KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

EURASIA

TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION

The Kyrgyz Republic is a unitary country with three tiers of subnational elected governments. At the municipal level, the country counts 470 local governments (453 rural communities and 17 "cities of district significance"). At the intermediate level, it has 12 "cities of regional significance". Finally, Bishkek and Osh are the two "cities of national importance". The country also has deconcentred subnational governments (40 districts and 7 regions) whose chief executives are appointed by the Prime Minister.[1]

Unless otherwise indicated, all the information in this profile is taken from the previously published Voluntary National Review (VNR).[2]

1. NATIONAL STRATEGIES FOR SDG IMPLEMENTATION

The Kyrgyz Republic committed to the 2030 Agenda through the National Development Strategy (2018–2040) and the "Unity, Trust, Creation" (2018–2022) Program. It strongly adheres to the 'leave no one behind' principle, with special emphasis and focus on prioritizing the most vulnerable groups in the country.

1.1 NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS

Following a 'whole of government' approach, the Coordination Committee on Adaptation, Implementation and Monitoring of the SDGs, chaired by the Prime Minister, was created in 2015. It involves relevant ministries and agencies, the Parliament, the Office of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, the Supreme Court, the National Bank, and the National Institute for Strategic Research, with additional representatives from the United Nations Country Team, non governmental organizations and the private sector. Besides, to institutionalize 'bottom-up' monitoring and review mechanisms, a Coordination Commission was established under the direct supervision of the Vice Prime Minister of the Kyrgyz Republic along with the working groups involved in the VNR process.

1.2 VNR ELABORATION PROCESS

The Coordination Committee was in charge of facilitating the operationalization of the 2020 VNR process. The government established 5 working groups (on the 3 pillars of sustainable development, plus on monitoring and governance) tasked with the preparation of the VNR. They are composed of experts from state ministries and agencies, representatives from civil society organizations, the private sector and the United Nations system. They were integrated into pre-existing government structures and met regularly to discuss progress in implementing the SDGs. The National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic (NSC) led the data collection process. The VNR evaluates data for the period 2013- 2019, with measures taken to track progress across 16 of the SDGs and 139 of the targets (SDG 14 was not considered). A multistakeholder forum was organized to validate the final content of the VNR.

1.3 MONITORING

In the National Statistical System of the Kyrgyz Republic, the National Statistical Committee is the main body responsible for collecting data, producing statistics, and creating an evidence base related to the SDGs. An inventory of the SDG targets and indicators was carried out in 2017 taking into account national priorities. Besides, much attention has been paid to the disaggregation of SDG indicators, following the 'leave no one behind' approach (gender, age, geographical location, education, income level, nationality and disability).

1. See: https://www.sng-wofi.org/reports/SNGWOFI_2019_report_country_profiles_DEC2019_UPDATES.pdf
2. See: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/26458VNR_2020_Kyrgyzstan_Report_English.pdf (2020)

2. LRGs INVOLVEMENT IN SDG LOCALIZATION

Local governments have had active consultative roles in initial target prioritization exercises for SDG implementation and rather informative roles in the 2020 VNR process. Two workshops for local authorities were organized during the VNR preparation to promote the exchange of knowledge on SDG progress at the local level, inform on the 2020 edition of the HLPF, and lay the ground for training and capacity building activities in subnational governments. However, the conclusion of the VNR states that there is still a need for further localization of the SDGs and the establishment of ownership at the local level.
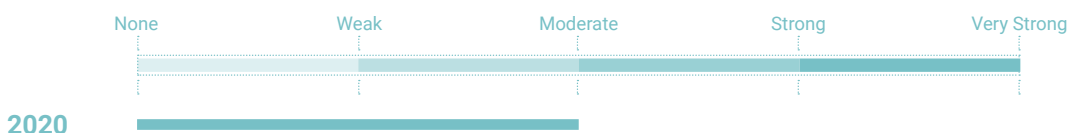
2.1 LRGs PARTICIPATION

▶ **In the VNR process**

None	Weak	Moderate	Strong	Very Strong

2020

Comments: According to the VNR, LRGs had mostly an informative role, and there is very little mention of them in the report.
However, the city of Bishkek claims it was represented in the working group, and the city of Naryn, to have presented its own contribution to the report (GTF Survey 2020).

▶ **In national coordination mechanisms for SDG implementation**

None	Weak	Moderate	Strong	Very Strong

2020

Comments: The coordination commission does not include representatives of local authorities.
However, the city of Bishkek mentions a regular participation through consultations. The city of Naryn mentions ad-hoc consultations (GTF Survey 2020).

This assessment is based on the information collected in the VNRs and in the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments' annual survey on the localization of the SDGs.

2.2 VNR REFERENCES

There is a short subsection on "Local Authorities and SDGs Localization" in the section on "Institutional mechanisms and multi-stakeholder SDG and VNR ownership" (see VNR, 2020, p. 24), in which local authorities are briefly mentioned but recognized as crucial entities to ensure bottom-up change in localizing the SDGs.

2.3 SPECIFIC PROJECTS AND CASES

There are very few mentions of initiatives led by local governments in the 2020 VNR.

2.4 VOLUNTARY SUBNATIONAL AND/OR LOCAL REVIEWS (VSRs / VLRs)

Not applicable.

2.5 MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

A unified digital municipal service platform will be introduced for all 63 municipalities. It will capture 17 modules including project cycle management, spatial planning and asset management and thus will enable LSGs to manage their capital investments and fixed assets efficiently and transparently.

3. RELEVANT INFORMATION

General comments: With the aim of implementing the 'leave no one behind' approach, the methodologies used in monitoring the achievement of the SDGs enabled to look beyond national averages and pinpoint the diverse range of specific situations encountered by those groups left furthest behind by the development in the Kyrgyz Republic. Indeed, national data shows that there are substantial in-country geographic variations in the development level, with concentration of prevailing multidimensional poverty 'hotspots' in rural and remote areas. A multi-dimensional approach also focused on the intersectionality of inequalities and discriminations.

3.1 WOMEN PARTICIPATION

The inclusion of gender equality in the governmental sustainable development agenda was facilitated by the adoption of strategic documents: the National Strategy for Achieving Gender Equality 2012–2020, and the National Action Plan (NAP) for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325. But female leadership decreased both at the national (in the Parliament) and local levels. Female representation in local representative bodies decreased from 19% in 2016 to 11% in 2018, well under the established 30% quota. In political positions in municipal administrations, women fill only 20 (3.8%) out of 513 available positions.

3.2 COVID 19

The 2020 VNR mentions the measures taken by the country to combat the pandemic in a specific section (see VNR, 2020, p. 27). The government shifted the country into a state of emergency and introduced further emergency mode coverage in three cities and in portions of two provinces.

4. SDG INDICATORS[3]

5.5.1. (b) Proportion of seats held by women (%) in local governments		-
6.1.1. Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services (%)	**Urban**	92 (2020)
	Rural	57 (2020)
6.2.1. (a) Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	**Urban**	86 (2020)
	Rural	96 (2020)
11.1.1. Proportion of population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)		9.7 (2018)
11.6.1. Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed (%)		83 (2010, Bishekek)
11.6.2. Air pollution – annual means of particulate matter in cities (population weighted)		23.9 (2016)
11.b.2. Proportion of local governments that have adopted local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national strategies (%)		10.1 (2019)