

# ASIA-EUROPE ENVIRONMENT FORUM



## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS DELIVERY: PLANNING FOR IMPLEMENTATION WORKSHOP REPORT

14-15 FEBURARY 2017 | NAY PYI TAW, MYANMAR



### Contents

About the Asia-Europe Environment Forum .....	3
The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.....	3
Sustainable Development Goals Delivery: Planning for Implementation.....	4
Welcome Speech and Opening Remarks .....	4
Welcome Remarks .....	4
Keynote Session.....	5
Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development: Implementation in Progress.....	6
Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development: Progress of SDG Integration in Myanmar.....	7
Introduction of the Implementation Guide – Global vs. National Follow-up & Review Framework .....	7
Monitoring SDGs Progress on Country Level – National MRV System .....	8
Monitoring SDGs Progress on Country Level – National MRV System .....	9
Moderated Working Groups on SDGs: Identifying Solutions .....	10
Building Partnerships for Change in Developing Countries – Making SDGs Happen.....	12
Macro-Fiscal Risks: The Challenge of Climate-related Disasters (The Case of Myanmar) .....	13
SDG – Ownership in Southeast Asia .....	14
Panel Discussion on Actions Required for Making SDGs Work.....	14
Closing Remarks.....	14
About the Organisers .....	18

## About the Asia-Europe Environment Forum

Established in 2003, the Asia-Europe Environment Forum (ENVforum) is a partnership of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF); ASEM SMEs Eco-Innovation Center (ASEIC); the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) in cooperation with the Stockholm Environment Institute Asia (SEI); the Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF); and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES). During the first decade of its operation, the ENVforum organised over 50 high-level international meetings, roundtables, conferences and workshops, bringing together over 1,200 selected participants from government, ministries, academia, international organizations, NGOs and civil society and also authored seven prominent publications.

The ENVforum aims to foster inter-regional cooperation between Asia and Europe on sustainable development and its environmental dimensions. To support such collaboration, the ENVforum aims to provide a multi-stakeholder platform for knowledge-sharing, capacity building, to offer up-to-date information for policy makers and partner organisations on environmental themes, and to contribute to the formulation of sound political decisions that are mindful of their environmental impacts.

### The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Since 2013, the ENVforum has been actively engaged in the global discussion surrounding the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which were adopted by the UN Member States in the UN Sustainable Development Summit in September 2015. The ENVforum was given its mandate by the ASEM Summit in Vientiane, Lao PDR in November 2012. Going beyond its traditional format, the ENVforum launched a program to contribute to the bottom-up process that supports the implementation and monitoring of SDGs by providing Asian and European countries with key insights into sustainable development planning. The program is based on three pillars:

- It undertakes research on SDGs and their associated indicators;
- It organises knowledge-hub meetings of experts working on SDGs and indicators as well as on the Green Economy; and
- It disseminates the outcomes of consultations to policy makers.

Multi-stakeholder cooperation between international organisations, governments, businesses and the civil society will be required to address a variety of implementation challenges to translate the SDGs into reality. The ENVforum provides a platform for such multi-stakeholder cooperation to take place, and supports global discussions with insights gained from its research on SDGs.



## Sustainable Development Goals Delivery: Planning for Implementation

The ENVforum held a two-day workshop on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) entitled, “Sustainable Development Goals Delivery: Planning for Implementation” for policymakers from Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Viet Nam (CLMV) involved in implementing the SDGs in their national contexts. This workshop was held on 14-15 February 2017 in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar and was co-organised by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) and the Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF) with the cooperation of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (MONREC) and the Ministry of Planning and Finance (MOPF) of Myanmar. The Workshop focused on monitoring and means of implementation as key thematic areas in SDG implementation and monitoring.

This report offers an overview of the most pressing challenges in the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals for the CLMV region as discussed during the workshop, as well as providing a summary of the workshop proceedings.



### Welcome Speech and Opening Remarks

**U Maung Maung Win, Deputy Union Minister, Ministry of Planning and Finance (MOPF) Myanmar** welcomed participants to the workshop and explained that the SDGs are a new global agenda and plan for action for people, prosperity, and peace. He highlighted a notable goal to be eradicating poverty in all its forms. U Maung Maung Win explained that Myanmar is in a historic stage of development, is rich in opportunity, and had achieved remarkable economic development in the past few years. He stressed the importance of localising the global strategies into this national context, and prioritising among goals and targets in the face of limited resources and technical skills. U Maung Maung Win introduced SDGs as rooted in the three dimensions of sustainable development, and that the workshop would discuss how to work together regionally to achieve national

targets. He stressed that monitoring and evaluation would be important in this process, involving strengthening statistical systems, collecting and analysing data, and using big data to improve the quality of statistics. U Maung Maung Win also explained that Myanmar had conducted an SDG data assessment, and had organised national level awareness raising and thematic workshops. He explained that to maintain and accelerate the momentum of development processes in Myanmar, it would be necessary to accelerate the program to achieve tangible results and outcomes through improving government coordination mechanisms and closer consultation with relevant stakeholders to have an inclusive process and to leave no one behind. U Maung Maun Win also mentioned the efforts in developing peace processes in Myanmar to strengthen more inclusive development throughout regions in the country.



### Welcome Remarks

**Mr. Achim MUNZ, Country Representative, Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF) Myanmar** welcomed international delegations and participants to the workshop. He explained that this workshop was the third of the series that was conducted by HSF and ASEF in the CLMV region over the past years. Mr. Munz introduced HSF as one of 6 political foundations in Germany working in democratisation and peace. He introduced the 2030 Agenda as an important milestone in sustainability efforts to address important issues such as poverty, biodiversity loss, energy security, and climate change. Mr. Munz elaborated that the SDGs represent a global commitment to address these challenges, and that implementing strategies to achieve them would occur at the country level. He proceeded to say that Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Viet Nam

shared common traits in their status as transitioning economies as well as their efforts in integrating sustainability



into national development strategies. This workshop would serve as a platform to discuss how to measure and address gaps in the progress towards achieving the goals. He highlighted that sustainable development is at the centre of global development politics and would inform the support of international institutions and future capacity building trainings. Mr. Munz concluded his remarks with his belief that the cooperation between CLMV countries would reveal urgent issues in Southeast Asia and turn these challenges into opportunities.



Dr. Geneviève BARRÉ, Director, Political & Economic Department, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) introduced the workshop as a space for informal exchange for peer learning and facilitating cooperation between countries in the region. Dr. Barré introduced the ENVforum as a platform that attempts to move Asian and European countries closer together to discuss common policy issues in sustainable development. She elaborated that the ENVforum worked to share expertise and experiences among regions. Dr. Barré expressed that she was looking forward to learning more about Myanmar about the nature of this extraordinary country during its process of transition. She thanked the keynote speakers and the ministries in Myanmar, and that such cooperation was essential to the fruition of the workshop. She also welcomed the delegates from Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Viet Nam to share their experience and learn from each other. Dr. Barré explained that this workshop stemmed from the

continuous process of sharing and learning on the SDGs in the region for the past three years, and also expressed gratitude to HSF for supporting the ENVforum's work in Southeast Asia. Dr. Barré concluded her remarks by expressing her hope that the workshop would provide a platform for experiential sharing that would guide us to a more sustainable world.

### Keynote Session

**Dr. Wah Wah Maung, Director General, Central Statistical Organization, Ministry of Planning and Finance (MOPF) Myanmar** welcomed participants and organisers to the workshop, and began her remarks by stating that the workshop was timely to share knowledge on how to shape domestic policy to be aligned with the regional and global strategies, and how to localise the global strategies based on the national context. Dr. Wah Wah Maung proceeded to illustrate how Myanmar was preparing for the implementation of SDGs, and highlighted its efforts in creating better data, which would be essential for inputs for evidence-based policymaking and better resource allocation. She explained that out of 242 indicators, 43 were readily available to be measured, and with a little effort, 80 to 90 indicators could be computed. She also noted that with the development of surveys such as the Myanmar Living Conditions Survey, more indicators could be available for monitoring. Dr. Wah Wah Maung stressed that since the SDGs are cross-cutting across sectors, various stakeholder groups including government, development partners, international organisations, civil society, the private sector, and academia would each have a role to play in the implementation of SDGs. She went on to explain that as part of Myanmar's 100 Days Plan, three national level workshops had been organised, as well as statistical readiness and data assessment finalised, and that a data baseline report was underway. She also shared her experience in organising trainings for statistical units in various line ministries on the metadata for the global SDG indicators list. Dr. Wah Wah Maung also referenced the 3 E's policy framework for improving manpower to Educate, Empower, and Employ. She noted that CLMV are preparing for the implementation of the SDGs, and that improving capacity, transparency, integrity, harmony, and patience would be important to create a results-oriented process rooted in country ownership.

**U Hla Maung Thein, Director General, Environmental Conservation Department (ECD), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (MONREC) Myanmar** delivered a presentation on environmental mainstreaming into national development in line with the SDGs. U Hla Maung Thein stressed the importance of a balanced approach in the three dimensions of sustainable development, and explained that other international treaties such as the Paris Agreement indicated a global commitment to paying attention to the environment in policymaking. He explained that environmental mainstreaming into development began with former President U Thein Sein, and

elaborated that the National Framework Guidance (NCDP 2016) incorporated the environment as part of its strategic pillars. U Hla Maung Thein also introduced the recently adopted the Environmental Conservation Law (2012), which promoted sustainable use of natural resources, public awareness and cooperation, international cooperation, and multistakeholder cooperation in environmental conservation. He illustrated the NECCC led by the Vice President as an example of progress made in an integrated approach and multistakeholder engagement in climate change policymaking, as well as the EIA process, waste management, green investment, and climate change resilience as avenues of integrating environment in economic development. He also introduced the Myanmar Environmental Policy Framework to include visions for a clean environment, national environment and strategic missions for different relevant sectors, and 23 guiding principles in environmental policies. U Hla Maung Thein concluded his presentation with future steps to be taken, involving institutional and HDR, strategic environment policy framework, climate change, EIA implementation, integrating the monitoring system, financial mechanisms, and R&D education and extension.

The **Q&A** in this session involved discussions on how to engage the private sector in the implementation of SDGs, how to mainstream the green economy into development, and overcoming constraints in establishing a data culture for monitoring the SDGs.



(L-R) Mr. Axel NEUBERT (HSF), Mr. Achim MUNZ (HSF), U Hla Maung Thein (MONREC), Dr. Wah Wah Maung (MPI), Ms. Grazyna PULAWSKA (ASEF), Mr. Moritz MICHEL (HSF), Dr. Geneviève BARRÉ (ASEF)

### Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development: Implementation in Progress

**Ms. Grazyna PULAWSKA, Project Manager, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)** provided an introduction to ASEF and ENVforum, as well as an introduction to the principles behind SDGs and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. She noted that *leaving no one behind* is an important theme, and that the SDGs build on the previous work of the MDGs. Ms. Pulawska explained that the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) is the global body overseeing the monitoring reporting (follow-up and review) for the SDGs globally. She elaborated that this body convened last year, and that the HLPF would convene again in 2017. Ms. Pulawska explained that one of the roles of the HLPF is to serve as a global meeting in which countries are invited to present what steps they have taken in the implementation of SDGs. She recommended that CLMV consider the voluntary reporting, and that since there is no strict format to follow, it would simply be a good opportunity to showcase what is happening in this region and support each other in that. Ms. Pulawska shared that the 2017 HLPF would focus on the theme of eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world. She explained that in practice, because the agenda is broad, not all topics could be addressed at the same time (HLPF 2017 would focus on SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 14). Along the same lines, Ms. Pulawska invited participants to think about what would be the priority for them for the next couple of years, and if they were to opt into voluntary reporting in HLPF, what they would present.

## Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development: Progress of SDG Integration in Myanmar

Mr. Frank THOMAS, Programme Specialist, UNDP delivered a presentation of the SDGs from a development partner's perspective. He touched on three areas related to UNDP's work in supporting SDG integration in Myanmar. The first area was on awareness raising. Mr. Thomas remarked that when the 2030 Agenda was adopted, the level of awareness of SDGs was low – Myanmar's participation in the "My World" platform was relatively low compared to other countries. Awareness raising efforts included parliament including SDGs in seminars on development cooperation and the MOPF holding union civil service management courses and MySDG trainings. Mr. Thomas remarked that UNDP had provided SDG trainings to members of parliament as part of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly, and also talked about UN Volunteers' efforts in raising awareness on SDGs among Myanmar youth. The second area was on data. When Myanmar adopted the SDGs, a key bottleneck in their implementation was identified as data availability and the use of data. The SDG Data Assessment Report looked at the indicators Myanmar has already, what could be computed from other data sources, and those that require additional data collection efforts. Mr. Thomas also explained that SDG Data Workshops were held to look at definitions for a Myanmar context, and that a baseline data report would be finalised in March 2017. The third area, policy issues, included MOPF's review of policy options to integrate SDGs into planning, including regional examples in other countries. Mr. Thomas concluded his presentation with the role that the Myanmar Development Effectiveness Roundtable as a locus for stakeholders, breaking traditional silos, to discuss SDG integration in Myanmar.

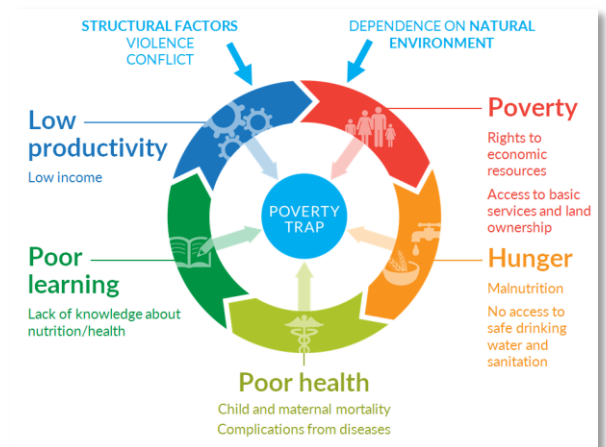
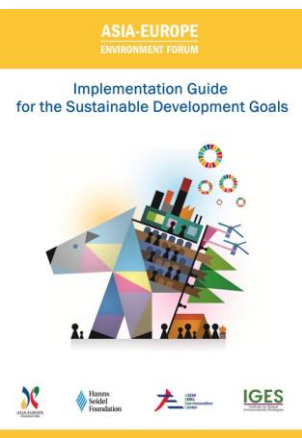


Figure 1: Breaking silos for SDG 1 (poverty)

The Q&A in this session involved discussions on harmonising data from different sources and line ministries to develop indicators for the SDGs, as well as coordination mechanisms for SDG indicators on the national level.

## Introduction of the Implementation Guide – Global vs. National Follow-up & Review Framework



Ms. Dara LEE, Independent Researcher provided an introduction to ASEF's latest publication, *Implementation Guide for the Sustainable Development Goals*. She explained that the Guide was formulated with input from development experts and government officials in the ENVforum network, and was designed to serve as guidance for policymakers in getting started with implementing the SDGs. Ms. Lee explained the format of the Guide to include a general overview of SDGs, step-by-step guidance on getting started with the SDGs, and a selection of case studies detailing how other countries in Asia and Europe got started with implementing the SDGs. She then elaborated on the step-by-step guidance presented in the Guide as the following steps:

1. Baseline assessment to evaluate the alignment of SDGs with national goals
2. Current state analysis to integrate SDGs into the national planning frameworks
3. Assessment of priorities and capacities to set nationally adjusted targets
4. Development of an implementation and monitoring framework





(L-R) Ms. Marie-Noelle DIETSCH (UNDP), Dr. Paris CHUOP (MOE Cambodia), Dr. Wah Wah Maung (MPI Myanmar)

### Monitoring SDGs Progress on Country Level – National MRV System

H.E. Dr. Paris CHUOP, Deputy Secretary General, National Council for Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment, and National Focal Point for REDD+, Kingdom of Cambodia explained that the Ministry of Planning and the National Council for Sustainable Development (NCSD) were the main bodies responsible for the localisation of SDGs in Cambodia. Dr. Chuop stated that the formulation of the Cambodian SDGs (CSDGs) may be done in mid-2017. He stressed the importance of awareness raising in the process, and that indicator development would need to reconcile the different methodologies used among different line ministries. Dr. Chuop stated that climate change is a cross-cutting issue, and that emphasis was placed on

developing an appropriate monitoring system to the Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan (CCCSP) – 2014-2023 with 2 types of indicators – institutional readiness indicators (tracking the status of the institutional framework for climate policymaking) and impact indicators (measuring impact of interventions on populations). Dr. Chuop also explained that to facilitate coordination among 14 line ministries in the CCCSP, the Tracking Adaptation and Measuring Development (TAMP) was developed as a tool for the MRV system for the CCCSP, which could be carried over to the CSDGs. The TAMP consists of Track 1 – indicators measuring institutional capacity, Track 2 – indicators measuring impact on people. Cambodia will produce the indicator for both tracks and the NCSD will track the progress of indicators. Dr. Chuop shared that a scorecard consultation had been conducted to identify baseline data from 2014, against which future progress would be measured.

**Dr. Wah Wah Maung, Director General, Central Statistical Organization, Ministry of Planning and Finance (MOPF), Myanmar** presented the process of establishing new indicators in Myanmar for monitoring the SDGs. She explained that the concept of development had become more ambitious, and that this would affect, for example, measuring poverty beyond simply a focus on income poverty, but also on vulnerable groups and the quality of life (e.g. happiness, peace, freedom). Quality of life also broadened to encompass access to telecommunications, electricity, and water sanitation. Dr. Wah Wah Maung emphasised that each stakeholder group must note how to participate in the implementation of the SDGs, and that the CSO would play the role of the monitoring and evaluation institution. She explained that all ministries in Myanmar had been briefed to develop their indicators and to identify the sectoral targets. On top of this horizontal coordination, Dr. Wah Wah Maung also spoke on Myanmar's progress in vertical cooperation with regional governments based on an assessment of their needs and resources. She stressed the importance of inclusive and participatory development planning, and that the CSO would provide inputs to consider for sectoral planning and regional planning, including in sub-cabinet meetings as well as union ministers and regional ministers guided by the cabinet. Dr. Wah Wah Maung concluded her remarks by stating that baseline data would be published in a report for the monitoring process for the SDGs.

**Ms. Marie-Noelle DIETSCH, Senior Statistical Consultant, UNDP** started 2.5 years ago, and saw the progress that the Myanmar government had made to consolidate data management. This included the revision of the Statistics Law and the National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS), as well as the cluster system around 8 thematic groups. The SDG data assessment process in Myanmar was inclusive and participatory – all the relevant development partners provided key contributions to the development of the first SDG baseline indicator report. Ms. Dietsch noted that the CSO had played an important role in bringing actors together in measuring Myanmar's starting point. She explained that in further processes of monitoring SDGs provided the basis for developing regular standard data collection. Ms. Dietsch also explained that the definitions and computation methods for the global SDG indicators were from IAEG-SDGs metadata, but what would remain crucial is to understand how SDG data is defined in the local context. For example, women in judge positions in Myanmar includes not only judges but also judiciary officials, or "low officers". Ms. Dietsch stressed that international definitions needed to be adapted to national specificities.



plans. She provided an example that government officials with whom she had conducted training on analysing key SDG data last year, Ms. Dietsch provided on the job coaching for the state and regional government and several sectoral departments, exploring the way of analysing key SDG data as part of their development plan formulation process. Participants of this training conducted a cross-sectoral analysis of win-win situations (e.g. tourism would also require to have good road connections and hospital facilities in addition to only improving tourism accommodation facilities).

The Q&A for this session included discussions on meeting the SDGs given unfinished work left with the MDGs, the methodology behind Cambodia's indicator system for the CCCSP, SDGs process as being critical to the middle class, and the link between the impact and output of different interventions.

### Monitoring SDGs Progress on Country Level – National MRV System

**Mrs. Sipaphaphone CHOUNRAMANY, Technical Officer, Macroeconomic Division, Department of Planning, Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI), Lao PDR** provided an update of the SDGs in the Lao PDR context, which from the policy perspective included the approval of the 8<sup>th</sup> National Socioeconomic Development Plan (NSEDP) with the ultimate aim to depart from LDC status by 2020. In order to track the performance of the 8<sup>th</sup> NSEDP, an M&E framework had been established, and other policy documents worth noting included Vision 2030, Development Strategy 2016-2025, and the future NSEDPs IX and X. Ms. Chounramany explained that the NSEDP was an outcome-based plan with 3 outcomes in (1) sustainable & inclusive economic growth, (2) human resource development and poverty eradication, and (3) natural resources and disasters management. Indicators for the M&E framework have been classified as output and outcome indicators, and that 92 of these were linked to the SDG indicators. Out of the global SDG indicators, 216 were found to be relevant for Lao PDR, with 112 being confirmed as achievable. Ms. Chounramany noted that in 2 weeks, Lao PDR hoped to have its national indicators finalised, and that ODA projects were also classified by SDGs. She also illustrated Lao PDR's adoption of SDG 18, an additional goal on lives safe from UXO. The implementing bodies for the SDG a National Steering Committee led by the PM, and on the technical side, the National Secretariat composed of the MOFA and MPI.

**Mrs. NGUYEN Le Thuy, Deputy Director General, Department of Science, Education, Natural Resources and Environment, Deputy Director of Sustainable Development Office, Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI), Viet Nam** provided progress of Vietnam in monitoring the Viet Nam SDGs (VSDGs) so far. She began with an update on the National Action Plan (NAP) to implement the 2030 Agenda, which was drafted by a cross-sectoral team. VSDG targets were selected based on the proposals of ministries and agencies, as well as through consultation workshops, resulting in a proposed 115 targets, covering almost all the global SDG targets. Ms. Nguyen explained that the overall objectives of the NAP are to sustain economic growth with social progress, justice, and ecological and environmental conservation, natural resource management, respond to climate change ensuring that all citizens will fully develop their potentials and environment achievements in peaceful inclusion, democratic, equitable, civilised Viet Nam. Ms. Nguyen then explained the key tasks planned for two periods of the NAP – 2017-2020 period would focus on the institutional preparations for sustainable development, and the 2021-2030 period would focus on deploying solutions for the NAP to ensure its implementation. Ms. Nguyen also shared the results of an SDG indicator assessment conducted, with 129 indicators deemed feasible, and 101 indicators considered unfeasible due to the inadequate methodology. Baseline review shows that 89 indicators have

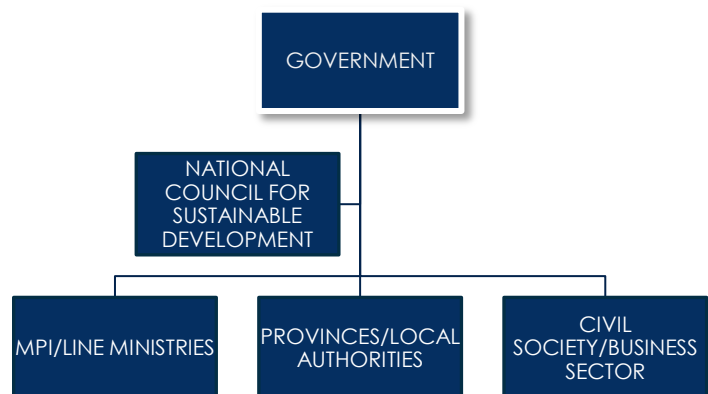


Figure 2: Monitoring and evaluation framework for SDGs in Viet Nam

available data and 141 indicators have no available data. Ms. Nguyen stated that 30 global SDG indicators were integrated into the 2015 Statistics Law. Following an overview of next steps to be taken with the VSDG indicators, Ms. Nguyen concluded her presentation with a list of capacity building requirements for supporting Viet Nam's statistical system.

The **Q&A** for this session included discussions on the Vientiane Declaration, global and national level monitoring for SDGs, and Viet Nam's plans to conduct voluntary reporting in the HLPF.

### Moderated Working Groups on SDGs: Identifying Solutions

Following the above thematic input presentations, workshop participants worked in country working groups to assess needs moving forward in SDG implementation. Participants were asked to identify issue(s) that would need to be overcome, reference to prioritised SDGs, and specific SDG targets if possible.



*Lao PDR Delegation*



*Viet Nam Delegation*



*Myanmar Delegation*



*Cambodia Delegation*

## LAO PDR

The Lao PDR delegation identified the following as most pressing challenges to address towards the implementation of the SDGs.

- SDG expert to train central government officials, who would then transfer such knowledge to the provincial level

- Technical and financial support to translate the SDGs to Lao language, the lack of which currently poses a problem for many people to understand the SDGs
- Advice to utilise SDGs to strengthen capacity building to government
- Knowledge and education transferred to young people on how to use SDGs to develop themselves in the future

## VIET NAM

The Viet Nam delegation divided its discussions into challenges and capacity means in the short term, which included:

- We will concentrate on strengthening our statistics from central and local level organisations (M&E) in indicator regarding SDGs through technical workshops
- Strengthening local communities -> television programs, magazines. SDG contests to get an idea on how to implement SDGs on community level

The second portion of the discussions was devoted to capacity needs for the environmental sector in particular:

- Importance of implementing SDGs on natural resources and environment -> required agencies relevant to develop direction on implementing SDGs on environment. We are preparing for developing an action plan for MONREC to implement the SDGs on our environment. This action plan needs to be based on the national action plan.
- To develop the sector action plan, we need to develop specific indicators because national action plan only specific until targets – we have 115 targets and based on those targets, we specify the indicators and we will have to base on the indicators of the SDG 2030 Agenda, and in the Vietnam context, we will develop the indicators suitable for Vietnam,
- Indicator system -> cooperate with the GSO and related ministries in the sector action plan – need to develop the coordination mechanism between the related ministries. In Vietnam, many of the ministries relevant to environment sector (e.g. MARD and construction, etc.) we need to have combination of coordinated action.
- Have to organise the workshop to get comments and ideas to complete the indicator system for SDG natural resources and environment. We have to follow the roadmap of the national action plan until 2020 and 2030
- Implement priority targets and implementing indicators

## MYANMAR

The Myanmar delegation provided context for its capacity needs with a detailed goal-by-goal overview of what Myanmar had done with regards to all 17 SDGs.

Myanmar identified SDG priorities in: poverty, education, employment, energy & infrastructure, environment and disaster resilience, governance, global partnership

Thematic areas with an initial number of indicators had been proposed, especially for child and environment related SDGs, gender-related SDGs, and the private sector.

National challenges that remained included:



- Limited human resources and financial resources
- Awareness raising campaign on SDG up to the community level including private sector
- Planning and budgeting process (to be inclusive and participatory) – 15 regions and states have different priorities. For this condition, they have sectoral plan and regional plan – all stakeholders should contribute and participate in this plan
- Cooperation, coordination and collaboration mechanism
- M&E: project appraisal
- Data: accurate, reliable (disaggregated)
- Aid management to avoid donor fragmentation

Myanmar's capacity building needs included: statistical analysis, data processing, survey methodology, planning, budgeting, IT software & hardware, M&E capacity

### CAMBODIA

In terms of challenges, the Cambodian delegation cited:

- Absence of a monitoring system for the SDGs, and that a hurdle to overcome would include reconciling different methodologies used by different sectors in indicator development.
- Adaptation to climate change, which notably affects the agriculture sector
- Difficulty in protecting the most vulnerable people notably in terms of waste and sanitation
- Limited human resources and financial support.

Cambodia's capacity building needs included: international guideline and monitoring for the SDGs for the Ministry of Planning, NCSD, and line ministries; technical support; financial support to expand FDI and ODA.

### Building Partnerships for Change in Developing Countries – Making SDGs Happen

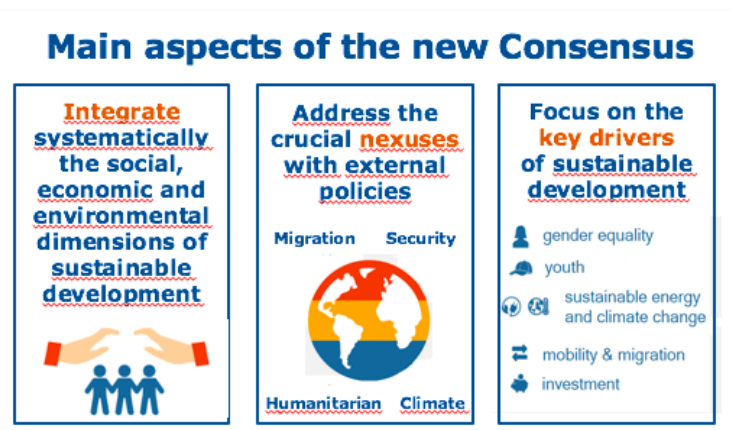


Figure 3: Main aspects of the new European Consensus

Mr. Vaclav SVEJDA, Governance Advisor, European Union Delegation to Myanmar began with an overview of how the EU's internal and external policies contribute to the achievement of the SDGs. Within the European Union, Mr. Svejda noted there was still a lot of work to do for the SDGs especially in terms of poverty and inequality and sustainability of growth. He noted that the European Consensus on Development, the main orientation for the EU and the international framework, was revised to adopt the 2030 Agenda and SDGs in external actions. He noted that the new consensus would need to address respect for environment and social responsibility and economic goals as complementary priorities. Key issues included inequality, youth, investment, migration, mobility, as well as supporting the peace,

humanitarian, and migration nexus. Better tailored partnerships with a broad range of stakeholders would be critical for success, and principles from the Addis Ababa Action Agenda were used in moving beyond pure ODA to other means, such as public-private partnerships, domestic resource mobilisation, and enhanced governance and policy networks. Other commitments included rural development programs to leave no one behind, and differentiated partnerships to provide appropriate support for different stages of development. On monitoring, Mr. SVEJDA pointed out the EU's desire to create a culture of results and inputs through a Development Framework for Results and supporting countries' statistical capacities. Mr. SVEJDA concluded that the new European Consensus on Development captures the breadth of 2030 Agenda and builds on leadership of the EU and SDGs.

The Q&A for this session included discussions on youth and the SDGs, public-private partnerships, capacity building in ICT and monitoring, the transparency framework, and the EU's role in providing technical assistance to Myanmar.

### Macro-Fiscal Risks: The Challenge of Climate-related Disasters (The Case of Myanmar)

Mr. Yasuhisa OJIMA, Resident Representative in Myanmar, International Monetary Fund (IMF) Myanmar provided insights on the macroeconomic aspects of climate change. He explained that Myanmar's disaster risk is a tango of proneness and vulnerability. Mr. Ojima provided statistics to show that the frequency of disasters in Myanmar is comparatively lower than other countries in the region, but that the damage is comparatively high. Notable disasters in Myanmar's recent history included the 2008 Cyclone Nargis and 2015 flooding. He also explained that vulnerability was addressed through how prepared a country is to cope (short-term reconstruction) and absorb (long-term view). In the case of Myanmar, it is the 11<sup>th</sup> most vulnerable country worldwide based on the marginal index. In terms of disaster impact, Mr. Ojima explained that generally, short-term responses are measured in disaster aftermath, and long-term output contraction is observed due to loss of lives, damaged physical assets, and disrupted activity. He noted that fiscal policy to support recovery would require countercyclical measures for providing the fiscal space to conduct construction and other recovery programs, and reported that the Myanmar fiscal response to disasters required reprioritization within spending categories for a reserve fund and/or a disaster management fund. Some ways to do so included improving tax revenue, reconsidering ineffective subsidies, and funding climate change resilience.

Figure. Disaster Impact Across Hazard Types, 1970–2015 1/

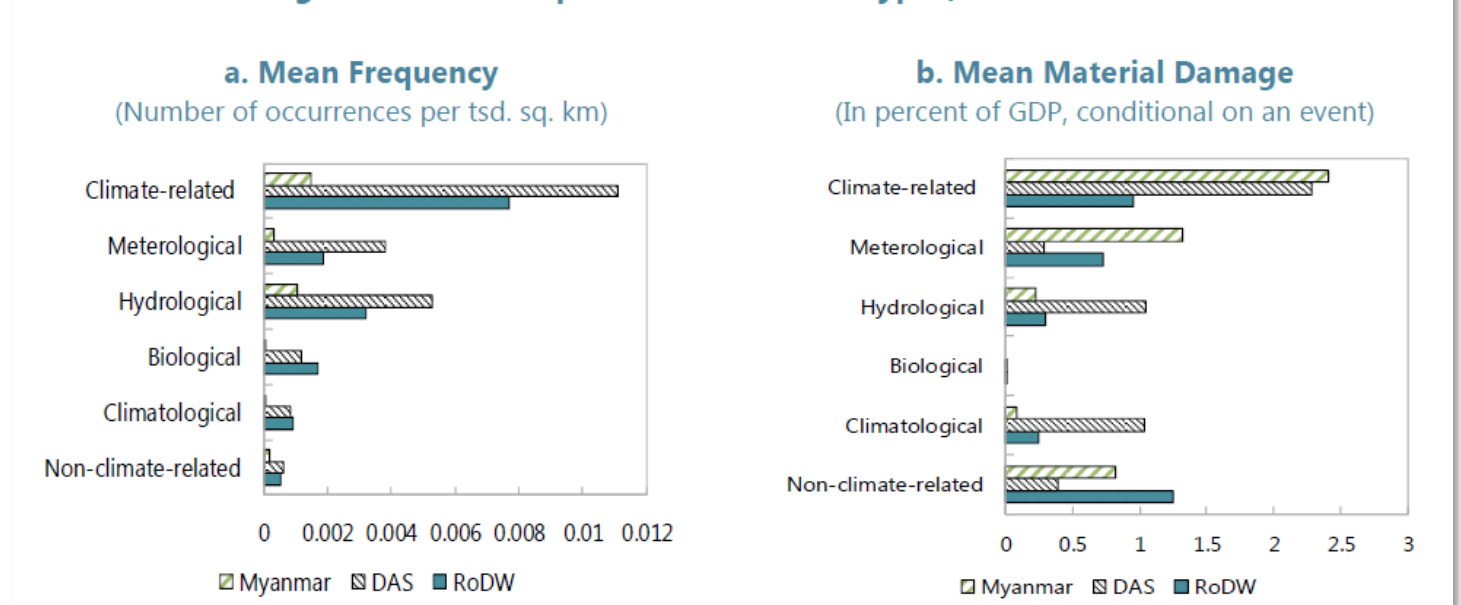


Figure 4: Frequency of and mean material damage from disasters in Myanmar compared to rest of region

The Q&A in this session discussed best practices in establishing a disaster emergency fund, coordination of government agencies in disasters, and measures to reduce disaster impact.

### SDG – Ownership in Southeast Asia

**Ms. Grazyna PULAWSKA, Project Manager, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)** discussed local ownership of the implementation of SDGs and awareness raising. She explained that the SDGs are similar to a social product such as a healthy lifestyle that need to be relevant for communities in order to allow them to own it. Ms. Pulawska provided an analogy that the visions outlined in the SDGs are a destination, and that how pleasant the journey towards to the destination is was up to us to decide. She provided case studies from national consultations processes in Indonesia and the Philippines that checked “what do the people want” as part of the integration of the SDGs. Indonesia conducted consultations with multiple stakeholders. Some examples of their actions were to use “zakat” (Ramadan collections) for promoting funding of the SDGs; and finding solutions to the bad traffic in Makassar through government led discussion with main stakeholders in the city. The Philippines had a detailed national survey that resulted in the national plan called “Ambisyon 2040” to reflect what is important to the people in the country. Ms. Pulawska concluded her presentation that SDGs are a framework that will help you achieve the sustainable quality of life.

### Panel Discussion on Actions Required for Making SDGs Work

For the final panel for the workshop, the moderator, **Ms. Grazyna PULAWSKA, Project Manager, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)** invited **H.E. Dr. Paris CHUOP (Cambodia); Mrs. Boupavanh KEOMIXAY (Lao PDR); Mrs. NGUYEN Le Thuy (Viet Nam); Dr. Wah Wah Maung (Myanmar)** to share what they considered to be the 3 most important tasks to move forward with SDG implementation. Responses from speakers included the following aspects:

- Resource mobilisation and determining private and public investment for SDGs to be achieved
- Preparation of an SDG roadmap that includes main activities to conduct by target deadlines, and formulation of nationally adjusted targets
- Creation/finalisation of the SDG indicator framework, capacity building in statistical systems, and promulgation of a data culture and open data
- Enhanced partnerships for SDG implementation, with particular emphasis on private sector involvement, multistakeholder coordination, increased awareness among community on the SDGs
- Developing human resources and improving the labour system to educate the labour framework for SDG implementation

### Closing Remarks

**Dr. Wah Wah Maung, Director General, Central Statistical Organization, Ministry of Planning and Finance (MOPF) Myanmar** delivered the closing remarks and thanked all participants for their kind and active participation. She noted that over the past two days, participants had exchanged great ideas and experiences on how their countries were implementing SDGs and how they were going to monitor SDG implementation. Topics that emerged during the workshop included ideas on methodology guidelines, partnerships for the SDGs, identifying gaps, improving human resources, technology, and working to address coordination failure. Overcoming these challenges is easier said than done. Dr. Wah Wah Maung therefore stressed the need to motivate people and communities and encourage them in more effective implementation. She noted the need for better cooperation, collaboration, and coordination, not only horizontally, but also vertically. She also stressed that SDG awareness should be not only raised among the agencies and ministries, but also among each and every citizen, in both the public and private sector. She highlighted that capacity and management should be built to use resources efficiently and effectively, and targets should be set according to the national context and capabilities. Dr. Wah Wah Maung closed the workshop by thanking the organisers, participants, and visiting delegations for their participation and support.



## Workshop Programme

Sustainable Development Goals Delivery: Planning for Implementation 14 February 2017 (Day 1)	
08:30 - 09:00	Registration
09:00 - 09:15	<b>Welcome Speech and Opening Remarks</b> U Maung Maung Win, Deputy Union Minister, Ministry of Planning and Finance (MOPF) Myanmar
09:15 - 09:30	<b>Welcome Remarks</b> Mr. Achim MUNZ, Country Representative, Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF) Myanmar Dr. Geneviève BARRÉ, Director, Political & Economic Department, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)
09:30 - 10:00	Coffee break
Chair: Mr. Moritz MICHEL, Deputy Director, HSF Viet Nam	
10:00 - 11:00	<b>Keynote Session</b> Dr. Wah Wah Maung, Director General, Central Statistical Organization, Ministry of Planning and Finance (MOPF) Myanmar U Hla Maung Thein, Director General, Environmental Conservation Department (ECD), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (MONREC) Myanmar
11:00 - 12:30	<b>Introductory Session &amp; Programme of the Conference</b> Ms. Grazyna PULAWSKA, Project Manager, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)
	<b>Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development: Implementation in Progress</b> Ms. Grazyna PULAWSKA, Project Manager, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)
	<b>Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development: Progress of SDG Integration in Myanmar</b> Mr. Frank Thomas, Programme Specialist, UNDP Myanmar
12:00 - 13:30	Lunch break
13:30 - 14:00	<b>Introduction of the Implementation Guide – Global vs. National Follow-up &amp; Review Framework</b> Ms. Dara LEE, Independent Researcher
14:00 - 15:00	<b>Monitoring SDGs Progress on Country Level – National MRV System</b> Moderator: Ms. Grazyna PULAWSKA, Project Manager, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) Representative of the Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI), Viet Nam H.E. Dr. Paris Chuop, Deputy Secretary General, National Council for Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment, and National Focal Point for REDD+, Kingdom of Cambodia Dr. Wah Wah Maung, Director General, Central Statistical Organization, Ministry of Planning and Finance (MOPF), Myanmar Ms. Marie-Noelle Dietsch, Senior Statistical Consultant, UNDP Myanmar
15:00 - 15:30	Coffee Break

## Sustainable Development Goals Delivery: Planning for Implementation

15:30 – 16:30	<p><b>Monitoring SDGs Progress on Country Level – National MRV System. Part II</b></p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Moritz Michel, Deputy Director, HSF Viet Nam</p> <p>Mrs. Sipaphaphone Chounramany, Technical Officer, Macroeconomic Division, Department of Planning, Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI), Lao PDR</p> <p>Mrs. Nguyen Le Thuy, Deputy Director General, Department of Science, Education, Natural Resources and Environment, Deputy Director of Sustainable Development Office, Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI), Viet Nam</p>
16:30– 17:30	<p><b>Working Groups on Monitoring SDGs – National Challenges and Capacity Needs. Facilitated Group Work (four groups)</b></p> <p>Ms. Grazyna Pulawska, Project Manager, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)</p>
17:30 – 18:00	<p><b>Presentation of Four National Working Groups Outcomes Part I</b></p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Dara Lee, Independent Researcher</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lao PDR Representative</li> <li>• Viet Nam Representative</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Wrap up of the Day</b></p> <p>Mr. Moritz Michel, Deputy Director, Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF) Viet Nam</p>
18:30 – 20:00	Dinner Reception

## Sustainable Development Goals Delivery: Planning for Implementation 15 February 2017 (Day 2)

09:00 – 09:30	<p><b>Summary and Rationale of Day 2</b></p> <p>Ms. Grazyna PULAWSKA, Project Manager, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)</p>
09:30 – 10:00	<p><b>Presentation of Four National Working Groups Outcomes Part I</b></p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Dara Lee, Independent Researcher</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Myanmar Representative</li> <li>• Cambodia Representative</li> </ul>
10:00 - 10:30	<p><b>Building Partnerships for Change in Developing Countries – Making SDGs Happen</b></p> <p>Mr. Vaclav Svejda, Project Manager, European Union Delegation to Myanmar</p>
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 – 11:30	<p><b>Macro-Fiscal Risks: The Challenge of Climate-related Disasters (The Case of Myanmar)</b></p> <p>Mr. Yasuhisa Ojima, Resident Representative in Myanmar, International Monetary Fund (IMF) Myanmar</p>
11:30 – 12:00	<p><b>SDG – Ownership in Southeast Asia</b></p> <p>Ms. Grazyna Pulawska, Project Manager, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)</p>
12:00 – 13:15	Lunch
13:15 – 14:45	<p><b>Panel Discussion on Actions Required for Making SDGs Work</b></p> <p>Moderator: Ms. Grazyna Pulawska, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)</p>

	<p>H.E. Dr. Paris Chuop, Deputy Secretary General, National Council for Green Growth, Ministry of Environment, and National Focal Point for REDD+, Kingdom of Cambodia</p> <p>Mrs. Boupavanh Keomixay, Deputy Head of the Macroeconomic Division, Department of Planning, Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI), Lao PDR</p> <p>Mrs. Nguyen Le Thuy, Deputy Director General, Department of Science, Education, Natural Resources and Environment, Deputy Director of Sustainable Development Office, Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI), Viet Nam</p> <p>Dr. Wah Wah Maung, Director General, Central Statistical Organization, Ministry of Planning and Finance (MOPF), Myanmar</p>
14:45 – 15:00	<p><b>Closing Remarks</b></p> <p>Dr. Wah Wah Maung, Director General, Central Statistical Organization, Ministry of Planning and Finance (MOPF), Myanmar</p>



## About the Organisers



The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) promotes understanding, strengthens relationships and facilitates cooperation among the people, institutions and organisations of Asia and Europe. ASEF enhances dialogue, enables exchanges and encourages collaboration across the thematic areas of culture, education, sustainable development, economy, governance and public health. ASEF is a not-for-profit, intergovernmental organisation located in Singapore.

For more information, please visit [www.asef.org](http://www.asef.org)



ASEM SMEs Eco-Innovation Center (ASEIC) was established in 2011 with the principal mandate of promoting Asia-Europe cooperation to create and enhance eco-innovation of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in both regions.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.aseic.org/main.do>



The Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF) is an official German Political Foundation. It is entrusted by the German Parliament with a mandate, which lies at the core of the task of promoting democratic and sustainable structures worldwide. This mandate involves the strengthening of the relevant institutions and persons, procedures and norms and the requisite attitudes enabling such development to take place.

For more information, please visit <http://www.hss.de> or <http://www.hss.de/southeastasia>



Established in 1998, the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) is an independent, not-for-profit think tank, based in Japan. It goes beyond research to provide practical ways to protect the earth's environment and to realise greater sustainability and equity in the global community.

For more information, please visit <http://iges.or.jp>

ASEF's contribution is made with the financial support of the European Commission



This event was organized with Government of Sweden through the Regional Asia Environment Conference Support Programme.

