

Policy Dialogue on SDG12 Reporting

Flash report



Name: Policy Dialogue on SDG12 Reporting

Date: 21 November 2019 (09:00 AM - 13:00 PM)

Venue: Pullman Hanoi Hotel, Viet Nam

The policy dialogue was part of the SWITCH Asia 2nd Programme Steering Committee, which also included a Regional Networking Event with the beneficiaries of the SWITCH-Asia grants.

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Objectives

The main objective of the policy dialogue was to encourage countries to report on SDG 12, taking a coordinated approach and in alignment with global indicators which will lead to more convergence of reporting systems and hence reduce reporting burden. Specific objectives were: i) raise awareness of the importance of reporting on SDG 12; ii) understand challenges faced by countries in reporting on SDG 12; iii) showcase how Asian countries are reporting on SDG 12; iv) identify the best ways to support SDG 12 reporting from the SWITCH-Asia Regional Policy Advocacy Component.

Participants

The policy dialogue brought together almost 100 participants with 18 participants representing over 15 governments from Asian countries, 15 EU delegations and 59 international observers from civil society organizations and universities from Asian and European countries.

Highlights

- Reporting on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SDG 12) in the region is running behind and countries are not communicating appropriately the many good things that they have already done.
- If countries don't report what they are doing on SDG 12 this can't be accounted towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.
- There are two main mechanisms that governments can use to report on SDG 12: The Global Indicator Framework (GIF) and the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) to the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF).
- SDG 12 has only 5 indicators developed under the GIF that countries can use to report their progress (12.1.1 about SCP policies, 12.2.2 about domestic material consumption, 12.3.1 about food loss, 12.6.1 about the number of companies publishing sustainability reports, 12.c.1 about fossil-fuel subsidies).
- The SDG indicator 12.1.1 (of the Global Indicator Framework) is one of the main ways of reporting for countries which have implemented SCP related policies or policy instruments (such as national action plans on SCP, ecolabeling guidelines, sustainable public procurement policies, resource efficiency policies, etc.)
- The process for SDG 12.1.1 reporting is open until January 3rd, 2020. The 10YFP National Focal Points are responsible for this reporting but they need support from the SWITCH-Asia National Focal Points

(in the countries where they are not the same person). The One Planet Network has developed an online platform to facilitate this reporting (<https://www.oneplanetnetwork.org/>)

- SWITCH-Asia Regional Policy Advocacy Component (RPAC) has analyzed how 19 countries in Asia have reported on SDG 12 (assessing both the GIF and the VNRs). The assessment put in relevance that there are inconsistencies between actions taken and actions reported by the countries, as well as between reports to the Global Indicator Framework and to the VNRs.
- Some of the current challenges identified by the participants for SDG 12 reporting are the lack of data, the lack of technical capacity to understand and use the approved methodologies, the coordination between actors implanting action and reporting on them, and the integration of the different reporting mechanisms.
- The existence of a SDGs multi-ministerial working group in Thailand was highlighted as one of the key aspects that allowed that country to include SDG 12 data in the VNRs presented to the HLPF in 2017 and 2019.
- Establishing a SDG monitoring and reporting mechanism can support countries to better implement their national policies and commitments. This was explained using the resource efficiency policy currently being developed in India as example.
- There is an urgent need for involving more actively the private sector on SDG 12 implementation and reporting. SDG indicator 12.6.1 is the best way countries have now available to facilitate this engagement.
- As a follow up to the Policy Dialogue, participants will be asked to complete a survey on SDG12 reporting in order to have a better picture of who has the responsibility of reporting in each country. The survey will also include some questions to identify the best ways to support SDG 12 reporting from the SWITCH-Asia RPAC.
- Participants are expected to reach out to those responsible for SDG 12 and SDGs reporting in their countries and communicate the knowledge acquired during the policy dialogue.





SWITCH-Asia's Visibility at the events

Digital Backdrop and Banners



[Annex 1 Leaflet and Agenda of the event](#)

[Annex 2 List of participants](#)

[Annex 3 Presentations](#)

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