 2006). The World Bank's influence was significant to set the main indicator for poverty reduction as the proportion of people living below the poverty line of $1 per day (Oya, 2011 and Saith, 2006). The exclusiveness of the actors who guided development of the MDGs is underscored by (Richard et al., 2011) who said that 'only 22% of the world's national parliaments formally discussed the MDGs'. Generally, there was very little involvement of developing countries and civil society constituencies in the creational process (Kabeer, 2005; Waage et al., 2010). Also, (Bond, 2006; Amin, 2006 and Fukuda-Parr, 2010) describe the underlying political and conceptual agenda of the MDG framework that carries doctrinaire and characteristics suiting the interests of 'corporations and rich states'. Besides, (Saith, 2007) adds the provocative formula 'neo-liberal globalisation + MDGs = development'. Development and poverty eradication, one of the seven key objectives of the Declaration became fundamental to the MDG framework, whereas other goals such as peace, security, disarmament, human rights and democracy were left behind (Hill, Mansoor and Claudio, 2010; Waage et al., 2010). The MDGs of 'gender equality and the empowerment of women' were narrowed down to gender equality in education, and the target for 'affordable water' was dropped from the MDG list in order to allow for privatisation in the sector (Langford, 2010). Many called the goals 'overambitious' or 'unrealistic' and believed that the MDGs ignored the limited local capacities, particularly missing governance capabilities (Mishra, 2004 and Oya, 2011). On the contrary, (Barnes and Brown, 2011) called the MDGs 'unambitious when viewed against the sheer volume of unmet basic human needs'. Global goals for low and middle-income countries fall short because they are too ambitious for some countries and not challenging enough for other countries (Langford, 2010). The neglect of their interconnectedness was highlighted by Van Norren (2012) . For example, having separate maternal and child health goals results in separating strongly linked maternal and new-born issues (Brikci and Holder, 2011). Similarly, (Molyneux, 2008) pointed out at the separate focus on malaria and HIV that missed the necessity and opportunity to address the synergism between the control and treatment of these communicable diseases. 'A common, cross-sectoral vision of development' was not part of the formulation of the MDGs which resulted in fragmentation, incoherence and gaps in the existing framework (Waage et al., 2010). The absence of accountability for every MDG (except Goal 8) was another conceptual weakness of the MDG framework identified in the literature (Davis and Van Ginneken, 2011). Making MDGs national priorities without the initial participation and consultation of developing countries led to a lack of national ownership for the goals (Fukuda-Parr, 2006; Haines and Cassels, 2004). The availability and reliability of data were the most often reported challenges with regards to implementation of MDGs and subsequently in the interpretation of progress reports (Dar and Khan, 2011; Easterly, 2009 and Sachs, 2012).

The MDG framework promoted 'quick-fix' solutions and short-term planning instead of sustainable global management goals and structural changes (Bond, 2006; Van Norren, 2012). The strong incentives to show a quick impact led to parallel and uncoordinated programmes that encouraged picking of 'low-hanging fruits' instead of long-term investments (Lay, 2012; Maxwell, 2003; Richard et al., 2011). It encouraged 'vertical organization of planning, financing, procurement, delivery, monitoring, and reporting' with no consideration of national needs and related aspects.

SDGS: COMMON BUT DIFFERENTIATED RESPONSIBILITIES

The concomitant global efforts in the form of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by United Nations General Assembly in 2015 were a search to catalyze cooperative, transformative action for more 'inclusive' forms of economy and growth capable of sharing prosperity more widely in social and spatial terms. The 2030 Agenda, emphasizing 'common but differentiated responsibilities', includes a set of 17 universally applicable, integrated objectives for sustainable development, which are accompanied by a total of 169 concrete targets and 230 indicators. The SDGs maintaining the thematic work on poverty eradication

targeted by the MDGs, reflect a comprehensive perspective on international development for sustaining human life on this planet. They are universal, comprehensive, inclusive and address the dichotomy between 'developed North' and 'developing South' overcoming the problematic 'donor-recipient relationship'.

> **Seventeen SDGs**
> 1. No Poverty
> 2. Zero Hunger
> 3. Good Health and Well-being
> 4. Quality Education
> 5. Gender Equality
> 6. Clean Water and Sanitation
> 7. Affordable and Clean Energy
> 8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
> 9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
> 10. Reduced Inequality
> 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
> 12. Responsible Consumption and Production
> 13. Climate Action
> 14. Life below Water
> 15. Life on Land
> 16. Peace and Justice Strong Institutions
> 17. Partnerships for the Goals

The SDGs, expanding on the scale and content of the MDGs demonstrate that the 'environment' is not an add-on but rather the base that underpins all other goals. They are more focussed on a 'global development with and for sustainability'. Gaining consensus on such a broad development agenda was an achievement in itself and the universal nature sets the SDGs apart from their predecessors. Building upon the MDGs, the 2030 Agenda set out to 'reach the furthest behind first' and concluded with a pledge that 'no one will be left behind'. This wider approach reflects new global thinking and is based on the conviction that the elimination of poverty and sustainable development are strictly interconnected and mutually reinforcing. "The SDGs are nothing less than a blueprint for a better world. A roadmap to get from the world we have, to the world we want to have. It's a bumpy road but it's a vital journey, and we all will be held to account in 2030 for what we have achieved collectively and individually", Douglas Frantz, Deputy Secretary General, OECD. While the MDGs maintained a narrow focus on poverty reduction, the SDGs include themes with a new perspective which considers environment, economy and society as embedded systems rather than separate competing 'pillars', prominently featuring urban areas, water and sanitation, energy, and climate change, etc. The perspective advocates a sustainable model (Fig. 1) wherein the intersection of all three circles is referred to as the desirable 'sweet-spot' with sustainable outcomes. However, if economic objectives take priority over environmental and social objectives, there is a possibility of such model turning into 'weak sustainability model/ Mickey mouse model' (Fig. 2).
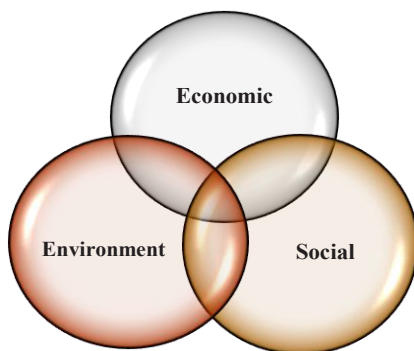
Fig. 1: Sustainability Model (Source: Dhaoui, 2019)   Fig. 2: Mickey Mouse Model (Source: Peet, 2009)
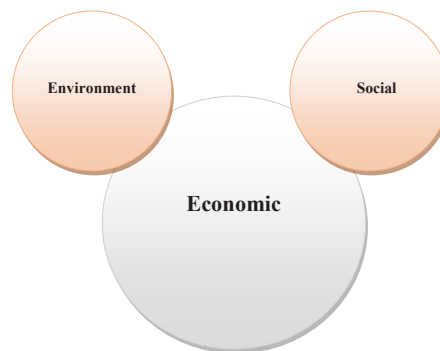
SDG's provide a framework to stimulate shared action on five key themes (5 Ps) and areas of critical importance for humanity: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, and Partnerships.

- **People:** to end poverty and hunger in all their forms and dimensions; and ensure that all human beings can fulfil their potential in dignity, equality and in a healthy environment.

- **Planet:** to protect the planet from degradation through sustainable consumption and production; sustainably managing its natural resources and taking urgent action on climate change, to support the needs of the present and future generations.

- **Prosperity:** to ensure that all human beings can enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives and that economic, social and technological progress occurs in harmony with nature.

Fig. 3: SDG's Framework (Source: Sustainability Dashboard)

- **Peace:** to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies free from fear and violence; there can be no sustainable development without peace and vice-versa.

- **Partnerships**: to mobilize the means required to implement this agenda through a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, based on a spirit of strengthened global solidarity, focused in particular on the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable and with the participation of all countries, stakeholders and people.

PRIORITIES FOR SDGS

Fig. 4. (Source: Dhaoui, 2019)

The SDG agenda also sets out five key opportunities for development which are inclusive, universal, integrated, locally-focused, and technology-driven. The inter-linkages and integrated nature of the Sustainable Development Goals are of crucial importance in ensuring that the purpose of the 2030 Agenda is realized. There is need for appropriate actions beyond the current growth policies for meeting the targets of SDGs. Enhanced growth may enable achievement of the socio- economic aspects of the Agenda, but at the expense of the environmental goals. Hence, the path towards SDGs calls for actions on the 'smarter track':

- Accelerated renewable energy growth;

- Accelerated productivity in food chains;

- Localized development models;

- Inequality reduction;

- Investments in education for all, gender equality and family planning.

Such transformation is only likely to occur in the context of good governance, delivered through initiatives that builds SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions).

DISCOURSE ON GOOD GOVERNANCE IN SDGs

Good governance refers to "a set of qualitative characteristics relating to processes of rulemaking and their institutional foundations. It encapsulates values such as enhanced participation, transparency, accountability, and public access to information that helps to combat corruption and secure both basic human rights and the rule of law" (UNU-IAS, 2015). It is a foundation for sustainable development, including sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development, environmental protection and the eradication of poverty and hunger. Good governance needs to be ascertained and assessed through three dimensions: mechanisms that promote it, the processes used, and the outcomes achieved.
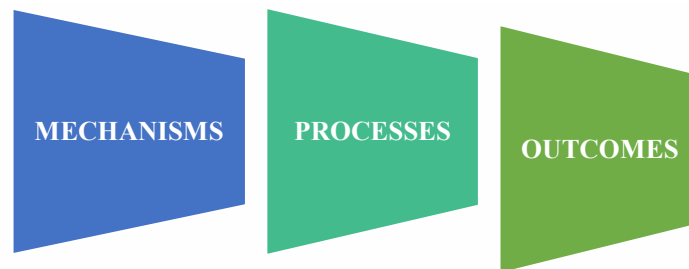
An important prerequisite to sustainable development is adoption of good governance practices. The SDGs provide an opportunity to go beyond the MDGs, which did not include significant governance aspects. The institutionalization of the approach of sustainable development commenced after the adoption of the report *Our Common Future* in 1987 by the United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development (UNWCED), known as the Brundtland Report. This report defines sustainable development as, "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs". Sustainable development represents the ideology of development strategies that need to solve previous destructive effects on development (Yamaguchi, 2003). Some scholars criticized expansionist theory that is closely related to the neoliberal paradigm where the economy is seen as an independent, self-regulating and self-sustaining system (Rees, 2002). The model of good governance as a child of neoliberal ideology raises concern about the possibility of ensuring balanced approach to different and very heterogeneous values of sustainable development.

Historically, by the end of the Cold War, poor governance in communist countries could not be sustained anymore. Attention was focused on the nature of political regimes in the developing world and, together with policies oriented to the market, given to good governance (Hout, 2007). Moreover, unequal results from the first round of neo-liberal reforms through structural adjustment programs from the eighties led to criticism of the Washington Consensus[1] and the legitimacy of the international financial institutions due to creation of highly unregulated global market (Craig and Porter, 2006).

The shift in the principles of neoliberal development agenda came with Joseph Stiglitz who, in his capacity as Vice President and Chief Economist of the World Bank, proposed a new agenda of economic development oriented towards the goals of sustainable development (Gore, 2000; Fine, 2003; Önis and Senses, 2003; Hout, 2007). The post-Washington Consensus focused its attention on institutional issues, social justice and inclusiveness. This was markedly different from the early neo-liberal ideas founded on the interests of elitist

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[1]The term Washington Consensus was first coined by English economist John Williamson in 1989. It denoted a set of 10 economic policy prescriptions (Fiscal Discipline; Tax Reform; Focused Public Expenditures; Unified and Competitive Exchange Rates; Trade Liberalization; Liberalize Direct Foreign Investment; Privatization; Financial Liberalization; Deregulation; Secure Property Rights.) considered to constitute the "standard" reform package promoted for crisis-wrecked developing countries by Washington, D.C.-based institutions such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Bank and United States Department of the Treasury.

groups working in favour of transnational capital (Margheritis and Pereira, 2007). Good governance allows a new vision in which private and public sector together with the civil society participate in division of power (Argyriades, 2006). This paradigm shift from the neo-liberal structural adjustment programs refers to more inclusive program of poverty reduction and good governance. In this respect, good governance as a concept enabled the salvation from the Washington Consensus (Demmers *et al.*, 2004).

Sustainable development requires common sense planning and organization to achieve the goals. It is in this regard that the concept of governance encompasses the ability to plan and create the organizations that are needed for sustainable development. For governance to play an important role in sustainable development, a common consensus on the definition of governance has to be achieved (Kaufmann, Kraay and Mastruzzi, 2010). However, in all definitions, only rules, compelling mechanisms and organization come to the forefront. Governance is not a concept that is described easily because this term encompasses public institutions respecting people's rights and the public decision making process (Keefer, 2004).

The institutional dimension became important in the context of sustainable development and good governance as a tool to achieve sustainability. Notably, (Juknevciene and Krateivaite, 2012) conducted an analysis of institutional development based on some indicators. The Figure 5 gives an overview of those indicators classified into quantitative and qualitative indicators.

INSTITUTIONAL INDICATORS

QUALITATIVE
* Protection of Property Rights
* Economic Freedom
* Bureaucacy
* Regulatory System
* Corruption
* Civil & Political Freedom
* Rule of Law
* Business Freedom

QUANTITATIVE
* Government Expenditures
* Tax Rate
* Investment
* Interest Rate
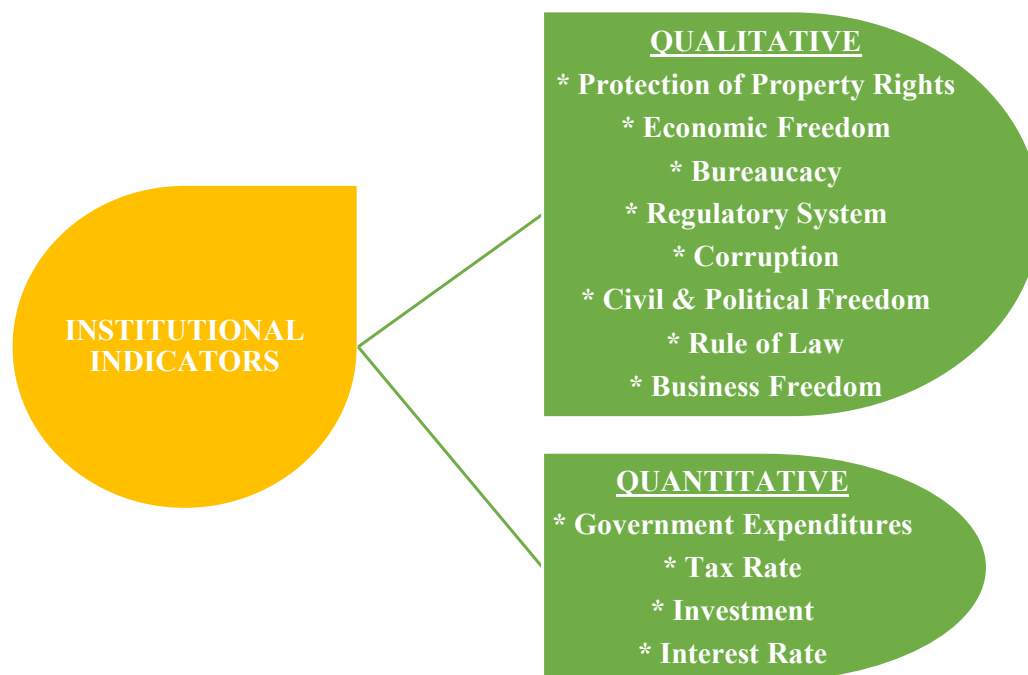
Fig. 5. (Source: Dhaoui, 2019)

Good Governance is not a finished product but a continuous and dynamic process. However, successful implementation of the SDGs means fostering cutting-edge governance, smart and innovative means of implementation. In addition, effective coordination requires a cultural and not just a technical shift. The implementation of Agenda 2030 requires a change in the governance culture of a country, which the government cannot do alone, as it requires cooperation and partnership with different parts of the society. "The SDGs should not be something additional. It should be at the heart and core of government responsibilities", opined Francisco Guzman, Chief of Staff of the President of Mexico. However, as the experience of the MDGs demonstrates, tackling emerging challenges requires transformative actions from different stakeholders, individual and social 'soft skills' and new adaptive decision making. As such, there is an increasing need to strengthen coordination at local, national and international levels (vertical integration), as well among the same levels of governance, ministries

and economic sectors (horizontal integration). The vertical integration, also known as a multilevel governance concept, implies that different levels of government, national/federal, state/provincial and local to better connect local and regional agendas with national policies. It means that a 'Whole of Government Approach' is essential and all ministries are responsible for implementation of the SDGs. In an effective multi-level governance framework, actors exchange, plan and coordinate activities that relate to planning, implementation and reporting, while also sharing financial resources and responsibility for outcomes. By strengthening local leadership, generating bottom-up approaches for decisions and consultative processes, vertical integration can identify and implement solutions collaboratively. On the other hand, horizontal integration is collaboration between different regulatory bodies at the same level of governance. It is about breaking the silo structures and mentalities in international, national and local administrations. The 2030 Agenda has to be embraced collectively, instead of being the exclusive function of a particular sector. This implies that no single institution can 'hijack' the goals and engage with the Agenda alone. In practice, the creation of a system of 'sustainability checks' or 'tick-boxes' for each department, as well as spaces for exchange and cooperation between ministries and departments, would reflect how horizontal integration can stimulate collaborative solutions.

Good governance in principle and practice is foundationally about the processes for making and implementing decisions. It's not only about making 'correct' decisions, but also about the best possible processes for making those decisions. These decision-making processes, and good governance share several characteristics which are key to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Agenda:

- Consultation policies and practices;

- Meeting procedures;

- Service delivery;

- Duty bearer conduct;

- Role clarification and good working relationships.

INTEGRATING GOVERNANCE INTO SDGs

It is important to take into account three aspects of governance: good governance (the processes of decision making and their institutional foundations), effective governance (the capacity of countries to pursue sustainable development), and equitable governance (distributive outcomes) to fully integrate governance into the SDGs. Though these three aspects are interconnected, they will require separate political efforts. 'The quality of governance plays a defining role in supporting the economic, social, and environmental pillars' of the SDGs (UNDP Report, 2014). The UN High Level Panel of Eminent Persons held that governance is best positioned as a stand-alone goal that would help accomplish 'a fundamental shift - to recognize peace and good governance as core elements of wellbeing, not optional extras' (United Nations, 2013). An alternative, though not mutually exclusive approach, is to integrate governance into issue-specific goals for water, food, gender, and so forth (TST 2014). It is crucial to link governance considerations to questions of 'means of implementation' and financing the SDGs (Lucas, et al. 2014), possibly in the form of a set of principles or guidelines attached to the articulation of these 'means'.

Including governance as a stand-alone goal in the SDGs offers the best opportunity for comprehensive inclusion of three aspects of governance. A stand-alone goal could include specific targets for different components of governance and also an overall focus on improving governance generally. However, the challenge is to ensure that good governance supported by actor coalitions and a range of available quantitative indicators, does not dominate SDG governance agenda at the expense of effective or equitable governance. Another concern is that a stand-alone goal may be ineffective if states prevent significant targets and indicators from being developed and used. Integrating governance in all issue-specific SDGs may open space for the creation of well-tailored targets and indicators that advance specific aspects of a broader governance agenda, but such progress will be less comprehensive.

Good governance, being multidimensional, it is necessary to develop a comprehensive framework which can assess the status of governance and its impact on the lives of common citizens. In this context, Good Governance Index (GGI) framework (Fig. 6) along with its indicators (Fig. 7) conceptualises and builds upon the fact that good governance acts as a means to:

- Effective delivery of essential services such as education, healthcare, environment protection;

- Enabling economic growth and development in sectors such as agriculture, industry, and;

- Access legal protection and judicial services thereby covering major components of what constitutes governance.

Fig. 6: Good Governance Index Framework (Source: GGI Report, 2017)

Sector	Indicators
Agriculture & Allied Sector	Growth Rate of Agriculture and Allied Sector; Food Grains Production; Horticulture Produce; Milk Production; Meat Production; Crop Insurance
Commerce & Industries	Ease of doing Business; Growth of Industries; Growth in MSME Establishments
Human Resource & Dev	Quality of Education; Retention Rate at Elementary School Level; Gender Parity; Enrolment Ratio of SC & ST; Skill Trainings Imparted; Placement Ratio Including Self-employment
Public Health	Operationalisation of 24X7 Facility at PHCs; Availability of Doctors & Paramedical Staff at PHCs; MMR; IMR; TFR; Immunisation Achievement
Public Infrastructure & Utilities	Access to Potable Water; Towns & Villages Declared ODF; Connectivity to Rural Habitation; Access to Power Supply; Availability of 24X7 Power Supply; Energy Availability Against the Requirement; Growth of Per Capita Power Consumption
Economic Governance	Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) Growth Rate; Growth in Per Capita Income; Fiscal Deficit as a Percentage of GSDP; State's Own Tax Revenue Receipts to Total Revenue Receipts; Debt (Total Outstanding Liabilities) to GSDP
Social Welfare & Development	Sex Ratio at Birth; Health Insurance Coverage; Rural Employment Guarantee; Unemployment; Housing for All; Economic Empowerment of Women; Empowerment of SCs, STs, OBCs and Minorities; Disposal of SC/ST Atrocity Cases by Courts
Judiciary & Public Security	Conviction Rate; Availability of Police Personnel; Population of Women Police Personnel; Disposal of Court Cases; Disposal of Cases by Consumer Courts
Environment	Availability of State-level Action Plan for Climate Change; Change in Forest Cover
Citizen Centric Governance	Enactment of Right to Services Act by the States; Number of Services Provided Through Electronic / Mobile Medium

Fig. 7: Sectors and Indicators of GGI (Source: GGI Report, 2017)

The UN Economic and Social Committee on 2 July, 2018 endorsed a set of 11 principles prepared by the UN Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA)[2] and Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)[3] which serve as a roadmap for integrating good governance into SDGs. The principles are categorised into three broad categories: effectiveness, accountability and inclusiveness.

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[2]The UN CEPA, established by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in its resolution 2001/45, is comprised of 24 members who meet annually at UN Headquarters in New York. The Committee is responsible for supporting the work of ECOSOC concerning the promotion and development of public administration and governance among Member States notably in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in support of the implementation and progress reviews of the SDGs. (https://bit.ly/1SNeMXv)

[3]UN DESA is a vital interface between global policies and national action in the economic, social and environmental spheres.Rooted in the United Nations Charter and guided by the universal and transformative 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other global agreements, UN DESA responds to the needs and priorities of the global community. (https://bit.ly/2NmKXRl)

EFFECTIVENESS

- •Competence (professional public sector workforce, human resources management, leadership development, training of civil servants, performance management, investment in e-government, etc).
- •Sound Policymaking (regulatory impact analysis, coherent policymaking, data sharing, monitoring and evaluation systems, science - policy interface, etc).
- •Collaboration (coordination, intergration, collaboration and dialogue across levels of government and functional areas).

ACCOUNTABILITY

- •Integrity (promotion of anti- corruption policies, practices and bodies, codes of conduct for public officials, competitive public procurement, elimination of bribery, whiste-blower protection, provision of adequate remuneration for public servants).
- •Transparency (proactive disclosure of information, budget tranparency, open goevernment data, registries of beneficial ownership).
- •Independent oversight (independent audit, respect for legality, promotion of independence of regulatory agencies, arrangements for review of administrative decisions by courts or other bodies).

INCLUSIVENESS

- •LNOB (equitable fiscal and monetary policy, promotion of social equity, data disaggregation, systematic follow-up and review)
- •Non- discrimination (protect and promote human rights, fundamental freedoms, public sector workforce diversity for all, access to public service irrespective of race, colour, gender, language, religion, property, disability, politiclal or other opinion, multilingual service delivery, universal birth registrations, cultural audit of institutions, etc.)
- •Participation (free and fair election,regulatory process of public consultation, particiaptory budgeting, community- driven development, multi-stakeholder forums, etc.)
- •Subsidiarity (fiscal federalism, strengthening urban goevernance, municipal finance and local finance systems, enhancement of local capacity for prevention, adaptation, mitigation of external shocks)
- •Intergenerational Equity (sustainable development imapct assessments, long term debt management, territorial planning, spatial development and ecosystem management.

Fig. 8: 11 Principles for Integrating Good Governance into SDGs (Source: Bouckaert, Geert and et.al. 2019)

INTERLINKAGES OF SDGs: SPIN- OFFs AND TRADE- OFFs

Theorising upon the growing consciousness of humans, (Rifkin, 2010)[4] argued that due to major societal changes such as a globalising economy and digital revolution, people are expanding their smaller, community consciousness into a global consciousness. This global consciousness acknowledges that everyone and everything in human societies is in fact interconnected and every action results in a reaction (whether positive or negative), which is either visible or invisible to the actor. The UN SDGs were probably the first intergovernmental development agenda that embodied this growing global consciousness of interconnectivity. However, addressing one societal problem requires including many other development goals for transition towards a sustainable human society. Some of the potential spin offs (co- benefits) and trade- offs (negative) of SDGs are shown in Table 1.

Table 1

Kind of Interaction	Explanation	Examples
INDIVISIBLE	Inextricably link to the achievement of another goal	Ending all forms of discrimination against women and girls is indivisible from ensuring women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership.
REINFORCING	Aids the achievement of another goal	Providing access to electricity reinforces water-pumping and irrigation systems. Strengthening the capacity to adapt to climate-related hazards reduces losses caused by disasters.
ENABLING	Creates conditions that further another goal	Providing electricity access in rural homes enables education, because it makes it possible to do homework at night with electric lightning.
CONSISTENT	No significant positive or negative interactions	Ensuring education for all does not interact significantly with infrastructure development or conservation of ocean ecosystems.
CONSTRAINING	Limits options on another goal	Improved water efficiency can constrain agricultural irrigation. Reducing climate change can constrain the options for energy access.
COUNTERACTING	Clashes with another goal	Boosting consumption for growth can counteract waste reduction and climate mitigation. Potential tension between SDG 9 with SDG 12.
CANCELLING	Makes it impossible to reach another goal	Fully ensuring public transparency and democratic accountability cannot be combined with national-security goals. Full protection of natural reserves excludes public access for recreation.

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[4]Jeremy Rifkin is an American economic and social theorist, writer, public speaker, political advisor, and activist. Rifkin is the author of 20 books about the impact of scientific and technological changes on the economy, the workforce, society, and the environment.

Understanding and working with the political context is necessary for implementing coherent policies, including those that aim to reduce trade-offs and promote synergies. Some of the most common challenges are:

- Inadequate or poorly developed governance structures, for example in connecting across global, regional, national and local levels in the case of the food-energy-water nexus;

- Limited impetus to foster collaborations across sectors, departments and ministries;

- Guidance towards the respective roles and responsibilities for public-private partnerships that incorporate learning from prior successes and failures;

- Aligning market-based incentives with desired investments that can effectively leverage interlinkages.

UNITED NATION's MECHANISMS FOR SDGs

Since promoting sustainable development is a long-term process, the implementation of reflexive processes is crucial to ensure 'continuous reflection and policy learning' (Pisano et al, 2015). The reflexivity basically needs to be translated into effective monitoring and review mechanisms. These mechanisms allow adjusting the strategy to current developments and new challenges. Moreover they are important to assess the level and quality of implementation, identify gaps, and share best practices (Lange, 2015). The countries need to understand their policy frameworks and commitments to the goals to check their track towards achieving the SDGs. A country starting from poor sustainable development outcomes may have adopted the right mix of policies, including budgets, regulation, incentives for private investments, and so forth, which puts it on track to achieve the goals by 2030. The converse is equally possible. Poor policies, a change of government can take any country away from meeting the goals. Therefore, monitoring progress towards the SDGs requires timely international data, as well as tracking of government policies and commitments to implement the goals. Measuring government efforts for the SDGs is challenging due to the broad and complex nature of the goals. Drawing on the first assessment in the 2018 report[5], three principal layers for measuring government efforts were suggested to implement the long-term objectives of the 2030 Agenda: high-level public statements by governments in support of sustainable development; strategic use of public practices and procedures for the goals (coordination mechanisms, budget, procurement, human resource management, data and audits); content of government strategies and policy actions. Monitoring all three layers provides useful information but layer three provides the most actionable and valuable inputs for achieving the SDGs.

High-level public statements for sustainable development, political leadership and high-level commitments are crucial to achieve the SDGs. The Agenda 2030 adopted for sustainable development by all UN member states in 2015 demonstrated shared level of awareness on the urgent need to reconcile economic prosperity with the principles of environmental sustainability and social inclusion. All nations for the first time in human history have voluntarily agreed on a common set of time-bound objectives for sustainable development. Thus, commitment of high-level political leadership needs to be maintained by every country. There are two principal ways to track continued political support for the SDGs:

- Tracking the existence and the content of Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) under the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF)[6] for the 2030 Agenda.

- Monitoring Heads - of States' and Cabinet Members' speeches in support of the goals.

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[5]The SDG Index and Dashboards Report 2018 presents a revised and updated assessment of countries' distance to achieving the SDGs. It includes detailed SDG Dashboards to help identify implementation priorities for the SDGs. Available at: https://bit.ly/ 2KSi9hX
[6]The establishment of the United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) was mandated in2012 by the outcome document of the Rio+20. The HLPF is the main United Nations platform on sustainable development and it has a central role in the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda at the global level.

The VNRs enable countries to share their implementation experiences including successes, challenges and lessons learnt with a view to accelerating and improving implementation of the entire 2030 Agenda. They focus on the progress made towards achieving goals and provide significant insights into the ways in which national institutional arrangements are being defined:

- Inter-ministerial committees often chaired by the Head of State or Government,

- Entrusting the implantation to a specific ministry (typically Ministry of Foreign Affairs or Finance),

- Inter-agency structures such as United Nations.

VNRs are supposed to provide baseline facts and information about the status of SDGs in each reporting country. However, despite the common guidelines prepared by the UN to inform the preparation of VNRs, the scope and breadth of these voluntary reviews vary greatly (Fig. 8). The various comparative assessments show that VNRs differ in length, structure, and thematic coverage. This reflects varied approaches retained by countries to compile information and prepare these reports in different national contexts. Some countries present a review covering all (or most) of the 17 SDGs, whereas others focus on a few of them. The effectiveness of the initiatives and programs presented are also not evaluated systematically.
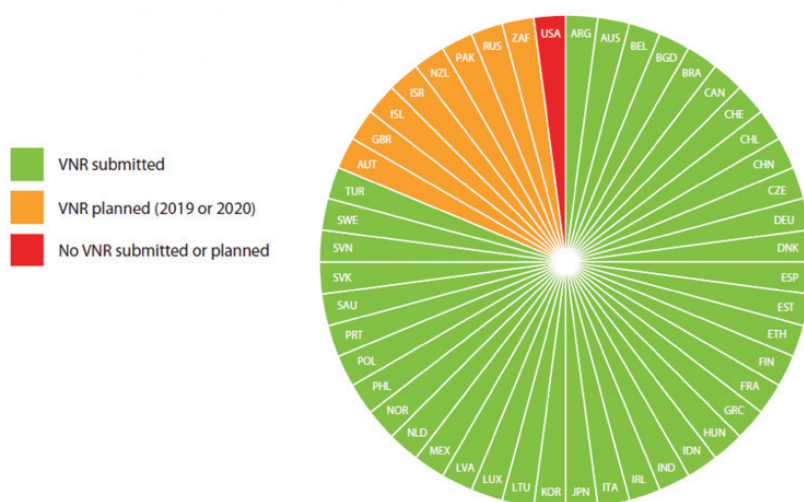
Fig. 9: Status of Countries who have Submitted VNR (Source: Sustainable Development Report, 2019) Annexure 1

The 2019 Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)[7] survey shows that some countries covered in this year's data collection have either identified a lead central/federal government body or have set up an inter-ministerial committee or task force responsible for coordinating the implementation of the goals. The countries however differ in where they place these bodies within the government structure. They may be based in the Centre of Government, specific line Ministries (typically Ministry of Planning, Foreign Affairs, Economic Development or Public Administration), or a government-affiliated think-tank. Their location clearly has implications for the role of the coordinating bodies.

Though SDGs are global, their achievement will depend on their localization. The demand for localizing the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals connotes a shift in the UN system approach to local development. It requires a more multi-level and multi- sectorial approach, predicated on local needs, capacities and context, and implemented at a pace that enables government systems to absorb and generate desired change. This reinforces the dictum, '*Think Globally and Act Locally'*.

[7]The Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) was launched in 2012 by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon tomobilize global scientific and technological expertise to promote practical problem solving for sustainable development and implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Following their adoption, SDSN is now committed to supporting the implementation of the SDGs at national and international levels.

The UN along with its agencies (UNDP, UNCDF, and UNV)[8] developed an Integrated Local Governance and Local Development (ILGLD) Framework, through a consultative process with contributions from experts and stakeholders across disciplines. It brings together an array of perspectives and knowledge on interventions and approaches that anchor global and national development strategies in distinct realities at the local level. The Framework recognizes that enhancing the lives and prospects of people at the local level is at the core of internationally-agreed development goals. The lessons from the MDGs implementation underlined the importance of Local Governments and local actors in delivering the development agenda. In this regard, 'glocalisation'- equal reflection of local and global considerations is critical to the successful implementation and attainment of the SDGs Agenda.

'Glocalising' development should not be seen as a translation of global policies within local contexts, but rather as a process based on the empowerment of local stakeholders, aimed at making sustainable development more responsive and therefore relevant to local needs, aspirations and lives through sustained exchanges between global, national and local facets. The Local Governance and Local Development (LGLD) Framework involves a comprehensive and harmonized provision of six key inputs into local governance systems:

- Facilitation of democratic accountability;
- Strengthening rule of law and security;
- Development of necessary administrative capacity for development management and service delivery;
- Fiscal empowerment and resources;
- Availability of spatial information;
- Crucial acceleration of social capital formation.

The effective evaluation criteria for integrating good governance into Agenda 2030 could be:

- **Integration/coherence:** None of the SDGs can be achieved without the achievement of all. The development's social, economic and environmental dimensions are inextricably interlinked.

- **No one left behind:** Meeting the needs of those farthest behind should come first. No goal is met unless it is met for everyone.

- **Equity:** Meeting the current generation's needs and those of future generations get equal consideration (inter-generational equity). The rights, opportunities and access to benefits and services should be provided under equal terms to all.

- **Resilience:** To recover quickly from shocks and to thrive under adverse or changing conditions. Individuals, social groups, human systems and/ or ecosystems should have the capacity to withstand social, economic or environmental stress.

- **Environmental sustainability:** Governments and resource users take measures to sustain for healthy ecosystem function.

- **Universality:** The SDGs are framed around global problems requiring global solutions. Countries must also support, and not undermine, the efforts of others.

- **Mutual accountability:** Mutual respect and trust among all those working to achieve sustainable development objectives. The roles and responsibilities are commonly agreed and equitably allocated; and everyone is equally accountable to one another for their actions and results.

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[8]The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) advocates for change and connects countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help people build a better life for themselves; The United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) offers "last mile" finance models that unlock public and private resources, especially at the domestic level, to reduce poverty and support local economic development; The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme is a UN organization that contributes to peace and development through volunteerism worldwide.

EMBEDDED SDG ELEMENTS IN INDIAN GOVERNANCE

India has been committed to achieving the SDGs even before they were fully crystallized. The vision and philosophy of the eminent personalities of 20th century India allude to the need for inclusive governance. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the champion of social justice in India strongly felt that rising and persistent inequalities pose fundamental challenges to the economic and social well-being of nations and people. To commemorate Dr. Ambedkar's legacy, the Permanent Mission to the United Nations, for the first time, organized a special event on the eve of his 125th birth anniversary. It was stated at the UN that reducing inequalities and discrimination in all their forms, the cornerstone of Dr Ambedkar's vision and work is also at the heart of new development agenda, the world has committed to achieve by 2030 in the form of SDGs. In the words of Deen Dayal Upadhyay, the advocate of *Antyodaya,* "the measurement of economic plans and economic growth cannot be done with those who have risen above on the economic ladder but of those who are at the bottom". The spirit of SDGs 'Leave No One Behind' is in consonance with the philosophy of *Antyodaya,* 'the rise of the last person'. This also reinforces the concept of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*, which signifies that the whole world is one single family. The concept originates in the Vedic scripture *Maha Upanishad* (Chapter 6, Verse 72): *ayam bandhurayam neti ganana laghuchetasam udaracharitanam tu vasudhaiva kutumbakam* i.e., only small men discriminate saying: one is a relative; the other is a stranger. The entire world constitutes 'one' family for those who live magnanimously. This succinctly captures the spirit of India's approach to all aspects of life including economic development. The Indian concept of life is embodied in a coherent worldview in which all its aspects exist in a state of inter-related harmony being governed by a universal order that is reflected in all realms of human experience. In fact, in India, nature and natural resources are treated as sacred and are worshipped. Thus, sustainability and environmental ethics have always been at the core of Indian culture and philosophy. Reflecting this notion, India has played an important role in shaping the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as well. The country's national development goals are mirrored in the SDGs and the government has been pursuing the path of *Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikaas, Sabka Vishwaas*. India strives to achieve the targets under the SDGs with the help of the dedicatedflagship programmes and appropriate policy interventions with due emphasis on home grown solutions to the varied governance, developmental and environmental challenges that the country faces today. The Government of India has unfurled the, 'strategy for New India @ 75', that is aligned to SDGs and aims to push India towards US$ 5 trillion economy by 2024. Projected to be the most populous and youngest country in the world by 2024, India's contributions will be significant for the achievement of SDGs.

The Constitution of India upholds human dignity by providing equality of opportunity to all. The Government of India has been implementing a number of Central Sector/Centrally-Sponsored Development Schemes and flagship programmes that aim at addressing many of the targets under the SDGs. In fact, even before the SDGs were adopted, the Government of India had initiated various developmental programmes for the improvement of sanitation, water availability, housing for all, health, education, financial inclusion, clean and renewable energy expansion, universal elementary school education, security and dignity of all. This was also highlighted by the Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi in his statement at the UN Summit in September 2015 during the adoption of the SDGs in which he stated, "Just as our vision behind Agenda 2030 is lofty, our goals are comprehensive. It gives priority to the problems that have endured through the past decades. And, it reflects our evolving understanding of the social, economic and environmental linkages that define our lives… The sustainable development of one-sixth of humanity will be of great consequence to the world and our beautiful planet." Success stories from India in its journey towards achieving the SDGs have the potential to guide other countries. The flagship

> **Towards Equity and Inclusion:**
>
> Make in India; Swacch Bharat Mission; MUDRA Yojana; Skill India; AMRUT; Smart Cities; Soil Health Card Scheme; Ujjwala Yojana; Mission Indradhanush; Nanami Gange; Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (For details- Annexure 2)

programmes of Government like *Swachh Bharat Mission*, *Beti Bachao Beti Padhao*, *Pradhan Mantri Jan -Dhan Yojana*, *Digital India*, etc., highlight Government of India's commitment to ensure that development reaches one and all and social equity is enhanced. The International Solar Alliance (ISA), co-founded by India, is an example of the country's leadership in the global arena towards a sustainable future and is also committed to eliminate single-use plastic by 2022.

The Parliament of India has taken exemplary initiatives to take the SDG agenda forward. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha, the Lower House of the Parliament of India, has organised briefing sessions on the SDGs for Members of Parliament that included bringing together legislators from South Asia and other BRICS nations to collectively work towards the realisation of these goals. Parliamentarians have an opportunity, and a constitutional responsibility, to play a significant role in supporting and monitoring SDG implementation. The Agenda 2030 Declaration acknowledges the 'essential role of national parliaments through their enactment of legislation and adoption of budgets, and their role in ensuring accountability for the effective implementation of our commitments.' Members of parliament are uniquely positioned to act as an interface between the people and state institutions, and to promote and adopt people-centered policies and legislation to ensure that no one is left behind.

KEY INDIAN AGENCIES AT WORK ON SDGs

Given India's federal structure of governance, the focus has been on common understanding, coordination and designing monitoring and reporting mechanisms at all levels. Responsibilities have been divided among various bodies which require the efforts of implementing ministries, departments and agencies at central and state levels as illustrated in the flowchart (Fig. 10).
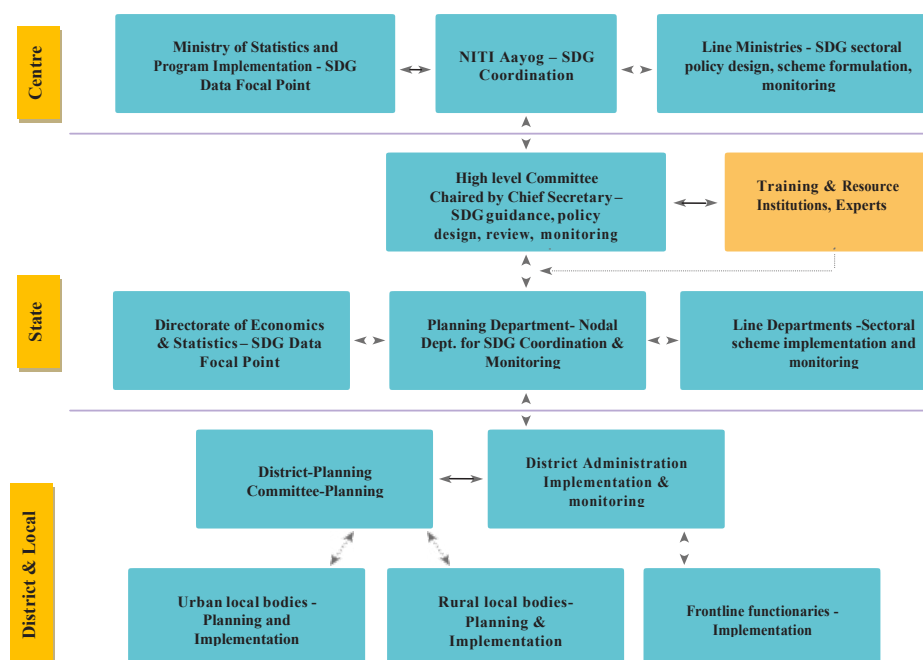

Fig. 10: Flowchart depicting the Agencies contributing to the implementation of SDG
(Source: Localizing SDGs NITI Aayog Report, 2019)

The National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog), with the Prime Minister of India as its chairperson, has been assigned the responsibility for overseeing the implementation of the SDGs in India. As part of this implementation process, NITI Aayog has carried out a detailed mapping of the 17 Goals and 169 targets to Nodal Central Ministries, Centrally Sponsored Schemes and major government initiatives. The results of the mapping exercise were circulated to the Central Ministries and placed on the NITI Aayog website to facilitate better awareness, common understanding and faster implementation of the SDGs. Most sub-national

governments have carried out a similar mapping of the SDGs and targets to the departments and programmes in their respective states. The NITI Aayog has initiated a series of national and regional consultations in collaboration with the other organizations to deepen dialogue on the SDGs with states and stakeholders including experts, academia, institutions, civil society organisations, international organisations and Central Ministries. It has also led the process of VNR preparation, critical to assess the progress towards goals.

It is important to evolve indicators to measure the progress and the extent of achievement of the targets and the Goals. The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has done massive exercise to evolve relevant nationally defined targets taking the States and Union Territories (UTs) on board and the Ministry has also been leading discussions at the global level on the indicator framework for the SDGs. The government has approved the National Indicator Framework (NIF) developed by MoSPI after thorough consultative and participatory process. The NIF is the backbone for monitoring of SDGs at the national level to give appropriate direction to the policy makers and implementers of various schemes and programmes. It not only tracks process but also helps to identify data gaps. The effort is to harness and unify development data to ensure that decisions are based on comprehensive data and are effective. It is agreed that there are five main stages in the development and reporting of indicators:

- Establishing the purpose of the indicators;
- Designing the conceptual framework;
- Selecting and designing the indicators;
- Interpreting and reporting the indicators;
- Maintaining and reviewing the indicators.

India, having a federal governance structure, most of the functions that have a bearing on SDGs fall within the purview of the State Governments. The commitment of the Government of India in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals can be realised only if actions at the national level are complimented by initiatives of the State Governments and the Union Territories (UTs). Further, the focus of SDGs on equality, inclusion, justice and the core principle of 'Leave No One Behind' makes the participation and contribution of states imperative in the pursuit of SDGs'.

In the context of India, there are strong Local Governments; Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) in rural areas and Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in urban areas. After substantial financial devolution to the PRIs under 14th Finance Commission, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) is supporting village-level PRIs in planning and implementing development initiatives in their respective areas. The national development agenda covering the SDG framework guides the capacity building of the PRIs as well as the actual planning process.

The District Administration plays an important role in scrutinising and endorsing Local Government plans. As a result, awareness of the District Administration on SDGs assumes importance. Several states have either entrusted the District Planning Committees (a Constitutional body for district level planning and monitoring of programmes) with the responsibility of coordinating SDG implementation or have created district level structures-District SDG Cell) under the leadership of the District Collector for the purpose.

The MoPR has been advocating to integrate SDGs within the local plans (known as the Gram Panchayat Development Plans - GPDP) and have prepared guidelines to support this integration. Since GPDPs are to be prepared in a participatory manner and also approved by the village council (gram sabha), integrating SDGs into these plans is an important step to effect change on ground and ensure transformative impact. Effective localisation of SDGs requires linking budgets to the local plans which in turn requires an approach that promotes vertical as well as horizontal convergence. It also requires devising strategies for effective monitoring to allow course correction at the local levels.

The process of recognising local contexts in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda can be attained through localising the SDGs. This starts from setting of goals and targets, determining the means of implementation,
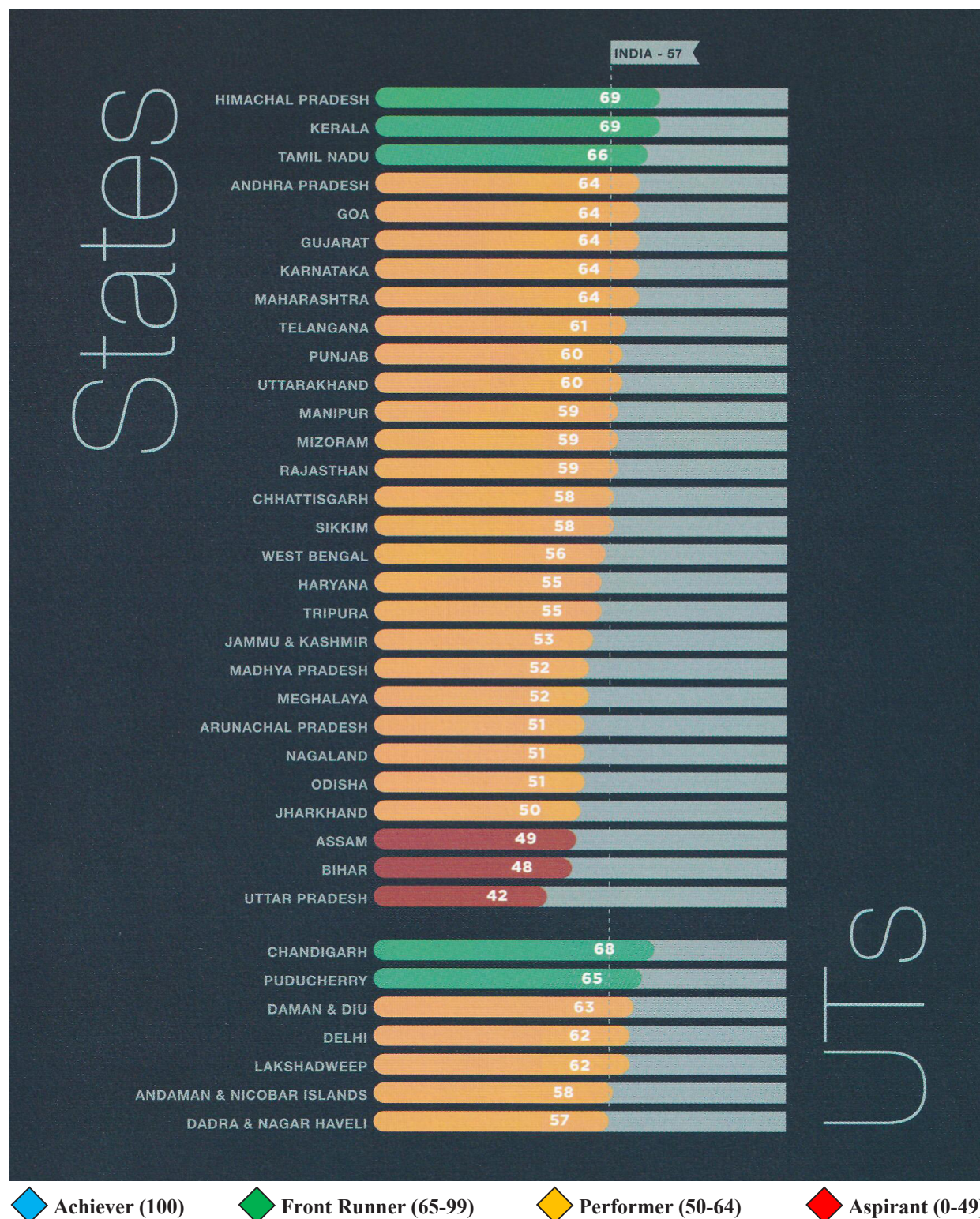
using indicators to measure and monitor progress, and raising awareness through advocacy. Localisation relates both to how local and sub-national governments can support the achievement of the SDGs through bottom up action as well as how the SDGs can provide a framework for local development policy. These entail participatory planning, implementation, and evaluation.

INDIA's TRAJECTORY ON SDGs

NITI Aayog organises regular national reviews on SDGs to review the mechanisms established at the sub-national levels which provide an opportunity for states to learn and share experience. It has taken the lead at the national level and released the SDG India Index Baseline Report and Dashboard in December 2018. This report revealed new perspectives that has inspired many states to focus on improving performance. For example, it shows that even the most advanced states are vulnerable to various climate change events and therefore need more local strategies to address them. It has ranked the states of Kerala and Himachal Pradesh as the top performers. Himachal Pradesh is a hill state in the north of India while Kerala is a southern coastal state. Both the states are vulnerable to climate change events which can undermine their progress.

Fig. 11: Map showing the overall performance of the States and UTs in executing SDGs-Composite SDG Index- India (Source: Localizing SDGs NITI Aayog Report, 2019)

INDIA - 57

States

State	Score
HIMACHAL PRADESH	69
KERALA	69
TAMIL NADU	66
ANDHRA PRADESH	64
GOA	64
GUJARAT	64
KARNATAKA	64
MAHARASHTRA	64
TELANGANA	61
PUNJAB	60
UTTARAKHAND	60
MANIPUR	59
MIZORAM	59
RAJASTHAN	59
CHHATTISGARH	58
SIKKIM	58
WEST BENGAL	56
HARYANA	55
TRIPURA	55
JAMMU & KASHMIR	53
MADHYA PRADESH	52
MEGHALAYA	52
ARUNACHAL PRADESH	51
NAGALAND	51
ODISHA	51
JHARKHAND	50
ASSAM	49
BIHAR	48
UTTAR PRADESH	42

UTs

UT	Score
CHANDIGARH	68
PUDUCHERRY	65
DAMAN & DIU	63
DELHI	62
LAKSHADWEEP	62
ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS	58
DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI	57

◆ **Achiever (100)**   ◆ **Front Runner (65-99)**   ◆ **Performer (50-64)**   ◆ **Aspirant (0-49)**

Kerala top rank is attributed to its superior performance in providing good health, reducing hunger, achieving gender equality. Himachal Pradesh ranks high on providing clean water & sanitation, in reducing inequalities and preserving mountain ecosystem.

Among the UTs, Chandigarh takes the lead because of its exemplary performance in providing clean water & sanitation to its people. It has further made good progress towards providing affordable & clean energy, generating decent work & economic growth, and providing quality education.

Fig. 12: India's Index SDG score of States and UTs (Source: NITI Aayog Baseline Report, 2018)

The government of India is focussed and invested in the design and implementation of some of the large-scale programmes bridging critical developmental gaps on key SDGs. For instance, Ayushman Bharat-*Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana* (PMJAY) is the largest government health protection scheme in theworld, entitling 500 million Indians to annual health protection coverage of approximately US$ 7100. India is also aiming to achieve the goal of eliminating tuberculosis by 2025 itself, five years ahead of the global target of 2030. The government launched *Poshan Abhiyan*, a National Nutrition Mission for children and women to eradicate malnutrition by 2022. The program recognizes the interconnectedness of nutrition with other aspects such as water, sanitation, hygiene, mother's education, poverty, ensuring convergence of all the services on a household for reducing under nutrition in the country.

The government's program, '*Transforming of Aspirational Districts*', across 112 districts, to reduce intra - region disparities and improve service delivery is related to achievement of some of the SDGs. The *Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana* (PMJDY), which is the world's largest financial inclusion programmeis another noteworthy example of a crosscutting initiative. By leveraging JAM trinity, i.e. PMJDY, *Aadhaar* (biometric identity system) and Mobile number, the government has disbursed a cumulative amount of US$ 110 billion to over 250 million beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfers (DBT). This has helped significantly to enhance the efficiency of government programmes. These initiatives demonstrate the advances India has made to move ahead on the SDGs keeping the focus on 'Leaving No One Behind' intact in development planning.

Good Governance is exploring sustainable means to match the expectations of its constituents. The government to meet the rising aspirations of the citizens has an ambitious plan to transform India into a $5 trillion economy. As part of improving modern infrastructure, investing 100 trillion, the government plans to develop Sagarmala (ports) and Bharatmala (roads). The focus is not only on wealth creation but wealth distribution for equity ensuring trickle down of the benefits. The Prime Minister's announcement on the 73rd Independence Day's speech (2019) that 3.5 trillion will be spent for the laudable *Jal Jeevan* Mission[9] aimed at providing potable water is a step in the direction of 2030 SDG Agenda. The *Jal Shakti Mantralaya* constituted integrating the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation and Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation is the nodal agency for the mission. India's VNR Report 2017 reported progress on certain goals (1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 14, 17), which were agreed upon in HLPF as focus areas. The progress and achievements made by the Government of India in few notable programmes which are in alignment with some of the aforementioned goals are summarized in the following graphs:
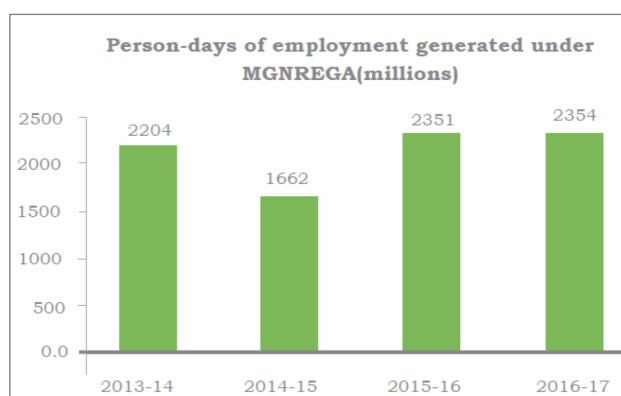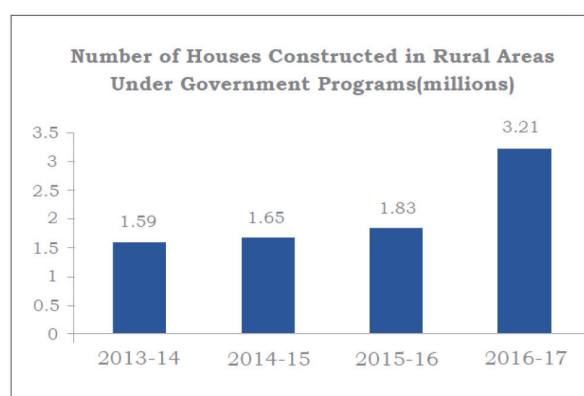

Fig. 13

Fig. 14

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[9]This Mission, under the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, will focus on integrated demand and supply side management of water at the local level, including creation of local infrastructure for source sustainability like rainwater harvesting, groundwater recharge and management of household wastewater for reuse in agriculture. It will converge with other Central and State Government Schemes to achieve its objectives of sustainable water supply management across the country.
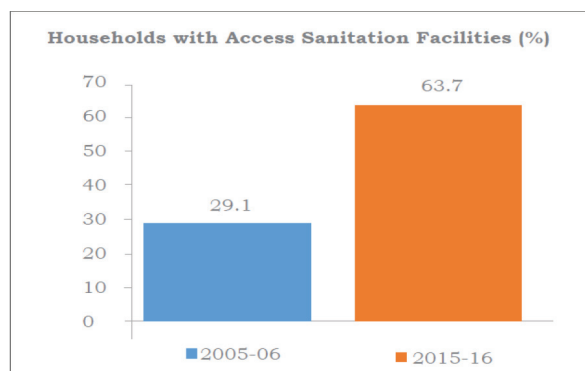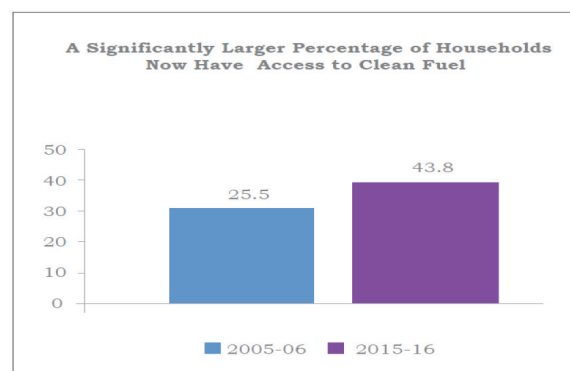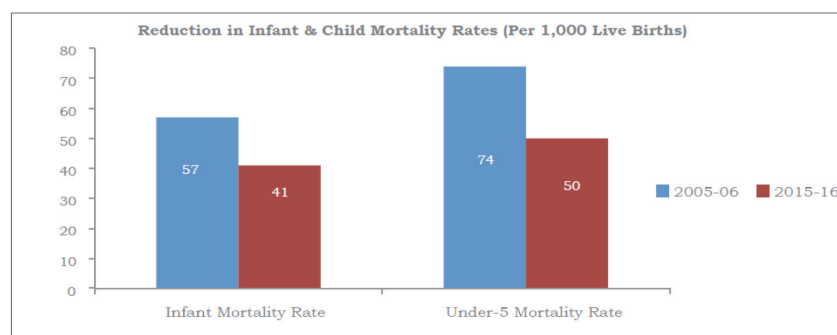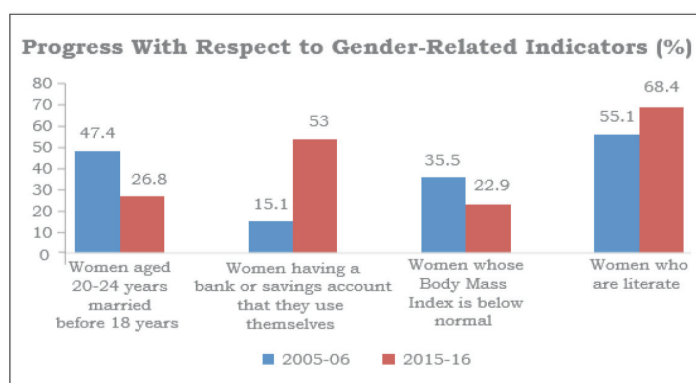
Fig. 15

Fig. 16

Fig. 17

Fig. 18

Fig. 13, 14, and 15(Goal 1: *No Poverty*)
Fig. 16 (Goal 9: *Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure*)
Fig. 17 (Goal 3: *Good Health*)
Fig.18 (Goal 5: *Gender Equality*)
(Source: Latest India VNR final NITI Aayog Report, 2017)

India apart from integrating SDGs into its ongoing national and sub-national policies and programmes need to focus on nurturing partnerships at the regional and global levels. It strongly believes that combined and sustained efforts at national and global levels will ensure shared prosperity.

Role of Civil Society Organizations (CSO) and Corporates in India

In India, an important role is also being played by Civil Society Organizations that have been working on SDG-related issues from the grassroots to the national level. They, working individually and in coalitions, have partnered with the government to provide inputs, create awareness and offer feedback. Their initiatives span the following:

•   Preparing information education and communication materials on SDGs, conducting capacity building workshops and awareness campaigns;

- Supporting states with integrating SDGs into the planning and implementation process;

- Highlighting issues of sustainable energy management and climate justice for necessary policy action at the state and national levels; and

- Conducting research and documentation on SDGs as well as their relevance to the rights and entitlements of various vulnerable sections of society.

The SDGs can be linked to programmes and funding proposals of CSOs, which could improve the possibilities of international partnerships and other collaborations. This would also increase public awareness of the SDGs. CSOs must adapt and be flexible for creating a more effective space for engagement and dialogue.

Corporate sector organisations including industry associations have held consultations and initiated actions in various areas including environmental sustainability, innovative climate action and inclusive development strategies on various themes. Apart from working with organisations within the industry and related sectors, they have also worked jointly with the government and civil society to develop innovative solutions and courses of action such as:
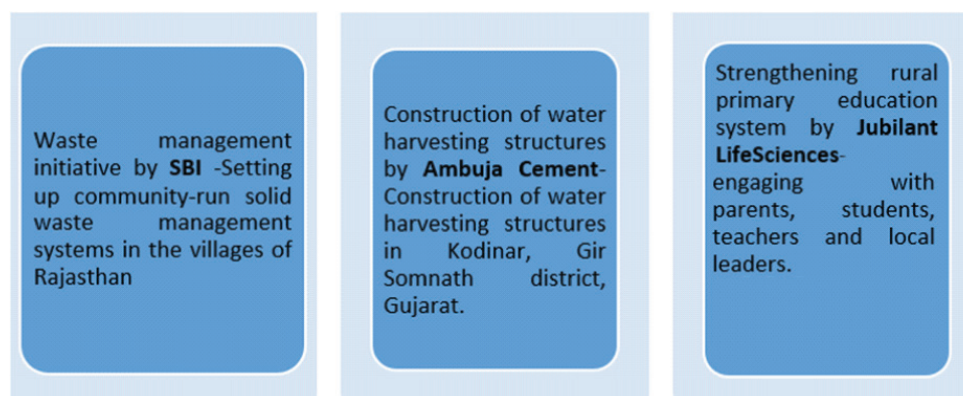
Waste management initiative by **SBI** -Setting up community-run solid waste management systems in the villages of Rajasthan

Construction of water harvesting structures by **Ambuja Cement**- Construction of water harvesting structures in Kodinar, Gir Somnath district, Gujarat.

Strengthening rural primary education system by **Jubilant LifeSciences**- engaging with parents, students, teachers and local leaders.

Fig. 19: Few Examples of Corporate Organizations working in SDGs (Source: FICCI Report, 2018)

Awareness generation and Advocacy

It is of pertinent importance to engage in continuous advocacy to sustain the momentum of localising the SDGs. In India, various initiatives for enhancing public awareness and sensitisation about SDGs have been stepped up to make the process of implementation further participatory and inclusive and also to ensure behavioural changes in the society so as to bring and adopt practices that promote sustainable development. Some such initiatives initiated by different states in the country include:
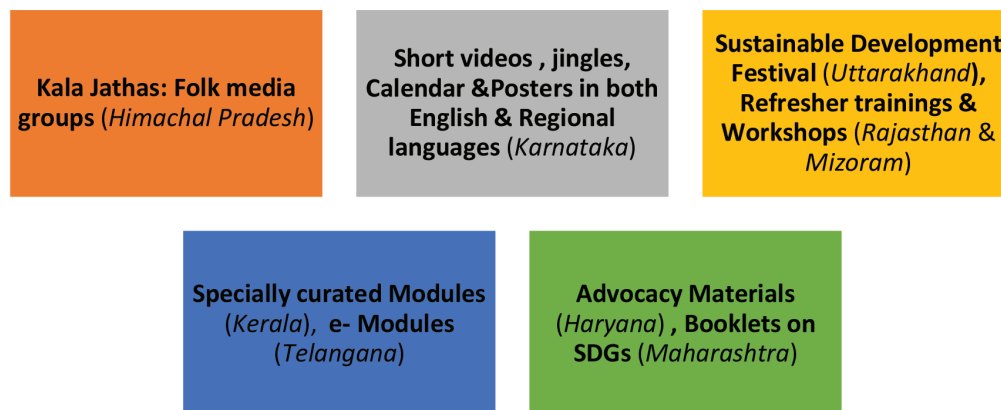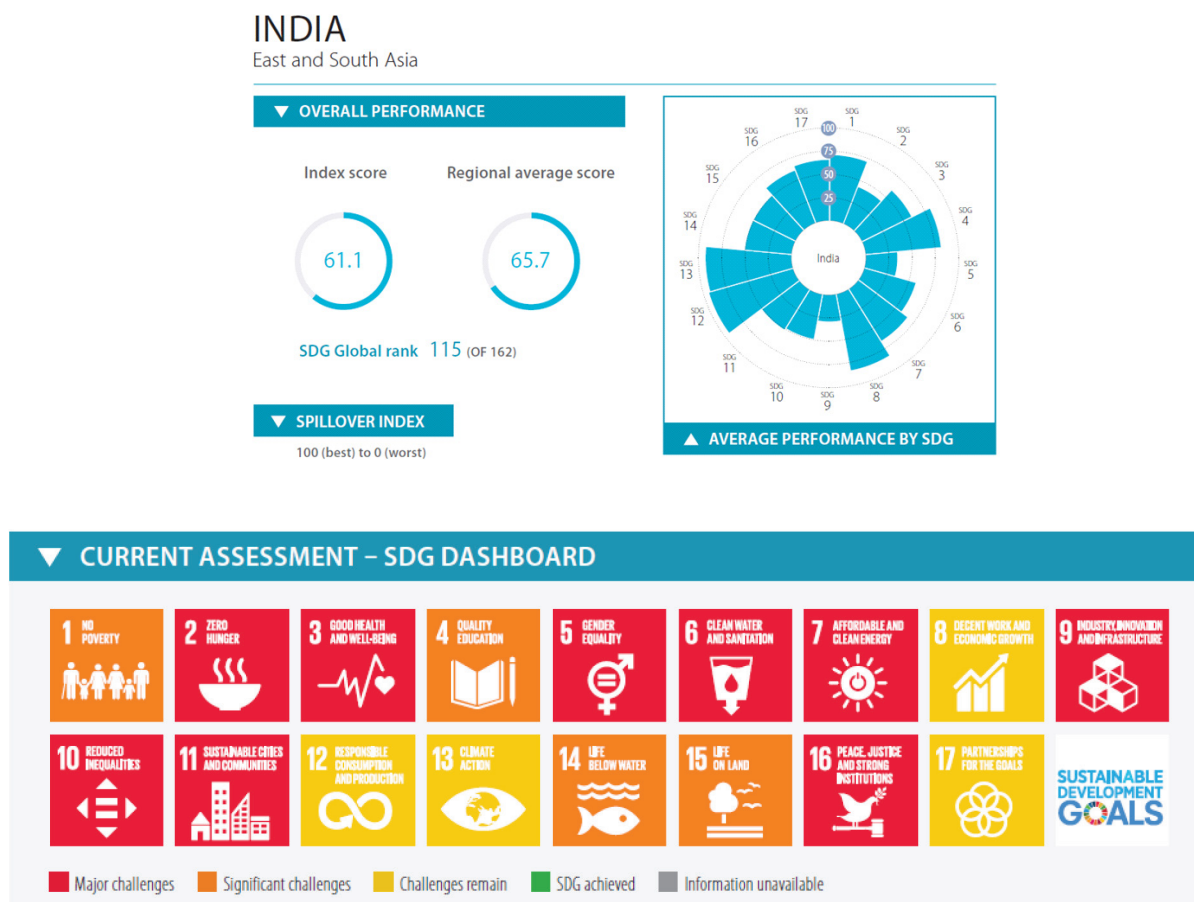
Kala Jathas: Folk media groups (*Himachal Pradesh*)

Short videos , jingles, Calendar &Posters in both English & Regional languages (*Karnataka*)

Sustainable Development Festival (*Uttarakhand*), Refresher trainings & Workshops (*Rajasthan* & *Mizoram*)

Specially curated Modules (*Kerala*), e- Modules (*Telangana*)

Advocacy Materials (*Haryana*) , Booklets on SDGs (*Maharashtra*)

Fig. 20: Few Awareness Initiatives by State Governments
(Source: Localizing SDGs NITI Aayog Report, 2019)

Data driven Decision making

Notably, with the SDGs, it is envisaged that a substantial amount of data will be needed to be produced and analysed which poses a significant challenge for national statistical systems. In this regard, Government of India generates large amount of development data. Data- driven decision making has thus become the norm. At the same time, the development data is getting separated into siloed, disconnected systems making it difficult to unify the development data. As a result, policy makers take important decisions based only on existing data, rather than drawing on the full world of available data on interconnected issues. It is in this context that the robustness of data assumes importance. India represents South Asia as a member of Inter-Agency and Expert Groups on SDGs (IAEG-SDGs) constituted by UN Statistical Commission (UNSC)[10] for global monitoring. The global reporting on SDGs is done by UN, based on the Global Indicator Framework (recommended by IAEG and adopted by UNSC) using data from the National Official Statistical System compiled by the custodian agencies (UN bodies or internationally recognized agencies). MoSPI represents India at various UN forums concerning to SDG related statistical activities. It in collaboration with the UN India developed SDG India dashboard which is a repository of data based on the National Indicator Framework on SDGs. The dashboard brings together data from various databases, portals and sectors to one common place that will enable India to track its progress towards achieving the SDGs.

Despite major efforts by the government of India, a lot needs to be executed to progress majorly and climb up the ladder performance wise globally in the SDG index, as can be understood by the below mentioned info- graphics.

Fig. 21: India's ranking in the Global SDG Index and SDG Trends
(Source: Sustainable Development Report, 2019)

CHALLENGES

"Agreements make the headlines, Implementation changes lives." (Angel Gurria, OECD Secretary General). The SDG Agenda 2030 is an extensive document in terms of linking the progress of development to human dignity. The main task ahead of the 193 member nations which pledged to achieve the SDGs is to work towards their achievement. However, there is no legal binding on the countries to deliver towards the goals. Hence, the achievement of SDG targets is an arduous task.

The following are the challenges in the way of achieving the SDGs:

➢ **Good Governance:** Governance is integral to achieving the SDGs .The economies have to take decisions and initiate actions using innovative mechanisms and involving various agencies such as the governments, businesses, NGOs, the CSOs and researchers. Good Governance needs to be strengthened to implement the SDGs by addressing the following challenges:

- *Bringing together the right stakeholders***:** The relevant stakeholders must be brought together at the right time and place to solve complex poverty and sustainability problems. There must be coordination among them at different levels, from transnational corporations- National Governments - local to produce effective outcomes.

- *Difficult trade-offs*: There are many spin-offs among the SDGs, where addressing one goal helps address others at the same time. For example, addressing climate change will have co-benefits for energy, security, health, biodiversity and oceans. On the contrary, the SDGs also involve trade-offs.

- *Competing interests*: Each of the SDG targets has many competing stakeholder interests attached to them. The World Economic Forum Report 2019 gives a suitable example of climate change. The fossil fuel companies and their workers who will be affected in the short term will perceive themselves as losers if they are forced to change, though the society as a whole will be a 'winner' in the long term by avoiding the risks and impacts of climate change. The trade-offs in terms of goals can be a major governance challenge, especially where responsibility is dispersed and there are conflicting interests of different stakeholders. The governments have to negotiate on making difficult choices and taking hard decisions with the private sector, the non-profit sector and communities with a strong will.

➢ **Migration:** The world's population is increasing exponentially and the African continent is surpassing India and China in its rate of increase. The African continent is set to double by 2050 which is unprecedented. If the excessive population cannot survive in their own countries, they will tend to migrate resulting in a global problem with more hunger and poverty. The unrestrained population explosion creates innumerable challenges for the present and the coming generations.

➢ **Defining Indicators**: Many countries face a grave problem of database and developing indicators to measure outcomes. For example, in India, though MoSPI has worked on the development of indicators, it is difficult to assess 'quality of education' and 'safe drinking water', which seems ambiguous. In India, water from hand-pumps and tube-wells is considered as safe as piped water supply. As per this consideration and official data, 86 per cent of the Indians have access to safe water but the number of waterborne diseases and deaths due to diarrhoea indicates otherwise. In India, the SDG programmes and projects are deficient in terms of sustainability on ground. The data and the indicators mostly deal with a compilation of data on poverty, health, agriculture, human development and environment but do not indicate how sustainability is mapped. Policies need to be made to factor in realities to rank suitably on the SDG indicators.

➢ **Measuring Progress**: Measuring progress is very important to understand the extent of the achievement of SDGs. Non-availability of data with respect to sub-national levels, periodicity issues and incomplete coverage of administrative data makes it a challenge to measure progress. SDGs need an integrated approach for accomplishing the social, environmental and economic targets. There must be a proper framework to measure progress, integrate communication/ engagement into research and co-create research for the SDGs.

➢ **Challenge of Information Technology**: IT and innovation can change and increase the pace of the journey to the SDGs. The SDGs can facilitate in formulating legislations to regulate robotics and artificial intelligence. The innovators should build products in alignment with the SDGs so that they do not add to the challenges of sustainability. Knowledge sharing is another issue as the member nations who agreed to the UN SDGs are very competitive and do not share knowledge or data which is detrimental to global development.

➢ **Missing out on Integration Potential**: The SDGs are integrated, indivisible and need good governance with strong social networks to translate into a framework focused on 'People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnerships'. For example, a country's ability to combat hunger is directly connected to its agricultural system, its strategy for rural development, economic and income growth, management of natural resources, level of infrastructure, natural disaster mitigation plans, and the health of its population, requiring that many actors work together across and outside of government. Lack of action on one goal can compromise their collective success. The link between any given policy or programme and the achievement of an SDG cannot be always captured in a linear straight forward cause and effect relationship. The achievement of SDGs is a highly contextual, subject to various internal and external factors that stakeholders cannot always control or influence.

➢ **Regional Cooperation:** The SDGs not only highlight the importance of regional approach but also the regional synergy and resulting positive value additions towards achieving the goals. However, fostering regional cooperation even among countries grappling with common development challenges (inequality, poverty, weak governance and poor infrastructure) is not easy. For instance, South Asia covers only about 3.5% of the world's land surface area but hosts a fourth of its population, making it a region of significant importance for international development. In spite of the geographic proximity and common socio-cultural bonds among countries of the region, it is one of the world's least integrated regions. The region faces myriad economic and environmental challenges as it accounts for more than 30% of the world's poor. Hence, the successful realization of SDGs depends on how best the countries make use of opportunities among them for cooperation, collaboration, and convergence (3Cs).

➢ **Financing and the North-South divide**: The most contentious challenge facing the SDGs is in regard to how they will be financed, as current projections estimate the needs for financing their implementation and monitoring to be around $17 trillion. It is within this debate that the developed versus developing

country dichotomy re-emerges. Developed countries are pushing for the mobilization of domestic resources, wherein each UN member state will be responsible for securing its own funding, whereas developing countries are calling for financing to be provided by the developed countries through aid agreements. A solution may lie within a development finance model that can leverage and catalyze a combination of private investment, international and domestic public resources.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Goals without action remain empty and unachieved. Proper implementation is therefore critical and it is necessary to carefully consider effective strategies to implement the SDGs. The strategic recommendations proposed by Ralien C. Bekkers are clustered into five areas: **Process, Content, Knowledge, Resources and Leadership**. The **Process** (short, medium and long-term objectives; concrete activities, coordinated climate action, holistic view and reaching out to those 'left behind') is at the core of implementation. The **Content** (SDGs and the larger framework for 2030 Agenda), **Knowledge** (continuous measurement of impact and complementary education) and **Resources** (required finances, innovative resource analysis and people's empowerment) are key inputs to this process. **Leadership** (ownership and strategy at the highest
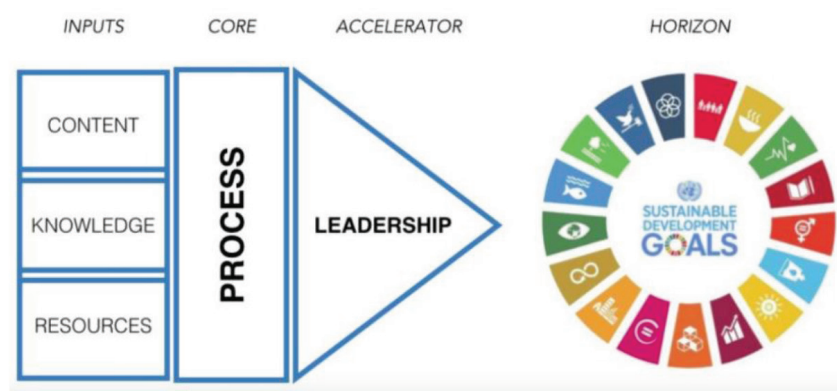

Fig. 22. Conceptual visualization of the five recommendation areas for SDG implementation strategies (Source: Bekkers, 2017)

level, incentives for transformative system change and long-term decision-making) is required to accelerate the implementation process.

The other important recommendations include:

- Facilitate the sharing of best practices and capacity building across member countries through the development of social enterprise, impact investment markets and information and communications technology in support of implementation of the Goals;

- Align National Indicator Framework (NIF) with the Global Indicator Framework (GIF) as a common monitoring framework helps comparison across countries facilitating better understanding of progress;

- It is important to undertake systematic efforts to build national and local capacities to implement and monitor SDGs;

- Continuous communication, dialogue and learning among experts, policymakers and a host of other actors is necessary to understand diverse perspectives and challenges;

- Evidence-based knowledge that draws upon empirical observation and scientific assessment can strengthen interlinkages to transformative actions at all levels;

- Adjusting governance structures to reflect interrelationships will be an important concrete step toward capitalizing on positive synergies and reducing or eliminating negative outcomes;

- High levels of economic growth have lifted great numbers of people out of poverty. However, to sustain the growth needed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and enhance resilience, it is imperative to adopt a growth trajectory that is more resource-efficient;

- Appropriate investments by countries in strong 'social safety net policies' to tackle vulnerabilities across the lifecycle would strengthen SDGs;

- Regional cooperation will be critical to maximize the opportunities for building synergies between the economic, social and environmental dimensions and to overcome the first-mover risk that may be present in terms of short-term economic competitiveness;

- There is need for think tanks, researchers and the academia to focus on holistic and integrated research (including scenario building and future casting) to support informed decision making;

- The data revolution (data collection systems that are low cost, reliable, accurate, timely data immediately available to policy makers) needs to be an inclusive and transparent process that includes statistical experts, CSOs, national human rights institutions, service providers and marginalized populations;

- Data disaggregated should focus on the local level and be crowd-based to capture statistics about the most poor, vulnerable and marginalized citizens of society;

- Governance practices should be based on knowledge generated from formal, peer reviewed research that is conceptually sound, contextually sensitive, quantitatively driven and trustworthy.

CONCLUSION

Strengthening governance capacity is critically important to respond effectively to the complex set of sustainability challenges. The sustainable development framework places a central emphasis on decoupling economic growth from unsustainable resource use. The 2030 Agenda is not about what the rich should do for the poor, but concerted efforts of all countries for the global well-being of this generation and those to come. In an interlinked and globalised world, all countries must be proactive in addressing the challenges of sustainable development. This entails an ethical framework based on: the right to development for every country, human rights and social inclusion, convergence of living standards across countries, and shared responsibilities and opportunities. The governments across the world must coordinate efficiently and effectively with a broad spectrum of actors, such as National Governments, Regional and International Networks, Multinational Corporations and Civil Society Organizations. The key aspects of good governance; accountability and transparency, will be increasingly important at all levels of society, with revised regulatory mechanisms needed to ensure human, civil, and environmental rights. The societies with strong social fabrics characterized by trust, equity and rule of law tend to enjoy greater stability, resilience, dynamism and long-term sustainability. They can safeguard against the corrosive effects of corruption and exploitation of vulnerable populations during times of crises. The successful implementation of SDGs requires integrated policies addressing trade-offs across different policy areas and maximizing synergies, convergence and impacts.

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ACRONYMS

ARG- Argentina	DNK- Denmark	ISL- Iceland	PAK- Pakistan
AUS- Australia	ESP- Spain	ISR- Israel	PHL- Philippines
AUT- Austria	EST- Estonia	ITA- Italy	POL- Poland
BEL - Belgium	ETH- Ethiopia	JPN- Japan	PRT- Portugal
BGD- Bangladesh	FIN- Finland	KOR- Korea	RUS- Russia
BRA- Brazil	FRA- France	LTU- Lithuania	SAU- Saudi Arabia
CAN- Canada	GBR- United Kingdom	LUX- Luxembourg	SVK- Slovakia
CHE- Switzerland	GRC- Greece	LVA- Latvia	SVN- Slovenia
CHL- Chile	HUN- Hungary	MEX- Mexico	SWE- Sweden
CHN- China	IDN- Indonesia	NLD- Netherlands	TUR- Turkey
CZE- Czech Republic	IND- India	NOR- Norway	USA- United States of America
DEU- Germany	IRL- Ireland	NZL- New Zealand	ZAF- South Africa

🟩 **VNR submitted**   🟧 **VNR planned (2019 or 2020)**   🟥 **No VNR submitted or planned**

SOME NOTABLE GOVERNMENT SCHEMES AND INTERVENTIONS
SUPPORTING THE ADVANCEMENT OF SDGs IN INDIA

Major Schemes/ Interventions	Details
Make in India	Launched on 25 September 2014, the 'Make in India' Programme is an initiative of the Government of India to encourage multinational as well as domestic companies to manufacture their products in India. The Programme aims at making India a manufacturing hub so as to facilitate job creation and skill development in twenty-five sectors of the Indian economy.
Digital India	Launched on 1 July 2015, the Digital India Programme aims at transforming Indian economy by focusing on three core components which include - creation of digital infrastructure, delivering services digitally and digital literacy.
Skill India	Launched on 15 July 2015, the Skill India Programme aims at skill development to create jobs for the youth of the country.
Swachh Bharat Abhiyan	Launched on 2 October 2014, the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan aims at cleaning India by eliminating open defecation, eradicating manual scavenging, introducing modern and scientific municipal solid waste management practices, enabling private sector participation in the sanitation sector and changing people's attitudes to sanitation by creating awareness.
Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Yojana	Launched on 22 January 2015, the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Yojana mainly aims at generating awareness of welfare services meant for girl child and women.
Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana	Launched on 28 August 2014, the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana aims at promoting financial inclusion and ensuring access to the various financial services, particularly covering the weaker sections and low income groups.The plan envisages universal access to banking facilities with at least one basic banking account for every household, financial literacy, access to credit, insurance, pension facility and benefits under the Direct Benefits Transfer (DBT) scheme of the Union Government
Micro Units Development & Refinance Agency Ltd. (MUDRA) Bank Yojana:	Launched on 8 April 2015, the MUDRA Bank Development and Yojana aims at providing loans to small Refinance Agency businesses.
Skill India	The Scheme launched recently aim at promoting entrepreneurship among people from the marginalized sections including those from the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and women. Under the scheme, loans are provided starting from Rs. 10 lakhs and going up to Rs. 1 crore. Composite loans between Rs. 10 lakh and up to Rs. 1 crore are also provided to entrepreneurs for setting up new enterprises.

Atal Mission for Rejuvenation & Urban Transformation (AMRUT)	The purpose of AMRUT is to - (i) ensure that every household has access to a tap with assured supply of water and a sewerage connection; (ii) increase the amenity value of cities by developing greenery and well maintained open spaces (e.g. parks); and (iii) reduce pollution by switching to public transport or constructing facilities for non-motorized transport (e.g. walking and cycling).
Smart Cities	Launched on 29 April 2015, Smart Cities Programme aims at developing 100 Smart cities in India in its first phase with cities for development selected from all the States.
Soil Health Card Scheme	Soil Health Card Scheme was launched in 2015. Under the scheme, the Government plans to issue soil cards to farmers which will carry crop-wise recommendations of nutrients and fertilisers required for the individual farms to help farmers to improve productivity through judicious use of inputs.
Ujjwala Yojana	This Scheme aims at providing 5 crore LPG connections to BPL families, particularly in the name of women beneficiaries.
Mission Indradhanush	The Mission (launched in 2014) depicting seven colours of the rainbow, aims at covering all those children by 2020 who are either unvaccinated, or are partially vaccinated against seven vaccine preventable diseases which include diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, polio, tuberculosis, measles and hepatitis
Namami Gange	Commencing the execution on 7 July 2016, the Namami Gange Project aims at integrating the on-going efforts and planning to create a concrete action plan for future to clean and protect the Ganga river in a comprehensive manner and achieve Ganga Rejuvenation.
Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan	Launched in 2016, the Abhiyan aims at improving rural livelihoods and rural development by strengthening Panchayati Raj Institutions and by promoting social harmony. To foster farmers' progress, the mission also seeks to create awareness by providing information on agriculture related schemes

A break-up of SDG India Index score by the component Goals has been shown in the table alongside for each State and UT. The table can be read both horizontally and vertically. Horizontal view helps to gauge a State/UT's performance across the 13 Goals. The vertical view enables a reader to compare the distance to target achieved by a State/UT relative to other States/UTs.

PERFORMANCE OF STATE/UT ON EACH SDG

State / UT	SDG1	SDG2	SDG3	SDG4	SDG5	SDG6	SDG7	SDG8	SDG9	SDG10	SDG11	SDG15	SDG16	Composite SDG
							Index Score							
Andhra Pradesh	67	50	68	77	44	59	76	81	31	75	26	87	90	64
Arunachal Pradesh	52	58	38	44	32	64	44	72	16	47	44	73	77	51
Assam	53	53	30	54	36	42	18	61	35	75	32	100	53	49
Bihar	45	39	40	36	24	31	67	58	38	82	43	56	60	48
Chhattisgarh	50	46	42	53	49	98	36	56	30	73	54	100	65	58
Goa	62	80	65	71	35	65	61	90	0	50	71	100	87	64
Gujarat	48	49	52	67	31	100	67	80	65	79	52	71	73	64
Haryana	50	53	57	65	31	80	50	72	50	55	30	43	78	55
Himachal Pradesh	60	58	62	82	42	95	62	71	43	98	41	93	91	69
Jammu and Kashmir	61	60	53	51	39	52	58	43	35	71	23	74	69	53
Jharkhand	37	35	40	58	32	51	20	52	47	72	52	96	64	50
Karnataka	52	54	69	76	43	62	77	72	57	68	36	88	74	64
Kerala	66	72	92	87	50	62	60	61	68	72	46	75	82	69
Madhya Pradesh	44	41	38	49	33	63	58	57	27	75	39	91	59	52
Maharashtra	47	47	60	74	43	81	69	74	53	76	34	86	82	64
Manipur	44	74	67	65	25	44	39	33	72	98	31	100	70	59
Meghalaya	68	43	52	38	36	40	11	62	42	100	39	94	53	52
Mizoram	71	69	53	54	43	67	78	65	0	100	32	69	71	59
Nagaland	59	69	34	45	42	58	45	40	0	80	32	75	87	51
Odisha	59	46	54	46	43	46	23	53	32	78	34	100	55	51
Punjab	56	71	71	63	43	60	61	57	48	62	36	67	84	60
Rajasthan	59	45	49	73	37	43	63	57	62	79	45	68	81	59
Sikkim	64	67	52	47	50	78	47	57	1	67	56	98	66	58
Tamil Nadu	76	61	77	75	38	66	89	71	46	85	33	74	61	66
Telangana	52	53	73	66	43	55	63	75	16	100	44	83	66	61
Tripura	71	58	53	56	38	38	32	52	38	89	38	86	71	55
Uttar Pradesh	48	43	25	53	27	55	23	55	29	38	37	55	61	42
Uttarakhand	65	53	36	68	41	78	55	67	33	62	41	100	86	60
West Bengal	57	50	66	51	40	54	40	63	45	76	25	88	72	56
A & N Islands	57	38	60	69	58	71	56	60	0	69	64	84	72	58
Chandigarh	39	70	23	85	51	100	96	82	76	52	40	83	90	68
D & N Haveli	21	40	32	77	41	100	73	84	0	100	6	100	63	57
Daman and Diu	58	42	47	46	38	99	84	91	0	100	49	84	79	63
Delhi	30	72	47	58	37	62	51	86	100	80	39	77	68	62
Lakshadweep	43	47	64	62	35	100	60	60	0	100	Null	100	74	62
Puducherry	61	71	66	69	27	45	61	85	100	94	27	50	92	65
India	54	48	52	58	36	63	51	65	44	71	39	90	71	57
Target	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

◆ **Achiever (100)**   ◆ **Front Runner (65-99)**   ◆ **Performer (50-64)**   ◆ **Aspirant (0-49)**

CENTRE SPONSORED INITIATIVES IN INDIA

Goal no.	Name of the Goal	Nodal Ministry involved	Schemes	Interventions
1	End Poverty (end poverty in all its forms)	Rural Development	• Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act • Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana National Rural Livelihood Mission • Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana National Urban Livelihood Mission • National Social Assistance Programme	• Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana • Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana • Atal Pension Yojana
2	Zero Hunger (end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture)	Agriculture and Farmers Welfare	• Kissan Samman Nidhi, National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture, National Food Security Mission, National Oilseeds and Oil Palm Mission, National Programme for Bovine Breeding and Dairy Development, National Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology, Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture) • White Revolution [Livestock Mission — Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Dairy Development] • National Programme of Mid-Day Meal in Schools • Interest subsidy for short term credit of farmers • Crop Insurance Scheme • Price Stabilisation Fund	• Targeted Public Distribution System • National Food Security Act, 2013 • Antyodaya Anna Yojana

3	Good Health and Well Being (ensure healthy lives and promote well- being for all at all ages)	Health and Family Welfare	● National Health Mission (National Rural Health Mission, National Urban Health Mission, Tertiary Care Programmes, Human Resources for Health and Education Medical Education, National AYUSH Mission) ● Integrated Child Development Services (Anganwadi Services, National Nutrition Mission, Maternity Benefit Programme, Scheme for Adolescent Girls, Child Protection Scheme and Scheme for Welfare of working children in need of care and protection, National Creche Mission) ● National Health Protection Scheme (erstwhile Rashtriya Swasthya Suraksha Yojana — RSSY) ● Family Welfare Schemes ● Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana ● Ayushman Bharat	● National AIDS and STD Control Programme ● Mission Indradhanush
4	Quality Education (ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong opportunities for all)	Human Resource Development	● National Education Mission (Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, Teachers Training and Adult Education, Rashtriya Uchhatar Shiksha Abhiyan) ● Kala Sanskriti Vikas Yojana ● National Scheme for Incentive to Girl Child for Secondary Education ● Scholarship for College and University Students ● National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students	Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat

#	Goal	Ministry/Department	Schemes	Other Schemes
5	Gender Equality (achieving gender equality and empower all women and girls)	Women and Child Development	Mission for Protection and Empowerment of Women • Beti Bachao Beti Padao • Sukanya Samridhi Yojan • One Stop Centre - Women Helpline, hostels, swadhar greh, gender budgeting, etc. • Poshan Abhiyaan • Matru Vandana Yojana	• Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP) 2014 • Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya
6	Clean Water and Sanitation (ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all)	Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation	National Rural Drinking Water Programme • Swachh Bharat Mission (Rural) Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) • Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana • Namami Gange Integrated Ganga Conservation Mission • National River Conservation Programme	Interlinking of Rivers
7	Affordable and Clean Energy (ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all)	Power	• LPG connection to poor households (Prime Minister Ujjwala Yojana) • Deen Dayal Upadhayay Gram Jyoti Yojana • Integrated Power Development Scheme • Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana	• National Solar Mission (as a part of the National Climate Change Plan) • Five new Ultra Mega Power Projects, each of 4000 MW to be installed
8	Decent Work and Economic Growth (Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all)	Labour and Employment	• Jobs and Skill Development (Employment Generation Programmes, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana) • Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana and other Credit Guarantee Funds • Prime Minister Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) • Labour Welfare Schemes • Pradhan Mantri Paridhan Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMPRPY) • Apprenticeship Training (Skill India)	• National Service Scheme • Social Security for Unorganised Workers including Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana

No.	Goal	Ministry/Department	Schemes	
9	Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure (build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation)	Commerce and Industry	• Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana • Border Area Development Programme Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Rurban Mission • Bharatnet • MRTS and Metro Projects • National Handloom Development Programme • The Members of Parliament Local Area Development (MPLAD) Scheme • Promotion of Electronics and IT HW manufacturing (MSIPS, EDF and Manufacturing Clusters) • Interest Subsidy and contribution for Guarantee Fund • Catalytic Development Programme under Sericulture	• Atal Innovation Mission • Pandit Deendayal Upadhayay Shramev Jayate Karyakram • Minimum Government Maximum Governance • Make in India • Start Up India • Ease of Doing Business Initiative • Consolidated FDI Policy 2015
10	Reduced Inequalities (reducing inequalities within and among countries)	Social Justice and Empowerment	• Umbrella Scheme for Development of Scheduled Castes • Umbrella Programme for Development of Scheduled Tribes • Umbrella Programme for Development of Minorities • Umbrella Programme for Development of Other Vulnerable Groups • Stand-Up India • National Means cum Merit Scholarship Scheme	• Grants from Central Pool of Resources for North Eastern Region and Sikkim • Udan Scheme for youth of Jammu & Kashmir • PAHAL - Direct Benefits Transfer for LPG (DBTL) Consumers Scheme • Give it Up Campaign (for LPG Subsidy)
11	Sustainable Cities and Communities (make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable)	Urban Development	• The Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana -Rural and Urban • Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana • Urban Rejuvenation Mission: (AMRUT and Smart Cities Mission) • National Programme for Persons with Disabilities	Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana

No.	Goal	Ministry	Mission/Scheme	Policies/Programmes
12	Responsible Consumption and Production (ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns)	Environment, Forest and Climate Change	National Mission on Food processing (SAMPDA)	• National Policy on Bio-fuels • National Clean India Fund • National Clean Energy Fund • Soil Health Card Scheme • Mega Food Park Scheme
13	Climate Action (take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts)	Environment, Forest and Climate Change	Environment, Forestry and Wildlife (National Mission for a Green India)	• National Action Plan on Climate Change • National Solar Mission • National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency • National Mission for Sustainable Habitat • National Water Mission • National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem • National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change
14	Life below Water (conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development)	Earth Sciences	• Blue Revolution - NKM (Integrated Development and Management of Fisheries) • National Coastal Zone Management Programme	National Plan for Conservation of Aquatic Eco-System
15	Life on Land (protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss)	Environment, Forest and Climate Change	Environment, Forestry and Wildlife (Integrated Development for Wildlife Habitat including Project Tiger, Project Elephant, etc.) • Conservation of Natural Resources and Ecosystem • National River Conservation Programme	• National Environmental Policy (2006) • National Agroforestry Policy (2014) • National Action Programme to Combat Desertification

16	Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels)	Home Affairs	• Modernisation of Police Forces (including Security Related Expenditure) • Infrastructure facilities for Judiciary (including Gram Nyayalayas) • Police Infrastructure • e-courts Phase II • Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan • Panchayat Yuva Krida Aur Khel Abhiyan	• Digital India • Digital India Land Record Modernization Programme • Pragati Platform (Public Grievance Redressal System)
17	Partnerships for the Goals (Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development)	Enablers- (i) Finance; (ii) Science and Technology; (iii) Capacity-building; (iv) Trade; (v) Policy and Institutional Coherence; (vi) Multi-stakeholder Partnerships; and (vii) Data, Monitoring and Accountability	Support for Statistical Strengthening	South-South Cooperation • India Africa Summit • SCO (Shanghai Cooperation Organisation) • BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) • NDB (New Development Bank – BRICS) • SAARC Satellite (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation)

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