

Gender dimension in VNR – policy priorities on gender

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Gender dimension and UN Women role on the VNR process

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Opportunities and advantages

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Albania Case - Gender dimension on VNR process preparation

- ✓ VNR is an important resources for SDGs stock-taking
- ✓ VNR is one of the central sources for tracking and charting progress on gender equality and women empowerment
- ✓ VNR is an opportunity to demonstrate the application of the principles of the 2030 Agenda such as *leaving no one behind*

UN Women role:

- to ensure the gender mainstreaming throughout the VNR cycle.
- as part of inter-agency mechanisms leverages the gender-responsive development of the VNRs.
- supports inter-agency mechanisms by providing technical expertise at each stage of VNR process.

➤ **2017-2019:**

nearly all reviews include references to gender equality and women and girls in some way, and most reviews have some integration of a gender perspective

➤ **2017:**  SDG 5 one of the goal under review.

➤ Member States are advised to consider all SDGs, not only under review in a given year, considering national priorities.

➤ UN Women encourage national governments to integrate a gender perspective in their national reviews.

Advantages and opportunities:

- National Coordination Mechanism for SDGs is established, structures and modalities varies;
- In a number of cases, a Data Taskforce established under the leadership of NSO
- National monitoring frameworks/systems are at different stages
- National Sustainable Development Strategies and/or integration of SDGs into National Strategic Priorities
- National review on implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, CEDAW and Universal Periodic Review
- Leverage internal UN Women frameworks such as Country Gender Profiles.

Albania presented the Voluntary National Review on Sustainable Development Goals – during ECOSOC High Level Political Forum 2018

Albania was one among 47 countries to share efforts, lessons learned and experiences to meet the globally agreed goals.

National Coordination Mechanism for SDGs: structures and modalities in Albania:

- The National Committee on SDGs - provided leadership and coordinate the efforts of all the stakeholders.
- Inter-Ministerial Working Group
- ❑ Baseline mapping of SDGs goals aligning with National Strategies
- ❑ Baseline mapping of the data corresponding to SDGs indicators
- ❑ Report analyses of SDGs goals through national implementation strategies

Albania's Baseline Report on SDGs indicates that Goal 5 is 59% aligned with the national policy in Albania.

Three targets—5.2, 5.5, 5.c—are fully aligned,

five targets—5.1, 5.4, 5.6, 5.a, 5.b—are partially aligned

one target—5.3—is not aligned,

Particularly with NSDI II Pillar 3: Investing in people and social cohesion, and key policy documents such as the Gender Equality Strategy 2016–2020.



At a Glance

Albania's Baseline Report on SDGs indicates that Goal 5 is 59% aligned with the national policy in Albania.

Three targets – 5.2, 5.5, 5.a – are fully aligned with targets 4.1, 4.4, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8 – are partially aligned with target 4.3 – is not aligned, particularly with *SDG 5 Pillar 2: Investing in people and social cohesion, and key policy documents such as the Gender Equality Strategy 2016-2020.*

Availability of Global Indicators

Health Indicators	3
Education Indicators	3
Target Indicators	4
SDG Indicators	3

2020 was adopted as part of the Policy Document for Social Inclusion providing the guarantee of equal rights, increasing access to education, employment, health, housing and full integration of LGBT people in society.

Tackling the Inclusion challenges in Albania

Social protection for vulnerable groups in Albania is an important national priority and contributes towards achieving Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries, particularly through Target 10.4: Adopt policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality. Focusing on projects and programmes that emphasise the links between social inclusion, poverty reduction, employment and enterprise support, health, education, basic needs, participation and human rights is crucial in achieving Goal 10 in Albania.

The share of social protection expenditure in the government budget was 91 percent in 2012, up from 8.9 percent in 2006. This expenditure consists of two main schemes:

(*Naftina Ekonomike* (NE) cash assistance scheme). Due to the limited cash assistance provided, this scheme has limited impact on reducing income poverty and fails to take into account all the multiple and intersecting dimensions of poverty and deprivation such as education, health care and housing conditions. The beneficiaries of NE receive, in addition to their payments, other benefits such as subsidies for education, vaccination of children and compensation for energy bills.

(*Id Gruajshme* Allowance (GA) for people with mental or physical disability, in

- Social Inclusion - WOMEN EMPOWERMENT
- Labour market – gender sensitive policies for the promotion of employment and vocational training of the workforce.

- Violence against women and girls.
- Women with disabilities by offering dedicated vocational training courses and employment.
- To integrate gender on the planning and budgeting processes.
- Women in Entrepreneurship.
- Women participation at decision making in political, economic and public life .

- Gender mainstreaming - through of networks with the civil society organizations and substantial consultative meetings on providing essential inputs for the national report.
- Through the VNR process, UN Women supported the creation of a strong sense of ownership of the recommendations mainstreamed into the report by the state institutions.
- Follow up to - Synthesized outcomes and recommendations of the consultative process were endorsed by the National Council on Civil Society Organizations and the National Council on Gender Equality.