Canada’s implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

DEVELOPING A NATIONAL APPROACH

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The 2030 Agenda

- The **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** is an ambitious global plan to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

- At its core are 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that cover the 3 interconnected dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental.

- These goals recognize that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to protect and preserve the environment.

- Everyone has a role to play in implementing the 2030 Agenda.

- Work is already underway by all levels of government, civil society, NGOs, academia, and the private sector, to advance progress on the SDGs in Canada.

- The goal is not to duplicate efforts but draw from existing policies and strategies to help guide Canada’s implementation of the 2030 Agenda.
Government of Canada’s Commitment

- The Government of Canada is committed to implementing the 2030 Agenda
- Budget 2018 included funding over 13 years:
  - $49.4 M to establish an SDG Unit at Employment and Social Development Canada and fund monitoring and reporting by Statistics Canada
  - $59.8 M for a SDG Funding Program to support Canada’s implementation of the SDGs
- At the federal level, the government is pursuing domestic and international policies that align well with the 2030 Agenda:
  - eliminating poverty
  - building economic growth that works for everyone
  - reconciliation with Indigenous peoples
  - advancing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls
  - taking action on climate change, clean energy, and oceans
- Canada presented its first Voluntary National Review to the UN in July 2018, which took stock of our progress to date, noted our challenges, and set the stage for the continued work ahead
Governance

• The Minister of Families, Children and Social Development leads the coordination of Canada’s implementation of the 2030 Agenda in collaboration with all ministers and departments

• At the federal level, all departments and agencies have a role to play in integrating the SDGs into their respective policies, programming, and reporting

• The SDG Unit at Employment and Social Development is responsible for coordinating the overall implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

• Core departments tasked to champion the advancement of the SDGs include:
  – Employment and Social Development Canada
  – Global Affairs Canada
  – Environment and Climate Change Canada
  – Indigenous Services Canada
  – Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs
  – Innovation, Science and Economic Development
  – Women and Gender Equality
  – Statistics Canada

• An external advisory group will be established to help advise on Canada’s implementation of the 2030 Agenda
The SDG Unit

- The SDG Unit housed at Employment and Social Development Canada is here to collaborate with other government departments to:
  - Raise public awareness of the SDGs
  - Engage with provinces and territories, municipalities, Indigenous partners, civil society, businesses and academia on the development of a National Strategy
  - Administer an SDG Funding Program that support achievement of the SDGs
  - Further policy coherence across the Government of Canada
  - Work with Statistics Canada and other departments and stakeholders on the development of a Canadian Indicator Framework
  - Report on progress towards the 2030 Agenda to Canadians
Canada’s 2030 Agenda National Strategy

- A whole-of-society National Strategy will guide Canada’s implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to accelerate action on the SDGs
  - Creates a common vision for Canada’s path forward and identify actions to be taken to advance progress
  - Reflects Canada’s commitment to a renewed relationship with Indigenous peoples
  - Reflects the contributions of key federal policies such as the Federal Sustainable Development Strategy, the Poverty Reduction Strategy, the International Feminist Assistance Policy, etc.
  - Includes the perspectives of a wide range of Canadians especially those at the greatest risk of being left behind
  - Lays the foundation for the development of a Canadian Indicator Framework to track and report on progress using indicators adapted to the Canadian context
  - Include elements such as governance; awareness; engagement and partnerships; research, innovation, business and investment; and, accountability, transparency and reporting.

- The National Strategy will be continuously evolving, and the first iteration will set the foundation for future actions on the SDGs
Upcoming Engagement

• Multi-stakeholder engagement will be launched with all levels of government, Indigenous peoples, civil society organizations, and the private sector on the development of a National Strategy

• A concerted effort will be placed on hearing from Canadians who are most at risk of being left behind (Indigenous peoples, women and girls, immigrants and refugee populations, persons with disabilities, seniors and individuals identifying with the LGBTQ2 community)

• The engagement process:
  – Is based on the premise that the SDGs are not the single responsibility of one actor, but rather a shared responsibility
  – Will lay the foundation for meaningful partnerships and engagement in the long-term with stakeholders
  – The Government of Canada will engage through various means:
    – Launching an online presence and interactive engagement platform
    – Bolstering partnerships across the country to engage with their partners and networks
    – Leveraging existing departmental fora, meetings and engagement with stakeholders
Funding program: Fostering partnerships

• Budget 2018 committed $59.8 million ($4.6 million annually over 13 years from 2018 to 2030-2031) to establish a new Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Funding Program

• The SDG Funding Program will provide support for projects that further Canada’s implementation of the 2030 Agenda

• It is anticipated that the SDG Funding program will:
  – increase public awareness and support of SGDs
  – establishment of new partnerships and networks between organizations and sectors
  – improve access to knowledge on emerging sustainable development issues
  – identify and implement innovative initiatives to drive progress on multiple SDGs
  – advance reconciliation with Indigenous peoples

• More information on the funding program for 2019-2020 is forthcoming shortly
Canadian Indicator Framework

- Indicators are the backbone of monitoring progress towards the SDGs
- The SDG Global Indicator Framework is designed to measure progress at the global level. Statistics Canada has launched the SDG Data Hub to report on Canada’s progress
- To support domestic monitoring and reporting, countries are also encouraged to develop country specific indicators that are tailored to their particular context
- Statistics Canada, in collaboration with the SDG Unit and other departments, is leading the development of the Canadian Indicator Framework (CIF)
- The engagement process will seek input on the development of the CIF, and identify priorities and gaps
- Existing data sources will be used to inform the Canadian Indicator Framework
Government of Canada Monitoring and Reporting

- The SDG Unit is coordinating whole-of-government and whole-of-society reporting on the National Strategy and Canada's progress towards 2030 Agenda
  - Public reporting to Canadians
  - Voluntary National Reviews under the auspices of the United Nation’s High-Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development
  - Other national and international fora
- Statistics Canada, in collaboration with the SDG Unit and other government departments, is leading the collection, compilation and reporting of statistical data for the Canadian and Global Indicator Frameworks
- All federal departments are responsible for reporting on the SDGs under their purview
  - Departments will examine how their policies and programs contribute to the goals and targets, as well as identify gaps and where action is needed
  - At the federal level, existing departmental reporting processes and results and delivery efforts will be leveraged
- The engagement process on the National Strategy will explore the best mechanisms and tools for all stakeholders to report on the SDGs
Moving Forward

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