



United Nations

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs

VLRs: Background

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Towards sustainable development for all



Background – VLRs

- ❖ Flexible tool for SDG localization & reporting on progress
- ❖ Express key sustainable development challenges at local level, in “global language” of SDGs
- ❖ All SDGs have targets directly related to the responsibilities of local governments particularly to their role in delivering basic services
- ❖ Increasing recognition of local/sub-national role in implementation of SDGs, VLRs reflect this.
- ❖ Countries presenting voluntary national reviews (VNRs) incorporating findings from VLRs

Background - VLRs around the world




VLR – Starting with practical steps


Team & focal points: Establish a team or a local VLR committee



Road map for way forward:
Develop work plan



Resources: Estimate and identify required resources



Collect data: Assign information and data collection tasks

Lessons learned/benefits of VLRs

Lessons learned

- ❖ Data & statistics in low-resource environments
- ❖ Promoting meaningful stakeholder engagement (needs willingness & resources)
- ❖ Simplified guidance & hands-on support

Benefits:

- ❖ Connect local progress with national and global frameworks (strengthen multi-level governance)
- ❖ Enhance awareness raising and potential for partnerships
- ❖ Strengthen focus on leaving no one behind / inclusive development



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A low-angle, upward-looking photograph of a modern skyscraper with a glass facade, set against a bright blue sky filled with scattered white clouds. The building's lines converge towards the top of the frame, creating a sense of height and scale. The text 'Thank you.' is overlaid in the lower-left quadrant of the image.

Thank you.