

CSO Collaborative Statement for the VNR of Norway

Thank you madam/mister moderator,

This statement was prepared by representatives of Norwegian civil society organisations with input by more than 80 Norwegian CSOs.

We are very happy that the Norwegian Government included civil society in the official VNR report. The involvement shows a commitment to engaging civil society and other stakeholders in achieving the 2030 Agenda.

We commend the inclusion of several of the challenges Norway faces in meeting the SDGs in the official report. These challenges include negative spillover effects and policy coherence for sustainable development, as well as the lack of disaggregated data and the limitation present statistics represent regarding minorities and other ethnicities.

The invisibility in the present statistics reflect the lack of data about the Saami people. This will increase the gap between the Saami population and the majority population. Better statistics would help inform decision-making to support the Saami people in Norway to achieve the SDGs.

The VNR report shows that Norway scores lower than other countries on the spillover indicators, due to challenges in SDG 12 responsible consumption and production, SDG 13 climate action, as well as export of weapons, related to SDG 16. Civil society makes several calls for better policy coherence for sustainable development in the VNR to ensure that Norway meets the SDG both domestically and globally without negative effects on other countries.

Question:

- How will the Norwegian government follow up the negative spillover effects highlighted in the VNR report going forward? What are the means of implementation for achieving policy coherence for sustainable development and tackle the negative spillover effects?
- How will the government ensure better statistics and disaggregated data regarding ethnic minorities and indigenous peoples?