

Reflections from stakeholder engagement for the UK's Voluntary National Review - summary


Since the beginning of the Voluntary National Review, the UK government has participated in at least 35 engagement events and consulted with over 380 organisations, either directly or through the UK's [Voluntary National Review website](#). In early March 2019, an [Emerging Findings and Further Engagement tool](#) was published. It provided a snapshot to support further engagement and was not a draft of the Voluntary National Review.

The diagram below summarises some of the key themes emerging from the subsequent DFID-led sector specific engagement events:

From the outset, the UK committed to delivering a Voluntary National Review that:

- highlights in a clear and accessible way the 'whole-of-UK' contribution to delivering all 17 Goals;
- is underpinned by data; and
- illustrates both the UK's domestic and international activity which provides a balanced account.





Stakeholder feedback on the UK's Voluntary National Review has underscored the importance of:

- **Granularity** - Detail on all 169 Global Targets is provided in the UK's Voluntary National Review. Furthermore, a statistical annex is also provided.
- **Leave No One Behind** - The Voluntary National Review includes a chapter dedicated to the commitment to Leave No One Behind. Examples of how the principle is being met in relation to each of the Goals are also provided at the beginning of each Goal-focussed chapter.
- **Capturing the breadth of activity from across the UK including good practice examples and insights** - The Voluntary National Review contains a chapter dedicated to how civil society including volunteers, businesses and local areas are contributing to the delivery of the Goals. Furthermore, there is a wide range of activity snapshots included throughout the report. Groups such as UK Stakeholders for Sustainable Development and the UN Global Compact in the UK also provide valuable platforms through which organisations can connect and share expertise.
- **High-quality data** – within the Voluntary National Review there is a dedicated 'Using Data and tracking progress towards the Goals' chapter. It outlines the importance of timely, comprehensive and disaggregated data to monitor progress and identify those at risk of being left behind. The Office for National Statistics (ONS) is continuing to develop the UK's [National Reporting Platform](#), including adding maps. All data is "geocoded" (where appropriate), allowing users to do their own geographic analysis.
- **Interlinkages** - building on the feedback on identified interlinkages in the Emerging Findings and Further Engagement document, interlinkages have been identified within all Goal-focussed chapters.
- **Raising awareness of the Goals** – while there continues to be more work to do, one initiative

to support increased awareness amongst children and young people was an [art competition](#) for those aged 7 to 15 years old, to demonstrate what the Goals mean to them. The winning entry features in the UK's Voluntary National Review. It was promoted through a range of organisations.

- **Monitoring progress toward the Goals** – The first UK Voluntary National Review is a starting point, an opportunity to set where we are. Currently the majority of the Global Indicators collected by the ONS has a small number of data points since 2015. Progress is explored throughout the Voluntary National Review via evidence based narrative and data picture boxes that highlight the long-term trend. The ONS and statisticians across government have ensured that a wide-range of data has been used in order to build a balanced report that explores, for example, different dimensions of poverty rather than simply highlighting headline figures. Inspired from stakeholder feedback, the ONS also worked on bringing in non-government data for some of the indicators. For instance, they worked on receiving cashpoint location information. The ONS continue to work with a range of charities to advise on how they can get their data quality up to the same standard as official statistics. This could mean in the future their data could be used for the Global Indicators. More information on this can be found in the 'Using Data and tracking progress towards the Goals' chapter within the Voluntary National Review.
- **Next steps to support enhanced implementation and the provision of an enabling environment** - Each Goal-focussed chapter in the Voluntary National Review includes a challenges and next steps section, which outline areas for further work and planned activity. Furthermore, there is also an overarching conclusions and next steps chapter which recognises that the Voluntary National Review is not an end in itself, but a stepping stone on the journey to 2030.