Towards Effective Implementation of SDGs

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Outline

1. What, why SDGs?
2. Challenges for SDGs implementation
3. Introduction of IGES activities related to SDGs
1. What, Why SDGs?

Global Challenges

Developed Countries

Emerging and Developing Countries


Source: IGES, japanese.inib.ir
The SDGs:

1. Universal
   - For both developed and developing countries

2. Transformational
   - Integrate three dimensions of sustainable development (Economic, Social, and Environment)

3. Inclusive
   - Left no one behind (national/local governments, business, CSOs, vulnerable groups)

2. Challenges for SDGs Implementation
Common Challenges

• How to operationalize a broad set of SDGs?
• How to implement goals/targets that are not time-bound or quantitative?
• Common challenges for developing countries

1) **Lack of basic capacity and resources:**
   • Manpower
   • Goods
   • Capital
   • Data etc.

2) **Poor governance**

3) **Inadequate finance**
How to effectively implement SDGs?

**Key words:**
- Integrated, inclusive approach
- Governance
  (multi-level, multi-stakeholder approach)

SDGs Book
(Launched at ISAP 2015)
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**Sustainable development**

- Social
- Environment
- Economy

**Governance**
Chapter 1: Two Views on Governance

1. National Governments
   - Implementation/Development
   - Regulatory Quality
   - Controls on Corruption
   - Government Effectiveness
   - Rule of Law
   - Voice and Accountability
   - Political Stability

2. Multiple Stakeholders
   - Collaboration/Innovation
   - International Institutions
   - Compliance/Effectiveness
   - Multilateral Environmental Agreements
   - National Governments
     - CSOs
     - Local Governments
     - Business
   - International Organizations
     - CSOs
     - Local Governments
     - Business

Chapter 9: Conclusions and Future Research

SDG readiness: more integrated and inclusive governance

1. Integration: synergies/conflicts across goals/indicators
2. Inclusion: meaningful and efficient engagement
To make SDGs relevant, countries need to envision where they want to be in the future and take specific development challenges into account.

Facilitation with and across multiple and diverse stakeholders from private sector, civil society, governments and youth will be critical to translating the SDGs to national contexts.

Implementation support to policy makers, as well as capacity building for statistics and data, will be critical.

How to support SDGs implementation?

- Capacity building to collect/use data
- Know-how on policy development
- Technology transfer
- International financial support
- Engagement of private sector
Mobilizing key stakeholders

• Consider each situation
• Set tailored and concrete targets
• Seek steady implementation
• Provide good opportunities for business to expand markets and improve employment situation (poverty and education etc.)

Case Study:
Analysis of National Sustainable Development Studies (NSDS)

• To improve government effectiveness and strengthen implementation, 4 elements of implementation cycle is key (leadership and vision, institutional coordination, stakeholder engagement, and progress review).

• Stakeholder engagement and progress review are especially important.
3. Introduction of IGES activities related to SDGs

About IGES

- Established in 1998 under an initiative of the Japanese government and with the support of Kanagawa Prefecture
- Act as Agent of Change who conducts practical research and makes effective policy proposals
- Aiming at realizing sustainable development in Asia, the Pacific, and beyond
SDSN Japan

- Officially launched in July 2015 during ISAP
- Takes a comprehensive approach to various problems addressed by SDGs
- SDSN Japan, through the network of other countries’ SDSNs, will create an innovative platform for active discussion

Other SDGs-related Networks

- Independent Research Forum 2015

- Asia-Europe Foundation’s Capacity Building Workshop (November, 2015 @ Cambodia)

- Partnership with business:
  - Serve as a secretariat for Japan Climate Leaders’ Partnership (J-CLP)
  - Join UN Global Compact/Global Compact Network Japan
Specific activities (1): Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP)

- Promote a concept of 3R (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle)
  - Policy inputs to Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific
  - Provide policy recommendations and capacity building tools/kits
- Lifestyle based on philosophy of “Mottainai” or “我唯足知”

Specific Activities (2): Cities

IGES collective efforts to support cities and city managers

- Support cities to shift towards more low-carbon, resilient, and resource-efficient
- UNESCAP Kitakyushu Initiative started in 2009 led by IGES Kitakyushu Urban Centre
- Continued activities with support from the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (Clean Asia Initiative) and ASEAN to promote environmentally-sustainable cities in East Asia
Future Actions

• Further strengthen cooperation with many stakeholders in SDGs implementation

• International Forum for Sustainable Asia and the Pacific (ISAP) (July, 2016)
  • Title: Mobilising Knowledge for Sustainability: Actions towards 2030 (tentative)
  • Main theme: SDGs and Climate Change

Thank you very much for your attention!