











Good institutional practices in promoting policy coherence for sustainable development

Building Block	Description
 Political Commitment	<p>The parliament adopted the Sustainable Development Act in 1995, and in 2005 adopted the sustainable development strategy Sustainable Estonia 21, which serves as a strategic framework to implement the SDGs and includes a call to enhance PCSD for national implementation of the 2030 Agenda, as articulated in the 2016 VNR. An initial framework for Estonian policy coherence will be established by 2020.</p>
 Policy Integration	<p>The SDGs will be integrated into sectoral strategies and development plans once they are renewed starting in 2018 (some policies already reflect SDGs). Each ministry retains responsibility for achieving and leading initiatives in their respective policy fields.</p>
 Strategic Long-term Vision	<p>New long-term strategy papers and implementation plans integrate the SDGs. The combination of strategic plans, impact assessment and stakeholder engagement supports a long-term perspective.</p>
 Policy and Financing Impacts	<p>All governmental strategic development plans require an environmental impact assessment. Some also require a socio-economic impact assessment. The Ministry of Justice and the Government Office currently share responsibility for enhancing this impact assessment system. Annual monitoring of development plans and their targets helps to identify unintended effects and possible countervailing action.</p>
 Policy Coordination	<p>The Government Office Strategy Unit co-ordinates work on sustainable development and fosters information sharing among bodies such as the interministerial working group, with representatives from all ministries and Statistics Estonia working on an ad-hoc basis, and the Estonian Sustainable Development Commission, a non-governmental stakeholder organisation. As the Government Office Strategy Unit is co-ordinating not only the implementation of Agenda 2030 but also other strategies (Estonia 2020, Estonia's EU policy), it is able to ensure coherence in various horizontal planning documents.</p>
 Local and Regional Involvement	<p>Representatives of local governments are included in the Estonian Sustainable Development Commission, formed in 1996.</p>
 Stakeholder Engagement	<p>The Sustainable Development Commission, a non-governmental umbrella organisation, meets four to five times per year. It holds thematic discussions and publishes focus reports with policy recommendations. It unites organisations from academic and industrial sectors, youth and local governance and connects non-governmental organisations in different areas of sustainable development. The Code of Good Engagement obliges government institutions to involve interest groups and the general public when making decisions that affect them.</p>
 Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation	<p>In December 2017 the Estonian Sustainable Development Commission approved a new monitoring system for sustainable development goals which complies with the global goals of the United Nations. In 2018, a statistical report on the sustainable development indicators of Estonia will be published based on the new list of sustainable development goals.</p>