ST. KITTS AND NEVIS

PREPARATION OF 1ST VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW
(2021-2023)

Mr. Auren Manners
Director, Public Sector Investment Planning;
Ministry of Sustainable Development
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

❖ Comprehensive – CSOs (assoc. of disabilities, farmers groups, youth parliament, women’s groups, rotary, community groups); Private Sector; Line Ministries; Statutory Corporations/Public Entities; Cabinet; UN Agencies

❖ Difficult start – virtual due to COVID; transitioned to face-to-face for more energy/discussion and identification of interlinkages

❖ Most stakeholder groups are now fully sensitized on VNR process BUT still work to be done to ensure full appreciation of SDGs and ongoing role

❖ Greater challenge with Private Sector than CSOs and Government Entities

❖ Nevis – identified as critical stakeholder to capture individual context in VNR. This is an opportunity for future Voluntary Local Review (VLR)

❖ Stakeholder Engagements have forced us to examine frameworks for engagement – Effectiveness of NSDCC, Cabinet Sub-Committee/Parliament?, Exploring greater collaboration with Nevis (development, implementation, & M&E - geothermal); Frameworks for better communication and engagement with CSOs and Private Sector; Diaspora/Diplomatic Core?
STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH PLAN

❖ Identify primary and secondary schools on both islands for a 10 -15 minute presentation on the VNR/SDGs

❖ Radio and TV engagement, Panel Discussion – Where key personnel from the VNR Team present/highlight the VNR findings/bright spots

❖ Select youth and community-based groups across the Federation (North, South, East, West, and Nevis) to capture geographic coverage.

❖ Generate pictures and video (drone) content via visits to Farms and Fisheries, Schools, Wildlife/Biosphere, Sustainable/Historic tourism sites

❖ Consistent Stakeholder Validation and National VNR Launch
STATISTICAL IMPEDIMENTS

- Continue to experience **challenges in availability of data** in format required for reporting on SDG progress
- Statistics Department has **committed to retroactively compile** available SDG statistics for the period 2015-2022, as well as to enhance the systems by which they disseminate information via social media and websites
- Core deliverable of NSDCC - **to lead on SDG reporting** by accessing data and upgrading data collection methods within their organizations; and through the formation of working groups.
- Eg. **Use of 5 Ps approach** to display interlinkages and indivisible nature of SDGs
- Focus on qualitative information in VNR to show progress and **contributions to SDG implementation**
- Importance of moving SDG Reporting (and National Reporting) **online to improve user-friendliness and efficiency of engagement/collection methods**
OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACCELERATION

❖ Formulation and commissioning of National Development Plan 2023-2037 in FULL ALIGNMENT with 2030 Agenda; Reformulation of Sectoral Strategies

❖ June 2023 – Training on Programme Based Budgeting focusing on alignment with NDPF, 2030 Agenda, Climate Action etc.

❖ Review of NSDCC to ensure greatest representation of stakeholder groups while ensuring functionability of Committee → Deploy Working Groups to engage Special Interest Groups

❖ Closer alignment of efforts with Nevis and opportunity for Nevis Specific VLR

❖ Leverage renewed relationship with CSOs and Private Sector post-VNR (including site visits and repository on ongoing initiatives) (e.g. GCF-Climate Action)

❖ Focus on targeted communication strategies for CSOs and Private Sector (also Statutory Corporations/Public Entities)

❖ Constituency Empowerment – Intermediary between Government/Constituents to provide equitable opportunities for all citizens to thrive and achieve acceptable living standard

❖ Leverage VNR engagement to establish Cabinet Level SDG Committee (best practice)
OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACCELERATION

❖ Find **consistent ways to engage Diaspora and Diplomatic Core** in national development activities, SDG implementation and monitoring (e.g. existing Diaspora Unit and Advisers)

❖ Opportunities for **Digital Transformation and integration of ICTs** to improve implementation, communication and M&E

❖ Holistic Review of National Statistics Office – to **examine modes and methods** of operation, data collection, storage and dissemination
LESSONS LEARNED

❖ VNR can be a **time-consuming process** if no early preparation

❖ Ensure that frameworks for SDG engagement, coordination and M&E are **mainstreamed into regular work programme** so that information is readily available and stakeholders are already engaged prior to launching VNR process

❖ VNR is not an end in itself, **but a starting point** for enhanced SDG implementation and monitoring (reveals gaps and opportunities)

❖ Reminder that **no one should be left behind** (or left out of the consultative process)

❖ VNR is important for **national visibility** of SDG Progress

❖ Accordingly, it is important to **conduct successive VNRs** before 2030 in order to ensure that gaps are continuously identified and filled, the international community is engaged to provide support, and there is consistent national/public visibility of the SDGs.
THANK YOU

Auren Manners
auren.manners@gov.kn