



Sultanate of Oman
Supreme Council for Planning



National committee for achieving
sustainable development Goals

Sultanate of Oman
Main Messages
Voluntary National Review
United Nations, Economic and Social Council
High-Level Political Forum
May 2019



**Moving Forward
Whith Confidence**

Introduction

The spirit of sustainability has been one of the most important pillars of the successive Visions and Five-Year Development Plans in the Sultanate of Oman since the beginning of the 1970s.. The Sultanate has been an active partner in all of the international and regional forums and deliberations that resulted in the Declaration of Sustainable Development Goals in September 2015. Since then, the Sultanate has sought to translate its international commitment to achieve these goals by 2030 through the creation of long-term strategies, as well as medium- and short-term plans and programs. The Sultanate's keenness to achieve the goals and targets set by the Sustainable Development Agenda is a natural extension of the values and principles of sustainability, equality, justice, peace, participation, and leaving no one behind; these are all firm foundations of the Omani society since its inception. This is also clearly reflected in the state statute provisions and in the speeches of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said, which have always been a framework for all development plans and programs in the Sultanate. For the purpose of this review,

The Sultanate has identified a number of Main Messages highlighted in the following:

1 Integrating sustainable development goals into national development plans

- ▶ The Government of the Sultanate has endeavored to integrate the dimensions and objectives of sustainable development into the development strategies and budget allocation plans to achieve them in the medium and long term. In this context, the goals and objectives of the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 have become a major component of the Oman 2040 Vision.

2 Developing the necessary institutional mechanisms to implement the objectives of sustainable development

▶ The Sultanate strives to develop the strategies and policies that are necessary to achieve sustainable development goals. In order to ensure the successful implementation of these strategies and policies, the National Committee for Achieving Sustainable Development Goals was formed. It is a high-level committee comprising of members from the ministries, concerned governmental bodies, the Council of Oman, the private sector and civil society institutions who have been tasked with many responsibilities, the most important of which is to monitor the integration of the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 objectives into the National Agenda, in addition to preparing annual follow-up reports on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

3 Public awareness and ownership of the SDGs

▶ In preparing its medium-term plan and long-term vision, the Sultanate has relied on extensive community participation at the national and local levels. Several workshops, discussions and dialogue sessions were held with various development partners to ensure community ownership of the development agenda. One of the most important initiatives adopted by the Sultanate is the "All Oman" initiative, which provides an opportunity for all segments of society to participate in setting priorities and future community aspirations in preparing the Oman 2040 Vision document.



4 A system to monitor and evaluate SDG indicators

▶ The Sultanate has developed an integrated system for monitoring and evaluating SDG indicators, which is a methodology for evaluating progress to ensure that targets are met and that decision makers are provided with targeted and verified implementation rates.

The National Dashboards were designed to measure SDG indicators, whereas nearly 100 indicators were measured at the national level. The results of the measurement clearly showed positive progress of the Sultanate in many indicators

5 More efforts to meet challenges until 2030

▶ There are a number of issues that the Sultanate attaches major importance to. One issue regards financial challenges, which have led the Sultanate to begin shifting towards the implementation of program-based budgeting that determines the direct relationship between the national priorities and their allocated budgets. A quality budget allocation is as important as securing funding.

The Sultanate is also making strong efforts to develop the technology and readiness of the Fourth Industrial Revolution by harnessing it to achieve the goals of sustainable development, especially in the fields of creating new jobs and absorbing new entrants into the labor market.

The Government of the Sultanate strongly believes in the principle of not leaving anyone behind. In this regard, special attention has been given to the development and promotion of the role of governorates and local communities in order to achieve balanced growth and development for citizens throughout the country.

The Sultanate places the issue of providing data at the top of the National Priorities to achieve the Sustainable Development Agenda. It has therefore begun to build a combined, electronically integrated and continuously-updated statistical information system. Plans have been made for the implementation of censuses and field surveys to provide for the indicators required by 2030.

Conclusion

The voluntary national report has affirmed that the Sultanate of Oman is committed to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in all three dimensions - economic, social and environmental - within the specified time frame. In spite of the challenges that cannot be underestimated, the Sultanate is moving in a positive direction towards achieving these goals especially by capitalizing on positive foreign relations within its Arab, regional and international environments. This is reinforced by broad community participation in the design, implementation and evaluation of plans, policies and programs in order to meet specified challenges and achieve the desired objectives.





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