

The Regional Dimension of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda

Friends of Governance for Sustainable Development

Expert meeting – 12 December 2018

UN Regional Commissions



United Nations Regional Commissions New York Office

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How do ReCs support their member States in the implementation, follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda?

- **Think tanks** of the UN System in the 5 regions, providing policy advocacy and producing integrated research and analysis on a wide range of economic, social and environmental issues
- **Conveners** of multi-stakeholder and intergovernmental platforms, such as the Regional Forums on Sustainable Development, providing normative support and platforms for regional dialogue
- **Providers of advisory services, technical support and capacity building** in areas related to the 2030 Agenda by demand of member States



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The Regional Dimension in Support of the 2030 Agenda

Follow-up and Review of the 2030 Agenda

Regional Forums Preparatory Expert and Subregional Meetings

- Enhance awareness and understanding of the theme of the upcoming HLPF
- Identify ways to strengthen implementation efforts through follow up and review
- Opportunity for peer learning

RECs Intergovernmental Sectoral & Thematic Committees

- Regional Statistics Conferences
- Committees on regional and South – South Cooperation
- Regional Conferences on Science, Innovation & ICT
- Regional Meetings on FfD
- Regional Conferences on Population & Development
- Regional Conferences on Women
- Reg Conf. on Social Development
- Reg Councils for Development Planning
- Sub Reg. Economic Cooperation Committees

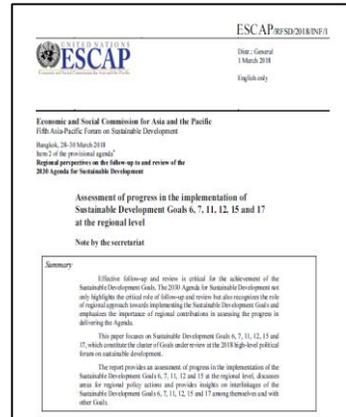
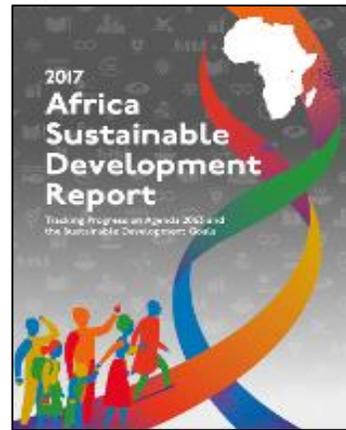
High Level Political Forum

Annual, inclusive and intergovernmental Regional Forums on Sustainable Development

Regional Progress Assessments of the 2030 Agenda, including the SDGs

VNR Support

- Support member states in the preparation of the VNR presentation and main messages



The Regional Dimension in Support of the 2030 Agenda



Regional Fora on Sustainable Development:
Dedicated regional intergovernmental platforms
with strong national ownership



Peer learning through
exchange of experiences
among countries of the
same region, notably
those preparing for the
high-level political forum
voluntary national
reviews



Regional progress
assessments of the
2030 Agenda,
including the
Sustainable
Development Goals



Regional perspectives
on the global theme
of high-level political
forum

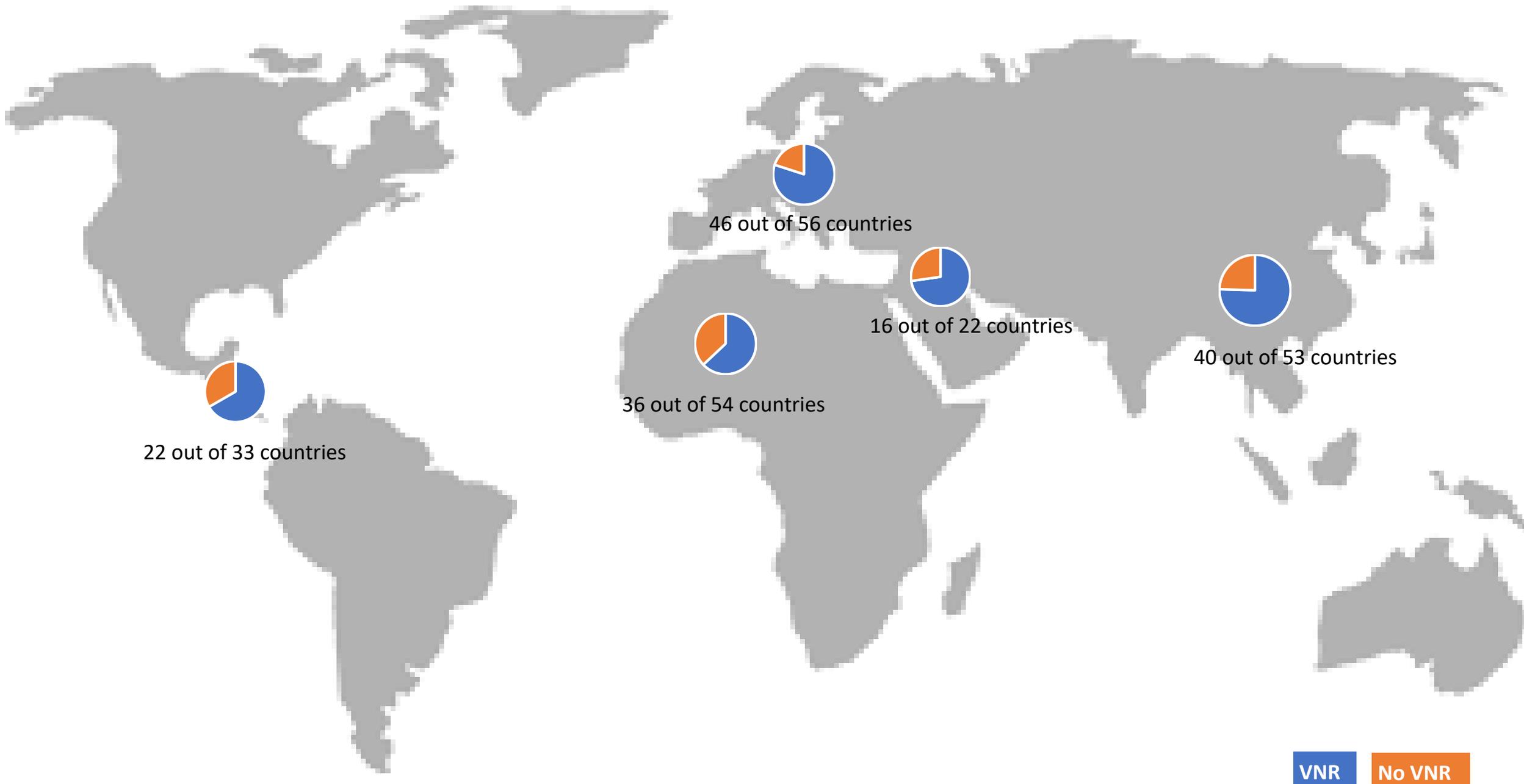


Addressing means of
implementation from
a cross-cutting
regional perspective



Partnerships with the
United Nations system
or with regional and
sub regional
organizations or other
stakeholders

How many countries have/are engaged in their VNR in the 2016-2019 HLPF cycle?



VNR

No VNR

Common challenges across regions

- Mainstreaming the SDGs into national plans/strategies/budgets;
- Data gap remains the biggest challenge: lack of data disaggregation, capacity building, need to develop enhanced methods for data collection, and use for establishing baseline monitoring and to support policy development. VNR reporting frequently done for issue that have data availability (ie environmental goals underreported)
- Highlighting interlinkages, synergies and trade-offs between SDGs in the VNRs is still limited
- Monitoring and evaluation, and assessing policy impact mostly absent in VNRs
- The VNR cycle is too short
- Engaging multiple stakeholders to ensure national ownership and inclusive participation; boost private sector and civil society engagement in the implementation of the SDGs

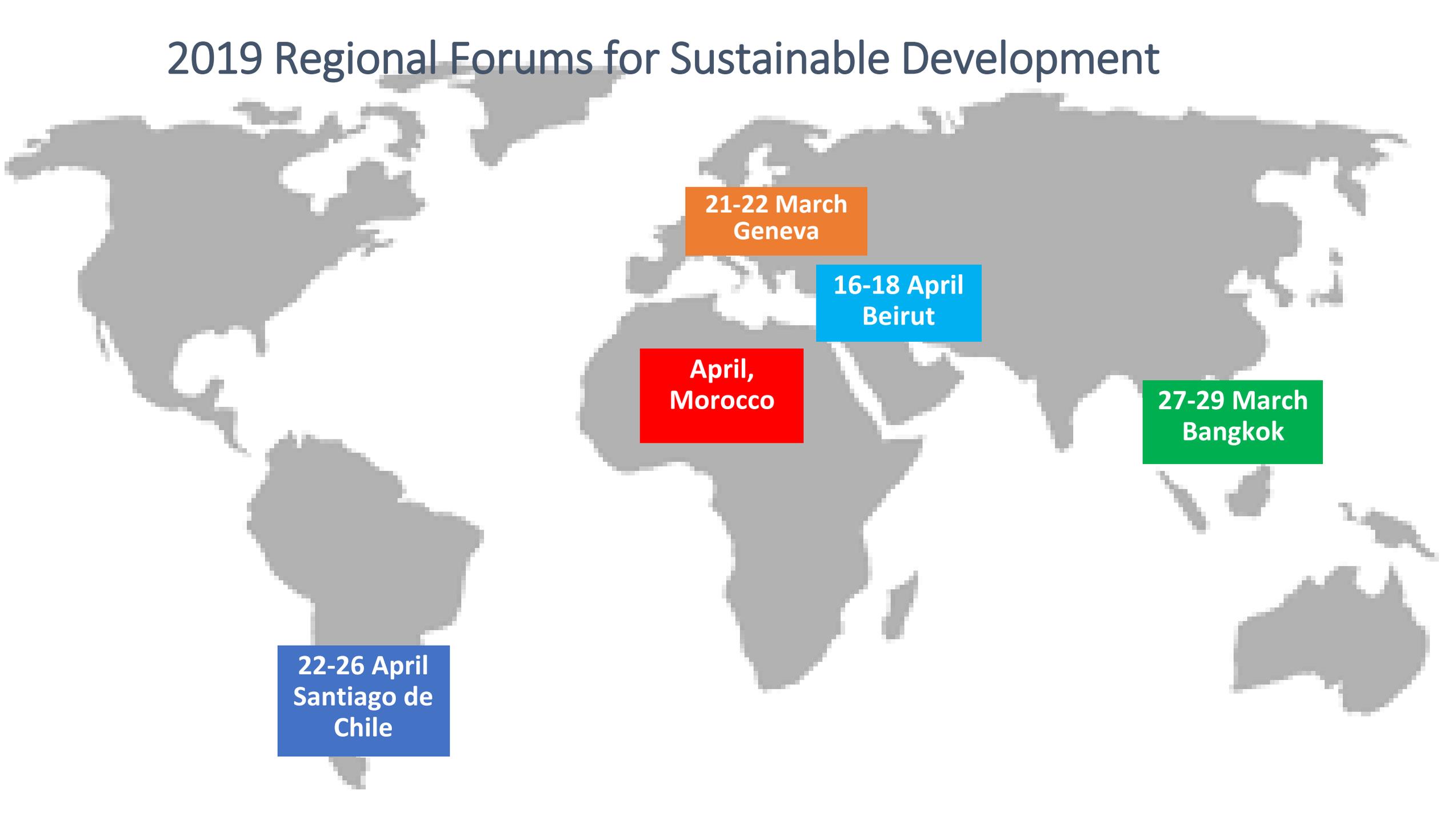


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2019 Regional Forums for Sustainable Development



22-26 April
Santiago de
Chile

21-22 March
Geneva

16-18 April
Beirut

April,
Morocco

27-29 March
Bangkok

Pillars for action and cooperation at regional level

- Inter-institutional and intersectoral architecture at the national, sub-national and local levels.
- Building the SDGs into development plans and budgets.
- Strengthening statistical capacities.
- Means of implementation: financing, technology, trade, accountability.
- Strengthening the regional architecture: observatories on gender equality, planning, energy.
- Spaces for dialogue between government, business and citizens, enhancing coordination with UN system, regional entities and development banks



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Final thoughts and way forward

What role can Regional Commissions play in taking forward the 2030 Agenda?

- **The national-regional nexus:** RFSDs as initial sounding platforms for VNRs, in-depth analysis of specific aspects, explore regional and sub-regional perspectives and solutions and promote regional and South-South cooperation.
- **Regional Progress Assessments of the 2030 Agenda:** data and integrated analysis on regional trends; building blocks for global SDGs report and global policy recommendations.
- **The regional-global nexus:** Regional perspectives on the global HLPF theme (s), leverage RFSD to build consensus narrative for Ministerial/Leaders' Declaration.
- **Mol:** Challenges and opportunities to mobilize Mol from a regional perspective.
- **Partnerships:** leveraging the collaboration with regional and subregional organizations, UNCTs, R/UNDGs, DESA and relevant UN entities.



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Thank you!



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