

Country: Indonesia

IPU geopolitical group: Asia-Pacific Group

House of Representatives (Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat – DPR)

Focus area: utilizing innovative digital monitoring tools to track progress on the SDGs.

Key highlights (messages)

- Innovative and digital open-access SDG portals can support parliaments to increase domestic accountability and transparency on the 2030 Agenda, and ensure that SDG implementation stays on track.
- Through collaborative arrangements with relevant ministries and agencies, parliaments can actively participate in national data-reporting and dissemination efforts, and help to focus attention on the critical issue of SDG data disaggregation.

Context

The DPR Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation (BKSAP) has established a dedicated taskforce on the SDGs, previously known as the parliamentary taskforce on the Millennium Development Goals. The SDG taskforce involves more than 50 members from different parliamentary committees and parties, and is supported by expert staff members. The taskforce has two main objectives: (i) to facilitate systematic parliamentary engagement in the SDGs; and (ii) to build and promote partnerships with national and international partners for the successful implementation of the SDGs. In addition, there are 11 commissions dealing with different policy sectors, all of which are relevant to SDG implementation, including the environment, energy and health. The commissions have mainstreamed the SDGs in their work, recognizing Parliament's important role in ensuring that the SDG commitments are being properly met. BKSAP also plays a key role in enhancing cooperation and coordination between the Parliament's committees and the leading government ministries and agencies responsible for the overall coordination and implementation of the SDGs in Indonesia.

SDG integration into parliament's core functions

Given its constitutional responsibilities, DPR is one of the main actors involved in strengthening an enabling environment and monitoring the national achievement of the SDGs. The legislature has developed an SDG monitoring portal in cooperation with the Ministry of National Development Planning, and Statistics Indonesia. The portal has helped DPR to fulfil its core functions, particularly through more systematic monitoring of the performance of the government, which is the main implementer of national SDG-related development policies. The portal is a publicly accessible digital platform that supports DPR commissions, members of parliament and citizens in general to regularly monitor SDG implementation in the different electoral districts (dapil). The portal is supported by permanent parliamentary staff, who also assess the SDG indicators using data sources from two partner institutions.

The SDG monitoring portal provides MPs with comprehensive, accessible and disaggregated district-level data to oversee progress towards each SDG target. The data can be used as a foundation to formulate or amend legislation, allocate budgets, consider expenditure improvements, and generate evidence to develop government programmes for critical priority areas or populations that have been left behind. The portal also gives communities an invaluable opportunity to voice their concerns, provide input and feedback, and collaborate with DPR MPs to achieve people-centered and inclusive SDG policies that reflect and respond to the specific needs and priorities of constituents.

The SDG portal includes additional resources, a knowledge hub and a community of practice that provide MPs with useful tools for self-directed learning, and assessing whether government actions are on track to deliver SDG commitments. Results from the SDG portal can be used by members of the budget committee to call for improvements to the transparency of expenditure, or by MPs to hold public meetings or conduct hearings or deliberations.

Innovative approaches to enable progress towards:

(i) Integrating disaster risk reduction and climate change measures into national laws, policies and strategies:

DPR has committed to accelerating the deliberation process for the Sustainable Energy Bill. The Bill will provide for a set of measures to speed up the transition towards a green and sustainable economy by: (i) encouraging the use of renewable energy in the national energy supply; (ii) giving incentives to renewable energy power plant developers; (iii) developing human resources; (iv) setting competitive prices for sources of renewable energy; (v) removing regulatory barriers to renewable energy development; and (vi) developing green energy industries.

Supplementary activities

After reflecting on evidence generated through the monitoring portal, DPR has conducted a series of *SDG days* in concert with the work of the SDG taskforce. The objectives of the *SDG days* are to accelerate the process of SDG localization, support local governments, and mobilize MPs and other stakeholders to leverage experience and knowledge in support of all levels of SDG implementation across Indonesia.

DPR hosted the World Parliamentary Forum on Sustainable Development in 2017, and jointly organized the First Global Parliamentary Meeting on Achieving the SDGs in 2021 with the IPU. The Parliament has actively worked together with the United Nations Development Programme to produce guides on green climate financing and the role of parliaments in implementing the SDGs. DPR members also contributed to the preparation of the 2017, 2019 and 2021 Voluntary National Reviews; they engaged with government ministries, agencies and a wide range of other stakeholders. Members of the SDG taskforce are also included in the government-led National SDG Secretariat. This allows them to coordinate directly, and advocate for the responses and actions necessary to tackle specific issues of concern.

The Parliament has also developed a special TV programme, *SDG Village*, where MPs meet citizens in informal settings to discuss SDG progress, or challenges that may arise from the current legal framework supporting SDG implementation.

Challenges and lessons learnt

Some of the main challenges include using data of limited quality that is not always disaggregated to assess the impact of laws and spending on different populations of concern, including the assessment of how far funds and programmes are targeting those most in need. The knowledge and individual expertise of MPs are also essential to oversee implementation and mainstream the SDGs in the work of different parliamentary committees. Therefore, SDG taskforce members and parliamentary staff have developed various knowledge products and guidance material to enhance the capacities of MPs and improve their ability to follow up on critical inputs from the SDG monitoring portal.

Sources and links

SDG monitoring portal: <https://sdgs.dpr.go.id/> ; <https://sdgs-dpr.netlify.app/>

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