

# **AUSTRIA'S SECOND VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW**

## **on the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

ESDN Peer Review Workshop 5 June 2024, Brussels

Session 2: VNR methodologies and Peer Review

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## GUIDELINES

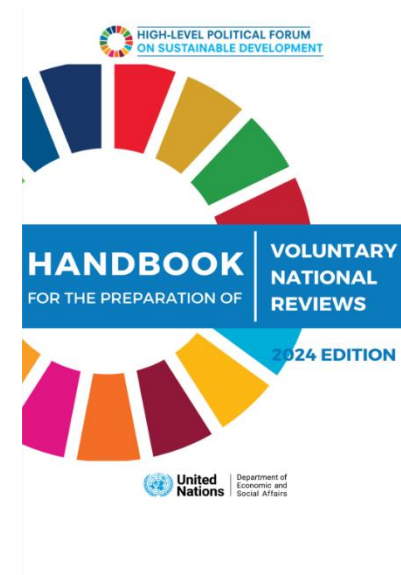
- **UN-Guidelines 2024 are the basis**

(e.g for the timeline of the VNR process,  
structure of the report, stakeholder involvement ...)

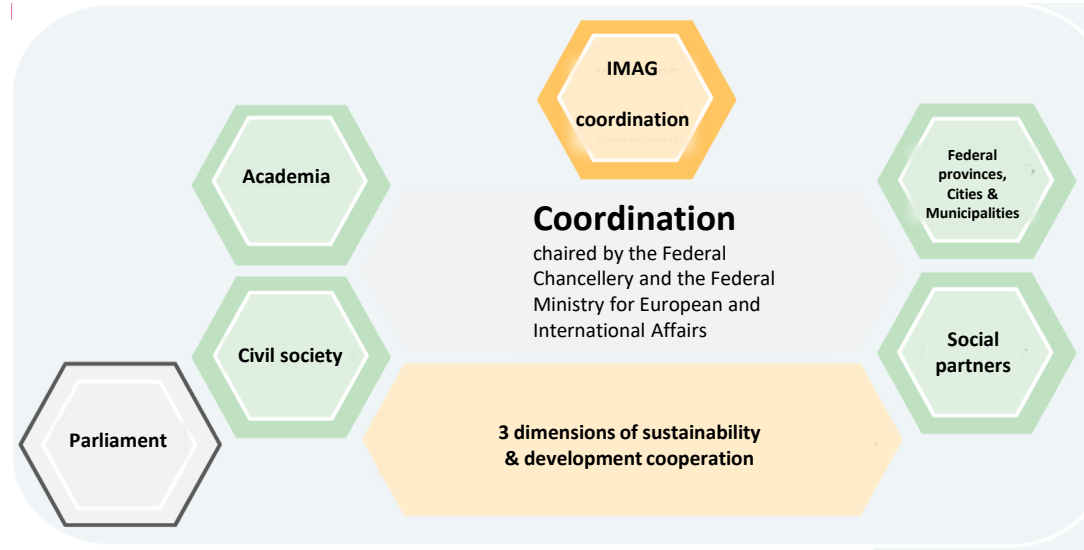
- **Starting Point:**

- AT second VNR based on structure and lessons learned from first VNR 2020
- Keep strength of first VNR (eg. Stakeholder participation, integration of statistical data, best practice examples.... ) and identify concrete measures to improve the report (mainstreaming of gender, youth and int. dimension, ...)

- **Peer Learning** e.g. CH VNR: inspiration for IT tool to gather and structure best practice stories



# INTERNAL COORDINATION MECHANISM



- IMAG: Interministerial working group at federal level plus representative from regions
- Small core group of 5 federal Ministries chaired by Chancellery and MfA
- "VNR Stakeholder Forum" as the central coordinating body for all stakeholders (Administration, Science, NGO, Cities and municipalities, ... )
- 3x Thematic coordination for chapters on three dimensions of sustainability

## Comparative approach with regards to other countries

- Chapter on “**Progress towards goals and targets**” systematically benchmarks data for AT SDG indicators against EU27 average.

Example from ODA: “Austria's proportionate expenditure is below that of the EU-27, as on average 0.49% of gross national income was spent on development cooperation across the EU in 2021”

- Ranking according to “**Sustainable Development Report 2023**” in the introduction chapter

Quote “Austria holds a good 5th place worldwide out of 166 countries assessed regarding the implementation of all 17 SDGs”



## PEER LEARNING

- 2023 Peer Dialogue for CH VNR together with MX
- For AT VNR 2024 two Peers: BT & CH
- Format / Methodology:
  - Both Ex-Post, rather a Peer Dialogue than a strict review
- Lessons Learned:
  - Beneficial for both sides (AT took inspirations from role as a peer for CH)
  - Need for guiding questions to structure the dialogue
  - No One size fits all – VNRs are country specific
  - Peer Dialogue very well received among AT stakeholders

