Capacity Building for the SDGs in Asia
Insights into National Preparedness for SDG Implementation
Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

- Founded in 1997 (26 partners; 2014: 53)
- Inter-governmental not-for-profit organisation
- Only permanently established institution of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) process
- Originally initiated under the aegis of the 3rd (socio-cultural) pillar of ASEM
- Funded by annual voluntary contributions from the 53 ASEM partners
ASEF’S MANDATE

- Promote better **understanding** between Asians & Europeans
- Enable **exchanges** between people, institutions & organisations of Asia & Europe
- Organise & implement **projects** in Asia & Europe

*(Dublin Agreed Principles, 1996; amended 2004)*
Tangible Results (Outputs):
- Publications
- Reports
- Web-portals
- Networks
- Collaborations

Intangible Results (Outcomes):
- Sharing of knowledge & practices
- Networking
- Added value to the ASEM process by
  - increased knowledge on Asia-Europe relations
  - enhanced mutual understanding among the people
  - better conditions for future cooperation

18 years
Over 700 projects
About 750 partners
More than 20,000 active participants
THE ASIA-EUROPE ENVIRONMENT FORUM (ENVFORUM)

CAPACITY BUILDING

WS on SDGs for ASEAN Member States
September 2013, Indonesia
ASEAN WS on Climate Change Negotiation
June 2014, Viet Nam
GMS Regional Workshop on SDGs
May 2015, Viet Nam
CLMV Workshop on SDGs
May 2015, Myanmar
ASEAN WS on Climate Change Negotiation
July 2015, Thailand
National Workshop on SDGs
ASEAN Post-Paris Workshop
September 2015, Cambodia
National Workshop on SDGs
CLMV Workshop on SDGs
June 2016, Myanmar
National Workshop on SDGs
National Workshop on SDGs
National Workshop on SDGs
Sept 2016, Myanmar
Sept 2016, Lao PDR (upcoming)

SDGs
Climate Change

RESEARCH

Sustainable Development Goals and Indicators for a Small Planet
Part I: Methodology and Goal Framework

Sustainable Development Goals and Indicators for a Small Planet
Part II: Measuring Sustainability

Sustainable Development Goals and Indicators for a Small Planet
Securing Means of Implementation in Viet Nam

Sustainable Development Goals and Indicators for a Small Planet
Securing Means of Implementation in Poland

Who Will Pay for the Sustainable Development Goals?
Addressing Development Challenges in NDCs Contexts
BUILDING CAPACITY IN SDG IMPLEMENTATION

• **Raise awareness** on guiding principles of the SDGs and global SDG negotiations

• **Provide insight** into practical matters in implementing SDGs (esp. **financing, monitoring, governance**)

• **Map existing national policies** to evaluate alignment with SDGs
BUILDING CAPACITY IN SDG IMPLEMENTATION

• Assess how SDGs can be tailored and integrated

• Set national targets based on an assessment of priorities, capacities, and resources

• Prepare implementation and monitoring frameworks
IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE FOR THE SDGS

- Researched in close consultation with development experts and government
- Designed to support policymakers in getting started with implementing SDGs

**Ch. 1 Introduction to the SDGs**
**Ch. 2 Global mechanism for SDGs**
**Ch. 3 Step-by-step guidance for implementing SDGs**
**Ch. 4 Country case studies in SDG implementation**
**Institutional Framework**

- Begun/completed mapping existing national policies to SDGs
- Taking ownership of tailoring SDGs into their national contexts (e.g. CSDGs, VSDGs, etc.) and mainstreaming them into national policy documents
- Established inter-agency bodies to coordinate action on SDGs

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*NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS FOR SDG IMPLEMENTATION IN ASIA*

**Source:** Chuop, P. “Tailoring SDGs into National Policies”

**Source:** Murniningtyas, E. “How to make Development Sustainable”
Monitoring Frameworks

Progress is being made in:

- Mapping existing national indicators to global SDG indicators
- Data assessment
- Data disaggregation
- Coordination among gov’t agencies and external stakeholders

Source: Bersales, L. “How will Countries in Asia Monitor SDGS?”

NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS FOR SDG IMPLEMENTATION IN ASIA
COMMON CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED

• Funding and external support
  • Reliable, timely external funding
  • Reconciling national development with access to ODA

• Implementation/monitoring
  • Political commitment for environmental protection
  • Limited capacity for data collection and analysis

• Internal/external cooperation
  • Inter-agency/inter-sector cooperation
  • Varying levels of expertise across countries, within countries
OPPORTUNITIES MOVING FORWARD:
Needs Assessment for SDG Implementation

- Support for M&E frameworks
- Technology transfer
- HR development (e.g. experts, statisticians)
- Resource mobilization for financing SDGs
- Platforms for int’l/regional exchange on experiences/best practices
Implementation Guide for the Sustainable Development Goals

Implementation Guide for the SDGs
Practical guidance for policymakers in getting started with SDGs
Thank you for your kind attention.

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