

**Case study for Road Map on Statistics for SDGs 2.0**  
**Austria: Coordination in VNR preparation**

<b>Description</b>	<p>Austria presented its first VNR at the High-level political Forum (HLPF) in 2020. Before that, Statistics Austria published the first national SDG indicator report with a large chapter on progress towards the 17 goals. Parts of this is included in one VNR chapter " Progress regarding SDGs". This required close co-operation between the Federal Chancellery and Statistik Austria. Several rounds of discussions both bilaterally and with all ministries were necessary.</p> <p>The chapter on progress is structured according to the 17 objectives and contains key messages and a trend assessment. In addition, the main indicators are described and some of them are presented in graphs.</p> <p>Statistics Austria selected the main indicators and discussed with the VNR working group. If necessary, the ministries could propose further main indicators. The statistical description and analysis of progress was solely provided by Statistics Austria, as well as the trend assessment.</p> <p>For the VNR, the statistically neutral terminology of the indicator report was translated into a more easily understandable political language. Here, care was taken not to distort the statistical statements.</p> <p>Thanks to the good cooperation, it was possible to include an important chapter of data in the Austrian VNR. The Statistical Annex with data tables was thus dispensed with. Reference is made here to the SDG indicator report.</p>
<b>Advantages</b>	<p>Close co-operation between policymakers and statistics can, on the one hand, enhance the VNR with essential data and, on the other hand, increase the importance of the monitoring process by NSO. However, the responsibilities must be clearly defined!</p>
<b>Challenges</b>	<p>Working together increases the amount of time required and also makes it necessary to respond to each other's point of view. A lot of coordination work is necessary.</p>
<b>Future steps</b>	<p>Completing the SDG-Indicator Report and the VNR, and further refinement of the indicator set (e.g. data from civil scientists).</p>
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