



**VOLUNTARY
LOCAL
REVIEWS**



How Voluntary Local Reviews Contribute to Voluntary National Reviews: Ghana's Case

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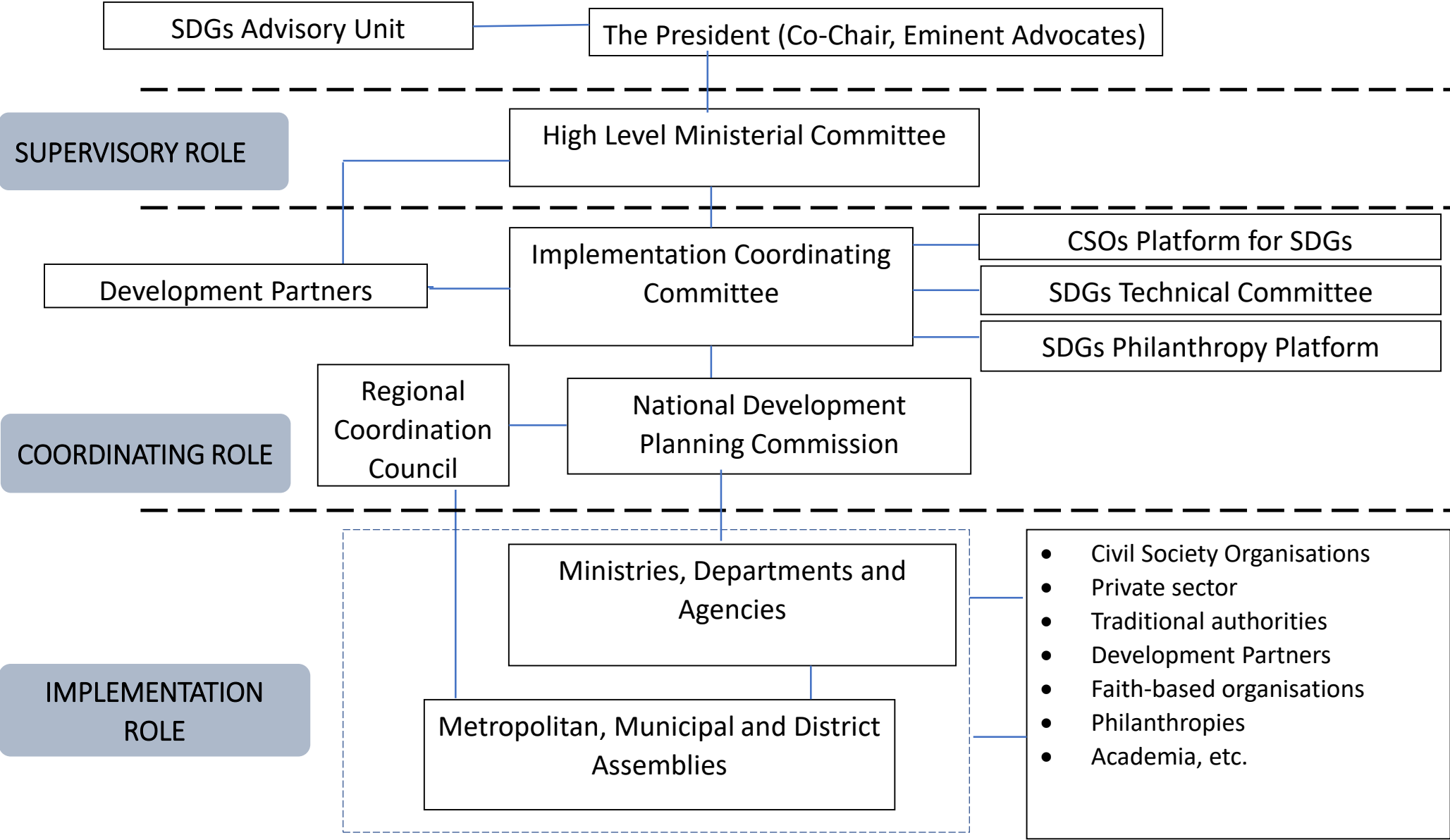
Outline

- 01** | **SDG Implementation Arrangement**
- 02** | **Importance of VLR to Ghana**
- 03** | **VLR Value Addition to VNR**
- 04** | **Way Forward**



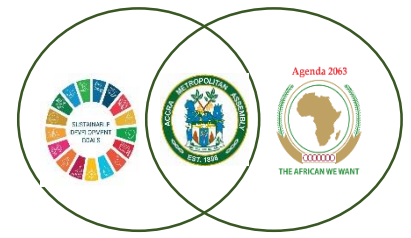
- ❖ Whole Society and Whole Government approach
- ❖ Implementation is primarily through Ghana's Planning System - *Decentralized Planning System*

SDGs implementation Architecture



Monitoring Progress on Ghana's SDG Implementation

1. SDG Indicator Baseline Report
2. Ghana's Maiden (2019) Voluntary National Review Report
3. Ghana's 2022 VNR Report
4. 2020 SDG Progress Report
5. 2022 Rapid Assessment Report
6. 2019; 2020 and 2023 SDG Budget Tracking Reports

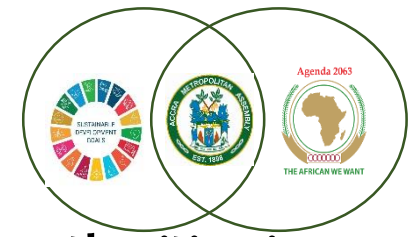


Voluntary Local Review (VLR)

- NYC launched VLR Declaration in September 2019 for local and regional governments worldwide to formally commit to reporting on the SDGs
- 22 cities including three African cities (Accra, Free Town and Cape Town) signed up to a Voluntary Local Review
- Cities pledged to use the framework of the SDGs to help end extreme poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and work to prevent the harmful effects of climate change by 2030



Importance of VLR to MMDAs



In recognition of the important role of local authorities, in attaining the SDGs it is crucial to support sub-national authorities to conduct voluntary local reviews (VLRs) of their adaptation and implementation

- ECA supported AMA VLR to produce its maiden VLR in 2020
- The report would serve as SDG/Agenda 2063 reporting standard for subsequent reports
- Leverage on experience to build other MMDAs capacity to develop their reports in the future

In Africa, city, municipal, district or regional governments are uniquely placed to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063



How Important are the VLRs?



Ghana's Voluntary Local Review

- Promote ownership of the SDGs at the local level
- Strengthen reporting systems
- Promote inclusivity by bridging gap the national and local reporting
- Promotes data disaggregation and analysis for better appreciation of SDG progress
- Promote peer learning across MMDAs
- It can identify accelerators and specific areas of support for the SDGs
- Strengthen resource mobilization etc.



Scaling Up VLR Preparation

1. Maiden VLR prepared in 2020 – Accra Metropolitan Assembly
2. NDPC to garner support for more Districts to prepare their VLRS
3. 9 Districts currently preparing their VLRS – Engagement Global gGmbH through German Institute of Urban Affairs
4. 10 Districts officially communicated their interest for support –UN DESA considering building capacity
5. UN Habitat considering to support 10 Districts

Institutionalization of VLR Preparation

- Preparation of Voluntary Local Review Guidelines
- Employment of decentralized planning system
- District –led process use of policy and M&E processes
- VLRS to be integrated into VNR processes

The Future of VNRs...



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1. Improving the VNR process - *Using Whole Society Approach*
2. Ownership
3. Improved data – Data disaggregation
4. Increase reportage on case studies – ongoing development interventions
5. LNOB
6. Comprehensiveness and quality of reporting
7. Assess likelihood of achieving SDGs to inform strategies for acceleration



Thank you for your attention!



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