IMPLEMENTING THE SDG AGENDA: ACTION & IMPACT AT COUNTRY LEVEL
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UNFINISHED AND NEW AGENDA
UNFINISHED: POVERTY & INEQUALITY

700 MILLION PEOPLE STILL LIVE IN POVERTY, WITH 75 PERCENT LIVING IN RURAL AREAS
NEW: GLOBAL AGEING

WILL ACCELERATE IN COMING DECADES

• In 2015, 12 percent of the global population, or **901 million people**, were aged 60 or over
• The number of older persons is growing at an annual rate of **3.3 percent**, faster than any other age group
• by 2050, 22 per cent of the total population, or **2.1 billion people**, will be aged 60 or over
NEW: HEALTH & NCDs

RISE IN NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

- Non-communicable diseases act as key **barriers to poverty alleviation and sustainable development**

- Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) account for up to **68% of total deaths worldwide** (WHO 2012)

- Nearly three quarters of these NCD deaths (28 million) occurred in **low- and middle-income countries** (WHO 2012)

- Between 2000 and 2011, about **24% of income growth in low- and middle-income countries** was attributed to health improvements
UNFINISHED: GENDER

INEQUALITY PERSISTS

• Women are at a disadvantage in the labour market. **50% of working-age women** (aged 15 and over) are in the labour force compared to 77% of men.

• Despite their progress in education, women face a more difficult transition to paid work and receive lower earnings than men. Globally women earn **24% less than men**.

• Progress in leadership positions has been slow. Just **16% of parliamentary leaders are women**; women represent only 18% of all government ministers in the world.

• **One in three women** globally report experiencing sexual or physical violence (WHO 2013).
EXACERBATED: ENVIRONMENT

PLANETARY BOUNDARIES

[Diagram showing various environmental issues including climate change, biodiversity loss, and ocean acidity, with a highlighted safe boundary limit and a note indicating research has assumed crossed boundaries.]
**MALAYSIA & SDGs (examples)**

**Poverty**
Absolute poverty eradicated but pockets exist:
- 30.3% Orang Asli in Peninsular Malaysia;
- 20.2% Indigenous communities in Sabah; 7.3% Indigenous communities in Sarawak

**Biodiversity**
- Rainforests under pressure despite government efforts
- Wildlife crime
- Degradation of habitats
- Disaster risk prevention and management

**Inter-ethnic harmony**
- Linked to peaceful societies.
- Strengthening of inter-ethnic and inter-religious harmony

**LNOB**
- Indigenous peoples
- Women and girls
- Non-citizens – migrant workers
- Undocumented Malaysians
- Stateless & Refugees
- The differently abled
- Those with different sexual orientations

**Energy**
- Rural electrification in East Malaysia,
- Energy efficiency and deployment of renewable energy
- Low carbon economy

**Education**
Pockets of children left behind:
- B40 communities;
- Urban poor;
- Undocumented, stateless and refugee children

**Biodiversity**
- • Rainforests under pressure despite government efforts
- • Wildlife crime
- • Degradation of habitats
- • Disaster risk prevention and management

**Inter-ethnic harmony**
- • Linked to peaceful societies.
- • Strengthening of inter-ethnic and inter-religious harmony
ESSENCE OF THE SDGs
THE SDGs

1. LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND (LNOB)
2. SUSTAINABILITY
3. RIGHTS
Implies that goals and targets are relevant to all governments and actors: integration
Universality does not mean uniformity. It implies differentiation (What can each country contribute?)

Policy integration means balancing all three SD dimensions: social, economic growth and environmental protection
An integrated approach implies managing trade-offs and maximizing synergies across targets

The principle of leaving no one behind advocates countries to go beyond averages.
The SDGs should benefit all – eradicating poverty and reducing inequalities.
Promotion and use of disaggregated data is key
INTERLINKAGES OF THE SDGs
MDGs  →  SDGs

<table>
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<tr>
<th>MDG</th>
<th>SDG</th>
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<tr>
<td>Traditional assistance</td>
<td>Universal goals</td>
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<td>Sectoral goals</td>
<td>Comprehensive + Integrated</td>
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<td>Top-down process</td>
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<td>Traditional statistics</td>
<td>Traditional + Data revolution</td>
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<td>SDG 16 Governance</td>
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<td>Funding: Focus on ODA (originally)</td>
<td>Primarily national financing</td>
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RIGHTS AS A PRINCIPLE
• Importance of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*, as well as other international instruments relating to human rights and international law.

• *Universal respect* for human rights and human dignity, the rule of law, justice, equality and non-discrimination

• Realizing *gender equality and the empowerment* of women and girls

• *The need to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies* that provide equal access to justice and that are based on respect for human rights, including the right to development
HOW RIGHTS ARE REFLECTED IN THE SDGs

RIGHTS linked to GOALS

• Right to adequate standard of living – as per UHDR article 25, ICESCR article 11, CRC article 27 linked to No poverty, no hunger, etc.
• Decent work and economic growth (SDG 8) – right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work – as per UDHR, ICESCR, CRPD, ILO Core labour conventions

NON DISCRIMINATION linked to LNOB

• SDG 5 – Gender Equality
• SDG 10 – Reduced Inequalities
• SDG 16 – Non-discriminatory laws

SDG 16 – RULE OF LAW AND JUSTICE

• A2J as back-bone of rights-based development
• Ensure RoL and protect fundamental freedoms
16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and responsive institutions at all levels
Factors which give rise to violence, insecurity and injustice such as inequality, corruption, poor governance and illicit financial and arms flows are also addressed in the Agenda.
THE UN STRATEGY
A ROAD MAP
TOWARD SDG IMPLEMENTATION

I. Alignment of national priorities and the SDGs
II. Defining an Institutional Coordination Mechanism
III. From planning to action: Prioritizing SDG accelerators
IV. Integrating SDGs into budgets and financing the SDG agenda
V. Data, monitoring, and reporting
VI. Advocacy, resources and partnerships
## THE STRATEGY

### MAINSTREAMING AND LOCALISATION
- Strong alignment of the 11MP to the SDGs.
- SDG Roadmap for Phase 1 in alignment with Strategic Thrusts of the 11MP, while identifying gaps and challenges.
- Multi-stakeholder and inter-agency SDG governance structure established.
- Goal: more comprehensive alignment for 12MP

### FROM PLANNING TO ACTION
- Addressing gaps and challenges identified in the National SDG Roadmap.
- Addressed by agency programmes on LNOB, sustainability
- Proposed Training Module for public service.
- Innovatively financing the SDGs.

### DATA MONITORING, EVALUATION, REPORTING, ACCOUNTABILITY
- Development of National SDG Data Monitoring Dashboard with DOSM.
- Strengthening *National Evaluation Systems and Capacities for Evaluating Progress towards the SDGs*.
- DOSM's Data Readiness Assessment.
- Malaysia’s VNR reporting to the 2017 HLPF.
- Government commitment to preparing SDG Country Reports every four years.

### MULTI-STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENTS
- National SDG Portal.
- Multi-stakeholder SDG governance structure established.
- Engagement with the CSO-SDG Alliance and the Global Compact Network Malaysia (GCMY).
- Responsible Business Forum
THE

CHALLENGES
CHALLENGES

- **Government**: Moving from projects to regulatory and incentive systems to achieve change at scale
- **Business**: SDG compliance & cost-benefit
- **SDG financing**
- **Identifying and Balancing trade-offs and synergies**:  
  - Environmental protection vs. economic growth  
  - Displacement of vulnerable groups
- **Reaching those furthest behind first**:  
  - Indigenous peoples  
  - The undocumented, stateless and non-citizens  
  - Migrant workers  
  - Those differently-abled  
  - Those in rural and hard to reach areas  
  - Those with different sexual orientations
- **The rights perspective**
- **Rise of conservatism and extremism and complex ethnoreligious dynamics**
- **Governance and independence of institutions**
EXACERBATED: BIODIVERSITY LOSS IS INCREASING

- We are on the verge of the **sixth mass extinction**
- The rate of species extinction is 1,000-10,000 times the normal background rate of extinction
- Loss of key ecosystem services: food, fertile soil, medicine, clean water, protection against natural disasters
A GLIMPSE INTO 2030
A GLIMPSE AT 2030

Progress in terms of poverty reduction; health, social goals, gender equality

Setback in terms of democracy/human rights?

Role of technological innovation? For or against SDGs?

Progress in environment too slow (CC; biodiversity; pollution), new challenges exacerbated
THANK YOU