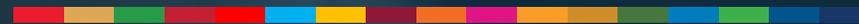




KSA Sustainability Roadmap

The Way Forward to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



Third Sector Workshop

June 18th 2020

Focus of today's workshop

1

Present the sustainability imperative for Saudi Arabia

2

Present the KSA Sustainability Roadmap highlights, and secure a partnership commitment

3

Gather the views of the third sector on its role and the challenges it faces in tackling the SDGs – and leverage this input to inform the Sustainability Roadmap

Get to know today's hosts

Majid Al Asfoor

General Manager

Assistant Deputyship for
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Senior Social Sustainability
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Sustainable development expert,
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International Institute for
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Nicolas Dunais

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Tarek Alwan

Consultant

Oliver Wyman



Roya Mahfouz

Consultant

Oliver Wyman



Get to know the group



Agenda

- 13:00 – 13:35**
- SDGs, the third sector, and KSA's sustainability roadmap**
- SDGs primer (10')
 - Role of the third sector in meeting the SDGs (10')
 - Sustainability roadmap highlights (15')



- 13:35 – 14:35**
- KSA case studies & breakout sessions: Views on opportunities and challenges in engaging with the SDGs in KSA**
- Case studies from attending organizations (MiSK, KKF) (20')
 - Virtual break-out rooms to discuss third sector participation (40')

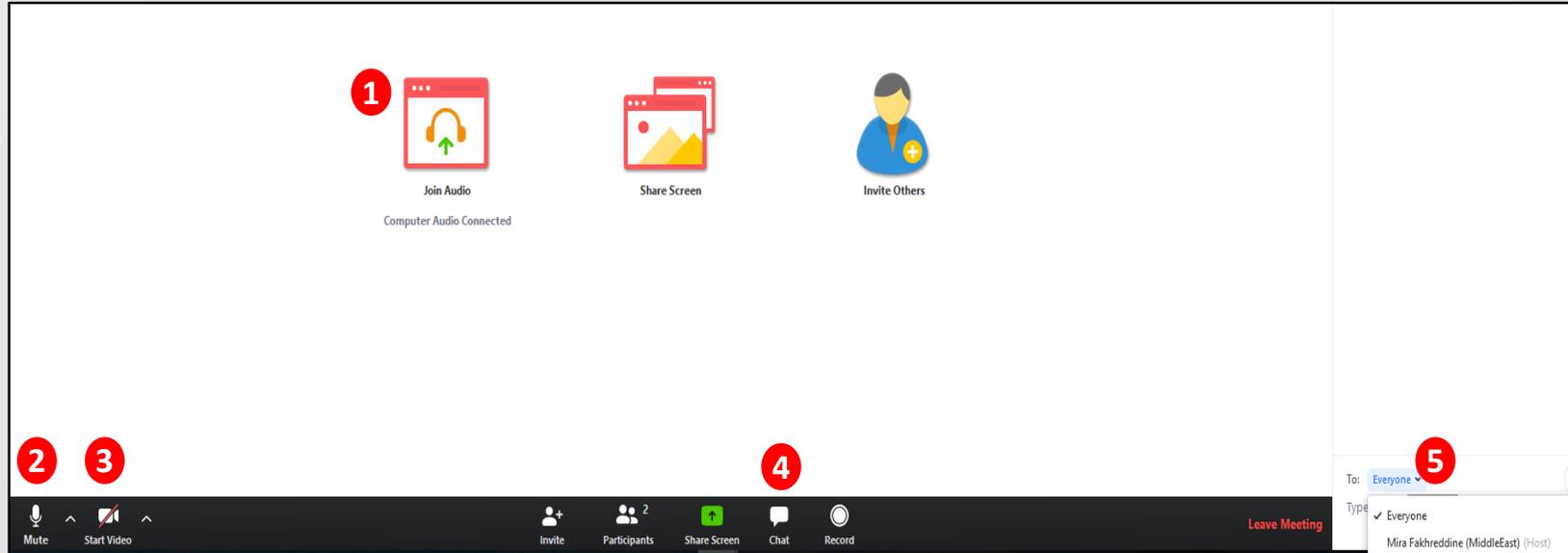


- 14:35 – 15:00**
- Key insights and way forward**
- Presentation of findings (10')
 - Q&A (10')
 - Concluding remarks and way forward (5')



Zoom participation guidelines

General features



- 1 Connect your audio to enable sound
- 2 Mute / Unmute your microphone (**Kindly unmute if not speaking to minimize background noise**)
- 3 Start / Stop video
- 4 Chat with participants
- 5 Select whether to send message (question or comment) to everyone or one specific participant

Renaming feature

If you have not entered your full name, please do so by following the steps below:

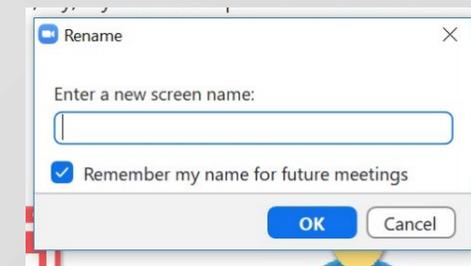
1. Find your name in the participants section (top)



2. Click on "More" then "Rename"



3. Enter your full name



SDGs, the third sector, and KSA's sustainability roadmap

1

Poll #1



Are the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) a focus of your organization?

- Yes, we conduct projects in support of the SDGs
- No, but we are considering this
- No
- I have never heard of the SDGs

The 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda offers a globally-agreed framework for sustainability action, to which Saudi Arabia and the other 190+ UN member states have committed to

Characteristics of the Sustainable Development Agenda

17 Goals, 169 Targets, 231 KPIs



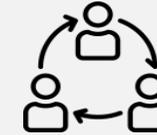
Comprehensive

Social, environmental and economic sustainability for **long-term prosperity**



Universal

Endorsed by all UN Member states: **mutual accountability**



Collaborative

Success contingent on **joint international collaboration efforts**



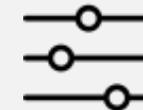
Inclusive

Success contingent on **whole of society mobilization**



Adaptable to national context

Respecting national priorities and **flexibility to adjust targets**

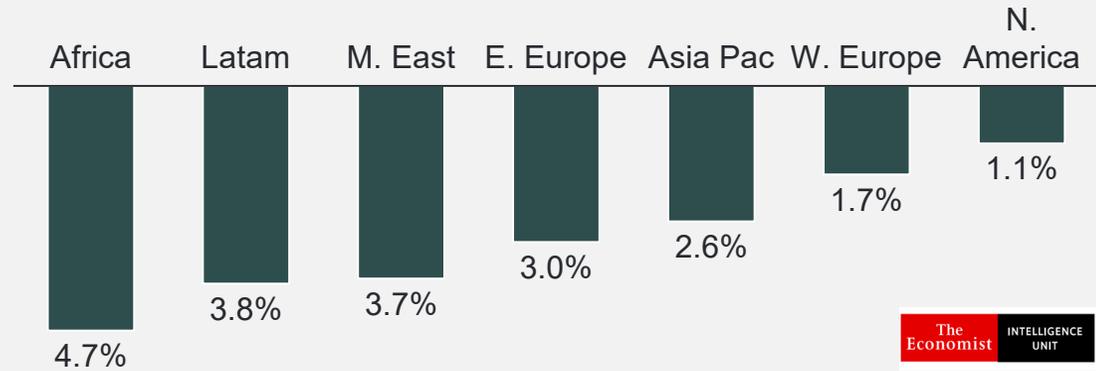


The Agenda reflects the global realization that long-term economic prosperity cannot be disassociated from social and environmental concerns

Non-exhaustive

Environmental sustainability as a determinant of economic prosperity

Real GDP loss impact from climate change, 2050 vs 2018, %

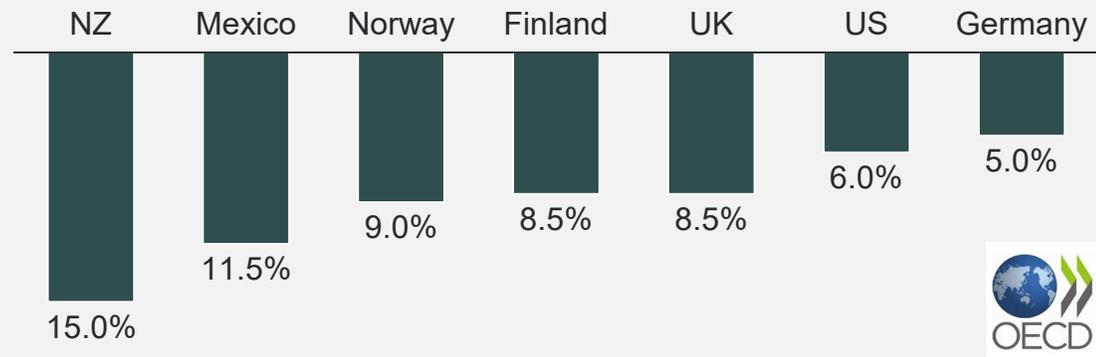


Over the last half-century, the full implications of climate change and its impacts have been illuminated by the intensive research of scientists in different fields. These studies depict an increasingly dire picture of our future under uncontrolled climate change.

- William Nordhaus, Nobel laureate in economics

Socio-economic equality as a determinant of economic prosperity

Cumulative negative impact of inequality change (1985-2005) on economic growth (GDP) in 1990 - 2010

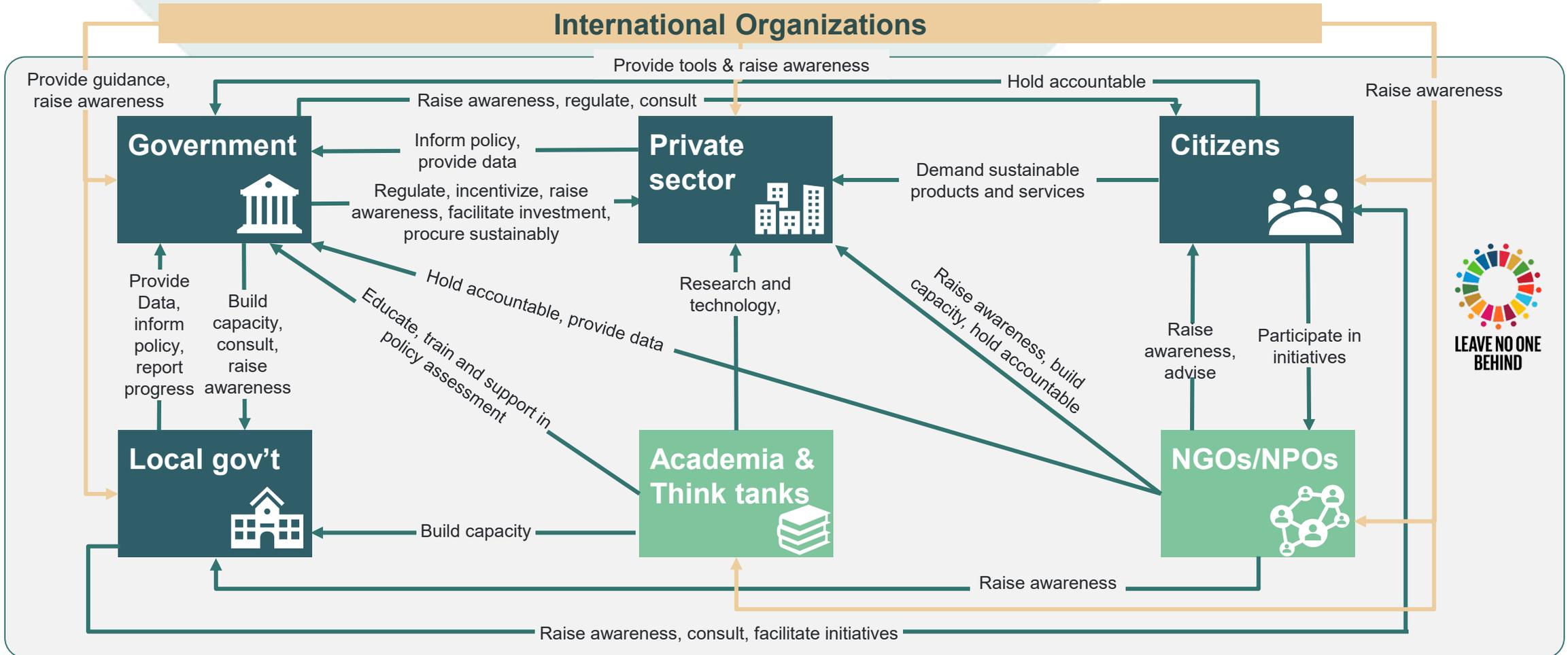


The extreme inequalities in incomes and assets we see in much of the world today harm our economies, our societies, and undermines our politics

- Joseph Stiglitz, Nobel laureate in economics

To attain the SDGs, the full mobilization of society is required, with all stakeholders playing a role

SDG Stakeholders and joint interactions for sustainability achievement



Third sector organizations can assume several roles in helping translate the SDGs from international commitments to specific action at the national level

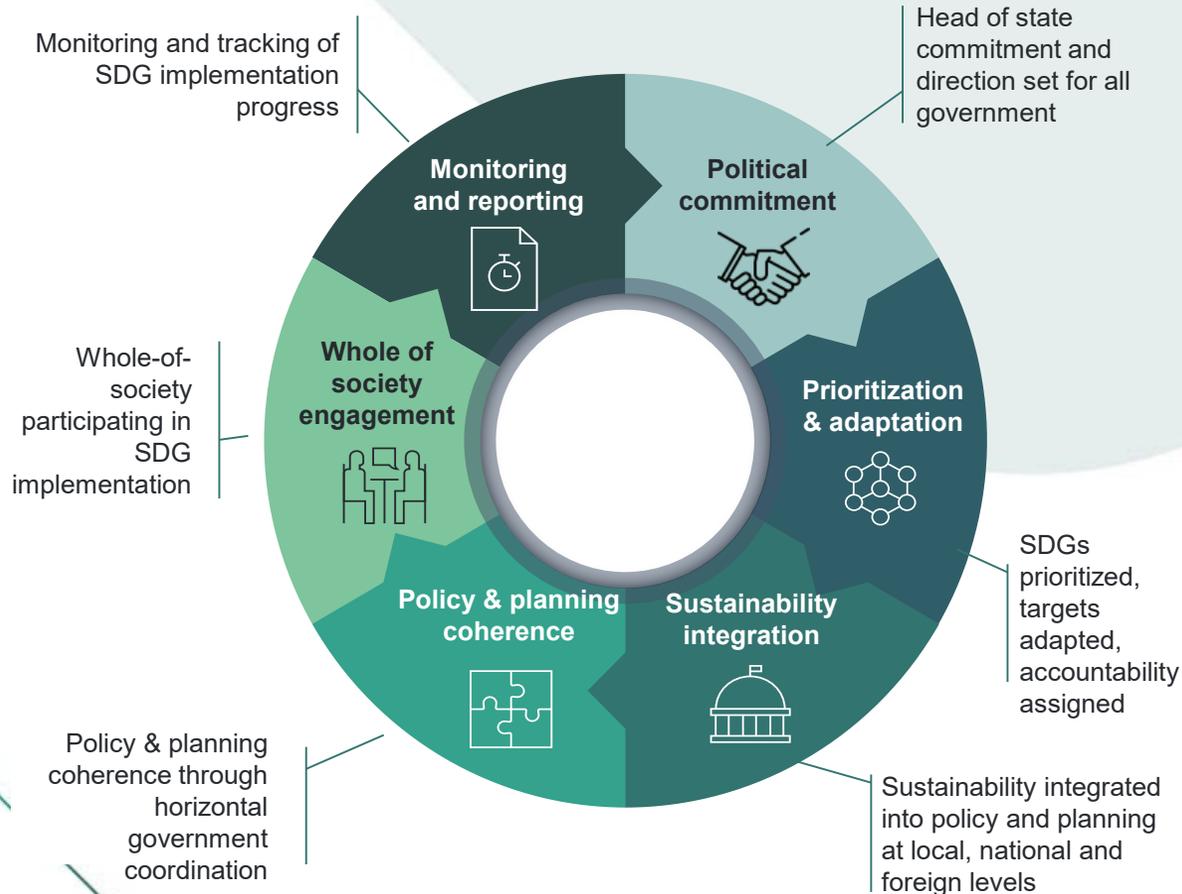
Expected role of the third sector



		 NGOs/NPOs	 Academia & think tanks
Raise SDG awareness	Integrate SDGs into organization's narrative & conduct awareness campaigns	✓	✓
	Integrate 2030 Agenda into training programs	✓	✓
Support SDG implementation	Deliver initiatives at the local level towards SDG attainment	✓	✓
	Use SDGs to assess existing & upcoming projects' coherence & contribution to sustainability	✓	
Hold private sector to account	Lobby business involvement , especially ones who exhibited SDG commitment	✓	
	Public " naming and shaming " and consumer education	✓	
Hold gov't to account	Lobby for third sector contribution of input to inform & guide policy formulation	✓	✓
	Monitor policy commitment progress & highlight problematic areas within expertise	✓	✓
Support sustainability research	Lead local sustainability research efforts		✓
	Join global research efforts towards SDG attainment		✓
Data provision	Collect or analyze data that can be used to support decision making or for official reporting	✓	✓

Research points to structural issues preventing an effective implementation of the SDGs in the Kingdom

Foundations of SDG implementation¹



KSA Status²

○ Insufficient ● Ready

		Despite SDG mandate, no direction has been set for rest of government, translating into lack of awareness
		SDG prioritization and target adaptation not conducted
		No integration of environmental factor in assessing policy ³
		No mechanism to validate coherence of plans and policies related to SDG attainment
		Low sustainability awareness among citizens and SMEs (large enterprises have demonstrated awareness ²)
		Despite ~50% SDG indicator availability, there is a lack of disaggregated data and absence of data updating and reporting processes

1. Based on global ecosystem assessment. Flags represent the top 10 countries on the SDG Index. 2. Based on Phase 1 review of KSA readiness. 3. On basis of impact assessments conducted by MEP deputyships, CSE and SMO
Source: Oliver Wyman analysis

Where the NGOs / NPOs are concerned, specific barriers are understood to be centered on regulations and financing

For discussion

Challenges faced by the third sector in KSA

- Unsustainable financing**
 > Restrictions when it comes to opening bank accounts, conducting financial transactions, and issuing credit cards
- Stringent regulations**
 > Absence of clear regulations to control their establishment and operations
- Negative perception**
 > Decision-maker perception towards the sector's usefulness, importance, & integrity is medium-to-low

Government plays a key role in unlocking the sector's potential of contribution to **sustainability & the economy**

Poll #2



What barriers do you face for a more active engagement in sustainability? Select one or more

- Lack of funding
- Lack of coordination
- Lack of empowerment
- Too stringent / unclear regulations
- Other (to be discussed in breakout session)

To address identified implementation barriers, the Assistant Deputyship for Sustainable Development Affairs is drafting a sustainability roadmap for the Kingdom

Driving questions to develop the sustainability roadmap

Outcomes

	What governance model ensures an effective allocation of responsibilities and accountabilities?
	How can policy coherence and an engrained practice of sustainability integration in policy and planning be achieved?
	How can the whole of government and whole of society be mobilized so as to play their role in SDG implementation?
	How can progress on SDGs be tracked and monitored , and which entities should fulfil that role?
	What partnerships should KSA pursue and how can it best contribute to global SDG attainment?

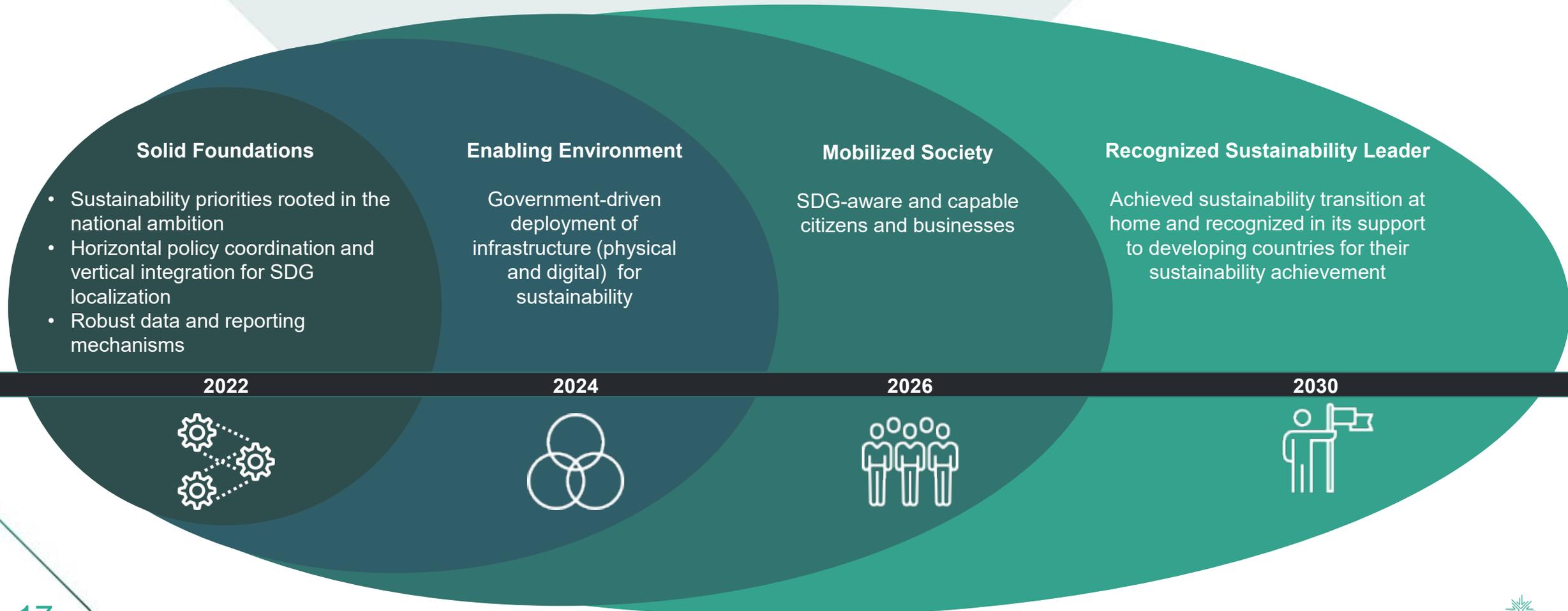
A **pragmatic yet ambitious approach** to meeting SDGs...

...**Leveraging current institutional mechanisms** as much as possible...

...With the objective to **establish an enabling environment for SDG attainment**

The sustainability roadmap places the Kingdom on the path to SDG attainment through four strategic thrusts

Sustainability roadmap strategic thrusts



A total of 18 initiatives have been defined across the strategic thrusts, on the basis of the identified requirements to enable SDG implementation in the Kingdom

Strategic thrusts and initiatives

I. Solid Foundations: Governance and processes [6]	1. Prioritize SDGs	4. Appoint SDG focal points		
	2. Form SDG Committee & expert panel	5. Activate horizontal & vertical coordination		
	3. Reorganize ADSD	6. Set up data requirements		
II. Enabling Environment: Gov't-driven infrastructure [3]	1. Set policies for sustainability across stakeholders			
	2. Identify sustainability infrastructure requirements and facilitate their deployment			
	3. Develop integrated SDG financing framework			
III. Mobilized Society: Awareness, capabilities and practices [4]	1. Define & implement a multi-stakeholder communication strategy	2. Facilitate knowledge sharing through dedicated platforms	3. Build government and citizen capabilities	4. Encourage sustainability practices
	a. Launch SDG campaign	a. Create an SDG Foundation	a. Train central and local government staff	a. Launch SDG award for public sector
	b. Launch SDG Portal	b. Promote knowledge sharing platforms	b. Integrate sustainability in education	b. Engage and empower NGOs
	c. Promote SDGs through civil society			
IV. Recognized Sustainability Leader [5]	1. Initiate and develop a flagship annual SDG global event		4. Achieve regional leadership through GCC-wide coordination initiatives	
	2. Seek prominent engagement in international organizations and events		5. Develop sustainability-focused bilateral and multilateral partnerships	
	3. Maximize ODA visibility (SDG integration & better accounting)			

KSA case studies & breakout sessions

2

KSA case studies



misk مسك
مؤسسة خيرية



مؤسسة الملك خالد
KING KHALID FOUNDATION

Breakout sessions

Guiding questions



- What challenges do you face at your organization?
- What restrictions do you face against the activities you would like to undertake?
- Do you consider partnering with other third sector orgs. to jointly address issues, and if no, why not?



- How can the government support in addressing those challenges?
- If government restrictions are part of the problem, what reforms would you like to see?



- What are your views on the range of government measures that are being considered (NGO center, regulations..)
- How can KSA build upon the temporary G20 groups (Y20, T20, C20) to facilitate permanent multi-stakeholder engagement?



- What measures are you considering to undertake in relation to the SDGs?
- How can you utilize your operations to reach sub-national audiences?

Breakout sessions

You will now be transferred to a breakout room for a focused interactive discussion



Group 1

Co-hosts:

- Majid Al-Asfoor
- Yara Sindi
- Roya Mahfouz

Group 2

Co-hosts:

- Nicolas Dunais
- Fayez Al Talhi

Group 3

Co-hosts:

- Kali Taylor
- Ahmad Alkishi

Group 4

Co-hosts:

- Tarek Alwan
- Nada Beati

Key insights and way forward

3

Key insights – Challenges & restrictions (1/2)

- What **challenges** do you face at your org.?
- What **restrictions** do you face against the activities you would like to undertake?
- Do you consider **partnering** with other third sector orgs. to jointly address issues, and if no, why not?

- How can the **government support** in addressing those challenges?
- If government restrictions are part of the problem, what **reforms** would you like to see?

- What are your **views** on the range of government measures that are being considered (NGO center, regulations..)
- How can KSA build upon the temporary G20 groups (Y20, T20, C20) to facilitate permanent multi-stakeholder engagement?

- What **measures** are you considering to undertake in relation to the SDGs?
- How can you utilize your operations to **reach sub-national audiences**?

- High overhead costs & budget constraints
- Challenge in verifying beneficiaries' info to ensure no one is purposely providing wrong information
→ Require more coordination with gov't entities for data verification
- Not enough community engagement – need a platform for engaging with civil society
- Inability to access data that would help narrow the focus of social & environmental problems to be addressed → The data is there; however, there is no mechanism to obtain it
- Need more cooperation & coordination among ministries, underpinned by one vision & direction
- Lack of capability building
- Lack of a central coordinating body that supports third sector work
- No clear prioritization of national development issues
- Need guidance to establish int'l partnerships (E.g. with UN)
- Lack of awareness about the different NGOs in the Kingdom (from private sector & gov't)
- Some entities hesitate to collaborate with large semi-governmental entities
- Lack of empowerment

Key insights – Challenges & restrictions (2/2)

- What **challenges** do you face at your org.?
- What **restrictions** do you face against the activities you would like to undertake?
- Do you consider **partnering** with other third sector orgs. to jointly address issues, and if no, why not?

- How can the **government support** in addressing those challenges?
- If government restrictions are part of the problem, what **reforms** would you like to see?

- What are your **views** on the range of government measures that are being considered (NGO center, regulations..)
- How can KSA build upon the temporary G20 groups (Y20, T20, C20) to facilitate permanent multi-stakeholder engagement?

- What **measures** are you considering to undertake in relation to the SDGs?
- How can you utilize your operations to **reach sub-national audiences**?

- Lack of recognition & support
- Strict regulations
 - E.g. funding; strict policies when it comes to gathering donations
 - E.g. meetings; physical meetings are enforced, which are more costly
 - E.g. partnerships; strict/unclear restrictions for partnering with int'l organizations
 - E.g. regulation; no clear legal structure for receiving fin. support from gov't entities (E.g. MOE)
- Lack of independence to act hold gov't & private sector to account
- Discouragement due to lack of confidence & trust in where NGO distribution of funds
- Inaccurate perception of gov't entities towards NGOs/NPOs
 - Treats them as competition rather than enablers
 - No differentiation with private sector (E.g. both given same conditions during a bid)
- No clarity from gov't as to what it expects from academia, think-tanks, & NGOs, making it harder for these institutes to contribute
- Absence of a legal umbrella; dealing with legal issues requires coordination with several gov't institutes, where there is a high-level of bureaucracy

Key insights – Government support

- What **challenges** do you face at your org.?
- What **restrictions** do you face against the activities you would like to undertake?
- Do you consider **partnering** with other third sector orgs. to jointly address issues, and if no, why not?

- How can the **government support** in addressing those challenges?
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- What are your **views** on the range of government measures that are being considered (NGO center, regulations..)
- How can KSA build upon the temporary G20 groups (Y20, T20, C20) to facilitate permanent multi-stakeholder engagement?

- What **measures** are you considering to undertake in relation to the SDGs?
- How can you utilize your operations to **reach sub-national audiences**?

- Clear national direction, targets & indicators that will clarify the role of each org.
- Provide open access to timely data, preferably through a specialized platform
- Funding to enable move to sustainability in particular physical infrastructure
- Raise awareness about role & nature of third sector among all gov't entities
- More opportunities for coordination and cooperation with gov't entities
- Update regulation to incorporate new technologies such as online payments & online meetings
- Cater the conditions of bidding to gov't to the nature of NPOs
- Eliminate barriers for cooperation with international orgs / white-listing some orgs.
- Central platform that unifies all gov and non-gov stakeholders
- Leverage existing data to conduct nationwide gap analysis
- Regulatory reform; treat NGOs as independent institutions (individual ownership limited liability company) rather than private institutions – aim to follow global structures such as Switzerland's
- Appoint one central gov't body in charge of NGOs (currently there are joint efforts by MoC & MoHRSD)
- Allocate a gov't budget for NGO research
- Enforce mandatory sustainability research

“
The transformation we need requires us to acknowledge that everyone is a development actor
”
Amina Mohammed, UN Deputy Secretary-General

Third sector actors



Actionable next steps within 6-8 months:

- Raise SDG awareness within your organization and audience
- Seek participation in international networks (E.g. SDSN, GIZ Partners for Review)
- Collectively form a national knowledge exchange network / platform
- Initiate implementation at the local level



Assistant Deputyship for Sustainable Development Affairs



- Continue raising SDG awareness among ecosystem actors (gov't, private sector citizens..)
- Support the third sector network formation
- Establish platforms for formal third sector engagement in policy-making
- Encourage accountability / criticism

Thank you for your time!



For any questions, please reach out to malasfoor@mep.gov.sa



www.mep.gov.sa