



**72ND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
(UNGA): LOCALIZING THE SDGs THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS
AND INNOVATIVE RESOURCE MOBILIZATION**

**‘MAINSTREAMING THE SDGS: AN ALL GOVERNMENT
APPROACH’**

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Protocol

Mr. President, Excellencies, Honourable Ministers and Governors, members of the development community, civil society and the private sector, it is my pleasure to join you today to discuss Nigeria’s progress towards localizing the SDGs, with an emphasis on the role of the Ministry of Budget and National Planning in ensuring implementation across all levels of Government.

Introduction

2. We are here today because we collectively recognize the importance of our Government’s commitment to implementing the Sustainable Development Goals. By joining other United Nations member countries in unanimously adopting the ambitious 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

Development, Nigeria confirmed its intent to eradicate poverty and transition towards sustainable and resilient development, while ensuring that 'no one is left behind.'

3. To do this we have employed an *All Government Approach*, with both national and subnational stakeholders serving as active participants in driving the development and implementation of Nigeria-specific policies, frameworks, and strategic partnerships that are aligned to the SDGs and that ensure the SDGs are mainstreamed and achieved at all levels of Government.

4. During the *critical transition period from the Millenium Development Goals to the SDGs*, the transition team stressed that successful integration of the SDGs into Nigeria's national, sub-national and local development plans hinges on the establishment of an institutional framework that ensures coordination and knowledge transfer between key lead government institutions.

5. *The Ministry of Budget and National Planning, alongside the Office of the Senior Special Adviser to the President on the SDGs and other key institutions, must and has played a key role in ensuring the proper inclusion (or mainstreaming) of the SDGs into new and existing government strategic plans, and also in ensuring that the SDGs are appropriately incorporated into the country's budgetary frameworks.*

Aligning the ERGP to the SDGs:

6. Specifically, the Ministry incorporated and ensured policy linkages between the SDGs and the recently developed Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (the ERGP), a 4-year medium term development plan launched by Mr. President on April 5th 2017. The Plan is aimed at *ensuring Sustained and Inclusive growth; Building a globally competitive and diversified*

Nigerian economy; Investing in our people; and Building strong governance institutions to drive change.

7. The core strategic objectives outlined in the ERGP map directly onto the 17 SDGs and Targets, with a specific and direct focus on education, health, the environment, women and social inclusion, youth development, agriculture, and water resources. Additionally, the ERGP stresses the need for investment in our people, through the development of jobs, improvement of human capital and social inclusion. The ERGP therefore fulfils the dual goal of achieving Government's development, while at the same time meeting the SDGs.

8. This alignment of the ERGP to the SDGs is key to ensuring continuity across strategic frameworks and to allowing for successful mainstreaming and implementation of the SDGs over the medium and long term. It also allows Government to focus on developing prioritized targets for the SDGs that are adapted to unique context.

9. Additionally, specific programmes and projects aimed at achieving the SDGS have been integrated into the 2017 National Budget, and will be included in future budgeting frameworks.

TABLE 3.2: *NERGP strategic objectives and linkages with the 17 SDGs*

NERGP Strategic Objectives	Integrated SDGs
Restoring Growth	Goal 1: No Poverty Goal 2: Zero Hunger, Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production Goal 13: Climate Action Goal 14: Life Below Water Goal 15: Life on Land Goal 16: Peace and Justice, Strong Institutions Goal 17: Partnership for all Goals
Investing in our People <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Inclusion • Job Creation • Improved human capital 	Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being Goal 4: Quality Education Goal 5: Gender Equality Goal 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure Goal 10: Reduced Inequality
Building globally competitive economy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investment in Infrastructure • Improving the business environment 	Goal 6: Clean water and sanitation Goal 7: Affordable and clean energy Goal 8: Decent work and Economic growth Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities Goal 14: Life Below Water Goal 17: Partnership for all Goals
Building strong governance institutions	Goal 16: Peace and Justice; Strong Institutions Goal 17: Partnership for all Goals
Driving performance and results through vigorous Delivery Unit	Goal 8: Decent work and Economic Growth Goal 16: Peace and Justice; Strong Institutions Goal 17: Partnership for all Goals

Source: Nigeria's Economic Recovery and Growth Plan

TABLE 3.3: *Indicative Integration of the relevant eleven SDGs into Nigeria's 2017 Budgets*

Nigeria's 2017 Programmatic Objectives	Programmatic Linkage with the SDGs
To focus on critical on-going infrastructure projects such as roads, railways, power, Information, Communication and Technology (ICT), etc., that have quick positive effects on the economy;	Goal 7: Affordable and clean energy Goal 8: Decent work and Economic growth Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
To utilize special Economic Zones and Industrial Parks as vehicles to accelerate domestic economic activities for innovation and wealth creation;	Goal 8: Decent work and Economic growth Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure Goal 10: Reduced Inequality
To contribute to food security and create platforms for agro-business in Agricultural supply chains through the Agriculture Green Alternative Plan;	Goal 1: No Poverty Goal 2: Zero Hunger Goal 10: Reduced Inequality
To establish a Social Housing Fund to deepen the mortgage system and expand its availability across all States of the Federation;	Goal 10: Reduced Inequality Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
To encourage and stimulate growth of small and medium scale industries for innovation, job creation, productivity and wealth creation.	Goal 8: Decent work and Economic growth Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure Goal-12: Responsible Consumption and Production
To provide social safety nets for poor and vulnerable Nigerians.	Goal 1: No Poverty Goal 2: Zero Hunger Goal 3: Good Health and Well-Being Goal 4: Quality Education Goal 5: Gender Equality Goal 8: Decent work and Economic growth Goal 10: Reduced Inequality
To focus on critical on-going infrastructure projects such as roads, railways, power, Information, Communication and Technology (ICT), etc., that have quick positive effects on the economy;	Goal 7: Affordable and clean energy Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

10. Several other steps are being taken to ensure successful implementation of the ERGP and mainstreaming of the SDGs. Specifically, the Ministry of Budget and National Planning is currently developing an ERGP Implementation Plan. The process has involved a detailed costing of the initiatives, projects and programmes of Federal Ministries Departments and Agencies, as well as the identification of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) with specific timelines for projects and programmes in the Plan. Presently, the Ministry is collating and analysing MDA Plans, and the exercise is expected to conclude before the end of October 2017.

Mainstreaming the SDGs Using an All-Government Approach

11. Let me stress again that our success in meeting the SDGs requires the employment of an All Government Approach. Specifically, the States and Local governments each play a critical role in ensuring implementation (as demonstrated by the focus of this session), as they are on the front lines, so to speak. The Federal Government has resolved to work with all 36 States and 774 Local Government Areas to implement the ERGP in line with State and local priorities. Each State has been encouraged to develop its own economic recovery and growth plan to complement the ERGP, or update its existing Development Plans.

12. We have much work to do in terms of empowering and building the capacity of Local Governments to own the SDG implementation process.

13. Additionally, *best practices* and potential implementation models can be drawn from the experiences of today's four participating States, particularly in the areas of agriculture and infrastructure development. Kaduna State for example, launched its SDG Report here yesterday, outlining the specific steps the State has taken to mainstream and implement the SDGs.

Importance of M&E and the Establishment of Clear Baselines Using Data

14. Successful implementation of the SDGs requires a clear institutional arrangement for Monitoring and Evaluation. The National Bureau of Statistics, with the support of the OSSAP and development partners, has developed baseline indicators, and conducted a baseline data survey for the SDG indicators, with emphasis placed on administrative data to enhance routine data collection.

15. An Implementation Unit has been established in the Ministry of Budget and National Planning to ensure proper implementation tracking, and to serve as a focal point for the coordination of monitoring activities, alongside existing Monitoring and Evaluation Departments across Government. The Implementation Unit, will closely monitor implementation of the 5 Key Execution Priorities; evaluate progress against targets and milestones; provide early warning signals of potential risks; work with MDAs to articulate actionable measures to be taken against any identified constraints; and provide periodic updates to Government.

16. To further achieve the ERGP objectives and deliver on key execution priorities, interdisciplinary “Sector Laboratories” are being established, covering three key areas in Agriculture, Energy (Petroleum and Power), and Manufacturing. Four Senior Special Assistants to the President on ERGP Implementation, based in the Ministry of Budget and National Planning, have been appointed to drive this process.

Looking forward and Areas for improvement:

17. Strengthen collaboration and strategic partnerships, especially with OSSAP: While significant progress has been made, there is still much work to be done. On our part, we at the Ministry of Budget and National Planning will work to strengthen our strategic partnerships with the Office of the Senior Special Adviser to the President on the SDGs, and other key institutions across Government.

18. Strengthen Collaboration with State and Local Governments: Additionally, the Ministry will continue to explore opportunities to strengthen and formalize collaboration with State and Local governments, having recognized that progress at the sub-national level is key to ensuring implementation.

Conclusion

19. Let me close by saying that we are deeply committed to ending poverty; promoting inclusiveness and environmental sustainability; and ensuring that no Nigerian is left behind. Thank you for your time and I look forward to a productive and engaging Session.