

# Domain 4: Participatory processes

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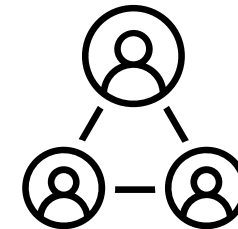
SDG Indicator 17.14.1: Number of countries with mechanisms in place to enhance policy coherence of sustainable development

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# Introduction (1/3)

## Definition

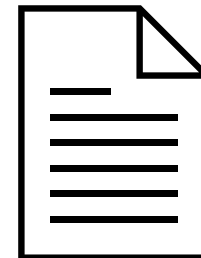
*The country has mechanisms in place to ensure that laws, policies, plans, programmes and major development projects at different levels of government, including at the overarching/general, sectoral and local levels, are developed through participatory processes that engage relevant stakeholders in a comprehensive manner*



# Introduction (2/3)

## Implementation

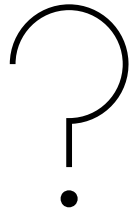
- Can take various forms
  - As a minimum it should be **institutionalized through a formal requirement** that stakeholders are consulted
- The way in which consultations are to take place may vary, and could include (non-exhaustive list):
  - The early publishing and invitation for written feedback;
  - Public hearings;
  - Poll/public opinion surveys, etc.



## Introduction (3/3)

Why are participatory processes important?

- Ensure that **various angles, interests and concerns** are taken into consideration early in the decision making, planning and policy making cycles
  - Likely to prevent and mitigate potential negative impacts and to foster a balanced consideration of all dimensions of sustainable development
- Provide an opportunity to **promote buy-in and support** from key stakeholders and partners
  - Likely to enhance implementation and compliance and can foster better coherence and synergies



# Computing the value (1/2)

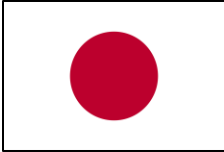
Main indicator (worth 5 points)

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Relevant stakeholders are consulted at the early stages of development of laws, policies, plans, etc.

# Country example

Japan



- The Government of Japan has organized roundtable meetings on promotion of the SDGs to strengthen stakeholder collaboration
  - Bring together representatives of several ministries and a wide range of other stakeholders
- The Government has widely sought the opinions of and held dialogue with its citizens when developing laws or policies
- Japan SDGs Award to reinforce awareness and create an incentive for stakeholders

Are relevant stakeholders consulted at the early stages of development of laws, policies, plans, etc. in your country?

# Computing the value (2/2)

Additional elements (worth the number of points indicated in brackets)

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4.1 Consultations take place in a comprehensive manner at various stages of the policy cycle (1)

4.2 Institutions disclose the rationale for not including inputs from consultations (2)

4.3 An accountability mechanism that allows public intervention (2)

## 4.1 Consultations take place in a comprehensive manner at various stages of the policy cycle

Country example: South Africa



- Civil society, the private sector and academia are recognized as stakeholders and are involved in the national coordination mechanism
- Stakeholders are encouraged to align their objectives and missions with those of the SDGs, national development plans and *Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want* of the African Union
- Other government actions:
  - Mapping of the efforts of the various stakeholders
  - Creation of platforms for sharing and networking
  - Establishment of a virtual space for regular communication
  - Identification of tools and mechanisms to enhance coordination

Does your country have consultations in place that are of comprehensive manner at various stages of the policy cycle?



## 4.2 Institutions disclose the rationale for not including inputs from consultations

Country example: Slovakia

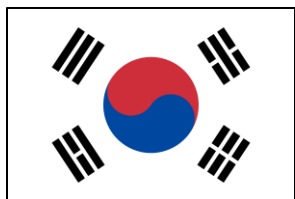


- Public consultations are legally required for any legislative proposal submitted to the Government
  - Drafts are uploaded to the government portal and are open to comments by the public for 15 working days
  - Whenever a comment receives support from more than 500 individuals or organizations, the Government is obliged to provide written feedback, regardless of whether the comment is taken into consideration or rejected
- Feedback becomes part of a dossier, which is submitted to the Government for further discussion

Does your national institutions disclose the rationale for not including inputs from consultations?

## 4.3 An accountability mechanism that allows public intervention

Country example: Republic of Korea



- Since 2014: New regulatory online petition system on a dedicated government portal
  - Additional suggestion/feedback mechanism for members of the civil society (besides email, mail, fax or personal visits)
- Petitions are reviewed by the agency concerned and, if not accepted, also by the Office of the Prime Minister
- A petition can be brought before the Regulatory Reform Committee for a final decision, if both parties cannot reach an agreement
- All accepted petitions need to be implemented within 3-6 months
- Resulting policy changes can also be found on the portal

Is there an accountability mechanism that allows public intervention in your country?

# Thank you



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