



ECLAC Community of Practice of Caribbean countries presenting their Voluntary National Review (VNR) in 2020

Date: 10 December 2019

Participants: St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Belize, Trinidad and Tobago, and ECLAC.

Discussion

Goal: This community of practice is an informal space for exchange among peers and sharing of good practices with regards to SDG reporting in general and the VNR in particular; and aims to provide a space to communicate regularly with peers in preparation for VNRs.

Timeline of activities in support for VNR preparation: Monthly community of practice calls

1. Regional workshop organized by ECLAC (last week of January or first week of February 2020 in Santiago, Chile). There will be funding to allow the participation for one representative of each Caribbean countries presenting their VNRs at the HLPF 2020.
2. Global VNR workshop organized by DESA (February 2020 TBC);
3. Forum of LAC countries on Sustainable Development in Havana, Cuba (28-31 March 2020);
4. HLPF 2020 in New York (7-16 July 2020)

Do you have any specific expectations for this exchange of community of practice? Should we extend the invitation to other countries and colleagues? How regularly should we meet?

- Participants hoped to see good practices from other Caribbean countries; learning from each other, sharing documents and information and best practices among each other.

How will this VNR reporting fit into the implementation of the 2030 Agenda? What is the expectation you have from the VNR reporting itself? Do you see this as a process to get different stakeholders to the table? Do you envision this process to assist you in the elaboration of data? Would you like to identify bottlenecks in the implementation and acceleration of the SDGs?

- Participants expressed interest in enhanced multi-stakeholder engagement, identifying shortcomings of SDG implementation, strengthening the reporting process by bringing in academia, civil society and the private sector; identifying data gaps in regard to our indicators. They expressed the need for support on stakeholder engagement, for VNRs, but also with regards to other national reporting initiatives.
- ECLAC Port of Spain highlighted some available tools to countries for this process: customized support to Caribbean Member States in the integrated implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including the mainstreaming of national development funds; a strong focus on data and evidence-based RBM; aligning of the 2030 Agenda to the country's national agenda and stakeholder engagement.

Next steps

- Participants were invited to share with ECLAC the contacts of colleagues that are involved in the preparation of the VNR to invite them to the next call
- Participants were asked to confirm the names of the 2030 Agenda national focal points to invite to the upcoming Forum of LAC countries on Sustainable Development in Havana, Cuba (28-31 March 2020)
- Participants requested that next call take place in mid-January, with a focus on data
- Participants were reminded to fill out the survey (enclosed) to gather the expectations for the regional VNR workshop