



Policy Integration is essential to incorporate sustainable development into policy and finance, and capitalise on synergies and benefits across economic, social and environmental policy areas

## Austria

The decision-making process for integrating the SDGs in international policies is supported at policy level through the Advisory Board for Development Policy, dialogue with CSOs as well as with Parliament and at operational level via inter-ministerial working groups, evaluations and selective thematic platforms. The instruction by the Council of Ministers to integrate SDGs in the programmes of ministries provides the incentive to exchange information and objectives among the SDG focal points in ministries, and thus allow for the identification of trade-offs and synergies. Cross-cutting issues of development cooperation (gender and environment) have to be mainstreamed in programming-, planning- and monitoring processes as well as in policy dialogues at various levels.

## Belgium

At the federal level, integration is promoted through the Interdepartmental Commission for Sustainable Development (ICSD). The Public service for SD was granted permanent status as the Federal Institute on SD (FISD) in 2013, and supports ministries and other stakeholders in integrating SD into their core business. The Task Force on Sustainable Development (TFSD) of the Federal Planning Bureau (FPB) reports on the current situation and makes policy evaluations and forecasts, supporting policy integration. A key instrument is the Long-Term Vision Statement for the Belgian 2030 outlook, which focusses on enhancing social cohesion, adapting the economy to economic, social and environmental challenges, protecting the environment and taking societal responsibility. In Wallonia an independent SD advisory unit was set up in 2013 within the Walloon administration. It is responsible for delivering "sustainable development advisories" at the request of government, the administrations, or on their own initiative, based on the principles of SD and the SDGs. In Flanders a specific working group on sustainable development is guiding the translation of the SDGs into goals relevant for Flemish policy and to further their implementation. In the Brussels-Capital Region, new legislation concerning development aid was adopted in the summer of 2017 with the goal of enabling a structural dialogue between the several regional services to improve PCSD.

## Czech Republic

The regular discussion of sectoral documents between departments in government advisory bodies and interministerial co-ordination groups provides a basic mechanism for policy integration. Ongoing methodological work to draft an implementation plan based on policy gap analysis to identify trade-offs/synergies among different policy objectives is fostering policy integration.

## Denmark

The Action Plan identifies four priority clusters as a framework for the government's implementation of the SDGs: 'Growth and Prosperity'; 'People'; 'Environment and Climate'; and a 'Peaceful and Safe Society'. The clusters aim to give national policies on SDG implementation a common direction relevant to the Danish context.

## Estonia

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.

## Finland

All line ministries are required to compile on a yearly basis their policies and measures for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, as part of the Government's annual report. They are also requested to include information essential to the promotion and monitoring of sustainable development in the yearly budget planning, as well as in their follow-up indicators. Several procedures, which vary from one ministry to another, are in place for identifying trade-offs and synergies. However, it is recognised that trade-offs are often very difficult to reconcile even when identified, since they entail politically sensitive issues and deep-rooted ideological differences. Many of the conflicts are therefore addressed and eventually solved at the political (ministerial) level.

## Germany

All ministries retain primary responsibility for their own contributions to the implementation of the German Sustainable Development Strategy within their respective policy areas. Newly appointed Ministry Coordinators for Sustainable Development strengthen policy integration and coordination (within each ministry).

## Greece

An interministerial co-ordination network for SDGs established in 2016 supports mainstreaming of the SDGs and the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development into thematic legislation, strategies, policies and initiatives. Two instruments are the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), which is required for all small-scale interventions and activities, and the Strategic Environmental Assessment, for large projects. Interministerial committees are set up to identify synergies, interlinkages and obstacles and prepare relevant proposals on specific issues such as the promotion of the circular economy.

## Ireland

SDG Mainstreaming is a key component of Ireland's National Implementation Plan 2018-2020. Building on existing commitments in strategies and action plans on gender equity, biodiversity, corporate social responsibility and air pollution, the plan seeks to further integrate SDGs into national policies. A major aspect of the Plan is the SDG Policy Map, which sets out responsibilities for achieving SDG targets and indicators across multiple government departments. Each Department will oversee the implementation of those Goals most relevant to its policy area. This will allow for a joined-up approach to implementation while ensuring that the relevant departments across government take ownership of the respective Goals. To foster PCSD, Ireland has chosen to take a 'whole-of-government' approach, using existing interdepartmental coordination structures.

## Italy

The implementation of the National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS) is closely linked with the existing national programming documents, namely the National Reform Programme and the Economy and Financial Document, as well as with the binding objectives set by the European Semester (i.e. EU 2020 targets). The NSDS provides for concrete SDG activities on the five dimensions of the 2030 Agenda: "People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership" as well as a set of "sustainability vectors" – crosscutting, transversal areas of action that are essential to guiding, managing and monitoring the integration of the SDGs into national policies, plans and projects. These vectors include: Improved knowledge on: (i) natural ecosystems and ecosystem services, (ii) the qualitative and quantitative status and use of natural, cultural and landscapes resources, and (iii) equality, human dignity and social inclusion, as well as an (iv) integrated system of knowledge to formulate and evaluate development and an (v) improved availability and access to data and information. Furthermore, the goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda have been integrated into the 2017 National Action Plan by including national quantitative targets, baseline values, and providing for monitoring, review mechanisms and models to measure domestic and international policy impacts.

## Japan

The Government of Japan / the SDGs Promotion Headquarters is taking an integrated approach to solve issues related to the three dimensions of economy, society and the environment, and fosters interactions and synergies among eight identified priority areas. The SDGs Implementation Guiding Principles provide a framework for integrating SDGs into the plans, strategies and policies of ministries and government agencies.

## Latvia

Latvia's national sustainable development goals are defined in the country's Sustainable Development Strategy Latvia2030 and operationalised through seven-year national development plans and sectoral policy strategies. Other key documents for sustainable development include Latvia's Growth Model, and the Government Declaration and Action Plan. In the framework of a mapping process, the government linked each of the 169 SDG targets to performance indicators defined in Latvia2030, the National Development Plan and other strategic documents to assess policy coverage and coherence. In 2017, the Cross-Sectoral Coordination Centre of Latvia – the country's SDG focal point – conducted a broad survey across all levels of government, the private sector, academia, media and civil society to assess progress on achieving the goals set out in the National Development Plan and Latvia2030. These goals are operationalised through the planning and budgeting, and include additional country-specific priorities such as facilitating natural population growth, reducing emigration and promoting Latvian civic awareness.



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### Lithuania

The integration of economic, social and environmental actions in overarching strategic documents is a key principle of the national strategy to ensure they are coherent and mutually reinforcing. Further, the strategy calls for the main sustainable development provisions to be integrated into special sectorial plans, programmes, regional and municipal planning documents and other legal acts. Trade-offs and synergies are identified through respective sectoral strategies and planning documents of ministries which must into consideration sustainable development aspects outlined in the National Sustainable Development Strategy.

### Luxembourg

The National Plan for Sustainable Development (NPSD) is being elaborated by the Inter-Departmental Commission on Sustainable Development (ICSD) in a participatory process with all ministries. The ICSD supports the integration of sustainable development in sectoral policies. Ministries can decide on follow-up PCD actions after recommendations of the ICD in their respective fields.

### Mexico

The National Planning Law was updated during the second half of 2017 with a view to integrating the three dimensions of sustainable development and key principles of the 2030 Agenda in national development planning. It will also serve as a reference for future governmental actions. A new provision for linking the authorised programmes of the public administration with the SDGs was incorporated into the Guidelines for the Programming and Budgeting Process for the Fiscal Year 2018. The Mexican Development Cooperation Agency (AMEXCID) has also adjusted the design and monitoring of development co-operation projects and improved its information systems in order to align them to the Sustainable Development Goals.

### Netherlands

Ministers are responsible for implementing the SDGs within their respective policy areas. Focal points for SDG implementation exist at each ministry. Notably two ministers with cross-cutting mandates support coherence across policy domains: the Minister of Economic Affairs and Climate Change and the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation.

### Poland

Government administration bodies (ministries) are responsible for ensuring that sectoral policies are consistent with the SDGs and contribute to global development.

### Portugal

The government's overall legislative procedure contributes to policy integration, whereby Council of Ministers' Resolutions and Resolutions of Secretaries of State are circulated by all ministries. The Institute for Co-operation and Language (Camões I.P.) leads a network of focal points from all ministries in order to stimulate information-sharing and interministerial dialogue around policy implications, synergies and trade-offs. Ongoing efforts to establish PCSD priorities aim to strengthen integrated policy analysis.

### Slovak Republic

Representatives of the Deputy Prime Minister's Office for Investments and Informatization (DPMO) prepare national strategic documents in working groups.

### Slovenia

A Council for Development will be established to make policy proposals that take into account inter-linkages between economic, social and environmental dimensions of policy, as well as to ensure consistency with international engagements. The Slovenian Development Strategy 2030 is supported by sectoral, regional and municipal strategies.

### Sweden

All ministries have developed internal action plans for working on global development policy – and PCSD - to support decision processes linked to the SDGs.

### Switzerland

The 2016-2019 Sustainable Development Strategy outlines Switzerland's national, international and legislative framework for sustainable development. The strategy sets out actions in nine priority areas: consumption and production; urban development; mobility and infrastructure; energy and climate; natural resources; economic and financial system; education, research and innovation; social security; social cohesion and gender equality; and health. To ensure coherent implementation of the strategy, consultations at the technical and political level precede the implementation by federal departments.