
Africa Regional Guideline & Template for Voluntary Local Reviews

Regional preparatory workshop for African voluntary national reviews and voluntary local reviews: strengthening integration and reporting on the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063

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Presentation Outline



Global Frameworks: Background

Voluntary Local Reviews: Quick Review

Why Africa Guideline and Template

Guideline Methodology + Review of Existing Resources

Africa VLR : The Process + The Template

Next steps

Global Frameworks: Background

- Agenda 2030, SDGs, Agenda 2063
 - Decade of Action
 - Role of Subnational Government
-

Overall Progress in Implementation

WHERE IS AFRICA ON TRACK?



3.1.2 Births attended by skilled health personnel



3.2.1 Under-five mortality



3.3.1 HIV infections



3.b.1 Population covered by all vaccines in national programme



3.b.2 Official development assistance to medical research



4.b.1 Official development assistance flows for scholarships



6.a.1 Official development assistance for water- and sanitation



6.b.1 Policies and procedures for participative water and sanitation management



7.a.1 International financial flows for research and production of renewable energy



14.5.1 Protected marine areas



15.a.1 Development assistance and public expenditure on biodiversity and ecosystems



15.b.1 Development assistance and public expenditure on biodiversity and ecosystems



17.4.1 Debt service



At the current rate of progress, Africa will most likely achieve 13 SDG indicators by 2030

Reverse Trend



1.a.2 Government spending on education and health



3.6.1 Road traffic deaths



4.5.1 Inequality indices for education indicators



6.2.1 Open defecation practice



7.2.1 Renewable energy share



9.2.1 Manufacturing value added



9.b.1 Medium and high tech industry value added



15.1.1 Forest area



15.5.1 Red - List Index



16.2.2 Detected victims of human trafficking



16.5.2 Public service bribery (business)



17.1.1 Tax revenue

WHERE SHOULD AFRICA REVERSE TREND?



Africa is going in the wrong direction on 12 SDG indicators

GOAL 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal

- +/- Increased global partnership commitments but still short of requisite levels
- Long-term risk of reduced ODA and other resources

GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions

- Disruption to free press and information in some countries
- Increased political tension and heightened risk of conflict

GOAL 15: Life on Land

- + Reduced pressure on the environment due to decline in consumption

GOAL 14: Life Below Water

- + Reduced fishing
- Increase in single-use plastic waste

GOAL 13: Climate Action

- + Decrease in GHG emissions
- Efforts to meet the climate commitments threatened by the economic recession

GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

- + Enhanced responsible consumption due to locally-sourced production
- Increase in single-use plastics

GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

- + Short term reduction in pollution improves air quality
- Increase in urban poverty

GOAL 10: Reduced Inequality

- Disproportionate negative effects on the most poor and vulnerable will exacerbate inequality

GOAL 1: No Poverty

- 23 million people or more could be pushed into extreme poverty

GOAL 2: Zero Hunger

- 73 million Africans are forecast to be food insecure

GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being

- Shortages exacerbating Africa's already weak health systems

GOAL 4: Quality Education

- 288 million learners are out of school due to closures

GOAL 5: Gender Equality

- Increased violence against women and girls
- Decline of women's incomes

GOAL 6: Clean Water and Sanitation

- Inadequate basic services hinder the capacity of vulnerable people to follow basic, effective prevention measures against the virus

GOAL 7: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

- + Reduced energy demand led to decrease in energy costs, which increases access
- Reduces incentives for renewables

GOAL 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

- Economic recession, and the risk of massive unemployment

GOAL 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

- Decline in construction and industrial output
- + Collaboration around scientific innovation



Voluntary Local Reviews: A Quick Review



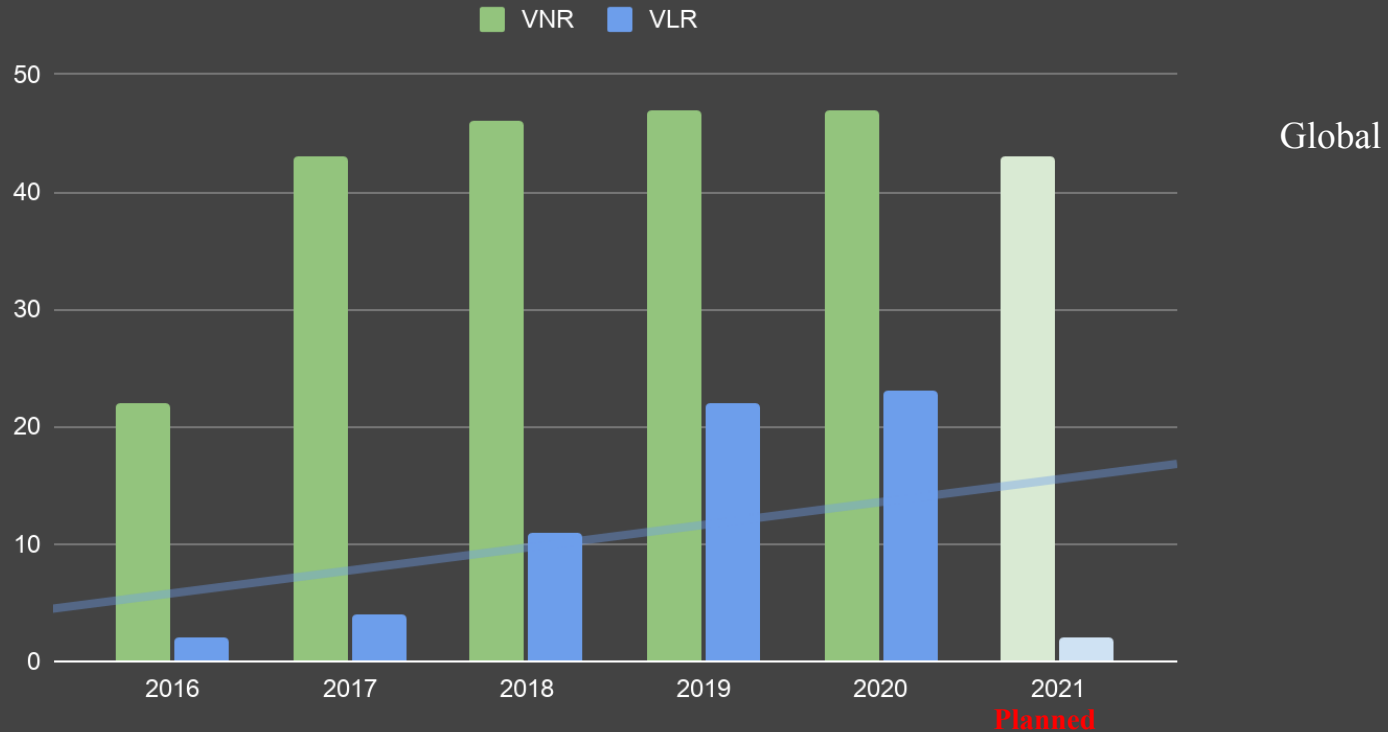
NYC Declaration on VLRs

In September 2019, NYC launched a Voluntary Local Review Declaration for local and regional governments worldwide to formally commit to reporting on the SDGs using existing resources. **In 2019, the Declaration had 24 signatories.**

Source: NYC Mayor's Office for International Affairs

218 Signatories

VNRs and VLRs Produced 2016-2021



Africa VLR Production

9

2019

2020

Busia	Accra
Kwale	Harare
Marsabit	Ngora District
Taita Taveta	Victoria Falls
	Yaoundé

—

Why African VLR Guideline and Template

1

Member state request at ARFSD

2

Contextual specificity

3

Need to accelerate progress

4

Regional specificities of Agenda 2063

5

VLR accelerate progress overall

6

Peer Review Mechanism

Why African VLR Guideline and Template

1

Member state request at ARFSD

- Discussions highlighted role of VLRs in accelerating the implementation, follow-up and review of both agendas
 - Potential of VLRs in ensuring ownership, accountability and commitment from all stakeholders
 - Promoting meaningful engagement and the mobilization of resources and capacity
 - Specific request made from African Member States to UNECA to design a template for peer-reviewed VLRs in Africa that is aligned with VNRs
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Why African VLR Guideline and Template

2

Contextual specificity

- Strong rural-urban linkages
 - Highest urban growth rate
 - Most of the continent's urbanisation yet to take place
 - Non-urban localities are producing local reviews
 - Standard guideline and template would enhance coherence
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Why African VLR Guideline and Template

3

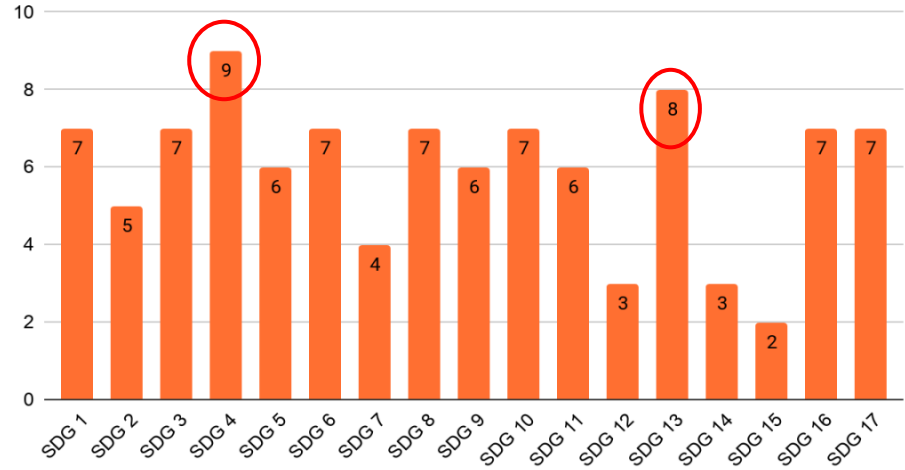
Regional specificities of Agenda 2063

Table 3.1: Aspirations of Agenda 2063

Agenda 2063	
1	A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development
2	An integrated continent, politically united, based on the ideals of pan-Africanism and the vision of Africa's Renaissance
3	An Africa of good governance, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law
4	A peaceful and secure Africa
5	An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics
6	An Africa whose development is people-driven, relying on the potential of African people, especially its women and young people, and caring for children
7	Africa as a strong, united, resilient and influential global player and partner

Source: African Union Commission (2014).

SDGs Prioritized in African VLRs



Why African VLR Guideline and Template

4

Need to accelerate progress in the region

- While there has been some progress, the region is not on track to meeting Agenda 2030 nor the aspirations of Agenda 2063
 - Alignment between national and sub-national development frameworks
 - Number of SNGs in region are interested in conducting a local review
 - And many are in some stage of localizing the SDGs to local plans.
 - Offers guidance and best practices to spur further VLR production in the region.
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Why African VLR Guideline and Template

5

VLRs accelerate progress overall

- Few VLRs produced in Africa
 - VLRs are emerging as an inclusive and participatory instrument for collaboration
 - Important tool for communication and spearheading dialogue across government and with local actors, including grassroots institutions and citizens.
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Why African VLR Guideline and Template

6

Peer Review Mechanism

- Platform for peer review
 - Learning and sharing
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Guideline Methodology

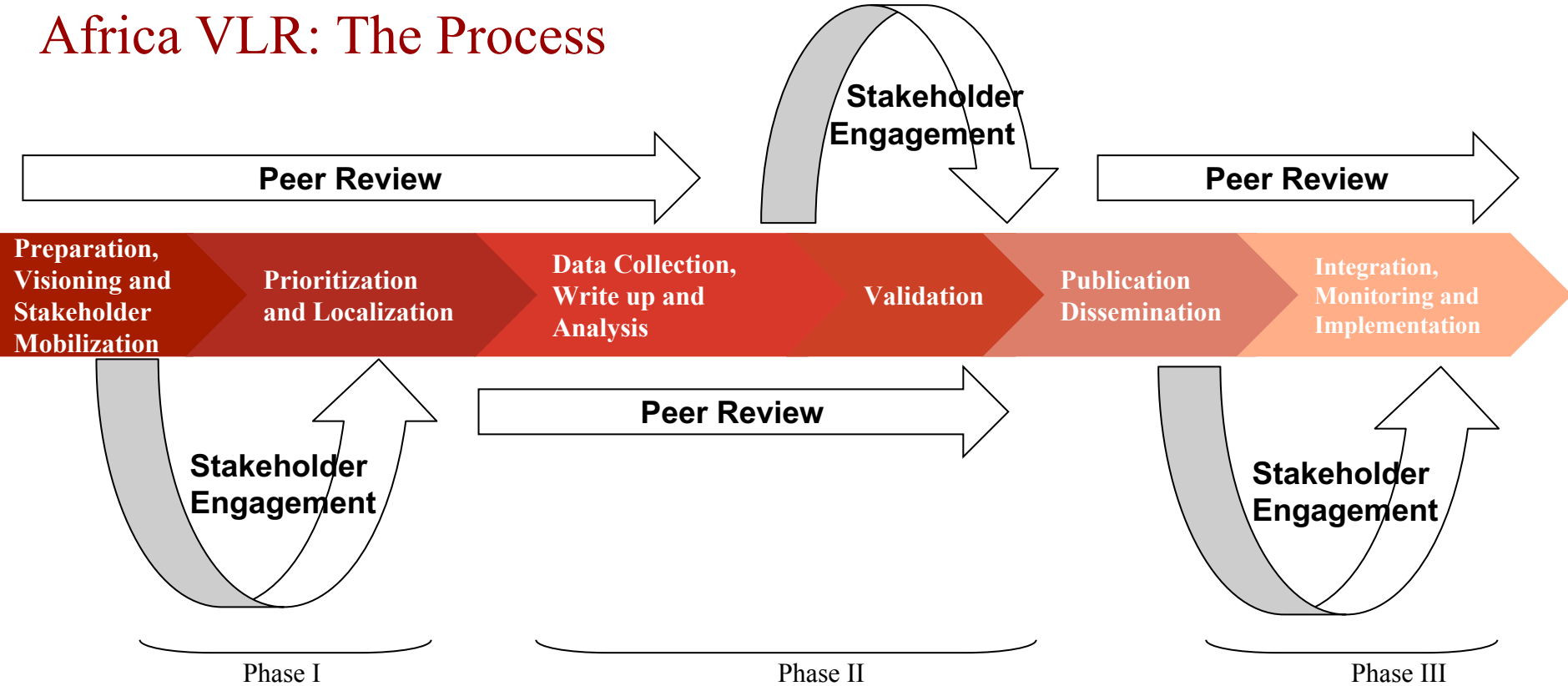
- Desk Review
 - existing guidelines
 - handbooks
 - VLRs

 - Inputs from ECA and UN-HABITAT
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Material Covered

SCOPE	VNR	VLR
GLOBAL UN	UN DESA HLPF Handbook for the preparation of VNRs 2018-2021	UCLG UN-HABITAT Guideline for VLRs 2020: Comparative Analysis of Existing VLRs
		UN DESA Global Guiding Elements for VLRs of SDG Implementation
GLOBAL Non-UN		Brookings Institution A VLR Handbook for Cities prepared by Carnegie Mellon University Heinz College
REGIONAL UN		UN ESCAP Asia-Pacific Regional Guidelines on Voluntary Local Reviews 2020
NATIONAL Non-UN		UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL VLRs: A Handbook for UK Cities
SNG		SHIMOKAWA METHOD FOR VOLUNTARY LOCAL REVIEW . 2020 Institute for Global Environmental Strategies

Africa VLR: The Process



Africa VLR: The Template

- Simple
- Easy to follow
- Best practices
- Lessons learned
- Guiding Questions

Africa VLR: The Template

Phase I

Visioning, Preparation and Stakeholder Mobilization

Prioritization and Localization

Phase II

Data collection, analysis and write up

Validation, Publication & dissemination

Phase III

Integration, Monitoring, Implementation and Follow-up

Africa VLR: The Template

Phase I

- Methodological Processes: preparatory work, literature review and visioning
- Stakeholder engagement planning
- Institutional Model for leading review
- Roadmap
- SDGs and Agenda 2063 - Linking priorities

Africa VLR: The Template

Phase II

- Data collection, analysis and write up
- Validation, Publication & dissemination

Africa VLR: The Template

Phase III

- Integration, Monitoring, Implementation and Follow-up
- Conclusion

Next Steps



1. Finalize Guideline and Template
2. Launch Spring 2021
3. Next Round of VLRs
4. Operationalize Africa Guideline and Template online training course, dissemination webinars and tailored trainings for specific local governments

Thank you
Merci
Asanteni
