

The Tanzanian VNR report openly acknowledges the Government Efforts on improving the Lives of Citizens and adopting a 'Whole of Society' approach to achieving the SDGs.

We agree that processes and structures for implementing the SDGs must be inclusive. This means ensuring the voices of all marginalised groups, such as women, people with disabilities and older people are meaningfully considered in policy making, implementation, follow-up and review. Though the Government has engaged with some civil society actors, its approach can not yet be considered inclusive nor representative of the 'whole of society'.

All governments must act to challenge negative social norms and reform discriminatory laws and institutions. Public policies must be aligned with human rights principles and national institutions, social protection measures, basic services and infrastructure should be accessible to people of all ages. While some groups are acknowledged within the VNR report, there is an exclusion of others which needs to be addressed, such as those in the Sexual Minority and Key and Vulnerable populations.

Without a truly collaborative approach and the inclusion of all sectors of society, the data suffers. Accurate information is the foundation upon which a better future for all can be built. As highlighted in the 2018 UN Sustainable Development Goals Report, there is an urgent need for reliable, accessible and timely data.

I would like to ask three questions:

1. Agenda 2030 is based on multi-stakeholder efforts and the interlinkages between SDGs which implies that data sources tracking progress should not be one-sided. Methodologies developed and piloted by CSO's can complement official statistics. In order to leave no one behind, would you consider strengthening civil society organisation inclusion and participation in your official reporting? If so, how?
2. How will you address the diminishing civil liberties affecting Tanzanians and civil society organisations?
3. How will you ensure that all groups, including Sexual Minority and Key and Vulnerable populations, will have access to all services and infrastructure and are included in your 'Whole of Society' approach?