

MGOS RESPONSE AND QUESTIONS FROM THE CSOs IN THE GAMBIA TO THE VNR OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GAMBIA

Young people of the Gambia noted that the SDGs are mainstreamed and aligned to the national development plan, institutional arrangements for coordination are put in place but the overall coordination especially at the local level is weak. With a population of less than 2 million people, the SDGs are not well known to the youth population and the general public in the country.

Equally, the participation of young people and other stakeholders in the drafting of the Gambia's VNR was low, same for the contribution of the youth and CSOs to the implementation and alignment of their interventions to the SDGs. CSO involvement in Data Collection is also weak.

To achieve the SDGs, there is an urgent need of awareness raising about SDGs, collaboration and mobilization of both state and non-state actors, especially at the local level.

What plan does the Government have to increase the active participation of youth and other stakeholders and ensure they are adequately strengthened, better resourced and well coordinated?

Additionally, to bridge the data gap and ensure the reliable and up-to-date data is available to realise the implementation of SDGs in the country, how can the civil actors support the Government in this effort?