



The Governance of Sustainable Development

Governance Records User's Guide

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Acknowledgements

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Introductory Note

In 2011, the Institut de la Francophonie pour le Développement durable (IFDD), a subsidiary organization of the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF), in partnership with Chair in eco-advising (Chaire en éco-conseil, Université du Québec à Chicoutimi), produced technical records (national profiles) that it assembled into a unique work describing the state of sustainable development governance in each of the member States and Governments.¹ Since then, new issues have emerged and, on September 27, 2015, the States adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, containing the 17 sustainable development goals (SGDs) and their 169 targets.

The 2011 initiative had two objectives:

1. To provide information on the status of sustainable development governance in the member States of the Francophonie, as well as in non-Francophonie countries;
2. To create a database allowing each to document their own path in sustainable development governance and to see themselves in relation to the others.

The completion of the work that resulted from the compilation of the sustainable development governance records was of remarkable assistance to the OIF in its work on Rio+20. It allowed each of the Francophonie's member States and Governments to see itself in terms of its peers and to measure the remaining path to the optimal situation. It is

¹ http://www.ifdd.francophonie.org/ressources/livre_gouvernance_rapport/index.html#/22/

intended to provide the institutional memory that can measure progress, decide on the actions required, and become a place where information and experience are shared. It is intended to become a powerful tool for partners in development, the OIF specifically, allowing them to be able to define the nature and the level of their activities in a given area, and to mobilize the resources needed to help countries to structure or strengthen their approach.

Paragraph 4 of the *Plan of Implementation of the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development* states: “Good governance within each country and at the international level is essential for sustainable development. At the domestic level, sound environmental, social and economic policies, democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people, the rule of law, anti-corruption measures, gender equality and an enabling environment for investment are the basis for sustainable development.” These factors were reaffirmed in the drafting of the SDGs and their targets. They also constitute the governance criteria to be considered when developing the standard records from which the national profiles will be derived.

It is important to emphasize that the descriptive records do not focus on the state of development of the States involved, but rather on objective parameters illustrating the kind of sustainable development governance that the States have put in place. The intent is clearly not to require conformity to a single governance model. Each State must come to terms with its own reality.

Governance of Sustainable Development

As in the first edition, the study of the governance of sustainable development will limit its scope to national governance, at the level of States and national governments.

Since the publication of the 1987 Brundtland Report, which provided a universal definition of the concept of sustainable development, a host of definitions and interpretations have appeared. This is explained by the interest and willingness of

organizations to embrace the concept and tailor it to their own realities. The Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) has defined sustainable development as [translation] *an initiative designed to continuously improve its citizens' quality of life by focusing on the inseparable nature of the environmental, social, economic and cultural aspects of development in a context of intra- and inter-generational equity*".² As a result, in addition to recognizing the three universal pillars of sustainable development, the OIF vision stresses the preservation of cultural and linguistic diversity, the preservation of democracy, the rule of law, and human rights.

In general, sustainable development should:

- Maintain or improve the quality of the given surroundings;
- Work towards the renewability of resources;
- Add value in order to partly address a population's material needs;
- Work to narrow the gap between the world's most and least fortunate;
- Help to enhance the self-sufficiency of communities;
- Facilitate the transfer of knowledge and wealth (including natural wealth) from one generation to the next;
- Work towards a long-term demographic equilibrium between regions, allowing optimal occupation of territories in order to enhance community services and quality of life.³

In turn, sustainable development governance is defined as [translation] "a consensus-based decision-making process that, in a responsible way, involves individuals or populations affected by sustainable development policies and action plans. The goal of governance is to reach decisions that are acceptable to the majority to the extent possible and that are designed for the greater good."⁴ Governance is demonstrated in the condition of a nation's institutional framework, the interaction with sub- and supra-national levels,

² Stratégie nationale de développement durable Guide d'élaboration d'une SNDD, Collection Points de Repère, les publications de l'IEPF, éditions MultiMondes, 2007 (http://www.iepf.org/docs/SNDD/SNDD_guide_8.pdf)

³ Villeneuve, C., 1999, last revision 2016, Comment réaliser une analyse de développement durable ?, Département des sciences fondamentales, Université du Québec à Chicoutimi.

⁴ Dictionnaire du développement durable, Collection Points de Repère, les publications de l'IEPF, éditions MultiMondes, 2004 (<http://www.iepf.org/ressources/ressources-pub-desc.php?id=207>).

the involvement of stakeholders, monitoring and on-going evaluation,⁵ as well as building capacity among the stakeholders. The records are built around these factors, and are intended to provide a synthesis of the status of the sustainable development governance (a national profile) in each of the member States and Governments of the Francophonie.

In July 2017 the tool was included in the UN Sustainability Acceleration Toolkit after selection by a scientific committee. Therefore it was translated in English to offer a larger diffusion for those countries interested to assess their sustainable development governance status outside the Francophonie.

The structure of a model record

At the OIF's request, the Chaire en éco-conseil at the Université du Québec à Chicoutimi (UQAC) has developed a model record, formatted for compilers to follow in describing the current status of sustainable development governance. It is based on the Johannesburg Declaration⁶ and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The format is presented after this note. The model record describes the criteria for sustainable development governance (a national institutional framework, strategic coordination, the interaction with sub- and supra-national levels, the involvement of stakeholders, monitoring and on-going evaluation, and building capacity among the stakeholders.) These criteria are characterized in the records by considering the diverse analysis factors that paint a portrait of the sustainable development governance in a given country.

However, with the criteria assessing the sustainable development governance being essentially the same for all States or Governments, the components of the framework presenting the governance status are likely to be similar from one record to the next. What will make the difference in the assessment is the information that each state and government provide for each component and the priorities given to any of the governance

⁵IEPF, in collaboration with Unisféra, 2010, Évaluation participative des cadres institutionnels pour une gouvernance optimale du développement durable dans l'espace francophone, Ouagadougou.

⁶http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/WSSD_POI_PD/English/POI_PD.htm

criteria.

The 2011 records were completed by the analysts at the Chaire en éco-conseil de l'UQAC, based on a number of references available online or in the literature. For the 2017 version, the record is to be updated by identifying the aspects that have changed (such as a new version of the NSSD, new legislation, a change in the responsible ministry, peer review, and so on). Members of OIF are invited to pre-validate the records, which will be followed by an internal verification by the leaders of the Chaire. The records will then be forwarded to the IFDD, which will conduct an official assessment at governmental level, prior to cross-analysis and publication in a directory of the records of all francophone countries. Other users of the record, non-members of OIF are invited to contact the Chaire en éco-conseil for appropriate supervision if needed.

The model record, indicating which content should appear in each section of the governance records, appears below.

How to make your comments and corrections (For OIF members only)

We are asking you to read the record attached and to point out errors or missing information corresponding to the fields of the model record below. Ideally, the corrections or changes should be made electronically, directly on the record, using “track changes”.

Feel free to tell us about your observations and corrections, and indicate the sources that will allow us to modify the text. Please enter your name and contact information in the space provided before the References section.

Please acknowledge receipt of this correspondence. If you do not feel able to return your comments to us in two weeks, please advise us of the time you would like to have in order to do so.

For questions and additional information, please contact:

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Model Record

National Profile Record – Updating Governance of Sustainable Development National Profile

I. Overview of member country or government

COUNTRY*	
Continent	
Geographic sub-region	
Area (km²)	
Population	
Population Density (inhabitants/km²)	
Population growth rate	
Human Development Index	
GDP/inhabitant	
Ecological footprint (overall hectares/inhabitant)	
GHG emissions/country	
Percentage of protected areas	
Gini coefficient	

* Add the country's flag or emblem in the "Country" field

List of acronyms

ECOWAS:	Economic Community of West African States
EU:	European Union
IFDD:	Institut de la Francophonie pour le développement durable
INDCs	Intended Nationally Determined Contributions
IOF:	International Organisation of la Francophonie
NGO:	Non-Governmental Organization
NSDP	National Sustainable Development Plan
NSDS:	National Sustainable Development Strategy
PDD-H2030 (2030 Agenda):	The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
PRS:	Poverty Reduction Strategy
SD:	Sustainable Development
SDG:	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS:	Small Island Developing States
UN:	United Nations

Main reference documents and links

Which main national documents: policies (strategies, programs or projects (PSPP)) are used as references for the sections of the document? They may include the National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS), the Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS), sectoral policies, strategies, programs or projects (Energy Policies, Climate Change Action Plan, and so on). When these are explicitly linked to the 2030 Agenda, mark them in bold.

II. Current State of Sustainable Development Governance

1. National institutional framework

1.1 Long-term Vision

What, if any, is the sustainable development vision that is explicitly stated in a national document (such as the Constitution, NSDP, NSDS, PRS or legislation)? How does the vision correspond to the 2030 Agenda? How does the vision bring together the three SD pillars (economic, social and environmental), address the concerns of present and future generations, and prioritize the improvement of the quality of life of the least fortunate?

1.2 Accommodating sustainable development principles

What, if any, are the sustainable development principles that are explicitly stated in a national document (such as the Constitution, NSDP, NSDS, PRS or legislation)? Do the SD principles reflect a national expression of the 27 principles of the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development? Do they establish a harmonized framework and a common SD culture?

1.3 Legal expression of the approach to sustainable development

Which legal documents, if any, (such as the Constitution, legislation or decree(s)) express the approach to SD? What is the wording of those documents? To what extent do those documents define the process and responsibilities, and set out clear accountability mechanisms?

1.4 Adopting a NSDP or equivalent

Has the member State or Government adopted an NSDP, NSDS or equivalent (such as an PRS, an SD policy or plan, or any other planning document recognized as the document that contains the national SD document)?

1.5 Analyzing and incorporating existing sectoral plans into a NSDP or equivalent

In what respect, if any, do the directions, the objectives and the commitments of the NSDP or equivalent accommodate other already-existing strategies or sectoral plans (such as international agreements on biodiversity, climate change, desertification) or other national action plans dealing with, for example, human rights, health, gender equality, social exclusion, access to education, energy, tourism and agriculture?

1.6 Budget to support the implementation of the approach to sustainable development

Has the member State or Government established a budget so that its NSDP can be implemented?

1.7 Mobilization of the national resources in the implementation of the NSDP or its equivalent

If necessary, indicate if ensuring the implementation of the NSDP or its equivalent is based on the existing national resources and not on external assistance. Does not apply to developed countries.

1.8 Greenhouse gas reduction target

Indicate whether or not the country has an emissions reduction target as part of the Paris Agreement or INDCs. On which date was the Paris Agreement ratified?

1.9 Tools required to develop and to implement the NSDP or equivalent

Are tools needed for the transition to or adoption of a NSDP being used, developed or planned? How are those tools used to integrate the SDGs and their targets into national planning (such as tables, guides, accompanying documentation, awareness tools, and participatory processes)? Indicate whether the country has a database adapted to SD or SDG, or is it planning to implement it?

1.10 The role of government departments and agencies in implementing the NSDP or equivalent

To what extent, if any, do government departments and public agencies help to implement the NSDP within their organizations (such as departmental plans or strategies for sustainable development)? Does a statute or a government decree require the NSDP or equivalent to be applied in the departments or organizations?

2. Strategic Coordination

2.1 Level of acceptance of the approach to SD within the government

Which institution, if any, takes the lead on or coordinates the national approach to SD? Indicate and specify for the institution in charge of SD how it fits in the national decision-making process.

2.2 Institutional and multisectoral coordination mechanism

Indicate how the national approach to SD is coordinated; how does the lead organization coordinate the implementation of the NSDP or equivalent: who does what?

2.3 Tools to help with government decision-making

Which tools, if any, are used to help with sound decision-making within the NSDP? Which tools, approaches and/or methods are used to ensure integrated action in national planning for SD and/or the SDGs and their targets (such as tables, guides, modelling)?

2.4 Accommodating SDG themes in national planning

Indicate whether the elements below are accommodated in the NSDP or equivalent and specify the key indicators targets, values and year.

ODD	Accommodated	Not accommodated	Does not apply ⁷	Priority if any	Priority indicator 1		Priority indicator 2	
					N° Target	Value and year	N° Target	Value and year
1. No poverty								
2.1 Zero hunger								
2.2 Food security								
2.3 Nutrition								
2.4 Sustainable agriculture								
3. Good health and well-being								
4. Education								
5. Gender equality								
6.1 Availability of and access to water								
6.2 Sanitation services								

⁷ Certains thèmes peuvent ne pas s'appliquer. Exemple, un pays enclavé pourrait ne pas considérer les thèmes portant sur les océans, les mers et les ressources marines parce qu'ils ne les concernent pas.

6.3 Sustainable water management								
7.1 Access to energy								
7.2 Access to sustainable energy								
7.3 Access to affordable energy								
8.1 Decent work								
8.2 Economic growth								
9.1 Resilient infrastructure								
9.2 Sustainable industrialization								
9.3 Innovation								
10. Reduce inequalities								
11.1 Inclusive and safe cities and human settlements								
11.2 Resilient and sustainable cities and human settlements								
12. Responsible consumption and production								
13.1 Combat climate change								
13.2 Adapt to climate change								
14.1 Conserve and sustainably use oceans and seas								
14.2 Conserve and sustainably use marine resources								
15.1 Terrestrial ecosystems								
15.2 Desertification								
15.3 Biodiversity								
16.1 Justice								
16.2 Effective institutions								
17. Partnerships								

2.5 Mobilizing national resources in order to implement the NSDP or equivalent

Indicate whether the leadership for the implementation of the NSDP or equivalent is based on existing national resources, not on assistance from outside. This does not apply to developed countries.

3. Interaction with sub- and supra-national levels

3.1 National knowledge- and experience-sharing networks

To what extent, if any, are sharing and exchanges organized between the government and other national participants? For example, exchange structures between departments and with regional and municipal institutions.

3.2 Use of operational tools by local participants

To what extent, if any, are national participants involved in operationalizing the NSDP or equivalent? To what extent do they have access to tools to help them carry out those tasks?

3.3 Local action on SDGs

To what extent, if any, are SDGs being applied at local level? Which processes are planned in the NSDP or equivalent to consider the background, the challenges, the opportunities and the sub-national governments in bringing the 2030 Agenda together with local development? If appropriate, indicate the measures in the NSDP or equivalent that address the six major issues in local action on SDGs: i) accommodating SDGs ii) strategic planning of local development; iii) strengthening capacity at local level; iv) implementation; v) monitoring and evaluation, and iv) local governance and economic development.

3.4 Process to implement the 2030 Agenda

Has the country submitted a report to the HLPF as part of the 2030 Agenda? Does the country plan on doing so within a specific time?

How is the country working to accommodate the SDGs nationally? Identify the mechanisms used, if any.

How does the process of implementing the SDGs correspond to the three pillars of SD (economic, social and environmental)?

Was a process used to prioritize the targets? How was it done? When was it done?
Are there plans for a review mechanism for these priorities?

Which, if any, of the 169 targets has the country set as priorities? What progress has been made in implementing them, what difficulties have been encountered, and what steps are taken or planned in order to deal with them?

Has the country conducted an analysis of the progress made in conjunction with the year's High-Level Political Forum (HLPF)?

3.5 Sharing experiences internationally

Identify existing exchange mechanisms between the country and international institutions (regional and global), if any.

Does the country cooperate or share experiences with other countries or international organizations on operationalizing its NSDP (such as with countries of the sub-region or other members of la Francophonie)?

3.6 Coming together around common regional strategies

Is the country a member of one or more intergovernmental institutions (such as ECOWAS, EU, OIF and SIDS)?

4. Accommodating stakeholders

4.1 Participatory democratic processes already in place or being implemented

If applicable, indicate how, according to the approach to the NSDP or equivalent, stakeholders are involved in the operationalization process. What tools do national stakeholders have at their disposal to express their views on the NSDP being operationalized?

4.2 Consultations and partnership with civil society stakeholders

If applicable, indicate how dialogue is conducted between institutional partners at all levels and civil society. Are multi-stakeholder consultation mechanisms in place (roundtables, committees, and so on.)? Indicate whether the consultations are local, regional, provincial and/or national.

4.3 Consultations and partnership with private sector stakeholders

If applicable, indicate how the exchanges take place between economic leaders and private sector actors? Specify the mechanisms for multi-stakeholder consultation in place (roundtables, committees, commissions, and so on)? Indicate whether the consultations are local, regional, provincial and / or national.

4.4 Participatory and transparent approach, and the involvement of major groups (as defined in the Rio Agenda 21) in decision-making

Indicate whether each of the nine major groups identified in Agenda 21 are involved in operationalizing the NSDP.

Groups	Included	Not included
Women		
Youth		
Indigenous peoples*		
NGOs		
Local authorities		
Workers and trade unions		
Business and industry		
Science and technology community		
Farmers		
Parliamentarians		
Other (if applicable)		

* To be taken as defined in Agenda 21

5. Monitoring and ongoing evaluation

5.1 Sustainable development management, monitoring and evaluation mechanism

If applicable, indicate how the activities of the NSDP or equivalent are monitored. Who leads the monitoring mechanism? Indicate whether the stakeholders are involved and, if so, how.

5.2 Monitoring and evaluation indicator system

If applicable, indicate how sustainable development indicators are integrated. Is there another system of sustainable development indicators that helps measure whether the sustainable development goals have been achieved? If so, please describe it. Does the indicator system cover all the SDGs? Is it part of a long-term vision?

5.3 Review mechanism for the NSDP or equivalent

If applicable, describe the review mechanism for the NSDP or equivalent and its frequency. Indicate the NSDP review processes.

5.4 Peer review process

If applicable, indicate whether the member State or Government has conducted, or is committed to conducting, a peer review of its NSDP or equivalent.

5.5 Periodic progress reports

If applicable, indicate whether the SD approach includes progress reports. If so, indicate the frequency, who is responsible for them and who receives and evaluates the reports. In addition, indicate whether review mechanisms correspond to the progress reports.

5.6 Internal accountability mechanism

If applicable, describe the accountability mechanisms for the NSDP or equivalent (such as frequency, target audience, person responsible).

6. Capacity-building for authorities and stakeholders

6.1 Skills training needs assessment

If appropriate, indicate the mechanisms to assess available skills and/or the additional skills needed to operationalize the NSDP or equivalent.

6.2 Planning mechanism for capacity-building

If appropriate, indicate the capacity-building mechanisms (knowledge development, financial, material and institutional resources) for stakeholders in implementing the NSDP or equivalent.

6.3 Outreach, communication for SD and stakeholder ownership

If appropriate, indicate the outreach, education and communication mechanisms in the NSDP or equivalent, and state who the outreach is for and its objectives.

Contact information

Please indicate:

- 1) the surname and first name of the person (s) who filled out the country card;
- 2) their functional e-mails;
- 3) their attachment structures

Bibliography

Please refer to all other documents used other than those listed in point 1 of the form.

Model Record - Template

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I. Overview of member country or government

COUNTRY*	
Continent	
Geographic sub-region	
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Population Density (inhabitants/km²)	
Population growth rate	
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GDP/inhabitant	
Ecological footprint (overall hectares/inhabitant)	
GHG emissions/country	
Percentage of protected areas	
Gini coefficient	

* Add the country's flag or emblem in the "Country" field

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NSDS:	National Sustainable Development Strategy
PDD-H2030 (2030 Agenda):	The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
PRS:	Poverty Reduction Strategy
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SDG:	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS:	Small Island Developing States
UN:	United Nations

Main reference documents and links

II. Current State of Sustainable Development Governance

1. National institutional framework

1.1 Long-term Vision

1.2 Accommodating sustainable development principles

1.3 Legal expression of the approach to sustainable development

1.4 Adopting a NSDP or equivalent

1.5 Analyzing and incorporating existing sectoral plans into a NSDP or equivalent

1.6 Budget to support the implementation of the approach to sustainable development

1.7 Mobilization of the national resources in the implementation of the NSDP or its equivalent

1.8 Greenhouse gas reduction target

1.9 Tools required to develop and to implement the NSDP or equivalent

1.10 The role of government departments and agencies in implementing the NSDP or equivalent

2. Strategic Coordination

2.1 Level of acceptance of the approach to SD within the government

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6. Good health and well-being								
7. Education								
8. Gender equality								
6.4 Availability of and access to water								
6.5 Sanitation services								
6.6 Sustainable water management								
7.4 Access to energy								
7.5 Access to sustainable energy								

7.6 Access to affordable energy								
8.3 Decent work								
8.4 Economic growth								
9.4 Resilient infrastructure								
9.5 Sustainable industrialization								
9.6 Innovation								
10. Reduce inequalities								
11.1 Inclusive and safe cities and human settlements								
11.2 Resilient and sustainable cities and human settlements								
12. Responsible consumption and production								
13.1 Combat climate change								
13.2 Adapt to climate change								
14.1 Conserve and sustainably use oceans and seas								
14.2 Conserve and sustainably use marine resources								
15.1 Terrestrial ecosystems								
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16.1 Justice								
16.2 Effective institutions								
17. Partnerships								

2.5 Mobilizing national resources in order to implement the NSDP or equivalent

3. Interaction with sub- and supra-national levels

3.1 National knowledge- and experience-sharing networks

3.2 Use of operational tools by local participants

3.3 Local action on SDGs

3.4 Process to implement the 2030 Agenda

3.5 Sharing experiences internationally

3.6 Coming together around common regional strategies

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4.1 Participatory democratic processes already in place or being implemented

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Parliamentarians		
Other (if applicable)		

* To be taken as defined in Agenda 21

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5.6 Internal accountability mechanism

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6.1 Skills training needs assessment

6.2 Planning mechanism for capacity-building

6.3 Outreach, communication for SD and stakeholder ownership

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