



Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Ministry of Economy



GENEVA CONFERENCE ON
AFGHANISTAN
27 – 28 November 2018



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Side Meeting

Afghanistan SDGs; Stakeholders, Potentials and Challenges

November 28, 2018 from 2:00 – 3:30 PM
(Room: 1)

Concept Note

Background

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs 2015-2030) represent a global agenda and 193 UN member states are committed to implementing this initiative. Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIROA) as an active UN member is persistently working to align all development priorities with 2030 Agenda.

The Ministry of Economy as the lead body on SDGs, has pursued a two phase strategy for their implementation. The first phase from 2016-2020 consists of adapting SDGs to Afghanistan context (called A-SDGs) and the second phase ending in 2030 follows their successful implementation. A diverse set of stakeholders participated in nationalizing SDGs, including government agencies, civil society organizations, the private sector, academia and international development partners.

The Geneva ministerial conference on Afghanistan is a timely opportunity for discussing achievements, potentials and challenges in implementing the SDGs. In order to make the SDGs a success, Afghanistan would require continued international technical and financial support. Through this meeting we hope to discuss effective ways of close cooperation and partnership for the SDGs in Afghanistan.

Side Meeting Objectives

To explore participants view points on best practices and to discuss Afghanistan's experience with SDGs implementation regarding the following topics:

- A-SDGs in two phases (2016-2020 and 2021-2030)
- Private sector and stakeholders engagement for A-SDGs attainment
- Prioritization of A-SDGs
- Pioneering entities for A-SDGs
- Role of ODA in achieving A-SDGs

- A-SDGs as driver of social cohesion
- Systemic and integrated approach to A-SDGs
- A-SDGs Challenges

Expected Outcomes

- A clear understanding of the progresses made in the two phase implementation of A-SDGs and their alignment with national development strategies
- An opportunity to hear participants and experts views on challenges and opportunities for A-SDGs successful implementation
- Discuss the social, economic and environmental benefits of A-SDGs and all stakeholders commitments for their implementation

Agenda

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| 5 minutes | Introduction by Moderator: Prof. Sabina Alkire, Director of Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford |
| 10 minutes | Opening Remarks: H.E. Abdullah Abdullah, Chief Executive of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan |
| 3 minutes | Video clip on A-SDGs |
| 30 minutes | <p>Panel Discussion: (5 minutes each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Honorable Mustafa Mastoor, Minister of Economy, GIROA ○ Mr. Haoliang Xu Director, Regional Bureau for Asia, UNDP ○ Mr. Pierre Amilhat, European Commission Director for Asia, Central Asia, Middle East/Gulf and Pacific ○ Ms. Maniza Wafiq, President of Afghanistan Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry ○ Ms. Palwasha Hassan, Chairperson of ACBAR Steering Committee ○ Mr. Abdul Qadir Bahman, Director of International Chamber of Commerce <p>Points for Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A-SDGs in two phases (2016-2020 and 2021-2030) ○ Private sector and stakeholders engagement for A-SDGs attainment ○ Prioritization of A-SDGs ○ Pioneering entities for A-SDGs ○ Role of ODA in achieving A-SDGs ○ A-SDGs as driver of social cohesion ○ Systemic and integrated approach to A-SDGs ○ A-SDGs Challenges |
| 40 minutes | Open discussion and Q&A |
| 2 minutes | Closing remarks by moderator |