

Day1

Title : 4. Presentation of Moroccan Knowledge and Experience

(3) National Strategy for Sustainable Development and Territorialization of its Implementation in Morocco

Speakers :

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Summary

The Presenter introduced the key features of the National Strategy for Sustainable Development and Territorialization of its Implementation in Morocco ('the Strategy' or 'SNDD'). SNDD was developed in line with the vision and basic values of 2011 Constitution. The process for development of SNDD started in June 2017 and came into effect in June 2018.

The Strategy is based on 4 key principles: 1) that it is in line with existing international commitments; 2) that it is in line with the existing law; 3) that it is an ongoing process of engaging different stakeholders to achieve common goals; and 4) it has to become operational. Based on these key principles, the SNDD comprises of 7 priorities, 31 strategic goals, 137 objectives and 622 actions to implement those objectives. The details of the 622 actions are stated in detail in 21 booklets, in order to ensure concrete actions and operationalization of the Strategy.

In particular, the presenter explained in detail the implementation of 'Priority 1. Consolidate the Governance of Sustainable Development.' Effort has been made to ensure that the governmental institutions present 'a role model' and set an example to the society at large. For example, a Strategic Committee chaired by high level officials was established to spearhead the implementation of the Strategy in a coordinated manner across related sectors. The government institutions are also developing action plans at the institutional level, such as undertaking environmental audit of governmental buildings (e.g. water management, waste management, etc.) Regional governments are also looking at introducing sustainable actions into regional development plans. (e.g. waste water treatment benchmarks to be monitored at the regional level.)

In responding to the question from a Meeting participant on stakeholder coherence in pursuing the SD goals, the presenter pointed out the importance of setting up an appropriate governance framework. She emphasized that it is not enough to develop a Strategy, but it is necessary to establish a governance structure, including a functioning coordination system, in order to implement the Strategy. At the same time, the presenter pointed out the importance of involvement of high-level government officials in such coordination system. She also stated a need for a rigorous Monitoring & Evaluation system, not only in order to clarify the status of progress in implementation but also to identify the challenges to be overcome.