



St. Kitts and Nevis

FIRST VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW OF
2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Challenges Faced in Advancing Sustainable Development in St. Kitts and Nevis

- ▶ Smallest independent state in Western Hemisphere. Limited natural resources, revenue base and options for economic diversification.
- ▶ As a SID, high degree of vulnerability to external shocks, including natural disasters/climate change, economic and trade related disruptions (supply chain disruptions) overseas.
- ▶ Due to open borders, vulnerable to illicit trade (drugs/firearms) and illegal immigration which impacts upon social fabric and social outcomes.
- ▶ COVID-19 highlighted over-reliance on tourism as primary economic sector; need for further diversification.
- ▶ High-income status impacts upon access to ODA. Need to attract FDI to alternative sectors (non-tourism related). Need to increase uptake of more non-traditional financing arrangements such as PPPs.
- ▶ Ongoing efforts to manage debt burden. Recent successes threatened by COVID-19.
- ▶ Need to build a culture of implementation – improve rate of implementation of PSIP, and approved policies and strategic plans. Address institutional constraints.
- ▶ Improve productivity in public sector; building a performance-based culture; digitize public service.



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- ▶ Significant gaps in data collection, as exposed by SDG monitoring framework. Impacts upon evidence-based decision making.
- ▶ Need to institutionalize structures for consistent engagement of private sector and CSOs in national development planning (legislative, policy, strategy and project levels).
- ▶ CSO sector still somewhat informal and needs capacity building to play a more impactful role in national development.
- ▶ Need to change societal norms / attitudes towards gender, agriculture, heritage preservation, TVET, social assistance, use of technology (eg. financial sector), modes of transportation (eg. bicycles)
- ▶ Historical physical development trends not necessarily aligned with SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities). Need for improve enforcement regarding land use /development.
- ▶ Harmonizing development trends, agenda and resources between St. Kitts and Nevis.
- ▶ Public needs a deeper understanding of the role of the SDGs.



Importance of VNR

- ▶ National exercise that encourages national stakeholders, including the public and private sectors and civil society, to come together and take stock of the alignment of our policies, plans and programmes, with the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- ▶ Public awareness - encourages deeper understanding of SDGs at individual and community level; and private sector. Promotes buy-in and actions by communities and private sector to contribute to achieving SDGs.
- ▶ Allows national authorities/planners to take stock of yet unexploited opportunities to foster a more sustainable, inclusive and resilient society that leaves no one behind.
- ▶ Helps us to identify where gaps need to be closed in our legislative and policy frameworks, and statistical systems, to achieve the desired goals.
- ▶ Allows a broader discussion with regional and international counterparts to adopt best-practices; find solutions.
- ▶ Provides a medium / forum for us to confront our challenges, share them with others and invite international support to achieve the 2030 Agenda.



Thank You!