Asia-Pacific Regional Guidelines on Voluntary Local Reviews

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Samiuddin Ahmed
Regional Sustainable Development Consultant
Environment and Development Division, ESCAP
ESCAP’s VLR Journey

- Launch of the Penang Platform for Sustainable Urbanization (PPSU) at APUF7 in Penang, Malaysia
- Launch of the Asia-Pacific Regional Guidelines on VLRs
- Launch of the Asia-Pacific Regional Guidelines on VLRs
- VNR-VLR Lab (associate event of the 8th APFSD)
- First Leadership meeting at WUF10 in Abu Dhabi, UAE
- Piloting in 2 South Asian and 4 South-East Asian cities
- VLR online portal

- Guidelines co-produced with 16 PPSU members including UN-Habitat, UNDP, UCLG ASPAC, Urbanice Malaysia, IGES and others
- Fully aligned with UNDESA’s Global Guiding Elements for VLRs
Regional Guidelines on VLRs

Asia-Pacific Regional Guidelines on Voluntary Local Reviews

Reviewing local progress to accelerate action for the Sustainable Development Goals

Unique
Simple
Complete
Responsive
Getting Started: The VLR Process

Key phases in the VLR development process:
- Planning and institutionalizing
- Gathering inputs and data
- Report writing
- Follow-up

Guidelines content:
- 2.1 Institutional ownership and arrangement
- 2.2 Linking priorities and structuring delivery
- 2.3 Stakeholder engagement
- 2.4 Measuring progress
- 4.1 Preparing the VLR report
- 4.2 Following up on the VLR
- 3.3 Operationalizing VLR-VNR integration
Integrating National and Local Review of the SDGs

- Fill information gaps
- Enhance vertical and horizontal coordination
- Broaden stakeholder engagement
- Strengthen legitimacy of local follow-up and review of the SDGs

Operationalizing VNR-VLR Integration

Basis for effective integration

- Top-down: Information from VLRs fully integrated within the VNR
- Bottom-up: VLR used as an avenue to address structural issues that SNGs are not mandated to respond to
- PROCESS VNR REPORT
- VLR

Actions to consider

- VNR used as a reference to conduct a VLR
- Design and communicate the VNR timetable to allow SNGs to submit VLRs that actually inform the VNRs
- Design the VNRs and VLRs as an interconnected stakeholder engagement mechanism
- Set up a national mechanism to support and consolidate the VLRs

PROCESS VLR REPORT
VLR E-learning Platform

- Interactive
- Visually engaging
- Practical
- Tested tools and resources
- Targeted
- Different content for different users

vlr.unescap.org
VLR: A Continuous Process

Illustration: the 'Design Squiggle' by Damian Newman
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