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SDG SPECTRUM NEWSLETTER



Sharing our journey to contributing towards the Sustainable Development Goals Agenda

Preface to the Fifth Edition of the SDG Spectrum Newsletter

- By R Ramakrishnan IAS, Principal Secretary & Development Commissioner, Government of Nagaland

It is with great pleasure that I present the fifth edition of the *Nagaland SDG Spectrum Newsletter*. Over the past editions, we have witnessed growing recognition of the vital role that the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) play in promoting inclusive growth, social equity, and environmental sustainability in our state.

This edition comes at a crucial moment, as we reflect on our achievements, refine our strategies, and strengthen collaboration across sectors to achieve tangible outcomes. We are excited to highlight key state-level initiatives focused on enhancing SDG data reporting and monitoring mechanisms. These efforts emphasize the importance of data-driven policy making in advancing the SDG agenda.

We hope this edition will inspire reflection, dialogue, and action, as we stay committed to leaving no one behind in our journey towards sustainable development.

Happy reading!

The SDGs are a set of 17 ambitious global goals and 169 targets, which tackle some of the most critical challenges of the 21st century. By endorsing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 SDGs in 2015, the world community reaffirmed its commitment to Sustainable Development. Through this Agenda, 193 members states pledged to ensure sustained and inclusive economic growth, social inclusion, and environmental protection, fostering peaceful, just, and inclusive societies through a new global partnership.

Developments so far towards contributing to the SDG Agenda

- Heinswading, Assistant Development Commissioner

The SDG Coordination Centre (SDGCC), Planning & Transformation Department has been involved in strengthening the SDG localisation and integration journey of the state through the 'whole of Government' and 'whole of society' approaches, and some of the key achievements thus far include:

- **Coffee Table Book:** "*Weaving Dreams - A Tribute to the Inspiring Women of Nagaland*" was launched on 24th October 2024, celebrating the accomplishments of 21 women—19 individuals and 2 women-led organizations—across 10 diverse sectors, highlighting their resilience, innovation, and leadership. This publication comes at a time when Nagaland stands at the forefront of gender empowerment in India, having been ranked first among all states in SDG 5 (Gender Equality) in the SDG India Index 2023-24.
- **SDG Dashboard:** The dashboard and website are accessible to both the public and government officials, providing up-to-date information and tracking SDG-related news and events.
- **SDG IPAR 2.0:** Four entrepreneurs in the areas of sustainable food waste management,

e-waste management, bamboo production, and village science museum have been provided opportunities to develop their solutions. These initiatives are currently being implemented under IPAR 2.0.

- **Collaboration with NSACS: Launch of Intensified IEC Campaign-** SDGCC shared information on the SDGs during the launch of the "Intensified IEC Campaign" in Kohima on August 12, 2024. The event, organized by the Nagaland State AIDS Control Society under the Department of Health & Family Welfare, engaged over 2,500 students and delegates from across the state.
- **Youth for SDGs Event:** Around 200 young participants were introduced to the SDGs through interactive sessions at the "Youth for SDGs" event, organized by the ARK Foundation in partnership with SDGCC. The event aimed to inspire youth engagement in sustainable development initiatives and encourage active involvement in achieving the SDGs.
- **SDG Essay Competition 2024:** The second edition of the SDG Essay Competition allowed school and college students to explore and discuss key SDG issues. Four winners across two categories were awarded on 24th October 2024, showcasing their perspectives on sustainability.

Looking ahead, our key focus for advancing the SDG Vision 2030 will encompass:

- **Focused Interventions:** Implementing innovative projects to fast-track the achievement of priority goals.
- **Capacity-building:** Conducting comprehensive capacity-building at all levels, addressing data collation, and bridging gaps for effective monitoring and evaluation of SDG indicators.

Launching of Coffee Table Book & Felicitation of Winners of SDG Essay Competition 2024

The SDGCC launched a Coffee Table Book titled "*Weaving Dreams - A Tribute to the Inspiring Women of Nagaland*" and felicitated the winners of the SDG Essay Competition 2024 at de Oriental Grand, Kohima, on the 24th of October 2024. The book showcases 21 inspiring stories, highlighting the achievements of 19 individual women and 2 women-led organizations across 10 sectors- education, healthcare, entrepreneurship, entertainment, literature & journalism, environmental conservation, sports, science & technology, social service, and disability advocacy.



The SDG Essay Competition 2024, open to all residents of Nagaland, provided a platform for young minds to express their ideas and solutions for building a sustainable and inclusive future. The competition was held under two categories:

15 years and below with the theme "*Role of art, culture, and natural heritage of Nagaland in the assimilation of SDGs.*" The winners were:

- **Winner:** Bendangsola, Dimapur.
- **Runner-up:** Kupuli X. Ayemi, Zunheboto.

16 years and above with the theme "*Circular Economy and SDGs: How can Nagaland ensure an economy that is circular, green, and sustainable?*". The winners were:

- **Winner:** C. Chingo Konyak from Kohima
- **Runner-up:** Livika Sumi from Dimapur

National Conference on Accelerating Progress on SDGs

Shri R. Ramakrishnan, IAS, Principal Secretary (Planning) & Development Commissioner, presented on "Fast-Tracking SDG Localization: Lessons from the Nagaland Experience" at the National Conference on Accelerating Progress on SDGs organised by NITI Aayog in partnership with the host Government of Rajasthan and technical partners- UNDP and UN India, on the 4th and 5th March 2024 in Jaipur.



28th Conference of Central and State Statistical Organizations (CoCSSO)

Smt. Nayantara Sasikumar, IES, OSD (Planning) & SDG Nodal Officer presented on 'SDG District Road Maps: From Monitoring to Action' at the 28th CoCSSO organised by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation on August 12, 2024 in New Delhi.

National Workshop on Accelerating Finance for the SDGs

Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance in partnership with UNDP India organized the National Workshop on Accelerating Finance for the SDGs on 7th October 2024 in New Delhi. It aimed to equip states with essential knowledge, tools, and guidance on SDG financing, foster a collective understanding of the SDG financing landscape, and facilitate the sharing of best practices. It also promoted cross-learning among states and financial sector stakeholders to explore potential financing opportunities and identify areas for external support from UNDP in related services. Representing Nagaland, Shri Heinswading, Assistant Development Commissioner, and Ms. Abilo Humtsoe, SDG Officer, attended the workshop.

State Level Workshop on SDG Indicators Reporting Mechanism

SDGCC organised 'State Level Workshop on SDG Indicators Reporting Mechanism' for all relevant line departments on 24th October 2024 in Kohima. The workshop aimed to enhance understanding and improve the reporting mechanisms related to the SDGs, particularly focusing on the SDG India Index and the NER District SDG Index.



Collaboration with NSACS: Launch of Intensified IEC Campaign

The SDGCC, in collaboration with the Nagaland State AIDS Control Society (NSACS), facilitated the dissemination of SDG 3 during the state-level launch of the Intensified IEC Campaign on August 12, 2024, in Kohima. The campaign was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Shri P. Paiwang, alongside other esteemed dignitaries from the Government of Nagaland. Over 2,500 students and delegates participated in the event.

Dashboard Hands-on Training

The SDGCC organized a hands-on training session on the Nagaland SDG Dashboard for all relevant departments from September 6 to September 13, 2024. The training aimed to enable regular updates and effective monitoring of SDG indicators, with a focus on dashboard access and functionalities, operational guidelines, data uploading, and the approval process.

Greening the Earth



In celebration of World Environment Day 2024, the SDGCC organized the 'Greening the Earth' initiative at the Nagaland Civil Secretariat in Kohima on June 5, 2024. Smt. Nayantara Sasikumar, IES, OSD (Planning) & SDG Nodal Officer, and Shri N. Nlumo Murry, Additional Development Commissioner of the Planning & Transformation Department, led the planting of Bauhinia tree saplings at the Secretariat Complex. Over 200 tree saplings were distributed to citizens, encouraging collective action to address environmental challenges and promote sustainability.



In the Spotlight: SDG 4 – Quality Education

Every Newsletter, we bring an '*In the spotlight*' section which covers one initiative that is being implemented and contributes to a specific SDG. In this issue, we are covering the Project '*Village Science Museum and Lab: A Vision for Transformative Learning*' efforts being undertaken by the SDGCC and contributes primarily to SDG 4.

As part of SDG IPAR 2.0, the *Village Science Museum and Lab* is being piloted by Zenwang Konyak with support from SDGCC. The project aims to cultivate a culture of curiosity, inquiry, and creativity within the local community by offering accessible, hands-on learning opportunities. The museum features a fully equipped lab where students and villagers can conduct experiments, from basic chemistry to astronomy observations, encouraging scientific inquiry beyond textbooks.

Within just six months, the project has achieved significant milestones:

- Delivered hands-on training to 126 school students in subjects such as robotics, scientific equipment handling, and various science experiments.
- Engaged with 9 schools through initiatives including the establishment of science labs, summer science camps, and a science popularization week.

Key Upcoming Events for 2024:

- ✓ Dissemination of SDGs in Hornbill Festival 2024
- ✓ Launch of SDG District Roadmaps

If you would like an initiative being undertaken by your department/organisation to be covered as part of our '*In the spotlight*' section or you may like to share any feedback about the newsletter, please write to us at sdgnagaland@gmail.com