

*Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development 2019
Marrakech, Morocco*

Jointly organized by the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP); the United Nations Foundation, and the ECA sub-regional office of North Africa

VNR Town Hall: Elevating Good Practices & Lessons Learned to Raise Ambition in 2019

Concept Note

Purpose

This informal Voluntary National Review (VNR) town hall will bring together member states, stakeholders, and UN officials to reflect on the past four years and learn from one another as countries prepare their reviews ahead of the 2019 High-Level Political Forum.

Objectives include:

1. Get a big-picture overview of the state of SDG implementation across Africa, highlighting where we are on and off track as well as innovative tools, models and practices;
2. Learn lessons from previous VNR countries and discuss how outside partners and the UN can better support member states in this exercise; and
3. Provide the space for member states and stakeholders to pose questions about country preparations and share experiences and challenges.

Expected outcome

1. Challenges, good practices and innovation tools for assessing and benchmarking the implementation of SDGs within Africa discussed and shared
2. Roadmap in terms of capacity building initiatives to support countries in their process of voluntary national review agreed

Format/audience

This informal town hall is meant to be an interactive conversation among government officials and civil society organizations and networks, as well as a handful of UN officials, outside experts and previous VNR countries to help stimulate the discussion. The meeting will be off-the-record, and it will be structured to foster a dynamic and frank dialogue with only a few formal presentations. All participants are encouraged to actively contribute.

Venue and date:

- Marrakech, Morocco

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