



Panel: Promoting a shared and accountable 2030 Agenda

14 March 2019 (morning)

Objective(s): To look at where we are in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, bringing together the views and experiences of EU institutions, EU Member States, civil society organisations and local authorities so as to have a better understanding of the progress made and what can be done better in the future in the light of the Joint Synthesis Report.

Expected results:

- A better understanding of the implementation progress of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) (including from the EU Joint Synthesis Report) and the main obstacles identified so far.
- A collective stocktaking of positive experiences of different actors (EU Member States, civil society organisations and local authorities), particularly in regards to innovative solutions to address SDG related challenges, such as better ways of working together, new finance mechanisms, the role of the private sector or enhancing the interlinkages between SDGs.
- A joint examination of multi-stakeholder partnerships as a tool to empower development actors and encourage the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at national and local levels.
- Better understanding on how the EU's future programming would be guided by the 2030 Agenda.
- A review of the current context of the promotion of enabling environment for civil society, and its impact on the efforts to advance in the global development agenda.

Background:

In 2015, with the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, the world committed to a new shared ambitious venture that already shapes development policy at the local, national, regional and global levels. The new Agenda and SDGs work to effectively integrate the three pillars of sustainable development (environmental protection, social sustainability, economic sustainability) with human rights and social justice at the core of the new global efforts.

Four years down the road it is a good moment to ask what progress has been made so far, what needs to be improved and, particularly, how to do it.

The European Union has been one of the key drivers in the process towards the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 SDGs in September 2015 (UN General Assembly 2015). The new European Consensus on Development incorporated the commitment to review the implementation of the 2030 Agenda through a Joint Synthesis Report (JSR) every 4 years.



This year the first JSR will be presented in the 2019 High Level Political Forum. The exercise entails, first of all, the collection and scrutiny of the relevant data and information about the progress made so far by the EU and EU Member States, including highlights and good practices that could inspire future action. But more importantly, the JSR should help us to have better insight into how EU Development policy and development partners can better contribute to making this shared agenda a reality in the years to come.

Guiding questions:

How do CSOs and LAs engage in the national reviews and interact with national authorities? How is the current trend of shrinking space affecting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda? Is the localisation of the SDGs becoming a reality? How well does the EU engage with CSOs and LAs in order to implement the 2030 Agenda?

Methodology:

A moderated panel debate composed of 5 speakers, representing the European Commission, EU Member State, CSOs and LAs.

In addition to the panel debate, there will be three parallel sessions in the afternoon, focusing on more specific areas, related to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda on the following sub-themes:

- 1) Successful experiences of partnerships at local level (SDG 17 in practice),
- 2) Innovative financing for the SDGS at local level (private sector, domestic resource mobilisation, multi-stakeholder partnerships), and
- 3) How to ensure the reflection of local realities in national reporting? (In the light of the Voluntary National Review process)