

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

Having been a declarative plan for years, the SDGs in Uzbekistan became a real agenda recently due to Resolutions of the President and National strategies. In January 2020 the President addressed the Parliament emphasizing on the obligations of all ministries in reaching the SDGs and holding them accountable in front of the Parliament and Public Chamber, thus, showing a high political will in CSO engagement.

Despite the multi-stakeholder efforts of the government of Uzbekistan on achieving SDGs the engagement of the CSO into collaborative actions needs to be developed and the local financial support should also be increased.

The presented VNR exposes the considerable achievements of Uzbekistan in reaching SDGs, which was noted during the public discussion of the draft VNR with CSOs in May. The speakers highlighted the new challenges for the governments with the pandemic. Parallel to the government's progress, the CSOs of Uzbekistan express the concern that the pandemic throws us years back from achieving the targets. Challenges occurring with Healthcare triggers a domino effect on rights and inequality. The doors for CSOs should be opened to allow sharing best practices. The vast resources are being allocated for mitigating the impacts of COVID-19. CSOs should be envisaged as partners, not burden. It is vital to engage civil society to assess and monitor SDG implementation and foresee their partnership.

On behalf of the CSOs of Uzbekistan, allow me to express our readiness to take actions and ask how the mechanisms for interaction of CSOs with the government on Agenda 2030 implementation will be improved and whether the financial support is envisaged?