



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
For democracy. For everyone.

## Parliaments and the Sustainable Development Goals: A self-assessment toolkit

### Parliamentary workshop

New York, 16 July 2019, 2.30 p.m. – 6 p.m.

**Church Centre of the United Nations  
777 United Nations Plaza (corner of 44th Street and 1st  
Avenue), 8th Floor**



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*

In 2016, the IPU and UNDP produced an SDG self-assessment toolkit. The purpose of the toolkit is to help parliamentarians and parliamentary staff review key processes and identify institutional gaps in parliaments' work on the SDGs. The toolkit is designed to enable parliaments to discuss issues, gather information and answer questions that help them make an informed decision about the most suitable and effective way to engage in SDGs implementation. Assisting parliaments in using the toolkit and fostering action on the SDGs at the national level is one of IPU's priorities for the coming years.

The objective of the parliamentary workshop is to familiarize the parliamentarians attending the High-Level Political Forum with the self-assessment toolkit and help them assess the readiness of parliaments to engage in SDGs implementation. The workshop will be open to a maximum of 40 parliamentarians on a first-come first-served basis. It will be conducted in English with a possibility of having a table in French.

### Scenario

Participants will be divided into groups of eight persons per table. Every effort will be made to reflect geographical and gender diversity in the groups.

Each table will work on a set of questions selected from the self-assessment toolkit. A total of six sets of questions will be discussed in two rounds.

In their discussions participants will be invited to reflect on their experiences, practices and challenges in SDGs implementation. Group work will be facilitated by the IPU and UNDP staff.

### Agenda

2.30 p.m.	Welcome remarks and presentation of the objectives of the workshop
2.45 p.m.	Presentation of the SDG toolkit
3.00 p.m.	Group work – first round (Q1 – Q3)
4.00 p.m.	Reporting back from tables and discussion
4.20 p.m.	Group work – second round (Q4 - Q6)
5.20 p.m.	Reporting back from tables and discussion
5.50 p.m.	Conclusions and closing

## Questions

### **Q1: Building understanding of the SDGs in parliament**

- 1) *Have you received any training sessions on the SDGs? What should the training consist of, particularly for new MPs?*
- 2) *What are the mechanisms or structures in place to enable you to discuss SDGs issues? How effective are they?*

### **Q2: Bringing the SDGs from the global to the local level**

- 1) *Is there a national plan for the implementation of the SDGs? Has it been formally endorsed by parliament?*
- 2) *How effectively are parliament and government working together on the SDGs? To what extent does the government seek to engage parliament in implementing the SDGs?*

### **Q3: Mainstreaming the SDGs within parliamentary mechanisms**

- 1) *Have parliamentary committees (of each house) discussed how to effectively engage with implementing the SDGs?*
- 2) *Has each parliamentary committee identified which Goals and targets they should engage with and how?*

### **Q4: Financing the SDGs**

- 1) *To what extent does parliament consider the SDGs when discussing and adopting the budget?*
- 2) *How effectively can parliament scrutinize budget expenditures and assess their impact on SDGs implementation?*

### **Q5: Monitoring SDG implementation:**

- 1) *To what extent does parliament review, debate and take action on progress reports produced by the implementation of the SDGs and/or national sustainable development plans?*
- 2) *Can parliament initiate and run its own inquiries into issues related to SDGs implementation?*

### **Q6: Engaging with the public**

- 1) *To what extent does parliament meet with citizens, civil society organizations and academia to discuss the SDGs or development issues?*
- 2) *Do parliamentary committees conduct field visits to oversee SDGs implementation and the impact of SDGs-related programmes on regions and communities? How effective is such an oversight tool, in your opinion?*