WHITE & CASE

Global Alliance
Reporting Progress on Peaceful,
Just, and Inclusive Societies

Voluntary National Review (VNR) Analysis 2018 Aggregated Chart

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
1. **Albania**	Yes	"Consultations on the preparation of the report were organised during the period January–June 2018. The report is based on the inputs received from the main government institutions leading the reforms in each priority area under the coordination of the Technical Working Group on SDGs, and the contribution of UN agencies in Albania. A consultation process, seeking the cooperation and engagement of all stakeholders, including local government, academia, civil society and the business community in the country, was held to discuss and validate the main findings and recommendations received during the consultation process and that have been incorporated in the present report" (p. 14).

Albania considers "the key to success in the implementation process is the engagement of all the stakeholders at the national and local levels, comprising a broad and diverse spectrum of institutions and organisations from central government, local government units, | Yes | The Inter-Ministerial Committee on the SDGs, established by the Albania Government comprises stakeholders from the **business community**, civil society and academia. The VNR notes: "Civil society and private sector organisations are participating in the process while integrating the SDGs in their business models and the activities they conduct in Albania. The consultation process of the VNR generated ideas among civic actors to improve stakeholder engagement, as well as civil society initiatives and platforms in support of SDGs in the country. (p. 29)" | Yes | In general, Albania's VNR is well-referenced. Sources are generally provided throughout in footnotes. There is also a "Statistical Annex" where statistics and sources for some of the targets are set out.

Some examples of sources include:
- SDG 1.B – Labour Force Survey 2015 (p. 21)
- SDG 4.5 – Census 2011: Roma and Egyptians in Albania, April 2015 (p. 21); Census 2011: Profiles of the Disabled Population, January 2015 (p. 22); UNESCO Institute for Statistics. Data on Albania can be accessed at: (p. 22); INSTAT 2012. Living Standard Measurement Survey, LSMS (p. 22); Roma Children Access to Early Childhood Services. UNICEF, Tirana, 2015 (p. 22); Ministry of Education and Sports 2012. School Drop-Out Action Plan, as quoted in the report Implementation of the Action Plan for Children 2012–2015 (MSWY) (p. 22); |

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Notes Identified
		business organisations, civil society, academia, development partners, UN agencies and other domestic and donor organisations active in the country, who, together, have brought their voice to the preparation of this report. Albania's VNR 2018 has been disseminated to the public for consultation and has built on the feedback received from numerous institutions and organisations" (p. 73).			20. ISOP 2016. Facing the challenges of inclusive education. UNICEF Albania. • SDG 4.A - Council of Europe 2017. National Survey on Bullying and Violent Extremism in the Education System of Albania (p. 23); National Study on Children in Street Situations. UNICEF, 2014 (p. 23); Albanian Demographic Health Survey 2008–2009, p. 117: (p. 23). • SDG 5.5 – Administrative (Parliament of Albania) for women's participation in Parliament (p 86-87). • SDG 10.4 – Order of Minister of Health, No. 529, date 1.12.2016, Strategic Document and Action Plan on Sexual and Reproductive Health 2017–2021 (p. 24) • SDG 10.7 - European Asylum Support Office (EASO; March 1, 2018) • SDG 16.1 – Administrative (p. 104). • SDG 16.3 – Administrative (p. 105). • SDG 16.5 - The Cross-cutting

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
						Strategy for Anti-corruption for the period 2015–2020 was approved by government in March 2015 (p. 17). No source was cited for tax revenues (see p. 59).
2. **Andorra**	Yes	In April 2018, the Andorran Government launched a public consultation on the internet. The Government also conducted an important media campaign. The first part of the survey consisted of a series of questions to classify participants by age, sex, and occupation. Participants then had to indicate if they consider the SGDs a priority for Andorra. The second part of the survey consisted of two open questions: "What can be done for sustainable development in Andorra? "Give us examples of what you would do for sustainable development." (p. 16). These proposals during this process have been analyzed, and the most recurrent ones will be submitted to the Council of Ministers (p. 17).	Yes	The Ministry of Foreign Affairs also had meetings and contacts with the private sector to share good practices in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and pave the way for future collaborations on this subject (p. 17).	Yes	Page 17 includes charts with statistics of the sectors and persons involved in the process.
3. **Armenia**	Yes	Armenia's VNR process started in 2017 and took about 6 months.	Yes	In preparing the reporting, there was dialogue with representatives	Yes	In relation to the data effort, Armenia noted that it was one of the main

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		Armenia grouped the strands of activities and efforts it took as follows: (i) policy effort, (ii) data effort, (iii) institutional effort, and (iv) dialogue effort (see p13–16)

Specifically, in relation to the dialogue effort, the VNR notes: "Dialogue with stakeholders was organized at different levels and formats such as (i) individual talks with representatives from various circles of stakeholders, i.e. Government agencies, community authorities, businesses, civil society organizations, and households; (ii) multi-stakeholder round table discussions; (iii) circulation and discussions of the draft VNR report with interested stakeholders.

The dialogue effort aimed at identifying and clarifying the concerns and perspectives of various stakeholders in relation to various aspects of sustainable development, and reaching a common understanding of the issues at stake. In addition, the dialogue effort was critical for generating ideas for effective solutions, building confidence and establishing partnerships to coordinate and | | from businesses, civil society organizations and households - See Notes on the left (p. 16). | | challenging exercises (see p14–15). The VNR notes:

"The data effort included compiling and analyzing accurate sex, age and diversity-disaggregated data from various sources, including: · national official statistics · sector specific data and information from ministries and other authorities · data from sector specific strategy documents which involved specific performance indicators · information from businesses and other stakeholders through meetings and discussions: this was important especially for obtaining not only quantitative, but also qualitative information, which is often necessary for better understanding underlying issues. · data from relevant specialized international organizations, particularly, the World Bank; various agencies and organizations and data sources of the United Nations (such as FAO STAT, FAO AQUASTAT, UNECE, IFAD, UNWOMEN, UNEP database, UNFCCC, ILO, IOM, WHO, UNHCR, UNICEF, OECD, European Institute of Gender Equality (EIGE), etc." |

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		implement programs. Furthermore, dialogue was essential for ensuring effective translation of SDGs into the local (and sector and stakeholder specific) realities and context and helping stakeholders understand their own and each other's roles in implementing the SDGs." (p 16).				Armenia specifically described the benefits of use of international data sources: "(a) some data can be easily accessed only via international sources; (b) international sources are important for verification of some national data; (c) international data allows for making comparisons and benchmarking to understand where a given country stands; (d) international data sources often provide more consistent historical data which is important for measuring progress in relation to a given indicator." (p. 15) Armenia also established a "National SDG Statistical Platform" with a structure and content of which is based on SDG targets and indicators. It was developed by the Statistical Committee of Armenia (SCA) with the support of the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) Armenia Country Office. It is maintained by the SCA in close cooperation with relevant state agencies, civil society organizations and the private sector. It conforms with the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics." (p. 15). See further details on p. 15.

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
4. **Australia**	Yes	Australia reports that its efforts in evaluating progress on the SDGs are a "'whole of Australia' endeavour" including collaboration with domestic stakeholders and engagement with state, territory, and local governments (p. 7). Australia also reports on youth-led initiatives, contributions from businesses, and volunteerism (pp. 8-9). With respect to efforts to engage marginalized communities: the review included data resulting from collaboration with the Australian National Development Index (ANDI), a non-profit company with 60 partners representing a large range of interest groups including those advocating for under-represented populations (p. 116). Regarding strategies to engage in inclusive public dialogue, the report also notes in many places that the government used a multi-stakeholder approach, and specifically confirms that it has engaged in an "open dialogue on issues with civil society and business" (p. 108).	Yes	The Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade coordinated the development of the review, and received contributions from the private sector, academia, communities, and individuals, through a variety of means including: (1) an Australian SDGs Summit 2018, (2) youth consultations led by Sustainable Development Solutions Network Youth, (3) business consultations led by Global Compact Network Australia, (4) academic consultations led by Sustainable Development Solutions Network and the Research for Development Impact Network, (5) international development-related civil society consultations led by the Australian Council for International Development, (6) environment-related consultations led by the Department of Environment and Energy with the Australian Committee for the International Union for Conservation of Nature, (7) social-sector consultations led by the Department of Social Services, and (8) voluntary National Review draft consultations with a variety of	Yes	The report includes a section on the approach towards gathering data for all of the SDGs (pp. 113-116), identifying data sources and methodologies. For the SDGs in this review, the report also identified certain specific sources as listed below (and many sections referenced other relevant programs or projects without mentioning specific sources). SDG 1 (poverty) data sources include surveys conducted in partnership with the Department of Social Services, Australian Institute of Family Studies, and the Australian Bureau of statistics (pp. 22, 25), the National Centre for Longitudinal Data (p. 22), government budget whitepapers (p. 23), and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (homelessness statistics) (p. 25). SDG 4 (education) data sources include the Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience (p. 40), the Global Partnership for Education (p. 41), and the New Colombo Plan, Australia Awards, and the Endeavour Awards (p. 41). SDG 5 (discrimination) data sources include the Australian Bureau of

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
				organizations (p. 14).

Compilation of the Report included the use of private sector data and technology. The report focuses on the coordination efforts from governmental agencies (p. 113), but also highlights collaboration with various data providers, including data projects such as the Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network (AURIN) to collect data from 90 different sources (p. 115). Australia also discusses data solutions to assist others with SDG evaluation, including Digital Earth Australia (DEA), which is led by Geoscience Australia and also uses technology from CSIRO and Australia's National Computational Infrastructure (p. 115). DEA is in use or considered by nearly 40 countries. Australia also describes further assistance to Indo-Pacific countries including technical support in the collection and analysis of statistical data (p. 116).

The VNR process also engaged human rights institutions including the Australian Human Rights | | Statistics (data on the labour force, earnings, safety) (pp. 43-44), the Workplace Gender Equality Agency (p. 44), the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (data on family, domestic, and sexual violence) (p. 45), and 1800Respect (funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services) (p. 45).

SDG 8 (work equality and labor rights) data sources include the Australian Bureau of Statistics (pp. 59, 61), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD.Stat) (p. 59), the Australian Trade and Investment Commission (p. 60), and the Fair Work Ombudsman and Registered Organisations Commission (p. 60).

SDG 10 (inequalities) data sources include the Australian Bureau of Statistics (Household Income and Wealth data, the Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) Survey, and the Australian Marriage Law Postal Survey) (pp. 72-73), and the World Bank Remittance Prices Worldwide report (p. 73).

SDG 16 (peace and justice) data sources include the Commonwealth of |

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
				Commission (p. 11) and the Australian Muslim Women's Centre for Human Rights (p. 122). However, there was no mention of Universal Periodic Review (UPR).		Australia Prison to Work Report and Closing the Gap Prime Minister's Report (p. 103). For SDG 11 (sustainability) and SDG 17 (partnership for the goals), the report did not highlight any specific data sources though it mentioned certain programs and efforts.
5. **Bahamas**	Yes	The country's individual report is the product of a collaboration between the Office of the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, along with partnerships with the UN Development Program, The UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, and representatives from various government agencies, civil society representatives, and members of the private sector.	Yes	In preparing the individual country report, The Bahamas Chamber of Commerce exchanged information with the private sector representatives to determine their engagement with SDGs in their various policies and programs.	Yes	SDG 1.B data source is the Inter-American Development Bank's Land Use, Policy and Administration Project 2005 SDG 11.1 data source is the Bahamas Information Services Updates from May 9, 2018. SDG 16 data sources include: Inter-American Development Bank. 2017; CDB Training Guide PPAM and PCM Brochure 2016-2018; Smart City Readiness Assessment, Dominguez; and Symonnette, The Honourable Brent. 2017. 2017/2018 Budget Contribution SDG 17.3 data sources include The Bahamas Info Trade, which has the online link to the Economic Partnership Agreement, as well as the IMF (2014).

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
6. **Bahrain**	Yes	The Bahraini government established the National Information Council (which is presided by the President of Bahrain's Prime Minister's Court) with a view to monitor development goals and ensure that they align with the government's sustainable development plans. The National Information Council was supported by the Information Authority, which the government mandated to collect, keep a record of and categorize data relevant to Bahrain's sustainable development goals. The Information Authority prepared a road map for the preparation of the individual country report and convened meetings and workshops with the National Information Council together with 2 representatives from each ministry or governmental authority and each participant was required to contribute and provide information on relevant sustainable development goals. Representatives of the Prime Minister's Court, Prime Minister's Affairs, and the First Deputy Prime Minister's Office also contributed to the preparation and finalization of the report.	Yes	Preparation of the individual country report also involved contributions from civil societies, various private sector representatives, academics, research centres, educational institutions, media organizations, and women and youth associations. Contributions were made through specialized workshops.	Yes	SDG 1.B (Institutions and policies for poverty reduction) There is no poverty in Bahrain (in the traditional sense of the term by which a person lives on less than US$2 a day). The Government has adopted a suite of policies that aim to improve the standard of living and levels of income. The Government provides a suite of social security programs in the form of housing projects, free education and healthcare, and basic services. These programs aim to reduce persons that are within the limited income bracket by 50% by the year 2030. SDG 4.5 (All forms of discrimination in education) Bahrain provides free primary and secondary education without any discrimination. It provides equal opportunities for vocational training and higher education at an affordable cost. Bahrain also makes arrangements for students with special needs by providing them with extra classes, scholarships, transportation needs and dedicated teaching staff. Bahrain encourages students with special needs to join and be part of ordinary classes in order to assimilate with other students.

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
						SDG 4.7 (Culture of peace, nonviolence and global citizenship) Commencing from the 2018/2019 school year, a new module on nationalism will be introduced as compulsory learning which aims to promote peace, tolerance, moderatism, and to combat hate, extremism or violence within the educational environment. Schools will be required to introduce activities which aim to underscore tolerance, moderation and respecting the opinions of others.

The Ministry of Youth and Sports has also been instrumental in promoting activities which encourage students on learning and developing skills needed to promote sustainable development, sustainable living, human rights, equality, peace and non-violence. Bahrain has also established the King Hamad Center for Religious Dialogue which promotes multi-culturalism and tolerance of religions as well as the rejection of discrimination on grounds of faith.

SDG 5.1 (Discrimination against women and girls) Bahrain has enacted various legislation which prohibits |

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
						discrimination against women. Bahrain's constitution confirms that women are to be treated equally with men in political, social, cultural and economic matters subject to principles of Shariah. Bahrain is also a party to the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, and has taken active steps to implement this into national law (subject to certain reservations).

SDG 5.1 (Violence against women and girls) Bahrain has criminalized violence against women and girls. Bahrain introduced Law No 17 of 2015 in relation to domestic abuse together with various implementing regulations to protect women and girls from violence. Bahrain's Supreme Council for Women has introduced programs which empower women and strive for family stability, and protection of women against violence. There are special departments within various police departments in Bahrain that deal with domestic abuse.

SDG 5.3 (Child marriage and female genital mutilation) Bahrain's Law No. 9 of 2017 in connection with family law prohibits marriages by girls under the |

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
						age of 16 unless a Shariah Court has given permission (after determining that such marriage is suitable). SDG 5.5 (Women's participation and leadership) There are various statistics showing effective and improving participation of women in various aspects of life in Bahrain. In parliament, 23% of the Shura Council and 8% of the house of representatives are women. In the public sector, 53% of employees are women. Women hold 42% of executive positions in the government sector. In the private sector, 33% of employees are women. Women hold 14% of executive positions in the private sector. SDG 5.C (Policies and legislation for gender equality) Please see response to 5.1. SDG 8.5 (Equal pay for equal work) Bahrain is ranked 9th globally (out of 144 countries) on equality of pay between men and women in relation to jobs that are similar. SDG 11.1 (Safe transport) Bahrain's strategic masterplan has been

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
						developed with a view to providing residents with modern and safe housing and public infrastructure. The Ministry of Housing seeks to provide such housing to persons falling with the limited income bracket and have sought to do so via public private partnerships and innovative financing schemes. Bahrain has provided 100% coverage to residents to electricity, water and sewage networks. SDG 11.7 (Safe public) Bahrain continues to develop its parks, gardens, coasts, seafronts, walkways and public spaces. It continues to plant trees and improve its roads (using local plants) taking into account the requirement of children, women and disabled persons. It has also rehabilitated some of its historic aquatic resources and water springs by way of preserving the country's heritage and natural habitat. SDG 16.2 (End child abuse, exploitation, and violence) In 1999, Bahrain set up the National Children's Committee which aims to provide a safe environment for all children and improve their livelihoods. In 2007, Bahrain set up a child protection

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
						centre under the auspices of the Ministry of Labour to protect children under the age of 18 from all forms of violence and mistreatment (including mental or sexual harm and/or gross mistreatment).

SDG 16.3 (Equal access to justice) Bahrain's legal system mandates the independence of its judiciary, and puts in place a suite of legal procedures for the right to a fair trial, the right to defend one's self and the right to legal assistance. Bahrain has set up various institutions to ensure respect for due process and the rights and freedoms of individuals. Such institutions include an appeals department at the public prosecution, a commission for prisoner rights, a special investigations unit, a human rights body and the national system for recommendations and complaints.

SDG 16.5 (Reduce corruption and bribery) Bahrain's National Audit Court has been established to combat corruption and to protect public funds. Its mandate is to eliminate wasteful or unlawful use of public funds. It has authority over a wide range of government bodies and aims to assist |

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
						them with developing ways in which it can limit violations or misappropriation of public funds. Bahrain's national audit court has financial and administrative independence and provides a report on its annual audit in which it details key violations and recommendations on how violations may be avoided in the future. SDG 16.8 (Participation of developing countries in global governance) Bahrain has established an association for public institutions (BIPA) which seeks to develop leadership qualities of management in governmental institutions particularly in the context of policy and strategy making, resource management, leadership skills, behavior and knowledge. BIPA has also commenced taking steps to incorporate the 2030 sustainable development goals as part of its leadership programs for persons in governmental managerial positions. SDG. 16.9 (Legal identity for all) Bahrain is a part to the United Nations convention on the rights of Children. Since 1984, a civil register has been established in which the newly born

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
						are registered and given legal identity.
7. **Benin**	Yes	In preparation for the High-Level Policy Forum, Benin organised a series of national workshops aimed at ensuring the inclusive and participatory nature of the process (p. 16). In total, Benin organised around ten workshops, which mobilised around 300 actors during a period of five months.	Yes	Employers associations, senior management of companies, major unions, religious organizations, youth organizations and other actors of the civil society participated in the national workshops (pp. 16 and 17).		
8. **Bhutan**	Yes	Recognizing the importance of ensuring participation and inclusiveness in aligning the national goals to SDGs, the Government carried out numerous sensitization and awareness programs for government agencies, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), private sector, parliamentarians, and population at large. A communications strategy has also been developed to actively engage the stakeholders in localization, implementation, monitoring and reporting of the SDGs. A nationwide citizen survey was conducted on understand people's aspirations and expectations from the government. To support the Gross National Happiness Commission (GNHC)/High Level SDG Committee, the GNHC	Yes	The Royal Government recognizes the significance of the role of partnership with multiple stakeholders including the international community, private sector, civil society and the local governments in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This includes promoting the roles of community, civil society, and the private sector in contributing to national sovereignty, prosperity and sustainability through development plans and policies. The 12th FYP highlights the importance of "*Triple C*" – *Coordination, Consolidation and Cooperation*. The role of private sector and CSOs in socio-economic development is key to sustainable graduation.	Yes	- Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2017 - Annual Health Bulletin 2017, Ministry of Health - UNICEF, ECCD Investment Case 2017 - Bhutan Labour Force Survey Report, 2015 - National Assembly Strategic Plan 2019-2023, UNDP, 2018 - MICS 2010/NHS 2012/NNS 2015/BLSS 2017 - Asian Development Bank, 2017 - Labour Force Survey Report, Bhutan, 2016 - World Bank, Ease of Doing Business Report, 2018, and Trading Economics - Kuensel Newspaper, 8 January 2015, - Sustainable Low-emission Urban Transport Systems, Project Proposal, UNDP 2017 - 17Second National Communication to the UNFCCC, 2011, NEC, RGoB

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Notes Identified
		Secretariat (GNHCS) has been entrusted with the responsibility to coordinate, advise, monitor, evaluate and report progress on the implementation of the SDGs in Bhutan. GNHCS is the apex agency for central planning and coordination of socio-economic development plans and programs. Within the GNHCS, to ensure smooth implementation and seamless coordination, a dedicated SDG Working Committee was established. The committee is led by the Director of GNHCS with the mandate to oversee, facilitate and guide integration, implementation and report progress status. In addition to the institutional mechanisms of the Executive Government, Bhutan has invested in additional checks and balances to help ensure SDG results are achieved. In the 9th session of Parliament in 2017, the National Assembly adopted a resolution to embed SDG oversight into Parliamentary practice, helping to "institutionalize Parliamentary efforts towards social equity, women's empowerment and good governance which formed the bedrock of democracy in Bhutan". (P.8)		Bhutan also remains positively positioned in strengthening cooperation in areas of mutually beneficial technical and socio-economic cooperation with other development partners. Of particular significance to the future of their development will be to strengthen regional cooperation. (P.9)	

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
9. **Cabo Verde**	Yes	The National Directorate for Planning, which sits under the Ministry of Finance, is mandated to coordinate the implementation of the SDGs and coordinated the preparation of Cabo Verde's report. In the coordination of the implementation of the SDGs as well as the preparation of Cabo Verde's report, the National Directorate for Planning was supported by an interagency working group composed of representatives from key Ministries, public agencies, regulating agencies, UN agencies, the private sector and civil society. The Report was prepared based on a consultative process, the result of which was subsequently compiled by the Ministry of Finance and subject to a socialization and validation workshop by the stakeholders. (pp. 9; 21)	Yes	The first part of the consultative process for the preparation of Cabo Verde's report involved meetings with stakeholders (central and local government, civil society, private sector, development partners and parliamentarians) to present the scope of the report and approve its structure. A Drafting Group was created made up of representatives of the Ministry of Finance, representatives of sectors relevant to the process, the National Statistics Institute, representatives of local governments, and representatives of United Nations agencies, private sector and civil society. The second part of the process involved the systematization of data and drafting of the report in accordance with the Handbook for the Preparation of the Voluntary National Reviews of UNDESA and the Secretary-General's Voluntary Common Reporting Guidelines for Voluntary National Reviews at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). PEDS 2017-2021 was the guiding	Yes	Although the report indicates that government agencies comprising the National Statistical System are the source of statistical information regarding satisfaction of the SDG indicators, there is no specific reference to the names of such agencies. The National Institute of Statistics of Cabo Verde (INE-CV) is the entity responsible for the production and availability of the indicators. After mapping out the availability of the SDG indicators, the National Institute of Statistics of Cabo Verde concluded that out of the 244 SDG indicators in the 2030 Agenda, 66% (or 160 indicators) are being produced by the various entities in the National Statistical System, 22% (or 55 indicators) are not produced and 12% (or 29 indicators) were not taken into account in the analysis since they are indicators for regional or inter-country assessments. (pp. 126-127) The report also uses information from Transparency International, Afrobarometer and Doing Business to report specifically on SDGs 16.5 and 16.6. (pp. 115-116)

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
				reference for drafting the report. Finally, a Socialization and Validation Workshop took place in June 13, 2018. The comments, amendments and recommendations arising from such workshop were incorporated into the final version of the submitted to the Government for approval. (pp. 9; 21)		
10. **Canada**	Yes	Canada reports that an "inclusive approach" is taken to the implementation of the SDGs, and it puts people at the center of decision (p. 6). Canada's prime minister also mandated Minister of Children to lead Canada's implementation of the 2030 Agenda, in collaboration with all other ministers and their departments, which includes developing a national strategy through engagement with provinces and territories, municipalities, Indigenous peoples and other stakeholders, and fostering new partnerships and networks to advance the SDGs (p. 7). Further, an SDG Unit is being	Yes	Canada will launch a process in the coming months to develop a national strategy on the 2030 agenda through collaboration with all levels of government, Indigenous peoples, civil society and the private sector. (p. 3) There are two parts entitled "Engagement" and "Canada and the world" in almost every SDG of the Canadian VNR, which elaborate how Canada engage with relevant stakeholders and civil society organizations to achieve the goals in respective areas. (p. 23, 29, 36, 43, 49, 55, 60, 68, 72, 81, 88, 93, 98, 103, 109) And in SDG 17, there is a separate	Yes	Canada includes a Statistical Annex to its VNR with robust data supporting each SDG including the data provider, the source of data, and links to relevant data. Canada's VNR also notes that "National statistics are central to reporting on SDGs . . . Statistics Canada has examined various sources of data and has compiled the best available data across the Government of Canada to support Canada's supporting of the SDGs." Canada also denotes whenever the statistics (indicators) provided do not exactly match the Global Indicator Framework. Statistics Canada is Canada's national statistical office and legislated coordinator of the national statistical system. The VNR notes that Statistics Canada is a trusted producer

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		established to coordinate, monitor and report on activities related to the implementation of the national strategy and the funding program. All federal ministers, departments and agencies are accountable for implementing the 2030 Agenda and supporting the development of the national strategy (p. 7). Canada will also continue to work, through Statistics Canada, with the United Nations and Canadian partners on the global SDG indicator framework to help Canada and the world measure progress (p. 7).		part called "Canada's vibrant civil society: Working to achieve the SDGs", which gives a long list of civil society organizations across Canada working to raise public awareness and mobilize people around SDGs and to encourage government leadership on the 2030 Agenda. (p. 122)		of high quality, robust, impartial statistical information and works in partnership with governmental departments, the private sector, NGOs and international organizations to ensure high quality information to assess the 17 SDGs. In May 2018, the SDG Data Hub was launched by the Government of Canada as a one-stop online destination with access to statistical indicators to help track Canada's progress in meeting its commitment to the 2030 Agenda.
11. **Colombia**	Yes	Prior to the official adoption of Agenda 2030 Colombia created the High Level Inter-institutional Commission for the Preparation and Effective Implementation of the post-2015 Sgenda (Sp. Comisón Interinstitucional de Alto Nivel para el Alistamiento y Efectiva Implementación de la Agenda de Desarollo post-2015) and the related SDGs (the "SDG Comission"). The Colombian government made the SDGs a matter of national purpose in order to unite the Colombian society.	Yes	The National Planning Department has concluded that the participation of the private sector is crucial in order to achieve the SDGs, in particular SDG 2,6,7,8,9,12,14 and 15. Private companies that contributed to the VNR has been listed by name in the VNR. The VNR refers to a pilot project specially designed for the purpose of the including the private sector and to collect quantitative	Yes	Sources and references have been listed (pp. 132-134) and have been referred to throughout the report where data is provided.

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		The VNR states that the SDGs should not be a program directed by the government, but should instead be a program directed by a vision created by society to make sure that everyone benefits and that no one is left behind. The VNR has been prepared by the Technical Secretary of the SDG Comission, headed by the National Planning Department (Sp. Departamento Nacional de Planeación), where the Technical Secretary maintained the dialogue with national and local governmental ministries and administrative departments as well as the facilitation of a public event held in the capital of Colombia, Bogotá on June 29, where various representatives from the civil society participated (the "Public Event") (p. 13-15).		information from various economic sectors, the report particularly points at SDG 6 and 7 in this respect, but does not specify further. The private sector was also invited to participate and comment on the VNR during the Public Event where a draft version of the VNR was discussed (pp. 13-15, 80, 106).		
12. **Dominican Republic**	Yes	Yes, the collaboration has been described as an inclusive process where all participants, including private sector, where invited to six consultative sessions, where presentations regarding the SDGs where held as well as discussions regarding the draft VNR (All parties involved are described on p. 4).	Yes	Yes, the collaboration has been described as an inclusive process where all participants, including private sector (All parties involved are described on p. 4).	Yes	Sources of data are identified throughout, but certain points are sometimes not referred correctly. Sufficient data has been provided by annexes and the reader might wish for better visibility in terms of what data refers to what source.

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
13. **Ecuador**	Yes	Yes, the VNR states that it was a process involving more than 250 participants during 5 different workshops hosted in various city in Ecuador. Between April 23 and May 3 these five workshops where held in the main cities of Ecuador.	Yes	Yes, the VNR states that various actor from civil society, academia, private sector and autonomous governments participated. Participants are further described on page 24 and 25.	Yes	Sources are referred to throughout and further specified from page 133 until 139.
14. **Egypt**	Yes	The review process included consultations with governmental entities, the active contribution of NGOs, and contribution from experts. NGOs "prepared a strategy document that outlines their role in working to achieve sustainable development, as well as initiatives to implement this proposed strategy. Examples of these numerous initiatives were presented and integrated into the report" (page 17). Experts "provided critical analysis of specific areas of sustainable development, detailing challenges, current efforts and policy recommendations. These efforts were integrated into [the] report" (page 17).	No	No direct private sector assistance is mentioned with respect to preparation of the report. However, Egypt is updating and reviewing its sustainable development strategy which is related to the SDGs, and is inviting input and contributions from the private sector (page 9).	Yes	Appendix B to the report (pages 65 *et seq.*) lists the sources for the data provided in the report.
15. **Greece**	Yes	The VNR is the product of an inclusive, participatory process. The Office of Coordination, Institutional, International and European Affairs (OCIIEA) of the General Secretariat of the Government has set of an Inter-ministerial Coordination Network and	Yes	The ministries and other stakeholders, including the ESC (which includes a large variety of actors from the private sector), local and regional authorities, academia and research institutes, civil society organizations, and the	Yes	This report includes an Annex that lists statistical information for all of the SDGs, primarily derived from the Eurostat database and produced in collaboration with the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) (starting p. 125). ELSTAT, as coordinator of the

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		developed a framework for dialogue between the government and all stakeholders to work on implementation of the SDGs, including drafting the VNR (p. 17). The OCIIEA has organized meetings with stakeholders and participated in workshops and conferences to raise public awareness on the 2030 Agenda and SDGs (pp. 115-117), and it was these sets of meetings that resulted in the formulation of national priorities and related challenges and opportunities in implementing the SDGs (p. 116).

Regarding the identification of and engagement of marginalized communities, academia, business, and civil society, the Report did not offer specifics other than its inclusion of many stakeholders and stakeholder organizations like the Economic Social Committee of Greece (ESC) in the VNR process. The ESC is a constitutionally established institution to conduct social dialogue on general policy, including representation by (1) employers, (2) employees, and (3) other groups such as farmers, self-employed people, environmental agencies, disabled people, gender | | private sector, all contributed to drafting the VNR (p. 18).

Regarding the use of private sector data or technology to measure progress, the Report mentions that the Municipality of Athens has built a system for data collection with the support of civil society institutions and the private sector (p. 86). CSR Hellas and the Hellenic Federation of Enterprises (SEV) Business Council for Sustainable Development (SEVBCSD) co-organised a business conference to launch a dialogue among stakeholders, present good business practices, and highlight SDG 17 "Partnership for the Goals" (p. 96). SEVBCSD has also completed a study among its members on the business perspective of the SDGs, highlighting the prioritization of SDGs by businesses in Greece (p. 96).

The Report did not specifically call out engagement with human rights institutions or Universal Periodic Review/human rights treaty body reporting processes to assist in | | Greek Statistical System, has conducted three rounds to identify data for the SDGs in cooperation with custodian agencies, including public sector organizations (p. 123).

A few additional sources for certain SDGs are listed below.

SDG 4 (education): the EU Labour Force Survey (EU-LFS) (pp. 130-132).

SDG 5 (discrimination): the EU Labour Force Survey (EU-LFS) (p. 133), European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) (pp. 134-135).

SDG 16 (peace and justice): Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index (p. 154).

SDG 17 (partnership for the goals): the Organisation for Economic Cooperation & Development (OECD) (p. 155). |

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		equality associations, and regional and local government (p. 23). Regarding the use of the VNR process to promote an inclusive public policy dialogue, the Report indicates that during the process, the "awareness for and ownership of the SDGs grew up" (p. 18). The ESC also played a large role, including organizing a conference in February 2018 bringing together various stakeholders to discuss the SDGs and the National Growth Strategy (p. 24).		preparing the VNR.		
16. **Guinea**	Yes	The Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation put in place institutional and technical arrangements for the preparation of the VNR. In order to prepare and draft of the VNR, a technical secretariat was put in place, including representatives of the Ministries in charge. The Ministry of African Cooperation and Integration, under which sustainable development goals were the focal point, was supported by a Technical Monitoring Committee, which was supported by 8 thematic dialogue groups (made up of officials from key ministries and technical and financial partners). This committee was	Yes	The preparation of the VNR involved actors from the government, the private sector, civil society and technical and financial partners. (p. 14)	Yes	Sources are indicated in Annex 2 attached to the VNR.

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		supported by representatives of the United Nations and two consultants. In finalizing the VNR, a consultation workshop was held on May 16-17, 2017, which included breakouts sessions to review the first VNR and gather feedback and suggestions for improving the VNR. (pp. 15 and 16)				
17. **Hungary**	Yes	Every two years there is a progress report on the implementation of the National Framework Strategy on Sustainable Development (NFSSD). The reports involve various participants, namely NCSD, the Ministry of Agriculture, NGOs and other stakeholders) (page 8)	Yes	Hungary has a newly established interministerial coordination mechanism which enhances achievement of sustainable development. Based on this mechanism, a platform has been established, involving non-governmental entities, Hungarian Central Statistical Office, CSOs, academia and the business sector. (page 8) Pages 73 and 74 outline the level of commitment and business solutions of Hungarian companies related to each of the SDGs.	Yes	In addition to the contributions made by ministries, institutions and non-governmental institutions, the Hungarian Central Statistical Office, the Ombudsman for Future Generations, the Business Council for Sustainable Development in Hungary, the Civil Roundatable for Sustainable Development and the Hungarian UN Youth Delegate, National Council for Sustainable Development all provided input.
18. **Ireland**	Yes	Ireland appears to have drafted the VNR in a collaborative manner, involving various government departments, private sector stakeholders, and national civil society members at different stages of the process. The report attributes lower-than-desired stakeholder involvement to the short timeframe in which the	Yes	The Irish Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment—the department tasked with drafting the report—facilitated a private sector "VRN Stakeholder Consultation Workshop" to discuss a draft of the VNR (summarized in Annex III, 218). A full VNR draft was not	Yes	Reporting was done by various government departments, including the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, Department of Justice and Equity, etc.

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Notes Identified
		VNR was created. However, public awareness on the whole appears to be low; as of the last survey in 2017, Irish public awareness of the SDGs was low—36%— compared to the EU average of 41%. Ireland is implementing several national platforms and campaigns to engage the public in the future.		provided for participants, but government officials described all sections. Private sector and national civil society attendees suggested a variety of areas where further information was needed, specifically indicating where they though indicators and comparators were apt or inappropriate for Ireland. For instance, participants noted issues with indicators and reporting on women's rights, and a heavy focus on national government to the detriment of local government and community efforts. Participants noted that public consultation was wanting in developing the VNR, and the government pledged to improve public involvement in the next report.

Ireland has created a national SDG Stakeholder Forum to engage the private sector, NGOs, civil society groups, trade unions, local government, and others in the country's SDG growth. The Irish government sees this as a launching point for further non-governmental involvement and partnership in the SDG sphere. The | |

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
				first meeting was held in 2018 (VNR 17-18).		
19. **Jamaica**	Yes	In his Opening Statement, the Prime Minister writes, "I wish to commend the work of the National 2030 Agenda Oversight Committee, the National SDGs Core Group, Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Private Sector, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and International Development Partners (IDPs), and all our other stakeholders who have been involved in the preparation of our first VNR on the implementation of the SDGs" (p. vi). The Methodology also notes that there was "engagement of all stakeholders including NGOs, CSOs, private sector, academia, philanthropic organizations, international development partners and all sub-groups of the population (women, children, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities etc.)." However, these NGOs etc. are not identified.	Yes	The VNR claims that the private sector was involved in its production, but specific private sector actors were not identified.	Yes	Jamaica's 2018 Statistical Annex is available at

SDG 5.5: A 2013 study by Women's Resource and Outreach Centre that found women on 33% of public sector boards and 16% of private sector boards was cited (p. 42). Also, only 11 of 63 parliamentarians were women, but no source was cited. (p. 42).

SDG 11.1: Table 5 (p. 71) showed the Housing Quality Index for 2006-2015, compiled by Planning Institute of Jamaica with data supplied by Statistical Institute of Jamaica.

SDG 16.2: 60% increase in reported cases of alleged child trafficking between 2014 and 2015 (p. 95; data source not mentioned); "Break the Silence" campaign since June 2015 to increase reporting of child abuse, with 18.7% increase of cases reported (p. 95; data source not mentioned).

SDG 16.9: 99.1% birth registration in 2014 (p. 97; data from Jamaica Survey of Living Conditions). |

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
20. **Lao PDR**	Yes	It is reported that to ensure an inclusive, participatory, and transparent Voluntary National Review, the National SDGs Secretariat organized a series of consultations in 2017 and 2018 with stakeholders from the government, the National Assembly, private sector, academia, civil society organizations, international nongovernmental organizations, the UN agencies, and other development partners. (page vii) Advocacy and awareness programmes on the 2030 Agenda and SDGs have been conducted among students and academia at local universities. Inputs from youth and volunteer groups were also obtained for the VNR process. With support from development partners, several consultations on SDGs engaged volunteer groups and young people in Vientiane, Savannakhet, and Sekong provinces. The aim was to draw on volunteers' and young people's inputs to achieving the Agenda 2030. The VNR process included concrete feedback from civil society	Yes	It is reported that the private sector was involved in consultations that took place in 2017 and 2018. (page vii)	Yes, for the majority of indicators.	Annex 1, on page 78 onwards provides a list of SDG data for the majority of indicators with the source of the information identified. Elsewhere in the main body of the VNR it is stated that Lao will need to "tap into new sources of data" to strengthen its SDG roadmap. (page 6) Many sets of data required for the indicators - especially disaggregated data - are still not available or updated. (page 68)

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		organizations. Thirty participants from 28 civil society organizations (CSOs) discussed the draft VNR at a two-day workshop organized on 26-27 April 2018 in Vientiane Capital. (page 3)				
21. **Latvia**	Yes	There were many stakeholders involved in the preparation of the Review; the Cross Sectoral Coordination Centre, Ministries, the Central Statistical Bureau, Informal Working Group (involving NGOs, social partners, ministry policy planners and others) and Cabinet of Ministers.	Yes	Informal Advisory working group was established by the Cross Sectoral Coordination Centre. During the process, participants provided information and stakeholders reviewed the review before it was sent to Cabinet of Ministers for approval. The working group included representatives of the Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments, the Free Trade Union Confederation of Latvia, the Employers' Confederation of Latvia, UNESCO Latvian National Committee, World Health Organization, NGOs delegated by the Council.	Yes	The Annex of the report clarifies methodology and is based on indicators provided by Eurostat, indicators from Sustainable Development Strategy of Latvia, National Development Plan as well as other indicators from Central Statistical Bureau and other public databases. Trends were assessed by experts and analyzed within the context of compliance with the goals.
22. **Lebanon**	Yes	The report was prepared by collecting information from primary sources and reviewing secondary information sources: official documents and data. The primary sources included extensive consultation with key ministries, Parliament, and other state	Yes	Yes, workshops were conducted with the private sector as part of the launch of the VNR. (pages 7 and 13) Keen to strengthen its cooperation and join efforts with its local partners in the road towards	Yes, for some but not all indicators.	The source of all data provided in map, graph, table form is provided throughout the VNR, but not all numbers provided in the main body of text have an identifiable source. However, overall data sources are identified in majority of instances.

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Notes Identified
		entities. A short questionnaire was sent to all relevant public-sector administrations to collect information on national policies and strategies related to the SDGs. Twenty-three individual stakeholder interviews were held, including with academia. Three workshops—with civil society, the business sector and government representatives—were another primary source of information. Civil society representatives ran a series of regional workshops, with a large number of NGOs, to raise awareness about the SDGs and Agenda 2030, to create inclusive partnerships and ownership, and to involve everyone.

The secondary sources consisted of a desk review of ministry reports, sectoral strategies, plans and legislation. Reports by UN agencies and well-established international organisations were used, as well as other thematic publications. Collecting data to measure SDG indicators was challenging because the related national committee had been recently formed when the report was being compiled. The report, therefore, relies on data already available from Lebanon's CAS, ministerial and other | | successful implementation of SDGs and Agenda 2030, the government actively involved the private sector and the civil society organizations in this process by designating two representatives of each of these sectors as official members in the national committee for SDGs. The national committee includes two representatives of the private sector and two representatives of the civil society organizations, whose roles are to consult with stakeholders within their own sectors and domains about their involvement in the SDGs implementation process and to coordinate on their behalf with the government.

The Federation of Lebanese Chambers has carried over various activities that support the SDGs. The federation aims to boost national economic growth, promote a socially and environmentally responsible business culture, spread transparency and governance best practice, foster human development, and encourage gender equity and equal | |

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		public documents. Data was also drawn from the Arab Development Portal and the UN's SDG indicators global database. The validation process included thorough review of the content of the report by the various stakeholders, including the development of certain sections of the report. The VNR broadly follows the UN Secretary-General's updated voluntary common reporting guidelines. (page 13)		opportunities within the framework of social, educational, and environmental projects and programmes. Key initiatives have been implemented by regional chambers. By way of example, the Chamber of Commerce Industry and Agriculture of Zahle and Bekaa (CCIAZ) is actively involved in sustainable development. (page 68).		
23. **Lithuania**	Yes	A group of experts was established for drawing up the voluntary national review of 2030 Agenda implementation, which involved "specialists of various ministries and representatives of non-government organisations and municipalities in its work" (pp. 3, 6)	No		No	
24. **Mali**	Yes	A national workshop for the restitution, training, sensitization and appropriation of the Sustainable Development Goals gathered national actors from the public sector, civil society, local authorities and the private sector) from 14 to 16 November 2016 in Bamako to strengthen the leadership of stakeholders in the	Yes	The process mobilized all stakeholders, including technical state services, parliamentarians, local authorities, the private sector, civil society, technical and financial partners, academics and researchers. (pp. 11 and 22)	No	Not all data sources are identified. However, in certain instances (e.g., female genital mutiliation), data appears to have been mined from the 2015 Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey. A bibliography is attached to the VNR.

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		implementation of the SDGs and the acceleration of their achievement in Mali. (p.23) Regional workshops followed in the Kayes, Mopti (including the regions of Timbuktu, Kidal, Menaka and Taoudeni), Segou, Koulikoro and Sikasso and in the Bamako district from May 29 to August 23, 2017. Further information, sensitivity and prioritization workshops and a round table were organized to inform stakeholders as to the challenges and implications of the SDGs in territorial development planning and to publicize the content of the 2030 Agenda. (p. 12) In order to prepare this VNR, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation organized a meeting on February 7, 2018 with experts from sector departments, civil society, private sector and parliamentarians. (p. 22)				
25. **Malta**	Yes	As a first step in conducting the national review, the Task Force within Malta's Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Trade Promotion (MFTP) was set up with the task of coordinating and collating input among Government Ministries and eventually drafting the Review itself. The Ministries	Yes	The private sector was consulted during reporting process (p15). The private sector (along with Government entities and representatives of the farming communities) identified and agreed upon an "overarching objective" of	Yes	The Sustainable Development Act (2012) established a whole-of-government approach and a coordinating mechanism for sustainable development policy in Malta, through the setting up of a Focal Point Network. The Focal Point Network offers a forum for the

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		participated in a Focal Point Meeting in October 2017. The Task Force held meetings with government officials and a set of guidelines were prepared. Ministries were tasked with liaising with sectors of government that fell under their respective responsibilities to present input to the Task Force. Task Force also extended its consultations to Parliament, private sector and civil society. The Task Force held meeting with the National Statistics Office to discuss the data related to SDGs. (p15)		the National Agricultural Policy for the Maltese Islands 2018-2028 (to steer agricultural sector into a more sustainable direction) as part of SDG 2- Zero Hunger (p 21). Private and public sector marine and maritime stakeholders partnered to develop maritime clusters which were pillars of the National Integrated Maritime Policy (committed to sustainable economic growth) for SDG 14 – Life Below Water (p83). In December 2017, Malta joined the UN Clean Seas campaign which collaborates with government and private sector (p97).

In its report, Malta highlighted two Public-Private and civil society Partnerships: a Nov 2017 16-day event on domestic violence "Love Doesn't Hurt"; and a 2018 public-private campaign "Making Malta Green and Clean" (p95)

Malta's ODA policy is being updated through a new ODA Implementation Plan. The new ODA Implementation Plan will seek to promote greater synergies with the private sector, particularly | | exchange of information and is a catalyst for closer cooperation among Government Ministries.
The Focal Point Network also facilitated the collection of data and input. P 14.

The Task Force within Malta's MFTP (see left) was tasked with coordinating and collating input and data. (p15)

Malta included an Annex at the end of the VNR with UN SDG target comparisons. The Annex contains a list of tables provided by the Malta National Statistics Office. (p105-122) |

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
				through the promotion of opportunities arising under the European External Investment Plan (EIP) and the European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD). (p16)		
26. **Mexico**	Yes	The VNR appears to be a product of an inclusive, participatory process where many actors in the society are involved. Mexico appears to make an effort to involve many actors in society, including the public.

The VNR states that Mexico's draft of its National Strategy for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda (the "National Strategy") has been submitted for public review. The document defines priorities, goals, indicators and challenges as well as the roles and functions of different actors, incorporating the vision of different sectors. In addition, inter-institutional working groups will be created to hold discussions on goals and indicators. It is further noted that during the development of the National Strategy, five regional dialogues were held with civil social society organisations in different cities and Mexico in order to introduce the 2030 Agenda and adopt its priorities, | Yes | The VNR states that the government is in constant dialogue with the private sector and has established different channels of communication with the private sector. The Alliance for Sustainability ("AxS") was created between the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation and the private sector and has established five committees in strategic areas of the 2030 Agenda. AxS comprises over 50 members consisting of companies and foundations. The government also has a permanent dialogue with the Business Coordinating Council and its members (p. 41). | Yes | The VNR identifies several federal and local government agencies and private sector, academic and civil society institutions and organisations that have contributed to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Mexico as well as with information included in the VNR.

The VNR also includes footnotes throughout the document, identifying the source of the information. |

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		perspectives and concerns (p. 20). The academic and scientific community has also been involved in the process. The VNR notes that they have begun to reflect on proposals for sustainability policies and has contributed to the development of information useful to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Universities and researchers across the country have been involved to make progress on tasks related to the implementation of the SDGs (p. 21 and p. 41). Further, the National Council for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (the "NCASD") was created in 2017. This council aims to coordinate the design, execution, follow-up and evaluation of the actions implementing the SDGs. The council is the highest decision-making body and connects the executive, legislative and judicial branches of the federal government with local governments, the private sector, civil society and academia (p. 28).				
27. **Namibia**	Yes	The VNR explicitly states that the content of this VNR is extracted from	Yes	The VNR states in the introduction on page 9 that the private sector	No – not for specific data	However, it is mentioned in the introduction that the data in the VNR

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		numerous local development planning instruments (inclusive but not limited to NDP5 and Harambee Prosperity Plan) which resulted from diverse stakeholder consultative processes championed at both the highest level by His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Namibia, Dr Hage G. Geingob, and at the technical and grass-roots levels through the NDP5 stakeholder consultations. Amongst those engaged, through multi-stakeholder consultative exercises, were the public sector, private sector, civil society, development partners, UN, academia and other interest groups. The data therein was collected and validated by the duly mandated national statistical authority (Namibia Statistical Agency –NSA) and also through key informer interviews and literature reviews (page 9).		was one stakeholder engaged in consultative processes carried out in producing the VNR.	references	was collected and validated by the duly mandated national statistical authority (Namibia Statistical Agency) who, it is stated, was responsible for the collection of data and analysis thereof (page 9).
28. **Niger**	Yes	The VNR was conducted in a participatory manner by the Ministry of Planning which set up a Technical Supervision Committee, including the Planning and Foresight General Directorate, the Statistics National Institute, the Executive Secretariat of the National Council for the Environment and Sustainable Development, the Ministries of	Yes	The review process involved the private sector. (p. 6)	Yes	The VNR contains statistical charts, which were provided by the Planning and Foresight Generate Directorate, the Ministry of Planning, the Statistics National Institute, the Ministry of Finance. A bibliography is further attached to the VNR.

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and the Agencies of the United Nations. (p. 19)

All stakeholders have been involved in the review: public services, association, non-governmental organizations, technical and financial partners, private sector and other actors in civil society. Meetings were organized at various stages of the process (start of the mission at the time of data collection, discussions on conclusions and technical validation of the review's conclusions. (p. 6) | | | | |
| 29. **Palestine** | Yes | According to the VNR, multi-stakeholder consultations and participation formed the key basis for the preparation of the review (p. 7). A National SDGs Team, which includes representatives from 24 governmental, non-governmental and private sector organizations, was created to support senior governmental leadership in the official review process. Over 500 representatives of governmental institutions, UN agencies, local and international NGOs, civil society, academic institutions and the private sector participated in numerous deliberations to ensure an inclusive | Yes | According to the VNR, private sector organizations were represented in the National SDGs Team which was formed to support senior governmental leadership in the official review process (p. 7). Private sector representatives also participated in numerous deliberations to collect data, disseminate goals and targets, and discuss prioritisation and localization of the SDGs. | Yes | Sources are provided (in the form of end notes on pp. 92-93) for some, but not all, indicators.

Poverty rate in 2017 (p. 20): Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2018, Main Results of Living Standards in Palestine (Expenditure, Consumption and Poverty), 2017. Ramallah – Palestine (p. 92).

School enrolment rate for children with disabilities (p. 32): UNESCO, UNICEF, Ministry of Education and Higher Education, 2017. National Report on the situation of children outside school 2017 (p. 92). |

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		process and representation of all segments of the Palestinian society. The deliberations included data collection, dissemination of the information on goals and targets, and participation in discussions on the prioritisation and localisation of the SDGs. Consultations were conducted with focus groups consisting of youth, women, and persons with disabilities to ensure inclusivity and representation of these marginalised groups (p. 8). Consultations were also conducted in different geographical areas (North West Bank, South West Bank, Gaza) to ensure geographic inclusivity.				Illiteracy rates amongst person with disabilities and university education completion rate (p. 32): Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics 2018. Census of Population and Housing Census 2017 (p. 92).

Number of females and males who are enrolled in compulsory education and postgraduate education (p. 32): Ministry of Education 2017, Educational databases for schools and kindergartens for the academic year 2016/2017 (p. 92).

Over crowdedness in Gaza schools (p. 33): Ministry of Education and Higher Education 2017, the annual educational statistical book for the academic year 2015-2016 (p. 92).

Inadequate adaptation of schools to the needs of persons with mobility disabilities (p. 33): Ministry of Education and Higher Education, 2018. Bayat School for Girls, 2016/2017 (p. 92).

Female and male time spent on domestic work (p. 37): Central Statistical Organization, 2014. Time |

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
						Use Survey 2012/2013: Main Results. Ramallah – Palestine (p. 93).
						Percentage of women reporting violence (p. 36): Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2012. Survey of Violence in Palestinian Society, 2011. Main Findings, Ramallah, Palestine (p. 93).
						Proportion of women aged 15 and older who have ever been with a partner and who was subjected to violence by an intimate partner in the previous 12 months (p. 108): Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2012. Violence Survey in Palestinian Society, 2011 Main Findings. Ramallah-Palestine (p. 108).
						Proportion of women aged 15 and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months (p. 109): Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2012. Violence Survey in Palestinian Society, 2011 Main Findings. Ramallah-Palestine (p. 109).
						Percentage of child marriage (p. 36): Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2017. Marriage and Divorce Database

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
						in Palestine, 2016. Ramallah – Palestine (p. 93).
						Percentage of women marrying before age of 18 (p. 36): Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2015. Palestinian Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2014. Ramallah – Palestine (p. 93).
						Proportion of women aged 20-24 who were married or in a union before 15 or 18 years of age (p. 109): Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2015. Palestinian Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2014. Ramallah – Palestine (p. 109).
						Proportion of women registered in the Commercial Register (p. 37): Ministry of National Economy, 2018. Registration Records Database 2015-2017 (p. 93).
						Percentage of women in elected and judicial positions (p. 37): Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2017. Women and Men in Palestine: Issues and Statistics, 2017. Ramallah – Palestine (p. 93).
						Percentage of women in civil service (p. 37): Office of Public Personnel

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
						2017, Civil Service Employees Database, 2017. Unpublished data (p. 93).
						Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament (p. 110): Palestinian Legislative Council (p. 110).
						Proportion of seats held by women in local government (p. 110): MOLG (p. 110).
						Proportion of women in managerial positions (p. 110): PCBS_ Labor Force Survey Database (p. 110).
						Unemployment rate in 2017 (p. 62): Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2018. Labor Force Survey: Annual Report, 2017. Ramallah – Palestine (p. 93).
						Unemployment rate for women who finished more than 13 years of schooling (p. 62): Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2017. Women and Men in Palestine: Issues and Statistics, 2017. Ramallah – Palestine (p. 93).
						Unemployment rate for young female graduates (p. 36): Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2018. Labor Force

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
						Survey Database, 207. Ramallah – Palestine (p. 93).
						Unemployment rate for disabled persons participating in workforce (p. 62): Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, 2018. Census Database, 2017. Ramallah – Palestine (p. 93).
						Average hourly earnings of female and male employees (p. 113): PCBS_Labor Force Survey Database (p. 113).
						Unemployment rate by sex (p. 113): PCBS_Labor Force Survey Database (p. 113).
						Proportion of children aged 5-17 engaged in child labor (p. 113): PCBS_Labor Force Survey Database (p. 113).
						Chronic housing shortage in East Jerusalem (p. 72): International Peace and Cooperation Centre (2013), 'East Jerusalem Housing Review' (p. 93).
						Lack of housing dramatically increased house prices by 192% between 2007 and 2012 (p. 72): Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, General Population, Housing and Establishment

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
						Census 2017 (p. 93).
						Gaza housing shortage (p. 72): UN Habitat (2015), 'Right to develop: Planning Palestinian communities in East Jerusalem' 25 (p. 93).
						Number of Palestinians killed by Israeli occupation (p. 76): United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs 2014, Summary of the initial multisectoral assessment in Gaza, 2014 (p. 93).
						Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 populations (p. 124): Police data (p. 124).
						Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live (p. 124): PCBS_Crime Survey 2016 (p. 124).
						Proportion of children aged 1-17 who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month (p. 124): UNSD Global Data Base: PCBS, MICS 2014 (p. 124).
						Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
						their victimization to competent authorities or other officially recognized conflict resolution mechanisms (p. 124): PCBS_Crime Survey 2012 (p. 124).
						Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population (p. 124): Police data (p. 124).
						Proportion of persons who had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials, during the previous 12 months (p. 124): Database, Perceptions Survey of Individuals on the Prevalence of Corruption in Palestine, 2013 (p. 124).
						Proportion of businesses that had at least one contact with a public official and that paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials during the previous 12 months (p. 124): UNSD Global Database (p. 124).
						Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority, by age (p. 125): Population Register, Ministry of

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
						Interior, Updated Version Until 22/02/2016 (p. 125). Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months (p. 125): UNSD Global Database, UNESCO (p. 125). Existence of independent national human rights institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles (p. 125): UNSD Global Database, OHCHR (p. 125).
30. Paraguay	Yes	The report has been prepared under the supervision of the Paraguay 2030 Coordination SDG Commission (see responses below) with the support of government authorities, civil organizations and private sector organizations. (p. 14)	Yes	While the back of the cover page lists all institutions that have collaborated with the preparation report, it is not clear which ones are civil organizations or private sector organizations.	Yes	The executive summary indicates that statistical information has been gathered by the General Director of Statistics, Inquiries and Census (DGEEE). Annex 2 to the report lists all indicators that Paraguay is currently able to report on and the related source, as described below. While most of the sources trace back to the DGEEE, there appears to be different departments within the DGEEE, or different reports or studies produced by the DGEEE, and used as source, but

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
						the acronyms do not allow us to identify these different departments, or reports or studies.
						SDG 5.3.1 – General Director of Statistics, Inquiries and Census (DGEEE-MICS)
						SDG 5.5.1 – SFP-DGTIC (meaning of the acronym is not specified)
						SDG 5.5.2 – General Director of Statistics, Inquiries and Census (DGEEC-EPH) and SFP-DGTIC (meaning of the acronym is not specified)
						SDGs 8.5.1 and 8.5.2 – General Director of Statistics, Inquiries and Census (DGEEC-EPH)
						SDG 8.7.1 – General Director of Statistics, Inquiries and Census (DGEEC-EANA) and General Director of Statistics, Inquiries and Census (DGEEC-MICS)
						SDG 16.2.1 – General Director of Statistics, Inquiries and Census (DGEEC-MICS)
						SDG 16.9.1 – EEVV (meaning of acronym not specified), General Director of Statistics, Inquiries and Census (DGEEC-EPH) and General Director of Statistics, Inquiries and

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
						Census (DGEEC-MICS)
31. **Poland**	Yes	According to the report itself, it "was prepared using a participatory approach. This means that already at the drafting stage, organisations representing various stakeholder groups were involved. A dedicated Task Force for the Coherence between the SRD and the 2030 Agenda was appointed to prepare Poland for the Voluntary National Review 2018. The Task Force includes representatives of ministries, social organisations, social and economic partners, NGOs, public statistics, civil society, academia and youth. Ministerial coordinators have been appointed for respective SDGs and descriptions of individual measures and examples of best practices have been developed in cooperation with external partners. Moreover, the Report was subject to extensive public consultations in accordance with the no one will be left behind principle." That said, this was less evidence of a participatory approach in the discussion of specific SDGs.	Yes	As with the previous question, the report states that various organizations "representing various stakeholder groups" were involved, but this was less evidence of this in the discussion of specific SDGs, and little or no mention of the private sector explicitly.	Yes	At the end of the Report, there was a series of charts listing statistical information and identifying the source of that information. Statistics Poland ("GUS") provided a lot of the information. In addition, various government agencies provided information, including the Ministry of National Education, Polish Geological Institute, and the Ministry of Energy, etc. Finally, various EU or international organization sources provided information, such as Eurostat and the World Bank. Often, this information was integrated into the textual discussion of the SDGs.
32. **Qatar**	Yes	VNR was prepared by a working group in Qatar's Ministry of Development	Yes	In implementing the Sustainable Development Agenda, the Ministry	Yes	Pages 80-81 of the report contain a list of Arabic and English sources, which

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		Planning and Statistics ("the Ministry"), in cooperation with partner ministries, government agencies, and civil society organizations (pp. 13). The working group relied on reports and inputs (qualitative and quantitative) from these agencies and organizations (pp. 13). High-level committees, teams, and technical working groups are established to help monitor progress and prepare periodic reports on implementation of the objectives (pp. 68). Implementation is supported by Departments of planning and quality control at various ministries (pp. 68). The Ministry has aligned the outcomes and targets of Qatar's National Development Strategy 2018-2022 with the goals and objectives of the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 (pp. 68-69). Qatar joined the "transformational project" in the official statistics system of the UN Statistics Division in order to build its statistical capacity and produce the list of indicators adopted by the UN Statistical Commission (pp. 73). These indicators will be used to monitor the progress in both the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 and the		of Development Planning and Statistics receives support from working partners, including other ministries and government agencies, universities and research centers, civil society organizations, and the private sector (pp. 68). The Department for follow-up (monitoring) of National Development Strategy and Sustainable Development Agenda Implementation receives support from the Statistics sector and a supervisory group (consisting of high level representatives of ministries, government agencies, civil society organizations, and the private sector) (pp. 68). The monitoring and follow-up system for the SDGs will be supported by sophisticated technological software to produce periodic reports (annual, semi-annual, and quarterly). Defined dashboards will be used to measure progress of the key projects of the National Development Strategy 2018-2022 and the Sustainable Development Agenda, using the indicators adopted in the UN Statistical		include information from – Ministry of Development Planning and Statistics, Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Former Ministry of Environment, United Nations, World Bank, Qatar Tourism Authority, etc.

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		National Development Strategy 2018-2022. Qatar has also developed a roadmap for updating its national statistical system (pp. 73).		Commission (pp. 71-72). The "Next Steps" section of the VNR mentions the need for continued cooperation and solidarity between public and private sectors, and civil society organizations to achieve QNV2030 goals and overcome implementation challenges (pp. 79).		
33. **Romania**	No	The impression is that the report was written by a Government ministry (seems to be the Ministry of Environment, p. 2) providing an overview of the Romania's different policies and projects that concern the SDG 2030 goals.	No		No	The report is quite non-specific in terms of providing a systematic approach to achieving the SDG goals in question. The report is dense, but outlines a wide range of Romanian policies and broad-based objectives without taking specific aim at the SDG 2030 goals. As such, the report is fairly difficult to digest as a lot of information is provided without saying much on the SDG objectives.
34. **Saudi Arabia**	Yes	Yes, the Minister of Economy and Planning (MEP) conducted workshops and bilateral meetings with a number of government agencies such as the Ministry of Energy, the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Saudi Fund for Development among others. The	Yes	The workshops and meetings were also attended by several private sector and charity societies and associations, most notably Saudi Basic Industries Corporation, ACWA Power Corporation, Bunyan's Women's Charitable Association, the King Khalid Foundation and the	Yes	This was Saudi Arabia's first VNR and represented its first attempt to conduct a systematic and comprehensive review of the status of the SDGs and actions taken by relevant stakeholders to fulfil the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. It appears to be a genuine commitment

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		workshops and meetings were also attended by several private sector and charity societies and associations, most notably Saudi Basic Industries Corporation, ACWA Power Corporation, Bunyan's Women's Charitable Association, the King Khalid Foundation and the Prince Mohammad bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Foundation.		Prince Mohammad bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Foundation. The work team included the private sector and the report references the close alignment of the SDGs with Saudi Vision 2030 which aims to get increase the role of the private sector in Saudi Arabia and develop and improve productivity and efficiency in the private, public and third sectors.		to the sustainable development goals and it stresses the importance of constructive feedback. Comparative data (which should hopefully result from future VNRs) would be helpful in tracking Saudi Arabia's attainment of the goals year on year. Alongside this, the 2030 Agenda fits in well in the broader framework of Saudi Arabia's 2030 Vision and the two align closely and pursue similar goals. More could be done to reference exact private sector involvement or participation.
35. **Senegal**	Yes	The report was prepared by an ad hoc committee, which identified the various relevant actors (i.e., the government, local administrations, private sector, parliament and research institutes). The final VNR includes the comments received by these actors.	Yes	The private sector is a major actor in Senegal's PSE (national plan mirroring the SDGs) and will play a similar role in tracking the SDGs.	Yes	There are very few data sources included, though the report does provide an annex with the governmental agency responsible for the SDGs. The limited data sources provided are internally generated national surveys/reports.
36. **Singapore**	Yes	It is reported that to ensure greater congruence with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Singapore established the Inter-Ministry Committee on SDGs (IMC-SDG) for its Voluntary National Review (VNR) and thereafter, to take stock of its SDG implementation over the longer term.	Yes	Yes, the IMC-SDGs reached out to businesses as part of the process of compiling the Singapore VNR. (page 71)	No –only in a few instances is the source of data identified.	Overall, the source(s) of data are not identified more often than they are identified.

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Notes Identified
		(page 3) The Inter-Ministry Committee on SDGs (IMC-SDGs) was established to oversee the interagency process for the report, and over the longer-term, to monitor progress on SDG implementation. The IMC-SDGs is co-chaired by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources. The IMC-SDGs ensured the buy-in of agencies and engendered a sense of ownership of the VNR process. The IMC-SDGs convened three inter-agency meetings in line with its three-step approach to drafting the VNR report; in January 2017, August 2017, and January 2018. The first meeting introduced the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs to domestic agencies to seek their support to undertake the first VNR in 2018. During the second meeting, Singapore conducted an internal stocktake with its agencies on the performance policies against the SDGs and their related targets and indicators. This allowed for an initial cross-sectoral examination of the data and information to give Singapore a better understanding of where it stood and where more progress was required. The information gathered			

was further distilled into a preliminary outline of the report to elicit more detailed responses from agencies. At the final inter-agency meeting, Singapore tasked its agencies to provide more substantive and specific input on each of the different SDGs. It sought their frank assessment in order to truly reflect how it fared in SDG implementation. Singapore also urged its agencies to be objective and realistic with regard to identifying future challenges and constraints, alongside potential opportunities which it could harness to overcome these challenges.

The IMC-SDGs attended several workshops and seminars at the sub-regional, regional and global levels in order to learn from the experiences of other countries which had already undertaken their VNRs and to share best practices on how to better achieve the SDGs. This included the Southeast Asia Forum on Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, organised by the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in October 2017, the Workshop for the 2018 Voluntary National Reviews at the

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Notes Identified
		High-Level Political Forum organised by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs in December 2018, and the 5th Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development in March 2018. These events also allowed us to interact directly with agencies within the UN system, to seek further guidance on undertaking the review process. The IMC-SDGs also made a concerted effort to publicise Singapore's VNR undertaking at the 2018 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development to as many stakeholders as possible, including businesses, youth organisations, and civil society. Stakeholders responded readily, offering to contribute their views and ideas to the report, with some even sharing their research on the 2030 Agenda in areas specific to their interests (e.g. climate action, water and sanitation, or food security). Singapore engaged these stakeholders through regular meetings and participation in their events on sustainable development in order to understand their views better. These engagements revealed areas where the Government's work aligned with			

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		theirs, and sparked off ideas on how it could potentially support and collaborate with these stakeholders. (page 71)				
37. **Slovakia**	Yes	Slovakia has devised a process where "all segments of society" is involved in the process of implementing the 2030 Agenda, including representatives of non-governmental and private sector, academic community, interest groups, regions and municipalities as well as the general public. In the report, it is stated that "[t]he priority-setting process met the criteria of participation, inclusiveness and transparency and was overviewed by the Government Council of the Slovak Republic for the 2030 Agenda, in intensive cooperation with stakeholders". (p. 14)	Yes	See comment about inclusive process.	No	
38. **Spain**	Yes	Despite a lack of detail relating to certain specific SDGs, Spain appears to have taken this process very seriously, including major stakeholders and high-ranking members of government. These include, the president of the government, the presidents and governments of the Autonomous Regions, local governments, trade unions, and large companies. To coordinate all these disparate bodies,	Yes	However, the interaction with the private sector appears limited. While Spain did not explicitly make reference to the private sector as a source of data, they do reference cooperation with trade unions to continue to raise the minimum wage contingent on market conditions and real GDP growth (VNR, p. 62). Finally, the regional administration has agreed to	Yes	While Spain did provide the source of some of its data, it was often not very clear, sometimes referencing data or statistics without making it clear where it obtained that information. There are, however, several examples of where Spain did indicate the source, including use of the Report on Financing for Development, published by the European Commission to reflect progress in achieving the AAAA, in

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		Royal Decree 419/2018, of 18 June, restructured the government to set forth the creation of a series of high-level management bodies and positions, to work under the presidency, including newly created High Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda (VNR, p. 171). Furthermore, Spain's Congress of Deputies along with the support of several Autonomous Communities and FEMP have gone even further by urging the Spain to create a Sustainable Development Council representing all social, economic and political stakeholders (VNR, p. 172). Beyond including stakeholders, Spain has resolved to create a virtual platform raise awareness, encourage transparency by acting as a complete information source to all the information about the 2030 Agenda and its implementation, and for the mobilization, learning and recording of the commitment of all stakeholders and citizens (VNR, 173).		promote the creation of a Council for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for the Autonomous Community of Madrid, in which all of the regional Government Departments, local entities, civil society organizations and trade unions shall be represented (VNR, p. 158).		support of developing countries, by the EU as a whole and by each of its Member States (VNR, p. 81). There was also a 2017 Living Conditions Survey and the Gini index and a 2016 World Bank Report and government statistics. Finally, there were also Statistics from the Ministry of Education; Studies such as the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) and the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) (VNR, p. 44).
39. **Sri Lanka**	Yes	The VNR process included government actors, private sector, academia, development partners, and Civil Society Organizations including Volunteer Involving Organizations (p. 19). The VNR task force held multi-	Yes	Stakeholders from the private sector participated in the VNR process, including for example the Report Validation workshop, in which academia, youth, and the private sector evaluated key	Yes	The report identified specific sources on a per-SDG basis as listed below. Additionally, the report notes that the Sri Lanka Department of Census and Statistics (DCS) is responsible for collecting and analysing all of the

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		stakeholder consulting workshops, including both national and regional consultations, and also developed an online platform to engage all stakeholders (pp. 19-20).

Regarding the identification of and engagement of marginalized communities, academia, business, and civil society, the regional consultative workshop was specifically targeted at local government representatives and organizations to gather the views and feedback of marginalized groups (pp. 20-21).

Regarding the use of the VNR process to promote an inclusive public policy dialogue, the VNR task force formed a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) with five levels of public participation—inform, consult, involve, collaborate, and empower— and the tools needed to achieve each level (pp. 23-24). Workshops had priority during the 2018 VNR period, but the SEP is intended to have long-term ramifications for stakeholder engagement in the post-VNR period (p. 24). | | findings of the final report draft (p. 21).

Regarding the use of private sector data or technology to measure progress, the Report notes that the UN organized a First National Symposium on Data for the Sustainable Development Goals, a two-day event including stakeholders from academia and data and research organizations to discuss improved data for Sri Lankan SDG indicators (p. 27). However, the Report focuses on national ability (through the national statistical organization, DCS) to collect data to monitor SDG status, including assistance from various government agencies (pp. 108-110). There is no mention of specific private sector entities participating in the data collection and analysis process.

The Report did not note any specific instances where the VNR task force engaged with human rights institutions or Universal Periodic Review/human rights treaty body reporting processes to assist in preparing the VNR. | | information to track SDG progress (p. 108). The DCS has statistical units in various key departments and ministries, and has compiled information from censuses, surveys, and administrative data (p. 108).

SDG 1 (poverty) data sources include the Household Income and Expenditure Final Reports from the DCS (pp. 65, 67), the Status of Sustainable Development Goals Indicators in Sri Lanka also from DCS (p. 66), the Central Bank Annual Report (p. 67), and the State of the Economy report from the Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (p. 67).

SDG 4 (education) data sources include the United Nations (2015) Millennium Development Goals Country Report (p. 77), school enrolment/completion data from the World Bank (p. 77), a Labour Market Analysis using Census Data from the United Nations Population Fund (p. 79), a Sri Lanka Education Sector Assessment from the World Bank (p. 79), the State of the Economy report and educational reports from the Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (pp. 79-80), a Barriers and Opportunities in |

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
						Education report from UNICEF (p. 79), and a Workforce Skills study from the Asian Development Bank and International Labour Organization (p. 80).
						SDG 5 (discrimination) data sources include Development Indicators from the World Bank (p. 83), the Country Gender Assessment Sri Lanka from the Asian Development Bank (p. 83), and a Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey from the DCS (p. 83).
						SDG 8 (work equality and labor rights) data sources include a Labour Force Survey, a Child Activity Survey, and a Labour Demand Survey from the DCS (pp. 85-86), Development Indicators from the World Bank (p. 85), data from the Ministry of Labour and Trade Union Relations and the Ministry of Finance (p. 85), the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (p. 85), and an employment study from the Institute of Policy Studies (p. 86).
						SDG 10 (inequalities) data sources include the DCS (p. 91), the Millennium Development Goals Country Report from the United Nations (p. 91), the National Labour Migration Policy for Sri Lanka from the Ministry of Foreign

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
						Employment Promotion and Welfare (p. 91), a migration study from the Institute of Policy Studies (p. 91), a Sri Lankan aid study from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (p. 91), and the Central Bank of Sri Lanka (p. 92). SDG 11 (sustainability) data sources include the National Physical Planning Policy and the Plan 2050 from the National Physical Planning Department (p. 51), the Status of Sustainable Goals Indicators from the Department of Census and Statistics (p. 51), the Housing Needs Assessment and Data Survey from the Ministry of Housing and Construction (pp. 51, 52), and National Transport Statistics (p. 52). SDG 16 (peace and justice) data sources include Crime Trends data from the Sri Lanka Police (p. 99), the DCS (p. 99), a Sri Lanka Anti-Corruption Report from GAN Integrity (p. 99), and a performance report from the Ministry of Economic Development (p. 100)/ SDG 17 (partnership for the goals) data sources include World Development Indicators from the World Bank (p.

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
						104, 106), the Central Bank of Sri Lanka Annual Report (p. 104), a Sri Lankan debt study from the Institute of Policy Studies (p. 105), a Labour Market Analysis using Census Data from the United Nations Population Fund (p. 105), the World Food Programme (pp. 106, 108), the United Nations Sustainable Development: Framework 2018-2022: Sri Lanka report (p. 106), and the DCS (p. 109).
40. **Sudan**	Yes	The activities cited in Sudan's Voluntary National Report were undertaken under the auspices of the High-Level National Mechanism (HLNM). This covered meetings with high level key officials, experts, discussions with representatives of parliament and population groups such as women and youth groups, and engagement of professionals and researchers, amongst others (p.3). p.10 of the VNR states that 'the VNR process is inclusive as it has engaged all national state and non-state stakeholders'. Similarly, p.14 states that 'the VNR 2018 is a consultative and participatory process,' and that 'the outcomes must be achieved through constructive engagement of the people and the government at the	Yes	Sudan's Voluntary National Report states 'the VNR 2018…has engaged all national state and non-state stakeholders: the line ministries and public institutions, the private sector, the parliament, the civil society and voluntary organizations, and the Sudanese people' (p.10). Next, p.18 refers to the fact that the National Population Council have undertaken 'six interactive consultation workshops with line ministries and their respective stakeholders' (private sector included). Moreover, p.25 notes that the government shares the implementation of its development plans with the private sector. This is in the form of domestic public-	Yes	p.10 of the Report specifies that the reporting process 'engaged all national state and non-state stakeholders: the line ministries and public institutions, the private sector, the parliament, the civil society and voluntary organizations, the community-based organizations, and the Sudanese people, especially youth and women.' p.18 cites 'consultation workshops', 'meetings with experts' and 'two forums for policy dialogue' as a source of the SDGs implementation policy. However, p.10 of the Report notes that 'no attempt has been made' to quantitatively measure progress, and that much of the data needed to measure the SDGs indicators does not

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		federal and state levels.' Six high level presidential councils were formulated and officially inaugurated by the president to ensure the implementation of the NDC (National Dialogue Conference) recommendations (p.5). Commitment to implementing the new agenda was supported by the recommendations of the NDC. The NDC engaged the government, opposition parties and representatives of armed groups in a national dialogue on peace and development in the Sudan (p.9).		private partnerships, and foreign partnerships (bilateral and multilateral relations).		exist. The Report calls for building the capacity of the Central Bureau of Statistics, as well as the development of administrative records, to counter this issue.
41. **Switzerland**	No	The report appears to be a product of the federal government's comprehensive baseline assessment only.	Yes	Likely not for the preparation of the country report, but the report does mention that Switzerland's private sector, NGOs and scientific community have also been committed to sustainable development for a long time and that an advisory group composed of interested non-state actors has identified what it considers to be Switzerland's priority challenges. This group provides a platform for further dialogue with the federal government and for partnerships for implementing the 2030 Agenda.	No	

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
				See answer to above question.		
42. **Togo**	Yes	Togo states that the report "was prepared not only in a participatory and inclusive fashion, but also involved all development stakeholders at all stages of its formulation" (p. 9) In this process, the following stakeholders are listed as having been involved: public administration, local authorities, civil society, private sector under the supervision and coordination of a technical team composed of the Presidency of the Republic, the Prime Ministry, Ministry of Development Planning, including the Technical and Financial Partners (p. 13). Togo seems to have followed a structured process for obtaining relevant information and producing the voluntary report. The process involved the following steps: (1) Update of the data collection questionnaire used during the second review; (2) Preparatory kick-off workshop with stakeholders; (3) Data collection; (4) Drafting of preliminary report; (5) Validation of report; and (6) Editing and dissemination. (pp. 13-14).	Yes	Togo states that private sector was involved, however the sector is said to have been represented by a Committee that seemed to consist only of public administration officials (i.e. the Presidency of the Republic, the Prime Ministry, Ministry of Development Planning, including the Technical and Financial Partners) (p. 13)	No	
43. **UAE**	Yes	The VRN represents the efforts of the National Committee on SDGs (the	Yes	The first draft of this VDR was based on the outcomes of the	Yes	The VDR is the first report produced by the Committee. The Committee is

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		"**Committee**") in its first full year as stewards of the SDGs in the UAE. The Committee was formed by decree of the UAE Cabinet in 2017, involves 15 federal-level ministries, authorities and councils, and agreed upon and set in motion a comprehensive implementation plan for the SDGs. The Committee is committed to engaging a wide range of governmental and non-government stakeholders in the annual reporting on SDGs. The consultation process for this VDR was organized in parallel with the stakeholder engagement and outreach for 2017. Partners within and outside of government were invited to participate in awareness raising sessions on the UAE's implementation plan and to contribute details of programs, initiatives, data and success stories on themes related to sustainable development. In October 2017, the Committee hosted its first, annual, stakeholder meeting on SDGs. The purpose of the Committee's annual events is to convene senior UAE government officials and representatives from the		stakeholder meeting in October 2017 hosted by the Committee. Representatives from the private sector were invited to participate in this event. Chapter 5 (Stakeholder Engagement for Implementation of SDGs) deals with Private Sector Engagement to achieve SDGs (page 33).		mandated to: • align the SDG's with UAE's national development priorities and serve as a coordination body to implement the SDGs; • undertake regular follow-up and review of progress implementation; • manage domestic and international stakeholder engagements • coordinate the collection of statistics, identify new data sources and assist the National Statistics System to build capacity to monitor and report on SDG indicators • manage adhoc SDG-related projects assigned by Cabinet. The Committee complied this report following stakeholder engagement based on three principles: Make Aware, Engage and Maintain. The data used to compile the VDR is from the National Statistics System (NSS) and from outside government. UAE's NSS consists of the Federal Competitiveness and Statistics Authority (FCSA), the local statistics offices of each of the seven Emirates,

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		private sector, academia, NGOs and youth groups to inform them of the ongoing program of work for the implementation of the SDGs in the UAE. The event also serves as a platform for dialogue and coordination for the review of cross-sectoral implementation plans. The first draft of this report was based on the outcomes of the October 2017 meeting. Thereafter, stakeholders were asked to review and provide feedback on subsequent drafts. In 2018, the National Committee seeks to engage a wider range of partners, both nationally and internationally, with a specific focus on local government, youth and gender groups and the non-profit sector. [*Reference: Chapter 2 (UAE's National Committee on Sustainable Development Goals), Consultation process for implementation and annual reporting, page 18*]				ministries, authorities and other government entities that collect or generate administrative data as part of their core business. As the UAE's national statistics office, FCSA's role is to provide governance, coordination & support for capacity building across the NSS and serve as the primary source of official statistics at the federal-level in the UAE. Partnerships with leading private sector companies are being explored and several pilot projects have been launched to gauge the viability of public-private-partnerships to produce the rich datasets the SDGs require. The Committee also seeks to leverage the UAE's STI framework and collaborate with the country's frontier-shaping STI sectors (e.g. Dubai Data Initiative, space sector etc.) to address data needs.
44. **Uruguay**	Yes	Yes, the VNR mentions that the process has involved several meetings with both public and private sector,	Yes	Yes, all participants, public as well as private, are listed on p. 6 (private sector involvement also	Yes	Sources have been listed throughout or after each separate SDG goal report (throughout the sections in respect if

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
		civil society, academic institutions and international organisations (p. 14). The coordinating party has been the Planning and Budget Office (OPP), which with the assistance from the Directorate for Evaluation (AGEV) and the Directorate for Statistics (INE) and the Agency for International Cooperation (AUCI). AGEV conducted an overview of all actors directly involved in the implementation of each of the SDGs and further organized meetings with these actors for discussion and information exchange for the purpose of the development of the VNR.		mentioned on p. 14). Further explained on the following pages p. 40-42, p. 56-65 are the detailed process on how private companies were involved in the process.		SDG 6 and 7 and on p. 171, 206, 238).
45. **Vietnam**	Yes	The VNR formulation process involved "intensive and extensive participation of the National Assembly, ministries and agencies, socio-political organizations (such as Women's Union, Youth Union), socio-professional organizations, UN agencies in Vietnam, development partners, domestic and internal NGOs, representatives from the business community, research institutes and scientists." (p. 23). The VNR also reflects comments received from "vulnerable groups" such as women, ethnic minorities, and persons with	Yes	The VNR development process involved representatives from the business community, research institutes and scientists and received comments from vulnerable groups (e.g., women, ethnic minority people, and people with disabilities) on matters related to sustainable development. (p. 23). The VNR does not provide further details.	For some, but not all indicators	In general, the VNR is well-referenced. Sources are provided for all data in tables, graphs, and boxes, and some of the data presented in the main body of the text. While there are some data in the main text that are not specifically tied to an identifiable source, the VNR includes a list of all references used in its final pages (pp. 90-92).

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Notes Identified
		disabilities. (p. 23).

No information was provided about to what extent (if at all) efforts were made to identify marginalized communities, academia, business, or civil society. However, the VNR formulation process appears to have engaged these communities. A VNR kick-off workshop was organized to discuss the VNR formulation "process, raise awareness and involve all stakeholders in the formulation process." (p. 23). An Inter-Sectoral Working Group on the SDGs, composed of representatives from ministries, agencies, organizations and stakeholders was established. (p. 23). The ministries and agencies reported on their respective target groups. (p. 23). Development partners, UN agencies in Vietnam, domestic and international NGOs, socio-political and socio-professional organizations and research institutes provided resources and inputted information for the VNR. (p. 24). After the VNR was drafted, Vietnam's Ministry of Planning and Investment gathered comments through consultation workshops, documents, and emails. (p. 24). The Vietnam Union of Science and | | | |

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Notes Identified
		Technology Associations and the Women's Union held consultation workshops on the draft VNR. (p. 24). UN agencies in Vietnam, domestic and international NGOs, and development partners such as GIZ also provided comments on the draft VNR. (p. 24). The VNR does to identify who the stakeholders are or which specific ministries, agencies, and NGOs participated in the VNR formulation. Vietnam also actively conducted communication activities to raise awareness for stakeholders, including ministries, agencies, domestic and international organizations, business community and social organizations. The VNR notes, however, that awareness of the SDGs remains "modest, within local communities and amongst young people." (p. 24). Recently, the United Nations Development Programme conducted a first-ever Youth Survey covering more than 7,000 young people from all 63 provinces. Of the survey participants, nearly 75% were women and 65% lived in urban areas. Survey results showed that almost three fourth of the respondents had never heard about the SDGs, and that while young			

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Notes Identified
		people, generally, were interested in SDGs, they did know how their daily activities and individual action could improve society. (p. 24, n. 3). Vietnam is using local and international NGOs and mass media as channels to raise public awareness of the SDGs. (p. 24). The VNR notes that because many SDG indicators do not have metadata, Vietnam needs to collect data from unconventional sources and use complicated calculation methods to monitor and evaluate implementation of the SDGs. (p. 20). Vietnam's current statistical system and capacity does not meet SDG statistical requirements. Vietnam expects to issue a Roadmap and Indicator System to monitor and evaluate SDGs in 2018. Vietnam has established a statistical working group comprised of "representatives from ministries, related agencies" and led by the Ministry of Planning and Investment to oversee SDG monitoring and evaluation. (p. 20). The VNR fails to mention use of private sector data and/or technology to measure progress.			

VNRs by Country	VNR product of inclusive, participatory process Yes/No	Notes	Private Sector Involved Yes/No	Notes	Source of Data Identified	Notes
Total VNRs (45)	Yes: 43		Yes: 42		Yes: 35	
	No: 2		No: 3		No: 9	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
1.B: Institutions and policies for poverty reduction	1. Albania	Yes	Yes	These comments are not directly related to Albania's policy, but does show that the country is keeping track of poverty. Specifically, Albania reports that: "The level of poverty dropped from 25.4 percent to 12.5 percent in 2008 but, due to economic factors, increased to 14.3 percent in 2012, while extreme poverty fell to 2.2 percent in urban areas and 2.3 percent in rural areas, providing support to Albania's achievements with regard to the MDGs and, particularly, Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere. However, households with children remain prone to living in poverty more than do their counterparts, especially those with younger children (0–5 years of age), with an absolute poverty rate of 24.9 percent, compared to the national average of 14.3 percent. (p. 21)"	
	2. Andorra	No	No	There is no poverty (p. 24).	
	3. Armenia	Yes	Yes	"Due to the multi-dimensional nature of poverty, monetary assistance programs are not the only forms of interventions needed by the poor, especially poor families with children. Social support and care services are therefore an important component of social protection. Despite the ongoing reform of integrated social services in the country, challenges remain in systemic capacity development and quality of social/case management work, availability and quality of community-based services, financing of social protection, as well as professional cooperation among social service providers in addressing the multiple vulnerabilities of families and children. Moreover, cash benefits and different types of services should be interlinked and coordinated with early learning, education, health, and other services that benefit children and address their multiple vulnerabilities. Social protection interventions need to be viewed within the overall context of economic development of the country and "leaving no one behind" (see p 35–36).	
	4. Australia	Yes	Yes	Policies mentioned include the National Disability Insurance Scheme (p. 23), Thriving Communities Partnership (p. 24), and Leaving No One Behind (p. 25). The description of the last policy includes statistics on the number of people receiving rental assistance, homelessness services, and the amount of housing assistance.	
	5. Bahamas	Yes	Yes	Chapter 6 of the report provides progress on goals and targets for SDG1 and describes the Social Safety Net Reform Program aimed at improving the delivery of social protection by providing conditional cash grants to impoverished families—the	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				program is currently under review to determine how to reform (pp. 43-45). Chapter 6 describes the Job Training program targeting unemployed youth (p. 45). Chapter 6 acknowledges that the government of The Bahamas is currently reviewing legislation that deals with access to land in order to fairly address the challenges of providing a path to marketable title for holders of generational land (pp. 45-46). Chapter 6 asserts that the 2018/2019 budget emphasizes promoting the development of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises to foster better access to economic resources for poor and vulnerable individuals (p. 46). Chapter 6 describes the creation of Empowerment Zones for economically depressed regions, which are designed to provide incentives for growth to communities with high unemployment, high crime, and low income rates (pp. 46-47). Chapter 6 describes the various tax concessions that are designed to positively impact poor and middle class individuals, including eliminating VAT on essential food items, monthly electricity bills under ($200) and monthly water bills under $50, as well as extending stamp tax exemptions on first-time homeownership and a reduction in customs duty rates on certain consumer items (p. 47)	
	6. Bahrain	Yes	Yes	There is no poverty in Bahrain (in the traditional sense of the term by which a person lives on less than US$2 a day). The Government has adopted a suite of policies that aim to improve the standard of living and levels of income. The Government provides a suite of social security programs in the form of housing projects, free education and healthcare, and basic services. These programs aim to reduce persons that are within the limited income bracket by 50% by the year 2030.	
	7. Benin	No	No		
	8. Bhutan	Yes	Yes	Anchored on the development philosophy of Gross National Happiness (GNH), the Royal Government has placed poverty reduction at the heart of development programs, implemented through the five-year plans (FYP). As of 2017, the percentage of people living below national poverty rate reduced to 8.2 from 12 per cent in 2012. Multidimensional Poverty also fell from 12.7 to 5.8 per cent between 2012 and 2017. This progress points to the Government's clear strategic direction over time: poverty reduction was the overarching objectives of the 10th FYP (2008-2013) and the 11th FYP (2013-2018).

To realize this objective, a detailed mapping of disaggregated poverty situations at | |

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				Gewog level was conducted in 2010 to locate poverty incidence by area and households. A Resource Allocation Formula (RAF) was introduced during the 10th FYP and continued with some modification in the 11th FYP, where poverty (multidimensional and transport cost index) were counted as important RAF criteria. Additional measures to root out extreme poverty include the implementation of Rural Economy Advancement Program (REAP) and Targeted Household Poverty Program (THPP) in 2014. In the 11th FYP, around 26 per cent of the total resources were also allocated to social sectors including agriculture, health, and education which resulted in remarkable improvement in the lives of the people including life expectancy, mortality rates, literacy rate, and food security. The Government implemented a collateral free micro-lending scheme at 4 per cent for non–formal economic activities in rural areas through Bhutan Development Bank Ltd. and Rural Enterprise Development Corporation Ltd. At the same time, the extensive coverage of basic services such as access to improved drinking water (99.5 per cent), improved sanitation facility (92 per cent) and electricity (99 per cent) contributed to poverty reduction. To eliminate larger disparity in the society, His Majesty the King initiated a land reform exercise in 2007. To date, 123,265 beneficiaries have been granted a total of 133,287.765 acres of land tenure-ship and rights. 71 per cent of households in the country now own land tenure-ship and rights. Looking towards Lead Developed Country (LDC) graduation, Bhutan is confronted with 'last-mile' challenges of eradicating poverty in all its forms. The Gini co-efficient has increased from 0.36 in 2012 to 0.38 in 2017, indicating inequality is rising and it is higher in rural areas. While multidimensional poverty has reduced significantly rural poverty is much higher than urban poverty: 8.1 per cent compared to 1.2 per cent and children between 0-9 years of age are found to be poorest age group in Bhutan. Bhutan is a step ahead in this regard compared to most nations, as the first country in the world to develop a Child Multidimensional Poverty Index (C-MPI). The CMPI based on the BMIS 2010, estimates a Child MPI Rate of 33.4 per cent. The	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				Multidimensional Poverty (MPI) Report 2017 found that while the overall MPI had reduced to 5.8 per cent from 12.7 per cent in 2012, the MPI for children younger than nine years was highest at 7.1 per cent.	

Notes (continued):

In addressing child poverty, His Majesty's district-level *kidu* (loosely defined as "benefits" that can be exercised only by His Majesty the King as part of the Royal Prerogatives) services across all 20 Districts provides support to vulnerable people including children. A designated *Kidu* Officer in each of the 20 *Dzongkhags* identifies vulnerable children who are then provided financial and education support

Future progress in eradicating poverty -and preventing people from falling back into poverty – will also depend on how successfully Bhutan manages the relationship between its people and the environment. Climate-related disasters have increased in number and magnitude, reversing the gains of farming communities. The road arteries that enable farmers' access to market and the import of fuel, rice, and medicine are increasingly vulnerable to landslides.

In cities, though incidences of poverty are significantly less, urbanization has given rise to a number of vulnerabilities, which could hinder efforts to eradicate poverty by 2030 if not addressed. For example, an estimated 10 per cent of Thimphu city's population live in informal settlements characterized by lack of access to basic amenities. Further analysis of impact of urbanization on poverty in Bhutan is needed to better understand opportunities and risks.

Looking ahead, consideration must therefore be given to address geographical disparities, bridging the poverty gap through increasingly targeted interventions – bringing last mile services to the poorest section of society in rural and urban areas and to vulnerable groups, with special attention to accelerate the reduction of child poverty, and to mitigating and adapting to the impacts of climate change. Further disaggregated data will be critical for enhanced targeting. The 12th FYP is geared towards delivering these last-mile development results by enhancing implementation efficiency through Co-ordination, Consolidation and Collaboration, centered around the objective of "Just, Harmonious and Sustainable Society through Enhanced Decentralization".

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				[Pages 27 to 29]	
	9. Cabo Verde	Yes	Yes	There are 179,909 people living in absolute poverty (less than $2.6/day in urban areas and $2.2/day in rural areas), including 54,395 in extreme poverty (less than $1.3/day in urban or rural areas). (Note that Cabo Verde's total population was 537,661 in 2017 – p. 14.) Women make up a majority of the poor population (53%) and the population in extreme poverty (54%). The poor population also includes families who do not have piped water or electricity or have interrupted supply because of excessive prices and disabled people who did not receive a formal education due to the lack of education for special needs people. (pp. 8-9; 27; 34)	
				Food insecurity is mainly the result of the structural deficit of the national food production (Cabo Verde imports over 80% of its food requirements – p. 23), strong dependence on international markets and low economic accessibility. (p. 9)	
				35.2% of Cabo Verde's population was at or below the national poverty line in 2015. (p. 15; 34)	
				60% of the poor population and 63% of the extremely poor population are under 25 years of age, while children under 15 years of age account for 380% (sic.) of the poor. (p. 27)	
				Absolute and extreme poverty have greater incidence in rural areas where 49% of the population is poor and 20% live in extreme poverty. 51% of the poor population lives in the urban areas and extreme poverty is especially concentrated in rural areas covering 68 in 100 individuals. (p. 34)	
				Representatives of poor households are mostly women (60.5%). (p. 35)	
				The SDGs are one of the main reference points of Cabo Verde's Strategic Plan for Sustainable Development 2017-2021 (PEDS), which has four objectives: (i) make Cabo Verde a circulating economy in the Mid-Atlantic; (ii) ensure economic and environmental sustainability; (iii) ensure social inclusion and reduction of inequalities and asymmetries; and (iv) strengthen sovereignty and create value in democracy and diplomacy for the country's development. (p. 18)	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				74.4% of the PEDS indicators are SDG indicators. (p. 25)	
				The SDGs are also embedded into the sectoral plans to the extent such plans must obey the national planning rules, systems and scope. In addition, the SDGs are promoted at the local level by the establishment of specific goals per region and though the platform program, which reviews local and regional development plans to identify main needs, priorities and gaps and their relationship with the SDGs and the national priorities. (p. 25-27)	
				Real GDP per capita grew by 2.7% in 2017, continuing the trend started in 2016, during which it grew 2.6%, and reversing the trend of previous years. (p. 12). To reduce poverty in Cabo Verde, economic growth of at least 5% per year is needed. (p. 36)	
				Economic growth starting in 2016 was driven by improvements in the business environment resulting from measures that promoted favorable taxation and financing of the economy, as well as improvements in the Euro Zone. (p. 36)	
				The Youth Start-Up Program aims at promoting entrepreneurship among people between 18 and 35 years of age. It promotes new job opportunities for young people and offers training activities, financing of projects on advantageous conditions, follow-up on project implementation and company incubation. (p. 36)	
				Another program aimed at promoting economic growth by incentivizing entrepreneurship and microfinance competition is the financing of microfinance institutions worth approximately US$1 million. The microfinance program is a partnership among commercial banks that assess risk and manage finance and the Microfinance Association. (p. 36)	
				In addition, the Government is implementing via commercial banks a large companies financing program of approximately US$ 54 million to improve the business ecosystem and contribute to the achievement of the growth target of 7% and 45,000 jobs generated by 2021. (p. 36)	
				Further, recognizing that the informal economy has a negative impact on the growth of companies, the collection of tax revenues, economic and environmental policies and competition, the Government has established the Inter-Institutional Commission	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				for the Management of the Strategy of Transition of the Informal Economy to the Formal (GETIF). GETIF's mission is to identify the informality problem, develop and implement policies to address the issue and elaborate, follow up on and evaluate the inter-institutional agenda for the transition to formal economy. (p. 36)	
				To promote the development of micro, small and medium enterprises, the Government has established PROEMPRESA (*Pro-Business*). (p. 37)	
				To promote the development of rural areas, the Government has created the Socio-Economic Opportunities in Rural Areas Program. (p. 37)	
	10. Canada	Yes	Yes	The latest data from the Canadian Income Survey indicates that the overall rate of law income was 10.6% in 2016, and over 1 million working Canadians fell below low-income lines in 2016. Besides, certain groups in Canada are more likely to have low incomes. The groups are: single people aged 45-64, lone parents, recent immigrants to Canada, Fist Nations, Inuit and Métis, and persons with disabilities (p. 18-19).	
				It is noted that poverty has multiple dimensions, and about 1.7 million families were in housing need; around 27,000 Canadians were chronically homeless in 2016; 8.3% of Canadian households reported moderate or severe food insecurity in 2011-2012; nearly 1 in 10 Canadian youth were not pursuing employment, education or training in 2017 (p. 19-20).	
				It is reported that the Canada has invested in social and economic fabric. Specifically, Canada intends to shortly release its first national Poverty Reduction Strategy to eradicate poverty; Canada has conducted investments like the tax-free Canada Child Benefit to bolster benefits to families with children; other investments, such as Early Learning and Child Care, the National Housing Strategy, public transit infrastructure and home care and mental health are improving the lives of Canadians (p. 20-21).	
				To further empower women, Canada has announced major new investments to support and create more high-quality, affordable child care (p. 21).	
				Through the Canadian Workers Benefit, beginning in 2019, low-income Canadians will get an added financial boost to the money they take home from work (p. 21).	
				The introduction of the Old Age Security pension and the Guaranteed Income	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				Supplement reduced poverty among seniors (p. 21).	
				Canada is making historic, long-term investment in Canada's first-ever National Housing Strategy. With investments of $40 billion over 10 years in housing, the Strategy will help Canadians have access to housing that meets their needs and that they can afford. In addition, Canada will support the successful implementation of specific housing strategies for First Nations, Inuit and Métis (p. 21).	
				With respect to Public infrastructure, Canada's infrastructure investments include community and cultural spaces (p. 22).	
				Canada has taken leadership in engaging with provinces and territories to address key health care priorities (p. 22).	
				Canada is committed to tackle certain barriers and challenges unique to indigenous people, women, LGBTQ2 and those with disabilities through dedicated strategies, funding and investment at the provincial and territorial level (p. 22).	
				In promoting international engagement, Canada engages with partner governments, civil society organizations and project participants throughout the lifecycle of its international assistance projects and programs. Specifically, Canada announced the Feminist International Assistance Policy, representing a significant shift in Canada's international assistance, to address the root causes of poverty (p. 23).	
	11. Colombia	Yes	Yes	In the VNR Colombia emphasizes its work regarding access to clean water and sanitary facilities in households. Such access is an integrated part of its National Development Plan (Sp. Plan Nacional de Desarollo) (the "PND") and the nations work for development. The MDG indicator is down to 17.8% for 2018, compared to 20.2% for 2015. Improved access to clean water reduced the mortality rate (caused by diarrhea) among children less than 5 years old by 53% compared between 2009 and 2016 (p.30). The report mentions that the country is to 92.4 % covered in terms of water access and 88,2% covered in respect of sewages, which has been made possible through investments exceeding USD 2,500 million (p. 24-25). Furthermore, access to housing has been addressed and the housing deficit has reduced by 43% compared to 2009. However, the quality of life provided in certain housing still lacks quality and the implementation of the Program for Prosperity and Household Connectivity (Sp. Obras para la Prosperidad y Conexiones Inter-domiciliarias) has	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				contributed positively to such improvements. However, 3.3 million homes still presents quality issues, which evidences the need to address these issues further to improve living standards (p. 44).	
	12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes	The Dominican Republic (the "**DR**" hereinafter) have identified certain areas in respect of poverty reducing required actions. In 2016 2,9 million Dominicans lived in poverty, a great majority of them living in rural areas. Although slowly, there are signs of improvements over time and the poverty reducing actions causes positive results (p. 28, 58-59, 164, 190).	
	13. Ecuador	Yes	Yes	Due to appreciation of the dollar and the price reduction in oil, the population experiencing extreme poverty increased during 2016 and 2016. However, during 2017, the economy improved and about 126,000 persons left extreme poverty. The VNR states that the reduction can be referred to the Human Development Stipend (Sp. Bono de Desarollo Humano), which is a program that provides monetary support to people living in extreme poverty. In addition, 33,000 persons received a monthly stipend of USD 100 through the program my best years (Sp. Mis mejores Años). Furthermore, a slight reduction has been shown between the 10% most poor and the 10% most wealthy, where the gap has reduced from 25.1 times to 22.9 times. The multidimensional poverty index reduced 2.8 percent (p. 15, 21, 29, 30).	
	14. Egypt	Yes	Yes	Egypt has implemented two anti-poverty programs: Takaful, a conditional cash transfers for households with children, and Karama, an unconditional program for the elderly, disabled and orphaned children (page 11). An information management system was put into place to ensure effective implementation (page 12). The report also mentions the role of NGOs in poverty alleviation programs (page 26).	
	15. Greece	Yes	Yes	The Report notes generally that the Hellenic Parliament has committees working on laws including areas of SDG such as poverty reduction (p. 22), and that Greece has adopted a set of National Priorities to address a number of issues, including poverty (p. 27). Additionally, the National Centre for Social Research (EKKE), a public entity supervised by the General Secretariat of Research and Technology of the Ministry of Education, Research, and Religious Affairs, conducts research into a variety of areas including poverty (p. 94).

Specifically in regards to poverty, the Report includes a few statistics on the proportion of people at risk of poverty and social exclusion (35.7%) (p. 41) and describes the Social Solidarity Income program (a guaranteed minimum income) and | |

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				steps Greece has taken to redistribute budgetary surplus in this program to vulnerable populations (p. 42).	
	16. Guinea	Yes	Yes	Poverty rates, which declined between 1994 (63.6%) and 2002 (49.2%) have increased in recent years (59% in 2007 and 55.2% in 2012). (p. 22) Poverty rates are greater in rural areas (65% vs 35% in urban areas), but is now experiencing significant growth in urban areas (17.5% in 1994 and 35.4% in 2012). In the 2000s, the number of poor Guineans increased to 6.2 million in 2012 from 5.1 million in 2007. (p. 28) The Ebola Virus crisis (2014-2015) had a big impact in terms of economic growth (which was negative in 2014 and close to zero in 2015), thereby leading to increased poverty rates by 2014: 68.7% (87.7% in rural areas vs. 33.1% in urban area). National statistics will shed some light on further data with respect to poverty at the end of 2018. (pp. 22, 28 and 29) Guinea has a social protection system, the benefits of which are reserved for employees in the formal sector. Because the labor market in Guinea is largely informal (95%), this system only benefits a minority and contributes very little to the fight against poverty. The system further faces internal management, financing and allocation reassessment issues. Other forms of social protection exist in the country, but are margin (e.g., health insurance, which only benefits the wealthy; mutual health insurance plans, most of which are no longer functional as a result of management issues). (p. 29) Recent initiatives include the establishment of a National Social Protection and a Productive Social Nets project, in 2012 with a $25 million budget, and which is comprised of 3 components: (a) a labour-intensive public works program and the development of self-reliance in urban areas targeting young people to build, rehabilitate and maintain essential urban infrastructure and create jobs in the short-term, (b) a money transfer pilot program to improve human capital in rural areas facing food insecurity, and (c) strengthening capacities and institutions and project management to assist operating units of the program to develop the essential	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				elements of a social protection strategy. In 2017, 6,977 households received an unconditional cash transfer, to be invested in income-generating activities, enabling people to take care of themselves. Further, 5,076 households benefited from amounts in exchange for maintenance, sanitation and public space rehabilitation work. (p. 29)	
				The second initiative involved the creation of a "social development and solidarity in favour of women, children, old persons and disabled" fund within the Ministry of Social Affairs, Women's and Children's Advancement. (p. 30)	
				Guinea further adopted its first social protection national policy in September of 2016, with the goal of improving living conditions, as part of the country's national recovery strategy following the Ebola Virus crisis and addresses both the protection of the Guinean population in general, but especially the poor and vulnerable. (p. 30)	
				In April 2018, a bill addressing to the promotion and protection of the disabled (a vulnerable and very poor segment of the population) was drafted.(p. 30)	
	17. Hungary	Yes	Yes	Poverty eradication is a key issue in Hungary; in 2016, 26.3% of people were affected by a risk of poverty or social exclusion. However, the reference value used in Hungary is higher than the reference used by the UN. (page 11)	
				The Hungarian National Social Inclusion Strategy (2011-2022) is focused on the following areas: improving children's wellbeing, promoting inclusive education, ensuring access to medical care and getting rid of housing problems. (page 11)	
				Over the last couple of years, poverty has lowered due to the socially oriented economic policy measures: fostering public employment, extending employment, increasing the minimum wage, tax reduction and financial support for families with children, permanent reduction in the costs of utilities. (page 11)	
				Decreasing childhood poverty and thus preventing reproduction of poverty is another key goal. Initiatives have so far reached more than 100,000 children. Further, in the last 2 years, almost 2,000 new nursery schools have been created and 250 early childhood institutions founded. (page 12)	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				In 2016, there were 112 Sure Start Children's Houses, essentially early childhood development support centres in the most disadvantaged municipalities. (page 12)	
				In 2017, 627,777 children received free or reduced rate meals and 133,521 received free meals during their school break. Consequently, the rate of children aged 0-17 at risk of poverty, decreased from 19.9% in 2016 to 14.8% in 2018. (page 12)	
				'Growing Chances' program helps to further employment of Roma women. More than 1,000 Roma women participated before 2016 and another 1,000 are joining the continuing program. (page 12)	
				Early 2017, almost 45,000 low skilled workers received training and additional 52,000 took part in complex job market programs. More than 2,000 were involved in social land programs. (page 12)	
				There are further housing integration projects for people living in segregated areas and in extreme poverty. The scope of assistance includes social services, healthcare, improvement of housing conditions, employment etc. By 2016, more than 5,000 people from 67 segregated areas were involved and the housing conditions of almost 500 participants of 125 families improved. (page 12)	
				According to the Hungarian Central Statistical Office, the rate of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion among Roma population decreased from 82.8% to 75.6% and the rate of Roma people living in households with low work decreased by a sizeable 10% from 35.9% in 2016 to 25.2% in 2017. (page 13)	
				There are also government measures that make public catering, for example school cafeterias, healthier; they provide children, especially in the disadvantaged regions with hot meals and appropriate energy and nutrition values. (page 14)	
	18. Ireland	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: The percentage of people living in low work intensity households is decreasing, and has been since a high point in 2011 (VNR pg. 24).	
				Implementation steps: National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2007-2016, an inter-departmental framework still in use while a successor program is developed for 2018-2021; Ireland's "comprehensive social protection system" (24); One World One	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				Future, Ireland's international development policy; bilateral aid programs, focusing on sub-Saharan Africa (24). Data sources: Central Statistics Office (CSO)'s 2016 Survey on Income and Living Conditions, focusing on at-risk of poverty (set at 60% of median income), material deprivation, and consistent poverty metrics. Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE; DEPT. OF FINANCE	
	19. Jamaica	Yes	No	[This exact SDG # was not mentioned explicitly, but the underlying topic was discussed.] • National Policy Poverty and National Poverty Reduction Programme (2017; aiming to eradicate extreme poverty by 2022) (p. 24) • Social Protection Strategy (2014) (pp. 24-5) • National Food and Nutrition Security Policy (2013) (p. 24) • Food Safety Policy (2013) (p. 24) • Climate Change Policy Framework (2015) (p. 24) • PATH cash transfer program, serving 345,792 persons (pp. 24-5) • National Financial Inclusion Strategy; etc. (p. 25) • Poverty rate increased from 2008-2013, and then was reduced to 17.6% in 2016 (p. 24, citing Statistical Annex—see link)	
	20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	Some detail/data is provided, although limited. It is reported that the government's drive to expand rural infrastructure, roads and services have led to poverty reduction in these areas, enhancing market access for agricultural produce and improving livelihood opportunities. Since access, education, employment/livelihood and the price of agricultural produce are known determinants of poverty levels, the priority is to accelerate the improvement of education, training, livelihoods, agricultural productivity, and rural infrastructure for the poor. (page 17)	
	21. Latvia	Yes	Yes	Local governments established higher guaranteed minimum income levels. Many local governments are also providing additional housing or health care support to the	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				elderly. They also provide free lunches or meal discounts at schools. Further, persons with disabilities, orphans and families with three and more children are entitled to a 25% discount for public transportation costs. Nationwide "School Milk, Vegetable and Fruit" programme has a large annual budget. Agricultural production generally increased due to modernization of agricultural farming. Pages 48-51	
	22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	Lebanon's sector strategies and plans incorporate some of the SDGs without necessarily naming them, and the VNR outlines on page 17 key national strategies and their alignment with the SDGs. However, most strategies and plans need to be adapted to the level of SDG targets, which are more specific and measurable, and to reflect the connections between social, economic, and environmental dimensions of development. While inter-sectoral coordination takes place on specific subjects, Lebanon does not yet have an overarching framework on sustainable development that integrates the different dimensions of development, which Agenda 2030 calls for. Lebanon's most comprehensive cross-sectoral development policy, which to a certain extent does integrate the three dimensions, is the National Physical Master Plan of the Lebanese Territory (NPMPLT). Overall, the extent to which SDGs have been integrated into planning strategies remains broad. Integrated planning is more visible for some goals under each pillar of Agenda 2030, rather than between the economic, social and environment pillars. Institutional challenges and limited human and financial resources reduce the capacity of public institutions to ensure all three pillars are balanced during implementation. The formation of the national committee should support more integrated planning in the future. (page 16) The SDGs present an opportunity for Lebanon to develop rights-based policies and systems by adopting Agenda 2030's universal, transformative and integrated approach (page 75).	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
	23. Lithuania	Yes	Yes	Poverty reduction is a key priority of Lithuania. To reduce poverty by 2020, Lithuania has foreseen to develop active support forms promoting employment, apply regulatory and other measures for reducing income inequality, create flexible and safe employment relationships and increase population income, ensure equal opportunities to access social, health care, education, cultural and legal services and develop social entrepreneurship. For example: • Amended and supplemented in 2017, the Law on Employment will help individuals to acquire the desired qualifications with greater ease, increase employment opportunities and promote their involvement in lifelong learning processes; • In addition, in 2017, a new reference indicator for social security benefits – the amount of minimum consumption needs (AMCN) – was approved. This indicator is linked with the existing reference indicators for social security benefits which determine the amounts of social security benefits or the right to them, i.e. with the basic social benefit, the basis social assistance pensions, the basic social benefit and state-supported income; • A child benefit of the same size has been introduced for all children, without checking the family property or income, and financial support is granted for adopting a child. Moreover, an additional child benefit is allocated and paid to families raising and/or taking care of one or two children if the monthly family income per capita is lower than 1.5 of the state-supported income, and to families than raise and/or take care of three or more children, without evaluating the family income (pp. 8-10)	
	24. Mali	Yes	Yes	The financial poverty rate has decreased from 2015 to 2016 (47.2% to 46.8%), and the poverty threshold has decreased from FCFA 177,000 to FCFA 175,000 for that same period of time. Poverty rates in Bamako are estimated at 7.4%, versus 36.9% and 55.2% in other cities and rural areas, respectively. (pp. 20 and 32) Approximately half of the Malian population (46.8%) was poor as of 2016. Although the poverty rate has slightly decreased in Bamako and urban centres, it has increased in rural and agricultural areas. Instances of poverty are concentrated in the informal	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				private sector (51.5%) and household employees (41.8%). Poverty rates are the lowest amongst public sector employees (10.1%), followed by those in non-governmental organizations, international organizations and associations (18.4%) and those in the formal private sector (25.8%). (p. 32)	
				With the aim of reducing the poor and vulnerable exposure to extreme weather changes and other economic, social or environmental catastrophes, Mali has developed and implemented a programs to be integrated in the regions of Kayes, Koulikoro, Sikasso, Segou and Mopti. (p. 32)	
				Mali has adopted measures in order to help vulnerable populations, including the national policy on social protection (adopted in 2002) has the goal of building a system aimed at protecting all citizens, particularly the impoverished, against social risks. Mali has developed the *Plan d'Actions National d'Extension de la Protection Sociale* (National action plan to extend social security) in 2005-2009, followed by a second phase in 2011-2015. (p. 32)	
	25. Malta	Yes	Yes	Malta included statistics re: SDG1 as compared with EU figures for 2016 - including: people at risk of poverty or social exclusion, as % of total population (20.1), people at risk of income poverty after social transfers (16.5), severely materially deprives (4.4), people living in households with very low work intensity as of % of total population aged less than 60 (7.3%), people living in households with housing costs higher than 40% of the total household disposable income, as % of total population (1.4), population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof, damp walls, fllor or foundation or rot in window frames or floor, as % of population (8.9). (p106) Malta Government has introduced a number of structural reforms to reduce poverty and promote social inclusion and social solidarity (p51). Malta's National Strategic Policy for Poverty Reduction and for Social Inclusion 2014-2024, launched on 19th December 2014, is a comprehensive policy based on extensive consultation. It addresses poverty from six dimensions - income and benefits, employment, education, health and environment, social services, and culture. The strategy focuses on four main groups: children, elderly persons, unemployed persons and the working poor. The strategic policy document presents	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				an overview of the main poverty and social exclusion indicators, and outlines Malta's socio-economic and demographic realities and challenges. A total of ninety-four strategic policy actions are outlined. (p18) Measures taken are yielding positive results (two successive decreases in its AROPE (At Risk of Poverty and Social Exclusion) figures. (p19) To measure, Malta uses EU criteria – Statistics compiled on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC) – a household survey across all member states. (p20) Other national strategies and policy documents to complement National Strategy include: *National Strategic Policy for Active Ageing 2014-2020; National Policy on the Rights of Persons with Disability; National Strategic Policy for Positive Parenting 2016-2024; National Children's Policy 2017; National Strategic Policy on Dementia 2015-2023; National Social Report 2015 (mentions persons with disabilities); Pensions reform.* (p20)	
	26. Mexico	Yes	Yes	43.6% of the population live in poverty (p. 72). In accordance with the national poverty and scarcity indicators measured by the National Council for the Evaluation of Social Development Policy ("CONEVAL") (2016), of the country's total population: (i) over 2 million Mexicans have moved out of extreme poverty; (ii) 53.4 million people are living in poverty; (iii) the number of Mexicans with access to healthcare has risen by 6.2 million people; and (iv) the number of Mexicans with social security has risen by 3.4 million people (p. 72). In terms of inclusion in the labor force, the Social Development Secretariat's ("SEDESOL") PROSPERA Program coordinates institutional efforts and social policies relating to production, income generation, economic well-being, financial and labor inclusion and nutritional and health education for people living in poverty (p. 73). The National Commission for the Development of Indigenous Peoples' Program for Improving Indigenous Productivity is one example of the measures taken to increase the productivity and income of vulnerable groups (p. 73).	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				The Secretariat of the Economy's ("SE") National Financing Program for Micro-entrepreneurs and Rural Women contributes to the creation of productive businesses and increasing the productivity of existing businesses (p. 73). The Comprehensive Social Information System improves articulation of institutional responses to social shortfalls (p. 73).	
	27. Namibia	Yes	Yes	It is reported that the national poverty rate has continued to decrease over time falling from 28.8 percent in 2010 to 18 percent in 2016 and by 2017 poverty reduced to 17.4 percent. This is attributed, amongst others, to the pro-poor policies and programmes that target the poor segments of society, whereby people are provided with tools that build resilience and self-sufficiency to break the cycle of poverty. Social safety nets are one of the measures that have lifted people out of poverty to sustainable livelihoods. It is also reported that Namibia has furthermore adopted economic policies that are aimed at providing opportunities for the poor, where several credit schemes and seed support programmes are implemented to allow for micro and medium enterprise development and in turn improve their income. It is noted that despite progress made in reducing rural poverty, recording a reduction from 34 percent, poverty levels still remain high at 25.1 percent. Government therefore needs to invest additional resources to ensure that the rural communities are emancipated. (page 12)	
	28. Niger	Yes	Yes	In 2014, 38.3% to 47% of Nigerians were poor, while the middle class represented 46.2% to 51.7% of the population. (p. 16) The goal is to reduce incidence of poverty from 45.1% in 2014 to 31.3% in 2021 (*Plan de Development Economique et Social* (Economic and Social Development Plan) (PDES)) and 20% in 2035 (SDDCI). (p. 27) Inequality reduction will be achieved through measures aiming to protect victims of catastrophes, conflicts and food crises and the implementation of the *Politique*	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				Nationale de Protection Sociale (National Policy on Social Protection) which has 5 priority actions. (p. 28)	
	29. Palestine	Yes	Yes	The VNR applies the national definition of poverty to describe Palestinian poverty situation, finding that 29.2% of Palestinians live under the national poverty line in 2017 (p. 20). The VNR describes the key challenges to eliminating poverty in Palestine, including Israeli blockade, trade restrictions and border control, land appropriation, and infrastructure destruction (p. 21). Government efforts to reduce poverty (pp. 22-23, 88): • Government effort to provide social protection and promote the social and economic integration of persons with disabilities, including issuing disability cards which give them special services; providing vocational training and soft loans to help them create their own businesses; and the Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) and its partners are reviewing the laws on the rights of persons with disabilities to align with the International Convention on Persons with Disabilities; • MoSD poverty alleviation program that directly transfers regular quarterly funds to the poorest families (currently covering around 110,000 families at an annual cost of $130 million); • MoSD is working to establish a social protection floor starting with allowances to the elderly and the disabled; • MoSD adopted a poverty alleviation facility, the Palestinian Families' Economic Empowerment Program (DEEP), which has provided grants, microcredit and other services for 27,827 impoverished households (73% males and 27% females), generating income for 15,000 households and creating 50,000 jobs; • Government will establish a Unified Portal Gate for social assistance and social services to reduce inefficient spending and duplication in support programs, particularly between civil society and the government • Government aims to follow up on the implementation of its decision to adapt public buildings to the needs of persons with disabilities. • Government policy to establish job creation programs for excluded groups	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				(disabled, youth, women, ex-prisoners).	
	30. Paraguay	Yes	No	Chapter 3 of the report describes Paraguay's National Development Plan 2030, which is based on three strategic axes – poverty reduction and social development, inclusive economic growth and Paraguay's insertion into the world – and four cross lines – equal opportunities, transparent and efficient public administration, territorial integration and environmental sustainability. (pp. 17-19) Chapter 3 also describes how this plan is mostly aligned with the 16 SDGs (91% of the SDGs are either total or partially aligned with the National Development Plan). (pp. 19-21) The National Plan for Equal Opportunities for Men and Women (pp. 25-26), the Childhood and Adolescence National Plan (pp. 27-29), the National Plan for Disaster Reduction (pp. 30-31) and the Living and Housing National Policy (p. 33) are also described in Chapter 3 as examples of public policy that is aligned with the SDGs.	
	31. Poland	Yes	Yes	Trends/Challenges: Downward trend in "risk of poverty." 29. Challenge remains to increase real household income, increase activation of socially excluded persons, and improve access to "social services." 29. No gender specific focus. Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation: Poverty reduction was reduced, at least in part, by "increasing the amounts of family benefits" and not taking those benefits away when "income threshold is exceeded" as least right away. 30. Indication of source of data (Yes/No): Yes. 29-30. Name of source? EU-SILC survey, household-budget Survey, Strategy for Responsible Development, Minister of Health, Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Policy. 29-30. Other notes about how indicator was reported, including particular stats? Extreme poverty at 4.9%, and relative poverty at 13.9%. 29. Use of HR institutions and reporting processes/UPC/? The SRD of the European	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				Commission helped. Specific Party Tasked with Implementing: "In order to solve the problem of homelessness, the Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Policy co-finances projects of organisations operating in the field of helping the homeless on an annual basis." 30. Others included the National Housing Programme,	
	32. Qatar	No	No	In the context of Goal 11, Qatar aims to provide protection for poor and vulnerable groups through social welfare and social protection systems (pp. 38). E.g. through increased public spending on social benefits as a percentage of GDP.	
	33. Romania	No	No		
	34. Saudi Arabia	Yes	Yes	Saudi Arabia is working on upgrading the social services system to become more efficient, equitable and accessible: for example, through targeting food, fuel, electricity and water subsidies to qualified recipient. (pg. 34) Social Insurance Program: "Musaned Scheme" includes cooperative health insurance, retirement pension system and unemployment insurance. (pg. 34) Labor Market Support Programs: wage protection programs, employment support programs and job seekers' employment support programs. (pg. 34) King Khalid Foundation took the lead in undertaking research related to subsistence as well as female poverty. It has conducted a survey of 10,000 households in all provinces of the Kingdom with an aim to develop a methodology to measure poverty line in the Kingdom, its research has had significant impact on the policies developed to combat poverty. (pg. 37) The Social Charity Fund whose mission is to improve living conditions of needy citizens in Saudi Arabia has made available 139 million USD in scholarships, invested 30.51 million USD into training and employment programs. (pg 37 – Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority: 53rd Annual Report 2017). Citizen Account Program: channels subsidies to eligible beneficiaries in order to empower citizens through the welfare system. (pg. 39)	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
	35. Senegal	Yes	Yes	The national Plan Senegal Emergent (PSE) has at its core the aim to reduce poverty and inequalities through the establishment of various programs including the National Stipend for Family Security and Universal Medical Coverage (see paragraphs 36-37). Senegal also adopted in 2017 a Strategic Plan for the Fight Against Malnutrition. The Country Report sets forth comparative data showing trends in these various programs from 2016 to 2017. (p. 43).	
	36. Singapore	Yes	Yes	Singapore aspires towards a fair, inclusive, and caring society – one where people of all backgrounds have access to opportunities, where the vulnerable are uplifted, and where everyone can look to the future with optimism. To achieve this, it seeks to create the conditions for growth and opportunity, thereby empowering Singaporeans to improve their lives. Complementing this is a plethora of community-led initiatives that aim to give those in need a helping hand. In essence, Singapore's approach is to foster a culture where people work hard to earn their success and improve their circumstances in a dignified and self-sustaining manner. A variety of mutually-reinforcing economic and social strategies are in place to achieve this. These are focused on broad-based social uplifting through employment, sustained income growth, and access to quality education, housing, and public healthcare. Singapore offers multiple lines of assistance, each supporting specific needs in a targeted manner. Collectively, these lines of assistance offer comprehensive support across various domains. Singapore strives to ensure that opportunities are accessible to all through broad-based subsidies, and seek to level the playing field from young by investing heavily in education and early intervention. There are also social safety nets in place to ensure that no one is left behind. (page 4)	
	37. Slovakia	Yes	Yes	In relative terms, Slovakia is one of the countries with the lowest levels of risk of poverty or social exclusion in the EU, as well as globally. Nonetheless, Slovakia states it will afford permanent attention to poverty and social exclusion, particularly in case of disadvantaged groups, many of which face an accumulation of different drawbacks and risks that are likely to be passed on from one generation to another. Slovakia states that one of the key instruments to reduce poverty and strengthen social inclusion is a more solidary redistribution of available	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				resources. (p. 39)	
	38. Spain	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: Preventing and combating poverty is one of nine of Spain's priority issues that they intend to address at an accelerated pace. Spain hopes to focus especially on people on the verge of the relative poverty threshold, for whom their employment and training situation constitute a decisive factor as well as the fight against child poverty. (Spain Voluntary National Review Report (VNR), p. 105–106) The central challenge will be overcoming the long-term deleterious effects of the global economic crisis. (VNR, p. 30) Implementation steps: Extending paternity leave to four continuous weeks (VNR, p. 33); providing clear definitions to protect potential victims of energy poverty; (VNR, p. 34); introducing tax measures to reduce the burden on families, especially those with dependents (*Id*.); adopting urgent measures to protect mortgage debtors (*Id*.); approving the 2018/2021 National Housing Plan administered by Autonomous Communities with a budget of 1.833 billion euros, which guarantees access to housing for all (*Id*.); establishing the position of a High Commissioner for combating child poverty (VNR, p. 105); raising the statutory minimum wage 4% to 735.9 Euros/month in 2018 following the previous 8% increase in 2017 with further stipulated increases in 2019 and 2020 contingent on market performance (VNR, pp. 81;106); and raising the average number of people registered for Social Security to more than 450,000 (*Id*.). Data sources: Spanish Inst. of Statistics (INE), Living Conditions Survey (VNR, pp. 31–36). Private sector data: A 2017 FOESSA Foundation (Fomento de Estudios Sociales y Sociología Aplicada) Survey on resilience in Spanish households (VNR, p. 35–36). Technology used for measuring progress: Surveys Human rights institutions for reporting processes & universal periodic review: n/a Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Justice; and Ministry of Agriculture (VNR, p. 95).	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
	39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	The Report does not mention 1.B specifically, but describes efforts to combat poverty and related statistics generally under the SDG 1 umbrella. The percentage of population under the national poverty line has declined from 15.2% in 2006/07 to 4.1% in 2016 (p. 65). The decline in poverty has occurred across all age and gender groups (with poverty among women actually lower than that of men) (p. 66). Sri Lanka's efforts in reducing poverty include (1) ensuring access to health, education, electricity, water, and sanitation, such as through the Universal Free Education Policy and Universal Free Health Policy; (2) ensuring access to financial institutions (82.7% of adults in Sri Lanka have access), (3) rural infrastructure development, and (4) social protection programs, including the integrated system being developed by the Welfare Benefit Board, established in 2016 (p. 67).	
	40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	The Sudan VNR recognises that 'addressing poverty is a national development priority in the country' (p.46) and that 'poverty is a major challenge for achieving sustainable development' (p.6). Poverty rates are linked to the impact of high inflation rates on the economy. The Sudan has implemented several policies for poverty reduction, known as 'Social Protection Policies'. These include social insurance, 'zakat', and the Social Initiative Program (p.46). The source for measuring the incidence of poverty was National Baseline Household Budge Surveys 2014 (p.46). There are ambitions that the development of an irrigated agriculture system in western Sudan will 'reduce the risks of drought and vulnerability of people to food shortage and malnutrition' (p.6). The transformation of agriculture is predicted to 'accelerate the implementation of the SDGs in the Sudan', especially SDG16 (p.6). The Sudan Initiative for Achieving Food Security in the Arab Countries involves investing $9.94m to develop 3.4 million hectares and to produce 14.92 million tonnes of various crops for the local and regional markets. This, as well as agricultural transformation generally, will accelerate the fulfilment of the SDGs (p.6).	
	41. Switzerland	No	No		
	42. Togo	No	No		

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
	43. UAE	Yes	Yes	The Coordinating Agency is the Ministry of Community Development. The government has developed policies and programs specifically for the care of vulnerable groups which are guided by the provision of social assistance under the Social Security Law No. 2 of 2001, which identifies twenty-one categories of vulnerable population groups. Categories are reviewed regularly and the law gives special consideration to women. Under the Social Security Law, the government also provides financial and in-kind relief at the time of natural disasters and catastrophes, such as fires and floods in order to alleviate the burden on families affected. Page 50 sets out examples of additional social benefits. UAE has been an active contributor to many international humanitarian initiatives to poor and developing countries, especially in providing relief to victims of natural disasters and conflicts (e.g. UAE is a donor state for Official Development Aid and a number of government-financed charitable organizations provide aid and humanitarian assistance across the world such as the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development and the Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan Foundation).	
	44. Uruguay	Yes	Yes	Uruguay focuses on developing access to water and sanitation as one of its main goals to reduce poverty and empower the most exposed parts of the population as well as the development of and access to adequate housing (p. 34, p. 50). 99.4% of the population has access to water of which 95.2% of the population has access to safe water (p. 70). Access to water has also been incorporated into the national constitution since 2004.	
	45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	Vietnam has relatively comprehensive poverty reduction policies in terms of content and targets. The National Target Programme (NTP) on Sustainable Poverty Reduction (NTP-SPP 2016-2010) provides, among other things, more specific mechanisms for integration of gender and vulnerable groups than previous programs. In addition, the 2011-2010 Development Strategy of the Vietnam Bank for Social Policies outlines the Vietnamese government's efforts to develop more effective service products for poor and near-poor households and beneficiaries of support policies. The Vietnamese government's "Decision approving a number of [Millennium Development Goal ("MDG")] indicators for ethnic minorities associated with the SDGs after 2015" provides that the percentage of poor ethnic minority households will be reduced by 3-4%/year and that under-five malnutrition will decline to under 14% by 2020 and under 8% by 2025. (p. 27).	

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
				The Vietnamese government also introduced numerous measures to sustainably reduce poverty for ethnic minorities and bridge the gap between geographical regions. (p. 28). Vietnam implemented social security policies nationwide, which yielded positive results. Social insurance coverage has been expanding through the Law on Social Insurance 2006, as revised in 2014. By end of December 2017, more than 13.9 million people had social insurance while 11.7 million had unemployment insurance. According to Vietnam Social Insurance, at the end of 2015, 100% of poor and social protection beneficiaries had free insurance cards, and 81% of "near-poor" people had health insurance. Access to basic social services such as electricity and hygienic water is also on a rising trend. (p. 29). Monthly social support for social protection beneficiaries is currently provided in almost 60 provinces/cities. Vietnam has a grassroots network consisting of 418 social support establishments nationwide. These establishments include 195 public establishments and 223 non-public establishments (33 elderly care centres, 74 establishments caring for persons with disabilities, 144 establishments caring for children, 102 combined establishments, 31 establishments caring for persons with mental illness, and 32 social centres). (p. 29).	
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	38		
		No	7		

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)	VNRs by Country	Reported At All Yes/No	Reported with detail Yes/No	Notes	Analysis
4.5 : All forms of discrimination in education	Albania	Yes	Yes	Albania provides statistics about this, including: "Gradual improvements in Albania's children's access to primary (age 6–10 years) and, particularly, pre-primary (age 3–5 years) education in recent years are reflected in the current Net Enrolment Rates (NERs): 96 percent and 81 percent, respectively, compared to 90 percent and 58 percent in 200816. However, inequities in access associated with income status revealed by the latest Living Standard Measurement Survey (LSMS: 23% of the poorest quintile children accessing pre-primary education versus 48% in the upper quintile) still persist. Roma children benefit much less from early education than do	

				other children, though since 2011 the number of Roma in Albania's kindergartens has almost doubled." (p. 22) The VNR regards the main barriers contributing to low school attendance by Roma child to be: "poverty, birth registration, parental attitudes in valuing children's participation from their economic potential rather than them completing formal education, ineffective implementation of policies, and discriminatory attitudes of some teachers and non-Roma parents" (p. 22) See more details on p. 22–23.
2. Andorra	Yes	Yes	In Andorra, three educational systems coexist to the baccalaureate level: Andorran education, which is totally dependent on the Andorran Government; Spanish, secular and congregational education, which depends on the Spanish administration; French education, which depends directly on the French State and which follows the educational programs dictated by the French Ministry of National Education. The three systems contribute to the diversity and social cohesion in Andorra. These three education systems are public and free, and parents freely choose the system in which they prefer to enrol their children. The Organic Law of Education provides for the right of every person to education, a right that the constitution recognizes as fundamental. Similarly, the Act establishes compulsory and free education from 6 to 16 years; the right of adults to basic education and the principle of equality in access to higher levels of education (p. 24) Pages 94-97 include relevant statistics.	
3. Armenia	Yes	Yes	One of the highlights related to inclusion within education: "Inclusion: Children with disabilities continue to be the largest group of out of school children despite the policy towards universal inclusive education. Only 1/3 (80% in rural areas) of children with disabilities are enrolled in preschool. In fact, children with disabilities do not appear in national statistics, becoming "invisible" to decision makers, service providers and the public." (p. 19) Armenia reported on changes to gender parity in education (p. 44). The VNR also discussed challenges on this front, including recognizing enrolment figures varied depending on poverty status. Armenia has adopted a "national plan of action for making the general education system inclusive by 2025, there is still a gap in putting in place national accessibility standards for physical environment, learning materials, communication of information (sign language, Braille, large print, Easy Read and pictorial information) in line with universal design principles and ensure	

				compliance with them within mainstream settings to promote and facilitate access to educational institutions" (p. 45). See also comments on challenges faced by refugees, stateless and displaced children due to the socio-economic situation of families, language barriers, and limited access to pre-school education: "In this regard, the Government will consider the development of specific, supportive policies on education for these category to ensure the enrolment of refugee, stateless and other displaced children to pre-school and school education as soon as possible after their arrival in Armenia, establish special catch-up and Armenian language classes to ensure their successful participation in education programs, develop an accelerated education for children and youths who missed the opportunity to have timely and effective education at their country of origin or during protracted displacement" (p. 45).
4. Australia	Yes	Yes		Australia provides universal access to primary and secondary education including gender equity in literacy and numeracy outcomes on completion of primary school (p. 38). The government targets funding for schools to handle students with disabilities or other disadvantages (including through the Smith Family's Learning for Life program, supporting 56,200 disadvantaged students by 2020). The national science and technology centre, Questacon, has engaged remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities through exhibitions, workshops, educator development, and other programs (p. 39). These communities are also the beneficiaries of the Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience, engaging 15,000+ indigenous people (p. 40) and education programs providing infrastructure such as computers, printers, and internet access points (p. 40).
5. Bahamas	Yes	No		Chapter 6 describes The Bahamas programs designed to ensure inclusive and quality education for all, including its INSPIRE program launched in 2010-2014, aimed at improving the quality of teaching and learning opportunities for young students and enhancing access for special needs students; the Student Achievement Unit established in August 2014, which collects and analyses data about subject areas and students to improve decisions about educational interventions in schools with identified deficiencies; the PACE program for pregnant school-aged girls, which allows teenage mothers to complete high school, as well as similar programs for at-risk students; the introduction of a new standardized National High School Diploma aimed at reducing the percentage of students who leave high school without a diploma (pp. 60-61)

				Chapter 6 further describes The Bahamas' various technology initiatives, financial aid eligibility, pledges to increase funding for technical and vocational training programs, pledges for $6 million for the construction of a new school, and the continuation of the Multi-Service Centre for Adults with Developmental Disabilities (pp. 61-62)
6. Bahrain	Yes	Yes		Bahrain provides free primary and secondary education without any discrimination. It provides equal opportunities for vocational training and higher education at an affordable cost. Bahrain also makes arrangements for students with special needs by providing them with extra classes, scholarships, transportation needs and dedicated teaching staff. Bahrain encourages students with special needs to join and be part of ordinary classes in order to assimilate with other students.
7. Benin	Yes	Yes		P. 73 provides data for 2014 on (i) the parity index (female/male) regarding the gross rate of enrolment in primary school (0.95/1); (ii) the parity index (female/male) regarding the gross rate of enrolment in secondary school (0.76/1); (iii) the parity index (rural/urban) regarding the gross rate of enrolment in primary school (0.82/1); (iv) the parity index (rural/urban) regarding the gross rate of enrolment in secondary school (0.69/1); and (v) the parity index (women/men) of enrolled students (0.32/1).
8. Bhutan	Yes	Yes		Education plays a crucial role in accelerating economic growth through creating a productive national workforce and in advancing socio-economic development. The Royal Government accords high priority to education and has allocated no less than 10 percent of the total budget in all the FYPs. Bhutan has made great strides in improving access to education and is close to achieving the goal of Universal Primary Education. As of 2017, the Adjusted Net Primary Enrolment Rate (ANER) is 98.8 per cent constituting 98.7 per cent boys and 98.9 per cent girls. Similarly, the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for basic (Class PP-X) is 108.8 per cent and GER for secondary (Class VII-XII) is 95.7 per cent for the same year. These successes have been made possible through consistent investment in the education sector over the years since the advent of modern education in 1960s. Strategic education-focused frameworks (e.g., *Bhutan Education Blueprint 2014-2024*) were developed to improve the quality of education. Recent efforts to improve access to early childhood programmes and the promotion of inclusive education also address equity issues related to SDG 4. However, the 2017 MPI report identifies deprivations in years of education as the most significant contributor to multidimensional poverty (32 percent). The quality of education in tandem with development of labor market dynamics has also come under scrutiny in recent times.

Initiatives to improve quality of education and rationalize increasing costs, include innovative interventions such as establishment of Central Schools, Extended Classrooms and expansion of primary and secondary schools.

Recognizing early childhood care and development (ECCD) as the foundation for children's long term development, wellbeing and health, the Government prioritizes providing quality child care and early learning opportunities for children as part of the broader education continuum. Although the concept of ECCD is relatively new to Bhutan, progress has been commendable. The gross enrolment ratio in ECCD as of 2017 was 21.8 per cent against 7 per cent in 2013. Going forward, ECCD program will be a priority. The 12th FYP aims to enroll at least 50 per cent of children aged 3 to 5 years in ECCD Centres through establishment of one ECCD Centre for every *Chiwog*. However, the challenge will be to find sufficient resources and innovative and suitable alternatives to ensure that all children receive affordable and quality ECCD services.

Ensuring continuity and access to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education is an important element of the overall education system framework in Bhutan. Currently, there are six TTIs, one institute for Tourism and Hospitality and 2 IZCs in the country with a total of 1536 trainees and 163 instructors. While efforts have been made to enhance access to and quality of TVET education, it remains an unpopular option for many students due to the low status and poor working conditions associated with blue-collar jobs.

To enhance quality and relevance of TVET education, a Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Blueprint that outlines reforms has been developed.

The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) Tertiary within and outside Bhutan for age 19-21 years as of 2017 stands at 35.8 per cent. As of 2017, there are 18 Tertiary Education Institutes (TEIs) offering undergraduate and postgraduate courses in healthcare, medical, law, language, management, natural resource, education, and technology in the country. In 2014, the Government instituted Students Loan Scheme for Tertiary Education to provide opportunities for students from economically disadvantaged families to continue tertiary education.

Efforts are underway to review school curriculum to make it more relevant to the present reality. To enhance computer literacy and IT skills among students the

government implemented Education ICT Master Plan (*iSherig*) 2014-2018. Such efforts are expected to increase employability of students upon graduation.

In terms of gender equality in education, impressive achievements have been made with Adjusted Net Primary Enrolment Rate of 98.9 per cent for girls compared to 98.7 per cent for boys. In 2017, girls make up 50.5 per cent of the total school enrolment in school education system (Class PP-XII). The gender parity index at primary, basic and higher secondary levels, stand at 1.02, 1.07, 1.03 respectively, while at tertiary education level, gender parity index is only 0.82. Enrolment in vocational and technical education is also dominated by male with female enrolment at 35 per cent.

Bhutan has made modest success in providing access to education for children with disabilities. In addition to the two special schools catering to hearing and visually impaired children, the government has established Special Educational Needs Programme (SEN) in 12 schools to integrate children with disabilities into the mainstream school system. As of 2017, 647 students with various forms of disabilities were enrolled. Additionally, there are two private institutions which provide vocational skills to disabled children.

Non-Formal Education (NFE) programme continues to be an effective program in providing basic literacy and functional skills to adult population, and especially women, who have missed the opportunity to pursue schooling. In 2017, there were 6668 NFE learners enrolled in the basic and post literacy courses in 668 NFE centres.

[Pages 39 to 41**]**

	9. Cabo Verde	Yes	Yes	

In 2016, 82.8% of women ages 15 and older and 92.5% of man ages 15 and older comprising 82.6% of the total population were alphabetized. (p. 15)

Income levels still determine access to higher education in Cabo Verde. Higher education expenses reached approximately US$ 23 million in 2014, of which approximately US$16.5 million was financed by the students. (pp. 27-28)

Geographic location of the students determines access to and permanence in higher education. In the 2014-2015 academic year, two thirds of higher education students came from the islands of Santiago and S. Vicente, while only one third came from the other islands of Cabo Verde. (p. 28)

The fact that higher education is available only in the islands of Santiago and S.

				Vicente leads to socio-economic inequalities. E.g., 14 out of every 100 non-poor girls and 10 out of every 100 non-poor boys attend higher education, while only 3 out of every 100 poor girls and 2 out of every 100 poor boys attend higher education. To reduce inequality, the Government is reviewing the law that establishes the system for entering higher education and the criteria for awarding scholarships and is considering a distance-learning program. (p. 53) People with special education needs have difficulties accessing education. While 83% of the population with disabilities can read and right, that number is 14 percentage points lower than among the population without disabilities. Most school teachers are not able to deal with children with disabilities. (p. 28) In 2016/2017, 88 out of every 100 preschool-aged girls and 85 out of every 100 preschool-aged boys were attending preschool. (p. 52) The Government started to promote education for children aged 4 and 5 in 2017 by providing support for disadvantaged families in making their monthly payments and other measures, such as regulating the operation of preschool education establishments and disseminating and raising awareness to preschool education. (p. 52) In 2016/2017, 82.6% of young girls at the age to attend the second and third years of the first cycle of primary education were so attending, well above boys of the same age (73.3%). In that same school year, 83.8% of children and young girls from their respective age group were at the end of the second cycle of primary education, well above boys of the same age (76.3%). In addition, 70.5% of children and young girls from their respective age group were at the end of the third cycle of primary education, slightly above boys of the same age (68.6%). (p. 52) High rates of failure and drop out (which are higher among boys than girls) are a challenge. It is estimated that only one third of high school students will complete this level of education. (p. 52)
	10. Canada	Yes	Yes	Canadians are among the most educated people in the world: 54% of Canadian adults aged 25 to 64 had completed post-secondary education in 2016. However, Canada still experiences a high degree of academic and therefore occupational gender segregation. (p. 39). Canada contributes to post-secondary education through four main channels: The Canada Social Transfer (CST); the tax system; research and development expenditure

as a means to support innovation and economic competitiveness; and student financial assistance and education savings incentives through the Canada Student Loans Program and the Canada Education Savings Program, respectively (p. 38).

Learn Canada 2020 is the framework provincial and territorial education ministers have developed to enhance Canada's education systems, learning opportunities and overall education outcomes (p. 39).

Canada continues to work with Indigenous peoples to develop a new partnership on Indigenous education. Indigenous peoples have made significant gains over the past decade. In 2016, almost 74% of adults aged 25 to 64 earned at least a high school diploma or equivalent certificate (up from under 66% in 2006) and 23% of adults had a college diploma (up from 18.7%) (p. 40).

Canada's governments reached a historic agreement – The Multilateral Early Learning and Child Care Framework – which will enhance early childhood learning and child-care systems (p. 40).

Canada continues to invest in urgent repairs and renovations of the educational facilities used by the Aboriginal Head Start on Reserve Program (63 facilities to date) and the First Nations and Inuit Child Care Initiative (210 childcare centres) (p. 41).

With regard to primary and secondary education, Canada defines its priorities for elementary and secondary education with a view to ensuring that all children in our elementary- to high-school systems can access learning opportunities that are inclusive and that provide them with world-class skills in literacy, numeracy and science (Learn Canada 2020) (p. 41).

With respect to post-secondary education, Canada has simplified the Canada Student Loans Program application process and increased the loan repayment threshold by approximately 23%. Besides, the Post-Secondary Student Support Program was adopted to ensure that indigenous students have the same opportunities for success as other Canadian students (p. 42).

Through the new Skills Boost initiative, adults returning to school on a full-time basis after several years in the workforce will be eligible to receive additional grant funding per school year. Canada has continued to enhance the Aboriginal Skills and Employment Training Strategy to close the employment and earnings gap between Indigenous peoples and non-Indigenous Canadians (p. 43).

Furthermore, the Global Affairs Canada sponsored Student Exchange Program (SEP)

			offers short-term scholarships to support the development of human capital and the next generation of leaders in the Americas while strengthening the linkages between post-secondary institutions in Canada and Latin America and the Caribbean (p. 44).
11. Colombia	No	No	N/A
12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes	Participation in primary education has steadily increase since 2010, where slightly more men are registered than women. Furthermore, registration in secondary education have shown signs of improvements as well, where registrations are higher than projections, the gender aspect switches place in secondary education and more women than men enroll, it is also a notable difference between enrolment in poor areas, lower enrolment, versus non-poor areas, higher enrolment (p. 84-85). Other noteworthy efforts are the goal to extinct analphabetism among persons 15 years and older (p. 199). Analphabetism is decreasing and has been with roughly 50% since 2000.
13. Ecuador	Yes	Yes	Net enrolment in basic education reached 96% in 2016, however, enrolment rates decreases steadily by age. During 2017 the General Unified Bachelor program (Sp. Bachillerato General Unificado) launched, consisting of three additional years, following completion of the basic education system. The level of students self-identified as ethnic minorities have steadily risen since 2014 and reached almost 60% in 2017. Among adults between the age of 18 to 29 about 65% has completed the General Unified Bachelor program (pp. 45).
14. Egypt	Yes	Yes	Scholarships provided to students with visual disabilities in 18 public universities (page 14).
15. Greece	Yes	Yes	The Report identifies the reduction of inequalities as a key priority area for education, including the following main policies: (1) to ensure equal and quality pre-primary, primary, and secondary education (p. 50), including the promotion of Intercultural Education to integrate students of all backgrounds, such as refugee children via Reception School Annexes for Refugee Education (p. 51); promoting equal access to and enhancement of higher education for applicants of all backgrounds, described in connection to SDG 4.3 (p. 51); promoting gender equality in enrolment for Greek Military Schools (p. 52); developing skills for employment through vocational education for people of varying backgrounds, including through Second Chance Schools for people aged 18-30 to develop skills for the general population and special groups (pp. 52-53); fostering implementation of inclusive education and training at all levels through the institution of Educational Priority Zones in primary schools and pilot programs targeting the Roma population and the Muslim minority in Thrace (p.

				53); and implementing an education policy supporting the right of all students to equal access to educational advantages (p. 54).
	16. Guinea	Yes	Yes	Girls' and boys' inequalities in enrolment have decreased considerably in Guinea. Inequalities between boys and girls, between urban and rural areas and between rich and poor households, all experienced a sharp decline between 1994 and 2016. For example, in 1994, the net enrolment rate for boys was 1.5 times higher than for girls. This ratio decreased to 1, 2 in 2002 and 1.1 in 2007, 2012 and 2016 (p.48). In 3/5 children (60.3%) attended elementary school or high school. This rate is higher among boys (63%) than girls (58%). It is further higher in urban areas (82%) than in rural areas (49%). (p. 48) In 2011, Guinea adopted a revised National Gender Policy with UNPD technical and financial support, which aims to build a society free from all forms of inequality and iniquity, which guarantees to all (men and women, girls and boys) the realization of their potential for their full development." A review of the Civil Code has been undertaken in order to eliminate provisions that are discriminatory against women, although it has not been approved by the National Assembly. (p. 50) As part of the implementation of its women empowerment strategy, the Guinean government has also created an employment and advancement of women general directorate by Decree No. 081 / PRG / SGG of April 7, 2014. (p. 50)
	17. Hungary	Yes	Yes	The report mentions programs such as Utravalo and Arany Janos programs, which seek to achieve inclusion of students from disadvantaged backgrounds. (page 26) In 2017, more than 13,000 students received a grant or mentorship and approximately 10,000 students received support through programs developed to prevent students from leaving school before having completed a program of study. (page 18) Free provision of textbooks and measures which make electronic textbooks and next generation study materials widely available for free. (page 18) Since 2015, participation in kindergarten education is compulsory from the age of three. (page 18) Established a Special Development Centre for the Promotion of Employment in the Labour Market, helping students with disabilities and young people with

				employment. (page 19) The Digital Education Strategy of Hungary, adopted in 2016, will ensure the presence of digital equipment in public education and vocational training institutions, paying special attention to students with special needs. (page 20)
	18. Ireland	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: More schools included in the DEIS program through additional funding; introduction of pilot projects to bring successful programs to other schools; decreased absenteeism in DEIS schools; decreasing junior and senior year completion gap between DEIS and non-DEIS schools; urban primary schools continue to have a disproportionate concentration of disadvantage compared to rural schools. (37-41) Implementation steps: Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools (DEIS) the Action Plan for Educational Inclusion, current iteration DEIS Plan 2017, a social inclusion policy focusing on pre-school through secondary education. DEIS institutes a standard system of disadvantage levels which it addresses through a School Support Programme. DEIS works with other unnamed "intervention" programs including second-chance education, support for underrepresented groups in higher ed., and aid for special ed. students; School Excellence Fund, for context-specific and innovative programs; Traveller Education Strategy and National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy (NITRIS 2016-2020) to integrate Travellers and Roma into the mainstream education system; increased vocational and technical training for persons with disabilities; government support of NGOs working to aid internally displaced and refugee youth education and psychosocial support access. (37-41) Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS
	19. Jamaica	Yes	No	PATH cash transfers to students (p. 37) Career Advancement Programme to allow non-graduates to transition to work or tertiary institutions (p. 37) Child Find Programme to identify students with special needs (p. 37) Transitional program for children in state care, and the Advancing the Education of Boys program (p. 37)
	20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	It is reported that the gender parity index (GPI) calculated with gross enrolment ratios was 0.98, and the GPI of completion rates reached 1.00 in 2017, meaning that the proportion of girls making it to grade 5 is the same as that of boys as a percentage of the total relevant age group. Gender parity has not yet been achieved at secondary level, which explains why the GPI in literacy is still low (that is, in favour of males)

				among the youth and adult population, especially among the older groups. (page 26) It is reported that education for children with disabilities will require further inter-ministerial work. (page 26)	
	21. Latvia	Yes	Yes	Addressing the problems of early school leavers by establishment of an individualised learning approach. Latvia plans to increase public awareness of adult education, as currently only 7.5% of adults aged 25-64 participate. Interdisciplinary Adult Education Management Board was set up in 2017 to eliminate skills shortages in the market. The Latvian government funds basic education in minority languages such as Russian, Polish, Jewish, Ukrainian, Estonian, Lithuanian and Belarusian. Pages 56-57	
	22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	The Government of Lebanon is developing its Education 2030 SDG 4 Strategy that will be launched at the end of 2018 and will have a clear focus on equity, ensuring every child, regardless of background or special educational needs, reaches his or her full educational potential. It is reported that it will also include a plan for improving equity and inclusion in the education system to benefit the poorest and most vulnerable children in Lebanon. (Page 25) The gender parity index shows that girls and boys have equal opportunities at all levels of schooling. However, gross enrolment rates for Lebanese students are unequal at all levels of education. (page 25) With the support of the international community, since 2011 public schools have opened their doors to all refugee children seeking enrolment. Many challenges to achieving 'inclusive and equitable quality education' have been considered in the RACE 2 Strategy for 2017–2021. Equity and inclusion are now the Ministry of Education and Health's two main strategic goals that it will work on while shifting from short-term development to offering all children in Lebanon the kind of education envisaged in SDG 4 by 2030. To facilitate school enrolment and provide services to students who have learning, physical and sensory disabilities, the Ministry of Education and Health is	

| | | | | implementing several initiatives with different education partners. (page 26)

Lebanon's Youth Policy, endorsed in 2012, was formulated using a bottom-up participatory approach. It addresses migration, labour and economic participation, education and culture, health, social integration, and political participation by youth. Currently, the Ministry of Youth and Sport, with the support of UN agencies, is designing an action plan to implement the policy. In addition to addressing SDG4 targets, the action plan is expected to establish interlinkages amongst the SDGs to deal with the youth issues. (page 27)

There are several challenges for Lebanon to overcome to be able to offer all children the kind of education envisaged in Sustainable Development Goal 4 by 2030. Financing and equitable use of resources remain key to advancing SDG 4 targets across the education sector in Lebanon. Challenges include increasing public funding for education, especially in marginalized communities. Additionally, it is necessary to move from short-term international aid to multi-year funding for aid effectiveness and harmonizing investment in the interests of the holistic development of the system for all children. To realize SDG 4, Lebanon should develop more inclusive policies and a coherent education system based on planning and alignment between curriculum, educational leadership, assessment, teacher preparation, and management. (page 28) |
| | 23. Lithuania | Yes | Yes | In developing inclusive education, more efficient assistance will be provided for the individual progress of persons with disabilities and special learning needs. Lithuania seeks to make the general schools more attractive and ready to accept children with disabilities and special learning needs who currently are educated at special schools: jobs for assistant teachers are established, possibilities for allocating larger funds are reviewed, schools are encouraged to adapt the physical environment to the universal design requirements, pedagogical workers undergo training, and schools are supplied with the required teaching.

Also, the number of vocational schools implementing vocational training programmes customised for the disabled (about one-third) is increasing in Lithuania (pp. 15-16) |
| | 24. Mali | Yes | Yes | The country has known many education reforms since 1962, from the 1962 reform to the ten-year education program (PRODEC), which has gone through multiple phases (1998 to 2017) and which aimed to increase access to education, education quality and promote a decentralized educational system. Between the end of the PRODEC |

				and the implementation of the new ten-year education program (PRODEC 2), the Malian government, along with technical and financial partners, elaborated an interim program, the implementation of which was delayed until December 31, 2017, aimed at increase access to education and improve education and training quality and environments. These reforms had significant results, including increasing the gross enrolment ratio at the elementary school level by 1.5 points between 2015 and 2016. The gross enrolment rate at the elementary school level was further raised to 76.1% in 2017 from 69.6% in 2016. Gender parity had been reduced between 2015 and 2016 (from 0.85 to 0.85, respectively). (p. 36) Further, incentivizing measures have been undertaken, including providing school material (e.g., books, notebooks, calculators, etc.) to girls in order to increase their enrolment and school attendance, school cafeterias in order to increase school attendance, improving teachers' living and teaching conditions by adopting a particular status, creating development education centres (CED) and functional literacy centres (CAF), which have made it possible to increase school attendance. (p. 36) The completion rate in elementary school has, however, suffered and has decreased from 49.8% to 46.2% (below the 50.5% target set for 2016). Elementary school admission rates have increased from 59.6% to 62.7% (with a target set for 65.1%). Although the teacher to student ratio was set at 37 students, the ratio has been increase to 39 between 2015 and 2016. (p. 36) High school enrolment has also slightly decreased between 2015 and 2016 (from 16.6% to 16.5%) (with a target of 17%). (p. 36) Mali has experienced a greater success rate at the bachelor's degree level (with a success rate increasing from 17.8% in 2015 to 24% in 2016 and 32.64% in 2017). A 2017 study revealed that 0.8% of the Malian population has reached a higher education level. (p. 37)
	25. Malta	Yes	Yes	100% enrolment after age 4 in 2016. Education is free, compulsory from 5-16. Expenditure on education is relatively high (5.6% of GDP in 2015). (p30) Numerous educational policies have been implemented to address gender discrimination/equal access to education and vocational training, including, the

				National Curriculum Framework (NCF) for All (2012); The *Framework for the Education Strategy 2014 - 2024* (2014); The *National Lifelong Learning Strategy 2020*; *A Strategic Plan for the Prevention of Early School Leaving in Malta 2014 (2014 – 2020); Respect for All Framework (2014);* *Trans, Gender Variant and Intersex Students in Schools Policy (2015).* (p31) Malta set up a National Literacy Agency and Math Support Teachers (already showing improvements in literacy and math since 2009). (p31) Inspire Foundation has developed a training programme for persons with disabilities. (p32) Malta has worked on a reform to reduce number of early school leavers by introducing applied subjects (p33) Malta Arts Council and Heritage Malta had programmes to promote cultural diversity, exchange, identity (p33) Malta has various initiatives to assist youth who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) (p34)
	26. Mexico	Yes	No	46.5% of disabled children, adolescents and young adults (3 to 29 years of age) go to school according to the Public Education Secretariat and the National Council for the Incorporation of People with Disabilities (p. 59). It is a challenge to incorporate children and adolescents with special needs into the education system, as well as those belonging to indigenous or Afro-Mexican communities and those who live in isolated areas (p. 60). One major challenge is the inclusion of a gendered approach in the strategy used to lower the high school dropout rate, as at this level, girls drop out at a higher rate than boys do (p. 61). The average level of education among the indigenous population is elementary school, which rises to middle school in the rest of the country (p. 61).
	27. Namibia	Yes	Yes	Pertaining to basic education, Namibia has made great progress in providing access to education to over 95 percent of the learner-age population. Nevertheless, the quality

			of instruction is often unsatisfactory, especially in schools serving poor communities. In the most remote, rural areas, drop-out rates are an extreme concern. With respect to higher education and training, considerable inequalities of access to university education remain in terms of social class, geographical location, marginalized groups as well as those with special needs and disabilities. The country has only two public universities and one private university besides other private higher education institutions. Admission criteria, however, exclude a large share of applicants, although public universities have established bridging programmes to facilitate access by young people from disadvantaged background or with previous work experience. (pages 20-21) No express reference is made to gender disparities in education.
28. Niger	Yes	Yes	School enrolment has quadrupled between 1992 and 2015 (18% to 63.4%. However, only 75.2% of children enrolled in elementary school finish elementary school, and only 44.2% of youths aged between 15 and 24 are literate. In 2015, less than 27% of children reach a basic level of competency in standard school subjects. (p. 31) Education facilities are not satisfactory: • 20% of elementary schools are part of an interconnected computer network; • 21% of high schools have access to electricity and 63.8% have access to drinking water; and • Only 25% of professional establishments have computers. (p. 31) Teachers don't always have the opportunity to pursue training. (p. 31) In order to ensure quality education for all, Niger is looking to ensure that all children complete elementary school and high school, is aiming to eliminate gender inequality and promote access to education to vulnerable persons. To that end, Niger is looking to lengthen the average school enrolment term from 1.5 year in 2014 to 4.5 years in 2035 and to increase school life from 5.4 years in 2015 to 7.8 years in 2030 and 9 years in 2035. (p. 31) More young girls are enrolled in school and stay in school longer. (p. 33)
29. Palestine	Yes	Yes	The Government provides free primary and secondary education for all, and has ratified "Education Law 2017" - a mandatory minimum of 10 years of schooling for all

its citizens (p. 32).

Persons with disabilities remain left behind in the educational system (p. 32):
- For children with disabilities the school enrolment rate was 32.5% in 2011 between ages 6-9, while for children ages 10-15 the enrolment rate was 69.8%;
- Illiteracy rates amongst person with disabilities is 31.7% as of 2017;
- 4.5% have completed university education;
- Attendance rates of persons remain low due to the inability of the Ministry of Education of attending to their needs;

The Government has devised unconventional methods to provide education for sick students in hospitals, prisoners in Israeli jails and those under Israeli-imposed home arrests (p. 32).

The gender gap in education has been bridged. The number of females who are enrolled in education has surpassed males from compulsory education to postgraduate education (p. 32).

The education ministry's implementation of the Inclusive Education Policy faces a number of challenges, including shortage of specialized staff in dealing with disabilities (p. 33).

In 2014, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education launched an inclusive education policy in order to integrate all students, regardless of their disabilities (p. 34):
- Training the educational staff to attend to persons with disabilities;
- Actions are currently underway to further develop a curriculum for students with disabilities.

The Government provides home schooling for students under Israeli house arrest (p. 34).

It remains challenging for the Palestinian government to enact the child and disability laws, mainstream programs and services designed to ensure disability and learning difficulty detection and child development (p. 41).

				The Government has prescribed the policy interventions of improving the enrolment and balance of boys and girls in secondary education, and ensuring equitable access to education, particularly in marginalized areas and for vulnerable groups (p. 88).
	30. Paraguay	No	No	N/A
	31. Poland	Yes	Yes	Trends/Challenges: Poland reports that men and women have equal access to education. 39. "Poland recorded a significant increase in the rate of attending children in pre-school education (from about 58% in 2006 to almost 81% in 2016), although there are significant urban-rural disparities." 39. Other areas, such as indigenous peoples or persons with disabilities, were not mentioned. Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation: All steps and plans for the future seemed to focus on issues like increasing higher level education for all, rather than specific education for different groups of people. Other notes about how indicator was reported, including particular stats? "The statistics also show that men and women have equal access to education." 39.
	32. Qatar	No	No	In the context of Goal 11, Qatar aims to provide protection for poor and vulnerable groups through social welfare and social protection systems (pp. 38). • E.g. by promoting the rights of marginalized and vulnerable groups, and promoting their integration into society and in the labor force, especially in education and employment.
	33. Romania	No	No	
	34. Saudi Arabia	Yes	Yes	Saudi Arabia's Vision 3030 has set a strategic objective that calls for enabling people with disabilities to gain access to suitable job opportunities as well as education. (pg. 37) The government issued a decision that exempts persons with special needs from visa fees related to recruitment of nurses, drivers and laborers in order to help them manage their day-to-day activities. (pg. 37) Council of Ministers has approved a move to set up an umbrella commission for persons with disabilities; this will function as a reference body for disabled persons and will monitor programs and services provided to them. It will also audit the regulations and policies and submit related advice. (pg. 37)

	35. Senegal	Yes	Yes	The VNR mentions progress in the area of (primary and secondary) education for girls. Additional efforts are still required at the level of higher education. With respect to persons with disabilities, the VNR only mentions the actions taken by the government (without sharing any data regarding the progress). Page 43
	36. Singapore	Yes	Yes	It is reported that the Singapore education system continues to provide opportunities for all regardless of their starting point in life. It is aimed at ensuring that society is inclusive by providing opportunities for children from different backgrounds to grow up together. The country remains committed to providing quality, affordable, and accessible education so that no Singaporean student is disadvantaged because of their financial circumstances. For instance, education is highly subsidised and a range of financial assistance schemes are available to students in need. (page 14) The Singapore education system is aimed at providing each child with a solid foundation upon which they can build their knowledge and skills throughout life. It is also reported that Singapore recognises that learning is a lifelong journey, especially in a global economy that is subject to rapid change and disruption. This is why it is encouraged that Singaporeans to upgrade their knowledge and skills at all stages of life. (page 12)
	37. Slovakia	Yes	Yes	Slovakia considers human capital to be the most important asset in today's world, and has selected education as the country's first national priority for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The first priority also takes into consideration the trend of deepening inequalities between individual groups of people. Therefore, issues of equal opportunities in education and in the labour market for all population groups, irrespective of their ethnicity, health or social status, resonate strongly within this priority. (pp. 20, 26) Slovakia provides that in order to ensure equal opportunities in education for children belonging to national minorities and ethnic groups, schools and classes with the language of instruction of a national minority are exempt from the rationalisation of the school network as a result of a decline in the number of pupils. Furthermore, the legal representatives of pupils belonging to a national minority have a right to reimbursement of travel expenses connected to transporting children to the nearest school with the language of instruction of the respective national minority, if the municipality in which the pupil has a permanent residence does not have an elementary school or kindergarten with the language of instruction of the respective

				national minority (p. 26)
38. Spain	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: Spanish students have improved relative to those of other countries studied. For example, there was an 8% decrease in premature school leaving from 2011 to 2017 (VNR, p. 44). Students with both visual disabilities and behavioural/personality disorders have been successfully integrated to conventional schools at integration rates of 95.1% and 96.8%, respectively (*Id.*). Going forward, the Ministry of Education hopes to continue to close the gender gap in technical and scientific studies. (*Id.*).

Implementation steps: Continuing implementation under the 2018–2021 Strategic Plan for Equal Opportunities sets out measures to promote university studies by girls and women in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (*Id.*).

Data sources: Statistics from the Ministry of Education; Studies such as the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) and the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) (VNR, p. 44).

Private sector data: n/a

Technology used for measuring progress: Surveys and studies.

Human rights institutions for reporting processes & universal periodic review: n/a

Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Infrastructure; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Labour; Ministry of Equality, and Ministry of Health (VNR, p. 95). |
| 39. Sri Lanka | Yes | Yes | The Report includes statistics recognizing a gap in participation in education by those with disabilities or from disadvantaged backgrounds (pp. 79-80). Low-income students tend to lack high quality school infrastructure (p. 80).

Sri Lanka is working on developing all of its schools under the "Nearest School-the best school" national program, and has emphasized the need for reforms in vocational curricula (p. 81). The government has also pledged to improve school infrastructure and training for teachers to increase access to education for the disabled, and to improve teacher deployment in more remote areas using an |

				incentive program (p. 82). The Ministry of Education's project for "Development of the Education Sector in Sri Lanka" includes as a policy the provision of equitable learning opportunities for all children (p. 82).
40. Sudan	Yes	Yes		The Report acknowledges that 'policies to foster women's education are critical' (p.49). The Girls Education Policy is a policy tool to reduce gender gaps in education, operating 'at both federal and state levels' in the Sudan (p.47). Moreover, since 1990 there has been an expansion in education in Sudan, specifically at the tertiary level, where there is a higher rate of tertiary-level enrolment of girls than boys (p.48). Despite the positive gains made in the education sector, around 3.1 million children still remain out of school, of whom 52% are girls. Also, although the Sudan has achieved parity in primary schools, particularly in urban areas and in 12 States (South Darfur, North Darfur, River Nile, South Kordofan, Khartoum, Northern, White Nile, Kassala, Blue Nile, Red Sea, Gezira and Sinnar), girls' education at the primary level still requires more attention in the remaining 6 States' (p.52).
41. Switzerland	Yes	No		Switzerland has significantly expanded its early intervention family support services in recent decades. Challenges include training enough specialist staff, improving the financial sustainability of childcare, setting up a national monitoring and reporting system, and early language support (p.10).
42. Togo	No	No		
43. UAE	Yes	Yes		The Coordinating Agency is the Ministry of Education. National Education Strategy Goals include ensuring inclusive quality education including pre-school education. The Ministry of Education, has recently adopted a holistic health, safety and environmental framework to ensure that education facilities can accommodate all types of students especially those with special needs (Students of Determination).
44. Uruguay	No	No		N/A
45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes		Certain SDG 4 targets have been reflected in Vietnam's laws policies, and strategies, including: • the Law on Education; • the Law on Vocational Education; • the Law on Vocational Training; • the XI Party Central Committee Resolution of Reformation, Inclusivity of Education and Training;

- the Education Development Strategy 2011- 2020;
- the 2011– 2020 TVET Development Strategy;
- the Vocational Training for Rural Workers to 2020;
- the Vietnam Human Resources Development Strategy 2011-2020;
- the Vietnam Youth Development Strategy 2011-2020;
- the Decree No. 20/2014/ND-CP on Education Universalization and Illiteracy Eradication;
- the Action Plan on Gender Equality in Education 2016-2020;
- the Framework on Building a Learning Society for the Period 2012-2020; and
- the Scheme on Stamping out Illiteracy by 2020.

(p. 36).

Starting 2018, tuition for five-year-old children in socio-economically disadvantaged areas are exempt. The National Law on Persons with Disabilities 2012 and the Inclusive Education Guidelines for Persons with Disabilities 2006 were promulgated in support of education for people with disabilities. Currently, children with disabilities receive care and education through Inclusive Education Support and Development Centres, which support intervention for children with disabilities and provide professional support for education of children with disabilities in preschools.
 (pp. 36-37).

Vietnam is the process of developing a system of boarding schools and semi-boarding schools for ethnic minority students. (p. 38).

Children from poor households in remote and mountainous areas continues to have difficulties and constraints accessing education. There are still children from five to fourteen years old in rural, mountainous, remote and isolated areas, as well as poor children, migrant children, children with disabilities, ethnic minority children, and especially ethnic minority girls, who have never attended school or have dropped out. (p. 38).

Gender equality in access to education services continues to improve. In 2016, the literacy rate of men was 96.6%, while the rate for women was 93%. Vietnam expects the gap to further narrow by 2030. According to CEMA (2015) statistics, only 72% of ethnic minority people can read and write the Vietnamese language, which is lower than the national average. (p. 38).

				The percentage of trained labourers has increased steadily over the years. According to CEMA (2015) statistics, the proportion of male labourers receiving training is higher than that of female labourers in some ethnic minority groups such as the Si La, San Diu, Co Tu, and Bo Yes groups by about 3.5 to 6%. Only a few ethnic groups such as the Tay, Lo Lo, Ngai and Pu Péo groups recorded a higher proportion of female-trained labourers. The growing disparity between male and female labourers in vocational training poses a challenge for appropriate policies and solutions to reduce gender gaps. (p. 38).
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	39	
		No	6	
4.7: Culture of peace, non-violence and global citizenship	1. Albania	No	No	
	2. Andorra	Yes	Yes	Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)has been integrated into formal education and the Government established the "Green School" project. This project, created in 2010-2011, at the initiative of the Departments of the Environment and Education, aims to ensure ESD in the entire educational community (p. 25) Approximately 6,200 students participate each year in ESD activities organized in schools by the Centre Andorra Sostenible and the environmental education teams of the Ministry of the Environment, Agriculture and Development. sustainable. The "Green School" program is present in 19 of the 29 schools in the country (65%) and has 7,237 pupils, 66% of the total number of students (p. 25) The government has educational projects whose purpose is to promote Human Rights, respect, non-discrimination in schools, facilitate democratic participation, promote group cohesion, focus on learning values, abilities and encourage students, from a very young age, to have a sense of commitment and responsibility (p. 27). Andorra also participates in the Council of Europe's "Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights" program since 2001 and in the "Global Program for Education in Human Rights "of the United Nations. Education for peace and human rights is compulsory in all three education systems (p. 27).
	3. Armenia	Yes	Yes	
	4. Australia	Yes	Yes	Many schools have implemented sustainability programs (p. 39). 18% of Australia's total global development assistance goes to education (p. 40). Australia also invests in global knowledge exchange via the New Colombo Plan, Australia Awards, and Endeavor Awards funding international educational exchanges (p. 41).

5. Bahamas	Yes	No	The report indicates that the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology mandated that technical and vocational education be given priority at the secondary level to help meet the nation's development needs (p. 62)
6. Bahrain	Yes	Yes	Commencing from the 2018/2019 school year, a new module on nationalism will be introduced as compulsory learning which aims to promote peace, tolerance, moderatism, and to combat hate, extremism or violence within the educational environment. Schools will be required to introduce activities which aim to underscore tolerance, moderation and respecting the opinions of others.
			The Ministry of Youth and Sports has also been instrumental in promoting activities which encourage students on learning and developing skills needed to promote sustainable development, sustainable living, human rights, equality, peace and non-violence. Bahrain has also established the King Hamad Center for Religious Dialogue which promotes multi-culturalism and tolerance of religions as well as the rejection of discrimination on grounds of faith
7. Benin	No	No	
8. Bhutan	No	No	
9. Cabo Verde	No	No	N/A
10. Canada	Yes	Yes	Canada offers short-term scholarships for international students and researchers in Canada and for Canadians studying or doing research internationally through various programs (p. 43).
			Canada pursues international strategic partnerships in educational field. Canada has prioritized support to basic education for children in fragile and conflict-affected states as well as countries affected by natural disasters. Canada has also supported the Education Cannot Wait initiative (ECW). Canada and other partners also announced investments of close to $3.8 billion, marking a fundamental shift toward improving access and reducing barriers to quality education in developing countries and in conflict-affected and fragile states (p. 45).
11. Colombia	Yes	Yes	Colombia has suffered from civil war for many years and one of the main objectives of the PND was and eventually lead to the signing of the final agreement to end the conflict with FARC. Furthermore, Colombia focuses on finding structural solutions related to illicit drugs and the related violence (p. 17). It should be noted that the work in relation to the peace treaty generally affect the alignment with the SDGs,

			which has been further indicated in figure 1 on p.17.
12. Dominican Republic	No	N/A	N/A
13. Ecuador	Yes	Yes	This SDG has not been further addressed apart from what has been mentioned under 4.5. Among adults between the age of 18 to 29 about 65% has completed the General Unified Bachelor program (pp. 45).
14. Egypt	No	No	
15. Greece	Yes	Yes	EKKE, mentioned above for SDG 1.B, also carries out programs directed at the elimination of exclusion and inequality (p. 94). The Ministry of Education, Research, and Religious Affairs has promoted the adoption of policies to integrate sustainability principles at all levels of education (p. 54). Greece is also developing a strategy for the promotion of Education for Sustainable Development including through establishment of 57 Centers for Environmental Education (p. 55).
16. Guinea	No	No	
17. Hungary	No	No	
18. Ireland	Yes	No	Trends and challenges: Focus on sustainability and development; focus on gender-responsive education planning and female-targeted scholarships; government support for remote and poorly served areas, for community school initiatives, and social protection measures. (37-41) Implementation steps: National Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development in Ireland 2014-2020, framework for sustainability education at the individual, community, local, national, and international levels; Irish Aid Development Education Strategy 2017-2023, framework for development-focused education at many levels, annual funding for civil society, community groups, and other strategic partners under this program. (37-41) Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS

	19. Jamaica	Yes	No	• Sustainable development has been incorporated into the national curriculum for various subjects (p. 38) • Jamaica Day, Culture Day, and Peace day are celebrated with government resources (p. 38)
	20. Lao PDR	No	No	N/A
	21. Latvia	No	No	
	22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	Lebanon's Office of the Minister of State for Administrative Reform (OMSAR) supports lifelong learning by providing training programmes to public sector employees. It raises awareness about issues related to gender, human rights, the environment, alternative energy, waste separation and recycling. (page 28)
	23. Lithuania	No	No	
	24. Mali	Yes	No	Following the August to December 2013 elections, with armed groups and reconciliation have been promoted as national priorities, and the government has continued to promote peace, national reconciliation and social cohesion, notably through various information and awareness-raising meetings on the Agreement for Peace and National Reconciliation (resulting from the Algiers process) signed on May 15 and completed on June 20, 2015 par the government and the other concerned parties, and the establishment of a Justice and Reconciliation Trust Commission on January 15, 2014. (p. 54) Politically, it has been a priority to promote and protect human rights (which was recognized by the Prime Minister's reaffirmation of Mali's commitment to the respect for international human rights instruments). To this end, several documents have been drafted, including the National Human Rights Policy Document ((PNDH) and its 2017-2021 action plan, the 2015-2017 national action plan for the implementation of Act 2012-23 of 12/07/2012 on the fight against trafficking in persons and similar practices, the Action Plan 2017-2021 on transitional justice). (pp. 55-56)
	25. Malta	Yes	Yes	See 4.5 above re: education policies and programmes (p30-33) Malta is also offering a number of scholarships through its ODA (funded by Malta Govt) and Scholarships in Climate Action that provide opportunity to educate and train young people from developing States on how to manage mitigation of

			adaptation to and governance of climate change (p94-95). These include scholarships to students from Ghana, Tunisia, Nigeria, Palestine, and others.
26. Mexico	No	No	Not included in report.
27. Namibia	No	No	N/A
28. Niger	Yes	Yes	Niger has established four programs in the *Plan de Developpement Economique et Social* (Economic and Social Development Plan) with the goal of promoting security and peace: • Improving the strategic framework of security governance; • Reduce security risks; • Reduce community conflicts; and • Promote peace and security development initiatives. (p. 40) Niger does not have recent data with respect to the number of victims of violence that have been reported to the proper authorities. In the last12 months, a study of socio-economic and demographic indicators revealed that only 2.2% of the population has admitted to being a victim of discrimination in the public sector (3% for men, 1.4% for women; 4% live in urban areas and 2% in rural areas; 6.9% live in Niamey). (p. 41) A number of independent national institutions with respect to human rights were formed, including the *Commission Nationale des Droits Humains* (National Human Rights Commission), which releases a yearly report on the status of human rights. (p. 42) Niger has promulgated a variety of laws and documents policies, which in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution are not discriminatory in essence. IT is also planned to carry out investigations to record public perception and complaints about discriminatory measures against them (p. 42).
29. Palestine	No	No	N/A
30. Paraguay	No	No	N/A
31. Poland	No	No	N/A

32. Qatar	No	No	N/A
33. Romania	No	No	
34. Saudi Arabia	Yes	Yes	Ministry of Education has launched several initiatives such as: • Promotion of positive attitudes in schools that seeks to promote positive attitudes through a motivating environment. • Aramco has launched an environmental education initiative where a school team called 'Friends of the Environment Club' is formed by students to achieve informed interaction with the environment. • Volunteering in education initiative seeks to develop an educated generated who takes the lead in volunteerism with active involvement in advancing society and serving the nation. • National project for protection from peer violence and bullying. • Intellectual awareness center: pursues a scientific methodology that seeks to strengthen principles of patriotism and develop a basis to deal with alien ideas. • Campaign for the promotion of awareness and eradication of illiteracy. • Initiative to promote Human Rights culture generally.
35. Senegal	Yes	No	The VNR mentions that this has been included in the curricula throughout the education system. The students are evaluated on their knowledge and sensibility on human rights issues. (Page 44).
36. Singapore	Yes	Yes	It is essential for Singaporean students to develop "soft skills" as part of their educational process. To this end, its Character and Citizenship Education (CCE) aims to inculcate values in Singaporean children so that they become civic-minded and responsible individuals and citizens. CCE emphasises the interconnectedness of values, social and emotional competencies, civic literacy, global awareness, and cross-cultural skills that are critical for character-building. CCE learning outcomes are also aligned with SDGs. Children are taught to value Singapore's socio-cultural diversity, care for others, contribute to the progress of community and nation, and become active citizens in a globalised world. (page 13)
37. Slovakia	No	No	
38. Spain	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: Not mentioned with specificity. Implementation steps: Applying an education model to prepare students to "live in

			this complex, interconnected world" by "promoting values such as human dignity, equality, justice, solidarity and participation, which underlie and support peaceful democratic coexistence" (VNR, p. 45) Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Labour: Ministry of Equality; and Ministry of Ecological Technology (VNR, p. 95).
39. Sri Lanka	No	No	
40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	The Sudan VNR recognises that 'peace is an affirmed government strategy and is the first and foremost national priority' (p.34). The Sudan's internal conflict has come to an end, and the Sudan, both government and people, have shown 'long-term resolve' to make peace and sustain development (p.4). Specifically, the Sudan has prepared a compressive 2016-2031 program for the implementation of the National Population Policy. This policy is 'based on the principles of human rights…freedom of movement…gender equality…inter-and-intra generational equity…anchored on the family as a unit of society for reproduction' (p.49).
41. Switzerland	No	No	
42. Togo	No	No	
43. UAE	Yes	Yes	The Coordinating Agency is the Ministry of Education (MOE). Aligned to SDG4, MOE recently introduced moral education as a subject at all levels of education incorporating fundamental principles of global citizenship based on four main themes: personality and values, personal ethics, the role of the individual and society, civic education and cultural education. The goal is to encourage students to acquire competencies such as empathy, tolerance, critical thinking, communication, respect diversity of cultures, and being engaged in the dialogue on global environmental, social and economic issues. In addition to being incorporated in school curriculums, principles of global citizenship are also being integrated in youth community activities
44. Uruguay	Yes	No	This SDG is mentioned, but briefly and in a different context. Overlap has been noted (p. 47).
45. Vietnam	No	No	
Total VNRs (45)	Yes	22	

		No	23		
4.A: Safe education facilities	1. Albania	Yes		Yes	"Children in Albania face a range of types of violence and exploitation. Crimes against children registered by the police increased by 20 percent between 2015 and 2016. A WHO-supported study of 2013 found that 41.5 percent and six percent, respectively, of children surveyed had been abused physically and sexually at least once during their childhood. One in five children in school report that they are subject to verbal bulling. Between 2,000 and 2,500 children with some connection to the street were identified in 2014 in Albania, either on their own or with family members. To address all of these issues, efforts have been made to improve the legislative and policy frameworks on the rights of the child (adoption of the Law for the Protection of Children's Rights, the Criminal Justice for Children Code and the Children's Agenda 2020). Budgetary and institutional capacities need urgently to be put in place to accelerate implementation of the robust policy framework." (p. 23)
	2. Andorra	Yes		Yes	Page 96 includes statistics on the schools with access to: • electricity; • Internet for educational purposes; • computers for educational purposes; • adapted infrastructure and equipment for disabled students; • drinking water; • separate basic sanitary facilities for men and women; • basic equipment for washing hands
	3. Armenia	No		No	However, the VNR comments on "seismic safety" – "The Government is focusing on the seismic safety of schools with capacity of 400 or more students leaving out small sized schools, especially in rural areas and small communities that comprise about 31% of all schools in Armenia." (p. 45)
	4. Australia	No		No	
	5. Bahamas	Yes		No	In the report, the Government pledges $6 million for the construction of a new school in New Providence, but does not describe the provision of any special sensitivities (p. 62)
	6. Bahrain	No		No	
	7. Benin	No		No	
	8. Bhutan	Yes		Yes	Education plays a crucial role in accelerating economic growth through creating a productive national workforce and in advancing socio-economic development. The

Royal Government accords high priority to education and has allocated no less than 10 percent of the total budget in all the FYPs.

Bhutan has made great strides in improving access to education and is close to achieving the goal of Universal Primary Education. As of 2017, the Adjusted Net Primary Enrolment Rate (ANER) is 98.8 per cent constituting 98.7 per cent boys and 98.9 per cent girls. Similarly, the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for basic (Class PP-X) is 108.8 per cent and GER for secondary (Class VII-XII) is 95.7 per cent for the same year.

These successes have been made possible through consistent investment in the education sector over the years since the advent of modern education in 1960s. Strategic education-focused frameworks (e.g., *Bhutan Education Blueprint 2014-2024*) were developed to improve the quality of education. Recent efforts to improve access to early childhood programmes and the promotion of inclusive education also address equity issues related to SDG 4. However, the 2017 MPI report identifies deprivations in years of education as the most significant contributor to multidimensional poverty (32 percent). The quality of education in tandem with development of labor market dynamics has also come under scrutiny in recent times. Initiatives to improve quality of education and rationalize increasing costs, include innovative interventions such as establishment of Central Schools, Extended Classrooms and expansion of primary and secondary schools.

Recognizing early childhood care and development (ECCD) as the foundation for children's long term development, wellbeing and health, the Government prioritizes providing quality child care and early learning opportunities for children as part of the broader education continuum. Although the concept of ECCD is relatively new to Bhutan, progress has been commendable. The gross enrolment ratio in ECCD as of 2017 was 21.8 per cent against 7 per cent in 2013. Going forward, ECCD program will be a priority. The 12th FYP aims to enroll at least 50 per cent of children aged 3 to 5 years in ECCD Centres through establishment of one ECCD Centre for every *Chiwog*. However, the challenge will be to find sufficient resources and innovative and suitable alternatives to ensure that all children receive affordable and quality ECCD services.

Ensuring continuity and access to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education is an important element of the overall education system framework in Bhutan. Currently, there are six TTIs, one institute for Tourism and

Hospitality and 2 IZCs in the country with a total of 1536 trainees and 163 instructors. While efforts have been made to enhance access to and quality of TVET education, it remains an unpopular option for many students due to the low status and poor working conditions associated with blue-collar jobs.

To enhance quality and relevance of TVET education, a Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Blueprint that outlines reforms has been developed.

The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) Tertiary within and outside Bhutan for age 19-21 years as of 2017 stands at 35.8 per cent. As of 2017, there are 18 Tertiary Education Institutes (TEIs) offering undergraduate and postgraduate courses in healthcare, medical, law, language, management, natural resource, education, and technology in the country. In 2014, the Government instituted Students Loan Scheme for Tertiary Education to provide opportunities for students from economically disadvantaged families to continue tertiary education.

Efforts are underway to review school curriculum to make it more relevant to the present reality. To enhance computer literacy and IT skills among students the government implemented Education ICT Master Plan (*iSherig*) 2014-2018. Such efforts are expected to increase employability of students upon graduation.

In terms of gender equality in education, impressive achievements have been made with Adjusted Net Primary Enrolment Rate of 98.9 per cent for girls compared to 98.7 per cent for boys. In 2017, girls make up 50.5 per cent of the total school enrolment in school education system (Class PP-XII). The gender parity index at primary, basic and higher secondary levels, stand at 1.02, 1.07, 1.03 respectively, while at tertiary education level, gender parity index is only 0.82. Enrolment in vocational and technical education is also dominated by male with female enrolment at 35 per cent.

Bhutan has made modest success in providing access to education for children with disabilities. In addition to the two special schools catering to hearing and visually impaired children, the government has established Special Educational Needs Programme (SEN) in 12 schools to integrate children with disabilities into the mainstream school system. As of 2017, 647 students with various forms of disabilities were enrolled. Additionally, there are two private institutions which provide vocational skills to disabled children.

				Non-Formal Education (NFE) programme continues to be an effective program in providing basic literacy and functional skills to adult population, and especially women, who have missed the opportunity to pursue schooling. In 2017, there were 6668 NFE learners enrolled in the basic and post literacy courses in 668 NFE centres. [Pages 39 to 41]
9. Cabo Verde	Yes	Yes	In Cabo Verde, people with visual, motor or hearing disabilities face physical, architectural and mobility barriers. Both housing and services buildings have no access, movement and hygiene functionalities adapted to these people. On a smaller scale in education and health, but especially in terms of accessibility and urban mobility, part of the population with disabilities is in danger of being left behind. (p. 28) 78.7% of primary and secondary schools are connected to the public electricity grid, but only 17% of schools have internet and only 46% have computers for pedagogical purposes. (p. 53) 97.6% of schools have access to drinking water and 98.9% of schools have access to sanitation facilities. (p. 53)
10. Canada	No	No	N/A
11. Colombia	No	No	N/A
12. Dominican Republic	No	No	N/A
13. Ecuador	Yes	Yes	This SDG has been briefly mentioned stating that vulnerable groups of society has received improved access to education, based on certain quotation system among several efforts made (p. 49).
14. Egypt	Yes	Yes	Statistics provided on class density (number of students per class) and internet access in schools (page 30), but little specific information on educational facilities.
15. Greece	No	No	Nothing specific to 4.A other than points mentioned for SDG 4 generally.
16. Guinea	No	No	
17. Hungary	No	No	

18. Ireland	Yes	No	Implementation steps: Action Plan for Education 2016-2019, no plan details listed (37). Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF EDUCATION AND SKILLS
19. Jamaica	Yes	No	Safety and Security Programme in all secondary schools, with Officers placed in 130 schools (p. 39) Child Friendly Schools Manual designed in conjunction with UNICEF (p. 39)
20. Lao PDR	No	No	N/A
21. Latvia	No	No	
22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	Predictable multi-year funding will enable the Ministry of Education and Health to make immediate improvements to school infrastructure and classroom teaching. (page 23) The Ministry of Education and Health is currently piloting inclusion in 30 public schools and equipping 100 public schools with resource rooms to support students with learning disabilities. The Ministry has developed a child protection policy with the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, UNICEF, and other relevant entities. The policy includes a comprehensive methodology for early identification and referral of cases of violence. (page 26)
23. Lithuania	No	No	
24. Mali	No	No	
25. Malta	Yes	Yes	See 4.5 and 4.7 above re: education policies and programmes (p30-33). In 2014 Malta set up free childcare services to children up to age 3 whose parents are employed or in education to have safe and quality child care. (p30) 98.4% of children age 3-16 were in formal childcare settings in 2015 as compared with 83.3% in EU.
26. Mexico	Yes	No	The Schools at ONE HUNDRED PERCENT Program, operated by the National Educational Infrastructure Institute, has improved the physical infrastructure of more than 33,000 educational facilities across the country (p. 59).
27. Namibia	Yes	No	It is simply reported that a strategy for the attainment of this target is improving the

			provision of appropriate educational facilities. (page 21)
28. Niger	No	No	
29. Palestine	Yes	Yes	Conflict with Israel threatens the Government's ability to create safe places conducive to learning (p. 33).

Schools in Gaza are suffering from over crowdedness, dilapidated infrastructure, and a poor learning environment (p. 33). Many were damaged due to conflict with Israel.

The education ministry's implementation of the Inclusive Education Policy faces a number of challenges, including lack of resource rooms for persons with disabilities and inadequate adaptation of schools to the needs of persons with mobility disabilities (p. 33).

In 2014, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education launched an inclusive education policy in order to integrate all students, regardless of their disabilities, and the policy includes the establishment of three resource centres, equipping resource rooms, and provision of Braille textbooks for persons with disabilities (p. 34).

The Government has prescribed a policy intervention of upgrading educational facilities to ensure a safe, healthy learning environment (p. 88). |
30. Paraguay	No	No	N/A
31. Poland	No	No	N/A
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A
33. Romania	No	No	
34. Saudi Arabia	Yes	Yes	Independent school initiative: outsourcing the management of some public schools to non-public entities where the contracts require the entities to raise the education quality in accordance with KPIs and benchmarks. (pg. 58)

"Estidama": an initiative that targets adults with low educational qualifications in the age group 15-29 and aims to enable the individuals to benefit from varied education and training opportunities. (pg. 56) |

				Growing the number of schools to 38,368 in 2017. (pg. 52)
35. Senegal	Yes	Yes		The VNR described the investments made by the government (154 billion of FCFA) in the education infrastructure and the impact on the number of permanent school and the improvement of school facilities. The VNR however does not provide whether these facilities are disability sensitive and whether they provide safe learning environment. Page 44.
36. Singapore	Yes	Yes		Apart from curricula and resources, schools must also have the necessary physical infrastructure to ensure that students learn in a safe and secure environment. To this end, schools have barrier-free accessibility, with handicapped facilities provided at ground or entry level. More schools are providing full handicapped facilities, with barrier-free accessibility to all areas. All newly-built schools and those undergoing major upgrading have barrier-free enhancements such as lifts, ramps, and handicapped toilets, in compliance with the prevailing Barrier Free Accessibility Code. Hence, the number of schools with full handicapped facilities is expected to increase gradually.
37. Slovakia	Yes	Yes		Slovakia states that is support the upgrading of educational facilities, however the objective is not so much related to national priorities but in the context of the country's official development assistance in partner countries. (p. 18).
38. Spain	Yes	Yes		Trends and challenges: Not mentioned with specificity. Implementation steps: Addressing both the natural academic challenges along with eradicating bullying (VNR, p. 44). Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Education; and Ministry of Ecological Technology (VNR, p. 95).
39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes		The Report does not specifically address SDG 4.A but notes that the government has pledged to improve school infrastructure and training for teachers to increase access to education for the disabled (p. 82). Additionally, the Ministry of Education's project for "Development of the Education Sector in Sri Lanka" includes as a policy the provision of equitable learning opportunities for all children (p. 82).
40. Sudan	Yes	Yes		The 2010 Child Act targeted children and invested in their 'care, protection and development', and will lead to their improved quality of life (p.7). The Report recognises that education institutions are increasingly becoming accountable to the need to reduce conflict and spread tolerance and peace culture. Children and youth affected by years of conflict need a 'serious process of education,

			peace culture and rehabilitation' (p.36).	
41. Switzerland	No	No		
42. Togo	No	No		
43. UAE	Yes	Yes	The Ministry of Education, has recently adopted a holistic health, safety and environmental framework to ensure that education facilities can accommodate all types of students especially those with special needs (Students of Determination). A new regulatory code to promote inclusive behaviour and address issues such as violence and bullying has been created. A plan to transform all government schools to conform to green building specifications is being created. The education strategy aims to ensure that education facilities have all the relevant infrastructure and resources, including the latest ICT technologies, to be conducive learning environments.	
44. Uruguay	Yes	Yes	It has been briefly mentioned in the report that Uruguay was the first Latin-American country to fully cover all education facilities with electricity. Coverage was completed in 2015 (p. 108).	
45. Vietnam	Yes	No	The VNR provides a cursory discussion, merely stating that this SDG continues to be a challenge for Vietnam: • There is a lack of appropriate infrastructure and facilities in many locations across the country. Remote and isolated areas, in particular, have a short supply of facilities, adversely affecting inclusive education. The quality of education for ethnic minority children still needs to be improved. (p. 38). • Creating a safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environment for all is a great challenge for Vietnam in achieving SDG 4. While gender-based violence in schools is becoming a concern among the public, studies in Vietnam show that gender issues related to violence against children in school receive little attention and girls are at higher risk for violence and harassment, while boys are more likely to experience physical violence. (p. 38).	
Total VNRs (45)	Yes	24		
	No	21		

| 5.1: Discrimination against women and girls | 1. Albania | Yes | Yes | Overall, Albania considers Goal 5 to be 59% aligned with its national policy. Relevantly, it considers 5.2, 5.5, 5.c. to be fully aligned, and 5.1 to be partially aligned. 5.3 is not aligned at all. (p. 24). | |
| | 2. Andorra | Yes | Yes | In 1998 Andorra established the Ombudsman, called Raonador del Ciutadà for the control and prevention of all forms of discrimination. In 2010, a specific law expanded the competence of the Raonador del Ciutadà to allow it to fulfill the functions required by the International Convention on the Rights of the Child. In 2017, a new law gives the Ombudsman the necessary powers to control discrimination in both the public and private sectors, with specific attention to children, persons with disabilities, racial discrimination and cross-cutting discrimination related to gender or sexual orientation (p. 9). In 2015 the Government of the Principality of Andorra transformed and expanded the Department of Social Affairs of the Ministry of Social Affairs by creating the Equality Policy Service. The main functions of this service are to promote and develop programs and transversal actions aimed at preventing and combating gender-based violence and domestic violence and against violence in general, in full accordance with the international commitments of the Principality of Andorra and the objectives of the United Nations. This service aims to improve and increase the fight against inequalities and discrimination suffered by the most vulnerable people or groups (p. 18) As part of this restructuring, Parliament decided to work on a White Paper on Equality in order to have the necessary information to identify the current situation of Andorra in terms of inequalities and discrimination. The White Paper was developed during the years 2016-2017 with the participation of civil society and in particular members of the most vulnerable communities. The White Paper was officially presented and made public on May 7, 2018. The report has provided the necessary information to develop a draft Comprehensive law on equality and non-discrimination that is currently being drafted and will be presented to the Consell General by the end of 2018. Gender equality is a very important chapter of the White Paper on Equality and the Law being drafted (p. 18) The Department of Social Affairs has specialized professionals who are constantly training to better deal with this issue. This team does a remarkable job of training and awareness in all educational centers of the Principality of Andorra to deconstruct, from the most young age, gender stereotypes (p. 18). | |

			The representation of women at the highest levels of decision is clearly insufficient. Thus, in order to encourage small and medium-sized enterprises that strive to foster a gender-responsive internal policy, the "Olympe de Gouges" prize was created. This is awarded to companies setting up a plan to ensure gender equality at all levels, beyond equal pay (p. 19). The Master Plan for Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has established the theme of women's empowerment as one of its priorities. Under this Plan the government finances development cooperation projects and international agencies and NGOs (p. 19).	
3. Armenia	Yes	Yes	"The Constitution and the legal framework of Armenia guarantee and promote equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex. However, women are not able yet to fully benefit from equal opportunities provided by the law and enjoy gender equality." (p. 46)	
4. Australia	Yes	Yes	Australia's Sex Discrimination Commissioner is undertaking surveys on sexual harassment in the workplace, and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner is consulting on a "Securing Our Rights, Securing Our Future" project to evaluate indigenous women and girl's cultural and socio-economic rights (p. 45). Australia also participates globally with its Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Strategy and other initiatives (p. 46).	
5. Bahamas	Yes	No	The report acknowledges that the Bahamian Constitution needs improvement in several key provisions to more adequately protect against gender discrimination and describes four bills drafted by a Constitutional Commission and passed by the Senate addressing gender discrimination by the Constitution—these bills were not approved by voters and therefore the Constitution was not amended (pp. 65-67) In 2016, the Government created the Department of Gender and Family Affairs to create a more inclusive and participatory approach to the countries social challenges related to gender, but the report does not provide updates on the Department's latest work (p. 68) The Ministry of Social Services is considering a proposal to have gender officers	

				posted at every ministry, department and major organization to ensure the fundamental principles of fairness and equal opportunity exists throughout the country (p. 68)
6. Bahrain	Yes	Yes		Bahrain has enacted various legislation which prohibits discrimination against women. Bahrain's constitution confirms that women are to be treated equally with men in political, social, cultural and economic matters subject to principles of Shariah. Bahrain is also a party to the convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women, and has taken active steps to implement this into national law (subject to certain reservations).
7. Benin	Yes	Yes		P. 74 provides data on the Gender Status Index.
8. Bhutan	Yes	Yes		Gender equality and empowerment of women and girls have been recognized as an important cross cutting theme of socio-economic development in Bhutan. Gross National Happiness (GNH), Bhutan's development philosophy, which guides Bhutan's socio economic journey aims to promote a conducive and inclusive environment within which every man, woman and child can pursue happiness and well-being. Significant effort has been invested by the Government to enhance the policy and legislative environment for the achievement of this Goal over the past years. The Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan 2008 is steeped in values that promote gender equality and women and girl empowerment, demonstrating unequivocally the intent of non-tolerance of the state on gender discrimination. Article 7 guarantees equal Fundamental Rights, specifically equal protection before the law, for both women and men as a Bhutanese Citizen while Article 8 mandates every Bhutanese, as Fundamental Duties, to prevent and not tolerate amongst others, abuse of women and children. Article 9 provides protection to women and children from all forms of discrimination and exploitation against women and girl child and, Article 10 of the Constitution recognizes CEDAW and other relevant conventions that Bhutan is a party to as deemed by the law of the Kingdom. In terms of legislation, the Child Care and Protection Act 2011 (CCPA), the Penal Code (Amendment) Act of Bhutan 2011 (PCB) and The Domestic Violence Prevention Act 2013 (DVPA) all protect the rights of women and girls. The FYPs, which provides the framework to formulate and implement all developmental activities in the country, have, since the early eighties, articulated the

				importance of women in development, and the 10th FYP gave major focus on mainstreaming gender in the plans. Subsequently, the 11th FYP has 'Gender Friendly Environment for Women's Participation' as a National Key Result Area out of its 16 National Key Result Areas. Similarly, the draft 12th Plan sets out 'Gender Equality Promoted, Women and Girls Empowered', in line with SDG 5.
				The nation's first Gender Equality Policy has been drafted, and gender responsive budgeting has been initiated. A Gender Equality Diagnostic study of selected sectors has been carried out to provide updated baseline information on the situation of women and men, as well as the gender analyses of selected sectors to facilitate gender mainstreaming.
				Bhutan also considers generating gender disaggregated data in the 12th FYP, and towards this effort, a review of the data ecosystem has been carried out to assess data needs, gaps, processes including gender disaggregated data generation, analysis and dissemination for decision-making.
				A gender indicator handbook has been developed for all sectors on how to identify and work with indicators for improved gender mainstreaming.
				[Page 42]
9. Cabo Verde	Yes	No		Cabo Verde initiated the implementation of gender-sensitive budgets in 2017, and is thus close to achieving indicator 5.1.1 of the SDG 5 by institutionalizing gender markers in the Government Budget. (p. 10)
				Cabo Verde's Strategic Plan for Sustainable Development 2017-2021 (PEDS) provides for corrective measures to address gender inequality in different sectors. (p. 18)
10. Canada	Yes	Yes		Around the world, including in Canada, discrimination and ingrained social and gender biases continue to limit women and girls' participation and advancement in economic, social and political spheres (p. 46).
				Immigrant and refugee women and girls face distinct and multiple challenges in Canada, including language acquisition, work transitions, childcare responsibilities, developing new networks and shifting traditional family dynamics. The Government of Canada supports targeted settlement services for these women and their families (p. 47).

				Overall, Canada has adopted a whole-of-government approach, built on two foundational elements that put gender equality at the centre of decision making: Gender Results Framework and Gender-based Analysis Plus (GBA+) (p. 46).	
	11. Colombia	Yes	No	The report briefly mentions that public spaces must be adapted in a way that corresponds to women's needs so that they can feel included in the new sustainable cities (p. 47).	
	12. Dominican Republic	Yea	Yes	The VNR holds relevant statistics, but also points out that it lacks statistics related to discrimination in the work place. Apart from equality being a fundamental pillar of the constitution, the DR has ratified several international treaties focused on reduction of discrimination and violence against women (p. 93). However, there are no specific laws against discrimination but the Women's Ministry (Sp. Ministerio de la Mujer) has implemented laws for the purpose of reduce inequalities. The Women's Ministry also monitors and reports internationally regarding advancements in the field related to women. Furthermore, two government plans organised by the Women's Ministry, PLANEG I and II, have been implemented with the focus to abolish inequality between genders (p. 94). The VNR concludes that the DR needs to intensify its focus on equality and do more work in this field (p. 200).	
	13. Ecuador	Yes	Yes	The VNR identifies several problems related to inequality between men and women and points to the fact that women often end up in positions where they are overqualified or inadequate or where they are not paid properly or at all. (p. 51).	
	14. Egypt	Yes	Yes	Global gender gap rank is 134. It is indicated that this is a negative change from prior years (page 32). No other relevant information provided.	
	15. Greece	Yes	Yes	The General Secretariat for Gender Equality plans, implements, and monitors gender quality policies in all sectors, and prepared a National Action Plan on Gender Equality 2016-2020 (NAPGE, p. 48). Both the EU and the UN have selected the GSGE policies as examples of national best practices (p. 49).	
	16. Guinea	Yes	No	Despite the adoption of a new Labor Code in 2014 prohibiting any discrimination, women continue to be discriminated against both in terms of wages and employability. The literacy rate of women is lower than men's, and school attendance rates of girls at all education levels are lower than boys. In the world of politics, women are also significantly underrepresented in all decision-making positions. (p. 69)	
	17. Hungary	Yes	Yes	From 2012 the New Labour Code highlights flexible and atypical forms of employment. Further, it obliges employers to employ parents part time until their	

child turns 3. From 2015, this period has been increased to 5. (page 22)

Childcare Fee Extra program enables women to return to their job once their child is six months of age, whilst continuing to receive child home care allowance and the child care fee. Within the program, parents who are students attending an institution receive childcare benefits for two years. Since 2012, both parents receive two extra days off per year for each child. (page 22)

All forms of education for children under the age of 3 are called 'creches'. Since 2017, day-care for children has been provided in 2 forms; crèche, mini crèche either in a family nursery or in an office. (page 23)

Since 2017, it is mandatory to provide day-care services if the number of residents under the age of 3 in a settlement exceeds 40 or if 5 families need those services. (page 23)

In January 2017, the funding of creches has changed to task-based finance, which provides wage subsidies and operational support and allows municipal governments to provide long term and profitable operation of those. (page 23)

By 2020, the government aims to increase the number of creches from 48,000 to 60,000. (page 23)

From 2011, the program 'Women 40' gives females the opportunity to retire after a period of 40 years, regardless of retirement age. (page 23)

In the last couple of years, the Hungarian government has also focused on increasing wages, providing tax allowances based on number of children. Further, since 2014, the family tax benefit can be deducted from the pension and healthcare contributions, in addition to the personal income tax reductions. Moreover, as of 2015, couples in their first marriage can reduce their tax base. As such, until the end of 2016, 52,000 couples were able to reduce their tax base by a total of 0.7m EUR. Since 2017, the Government has also supported single parent families by giving them priority in crèche admission. (page 23-24)

The Hungarian government has recently also been focusing on the Roma population, as it is particularly prone to social exclusion. It created a program in 2012, focusing on training and employment. As such, through this program 1,012 Roma women have acquired qualifications, for example as kindergarten teachers, caregivers, nurses,

			social work assistants etc. Because of the program, 499 of those trained managed to secure employment in social and child welfare systems. (page 24)

'Bari Shej' was launched in October 2015, targeting Roma girls who are at risk of dropping out of school. The program reached 1,800 students in 2017. It used to use national funds, but now EU funds are used to develop the project. (page 24) |
| 18. Ireland | Yes | Yes | Trends and challenges: Recognized continued gaps in employment and income; continued violence against women. (43-49)

Implementation steps: The Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014, requiring a gender-lens for governmental decision-making; National Strategy for Women and Girls 2017-2020, an all-government system of priorities for those whose sex characteristics and gender identity/expression is female, developed with stakeholders and the public. The Strategy aims for women's full participation in education, employment, and public life, implemented through 139 specific actions across 6 objectives (1. socio-economic equality, 2. physical and mental wellbeing, 3. societal visibility and active citizenship, 4. leadership, 5. combating violence, 6. decision-making) (43-44); launch of Second National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2015, focusing on women in humanitarian crises (49).

Data sources: EU Gender Equality Index 2017 (European Institute for Gender Equality); Central Statistics Office Men and Women in Ireland statistical reports, bi-annual report of gender equality, employing 73 indicators focusing on societal roles, employment, education, health, and lifestyle.

Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY |
| 19. Jamaica | Yes | No | [This exact SDG # was not mentioned explicitly, but the underlying topic was discussed.] National Policy for Gender Equality (2011) (p. 40) |
| 20. Lao PDR | Yes | Yes | The Constitution of the Lao PDR guarantees equality between men and women in politics, economy, culture, and society, as well as in the family.

The Lao Women's Union (LWU), established in 1955 is mandated to represent women of all ethnic groups, to protect women's rights and benefits. LWU is guided by the principle of Gender Equality for National Development. It has three campaigns: "Good Citizen, Good Development, and Good Family." and reaches |

			out to women from the national, provincial, district and village levels. The National Commission for the Advancement of Women, Mothers and Children, established since 2003, is mandated to define national policies, strategies, and programmes for the development and promotion of women. It is also responsible for implementing national policy for the advancement of women as well as mainstreaming gender in all sectors. (page 29) It is noted in the VNR that appropriate strategies and policies to reduce the gender equality gap in employment will need to be further developed, such as specific support to women SME owners, and to the expansion of vocational training and counselling centres for women. (page 30)
21. Latvia	Yes	Yes	Plan for the Promotion of Equal Rights and Opportunities for Women and Men 2018-2020 is being drafted, measures to promote implementation of effective gender equality policy. Women tend to be more educated than men; in 2016 65.5% of University graduates were female. Although Latvia has a significant number of females in leadership positions (47%), the pay gap is 17%. Pages 58-59
22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	Lebanon is a signatory to several international conventions, covenants and agreements that seek to protect and promote human rights and women's rights, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. (page 29) Equal opportunities are provided in education for both sexes, as proven by the gender parity index. Lebanon's most challenging issue remains the personal status code which is bound to article 9 of the constitution and therefore under the authority of the different religious courts. This leads to discrimination between Lebanese women from different religions and impacts on many aspects of their legal, social and economic life. Work towards amending the nationality law has seen some progress. The National

			Commission for Lebanese Women is preparing a revised draft of its previous law proposal submitted in 2010. Under the current law Lebanese women cannot pass on their nationality to their children, or husbands if they marry a foreign national. (page 31)	
23. Lithuania	No	No		
24. Mali	Yes	No	Discrimination against women in terms of land and property rights. Women are also less in exposure to the tools of information and communication than men. (p38)	
25. Malta	Yes	Yes	*Equal Treatment in Employment Regulations* establishes minimum requirements to combat discrimination on grounds of religion, disability, age, sex, sexual orientation, and racial or ethnic origin (p34) Maltese government works on access to free childcare services, maternity leave fund, and increase in maternity leave. (p34) Council for Women's Rights was set up in 2017 to strengthen dialogue between govt and civil society (p35) In 2017, Malta declared its commitment to promote gender-balanced representation in the labour market through proposals to ensure that boards within major entities are composed of a minimum of 40% of the least represented sex. (35) Malta has seen increase in positions held by women in parliament and senior management but is still below EU levels (p35) The National Commission for the Promotion of Equality (NCPE) created the *Directory of Maltese Professional Women* (p35) To recognize the value of care and domestic work, single persons can apply for Carer's allowance and single or married can apply for Increased Carers' Allowance (not subject to means test) (p35) NCPE awards Equality Mark to companies that foster gender equality	
26. Mexico	Yes	Yes	In 2017, women made up, on average, 42% of local legislatures (p. 77). In 2016, 17.4% of the directors of government institutions were women (National	

				Government Census) (p. 77). 13 states adopted the minimum measures needed to bring state equality policies up to national standards according to the National Women's Institute ("INMUJERES") (p. 77). Women spend three times as much time as men on domestic work and other unpaid labor (p. 77). 43% of women aged 15 or older have entered the workforce, compared to 78% for men according to the National Study on Jobs and Employment ("ENOE") (p. 77).	
	27. Namibia	Yes	Yes	It is reported that existing legislative instruments that have been put in-place in Namibia to ensure gender equality and women empowerment. Namibia ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1992 and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in 2000. (page 22) Namibia legislation enables the negative discrimination on the basis of gender, previously disadvantaged, marginalized, and vulnerability. There are specific strategies and policies to redress the social, economic and environmental inequities which cut across many levels of society. (page 33)	
	28. Niger	Yes	No	Niger has adopted laws promoting reduced gender-related inequality, the protection of women and their personal development: law on free healthcare, law on reproductive health (2006) and law against female genital mutilation (2003). (p. 32) In August 2017, Niger adopted the revised *Politique Nationale Genre* (National Gender Policy), a framework aimed at taking into consideration equality principles and the respect of human rights in all public instances of social and economic development. However, the financial bill does not allocate specific resources aimed towards gender equality and female economic empowerment. (p. 32) The strategy aimed at female economic empowerment proposes to: • Reduce time spent on and the arduous nature of household chores; • Increase the performance, productivity and quality of products made by women; • Facilitate access to credits;	

			• Increase women's revenue; and • Increase visibility of women's contribution to the domestic economy and the national labour market. (p. 33)
29. Palestine	Yes	Yes	The Government signed CEDAW without reservations, and a number of international conventions, creating a framework for promoting women's rights and gender quality (p. 36). A legislative committee has been formed, headed by the Ministry of Justice, to harmonize local legislation with international agreements signed by Palestine (p. 36). Women often are expected to juggle numerous domestic and/or work responsibilities despite recognition of their rights to equal treatment and equity (p. 37). Females aged 10 years and over spend an average of 3 hours and 42 minutes on domestic work, compared with one hour and 17 minutes for males (the time is substantially the same even for working women). The Government's laws and policy commitments suffer from weak implementation, and in planning and budgeting, consideration of gender remains limited (p. 37). Since the ratification by Palestine of CEDAW and the preparation of Palestine's first report, neither the harmonization of national legislation with CEDAW nor the publishing of CEDAW in national newspaper has been achieved (p. 37). The Government seeks to further promote the integration of women into all spheres of social, economic and political life and to remove all obstacles to women's inclusion through reforming and developing laws and regulations to reduce discrimination against women and take the necessary measures to ensure their implementation (p. 38). The Government has prescribed policy interventions of eliminating all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls, and institutionalizing gender mainstreaming in policymaking, planning, and budgeting (p. 89).
30. Paraguay	Yes	No	The Ministry of the Women is in the process of preparing a new National Plan for Equal Opportunities among Men and Women taking into account the objectives of the 2030 Agenda and the 2030 National Development Plan (pp. 25-26). The report

			does not specify, however, what actions this national plan is expected to include.	
			In addition, Law no. 5407/15 brought domestic work conditions (8-hour shifts and required benefits) up to the level of those conditions applicable to workers in general, except in respect of minimum wages where domestic workers receive 60% of the minimum wage applicable to general workers. (p. 94)	
			Further, Law no. 5446/2015 addresses public policies aimed at ensuring the economic, social, political and cultural rights of rural women. (p. 94)	
	31. Poland	Yes	Yes	Trends/Challenges: "The share of women in managerial positions in the total number of people working in managerial positions increased from 36.8% in Q4 2010 to 41.5% in Q4 2016." 43. "In 2010, 18.7% of women were members of poviat councils, and 9.5% were mayors or city presidents. In 2016, it was 20.6% and 10.8%, respectively." 43. Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation: "In Poland, the principle of equality between women and men is of constitutional importance (Article 33 of the Polish Constitution). 43. "Most of the measures planned until 2020 will aim to further develop the diversity of childcare provision by increasing the availability and quality of care and early childhood education services, so as to ensure that women can return to the labour market." 44. Indication of source of data (Yes/No): Some. Name of source? OECD. 44. Use of tech. to measure progress? Yes. "In order to ensure equal opportunities on the labour market by eliminating wage differences, a computer application Equal pay was prepared, which allows to estimate the differences in wages of employees, taking into account their gender, age, education and other characteristics. Actions are also being taken to disseminate knowledge of both the new tool for measuring the wage gap and the issue of wage inequality to a wide audience." 45. Other notes about how indicator was reported, including particular stats? "According to Eurostat, the gender pay gap (the wage gap) was 7.2% in 2016 (EU average - 16.2%)." 43. Use of HR institutions and reporting processes/UPC/? Specific Party Tasked with Implementing: The legislature made and is making several	

			changes. 44. Also, the Government's *National Action Programme for Equal Treatment* played a role. 45.
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A
33. Romania	No	No	
34. Saudi Arabia	Yes	Yes	The Kingdom is aware that women have an extremely low economic participation rate of just 19% despite accounting for 49.6% of the population. The Saudi 2030 Vision therefore has set a strategic objective to increase women's participation in the labor market. • Women's participation has risen from 12% in 2009 to 18% in 2017 and Vision 2030 aims to raise this figure to 25% by 2020. (pg 62) • Launch of National Observatory of Women's Participation Development that seeks to monitor women's participation in development at local and international levels, along several themes such as economic, educational, regulatory, health and social fields. It is designed to serve as a reference resource for decision makers and charitable societies, associations and institutions. (pg. 63) • Accession to the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (pg. 64).
35. Senegal	Yes	Yes	The VNR only mentions the actions taken to end discrimination against women and girls but does not share any data regarding their impact. The report states that Senegal has adopted and ratified various international treaties on gender equality and cites the following laws to promote equality for women: (1) the Constitution which as a fundamental law provides that both men and women can hold public mandates and offices; (2) Law no. 2010-11 of May 28, 2010 states that men and women have equal access to totally or partially elective institutions and the Decree no. 2011-819 dated June 16, 2011 applying such law. (Page 48)
36. Singapore	Yes	Yes	It is reported that Singapore is fully committed to the advancement of all women and girls. Equal opportunities are available to all citizens irrespective of their gender and founded on the principle of meritocracy. This is enshrined in Article 12 (1) of Singapore's Constitution which specifically provides that, "All persons are equal before the law and entitled to the equal protection of the law." Singapore is party to the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). Singapore is firmly committed to the

			principles of equality and non-discrimination as espoused by CEDAW. An Inter-Ministry Committee (IMC) on CEDAW was created to implement and monitor policies and initiatives to address women's needs, in accordance with its obligations under CEDAW. The IMC is in turn supported by the Office for Women's Development (OWD) in the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF). The Office is also the national focal point for women matters in Singapore. In October 2017, it presented its Fifth Periodic Report to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. The Committee noted with appreciation the initiatives taken by Singapore to promote gender equality and protect the rights of women. Singapore is giving serious consideration to the Committee's recommendations and will continue to undertake measures in accordance with its CEDAW obligations. (page 15)
37. Slovakia	No	No	
38. Spain	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: Addressing gender inequality, and thus discrimination are of paramount concern not just to Spain, but also to Europe as a whole and the broader international community (VNR, p. 45). Implementation steps: See SDG 5.2, 5.C and 8.5. Technology used for measuring progress: surveys and studies. Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Defence; Ministry of Infrastructure; Ministry of Labour; Ministry of Agriculture; and Ministry of Equality (VNR, p. 96).
39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	Sri Lanka has provided universal free health and education for 70 years, contributing to gender equality from an educational perspective (p. 83). However, differences remain with respect to employment. The Report generally describes policies to improve female participation in the labor market without mentioning specific policies (p. 84). Sri Lanka has also introduced a National Framework for Women-headed Households (2017-2019) to improve the socio-economic situation of women (p. 84).
40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	The Report notes that Sudan is experiencing increased women's participation in leadership positions. Examples are given, such as increases in the participation of women in the national parliament, and increases in women's participation in executive decision-making and planning positions (p.53).

				Women have a key role in peace building, shown by the fact that consultation with Sudanese women led to the inclusion of gender issues in the Joint Assessment Mission, and that Women Groups from Darfur played a pivotal role in the Doha negotiations (p.38). Moreover, Sudanese labour laws stipulate that women and men have equal opportunities for jobs (p.53).
	41. Switzerland	Yes	No	Switzerland ratified the UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women and regularly reports on its implementation in Switzerland (p.11).
	42. Togo	No	No	
	43. UAE	Yes	Yes	The Gender Balance Council hosted seven workshops on gender balance in collaboration with the OECD. These workshops, presented by global gender experts, were intended to raise awareness of the Gender Balance Guide and highlight the necessary steps that government and private sector organizations can take to enhance the workplace environment to support gender balance. Representatives from the UAE government and the private sector attended.
	44. Uruguay	No	No	N/A
	45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	Female workers make up 48.3% of the labour force and more than 46% of female workers have received vocational training in accordance with Vietnam's rural vocational training scheme. 48% of female labourers had jobs each year. 72.9% of women participate in the workforce, which is lower than men (83.0%), and a gender gap remains in terms of salary (the average income of a man is at least 10.1% higher than the average income of a woman with the same qualification in 2015). Income of males with vocational training or higher is more than 15% higher than the income of females with the same level of education. While women make up 60% of the agricultural labour force, only 9% of farm owners are women. This partly results from their lower access to resources, including land, than men. Vietnam is implementing policies and interventions related to agriculture and rural development in an effort to provide equal access to agricultural resources for women. (p. 42). A study by ActionAid and MOLISA shows that women, on average, spend 5 hours (314 minutes) for unpaid care work, which is 2 hours (125 minutes) more than men spend.

				If women were paid for their care work, they would contribute to more than 20% of Vietnam's GDP. In areas with low quality public services, women spend 9 hours for unpaid care work. Women in the northern mountainous region spend nearly 2 hours (107 minutes) each day collecting fuel and water while women in cities spend only 3 minutes, mostly due to their lower access to infrastructure and service. (p. 41).	
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	39		
		No	6		
5.2: Violence against women and girls	1. Albania	Yes		Yes	"GoA signed the Council of Europe's Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention), ratifying it in February 2013, and has continued its efforts to address gender stereotypes and challenge harmful traditions that violate the rights of women and girls. Public awareness-raising campaigns are organised on an annual basis by state institutions at central and local levels, specialised CSOs, and international organisations." (p. 27) Albania considers this goal to be fully aligned with its national policy (p. 24). See 5.1 for further details.	
	2. Andorra	Yes		Yes	In 1998 Andorra established the Ombudsman, called Raonador del Ciutadà for the control and prevention of all forms of discrimination. In 2010, a specific law expanded the competence of the Raonador del Ciutadà to allow it to fulfill the functions required by the International Convention on the Rights of the Child. In 2017, a new law gives the Ombudsman the necessary powers to control discrimination in both the public and private sectors, with specific attention to children, persons with disabilities, racial discrimination and cross-cutting discrimination related to gender or sexual orientation (p. 9). In 2015 the Government of the Principality of Andorra transformed and expanded the Department of Social Affairs of the Ministry of Social Affairs by creating the Equality Policy Service. The main functions of this service are to promote and develop programs and transversal actions aimed at preventing and combating gender-based violence and domestic violence and against violence in general, in full accordance with the international commitments of the Principality of Andorra and the objectives of the United Nations. This service aims to improve and increase the fight against inequalities and discrimination suffered by the most vulnerable people or groups (p. 18) As part of this restructuring, Parliament decided to work on a White Paper on	

				Equality in order to have the necessary information to identify the current situation of Andorra in terms of inequalities and discrimination. The White Paper was developed during the years 2016-2017 with the participation of civil society and in particular members of the most vulnerable communities. The White Paper was officially presented and made public on May 7, 2018. The report has provided the necessary information to develop a draft Comprehensive law on equality and non-discrimination that is currently being drafted and will be presented to the Consell General by the end of 2018. Gender equality is a very important chapter of the White Paper on Equality and the Law being drafted (p. 18) The Master Plan for Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has established the theme of women's empowerment as one of its priorities. Under this Plan the government finances development cooperation projects and international agencies and NGOs (p. 19).
3. Armenia	Yes	Yes		The VNR cites various statistics in relation to Armenia's progress towards combating domestic violence (p. 46).
4. Australia	Yes	Yes		Australia has a National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022 and a Stop it at the Start prevention campaign to generate long-term change (p. 45).
5. Bahamas	Yes	No		The Ministry of National Security drafted an Anti-trafficking in Persons Strategy for 2014-2018, which creates guiding principles, aims to coordinate efforts among stakeholders, and ensure financial support to reduce trafficking and protect victims; the government also has a committee providing advice and recommendations on relevant trafficking matters, and a taskforce to coordinate on trafficking cases (pp. 68-69) In 2015, the Ministry of Social Services developed a National Strategic Plan to Address Gender-Based Violence, which includes goals focused around coordinating and improving responses to and reducing gender-based violence; the report does not mention any recent updates on the plan's progress (p. 67-68)
6. Bahrain	Yes	Yes		Bahrain has criminalized violence against women and girls. Bahrain introduced Law No 17 of 2015 in relation to domestic abuse together with various implementing regulations to protect women and girls from violence. Bahrain's Supreme Council for Women has introduced programs which empower women and strive for family stability, and protection of women against violence. There are special departments within various police departments in Bahrain that deal with domestic abuse.

7. Benin	No	No		
8. Bhutan	Yes	No	In 2018, the first nationwide survey on violence against women will be complete, providing the evidence and analysis necessary to determine how to address gender-based violence going forward, including on how to provide universal access to sexual and reproductive health through child-friendly and gender-sensitive approaches, and how to strengthen gender-based violence care and support. [Page 43]	
9. Cabo Verde	Yes	Yes	Decree-Law no. 8/2014 consolidated Cabo Verde's policy on gender-based violence. (p. 10) The Second National Plan for Gender Equality 2015-2018 is currently in execution and targets the three main types of gender discrimination: (i) economic empowerment in line with SDGs 5.4 and 5.7; (ii) physical autonomy of women and girls, combating gender-based violence and promoting health, sexual and reproductive rights in line with SDGs 5.2, 5.3 and 5.6; and (iii) leadership and political participation in line with SDG 5.5. (p. 10) Gender equality cuts across the entire Government program and Strategic Sustainable Development Plan (p. 58) Law no. 8/2014 was published in 2015 and provides the regulatory conditions needed to fully implement the special law on gender based violence. (p. 58) The Second National Plan for Gender Equality2015-2018 is currently being implemented and promotes economic empowerment, physical autonomy (including fight against gender based violence and promotion of health and sexual and reproductive rights), women's leadership and political participation. (pp. 58-59) An inter-ministerial group created in 2016 has developed a program aimed at ensuring women's access to income, education, care and health. (p. 59)	
10. Canada	Yes	Yes	To address gender-based violence (GBV), Canada launched It's Time: Canada's Strategy to Prevent and Address Gender-Based Violence, which is a whole-of-government response to GBV for prevention of gender-based violence, support for survivors and their families, and promotion of responsive legal and justice systems (p. 49). Canada has established an Advisory Council to inform the development and implementation of Canada's GBV strategy (p. 49).	

Canada also supports the development of guidance and training to equip health professionals to recognize and respond safely to family violence (p. 49).

Canada, along with the provinces and territories, launched the independent National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (p. 49).

Canada introduced new legislation in November 2017 to strengthen Canada Labour Code provisions by putting in place a comprehensive approach to addressing the full spectrum of harassment and violence and expanding coverage to all federally regulated workplaces (p. 49).

11. Colombia	Yes	Yes	Although not specifically addressed in the VNR, statistics mentioned suggest that verbal sexual abuse has doubled between 2015 and 2017 (p. 47).
12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes	The VNR holds relevant statistics, but also points out that it lacks access to statistics related to domestic and public violence as well as in the work place (p. 94). Every 1 in 4 women between the age of 15 to 49 have experienced violence after the age of 15 and roughly 13% have experience violence in the last 12 months. Among the member countries of ECLAC, the DR is among the five top countries in terms of the highest rate of women homicide (p. 95).
13. Ecuador	Yes	Yes	As part of the plan One whole life (Sp. Toda una Vida) the government has included into its National development plan, the abolishment of violence against women. In Ecuador about 60% of women have experienced some kind of gender related violence and 40% have suffered sexual violence and in 2017 there were 1.28 homicides of women per 100,000 women (p. 51-52).
14. Egypt	Yes	No	Egypt's National Council for Women has a National Strategy for Women Empowerment, which includes "protection" as one of its four pillars (page 32).
15. Greece	Yes	Yes	The NAPGE also covers multi-sectoral support of women who are victims of gender violence, including immigrants, refugees, women with disabilities, Roma, and single mothers (p. 48). The Ministry for Migration Policy, the Public Security Directorate, and the Directorate of Prosecution of Cyber-Crimes of the Ministry of Interior also work to combat human trafficking (p. 49).
16. Guinea	Yes	Yes	Victims of gender-based violence have access to various medical, psychosocial, legal or judicial remedies. (p. 51) From January 11 to December 31, 2012, the BGO AGUIAS registered 2,446 cases of violence, 27% of which were rape or sexual assault. Between January 2012 and

				December 2015, the Guinea Human Rights and Organization of Civil Society Office of the High Commission identified at 3,021 cases of gender-based violence, including 1,001 cases of rape and sexual assault.
	17. Hungary	Yes	Yes	The Hungarian Criminal Code recognises that domestic violence is a criminal offence. (page 24) The National Crisis Management and Information Telephone Service is available 24h a day, all over the country and calls are free. Further, crisis centres offer accommodation as well as complex services. There is also 'The Secret Shelter' with 29 sites, which provides shelter for victims of serious domestic violence who are in danger. There are further 'Halfway Houses', providing housing for 5 years and various services, such as legal and psychological help. They focus on social reintegration of those cared for. (pages 24-25) In 2018, new crisis ambulances started their operations, focusing on both prevention such as handling problems before a violent episode occurs and the reinforcement of cooperation of institutions involved in combating domestic violence. (page 25) Transitional shelters provide protection and support for victims of human trafficking, whilst there is also an emphasis on preventing victimisation, training and increasing awareness. (page 25)
	18. Ireland	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: Noted challenges with violence against women Implementation steps: National Strategy for Women and Girls 2017-2020 (see 5.1); National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (first 2010-2014) (second strategy 2016-2021), an all-government approach to chancing societal attitudes, improving perpetrator accountability, and survivor support (44); national awareness campaign to increase violence awareness and change societal behaviour and attitudes toward domestic violence of women and men, focusing on sexual assault in 2019, NGO stakeholder involvement (id.); Domestic Violence Bill of 8 May 2018, increases DV survivors' legal protections, a move toward ratifying the Istanbul Convention (id.); Second National Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Human Trafficking in Ireland 2016, the second such since 2009, centering on sex trafficking (44-45); Irish Aid highlights policy development, funding, and research into gender-based violence; support for the NGO Irish Consortium on Gender-based Violence (49); launch of Second National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security 2015, focusing on women in humanitarian crises (49).

				Human rights institutions for reporting processes & universal periodic review: stated NGO involvement in awareness campaign Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY	
	19. Jamaica	Yes	No	[This exact SDG # was not mentioned explicitly, but the underlying topic was discussed.] Parliament is reviewing the Sexual Offences Act; the Offences Against the Person Act; the Domestic Violence Act; and the Child Care and Protection Act (p. 41) National Strategic Action Plan to Elimination Gender-Based Violence (2016-2026) (p. 41)	
	20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	The social welfare and legal systems need to strengthen mechanisms to protect women and children from violence, and provide legal and counselling services. The issue of physical or sexual violence by a partner or non-partner continues to be a challenge. The Centre for Counselling and Protection of Women and Children, established by the Lao Women's Union, and its network in 15 provinces have the central role of providing psychological, legal, and health counselling for women and children who are victims of physical, sexual and other forms of violence. The Centre also provides temporary shelter, telephone hotline and subsistence for victims, facilitates legal actions against abusers, provides short term skills training, and refers cases for further management and rehabilitation to appropriate institutions. (page 29) The Women Parliamentarians Caucus was formed in late 2002. It has been successful in mobilizing attention on the issue of domestic violence, and is expected to propose new legislation on the matter. (page 29) It is further reported that data on violence against women and girls is not regularly collected, as the measurement has to use special surveys to ensure safety and confidentiality. (page 29)	

				The VNR states that the Government of Lao PDR is prioritising developing measures to combat violence against women. Appropriate detection, response, and protection mechanisms are required as well as strengthened institutional capacities. A strong coordinating body and a clear referral system within and across the sectors are also required. (page 30)	
	21. Latvia	Yes	Yes	A police risk assessment questionnaire has been developed and tested. It enables police to identify and recognise different forms of domestic violence

Public awareness activities to encourage reporting of domestic violence.

Page 59 | |
| | 22. Lebanon | Yes | Yes | The Office of the Minister of State for Women's Affairs (OMSWA) funds projects that promote gender equality and advocate for women's issues such as protection and gender-based violence. OMSWA in cooperation with the UN Gender Group, is drafting the first national strategy to combat violence against girls and women in the country and preparing a National study on the Economic cost of Violence Against Women with UNDP, UNFPA and ESCWA.

OMSWA drafted the strategy for the prevention of violence extremism from a gender perspective that was integrated in the PVE national strategy. (page 30)

On 4 August 2011 Parliament annulled article 562 of the penal code, which mitigated the sentence of people who claim they killed or injured their wife, daughter, or other relative to protect the family 'honour'. In August 2017 Lebanon abolished the Penal Code Article 522 that exempted a rapist from punishment if he married his victim. This major legal step was a direct outcome of several national initiatives, the last of which was a nationwide advocacy campaign to remove existing discriminatory legal provisions related to Article 522 of the Lebanese Penal Code. The campaign mobilised public awareness of the need to strengthen legislation, protect women and girls from sexual violence and exploitation, and spur social norms to change to adequately respond to sexual violations. The prime minister, the minister of state for women's affairs and the NCLW, which had already worked on amending the law, all supported the campaign. The Parliamentary Committee for Administration and
Justice agreed to repeal Article 522 of the Lebanese Penal Code and the Lebanese Parliament voted on the reform. (page 31) | |

			In 2014 Parliament issued law 293 on domestic violence. It was followed by the amendment of a series of discriminatory laws to empower and protect women. In August 2017 Parliament abolished article 522 of the penal code that had allowed prosecution to drop charges against a rapist if he marries his victim. And in 2017, the Council of Ministers approved the first drafted law to criminalize sexual harassment in public places and work places. It is in the Parliament awaiting final promulgation to be enacted. (page 30)
23. Lithuania	No	No	
24. Mali	Yes	Yes	In 2014, the proportion of women and girls aged 15 and over who were victims of domestic violence (physical, sexual or psychological, etc.) exceeded 40% in all age groups. (p. 38).
25. Malta	Yes	Yes	Legal Aid Malta has plans underway to extend legal aid assistance to Domestic Violence cases. (p93) In November 2017, the Commission on Domestic Violence launched a nation wide campaign over 16 days to raise awareness on violence toward women and DV. (p95). Parliament adopted a Bill aimed at the full implementation of the Council of Europe's *Istanbul Convention* with the aim of addressing issues on domestic violence, trafficking in human beings and gender-based violence. (p35)
26. Mexico	Yes	Yes	The Violence Against Women Alert is a mechanism promoted by the Interior Secretariat through the National Commission for Preventing and Eradicating Violence Against Women ("CONAVIM") that is aimed at confronting violence against women with coordinated actions (p. 70). The Centers for Women's Justice, operated by the CONAVIM, are spaces that provide legal advice and support services for women and their children (p. 70). The National Victim Support System is in charge of defining and applying policies for supporting victims (p. 70). The General Law on the Right of Women to a Violence-Free Life prevents, punishes and eradicates violence against women (p. 77).
27. Namibia	Yes	Yes	Namibia has a high rate of gender based violence (GBV) according to SAFAIDS (http://safaids.net/content/status-gender-based-violence-namibia). According to records from the Namibia Policy Weekly Crime Bulletins, out of 16 reported cases of

				GBV, the average are five rape charges, one murder of a partner and the remainder other forms of GBV in 2015. The fact that such a high proportion of cases are due to GBV is a matter of concern. The Legal Assistance Centre report (LAC 2012) estimates one-third of all rape cases are withdrawn. Considering that there are approximately 1 600 cases of rape and attempted rape per year, this means that approximately 1000 victims of rape do not have access to justice each year. It is estimated that only one in five rape cases result in conviction of the perpetrator. Gaps exist in terms of inefficient case investigations and lack of necessary services to support victims of rape and other forms of GBV. Withdrawal of cases is attributed to family pressure, fear of social isolation, stigma, shame and bribery. Community led initiatives are needed to address the problem involving men as well as duty bearers such as police and court officials to increase access to a functional justice system. Namibia is operating 15 Woman and Child Protection Units across the country but according to the latest review of poverty and inequality in Namibia (published by the Central Bureau of Statistics in), the average distance from a household classified as 'poor' to a police station is 24.1 km. Laws and policies are in place, such as the Combating of Rape Act and the Combating of Domestic Violence Act, but high levels of violence against women and girls continue to prevail. (Pages 24-25)	
	28. Niger	Yes	Yes	Incidences of women being victims of physical, sexual, economic and cultural violence have slightly decreased from 60.1% in 2015 to 58.3% in 2017. (p. 33)	
	29. Palestine	Yes	Yes	Palestine endorsed UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and put in place a strategy for its implementation (p. 36). As of 2011, 37% of women reported violence from their partners, while 16% of unmarried women reported violence from a family member (p. 36). The Government is committed to working to develop safety nets for abused women and to adopt and enforce the Family Protection Act against domestic violence (p. 38). Human trafficking is not relevant in the context of Palestine, yet the Government has as a precaution created a national team to counter potential human trafficking (p. 77). The team is currently preparing the legal basis for human trafficking laws.	

| | | | The Government has prescribed a policy intervention of eliminating all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls (p. 89).

Proportion of women aged 15 and older who have ever been with a partner and who was subjected to violence by an intimate partner in the previous 12 months (p. 108).

Proportion of women aged 15 and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months (p. 109). |
|---|---|---|---|
| 30. Paraguay | Yes | No | Law no. 4788/12 addresses the prevention, fight against and attention to the victims of human trafficking, and in 2016 Paraguay approved the General Protocol for the Attention to Victims of Human Trafficking. (p. 94)

Law no. 5777/16 is titled Law for the Integral Protection of Women Against All Forms of Violence, and the crime of "feminicide" was typified pursuant to such law. (p. 95)

Law no. 5415/15 created a bad debtor registry for people who are required to make support payments to women with the purpose of reducing economic violence against women. (p. 95) |
| 31. Poland | Yes | Yes | Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation: "Within the framework of the National Programme for Counteracting Violence in the Family 2014-2020 measures are taken in 4 areas: prevention and social education, protection and assistance to persons affected by domestic violence, influencing the perpetrators of violence and increasing the competence of services and representatives of entities responsible for counteracting domestic violence. There is a national emergency service for victims of domestic violence called Blue Line, under which, among other things, the following operates a telephone call for victims of violence. According to a study carried out by the Fundamental Rights Agency, in 2014 violence against women in Poland was the lowest in the European Union, at 19%, with an EU average of 33%." 45.

Name of source? OECD and Fundamental Rights Agency |
| 32. Qatar | No | No | N/A |
| 33. Romania | No | No | |

34. Saudi Arabia	Yes	Yes	Wafa Institution for women's rights founded to promote awareness of society as to women's rights and it conducts specialised studies and research work and it has created a legal advice centre. (pg. 64) Accession to the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women – decree later issued to put into operation the law on protection for women against all forms of abuse. (pg. 64). Royal Decree provides for provision of immediate assistance and making every effort possible to provide shelter as well as social, psychological and health care to victims of abuse. Also stipulates that the culprits should be brought to justice and convicted persons, punished (pg 64).	
35. Senegal	Yes	No	The VNR only mentions that this is partially covered by the plan of the Ministry in charge of women, family, and children and that actions are taken to implement a database for victims and to improve the legal framework. Page 48	
36. Singapore	Yes	Yes	Singapore does not condone nor tolerate any form of violence against women. Violence against women is addressed through: (i) a robust legislative framework; (ii) a multi-stakeholder approach; (iii) training and professional competency; and (iv) public education. Government agencies also work closely with NGOs and the community in order to foster a violence-free environment. In particular, the country has worked continuously to raise awareness against family violence. For example, MSF launched a "Break the Silence Against Family Violence" campaign in 2016. In 2017, one in three callers to the ComCare Call Hotline on family violence were concerned by-standers, who were encouraged to speak up. This is an increase from one in five callers prior to the campaign. Singapore takes a serious view of human trafficking and has put in place legislation to safeguard women against the threat of trafficking. The Inter-Agency Taskforce on Trafficking-in- Persons (TIP) was formed in 2010. It coordinates decisions and aligns TIP policies between agencies. In addition, Singapore's anti-TIP law, the Prevention of Human Trafficking Act (PHTA), came into force in March 2015. The Act criminalises TIP in the form of sex, labour and organ trafficking. Singapore also ratified the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children in September 2015. Singapore continues to actively strengthen its laws to tackle the scourge of TIP. (page 15)	

37. Slovakia	No	No	
38. Spain	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: Spain considers gender violence to be the most serious manifestation of gender inequality with over 935 victims murdered since 2003 (VNR, p. 47). Implementation steps: Approving Organic Law 1/2004, of 28 December with comprehensive approach to preventing, combating and detecting gender violence which was later complemented by the 2017 National Pact against Gender Violence (VNR, p. 47) signing and ratifying the Istanbul Convention designed to prevent and combat violence against women (VNR, p. 45). Data sources: Studies and surveys. Technology used for measuring progress: Surveys and studies Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Defence; Ministry of the Interior; Ministry of Equality; and Ministry of Health (VNR, p. 96).
39. Sri Lanka	Yes	No	The Report notes that there are new shelters to protect survivors of gender violence and a digital database system to collect related data (p. 84).
40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	The Report notes that the Ahfad University Trauma Centre is treating women affected by war (p.37). Next, the Interim National Constitution of the Republic of Sudan 2005 contains provisions to eliminate violence against women and girls. More generally, the VNR notes that the increasing participation of women in the security forces will aid in peace-building, post-conflict activities.
41. Switzerland	Yes	No	Violence against women and domestic abuse are problems in Swiss society too. Two out of three victims are women. To further reduce this violence, the Swiss Civil Code and Swiss Criminal Code were amended, and the Istanbul Convention was ratified. Specialist units to combat violence and forced marriage run public information and awareness campaigns, and a national action plan against human trafficking will be implemented by 2020, including a number of measures to better protect victims from violence (p. 11).

	42. Togo	No	No	
	43. UAE	Yes	No	No detail provided. In general, this SDG is linked to the National Agenda Pillar relating to Sustainable Environment and Infrastructure.
	44. Uruguay	No	No	N/A
	45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	The Prime Minister issued Directive 18/CT-TTg dated 16 May 16 2017 on Enhancing Measures to Prevent Violence and Sexual Abuse Against Children. Specific measures to address sexual harassment are also provided in Labour Code 10/2012/QH13, Article 8 and Article 183. Vietnam is also implementing a series of programs and projects, including the Program for Prevention and Response to Gender-Based Violence in the 2016-2020 and Vision to 2030; the NAP on Prevention of Domestic Violence 2014-2020; the Project on the Reduction of Domestic Violence in Rural Areas of Vietnam in 2015-2020; and the Programme on Support to gender equality among ethnic minorities in 2018-2025. (p. 40). Since 2015, Vietnam raised public awareness of gender equality by instituting a national action month on gender equality and prevention of gender-based violence. In the first six months of 2017, 9,228 people in 61 of 63 provinces and cities were reported as victims of domestic violence, 5,116 victims received counselling services, and 4,628 of 8,396 domestic violence perpetrators received counselling services. Also, hotline 111 was established in late 2017, and mass media is dedicating more time to disseminating information on legislation and communicating knowledge and skills for child protection and criticizing child sexual abuse behaviours. (p. 41). While Vietnam has made efforts to eliminate all forms of gender-based violence, more than half of all married women (58%) revealed that they had suffered at least one of three types of violence (physical, sexual and emotional) by their husbands. (p. 41).
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	38	
		No	7	
5.3: Child marriage and female genital mutilation	1. Albania	Yes	No	Albania considers this goal not to be aligned its national policy (p. 24). See 5.1 for further details.
	2. Andorra	No	No	
	3. Armenia	Yes	Yes	The VNR cites various statistics in relation to child and early marriage (p. 47), but not force marriage or female genital mutilation.

4. Australia	No	No		
5. Bahamas	No	No		
6. Bahrain	Yes	Yes	Bahrain's Law No. 9 of 2017 in connection with family law prohibits marriages by girls under the age of 16 unless a Shariah Court has given permission (after determining that such marriage is suitable).	
7. Benin	No	No		
8. Bhutan	No	No		
9. Cabo Verde	No	No	N/A	
10. Canada	No	No	N/A	
11. Colombia	No	No	N/A	
12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes	The VNR recognises that marriage prior to the age of 18 is a violation of human rights but also the fact that women run the risk of not being prepared neither physically nor psychologically. The problem pointed out is the fact that women may be married even if they have not turned 18 if authorised by a parent and if above and if below 15, if authorised by a judge (p. 96). 10.4% of women asked in the ENDESA 2013 responded that they were married prior to 15. 36% of women between the age of 20 to 24 report that they were married prior to the age of 18. Early marriage is typically a result of early pregnancy (p. 16).	
13. Ecuador	No	No	N/A	
14. Egypt	Yes	Yes	The report states that 87% of women and girls have undergone female genital mutilation, a decrease from prior years (page 32).	
15. Greece	No	No		
16. Guinea	Yes	No	In 2016, 21% of girls were married prior the age of 15, and more than half of them (55%) before 18 (64% in rural areas and 70% in households of the poorest economic quintile), exposing girls to violence and abuse and reduces their future opportunities. Over 19.3% of women aged 15 and above have experienced sexual violence during 12-month period prior to the survey. (p. 51). Female genital mutilation is recognized as a form of violence against women and	

			women and are prohibited by law. (p. 51) The Guinean government, in collaboration with foreign and national partners, has adopted legislative and regulatory texts prohibiting and sanctioning female gender mutilation. That being said, female genital mutilation seems to have increased due to the compliance with cultural and religious requirements. (p. 52)	
17. Hungary	No	No		
18. Ireland	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: Increasing levels of FGM in Ireland, with unclear estimates as to the number of at-risk girls. Implementation steps: National Strategy for Women and Girls 2017-2020 (see 5.1); The Criminal Justice (Female Genital Mutilation) Act 2012, criminalizes the removal of girls from Ireland for FGM (45); publication of Female Genital Mutilation Information for Health-Care Professionals Working in Ireland (2d ed.) (id.); continued plans to support training, increase awareness, and create a strong referral and care network, working with community-led organizations (id.). Data sources: the EU's European Institute for Gender Equality report on FBM Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE	
19. Jamaica	No	No		
20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	It is reported that the demand for contraception among women and adolescent girls is not fully met. Lao PDR is among the countries with the highest rates of early marriage and adolescent births in the region. Some 32.7 percent of young women aged 20-24 were married before age 18, compared to 10.8 percent of men. The adolescent birth rate is 83 per 1,000. (page 29)	
21. Latvia	Yes	Yes	MARTA Resource Centre for Women participated in seminars in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan to speak about negative impacts of early marriages on girls. Page 59	
22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	In August 2017 Parliament abolished article 522 of the penal code that had allowed	

			prosecution to drop charges against a rapist if he marries his victim. (page 30)	
23. Lithuania	No	No		
24. Mali	Yes	Yes	In 2014, over 40% of women and girls aged 15 and over were victims of domestic violence (physical, sexual or psychological), and 76.4% of girls aged 14 and below had suffered through some form of genital mutilation. (p. 38)	
25. Malta	Yes	Yes	In 2014 Malta outlawed female genital mutilation, forced sterilisation, and forced marriage (p36)	
26. Mexico	Yes	Yes	Data included in report (p. 105). Twenty-eight states no longer have exceptions in their legislation allowing minors to get married (INMUJERES, 2018) (p. 77).	
27. Namibia	No	No	N/A	
28. Niger	Yes	No	Niger adopted a law against female genital mutilation (2003). (p. 32) As girls go to school more and stay longer, the age at marriage is delayed (p. 33).	
29. Palestine	Yes	Yes	Child marriages have decreased to 20.5% in 2016 from 33% in 2003 (p. 36). Among women between ages of 20-24, 11% become married before the age of 18 in 2017, dropping from 15% in 2014. The Government is committed to working to develop and enforce regulations to reduce child marriages (p. 38). Other harmful practices against women, like female genital mutilation, are not reported or present in Palestinian society (p. 36). Proportion of women aged 20-24 who were married or in a union before 15 or 18 years of age (p. 109).	
30. Paraguay	Yes	No	Paraguay achieved an indicator Type G (meaning of this raking is not discussed in the report) according to the General Director of Statistics, Inquiries and Census (DGEEE-MICS) with respect to SDG Indicator 5.3.1. (pp. 82-83) Law no. 5419/15 increased to 18 years old the minimum age for legal marriage without parental consent and 16 years old with parental consent. (p. 95)	

31. Poland	No	No	N/A	
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A	
33. Romania	No	No		
34. Saudi Arabia	No	No		
35. Senegal	Yes	Yes	This section has data but is very vague: The VNR mentions actions towards the setting at 18 of the minimum age (but it is unclear whether this has been implemented). The VNR then shares data regarding genital mutilation (which is apparently stable) but there is no reference to any actions being taken in this respect. Page 48	
36. Singapore	Yes	No	It is reported that this target is "in progress", however no further details is given. (page 73)	
37. Slovakia	No	No		
38. Spain	Yes	No	**Specific parties tasked with implementation:** Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Agriculture; and Ministry of Equality (VNR, p. 96). Nothing else mentioned with specificity.	
39. Sri Lanka	No	No		
40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	The Report recognises that children are vulnerable to traditional practices such as female genital mutilation (31.5% of girls aged 0-14) and early marriage (38%) (p.51). The Interim National Constitution of the Republic of Sudan 2005 (d) aims to 'combat harmful customs and traditions which undermine the dignity and status of women.' The Federal Ministry of Health's National Health Policy (2017-2030) is also relevant. This aims to attain universal health coverage. Still, the Report acknowledges that 'the agenda for ensuring the well-being of young children and their mothers remain to be fulfilled. Full implementation of the Child Act 2010 will lead to a 65% achievement of the SDGs in Sudan (p.51).	
41. Switzerland	Yes	No	Violence against women and domestic abuse are problems in Swiss society too. Two out of three victims are women. To further reduce this violence, the Swiss Civil Code and Swiss Criminal Code were amended, and the Istanbul Convention was ratified. Specialist units to combat violence and forced marriage run public information and awareness campaigns, and a national action plan against human trafficking will be	

				implemented by 2020, including a number of measures to better protect victims from violence (p. 11).
	42. Togo	No	No	
	43. UAE	Yes	No	No detail reported. This SDG is linked to the National Agenda Pillar relating to Sustainable Environment and Infrastructure.
	44. Uruguay	No	No	N/A
	45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	Vietnam implemented an annual plan to minimize teen marriage and consanguineous marriage in ethnic minorities in 2018. (p. 40).

Vietnam has made efforts to eliminate adolescent marriage. However, early marriage remains in rural, mountainous and isolated areas, where a large number of ethnic minority people live, and the Mekong Delta. (p. 41).

Vietnam has also made efforts to ensure universal access to reproductive and sexual health services. In 2016, maternal mortality was about 58 of 100,000 live births (reduced by 0.3/100,000 as compared to 2015). Vietnam predicts that SDG targets may be achieved in 2020. However, several problems still exist: more than 1/3 of young people lack access to proper contraceptive measures as well as information; access to family planning services remains limited, especially for unmarried young women, migrant women and women living in mountainous and isolated areas; and male partners may prevent women from using contraceptive measures. Also, the adolescent pregnancy rate is rising. More than 6% of women between the ages 15 and 19 give birth even though their early pregnancy may result in health risk. (pp. 41-42). |
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes 23		
		No 22		
5.5: Women's participation and leadership	1. Albania	Yes	Yes	Albania reports significant progress towards achieving this target: "The percentage of women in Parliament increased from 16.7 percent in 2013 to 23 percent in 2015, reaching 29.3 percent in 2017, with 41 female MPs, representing the highest share since 1997. This achievement was largely a result of strong lobbying efforts on the part of women's organisations for introducing and applying the 30 percent and 50 percent gender quota system for the national and local elections, respectively, as well as of increased general awareness of the significance of women's political representation. The establishment of women alliances and Community-Based Scorecards has contributed to this success." (p. 28)

				Albania selected the following indicators to assess this target (p. 86–87): • Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments (indicator 5.5.1 a) • Proportion of seats held by women in local governments (indicator 5.5.1 b) • Proportion of women in managerial positions (indicator 5.5.2) Albania considers this goal to be fully aligned with its national policy (p. 24). See 5.1 for further details.	
2. Andorra	Yes	Yes	The representation of women at the highest levels of decision is clearly insufficient. Thus, in order to encourage small and medium-sized enterprises that strive to foster a gender-responsive internal policy, the "Olympe de Gouges" prize was created. This is awarded to companies setting up a plan to ensure gender equality at all levels, beyond equal pay (p. 19). The Master Plan for Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has established the theme of women's empowerment as one of its priorities. Under this Plan the government finances development cooperation projects and international agencies and NGOs (p. 19).	
3. Armenia	Yes	Yes	The VNR reports on gender gap challenges, which is notable in political empowerment: "Women are significantly less engaged in decision-making positions in economic/business as well as in public and political governance. The proportion of women elected to the Armenian parliament was 19 percent of all parliament members in 2017. This proportion is lower than EU-wide average 29.3 percent. There was good progress in terms of women's involvement in ministerial positions – there are 25 percent of women envoys and ministers, compared to a Europe-wide average of 27.3 percent in 2017. The number of female mayors is very low, only 1.9 percent. The share of women in high managerial positions is low, though increasing. It was 29 percent in 2016. A similar average figure was recorded in the EU (women CEOs, executives and non-executives in EU Largest listed companies)." (p. 48)	
4. Australia	Yes	Yes	The government has implemented the "Towards 2025: An Australian Government Strategy to Boost Women's Workforce Participation" policy to reduce the participation gap between men and women (pp. 43-44). The government is also targeting 50% women on government boards, and the Australian Institute of Company Directors is targeting 30% women on the boards of the top 300 listed companies (p. 44). The report also describes other programs supporting leadership and political representation by women (p. 44).	
5. Bahamas	Yes	No	The Government created the Department of Gender and Family Affairs by expanding	

				the Bureau of Women's Affairs—the aim of the department is to strengthen the voices of women, girls, and communities by empowering women to lead and partner equally with men in improving the Nation (p. 68)
6. Bahrain	Yes	Yes		There are various statistics showing effective and improving participation of women in various aspects of life in Bahrain. In parliament, 23% of the Shura Council and 8% of the house of representatives are women. In the public sector, 53% of employees are women. Women hold 42% of executive positions in the government sector. In the private sector, 33% of employees are women. Women hold 14% of executive positions in the private sector.
7. Benin	Yes	Yes		P. 74 provides data on (i) the proportion of seats occupied by women in national parliaments (7.2% in 2015); and (ii) the proportion of women in management positions (11.4% in 2015).
8. Bhutan	Yes	No		Initiatives such as awareness creation and capacity building for women at the grassroots have been implemented to provide platforms to encourage women to participate in political office and decision making. [Page 43]
9. Cabo Verde	Yes	Yes		Decree-Law no. 8/2014 consolidated Cabo Verde's policy on gender-based violence. (p. 10) The Second National Plan for Gender Equality 2015-2018 is currently in execution and targets the three main types of gender discrimination: (i) economic empowerment in line with SDGs 5.4 and 5.7; (ii) physical autonomy of women and girls, combating gender-based violence and promoting health, sexual and reproductive rights in line with SDGs 5.2, 5.3 and 5.6; and (iii) leadership and political participation in line with SDG 5.5. (p. 10) Cabo Verde has a plan to increase women's participation in politics and in different decision-making bodies by adopting a "parity law". (p. 59) As examples of how gender equality has been integrated into the strategic plans of important economic sectors, the report mentions the Gender Mainstreaming in Tourism Plan, the National Strategy of Transition from the Informal to the Formal Sector and the National Gender Strategy for Education, Training and Employment, which are currently being implemented, and the regulation of domestic work. (p. 59)
10. Canada	Yes	Yes		Despite the gender-balanced Cabinet, women remain under-represented in Canada's national parliament and make up only 27% of its members. Women appointees have increased by 10% to comprise 44% of all federal appointees while progress is slower in the private sector, where only 21% of senior managers were women in 2017. To

			address the issues, Canada is modernizing federal corporate governance laws and investing to support the increase of women's participation on corporate boards and in senior management positions (p. 48).
11. Colombia	Yes	No	The report briefly presents statistics regarding women in decision-making positions in Colombia, currently improved to 44.5% from 43.5% 2015, with the goal of having 50% by 2030 (p. 19).
12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes	Like in several other countries the DR has adopted mandatory laws based on gender quotation, which requires list of candidates to parliament or local bodies to consist of at least 33% women. However, while the national and the local bodies are not entirely compliant, local bodies are better adapted to the law than parliament (the DR consist of la Cámara de Diputados and the Senado) (p. 15-16, 97-98).
13. Ecuador	Yes	Yes	See page 51-53
14. Egypt	Yes	Yes	The report lists data for proportion of seats held by women in parliament and proportion of women in ministerial positions (page 32). The Egyptian Cabinet includes eight female ministers (page 33). The National Council for Women has a National Strategy for Women Empowerment (pages 8, 32).
15. Greece	Yes	No	See notes for SDG 5.1. Without providing specifics, the Report indicates that the Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, a leading research institution in Greece, contributes to achieving gender equality "through its overall scientific output" (pp. 94-95).
16. Guinea	Yes	Yes	Women are underrepresented in the administrative, and specifically decision-making, positions. Out of 113 deputies of the National Assembly, there are only 26 women (less than ¼). In government, there are only 7 women out of 30 members. At the National Independent Electoral Commission, there are 6 women (vs. 17 men). In 2017, out of 33 prefectures, only 2 are headed by women, and only one governorate (out of 8) is lead by a women. (p. 52) Out of 29,669 candidates for the positions of counsellors for all 342 constituencies in the communal elections of February 4, 2018, there were only 7,070 women (23.8%), although the Guinean constitution requires that 30% of places be awarded to women on each legislative and communal electoral candidates list. Of the state employees, only 26% are women, most with limited responsibilities. Despite the law establishing a 30% quota for women on all electoral lists, only 25 women were elected to the National Assembly (19.20%). Women represent 17.6% of the judges at the Supreme

				Court, 11% of the police and 15% in of the Gendarmerie. Women make up only 5.9% of the military, and are almost entirely absent in the higher hierarchy of the Defence and security forces. (p. 52)
	17. Hungary	No	No	
	18. Ireland	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: Continued paucity of women in leadership and decision-making roles (45-47); gender gap in employment and income levels; increased female candidates in 2016 general election (45); increased female Dáil members (lower house of parliament), state board members, Irish Civil Service senior and middle managers, and judges (45-46); continued underrepresentation in the private sectors, notably corporate boards, financial sector management, and higher education staff; increased overall women's employment (46-47). Implementation steps: National Strategy for Women and Girls 2017-2020 (see 5.1); Electoral (Amendment)(Political Funding) Act 2012, setting gender quotas for national politics with threatened loss of funding to political parties for non-compliance (43-45); national target for 40% female state board membership set in 1993; Guidelines on Appointments to State Boards 2014 to support reaching 40% (46); Civil Service Renewal Programme 2014 included gender balance as a goal (id.); January 2017 unnamed government measures giving preference to equally skilled female candidates for Assistant Secretary positions in female-underrepresented departments (46-47). Data sources: Higher Education Authority National Review of Gender Equality in Irish Higher Education Institutions 2016 (46). Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY
	19. Jamaica	Yes	Yes	[This exact SDG # was not mentioned explicitly, but the underlying topic was discussed.] 2013 study by Women's Resource and Outreach Centre found women on 33% of public sector boards and 16% of private sector boards; training workshops organized, and directory of qualified women published to fill gap (p. 42) Only 11 of 63 parliamentarians were women; government is committed to employ temporary special measures to reach 30% in Parliament and national boards/commissions (p. 42)

	20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	It is reported that the share of women is relatively high in the Lao National Assembly, but low in other decision-making positions. The National Socio-Economic Development Plan (NSEDP) stipulates that the share of women should increase to 20 percent of leading management positions at provincial and district level, 10 percent at village level, 30 percent at central level, and 30 percent for the Eighth National Assembly. The share of women in the National Assembly/ Parliament is 27.5 percent, which is well above the world average (23.5 percent). The President and Vice-President of the National Assembly are also women. Women account for 31.5 percent in provincial assemblies. However, the share of women in leadership and management-level positions is around 5 percent (2012). In 2017, women represented about 45 percent of the 183,680 civil servants overall, but few were in senior positions. In 2015, only 1.7 and 7.2 percent respectively of village chiefs and deputy village chiefs were female. (page 29) The Women Parliamentarians Caucus was formed in late 2002. It is responsible for organizing female leadership trainings and for gender training workshops for parliamentarians. (page 29)	
	21. Latvia	Yes	Yes	Local government of Skrunda signed the European Charter for Equality of Women and Men in Local Life, committing to principles of equality and equal participation. In nationwide municipal elections in 2017, 39% of all registered candidates were women. Women also made up 24% of all newly elected local government representatives. Page 59	
	22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	Women's participation in economic life is increasing: their labour force participation rate stands at 26.3 percent (WEF GGR 2017). In 2017, the minister of state for women's affairs requested the council of ministers to implement a women's quota when appointing senior officials and board members in public administrations. Women currently make up 27 percent of the newly appointed positions in the diplomatic corps, 30 percent of the Electoral Management Body, 23 percent of officials of national security positions, and 17 percent of the Social and Economic Council. Women constitute only 5.4 percent of local government. In October 2017 half (47.5 percent) of the justice sector were women. This is a marked increase from 15 percent in 1993. It is expected that 50.4% of judges will be female by November 2019, as more male judges reach retirement age and more women enter the sector.	

				Female legislators with senior official and managerial positions account for eight percent, and in 2013 little more than four percent of firms had women top managers. The public salary scale law ratified in 2017 (Law 46/2017) gives married women in the public sector the flexibility to work part-time, with a commensurate salary cut. (page 29) In preparation for the 2018 Parliamentary elections, the UNDP Lebanese Elections Assistance Project - in partnership with the **Office of the Minister of State for Women's Affairs**, the European Union, and UN Women – launched a gender roadmap form women's political participation and representation. Aiming to enhance the meaningful participation of women in the upcoming elections, the gender roadmap presents alternatives, other than quotas, to increase women's participation in politics and help in advocating and influencing public behaviour to support the inclusion of women in public life. The gender roadmap includes the development and production of a public media awareness campaign that targets Lebanese women as candidates and voters following the electoral calendar timeline. It also entails organising information sessions for potential women candidates, independent and party members, to enhance their capacity to manage their upcoming electoral campaigns. (page 29) Women are increasingly becoming involved in different aspects of political life. For the first time in Lebanon's history, the current cabinet includes a Minister of State for Women Affairs. Largely owing to strong advocacy campaigns, female candidates for the May 2018 Parliamentary elections made up 14.4 percent of total candidates—clear progress from the two percent registered in 2009. Women made up 62.34 percent of candidates on the lists, and six of these women candidates became members of Parliament. During the 2016 municipal elections the share of women elected to municipal councils reached around 5.6 percent across all geographical districts, compared to 4.6 percent in the previous round in 2010. (page 30)	
	23. Lithuania	Yes	Yes	With a view to enhancing women's leadership and participation in decision-making, leadership events and training are organised and support is provided to the activities of clubs of women politicians. (p. 17)	
	24. Mali	Yes	Yes	Women are still being discriminated politically, economically and socially. They represent less than 10% of the deputies elected to the National Assembly. The proportion of registered positions in public services held by women in 2015 was 16.2%. Women fill only 15.4% of job positions created. Measures have been implemented to ensure women economic rights and their	

			participation in decision-making levels and public life. (pp.37 and 38).
25. Malta	Yes	Yes	Malta included data of seats held by women in national parliaments and govt (percentage) (EU 29 vs. MT 14.5) (p110) and data on positions held by women in senior management (percentage) (EU 25.3 Board Members vs. MT 8.4; EU Executives 15.8 vs. MT 13.8) (p 110)
26. Mexico	Yes	No	Data included in report (p. 105 – 106).
27. Namibia	Yes	Yes	Namibia is doing well in relation to other countries when it comes to women in leadership and influential positions. To date 27 percent of privately owned firms have female top managers and 43 percent of parliamentarians are women which is an improvement from 25 percent in 2010. In addition in the public sector, women in management position accounts for 43 percent in relation to 57 percent of men. There are currently 22 women Ministers (Ministers and Deputy Ministers). This improvement is attributed to local efforts manifested in the 50/50 representation quota system adopted in the main by the governing party SWAPO across all areas of public representation, including representation at regional and local authority's levels. (page 23)
28. Niger	No	No	
29. Palestine	Yes	Yes	A series of laws have been reviewed and developed in accordance with international conventions which promote the rights of women, especially at work, political participation and in public life (p. 36). The Government and its partners are promoting entrepreneurship and encouraging the youth to set up their own businesses (p. 37). The Ministry of Economy's records shows that the proportion of women registered in the Commercial Register rose from 5% in 2015 to 8.3% in 2017. Women currently occupy 12.7% of the seats on the Palestinian Legislative Council, 5.8% of ambassadorships, 20% of the seats on local councils, 17.3% of judgeships, 46% of civil service jobs, 11.9% of the positions of "Director General," and 23.6% of the position of "Director" (p. 37). The Government seeks to further promote the integration of women into all spheres of social, economic and political life and to remove all obstacles to women's inclusion through reforming and developing laws and regulations to reduce discrimination

			against women and take the necessary measures to ensure their implementation (p. 38). The Government has prescribed a policy intervention of removing barriers that prevent the full participation of women in the community and economic development and public life (p. 89). Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament, local government, and management (p. 110).
30. Paraguay	Yes	No	Paraguay achieved (i) an indicator Type G (meaning of this raking is not discussed in the report) according to SFP-DGTIC (meaning of the acronym is not specified) with respect to SDG Indicator 5.5.1 and (ii) an indicator Type G (meaning of this raking is not discussed in the report) according to the General Director of Statistics, Inquiries and Census (DGEEC-EPH) and an indicator Type C (meaning of this raking is not discussed in the report) according to SFP-DGTIC (meaning of the acronym is not specified) with respect to SDG Indicator 5.5.2. (pp. 82-83)
31. Poland	Yes	Yes	Trends/Challenges: "The share of women in managerial positions in the total number of people working in managerial positions increased from 36.8% in Q4 2010 to 41.5% in Q4 2016." 43. "In 2010, 18.7% of women were members of poviat councils, and 9.5% were mayors or city presidents. In 2016, it was 20.6% and 10.8%, respectively." 43. "Despite improvements in many areas, one of the government's policy objectives is to empower women and girls as well as to fully implement the principle of equality between women and men." 43. Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation: "The priorities in this respect include: active family policy and ensuring conditions for the return of women to the labour market after a break due to childbirth and childcare." 43 Name of source? OECD. 43. Use of tech. to measure progress? Yes. "In order to ensure equal opportunities on the labour market by eliminating wage differences, a computer application Equal pay was prepared, which allows to estimate the differences in wages of employees, taking into account their gender, age, education and other characteristics." 45.
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A

33. Romania	No	No	
34. Saudi Arabia	Yes	Yes	Saudi Arabia have listed the participation of women in the Development of Saudi Arabia: key facts include active participation of women in municipal elections (19 seats in 2016); first ever appointment of a woman as Dean of Student Affairs, Taif University; 127,000 new commercial registrations issued for women in 2017 (pg. 62).
35. Senegal	Yes	Yes	The VNR mentions the new law implemented in 2010 to reach parity between men and women in public (central and local) administrations and various projects to help women get access to financing to launch a business. The data shows that the proportion of women in administrations has fallen between 2016 and 2017. Page 49
36. Singapore	Yes	Yes	Women in Singapore have made immense progress in education and employment, but remain under-represented on company boards and in senior management. For example, women only held 10.8% of board seats in companies listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange as of December 2017. (page 18) Singapore actively supports women's participation in decision-making positions through several initiatives: • The Women's Register was established by the Singapore Council of Women's Organisations (SCWO), to assist women who would like to volunteer their services to the community, make new connections in social and professional arenas, and obtain support and guidance from women leaders. • BoardAgender is another initiative of SCWO launched in 2011 with the support of MSF. It facilitates greater awareness of the benefits of gender-balanced business, and encourages and enables women to contribute their expertise in the boardroom and through committees. • The Diversity Task Force regarding Women on Boards (DTF), formed in 2012, conducted a study on the state of gender diversity on boards and in senior management in companies listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange. It was prompted by the concern that women continue to be under-represented on company boards and in senior management despite making immense progress in education and employment. The Task Force released its recommendations in April 2014. Their work received wide media coverage and generated considerable public discussion, leading to greater awareness and knowledge on the topic. • The Diversity Action Committee, comprising illustrious business leaders and

			professionals from the private, people and public sectors, was formed in August 2014 under the auspices of the Singapore Stock Exchange, to drive improvements to address the issue of underrepresentation of women on boards. Singaporean women are also actively involved in grassroots movements. The profile of these female grassroots leaders is varied – from young women, housewives, working professionals, and businesswomen. For instance, as of 2016, women make up 45% of the volunteers in grassroots organisations under the People's Association, which is a network of 1,800 grassroots organisations. In the Singapore Government, there are currently seven women political office-holders. Three women ministers are in Cabinet, up from two women ministers in April 2018. Out of the five mayors chairing the Community Development Councils that oversee the various districts in Singapore, two are women. In January 2013, Madam Halimah Yacob was appointed the Speaker of Parliament, the first woman appointed to such a position. In September 2017, she became the first woman President of the Republic of Singapore. (page 16)	
37. Slovakia	No	No		
38. Spain	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: Though the current Spanish government was relatively young at the time of the report they are taking the issue of women in leadership seriously with the Spanish government itself having 11 out of its 17 ministers being women (VNR, p. 5). Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Infrastructure; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Labour; Ministry of Agriculture; Ministry of Equality; and Ministry of Science (VNR, p. 96).	
39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	Representation of women in Parliament has never exceeded 6%, in contrast to the 18% average for South Asian countries (p. 83). In 2016, the Sri Lankan government passed an amendment to local electoral law to reserve 25% of all seats to women (p. 84).	
40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	The Report notes that 'the Sudan is experiencing increasing women's participation in leadership positions' (p.53). Examples include an increase in the participation of women in the national parliament, and an increase in women's participation in executive decision-making and planning positions. The Report considers the role of women in peace building. It states that 'consultation	

				with Sudanese women has led to the inclusion of gender issues in the Joint Assessment Mission.' Women Groups from Darfur played a pivotal role in the Doha negotiations, and: • Out of the 41 members of the Darfur Regional Authority, 10 were women; • A large number of women have joined the security forces, for example as police officers.	
	41. Switzerland	Yes	No	The federal government fosters the participation of women and men at all levels of decision-making in social, economic, political and public life, e.g. through financial support and tax-deductible childcare costs, or through projects that promote family-friendly working conditions, better compatibility of family and work, and improving the status of unpaid work (p. 11).	
	42. Togo	No	No		
	43. UAE	Yes	Yes	After the 2015 elections of the Federal National Council, 20 new members were appointed out of which 8 were women. That year, the first woman speaker of the FNC, Her Excellency Dr. Amal Abdullah Al Qubaisi, was also appointed. H.E. Dr. Al Qubaisi was the first woman to hold such a position not only in the UAE but also across Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries. In addition, in 2012, the UAE Cabinet made it compulsory for government agencies and corporations to include women on their boards of directors to make the UAE the first Arab country to have such a law in place - this was further extended to the private sector in 2016. Women currently make up 66% of the public sector workers and occupy 30% of leadership roles and 15% of technical and academic roles	
	44. Uruguay	No	No		
	45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	The rate of female deputies in the National Assembly and People's Counsel for the term of 2016-2021 increased at all levels compared to the previous term. However, such rates have not met the target set out in the National Strategy for Gender Equality 2011-2020 (over 35%), and is not commensurate with the proportion of women in the population and in the labour force. (p. 41; 43). Female-owned enterprises are increasing and currently comprises 31.6% of all enterprises. Up to 98% of the women-owned businesses are micro or small and medium enterprises, with micro-enterprises accounting for the majority. (p. 41).	
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	38		
		No	7		

| 5.C: Policies and legislation for gender equality | 1. Albania | Yes | Yes | Albania recognizes the economic inclusion and empowerment of women is challenging: women's labour force participation is low, and a high percentage are discouraged from entering the labour market (p. 26). Albania reports on as number of statistics related to this on p. 26.

"Government has made several efforts to tackle the difficulties of women's participation in the labour market." Albania refers to:
• GoA's programme for 2013–2017 focused on increasing employment and improving the quality of the workforce in line with the EU vision and directives, the Europe 2020 Strategy, and EU accession criteria.
• National Cross-cutting Employment and Skills Strategy 2014–2020 aims to identify and outline appropriate and gender-sensitive policies for the promotion of employment and vocational training of the workforce.
• National Women's Entrepreneurship Action Plan 2014–2020 (prepared in 2013), which aims to improve the overall business environment for women in Albania and includes four pillars: (i) Policy support, (ii) Education and training, (iii) Access to finance and competitiveness, and (iv) Networking, as well as the cross-cutting issue of women's participation in the rural economy.

Albania considers this goal to be fully aligned with its national policy (p. 24). See 5.1 for further details. | |
| | 2. Andorra | Yes | Yes | In 1998 Andorra established the Ombudsman, called Raonador del Ciutadà for the control and prevention of all forms of discrimination. In 2010, a specific law expanded the competence of the Raonador del Ciutadà to allow it to fulfill the functions required by the International Convention on the Rights of the Child. In 2017, a new law gives the Ombudsman the necessary powers to control discrimination in both the public and private sectors, with specific attention to children, persons with disabilities, racial discrimination and cross-cutting discrimination related to gender or sexual orientation (p. 9)

In 2015 the Government of the Principality of Andorra transformed and expanded the Department of Social Affairs of the Ministry of Social Affairs by creating the Equality Policy Service. The main functions of this service are to promote and develop programs and transversal actions aimed at preventing and combating gender-based violence and domestic violence and against violence in general, in full accordance with the international commitments of the Principality of Andorra and the Objectives | |

				of the United Nations. This service aims to improve and increase the fight against inequalities and discrimination suffered by the most vulnerable people or groups (p. 18). As part of this restructuring, Parliament decided to work on a White Paper on Equality in order to have the necessary information to identify the current situation of Andorra in terms of inequalities and discrimination. The White Paper was developed during the years 2016-2017 with the participation of civil society and in particular members of the most vulnerable communities. The White Paper was officially presented and made public on May 7, 2018. The report has provided the necessary information to develop a draft comprehensive law on equality and non-discrimination that is currently being drafted and will be presented to the Consell General by the end of 2018. Gender equality is a very important chapter of the White Paper on Equality and the Law being drafted (p. 18)	
3.	Armenia	Yes	No	There is a passing reference to the fact that: "The Constitution and the legal framework of Armenia guarantee and promote equality and non-discrimination on the basis of sex" (p. 46)	
4.	Australia	Yes	No	No separate section for this, but related to the other descriptions of SDG 5 generally.	
5.	Bahamas	Yes	No	The report mentions the creation of the Department of Gender and Family Affairs, it does not mention any specific policies or legislation with respect to the Department (p. 68)	
6.	Bahrain	Yes	Yes	Please see response to 5.1	
7.	Benin	No	No		
8.	Bhutan	Yes	Yes	Recognizing the importance of having effective institutional mechanisms to enforce the enabling legislations and implement policies and programs, the Government upgraded the National Commission for Women and Children (NCWC) to a fully autonomous agency from its previous role as an agency under the Ministry of Health in 2004. The members of the Commission comprise of Government Secretaries, the Judiciary, Local Government, Royal Bhutan Police, Parliament, Civil Society Organizations and the Private Sector with the first female Minister of Bhutan, as the Chairperson. The Commission is supported by a full-time Secretariat staffed with civil servants headed by a Director. In addition, the NCWC has a network of trained Gender Focal Persons (GFP) in all the Government Agencies.	

These significant investments in gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in Bhutan are of great importance given the challenges still to be addressed if the Goal is to be met. At implementation level, agencies responsible for gender equality and women empowerment face the difficulty of translating the enabling legal, policy and political environment into actions owing to limited capacities. Progress continues to be weighed down by the structural causes of traditional social norms, cultural beliefs and stereotypes. Bhutan ranks 124th amongst 143 countries in the 2017 Global Gender Index; women's participation in the workforce is dropping, with low female representation in executive positions in the civil service, corporate and private sector. Only eight per cent of Bhutan's Parliament are women – down from 13 per cent in 2008. Women working in cities' *Drayangs* (legal entertainment establishments in Bhutan where 'Drayang workers' dance and sing karaoke*)*, identified as one of the vulnerable groups in Bhutan's Vulnerability Baseline Assessment, are vulnerable to exploitation, stigma and discrimination. Single mothers and their children are also identified as a vulnerable group in Bhutan, along with survivors of domestic violence. Adolescent girls continue to face risks associated with early marriage, childbearing, and gender-based violence.

There is strong momentum by the Royal Government to address these challenges, as reflected by investments to-date. In 2018, the first nationwide survey on violence against women will be complete, providing the evidence and analysis necessary to determine how to address gender-based violence going forward, including on how to provide universal access to sexual and reproductive health through child-friendly and gender-sensitive approaches, and how to strengthen gender-based violence care and support.

Initiatives such as awareness creation and capacity building for women at the grassroots have been implemented to provide platforms to encourage women to participate in political office and decision making.

A further challenge under exploration is the impact of climate change on women in Bhutan. This is in response to the seasonal feminization of agriculture in rural areas referenced under SDGs 1 and 2, the centrality of resilient agriculture to people's livelihoods in Bhutan, and the increasing impact of climate change. The Government is seeking to better understand the gender impact of climate change, and to ensure its Nationally Determined Contribution on climate change is elaborated to address those impacts. At the same time, the Government is investing in smart agriculture

				approaches to help address issues of time poverty and drudgery for women farmers, and in Mainstreaming Reference Groups at the local government level, to oversee the mainstreaming of climate, gender and disaster risk reduction into local development planning and implementation. This important focus reflects the finding of the 2015 GNH survey that women farmers are the "least happy" group in Bhutan.

A number of civil society organizations (CSOs) play a critical role on gender equality and women and girls' empowerment in Bhutan, The Civil Society Organizations Act of 2007, implemented by the Civil Society Organizations Authority, provides the framework for registration, functioning, funding and monitoring of CSOs. The Tarayana Foundation, the Bhutan Association of Women Entrepreneurs (BAOWE), the SAARC Business Association of Home Based Workers (SABAH), the Bhutan and the Bhutan Network for Empowerment of Women (BNEW), the Youth Development Fund (YDF), and Respect, Educate Nurture Educate Women (RENEW) respectively works on women's and youths' economic empowerment and advancement, women's participation in the workforce and public life, and on issues of violence against women and children. Their work is complemented by agencies like the Bhutan Nuns Foundations (BNF) and community-based groups working for women and girls' empowerment.

Strong scope exists to diversify avenues of support for women's economic empowerment, with an increased focus on enhancing access to finance and resources by the Government and CSOs, and innovative explorations of social impact investment for women's empowerment is underway.

[Pages 42 to 44] |
| 9. Cabo Verde | Yes | Yes | | Decree-Law no. 8/2014 consolidated Cabo Verde's policy on gender-based violence. (p. 10)

The Second National Plan for Gender Equality 2015-2018 is currently in execution and targets the three main types of gender discrimination: (i) economic empowerment in line with SDGs 5.4 and 5.7; (ii) physical autonomy of women and girls, combating gender-based violence and promoting health, sexual and reproductive rights in line with SDGs 5.2, 5.3 and 5.6; and (iii) leadership and political participation in line with SDG 5.5. (p. 10)

Cabo Verde has a plan to increase women's participation in politics and in different |

				decision-making bodies by adopting a "parity law". (p. 59) As examples of how gender equality has been integrated into the strategic plans of important economic sectors, the report mentions the Gender Mainstreaming in Tourism Plan, the National Strategy of Transition from the Informal to the Formal Sector and the National Gender Strategy for Education, Training and Employment, which are currently being implemented, and the regulation of domestic work. (p. 59)	
	10. Canada	Yes	Yes	Canada is strengthening GBA+ implementation to create federal policies and programs that are more responsive to the differential needs of diverse groups, including Indigenous women and girls, migrant and refugee women and girls, women and girls in rural and remote communities, women and girls with disabilities and LGBTQ2 and non-binary persons (p. 47). Canada will introduce pay equity legislation to ensure that women working in federally regulated industries receive equal pay for equal work or work of equal value (p. 48). Canada dedicates to engage a wide range of communities to undertake collaborative initiatives to advance gender equality for and identify emerging issues concerning women and girls in Canada (p. 49). Canada takes a feminist approach to its overall international policy, including diplomacy, development, trade and security (p. 51). By 2021-2022 at the latest, at least 95% of Canada's bilateral international development assistance investments will either target or integrate gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls (p. 51).	
	11. Colombia	Yes	No	This SDG is mentioned in a different context, yet noteworthy to point out that the implementation of law 1537 of 2012 has identified women as a group to be prioritized from a policy perspective (p. 43).	
	12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes	The DR has established a Ministry solely for the promotion of the Women's rights and as previously mentioned, two government plans organised by the Women's Ministry, PLANEG I and II, have been implemented to specifically focus on policies and legislation for gender equality, although further work is necessary in the field of equality (p. 15-16, 93, 200).	
	13. Ecuador	Yes	Yes	The VNR notes the need for further policies regarding equality, and therefore implements policies focused on reducing violence against women, prevention from sexual abuse within the education system and violence and abuse against children (p.	

			53). The government also points at the importance of application of the Law for Prevention and abolishment of Violence towards Women (Sp. La Ley Orgánica para Prevenir y Erradicar la Violencia contra las Mujeres) (p. 124).
14. Egypt	Yes	Yes	The Ministry of Social Solidarity has training programs for women to promote economic empowerment (page 14). Statistics are provided on percentage of women with bank accounts (page 33). The government has programs to extend credit to women entrepreneurs (page 33). The National Council for Women has a National Strategy for Women Empowerment (pages 8, 32).
15. Greece	Yes	No	No specific mention other than for the other SDG 5 points.
16. Guinea	Yes	No	Several measures have been adopted, including implementing a project aimed combating gender disparities, the principal achievements of which has been the adoption of a National Gender Policy, along with its strategic action plan and the implementation of gender units in government departments. However, women underrepresented in public and political life, as well as within decision-making positions. (p. 10) Gender equality is addressed through the following: (a) Constitution, (b) Penal Code, (c) Convention on the Elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and the rights of the child, (d) Children's Code, (e) law establishing a 30% quota for women on electoral lists, and (f) law 10-01 on the health of the child. Guinea has further ratified key international and regional women's rights. (p. 50)
17. Hungary	Yes	Yes	In June 2017 a tender was issued entitled 'Women in the Family and at the Workplace' in order to improve employment. The tender aims to support projects, which contribute to the flexible employment opportunities and the reconciliation of private life and work. The tender supported 71 applicants nationwide. Consequently, there will be 71 Family and Career Points established in the country, providing personal development, self-employment coaching and training. The tender also covers other activities, such as childcare, small-scale activities, rural development etc. (page 24)
18. Ireland	Yes	No	Implementation steps: The Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014, requiring a gender-lens for governmental decision-making (44); National Strategy for Women and Girls 2017-2020, (see 5.1); Domestic Violence Bill of 8 May 2018; Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Act 2017, improving services for sex trafficking victims. (44-45)

				Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY
19. Jamaica	Yes	No	[This exact SDG # was not mentioned explicitly, but the underlying topic was discussed.] "There is recognition that Caribbean, and more specifically Jamaican men and boys, are at risk and are facing particular challenges that if not addressed, will affect the achievements of gender equality and equity. Notwithstanding, it is recognized that within the context of Vision 2030 Jamaica and the SDGs that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls is a key prerequisite. To this end, a number of programmes and policies have been implemented targeting men and boys, while still seeking to continue to empower women and girls." (p. 40)
20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	The Constitution of the Lao PDR guarantees equality between men and women in politics, economy, culture, and society, as well as in the family. (page 29) It is stated that the Government of Lao PDR is prioritising improving the implementation and monitoring of national gender equality laws, policies, and instruments. These include enforcing the existing family law, which does not allow marriage before the age of consent; the gender output in the Eighth NSEDP; the 2016-2020 Women's Development Plan, the National Gender Equality Development Plan; the Second National Strategy on Gender Equality (2016-2025), the National Law on Preventing and Combatting Violence against Women and Children, the National Action Plan on Eliminating Violence against Women and Children, and the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). (page 30)
21. Latvia	No	No	
22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	Lebanon is a signatory to several international conventions, covenants and agreements that seek to protect and promote human rights and women's rights, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. In 2012 the government approved the National Commission for Lebanese Women's Strategy for Women's Affairs in Lebanon 2011–2021. This ten–year strategy has 12 strategic objectives that touch on all aspects of women's lives. The strategy's plan for 2017–2019 is being implemented and monitored through published annual reports. (page 29)
23. Lithuania	y	y	Lithuania has a legal basis in place required to promote, implement and control the equality between men and women and non-discrimination based on gender, and is

				implementing an appropriate policy. Lithuania provides equal conditions for either parent to go on parental leave until a child reaches the age of 3 years. This leave is available not only to a child's parents but also to his or her grandmother or grandfather. Such conditions allow a woman to return to the labour market or remain in it with less negative consequences for her careers. Women can choose a part-time job and simultaneously receive a child benefit. In accordance with Lithuanian legislation, men and women have equal opportunities in terms of natural resources, ownership, financial services and inheritance. Equal opportunities are established for all persons to purchase, inherit and manage land regardless of their gender. The same provisions apply also to the opportunities to benefit from financial support under various support systems in the agricultural sector. (pp. 17-19)	
	24. Mali	Yes	Yes	Mali has taken various steps to reach this goals, including: • The November 2010 adoption and implementation of the *Politique Nationale Genre* (National Gender Policy) (PNG), providing for the personal development of women and men through the full exercise of their fundamental rights, an active and participatory citizenship and equal access to resources; • Integrating gender planning and budgeting into the budget as part of the implementation of the PNG and its action plan (2011-2013 and 2016-2018); • Adopting laws aimed at strengthening women's economic rights; • Adopting Law No. 2015-052 on December 18, 2015, instituting gender promoting measures at the nomination and electoral levels in Mali (in 2016, 3,370 women were candidates in municipal elections, with more than 25% of them being elected (versus 9% in 2009)); and • The implementation of the *Programme d'Appui a l'Autonomisation de la Femme dans la Chaine de Value Karite au Mali* (Support program for women's empowerment in the Malian value chain), which will contribute to improving women's economic and financial conditions in the rural regions of Kayes, Koulikoro, Sikasso, Segou and Mopti by 2020 (with FCFA 2.7 billion). The program will benefit 400 villages, directly affecting over 50,000 women in rural areas. (pp. 37-38)	

				The *Fonds d'Appui a l'Autonomisation de la Femme et a l'Epanouissement de l'Enfant* (Support fund for women's empowerment and child development) has, in 2015, financed 96 projects, affecting 3,840 women and 6,161 children in difficulty. In 2016, the fund financed 270 projects and affected 10,800 women. (p. 38)
				Women represent less than 10% of elected deputies at the National Assembly. In 2016, women made up 16.2% of councillors in public services. In 2016, women made up 25.6% of city counsellors. Women made up 14.20% of all appointees, whereas jobs held by women account for 15.4% of all jobs created. (p. 38)
				Women still don't hold property rights in great numbers. For example, only 20% of inheritances go to women. (p. 38)
				Women further are kept from using information and communication technologies: 7.2% of women aged between 15 and 24 have used a computer in 2014 vs 14.2% of men; 5% of women aged 15 to 49 read at least once a week a newspaper, listen to the ratio or watch television vs. 9.4% of men; and 8.5% of women aged 15 to 24 have used the internet in the last 12 months vs. 19.9% of men. (p. 38)
	25. Malta	Yes	Yes	With regard to universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, Malta has implemented the National Sexual Health Policy (2010) and a National Sexual Health Strategy (2011), both of which refer also to persons with disabilities. Malta has also introduced assisted reproductive technology, including in-vitro fertilization (IVF), as part of the national health service (p28)
				The Malta Council for Science and Technology participates in the Gender Action project which analyses EU Members States' progress towards implementation of gender equality in research and innovation through national action plans, training events, etc. (p36)
				The National Commission for the Promotion of Equality (NCPE) created the *Directory of Maltese Professional Women* to give further visibility to professional women and their competences in various fields. The qualifications, experiences, and skills of these professional women are highlighted to enhance their opportunities of being appointed to serve on boards, committees or other decision-making positions. More than 250 professional women are registered on this Directory (p3)

	26. Mexico	Yes	Yes	The General Law on Equality Between Women and Men guarantees and regulates equality of opportunities and equal treatment between women and men (p. 77). Financing programs such as Small Business Women – a project of INMUJERES, the Finance and Public Credit Secreteriat, INADEM and My World Mexico, Nacional Financiera – and the National Financing Program for Micro-entrepreneurs and Rural Women – a project of the Secretariat of Economy – give women preferential access to credit (p. 78). Article 41 of the Mexican Constitution requires parity between women and men as candidates for local and federal legislatures (p. 78). The 2013-2018 National Development Plan includes a holistic gender perspective (p. 78). Mexico is one of the few countries to have a methodology for earmarking budgetary resources for gender equality (p. 78). However, the rules of operation need to have a consistent methodology for evaluating a "gender perspective" or "gender equality" (p. 78).	
	27. Namibia	Yes	Yes	Namibia has registered significant improvement in the promotion of gender equality and women empowerment (GEWE). This is largely credited to existing legislative instruments that have been put in-place to ensure gender equality and women empowerment. In addition, there are number of programmes that have been developed for the implementation of the policy provisions. These include Article 10 of the Constitution of The Republic of Namibia which guarantees equality before the law and the right to non-discrimination on the basis of sex. Namibia ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1992 and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in 2000. Namibia also ratified the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa in 2004. Accordingly, it implemented several new policy measures, including an update of the National Gender Policy. In addition to the gender policy, Gender Responsive Budget Guidelines were adopted in 2014 alongside the National Gender Mainstreaming Programme of 2003. (page 22)	
	28. Niger	No	No		

	29. Palestine	Yes	Yes	The Government signed CEDAW without reservations, and a number of international conventions, creating a framework for promoting women's rights and gender quality (p. 36). A legislative committee has been formed, headed by the Ministry of Justice, to harmonize local legislation with international agreements signed by Palestine (p. 36). A series of laws have been reviewed and developed in accordance with international conventions which promote the rights of women, especially at work, political participation and in public life (p. 36). The Government's laws and policy commitments suffer from weak implementation, and in planning and budgeting, consideration of gender remains limited (p. 37). Since the ratification by Palestine of CEDAW and the preparation of Palestine's first report, neither the harmonization of national legislation with CEDAW nor the publishing of CEDAW in national newspaper has been achieved (p. 37). The Government and its partners are promoting entrepreneurship and encouraging the youth to set up their own businesses (p. 37). The Government seeks to further promote the integration of women into all spheres of social, economic and political life and to remove all obstacles to women's inclusion through reforming and developing laws and regulations to reduce discrimination against women and take the necessary measures to ensure their implementation (p. 38). The Government has prescribed policy interventions of eliminating all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls, and institutionalizing gender mainstreaming in policymaking, planning, and budgeting (p. 89).	
	30. Paraguay	Yes	No	The Ministry of the Women is in the process of preparing a new National Plan for Equal Opportunities among Men and Women taking into account the objectives of the 2030 Agenda and the 2030 National Development Plan (pp. 25-26). The report does not specify, however, what actions this national plan is expected to include. Law no. 5407/15 brought domestic work conditions (8-hour shifts and required benefits) up to the level of those conditions applicable to workers in general, except	

				in respect of minimum wages where domestic workers receive 60% of the minimum wage applicable to general workers. (p. 94) Law no. 5446/2015 addresses public policies aimed at ensuring the economic, social, political and cultural rights of rural women. (p. 94) Resolution no. 168/15 of the Ministry of Justice established the National Program for Specific Attention to Women Deprived of Liberty and provides for the implementation of an intra-institutional task force to develop strategic public policy relating to incarcerated women. (p. 95) Paraguay has a project of law aimed at achieving democratic parity and equal political representation. (p. 95)	
	31. Poland	Yes	Yes	Trends/Challenges: "Despite improvements in many areas, one of the government's policy objectives is to empower women and girls as well as to fully implement the principle of equality between women and men." 43. Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation: . "The following legislative changes are also important: the amendment of the Labour Code from 26 June 1974 (Dz. U. [Journal of Laws] from 2018 item 917) rendering the rules of taking paternity, maternity and parental leave more flexible, e.g. by increasing the number of cases where an employee - the father of a child or an employee - another closest family member can take over part of the maternity and parental leave; introducing the possibility of taking paternity leave in parts; proportionally extending the parental leave where it is combined with part-time work; increasing the age of the child for whom paternity leave can be taken (up to 24 months); raising the age of the child for whom parental leave can be taken (until the end of the calendar year in which the child reaches 6 years of age) and amending the law on the employment of temporary workers from 9 of July 2003 (Dz. U. [Journal of Laws] from 2018 item 594), introducing e.g. increased protection for pregnant workers who perform agency work." 44. Name of source? OECD. 43. Use of tech. to measure progress? Yes. "In order to ensure equal opportunities on the labour market by eliminating wage differences, a computer application Equal pay was prepared, which allows to estimate the differences in wages of employees, taking into account their gender, age, education and other characteristics." 45.	

				Specific Party Tasked with Implementing: The legislature was involved. 45.
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A	
33. Romania	No	No		
34. Saudi Arabia	Yes	Yes	Again, Accession to the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (pg 64). Social Development Bank provides support to women for project management and business plans – over 25 successful projects in women entrepreneurs have been carried out by the Bank in various fields (p 64). Royal Decree provides for provision of immediate assistance and making every effort possible to provide shelter as well as social, psychological and health care to victims of abuse. Also stipulates that the culprits should be brought to justice and convicted persons, punished (p 64).	
35. Senegal	Yes	No	Senegal's policy is contained in a national document titled "National Strategy on the Gender Equity and Equality" and has been established a Ministry of Women, Family, and Children and pursuant to the Decree no. 2017-313 dated February 13, 2017 creating Gender Cells within each governmental ministries.	
36. Singapore	Yes	Yes	In the design, planning, and delivery of policies and programmes in Singapore, the country takes into account the impact of its policies on women, as well as other stakeholder groups, and target benefits to those in need. This stakeholder approach enables its ministries to adopt a gender-sensitive perspective on issues that may have differing impacts on women and men. For example, in recognition of the different health requirements of women compared to men, the Women's Health Advisory Committee was set up in 2012 to promote the health and well-being of women. The Committee was revamped in 2016 as the Women's Health Committee and focuses on key health issues among women in Singapore (i.e. increasing cancer screening uptake, promoting bone health, and fighting diabetes, including gestational diabetes). Specific measures for women are also in place where additional protection and assistance is necessary. In addition to its Constitution, there is specific legislation in place to protect the rights of women. This includes the Women's Charter, Penal Code, Children and Young Persons Act, and the Protection from Harassment Act. (page 17)	

37. Slovakia	Yes	Yes	In the context of promoting conditions and mechanisms for the active participation of citizens in governance, including the creation, implementation and control of public policies, Slovakia states it is necessary to promote education for democratic citizenship, human rights, and gender equality as a systematic component of education plans. (p. 52)
38. Spain	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: The re-establishment of the Ministry of Equality and its integration into the Vice-Presidency of the Government has elevated the issue of gender equality to the forefront of national policy (VNR, p. 48). Implementation steps: Respecting the principles of equality enshrined in Articles 1, 9.2, and 14 enshrined in the Spanish Constitution as well as various international law sources (VNR, p. 45); and implementing Organic Law 3/2007, of 22 March, on the Effective Equality of Women, which established a legal framework to ensure equal treatment and opportunities for women and men and the elimination of discrimination based on sex, in all areas of life, particularly in the political, civil, labour, economic, social and cultural spheres (VNR, p. 46). Data sources: Government statistics Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Infrastructure; Ministry of Labour; Ministry of Agriculture; Ministry of Equality; Ministry of Health; and Ministry of Science (VNR, p. 96).
39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	The Report mentions general policies to improve female participation in the labor market and improve representation of women in local government (p. 84). See also notes for SDG 5.1 and 5.5.
40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	The Sudanese labour laws stipulate that women and men have equal opportunities for jobs. The Sudanese employment rules make equal provision for wages according to responsibilities and performance (p.53).
41. Switzerland	Yes	No	The federal government fosters the participation of women and men at all levels of decision-making in social, economic, political and public life, e.g. through financial support and tax-deductible childcare costs, or through projects that promote family-friendly working conditions, better compatibility of family and work, and improving the status of unpaid work (P. 11).
42. Togo	No	No	
43. UAE	Yes	Yes	In 2015, the UAE established the Gender Balance Council (see box on page 72) whose mandate is to enact a framework to consolidate the efforts to improve gender

			equality across government entities and drive efforts to evolve and enhance women's role as key partners in building the future of the country.
			There are also many women associations and foundations in the UAE that support women's empowerment and rights.
			The General Women's Union has been tirelessly supporting women since its formation in 1975 and the Dubai Women Establishment is one of the leading government entities in the UAE to support women in the workforce.
			The work of these organizations and that of several others across the seven emirates, has helped the country support the participation of women in society and in work, and the recently mandated extension of paid maternity leave to 3 months is one example of that.
			Page 72 and 73 deals with recent initiative by the GBC
44. Uruguay	No	N/A	N/A
45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	Gender equality principles are mentioned in Vietnam's Constitution and important laws such as the Gender Equality Law; the Law on the Election of Deputies to the National Assembly and People's Council; the Law on Support to Small and Medium Enterprises; and the Law on Promulgation of Legal Documents. The National Strategy on Gender Equality for the period 2011-2020 introduced strategic measures to reduce the gender gap in all areas for women, especially for women in rural areas. (p. 40). Notwithstanding the foregoing, policies related to SDG 5 still have some gaps and discrepancies that need improvement. For example, policies on training, re-training, appointment and nomination of candidates remain general and not synchronized with the Law on Gender Equality. There is a lack of policy integration in the Law on Marriage and the Family 2014 to provide equal rights for people with disabilities (especially women with disabilities' right to equality in marriage and in decisions to have children) in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the Law on Persons with Disabilities of Vietnam. In addition, the Vietnamese government has not promulgated some policies stipulated in the Law on Gender Equality in a timely manner. (p. 40). Vietnam is also one of the first Asia-Pacific countries to implement "gender mainstreaming," particularly in the Law on State Budget 2015. This law has principles for state budget management (Article 8) and serves as the basis for budget drafting (Article 41). However, its guidelines have not been issued in a timely way.

				Consequently, there have been difficulties allocating appropriate budget for gender equality activities. (p. 42).
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	37	
		No	8	
8.5: Equal pay for equal work	1. Albania	Yes	Yes	Albanian legislation does not discriminate over the right to equal remuneration for both men and women: remuneration depends on the work done, regardless of gender. Given the importance of 'equal pay for equal work of equal value', efforts have been made to improve the present legislation with regard to enforcement of this principle." (p. 27) Overall, Albania considers Goal 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) to be 79% aligned with its national policy. Relevantly, it considers 8.7 to be fully aligned, and 8.5 and 8.8 to be partially aligned. (p. 44).
	2. Andorra	No	No	
	3. Armenia	Yes	Yes	Armenia's "2013-2018 Employment Strategy highlighted the importance of addressing employment problems of the youth (up to 30 years old) and women, who are more likely to be unemployed in Armenia." (p. 56) The VNR also contained statistics about unemployment rate, including breakdown by age, sex and people with disabilities (p. 57–58).
	4. Australia	Yes	Yes	The SDG 5 section mentions a gender gap and governmental and private efforts to reduce it (p. 44). SDG 8 section describes the Leaving No One Behind policy to address gaps in workforce participation by under-represented groups, including persons with disabilities, older people, and younger people (pp. 61-62). Australia also advocates for global economic growth through increased participation by all (pp. 62-63).
	5. Bahamas	Yes	No	In 2017, the Government and ILO Decent Work Team and Office of the Caribbean created a Plan of Action with specific timeframes to enact productivity legislation and the establishment of a National Productivity Council (pp. 77-78) In 2018/2019 the Government pledged additional funds to the Citizen Security and Justice Program, which includes an employability component designed to improve

				the skill sets of young people with limited employability skills in order to prepare them for the labour market (p. 78)
				The National Training Agency trains young people in vocational skills in order to reduce youth unemployment (p. 78)
6.	Bahrain	Yes	Yes	Bahrain is ranked 9th globally (out of 144 countries) on equality of pay between men and women in relation to jobs that are similar.
7.	Benin	Yes	Yes	P. 78 provides data for 2015 on (i) the unemployment rate (2.3% (sic)); and (ii) rate of visible underemployment (39%).
8.	Bhutan	No	No	
9.	Cabo Verde	Yes	Yes	Unemployment rate reached 12.2% in 2017, a reduction in 3.2 percentage points compared to 2016. (pp. 12; 72)
				Men spend more time on paid work than women. In 2017, workers worked an average of 44 hours a week, being 45 hours for men and 42 hours for women. (p. 72)
				Unemployment continues to affect women more severely than men. Among active women, 12.8% were unemployed, compared to 11.8% for active men. (p. 72)
				Young unemployed people who are not in school or training are one of the focal points of the sustainable development agenda in Cabo Verde. The proportion of unemployed young people not in school or in training decreased from 32.3% in 2016 to 31.4% in 2017. Such proportion is higher among young women (33.0%) than among young men (29.2%). (p. 72)
10.	Canada	Yes	Yes	In Canada, Women working full time earn 88 cents for every dollar of hourly wages earned by men, due to reasons that are deep-rooted and complex (p. 65).
				Canada is committed to supporting the full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people, persons with disabilities, newcomers to Canada and First Nations, Inuit and Métis (p. 64).
				Measures to address pay equity through the introduction of legislation in 2018 will bring a proactive pay equity regime to federally regulated sectors, affecting approximately 1.2 million women (p. 65).
11.	Colombia	No	N/A	N/A
12.	Dominican	Yes	Yes	The VNR suggest that the income gap between men and women increases by age and

Republic			the level of education. There are improvements but women still makes 91.7 pesos for every 100 pesos a man makes (p.111).
13. Ecuador	Yes	Yes	Between 2014 and 2017 the nation managed to reduce the income gap between men and women from 23% to 20% (p. 51).
14. Egypt	Yes	Yes	The report does not discuss equal pay for equal work per se, but does discuss efforts to expand access to jobs for women and disabled persons. A new disability law requires the government and private sector to allocate 5% of vacant jobs to people with disabilities (page 13). The report provides statistics about female unemployment rate (23.3%) and female labor force participation rate (24.2%) (page 40). It also notes that "unemployment rates among young people and women remain a concern which the Government is trying to address by supporting small- and medium-sized enterprises and financial inclusion" (page 41).
15. Greece	Yes	Yes	While the Report lists SDG 8.5, it is primarily connected to the issue of combating unemployment rather than the concept of equal pay for equal value (pp. 30-31, 36). That said, achieving full employment and decent work for all is listed as a "main policy." Addressing the problem of young unemployed people migrating and falling birth rates are other focal points (p. 31, 38).
16. Guinea	Yes	Yes	The Guinean government adopted a National Employment Policy framework document in 2004 and a Decent Work Promotion program in 2015 as part of the overall anti-poverty strategy. The government has further put in place additional policies and programs, including a Youth Employment Support program to increase employment and reduce employment by offering young girls and boys skills training opportunities aimed at improving their employability, as well as programs related to the financial of youth productive activities, to which the National Budget Development Bank contributes. (p. 64) The UN has provided technical and financial support in 2007 with respect to the development and implementation of a pilot program supporting youth employment. The objective of the program was to contribute to the achievement of full employment and substantially reducing poverty by providing rural and urban individuals (between 17 and 40) with qualifying training opportunities. This program, whose pilot phase covered the period 2008-2013, was developed on the basis of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper, the National Policy Framework Paper on of Employment and International Labor Organization Convention No. 122 concerning employment (p. 64)

			The unemployment rate has increased between 2007 and 2012 (from 1.3% to 3.8%), and there were strong disparities based on gender, place of residence and age. The unemployment rate is significantly higher in urban areas (9.6%) for youth aged 15-29 (7.8%) and men (4.4%) than women (3.2%). The underemployment rate stood at 12.8% in 2012. It was higher in rural areas (14.7%) and affected proportionately more women (14.3%) than men (11.0%). (p. 64)
17. Hungary	No	No	
18. Ireland	Yes	No	Trends and challenges: Youth unemployment has decreased, but still needs attention (61). Implementation steps: National Strategy for Women and Girls (see 5.1) develops tools for employer pay calculation, requires companies of 50+ people to complete a wage survey (47); Pathways to Work, a national implementation of the EU's Youth Guarantee to help unemployed youths obtain jobs and training; Youth Employability Initiative 2016, assisting in youth skill development (60-61). Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF BUSINESS, ENTERPRISE AND INNOVATION; some work from Dept. of Children and Youth Affairs (not officially assigned)
19. Jamaica	Yes	No	[This exact SDG # was not mentioned explicitly, but the underlying topic was discussed.] Equal pay legislation for work of equal value enacted in 1970s (p. 41) Ratified ILO C100 Equal Remuneration Convention (p. 59)
20. Lao PDR	No	No	N/A
21. Latvia	No	No	
22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	SMEs are identified as 'the economic engine for growth towards creating a globally competitive landscape that contribute to employment opportunities and high value-added economy' in the Ministry of Economy and Trade's national SMEs strategy. The strategy aims to support SMEs grow by promoting innovation and ensuring business viability, sustainability and competitiveness. Through the strategy, the Ministry of Economy and Trade is working on a national job creation programme aimed at

				addressing gaps in the spectrum of financing solutions available to SMEs. The ministry is also working with the World Bank to provide matching grants and support for entrepreneurs including women, youth and lagging areas. (pages 48 – 49) Lebanon's vision relies on a private sector-led economy and on generating employment through a sharp increase in public investment—every one billion USD spent is expected to generate 50,000 jobs directly or indirectly. Crowding-in private investment will further increase employment. (page 49) There is no express reference to achieving equal pay for work of equal value.	
	23. Lithuania	Yes	Yes	Lithuania ensures equal opportunities between women and men to participate in the labour market and promotes the equal sharing of domestic responsibilities. Lithuania's national legislation lays down the principle of equal pay to women and men for the same work or for work of equivalent value (p. 18)	
	24. Mali	Yes	Yes	The unemployment rate has increased from 9.6% in 2015 to 10.05% in 2016. With respect to job creation, for that same period of time, 67,204 jobs were created in the formal sector (20,908 of which (31.1%) are in the private sector and 46,296 of which (68.9%) are in the public sectors). (p. 21) The Malian government has adopted various measures, including: • The March 2015 adoption of the *Politique Nationale de l'Emploi* (National Employment Policy) and the related action plan (2015-2017), with the goal of contributing to the growth of decent employment opportunities (and integrating the national guidelines with respect to wealth development stimulated by economic growth by 2018); and • The adoption of the *Politique Nationale de Formation Professionnelle* (National Vocational Training Policy), which aims to develop human resources with respect to productivity and competitiveness by training actors in productive fields and the socio-economic integration of the youth and women. (p. 44) These measures have lead to a drop in the employment rate by 0.3 points (from 9.6% in 2015 to 9.3% in 2017). Women are generally more affected by unemployed than men (10.6% of women and 8.3% of men are unemployed). (p. 44) 67,204 jobs were created in the formal sector, 20,908 of which (31.1%) are in the private sector and 46,296 of which (68.9%) of which are in the public sector. (p. 44)	

				In 2015, the unemployment rate was equal to 9.6% and was unequally distributed between men and women (8.5% of men and 11% of women) and between urban and rural areas (11.8% in urban areas and 9% in rural areas). After having decreased between 2013 and 2015 (8.2% down to 7.3%, respectively), the global unemployment rate has increased between 2013 and 2015 and has equally affected men and women, as well as residents of urban and rural areas. However, populations aged between 15 to 35 are more affected and their unemployment rate has increased since 2010 (from 10.5% in 2010, to 8.3% in 2013 and 15.7% in 2015). (p. 45) Generally, unemployment affects educated people the most: 13.1% of the uneducated; 18.9% of those with an elementary school education; 26.5% of those with a high school education, and 34% of those with a superior degree. (p. 45).
	25. Malta	Yes	Yes	Malta included data of the gender employment gap for 2017 (11.5 EU vs. MT 26.1) (p 110) Discrimination in employment is prohibited by virtue of the Employment and Industrial Relations Act (Cap 452) and the Treatment in Employment Regulations (S.L. 452.95). (p65) The Maltese Government provides free childcare services to all parents in full employment or to those undertaking studies. The Free Childcare Scheme introduced by the Maltese Government in 2014 encouraged more women to enter or re-enter the labour market. The employment rate of women (20-64 years) increased to 58% in 2017 when compared to 43.8% in 2011. (p58) Furthermore, Malta has in place the Klabb 3-16 initiative (7am to 6pm) to provide children with an educational experience instead of a child-minding service only. (p58) Govt continues to explore legislation to help balance right to work and right to enjoy private/family life, including adoption leave, IVF, sick leave entitlement when dependents are sick. (p58) For the year 2018, the vacation leave entitlement of all employees has been increased by an extra day. Moreover, a consultation process will be initiated regarding a proposed measure that would entitle employees to receive the equivalent number of days as vacation leave for public holidays that occur on

| | | | | weekends. Special consideration is also being given to employees diagnosed with cancer, in view of their need to be away from the workplace for treatment purposes.

In 2015, Government commenced enforcement of the 1969 Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, requiring employers that employ over 20 employees to ensure that 2% (full time or equivalent) of their workforce is comprised of persons with disabilities. (p57)

The Equal Opportunities Compliance Unit (EOCU) of the Commission for the Rights of Persons with Disability (CRPD) also has a specific section dealing with disability discrimination complaints related to Employment. (p57)

The Maltese Government has implemented a package of measures consisting of reforms aimed at making work pay as a means of addressing the inactivity rate, particularly of women, and dependency on the welfare state. The measures introduced under the 'Making Work Pay' umbrella provide the right conditions to enter the labour market, and seek to effectively help people commit themselves to work whilst becoming less dependent on social benefits | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 26. Mexico | Yes | Yes | The unemployment rate for young people was 6.1% (ENOE and the National Institute of Statistics and Geography ("INEGI")) (p. 62).

The Labor Force Participation Rate for women was 43% (ENOE and INEGI) (p. 62).

The Labor Force Participation Rate for people with disabilities was 39.1% in 2014 (the National Demographic Dynamics Study and INEGI, 2014) (p. 62).

Mexican Norm NMX-R-025-SCFI-2015 on Labor Equality and Non-Discrimination incorporates the principle of non-discrimination into job recruitment procedures. It also closes the pay gap, along with other measures aimed at preventing and addressing workplace violence (p. 63).

It is a challenge to close the pay gap and incorporate a gender perspective into social program (p. 63).

It is a challenge for Mexico to incorporate women, including transgender women, into economic activities from which they have traditionally been excluded and to guarantee that people with disabilities enjoy equal opportunities on the job market | |

			(p. 63). The National Council for the Prevention of Discrimination estimates that there is a pay gap between men and women of 34% (p. 78).	
27. Namibia	Yes	Yes	It is reported that in recognition of the need for decent work, Namibia has put in place several policies that protect the workers to ensure that the minimum working standards are maintained. These include among others minimum wage for the key industries and sectors; safety standards; adherence to suitable environmental practices; and employee's ownership. (page 28) The Namibian youth constitutes 37 percent of the population; however, youth unemployment is still high at 39.2 percent. Because Namibia is currently undergoing a demographic transition, the country has an opportunity for an accelerated economic growth if it can leverage its large number of young workers to help build the economy. In this regard, Namibia developed initiatives such as the youth credit schemes, increased investments in vocational education and training and have also put in place measures that give youth preference in skills development and employment. (page 29) Any gender disparity in employment is not reported on.	
28. Niger	Yes	Yes	The unemployment rate was equal to 17.4% in 2014 and was higher among women (28.1%) than among men (4.4%). (p. 36) Significant efforts are under way to reduce the unemployment rate through the implementation of the PDES (2017-2021), particularly with its rural world and private sector development.	
29. Palestine	Yes	Yes	Unemployment data in Palestine: • In 2017, the unemployment rate in Palestine reached 27.47% (p. 62). • 45.2% of youth aged 20-24 are unemployed (p. 62). • Only 19% of Palestinian women participate in the labor market, compared with 70.9% of males (p. 36, 62). • Alongside youth, women are also disproportionately affected by the limited job opportunities; 50.6% of women who finished more than 13 years of schooling remain unemployed (p. 62). • Unemployment amongst women remains very high, at 47.5% as of 2017 (p. 36).	

- 72% of young female graduates are unemployed compared to 37.8% of young male graduates (p. 36)
- Unemployment amongst disabled persons who take part in the workforce has increased to reach 37.3% (p. 62).

Women often are expected to juggle numerous domestic and/or work responsibilities despite recognition of their rights to equal treatment and equity (p. 37). This inhibits women from successfully participating in the labor market.

Israeli occupation and control are blamed for having a negative impact on the Palestinian economy (p. 63-64).

The Government's efforts to reduce unemployment (p. 64-65):
- Putting in place laws that aim to empower the private sector to grow, e.g. laws concerning investments, intellectual property, ownership laws, tax reforms, renewable energy and industrial sectors;
- Reforming labor laws;
- Deploying an employment fund which generated 5,777 jobs in 2016 especially amongst youth graduates, of all genders;
- Vocational training program to support graduates;
- Micro-loan program was created to support persons with disabilities start their own ventures;
- Reserving a quota of 5% for persons with disabilities in the civil service sector.

The Government will implement initiatives to accelerate job
creation (pp. 65, 89):
- Public-private partnerships;
- Deploying the Palestine Employment Fund to expand employment programs targeting university graduates;
- Supporting small and medium enterprises, cooperatives, and business start-ups;
- Developing the digital economy.

Average hourly earnings of female and male employees (p. 113).

				Unemployment rate by sex (p. 113).
	30. Paraguay	Yes	No	Paraguay achieved (i) an indicator Type G (meaning of this raking is not discussed in the report) according to the General Director of Statistics, Inquiries and Census (DGEEC-EPH) with respect to SDG Indicator 8.5.1 and (ii) an indicator Type G (meaning of this raking is not discussed in the report) according to the General Director of Statistics, Inquiries and Census (DGEEC-EPH) with respect to SDG Indicator 8.5.2. (pp. 86-87) In addition, Law no. 5407/15 brought domestic work conditions (8-hour shifts and required benefits) up to the level of those conditions applicable to workers in general, except in respect of minimum wages where domestic workers receive 60% of the minimum wage applicable to general workers. (p. 94)
	31. Poland	Yes	No	Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation: "An important element of the development of the Polish labour market is to ensure its openness to the most vulnerable groups, i.e. people with disabilities. The Strategy for persons with disabilities 2018-30 and the related National Programme for Employment of Persons with Disabilities are being prepared, which provide e.g. for supplementing or modifying the currently functioning instruments supporting employment and economic activation of persons with disabilities and supporting them in entering and maintaining the labour market or taking up economic activity." 53. "We consider measures aimed at professional activation of women to be crucial. Measures taken by regional (poviat) labour offices include forms of assistance that also facilitate the return of unemployed women to the labour market." 53. "Every year, the minimum wage is increased, which in 2016-18 grew by 13.5%. The amount of the minimum wage currently constituted in 1Q of 2018 slightly above 45% of the average wage in the national economy." 53. Other notes about how indicator was reported, including particular stats? "Economic activation of young people, women, people aged 50+, the long-term unemployed, as well as people with disabilities is the overriding objective at the junction of economic and social policy." 52. Equal pay was not discussed at length, and rather, other employment measures were discussed, such as the return of women to the workplace, increase in minimum wage across the board, and initiatives to ensure employment access to persons with disabilities.

			Use of HR institutions and reporting processes/UPC/? No Specific Party Tasked with Implementing: The national government.
32. Qatar	No	No	In the context of Goal 11, Qatar aims to provide protection for poor and vulnerable groups through social welfare and social protection systems (pp. 38). • E.g. by promoting the rights of marginalized and vulnerable groups, and promoting their integration into society and in the labor force, especially in education and employment.
33. Romania	No	No	
34. Saudi Arabia	No	No	
35. Senegal	Yes	Yes	The VNR mentions the actions taken to improve the employment rate. The VNR then shares data regarding the reduction of the unemployment rate between 2016 and 2017 (even though it is relatively stable between 2015 and 2017) and the difference between the unemployment rate of women (22.45%) and men (9.45%). There is no data regarding the unemployment rate of persons with disabilities. Senegal has adopted various laws and decrees regarding apprenticeships and professional internships for young graduates. There is still an average hourly gender pay gap. Page 60
36. Singapore	Yes	No	It is simply reported that this target is "in progress" but no further detail/data is given. (page 75)
37. Slovakia	No	No	
38. Spain	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: While women have a strong presence in the workforce, inequality persists. For example, women are more likely than men to be in temporary employment and the average annual salary of women is €5,941 lower than that of men. (VNR, p. 46). The main contributing factor to continuing inequality is persistent complications from the global economic crisis (VNR, p. 54). Implementation steps: Rolling out the 2018 Spanish National Reform Programme that seeks to create jobs and to promote indefinite hiring while at the same time providing

				safeguards for employees (VNR, p. 55); continuing agreements between the government and trade unions aimed at reducing temporary employment (*Id*.); completing development of 2018-2021 Strategic Plan for Equal Opportunities, which includes measures to narrow the gender wage gap (VNR, p. 56) Data sources: 2016 World Bank Report and government statistics. Technology used for measuring progress: Studies and surveys. Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Labour (VNR, p. 96).
	39. Sri Lanka	Yes	No	The female unemployment rate is double that of the male rate (p. 85). The Report only addresses policies for reducing the gap in a summary fashion, and refers back to the SDG 5 discussion as well. The focus is on equalizing the employment gap rather than a wage gap.
	40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	The Report recognises that one of the primary objectives of development policy in the Sudan is to address gender disparities and achieve social justice in areas such as education, health, employment, wages, representation in leadership positions, planning and decision making, and representations in parliament and politics (p.52). The VNR also refers to the Interim Constitution of 2005 Amendment 2017, that the 'State shall guarantee equal rights of men and women…. including the right to equal pay for equal work' (p.52). Despite this, the Report notes that women's employment in the labour market still falls behind men, who dominate wage employment in the non-agriculture sector. Rural women are at a disadvantage compared to urban women (p.53).
	41. Switzerland	Yes	No	In Switzerland women's median pay is 15% lower than men's. Around 40% of this difference cannot be explained by objective factors. In order to promote gender equality, in particular equal pay, the Gender Equality Act is to be revised. It is planned to introduce a regular analysis of wage equality for employers with at least 50 staff members (p. 11 reported under SGD 5).
	42. Togo	No	No	
	43. UAE	Yes	No	No detail reported. Linked to National Agenda Pillar relating to Competitive Knowledge and Economy.
	44. Uruguay	Yes	No	This SDG is barely mentioned and was mentioned in the context of the private sector survey report. The survey strives to analyse work towards the fulfilment of the SDGs within the private sector and certain responses from this survey resulted in the

				conclusion that certain companies conduct activities that could result in equal pay for equal work (p. 43).
	45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	Vietnam's Strategy for Labour and Social International Integration until 2020 with a Vision to 2030: • promotes the implementation of Decent Work Country Programme in 2017-2021; • increases quality job opportunities for workers; • implements gender equality, narrows gender gaps, and eliminates step-by-step gender prejudice and inequality in social life, and especially in jobs in rural, poor, mountainous areas and the areas resided by ethnic minority people. (p. 50). The VNR notes that the concept of decent and sustainable employment is reflected by the number of new jobs created as well as the quality of those jobs. The number of jobs created in Vietnam's economy has increased, yet slowed down from 2.7% in 2010 to 0.2% in 2015. In 2016 and 2017, employment growth rates were higher, i.e., 0.9% and 0.8%, respectively. Employment growth among women is generally higher than that for men, except in 2015 when the number of female workers in the economy slightly dropped (-0.4%). In 2017, as many as 1,641,000 jobs were created in the country (an increase of 1.5% compared to 2016), of which 1,505,000 workers were employed inside the country. (p. 51). The VNR also notes that an important criterion for evaluating employment quality is the income of workers. The income of paid employees in the public sector generally improved. Improvement of employment quality is also reflected in the shift of labour from areas with low and unstable productivity and income, where labour conditions are not ensured (the informal sector and agro-aquaculture-forestry sectors), to higher income areas. Informal employment, however, still makes up a large share of the labour market in Vietnam – 33.8%. (pp. 51-52). By the end of 2016, as many as 17,000 people with disabilities had received vocational training and jobs. There are 15,000 disabled workers working in 400 enterprises, some of which are owned by people with disabilities, and 16,000 people working in household based enterprises or are self-employed. (p. 52).
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	34		

		No	11		
8.7: Child labour and soldiers; forced labor and modern slavery and human	1. Albania	Yes		Yes	Albania reports on achievement of "advances in the framework on children", including, among others, development of a costed Justice for Children Strategy 2017–2020, establishment of a tracking system of children in conflict or contact with the law, preparation of by-laws for Child Protection, and the setting up of the Parliamentary Group Friends of Children (p. 19). Albania considers this goal to be partially aligned with its national policy (p. 44). See 8.5 for further details.
	2. Andorra	No		No	
	3. Armenia	Yes		Yes	"Armenia is effectively working with the International Labor Organization (ILO) to reduce and prevent child labor. In cooperation with the International Labor Organization, Armenia launched a project on "Country Level Engagement and Assistance to Reduce (CLEAR) Child Labor" aimed at ensuring compliance of relevant laws and regulations international standards in the field of child labor. The Decent Work Country Program has been developed in cooperation with ILO which is already prepared for signing, the main aim of which is to promote decent work opportunities." (p. 56) The VNR provided statistics about the prevalence of child labor (p. 57–58).
	4. Australia	Yes		No	Not in SDG 8 section. SDG 16 notes funding of the Australian Red Cross to support people suspected to have experienced human trafficking or slavery-like exploitation (p. 103). Australia has a National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking and Slavery 2015-19 (p. 121).
	5. Bahamas	No		No	
	6. Bahrain	No		No	
	7. Benin	No		No	
	8. Bhutan	No		No	
	9. Cabo Verde	Yes		No	Cabo Verde ratified the ILO conventions on child labor, namely Convention 138 on the Minimum Age of Work Admission of 1973 and Convention No 182 on the worst forms of child labor of 1999. The Constitution of Cabo Verde and the Labor Code

				guarantee the defense of these fundamental rights of children. (p. 73)
	10. Canada	Yes	No	Canada is launching a national strategy against human trafficking at home and globally that will support measures to eradicate forced labor, end modern slavery and human trafficking, and secure the elimination of the worst forms of child labor (p. 66).
	11. Colombia	No	N/A	N/A
	12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes	Approximately 12.8% of the population between 5 and 17 years are involved in work; boys are twice as likely to be involved as girls are. The statistics clearly shows work involvement declines the higher the education the mother possesses as well as the level of household wealth (p. 112).
	13. Ecuador	Yes	Yes	The VNR mentions that the abolishment of child labour is a priority for the government (p. 125). Child labour reduced to 3% in 2014 from 8% shown in 2007 and 2017 shown an increase to 5.2% (p. 68, 71). Noteworthy is the network of private companies having agreed to work towards the SDGs, including the abolishment of child labour (p. 164).
	14. Egypt	Yes	No	The report refers to government policies "directed at combating . . . transnational organized crimes, e.g. human trafficking," but does not provide any details (page 56).
	15. Greece	Yes	Yes	The Report mentions combating human trafficking not in connection with SDG 8.7 but other SDGs (see, e.g., SDG 5.2 notes). To the extent forced labor / modern slavery is included as "undeclared work," the Report mentions policies designed to address this issue (pp. 36-37). The Report also notes for migrant workers that there are policies specifically addressing particularly exploitative working conditions or as minors (p. 40). The Report also generally identifies other policies to protect labor rights (p. 39) that appear to fit more under SDG 8.8 even though they are listed under SDG 8.7.
	16. Guinea	Yes	Yes	Guinea has adopted a Children's Code and a national plan to combat child trafficking, however child trafficking is still widespread (38% of children were affected in 2016, vs. 43% in 2010). (p. 66). Among economically occupied children, 93.2% are forced to work in the form of works to be abolished, i.e. 1,427,778 children aged 5 to 17 (p.23). The number of children working in dangerous conditions has decreased over the

			years (78.3% in 2010 to 26.5% in 2016). In rural areas, 48% of children, as opposed to 21% of children in urban areas. From the point of view of regions. (p. 66)	
17. Hungary	No	No		
18. Ireland	Yes	No	Trends and challenges: Increased training of personnel has improved success rates for discovering labour exploitation schemes (60). Implementation steps: Second National Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Human Trafficking in Ireland, focusing on demand reduction, training, and support for existing survivor aid programs (60); funding to End Child Prostitution and Trafficking International in support of Thailand projects (63). Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE; DEPT. OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY	
19. Jamaica	No	No		
20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	It is reported that child labour statistics date from 2010, when Lao PDR undertook its first-ever Child Labour Survey (LCLS). The survey highlighted the government's commitment to eliminating the worst forms of child labour, according to the International Labour Organization's (ILO) conventions on child labour. Lao PDR's Labour Law 2013 sets the minimum age for working children at 14 years. However, enforcement and monitoring the law still need strengthening. About 15 percent of children (17 percent of girls and 13 percent of boys) aged 5 to 17 years were working children or children in employment. In Lao PDR, child labour and working children are largely rural phenomena. (page 37)	
21. Latvia	Yes	Yes	State Police has an email for reporting human trafficking- thb@vp.gov.lv. The NGOs Shelter 'Safe House' and MARTA Resource Centre for Women support victims of trafficking. System for immediate response to domestic abuse is being introduced; the police has been granted new powers to separate the offender from the victim and prevent the offender from entering victim's place of residence. Free Victim Support Hot Line (1160006). Page 94	

22. Lebanon	No	No	N/A
23. Lithuania	No	No	
24. Mali	No	No	
25. Malta	Yes	Yes	Child labour is prohibited in terms of the Malta Criminal Code. Malta does not have child labour problems, nor are there any child soldiers. Steps are being taken, through a National Action Plan, to address cases of forced labour. The Malta Police Force has registered an improvement of its performance in this regard. A victim referral procedure is in use to improve the identification of victims of human trafficking. Training events and an MOU was entered into between police and ministry for social policy to support victims of human trafficking. (p58) Parliament adopted a Bill aimed at the full implementation of the Council of Europe's *Istanbul Convention* with the aim of addressing issues on domestic violence, trafficking in human beings and gender-based violence. (p35) In January 2017, the Monitoring Committee tasked with overseeing Malta's implementation of human trafficking related measures approved the Fourth National Action Plan against Human Trafficking, which covers the period January 2017 to December 2019. The fourth Action Plan places a particular focus on women and child trafficking. One of the major objectives is to enhance capabilities for the detection of child trafficking cases. (p36)
26. Mexico	Yes	Yes	Data included in report (p. 107).
27. Namibia	No	No	N/A
28. Niger	Yes	No	Between 2012 and 2015, Niger adopted laws aimed at combatting human trafficking. (p. 41) Niger is pursuing the implementation of the National Justice and Human Rights Policy with a ten-year implementation plan for the period 2016 - 2025. Between 2012 and 2015, several laws were passed for the fight against against corruption, the smuggling of migrants, terrorism, trade and the Code of Civil Procedure expected for several decades. Institutional reforms were initiated with the

			creation of a National Agency for Legal Assistance (ANAJ), the National Coordinating Committee against Trafficking in Persons (CNLCTP) and the National Agency for the Fight against Trafficking People (ANLTP).
29. Palestine	Yes	No	Child labor has risen to 3.4% (p. 63). Human trafficking is not relevant in the context of Palestine, yet the Government has as a precaution created a national team to counter potential human trafficking (p. 77). The team is currently preparing the legal basis for human trafficking laws. Proportion of children aged 5-17 engaged in child labor (p. 113).
30. Paraguay	Yes	No	Paraguay achieved an indicator Type G (meaning of this raking is not discussed in the report) according to the General Director of Statistics, Inquiries and Census (DGEEC-EANA) and an indicator Type C (meaning of this raking is not discussed in the report) according to the General Director of Statistics, Inquiries and Census (DGEEC-MICS) with respect to SDG Indicator 8.7.1. (pp. 88-89) Law no. 5407/15 raised to 18 years old the minimum work age. (p. 94)
31. Poland	Yes	No	Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation: "Poland is also raising its labour market standards through an active international policy in this area. Poland has ratified the 2014 Protocol to the 1930 ILO Convention Concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour from 21 October 2016 (Dz. U. [Journal of Laws] item 1942), which requires e.g. that effective action be taken to prevent, eradicate and protect the use of forced or compulsory labour and that adequate remedies be available to victims of forced or compulsory labour." 54. Specific Party Tasked with Implementing: Legislature is involved.
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A
33. Romania	No	No	
34. Saudi Arabia	No	No	
35. Senegal	Yes	No	The VNR lists certain actions taken to reduce child labour. In 2005, the rate of child (3-17) labour was 36.7% but there is no recent data. Page 61
36. Singapore	Yes	No	It is simply reported that this target has been "achieved" but no further detail/data is given. (page 75)

37. Slovakia	No	No	
38. Spain	Yes	Yes	Implementation steps: Implementing the 2015–2018 Comprehensive Plan to combat trafficking in women and girls for the purpose of sexual exploitation, which includes 143 measures, based on five areas of priority; The former General Secretariat for Immigration and Emigration issuing a protocol to detect and take action against possible cases of trafficking in human beings for the purpose of sexual exploitation (VNR, p. 48); ratification of the 2014 Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention (No. 29), which is aimed at using prevention, protection and compensation strategies to address the root causes of slavery and forced labour (VNR, p. 56). Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Justice; Ministry of the Interior; Ministry of Labour; Ministry of Industry; and Ministry of Health (VNR, p. 96).
39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	Sri Lanka is on track to eliminate all child labor by 2025 (p. 85). Child labor accounted for 1% of the total child population in 2016.
40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	The Report recognises that human trafficking is a violation of human rights and threatens peace and stability in the country (p.38). Sudan passed the Anti-Trafficking Act in 2014 and established a National Committee for Combating Human Trafficking. The government established a Rapid Emergency Taskforce and Response Unit to deal with trafficking crimes in Eastern Sudan, the 2010 Child Act, and an institutional structure to provide justice and protection for all children (the National Council for Child Welfare; the Child Court; the Child and Family Protection Units). Two states, Kassala and Gedarif, issued Anti-Trafficking Laws in 2010 and 2013, respectively.
41. Switzerland	No	No	
42. Togo	No	No	
43. UAE	Yes	No	No detail reported. Linked to National Agenda Pillar relating to Competitive Knowledge and Economy.
44. Uruguay	No	N/A	N/A
45. Vietnam	No	No	
Total VNRs (45)	Yes	25	

		No	20		
8.8: Labour rights; safe workplaces	1. Albania	Yes		Yes	No changes in polices reported on, but Albania provides statistics about this, e.g. "disabled adults are five times less likely to be working than the nondisabled population, despite the existence of a quota for employment of disabled people by public and private employers provided in the legislation" (p. 22). Albania considers this goal to be partially aligned with its national policy (p. 44). See 8.5 for further details.	
	2. Andorra	No		No		
	3. Armenia	No		No		
	4. Australia	No		No		
	5. Bahamas	No		No		
	6. Bahrain	Yes		No	Information provided is incomplete. No information on safeness or security of working environments. In relation to migrant worker rights, Bahrain has undertaken steps to ensure that all migrant workers (and their families) receive basic services, whether fully or partially, including free education and healthcare. Salaries of such workers may be freely remitted to their home countries. In addition, Bahrain is one of the first countries in the Gulf Cooperation Council to eliminate the sponsorship regime, which required migrant workers to have a single sponsor.	
	7. Benin	No		No		
	8. Bhutan	No		No		
	9. Cabo Verde	No		No	N/A	
	10. Canada	Yes		Yes	Accessible Canada Act in Parliament with the purpose of ensuring a barrier-free Canada for all Canadians (p. 66). Canada is working with provinces and territories to support newcomers' employability, assist Canadian employers to fully benefit from the contribution of newcomers, and streamline and improve foreign qualification recognition. In addition, in 2017-2018, the Government launched the Targeted Employment Strategy for Newcomers to help newcomers find jobs that suit their skills and experience (p. 66). Canada also works on the Canada Labor Code to give workers in federally regulated	

			private sectors improved work–life balance (p. 66).
			Canada is introducing legislation to create a more robust and integrated regime to protect employees from harassment and violence in federal workplaces, enhancing protections for temporary foreign workers' rights, which were announced in 2018, including unannounced inspections. A pilot project will create a network of support organizations for temporary foreign workers dealing with potential abuse by their employers (p. 66).
11. Colombia	No	N/A	N/A
12. Dominican Republic	No	N/A	N/A
13. Ecuador	No	N/A	N/A
14. Egypt	No	No	
15. Greece	Yes	Yes	Greece adopted a National Strategy for Health and Safety at Work 2016-2020, which provides for the establishment of a National Occupational Safety and Health System (p. 39).
16. Guinea	Yes	No	Although there are not enough detailed data on the subject, it seems that accidents on the workplaces are relatively frequent, especially in industrial enterprises. In the formal sector, most employees don't have an employment contract in place and are not registered with the Social Security National Fund, which is a violation of their rights. (p. 66)
17. Hungary	No	No	
18. Ireland	Yes	No	**Implementation steps**: Health and Safety Authority, a statutory body dedicated to preventing work-related injury and illness, through occupational health and safety law enforcement and advising (the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005) (60). **Specific parties tasked with implementation**: DEPT. OF EMPLOYMENT AFFAIRS AND SOCIAL PROTECTION; DEPT. OF BUSINESS, ENTERPRISE AND INNOVATION
19. Jamaica	No	No	

20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	A large proportion of the working age population work in subsistence-level activities, mainly for own consumption, and decent work opportunities are limited. The high level of vulnerable work is driven by the agriculture and fishery sector, sales workers, and elementary occupations. Most agricultural work and informal sector work are characterized by low incomes, poor working conditions, and inadequate access to social protection and workplace representation. Lao migrant workers are a vulnerable group, accounting for around 8 percent of Lao PDR's working population, and mostly working in Thailand. (page 37) It is reported that the Government of Lao PDR is prioritising ensuring compliance with labour and social security laws to avoid exacerbating inequalities especially in terms of minimum wages, promoting policies that ensure the protection of workers and a safe and healthy working environment will provide the incentives and support for workers to retain employment in the non-agriculture sector. (page 38)	
21. Latvia	No	No		
22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	The Ministry of Labour's strategy on decent work is currently being prepared with the International Labour Organisation and is expected to improve the protection of workers. The ministry is already working with NGOs to improve the working conditions of women migrant domestic workers. (page 50)	
23. Lithuania	Yes	Yes	With a view to combating discrimination and establishing human rights in the labour market and business, it is planned to draw up the second national action plan on business and human rights in 2018 following the guidelines of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development and the United Nations (p. 23)	
24. Mali	No	No		
25. Malta	Yes	Yes	In 2015, legislation was enacted to specifically address equal pay and precarious work. The main intent of this legislation is to ensure that contractors awarded contracts by Government departments or public sector organisations observe employment laws. Discrimination in employment is prohibited by virtue of the Employment and Industrial Relations Act (Cap 452) and the Treatment in Employment Regulations (S.L. 452.95). (p65) Agreement on minimum wage was reached on April 28 2017.	

26. Mexico	Yes	Yes	The Labor and Social Welfare Secretariat's (the "STPS") Workplace Human Trafficking Prevention and Detection Inspection Protocol establishes mechanisms allowing workplace inspectors to act to prevent, detect and eradicate human trafficking (p. 62). The Mexican Youth Institute's Youth Employment Strategy has the goal of coordinating, connecting and bringing together actors in the job market to provide better job opportunities for the country's young people (p. 62). The STPS's Workplace Health and Safety Self-Management Program encourages businesses to ensure safe and hygienic workplaces (p. 63). It is a challenge for Mexico to raise the minimum wage (p. 63).
27. Namibia	Yes	Yes	It is reported that in recognition of the need for decent work, Namibia has put in place several policies that protect the workers to ensure that the minimum working standards are maintained. These include among others minimum wage for the key industries and sectors; safety standards; adherence to suitable environmental practices; and employee's ownership. (page 28)
28. Niger	No	No	
29. Palestine	Yes	Yes	Existing regulations to protect the rights of workers remain widely ignored by employers (p. 63). 38% of all employees are paid below the minimum wage. A significant number of Palestinians work in Israeli settlements (including those viewed as illegal by the Government), where the level of safety regulation is minimal, causing an estimated 600 work related injuries (p. 63). The Government will work to ensure a safe working environment by implementing health and safety standards in the workplace (pp. 65, 89).
30. Paraguay	No	No	N/A
31. Poland	Yes	No	Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation: "Provisions on employment of foreigners have also been amended, taking into account the need to facilitate access to the Polish labour market. One of the objectives of the changes was also to prevent the occurrence of abuses and to improve the management of economic migrations." 54. "It is also worth noting that on 29 May 2017 Polish government adopted

			the National Action Plan for the Implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights 2017-20. (NAP, the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights were approved by the UN Human Rights Council in 2011). 54. Other notes about how indicator was reported, including particular stats? "In connection with the growing international economic migration, we also recognise the need to develop a responsible migration policy." 52. Use of HR institutions and reporting processes/UPC/? Poland adopted conventions in the international human rights arena, as discussed above.	
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A	
33. Romania	No	No		
34. Saudi Arabia	No	No		
35. Senegal	Yes	No	The VNR lists the actions taken to improve labour rights, but does not provide any data. Page 62	
36. Singapore	Yes	No	It is simply reported that this target is "in progress" but no further detail/data is given. (page 75)	
37. Slovakia	No	No		
38. Spain	Yes	Yes	Implementation steps: The 2015-2020 Strategy for Safety and Health at Work (VNR, p. 55); and following the Master Plan to combat labour exploitation (*Id*.). Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Defence; Ministry of Infrastructure; Ministry of Labour; and Ministry of Industry (VNR, p. 96).	
39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	Migrant workers account for a major part of Sri Lanka's GDP, and the International Organization for Migration has provided support in establishing a code of conduct for migrant recruitment agencies (p. 85). In 2013, 56% of employees were in non-standard or precarious forms of employment (p. 86). The Report suggests, without identifying any specific policies, limits on the number of temporary workers, legal and social protection for such workers, and	

			regulated manpower agencies (p. 87).
40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	The Report notes that due to structural changes in the age of the population, policies must focus on education for children and youth, and on job creation and strategies for employment and technological innovations. Women's employment in the non-agriculture sector has improved. Civil service records show that employed women have outnumbered employed men, and labour laws stipulate that women and men have equal opportunities for jobs. However, women's employment in the labour market still falls behind men, who dominate wage employment in the non-agriculture sector.
41. Switzerland	Yes	No	
42. Togo	No	No	
43. UAE	Yes	Yes	To protect the rights of workers and promote a safe and secure working environment for all, MOHRE is continuously seeking to increase protection of workers in the country by improving access to complaints services and educating the workforce on their rights and the legal recourses available to them. This includes enhancing the enforcement of labour laws in the country and the availability of Comprehensive Information and Orientation Programmes (CIOP) prior to arrival into the country. MOHRE has also initiated the Abu Dhabi Dialogue in partnership with other GCC countries and those that the most common countries of origin of expatriate workers. The dialogue seeks to mobilize collective action to improve transparency of information on worker rights and address potential trafficking in the migration corridor between the GCC and South Asia (see also SDG 16).
44. Uruguay	No	N/A	N/A
45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	The Vietnamese government issued the Vietnam ILO National Cooperation Program for Sustainable Employment 2017-2021, which promotes decent work for all, with priorities to promote decent work and enabling environment for sustainable entrepreneurship opportunities. The program also aims to reduce poverty by extending social protection for all and reduce unacceptable forms of work, especially for the most vulnerable, and build effective labour market governance compliant with fundamental principles and rights and at work. (p. 50). Vietnam increasingly emphasizes safe working environment for employees. Serious

				occupation-related accidents and incidents are to be promptly inspected and examined for causes and accountability to avoid negative impacts. (p. 52).	
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	22		
		No	23		
10.2: Political, social, and economic inclusion	1. Albania	Yes		Yes	Albania selected the following indicators to assess this target (p. 97): • Proportion of people living below 50% of median income, by age, sex, and disability (indicator 10.2.1) • Growth rates of household income and consumption per capita among the bottom 50% of the population and the total population (national indicator) • Risk of poverty: percentage of total population with less than 60% of median income (national indicator) The VNR reports on this: "Inclusion is especially unsatisfactory in particular groups: the poor, Roma and Egyptians, and persons with disabilities, posing significant challenges for achievement of SDG Target 10.2: By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status." More detailed statistics are also included in relation to employment rates of these minorities (p. 21).
	2. Andorra	No		No	
	3. Armenia	Yes		No	Content relating to SDG 10 focuses predominantly on economic equality, see p. 61.
	4. Australia	Yes		Yes	Australia has a Closing the Gap framework to evaluate progress made on improving outcomes for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples (p. 71). Australia's taxation system also reduces inequalities, with the poorest 20% of households receiving 25 times their income taxes in Government payments (p. 72).
	5. Bahamas	Yes		No	The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities) Act of 2014 came into force on January 1, 2016, with certain provisions taking place on January 1, 2018—the Act promotes equal access to public facilities for disabled individuals (p. 93) The Government ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2015 (p. 93)
	6. Bahrain	No		No	
	7. Benin	Yes		No	Benin applies the inclusive principle of "leaving no one aside" by including all social strata as beneficiaries of public action, including the most disadvantaged, the vulnerable and the most. This principle is organized around

				4 key elements: (i) social protection for all and in particular for the most vulnerable; (ii) the establishment of social safety nets (currently benefiting to 13,000 households after 2 years of implementation); (iii) legislation for vulnerable people (Benin adopted a law on the protection and promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities in 2017) and, (iv) a balanced geographical treatment in the implementation of development initiatives. P. 81 indicates sources but does not provide any data.	
	8. Bhutan	Yes	Yes	Reducing inequality such that no-one is left behind is at the core of all the SDGs. This goal, among others, aims to empower and promote social, economic and political inclusion irrespective of specific characteristics such as age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, religion, economic or other status. Bhutan is determined to address emerging concerns of different forms of inequalities across all sections of society through the implementation of policies and legal frameworks, as reflected consistently in the FYPs and assessed in the development stage of any policy or project using the GNH Policy Screening Tool. Tackling poverty and inequality feature as priorities in both the 11th as well as in the 12th FYPs. The latter focuses on creating a 'just and harmonious society' through reducing poverty, creating gainful employment, providing quality health and education services, strengthening democracy and decentralisation, reducing corruption, improving access to justice, and promoting gender equality and women and girls' empowerment. The intent of the Government to address issues of inequality is illustrated through the formulation of Bhutan's first Gender Equality Policy and the National Policy for Persons with Disabilities. More fundamentally, the commitment towards inclusive development is also reflected in the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan, which celebrates its 10th anniversary in 2018. Article 7 (Fundamental Rights) Section 15 of the Constitution states that '*All persons are equal before the law and are entitled to equal and effective protection of the law and shall not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, sex, language, religion, politics or other status*'. In addition, Article 9 (Principles of State Policy) Section 22 of the Constitution also states '*The State shall endeavour to provide security in the event of sickness and disability or lack of adequate means of livelihood for reasons beyond one's control*'. As Bhutan prepares itself for graduation from the LDC status, holding true to these Articles of the Constitution is a priority.	

				With regard to income inequality, the Gini coefficient increased slightly to 0.38 in 2017 from 0.36 in 2012. In rural Bhutan, the index is higher at 0.35 compared to urban which is at 0.32. This divide is apparent when considering consumption patterns wherein per capita expenditure of households in the richest per capita consumption quintile is more than seven times that of households in the poorest per capita consumption quintile. **[Page 55]**
9. Cabo Verde	Yes	Yes		Inequality in consumption expenditures reduced as demonstrated by the Lorenz Curves and the GINI Index, which went from 0.53 in 2001 to 0.42 in 2015. Inequalities are less pronounced in the rural area (GINI Index of 0.38 in 2015) than in the urban area (GINI Index of 0.41). (p. 82) Inequalities are still deep. The bottom 20% of the population (i.e., the poorest) have an average annual consumption expenditure of $509.1 while the top 20% (i.e., the richest) have an average annual consumption expenditure of $4,383.3, or 8.6 time that of the poorest population. (p. 82) 61% of the poor are women and 4% are immigrants. (p. 83)
10. Canada	Yes	Yes		Canada is widely recognized as an inclusive, diverse, respectful multiethnic and multi-faith society. And Canada is experiencing increasing migration, globalization and changing demographics. However, income inequality in Canada is currently at a high level by historical standards; women in Canada remain under-represented in politics and leadership roles, earn less than men and experience high rates of harassment and gender-based violence; and discrimination is another dimension of inequity faced by some Canadians belonging to specific groups. (pp. 75-77)
11. Colombia	Yes	Yes		The VNR has included the example of the city of Bucaramanga who included the initiative "Tell me your Plan" (Sp. Dime tu Plan) which is an initiative for greater inclusion that spans from 2016-2026, the VNR includes the goals set within the framework of Tell me your plan, but no further data has been included with respect to the advancements in detail. It is noteworthy that the city of Bucaramanga have included 106 of 169 SDG targets, as of the date of the report, in its development plan (p. 118).
12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes		Like in several other countries the DR has adopted mandatory laws based on gender quotation, which requires list of candidates to parliament or local bodies to consist of at least 33% women. However, while the national and the local bodies are not

			entirely compliant, local bodies are better adapted to the law than parliament (the DR consist of la Cámara de Diputados and the Senado) (p. 15-16, 97-98).
13. Ecuador	Yes	No	Initiatives are mentioned, references/overlap are either brief or very general (p. 81).
14. Egypt	Yes	Yes	The Gini coefficient in Egypt (measure of inequality) is 31.8 (page 43). The report refers to social inclusion, but does not include any details (page 43). The report notes that "the real challenge is Egyptians' attitudes toward women, young people and people with disabilities, as a number of surveys reveal Egyptians do not trust their capabilities" (page 43).
15. Greece	Yes	Yes	The General Secretariat of the Aegean and Insular Policy (GSAIP) of the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Insular Policy (MMAIP) has been developing an integrated insular strategy to work on integration of the thousands of islands in legislative, energy, environmental, medical, and educational areas (pp. 45-46). The National Strategic Transport Plan (NTPG) is also intended to integrate these islands. The National Rural Development Program (RDP) 2014-2020 also promotes development in rural areas to address poverty, social exclusion, and quality of life (p. 46). The Report calls out the Hellenic Rural Broadband Project as one example of integrating rural areas by bridging the digital divide (p. 47). The Ministry for Migration Policy coordinates social inclusion as it relates to immigrants (p. 47).
16. Guinea	Yes	Yes	Guinea has adopted in 2016 its first-ever national social protection policy of the history of the country. This document is intended to serve as the institutional basis for the fight against social shocks and for the improvement of people's living conditions. This document is expected to provide real social coverage in Guinea, with effective access to social services including education, health and housing. This first national social protection policy, consisting of a contributory and a non-contributory component, is intended to be inclusive and sustainable (p.30).
17. Hungary	Yes	Yes	Workplace Protection Action Plan offers employers allowances from the social contribution tax and vocational training contributions if they employ people in disadvantaged employment situations. (page 41) Stark Work Programmes have been launched focusing on the labour market integration of Roma communities (page 41)

18. Ireland	Yes	No	Implementation steps: National Strategy for Women and Girls (67); National Disability Inclusion Strategy (id.); National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy (id.); Migrant Integration Strategy (id.); 2015 legalization of same-sex marriage by popular vote; developing LGBTI+ National Youth Strategy and all-ages strategy (id.). Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY	
19. Jamaica	Yes	No	[This exact SDG # was not mentioned explicitly, but the underlying topic was discussed.] National Policy for Senior Citizens (2018) (p. 67)	
20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	It is reported that tracking the inclusiveness of growth in Lao PDR is crucial. It is stated that the Government of Lao PDR is prioritising increasing the access of the poor to services, livelihoods, and resources. Lao PDR is working with development partners to implement a range of measures aimed at reducing gross inequities in basic services and resource distribution. These include measures such as ensuring good local governance, empowering communities to participate in decision making, expanding livelihood options, enhancing resilience to economic and climate-related setbacks, providing basic services, creating jobs, and providing skills, training and education. Policies for consolidation of villages and subsequent resettlement will promote adequate infrastructure provision, as well as capacity development and access to productive land for the resettled groups. The Government is also prioritising strengthening social protection systems to cover vulnerable groups. While significant progress has been made on reducing poverty (SDG 1), access to social security coverage remains limited and welfare programmes are fragmented. Support is required to widen the scope of social protection schemes. (page 43)	
21. Latvia	No	No		
22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	In terms of social, economic and political inclusion, some progress in certain areas like gender is observed. Part of the challenge is due to weak opportunity and disparities in quality between public and private services – whether real or perceived – people tend to complement or completely substitute public services with private ones and this accentuates inequalities. Economic exclusion is reflected in a high informality rate where the vast majority of	

			the poor work under unfavourable working conditions with limited decent job opportunities creation. Geographical disparities in accessibility to services further compound economic and social forms of inequality. (page 32)	
23. Lithuania	Yes	Yes	Through its legal framework Lithuania is making efforts to ensure equal opportunities and required support to each resident of the country. The greatest challenge for Lithuania is income inequality which often determines the inadequate safeguarding of other rights as well (p. 27)	
24. Mali	No	No		
25. Malta	Yes	Yes	Government introduced a number of policies and reforms aimed at alleviating the bottom income strata of the population (p65-66)

In 2016, Malta became the first country in Europe to outlaw 'conversion therapy'. In 2017, Malta retained its top ranking on the Europe 'rainbow map' of rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and intersex people. On 12th July 2017, Parliament approved the Marriage Equality Bill. (p67)

Malta will be implementing a National Disability Strategy in 2018, following widespread national consultation. The *Equal Opportunities (Persons with Disability) Act* seeks to mainstream economic and social rights of persons with disabilities in Malta. (p68)

Malta is currently drafting a *Human Rights and Equality Act* which will streamline and strengthen equality laws by bringing together principles on equality that are currently in various laws. Additional consultation with stakeholders is planned and the aim is to present the Bill to Parliament by end 2018 (p37) | |
| 26. Mexico | Yes | Yes | The Tax Incorporation Regime seeks out workers in the informal economy and aims to formalize their jobs, giving them access to insurance, housing, pension and credit benefits (p. 64).

The income of the poorest 5% of Mexicans is equal to that of the poorest 2% of the world. At the same time, the income of the richest 5% of Mexicans is similar to that of the richest 5% in developed countries. Between 1996 and 2016, poverty and inequality levels have remained practically the same (p. 66).

55.8% of the population does not have social security (CONEVAL, 2016) (p. 62). | |

	27. Namibia	Yes	Yes	Namibia legislation enables the negative discrimination on the basis of gender, previously disadvantaged, marginalized, and vulnerability. There are specific strategies and policies to redress the social, economic and environmental inequities which cut across many levels of society. Economic enabling frameworks such as the proposed New Equitable Economic Empowerment Framework NEEEF ; the Affirmative Action Loan Scheme (AALS) for agricultural farmers in commercial and resettled areas; the zebra (i.e. 50/50) political listing, the free education to enable all children to have equal access to education at both primary and secondary levels are all directed at redressing the inequalities. However, there is a need for increasing targeting of those being left behind. (page 33)	
	28. Niger	No	No		
	29. Palestine	Yes	Yes	The Government will promote social integration of marginalized groups, including disabled people, youth, women and liberated prisoners (p. 41). A series of laws have been reviewed and developed in accordance with international conventions which promote the rights of women, especially at work, political participation and in public life (p. 36). The Government and its partners are promoting entrepreneurship and encouraging the youth to set up their own businesses (p. 37). The Ministry of Economy's records shows that the proportion of women registered in the Commercial Register rose from 5% in 2015 to 8.3% in 2017. Women currently occupy 12.7% of the seats on the Palestinian Legislative Council, 5.8% of ambassadorships, 20% of the seats on local councils, 17.3% of judgeships, 46% of civil service jobs, 11.9% of the positions of "Director General," and 23.6% of the position of "Director" (p. 37). The Government seeks to further promote the integration of women into all spheres of social, economic and political life and to remove all obstacles to women's inclusion through reforming and developing laws and regulations to reduce discrimination against women and take the necessary measures to ensure their implementation (p. 38). Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament, local government, and	

			management (p. 110).
30. Paraguay	No	No	N/A
31. Poland	No	No	N/A
32. Qatar	Yes	No	In the context of Goal 11, Qatar aims to provide protection for poor and vulnerable groups through social welfare and social protection systems (pp. 38). • E.g. through increased public spending on social benefits as a percentage of GDP. • E.g. by promoting the rights of marginalized and vulnerable groups, and promoting their integration into society and in the labor force, especially in education and employment.
33. Romania	No	No	
34. Saudi Arabia	Yes	No	Social Protection Strategy: aims to develop regulations and policies designed to help poor and vulnerable groups cope with crises and shocks, create job opportunities, investment in human capital and the protection of elderly citizens: this appears to be in a very developmental phase and yet to be executed (pg. 106) Little detail is given.
35. Senegal	Yes	No	The VNR only mentions certain programs put in place but does not share any data. Different national programs are intended to reduce various types o of inequalities in education, health, nutrition, population, sanitation and water supply, financial inclusion and actions targeting specific categories such as women, people with disabilities and those affected by disasters and others not covered by social protection systems. P 70
36. Singapore	Yes	Yes	As a multi-ethnic and multi-religious society, Singapore has been committed to ensuring that all ethnic groups and religions enjoy the same equality of opportunity. At independence in 1965, Singapore's founding Prime Minister Mr Lee Kuan Yew said that Singapore is "not a Malay nation, not a Chinese nation, not an Indian nation. Everybody will have his place: equal; language, culture, religion." This has been enshrined as a fundamental principle in Singapore's governance and society throughout the years. To ensure that the minority ethnic groups in Singapore will always have a voice and be represented in Parliament, it established Group Representation Constituencies (GRCs). GRCs are larger electoral divisions represented by between three and six Members of Parliament (MPs), of which at least one MP must belong to a minority ethnic group. Singapore has also introduced the Nominated Member of Parliament

				(NMP) scheme to promote political inclusion of all Singaporeans, including those who may be potentially disadvantaged and marginalised. NMPs represent the varied interests of different groups of Singaporeans. For example, NMP Ms Chia Yong Yong, who is also the President of the SPD, has spoken in Parliament to champion issues concerning the welfare of persons with disabilities.
				Singapore has also introduced various policies to ensure that all Singaporeans are empowered to achieve their fullest potential. This includes the Third Enabling Masterplan (2017 - 2021), which looks at improving the quality of life of persons with disabilities, supporting their caregivers, and building a community that is more caring and inclusive. The Masterplan was endorsed by a Steering Committee which included key stakeholders such as persons with disabilities, caregivers, professionals in the disability field, voluntary welfare organisations, and Government agencies. There is also the WorkPro scheme to help employers implement flexible work arrangements and age-friendly workplaces, to help women and older workers remain in the workforce for as long as they want to.
				As a nation founded by immigrants, Singapore has always been an open society. In this regard, migrants are another important group in Singapore's community. Singapore grants a stable number of citizenships and permanent residencies each year. Many immigrants have family ties with Singaporeans and may also have lived in Singapore for many years. The strong social cohesion and harmony between the different community groups in Singapore is valued and the country works together as a community to continuously strengthen these bonds and ensure that new Singaporeans feel welcomed. (page 35)
	37. Slovakia	Yes	Yes	Slovakia states that for the sustainable development of society it is indispensable to ensure a healthy life and promote wellbeing for all people in all age groups, and that special attention must be paid to disadvantaged and vulnerable groups of the population. The focus is mainly on health care, as opposed to "political, social, and economic" policies. (p. 56).
	38. Spain	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: Spain, as laid out its constitution, is committed reducing inequality and thus promoting inclusion (VNR, p. 61). Implementation steps: raising the statutory minimum wage (VNR, p. 62); see also 1.B. Data sources:2017 Living Conditions Survey and the Gini index.

				Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Infrastructure; Ministry of Labour; Ministry of Equality; and Ministry of Health (VNR, p. 97).
	39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	With respect to income inequality, 12.3% of the population lived below 50% of the national median income in 2016 (p. 91). Sri Lanka's universal free education and health policies, along with social programs, have helped the poorest segments of the population (p. 91).
	40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	Sudan plans to harness the demographic dividend by investment in education, especially girls' education, health (see also the Federal Ministry of Health's National Health Policy), and employment opportunities, especially for youths and young adults. Investment in land, water, and energy resources and distribution will enhance the quality of the sustainable development outcomes for the prosperity of people and protection of the planet. The implementation of Agenda 2030 and the SDGs are intended to 'build on the strong social values and momentums to empower people to participate in development and to improve their quality of life.'
	41. Switzerland	Yes	No	There has not be significant improvement yet of the participation of disabled persons in the labour market or of the employment rate by migration status.
	42. Togo	No	No	
	43. UAE	Yes	Yes	Coordinating Agency: Ministry of Community Development Provides for the social integration of 'people of determination' (i.e. disabled), elderly, employment for beneficiaries of social assistance, women empowerment (see pages 96 and 97). The emphasis seems to be on disability inclusivity and does not seem to focus on other elements of SDG 10 (i.e. 10.3 – 10.7)
	44. Uruguay	No	No	N/A
	45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	The National Assembly of Vietnam has adopted many important laws, such as the Civil Code, Law on Access to Information, Budget Law and Public Investment Law, Law on Legal Aid, and Law on Religion and Folk Beliefs. Decision 225/QD-TTg on administration reforms during 2016-2020 was issued on 4 February 2016 to promote greater transparency and participation of people in national and local socio-economic issues. (p. 57). Vietnam is committed to promoting participation in political, economic, and social life of all persons, regardless of age, sex, disability, ethnicity, origin, religion, education,

economic condition or other status. The VNR states that good implementation of grassroots democracy regulations has:

- promoted the role, potential and creativity of the Vietnamese people;
- encouraged different layers of people to participate actively in movements of patriotic emulation;
- continuously enhanced democracy in the Party's activities and state management at different levels;
- improved democratic atmosphere in society and community activities;
- contributed to fulfilling political, economic, cultural, social tasks;
- protected political security and social safety; and
- built Vietnam's grassroots political system to be more and more transparent and strong. (p. 58, n. 74).

Ethnic minority people are encouraged to participate in the political system, social management, and state management. In the National Assembly XIV of 2016-2021, there are 86 ethnic minority representatives, accounting for 17.3%. Socio-economic development policies for ethnic minority areas have achieved positive results. (p. 59).

	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	35		
		No	10		
10.3: Equal opportunities, laws, policies and practices	1. Albania	Yes		Yes	The Albanian government is implementing the 2016–2020 Action Plan to strengthen the rights of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) community and opened the first shelter for LGBTI persons, as well as other important policy documents such as the National Action Plan for Roma Egyptian Communities, Agenda for Children, the National Action Plan for Youth, in relation to civil registration, education and promotion of intercultural dialogue, employment and enhancement of professional skills, health care, housing, urban integration and social protection (p. 19; see also p. 24). Albania reports that SDG Goal 10 (Reduced Inequalities) is 50% aligned with the national policy in Albania (relevantly, it notes that goals 10.3., 10.4 and 10.7 are partially aligned) (p. 20).
	2. Andorra	No		No	
	3. Armenia	Yes		No	Not in the context of report on SDG 10; but this target was referred to in relation to gender equality (p. 46).

4. Australia	Yes	Yes	Australia has engaged in social impact investing to improve the outcomes of children in care (p. 72).	
5. Bahamas	Yes	No	The report references Goal 7 of The Bahamas NDP, which seeks to eliminate inequality by removing discriminatory laws, policies, and practices to ensure social, economic, and political inclusion of all (p. 29), however, the section of the report addressing Goal 7.7 does not mention any specific programs or initiatives undertaken.

As discussed above, the report also mentions proposed changes to the Constitution to remove provisions that foster gender discrimination, however, such provisions were ultimately not passed (p. 65-67) | |
| 6. Bahrain | No | No | | |
| 7. Benin | Yes | No | P. 81 indicates sources but does not provide any data. | |
| 8. Bhutan | Yes | Yes | Reducing inequality such that no-one is left behind is at the core of all the SDGs. This goal, among others, aims to empower and promote social, economic and political inclusion irrespective of specific characteristics such as age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, religion, economic or other status.

Bhutan is determined to address emerging concerns of different forms of inequalities across all sections of society through the implementation of policies and legal frameworks, as reflected consistently in the FYPs and assessed in the development stage of any policy or project using the GNH Policy Screening Tool. Tackling poverty and inequality feature as priorities in both the 11th as well as in the 12th FYPs. The latter focuses on creating a 'just and harmonious society' through reducing poverty, creating gainful employment, providing quality health and education services, strengthening democracy and decentralisation, reducing corruption, improving access to justice, and promoting gender equality and women and girls' empowerment. The intent of the Government to address issues of inequality is illustrated through the formulation of Bhutan's first Gender Equality Policy and the National Policy for Persons with Disabilities.

More fundamentally, the commitment towards inclusive development is also reflected in the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan, which celebrates its 10th anniversary in 2018. Article 7 (Fundamental Rights) Section 15 of the Constitution states that '*All persons are equal before the law and are entitled to equal and effective protection of the law and shall not be discriminated against on the grounds* | |

				of race, sex, language, religion, politics or other status'. In addition, Article 9 (Principles of State Policy) Section 22 of the Constitution also states '*The State shall endeavour to provide security in the event of sickness and disability or lack of adequate means of livelihood for reasons beyond one's control'*. As Bhutan prepares itself for graduation from the LDC status, holding true to these Articles of the Constitution is a priority. With regard to income inequality, the Gini coefficient increased slightly to 0.38 in 2017 from 0.36 in 2012. In rural Bhutan, the index is higher at 0.35 compared to urban which is at 0.32. This divide is apparent when considering consumption patterns wherein per capita expenditure of households in the richest per capita consumption quintile is more than seven times that of households in the poorest per capita consumption quintile. **[Page 55]**	
	9. Cabo Verde	No	No	N/A	
	10. Canada	Yes	Yes	Canada focuses on strengthening social protection and create more fairness in the tax system. The new Canada Child Benefit is giving families more money to help with the cost of raising children and making it easier for them to afford the things that give children a good quality of life. The increase in the Guaranteed Income Supplement top-up is ensuring more seniors retire in comfort and in dignity. And starting in 2019, the new Canada Workers Benefit will help Canadians take home more money while they work. In addition, the Government has made longer-term investments to address the multiple dimensions of poverty in areas such as housing, home care and mental health services, public transit, and skills training and employment programs. (p. 78) With regard to gender equality, Canada appointed the first federal minister fully dedicated to gender issues and the first gender-balanced federal Cabinet, inviting diverse perspectives to the Cabinet table. Canada is developing legislation to ensure that employees in federally regulated workplaces receive equal pay for work of equal value. Canada has also proposed a new Parental Sharing benefit to promote more equal distribution of family responsibilities between spouses. Canada's efforts in achieving gender equality can also been seen in many other actions which are particularly be beneficial to women. (p. 78) In respect of race and religion equality, to help address systemic barriers of racism,	

				the Government will launch cross-country consultations on a new national anti-racism approach. As a first step toward recognizing the significant and unique challenges faced by Black Canadians, the Government will also fund local community supports for youth at risk and to develop research in support of more culturally focused mental health programs in the Black Canadian community. Through the Multiculturalism Funding Program, the Government of Canada supports projects that encourage positive interaction between cultural, religious and ethnic communities. In 2016-2017, it funded more than 200 such community-led events. (p. 79) In November 2016, the Government appointed a special advisor on LGBTQ2 issues whose principal role is to work with LGBTQ2 organizations from across the country to promote equality for the LGBTQ2 community, protect the rights of its members and address discrimination. In June 2017, the Government passed a historic legislation (Bill C-16) to recognize and reduce the vulnerability of trans and other gender-diverse persons to discrimination, hate propaganda and hate crimes, and to affirm their equal status in Canadian society. (p. 80) For people with disabilities, Canada has introduced the Accessible Canada Act, which will identify and remove barriers for persons with disabilities, and support broader societal awareness and behaviour change. (p. 80)	
	11. Colombia	Yes	No	This SDG is mentioned in a different context, yet noteworthy to point out that the implementation of law 1537 of 2012 has identified women as a group to be prioritized from a policy perspective (p. 43).	
	12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes	Like in several other countries the DR has adopted mandatory laws based on gender quotation, which requires list of candidates to parliament or local bodies to consist of at least 33% women. However, while the national and the local bodies are not entirely compliant, local bodies are better adapted to the law than parliament (the DR consist of la Cámara de Diputados and the Senado) (p. 15-16, 97-98).	
	13. Ecuador	Yes	Yes	This SDG is briefly mentioned. Reduction in poverty has also resulted in a reduction in inequality and the difference between the wealthiest 10% and the poorest 10% is now down to 22.9 times (p. 30).	
	14. Egypt	Yes	No	The report refers to "programs to achieve equal economic, social, and political rights and opportunities, through reviewing and developing laws that support social justice," but does not provide any details (page 43).	
	15. Greece	Yes	Yes	See above re EKKE in the note for SDG 4.7. See also note for SDG 10.2.	

16. Guinea	Yes	Yes	According to the most recent data available, income inequality, measured by the Gini, Atkinson and Theil indices, seem to have remained constant in Guinea between 2002 and 2007. Indeed, over this period, the Gini index rose from 31.2% to 31.7%, and the Theil index from 17.1% to 18.1%, while the index from 28.4% to 28.2%. The stability of income inequality in Guinea over the period between 2007-2012 can be measured by another indicator, the distribution of consumption: in 2007, the 30% of individuals living in the poorest households accounted for 13.8% of consumption; and the 30% living in the richest households accounted for 51.5% of consumption. These ratios are 13.9% and 52% for these two respective categories in 2012 (p. 68).
17. Hungary	No	No	
18. Ireland	Yes	No	Implementation steps: Gender Recognition Act 2015 permits people to submit their preferred gender for state recognition (67); Equal Status Acts 2000-2015, prohibits discrimination in providing goods, services, education, accommodations, and advertising on nine grounds (gender, marital status, family status, age, disability, sexual orientation, race, religion, and Traveller community membership) including social welfare recipient discrimination for housing (id.); Employment Equality Acts 1998-2011 prohibits employment, recruitment, promotion, pay, training, dismissal, and harassment discrimination on the same 9 grounds (68); Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014 (68). Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY
19. Jamaica	No	No	
20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	See response to indicator 5C above.
21. Latvia	No	No	
22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	The World Bank's inequality-adjusted 2015 human development index shows that Lebanon faces notable inequality of opportunities and outcomes among its citizens, particularly regarding income and education, and to a lesser extent health. The index loses 21 per cent because of losses mainly from income and education inequality compared to the values of the non-inequality-adjusted human development index (page 32).

23. Lithuania	Yes	Yes	In all of its key strategic documents Lithuania has set an objective of reducing poverty and income inequality. To achieve this objective, it is important to increase income, retirement pensions and social benefits, reduce the tax burden for those earning the lowest income and enhance the social responsibility of people with the highest income. (p. 27)
24. Mali	Yes	Yes	The most common measure of inequality is the Gini coefficient. From 2001 to 2009, the quotient decreased from 0.39 to 0.32, highlighting a substantial reduction in inequality. In 2011, however, the quotient increased to 0.42, and then dropped again to 0.35 in 2016. Inequality is highest in Bamako (0.37) and is lower in other urban areas (0.32 and in rural areas (0.29). Inequality is lowest in Tombouctou (0.19) and Kayes (0.25). (p. 46) In addition, with a view to reducing inequalities in the country, the Government has adopted several policies and strategies, including the Program of Assistance to the Poor Elderly People (PAPADEM), the Gender National Program, the National Solidarity Fund and activities carried out to promote the disabled. (p.47)
25. Malta	Yes	Yes	See 10.1 and 10.2 above
26. Mexico	No	No	Not included in report.
27. Namibia	Yes	Yes	Namibia legislation enables the negative discrimination on the basis of gender, previously disadvantaged, marginalized, and vulnerability. There are specific strategies and policies to redress the social, economic and environmental inequities which cut across many levels of society. Economic enabling frameworks such as the proposed New Equitable Economic Empowerment Framework NEEEF ; the Affirmative Action Loan Scheme (AALS) for agricultural farmers in commercial and resettled areas; the zebra (i.e. 50/50) political listing, the free education to enable all children to have equal access to education at both primary and secondary levels are all directed at redressing the inequalities. However, there is a need for increasing targeting of those being left behind. (page 33) With a Gini Coefficient of 0.56, Namibia remains one of the most unequal societies. These high levels of inequality could largely be attributed to the structure of the Namibian economy which, as anchored on the capital-intensive extractive sectors (whose ownership and control strongly remains foreign-based), continues to induce jobless growth, and thus consequently fails to evenly distribute wealth across the

| | | | broad spectrum of society.

Inequality remains a challenge and its impact is more in rural areas as compared to urban areas. The larger segments of the affected population which includes rural women, the elderly, uneducated youth and the minority groups are mainly in rural areas. This is mainly due to skewed development, where the urban areas are the most developed when compared to rural areas. Minority groups (i.e.San, Ovatue, and Ovatjimba) also still remain the most affected. (Page 32) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 28. Niger | No | No | |
| 29. Palestine | Yes | Yes | Israeli occupation policies have had a severe impact on intra-Palestinian inequality – contrast areas under Israeli and Palestinian control (p. 40).

Inequality in Palestine is increasing; currently the richest 20% of the Palestinian population controls approximately 43% of the wealth, while the poorest 20% hold just 7% (p. 40).

The ability to access services differs greatly between rural and urban areas, and between the West Bank and Gaza (p. 40).

It remains challenging for the Government to enact the child and disability laws, mainstream programs and services designed to ensure disability and learning difficulty detection and child development (p. 41).

In Jerusalem, the occupying Israeli municipal authorities have historically underserved Palestinian areas, exacerbating inequality between Israelis and Palestinians (p. 41).

The Government is committed to reducing inequalities by increasing employment and implementing the policies in the Sixth National Priority "Economic Independence", which will reduce wealth inequalities (p. 41).

The Government aims to bridge the development gap between the West Bank and Gaza Strip by reconstructing the Gaza Strip, and bridge the disparities between women and men through empowering women to participate fully in work and public life (p. 41). |

				Government policy interventions to reduce inequality (p. 90): • Focusing on assisting disadvantaged youth; • Improving effectiveness of social protection system; • Ensure effective implementation of the social security law and regulations; • Promote corporate social responsibility; • Developing and implementing a government-wide service improvement strategy.
	30. Paraguay	No	No	N/A
	31. Poland	Yes	Yes	Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation: "Equal access to the labour market ensuring the use of the potential of human resources is also important for the preservation of social equality within the country. In this respect, support instruments are adjusted to individual needs of the local labour market, taking into account human capital reserves available in the region (young people, women, people with disabilities, people aged 50+, the long-term unemployed, including those in sectors with unused labour resources - agriculture, mining, etc.)." 62. Name of source? GUS.
	32. Qatar	No	No	N/A
	33. Romania	No	No	
	34. Saudi Arabia	Yes	Yes	Saudi Human Rights Commission established to promote and protect human rights in accordance with universal human rights standards in all areas and promote awareness and contribute to enforcement of these rights. SHRC has a judicial personality and reports directly to the King. Key achievement here has been election to the UN Human Rights Council for the fourth time (pg. 107). National Society for Human Rights – non governmental body with financial and administrative autonomy that seeks to defend human rights in Saudi Arabia and abroad (pg. 107)
	35. Senegal	Yes	Yes	The VNR mentions certain actions taken to ensure equal opportunities but does not share any data. P 70 The frameworks for implementing this target are the Strategie Nationale de l'Equite et de l'Egalite de Genre (National Strategy for Equity and Gender Equality SNEFG), the Equal Opportunity Card and Parity Act.

				Senegal has ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities through Law No. 2009-30 of 2 October 2009. This led to the adoption of Law 2010-15 of 6 July 2010 on the promotion and protection of the rights of people with disabilities. The Government's initiative on the Equal Opportunities Card (ECF) for people with disabilities defined as a social protection system that offers the beneficiary benefits in the areas of health, rehabilitations, education, training, transportation and finance.
	36. Singapore	Yes	Yes	It is reported that Singapore have adopted a more proactive approach over time in order to provide more support to the less well-off. Singapore remains committed to providing quality education, healthcare, and housing as these are essential stepping stones for ensuring social mobility in Singapore society. At the same time, it has introduced more targeted assistance to vulnerable groups such as the lower-income and elderly Singaporeans. For instance, the Workfare Income Supplement (WIS) scheme supplements the wages of older low-wage workers in their working years and tops up their Central Provident Fund (CPF) savings. For workers in sectors that may require more help, the Progressive Wage Model (PWM) helps to increase wages of workers through upgrading skills and improving productivity. It is reported that Singapore has made some progress in tackling inequality. Over the last five years from 2012 to 2017, the income growth at the 20th percentile of full-time employed residents was 4.2% per annum in real terms. Income growth at the median was 3.4% per annum in real terms. The picture is similar for household incomes: between 2012 and 2017, income growth per household member ranged between 4.2% and 4.6% for each of the lowest five deciles, while the average income growth per household member was 3.5% for the population as a whole. These results are encouraging and the country is committed to continuing its efforts in this area. Singapore's social and economic policies have also fostered a relatively high degree of social mobility. For example, Singapore's education system provides a good education to every child, giving each a chance to move ahead — 14.3% of Singaporean children from households in the lowest 20% income bracket managed to progress to the top 20% income bracket. It is stated that Singapore will continue to provide Singaporeans with opportunities to develop to their fullest potential throughout their lives, regardless of their starting point. One way in which Singapore is doing this is by increasing the provision of quality and affordable preschool education, to ensure a good start for all children.

			Singapore is investing significantly in the early childhood sector, and piloting a new early intervention programme for children in low-income and vulnerable families called KidSTART. To cater to students who need a conducive after-school care environment, Singapore will expand the number of school-based Student Care Centres (SCCs) and places. They will cater to the educational, social, and emotional well-being of students, especially those from disadvantaged families. (page 34)
37. Slovakia	No	No	
38. Spain	Yes	No	Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Equality; and Ministry of Health (VNR, p. 97).
39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	Sri Lanka's universal free education and health policies, along with social programs, have helped the poorest segments of the population (p. 91).
40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	The Report notes that policies, governance and strategic planning constitute an important pillar for achieving inclusivity, promoting equality and addressing inequality. They improve the efficiency, accountability, monitoring and evaluation of the development activities in the country (pp.24-25).
41. Switzerland	No	No	
42. Togo	No	No	
43. UAE	No	No	
44. Uruguay	No	N/A	N/A
45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	The Vietnamese government continues to pursue a sustainable poverty reduction program for the period 2016-2020, working towards zero inequality. The poverty rate (by expenditure) among the bottom 40% of incomes declined on average by 6.8% per year from 1993-2014. Vietnam is also making progress in reducing income inequalities with the GINI index reaching 0.43 in 2016. Despite progress in poverty reduction, there is an increasing gap in living standards between different groups. Notably, gender inequality has increased in the Northern Uplands and the Central Highlands where ethnic minority groups mainly reside. (p. 58). Vietnam has also developed and implemented social security and social insurance policies to reduce risks to vulnerable groups, poor, near poor, and other disadvantaged groups, including further increasing access to public services and

				access to and use of insurance services and social security programs. (pp. 58-60). In 2016, the rate of households living in multi-dimensional poverty among ethnic minorities and in mountainous areas decreased by 2% as compared to 2015 (a reduction of 1.3%, 1.5% at the national level) and 98% of people who escaped poverty will not fall back into poverty again. (p. 59). See also SDG 10.4 below.	
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	29		
		No	16		
10.4: Policies for greater equality	1. Albania	Yes		Yes	Albania considers this goal to be partially aligned with its own national goals – see further details at 10.3 (p. 20). In pursuit of this goal, Albania reports that the share of social protection expenditure in the government budget was 9.1% in 2017, up from 8.9% in 2016. This consists of two main scheme: (i) Ndhma Ekonomike (a cash assistance scheme); and (ii) Disability Allowance (p. 24).
	2. Andorra	No		No	
	3. Armenia	Yes		Yes	"The labor share of GDP, comprised of wages and social protection transfers was low, at 34.1 percent in 2015. Empirical evidence suggests that "the decline of the labor share tended to evolve hand-in-hand with the widening of market income inequalities". "It is important however to carefully interpret adjusted and unadjusted labor shares. Structural shifts from self-employment (like family farming) to wage employment tend to raise the unadjusted labor share more than the adjusted one. This should be kept in mind, particularly when looking at trends in emerging and developing countries where the share of self-employed workers and unincorporated enterprises is larger than in advanced economies, and where the unadjusted labor income share is thus generally lower than in more developed countries. Once labor shares are adjusted for self-employment, it is not obviously the case anymore that labor shares are lower in poorer countries (Gollin, 2002; Guerriero, 2012) (p. 61).
	4. Australia	Yes		Yes	Australia advocates for equal protection of all, irrespective of gender, age, and sexual orientation (p. 73).
	5. Bahamas	Yes		No	In 2015, the minimum wage increased by 40% from $150 per week to $210 per week (pp. 93-94)

				The report describes the Government's 2017 Over the Hill initiative targeting communities that have been significantly left behind in levels of prosperity; the initiative involves specific programs designed to increase productivity by providing incentives to develop and empower the communities (p. 93)
6. Bahrain	No	No		
7. Benin	Yes	No		The report describes how the Government plans to establish of a new social protection system, essentially targeting the agriculture, trade, transport, crafts, art and culture sectors and others poor people with no activity. That is, the entire population not currently covered by a retirement pension or health insurance scheme, especially for the extreme poor (about 22% of the population) and the non-extreme poor (about 18% of the population) (p. 44).
8. Bhutan	Yes	Yes		In an effort to bridge the growing income gap, targeted programs such as the National Rehabilitation Program for landless and destitute people are being implemented. The Government has put in place a Resource Allocation Formula (RAF) for allocating financial resources to Local Government, taking into consideration the multidimensional poverty index and other factors to help direct resources to poorer areas. The minimum National Workforce Wage was revised from the range of Nu 165-240 per day to Nu 215-324 per day. Life and house insurance are mandatory and these are subsidized by the Government. Between 2009 and 2010, six earthquakes of varied magnitudes hit Bhutan affecting more than 7000 rural homes, and compensation amounting to Nu. 130 million was paid to them. On financial inclusion, the Government has drafted the Financial Inclusion Policy (FIP). Regulations on Microfinance Institutions (MFIs), and Branchless Banking and agent regulations are also in place. In the absence of dedicated MFIs, the state-owned Bhutan Development Bank Limited (BDBL) provides credit to small and medium-scale industrial and agricultural activities through Group Guarantee Lending Scheme (GGLS). BDBL has established 29 branches in all the Districts and has a microloan portfolio of nearly 3000 customers in their GGLS. It has also launched savings products for the youth and the elderly, and the Government monitors the proportion of population with savings account as a measure of the annual performance of local Governments. In 2016, the Rural Enterprise Development Corporation Limited was instituted to provide collateral free credits at 4 per cent interest; and in 2018, the Priority Sector Lending scheme was launched at 8 per cent to boost non–formal and formal cottage, small, and medium enterprises. By enhancing financing inclusion and improving access to finance, these measures aim to enhance the wider participation

of the rural population, especially rural women, in Bhutan's development.

On financial inclusion, the Government has drafted the Financial Inclusion Policy (FIP). Regulations on Microfinance Institutions (MFIs), and Branchless Banking and agent regulations are also in place. In the absence of dedicated MFIs, the state-owned Bhutan Development Bank Limited (BDBL) provides credit to small and medium-scale industrial and agricultural activities through Group Guarantee Lending Scheme (GGLS). BDBL has established 29 branches in all the Districts and has a microloan portfolio of nearly 3000 customers in their GGLS. It has also launched savings products for the youth and the elderly, and the Government monitors the proportion of population with savings account as a measure of the annual performance of local Governments. In 2016, the Rural Enterprise Development Corporation Limited was instituted to provide collateral free credits at 4 per cent interest; and in 2018, the Priority Sector Lending scheme was launched at 8 per cent to boost non–formal and formal cottage, small, and medium enterprises. By enhancing financing inclusion and improving access to finance, these measures aim to enhance the wider participation of the rural population, especially rural women, in Bhutan's development.

Beyond these initiatives to address income inequality, the Government recognizes the multiple vulnerabilities, including to climate change and disasters, that threaten to leave people behind. Therefore, in 2017 Bhutan launched its first Vulnerability Baseline Assessment 2016 (VBA) to better understand those greatest at risk of being left behind. Together with the 2016 Climate Vulnerability Assessment and the 2018 Population and Housing Census, the vulnerability baseline provides a strong basis for improved development targeting over the next five years.

The fourteen socio-economic vulnerable groups are those considered most vulnerable to risk, stigma, discrimination, or to falling back into poverty:
1. The elderly in need of support
2. Orphans
3. People with disabilities
4. Out of school children
5. Unemployed youth
6. Children in conflict with the law
7. People who beg

8. Victims of domestic violence

9. Those working in vulnerable places like *Drayangs*

10. Single parents and their children

11. People affected by HIV/AIDS

12. Individuals engaging in risky sexual behaviour

13. People using drugs and alcohol

14. Vulnerable urban dwellers, particularly living in slums in and near urban centres.

The VBA assesses the vulnerability of each group, identifies causes, reviews the current policy and program landscape and how it enables or blocks groups to manage or overcome vulnerabilities, while also identifying opportunities for further improvement. It is designed to guide the Government in focusing on leaving no-one behind on its development journey.

This includes ensuring equality in the eyes of the law, with equal access to justice proposed as a new National Key Result Area for Bhutan's 12th FYP. In this vein, His Majesty the King commanded that all laws should be reviewed for consistency with the Constitution. Under the leadership of the Attorney General, a task force was established comprising members from the Judiciary, the Office of the Attorney General (OAG), the Cabinet Secretariat, the Bhutan National Legal Institute, the Royal Bhutan Police and a private firm. In 2015, the task force completed its first review of Bhutan's 126 Acts (until 2014). The second review which is more comprehensive is expected to be completed by 2018.

The Justice Sector institutions have come together for the first time to help ensure a harmonized, end-to-end approach in enhancing access to justice in Bhutan.

Looking ahead, the VBA presents a number of recommendations which the Government expects to take forward:
- Strenghten capacities within the civil service, civil society organizations and Government bodies to address issues of vulnerability;
- Enhance data on vulnerability and related inequalities, and the capacity necessary for that data to influence policy and legislation;
- Continue to review Bhutan's legal framework, with a focus on vulnerabilities

and inequalities;

- Maximize opportunities within the 12th FYP to take forward these recommendations and continuously assess and update the categorizations of vulnerable groups.
- Further explore vulnerabilities related to climate change, natural hazards, and related vulnerabilities, and the associated policy and institutional frameworks

[Pages 55 to 57]

9. Cabo Verde	Yes	Yes	The Government has put in place the Social Inclusion Income Program and the Social Pension Program. The former is a direct monetary transfer to individuals and households with children under 15 years of age living in extreme poverty and not engaged in an income-generating activity. The Social Pension targets people with 60 years of age or more with an annual income below the poverty threshold, and covers 21,771 people. (pp. 30; 85) The Government aims at extending social security coverage to all categories of the population and all regions of the county. (p. 30) Wages represent 43% of the Gross Value Added of the Cabo Verdean economy as a whole and 37% of the country's GDP. (pp. 82-83) Other policies adopted to reduce inequality consist of (i) the Access to Education program, (ii) the Access to Health program, (iii) the Promotion of Inclusion of People with Special Needs program, and (iv) the implementation of the dependent care system for children up to three years of age, elderly people and people with disabilities. (pp. 84-85)
10. Canada	Yes	Yes	Current gaps in data on gender, race and other intersecting identities is a challenge for evidence-based decision making, including the ability to understand and address the barriers different groups face, and how to track and measure progress. In 2018, the Government of Canada announced measures to increase the availability and reliability of gender and diversity data, including the creation of a Centre for Gender, Diversity and Inclusion Statistics. (p. 77) The creation of a new Centre for Gender, Diversity and Inclusion Statistics at Statistics Canada will help track the Government's progress toward a more equal society. It will improve understanding of the barriers faced by different groups, such as women

			racialized communities and LGBTQ2 communities, and how best to support them with evidence-based policy. The Centre will maintain a public-facing GBA+ data hub to support evidence-based policy development and decision making— both within the federal government and beyond. (p. 79) Inequality is increasingly an important issue in the digital space. Canada's IDRC supports work to understand how platforms are shaping and disrupting work, learning, communication and engagement, as well as their parallel impact on inclusion, equity and power. (p. 81)	
11. Colombia	Yes	Yes	Colombia was the first country to convert the SDGs into national legislation and the SDGs are part of the PND. The VNR includes numbers regarding financing of projects categorised as SDG 5, gender equality (p. 71).	
12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes	The VNR estimates that around 2/3 of the population in the DR are covered by social security, however roughly 3 million lacks access to social security (p. 196).	
13. Ecuador	Yes	Yes	Ecuador works towards a reduction in the wealth gap and states in the VNR that their GINI coefficient is below the average in Latinamerica (p. 77).	
14. Egypt	Yes	No	The report refers to "expand social protection systems" and "reducing gaps among different social and economic groups," but does not provide details (page 43).	
15. Greece	Yes	No	As part of the Report overview of SDGs 16.6 and 16.7, the establishment of an Independent Public Revenue Authority is part of the effort to eliminate discriminatory policies.	
16. Guinea	Yes	Yes	The Government, in collaboration with the World Bank, established a National Group of Social protection and a "Productive Social Nets" Project (with a budget of $25 million) aiming to provide income support to vulnerable groups and to lay the foundations for a social safety net strategy by testing some of the elements necessary for a more extensive system. In 2017, nearly 7,000 households received an unconditional cash transfer to be invested in income-generating activities that will generate earnings enabling them to take charge of themselves. Also, 5076 households received amounts in exchange for work in the same year for maintenance, sanitation and rehabilitation of public works in their locality. The second initiative is the creation, within the Ministry of Social Affairs, of the Promotion of Women and Children, a Social Development and Solidarity	

				Fund for Women, Children,young, old and disabled people. In addition, Guinea has just adopted its first-ever national social protection policy of the history of the country. This document, validated in September 2016, is intended to serve as the institutional basis for the fight against social shocks and for the improvement of people's living conditions. The validation of this document will enable the creation of real social coverage in Guinea, with effective access to social services including education, health and housing. This first national protection policy social, consisting of a contributory and a non-contributory component, is intended to be inclusive and sustainable. This new policy covers both the questions of protection of all populations in general, but specifically the poor and vulnerable (p. 29-30).	
	17. Hungary	Yes	Yes	The Fundamental Law guarantees the fundamental rights of everyone without discrimination on any grounds (race, colour, sex, disability, language, religion etc). Due to the fact that the fundamental law is a primary source of law, they apply and are to be respected in all fields of law and areas of life. (page 40) Equal Treatment Act 2003 prohibits discrimination on the basis of protected characteristics, such as gender, race, skin colour, age etc. (page 40)	
	18. Ireland	Yes	No	Implementation steps: Current development of a successor to the NAPInclusion program, focused on reducing consistent poverty, improving income for at-risk-of-poverty peoples, and increasing access to quality services (67); Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission, and independent public body accountable to the Oireachtas (Parliament), tasked with promoting human rights and equality in Ireland, increasing "intercultural understanding" under the Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014 (68); support for six other countries in creating social protection systems (70). Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF FINANCE	
	19. Jamaica	Yes	No	[This exact SDG # was not mentioned explicitly, but the underlying topic was discussed.] Social Enterprise Boost Initiative begun in 2012 (p. 66)	

	20. Lao PDR	Yes	No	It is stated that the impact of sound fiscal, wage and social protection policies are meant to be tracked through the labour share of GDP, comprising wages and social protection transfers. Currently, only the labour (wages) share of GDP can be reported. (page 43)
	21. Latvia	Yes	Yes	Although income inequality has fallen, Latvia will not achieve the NDP 2020 target. Situation is improving, however, the drop in economic tension is smaller for the 40% of people with the lowest incomes. Tax system has been changed as well as minimum wage, however effects are only to be seen. State and local governments are facilitating the transition of adults with mental disabilities and children from institutions to community based services. Vitos Fund offers scholarships to graduate from rural areas. Pages 70-73
	22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	Social protection policies in Lebanon are gaining attention and building up. Ministry of Public Health coverage of all those who do not have health insurance; the expansion a primary health network that offers consultations and medications almost for free; the network of grassroots and programs of SDCs and the sector-wide upgrading in public education – all aim to enhance social protection. Nevertheless, such measures need to be part of an integrated approach. In terms of fiscal policy, Lebanon has a number of taxes that aim to address equity concerns. Personal income tax legislation allows generous deductions and the structure of the tax is progressive and low-income brackets are tax-exempt. The income tax offers tax credits (basic, family and child). (page 32) As for labour and wage policies, the Ministry of Labour, with the support of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), is currently drafting a five-year comprehensive strategy for the period 2017-2020 based on a tripartite consultation as per the ILO approach. The strategy aims to: (i) strengthen policy coherence with a focus on labour management and labour inspection systems; (ii) improve working conditions for all workers in accordance with Lebanese laws and regulations and in line with international labour standards; (iii) promote productive employment with a focus on the employment of Lebanese youth; (iv) improve social security

			contributions and provide a minimum level of social protection, focusing on vulnerable groups within society. Today, Lebanon's wage policy consists of a minimum wage for the public and private sector set by the government, modified in 2017. In the public sector, employees receive a generous amount of allowances in addition to their basic salaries. (page 33)
23. Lithuania	No	No	
24. Mali	Yes	Yes	Mali adopted in 2016 the *Politique Nationale de Protection Sociale* (Social Protection National Policy) and various other policies and strategies, including: • fitting handicapped persons for orthopedics (54.05% of handicapped persons have been fitted for orthopedics over 79.9% of fitting requests); • assisting the elderly, including the elderly poor; • lowering the income tax rate on by 8% and the inclusion of tax evasion provisions in the Finance Act; and • financing income generating activities, which financed 27,470 beneficiaries in Mopti, Tombouctou and Gao (including 1,574 single poor women out of 1,678), with an achievement rate of 93.8%. (p. 47)
25. Malta	Yes	Yes	The weekly cost of living allowance for the years 2018 and 2019 will be supplemented by an addition of €1 increase each year, thus increasing the minimum wage by €8, between 2018 and 2019. It was also agreed that a Low Wage Commission would be set up by 2020, to establish a mechanism that would determine whether the minimum wage requires reviewing. (p66)
26. Mexico	Yes	No	Special Economic Zones have been created to encourage sustainable regional economic growth that reduces poverty, increases access to basic services and expands opportunities for healthy, productive lives (p. 64). SEDESOL's National Inclusion Strategy has the goal of improving access to social services and reducing deficiencies (p. 64).
27. Namibia	Yes	Yes	It is reported that the Republic of Namibia recognizes the role that social protection plays in wealth and income redistribution. Namibia has several 100 percent state-funded protection systems ranging from grants to none-grants safety nets, all of which have a direct positive impact on inequality and empowering the most vulnerable to transform their lives. To date 17.3 percent of Namibians depend on social protection, and without it, poverty levels could have been higher than the current 17.4 percent. In addition,

				there are several economic transformative policies and programmes that Namibia has put in place to ensure equal access to economic resources. Namibia continues to invest resources to ensure that the community is more resilient to climate change; this is more particular to the largest employing sector in the country which is agriculture. (page 32)
	28. Niger	No	No	
	29. Palestine	Yes	Yes	The Government is committed to reducing inequalities by increasing employment and implementing the policies in the Sixth National Priority "Economic Independence", which will reduce wealth inequalities (p. 41). The Government aims to bridge the development gap between the West Bank and Gaza Strip by reconstructing the Gaza Strip, and bridge the disparities between women and men through empowering women to participate fully in work and public life (p. 41). Government policy interventions to reduce inequality (p. 90): • Focusing on assisting disadvantaged youth; • Improving effectiveness of social protection system; • Ensure effective implementation of the social security law and regulations; • Promote corporate social responsibility; • Developing and implementing a government-wide service improvement strategy.
	30. Paraguay	Yes	No	Law no. 5407/15 brought domestic work conditions (8-hour shifts and required benefits) up to the level of those conditions applicable to workers in general, except in respect of minimum wages where domestic workers receive 60% of the minimum wage applicable to general workers. (p. 94)
	31. Poland	Yes	Yes	Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation: "Moreover, it is important to strengthen development opportunities of areas threatened by permanent marginalisation, including rural areas and small and medium towns, as well as to strengthen the potential of medium towns losing their social and economic functions. Strengthening cooperation and an integrated approach to development at local, regional and supra-regional level is key in this process. This will be achieved by improving the organisation of public service provision at local level, strengthening the administrative capacity of local and regional authorities and their willingness to cooperate with development partners, as well as by an effective and coherent system

				of financing development policy." 62. "Equal access to the labour market ensuring the use of the potential of human resources is also important for the preservation of social equality within the country. In this respect, support instruments are adjusted to individual needs of the local labour market, taking into account human capital reserves available in the region (young people, women, people with disabilities, people aged 50+, the long-term unemployed, including those in sectors with unused labour resources - agriculture, mining, etc.)." 62. Name of source? GUS. SDG 10 Chart at bottom.	
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A	
33. Romania	No	No		
34. Saudi Arabia	Yes	No	Social Protection Strategy as mentioned above. Little detail given above this.	
35. Senegal	Yes	Yes	The VNR lists the actions taken to achieve greater equality and provides information regarding the minimum wage in various areas. The VNR also describes the actions taken specifically to improve women entrepreneurship. The new Tax Code, adopted in 2012, and the implementation of the the Programme National de Bourse de Sécurité familiale (National Family Safety Resources Program PBSF), the Programme de Couverture Maladie Universelle (Universal Health Coverage Program CMU) make it possible to operationalize the target. The guaranteed minimum wage (SMIG) is 209.1 FCFA per hour. The Guaranteed Minimum Agricultural Wage (SMAG) for workers in agricultural and related enterprises is 182.9 F CFA / hour. As part of the promotion of women's entrepreneurship, the number of women trained in value chains under management increased from 6,318 to 13,315 between 2016 and 2017, an increase of 110.74%. Regarding the amount of funding allocated to women by institutions promoting women's entrepreneurship, it increased from 1,463,503,730 Page 71	

	36. Singapore	Yes	Yes	Mitigating income inequality, ensuring social mobility, and enhancing social integration are key to maintaining Singapore's social harmony and stability. Since independence, Singapore has strived to ensure that every citizen benefits from the fruits of its economic progress and that no one is left behind. It has pursued policies that allow for broad-based improvement in Singaporeans' well-being regardless of their ethnicity, gender, origin, religion, and economic status. Over the years, Singapore provided basic education, healthcare, and housing for its population. For example, it has achieved a home ownership rate of 90.9% as of 2016. Singapore's high-quality public housing and integrated residential neighbourhoods are critical to efforts to mitigate inequality. Singapore has no slums or ghettoes as neighbourhoods are designed with a mix of public and private housing for all income levels. The Ethnic Integration Policy for public housing has also helped us to avoid large ethnic concentrations in particular neighbourhoods. These policies, together with providing public spaces such as parks, eating establishments, and exercise facilities within neighbourhoods to maximise social interactions, are important in achieving social integration. (page 34)
	37. Slovakia	Yes	Yes	Slovakia confirms that on the labour market, inequalities and stigmatisation persist, especially in case of marginalised Roma communities and people with disabilities. As people who are most likely to encounter difficulties under open labour market conditions often face multiple marginalisation, the state's response needs to be manifold and coordinated as well. However, no specific actions are outlined in the report for addressing the above-identified problem. (p. 22)
	38. Spain	Yes	No	Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Treasury; and Ministry of Labour (VNR, p. 97).
	39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	Sri Lanka's universal free education and health policies, along with social programs, have helped the poorest segments of the population (p. 91).
	40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	In the Interim Constitution of 2005 Amendment 2017, 'the State shall guarantee equal rights of men and women to the enjoyment of all civil, political, social, cultural and economic rights, including the right to equal pay for equal work and other related benefits.' Again, agricultural policies are highlighted in the Report. The restructuring of the Agricultural bank and Animal Resources Bank and other finance institutions, in order

				for them to provide credit for small producers, will help the achievement of the SDGs generally.
	41. Switzerland	Yes	No	The equivalised disposable income of the richest 20% was **4.8** times higher than that of the poorest 20% in 2015 (no significant changes since 2000) (p.16).
	42. Togo	No	No	
	43. UAE	No	No	
	44. Uruguay	No	N/A	N/A
	45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	Many Decrees and Decisions of the Prime Minister have been issued related to supporting policies for education, health care, preferential credit, housing, legal aid, production development, science and technology development, ethnic minorities, vocational training, and employment. Policies to reduce inequality include: • exemptions from tuition fees for children in public schools; • policy to subsidise food for children aged 3-5 years attending pre-schools; • health care policy and free health insurance cards for children under 6 and some other groups of children; • policies for the informal labour sector and migrant population in order to reduce the gap and discrimination between those with and without permanent resident registrations; • a decision issued by the Vietnamese government on the abolition of permanent resident registrations and other citizen related papers in administrative procedures, complying with the Law on Residence; and • the Law on Legal Aid (2017), which provides legal aid to certain categories of beneficiaries, which include victims of domestic violence, children, ethnic minorities, poor people, and people with disabilities. (p. 57). Vietnam ratified the United Nations Convention on Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in February 2015, and promulgated the Plan for the Implementation of the Convention and the Disability Support Program for the period 2012-2030. Recent data indicates that about 32% of children with partial disabilities and 90% of children with disabilities aged 5-17 have never attended school or have dropped out of school (MOET and UNICEF, 2013). In 2011, MOET estimated 1.2 million children with disabilities (MOET, 2011). (p. 57).

				Vietnam pays special attention to and implemented many projects and policies to narrow the socio-economic gaps between ethnic groups. For example, Vietnam implemented a scheme to support socio-economic development of ethnic groups with very small population for 2016-2025 (a specific policy to support socio-economic development in ethnic minority and mountainous areas during 2017-2020) and a scheme to support gender equality in ethnic minority areas during 2018-2025. (p. 57, n. 71 & 72).	
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	36		
		No	9		
10.5: Regulation of global financial markets and institutions	1. Albania	Yes		Yes	Albania considers this goal to be partially aligned with its own national goals – see further details at 10.3 (p. 20). Somewhat indirectly related to this target, Albania does report on its desire to attract foreign direct investment. Albania will adopt a unified Investment Law to assist with this endeavour. The reform is also targeted at creating a comprehensive investment legal framework for domestic and foreign investors compatible with international good practices, and at developing a mechanism to systematically address investor grievances and increase investment retention" (p. 45).	
	2. Andorra	No		No		
	3. Armenia	No		No		
	4. Australia	Yes		No	Australia advances policies to promote open trade and investment and economic competitiveness (p. 73).	
	5. Bahamas	No		No		
	6. Bahrain	No		No		
	7. Benin	No		No		
	8. Bhutan	No		No		
	9. Cabo Verde	No		No	N/A	
	10. Canada	No		No	N/A	
	11. Colombia	No		No	N/A	
	12. Dominican	No		No	N/A	

Republic			
13. Ecuador	No	No	N/A
14. Egypt	No	No	
15. Greece	Yes	No	Also as part of the Report overview of SDGs 16.6 and 16.7, the Ministry of Finance is cooperating with the Bank of Greece to implement this SDG.
16. Guinea	Yes	Yes	In order to reach its objectives, the National Economic and Social Development Plan will give priority to different actions including improving access to diversified bank credit and financial services and adapted to the needs of the private sector during the period 2016- 2020.
17. Hungary	No	No	
18. Ireland	Yes	No	Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF FINANCE. Not otherwise discussed with specificity.
19. Jamaica	No	No	
20. Lao PDR	No	No	N/A
21. Latvia	No	No	
22. Lebanon	No	No	N/A
23. Lithuania	No	No	
24. Mali	No	No	
25. Malta	No	No	However, Malta itself set the Malta Development Bank to address market failures by offering financial facilities to support sustainable development when the market is unable or unwilling to assist. MDB intends to engage in: private sector development, skills and technology, infrastructure, green economy and community services (health, education and housing).
26. Mexico	Yes	No	It is a challenge to ensure financial stability of the social security and pension systems, as well as eradicating structural discrimination against senior citizens (p. 65). It is a challenge to strengthen the stability of Mexico's financial system when faced with shocks arising from global markets (p. 65).

27. Namibia	No	No	N/A	
28. Niger	No	No		
29. Palestine	No	No	N/A	
30. Paraguay	No	No	N/A	
31. Poland	No	No	N/A	
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A	
33. Romania	No	No		
34. Saudi Arabia	No	No		
35. Senegal	Yes	No	According to the VNR, this does not apply to Senegal as such. Page 72	
36. Singapore	No	No	N/A	
37. Slovakia	No	No		
38. Spain	Yes*	No	This SDG was only acknowledged.* There was no explanation.	
39. Sri Lanka	No	No		
40. Sudan	No	No		
41. Switzerland	No	No		
42. Togo	No	No		
43. UAE	No	No		
44. Uruguay	No	N/A	N/A	
45. Vietnam	No	No		
Total VNRs (45)	Yes	8		
	No	37		

10.6: Representation in global economic markets and institutions	1. Albania	No	No	Indirectly covered in context of desire to accede to EU, and changes to foreign investment laws (see 10.5).
	2. Andorra	No	No	
	3. Armenia	Yes	Yes	"Armenia is party to multiple international conventions and agreements and undertook a broad set of commitments related to environmental protection and sustainable development." "In addition, Armenia received significant support from international financial organizations and the donor community to implement large scale institutional and infrastructural programs and projects that directly and indirectly contribute to the attainment of sustainable development objectives." Main partners in this field of cooperation include: UNDP, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, European Union and Council of Europe. (p. 28)

"Armenia is a party to "Greening Economies in the Eastern Partnership" (EaP GREEN) program which aims to improve both environmental policies and management approaches within a green economy framework. This should result in higher productivity and competitiveness in global markets, as well as better management of natural capital, enhanced environmental quality of life, and more resilient ecosystems and economies. EaP GREEN targets six Eastern neighbors of the European Union: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine, with support provided by the European Commission and four international organizations – OECD, UNECE, UNEP and UNIDO." (p. 29). |
	4. Australia	Yes	No	Australia supports voting power reforms to "align shareholding of the international financial institutions with member countries' economic weights" (p. 73).
	5. Bahamas	No	No	
	6. Bahrain	No	No	
	7. Benin	No	No	
	8. Bhutan	No	No	
	9. Cabo Verde	No	No	N/A
	10. Canada	Yes	Yes	Canada has been pursuing its Progressive Trade Agenda, which seeks to ensure that all segments of society can take advantage of and otherwise benefit from the opportunities that flow from trade and investment. Most recently, the provisional application of the Canada-EU CETA and the modernization of the Canada-Chile FTA are examples of how progressive approaches can be included in trade agreements. (p.

			82)
11. Colombia	No	N/A	N/A
12. Dominican Republic	No	N/A	N/A
13. Ecuador	No	N/A	N/A
14. Egypt	No	No	
15. Greece	No	No	
16. Guinea	No	No	
17. Hungary	No	No	
18. Ireland	Yes	No	Implementation steps: IMF and World Bank Group membership, advocating for developing country representation therein (70). Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF FINANCE
19. Jamaica	No	No	
20. Lao PDR	No	No	N/A
21. Latvia	No	No	
22. Lebanon	No	No	N/A
23. Lithuania	No	No	
24. Mali	No	No	
25. Malta	Yes	Yes	Malta supported the work of the EU Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) / GSP+ / Everything But Arms (EBA), Africa Caribbean and Pacific Economic Partnership Agreements, the inclusion of trade and sustainable development provisions in EU FTAs, and the commencement and finalisation of FTA negotiations with developing countries. It has also supported special and differentiated treatment for the most vulnerable developing countries in the WTO negotiations (e.g. special treatment under the Trade Facilitation Agreement). However, it also considers that a

			differentiation between the development levels of developing countries should be taken into account, with Least Developed Countries (LDCs) being a priority. Malta, as part of the EU already provides duty-free, quota-free (DFQF) treatment for imports from LDCs under the EBA instrument. Furthermore, Malta, as part of the EU has also deepened its commitments in the services sector to the LDCs (as part of the Special and Differential Treatment (SDT)). Moreover, Malta has also engaged in Commonwealth discussions on trade and development policy issues (p66)
26. Mexico	Yes	No	52.1 million people have access to financial services (p. 62). 22.5% of micro-enterprise owners stated that they were unable to expand due to a lack of credit according to the National Study on the Productivity and Competitiveness of Micro, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (p. 62). It is a challenge to democratize and expand access to financial services (p. 63).
27. Namibia	No	No	N/A
28. Niger	No	No	
29. Palestine	No	No	N/A
30. Paraguay	No	No	N/A
31. Poland	No	No	N/A
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A
33. Romania	No	No	
34. Saudi Arabia	No	No	
35. Senegal	No	No	
36. Singapore	No	No	N/A
37. Slovakia	No	No	
38. Spain	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: Spain advocates multilateralism, dialogue and cooperation with all countries as the best response to current global challenges (VNR, p. 81).

				Implementation steps: Maintaining continuing efforts pursuant Act 23/1998, of 7 July, on international cooperation for development and Act 2/2014, of 25 March, on the action and external service of the State; and faithfully implementing the Strategy for External Action along with the 5th Master Plan for Spanish Cooperation (2018-2021), which both focus on "the international fight against poverty, on the need for solidarity with developing countries, on the economic and social development of all States, on the defence of the environment and on promoting strong, legitimate, multilateral institutions" (VNR, p. 81). Data sources: Report on Financing for Development, published by the European Commission to reflect progress in achieving the AAAA, in support of developing countries, by the EU as a whole and by each of its Member States (VNR, p. 81). Technology used for measuring progress: Reporting. Human rights institutions for reporting processes & universal periodic review: European Commission on Human Rights (VNR, p. 81). *Details mentioned only in the context of SDG 17.	
39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	Even as a developing country, Sri Lanka has participated in international economic and financial institutions, including the UN Conference on Trade and Development (over which a Sri Lankan was Secretary-General from 1974-1984), and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (p. 92). However, Sri Lanka's integration with the global economy remains low; Sri Lanka is establishing a National Single Window to improve trade facilitation (p. 92).	
40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	The Sudan VNR recognises the potentials for increasing trade with neighbouring countries, especially given the development of advanced transportation networks (p.7). There is a particular focus on agriculture, such as the implementation of the Sudan Initiative for Achieving Food Security in the Arab Countries (p.6). Sudan plans to restructure the Agricultural Bank and the Animal Resources Bank and other finance institutions to provide credit for small producers. Sudan also plans to 'take advantage of opportunities from WTO' (p.44), through the application of agriculture laws which were passed recently, such as the bills on rural development and food security, or the reduction of poverty.	
41. Switzerland	No	No		

	42. Togo	No	No	
	43. UAE	Yes	No	See page 94
	44. Uruguay	No	N/A	N/A
	45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	Vietnam is becoming a prominent player at multilateral institutions and fora. For example, it has been elected to various UN agencies such as the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) from 2014 to 2016, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) from 2016 to 2018, and the World Heritage Committee and Executive Council of UNESCO from 2015 to 2019. As a member of the Human Rights Council, Vietnam proposed several initiatives such as the Resolution on Climate Change and Child Rights, which was adopted by UNHRC consensus in July 2016, with 117 countries' support. Vietnam also actively worked with UN agencies to implement the "Delivers as One" initiative, promote its proactivity and creativity in management and use of development assistance, and make a practical contribution to restructuring the UN system. Vietnam is the first country to join the UN Green House, which is considered a symbol and example of successful cooperation between the UN and member countries. (p. 59).
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes 11 / No 34		
10.7: Safe migration & Migration Policies	1. Albania	Yes	Yes	Albania's Border and Migration Police is implementing the measures and obligations set out in the Inter-institutional Action Plan On the Prevention of Asylum Seeking of Albanian Citizens in Schengen / EU Countries, followed by the administrative orders of the General Director of Police and the Director of the Border and Migration Department 'On the control of notarial acts of juveniles at the border,' among others. The Alert system is installed in Trafficking Information Management System (TIMS), and will serve to identify at the border unaccompanied minors abandoned by their parents or guardians (p 17–18). In terms of the impact of these measures, Albania reports (p. 18): • In 2017, in comparison with the year before, the number of Albanian asylum seekers decreased by 24 percent. The latest report of the European Asylum Support Office (EASO; March 1, 2018) notes that Albania is no longer among the six countries with the highest number of asylum requests. • Recently, an increase in interceptions and incoming asylum requests to Albania during the end of 2017 and the first months of 2018 was observed.

				UNHCR foresees that this trend will continue into 2019, with an increase of twelve percent in arrivals, and 75 percent more asylum requests than in 2017. The International Organisation for Migration has been active in supporting the government developing a cross-cutting policy to migration governance. Albania considers this goal to be partially aligned with its own national goals – see further details at 10.3 (p. 20).
2.	Andorra	No	No	
3.	Armenia	Yes	Yes	The VNR specifically called out SDG 10.7, "Several aspects of migration governance, as under SDG 10.7, can also be an ongoing challenge in Armenia. For example, there is a need to better regulate labor migration to protect the rights of Armenian workers abroad, strengthen social and labor market integration opportunities for return migrants and meet the social and financial needs of families left behind as heads of households migrate, among other topics."
4.	Australia	Yes	Yes	Australia promotes safe migration via border management, a universal visa system, and migration programs (p. 74). Australia has also resettled humanitarian entrants from over 100 different countries and committed to a Humanitarian Program with 18,750 places each year from 2018-2019 (p. 74).
5.	Bahamas	Yes	No	The report indicates that the Government has made a policy commitment to expedite the processing of residency and citizenship applications for eligible migrants, but does not specify what specific steps have been taken to implement this commitment (pp. 93) The report further discusses the Government's plan to launch an online immigration application service for the submission of immigration applications, progress notifications, and online payment, but no timing for the launch of the service is given (p. 128)
6.	Bahrain	No	No	
7.	Benin	No	No	
8.	Bhutan	No	No	
9.	Cabo Verde	No	No	N/A
10.	Canada	Yes	Yes	In November 2017, Canada released a multi-year immigration levels plan to

				responsibly grow the number of permanent residents Canada welcomes annually, including economic immigration, sponsored family members and refugees. The Government works closely with provincial, territorial and municipal governments, private sponsors and NGOs to provide settlement and integration supports to newcomers, including language training, employment assistance and activities aimed at fostering social connections within communities. The Government is further committed to encouraging all permanent residents to acquire Canadian citizenship and benefit from permanently belonging in Canadian society. Besides, Canada is committed to evidence-based decision making and regularly conducts evaluations of Canada's immigration programs and policies, testing innovative approaches through pilot programs, as well as sharing best practices and learning from others. (p. 79)
	11. Colombia	No	No	N/A
	12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes	Migration is an important topic in the DR, in particular since the country experience both immigration and migration, roughly 5.6% of the population are immigrants and a great majority of this group originates from the neighbouring country Haiti. The DR has developed a national plan in order to regulate undocumented immigrants (p. 123). In addition, the VNR claims that the DR is the first country in the world that technically validates the Migratory Governance Index to measure this SDG (p. 122).
	13. Ecuador	No	No	N/A
	14. Egypt	No	No	
	15. Greece	Yes	No	The Ministry for Migration Policy focuses facilitating "safe, organised and regular migration" (p. 47).
	16. Guinea	No	No	
	17. Hungary	No	No	
	18. Ireland	Yes	No	Trends and challenges: Continued efforts for safe, legal migration Implementation steps: Various pathways to legal migration, such as labour, education, family reunification, and international protection; sustained involvement in UN Global Compact on Migration; free movement of people within European Economic Area countries and Switzerland. (69-70)

			Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY; with Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation for labour migration
19. Jamaica	Yes	No	[This exact SDG # was not mentioned explicitly, but the underlying topic was discussed.] National Working Group on International Migration and Development established in 2011, consisting of governmental, private, and civil society entities, involved in formulation of National Policy white paper in 2017 (pp. 67-8) National migration databased operationalized in 2017 (p. 68) Plan of Action developed in 2017 for reintegration of forced returnees (p. 68)
20. Lao PDR	No	No	It is reported that a data gap exists in respect of migration (page 43).
21. Latvia	No	No	
22. Lebanon	No	No	N/A
23. Lithuania	No	No	
24. Mali	Yes	No	The Malian government has developed a *Politique Nationale de Migration au Mali* (National Migration Policy) as a response to (a) the presence of the large diaspora, which is insecure and is little protected, (b) important, but disorganized, emigration flows, (c) increased important and diversified flow of returning migrants, (d) inadequate welcome, return or reintegration tools, (e) more and more frequent human trafficking, and (f) a desire to mobilize and value the diaspora's contributions in order to reduce poverty and support national development. The policy is supported by a desire to make migration a real asset for the development of the country, an important factor in the economic growth and social advancement to reduce in a sustainable manner poverty. (p. 48) The overall objective of the PONAM is to better manage migration, so that it contributes to the country's poverty reduction and sustainable development. Through the TOKTEN (Transfer of Knowledge through Expatriate Nationals) program, which aims to enable highly skilled migrants permanently settled abroad to make

				their experiences and expertise available to their countries of origin through short-term consultations. (p.48)
25. Malta	Yes	Yes	Malta is a receiving country in terms of migration flows On 15th December 2017, Malta's first-ever Migrant Integration Strategy and Action Plan, entitled 'Integration = Belonging', was launched. (p68) Malta's integrated border management strategy covers 11 components: (1) border control, (2) search and rescue, (3) risk analysis, (4) cooperation between Member States supported and coordinated by the Agency, (5) inter-agency cooperation among the national authorities, (6) cooperation with third countries, (7) technical and operational measures within the Schengen area to counter cross-border crime, (8) returns, (9) large-scale information systems, (10) quality control mechanism, and (11) Union funding instruments (p68)	
26. Mexico	Yes	Yes	Comprehensive Border Traffic Assistance Centers have been opened in Huixtla, Catazajá and Trinitaria, Chiapas, as have mobile social program in municipalities along the southern border (p. 64). Regional Visitor and Border Worker cards have been issued to immigrants from Guatemala and Belize who wish to work in one of the states along the southern border (p. 64). The Interior Secretariat and the Foreign Affairs Secretariat We Are Mexicans Strategy establishes comprehensive support measures for a safe, dignified return for deported Mexicans (p. 64). In 2017, the Technical Group for the Incorporation of a Gender Perspective into Aid and Protection Policies for Migrant Women was created as part of the Interior Secretariat's Council on Immigration Policy (p. 64). Creating formal mechanism that take advantage of the capacity of young migrants to act as agents of social change and economic development (65). The Program for the Prevention of Unaccompanied Migration by Children and Adolescents in the Northern Triangle of Central America has been undertaken by Mexico and Germany to benefit the Northern Triangle of Central America (p. 84).	

	27. Namibia	No	No	N/A
	28. Niger	No	No	
	29. Palestine	Yes	No	Israel's settlements and their segregated road infrastructure seriously hinder Palestinian mobility in Area C and across the West Bank (p. 73). Communities are forced to use detours that are between two and five times longer than the direct route. The separation of East Jerusalem, Gaza and the West Bank also severely hinders movement of people and goods between the three Palestinian territories.
	30. Paraguay	No	No	N/A
	31. Poland	Yes	No	Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation: "An appropriate migration policy is important for levelling out all developmental disproportions within the country and in the international context. Measures in this area will aim at creating a comprehensive, multidimensional instrument for human resources management covering e.g. preparing the concept of a responsible immigration policy targeted at the needs of the labour market and Polish entrepreneurs, creating integration paths for selected categories of foreigners, limiting the phenomenon of illegal immigration, development of integration instruments aimed at both foreigners coming to Poland and persons returning to the country. It should be stressed that refugees and persons with subsidiary protection, with the exception of electoral rights, have the same rights as Polish citizens." 63.
	32. Qatar	No	No	N/A
	33. Romania	No	No	
	34. Saudi Arabia	No	No	
	35. Senegal	No	No	
	36. Singapore	Yes	No	It is simply reported that this target is "in progress" but no further detail/data is given. (page 76)
	37. Slovakia	No	No	

	38. Spain	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: Spain hopes to develop and implement a "safe, orderly and regular migration policy, one that takes into account the needs of the Spanish labour market and also those of the country of origin" (VNR, p. 61). It will also be a challenge to account for the need to take action consistent with acting in solidarity with those forced to leave their countries (*Id*.). Implementation steps: Analysing means of promoting migration, for employment, study, research or training while paying special attention to the financial and knowledge-based contributions of migration to economic and social development (VNR, p. 62); and following the Master Plan for Spanish Cooperation in an effort to bolster the countries of origin thus addressing the root causes of migration (*Id*.). Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Ministry of Labour (VNR, p. 97).
	39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	In 2016, the Sri Lankan government established the Safe Labour Migration Programme with support from the Swiss Government, and in 2017 established a minimum wage (300 USD) for migrant workers (p. 91).
	40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	The Sudan aims to reduce migration to towns so as to minimize rural-urban migration (p.45), by increasing the employment opportunities and development of rural areas. Specifically, the Sudan will increase spending on rural infrastructure and empower rural societies to participate in decision making.
	41. Switzerland	Yes	No	It advocates secure migration paths and combats irregular migration. At a European level, it advocates spreading the burden fairly and supporting initial host countries. Switzerland attaches great importance to the integration of foreign nationals and supports measures to improve language, education, employability, information transfer and social integration. This is generally done through formal public institutions (especially schools) as well as through VET and in the workplace. Where special integration needs are identified, specific integration programmes provide support for language learning, occupational integration, career guidance and protection against discrimination (p. 16).
	42. Togo	No	No	
	43. UAE	No	No	
	44. Uruguay	No	N/A	N/A

	45. Vietnam	Yes	No	Vietnam is participating in consultations aimed at developing content for the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, proposed by the UN in September 2016. (p. 59).
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	20	
		No	25	
11.1: Safe Housing	1. Albania	Yes	Yes	Albania selected the following indicator to assess this target (p. 98): Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlement or inadequate housing (indicator 11.11) Albania reports that SDG Goal 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) is 59% aligned with the national policy in Albania (relevantly, it notes that goals 11.1, 11.2, and 11.7 to be partially aligned) (p. 62).
	2. Andorra	Yes	Yes	100% of the population has access to housing with drinking water and electricity. In addition, no "homeless" has been registered in Andorra. This is due to the fact that social services cover the basic necessities - housing, water, electricity, heating, food and hygiene - of 45 people who are without economic resources (p. 48) In 2005, the Government set up specific help for housing. In 2017, 1,288 people (or families) applied for housing assistance, 872 requests were granted (p. 49).
	3. Armenia	Yes	Yes	VNR reported on population in slums and informal settlements – "The share of the urban population living in slums has been decreasing in Armenia. In 2016, there were 1.7 people living in slums per 100,000 population. The Government of Armenia, through its social programs of housing, is able to provide only a limited amount of affordable housing to households affected by natural or other disasters, as well as to young families." (p. 62) VNR reported on urban water and sanitation, and waste management – "The urban population in Armenia is provided with improved water and sanitation services - 98 percent of the population in has access to safely managed drinking water services, and more than 96 percent of urban population has access to safely managed sanitation services. 99 percent of urban solid waste is regularly collected with adequate final discharge out of total urban solid waste generated by cities." (p. 62)
	4. Australia	Yes	No	See SDG 11.2 notes below.
	5. Bahamas	Yes	Yes	The Government's Access to Affordable Homes Bill, 2018 aims to provide service-ready parcels of land to individuals at a reduced cost on the islands of New Providence, Andros, Abaco, Exuma and San Salvador with the goal of increasing home

				ownership throughout The Bahamas (p. 101)

The Government's Shanty Town Action Task Force (SATF) surveyed New Providence's ten Shanty Towns and sought to help residents find alternative accommodations before closing the settlements—the report indicates that the goal was to have the Shanty Towns closed by July 31, 2018, but there is no indication of the project's success or failure (p. 101) | |
| | 6. Bahrain | Yes | Yes | Bahrain's strategic masterplan has been developed with a view to providing residents with modern and safe housing and public infrastructure. The Ministry of Housing seeks to provide such housing to persons falling with the limited income bracket and have sought to do so via public private partnerships and innovative financing schemes. Bahrain has provided 100% coverage to residents to electricity, water and sewage networks. | |
| | 7. Benin | No | No | P. 82 indicates sources but does not provide any data. | |
| | 8. Bhutan | Yes | Yes | As a developing nation, Bhutan continues to undergo fast socio-economic with rapid urbanization. The Population and Housing Census of Bhutan (PHCB) 2005 initially highlighted the trend: urbanization increased from 15 per cent in 1995 to 20 per cent in 2000 and 31 per cent in 2005, with figures from the 2017 census set to reaffirm this trajectory. By 2040, the urban population is expected to double in size.

Traditionally, Bhutan's settlement system consisted of villages developed around administrative centers and monastery complex. Patterns and forms of settlements were mostly shaped by the availability and topography of the land, availability of water, safety and security. However, with the introduction of modern development in the 1960s, new forms of settlements based on trade and commerce developed, and continue as the mainstay of urban planning to this date.

The Government considers human settlements as both living spaces and cultural landscapes. They should develop as parts of an integrated system that considers the need for quality social services, environmental sustainability, disaster risk reduction, and climate change adaptation. Bhutan's strategies and policy instruments are geared towards ensuring that cities and settlements are inclusive, livable and affordable. The Government launched its Bhutan National Urbanization Strategy in 2008, developed the National Human Settlement Policy, drafted Spatial Planning bill and Guideline for Differently Abled Friendly Construction. The 11th FYP Plan implemented human settlement development programs and projects to enhance the provision of basic | |

services in both urban and rural areas, enhancing the livability of the four major Thromdes and mainstreaming disaster management into human settlement plans. Similarly, the 12th FYP has prioritized "*Livability, Safety and Sustainability of Human Settlements Improved*" as one of its National Key Result Areas (NKRAs)*,* and a Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA) Plan on human settlements has been developed, ready for investment.

Despite the positive and enabling policy environment, Bhutan's urbanization trend has given rise to multiple challenges. An estimated 10 per cent of Thimphu city's population live in informal settlements. Cities are seeing an increased demand for safe water, and sanitation and solid waste management are becoming major issues. Air pollution is rising with a tripling of light vehicles on Thimphu's roads since 2005. Since most prime agriculture land and urban settlements are situated along the river banks, flooding and the damage it causes increase annually, aggravated by the increasing frequency and intensity of rain caused by climate change. River flood hazards are classified as 'high' for Bhutan and managing flash floods could become a new normal for the country.

Bhutan also falls within the active seismic zones IV and V of the India tectonic plate, where V comprises the areas most at risk. The India plate is driving into the Euroasia plate on which Bhutan sits at a rate of approximately 47 mm per year. Experts indicate that the resulting pressure build-up means a major earthquake is only a matter of time. In 2009, a magnitude 6.1 earthquake claimed 12 lives, damaged 4950 rural homes and number of government facilities including school and health centers. As more people move to cities, the potential for mass damage and mass casualties in a severe earthquake increases. Efforts are underway to enhance disaster preparedness and contingency planning, and to map who is vulnerable to seismic activity, based on their housing typology to help ensure swift and targeted post-disaster response. But urban settlements are not yet ready to withstanding a major natural disaster.

While efforts to develop sustainable human settlement are being pursued, Bhutan faces increasing challenges in balancing economic development and conserving its cultural heritage and environmental assets. Drying up of water sources and increasing waste generation in urban areas are emerging issues that pose challenges to sustainability. To address these issues the Government has initiated providing incentives for management of the protected zones within Thromde boundary and

			implementation of Waste Presentation and Management Act. Housing shortage is prevalent in all major urban cities and in almost all the districts, spurred by the increasing number of people. The BLSS 2017 reported that about 60 per cent of people owned their own dwellings, out of which 83 per cent households were in rural areas and only 17 per cent in urban areas. 62 per cent of households in urban areas rented their dwellings. In line with the policy to provide safe and affordable housing, the National Housing Development Corporation Limited (NHDCL) was established in 2009 and developed 1134 housing units between 2000 and 2017. The surge in private investment in housing sector in the recent years has helped narrow the gap between supply and demand for housing especially in urban areas like Thimphu and Phuntsholing. This becomes a critical issue to be addressed as it plays a key socio-economic role. The Government is revising the National Housing Policy of 2002 to create enabling environment for affordable housing. **[Pages 58 and 59]**	
	9. Cabo Verde	Yes	Yes	The main housing problem in Cabo Verde has to do with the degradation of housing, especially in rural areas and among poor families. At least 64 out of every 100 people live in houses with problems of roof infiltration and with infiltration and moisture problems in walls. (p. 12) (Note that different date is provided on p. 88, which states that 49 out of every 100 households are homes with roof infiltration problems and 52 out of every 100 have infiltration and moisture problems in their walls.) Regarding the national urban profile, the informal risk area increased significantly, and surpassed 40% in 2015. The State of Cabo Verde adopted in 2017 the National Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction covering the period 2017-2030. (p. 12) The Government has developed and is implementing a National Policy for Territorial Planning and Urban Development under the New Urban Agenda (2016-2036), and is in the process of preparing the National Housing Policy that will be effective for 20 years. (p. 12) In Cabo Verde, people with visual, motor or hearing disabilities face physical, architectural and mobility barriers. Both housing and services buildings have no access, movement and hygiene functionalities adapted to these people. On a smaller scale in education and health, but especially in terms of accessibility and urban mobility, part of the population with disabilities is in danger of being left behind. (p.	

28)

In Cabo Verde, only 1.4% of households are considered non-traditional housing, which includes shanties, and the vast majority of households (98.6%) consist of independent housing or apartments. (p. 88) Note, however, that the cities of Cabo Verde also include informal settlements, which are subdivisions, irregular construction and other settlements marked by some form of administrative and patrimonial irregularities. Although there is no precise data regarding the total number of families and dwellings in the informal settlements of Cabo Verde, it is possible to conclude that this phenomenon is present in a large part of the cities of the country. The political and management challenge facing Cabo Verde is the search for alternatives capable of stopping and preventing the formation of new precarious urban settlements, through preventative policies in favor of the poorest populations, along with measures that offer solutions for housing and formal urban development (p. 90)

A new national program for the improvement of informal settlements is expected for the period of 2018-2022 with seven axes of intervention – disaster risk reduction and environment, urban mobility, basic services, rehabilitation and resettlement, local urban governance, local economic development urban citizenship and capacity building. (p. 90)

20% of poor households and 30% of the population living in extreme poverty lack access to electricity, particularly those living in rural areas. Just over half (53.2%) of the poor households have access to piped water, but only 50.8% obtain water primarily from the public network. Just over half (55.2%) of the poor households and about 40.4% of the extreme poor have access to sanitation, that is, have a toilet connected in large measure to septic tanks, being that only 13.1% of poor households have access to the public sewage system. (p. 88)

10. Canada	Yes	Yes	Canada introduced its $40 billion, 10-year National Housing Strategy in 2017 to enable more Canadians to have a place to call home by promoting diverse communities and building housing that is fully integrated. Besides, Build Smart: Canada's Buildings Strategy ($182 million over 8 years) aims to make new homes and buildings more efficient, retrofit existing homes and buildings and improve the energy efficiency of appliances and equipment used. (pp. 84-85)
11. Colombia	Yes	Yes	There are political programs in place for housing subsidies, further data not provided. (p. 44). Furthermore, access to safe sanitation has improved by 15%, currently at

			88.2% (p. 97). The statistics provided in relation to this SDG suggest development in a positive direction (p. 99).	
12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes	The VNR includes information that around 2/3 of the population in the DR are covered by social security (p. 196). While statistics remain scarce, the VNR estimates based on numbers from 2014 that roughly 1 million Dominicans live in informal settlements, which represents about 12.1 % of the population, the percentage for the year 1990 was roughly 28 % as a point of reference. (p. 124). It is also worth to mention that the DR has experienced 52 natural disasters since 1990, which also impact living conditions in particular for the poor parts of the population.	
13. Ecuador	Yes	No	Between 2014 and 2017 the water coverage improved from 66.4 % to 71.9% and the sewage coverage improved from 64.1 % to 66%. Several steps are being implemented in particular towards improvements in rural areas through the Mission Water and Sanitation for Everyone (Sp. Agua y Saneamiento para Todos) (p. 16, 56-58, 85).	
14. Egypt	Yes	Yes	The report lists the percentage of households connected to water (96.9%) and sanitation networks (55.9%) and proportion of slum areas to total urban area (37.5%) (page 44). It discusses efforts to upgrade slum areas to secure safe housing for all, including specific statistics on new housing units constructed (page 46). It also talks about efforts to provide housing for low-income households (page 12).	
15. Greece	No	No	Not mentioned specifically (only treated generally as SDG 11) (p. 62).	
16. Guinea	Yes	Yes	Guinea has a housing and urbanization policy (found in the code of urban planning, land code and building and housing code) but it is not implemented. This explains the disorganized urbanization and the existence of a relatively large number of slums (p.11). The number of Guineans living in slums has decreased over the years since the 1990s (17.3% in 2012 and expected to be at 15.4% in 2015). (p. 69) The Guinea government further adopted an urban infrastructure program, the objective of which is to improve the living environment of 75% of Guineans living in precarious settlements and substantially increase their access to safe housing. (p. 71)	
17. Hungary	No	No		
18. Ireland	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: Lowest EU percentage of population living in noise polluted areas and second best air quality (71); increased recycling (id.); rising homelessness due to increasing house and rent prices in cities (id.).	

				Implementation steps: Action Plan on Housing and Homelessness Rebuilding Ireland, to increase housing supply with five pillars for action (1. Address homelessness, 2. Accelerate social housing, 3. Build more homes, 4. Improve the rental sector, 5. Utilize existing housing) with stated progress in Q4 2017 (72); National Planning Framework to 2040 and National Development Plan 2018-2027, creating a high-level plan for Ireland's sustainable economic, social, and environmental growth as the population increases (73). Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF HOUSING, PLANNING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
	19. Jamaica	Yes	Yes	[This exact SDG # was not mentioned explicitly, but the underlying topic was discussed.] Table 5: Housing Quality Index for 2006-2015 (p. 71; compiled by Planning Institute of Jamaica with data supplied by Statistical Institute of Jamaica) Mortgage Bank Act amended to reduce down payments (p. 70) Squatter and resettlement policy to be developed (p. 70) Housing, Opportunity, Production and Employment Programme (2017) National Land Titling Programme to secure tenure (p. 70) Water, waste, electricity, sanitation services provided through government programs (p. 71)	
	20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	It is reported that Lao PDR has adopted its own definition of inadequate housing. The UN definition notes that this SDG indicator means households that lack one or more of the following: durable housing, sufficient living space, easy access to safe water, access to adequate sanitation, and security of tenure. In the Lao context, the 2013 MDG Progress Report defined "inadequate housing" as houses with any one of the following: unsafe water, inadequate sanitation, and earthen floor (or floor with "fundamental materials"). The same approach is taken for SDG 11. (page 45)	
	21. Latvia	No	No		
	22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	Housing remains one of the challenges linked to urban expansion. Lebanon has public institutions (the Public Corporation for Housing and the Housing Bank) that support	

				low-and middle-income households by offering them subsidised loans. The housing sector consumes substantial amounts of energy and most structures have inefficient insulation, which leads to high costs for cooling and heating. (page 56)
23. Lithuania	No	No		
24. Mali	No	No		
25. Malta	Yes	No		Only discussed briefly in context of poverty reduction and assessment. (SDG 1)
26. Mexico	Yes	No		50% of dwellings already meet the necessary quality standards according to Agrarian, Land and Urban Development Secretariat ("SEDATU") and the National Commission for Preventing Ad Eradicating Violence Against Women (p. 52). It is essential to expand the Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Program, which currently only covers six states, 60 municipalities and 400 rural communities (p. 54).
27. Namibia	Yes	Yes		The lack of housing remains an issue in Namibia. There is a scarcity of serviced municipal land and consequently high prices are charged for property in urban areas. In 2016, 19 percent of households lived in informal settlements. Provision of housing provision is more concentrated on urban areas which has resulted in an urban-rural imbalance.
28. Niger	Yes	Yes		The urban population living in slums or inadequate housing has decreased over the last few decades (from 53.1% in 1992, to 28.8 in 2012 and to 14.7% in 2017), with the expectation that it will be reduced to 10% in 2021 and that no one will be living in slums by 2030. (pp. 8 and 50) Efforts are being made with respect to waste management, including with respect to waste collection and treatment (including by limiting the importation and use of plastic bags). (p. 8) Niger is aiming to ensure access to housing for all population and basic services, as well as to reinforce lasting urbanisation for all and planning and management. (p. 37) Planning and sustainable management. Only the cities of Niamey, Tahoua, Agadez, Zinder, Maradi, Dosso and Mirriah have urban planning blueprint, although these appear to be outdated. (p. 50) Niger is working towards collecting and treating waste. Certain NGOs and associations

| | | | | have promoted initiatives and projects regarding the same. Niger has adopted a law prohibiting the importation and use of plastic bags (used as packaging), although such law is not yet in effect. (p. 50)

The *Politique Nationale de l'Environnement et du Developpement Durable* (Environment and Sustainable Development National Policy) (PNEDD) believes that 70% of households in cities with more than 100,000 residents and 50% of households in cities with 50,000 to 10,000 residents will have a waste management system by 2035. (p. 51)

Pursuant to the PDES, improving the population's living conditions has been a primary concern, and includes the following key steps:
• Updating and operate the national urban development policy adopted in 2004;
• Implement the operational strategy promoting hygiene and basic sanitation;
• Improve availability of decent housing by building 5,000 units per year in the country;
• Promote better management of urban space; and
• Build waste management infrastructure in urban areas. (p. 52)

Poverty, building construction and acquisition costs, seasonal influx of migrants, and the sluggish supply or certain services (including water and electricity) are part of the factors aggravating the precariousness of housing. In order to find a sustainable solution to this issue, Niger is considering (i) developing a national strategy to improve and prevent slums, and (ii) develop mechanism to finance housing. (p. 53) | |
| | 29. Palestine | Yes | Yes | Adequate, safe and affordable housing remains a key challenge (p. 72):
• In East Jerusalem, there is a chronic shortage of more than 10,000 housing units, and the lack of housing has dramatically increased house prices by 192% between 2007 and 2012.
• In Gaza, the weak urban basic services and infrastructure have left many living in debilitated housing conditions, with a shortage of 70,000 housing units and a need for 13,000 extra houses per year.

The Israeli occupation poses the biggest challenge to achieving sustainable cities and resilient communities, by creating inadequate housing, overcrowding, construction limitations, and competing settlements (p. 73). | |

			• Israeli rule has created an urban planning challenges for Palestinian Jerusalemites, who are not adequately represented in official planning considerations and are vulnerable to discriminatory Israeli policies. • The main cause of housing shortages in East Jerusalem is the restrictive construction permit system for Palestinians and the destruction of unapproved homes. • In Area C, the Israeli authorities approved only three out of 101 local development master plans, leading to a chronic housing shortage. • Reconstruction efforts in Gaza have been hampered by punitive Israeli restrictions, which restrict the entry of dual use items, and funding shortages. The Government has completed 23 urban plans in 2017 and provided continuous assistance to local councils in creating and executing their urban plans (p. 73). The Government took steps to provide basic necessities to its communities, which include connection with the water, sewage, and electricity networks and providing affordable housing (pp. 74, 90).
	30. Paraguay	Yes	No	Paraguay is currently developing its Living and Housing National Policy. Such policy has been published for citizen comments (p. 33). The report does not specify, however, what actions this policy is expected to include.
	31. Poland	No	No	N/A
	32. Qatar	Yes	Yes	Law No. 2 on the housing system aims to provide citizens with adequate housing (pp. 35). • Beneficiary granted cash to buy land or allocated a piece of land to build a house. • Housing loan granted on concessional terms to be repaid in 30 years. • Provision of housing units through acquisition or rent. Housing allowance payments are granted to employees (pp. 35). Qatari housing system beneficiaries include unmarried Qataris, Qatari women married to non-Qataris, divorced and widowed Qatari women, and social welfare recipients (such as, disabled, orphaned, and unemployed) (pp. 35).

				Qatar National Master Plan 2032 includes goals that promote provision of suitable housing for all (pp. 35).
	33. Romania	Yes	Yes	Romania provides statistics on how people living in households with poor conditions have declined between 2010 and 2016. This is mainly due to a dedicated Habitat for Humanity program, and Romania provides that actions to further improve the situation includes: • Providing integrated solutions (social housing, education, health, insertion on the labor market) for the population living in disadvantaged and marginalized areas in cities • Ensuring access to utilities and basic services for the most vulnerable, living in precarious conditions inside or at the outskirts of urban centers • Ensure safe and secure and accessible housing for all people (pp. 59-61)
	34. Saudi Arabia	Yes	Yes	Royal Decree issued to Ministry of Municipal & Rural Affairs to cooperate with the UN Settlements Program to implement the "Future Saudi Cities Program" which seeks to promote sustainable urbanization and attain balanced development. It intends to develop and diversify entertainment opportunities, reduce all types of pollution, upscale the quality of services provided in Saudi cities, enable suitable home ownership among Saudi families and improve the urban scene. (pg. 110)
	35. Senegal	Yes	Yes	The VNR mentions the new law adopted in this respect in 2016 and the number of social housing build in 2015, 2016 and 2017. The VNR however acknowledges that these numbers are below the original objective. The Social Housing Orientation Law was adopted in 2016 and the housing supply was strengthened thanks to the efforts of private developers and the actions of SNHLM and SICAP. As part of the acceleration of the Social housing offer, 6,179 housing units were completed in 2017, 10,008 in 2016 and 8,500 in 2015. The result recorded in 2017 reflects a gap of 3,821 units compared to the target of 10,000, linked among other factors to difficult access to developed land and mortgage and the lack of subsidies for construction and financing of housing for the population. There are the difficulties of the SNHLM and its forecasts for the production of 3,400

			housing units at the Diamniadio site, which could not be realized because of the Sendou ore port project. (p 74)
36. Singapore	Yes	Yes	Over 80% of Singapore's resident population live in public housing built by the Housing and Development Board (HDB). More than nine in ten of these resident households in public housing own their flats. Public housing is heavily subsidised to ensure that it is highly affordable. Singapore has put in place a progressive system of housing grants, on top of subsidised purchase prices for new HDB flats. The Building and Construction Authority (BCA) champions a strong culture of safety awareness and regulation in the built environment sector. Through regular reviews, BCA upholds high safety standards while ensuring that the regulatory regime remains relevant even as projects grow in size and engineering complexity. The design and construction of buildings in Singapore are regulated under the Building Control Act and Regulations. This includes a rigorous system of checks and controls throughout the entire building lifecycle of design, construction, commissioning the building before occupation, and maintenance after completion. Under the Periodic Structural Inspection regime, regular inspections must be conducted on completed buildings by professional engineers to inspect and assess the building condition and recommend rectification measures if necessary. BCA's regulatory control also extends to lifts and escalators. Owners must obtain a permit from BCA for each lift and escalator, carry out monthly maintenance, and test them annually. Contractors have to maintain the lifts and escalators in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations and relevant standards. (page 37)
37. Slovakia	No	No	
38. Spain	Yes	No	Trends and challenges: See 11.3 Implementation steps: Adopting the Spanish Urban Agenda strategic goal 8 (VNR, p. 108), see 11.3; Passing the Balearic Islands Housing Bill, for accessible, permanent housing (VNR, p. 135). Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Ministry of Infrastructure (VNR, p. 97).
39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	The Report references SDG 11.1 specifically only once in connection with the statistic that only 0.8% of the population lives in a slum, p. 51. However, the Report also describes other housing-related efforts including a project by the Urban Development

				Authority to provide 50,000 housing units for low and middle income groups and has completed nearly 7000 houses as of April 2018 (p. 52). Through this project and others like it, Sri Lanka has increased the percentage of population living in permanent housing from 42% in 1981 to 81% in 2012 (p. 51).
40. Sudan	Yes	Yes		'Rehabilitation and integration activities (e.g., water, housing, security, and settlement) are priorities for peace building, prosperity and sustainability' (p.5). The Social Initiative Program (SIP), adopted by the Ministry of Security and Social Development, provides an integrated package of services for 500,000 families from the poorest households. The project aims at provision of a diverse range of health services, education and income generating activities for poor households (p.47).
41. Switzerland	Yes	No		There are no severely impoverished areas (p.17). The proportion of rental costs in the disposable income of the poorest households (lowest 20%) in Switzerland came to **31%** in 2012/14 (p. 18).
42. Togo	Yes	Yes		Togo adopted a National Housing Strategy (SNL) in 2009 and in 2014 developed a National Habitat and Urban Development Policy aimed at (i) the harmonious and spatially balanced development of urban centres; (ii) facilitating access to decent housing; and (iii) the rational and sustainable management of waste (p. 24) With respect to facilitating access to decent housing, 540 social housing units are being built in Lomé, in the pilot phase. In addition, land acquired by the State for construction of social housing has increased from 13 hectares in 2016 to 36 hectares in 2017. In support of the Government's actions, three (3) major housing estates ("Cité des Anges", "Well City" and "Cité de la Renaissance") are being built by the private sector. (p. 25)
43. UAE	Yes	No		Coordinating Agency: Ministry of Infrastructure Development Abu Dhabi introduced Estidama, a sustainable building framework in 2010, including the Pearl Rating System for the design, construction and operation of buildings, dwellings and communities. All new buildings are required to obtain at least a one-pearl rating out of five, whereas all government buildings and dwellings must obtain a minimum of a two-pearl rating. Dubai also introduced Al Sa'fat green building evaluation system in 2016, while targeting the retrofitting of 30,000 old buildings. The UAE is among the top ten countries with the most LEED certified buildings outside the United States; 180 projects were certified by the year 2016.

	44. Uruguay	Yes	Yes	The right to housing and adequate living is part the constitution of Uruguay. The definition is rather abstract and has therefore been further defined in the National Housing Plan Law (Sp. La Ley del Plan Nacional de Viviendas) where adequate living has been defined as a space of 35 sqm having the correct amount of rooms corresponding to the necessity of the family residing there having access to water and electricity (p. 48-49).	
	45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	Legislation and policies such as the Law on Housing and the National Strategy for Housing Development until 2020 and Vision to 2030 have laid the foundation for all citizens to appropriately access housing services. (p. 60). Vietnam is experiencing strong urban development, with more than 770 cities, towns, and rural towns across the country. In tandem, housing has rapidly improved. Housing area per capita has increased from 16.7 m^2 in 2009 to 23.4 m^2 in 2017 and the proportion of households with simple and temporary houses decreased from 9.2% in 2014 to 7.8% in 2016. Given such achievements, the VNR anticipates that achievement of SDG 11.1 is feasible. However, safe and affordable housing remains a problem for poor and near-poor households due to high costs compared to their income, despite support and subsidies from the Vietnamese government. According to the Ministry of Construction (MOC), in 2017, there were 2,500 old apartment blocks (more than 3,000,000 m^2) built before 1994, including more than 600 damaged blocks. (p. 61). The development and implementation of social housing mechanisms and policies have benefited millions of households and individuals who receive state support. For more details, see Box 11. (p. 63). Polices related to SDG 11 have not adequately included some M&E indicators proposed by the UN and these indicators have not been systematically collected in Vietnam (e.g., the ratio of urban population living in slums, illegal settlements or inappropriate houses). (p. 60, n. 75).	
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	37		
		No	8		
11.2: Safe Transport	1. Albania	Yes	No	Albania considers this goal to be partially aligned with its own national goals – see further details at 11.1 (p. 62).	

				Transport is discussed, but not in the context of "inclusion" in Goal 11, but under Goal 9 (Industry, innovation and infrastructure) (p. 46ff).
2.	Andorra	Yes	Yes	The Government is working to improve collective public transport based on sustainability criteria using new technologies. The aim is also to provide public transport with more efficient and more accessible vehicles for disabled people, in agreement with the 2030 Agenda and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. In order to promote the use of public transport by older people and people with disabilities, the Government has created two cards that give them a free and unlimited access to public transport throughout the territory. 659 people benefit from the Carte Bleue for people with a disability recognized by CONAVA, 5.004 benefit from the Magna Card for people over 65 or 60 receiving a total disability pension (p. 50) Moreover, the government is giving subsidies to make the purchase of electric vehicles and has put in place a series of necessary infrastructures to this type of vehicles (p. 50) The Government and the different town halls have set up an electric bike rental system (p. 51).
3.	Armenia	No	No	
4.	Australia	Yes	Yes	Plan International Australia is working to improve the safety of cities, including for transportation, with projects in Melbourne and Sydney (p. 78).
5.	Bahamas	Yes	No	The Government is working on a Public Bus Unification project, which aims to streamline the public bus system into one corporate entity, but the report does not provide an update beyond March 2016, when the Inter-American Development Bank, which funded the project confirmed that the unification would begin through a pilot project (p. 97)
6.	Bahrain	No	No	
7.	Benin	No	No	
8.	Bhutan	Yes	Yes	To provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport for all, the Government continues to invest in improving road and air networks. In keeping with the vision of "*Bhutan Transport 2040: Integrated Strategic Vision*" in urban areas like Thimphu and Phuntsholing, public transport services have been introduced with ramps and designated seating for elderly citizens, pregnant women, and people with disabilities. Efforts to introduce green public transport and 'intelligent' transport

systems are also underway to reduce emissions, increase the ease of mobility, and improve 'livability' of Bhutan's cities as they grow (see Goal 9 for more information on transport). At the same time, to aid cultural vibrancy, the Human Settlement Strategy 2017 identifies the need to protect cultural and other heritage forms such as ecological sites from the negative impacts of urban development. [Page 58]

The transport sector is key for driving economic and social development and an important mechanism for raising a country's competitiveness and achieving inclusive and sustainable development. However, transportation is a major obstacle within and beyond Bhutan's border, given that the country is landlocked, and situated in geologically different terrain, raising the cost of construction as well as the cost of production. Bhutan therefore suffers from limited regional and international connectivity in terms of greater market integration.

India is by far the largest trading partner accounting for more than 80 per cent of the trade value. With the exception of small volumes of air freight, all trade is routed through the Asian Highway AH 48 that connects Thimphu to India (West Bengal) through Phuentsholing. Expansion of trade relationships beyond its current dominant trade partner, India, faces the hurdle of limited, as well as access to shipping ports.

The Government has built more than 18,396 km of roads, linking Thimphu with the Central and Eastern Districts, plus a series of north-south connections to the Indian Border, including the main access between Thimphu and the border at Phuentsholing. All the *Dzongkhags* are connected by blacktopped motorable roads forming part of the National Highway Network. Additionally, the Government is double laning the Northern East-West Highway (NEWH).

To make the road infrastructure resilient to impacts of climate change, as of 2016, 94 *Gewog* Centres (GCs) roads have been black-topped and 37 are underway. The Government has built 11,196 km of farm roads across the country. Upgradation of the two domestic air ports in the East and South will facilitate integration of regional trade and business for larger economic gains. Significant investment has been made in *Phuentsholing Thromde* to stabilize the climate change-related landslides.

To meet the objectives of "***Bhutan Transport 2040: Integrated Strategic Vision",*** the Government also updated its National Transport Policy that lays the foundation for an ecosystem approach to promote sustainable and inclusive transportation that is safe,

			reliable, accessible and affordable, encompassing land, air, and water transport, keeping in line with "green development" approach and SDG 9. To accelerate the implementation of this strategic vision, Bhutan is working towards a low-emission transport system, with priority on electric vehicles through the establishment of a network of quick charging stations and other incentives in the 12th FYP. A Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action plan for transport is also in place seeking for investment. With air pollution on the rise, a tripling of light vehicles on the road since 2005, and the population of the capital Thimphu set to double by 2040, investing in a green transport system for the future will be fundamental to realize Bhutan's carbon neutral promise. **[Pages 53 and 54]**	
9. Cabo Verde	Yes	Yes	One of the great constraints of Cabo Verde is the movement of people and goods in the national territory and among the country's islands. The Government has elaborated the Marine Policy Charter (CPMaR), which contains policy measures for the 2018-2021 aimed at promoting competitiveness in the of the maritime economy. The Government also approved the Maritime Safety Charge and amended the diploma that creates the Autonomous Fund for the Safety and Development of Maritime Transport (FADSTM) to improve the sustainability of the transport system. (p. 29) Cabo Verde has a good network of national and municipal roads and has automobiles in good condition such that the majority of the population has safe and easy access to transportation. Most of the Cities are small in size and, consequently, internal mobility does not depend on the availability of public transportation. (p. 88) Public transportation is high quality, reliable, safe and comfortable in the two largest cities, Praia and Mindelo. (p. 88) However, no city in Cabo Verde has mobility systems adapted for people with disabilities, and architectural barriers seriously limit accessibility. (p. 89)	
10. Canada	Yes	No	The federal government committed $28.7 billion over the next decade to support provinces, territories and municipalities in bolstering the capacity, quality, safety and accessibility of public transit infrastructure. (p. 85)	
11. Colombia	Yes	Yes	The VNR briefly mentions transportation improvements in two of the major cities, Medellin and Bogotá, where the implementation of air borne cable transport systems have improved access in marginalised areas, reduced time spent commuting and	

				improved safety for women. Women experience mobility limitations due to sexual abuse, although an improvement has been shown, the reduction between 2010 and 2015 went from 18% to 17.9% of women who filed reports that they had been touched or abused without their own consent (p. 47).
12. Dominican Republic	No	N/A		N/A (the DR indicates that it does not have access to sufficient statistics to report on the matter (p. 126)).
13. Ecuador	Yes	No		The development of and need for safe public transport is mentioned in several places in the VNR, however no further detail/data seems to have been presented (p. 23, 85, 157) apart from that 40% of children feels unsafe during public transport (p. 168).
14. Egypt	Yes	Yes		There is a national project for highway-building (page 22). Cairo's metro is being expanded and the bus system is being modernized (page 47). Initiatives to expand the use of bicycles are also under way (page 48).
15. Greece	Yes	Yes		The Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport is implementing activities to improve safety on roads and for vehicles, including the Strategic Plan for the improvement of road safety in Greece, 2011-2020 and an E-Drive Academy (p. 63). The Ministry is also promoting the development of a central surveillance system to monitor inspections carried out by Vehicle Technical Inspection Centres.
16. Guinea	Yes	No		The Guinean government seems to have adopted associating with the private sector in order to manage the transport sector. (p. 11) To improve traffic flow in Conakry, a suburban train "Conakry Express" started being in service in 2010 as well as a Transport Society operating a hundred buses. (p. 70) In 2008, the government ordered 100 buses, attempting to solve the problems in urban and interurban transportation. 3 years later, only a dozen buses remained operational. (p. 70) In 2012, the government created a new Guinean Transport Society, managed by the Department of Transport, which is to provide interurban transport in Guinea. The new operations began with 100 buses offered by China. Over 128 buses initially available, only 9 remained in circulated by 2016. (p. 70) Guinean authorities have opted to associated themselves with City Bus (a private Moroccan company) in order to manage the new Transport Society that will replace the one created in 2012. This new Transport Society will have 150 buses, 50 of which are to be offered by Turkey and 100 of which are to be provided by City Bus. These

				buses will be dispatched to Conakry for interurban transportation. (p. 70)	
	17. Hungary	Yes	Yes	Since 2016, electricity vehicles or ones meeting most advanced environmental requirements have been free of vehicle tax and no company car tax needs to be paid. (page 44) Since the establishment of a new Bus Replacement Program, changes have taken place at companies, meaning 150 new and 160 modern buses have been supplied. (page 44) In the last 15 years, Hungary has been organising Car-free Day, aiming to improve quality of life, public health and also promoting sustainable and clean public transport. (page 44) Since 2007, there have been approximately 1,750km of cycling roads constructed. (page 45) Bike sharing system expanded to another 7 cities. (page 45)	
	18. Ireland	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: Significant decrease in road accident deaths from 2000-2015 (71); continued lack of public transport access due to common low population density, still higher than EU averages (id.). Implementation steps: Public Service Obligation Funding for underfunded transport services (72); Rural Transport Programme for equalizing attention to rural area transport needs, run by 17 local offices, resulted in new commuter bus services (72-73); Sectoral Plan for Accessible Transport 'Transport Access for All,' formed from the Disability Act 2005, Comprehensive Employment Strategy, and others. Improves accessibility features in public transport (73); National Planning Framework to 2040 and National Development Plan 2018-2027 (see 11.1). Technology used for measuring progress: Mobile apps and electronic bus stop displays are used for transit accessibility (73). Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF TRANSPORT, TOURISM AND SPORT	
	19. Jamaica	Yes	No	[This exact SDG # was not mentioned explicitly, but the underlying topic was discussed.]	

			Urban areas served by mixture of public/private buses and taxis
			Bus services expanded (p. 72)
			Road Traffic Act with new offences/penalties, including restrictions on handheld devices (p. 72)
			Road Safety Hub launched (2017) (pp. 72-3)
			Vulnerability assessment of transport system in 2018 (p. 73)
20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	It is reported that the Vientiane city core area is being developed into an environmentally sustainable and pedestrian-friendly city. Following an urban development sector assessment in 2012, the Vientiane Sustainable Urban Transport Project was approved in 2015. The project aims to improve transportation systems in the capital city. The project will bring traffic and transportation management under the control of one unique entity. A Bus Rapid Transit system will be developed for Vientiane Capital, followed by improved traffic management, paid parking systems, and better accessibility for pedestrians and non-motor traffic in the core of the city. (page 45) It should be noted that there is no express reference to any transport project/policy factoring in those in those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons.
21. Latvia	Yes	Yes	Pilot system to provide on demand transport, available on request in rural parts of the country. Page 75
22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	In the quasi absence of public transport in Lebanon, the transport system mainly consists of private cars with a low occupancy of 1.2 passengers per car. Transport is a high priority for the government: it accounted for more than a third of the funding requested at the CEDRE conference with projects worth around USD5.6 billion. Through the Urban Transport Development Project for greater Beirut, the CDR has completed new road projects, including rehabilitating and constructing tunnels and bridges. This project also had a traffic management organisation component to better manage traffic. More recently the World Bank approved funding for the Greater Beirut Public Transport Project that will jumpstart the country's first modern public

			transport system, ease stifling congestion on Lebanese roads and unlock private finance to a vital infrastructure sector. This project will fall under the newly approved public-private partnership law that aims to attract private infrastructure investment. A Bus Rapid Transit project is also being tested for feasibility. The design concept proposes a re-configuration of the Beirut ring road to include the rapid bus transit. (page 56)
23. Lithuania	No	No	
24. Mali	Yes	No	The Malian government adopted the *Politique Nationale des Transports, des Infrastructures de Transport et du Desenclavement* (National Policy on Transport, Transportation Infrastructure and Non-Isolation) on October 28, 2015 in order to develop and ensure the operation and maintenance of an transportation infrastructure and create an environment conducive to the emergence of efficient, economic and trustworthy transportation activities, all in order to meet the needs of land-use planning from a social, economic and environmental point of view. (p. 45)
25. Malta	Yes	Yes	Malta has implemented a number of multimodal and modal shits to strengthen the efficiency, sustainability and integration within joint transport systems. The Road Safety Strategy (published in 2014) has a 10 year plan for safer land transport systems. The maritime and aviation sectors have established highly-developed accident analysis and mechanisms. The National Transport Strategy recognises the need to ensure an accessible and affordable transportation system to all disadvantaged social groups and the need to move towards a planning system which improves and facilitates affordable modes of transport (e.g. walking and cycling) and improve and increase public transport. (p69 - 71)
26. Mexico	Yes	Yes	It is a challenge to improve the quality of public transportation in Mexican cities to reduce its economic, environmental and social costs, which primarily affect vulnerable populations. There are efficiency, quality and safety challenges to achieving this (p. 53). Traffic accidents are the second most common cause of death in Mexico for children between the ages of 5 and 14, and the fifth most common cause of death for the

| | | | | population as a whole (INEGI, 2015) (p. 54).

Mobility is poor in Mexico's cities. In Mexico City, for example, only 40% of residents have access to a mass transit station less than 800 meters from their home (Institute for Transportation & Development Policy, 2014) (p. 54). |
|---|---|---|---|
| 27. Namibia | No | No | N/A |
| 28. Niger | Yes | No | The National Transport Agency strategy and its investment plan adopted in 2014 specify the anticipated measures to ensure access for all to safe, accessible and sustainable transport systems, at an affordable cost, by improving road safety. The SDDCI (Sustainable and Inclusive Growth Strategy), which sets forth the national development plan up to 2035, plans to reduce by approximately 50% the cost and travel time along major corridors in order to increase national and international trade flows and more specifically to facilitate access to urban centers for agricultural products. (pp. 51-52) |
| 29. Palestine | Yes | Yes | Public transport in Palestine mainly consists of private run vehicles and land transportation companies (p. 73). The number of intercity transportation vehicles is 1.5/1,000 citizens while the intra-city transportation vehicles number 2.2/1,000 citizens.

The public transportation sector suffers from the lack of governmental jurisdiction over Area C (p. 73). The Government is unable to respond to transportation safety hazards in these areas, and Israeli closures that continuously render the public transport system dysfunctional. Public transport between cities remain limited due to the lack of centralized transportation hubs within Palestinian cities
due to political volatility, which severely hinder the implementation of the national transportation plan.

The Government took steps to provide basic necessities to its communities, which include improving transportation services (pp. 74, 90). |
| 30. Paraguay | No | No | N/A |
| 31. Poland | Yes | No | Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation: Step included "implementation of low-carbon urban strategies, reducing air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions; [and] implementation of sustainable urban mobility strategies, the use of public transport or the creation of conditions for the |

			development of electromobility." 65. "Investment in urban transport infrastructure - development and integration of public transport systems improving the quality of connections - is also important." 65.
32. Qatar	Yes	Yes	In 2011-2016, 100% of Qatar's population had access to suitable transportation (pp. 33). Government has made progress in the preparation of Qatar Transport Master Plan (pp. 35): • 61% of the infrastructure completed in the first phase. • Completed 2,200 km of new roads, 12,000 parking spaces, 1,005 bridges and flyovers, and 59.3% of metro lines. 70% of Doha Metro project expected to be completed by end of 2018. Since 2016, new sea ports (e.g. Hamad Port and Ruwais Port) and airports (e.g. Hamad International Airport) have been inaugurated or become operational (pp. 35). In terms of road safety, mortality rate fell from 12 deaths to 6.9 deaths per 100,000 inhabitants, and pedestrian mortality fell from 3.5 deaths to 2.2 deaths per 100,000 inhabitants (pp. 36).
33. Romania	No	No	
34. Saudi Arabia	Yes	Yes	King Abdulaziz Project for Public Transport in Riyadh: Transport strategy developed with a goal to provide means of safe and easy mobility through development of a sustainable transport system that meets existing and forecasted mobility demand in the city. The project is deemed 68% complete with the Riyadh Metro offering 6 lines and 85 train stations and the Riyadh Rapid Bus Transit Project offering 7 Terminal stations and 1800 community bus stops. (pg. 115-116)
35. Senegal	Yes	No	The VNR only mentions that this target is part of their objectives for 2016-2020. In the objectives set out in the Sector Policy Letter of the Transport Infrastructure Sub-Sector 2016-2020 there are: • The development and modernizing transport services with the modernization of terminal land transport infrastructure and the development of a modern public transport system; • Promote good sectoral governance by strengthening road safety and security

			and facilitating transport in corridors. (p 74)	
	36. Singapore	Yes	Yes	Singapore aims for 75% of morning and evening peak journeys to be made using public transport by 2030, and at least 85% by 2050. To achieve this, Singapore's rail network will be expanded from 230 kilometres today to 360 kilometres by 2030, enabling eight in ten households to be within a ten-minute walk of a train station, and 85% of public transport journeys of less than 20 kilometres to be completed within 60 minutes. In addition, Singapore will be extending its bus networks and enhancing their service levels. In 2012, the Bus Service Enhancement Programme was introduced to provide commuters with better connectivity, more comfortable journeys, and shorter waiting times. Between 2012 and 2017, Singapore added 1,000 Government-funded buses and rolled out 80 new bus services to improve connectivity to major transport nodes and key community and commercial facilities. It is reported that Singapore continues to put in measures to guarantee the accessibility of public transport to all, including the elderly, disabled, visually-handicapped, and families with young children. Since 2006, all train stations have been equipped with at least one barrier-free entrance with a lift, a tactile guidance system, and wheelchair-accessible toilets. More than 85% of train stations now have barrier free access routes from the station entrance to the station platforms. Priority queue zones for passengers in need for boarding of trains, public buses and lifts were introduced in 2015, and have been implemented in 20 train stations and nine bus interchanges to date. Since April 2017, public buses are also equipped to allow parents to board with children in open strollers. By 2020, all public buses will be wheelchair-accessible. (page 38) Aside from promoting public transport and encouraging active mobility, Singapore is also encouraging a shift to cleaner vehicles. To help vehicle purchasers make more informed decisions, the country has introduced the Fuel Economy Labelling Scheme which provides information on the fuel efficiency of each vehicle model. Singapore has also introduced a scheme that provides rebates for low-emission vehicles and levies surcharges for high-emission ones. In December 2017, it rolled out an electric car-sharing programme, BlueSG, which will introduce 1,000 shared electric cars and 2,000 charging kiosks island-wide by 2020. In addition, the country intends to deploy 50 hybrid buses by the first quarter of 2019, and 60 electric buses by mid-2020 for trials. (page 39)	

37. Slovakia	Yes	Yes	Slovakia states that the role of the state is to provide its citizens with access to basic resources and services which are necessary for a high quality of life. One of the key services which ensure the quality and sustainability of urban and regional development, as well as the socio-economic stability of regions, is mobility. Therefore, priority needs to be given to the development of sustainable, innovative, affordable and accessible mobility for all, with a preference for public transport. Major tools for the systemic enhancement of public transport are the construction of Park&Ride facilities and reserved lanes for urban public transport, while simultaneously ensuring accessibility for persons with disabilities, affordability as well as the serviceability of remote areas. (p. 45)	
38. Spain	Yes	No	Trends and challenges: Spain is attempting to make cities more accessible in terms of transport and layout (VNR, pp. 64-65). A potential challenge going forward is strong dependence on private transport in more rural areas (VNR, p. 63). Implementation steps: Adopting the Spanish Urban Agenda strategic goal 5 (VNR, p. 108), see 11.3; the Balearic Islands Universal Accessibility Act, for transport and architecture in public and private sectors (VNR, p. 135). Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Interior; Ministry of Infrastructure; and Ministry of Science (VNR, p. 97).	
39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	The Report notes that bus transportation accounts for nearly 47% of the total motorized transportation (p. 52). The Ministry of Megapolis & Western Development has implemented programs related to traffic congestion and physical infrastructure (p. 52), including bus priority lanes during peak hours (p. 53). The Sri Lanka Transport Board has launched transport-related programs including (1) Gemi Sariya project to provide reliable transport in rural areas, (2) Nisi Sariya project to provide reliable bus service late at night, and (3) Sisu Sariya project to provide reliable bus service for school children (pp. 52-53). The National Transport Policy of Sri Lanka is specifically in line with SDG 11.2 (p. 54).	
40. Sudan	Yes	No	The Report, on p.7, refers to the development of transportation networks, however only in the context of increasing trade with neighbouring countries – not in the context of SDG 16 specifically, rather, in the context of better transport to increase trade.	

	41. Switzerland	Yes	No	The public and private transport system is well developed, although it is stretched to the limit on frequently travelled routes at peak times. Transport security is extremely high. However, under the Disability Discrimination Act universal access to public transport should meet the requirements of travelers with disabilities and age-related limitations by the end of 2023 (p. 17).
	42. Togo	Yes	Yes	In order to ensure access to a safe, accessible and viable transport system through the development of public transport, the Government has made the Lomé Transport Company (SOTRAL) operational with a social tariff policy. (p. 25)
	43. UAE	Yes	Yes	Dubai Electricity & Water Authority (DEWA) is introducing over 100 electric vehicle charging stations across the city, while Dubai Road and Transport Authority (RTA) is working on the deployment of autonomous vehicles, Hyperloop bullet trains and flying taxis. The share of public transport in the mobility of people in Dubai reached 15% by 2015, rising from less than 6% in 2006. RTA aims to increase this share to 20% by 2020 and 30% by 2030.
	44. Uruguay	Yes	Yes	The VNR only seems to have access to statistics for the region of Montevideo, where 98% of the population has access to public transportation, in the rural areas of Montevideo this numbers shrinks to 55% (p. 149-150).
	45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	Decisions to adjust the Transport Development Strategy of Vietnam to 2020 and Vision to 2030 and the Project on Restructuring of the Transport Sector for Industrialization, Modernization and Sustainable Development until 2020 are aimed at developing a sustainable transport system. (p. 60). Vietnam has policies to encourage use of public passenger transport in urban areas, instead of private transport, so that Vietnam can develop sustainable and environment-friendly transport systems. Recently, traffic systems have significantly improved and people are travelling more easily because they have better access to all means of transport. The number of transport passengers during 2011-2015 increased by 9.6%/year. The aviation industry had the highest growth rate of 14.7% during 2011-2015, 11.2% in 2015, and 9.3% in 2016. (p. 60). Transportation infrastructure is accessible by people with disabilities. As much as 65% of its capacity is qualified and meets demands of all customers. Some 30% of inter-provincial, 70% of inter-city bus stops and 100% of buses have priority seats, all railway stations have priority doors and 57.6% of national railway stations have convenient shuttle services for people with disabilities who use wheelchairs.

				However, land area for urban transport (especially in big cities) has not met relevant national standards. Traffic in Vietnam is not yet safe, accessible or sustainable. The main means of transport for Vietnamese people is still motorbikes. Public transport vehicles are neither prevalent nor convenient, and logistics services are limited in terms of deployment and connection. (p. 60). Polices related to SDG 11 have not adequately included some M&E indicators proposed by the UN and these indicators have not been systematically collected in Vietnam (e.g., the ratio of population having convenient access to public transportation disaggregated by age group, sex and persons with disabilities). (p. 60, n. 75).	
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	37		
		No	8		
11.3: Inclusive Urbanization	1. Albania	Yes		No	Albania reports that "urban transformation of the main cities in Albania is one of the key reforms the Albanian government initiated to spur positive economic, social and environmental development progress in the country, by using the centre of the cities as anchors for growth at the local, regional and national level." Albania considers this to be one of its success stories. However, Albania recently shifted the focus of its programme from "revitalisation of community cohesion" to "revitalisation of the potentials for local and regional economies" (i.e. orientated towards achievement of Goal 9) (p.62–63) See also 10.3. Albania considers this goal to be partially aligned with its own national goals – see further details at 11.1 (p. 62).	
	2. Andorra	Yes		Yes	The objective of the RENOVA program, managed by the Energy and Climate Change Agency, is to provide public aid to refurbish existing buildings and promote buildings that are more sustainable from an environmental point of view. Similarly, the program promotes the integration of renewable energy in existing and new buildings (p. 51). The 2018 budget under this program includes € 1.5 million in direct grants and € 150,000 in additional funding to support the installation of photovoltaic panels. In addition, EUR 13.87 million is still available for loan guarantees (p. 52) Andorra has mobile stations for the control of air quality and manual measuring instruments. The 2017-2030 Atmospheric Environment Strategy, approved by the	

				Government in November 2017 in full agreement with SDG 11, sets actions to improve air quality in general and more specifically in more polluted areas (p. 53).
3.	Armenia	Yes	No	The VNR states, in relation to SDG 11.3: "Urgent action must be taken to improve access to green and public spaces for people with disability and for application of the principles of universal design. Action is also required for inclusive community service delivery and accessibility of services. Achieving inclusivity in urban and rural communities would require a systematic approach and joint effort by the state, municipalities, civil society organizations, and private businesses." (p. 65) No further detail was provided.
4.	Australia	Yes	Yes	Australia provides development assistance for partner countries in the Indo-Pacific region (pp. 78-79).
5.	Bahamas	Yes	No	The Emerging and Sustainable Nassau Project's 2016 urban regeneration plan for the city of Nassau aimed to rehabilitate the housing stock in economically depressed Grants Town, but the report does not indicate the details of the regeneration plan (p. 98) The Emerging Sustainable Cities Project released a study on natural hazards and risks to the island of New Providence, which included recommendations such as urban drainage, infrastructure upgrades, urban green roof installations and mangrove restoration (p. 99)
6.	Bahrain	No	No	
7.	Benin	Yes	No	To cope with the acceleration of urbanization, Benin has set up a rainwater sanitation program (USD 476 million) as well as different project between the State and local municipalities paving project of major roads, waste management and sanitation to clean up all the major cities of Benin (p. 7 and 47). Benin also plans a number of reforms to computerize national cadaster and to strengthen the institutional and regulatory frameworks for land planning, with the creation of the National Agency for Land Planning and the adoption of a code of urban planning (p. 46). P. 83 indicates sources but does not provide any data.
8.	Bhutan	Yes	Yes	As a developing nation, Bhutan continues to undergo fast socio-economic with rapid urbanization. The Population and Housing Census of Bhutan (PHCB) 2005 initially highlighted the trend: urbanization increased from 15 per cent in 1995 to 20 per cent in 2000 and 31 per cent in 2005, with figures from the 2017 census set to reaffirm this trajectory. By 2040, the urban population is expected to double in size.

Traditionally, Bhutan's settlement system consisted of villages developed around administrative centers and monastery complex. Patterns and forms of settlements were mostly shaped by the availability and topography of the land, availability of water, safety and security. However, with the introduction of modern development in the 1960s, new forms of settlements based on trade and commerce developed, and continue as the mainstay of urban planning to this date.

The Government considers human settlements as both living spaces and cultural landscapes. They should develop as parts of an integrated system that considers the need for quality social services, environmental sustainability, disaster risk reduction, and climate change adaptation. Bhutan's strategies and policy instruments are geared towards ensuring that cities and settlements are inclusive, livable and affordable. The Government launched its Bhutan National Urbanization Strategy in 2008, developed the National Human Settlement Policy, drafted Spatial Planning bill and Guideline for Differently Abled Friendly Construction. The 11th FYP Plan implemented human settlement development programs and projects to enhance the provision of basic services in both urban and rural areas, enhancing the livability of the four major Thromdes and mainstreaming disaster management into human settlement plans. Similarly, the 12th FYP has prioritized "*Livability, Safety and Sustainability of Human Settlements Improved*" as one of its National Key Result Areas (NKRAs)*,* and a Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Action (NAMA) Plan on human settlements has been developed, ready for investment.

To provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport for all, the Government continues to invest in improving road and air networks. In keeping with the vision of "*Bhutan Transport 2040: Integrated Strategic Vision"* in urban areas like Thimphu and Phuntsholing, public transport services have been introduced with ramps and designated seating for elderly citizens, pregnant women , and people with disabilities. Efforts to introduce green public transport and 'intelligent' transport systems are also underway to reduce emissions, increase the ease of mobility, and improve 'livability' of Bhutan's cities as they grow. At the same time, to aid cultural vibrancy, the Human Settlement Strategy 2017 identifies the need to protect cultural and other heritage forms such as ecological sites from the negative impacts of urban development.

Despite the positive and enabling policy environment, Bhutan's urbanization trend

has given rise to multiple challenges. An estimated 10 per cent of Thimphu city's population live in informal settlements. Cities are seeing an increased demand for safe water, and sanitation and solid waste management are becoming major issues. Air pollution is rising with a tripling of light vehicles on Thimphu's roads since 2005. Since most prime agriculture land and urban settlements are situated along the river banks, flooding and the damage it causes increase annually, aggravated by the increasing frequency and intensity of rain caused by climate change. River flood hazards are classified as 'high' for Bhutan and managing flash floods could become a new normal for the country.

Bhutan also falls within the active seismic zones IV and V of the India tectonic plate, where V comprises the areas most at risk. The India plate is driving into the Euroasia plate on which Bhutan sits at a rate of approximately 47 mm per year. Experts indicate that the resulting pressure build-up means a major earthquake is only a matter of time. In 2009, a magnitude 6.1 earthquake claimed 12 lives, damaged 4950 rural homes and number of government facilities including school and health centers. As more people move to cities, the potential for mass damage and mass casualties in a severe earthquake increases. Efforts are underway to enhance disaster preparedness and contingency planning, and to map who is vulnerable to seismic activity, based on their housing typology to help ensure swift and targeted post-disaster response. But urban settlements are not yet ready to withstanding a major natural disaster.

While efforts to develop sustainable human settlement are being pursued, Bhutan faces increasing challenges in balancing economic development and conserving its cultural heritage and environmental assets. Drying up of water sources and increasing waste generation in urban areas are emerging issues that pose challenges to sustainability. To address these issues the Government has initiated providing incentives for management of the protected zones within Thromde boundary and implementation of Waste Presentation and Management Act.

Housing shortage is prevalent in all major urban cities and in almost all the districts, spurred by the increasing number of people. The BLSS 2017 reported that about 60 per cent of people owned their own dwellings, out of which 83 per cent households were in rural areas and only 17 per cent in urban areas. 62 per cent of households in urban areas rented their dwellings. In line with the policy to provide safe and affordable housing, the National Housing Development Corporation Limited (NHDCL)

			was established in 2009 and developed 1134 housing units between 2000 and 2017. The surge in private investment in housing sector in the recent years has helped narrow the gap between supply and demand for housing especially in urban areas like Thimphu and Phuntsholing. This becomes a critical issue to be addressed as it plays a key socio-economic role. The Government is revising the National Housing Policy of 2002 to create enabling environment for affordable housing. [Pages 58 to 60]	
9. Cabo Verde	Yes	Yes	Regarding the national urban profile, the informal risk area increased significantly, and surpassed 40% in 2015. The State of Cabo Verde adopted in 2017 the National Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction covering the period 2017-2030. (p. 12) The Government has developed and is implementing a National Policy for Territorial Planning and Urban Development under the New Urban Agenda (2016-2036), and is in the process of preparing the National Housing Policy that will be effective for 20 years. (p. 12) All 24 cities in Cabo Verde have urban plans and urban management is an important function since almost two out of three Cabo Verdeans now live in urban areas. However, lack of urban infrastructure is a major problem since the main cities grew primarily by clandestine occupation or in a planned manner but without previous infrastructure (i.e., no sewers, paved streets, rain water drainage systems or water systems). Most urban areas lack public spaces, such as squares, parks and space for sports. (p. 89) A new national program for the improvement of informal settlements is expected for the period of 2018-2022 with seven axes of intervention – disaster risk reduction and environment, urban mobility, basic services, rehabilitation and resettlement, local urban governance, local economic development urban citizenship and capacity building. (p. 90)	
10. Canada	Yes	Yes	Launched in the fall of 2017, the Smart Cities Challenge asked communities across Canada to consult with their residents to determine how data and connected technologies could be levered to solve persistent social, economic, environmental or cultural problems and achieve meaningful and measurable positive outcomes, in order to encourage all communities to become dynamic, forward thinking and innovative through the adoption of smart cities approaches. (p. 86)	

	11. Colombia	Yes	Yes	The urbanisation process mentioned in the initiative Tell me your Plan in the city of Bucaramanga, includes suggestions that this initiative has taken this SDG into account. (p. 120).
	12. Dominican Republic	No	N/A	N/A (the DR indicates that it does not have access to sufficient statistics to report on the matter (p. 126)).
	13. Ecuador	No	No	N/A
	14. Egypt	Yes	Yes	The report notes that Egypt's high population growth and density "has caused a deterioration in the quality of urban life and in the environment" (page 44). It notes that new cities are being developed across Egypt to reduce population densities, and the new cities are designed to be green and sustainable (page 45).
	15. Greece	Yes	Yes	Greece is working on legislation to ensure accessibility of all citizens to green and public spaces (p. 63).
	16. Guinea	Yes	No	35% of Guineans live in urban areas, and seven of the cities in Guinea have populations of over 100,000. Approximately half of Guineans live in Conakry, whose population has grown on average by 6.1% per year as a result of a rural exodus. Although Guinea has an organization policy, it has not yet been implemented, which would explain why urbanization in Guinea has been disorganized and the large number of slums. (pp. 11 and 69) Guinea further has an urban infrastructure program, which aims to improve the living conditions of 75% of Guineans living in precarious housing and substantially increase access to safe housing. (p. 11) The Guinean government has adopted various measures: Guinea National Habitat Policy (2010), National Land Use Planning Diagram (1991, but requiring to be implemented), Code of Urban Planning (adopted in 1998), Private and State-owned Land Code (adopted in 1992), Local Government Code (adopted in 2006), regional land use plan, urban planning and development plans for secondary cities, urban development plans, including the Conakry plan, etc. (p. 71)
	17. Hungary	Yes	Yes	National Development and Territorial Development Concept has a priority focus on the development of peripheral rural regions facing multiple disadvantages. The aim is to strengthen local economies by focusing on supporting investments and enterprise development, supporting small and medium enterprises, facilitating safe food supply

				etc. (page 43) The Modern Cities Program focuses on making cities sustainable as well improving key infrastructure and settlement development projects. (page 43)	
	18. Ireland	Yes	No	Trends and challenges: Challenge of spreading population and economic growth outside the current hub of Dublin, and beyond Cork, Limerick, Galway, and Waterford; low-density rural populations need public transit that are currently supported by national taxes (74). Implementation steps: National Planning Framework to 2040 and National Development Plan 2018-2027 (see 11.1) particularly focused on helping people live closer to their work, distributing regional growth, and revitalizing communities of all sizes in creative, footprint-aware ways (73). The NFP plans on using brownfield urban regeneration and improving city design for functionality and space use (74). Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF HOUSING, LANNING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT	
	19. Jamaica	Yes	No	[This exact SDG # was not mentioned explicitly, but the underlying topic was discussed.] Citizen participation in decision making attempted via Local Sustainable Development Planning Framework (p. 76) Local government reform in 2016, where mandates expanded to include sustainable development and maintenance of civic order (p. 76)	
	20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	It is reported that urbanization needs urgent attention. Census data show that the share of the urban population has increased from 27 percent in2005 to 33 percent in 2015. This is largely due to rural-urban migration. More than two-thirds of population growth in Vientiane Capital in recent years was caused by net in-migration. While the current level of urbanization in Lao PDR is low compared to the global average (54 percent in 2014),110 further growth of Lao PDR's cities can be expected. It will be important to invest in city and transport policies and infrastructure that are conducive to developing sustainable and liveable cities (page 45).	

				The VNR states that the Government of Lao PDR is prioritising making cities and towns better places to live in. The Eighth NSEDP includes programmes to enhance urban water and urban sanitation, improve public governance and administration, and establish "Green and Clean Towns" (including climate-smart planning). The Department of Housing and Urban Planning, and the Ministry of Public Works and Transportation have adopted an urban sector strategy. This includes strategies on solid waste, water sector investment, urban sanitation, capacity development for urban planning and development authorities; improvement of the legal and regulatory framework for the urban sector; urban transport and housing development. Priority will be given to roads in commercial and high-density areas and to roads leading to markets, schools, hospitals, and other public facilities. Private investment in transport infrastructure and services is needed (page 45).	
	21. Latvia	Yes	Yes	Latvia is experiencing a demographic downturn; people are moving from less populated regions to the cities. Nevertheless, Latvia focuses on a polycentric development model of 9 urban municipalities and 21 largest towns Page 75	
	22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	Lebanon has been experiencing rapid urban expansion. This comes with complex problems including ensuring everyone has access to services and affordable housing, and protecting the environment. National and local actors are responding to this problem across relevant sectors. About one in five displaced Syrians live in urban areas. This has led to increased population density and put more pressure on public services. Lebanon's National Physical Master Plan of the Lebanese Territory is its overarching urban development framework. A number of actors, including local authorities (municipalities), the Directorate General of Urbanism, the Higher Council for Urban Planning, the Council for Development and Reconstruction and various ministries, are working on urban planning. Given this fragmented urban planning landscape, a Ministry of State for Planning was established in 2016. This ministry started to develop a national urban policy and the 'Habitat III National Report for Lebanon', with support from UN-Habitat and other institutions concerned with urban planning. (page 56)	
	23. Lithuania	Yes	Yes	To solve infrastructure development problems in an integrated way countrywide, prevent the chaotic urban sprawl, especially the development of pre-urban areas,	

				create favourable conditions for investment and establish a uniform system for the regulation of infrastructure development in residential areas, a Law on Municipal Infrastructure Development is being drafted (p. 31)
24. Mali	Yes	Yes		A National City Policy (PONAV) in Mali in February 2014 to make the Malian city a pleasant, safe and prosperous area, driving its development and hinterland. The idea is to create a space where the city dweller is at the heart of public initiatives, ready to assume all his responsibilities; a space of diverse socio-cultural expressions, sources of harmony and reinforcing a local democracy essential to progress. The National Observatory of the City (ONAV) and the Monitoring Unit of the National Policy of the City were created for this purpose. (p.49)
25. Malta	Yes	Yes		Discussed in context of general improvements to public transport, planning, and safeguarding cultural heritage as part of planning efforts. Also, Malta has placed a large emphasis on promoting energy efficiency and sustainable planning. (p69-71)
26. Mexico	Yes	Yes		Over three thirds of the population in Mexico lives in urban areas, the majority of which face many obstacles to implementing inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable development plans (p. 52).

Updates to urban development plans now include a focus on urban sustainability (p. 52).

98% of municipalities have an urban development plan, but 84% of them have not been implemented or updated or are otherwise deficient (SEDATU) (p. 52).

Mexico has incorporated the Right to City (equal access to the benefits and opportunities offered by cities and participation in their design and redesign, by both men and women) into zoning and urban development legislation and launched the Sustainable Cities Network whose goal is to reinforce actions at the institutional and community levels that are aimed at environmental protection and social development (p. 52).

The Areas Voluntarily Destined for Conservation Initiative of the National Commission on Natural Protected Areas reinforces the shared responsibility of civil society and the private sector in protecting natural areas (p. 52). |

				It is a challenge to provide financing needed for the development of urban infrastructure at the local level in a context of unplanned urban growth, environmental degradation and vulnerability to natural disasters (p. 52).	
27. Namibia	Yes	Yes		Namibia still has a long way to go in achieving sustainable housing. Since access is affected by the high prices of houses in urban areas, more still needs to be done to ensure that housing is more affordable for the majority of the poor. Additionally, the concept of "green" or eco-friendly housing needs to be encouraged in order to promote self-sustained houses. The use of solar energy for heating and electricity will help to reduce the pressure on imported energy and in turn reduce the cost associated with housing services in towns and cities. (page 33) One of the main challenges impeding socio-economic development in the country relates to the high rate of urbanization, which contributes to the bourgeoning of informal settlement areas and pressure on the financial and technical capacity of local authorities to provide basic services needed in order to meet the high demand of the increased urban population. A further challenge is the high cost of servicing urban land and the provision of housing in comparison to the income and affordability levels of the majority of the residents, especially the lower income groups. From independence to date the housing industry has not been well regulated, leading to collusion on property prices and a rapid rise in housing prices. (page 34)	
28. Niger	Yes	Yes		40% of the urban population is located in Niamey. (pp. 7, 49) In 2030, the urban population will have doubled from what it was in 2012 (2.75 million in 2012 to 5.281 in 2030). (pp. 49-50)	
29. Palestine	No	No		N/A	
30. Paraguay	No	No		N/A	
31. Poland	Yes	Yes		Trends/Challenges: Some Cities "deal with the problem of significant internal disparities in the level of development, or the problem of the loss of existing functions and population outflow. The development potential of Polish cities is confronted with growing challenges, such as demographic changes, air quality or transport accessibility, including high vehicle numbers." 64. Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation: "Poland is committed to the EU Urban Agenda, which is an instrument for the implementation of the UN New Urban Agenda at the European level, and 16 Polish cities are participants in URBACT	

III projects, which helps cities to develop practical, innovative and sustainable approaches that combine the economic, social and environmental dimensions of improving the functioning and quality of urban life." 64. Improving air quality requires urgent intervention. This applies in particular to the reduction of dust pollution emissions generated in the household and municipal sector as a result of the combustion of poor quality solid fuels at low temperatures and in low power boilers, as well as waste incineration. In this respect, multi-dimensional and coherent corrective actions carried out at the national, voivodeship and local levels are necessary." 64. Various projects are underway, including a City Partnership initiative. 65. Another included a task "implemented by Global Compact Network Poland - allowed to create a partnership for clean air, based on Polish cities that are members of the network of cities for climate change NAZCA operating under UNFCCC. The aim of the partnership is to diagnose air quality in Poland and to present detailed recommendations of measures to be taken." 66.

Name of source for data? GIOS, GUS, SDG 11 Chart near bottom of document.

Use of HR institutions and reporting processes/UPC/?
Specific Party Tasked with Implementing: National Urban Policy 2023, the various levels of government. 64. Municipal governments will work internally, but also in coordination with each other. "Initiatives will be taken to activate cooperation and links between rural areas and cities, and to promote cooperation and partnership instruments in order to involve inhabitants of rural areas in development activities." 65. Also, the Global Compact Network Poland. 66.

| 32. Qatar | Yes | Yes | About 100% of Qatar's population lives in urban centers (pp. 41). |

Government adopted the Qatar National Master Plan in 2014 in response to rapid urbanization (pp. 33, 36)
- Draft plans for spatial development of eight municipalities and plans of the urban centers have been approved.

Comprehensive sub-infrastructure plans are prepared and under implementation (pp. 36).

Urban linkage, sustainable development, and infrastructure policies promoted by: National Development Strategy 2011-2016, National Development Strategy 2018-2022, Qatar National Master Plan 2032, and Population Policy 2017-2022 (pp. 41).

33. Romania	No	No	
34. Saudi Arabia	No	No	
35. Senegal	Yes	Yes	The VNR lists the actions taken in this areas but share few data. The Government plans to ensure better planning and management of the space of cities and other agglomerations through the preparation of planning documents and the development of new urban centers and concerted development zones (ZAC). The state has developed and implemented a long-term strategy to address imbalances that have developed. The Master Plan for Territorial Development and Development (SDADT) of the Dakar-Thiès-Mbour Zone is drawn up to anticipate the spatial development of this area where most of the major developments are underway or planned. The master plan of development of the Sine Saloum regional pole (Regions of Kaolack, Fatick and Kaffrine) in order to make viable territories emerge is developed.(p 74)
36. Singapore	Yes	Yes	Singapore has established an extensive network of collaboration with international partners and governments over the years to exchange knowledge and best practices on building sustainable cities. (page 39) Otherwise, there is no further detail on this target, other than reference to the fact that it is a target "in progress".
37. Slovakia	No	No	
38. Spain	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: Spain's population is aging, there is high rural depopulation among younger generations, leaving elderly rural communities at risk of "extinction" (VNR, p. 63). The traditional Spanish urban model does not lend itself to all the features needed for inclusive, sustainable urbanization, but other growth models are developing, such as low-density, high-consumption residential developments (*Id.*). The diversity of land management strategies in Spain's decentralized government makes Spain's urbanization strategy difficult to harmonize (e.g. lack of integrated planning, funding deficits for some areas, insufficient information sharing) as municipalities have autonomy over city planning (VNR, pp. 63–64, 107). Spain's

				higher vulnerability to climate change causes specific concern with greening cities (VNR, p. 63). There is not a "public culture of participation" when it comes to urban planning (VNR, p. 64). Implementation steps: Standing by 1998 legislation encourages diversifying land use (*Id.*); Utilizing bodies like the Metropolitan Observatory of Mobility, the Urban Information System, and Observatory of Vulnerable Neighbourhoods to assist in generating a unified urbanization approach across the decentralized government (VNR, p. 64); enforcing the Consolidated Urban Land and Rehabilitation Act Article 3 that requires public authorities to develop urban sustainability plans (VNR, p. 65); and continuing development of the Spanish Urban Agenda to help traditional urban models become sustainable in terms of housing, economy, energy use, transport, and other areas. It centers on the symbiosis of urban and broader territorial planning, generating specific action paths for the governments and stakeholders (*Id.*). It provides 10 priority goals with objectives, 38 descriptive indicators of sustainable urbanization, an evaluation and monitoring system, and an action plan with six Working Groups (VNR, p. 108); the Urban Agenda builds on the Consolidated Text of Land Use and Urban Renewal Act of 2015 (VNR, p. 107). Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Treasury; Ministry of Infrastructure; and Ministry of Ecological Technology (VNR, p. 97).	
	39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	Though only referenced once as SDG 11.3 (in connection with the statistic that nearly 80% of the population is expected to be more than 80% urbanized by 2030, p. 51), the Report also mentions the following general projects addressing urbanization: Western Region Megapolis Project, Strategic Cities Development Programme, and Urban Regeneration Programme (p. 54).	
	40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	The Report, on p.6, states that the development of an irrigated agriculture system in western Sudan will complement the rainy season. This will reduce the risks of drought and vulnerability of people to food shortage and malnutrition. The early warning system to predict droughts will operate in a similar way, and cater for expected conflict over limited natural resources.	
	41. Switzerland	Yes	No		
	42. Togo	Yes	Yes	It is reported that development of urban centre (i.e. areas of more than 5,000 inhabitants) with updated development and town planning master plans increased from 31% in 2015 to 37% in 2017. (p. 11)	

			With regard to the promotion of resilient housing and energy efficiency, the number of compressed earth blocks (derived from local resources) produced per year increased from 71,356 in 2015 to 88,560 in 2016 and to 62,830 in 2017. (p. 25) In respect to sustainable waste management, 243 non-regulatory garbage dumps were eliminated between 2016 and 2017 and 500 garbage cans were installed along public arteries and spaces in the city of Lomé in 2017. In addition, a landfill was constructed with a capacity to contain 250,000 tonnes of household waste per annum. Furthermore, more than 500 tons of plastic bags were collected and recycled, and 3,000 households have been sensitized on the selective sorting of waste at the source (p. 25)	
43. UAE	No	No		
44. Uruguay	Yes	Yes	The VNR reports on the sub-indicator with respect to efficient land use, which in turn points of rapid expansion in the main regions, the capital region in particular, where the use of land is greater than the increase of the population i.e., not sustainable in the long term and might require policy improvements (p. 143, 160-162).	
45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	The Law on Natural Disaster Prevention and Control, particularly the Master Plan on Disaster Response, Search and Rescue to 2020, solidified disaster prevention and control, response, search and rescue. The National Strategy for Environmental Protection up to 2020 and Vision to 2030 aims at reducing environment-related damage to people. The Orientation for the Development of Urban Drainage and Industrial Parks in Vietnam by 2025, with Vision to 2050, has specified water drainage issues in urban areas and industrial zones for action. (p. 60). In order to promote sustainable urban development and increase resilience, Vietnam promulgated the Law on Urban Planning and Master Plan Orientation for Vietnam's Urban System Development to 2025 and Vision to 2050. The National Strategy on Climate Change and the Scheme of Urban Development in Response to Climate Change during 2013-2020 set out strategic tasks to achieve climate change adaptation and mitigation. The goal of sustainable rural development is also one of the priority orientations for sustainable development in the Strategy of Sustainable Development during 2011-2020, which is concretized through the NTP for New Rural Development during 2010-2020. (p. 60). Cities and towns are promoting the construction, renovation, and expansion of infrastructure such as roads, bridges, clean water supply facilities, drainage,	

				electricity, and lighting to meet increasing needs of urban residents. Rural infrastructure has also significantly improved. More than 99% of communes are covered by the national grid, and have roads built to the communes' centres, primary schools and kindergartens, health clinics, new and improved irrigation systems, and clean water supply systems. By the end of 2016, up to 4,498 communes had concentrated clean water works. (p. 60). Vietnam is affected heavily by natural disasters and climate change, especially storms, flash floods, landslides and droughts. Such events have intensified during 1990-2017, and have caused losses of human life and damage to the economy. However, capacity to respond quickly and effectively to climate change and natural disasters is still limited. (p. 60). The collection and treatment of normal solid waste has improved, with approximately 80% treated in 2016. (p. 62). Generally, Vietnam's urban areas are not planned comprehensively or sustainably. Moreover, participatory settlement planning and management capacity is weak. Vietnam has implemented emission controls on cars, yet the target emission standard is low and does not meet the objective of reducing air pollution in urban areas. Vietnam is currently studying measures to raise emission standards for cars. In some large cities like the capital Ha Noi, the number of days with dust levels of PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ exceeding the allowable limit of Vietnamese standards is still relatively high. (p. 62). Polices related to SDG 11 have not adequately included some M&E indicators proposed by the UN and these indicators have not been systematically collected in Vietnam (e.g., the ratio of cities where residents can participate in urban planning and management of the cities in a regular and democratic manner). (p. 60, n. 75).	
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	36		
		No	9		
11.7: Safe Public Spaces	1. Albania	Yes		No	See also 10.3. Some of the key priority areas of Albania's urban renaissance program are (p. 63): • "Natural and environmental resources, including waterfronts and urban parks, where the aim of the programme was to clean up and improve public spaces to	

				revitalise traditional or new functionalities" and • "Development of city centres and selected village centres. Development of the former serves the goal of strengthening the identity of the cities and enhancing community cohesion, while development of the latter is focused more on promotion of tourism and rural activities" But note that the goal is more orientated towards economic growth, rather than inclusion / social cohesion. Albania considers this goal to be partially aligned with its own national goals – see further details at 11.1 (p. 62).	
	2. Andorra	Yes	Yes	Andorra is one of the safest countries in the world with a 93% security index (p. 54). All parishes in Andorra have green spaces or parks for children in urban areas. To date no legislation requires them to have or keep a certain percentage of green space in urban areas. Access to mountain walks for all is now assured through some paths where modifications have been made so that disabled people can also access it. The mountains in general are accessible about 10 minutes from the urban centers, some also in public transport (p. 54). In addition, the Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Sustainable Development has developed the Green Infrastructure Sector Plan of Andorra. It is a network of itineraries and open spaces of great landscape, environmental and cultural interest that allows sustainable and non-motorized mobility and contributes to the improvement of the quality of life (p. 54).	
	3. Armenia	Yes	Yes	The VNR recognizes that progress in this regard is weak: "Though the Government policies include provisions for promoting the inclusion of disabled in all aspects of social life (for instance the strategy of inclusive education), the implementation of those provisions are weak." (p. 63) The statement made with respect to 11.3 also applies to 11.7 here.	
	4. Australia	Yes	No	See SDG 11.2 notes, above.	
	5. Bahamas	Yes	No	The Bahamas National Trust and Government of The Bahamas have established and maintained six national parks on and around New Providence, but the report does not indicate any plans to open additional parks or build out additional green spaces (pp. 100-101)	

				While not on point with SDG 11.7, the report discusses several environmental initiatives undertaken by the Government to preserve and improve at-risk ecosystems (pp. 118-122)	
6. Bahrain	Yes	Yes	Bahrain continues to develop its parks, gardens, coasts, seafronts, walkways and public spaces. It continues to plant trees and improve its roads (using local plants) taking into account the requirement of children, women and disabled persons. It has also rehabilitated some of its historic aquatic resources and water springs by way of preserving the country's heritage and natural habitat.	
7. Benin	No	No		
8. Bhutan	No	No		
9. Cabo Verde	Yes	No	Most urban areas lack public spaces, such as squares, parks and space for sports. (p. 89)	
10. Canada	Yes	Yes	The Government of Canada's $180 billion, 12-year infrastructure plan addresses persistent challenges to air, water and soil quality to make Canadian communities, including Indigenous communities, more resilient to climate change, natural disasters and extreme weather events. (p. 86)	
11. Colombia	Yes	Yes	The VNR briefly mentions transportation improvements in two of the major cities, Medellin and Bogotá, where the implementation of air borne cable transport systems have improved access in marginalised areas, reduced time spent commuting and improved safety for women. Women experience mobility limitations due to sexual abuse, although an improvement has been shown, the reduction between 2010 and 2015 went from 18% to 17.9% of women who filed reports that they had been touched or abused without their own consent (p. 47).	
12. Dominican Republic	No	N/A	N/A (the DR indicates that it does not have access to sufficient statistics to report on the matter (p. 126)).	
13. Ecuador	Yes	No	As part of fulfilling this SDGs Ecuador has created the Program for Intermediate Sustainable Cities (Sp. Programa Ciudades Intermedias Sostenibles), which include the establishment of four laboratories equipped with analytical tools for the purpose of creating, amoung others, safe public spaces (p. 121). As part of the consultations guided by UNICEF, children pointed out public spaces such as parks as the places for drug trade (p. 194).	
14. Egypt	Yes	Yes	The report states that "Egypt has been ranked as 16th out of 135 countries in terms of safety, making it the safest country in Africa" (page 18).	

	15. Greece	Yes	Yes	See note for SDG 11.3. See also the National Growth Strategy regarding the protection and promotion of cultural heritage through excavation, restoration, and infrastructure (p. 108).
	16. Guinea	No	No	
	17. Hungary	Yes	Yes	The University of Physical Education in Budapest announced a course in the second semester of 2017/2018 entitled 'The place and the role of crime prevention in sports'. The program is interactive, focusing on secondary school students, using a complex method reaching many target groups. (page 58) 'Save Gordon' uses experiential education developed by the Crime Prevention Subdivision of Zala County Police Headquarters. It uses escape games to teach important messages to children aged 10-14. (page 58) Research studies have also been carried out, examining the correlation between family background and parental attitudes to understand the problems and development opportunities of children and to protect them from crime. Further, the research explored whether school was a supportive environment and also an implementation of the Child Protection Act. In 2016, a questionnaire was distributed on the basis of which a study was published, titled 'Examination of the living conditions of children and youth primarily from the aspect of crime prevention, becoming perpetrators and victims". (page 58)
	18. Ireland	Yes	No	Implementation steps: See 11.2 on disabilities-accessible transportation above. That's the only mention. Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF HOUSING, PLANNING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
	19. Jamaica	No	No	
	20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	As mentioned above, the VNR states that the Government of Lao PDR is prioritising making cities and towns better places to live in. The Government is also prioritising preparing instruments for sustainable land use. The Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE) is developing "Clean and Beautiful Guidelines" as part of promoting environmental quality, which are expected to be approved in the near future. MoNRE is also in the process of proposing the National Land Use Master Plan to the National Assembly for consideration. (pages 45-46)

21. Latvia	No	No	
22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	Rapid urban expansion often comes with the gradual loss of green spaces. To increase green public spaces, a pioneering project on soft mobility, 'Liaisons Douces', is being studied by the Municipality of Beirut. This project would include creating different scales of public and green spaces, greening city streets, and providing safe pedestrian and cycling tracks along main city axes. The project has not yet been implemented. (page 57)
23. Lithuania	No	No	
24. Mali	Yes	Yes	The National Policy for Urban Planning and Housing (PNUH) and Urban Master Plans were developed to improve the living conditions of the populations and ensure the sustainable development of urban centers. Several social housing programs are being carried out. (p.49) For details and data see (p.49)
25. Malta	Yes	Yes	The Ministry for Gozo has selected the Ulysses Grove site at Xewkija, for conversion into an accessible and green public space, suitable for families and conducive to social inclusion, relaxation, and physical activity. A 1 km track will be installed on the site for walking, running, and for bicycle use. (p72)
26. Mexico	Yes	No	The Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Program and the Urban Resilience Guide contribute to safe and resilient development in vulnerable regions of south-eastern Mexico through capacity building (p. 52).
27. Namibia	No	No	N/A
28. Niger	Yes	Yes	In PDES 2017-2021, Niger is looking to focus on access to green spaces. (p. 38).
29. Palestine	Yes	Yes	Palestinian green areas remain minimal due to urban expansion, desertification and logging (p. 72). Palestine's total approved green protected areas make up only 7.6% of the total land area. 38.3% of Palestine remains empty areas that are not built on. The Government has created a national spatial plan, which organises land and identifies sensitive areas that must be protected from urban expansion (p. 72). The Government has completed 23 urban plans in 2017 and provided continuous assistance to local councils in creating and executing their urban plans (p. 73). The Government's National Policy Agenda gives priority to increasing the green areas

			through the Greening Palestine initiative, and increasing the amount of usable public space (p. 74).
30. Paraguay	No	No	N/A
31. Poland	No	No	N/A
32. Qatar	Yes	Yes	Open, well-prepared green spaces have grown at annual growth rate of 4% for use of all, especially women, the elderly and persons with disabilities (pp. 40). Significant expansion in the number of integrated parks between 2010 and 2016 (annual growth rate of 9%) (pp. 40). Ministry of Municipality and Environment issued a detailed guide to all parks in eight urban zones (pp. 40). Area of green spaces was 1.3 million square meters in 2015 (up from 0.5 square meters in 2011) (pp. 40). National Development Strategy 2018-2022 aims to establish a green belt around Doha and its suburbs (pp. 40). Qatar National Master plan 2032 includes urban development policies and procedures for expansion and development of open spaces, parks, and recreational services (pp. 40).
33. Romania	No	No	
34. Saudi Arabia	Yes	No	Wadi Hanifa Comprehensive Development Plan: awarded the Washington Water Award in recognition of the fact that it adopts international sustainable development standards. The plan's outcomes include the creation of recreation and walkway areas in the city, rehabilitation of the valley's natural environment and raising the health level in the valley and Riyadh. (pg. 117) Although this is referenced there isn't much detail describing in detail how this has reached the SDG.
35. Senegal	Yes	Yes	The VNR mentions the number of new public spaces implemented in 2017 but does not describe how these are safe, inclusive and accessible. In terms of results, the year 2017 is marked by the development of the 10 public spaces planned as part of the program for the development of public spaces and 11

			public spaces with an overall area of 42 hectares out of the 28 spaces provided for in the framework of the green cities project. (p 77)
36. Singapore	Yes	Yes	It is reported that to make Singapore's streets safer for the elderly and persons with disabilities, 50 "Silver Zones" will be implemented by 2023 in areas with high senior resident populations, amenities which seniors frequent, or higher accident rates involving senior pedestrians. Silver Zones have road safety features, such as lower speed limits, centre dividers, and road humps and chicanes that slow down motorists and remind them to look out for pedestrians. To date, 15 Silver Zones have been completed. (page 38)
37. Slovakia	No	No	
38. Spain	Yes	No	Trends and challenges: Not mentioned with specificity. Implementation steps: The Balearic Islands Universal Accessibility Act, for transport and architecture in public and private sectors (VNR, p. 135); other areas of Spain may have similar plans, but did not articulate them in the VNR. Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Infrastructure.
39. Sri Lanka	No	No	
40. Sudan	Yes	No	The Sudan VNR recognizes the need to manage the challenges of rapid urbanization, namely the 'high volume of municipal waste, urban congestion, pressure on basic services' (p.50), however more specific policies are not stated.
41. Switzerland	Yes	No	Green and open spaces are generally easily accessible and there is a high level of security (p. 17).
42. Togo	Yes	Yes	In terms of the development of open spaces, 25,557 m2 of green spaces have been developed in the city of Lomé since 2016. In addition, the landscaping of the surroundings and medians of public roads has been systematized in major cities. (p. 25)
43. UAE	No	No	
44. Uruguay	Yes	Yes	With respect to prevention in relation to unsafe public spaces, a pilot project launched by Uruguay called Policing Oriented at Problems (Sp. Policiamiento Orientado a Problemas) as well as the implementation of the Program for Operations of High Dedication (Sp. Programa de Alta Dedicación Operativa) are oriented towards the improvement of safe public spaces. Further focus has been put on the police force and leadership within the police force as well as improvements of the 911

				service and video surveillance improvements. (p. 150, 153).	
	45. Vietnam	No		No	
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	30		
		No	15		
16.1: Reduce Violence	1. Albania	Yes		Yes	Albania selected the following indicator to assess this goal (p. 104): Number of victims of intentional homicides per 100,000 of the population, by sex and age (indicator 16.11)
					Albania reports that SDG Goal 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) is 70% aligned with the national policy in Albania (relevantly, it notes that goals 16.1, 16.2, 16.3, 16.4, 16.5, and 16.9 to be fully aligned, goals 16.6, 16.7, 16.8, 16.10, 16.a. and 16.b to be partially aligned) (p. 36).
	2. Andorra	No		No	
	3. Armenia	Yes		Yes (but only with respect to domestic violence, not violence generally)	In recent years, Armenia has undertaken a number of essential strategic documents towards peaceful and inclusive society. Relevant to 16.1 is: "Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence, Protection of Persons Subjected to Domestic Violence and Restoration of Family Solidarity (enacted in 2018), to prevent all types of domestic violence and ill-treatment, to protect persons subjected to violence, and to provide reconciliation in the family." (p. 78)
	4. Australia	Yes		Yes	Australia has strict firearms legislation and significant penalties for firearms trafficking (and has other programs such as firearms amnesty in 2017 that collected 57,234 firearms) (p. 103).
	5. Bahamas	Yes		No	The report discusses the Citizen Security and Justice Program, which is aimed at reducing violence by implementing programs to i) improve behaviors for non-violent conflict resolution in New Providence; (ii) increase employability and employment of the at-risk youth population in New Providence; and (iii) reduce the recidivism rate among persons within the prison system (p. 124)
					243 CCTV cameras were installed in 2011 to combat crime (p. 99)
	6. Bahrain	Yes		No	Safety and security represents a key cornerstone of the Bahraini government's policies. Bahrain has suffered from acts of terrorism (supported by sponsors of terror). Bahrain has sought to maintain a balance between security and development and has dealt with terrorism incidents lawfully with due regard to human rights. However, no data or information provided on crime, death and violence rates.

7. Benin	No	No		
8. Bhutan	Yes	Yes	Gaps remain in the legal and policy framework to fully protect and promote the rights of women and children, and of vulnerable groups. Steps are underway to address this, in line with 2014 recommendations of the Universal Period Review, for example on advancing the rights of people with disabilities. The National Policy for Persons with Disability is under development, with efforts being made to explore ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. In addition, institutional and socio-cultural barriers to women's full participation in society are being addressed through the formulation of the Gender Equality Policy and the nation-wide Violence Against Women and Children studies (for more on gender based violence see Goal 5).

The study on Violence Against Children conducted in 2016 sheds light on the situation of children and their vulnerability to violence, exploitation, and abuse. Children are still vulnerable to violence and abuse. This is particularly true for children with disabilities, children from broken homes or living with extended families, and children from low economic backgrounds. The establishment of Law clubs in schools and promotion of legal knowledge under the "Know the Law- to protect your rights" series has increased awareness on legal rights of children. The Royal Bhutan Police (RBP) has established three Women and Child Protection Units (WCPU) in the country. The Youth Development and Rehabilitation Centre added a girls' dormitory to address the needs of young girls in conflict with the law. A family and children bench was established under the Thimphu Dzongkhag Court; and several police-youth partnership programmes have been initiated since 2008 to promote social responsibility in children.

[Page 70] | |
| 9. Cabo Verde | Yes | Yes | There were 7.1 homicides per 100,000 people in Cabo Verde in 2017, which was a decrease compared to 11.7 homicides per 100,000 people in 2016. Cabo Verde is a peaceful country and there are no deaths related to conflicts. (p. 115)

In 2017, the National Police recorded 2,516 cases of gender based violence, which decreased by 18.7% compared to 2016, when 3,095 cases were recorded. (p. 115) | |
| 10. Canada | Yes | Yes | In 2017, the Government of Canada launched the Canada Centre for Community Engagement and Prevention of Violence to provide national leadership on Canada's | |

				efforts to prevent radicalization to violence. And through the National Crime Prevention Strategy, Canada supports the implementation of community-based crime prevention initiatives that address early risk factors among vulnerable populations and respond to priority crime issues, such as youth gangs/violence, hate crimes, bullying/cyberbullying and exit strategies for prostitution. (p. 113) Additionally, Canada is taking action to eliminate gender-based violence. In June 2017, Canada launched It's Time: Canada's Strategy to Prevent and Address Gender-Based Violence, a whole-of-government response to GBV based on prevention, support for survivors and their families and promotion of responsive legal and justice systems. (p. 115)
11. Colombia	Yes	No		Colombia's PND 2014-2018 kept focus on the work towards peace in the nation as well as addressing structural problems resulting in violence in society, such as illicit drugs (p. 17).
12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes		The homicide rate has increased slightly since the year 2000 based on a statistical review presented in 2016. However, between 2011 and 2016, the homicide rate experience a decline of 39% (p. 148-149). Every 1 in 4 women between the age of 15 to 49 have experienced violence after the age of 15 and roughly 13% have experience violence in the last 12 months (p.95). Roughly 5.6% of the population are immigrants and a great majority of this group originates from the neighbouring country Haiti (p. 123).
13. Ecuador	Yes	No		Ecuador strives to reduce the levels of violence. The program for safety policies and citizenship (Sp. Política de Seguridad y Conviviencia Ciudana) has been implemented the better manage risk and generate early alerts of violence (p. 107-108, 127).
14. Egypt	Yes	No		The report states that public perception of the country's security conditions improved from 76% in 2017 to 81% in 2018 (page 57). Egypt has been working to "stabilize the security situation" (page 56).
15. Greece	Yes	No		The Report does not call out SDG 16.1 specifically but addresses generally under SDG 16 in relation to the activities of the General Secretariat for Coordination (GSC) (p. 20). The GSC handles strategy to modernize and improve efficiency of public administration. See also note for SDG 16.2 on reducing violence.
16. Guinea	Yes	Yes		The Government of Guinea, in partnership with the Organization's Peacebuilding Commission of the United Nations, has undertaken major reforms of the security sector (Army and Police) by prioritizing the reorganization of the functioning of the defence forces, as well as the strengthening of their capacities, in order to establish a new relationship of

			trust with the populations. The reforms have made some progress, but the challenges remain significant. Public confidence in security sector institutions is steadily improving, but insufficient due to the survival of poor practices of security institutions. Indeed, the populations have little confidence in the defence and security forces even if the trend is improving. Indeed, in 2012, only one in three Guineans (33%) said they had full confidence in the defence and security force compared to 22% in 2007. It is in urban areas (where there is more insecurity) that the populations are relatively fewer trust the defence and security forces (p. 80).	
	17. Hungary	No	No	
	18. Ireland	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: Ireland's violent crime rates are lower than most of the EU, but there is room for improvement in its corruption rating (74/100) (pg. 92). Implementation steps: Garda Operation Thor, national police operation against organized crime an frequent offenders (92); An Garda Síochána's Modernisation and Renewal Program 2016-2021, the general police program, emphasizes community policing and community trust of police, with the specific introduction of Community Policing Teams in all districts in which police from various units work with the community to detect and prevent crime (id.); UN mediation cooperation and UN Peacebuilding Fund support (96); bilateral development programs with fragile and conflict states (id.); Irish Defence Forces participation in peace support operations (97); EU advancement of peacekeeping (id.); Second Defence Forces Actin Plan on the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 (Women, Peace and Security) with Staff Officer Gender Advisory expert appointed for gender equality in the Defence forces (98). Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY
	19. Jamaica	Yes	No	DNA Evidence Act (2016); Law Reform (Zones of Special Operations) (Special Security and Community Development Measures) Act (2017) "to curb the nation's crime by targe[t]ing vulnerable communities" (p. 95) Violence Interruption Programme since 2016 to deescalate conflict at the community level (p. 95)
	20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	See comment on indicator 5.2 above.
	21. Latvia	No	No	

22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	Law 236/2014 related to domestic violence was adopted in 2014, and the government has recently voted in favour of adjustments that make this law more effective. Law 162/2011 annulled the 'crime of honour' and, on 16 August 2017, the Lebanese parliament adopted a law that abolishes article 522 (criminal law). A draft law related to the abrogation of articles 505 and 518 (criminal law) is under consideration. The Ministry of State for Women Affairs has drafted a law to criminalise sexual harassment in working and public places. The draft was adopted by the government on the 8 March 2017 and is being considered by Parliament. (page 61)
23. Lithuania	No	No	
24. Mali	Yes	Yes	Following the presidential and legislative elections held between August and December 2013, political dialogue with armed groups and reconciliation have been promoted as national priorities. The promotion of peace, national reconciliation and social cohesion continued with the holding of information and awareness-raising meetings on the Agreement for Peace and National Reconciliation resulting from the Algiers process, signed on May 15 and completed on June 20, 2015 by the Government and the parties concerned, and the establishment, on January 15, 2014, of a Justice and Reconciliation Truth Commission. In addition, the Government has adopted the Domestic Security Programming Act (LOPSI), which aims to correct the dysfunction and insufficiency of the security sector and to allow security forces to better protect people and their families. their property and participate in the defense of territorial integrity for the period 2017-2021. (p.55) See p.55 for more details (p.55)
25. Malta	Yes	No	Not reported as violence overall or in SDG16 context. Under SDG3, Malta reported on health and well being including death rate, suicide rate (p108) but did not discuss this in context of SDG16 or policy. Under SDG5, Malta discussed steps taken to reduce violence against women and girls and DV (detailed above).
26. Mexico	Yes	Yes	It is a challenge to reduce the vulnerability of communities to violence and crime in certain areas (p. 53). It is a challenge to reduce the presence and operational capacity of criminal organizations (p. 70).

			In 2016, the homicide rate was 20 per 100.000 people (INEGI, 2017) (p. 69).
27. Namibia	No	No	N/A
28. Niger	No	No	
29. Palestine	Yes	Yes	Violence levels in Palestine remain high, with the majority of the Palestinian population experiencing psychological and physical violence (p. 76): • Graph of number of Palestinians killed by Israeli occupation from 2000 to 2016; • Main source of violence blamed on the existence of Israeli forces and settlers. Number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population (p. 124). Proportion of population that feel safe walking alone around the area they live (p. 124).
30. Paraguay	No	No	N/A
31. Poland	No	No	N/A
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A
33. Romania	No	No	
34. Saudi Arabia	No	No	
35. Senegal	Yes	Yes	The VNR mentions the actions taken to reduce violence by increasing the number of police stations (the coverage increasing from 77% in 2015 to 80% in 2016) and police agents (the ratio per habitant increasing from 1/3,027 in 2015 to 1/2,427 in 2016). Strengthening the security network over the entire Senegalese territory is a priority and reinforces the fight against terrorism and insecurity in the country. A national plan to fight against insecurity was set up in 2016 and police stations and brigades are spread over 23 out of the 45 existing departments. • A total of 86 police stations and police stations and 132 brigades and gendarmerie stations are noted. Thus, the police station coverage rate increased from 77% in 2015 to 80% in 2016. The target of 87% was not

			achieved due to delays in starting the infrastructure construction program. In terms of staffing, the Ratio security agent population is estimated at 1/3027 in 2016 for a target of 1/2 427, a result below the universal ratio of security coverage of a police officer per 1,000 inhabitants. The staffing program will be maintained and a reform of the teaching content will be undertaken as part of the ramp-up of the Police. (p 99)
36. Singapore	No	No	N/A
37. Slovakia	No	No	
38. Spain	Yes	No	Trends and challenges: Spain must contend with increased hate crimes against persons with disabilities (VNR, p. 78). For example, a 2017 Ombuds Annual Report shows improved police attitudes toward persons with disabilities (*Id.*) Implementation steps: Adopting the Victims' Charter, a law for protecting the survivors of violence (VNR, pp. 77–78); 5th Master Plan for Spanish Cooperation, main objective of supporting peaceful, fair, and inclusive society (VNR, p. 78);; Women, Peace and Security Agenda as a governmental priority, cementing the important role women play in peace processes (*Id.*). Data sources: a 2017 Ombuds Annual Report. Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Defence; Min. of Interior; Ministry of Equality; Ministry of Health: Ministry of the Interior; Ministry of Equality; and Ministry of Health
39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	Sri Lanka's homicide rate has decreased from 2008 to 2016, where it is 2.5 cases per 100,000 (p. 99). However, military presence in the Northern and Eastern provinces of Sri Lanka have led to occurrences of aggressive situations (p. 100). The Report suggests that values-based education and "peace through development" can help resolve disputes peacefully (p. 101). To this end, the government has taken acts such as implementing the singing of the national Anthem in Sinhala and Tamil languages, reducing stereotyping of ethnic groups in textbooks, promoting a national policy for social integration, and launching a National Policy on Reconciliation and Coexistence in Sri Lanka (pp. 101-102).

				The Ministry of Women and Child Affairs has established units to provide protection and resolve issues related to gender violence (p. 102). In accordance with the Peace Building Priority Plan, the Prime Minister's Office has partnered with a number of other agencies, national and international, to empower women and children to participate in decision-making processes related to preserving the peace in Sri Lanka (p. 102).	
	40. Sudan	Yes		Yes	The Report (pp.4-5) acknowledges that peace is an affirmed government strategy and 'is the first and foremost national priority. It is the responsibility of government and the entire society to advance peace in all dimensions, including security, justice and development.' In terms of specific policies, again, these are rooted in agricultural improvement. Thus, the Report cites an early warning system to predict droughts, which will also cater for expected conflict over limited natural resources. In this way, SDG 16 is promoted, alongside other SDGs such as SDG 15.	
	41. Switzerland	Yes		Yes	905 violent crimes were reported to the Swiss police in 2016 (-15.2% since 2009).	
	42. Togo	No		No		
	43. UAE	Yes		Yes	Policy initiatives have been put into place to reduce death rate due to traffic accidents and intentional homicide.	
	44. Uruguay	No		N/A	N/A	
	45. Vietnam	No		No	The VNR mentions that there is Law on Management and Use of Weapons, Explosives and Combat Gear. (p. 77).	
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	28			
		No	17			
16.2: End child abuse, exploitation, and violence	1. Albania	Yes		Yes	Albania's Ministry of Justice prepared a National Justice for Children Strategy (p. 16). With regard to the strengthening of child protection, Albania passed Law No. 37/2017 'Criminal Justice Code for Minors', which entered into force on 1 January 2018 (p. 19). Albania considers this goal to be fully aligned with its own national goals – see further details at 16.1 (p. 36).	
	2. Andorra	No		No		

3. Armenia	Yes	Yes	The VNR also sees levels of domestic violence and aggression against children as presenting challenges: "The Demographic and Health Survey indicates a high level of domestic violence and aggression against children. There is a high share of children aged 1-17 years who have experienced some form of physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers. In 2015, almost 69 percent of children aged 1-17 years were subjected to violence or aggression. Boys were subjected to violence or aggression more often than girls (70.8 vs 66.8 percent, respectively, in 2015)." (p. 79).	
4. Australia	Yes	Yes	Australia has made efforts to support child victims of human trafficking, slavery, and violence (p. 103).	
5. Bahamas	No	No		
6. Bahrain	Yes	Yes	In 1999, Bahrain set up the National Children's Committee which aims to provide a safe environment for all children and improve their livelihoods. In 2007, Bahrain set up a child protection centre under the auspices of the Ministry of Labour to protect children under the age of 18 from all forms of violence and mistreatment (including mental or sexual harm and/or gross mistreatment).	
7. Benin	Yes	Yes	P. 88 provides data for 2015 on (i) the proportion of children aged 1 to 17 who have suffered physical punishment or a psychological attack by a person taking care of them in the previous month (91.1%); (ii) the number of lawsuits concerning offenses against children that have been followed in Court (82).	
8. Bhutan	Yes	Yes	Gaps remain in the legal and policy framework to fully protect and promote the rights of women and children, and of vulnerable groups. Steps are underway to address this, in line with 2014 recommendations of the Universal Period Review, for example on advancing the rights of people with disabilities. The National Policy for Persons with Disability is under development, with efforts being made to explore ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. In addition, institutional and socio-cultural barriers to women's full participation in society are being addressed through the formulation of the Gender Equality Policy and the nation-wide Violence Against Women and Children studies (for more on gender based violence see Goal 5). The study on Violence Against Children conducted in 2016 sheds light on the situation of children and their vulnerability to violence, exploitation, and abuse. Children are still vulnerable to violence and abuse. This is particularly true for children with disabilities, children from broken homes or living with extended families, and children from low economic backgrounds. The establishment of Law clubs in schools and promotion of legal knowledge under the "Know the Law- to protect your rights"	

series has increased awareness on legal rights of children. The Royal Bhutan Police (RBP) has established three Women and Child Protection Units (WCPU) in the country. The Youth Development and Rehabilitation Centre added a girls' dormitory to address the needs of young girls in conflict with the law. A family and children bench was established under the Thimphu Dzongkhag Court; and several police-youth partnership programmes have been initiated since 2008 to promote social responsibility in children.

[Page 70]

9. Cabo Verde	Yes	Yes	There were 126 recorded cases of sexual abuse against children, an increase of 6.8% compared to 2016. (p. 115)
10. Canada	Yes	Yes	Canada is working to protect children from sexual exploitation and cyberbullying. In July 2015, the Tougher Penalties for Child Predators Act amended the Criminal Code, including by increasing and imposing new mandatory minimum penalties for child sexual offences. The Government of Canada' efforts to combat online child sexual exploitation include funding to enhance the capacity to respond to public reporting and to support an increased rate of removal of child sexual abuse materials online. (p. 115)
11. Colombia	No	N/A	N/A
12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes	Statistics dating back from 2014 shows that 62.9 % of children between 1 and 14 years old have experienced either physical or psychological trauma in their home, irrespective of socioeconomic background. In 2013 the DR created PETT, specialised in counter-trafficking work, which during 2014 and 2015 rescued (together with the foreign ministry, the women's ministry and international organisation) 31 Dominican victims from abroad (p. 149).
13. Ecuador	Yes	No	The government has implemented policies focused on reducing violence against women, prevention from sexual abuse within the education system and violence and abuse against children (p. 53).
14. Egypt	No	No	
15. Greece	Yes	Yes	The Public Security Directorate and the Directorate of Prosecution of Cyber-Crimes of the Ministry of Interior work to combat all forms of violence including trafficking and exploitation (p. 49), including through implementation of an Anti-crime Policy Porgramme.

				The Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights works on policies to strengthen transparency and protect human rights (pp. 73-74). Greece is adopting an Action Plan for the Child to protect children (p. 74).	
	16. Guinea	Yes	No	In 2016, 89% of Guinean children aged 1 to 14 were subject to physical or psychological violence during the last month preceding the survey. Young women are particularly vulnerable to abuse and violence of all kinds: 35% of girls aged 15-19 are brides or live in union in 2016. (p. 80)	
	17. Hungary	Yes	Yes	Focus on prevention of tracking. Regional police units regularly organise programs and campaigns to raise awareness and disseminate information on dangers of human trafficking. (page 56) The International Organization for Migration Budapest is currently implementing an awareness campaign with funding from the Internal Security Fund. (page 57) Government also trains labour inspectors to bring cases of forced labour to justice. Ministry of Interior organised a training course for inspectors, to improve their capabilities to identify victims and expand their knowledge and introduce problem orientated working methods. (page 58) Due to the recognition that many victims of human trafficking and prostitution come from children's homes, the police is making children homes safer and those who work in such institutions aware of the risk. (page 58)	
	18. Ireland	Yes	No	Trends and challenges: none listed Implementation steps: 'Tackling Youth Crime,' Youth Justice Action Plan 2014-2018, a part of 'Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures' National Policy Framework for Young People 2014-2020, to improve intervention in crime-prone behaviour of youths and decrease juvenile crime and use of detention (92); Second National Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Human Trafficking in Ireland, particular focus on children with 10 action points for meeting their needs (93); Irish Defence Forces participation in peace support operations (97). Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY	

19. Jamaica	Yes	Yes	Office of the National Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons established in 2017 (p. 95) 60% increase in reported cases of alleged child trafficking between 2014 and 2015 (p. 95; data source not mentioned) "Break the Silence" campaign since June 2015 to increase reporting of child abuse; 18.7% increase of cases reported (p. 95; data source not mentioned) National Plan of Action for an Integrated Response to Children and Violence revised, and to be implemented from 2018-2023 (p. 95) National Child Diversion Programme (2017) to rehabilitate child offenders (p. 95) Victim Services Division Children in Court program to reduce trauma (p. 95)	
20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	It is reported that the Government of Lao PDR is prioritising strengthening government services and social workers to intervene as appropriate in cases of children at risk. (pages 59)	
21. Latvia	No	No		
22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	The VNR refers to people trafficking generally, not trafficking of children specifically. In 2011 Lebanon adopted Law 164 that considers people trafficking one of the most dangerous crimes. Workshops have been held, in partnership with UNHCR, to train Lebanese armed forces and the ISF in the best ways to fight trafficking. Trafficking victims, when found, are sent to associations for treatment and recovery. (page 61)	
23. Lithuania	Yes	Yes	To prevent violence against children, the legal framework is being upgraded in Lithuania. In 2015, Lithuania transposed the Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on combating the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and child pornography into national law. In 2016, amendments to the Criminal Code were adopted to extend the body of child purchase or sale and trafficking in human beings by providing that criminal liability arises from the commitment of acts prohibited under a criminal law for the purpose of a forced marriage or marriage of convenience. The 2017 amendments to the Law on Fundamentals of Protection of the Rights of the Child have put a ban on all forms of violence against children, including physical punishment. In 2017, the Guidelines for the Implementation of Violence Prevention in Schools came into force. These Guidelines establish a system of preventive and intervention measures at school, municipal and national levels for	

			the creation of an environment safe from violence and bullying at schools which implement the programmes of pre-school, pre-primary and general education, vocational training and non-formal education. By 2020, almost 1 000 schools in Lithuania will be involved in the preventive programmes on combating violence and bullying at schools, and receive the funding of EUR 4 million for their implementation. (p. 42)	
	24. Mali	No	No	
	25. Malta	Yes	Yes	Efforts to combat child labor and child trafficking addresses under SDG8 and SDG5 (detailed above)
	26. Mexico	Yes	Yes	Together with civil society, efforts have been made to contextualize and define the problems and indicators for SDG 16, thus contributing to the definition of priority measures and a framework for monitoring this goal. In 2015, there were 1,057 homicides of children and adolescents (INEGI, 2017). Furthermore, four out of every 10 sexual crimes are committed against a minor according to the Executive Victim Support Commission. Between 2010 and 2016, 8,644 children and adolescents were murdered (p. 71). 63% of children between the ages of 1 and 14 have been victims of psychological or physical abuse by a family member (National Study on Women and Children in Mexico, 2015) (p. 71). As of October 2017, 33,513 people have disappeared in Mexico, 6,189 of them are children and adolescents, representing 18.5% of the total. Of the total disappeared children and adolescents, six out of every 10 cases are girls or young women according to Mexican Children's Rights Network (p. 71). In 2014, an average of 152 cases of children and adolescents were processed each day for suspected abuse, of which 35% were cases of physical abuse, 27% neglect, 18% emotional abuse, 15% abandonment and 4% sexual abuse (p. 71). Mexico has an Action Plan under the framework of the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children. This initiative is promoted by a variety of actors, including governments, international organizations and civil society, and aims to reduce child abuse and exploitation (p. 84).
	27. Namibia	No	No	N/A

28. Niger	No	No		
29. Palestine	Yes	No	Human trafficking is not relevant in the context of Palestine, yet the Government has as a precaution created a national team to counter potential human trafficking (p. 77). The team is currently preparing the legal basis for human trafficking laws. Palestine passed a juvenile law, and a national team was created to ensure the training of judges and the implementation of the new law (p. 77). Proportion of children aged 1-17 who experienced any physical punishment and/or psychological aggression by caregivers in the past month (p. 124).	
30. Paraguay	Yes	No	Paraguay is implementing the "Paraguay and the Protection of Children Against Abuse and All Forms of Violence" 2017-2021 Action Plan (pp. 28-29). The report does not specify, however, what actions are included in this action plan. Paraguay achieved an indicator Type G (meaning of this raking is not discussed in the report) according to the General Director of Statistics, Inquiries and Census (DGEEC-MICS) with respect to SDG Indicator 16.2.1. (pp. 90-91) Paraguay has a project of law aiming at preventing child and teenager sexual abuse. (p. 95) Law no. 5659/2016 aims at promoting child and teenager care and preventing physical punishment and other violent ways of disciplining children and teenagers. (p. 95)	
31. Poland	No	No	N/A	
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A	
33. Romania	No	No		
34. Saudi Arabia	Yes	Yes	Ratification of the Convention on Children's Rights alongside development of Saudi National Strategic Plan for the Prevention of and Action on Family Violence: the strategy is aimed at addressing the needs of victims of violence and battered people though family visitations and fostering of children subjected to violence. (pg. 144)	
35. Senegal	Yes	No	This section does not provide any information on children (but is rather oriented towards protection of women).	

				Free legal services were offered to 1,252 people in the Pikine Law Shop. These activities contribute to the strengthening and creation of an integrated system of services for the promotion and protection of the rights of local women with the creation of two new law shops (CEDAF de Thiès and Center Intégré de Développement Economique et Social (CIDES) of Kaolack). In 2017, in addition to 24 police and gendarmerie officers and 33 magistrates (prosecutor's office and headquarters), one hundred and nineteen Proximity Security Officers (PSAs) were trained on topics related to the prohibition of torture. and ill-treatment in domestic and international law. In addition, a specific GBV communication plan has been designed to promote changes in the behavior of citizens, religious and customary leaders as well as local actors in favor of equity and gender equality. (P 100)	
	36. Singapore	Yes	Yes	Singapore considers Trafficking in Persons (TIP) a serious crime, and takes necessary steps to detect and deter traffickers. An Inter-Agency Taskforce was established in 2010 to ensure WOG coordination on TIP issues. In March 2012, the Taskforce launched the National Plan of Action (NPA) 2012-2015, which centres on a "4Ps strategy" of Prevention, Prosecution, Protection and Partnership. Singapore also acceded to the United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children (UN TIP Protocol) in September 2015. In January 2016, Singapore ratified the ASEAN Convention against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (ACTIP). Singapore is committed to implementing its obligations under the UN TIP Protocol and ACTIP, and to working closely with its regional and international partners to tackle this transnational crime. The VNR mentions trafficking in persons generally, more than trafficking of children specifically. (pages 63-64)	
	37. Slovakia	No	No		
	38. Spain	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: Spain continues to struggle with increased domestic violence against children ages 0-13 and 14-17 (VNR, p. 78). Implementation steps: Going forward with the 3rd National Strategic Plan for Children	

			and Adolescents (2018-2022), with text on "child vulnerability" and a focus on child trafficking (*Id.*); and following up with forthcoming legislation addressing violence against children (*Id.*). Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Defence: Ministry of the Interior; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Equality; and Ministry of Health (VNR, p. 98).	
39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	In 2016, the number of human trafficking victims was 0.12 per 100,000, and cruelty to children cases reduced from 340 in 2010 to 131 in 2017 (p. 99). Sri Lanka ratified the Palermo Protocol and has been contributing through the "Bali Process" to combat human trafficking (p. 99). The Ministry of Women and Child Affairs has established units to provide protection, care, guidance, emotional support, and counseling (p. 102). The National Anti-Human Trafficking Task force has also developed a strategic plan to combat human trafficking (p. 102).	
40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	This is reflected in Sudan's imposition of the 2010 Child Act, and other institutional structures such as the National Council for Child Welfare, the Child Court, and the Child and Family Protection Unit (p.51). The Sudan Report also references targeting children through specific investment in their care, protection and development (health, education, water and sanitation) especially those in the most vulnerable situations, which will lead to an improved quality of life for the children (p.52).	
41. Switzerland	No	No	Switzerland uses a mix of prevention, prosecution and victim support to protect its population against violence in public places, against domestic violence, and against human trafficking and smuggling. The prosecution of sexual offences against children, and of illegal pornography, as well as measures to combat human trafficking and smuggling, are coordinated nationwide. To combat violent extremism, Switzerland has adopted a national action plan to prevent and combat radicalisation and violent extremism, and is in the process of drafting a Federal Act on Police Counter-terrorism Measures (p.22).	
42. Togo	No	No		
43. UAE	Yes	Yes	There are measurable achievements in combating human trafficking crime - initiative called "Your Protection…Our Happiness" to identify, protect and assist victims of	

				trafficking and rights abuses. See page 132
	44. Uruguay	No	N/A	N/A
	45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	Vietnam has effectively implemented a system to receive, protect, and support rehabilitation of trafficking victims. In 2016, the Vietnamese government approved 30 July as "Vietnam's Day Against Trafficking in Persons." Between 2011 and 2016, People's Courts at different levels conducted first-instance trials for 1,193 cases and conducted trials for 1,130 cases of human trafficking. In 2016 and 2017, authorities in Vietnam validated, rescued, and received more than 1,500 cases (including 600 cases of trafficking victims); in 100% of these cases, victims required initial support, psychological consultation, health examination and legal support and many of the victims were provided with subsidies, vocational training and jobs to stabilize their life in the community. (p. 78). In May 2017, "Action Month for Children" was implemented nationwide with the theme of "enforcement of the law on children and preventing as well as combating violence against children and child abuse." In 2017, the Prime Minister decided to formulate the National Committee on Children and national hotline 111 for children. However, violence against children remains, attracting attention and discussion among the community. Violence against children is most commonly seen in the children's families, schools, childcare facilities, and community. (p. 78). The VNR also mentions that there is a Law on Children. (p. 77).
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	30	
		No	15	
16.3: Equal Justice	1. Albania	Yes	Yes	Albania produced an Analytic Paper under the auspices of Parliament pointing out system's challenges and bottlenecks to delivery of a fair, professional and equitable justice to citizens, sensitive and adaptable to their vulnerabilities. This was followed by a Justice Reform Strategy, envisaging amendments to the Constitution, development of 40 laws and setting up several institutions. Within this framework, Parliament adopted: Constitutional Amendments (July 2016), Criminal Justice of Children Code and the Criminal Procedure Code (March 2017), Law on Legal Aid guaranteed by the State (December 2017) among other things. Overall legal package of justice reform includes 15 laws already adopted and 12 draft laws still in process

				(p. 15–16). See p. 66 for more details about Albania's progress in this regard. Albania selected the following indicators to assess this goal (p. 105): Number of unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population (indicator 16.3.2) Albania considers this goal to be fully aligned with its own national goals – see further details at 16.1 (p. 36).	
2. Andorra	No	No		
3. Armenia	Yes	No	The VNR makes reference to various international human rights organizations, and notes that: "Further efforts are needed on behalf of rule of law institutions to ensure justice, public security and access to justice, which continues to be one of the major issues and priorities of the Government." (pp. 78-79) "More efforts will be required to deliver equitable public services and inclusive development at the central and local levels, with a particular focus on restoring core Government functions in the transition with a particular focus on local governance and local development." (p. 79)	
4. Australia	Yes	Yes	Australia has made special efforts to investigate and work on ensuring that the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, who are over-represented in the criminal justice system, have improved health, social, and economic opportunities (pp. 103-104).	
5. Bahamas	Yes	No	The Government opened a Public Defenders Unit in 2017 to help individuals without resources obtain counsel in criminal matters (pp. 123-124)	
6. Bahrain	Yes	Yes	Bahrain's legal system mandates the independence of its judiciary, and puts in place a suite of legal procedures for the right to a fair trial, the right to defend one's self and the right to legal assistance. Bahrain has set up various institutions to ensure respect for due process and the rights and freedoms of individuals. Such institutions include an appeals department at the public prosecution, a commission for prisoner rights, a special investigations unit, a human rights body and the national system for recommendations and complaints.	
7. Benin	Yes	Yes	P. 88 provides data for 2014 on (i) the proportion of inmate population awaiting trial (2.1%); (ii) average distance to court (13,42km); (iii) ratio judge/inhabitants (1/67669); (iv) rate of satisfaction of citizens (70%); and (v) number of soldiers sent each year to war countries (1127 soldiers).	

| | 8. Bhutan | Yes | Yes | Since the promulgation of the Constitution and introduction of a democratic way of governance in 2008, notwithstanding the short time that has passed, a transformation in governance institutions in Bhutan has occurred. The Constitution guarantees judicial independence, two houses of Parliament, the Office of the Attorney General, and a system of mediation at the local level. Bhutan held two national elections and it enjoys a harmonious and peaceful society reinforced by policy and legislation such as the Child Care and Protection Act (CCPA), Domestic Violence Prevention Act 2013 (DVPA) and the Penal Code Act of Bhutan 2011. Public hearings are now a routine feature in Bhutan's Parliamentary affairs, with a system of virtual zomdu in place to better connect Members of Parliament with remote communities through video conferencing facilities. The second review of laws is underway to eliminate duplication and ensure harmony with the Constitution.

Bhutan was ranked 26th out of 180 countries and territories in the 2017 Transparency International Corruption Perception Index; and to counter money laundering and financing of terrorism, the Government adopted the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism Act in 2017. A Government Performance Management System is in place to enhance accountability and help ensure the effective and efficient delivery of public services by the civil service. Bhutan's Government-to-Citizen Project, under the direction of the Prime Minister's Office, is designed to harness technologies and innovation to enhance access to services, with 155 services now online and 19 mobile applications in place.

These investments in good governance are illustrative of Bhutan's positive trajectory towards achieving SDG 16. They are underpinned by the Gross National Happiness philosophy, which itself recognizes the role of inclusive, democratic governance, with responsive institutions, and access to justice for all as paramount to progress, with a clear focus on the importance of reducing vulnerabilities - a key objective in Bhutan's current, 11th FYP. (See also 10.4)

Change, however, is ongoing, and the process of embedding the principles of democratization in the behavior, practice, and culture of Bhutan's people and its institutions continue. According to the 2015 GNH Survey, people's perception of access to basic services has greatly improved, witnessing a 20 points increase since 2010148. However, people's perception of good governance has significantly decreased for the other three out of four indicators as compared to the 2010 Survey: government performance (46 points); fundamental rights (11 points); and political | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|

				participation (9 points). Although people's perception of government performance might be partially attributable to rising expectations of democracy, low score on political participation and fundamental rights warrant close attention. Therefore, while impressive progress has been achieved to consolidate democracy, a number of issues require further partnership and investment. Widening the democratic space for the increasingly active participation of people in decision-making has been a government priority since the start of development activities in the country. In the 12th FYP with the SDGs mainstreamed therein, the Government aims to bring effective governance 'closer to the people' with the objective of the Plan as "Just, Harmonious, Sustainable Society through Enhanced Decentralization".	
				The role of civil society in advancing a rights-based approach, improving services, and encouraging participation and accountability is increasingly understood, however the perception is that their capacities, while promising, are still weak149. The Government partners with national Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to implement activities targeted at vulnerable groups of the society. The capacity of the CSOs need to be strengthened to further enhance their effectiveness.	
				Further specialization and regulation of the growing legal profession and the establishment of a legal aid system are among the priorities of the Justice sector. At the same time, the results of the 2017 Population and Housing Census will help improve data baselining to know who is being left behind. **[Pages 69 and 70]**	
	9. Cabo Verde	Yes	No	Cabo Verde acknowledges that social peace cannot be accomplished without a swift justice system, and that the current status of the Cabo Verdean justice system is incompatible with that goal. The report highlights the following as the main challenges faced by the justice system in Cabo Verde: insufficient legal information among Cabo Verdean society, inadequacy of the judicial assistance system, weak specialization of the various branches of justice, delays in the penetration of information and communication technologies, insufficiency of judges, judges' dedication to the tasks of court administration, poor access by magistrates to specialized information, need to reform procedures to accelerate the process, need for performance requirements for magistrates, inadequacy of the system of execution of sentences and non-recognition and non-adoption and application of voluntary mediation and arbitration. (p. 116)	

	10. Canada	Yes	Yes	Canada is undertaking a broad review of Canada's criminal justice system and has established the Working Group of Ministers to review relevant federal laws, policies and operational practices to help ensure the Government is meeting its constitutional obligation with respect to Indigenous and treat rights, adhering to international human rights standards and supporting the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. Canada supports access to justice, particularly for economically disadvantaged persons, through its Legal Aid Program; and supports Indigenous community-based justice programs that offer culturally relevant alternatives to the mainstream justice process in appropriate circumstances through the Indigenous Justice Program. Moreover, in Budget 2018, Canada committed $50 million over 5 years to provide outreach to, and legal aid for, victims of sexual harassment in the workplace. The Victims Fund provides grants and contributions to support projects and activities that encourage the development of new approaches, promote access to justice, improve the capacity of service providers, foster the establishment of referral networks and/or increase awareness of services available to victims of crime and their families. (pp. 113-114)	
	11. Colombia	No	N/A	N/A	
	12. Dominican Republic	Yes	No	References to equal access to justice is made in the VNR, but mainly refers to persons detained and incarcerated without being sentenced/pending sentence (p. 149-150).	
	13. Ecuador	Yes	No	The report mentions the topic in the context of the Penal and Procedural law implemented in 2014, as well as the implementation of alternatives method for conflict resolution (p. 127).	
	14. Egypt	Yes	No	The report states that "a number of national instruments and action plans have been adopted" for promoting the rule of law, but does not provide any details (page 56).	
	15. Greece	Yes	Yes	The Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights works on policies to strengthen transparency and protect human rights (pp. 73-74). Greece is also taking actions to improve justice infrastructure, staffing, and technology via (1) Action Plan on e-Justice and Administrative Upgrading, (2) alternative dispute resolution, (3) reforming the Code of Civil Procedure, Criminal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure, and (4) training and specialization programmes for court officials and judges (p. 74).	
	16. Guinea	Yes	No	Reforms initiated by the Guinean government: Superior Council of the Judiciary, setting up the Constitutional Court. (p. 81)	

				A justice reform plan for the period 2015-2019 provides for the continuation of reforms and the creation of conditions for justice professional and independent. (p. 81)
	17. Hungary	No	No	
	18. Ireland	Yes	No	Implementation steps: Review group announced for reforming Administration of Civil Justice, recommending actions to improve justice access, litigation cost, and hearing promptness (93); participation in the Universal Periodic Review of UN member human rights records, and general involvement in EU and UN human rights efforts (98).
				Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY
	19. Jamaica	Yes	No	Justice Reform Implementation Plan (2015) for period till 2020 (p. 96)
				Case Management System worked on (p. 96)
				Data collection system to monitor case load etc. (p. 96)
				Various courthouses refurbished (p. 96)
				Intending to create building design plans to enable easier access by disabled persons to courts
				Supreme Court and other courts installed video-link technology for witnesses unable to attend (p. 96)
				Justice Undertaking Social Transformation Programme and Justice, Security Accountability and Transparency Programme implemented (p. 96)
	20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	It is stated that steady progress has been made towards establishing rule of law, but significant challenges remain. The expansion of legal services is constrained by human and financial factors, such as the costs of running legal aid facilities, the insufficient number of qualified lawyers and judges, and the limited understanding about access to justice among men and women. (page 59)

				It is further reported that the Government is prioritising establishing a rule of law state by 2020. The Government with development partners' support is implementing a comprehensive Legal Sector Master Plan. Efforts focus on strengthening institutional and human resource capacities to protect and advocate for people's rights, building stronger safeguards for the exercise of the rights of all citizens, improving people's access to law and justice institutions, developing clearer, more consistent, and responsive laws and regulations, and monitoring and reporting on international legal obligations. (page 62)	
	21. Latvia	No	No		
	22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	All fundamental rights and freedoms are enshrined in the Lebanese constitution. Moreover the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights are part of the Lebanese constitutional bulk, as they are mentioned in the preamble of the Lebanese constitution. Consequently the Lebanese authorities are committed to take measures in order to guarantee rights in the following areas: reducing violence, people trafficking, pre-trial detention, birth registration, independent national human rights institutions and reduced inequalities. (page 62)	
	23. Lithuania	Yes	Yes	Article 30 of the Constitution of the Republic of Lithuania guarantees the right of access to justice to every person whose constitutional rights or freedoms are violated. Lithuanian laws stipulate that only courts may administer justice based on the principle of equality of everyone before the law and court, regardless of a person's gender, race, nationality, language, origin, social status, religion, beliefs or views, type and nature of the occupation and other circumstances Persons who are incapable of defending their infringed or contested rights independently in an appropriate way due to their difficult financial situation or other circumstances may benefit from primary or secondary legal assistance under a prescribed procedure. (pp. 43-44)	
	24. Mali	Yes	No	p. 55-56	
	25. Malta	Yes	Yes	Attorney General is Public Prosecutor before Criminal Court and Court of Criminal Appeal. Law officers within Office of AG advise Govt on legal matters and participate	

			in international seminars to keep abreast with legal developments abroad. (p93)
			Legal Aid Malta ensures low income representation with 14 legal aid lawyers in Malta and 4 in Gozo together with 24 Legal Procurators for legal aid assistance in civil and criminal cases. Plans are also underway to extend legal aid assistance to Domestic Violence cases. (p93)
			Since March 2013 the government has embarked on a project to reform the national Justice system. A number of initiatives were taken to address backlog. An accurate review of timeline for pending cases was taken in civil, commercial and criminal spheres. A redistribution of duties within judiciary was completed. New physical space was erected for capacity building in 2014. Increase in town halls from 24 to 27. As of December 2017, Malta has 21 judges, 22 magistrates, 16 Court attorneys and 16 judicial assistants. In 2018 Malta will review its case-weighing system. (p93)
			Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms and e-services are being applied to improve quality and efficiency of national judicial system. (p93)
26. Mexico	Yes	No	The new accusatory criminal justice system guarantees better protection of the rights of both victims and suspects (p. 70).
27. Namibia	Yes	Yes	In terms of rule of law, Namibia's score has improved on the Ibrahim Index of Africa Governance from a score of 81 in 2012 to a score of 83.9 in 2016. This places it as the nation with 5th highest score in good governance out 54 African nations. Amongst the key challenges is the low case docket clearance rate that has led to an increase of backlog of criminal cases. Further, there are inadequate offender and victim rehabilitation programs leading to high rates of re-offences. (page 39) It is reported that by way of a strategy to attain this target, as regards the rule of law and specifically re-offence rate, which is worryingly high, there are concerted efforts promoting multi-focused rehabilitation services and the development of adequate offender and victim mediation programs through the expansion of reintegration services and policy frameworks development (page 40)
28. Niger	No	No	
29. Palestine	Yes	Yes	Some Palestinian areas can experience almost total lawlessness, or an inability for Palestinians to access any kind of formal justice (p. 77). In many cases this is due to Israel's negligence for enforcing the rule of law, while simultaneously refusing access to Palestinian law enforcement officers.

Unequal access to justice due to Israeli occupation (p. 77):

- There are serious gaps in the enforcement of the rule of law, including virtual impunity for settler violence;
- Israeli military courts are used to prosecute Palestinians living under occupation in the West Bank, and the courts grant Palestinian detainees only minimal legal safeguards, far below Israeli civil and international legal standards;
- Israeli security forces arrest children in their homes at night, at gunpoint; question them without a family member or a lawyer present; and coerce them to sign confessions in Hebrew, which in most cases they do not understand.

The division between the West Bank and Gaza has led to the absence of a functioning Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) and the inability to adopt any legislation or to improve legal administration (p. 77). A reconciliation agreement was signed in 2017 to facilitate the restoration of the PLC.

The political division between the West Bank and the Gaza Strip resulted in two judicial systems and created a disparity in access to justice (p. 78).

In 2016 a total of 745 cases of arbitrary detention were monitored (p. 78). 134 cases of violations of journalist rights were registered in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The state of Palestine is committed to respecting pluralism, non-discrimination and every citizen's right of justice and equality (p. 78).

Government policies to improve access to justice (p. 77):

- Created a committee that aims to unify the justice system in the north and south of the West Bank;
- Created a national strategy to provide legal representation to all citizens in court;
- Developing the infrastructure needed to increase the capacity of the judicial system, as well as using IT systems that makes accessing the judicial system more efficient.

			Proportion of victims of violence in the previous 12 months who reported their victimization to competent authorities or other officially recognized conflict resolution mechanisms (p. 124). Unsentenced detainees as a proportion of overall prison population (p. 124).
30. Paraguay	No	No	N/A
31. Poland	Yes	No	**Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation**: "Ensuring citizens' access to properly organized justice - improving the functioning of the justice system and the institutions influencing its shape in such a way that the postulate of citizens' access to the justice system, including the promotion of non-judicial methods of dispute resolution, will be implemented to a greater extent." 78.
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A
33. Romania	No	No	
34. Saudi Arabia	Yes	Yes	National Anti-Corruption Commission: set up to identify those involved in public corruption, investigate, issue arrest warrants, freeze accounts and issue travel bans by persons of whatever status. It has the discretion to take the necessary action against those involved in public corruption cases and the committee may take whatever measures it deems appropriate for the best interest of the state. (pg. 145)
35. Senegal	Yes	Yes	Important results were recorded with the adoption in the National Assembly of the reform of the penal code and the code of criminal procedure. The renewal of Justice was manifested by: • the establishment of a new judicial map, • the creation of criminal chambers at the level of the high courts and the Courts of Appeal in place of the Assize Courts, • the faculty of creation of specialized chambers in civil, commercial and administrative matters • the establishment of new principles of judicial organization (principles of impartiality and promptness), • the development of the classic principles of judicial organization (principles of rights of defense and collegiality), and

			• the consideration of local justice in the judicial chain. (p 100)	
	36. Singapore	Yes	Yes	Singapore's journey as a nation is founded on a commitment to the rule of law. It has been the cornerstone of development since independence, and remains a vital tenet of Singapore's governance today. Singapore's commitment to the rule of law has contributed to a sense of justice and security for its people. It has engendered confidence among businesses, which value an environment where contracts and property rights are respected and protected. The country has also established, maintained, and strengthened public institutions that are effective, fair, inclusive, and accountable to the people. Singapore has built a clean, efficient, and independent judiciary and public service. Underlying this is Singapore's zero-tolerance approach to corruption which applies to all three branches of Government. It's commitment to the rule of law is widely acknowledged, with Singapore ranked first in Gallup's Law and Order Report from 2014 to 2017. (page 61)	
	37. Slovakia	Yes	Yes	Slovakia notes that the perception of the independence of the judiciary by the public and entrepreneurs belongs in Slovakia to the worst within the EU. Efforts are therefore being made to apply the principles of open justice in order to reinforce the justice system and increase the confidence of the population and the business sector in the legal system (p. 51)	
	38. Spain	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: Despite strides in other areas, Spain continues to have issues with women and people with disabilities accessing the justice system (VNR, p. 78). Implementation steps: Proceeding with the 5th Master Plan for Spanish Cooperation, main objective of supporting peaceful, fair, and inclusive society (VNR, p. 78); and reforming Spain's free legal aid system for increased access by disadvantaged groups (e.g. victims of terrorism, disabled persons) (*Id.*). Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Defence; and Ministry of Ecological Technology (VNR, p. 98).	
	39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	Sri Lanka received an "A Grade" accreditation of the National Human Rights Commission by the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Commissions (p. 99). The judiciary has also gained credibility through the 19th Amendment and introduction of the Police Commission and the Judicial Service Commission (p. 99). Sri Lanka is in process of drafting a new constitution which can "be a space to	

| | | | recognise the rights of every ethnic and religious community" (p. 101).

The government has also passed the Office on Missing Persons Act, No. 9 of 2017, which creates a mechanism to reach transitional justice and provide reparations for the victims of the almost 30-year armed conflict in Sri Lanka (p. 102). |

40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	The Report references the Quarter Century Strategy (2007-2031). This is based on a 'long-term planning vision anchored on justice, freedom, 'shura', democracy, human rights and unity.' (p.26). Justice and the rule of law are being achieved through official institutions, community-based organizations, and in partnership with neighbouring countries and agencies (p.4).

Next, the system of Native Administration forms an effective institution of local government, whose purpose is to deliver justice and settle disputes. |
41. Switzerland	No	No	The right of action and right of appeal ensure access to justice at all federal levels. For example, under international conventions, individual human rights appeals can be lodged with the European Court of Human Rights and with the UN Committee Against Torture, Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, and Committee on the Rights of the Child (p. 22).
42. Togo	No	No	
43. UAE	No	No	
44. Uruguay	Yes	No	Barely mentioned in part of statistics related to the amount of initatives taken with in the South-South Cooperation (Sp. Coopreación sur-sur) (p. 29).
45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	Vietnam's Criminal Code, Law on Prevention of Money Laundering, Law on Civil Status, Law on Citizen Identification, Law on Children, Law on Access to Information, and Law on Management and Use of Weapons, Explosives and Combat Gear help implement SDG 16. The Law on Legal Aid and related policies ensure that all people have access to information and protection of fundamental basic rights and freedoms in compliance with Vietnam's legislation and the international treaties to which Vietnam adheres. (p. 77).

Between July 2011 and March 2015, lawyers participated in the prosecution of more than 87,604 cases, including 42,342 criminal cases. In 2016, lawyers participated in the prosecution of more than 23,670 cases.   From 2007 to 2016, legal aid |

				organizations supported the defence for 51,721 cases for poor, ethnic minority people living in disadvantaged areas and others who could not hire lawyers. As required by proceeding-conducting agencies, 100% of criminal cases had lawyers and legal aid-providers. (p. 79). Vietnam has made efforts to ensure equal access to justice. It has fulfilled its international commitments on ensuring civil, political, social, economic, and cultural rights as well as citizen's rights under the SDGs. Major judicial and legislative reforms (including the Criminal Code, Code of Civil Procedure, Law on Enforcement of Custody and Temporary Detention, Law on Anti-Corruption, Law on Access to Information, Law on Religion and Folk Beliefs) have been implemented to ensure people's full enjoyment of human rights. (p. 78).	
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	34		
		No	11		
16.4: Reduce illicit financial and arms flows	1. Albania	Yes		Yes	Albania has conducted operations consisting in coordinated institutional and inter-institutional efforts to counter organised crime. Results include identification of all active criminal groups, high risk criminal groups, and detailed information on organised criminal groups and their assets. Successful operations in cooperation with law enforcement agencies of USA, Canada and several European countries have resulted in arrest of several individuals, seizure of property obtained through dubious or illegal means (p. 16). A cross-institutional, central task force, named Operation Power of Law, is in charge of implementation of the action plan against organised crime (p. 16–17). The EC 2018 Report on Albania states that "Amendments to the anti-mafia law and the Criminal Procedure Code have created the conditions for increased efficiency of criminal investigations. Albania participated successfully in international police cooperation, intensifying its interactions particularly with EU Member States." (p. 17) Albania considers this goal to be fully aligned with its own national goals – see further details at 16.1 (p. 36).	
	2. Andorra	No		No		
	3. Armenia	No		No		
	4. Australia	Yes		Yes	See SDG 16.1 notes.	

				Australia also has a public-private partnership, the Fintel Alliance, to fight money laundering and terrorism financing (p. 103).
5.	Bahamas	No	No	
6.	Bahrain	No	No	
7.	Benin	No	No	
8.	Bhutan	No	No	
9.	Cabo Verde	No	No	N/A
10.	Canada	Yes	No	The Initiative to Take Action against Guns and Gangs will invest in communities and enhance Canada's capacity to stem the flow of transnational organized crime members and illegal firearms entering Canada. (p. 113)
11.	Colombia	No	No	N/A
12.	Dominican Republic	No	No	N/A
13.	Ecuador	Yes	No	Briefly mentioned as part of the national development plan, no further detail (p. 115).
14.	Egypt	No	No	
15.	Greece	Yes	Yes	The Greek Secretariat Against Corruption (GSAC) fights corruption by implementing the National Strategic Plan Against Corruption (pp. 74-75). The GSAC (1) enhances the legal framework by improving legal assistance and asset recovery, (2) establishes the Coordination Operational Center to combat smuggling, (3) enhances control through operating the Bank Accounts Register and audits, and (4) participates in the Strategy and Policies Committee for Countering Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (p. 75).
16.	Guinea	Yes	No	Crime fighting is led by police special units and the gendarmerie. There is furthermore a special service attached to the Presidency, which is in charge of fighting organized crime. (p. 81)
17.	Hungary	No	No	

18. Ireland	Yes	No	Trends and challenges: Continued action to comply with Financial Action Task Force findings on Ireland's improvement areas (93). Implementation steps: Financial Action Task Force membership, creates peer review responsibilities for anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing systems (93); implementation of legal instruments such as the Fourth Anti-Money Laundering Directive (id.); active role in the negotiating Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (98); support for de-mining in Afghanistan, Cambodia, Laos, and Zimbabwe (id.). Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY	
19. Jamaica	Yes	No	Counter-Terrorism and Organized Crime Investigation Branch formed out of merger of two entities in 2015, leading to the seizure of firearms, ammunition, and money (p. 96) 489 operations by Major Organised Crime and Anti-Corruption Agency in 2016-2016 leading to 367 arrests of which 300 charged (p. 96)	
20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	It is noted that the greater openness of borders poses both opportunities and challenges for realizing SDG 16. Increased and affordable access to regular migration channels protects migrant workers, while reducing exploitation and trafficking of children, women, and men. However, without effective law enforcement and protection mechanisms, the greater openness brought about by the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) will have a negative impact. Looser customs and border control procedures could lead to a rise in illegal trade, trafficking, and crime. Increased connectivity is beneficial for trade and economic growth, but it also opens the way for transnational crime syndicates. It is reported that the Government is prioritising combating transnational crime through accelerating the implementation of regional frameworks, such as the ASEAN Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children and the ASEAN Convention against Trafficking in Persons. (page 59)	
21. Latvia	No	No		
22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	Taking advantage of a window of stability, Lebanon is pushing forward with reforms to enhance the governance regulatory framework. During the last two years,	

			legislative activity was active in this domain, starting with Parliamentary ratification of laws that strengthened the fight against money laundering and the financing of terrorism. (page 61) The government has also established an internal system to detect and expose terrorists, undermine their proliferation, restrict their freedom of movement, impede and decrease their finances and thwart their attempts to perpetrate terrorist acts on or from its territory. (page 61)
23. Lithuania	Yes	Yes	With a view to minimising illicit financial flows, in 2015 Lithuania carried out a national risk assessment of money laundering and terrorist financing. During the assessment, more than 80 risks were identified in the law enforcement, regulatory, financial and non-financial sectors which had or could have an effect on the Lithuanian system of prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing, and their potential effect on national security was evaluated. Based on the results of assessment, steps have been taken to reduce and eliminate the said risks. In 2017, a new version of the Law on the Prevention of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing was adopted to provide prerequisites for the more effective application of preventive measures to money laundering and terrorist financing and the creation of an environment unfavourable to the risks of money laundering and terrorist financing (p. 43)
24. Mali	Yes	No	p. 56
25. Malta	No	No	
26. Mexico	Yes	No	It is a challenge to achieve effective international coordination and collaboration in the prevention of money laundering, drug trafficking and gun running, particularly with the US and other countries where Mexican criminal organizations operate (p. 70).
27. Namibia	No	No	N/A
28. Niger	No	No	
29. Palestine	No	No	N/A
30. Paraguay	No	No	N/A
31. Poland	Yes	No	Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation: "Programme "The Counteracting corruption and grey market" - Global Compact Network Poland

			programme, in partnership with the Ministry of Finance and with the support of the Ministry of Economic Development, enabled the creation of a unique platform for cooperation with state institutions dealing with combating the grey market, smuggling, bribery and fraud in sectors that are most exposed to the negative impact of economic crime. Industry reports were prepared describing criminal practices and recommendations for state institutions." 80. Use of HR institutions and reporting processes/UPC/? No Specific Party Tasked with Implementing: Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Justice, Prosecutor's Office, Central Anti-Corruption Bureau, Central Bureau of Investigation, National Revenue Administration. 80.	
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A	
33. Romania	No	No		
34. Saudi Arabia	No	No		
35. Senegal	Yes	Yes	In 2015, Senegal developed a strategy to combat money laundering and the financing of terrorism. In accordance with the new standards of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), the National Financial Processing Unit (CENTIF) has launched the work of the national assessment of the risks of money laundering and terrorist financing, in relation to the all the actors concerned. Moreover, in June 2015, Senegal adopted the protocol of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) on the fight against corruption. Thus, Senegal recorded a score of 45/100 for Transparency International's annual Corruption Perceptions Index 2016, ranking it 64th out of 176 countries. In 2015, it was ranked 61st out of 175 countries worldwide. (P 101)	
36. Singapore	Yes	Yes	Singapore is a major global financial centre and an international trade and transportation hub. As such, the bulk of its exposure to money-laundering risks arises from offences committed overseas. Between 2008 and 2014, 66% of Singapore's money-laundering investigations and 27% of money-laundering convictions relate to criminal offences committed overseas. Singapore adopts a WOG approach to combatting money laundering and terrorism financing. Financial institutions operating in Singapore are required to put in place robust controls to detect and	

				deter the flow of illicit funds through its financial system. In 2016, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and Asia/Pacific Group on Money Laundering (APG) Mutual Evaluation on Singapore assessed that Singapore possessed a strong legal and institutional framework for combatting money laundering, terrorism financing, and proliferation financing.

In Singapore, the illegal manufacture and unauthorised trading of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) are offences under the Arms and Explosives Act. Strict processes must be observed for the legal manufacture of all SALW and exports to countries under the relevant sanctions imposed. (page 63) | |
| 37. Slovakia | No | No | | |
| 38. Spain | Yes | No | Trends and challenges: Not mentioned with specificity.

Implementation steps: Creation of the Asset Recovery and Management Office, tasked with recovering stolen property to compensate victims and harm organized crime, funding social projects against organized crime (VNR, p.78).

Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Justice; and Ministry of the Interior (VNR, p. 98). | |
| 39. Sri Lanka | Yes | Yes | In 2016, the proportion of seized small arms and light weapons was 0.4 per 100,000 (p. 99). Strengthened law enforcement resulted in an increased number of cases detecting the manufacture or possession of illegal drugs from 511 in 2008 to 2,845 in 2017 (p. 99). | |
| 40. Sudan | Yes | No | The VNR briefly mentions the existence of 'illicit financial flows' (p.25), however significant detail, and description of any relevant policies, is lacking. | |
| 41. Switzerland | No | No | Switzerland has a keen interest in the integrity of its financial centre. It recognises illicit financial flows as a challenge that can be tackled successfully only in association with their countries of origin and destination. Switzerland applies international standards on combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism, on the exchange of information on tax matters, on tax avoidance and shifting, and on fighting corruption (p.22).

To curtail illicit financial flows into Switzerland from developing countries, Switzerland helps these countries to better manage their revenue from commodities transactions, to institute effective taxation, and in their fight against money laundering and corruption. Switzerland pursues a proactive policy to track, freeze and | |

				recover assets stolen by politically exposed persons from foreign countries. It supports the countries of origin in their efforts to recover such stolen assets, returning some USD 2 billion in recent years. It is also committed to combating the illegal transfer of items of cultural significance (p. 23).	
	42. Togo	No		No	
	43. UAE	No		No	
	44. Uruguay	No		N/A	N/A
	45. Vietnam	Yes		No	The VNR mentions that there is Law on Management and Use of Weapons, Explosives and Combat Gear. (p. 77).
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	20		
		No	25		
16.5: Reduce corruption and bribery	1. Albania	Yes		Yes	Positive trend towards a solid track record of investigations, prosecutions and convictions in corruption cases continued, as demonstrated by (p. 17): • an increase of 15 percent in the number of cases referred to prosecution by the police in 2017, compared to the previous year (2,166 cases in 2017; 1,882 cases in 2016) • an increase of 31.8 percent in the number of cases submitted to court by the prosecution in 2017, compared to the previous year (813 cases in 2017; 617 cases in 2016) • an increase in the number of convictions at the Supreme Court (16 convictions in 2017; 2 convictions in 2016). • The recent fight against corruption and abuse with land property rights has led to the arrest of 34 persons, including high-level officials (mayors, former mayors and a former prefect). The EC 2018 Report on Albania states that "Albania maintains some level of preparation in the fight against corruption. Good progress was made, notably with the adoption of amendments to the criminal procedure code. A chain of specialised anticorruption bodies, including a special prosecutor's office, is being established. The number of final convictions involving junior or middle-ranking officials has increased compared to the previous reporting period." (p. 17) Albania's legal framework provides "for merit-based recruitment for civil service positions" and Albania states that its legal framework on "integrity and prevention of	

				corruption of public officials, including civil servants, is complete." The EC 2018 Report on Albania states that "Efforts continued, resulting in some progress in the efficiency and transparency of public services delivery, the training of civil servants, more transparent recruitment procedures, and the overall strengthening of merit-based civil service procedures." The EC 2018 Report also contained specific recommendations, including implementing regulatory and fiscal impact assessments, developing a comprehensive salary policy, ensuring effective implementation of the Code of Administrative Procedure (p. 18–19). Albania considers this goal to be fully aligned with its own national goals – see further details at 16.1 (p. 36).
2.	Andorra	No	No	
3.	Armenia	Yes	No	There are some statements made in the introductory and highlights sections about desiring to reduce corruption, but no real detail is provided. "The enhancement of democracy, efficient and effective governance, increased level of transparency and accountability in public governance, fight against corruption, free economic competition, protection of investors' rights, rule of law and human rights are high priorities of the new Government."(p. 6) "Enhancement of democracy, free economic competition, fight against corruption, rule of law and human rights are high priorities of the new Government." (p. 13)
4.	Australia	Yes	No	Regarding corruption, the report only mentions Australia has cross-government cooperation on detection and disruption of "serious fraud, corruption and serious crime" (p. 103). There is no mention of bribery.
5.	Bahamas	Yes	Yes	In 2017, the Government enacted legislation to strengthen its anti-corruption regime, including the Anti-Corruption Commission Bill 2017, Ombudsman Bill 2017, and Corruption Investigation Bureau Bill 2017 (p. 127) The Government has prioritized accountability and transparency for the Ministry of Finance through several proposed initiatives, notably implementing a Public Financial Management and Performance Monitoring Reform project to improve allocation and tracking of public funds, as well as introducing new budgeting and accounting software and standards, and amending the Financial Administration and Audit Act to form an inter departmental unit that will be responsible for revenue enhancement (p. 126)

6. Bahrain	Yes	Yes	Bahrain's National Audit Court has been established to combat corruption and to protect public funds. Its mandate is to eliminate wasteful or unlawful use of public funds. It has authority over a wide range of government bodies and aims to assist them with developing ways in which it can limit violations or misappropriation of public funds. Bahrain's national audit court has financial and administrative independence and provides a report on its annual audit in which it details key violations and recommendations on how violations may be avoided in the future.	
7. Benin	Yes	No	P. 89 indicates sources but does not provide any data.	
8. Bhutan	Yes	Yes	Bhutan was ranked 26th out of 180 countries and territories in the 2017 Transparency International Corruption Perception Index; and to counter money laundering and financing of terrorism, the Government adopted the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism Act in 2017. A Government Performance Management System is in place to enhance accountability and help ensure the effective and efficient delivery of public services by the civil service. Bhutan's Government-to-Citizen Project, under the direction of the Prime Minister's Office, is designed to harness technologies and innovation to enhance access to services, with 155 services now online and 19 mobile applications in place. Change, however, is ongoing, and the process of embedding the principles of democratization in the behavior, practice, and culture of Bhutan's people and its institutions continue. According to the 2015 GNH Survey, people's perception of access to basic services has greatly improved, witnessing a 20 points increase since 2010. However, people's perception of good governance has significantly decreased for the other three out of four indicators as compared to the 2010 Survey: government performance (46 points); fundamental rights (11 points); and political participation (9 points). Although people's perception of government performance might be partially attributable to rising expectations of democracy, low score on political participation and fundamental rights warrant close attention. Therefore, while impressive progress has been achieved to consolidate democracy, a number of issues require further partnership and investment. Widening the democratic space for the increasingly active participation of people in decision-making has been a government priority since the start of development activities in the country. In the 12th FYP with the SDGs mainstreamed therein, the Government aims to bring effective governance 'closer to the people' with the objective of the Plan as "Just, Harmonious, Sustainable Society through Enhanced Decentralization".	

				The role of civil society in advancing a rights-based approach, improving services, and encouraging participation and accountability is increasingly understood, however the perception is that their capacities, while promising, are still weak149. The Government partners with national Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to implement activities targeted at vulnerable groups of the society. The capacity of the CSOs need to be strengthened to further enhance their effectiveness. **[Page 69 and 70]**	
9. Cabo Verde	Yes	Yes	According to Transparency International, in 2016 Cabo Verde ranked 2nd in Africa and 39th in the world in terms of low perception of corruption. (p. 115) According to the Afrobarometer, in 2017 one in five people considered that the level of corruption had decreased, which was 5 percentage points higher than in 2014, and the proportion of people who felt that corruption had increased a lot or a little reached 39%, which was 10 percentage points less than in 2014. (pp. 115-116) 7 in every 100 persons reported having paid bribes for access to education services, police services, health services, water and electricity services or to obtain documents. (p. 116)	
10. Canada	Yes	Yes	Canada works with stakeholders to prevent, detect and investigate bribery and corruption, and help industry, governments and organizations mitigate their exposure to these crimes. Canada's laws aim to detect and deter money laundering and the financing of terrorist activities, for example through mandatory reporting of suspicious financial transactions, while facilitating the investigation and prosecution of these crimes. (p. 113)	
11. Colombia	Yes	No	The VNR, mentions that the Confederation of NGOs in Colombia (Sp, Confederación Colombiana de Organizaciones No Gubernamentales) have been active in working towards implementation of the SDGs and have presented recommendations towards the fight against corruption.	
12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes	Bribery and corruption is present and studies from 2014 shows that 12.1% of the adult population had experienced request for brides from authorities during the last 12 months prior to the study. This number is up from 5.9% in 2008. In 2015, 513 members of the police forces were discontinued where 3 out of 4 cases where related to corruption (p. 150-151).	
13. Ecuador	Yes	No	Topic mentioned as a part of political programs, however this topic lacks further details apart from that combating corruption has been implemented as part of the	

				national development plan, as well as the program (p. 110).
14. Egypt	Yes	Yes	Egypt adopted a four-year national anti-corruption strategy in 2014, which involves more than 80 government ministries, authorities, and governorates. Egypt's anti-corruption agency has been "successful in uncovering an unprecedented number of major corruption cases." Egypt ranks 32 out of 100 on the corruption perception index (page 56).
15. Greece	Yes	Yes	Greece has taken legislative initiative to fight corruption including the electronic submission of asset declarations and political financing (p. 75). Greece has also established the Central Electronic Registry of Public Procurements and National System of Electronic Public Procurements, and issued directives in issues regarding bribery of foreign officials.
16. Guinea	Yes	No	According to the Corruption Perception Index developed annually by Transparency International, Guinea is classified 148th out of 180 countries (31st out of 49 African countries studied) in 2017. It's a progress from the results obtained in 2015 when Guinea was classified 139th (37th country out of 52 in Africa) (p. 81). Guinea has a National Anti-Corruption Agency, but does not have the resources necessary to carry out its goals. Further, in 2017, the National Assembly voted in favor of an anti-corruption law. (p. 81)
17. Hungary	Yes	Yes	National Anti-Corruption Program (2015-2018) was developed. (page 59)
18. Ireland	Yes	No	Implementation steps: Multiple government agencies work in tandem to combat corruption domestically and in Ireland's international commitments (94); an array of anti-corruption legislation (e.g. political funding legislation, the Companies Act); Criminal Justice [Corruption] Bill 2017 unifies and modernizes Ireland's corruption laws, adds new offences, court authority to remove convicted public officials, and corporate strict liability for directors, managers, employees, and agents. Yet to be enacted as of TNR (id.); peer evaluations of Ireland through membership in numerous international agreements (98). Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY; stated that multiple bodies have involvement (e.g. the Financial Regulator, the Criminal Assets Bureau, the Public Accounts Committee)
19. Jamaica	Yes	No	Ranking on Corruption Perception Index fell in 2016 (p. 97) Integrity Commission Act (2017) created single anti-corruption body with prosecutorial powers (p. 97)

				National Integrity Action, a Jamaican anti-corruption NGO, is credited by the VNR for building public awareness etc. Bribery victimization rates significantly declined from 2010-2014 (p. 98)	
	20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	It is reported that strengthening governance and addressing corruption are required for the economy to become more competitive. Lao PDR has initiated a successful anti-corruption campaign. Its Corruption Perceptions Index in 2017 was 135 out of 180, with a score of 29 (zero being highly corrupt and 100 very clean) in the Corruption Perception Index calculated by the international NGO Transparency International. The score has generally improved over the past five years from 21 in 2012. (page 59) It is further reported that Lao PDR has publicly committed to tackling corruption and established the institutional frameworks to this end. In its statement at the Universal Periodic Review in 2015, the Lao PDR delegation emphasized the implementation of the Law on Anti-Corruption, and other related laws and legal instruments, particularly the Decree on the declaration of assets for government officials at all levels. Lao PDR's Law on Anti-Corruption (2012) designates the Counter-Corruption Organization as the state organisation responsible for preventing and countering corruption throughout the country, and tasks the State Inspection Authority with implementing these duties. In addition, the Anti-Money Laundering Intelligence Unit has been placed under the direct supervision and leadership of the National Coordination Committee for Anti Money Laundering and Countering of Financing Terrorism, as part of the Bank of Lao PDR. The Anti-Money Laundering Intelligence Unit has mandates and responsibility to collect and analyse information relating to money laundering and report such incidents to the National Coordination Committee for Anti-Money Laundering and Countering of Financing Terrorism for its review and consideration. (page 8) It is reported that the Government's transparency and anti-corruption drive has yielded remarkable results. (page 14)	
	21. Latvia	Yes	Yes	Internal control systems have been introduced to prevent bribery and corruption. Further, the law on Whistleblower Protection is currently being considered by the Parliament. Further, the government is also to adopt a Public Sector Code of Ethics. Page 94	

22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	In April 2018, OMSAR launched a national anti-corruption strategy and its implementation plan outlining four main strategic objectives: (i) enshrining transparency; (ii) activating accountability; (iii) limiting discretion in public administration; and (iv) ending impunity – in addition to the action required for their effective implementation. The preparation of a plan for its implementation is currently underway, with assistance from UNDP, and is to be completed in 2018. Parliament is also expected to adopt legislation for the establishment of a National Anti-Corruption Commission. (page 63) In addition civil society organisations are actively working, as a priority, to address corruption, enhance transparency and accountability within public institutions, move towards an e-government that supports this endeavour with access to information, and ensure that employment within public institutions is based on capabilities and not on sectarianism or political affiliations. (page 70)	
23. Lithuania	Yes	Yes	Lithuania is active in its efforts to reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms. According to the results of the 2017 survey, only 8% of the Lithuanian population have indicated that they were witnesses to or experienced events of corruption, which is a reduction by 17 percentage points from 2013. To ensure a long-term effective and targeted system of corruption prevention and control, in 2015 Lithuania approved the National Anti-Corruption Programme of the Republic of Lithuania for 2015–2025. In 2017 Lithuania became a party to the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions of the OECD, and since then has actively participated in the OECD Working Group on Bribery in International Business Transactions. (p. 43)	
24. Mali	Yes	No	The Ministry of Justice and Human Rights has adopted Law 2016-8 of March 17, aimed at battling corruption, money laundering and terrorism. (p. 56)	
25. Malta	Yes	Yes	Malta has a Permanent Commission Against Corruption that investigates alleged or suspected corrupt practices and investigates the conduct of public officers, govt depts., and other govt bodies. (p92)	
26. Mexico	Yes	No	The National Anticorruption System is a body in charge of coordinating efforts between authorities at all levels of government to prevent, investigate and punish corruption (p. 70).	
27. Namibia	Yes	Yes	Namibia is recognized as the third most transparent country in Africa and ranks 53	

				out of 176 countries on Transparency International's 2016 Corruption Perception Index. Nevertheless, there is a perception among many citizens of continuing government corruption. In 2015, 65 percent of Namibians surveyed expressed the opinion that the government was doing badly in fighting corruption, while 34 percent felt that government was doing well. (page 39) It is reported that one strategy for the attainment of the SDG target is to "strengthen anti-corruption measures" by educating all stakeholders on the prevention and reporting of corruption, and a national target has been set to improve the reduction of corruption perception from 65% to 20% by 2022 (page 40)
	28. Niger	Yes	No	Between 2012 and 2015, Niger adopted laws aimed at combatting corruption. (p. 41)
	29. Palestine	Yes	Yes	The Government implemented the 2005 Presidential Decree establishing the Palestinian Anti-Corruption Commission (p. 78). Investigations, prosecutions, and adjudications of corruption cases have risen steadily within the specially mandated Corruption Crimes Court. The capacity of the anti-corruption commission remains limited as 91% of cases have not been directed to the anti-corruption prosecution body (p. 78). Less than 25% of those surveyed believe in the independence of anticorruption bodies, and 71% of those surveyed believed that cronyism and nepotism help them receive services and 55% believe that corruption increased in 2017 (p. 78). In 2014, Palestine joined the United Nations Convention against Corruption (p. 78). The Anti-Corruption Commission has produced a National Strategy on Anticorruption aimed at limiting opportunities for corrupt practices by (p. 78): • Extensive dialogue with government, CSOs, the private sector, and Arab and international organizations; • Strengthening the prevention mechanisms; • Expanding the legislative environment; and • Empowering regulatory institutions. Proportion of persons who had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials, during the previous 12 months (p. 124).

			Proportion of businesses that had at least one contact with a public official and that paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials during the previous 12 months (p. 124).
30. Paraguay	No	No	N/A
31. Poland	Yes	No	Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation: "Programme "The Counteracting corruption and grey market" - Global Compact Network Poland programme, in partnership with the Ministry of Finance and with the support of the Ministry of Economic Development, enabled the creation of a unique platform for cooperation with state institutions dealing with combating the grey market, smuggling, bribery and fraud in sectors that are most exposed to the negative impact of economic crime. Industry reports were prepared describing criminal practices and recommendations for state institutions." 80. Specific Party Tasked with Implementing: Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Justice, Prosecutor's Office, Central Anti-Corruption Bureau, Central Bureau of Investigation, National Revenue Administration. 80.
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A
33. Romania	No	No	
34. Saudi Arabia	Yes	Yes	National Anti-Corruption Commission mentioned above (pg. 145)
35. Senegal	Yes	Yes	The reforms undertaken by the Government in its policy of strengthening good governance and the fight against corruption, have made notable progress since 2012. These include, among others: • the adoption of Law No. 2012. -22 of 27 December 2012 on the transparency code in the management of public finances; the law 2012-30 of 19 December 2012 establishing the OFNAC; • the updating of the CREI, • the adoption of law 2014-17 of 02/04/14 on the declaration of assets (DP) and its implementing decree n 2014-1463 of November 12, 2014, • the creation of a Ministry in charge of the promotion of the good governance, • the adhesion of Senegal to the EITI, • the ratification of the protocol of the ECOWAS against the corruption, the

			constitutionalisation of the fight against the corruption in 2016. In 2016, 63.53% had, at least once, been dealing with a public official to whom they paid a bribe and 61.14%, have been asked by them for a bribe in the previous 12 months according to the study on the perception and cost of corruption in Senegal conducted by Synchronix. (p. 102)	
	36. Singapore	Yes	Yes	When Singapore attained self-governance in 1959, its leaders were determined to establish a system of incorruptibility and clean governance. They believed that eradicating corruption was key to establishing honest and competent public institutions which the people could trust, and for businesses to have the confidence to invest in the country. They took comprehensive action to stamp out corruption from all levels of society while introducing a meritocratic system of governance. Today, Singapore enjoys an international reputation for a high level of incorruptibility. It was ranked the 6th least corrupt country by Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index 2017, and the least corrupt country in the Political and Economic Risk Consultancy's 2017 Report on Corruption in Asia – a position it has held since 1995. The low levels of corruption in Singapore today are the result of an effective corruption control framework comprising four key pillars. First, Singapore established effective laws to fight corruption via two key legislations: the Prevention of Corruption Act (PCA) and the Corruption, Drug Trafficking and Other Serious Crimes Act (CDSA). The PCA applies to those who give or receive bribes in both the public and private sector. The CDSA, when invoked, confiscates ill-gotten gains from corrupt offenders. Second, it established an independent judiciary free from political interference. The judiciary has zero-tolerance for corruption and metes out harsh penalties for corrupt offenders. Third, public service is guided by a strict Code of Conduct which sets out the high standards of behaviour expected of public officers based on integrity, incorruptibility, and transparency. Fourth, anti-corruption is rigorously enforced by the Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau (CPIB), which is an independent national anti-corruption agency responsible for investigating and preventing corruption in Singapore. (page 62) It is further reported that Singapore is currently reviewing the provisions of its Prevention of Corruption Act (PCA), with the objective of enhancing the anti-corruption regime in Singapore to address future challenges and pitfalls. (page 64)	

37. Slovakia	No	No	
38. Spain	Yes	Yes	Trends and challenges: Spain must continue to combat increased corruption investigations and arrests (VNR, p. 79). Implementation steps: Utilizing the Council for Transparency and Good Governance, and Plan for Democratic Regeneration, (*Id*.); undertaking criminal and procedural measures introduced to fight corruption (*Id*.); and adopting Act 9/2017 to enable public sector procurement focus on transparency to combat corruption (*Id*.). Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Justice; Ministry of the Interior; and Ministry of Infrastructure (VNR, p. 98)
39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	Though Sri Lanka has passed the Prevention of Money Laundering Act No. 5 of 2006 and Financial Transactions Reporting Act No. 6 of 2006, it was ranked 95th out of 176 countries in Transparency International's 2016 Corruption Perception Index when it was 83rd out of 168 in 2015 (p. 99). The Government has strengthened anti-corruption laws in the Penal Code, Bribery Act, and Prevention of Corruption Act but enforcement remains difficult, particularly against powerful political elites (p. 101).
40. Sudan	Yes	No	The VNR references the need to fight corruption (p.35), however specific details are not provided, nor are any policies.
41. Switzerland	Yes	No	
42. Togo	No	No	
43. UAE	No	No	
44. Uruguay	No	N/A	N/A
45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	See SDG 16.6. The VNR mentions the Law on Prevention of Money Laundering and the Law on Anti-Corruption, both of which appears to be related to this SDG. (pp. 77-78).
Total VNRs (45)	Yes	37	

		No	8		
16.6: Accountable transparent institutions	1. Albania	Yes		Yes	Vetting Process has produced first results towards the establishment of an accountable, independent and efficient justice system, with a number of prosecutors and judges withdrawing voluntarily (p. 16). Law on the Vetting of the Police (adopted March 2018) provides foundation of a process through which future police force will be built, by clearing out incriminated, corrupt or professionally incapable personnel (p. 16). Albania has also initiated a programme to build a citizen-centric public service delivery model. It consists of four main pillars: (p. 36–37). • "Re-engineering of the processes of service delivery for citizens and businesses, including legal, ICT and institutional reforms • Front Office–Back Office separation and service delivery integration, as well as development of their delivery channels • Digitisation of archives and registers, interoperability among ICT systems and • online services • Obtaining of citizen feedback and monitoring of the performance of public administration in service delivery." Implementation is being carried out in two stages. First, legal framework and procedures (policies, strategies, operational action plans and legislation). Second stage (2018-2020) aims to consolidate achievements of first phase by including further innovative activities. Albania considers this goal to be partially aligned with its own national goals – see further details at 16.1 (p. 36).
	2. Andorra	No		No	
	3. Armenia				"The Human Rights Defender (Ombudsman) of Armenia (HRDO of Armenia), established in 2003, is an independent national human rights protection institution in Armenia. The new Constitutional law on the Human Rights Defender's Office, adopted in December 2016, expanded functions of the HRDO, inter alia, in the field of education and public sector. The HRDO complies with the requirements and standards of the National Ombudsman Institute." (p. 78)
	4. Australia	Yes		Yes	Australia released a Public Data Policy Statement in December 2015 committing governmental entities to release non-sensitive data as open by default (p. 103).

5. Bahamas	Yes	Yes	In June 2018, the Government appointed the country's first Independent Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) whose office aims to ensure that any policy directive given by the Attorney General is written and published in the Gazette for the public's viewing (p. 124) The report discusses the restructuring of the Ministry of National Security to include Communications, Liaisons, Inspectorate and Research and Development. The restructuring is intended to increase transparency and foster open communication between the Ministry and respective agencies (p. 124) As part of the Government's initiative to increase transparency and accountability of the Ministry of Finance, the government is finalizing project details to increase the amount of data shared and used across ministries and departments—details are expected early in the 2018/2019 fiscal year (p. 126)	
6. Bahrain	No	No		
7. Benin	Yes	No	P. 89 indicates sources but does not provide any data.	
8. Bhutan	Yes	Yes	Since the promulgation of the Constitution and introduction of a democratic way of governance in 2008, notwithstanding the short time that has passed, a transformation in governance institutions in Bhutan has occurred. The Constitution guarantees judicial independence, two houses of Parliament, the Office of the Attorney General, and a system of mediation at the local level. Bhutan held two national elections and it enjoys a harmonious and peaceful society reinforced by policy and legislation such as the Child Care and Protection Act (CCPA), Domestic Violence Prevention Act 2013 (DVPA) and the Penal Code Act of Bhutan 2011. Public hearings are now a routine feature in Bhutan's Parliamentary affairs, with a system of virtual zomdu in place to better connect Members of Parliament with remote communities through video conferencing facilities. The second review of laws is underway to eliminate duplication and ensure harmony with the Constitution. Change, however, is ongoing, and the process of embedding the principles of democratization in the behavior, practice, and culture of Bhutan's people and its institutions continue. According to the 2015 GNH Survey, people's perception of access to basic services has greatly improved, witnessing a 20 points increase since 2010. However, people's perception of good governance has significantly decreased for the other three out of four indicators as compared to the 2010 Survey:	

government performance (46 points); fundamental rights (11 points); and political participation (9 points). Although people's perception of government performance might be partially attributable to rising expectations of democracy, low score on political participation and fundamental rights warrant close attention. Therefore, while impressive progress has been achieved to consolidate democracy, a number of issues require further partnership and investment. Widening the democratic space for the increasingly active participation of people in decision-making has been a government priority since the start of development activities in the country. In the 12th FYP with the SDGs mainstreamed therein, the Government aims to bring effective governance 'closer to the people' with the objective of the Plan as "Just, Harmonious, Sustainable Society through Enhanced Decentralization".

The role of civil society in advancing a rights-based approach, improving services, and encouraging participation and accountability is increasingly understood, however the perception is that their capacities, while promising, are still weak149. The Government partners with national Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to implement activities targeted at vulnerable groups of the society. The capacity of the CSOs need to be strengthened to further enhance their effectiveness.

[Page 69 and 70]

9. Cabo Verde	Yes	Yes	The implementation rate of primary expenditures of the Government reached 95.1% in 2017. Tax revenues financed 79% of the budget executed in 2017, a five percentage point increase compared to 2016. (pp. 116; 129-130) According to Afrobarometer, in 2017 45% of citizens felt that they were treated with respect by the public administration while 39% felt that they were treated with little respect. (p. 116) According to Doing Business, the private sector is dissatisfied with the public administration, particularly with respect to the lack of supervision and consequent unfair competition, slowness of courts, low resolution of problems, lack of proficiency in foreign languages, the unsatisfactory functioning of customs and revenue and the costs of energy and connectivity. (p. 116)	
10. Canada	Yes	No	Legislation introduced in June 2017 (Bill C-58), seeks to strengthen openness and transparency by providing Canada's information commissioner with greater powers, improving the request-based system and legally entrenching proactive publication across government. The Government has also introduced legislation to make political	

				party fundraising activities more open and transparent. (p. 114)	
11. Colombia	Yes	No	This SDG is briefly mentioned in terms of pointing out the need for improved transparency for an open democracy (p. 92).	
12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes	Certain advancements are showing in the VNR, public budgets are regularly published every month and public spending is shown every quarter. In addition, the central government has an establishment online portal regarding public procurement of products and services (p. 151).	
13. Ecuador	Yes	No	The topic of transparent institutions has been mentioned and has been implemented as part of political programs, lack further detail/data (p. 107, 110).	
14. Egypt	Yes	No	The report states that "a number of national instruments and action plans have been adopted" for promoting accountability and enhancing transparency, but does not provide details (page 56).	
15. Greece	Yes	Yes	In addition to the general policy of the GSAC to fight corruption by improving transparency and audit capability, the Hellenic Parliament established a Code of Conduct for Members of Parliament as an initiative towards increased transparency (p. 75). The administration also generally supports four main pillars that link to SDG 16.6 (and 16.7): (1) administrative structures and tools, (2) administrative operations and procedures, (3) human resources, and (4) enhancement of transparency and accountability (p. 76). The Transparency Programme initiative (Diavgeia) gives citizens direct access through a single government website, diavgeia.gov.gr to all public administration decisions and acts once issued (p. 76). Additionally, the Greek Ombudsman aims to protect citizen's rights including by improving accountability and transparency (p. 77). Finally, the Greek public administration is a member of the Open Government Partnership and implements this through the Greek Open Government Initiative (p. 79).	
16. Guinea	No	No		
17. Hungary	Yes	Yes	Public Service Development Strategy (2014-2020) focuses on providing an organized, professional, cost-effective operation of public administration, with the least bureaucracy and administrative burden. (page 59)	

18. Ireland	Yes	No	Trends and challenges: Ongoing reform across the government to improve accountability, transparency, and ethical acting (95). Implementation steps: Our Public Service 2020, plan to make public services more accessible and collaborative (94); Civil Service Renewal Plan, 25 actions for a more "unified, professional, responsive and open and accountable Civil Service" (95), overseen by Civil Service Management Board, currently consolidating ongoing programs, soon working toward other goals; implementation of the Civil Service People Strategy, Digital and ICT Strategy, and Shared Services Strategy (id.); improved data sharing between public entities (id.); review of Ireland's Ethics framework (id.); Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015 and Public Sector Standards Bill improve conflicts management and corruption risk (id.); aiding other countries in strengthening their democratic systems, rule of law, and such through funding and Irish Aid (99); partnership with International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions, and funding of Transparency International (id.). Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF PUBLIC EXPENDITURE AND REFORM	
19. Jamaica	Yes	No	Police body cameras began to be used in 2017 (p. 97)	
20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	It is reported that Lao PDR is witnessing a new level of transparency. This is shown by the released reports of the State Inspection Authority (SIA) on the use of state funds by ministries and provincial offices, by corruption-related arrests by the SIA nationwide audit of assets of officials, including over 1,900 officials and central level civil servants, and more than 140,000 working in provincial administrations. (page 9) It is reported that the Government's transparency and anti-corruption drive has yielded remarkable results. (page 14)	
21. Latvia	Yes	Yes	Reforms modernizing public administration; for example 'zero bureaucracy' principle, eliminating unnecessary and burdensome processes and regulations, improving services. Latvia's Third National Open Government Action Plan- in 2018 the State Chancellery and the Council for Implementation of the Memorandum of Co-operation between non-governmental organisations and the cabinet will assess the current circumstances. The Open Government Partnership National Action Plan 2017-2019 includes efficient public participation in decision making, portal for drafting legal acts,	

				efficient whistle-blowing mechanism, public sector values and ethics, information on state budget spending the results, open data portal etc.
				Page 91
22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes		A new president was elected and a new government formed in December 2016. Thereafter, the government's engagement towards Agenda 2030 was accelerated. (page 48)
				In April 2018, OMSAR launched a national anti-corruption strategy and its implementation plan outlining four main strategic objectives: (i) enshrining transparency; (ii) activating accountability; (iii) limiting discretion in public administration; and (iv) ending impunity – in addition to the action required for their effective implementation.
				The Government has submitted to Parliament a draft law on "Enhancing Transparency in the Petroleum Sector in Lebanon", which contains most of the provisions of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI). The draft law has been recently approved by the Parliament's Energy Committee and is on course to be ratified by the Lebanese Parliament General Assembly. (page 63)
				A Public-Private partnership law was ratified in 2017. The PPP law aims at instilling good governance into the tendering process for PPP projects. It ensures transparency through a participatory approach involving all stakeholders and public disclosure of information. It also ensures professionalism through a dedicated PPP unit (page 66).
				However, it is reported that institutional capacity building remains a key challenge that needs to be addressed through additional technical assistance and international support. (page 74)
23. Lithuania	No	No		
24. Mali	Yes	No		As part of the implementation of Mali's National Transparency Policy (NTP), the government has undertaken many actions: organizing exchange days around the rights and obligations of public officials, organizing a visit to exchange experiences in Canada with actors of the implementation of the NTP and the re-reading of law no. 98-012 of January 12, 1998 relating to relations between the Public Administration and public service users with a goal of incorporating transparency principles, and

				opening the budget to the public. (p. 56) The PDI aims to modernize the administration by creating an environment conducive to effective management and transparency of state affairs through, among other things, a sound and transparent administration, close to the citizen, which gives an image of efficiency. (p.58)
25. Malta	Yes	No		Not discussed separately, but can be seen in the development of its commissions and governing bodies and changes thereto detailed throughout report as part of overall progress.
26. Mexico	Yes	Yes		The National Transparency System is in charge of coordinating efforts in terms of transparency, access to information and the protection of personal information (p. 70).
27. Namibia	Yes	Yes		It is reported that in terms of Accountability and Transparency, Namibia has a free press. The international organization Freedom House awarded Namibia the status of 'free' with a score of 77 out of 100 on the 2016 Freedom on the World Index. (page 39) It is reported that one strategy for the attainment of the SDG target is the strengthening public sector audit by aligning the autonomous Legal Framework to the State Finance Act to ensure that the AG Office has the capacity to deliver audit reports and hold departments to account for no-compliance (page 40).
28. Niger	No	No		
29. Palestine	Yes	Yes		In 2016 government accountability was strengthened through encouraging participation in local elections in the West Bank; however, local elections in Gaza remain stalled (p. 78). The General Personnel Council (GPC) developed the terms of references and job descriptions for over 1,000 public positions to enhance the checks and balances of the bureaucratic system and standardize responsibilities across all public institutions (p. 78). The GPC trained 43,000 public servants on general behavioral guidelines (p. 78). The Government has prescribed policy interventions of implementing a code of conduct for civil servants, approving and implementing legislation on access to

			information, and reforming and restructuring public institutions to improve efficiency and service quality (p. 91). The GPC identified 30 highly sensitive positions that require rotation avoid abuse of power (p. 78). In order to increase the efficiency of the bureaucratic process and to involve the public, the Government created an electronic complaint system, in which citizens can file anonymous complaints about public servants and services (p. 78). In 2016, the national complaint system received 10,246 complaints, of which 9,777 were accepted; 91% of those complaints were followed up.
30. Paraguay	No	No	N/A
31. Poland	Yes	No	Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation: "Actions will be implemented to improve the competencies of participants in the process of lawmaking and monitoring, as well as to increase the transparency of legislation." 78. "E-services in the area of justice and judiciary - replacing paper-based consolidation of court proceedings with digitisation and enabling provision of part of e-services of justice in order to improve the efficiency of court proceedings and ensure transparency of court proceedings." 79. Use of HR institutions and reporting processes/UPC/? NA Specific Party Tasked with Implementing: Various factions of the government are implementing online information systems to make transparent their activities. *See, e.g.*, 79; and 6.10 below.
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A
33. Romania	No	No	
34. Saudi Arabia	Yes	Yes	Saudi Arabia's efforts here mainly concern being able to monitor institutions, thus lending itself to promoting transparence. Therefore the creation and establishment of a number of information and statistic bodies to measure the performance and report on public entities has come about: • National Information Centre – aims to improve information security and maintain high performance infrastructure. (pg. 146). • National Center for Performance Measurement (Adaa) – aims to measure

				performance of public bodies through the application of world-class standards and promote values of trust, accuracy, accountability, efficiency, transparency and collaboration. Promotes a culture of performance measurement and improvement of public entities. (pg. 147) General Authority for Statistics (GASTAT) – the central statistical authority that aims to raise statistical awareness – provides statistical services, prepare national statistical indices and classifications, furnish agencies with official statistics and enforce international standards. (pg. 148)	
	35. Senegal	Yes	Yes	The VNR lists the actions taken to improve efficiency by e.g., implementing a unified database with respect to the administration and its agents. The VNR also mentions a reduction of "primary public spending" (without explaining what this means exactly). To enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of its public administration, Senegal has a number of statutory provisions and institutions. A unified file of data relating to the administration and management of State agents has been implemented, as well Results-Based Management (RBM). There is also a better involvement of the State Computer Agency in the rationalization of the workforce of public services. In the same vein and to fight against corruption, an institutional mechanism (control body, OFNAC, COSGAZ, etc.) has been put in place. Finally, a vast reform of the administration is engaged. Thus, a first National Forum of the Administration gathering more than one thousand four hundred (1,400) senior executives of the Administration was organized on April 9 and 10, 2016. It was decided to impulse a dynamic of profound transformation of the Public service. (p.102 Page 102	
	36. Singapore	Yes	Yes	The Singapore Constitution lays down the fundamental principles and basic framework for the separation of powers between the Executive, the Legislature, and the Judiciary. This separation of powers guarantees a system of checks and balances. The Constitution also guarantees fundamental liberties such as the equal protection of all persons before the law. (page 62) The strength of Singapore's public institutions was ranked 2nd by the World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Report (2017-2018).	

			The Parliament of Singapore is central to the transparency and accountability of Singapore's Government. Members of Parliament actively raise the people's concerns, debate policies, and pose questions to the Executive to seek explanations for the public's understanding and benefit. The Government has also made significant effort to strengthen citizen engagement through public feedback channels. The Government's main Feedback Unit, REACH (Reaching Everyone for Active Citizenry @ Home), is the lead agency facilitating WOG efforts to engage and connect with citizens on national and social issues. REACH's key roles are to gather and gauge public ground sentiments on issues of concern, reach out and engage Singaporeans through various media platforms, and promote active citizenry by encouraging citizen participation in shaping Singapore's policies.
			Specialised Councils under the Presidency have also been established to ensure that the voices of minority groups are taken into consideration in policymaking. For example, the Presidential Council for Minority Rights is tasked with examining legislation to ensure that they are not disadvantageous to any racial or religious community in Singapore. (page 63)
37. Slovakia	No	No	
38. Spain	Yes	No	Trends and challenges: Transparency is sought in national and local governments (VNR, p. 79).
			Implementation steps: Oversight by the Council for Transparency and Good Governance, and Plan for Democratic Regeneration, no further description (VNR, p. 79); Act 9/2017, see 16.5; and utilizing the 3rd Open Government Plan, national government policy to improve overall SDG 16 compliance (*Id.*).
			Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Treasury; and Ministry of Infrastructure (VNR, p. 98).
39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	The National Human Rights Action Plan and Universal Periodic Review process both target this principle (p. 99). But there is a lack of strong institutions that can implement and monitor policies to ensure peace and justice (p. 100).
			The government passed a Right to Information Act, No. 12 of 2016 to foster a culture of transparency and accountability (p. 102).
40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	The National Dialogue Conference has established a national transparent platform to discuss issues and concerns that challenge peace and development in the country

			(p.5). The Report also refers to the need for all sectors to operate in such a way that 'it is easy for each sector to see what actions the others have performed' (p.31).
41. Switzerland	Yes	No	
42. Togo	No	No	
43. UAE	No	No	
44. Uruguay	No	N/A	N/A
45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	The Politburo issued Decision 217-QD/MT on "the Regulation on monitoring and social commentary of Vietnam Fatherland Front and political-social organizations," Inter-ministerial Resolution 403, and documents to strengthen monitoring and social commentary by Vietnam Fatherland Front and socio-political organizations. (p. 78). The Vietnamese government implemented administrative reform through a range of synchronous and effective measures, resulting in a vigorous change in the administrative structure from Central to grassroots levels. The administration has positively transformed to emphasize service, professionalism, modernity, dynamicity, responsibility, and responsiveness to the demands of people and society and to national socio-economic development. The results of the administrative reform have contributed to the socio-economic development and international integration of the nation. (p. 79). Vietnam launched indexes such as PCI, PAR INDEX, and PAPI to measure people and society's satisfaction with public services. Every year, these indexes partly reflect the performance of administrative agencies and, thereby, assist such agencies to develop and provide quality services and adjust their targets and tasks in order to meet the expectations of people, society, and support national development. (p. 79). The Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry developed PCI (applied since 2005) to evaluate the business environment, economic management quality, and efforts in administrative reform of provincial and city authorities in Vietnam. The original indicators show a considerable improvement of economic management quality. In 2017, the PCI median score for provinces was 60.2, the highest score ever achieved since the PCI project started. Out of 63 provinces/cities, only one province did not

record an improved score. PCI 2017 also showed a considerable reduction on three indices related to corruption and such finding is consistent with the assessment provided by foreign enterprises in Vietnam in the PCI-FDI survey and the 2017 PAPI survey. (p. 79, Box 16).

PAPI (applied since 2009) is the biggest sociological survey in Vietnam. PAPI focuses on capturing provincial governance performance, policy implementation, and public service delivery based on annually collected data from people's assessment and experience. To date, PAPI has collected and reflected the experiences of 103,059 people. The statistical analysis in 2017 PAPI shows a positive trend. Improvement was seen in 5 out of 6 dimensions, including "Transparency," "Vertical Accountability," "Control of Corruption in the Public Sector," "Public Administrative Procedures," and "Public Service Delivery." Data analysis also reveals a decrease in the gender gap of holders of land use rights and an increase in the percentage of people with health insurance compared to 2016. In addition, 2017 PAPI data shows that 96% of respondents felt safe when travelling alone during the day; 80% felt satisfied with authentication services; and 72% (37.5% men and 34.5% women) of people who made a contribution to public work projects at grassroots levels felt that they were a part of the decision-making process underlying the building and rehabilitation work. (p. 80, Box 16).

PAR INDEX (applied since 2013) monitors and evaluates in an objective manner the annual results of the Master Program on Administration Reform in 2011-2020, achieved by ministries, related agencies, and provincial-level People's Committees. This index shows strengths and weaknesses in the administrative reform and helps ministries, related agencies, and provinces to fine-tune their objectives, content, and measures for annual reforms. It also helps improve efficiency of the administrative reform, and build a clean, strong, effective, and efficient administration. PAR INDEX 2017 shows that ministries, related agencies and provinces continued to record positive results. The average PAR INDEX of ministries and related agencies was 79.92% and no ministry received a score below 70%. In 2017, 9 ministries and related agencies' scores improved from 2016. PAR INDEX 2017 of provinces/cities was 77.72%, which was 3.08% higher than in 2016, and only 3 of 63 provinces and cities scored below 70%. (p. 80, Box 16).

See also SDG 16.10.

	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	33			
		No	12			
16.7: Representative decision-making	1. Albania	Yes		Yes	Albania has instituted services for collecting citizen feedback. E.g. the Agency for Delivery of Integrated Services (ADISA)'s engagement in collecting citizen feedback at its FOs depends upon two methods: • Complaints Management System (CMS) • Citizen Feedback Form (Citizen's Voice Form). Further details on p. 38-39. See also 16.6. Albania considers this goal to be partially aligned with its own national goals – see further details at 16.1 (p. 36).	
	2. Andorra	No		No		
	3. Armenia	Yes		No	"Citizen participation, voice and accountability through electoral processes, parliamentary and political development, civic engagement, and women's political participation still remain issues to be tackled under SDG 16." (p.	
	4. Australia	No		No		
	5. Bahamas	Yes		No	In addition to the aforementioned restructuring of the Ministry of National Security to foster open communication among government agencies, the report also describes the 2016 training program for public service employees instituted by the Caribbean Development Bank, which sought to support institutional reforms needed to enable more effective management of policy, programs, and projects (p. 124-125)	
	6. Bahrain	No		No		
	7. Benin	No		No		
	8. Bhutan	Yes		Yes	In Parliament, the two Houses have set Strategic Plans with the vision of the National Assembly "to achieve the Kingdom of Bhutan's overarching goal of Gross National Happiness enshrined in the Constitution through an inclusive and a vibrant democracy," and for the National Council "to effectively carry out legislative, scrutiny, oversight and representational functions to fulfill the aspirations of the Bhutanese people". During the 9th session of Parliament held in 2017, the National Assembly adopted a resolution to include SDG oversight into parliamentary practice, "institutionalize Parliamentary efforts towards social equity, women's empowerment and good governance which forms the bedrock of democracy in Bhutan". The resolution included approving the Standing Committee of the National Assembly to engage on SDGs and allotting one-day sitting during every parliamentary session to	

| | | | deliberate on SDGs.

In addition, the two Houses identified areas for further investment in strengthening institutional and management capacities of their respective Secretariats, improving Members' legislative capacities with the continued strengthening of parliamentary Committees for an open and transparent legislative process, and enhancing their capacities to represent and effectively communicate with the public and constituencies; and for the National Council, strengthening its image as a non-partisan chamber.

[Page 70 and 71] |
|---|---|---|---|
| 9. Cabo Verde | No | No | N/A |
| 10. Canada | Yes | No | For First Nations, Inuit and Métis in Canada, there is no single route to self-determination and each community and nation will continue their own path toward becoming vibrant, strong and self-governing communities. (p. 114) |
| 11. Colombia | Yes | No | The VNR briefly presents statistics regarding women in decision-making positions in Colombia, currently improved to 44.5% from 43.5% 2015, with the goal of having 50% by 2030 (p. 19). |
| 12. Dominican Republic | Yes | Yes | Like in several other countries the DR has adopted mandatory laws based on gender quotation, which requires list of candidates to parliament or local bodies to consist of at least 33% women. However, while the national and the local bodies are not entirely compliant, local bodies are better adapted to the law than parliament (the DR consist of la Cámara de Diputados and the Senado) (p. 15-16, 97-98). |
| 13. Ecuador | No | No | N/A |
| 14. Egypt | No | No | |
| 15. Greece | Yes | Yes | See notes for SDG 16.6.
See also Greek policies to support cultural creativity and increase employment in the cultural sector (p. 108). |
| 16. Guinea | Yes | No | The different social categories defined by age, sex or other sociodemographic characteristics do not have proportional representation in public institutions, particularly in decision-making. Women and young people are quite largely under-represented in decision-making bodies at all levels. (p. 82) |

				Women also continue to be under-represented in public life and in decision-making positions. Among public officials, only 26% are women, most of them with limited responsibilities. Despite the law establishing a 30% quota for women on all electoral lists, only 25 women were elected to the National Assembly, or 19.20%. Women represent 17.6% of judges at the Supreme Court, 11% in the Police sector and 15% in the Gendarmerie (ECOWAS Assessment, 2012). This rate is much lower in the army with 5.9% (Biometric Census Report, 2012), with an almost notorious absence in the senior hierarchy of the Defence and Security Forces (p.52).	
	17. Hungary	No	No		
	18. Ireland	Yes	No	Implementation steps: Leading a civil society resolution at the 2013 Human Rights Council (99). Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF PUBLIC EXPENDITURE AND REFORM	
	19. Jamaica	Yes	No	Several statutes and one constitutional amendment in 2015-2016 dealing with local government (p. 97)	
	20. Lao PDR	No	No	N/A	
	21. Latvia	Yes	Yes	Latvia's Third National Open Government Action Plan- in 2018 the State Chancellery and the Council for Implementation of the Memorandum of Co-operation between non-governmental organisations and the cabinet will assess the current circumstances. The Open Government Partnership National Action Plan 2017-2019 includes efficient public participation in decision making, portal for drafting legal acts, efficient whistle-blowing mechanism, public sector values and ethics, information on state budget spending the results, open data portal etc. Page 91	
	22. Lebanon	No	No	N/A	
	23. Lithuania	No	No	Lithuania applies effective ways and forms of public participation in local public decision-making, which allow the population to participate in the preparation and discussion of draft solutions that promote civic initiatives. All draft laws are published on the internet, and the possibility is ensured for all stakeholders to provide their opinions in an accessible form (p. 44)	

24. Mali	No	No	
25. Malta	Yes	No	No separate discussion but reference to some participatory steps and multi-stakeholder report throughout.
26. Mexico	Yes	No	The Social Portfolio promotes policy dialogue between citizens and authorities, reports on access to rights and social programs and allows citizens to follow up on measures and programs and express their priorities and needs (p. 73).
27. Namibia	No	No	N/A
28. Niger	No	No	
29. Palestine	Yes	No	The division between the West Bank and Gaza has led to the absence of a functioning Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC) and the inability to adopt any legislation (p. 77). A reconciliation agreement was signed in 2017 to facilitate the restoration of the PLC. The state of Palestine is committed to respecting pluralism, non-discrimination and every citizen's right of justice and equality (p. 78). The Government created a national framework for the utilization of international aid which aims to create a forum for discussion of development priorities amongst donors, civil society and private sector in order to utilize funds more efficiently in a way that helps the Government achieve its National Policy Agenda (p. 83). The Government has prescribed a policy intervention of safeguarding citizens' rights and promoting respect for pluralism, equality and freedom from discrimination (p. 91).
30. Paraguay	No	No	N/A
31. Poland	Yes	No	Trends/Challenges: "Equally important is the introduction of modern communications tools, enabling efficient communication within the administration and with the citizen." 78. Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation: "Moreover, activities will be undertaken aimed at shaping conscious and responsible attitudes conducive to cooperation, creativity and communication between the administration and civil society institutions. Strong civil society organizations contribute to dense social

			networking and community building, thereby increasing public confidence in government policies." 78.
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A
33. Romania	No	No	
34. Saudi Arabia	No	No	
35. Senegal	Yes	Yes	The VNR mentions the law on parity between men and women. The VNR shares data regarding the increase in the number of women in parliament (from 19.2% in 2001 to 44.7% in 2012) and in local governments (from 11% in 2002 to 47% in 2014). This proportion however slightly decreased by 5.73% between 2016 and 2017. In 2010, a law was adopted to establish absolute parity (between men and women) in the elective bodies in Senegal. (p 102)
36. Singapore	No	No	N/A
37. Slovakia	No	No	
38. Spain	Yes	No	Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Treasury; Ministry of Infrastructure; Ministry of Ecological Technology; and Ministry of Health (VNR, p. 98). Otherwise, not discussed with specificity.
39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	The National Human Rights Action Plan and Universal Periodic Review process both target this principle (p. 99). The Report recognizes that involving local communities to become stakeholders in development agendas is necessary to achieve SDG 16.7 (p. 101). The Sri Lankan government has also proposed implementing the Grama Rajya concept to enable local communities to become stakeholders in community development (p. 102).
40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	Each of the 18 States in Sudan has a governor, a State Council and State Ministers. This means people have the right to exercise governance (p.27). The government shares its implementation of development activities and projects with several bodies: the private sector, community-based organisations, non-governmental organisations and development partners. It engages public-private partnerships. The implementation of development activities and projects increasingly engages foreign partners (p.25).

	41. Switzerland	No	No	
	42. Togo	No	No	
	43. UAE	No	No	
	44. Uruguay	No	N/A	N/A
	45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	The Vietnamese government has proposed adding "the Law amending and supplementing some articles of the Law on Promulgation of Legislative Documents" to ensure that decision-making processes are responsive, inclusive, participatory, and representative at all levels. (p. 77). See also SDG 16.6.
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	21	
		No	24	
16.8: Participation of developing countries in global governance	1. Albania	Yes	Yes	In the context of EU integration, Albania has achieved integration with other countries in the region, including being part of REA, WB6, and other regional co-operation groups (p. 20). Albania considers this goal to be partially aligned with its own national goals – see further details at 16.1 (p. 36).
	2. Andorra	No	No	
	3. Armenia	No	No	
	4. Australia	Yes	Yes	Australia contributes to global funds and supports the development of new rules in all areas related to global peace and justice (pp. 104-105).
	5. Bahamas	No	No	
	6. Bahrain	Yes	Yes	Bahrain has established an association for public institutions (BIPA) which seeks to develop leadership qualities of management in governmental institutions particularly in the context of policy and strategy making, resource management, leadership skills, behavior and knowledge. BIPA has also commenced taking steps to incorporate the 2030 sustainable development goals as part of its leadership programs for persons in governmental managerial positions.
	7. Benin	No	No	
	8. Bhutan	Yes	Yes	Bhutan is well positioned to be an important contributor to the "global partnership" called for by Goal 17, and places strong emphasis on multilateral cooperation. In

brief, through the United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership Framework (UNSDPF), the Royal Government of Bhutan and the United Nations Country Team in Bhutan are working toward fostering "*Just, Harmonious and Sustainable Society through enhanced Decentralization*" in the 12th FYP of Bhutan.

The Royal Government recognizes the significance of the role of partnership with multiple stakeholders including the international community, private sector, civil society and the local governments in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The government has been raising awareness and seeking cooperation from all sectors including the private sector and CSOs to drive SDGs. This includes promoting the roles of community, civil society, and the private sector in contributing to national sovereignty, prosperity and sustainability through development plans and policies. The guideline for preparation of 12th FYP highlights the importance of "Triple C" – Coordination, Consolidation and Cooperation. The Triple C framework is about mobilizing collaborative efforts between public and private sectors, communities, civil society and academia in order to enhance the country's development in various aspects including the development at community level.

Furthermore, the role of private sector and CSOs in socio-economic development will inevitably become greater. Hence, strong collaboration with entities outside the government in terms of creating enabling environment for business and support to CSOs is considered central to Bhutan's development strategy.

Likewise, Bhutan also remains positively positioned in strengthening cooperation in areas of mutually beneficial technical and socio-economic areas with other development partners. Of particular significance to the future of our development will be strengthening regional cooperation, particularly in the context of trade, transit, and energy cooperation in South Asia.

[Pages 73 and 76]

9. Cabo Verde	No	No	N/A
10. Canada	Yes	No	Canada supports developing countries in their efforts to tackle root causes and reduce vulnerabilities, especially for women and girls at risk of being trafficked, by strengthening their labor laws, public health, education and child protection systems, as well as building the capacity of law enforcement and justice systems. (p. 117)

11. Colombia	No	N/A	N/A
12. Dominican Republic	No	N/A	N/A
13. Ecuador	No	N/A	N/A
14. Egypt	No	No	
15. Greece	No	No	
16. Guinea	No	No	
17. Hungary	No	No	
18. Ireland	Yes	No	Implementation steps: Support for increased African and SIDS involvement with the Un Security Council (99). Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE
19. Jamaica	No	No	
20. Lao PDR	No	No	N/A
21. Latvia	No	No	
22. Lebanon	No	No	N/A
23. Lithuania	No	No	
24. Mali	Yes	No	As part of good governance, the government has established a Democratic Inquiry Space, to promote the expression and listening of the people, which is intended to inform national and international opinions with respect to human rights and to contribute to the realization of a democratic and active culture in a pedagogical and active way. (p. 57)
25. Malta	No	No	Malta notes it recently transitioned from developing to developed nation.
26. Mexico	Yes	No	Over the last five years, Mexico has granted an average of 250 million dollars each year for international development cooperation (p. 83).
27. Namibia	No	No	N/A

28. Niger	No	No	
29. Palestine	No	No	N/A
30. Paraguay	Yes	No	Paraguay has developed the Cooperating Entities Map, a tool intended to support international corporation and management of the same, position Paraguay as an offeror of nonrefundable international corporation in South America and articulate action among State organizations, cooperating entities, the civil society and the private sector. (pp. 48-49) Paraguay has also developed the SIMOR Paraguay Technical Cooperation Program, aimed at assisting other countries with the implementation of online systems for following up on the implementation of international human rights recommendations and the SDGs based on Paraguay's own SIMORE platform. (p. 53)
31. Poland	No	No	N/A
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A
33. Romania	No	No	
34. Saudi Arabia	No	No	
35. Senegal	Yes	No	The VNR mentions that this target does not apply to Senegal's national actions. The VNR however reminds that Senegal sits on the Security Council of the UN from 2016 to 2017. In 2016, Senegal is the 7th largest troop contributor among the United Nations (UN) member states for peacekeeping operations around the world and 3rd in Africa after Ethiopia and Rwanda. (p.103)
36. Singapore	No	No	N/A
37. Slovakia	No	No	
38. Spain	Yes	No	Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Ecological Technology; and Ministry of the Economy (VNR, p. 98). Otherwise not discussed with specificity.

	39. Sri Lanka	No	No	
	40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	The Report focuses on Sudan's agricultural potential as a mechanism for participating in global governance and trade. p.5 of the Report highlights Sudan's capability to contribute effectively to regional and global food security, because of its aforementioned agricultural potential.
	41. Switzerland	No	No	
	42. Togo	No	No	
	43. UAE	No	No	
	44. Uruguay	No	N/A	N/A
	45. Vietnam	No	No	
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes 12 / No 33		
16.9: Legal identity for all	1. Albania	Yes	No	Albania considers this goal to be fully aligned with its own national goals – see further details at 16.1 (p. 36).
	2. Andorra	No	No	
	3. Armenia	Yes	Yes	"Legal identity is ensured for all, including birth registration. Nearly all the children (98.7 per cent) under 5 years of age, have had their births registered with a civil authority." (p. 78) "The Government will explore ways to improve the national registration system, which should strive for continuous universal coverage from birth to death, free from discrimination and accessible to all individual, including refugees, stateless persons, other displaced persons and migrants. The national registration system should be robust, secure, responsible and sustainable." (p. 79)
	4. Australia	No	No	
	5. Bahamas	Yes	No	The Digital Bahamas Initiative includes an effort to establish a single national identity number and identity card for individuals, and the Government is working to update and digitize its immigration systems in order to more seamlessly process immigration applications (pp. 127-128)

6. Bahrain	Yes	Yes	Bahrain is a part to the United Nations convention on the rights of Children. Since 1984, a civil register has been established in which the newly born are registered and given legal identity.
7. Benin	Yes	Yes	P. 89 provides data on the proportion of children below 5 years who have been registered.
8. Bhutan	No	No	
9. Cabo Verde	Yes	Yes	97% of children have birth registration. (p. 29; 117)
10. Canada	No	No	N/A
11. Colombia	No	N/A	N/A
12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes	The DR reports that 88% of children under 5 were registered and given legal identity by birth (p. 152).
13. Ecuador	Yes	No	A new law has been implemented but no further reference (p. 24).
14. Egypt	No	No	
15. Greece	No	No	
16. Guinea	Yes	Yes	Guinea has made significant progress in registering children at birth (guaranteeing children legal and fundamental rights). In 2016, 75% of children were recorded on the civil role (equally for boys and girls), provided that this rate is not national (it has reached 90% in urban areas and 67% in rural areas). (p. 82)
17. Hungary	No	No	
18. Ireland	Yes	No	Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE. Otherwise not discussed with specificity.
19. Jamaica	Yes	Yes	99.1% birth registration in 2014 (p. 97; data from Jamaica Survey of Living Conditions) E-registration introduced in 8 public hospitals (p. 97) National identification system to be created (p. 97)
20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	It is reported that birth registration is important, not only as a goal in itself but to protect children by making it easier to trace and report them. Universal birth

			registration has not yet been achieved. In 2017, the percentage of children under 5 whose births had been registered with a civil authority was 73 per cent. (page 59)
21. Latvia	No	No	
22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	On the 8 February 2018 the government approved a mechanism, proposed by the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities, to register the newborn babies of displaced Syrians. This new mechanism registers babies in the ministry's foreigners' register and sends the birth certificates to the Syrian embassy via the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants. (page 62)
23. Lithuania	No	No	
24. Mali	No	No	Steps have been taken, with technical and financial support from UNDP through PAPEM, to adapt and strengthen the civil status system. In particular, it aims to improve the accessibility of the public registry service to all citizens and to improve the functionality of the civil registry service. (p.57)
25. Malta	Yes	Yes	In January 2012, Malta enacted the Identity Card and Identity Documents Act. Maltese nationals over 14 yrs are issued identity card and foreigners are issues with id relative to their immigration status. A national database stories information. The Act ensures no authority shall decline to accept said document certifying identity of holder. Birth registration is registered at Public Registry. (p94)

The Government rolled out the *'X' non-binary gender marker* on ID cards and passports. This will be further facilitating the lives of trans and intersex people, as they would no longer be restricted to identifying themselves as male or female on their official documents (p35) |
26. Mexico	No	No	Not included in report.
27. Namibia	No	No	N/A
28. Niger	Yes	Yes	Only 57.7% of children below 5 years old are registered with national civil authorities (40% have birth certificates and 17.7% don't have a birth certificate). In urban areas, 85.7% of children below 5 years old are registered with the authorities, whereas 53.1% of children below 5 years old are registered in rural areas. (pp. 41-42)
29. Palestine	Yes	No	Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered with a civil authority, by age (p. 125).
30. Paraguay	Yes	No	Paraguay achieved an indicator Type G (meaning of this raking is not discussed in the

			report) according to the EEVV (meaning of acronym not specified), an indicator Type C (meaning of this raking is not discussed in the report) according to the General Director of Statistics, Inquiries and Census (DGEEC-EPH) and an indicator Type C (meaning of this raking is not discussed in the report) according to the General Director of Statistics, Inquiries and Census (DGEEC-MICS) with respect to SDG Indicator 16.9.1. (pp. 90-91)
31. Poland	No	No	N/A
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A
33. Romania	No	No	
34. Saudi Arabia	No	No	
35. Senegal	Yes	Yes	The VNR mentions that Senegal modernized its system to manage information about its citizens. The number of persons having a legal identity varies between the regions but the VNR mentions that the overall number increased (going from 38% of the population to 67%). No date is however mentioned with respect to this increase. A major modernization reform of civil status management has been launched and a civil registration software called "HERA" has been set up. In 2013, nearly four out of five (79.7%) of those surveyed reported having a civil status certificate, 63.4% for the birth certificate and 16.3% for the supplementary judgment. Moreover, 16.6% of the total population have declared to have none. • By gender, the proportion is 80.7% among men, of which 64.4% don't have a birth certificate and 16.3% for the supplementary judgment. • Among women, nearly four out of five people are concerned, including more than three out of five (62.2%) for the birth certificate and 16.4% for the supplementary judgment. Also, 15.5% of men and 17.6% of women say they have none. (p.104)
36. Singapore	No	No	N/A
37. Slovakia	No	No	

	38. Spain	Yes	No	Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Ministry of Justice (VNR, p. 98). Otherwise not discussed with specificity.
	39. Sri Lanka	No	No	
	40. Sudan	No	No	
	41. Switzerland	No	No	
	42. Togo	No	No	
	43. UAE	No	No	
	44. Uruguay	No	No	N/A
	45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	Vietnam has made an effort to create legislation providing all children with access to justice. The percentage of under-five children with birth registration has continuously risen and there is no considerable difference in birth registration between girls and boys. However, the percentage of children with birth registration in the Mekong Delta and Central Highlands is lower than other regions. Chldren in poorer households also have lower rates of birth registration. (p. 78). The VNR also mentions that there is a Law on Citizen Identification. (p. 77).
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	20	
		No	25	
16.10: Access to information and fundamental freedoms	1. Albania	Yes	Yes	"In October 2016, ADISA inaugurated its Call Centre 11-800, an added channel for provision of information on public services. It provides expedited accurate information on 508 public services in the areas of property, transport, licensing, civil registry, business registry, etc." (p. 38). Albania considers this goal to be partially aligned with its own national goals – see further details at 16.1 (p. 36).
	2. Andorra	No	No	
	3. Armenia	No	No	
	4. Australia	Yes	Yes	See SDG 16.6.
	5. Bahamas	Yes	No	As discussed above, the office of the Independent Director of Public Prosecutions aims to ensure that policy directives given by the Attorney General are written and

				published in the Gazette for public knowledge (p. 124)
6. Bahrain	Yes	No		Bahrain is a constitutional monarchy that secures fundamental freedoms including freedom of religion, expression, publication and ability to form civil organizations and trade unions. All nationals are treated equally in the eyes of the law with respect to rights and obligations. Bahrain's constitution affords nationals equal political participation rights, and four parliamentary elections have taken place since 2002. However, no information has been provided on public access to information.
7. Benin	No	No		
8. Bhutan	No	No		
9. Cabo Verde	Yes	No		Cabo Verde's constitutional system consecrated a free and pluralistic social communication and provided for the arrival, the development, and the consolidation of the private press, that exists alongside the state press. (p. 114)
10. Canada	Yes	No		See SDG 16.6.
11. Colombia	Yes	Yes		Noteworthy is that Colombia, with assistance from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, has developed a designated web page in order to facilitate transparent access to the nation's developments in relation to the SDGs, which also aligns with the governments politics regarding transparency (p. 90).
12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes		The initiative Republica Digital strives to improve access to internet and digital mediums. About 90% of the population have cellphone access and about 54% have internet access. However, only 27% have access through their own device (p. 24-25, 90).
13. Ecuador	No	N/A	N/A	
14. Egypt	No	No		
15. Greece	No	No		Not addressed separately but see notes for SDG 16.3 and 16.6.
16. Guinea	Yes	No		In 2010, Guinea promulgated a law on the right of the media to access public information, which aims at promoting transparency and citizen participation in the decision-making and evaluation of policies and types of development. However, journalists are still having difficulty accessing this information. (p. 82)
17. Hungary	Yes	Yes		Info Act of 2011 establishes main definitions as well as procedures, rules, possible grounds for limitations, remedies, regulating the exercise of the right of access to

				information and the obligations of bodies performing public functions. (page 59) The Commissioner for Fundamental Rights is an ombudsman style institution, responsible for protecting fundamental rights, including non-discrimination and equal treatment. (page 59) Furthermore, in 2012, the Human Rights Working Group (HRWG) was established, which is equipment with many tasks, including making recommendations for legislative branches to ensure laws provide a better protection for human rights. It also established a Human Rights Roundtable, developing communication with associations, professional organisations and civil societies, monitoring respect of human rights. (page 58-59) Legislation seeking to facilitate non discrimination and equal treatment. For example Fundamental law, Equal Treatment Act, Civil Code of 2013. (page 59) Through hate speech legislation, the Hungarian government is fighting against racial discrimination. Furthermore, media law prohibits publishing anything, which incites hatred. The Media Council is responsible for conducting investigations in the event of infringement of press and media law requirements. (page 59) IDC activities are also helping in this sphere. Recently, the training event, 'Supporting the culture of legal volunteering in the Republic of Moldova based on the Hungarian model' was attended by many academics, lawyers, organisations, with the aim of their involvement in pro bono and legal education. (page 60)	
	18. Ireland	Yes	No	Trends and challenges: Increasing open data initiative in Ireland (95). Implementation steps: Open Data initiative to make open official, non-personal data (95); Freedom of Information Act 2014 updating the system (id.); Freedom Online Coalition membership, multi-country effort to engage public and private sphere stakeholders in improving online privacy, free expression, association, and assembly (96) Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF PUBLIC EXPENDITURE AND REFORM	

19. Jamaica	Yes	No	Access to Information Unit (of Office of Prime Minister) received/processed 59 applications in 2015-2016 (p. 97)
20. Lao PDR	No	No	N/A
21. Latvia	No	No	
22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	It is reported that a law has been ratified facilitating the right of the public to access information (page 63).
23. Lithuania	No	No	
24. Mali	Yes	No	The Information and Communication Technologies Agency (AGETIC), the first institutional body created by Mali in 2005, has taken charge of the national policy and the national strategic plan for information technologies and communication. (p. 61) As part of good governance, the Government has established the Democratic Inquiry Space (EID), an area of expression and listening to the people. This space is intended to inform national and international 469 opinions on the human rights situation, to contribute in a pedagogical and active way to the realization of a democratic and active culture. It has significantly boosted the policy of promoting and protecting the rights and freedoms of citizens. (p.57)
25. Malta	Yes	Yes	The Office of the Information and Data Protection Commissioner protects the individuals' right to data protection, as well as facilitates the right to access information held by public authorities to promote added transparency and accountability in Government. The aim is to have an open society where individuals feel confident that their right to personal data protection is safeguarded, whilst also enjoying their right to freedom of information. (p94)
26. Mexico	Yes	Yes	76.6% of children and adolescents do not have access to internet (p. 61). 63.9% of the population uses the internet, 45.3% uses computers and 72.2% uses mobile phones (INEGI). The Mexico Connected Program offers free internet connections. The Shared Network will offer 4G telecommunications services with coverage that will reach at least 92% of the population by 2024 (p. 80). The National Single Window includes a participatory platform and allows citizens to access information, services and data (p. 70).
27. Namibia	No	No	N/A

28. Niger	No	No	
29. Palestine	Yes	No	Number of verified cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, trade unionists and human rights advocates in the previous 12 months (p. 125).
30. Paraguay	No	No	N/A
31. Poland	Yes	No	Trends/Challenges: "The level of development of e-Government is gradually increasing, but effective use of information and communication technologies remains a challenge." 77. Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation: In order to ensure public access to information, the government is working on effecting electronic and online information systems accessible by the public. "Equally important is the introduction of modern communications tools, enabling efficient communication within the administration and with the citizen, development of computerization of the country through making available a wide range of public administration services by electronic means. From this point of view, it is important to develop standards of customer service in the common courts. This will ensure efficient management and communication and will enable customers to obtain uniform information on the services provided by court employees, as well as service taking into account the same procedures throughout the country. In turn, as part of the implementation of the e-Payments system, a single payment platform for all e-services provided by the Ministry of Justice and common courts was also created, and the ICT system of the National Court Register was included in the system of European registers BRIS. The implementation of the e-DOK document circulation system in the Penitentiary Service is also a sign of increased computerisation in the judiciary." 78. Use of HR institutions and reporting processes/UPC/? NA Specific Party Tasked with Implementing: In part, the Ministry of Justice, ICT system of the National Court Register, and the Penitentiary Service, or at least, these organizations are creating or have created online information systems. 78.
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A
33. Romania	No	No	
34. Saudi Arabia	No	No	

35. Senegal	Yes	Yes	The VNR reports that a new "Press Code" has been adopted in 2017 to provide rights and obligations for journalists. Page 105
36. Singapore	No	No	N/A
37. Slovakia	No	No	
38. Spain	Yes	No	Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Treasury; and Ministry of Ecological Technology (VNR, p. 98). Otherwise not discussed with specificity.
39. Sri Lanka	Yes	Yes	The government passed a Right to Information Act, No. 12 of 2016 to foster a culture of transparency and accountability by providing all citizens the right of access to information (p. 102).
40. Sudan	Yes	Yes	The Report, on p.8, considers the impact of sanctions on fundamental freedoms. The generation of data and information have been 'negatively impacted' by the financial and technical constraints of sanctions on the country. Despite this, Sudan is revitalizing the sector, through 'the development of the legal framework for information and statistics.'
41. Switzerland	No	No	
42. Togo	No	No	
43. UAE	No	No	
44. Uruguay	Yes	No	Noteworthy is the establishment of the web page for access to development and compliance with the SDGs www.ods.gub.uy (p. 24).
45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	Media outlets have dramatically developed and have become a tool to protect people's rights, benefit society, and support the enforcement of legislation and policy. As of December 2017, Vietnam had 849 press agencies, and 20 foreign press agencies had permanent reporters in Vietnam. The rapid development of the internet is helping people access information, supporting social, economic and cultural development, and assisting administration reform. Currently Vietnam has about 58 million Facebook accounts. (p. 79). The VNR also mentions that there is a Law on Access to Information. (p. 77).

	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	24			
		No	21			
16.A: Strengthen national institutions to prevent violence, terrorism, and crime	1. Albania	Yes		No	Albania considers this goal to be partially aligned with its own national goals – see further details at 16.1 (p. 36). Albania states: "The fight against radicalism is another major goal to which we are fully committed. Albania was among the first countries to join the global coalition in the fight against ISIL/Da'esh and international terrorism." (p. 9)	
	2. Andorra	No		No		
	3. Armenia	Yes		Yes	"Given the relatively new global framework of SDGs and countries' comparatively slow nationalization processes, there is still very little experience globally on how best National Human Rights Institutions (NHRI) could be involved in this process and even be the drivers of change in some cases. The international partners and NHRI networks could be of great support in this and play a significant role in supporting the NHRIs to strengthen their involvement vis-à-vis the 2030 Agenda." (p. 78) "UNICEF Armenia has been supporting the Government of Armenia to achieve SDG goal 16, focusing on how justice and human rights institutions can better serve, protect and monitor the rights of all children, especially the most vulnerable, in line with the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In 2016, the HRDO Office became a full member to the European Network of Ombudspersons for Children (ENOC). In 2016, with technical support and advocacy of UNICEF in Armenia, a Child Rights Unit was established under the HRDO, to ensure that all areas of Government policies that affect children are in line with the Convention of the Rights of the Child (CRC) and Concluding Observations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child. An interagency multi-sectorial Council on Access to Justice for Children was established by the Ministry of Justice with participation of all concerned state agencies, HRDO Office, international and local child rights organizations and experts." (p. 79)	
	4. Australia	Yes		Yes	See SDG 16.4 notes.	
	5. Bahamas	Yes		No	The Government is implementing its Immigration Integrated Management System, which comprises several programs designed to prevent violence and combat terrorism, including The Advanced Passenger Information System legislation, which requires the submission of passenger and crew manifests for aircraft operators entering the country, as well as the Watch List Management System, which is linked to INTERPOL and improves watch list searches (pp. 127-128)	

6. Bahrain	No	No		
7. Benin	No	No		
8. Bhutan	Yes	Yes	See SDGs 4.7, 5.1, 5.2, 5.C, 16.1, 16.2, 16.3 and 16.5	
9. Cabo Verde	Yes	No	Cabo Verde acknowledges it is not immune to external threats to security, such as against sovereignty, terrorism and transnational organized crime, which require Cabo Verde's active and committed participation in the management of regional conflicts and in the fight against transnational crime. It also acknowledges it is susceptible to the global impacts of insecurity and should develop alliances for security by deepening its strategic partnership with the European Union and cooperative security with the US. (p. 117)

The reform of the justice sector is embodied in the institution of the Ombudsman Office in 2013, through the Ombudsman entity, in the establishment of the Constitutional Court in 2015 and in the establishment and operation of the courts of appeal in 2016. (p. 117)

The consolidation of the National Commission on Human Rights and Citizenship and the approval of the II National Plan for Human Rights and Citizenship have allowed the development of human rights education strategies and the dissemination of human rights culture in the public administration. (p. 117) | |
10. Canada	Yes	No	See notes for SDG 16.5.	
11. Colombia	No	N/A	N/A	
12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes	The homicide rate has increased slightly since the year 2000 based on a statistical review presented in 2016. However, between 2011 and 2016, the homicide rate experience a decline of 39%. Between 2006 and 2017 36 trans-women have been assassinated of which only three cases have resulted in sentences issued by the legal system. In addition, report relating to sexual offence and gender and/or family related violence have increase since 2008 (p. 148-149).	
13. Ecuador	Yes	No	A reduction in the number of homicides, in total 2,000 compared between 2016 and 2017 (p. 84).	
14. Egypt	Yes	No	The report has a brief line about implementing policies directed at combatting terrorism and extremism, as well as other forms of transnational organized crimes (page 56).	

15. Greece	No	No	Not addressed separately but see notes for SDG 16.4.
16. Guinea	Yes	No	The fight against crime is carried out by special units of the Police and the Gendarmerie. In addition, there is a Special Service under the Presidency of the Republic responsible for combating organized crime and organized crime (p. 81).
17. Hungary	Yes	Yes	Counter Terrorism Centre cooperates with domestic and international bodies. (page 60)
18. Ireland	Yes	No	Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE. Otherwise not discussed with specificity.
19. Jamaica	Yes	No	Security Strengthening Project implemented in 2017 (p. 98) State-of-the-art equipment and training to Institute of Forensic Science and Legal Medicine increased in 2016 (p. 98)
20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	The VNR makes clear that the Government of Lao PDR's SDG Roadmap emphasizes institutional strengthening and partnerships. (page 6) It is reported that engaging local administrations in systematic implementation and monitoring is critical. The effectiveness of implementing and monitoring the SDGs depends on a wide range of issues relating to local-specific contexts and challenges. These challenges require the government and local administrations to develop local monitoring systems, identify gaps, and implement corrective action to accelerate progress. To this end, the Government has already initiated institutional strengthening within local administrations to understand, implement, and monitor the progress towards the NSEDP goals and selected SDG targets.
21. Latvia	No	No	
22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	Lebanon's Council of Ministers responded by forming an inter-ministerial working group (led by a national coordinator) that developed a prevention strategy including systemic measures to directly address the drivers of violent extremism. These drivers include the lack of socioeconomic opportunities, marginalisation, unemployment, discrimination, poor governance, human rights violations, distortion and misuse of beliefs, and prolonged and unresolved conflicts. These are factors that can transform ideas and grievances into violent extremist actions, and drive individuals to radicalise and join violent extremist groups. Lebanon's Preventing Violent Extremism Strategy has been endorsed by the Cabinet. It will be coupled with a comprehensive implementation plan.

			The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Emigrants, with EU support, is leading work on a draft national counter terrorism strategy. The ISF have adopted a 2018–2022 strategy aimed towards 'ensuring a more secure society'. It focuses on fostering stability, safety and security; partnering with society; protecting human rights and raising accountability; and building the ISF's professional capacities, effectiveness, and efficacy. (page 60) Currently Lebanon is finalising its adhesion to the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism of 1999. The government has also established an internal system to detect and expose terrorists, undermine their proliferation, restrict their freedom of movement, impede and decrease their finances and thwart their attempts to perpetrate terrorist acts on or from its territory. (page 61) The Government has also revived the Economic and Social Council by appointing 71 new members, after 15 years of inaction. (page 63)
23. Lithuania	No	No	
24. Mali	Yes	No	In partnership with 4 other countries (Mauritania, Burkina Faso, Niger and Chad) and French assistance, Mali has established the G5 Sahel, an institutional framework with respect to coordinating and monitoring regional cooperation with respect to development and security policies. (p. 56). See page 56-57
25. Malta	Yes	Yes	In October 2000 Malta set up SKOP, the National Platform of Maltese NGDOs bringing together all NGOs operating in the sector of international development cooperation and humanitarian aid. The vision of SKOP is to work towards a just world where basic needs are met, where people are empowered, where there is equity in the management and distribution of resources, and where human rights are respected. SKOP facilitates collaboration between members, with the Maltese Govt, and with the EU. SKOP has four working groups: (i) DEAR (development education and awareness raising, i.e. global citizenship education), (ii) Aid Watch Working Group (to monitor and advocate re: govt's official development assistance), (iii) Euro-Med Working Group (to engage in Meditteranean region), and (iv) Migration Working Group. In April 2018, Malta published the "National Anti-Money Laundering (AML) and Combating the Financing of Terrorism (CFT) Strategy. (p92). These were findings of

				the National Risk Assessment to address Malta's highest risks and institutional weaknesses. It highlights seven initiatives, broken down into around 50 actions, to be implemented over the next 30 years. The implementation has already started with establishment of a National Coordination Committee. (p92) Since 2008, the Government has partnered with local Non-Governmental Development Organisations, offering humanitarian and development assistance to developing countries by co-financing several ODA projects. The projects have the aim of supporting economic and social progress based on the notion of 'eradicating poverty through development'. Malta's ODA funding assists selected developing countries, (with preference given to countries in North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East) in their development needs. The projects contribute to the direct implementation of the 17 SDGs. Past projects have focused on the root causes of migration, the promotion of education, food security, gender equality, vulnerable groups and health. The Commonwealth Small States Centre of Excellence (SSCOE) is a joint initiative of the Government of Malta and the Commonwealth Secretariat, launched in 2018. The project sees the establishment of the Centre as a resource (via a web interface) to assist the 32 Small States of the Commonwealth, and other Small States in general, most of which are classified as Small Island Developing States – SIDS, with attaining their SDGs in the priority areas of SDG 3 – Health & Well-Being; SDG 14 – Life below Water; SDG 13 – Climate Actions; and SDG 17 – Partnerships. (p 97)	
	26. Mexico	No	No	Not included in report.	
	27. Namibia	No	No	N/A	
	28. Niger	Yes	*No*	Between 2012 and 2015, Niger adopted laws aimed at combatting terrorism. (p. 41)	
	29. Palestine	Yes	No	Existence of independent national human rights institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles (p. 125).	
	30. Paraguay	Yes	No	Paraguay already has a National Human Rights Plan in place, which coordinates and articulates the actions of various governmental institutions under the Human Rights Network of the Executive Branch and is being revamped to align with the requirements of Agenda 2030. The report does not specify, however, what actions	

				this national plan includes. (pp. 23-24)
31. Poland	Yes	No		Trends/Challenges: "Security and foreign policy aimed at protecting against threats, especially those related to terrorism, are also very important. It remains important to prevent and combat crime by strengthening border protection and migration control, improving the management of national security and ultimately the capacity of the armed forces." 77.
32. Qatar	No	No		N/A
33. Romania	No	No		
34. Saudi Arabia	No	No		
35. Senegal	No	No		
36. Singapore	No	No		N/A
37. Slovakia	No	No		
38. Spain	Yes	No		Implementation steps: Following the 5th Master Plan for Spanish Cooperation consistent with its main objective of supporting peaceful, fair, and inclusive society (VNR, p.78); see 16.1. Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Justice; and Ministry of Defence; Ministry of the Interior (VNR, p. 98).
39. Sri Lanka	No	No		
40. Sudan	Yes	Yes		The National Dialogue Conference, which continued for a year from October 2015-16, aims to build 'a state of justice, good governance and suitable policies' (p.35) The Report, on p.37, references the Native Administration, which exists side-by-side with the Ajaweed Council (an indigenous conflict resolution mechanism). This is the most important social institution that provides oversight and mediation for disputed parties. The government established local authorities called Reconciliation and Peaceful Coexistence Mechanism (RPCM) working on peace building in the community with civil efforts such as the Peace Council in Blue Nile State, and other reconciliation mechanisms in West and South Kordofan as well as the States of

				Darfur. The Peace Research Institution of the University of Sudan has conducted the National Anti-War Campaign, which advocates for peace culture (p.37).	
	41. Switzerland	No		No	To curtail illicit financial flows into Switzerland from developing countries, Switzerland helps these countries to better manage their revenue from commodities transactions, to institute effective taxation, and in their fight against money laundering and corruption (p.23).	
	42. Togo	No		No		
	43. UAE	No		No		
	44. Uruguay	Yes		No	Certain reference has been made to this goal, but also an explicit statement that this will be addressed in the next VNR. See further under 11.7 above.	
	45. Vietnam	No		No		
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	25			
		No	20			
16.B : Promote non-discriminatory laws and policies	1. Albania	Yes		No	Albania considers this goal to be partially aligned with its own national goals – see further details at 16.1 (p. 36).	
	2. Andorra	Yes		Yes	In 1998 Andorra established the Ombudsman, called Raonador del Ciutadà for the control and prevention of all forms of discrimination. In 2010, a specific law expanded the competence of the Raonador del Ciutadà to allow it to fulfill the functions required by the International Convention on the Rights of the Child. In 2017, a new law gives the Ombudsman the necessary powers to control discrimination in both the public and private sectors, with specific attention to children, persons with disabilities, racial discrimination and cross-cutting discrimination related to gender or sexual orientation (p. 9). In 2015 the Government of the Principality of Andorra transformed and expanded the Department of Social Affairs of the Ministry of Social Affairs by creating the Equality	

				Policy Service. The main functions of this service are to promote and develop programs and transversal actions aimed at preventing and combating gender-based violence and domestic violence and against violence in general, in full accordance with the international commitments of the Principality of Andorra and the objectives of the United Nations. This service aims to improve and increase the fight against inequalities and discrimination suffered by the most vulnerable people or groups (p. 18). . As part of this restructuring, Parliament decided to work on a White Paper on Equality in order to have the necessary information to identify the current situation of Andorra in terms of inequalities and discrimination. The White Paper was developed during the years 2016-2017 with the participation of civil society and in particular members of the most vulnerable communities. The White Paper was officially presented and made public on May 7, 2018. The report has provided the necessary information to develop a draft comprehensive law on equality and non-discrimination that is currently being drafted and will be presented to the Consell General by the end of 2018 (p. 18).
	3. Armenia	Yes	Yes	This target isn't specifically called out, but the VNR does refer to Armenia having undertaking a number of "essential strategic documents towards peaceful and inclusive society," including: "2017-2021 Strategy for Overcoming the Consequences of Ageing and for Social Protection of the Elderly to improve care and social services system, promote healthy and active life, ensure economic safety and social inclusion, participation in community life and decision-making processes. The strategy also envisages support to the families for enabling older persons to stay in a family environment." (pp, 78–79)
	4. Australia	Yes	Yes	See SDG 10 notes.
	5. Bahamas	No	No	
	6. Bahrain	No	No	
	7. Benin	No	No	
	8. Bhutan	Yes	Yes	See SDGs 4.5, 5.1, 5.C, 10.2, 10.3 and 10.4
	9. Cabo Verde	Yes	No	Cabo Verde has adopted the National Program on Homeland Security and Citizenship

			(PNSIC), which combines policies to prevent and contain crime as well as to reinforce good citizenship. (p. 117)
			The review of the Criminal Code has strengthened national legislation on various matters of criminal nature, particularly international organized crime. (p. 117)
10. Canada	Yes	Yes	Canada has been among the strongest proponents internationally of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda and has a long history of advocating for and supporting gender equality. Launched in November 2017, Canada's second National Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security (2017-2022) has a strengthened focus on gender equality, government partnership and strengthened cooperation with civil society. (p. 116)
11. Colombia	No	No	N/A
12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes	The report mentions explicitly that access to data in this respect is limited but points to the fact that the number of persons having been detained or secluded and incarcerated without having received any sentence amounts to about 60.2% of the amount of secluded persons. The corresponding number in developed countries is roughly 20.5% (p. 149).
13. Ecuador	Yes	No	The VNR has several points in its national development plan linked to SDG 16, among them promotion of non-discriminatory laws (p. 109).
14. Egypt	No	No	
15. Greece	Yes	No	See notes for SDG 16.6 and 16.7.
16. Guinea	Yes	Yes	Guinea has a legal arsenal that guarantees the principle of equality between men and women (Constitution, Penal Code, Conventions on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDEF) and on the Rights of the Child (CDE), Children's Code, Law 10-01 on the Health OF of Reproduction, law establishing a 30% quota for women on all electoral lists, etc.). The country has also legally ratified the main international and regional instruments relating to the rights of women. Since 2011, Guinea has also adopted a recently revised National Gender Policy (NGP) with the technical and financial support of UNDP for this Policy to current development challenges in the country and the felt needs of women in different fields: socio-economic, cultural and religious, environmental. PNG plans to "build a society free of all forms of inequality and of inequity, which guarantee to all (men and women, girls and boys) the realization of their

			potential for their full development" (PNG, 2017). A revision of the Civil Code has been undertaken to eliminate discriminatory provisions against women but this has not yet been approved by the National Assembly (p. 50).	
17. Hungary	No	No		
18. Ireland	Yes	No	Implementation steps: First and Second National Action Plans on UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security (97). See 5.C. Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF JUSTICE AND EQUALITY	
19. Jamaica	No	No		
20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	It is reported that the Government is prioritizing the implementation of non-discriminatory laws, including the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). (page 30) It is also stated that the legal framework for doing business does not have gender discriminatory elements (page 40).	
21. Latvia	No	No		
22. Lebanon	No	No	N/A	
23. Lithuania	No	No		
24. Mali	No	No		
25. Malta	Yes	Yes	Detailed throughout – not separate section.	
26. Mexico	Yes	No	The Open Government Partnership promotes gender equality, transparency, accountability, citizen participation and innovation as tools for better governability (p. 84).	
27. Namibia	Yes	Yes	Namibia ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1992 and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women in 2000. Namibia also ratified the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa in 2004. (page 22) Namibia legislation enables the negative discrimination on the basis of gender, previously disadvantaged, marginalized, and vulnerability. There are specific	

| | | | | strategies and policies to redress the social, economic and environmental inequities which cut across many levels of society. (page 33)

Namibia has also ratified seven core international human rights treaties in the realm of The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD), The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), The Convention Against Torture, and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT),The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), The Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) , The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the two Optional Protocols, and Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and the Optional Protocol. (page 43) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 28. Niger | Yes | No | Niger is planning to conduct regular surveys to register community complaints with respect to discriminatory measures of which community members are victims. (p. 42) |
| | 29. Palestine | Yes | No | The Government signed CEDAW without reservations (p. 36).

The Government seeks to further promote the integration of women into all spheres of social, economic and political life and to remove all obstacles to women's inclusion through reforming and developing laws and regulations to reduce discrimination against women and take the necessary measures to ensure their implementation (p. 38).

The state of Palestine is committed to respecting nondiscrimination and every citizen's right of equality (p. 78).

The Government has prescribed policy interventions of eliminating all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls, and institutionalizing gender mainstreaming in policymaking, planning, and budgeting (p. 89). |
| | 30. Paraguay | Yes | No | Paraguay already has a National Human Rights Plan in place, which coordinates and articulates the actions of various governmental institutions under the Human Rights Network of the Executive Branch and is being revamped to align with the requirements of Agenda 2030. The report does not specify, however, what actions this national plan includes. (pp. 23-24)

In addition, Law no. 5407/15 brought domestic work conditions (8-hour shifts and required benefits) up to the level of those conditions applicable to workers in general, except in respect of minimum wages where domestic workers receive 60% of the |

			minimum wage applicable to general workers. (p. 94)
31. Poland	No	No	N/A
32. Qatar	No	No	N/A
33. Romania	No	No	
34. Saudi Arabia	No	No	
35. Senegal	No	No	
36. Singapore	Yes	Yes	Singapore's laws do not discriminate on the basis of gender or age. But even as the law applies to all, Singapore has taken additional measures to protect the most vulnerable segments of society, in particular, women and children.

As a Party to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), Singapore is committed to implementing measures that address the needs of women, and promote gender equality and women's rights. For instance, Singapore adopts a zero-tolerance policy towards sexual offences. The Singapore Police Force works closely with the National Crime Prevention Council, an NGO, to raise awareness on sexual offences.
The strategy is two-fold – to encourage victims of outrage of modesty to alert the authorities immediately, as well as to warn would-be offenders of the legal repercussions of committing such offences. This has been implemented through several outreach programmes. The country also works with public entertainment outlets to introduce deterrence measures such as the installation of surveillance cameras and ensuring sufficient lighting.

Singapore seeks to continually refine its policies to better meet the needs of its children. The Children's and Young Persons Act (CYPA) safeguards the care, protection and rehabilitation of children and young persons below 16 years of age. The CYPA was amended in 2011 to improve the protection for children and young persons, such as exempting a child from attending court proceedings in cases where the child could be adversely affected and safeguarding a child's privacy by prohibiting the publication of personal information. In addition, the Protection from Harassment Act, which came into force in November 2014, criminalises different forms of harassment such as sexual harassment and school or cyberspace bullying. It enhances |

				protections against harassment and provides a range of self-help and civil remedies to victims. (pages 61-62)	
	37. Slovakia	No		No	
	38. Spain	Yes		No	Implementation steps: Continuing to follow its Strategic Plan on Equal Opportunities seeks to generate measures to eliminate discrimination based on sex (VNR, p. 107). Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Justice; and Ministry of the Interior (VNR, p. 98).
	39. Sri Lanka	No		No	
	40. Sudan	Yes		Yes	This is referenced in the Quarter Century Strategy 2007-2031, cited on p.26 of the Report.
	41. Switzerland	Yes		No	
	42. Togo	No		No	
	43. UAE	No		No	
	44. Uruguay	No		N/A	N/A
	45. Vietnam	Yes		No	The VNR does not specifically discuss SDG 16.B, but does mention that there is a Law on Religion and Folk Beliefs. (p. 78). Other non-discriminatory laws and policies are discussed in SDGs 4.5, 5.1, 5.C, 10.3, and 10.4.
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	24		
		No	21		
17.10: Equitable trade system	1. Albania	Yes		No	Albania reports that SDG Goal 17 (Partnership for the Goals) is 59% aligned with the national policy in Albania (relevantly, it notes that goals 17.10 and 17.13 to be fully aligned) (p. 59).
	2. Andorra	Yes		No	In recent years Andorra signed agreements of various kinds with several countries of the European Union, as well as with the main international organizations like the OECD . In addition, in 2015, Andorra began a process of negotiations with the European Union in order to agree to an Association Agreement with the EU that would, among other things, enable Andorra to access the EU's Internal Market (p. 11)
	3. Armenia	No		No	

4. Australia	Yes	Yes	The report notes that Australia is party to a number of trade agreements including the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand FTA and the Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations (p. 111). Australia also provides duty-free quota-free imports from least developed countries (p. 111).	
5. Bahamas	Yes	No	The Bahamas has relaunched its efforts towards WTO accession based on its experience as part of the Economic Partnership Agreement which enhances trade and provides market access to a range of products and services among members of the European Union and CARIFORUM (pp. 132-133)	
6. Bahrain	No	No		
7. Benin	No	No		
8. Bhutan	No	No		
9. Cabo Verde	No	No	N/A	
10. Canada	Yes	Yes	In June 2017, Canada amended rules of origin requirements to allow more apparel products from LDCs, notably Haiti. Canada also fully meets its commitments at the WTO with respect to duty-free quota-free and preferential rules of origin for LDCs. Canada is a founding donor and member of the public–private Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation. The Alliance draws on public-sector funding and in-kind contributions to accelerate the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation implementation on projects in developing countries. And Canada, its second-largest donor, is contributing $10 million between 2015 and 2022. (p. 123)	
11. Colombia	No	No	N/A	
12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes	The DR has been a member of WTO since 1995 and have acceded a majority of the trade treaties and have actively pushed for the Doha Development Agenda (p. 159-160).	
13. Ecuador	Yes	Yes	Ecuador signed an adherence agreement with the European Union regarding trade and import in relation to sanitation. In addition, several bilateral agreements are under development and Ecuador signed conventions with 18 foreign NGOs for a period of four years, resulting in support amounting to at least USD 49 millions (p. 113, 116).	

14. Egypt	No	No	
15. Greece	Yes	No	EKKE deals with issues comprehensively in a manner facilitating national and international cooperation, aligned with SDG 17 generally (p. 94). CSR Hellas, a non-profit business association, also builds partnerships between businesses, academia, and youth, aligned generally with SDG 17 as well (p. 99). CSR Hellas is involved in initiatives to (1) use crowdfunding to gather resources from all over the world to channel them to specific projects, and (2) promote a business model to create social value through new opportunities for small growers and create business value in the fresh potato market, keeping in mind the possibility of replicating these projects in other geographical areas (Carpos Frontidas initiative).
16. Guinea	No	No	
17. Hungary	Yes	Yes	Hungary applied for and was accepted for the full membership of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in 2016. (page 61)
18. Ireland	Yes	No	Implementation steps: Funding for OECD's setting of global taxation norms; support for African Tax Administration Forum's work on building tax policy, clarifying tax priorities, and advancing the use of taxation (100); ongoing engagement with IFIs (283). Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE; DEPT. OF FINANCE
19. Jamaica	Yes	No	[This exact SDG # was not mentioned explicitly, but the underlying topic was discussed.] Member of WTO; signatory to GATS (p. 102) Member of CARICOM and party to several trade agreements thereunder (pp. 102-3) Various BITs (p. 103)
20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	As a member of the World Trade Organization, Lao PDR has been actively engaging in the global economic integration. The Government has made legislative amendments in a number of areas, including among other, tax, trade and intellectual property.

				Furthermore, Lao PDR has been promoting economic integration through focusing on effective implementation of goods and services commitments at both the WTO and ASEAN levels. (page 61)
21. Latvia	No	No		
22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes		Lebanon has pursued a trade liberalisation policy. In 2001 tariff rates were significantly reduced. In addition to bilateral agreements, Lebanon has a number of free trade agreements with large trading blocks, such as the Greater Arab Free Trade Area, the EU, the European Free Trade Association and the Gulf Cooperation Council. Lebanon is in the process of joining the Agadir Agreement with Egypt, Jordan and Morocco. Lebanon is in the process of becoming a member of the World Trade Organization. (page 65)
23. Lithuania	No	No		
24. Mali	Yes	No		p. 59
25. Malta	Yes	Yes		Malta supports the WTO framework for universal trade. (p98) Malta supported the work of the EU Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) / GSP+ / Everything But Arms (EBA); the Africa Caribbean and Pacific Economic Partnership Agreements; and the inclusion of trade and sustainable development provisions in EU FTAs. (p98) Malta also supported the commencement and finalisation of Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations with developing countries, and special and differentiated treatment for most vulnerable developing countries in WTO negotiations (e.g. special treatment under the Trade Facilitation Agreement). Malta also considers Least Developed Countries (LDCs) should be a priority. (p98) Malta (as part of EU) provides duty-free and quota-free treatment to imports from LDCs. (p98)
26. Mexico	Yes	No		In 2017, Mexico had 12 free trade agreements with 46 countries, giving it access to a market of 1.172 billion consumers around the world (SE, 2017) (p. 83). The Strategy for Promoting Public-Private Partnerships complements the government's efforts to develop infrastructure and provide goods and services demanded by society (p. 84).

27. Namibia	No	No	N/A
28. Niger	No	No	
29. Palestine	Yes	No	Palestine remains unable to freely trade and join the international market due to Israeli restrictions on both imports and exports, and the Israeli control of Palestinian land, sea and air transportation (p. 83). Palestine aims to increase the volume of trade with other countries through bilateral trade agreements (p. 83). It has signed a free trade agreement with the EU and other countries. Palestine also hopes to join the WTO (p. 83).
30. Paraguay	No	No	N/A
31. Poland	No	No	N/A
32. Qatar	Yes	Yes	Qatar affirmed the adoption of the agenda of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the WTO (pp. 72). Qatar has a global, multilateral trading system based on global rules within the WTO framework (pp. 72). In 2017, trade volumes of goods between Qatar and other countries amounted to about QR 355 billion and trade balance was about QR 137 billion (pp. 72). In 2017, the volume of expatriate workers remittances amounted to about US$12.7 billion (pp. 72). National Development Strategy 2018-2022 promotes international cooperation to enhance Qatar's regional and global economic, political, and cultural role within UN and other regional and international organizational frameworks (pp. 65). In April 2016, Qatar hosted the Arab Conference on the Role of Civil Society in the Implementation of the Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (pp. 67).
33. Romania	No	No	

34. Saudi Arabia	Yes	Yes	Saudi Arabia is a founding member of the Asian Infrastructure Investbent Bank (pg. 156) Saudi Arabia takes part in developing policy and coordination arrangements with BRICS countries and participates in the India, Brazil and South Africa Dialogue Forum that helped accelerate free trade agreements. (pg. 156) Saudi Arabia participates in meetings held by the League of Arab States which support developing an indicative Arab framework to support the realisation of the SDG 2030 Agenda.(pg. 157)
35. Senegal	No	No	
36. Singapore	Yes	No	It is reported that this target has been achieved (page 79). No substantive additional detail or data is provided.
37. Slovakia	No	No	
38. Spain	Yes	No	Trends and challenges: Not mentioned with specificity. Implementation steps: Act 23/1998 on international cooperation for development (VNR, p. 81). Specific parties tasked with implementation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs (VNR, p. 99).
39. Sri Lanka	No	No	This target is only referenced indirectly from the perspective of Sri Lanka as a developing country. Sri Lanka's export earnings are only 21% of GDP, which is lower than the 31% and 24% of upper and middle income countries (p. 106). Sri Lanka has proposed reforms to increase the foreign direct investment amount to $5 billion a year.
40. Sudan	Yes	No	The Report makes some reference to trade, but only in the context of agriculture specifically, such as the development of organic agriculture for exports and increasing the use of 'promising local technologies' such as Zero-tillage Technology (p.6) (p.42 explains Zero-tillage Technology in detail). The Report refers to the need to 'take advantage of opportunities from WTO' (p.44), by applying agriculture laws which were passed recently, for example those on rural development and food security, or the reduction of poverty, or using the seasonal custom duty for select commodities, particularly perishables, during the peak of local

			production.	
41. Switzerland	No	No	Switzerland is committed to establishing a rules-based, open and non-discriminatory multilateral trading system. It has put into practice the decision adopted by the WTO Ministerial Conference to provide duty- and quota-free market access on a lasting basis for at least 97% of products originating from least developed countries, defined at the tariff line level, to which it is also applying simple and transparent rules of origin. It supports developing countries in creating more favourable conditions for trade and private enterprise and in strengthening responsible competition all along the export value chains with a view to making sustainable trade more widespread. Its import promotion programme facilitates market access for certain products from developing and emerging economies (p.24).	
42. Togo	No	No		
43. UAE	No	No		
44. Uruguay	No	N/A	N/A	
45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	Vietnam issued the Law on Investment, Overall Strategy for International Integration to 2020 with a Vision toward 2030, and Export-Import Strategy 2011-2020 with a Vision to 2030 in support of achieving SDG 17. These laws form an important basis for developing policies on cooperation, partnership, and global trade development. Vietnam is committed to promoting a bilateral trade system for all and complying with WTO regulations, including the results of the Doha Development Agenda negotiations. Vietnam has benefited from foreign trade, participated in the global value chain, and competed with new world economies through the opportunities offered by multi-lateral and bilateral free trade agreements like CPTPP and FTA. (p. 80). The Vietnamese government has achieved progress in international economic integration by fully implementing its bilateral and multi-lateral cooperation commitments, developing and implementing strategies to join free trade areas with important economic and trade partners, and signing and effectively implementing new-generation FTAs with proper roadmaps to ensure national benefits. (p. 81). Vietnam has established diplomatic relations with 187 nations, including 26 strategic and comprehensive partners; has established economic and trade relations with most	

				nations and territories; and has become a member of many regional and global organizations and fora. Vietnam has become a hub that connects the regional economy to its FTA network of 59 partners, which includes five members of the UN Security Council and 15 members of the G20, creating interwoven benefits. (p. 81).	
				As at the end of 2016, Vietnam had 16 FTAs that had been signed or were under implementation or negotiation – ten FTAs (six FTAs as a member of ASEAN and four FTAs with Chile, Japan, South Korea and EEC) were being implemented; two FTAs (CPTPP and EVFTA) had finished negotiations; and four FTAs (RCEP, ASEAN-Hong Kong FTA, FTA with Israel, and FTA with EFTA) were under negotiation. On 8 March 2018, Vietnam was among 11 countries that officially signed the CPTPP. (p. 81).	
				Tax liberalization through FTAs and international economic cooperation frameworks has achieved optimistic results. Under the Government's Resolution 19 on improving business environment and competitiveness, Vietnam achieved considerable reforms in import clearance at international border gates. The time for customs procedures has been greatly shortened as 100% of the procedures are automated nationwide through an electronic clearance system; and electronic payment of import and export taxes is available. However, Vietnam needs to continue effective measures in order to promote exports within the framework of its FTAs. (p. 81).	
				Vietnam successfully organized the UN High-Level Meeting for the Euro-Asia Region on Improving Cooperation on Transit, Trade Facilitation and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which made an effective contribution to the common interests of the region and the world in enhancement of trade facilitation and sustainable development. (p. 82).	
	Total VNRs (45)	Yes	23		
		No	22		
17.3:Tax collection	Albania	Yes	Yes	"As established in the Strategy for the Management of Public Finances for 2014–2020, measures to improve revenue collection in Albania include the following (p. 58): • Review of tax policy and reform of the tax and customs administrations, with a view to enhancing revenues collection efficiency, reducing the tax gap, and fighting tax evasion and the informal economy.	

				• Adapting the tax policy to the new legislation on both corporate and personal income tax. • Reform of property tax. • Continuous review of tax percentages in light of budget needs and in line with economic developments. • Measures against fiscal informality and payments systems." "Tax revenues have increased considerably in recent years, from 22.2 percent of GDP in 2013 to about 26 percent in 2017, driven by tax policy measures and improved tax administration. The reform against informality has also helped to increase revenue collection." (p. 59) Albania considers this goal to be fully aligned with its own national goals – see further details at 17.10 (p. 59)	
2. Andorra	No	No		
3. Armenia	No	No		
4. Australia	Yes	Yes	While not phrased as "tax collection," Australia has a significant development assistance program focusing primarily on other countries in the Indo-Pacific region to assist in improving infrastructure, reducing poverty, and reducing inequality (p. 110).	
5. Bahamas	Yes	Yes	The report describes The Bahamas' domestic resource mobilization, which has sought to improve tax compliance, boost collections and reduce arrears, and implement stronger spending controls. The Government also increased the VAT rate from 7.5% to 12% beginning in July 2018 (p. 133) The Bahamas also established a Central Revenue Agency to improve the effectiveness of tax administration, adopted tax identification numbers, and the report references planned efforts to modernize the real property tax system, but does not describe the efforts in detail (p. 133-134)	
6. Bahrain	No	No		
7. Benin	No	No		
8. Bhutan	Yes	Yes	Financing is a critical component in ensuring the success of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Given that the SDGs are highly intertwined with GNH and thereby with the socio-economic development pursuit of Bhutan, the resources determined for the respective plans during the SDG period is deemed to form the significant portion for SDG financing.	

Domestic Resources:

Bhutan's five-year plan financing thus far have been sourced mainly through ODA and domestic resources. With prudent fiscal management, the Royal Government is able to finance up to 64 per cent of its development expenditure through domestic revenue. Domestic resource mobilization is given the highest priority as manifested through the 11th FYP's objective of self-reliance. Self-reliance is interpreted as 'the ability to meet all our national development needs as articulated through five year plans by 2020'. Some of the efforts put in place to mobilize resources from domestic sources are broadening the tax base including green tax and sales tax on vehicles and fuels, rationalization of recurrent expenditure, enhancing efficiency of state owned enterprises and fostering public private partnerships. Other financial instruments such as bonds and capital market are also explored to supplement financing of SDGs.

Bhutan is also implementing the Bhutan for Life program, an innovative green financing mechanism to augment its resource requirements for conservation.

Resource requirements for implementing the 12th FYP has been estimated. Tentative fiscal projection for the 12th FYP shows a gap of Nu. 24 billion approximately, which is about 2 per cent of GDP. Mindful of the rising level of debt, the Royal Government adopted a comprehensive Public Debt Policy in 2016 to proactively guide its investment and ensure that financing decisions are prudent and public debt is maintained at a sustainable level. The need to have a public debt policy is also underscored as the country is almost graduating from LDC status, with concomitant decline in Official Development Assistance (ODA). Effective debt management is of paramount importance in ensuring that debt financing is sustainable and contributes to the economic growth of Bhutan.

Official Development Assistance (ODA)

ODA funds about 34 percent of Bhutan's development programs, and Bhutan has been effectively utilizing ODA to the maximum benefit. With sound governance and conservation policies in place, Bhutan has been successfully implementing international finance. As Bhutan sets to graduate from LDC by 2023, the 12th FYP, as the transition plan for graduation will require continued ODA. Bhutan also needs to develop a clear strategy for mobilizing ODA after 2023 in order to keep up its effort towards realizing the SDGs.

There is likely to be a significant financing gap for meeting some of the SDG targets

| | | | | although the resources needed to achieve the SDGs are yet to be estimated. More importantly, there is need to carry out needs assessment of total resources required to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)
Other than ODAs, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development also places due emphasis on additional financing scopes from multiple sources such as FDI, remittances and South-South Cooperation. Despite enormous efforts made in attracting FDIs through policy reforms and provision of incentives, Bhutan has not been very successful in attracting global investors. In 2015, the FDI net inflow into Bhutan was reported to be only 0.4 per cent of GDP. The net FDI inflow per capita in Bhutan is even further behind the average level of South Asian countries, LDCs and Asian LDCs. However, efforts are underway to improve ease of doing business and creating a favorable investment climate by investing heavily on infrastructure, energy, transportation and G2B services.

[Pages 74 and 75] | |
| 9. Cabo Verde | Yes | Yes | Due to the elevation of Cabo Verde to a Middle Income Country in 2007, Public Development Aid has been decreasing, reaching an average of 13.6% of the implemented budget. This percentage was higher in 2017 compared to the average of the prior 4 years (10.3%) due to emergency aid obtained for the reconstruction of Santo Antão, the contribution of the international community to the program to mitigate the effects of a bad agricultural year and the implementation of the projects of the Millennium Challenge Account, Compact II. (p. 121)

Foreign Direct Investment reached 6% of GDP in 2017, decreasing from 7% in 2016. (pp. 121-122)

Remittances from emigrants reached 9% of GDP in 2017, decreasing from 10.7% in 2016. (p. 122)

Cabo Verde prioritizes the promotion of foreign direct investment, as a way of financing development through the movement of capital that does not increase external indebtedness and adds value to the existing business opportunities in the country. (p. 122)

Cabo Verde acknowledges the need to improve North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation at regional and international levels, including through better | |

				coordination between existing mechanisms, such as at the United Nations level. (p. 122)	
				The report emphasizes the need to establish methods for promoting development financing for Middle Income Countries that allow proper consideration of these countries' complexities, including the consideration of a vulnerability profile criteria for access to official aid by Small Island Developing States and financing under concessional conditions. (p. 123)	
				Cabo Verde is considering innovative ways to finance its development agenda, including the creation of a Green Climate Fund and a Global Environment Fund and the development of blue bonds, diaspora bonds and green and blue debt swaps, using lessons learned from other countries. The development of these innovative ways of financing will require the building up pf national capabilities in the relevant areas, including the capacity to map and understand the nature and functioning of some of these financial instruments. (p. 126)	
				To this end, the support of international community for the transfer of first-line knowledge, including through more effective South-South and triangular cooperation, will be critical. Cabo Verde urges the international community to collaborate with small island developing states and middle-income countries in accessing financing using new mechanisms and partnerships. (p. 127)	
	10. Canada	Yes	Yes	Canada continues to support projects that encourage sustainable resource mobilization in developing countries by providing access to technical assistance and expertise in tax administration. The Knowledge Sharing Platform for Tax Administrations, for example, is used by more than 2,000 officials from over 100 developing and emerging economies. Additionally:	
				• Under the Addis Tax Initiative, Canada and other donors committed to a collective doubling of international assistance for domestic resource mobilization by 2020.	
				• Canada contributes to international efforts to combat tax evasion by automatically exchanging information on financial accounts held by non-residents, starting in September 2018.	
				• Large multinational enterprises in Canada are now required to file country-by-country reports containing information on their global allocation of income and taxes, as well as the nature of their global business activities, as recommended by the OECD/G20's Base Erosion and Profit Shifting Project. Canada contributes to	

			international efforts to address corporate tax avoidance by automatically exchanging these reports, starting in June 2018. (p. 121)
11. Colombia	No	No	N/A
12. Dominican Republic	Yes	Yes	Noteworthy is the steady flow of Foreign Direct Investment which since the beginning of the new millennium have resulted in an annual average of USD 2,478 million between 2010 and 2017 (approximately 3.8% of GDP). Recently, an increase in required returns have resulted in higher outflows of foreign capital and a decrease in available resources (p. 154-157).
13. Ecuador	Yes	No	The VNR briefly mentions mechanics for increasing export and trade agreements, including exoneration of income tax in relation to invested amounts in the country (p. 115).
14. Egypt	No	No	
15. Greece	No	No	The Hellenic Platform for Development leads a network of Greek Civil Society Organisations active in education for sustainable development, humanitarian aid, global citizenship action, and developmental social support, including in developing countries (p. 100).
16. Guinea	Yes	Yes	Guinea has had difficulty mobilization government funds. The tax rate has gone up from 15% in 2010 to 19% in 2013, and was estimated at 20% in 2014. However, tax collection is still badly managed. (pp. 12 and 82) Revenue collection remains overall low, and the Ebola Virus crisis has worsened the situation. Many measures are contemplated: limiting exemptions, strengthening audit and control, tax compliance awareness. Public finances reform is also being pursued. (p. 82) Migrant remittances vary from year to year and accounted for between 1.2% and 2.2% of GDP during the 2010-2015 period. (p. 83)
17. Hungary	Yes	Yes	International Development Association (IDA) and it contributes to IDA's Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative and the IMF World Bank's 'Debt Relief Under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC)' initiative as well. (page 61) The Hungarian government also underlines the importance of achieving universal and equitable trading system which helps to contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Further, it believes that it is vital to develop a rules based system

				enabling market access for developing nations whilst also ensuring they set meaningful commitments. (page 62) Further, related to the implementation of sustainable development provisions in bilateral agreements, the Hungarian government supports the inclusion of trade related labour and environmental standards in free trade agreements. (page 62) Hungary is further focused on Goal 17 related to the implementation of the Global Partnership of sustainable development. In relation to the ODA commitments (Official Development Assistance), in 2016 the total amount of country's ODA increased from 155m USD spent in 2015 to 199m USD. This means that the ODA/GNI increased from 0.13% to 0.33%. From 2016 until 2016, Hungary almost quadrupled the amount of ODA going to the least developed countries. (page 62) Hungarian IDC Committee makes recommendations on using the available budgetary instruments available and humanitarian aid, to make coherent policy for sustainable development. (page 63)	
	18. Ireland	Yes	No	Implementation steps: Advocating for the most flexible approach under WTO law to obtain trade agreements favourable to development in Africa, the Caribbean, and Pacific states (100). Specific parties tasked with implementation: DEPT. OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE	
	19. Jamaica	Yes	No	[This exact SDG # was not mentioned explicitly, but the underlying topic was discussed.] Signatory to OECD Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters since 2016 (p. 100) Model Double Taxation Agreement since 2018 (p. 100) Signatory to OECD Multilateral Convention to Implement Tax Treaty Related Measures to Prevent BEPS/MLI since 2018 (p. 100) Pursuing bureaucratic reform, including upgrading IT systems to improve electronic filing/processing and therefore simplify compliance (p. 101)	
	20. Lao PDR	Yes	Yes	It is reported that in securing financing for SDGs, the predictability and sustainability	

			of funding sources remain a challenge. Currently some critical interventions are dependent on external funding. The NSEDP includes outputs and indicators related to tracking of domestic revenues and expenditure, FDI, ODA and South-South Cooperation. It is also stated that the Government has made legislative amendments in a number of areas, including among other, tax, trade and intellectual property. (page 61)
21. Latvia	No	No	
22. Lebanon	Yes	Yes	Despite the challenges of a deficit and the slow economic growth, Lebanon is determined to mobilise the funding it needs to implement Agenda 2030 through partnerships with the international community.

At a conference in April 2018, more than USD11 billion in grants and concessional financing from bilateral and multilateral donors was pledged to Lebanon, securing financing for the first phase of the proposed Capital Investment Programme. Lebanon's high deficit and debt ratios mean that it can only rely on highly concessional financing and private sector resources to finance its development agenda. Therefore, Lebanon will continue to tap into the World Bank's Global Concessional Financing Facility to finance development projects. Lebanon will also actively mobilise private sector funding to implement its infrastructure projects through different forms of PPPs.

Multilateral and bilateral donors and international organizations also provide technical assistance through their partnerships with Lebanon (page 65). |
| 23. Lithuania | No | No | |
| 24. Mali | Yes | No | Mali has been focused on increasing the share of domestic tax revenue in the state budget by aiming to achieve a 20% target (n line with the WAEMU Guidelines) and has further adopted a tax policy. To increase the tax base, the Government has taken several measures regarding exemptions: an act was passed in May 2017 by the National Assembly prohibiting the granting of directional exemptions. The minimum eligibility amount for exemptions contemplated in the mining code has been revised upwards and a study on tax legislation has been conducted to identify exemptions that could be reduced. (pp. 59-60)

Measures are also under way to improve tax and customs administration to enhance their efficiency. For example, the sanctions imposed on economic operators will be |

			settled through bank transfers; the bonuses of civil servants will be reflected in their pay slips in order to improve the transparency of the system; staff will have access to training in telecommunications, mining, banking and insurance to improve understanding of the sectors; Selective audits will be extended to avoid cumulation of VAT credits; taxation will be simplified to promote compliance by economic operators as well as revenue collection by the tax administration; the customs information system is improved in order to reduce customs fraud and allow, for example, the settlement of import duties online, etc. (p. 60)
25. Malta	No	No	
26. Mexico	Yes	Yes	It is a challenge to consolidate a tax system that generates enough revenue to finance a comprehensive economic development policy (p. 63). The tax reform has promoted a system of progressive taxation (p. 64). However, an even more progressive taxation system is needed in order to reduce tax evasion among large tax payers (p. 65). Equality must be promoted in the distribution of tax payments and benefits to avoid negatively affecting women and girls (p. 78).
27. Namibia	No	No	N/A
28. Niger	No	No	
29. Palestine	Yes	No	The Government has prescribed a policy intervention of expanding the tax base and enhancing tax collection (p. 91).
30. Paraguay	Yes	No	Due to Paraguay's economic growth in the last decade (average annual GDP growth of 4.9%), resulting from the diversification of its product matrix with greater emphasis on the industrial and services sectors, and positive results in the agricultural sector, especially soy and meat, it is no longer possible for Paraguay to continue to receive funds from official development assistance that takes into account only revenue per capita. (p. 52)
31. Poland	Yes	No	Any but especially Innovative Steps for Implementation: "Particular attention will be paid to ensuring the sustainability of public finances from the point of view of guaranteeing the country's sources of financing for development. In order to maintain budgetary balance, regulatory and institutional changes will be introduced to tighten the tax system." 77.

32. Qatar	No	No	
			In 2017, Qatar offered over US$2 billion in development aid to poor countries, UN agencies, and refugees (pp. 13).
33. Romania	Yes	Yes	Through its cooperation for development policy, Romania aims to contribute to the fight against extreme poverty and to support the development of sustainable democratic institutions in developing countries by sharing its own experience. Romania has mainly provided official assistance for development to recipient states mainly through bilateral and multilateral financial contributions, but it is also considering to send Romanian experts to provide direct technical expertise in developing countries. (p. 85)
34. Saudi Arabia	No	No	
35. Senegal	Yes	No	The VNR provides that this target does not apply to Senegal directly. Page 107
36. Singapore	No	No	N/A
37. Slovakia	No	No	
38. Spain	Yes	No	Not discussed with specificity.
39. Sri Lanka	No	No	This target is only referenced indirectly from the perspective of Sri Lanka as a developing country. Sri Lanka's tax revenue has been low and insufficient to cover recurring government expenses (p. 104). Sri Lanka has been simplifying its tax structure and redrafting laws, including a New Inland Revenue Act expected to improve tax collection (p. 104). Sri Lanka's graduation to Middle Income Country status in 2010 has limited its access to foreign grants and concessional financing (p. 105).
40. Sudan	Yes	No	There is only a very brief reference to tax collection, as part of a diagram on linkages of sustainable development in Sudan. Specific policies are not cited.
41. Switzerland	Yes	No	
42. Togo	Yes	Yes	At state level, it is reported that the Togolese Revenue Authority (OTR) was established to strengthen the mobilization of domestic State revenue, and that Togo also established a public holding company (Togo Invest Corporation) as well as a Committee for consultations between the State and the private sector in a bid to

				optimize public-private partnerships for major investments and foster a sound business climate. (pp. 12, 34) At local level, a process for the production of a taxpayer sheet was launched in five (5) communes with a view to mobilizing local revenues. (pp. 12, 34)
43. UAE	No	No		
44. Uruguay	No	No	N/A	
45. Vietnam	Yes	Yes	Vietnam has strengthened the mobilization of finance from other sources, including the private sector through PPP (public-private partnership). In 2016, three PPP projects worth USD 667 million were completed – National Highway 20, Phu My Bridge, and Ha Noi-Hai Phong Expressway. (p. 82, n. 100).	
Total VNRs (45)	Yes	26		
	No	19		