

5th Regional Conference on SDG12 Implementation

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Overview and Rationale

- 8th National Socio-Economic Development Plan 2016 – 2020 (8th NSEDP) – an outcome based plan
 - Mid term review of the 8th NSEDP – strongly recognizes sustainable consumption and production (SCP)
- 8th NSEDP fully integrates the SDGs, LDC criteria and Green Growth
 - LDC assessment 2018
 - 2 out of 3 criteria met
 - Aim to graduate LDC list by 2025
 - First VNR presented at the HLPF 2018
 - National SDG 18; Yet, SDG12 lacked clear indicator framework
 - Green Growth Strategy adopted
- Paris agreement: 1st country in ASEAN and 26th in the world to ratify
- National SDG Secretariat: MOFA and MPI
 - National focal point for SDG12: MoNRE

Localizing Agenda 2030

- The 2030 Agenda also came in at an opportune time when Lao PDR was about to draft its 8th NSEDP.
- Integrating 92 into 8th NSEDP M&E framework and these SDG indicators form about 60% of the 160 of the 8th NSEDP indicators.
- This large percentage demonstrates the commitment of the Lao government towards the 2030 Agenda.

SDG12 and Green Growth

- SDG12 and green growth closely linked.
- Green Growth Strategy approved by the Prime Minister in 2018.
- Priority green growth sectors that also address SCP:
 - Agriculture: increase production efficiency and reduce natural resources; end the use of harmful chemicals; promote clean agricultural production
 - Forestry: promote investment in tree planting to increase forest coverage to 70 percent by 2020; develop financial mechanisms for protecting national and local conservation forests
 - Urban development: improve urban waste management systems; increase green areas
 - Transport: raise environmental standards on vehicle imports; improve the quality and cost of public transport
 - Energy: raise awareness and introduce incentives to encourage efficient energy usage; import and use of energy-saving materials
 - Tourism: enhance protection and development of natural, historical and cultural tourism sites; prevent non-environmentally and non-socially friendly tourism

SDG12 Study – Introduction

- Support from ASEF and HSF
- Began since April 2018 with significant input from Centre for Development Research Centre
- Technical workshop in August 2018 to present findings and gather more feedback
- Several LMs involved
- Study explores:
 - Potential areas of intervention for policy implementation.
 - The progress of SCP integration within existing sectoral development
 - Institutional barriers to successful implementation and monitoring of SCP and provides suggestions for short- and long-term reform in the policy area.

SDG 12 Study – Initial Findings

- SCP commenced since early 2000's
- Integrated into 8th Plan in 2016 but progress has been slow
- Resource-based economy and primarily reliant on FDI
 - Hydro power and mining accounting for largest portion of export
 - Growth not broad-based
 - SMEs predominant
- Nearly all SDG 12 indicators do not yet have systems in place (e.g. no data collected for formalized indicators in VNR 2018)
- A lack of proper indicators and sufficient systems post challenge in the inserting SCP within the context of Lao PDR

SDG12 - Some of the Challenges

○ Implementation:

- Coordination and information sharing at all levels
- MoNRE should spread efforts around since SCP involves many sectors
- Budget insufficiency

○ Monitoring:

- Can get hazy between LMs and LSB
- “SDG 12 is measured by various ministries within their monitoring activities, not through a central monitoring process.”
- LECS contains various indicators relevant to the monitoring of sustainable consumption

Way Forward

- *Aligning strategies in support of the NSEDP, LDC graduation, SDGs, and green growth*
 - Strengthen the National SDG Secretariat's mandate and role in ensuring integration of the 2030 Agenda into the country's Ninth NSEDP (2021-2025), Tenth NSEDP (2026-2030) and accompanying sector and thematic strategies. This includes systematic collaboration with line ministries and other partners for strengthening approaches and use of tools for multi-dimensional prioritization and decision-making, and for tracking progress towards SDG objectives.
 - Build on existing work to develop strategies for durable LDC graduation and preparation for the removal of LDC support measures that align with the principles of the 2030 Agenda, especially those areas where there has been slower progress.
 - Mainstream green growth priorities and targets (including as outlined in the Green Growth Strategy) into national and sector strategies, including the Ninth NSEDP.
 - Prime Minister's instruction on the formulation of the 9th NSEDP which notes the importance of SCP
 - Consult with MoNRE, LMs and development partners on possible collaboration to accelerate SCP

Thank you

