Mr. Chae Gun Chung
Head, United Nations Project Office on Governance
Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government (DPIDG)
United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)
Structure

- Regional Engagement with Public Administration Institutions
- Results Thus Far – Survey Research & the Task Force in the Asia-Pacific Region
- How have we built capacity among regional SIDS?
- Expressed Challenges among SIDS for Continued Capacity-building – SIDS & Public Service for the SDGs
- **Next Steps and Priority Areas 2019**
Global Initiative was officially launched during the June 2018 UN Public Service Forum - Morocco

Governments called for 3 key follow up actions for regions:

• SDG Competencies Guidance Framework
• Curriculum models and cases from regions or countries on current SDG training for civil service; and
• Mini-module or short training curriculum on the SDGs that national public administration schools and training institutes can contextualize
Regional Engagement with Public Administration Schools and Civil Service Commissions

- Asia-Pacific Consultative Meeting under framework of UN DESA Regional Symposium: Dec. 2017
- Regional Survey Conducted: April–Aug. 2018
- Bangladesh organized first country-led Symposium for regional PA Schools: Feb. 2019
- UN Public Service Forum Global Initiative Adopted with Regional representatives present: June 2018
- Workshop of the Global Initiative for PA Schools on SDGs at UN DESA Regional Symposium & Regional Task Force Established: Oct. 2018
- UN Public Service Forum facilitating regional representation at Global Meeting: June 2019
Results Thus Far

April-May 2018 Baseline Survey with PA Schools Mapping Regional Civil Service Training and Knowledge on SDGs

26 countries surveyed, 16 countries responded: Bhutan, India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Samoa, Vanuatu, Brunei, Singapore, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam, Mongolia, China, Republic of Korea, Japan
Results thus far...
2018 Survey – Awareness of Public Administration in Region on SDGs

**High awareness**
China, Japan, Thailand, **Vanuatu**

**Some awareness**
Brunei, India, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam

**Limited awareness**
Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar, Mongolia, Republic of Korea
Results thus far...
According to regional PA schools - What topics matter most for Civil Service Training on SDGs?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority topic</th>
<th>No. of countries</th>
<th>Names of countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Changing public service mindsets</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>India, Japan, Mongolia, Myanmar, <strong>Singapore</strong>, Thailand, Vanuatu, Viet Nam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accountability and institutional</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Brunei, India, Mongolia, Myanmar, Thailand, Viet Nam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>strengthening</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Core functions to plan and implement</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Bhutan, India, Republic of Korea, <strong>Samoa</strong>, Vanuatu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the SDGs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Localizing the SDGs</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Bhutan, Japan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Results thus far... Outcomes of the October 2018 Workshop – Incheon, RoK

✓ Curriculum consultation
✓ Competency framework for the SDGs
✓ Adoption of the Regional Task Force

• 10 countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Vietnam, Samoa and Vanuatu (3 SIDS)

• Asian Association of Public Administration

“The initiative will indeed bring the heads of schools of public administration at one place and give them the opportunity to share experiences and knowledge of other institutions.”
How have we built capacity among SIDS?

- **Learning Conference on Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Asia-Pacific Region**
  23-24 January 2019, Shanghai, PRC, 7 SIDS

- **Regional Symposium on Strengthening the Capacities of Public Institutions and Developing Effective Partnerships to Realize the 2030 Agenda**
  24-26 October 2018, Incheon, RoK, 11 SIDS

- **Practitioner-to-Practitioner Forum on Strengthening Capacities of Public Administration in Island States**
  20-24 August 2018 Colombo, Sri Lanka, 14 SIDS

- **Executive Development Course on Digital Government for Transformation Towards Sustainable and Resilient Societies – The Singapore Experience**
  2-6 April 2018, Singapore, 9 SIDS
How have we built capacity among SIDS?

"When we came back...we began developing a country strategy for SDGs, including on how to relate country strategies to local level development...we initiated work on our VNR review process and on localizing the SDGs, and also began working on the PNG Medium-Term Development Plan with the National Statistical Office".

– Papua New Guinea, 2018 Island States Forum

“The Forum was a great experience on understanding the issues of the SDGs and VNR preparation process...This has been helpful in our 2019 VNR preparation process.”

– Mauritius, 2018 Island States Forum
Expressed Challenges among SIDS for Continued Capacity-Building

- **Institutional Coordination** – Vertical and horizontal across ministries and with local government, especially for NSOs, SDG coordination focal points, and data flow
- **Stakeholder engagement** – Strengthening dialogue skills and partnerships for implementation (Private Sector noted as most challenging sector to engage)
- **Resources** – to Monitor & Evaluate Progress (allocation in national budget), to implement programmes
- **Monitoring & Evaluation of Progress on SDGs** – data collection across government to evaluate progress
- **Communicating Progress** – tell the story of progress, presenting reports, dashboards, communication tools for decisionmakers and public
Next Steps and Priority Areas 2019

• 4-5 June 2019
  - Expert Group Meeting on “The Future of Digital Government for Sustainable Development in Least Developed Countries, Small Island Developing States, and the Landlocked Developing Countries”

• 4-7 June 2019
  - Workshop on Strengthening Capacities of Asia-Pacific Local Authorities to Build Resilient Societies through Disaster Risk Reduction in Sustainable Development Strategies, Jeju, Republic of Korea, in collaboration with UNISDR, UNITAR and CIFAL Jeju

• July 2019
  - Back-to-back with the HLPF on Public Sector Capacities to Implement the 2030 Agenda in SIDS with focus on VNR countries

• September 2019
  - Planned scoping mission of DA Project 1819G on institutional arrangements to implement the SDGs with a focus on innovation and public service delivery for Fiji and Vanuatu (2018-2021) and follow up missions in the course of 2020
Next Steps and Priority Areas 2019 (cont.)

- **June - December 2019**
  - Scoping missions to SIDS in the Asia-Pacific on institutional arrangements for strengthening policy coherence, following up on individual requests from SIDS

- **November 2019**
  - Regional Symposium on Building an Effective, Inclusive and Accountable Public Administration for the Implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with one or two sessions dedicated to SIDS, Incheon, Republic of Korea

- **December 2019**
  - Peer-to-Peer Learning Exchange on Effective, Accountable and Inclusive Institutions and Innovation in **Public Service Delivery in SIDS**, drawing on issues identified throughout 2019
Thank you!

For questions or more information, please contact chaegun.chung@un.org