



LOCALIZATION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN MIZORAM

PLAN OF ACTION



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GOVERNMENT OF MIZORAM
PLANNING & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION DEPARTMENT

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Plan of Action for Localization of SDGs in Mizoram

1. Localization of SDGs

1.1. The Government of Mizoram is deeply committed to the Localization of SDG (LSDG) in Mizoram –

- For we believe in the SDG motto: **“Leave no one behind”**; that the fruits of development should be discernibly visible and enjoyed by all individuals.
- For we believe that LSDG framework is a system through which pain points of the society can be identified so that poverty, environmental challenges and limitations of access to opportunities can be jointly tackled by the State, the Community and the Private sector.
- For we believe that we can leverage on the strong and united community in Mizoram that cares for the overall welfare of the community and the state to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals at all levels.
- For the Government is a very strong pillar in the State on whom a huge responsibility lies. The expectations that the common man has on the Government is immense. Therefore, we believe that it is the role of the Government to help realize the dreams of the common man and enable him to aspire for more in line with sustainable development.
- For we also believe that through this LSDG framework we can bridge the gap between what the private sector can do and what the private sector has done in the state to bring about sustainable development.

2. Adoption of Thematic categorization of SDGs

2.1. The 9 Thematic categorizations of Sustainable Development Goals prescribed by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) will be adopted to drive localization of SDGs at the village level. These themes are:-

- (1) Poverty free and enhanced livelihoods village
- (2) Healthy village
- (3) Child friendly village
- (4) Water sufficient village
- (5) Clean and green village
- (6) Self-sufficient infrastructure village
- (7) Socially secured village
- (8) Village with Good Governance
- (9) Engendering (Women-centric) development in village

- 2.2. The indicators under these Themes will be mapped to the 17 SDGs as adopted by the UN.
- 2.3. For localization of SDGs at the Urban Local Level, 17 Goals as adopted by the United Nations (UN) will be used.

3. Local Indicator Framework (LIF)

- 3.1. Multiple stakeholder consultations with the village councils of all districts, local councils and state departments were held during the formulation of Village Indicator Framework (VIF) and Urban Indicator Framework (UIF). Together they are henceforth referred to as Local Indicator Framework (LIF).
- 3.2. VIF has been prepared with 100 indicators (*Refer Annexure-I*) across the 9 Themes. Attempt has been made to include as many relevant indicators as possible as used by MoPR for ranking of Gram Panchayats.
- 3.3. VIF is composed of –
 - 3.3.1. Core data set: These are the regular indicators that are recorded by various Government departments in the course of executing their mandated schemes, projects and other functions.
 - 3.3.2. Community Driven data set: To leverage on the strength of the communities in Mizoram, these indicators are introduced to induce community engagement in the attainment of SDG's. Most of these can be answered with a Y/N or with easily obtainable figures. They are mostly related to activities that are or should be conducted by the community that have a bearing on the LSDG Themes and through them, the achievement of SDG's.
- 3.4. Urban Indicator Framework (UIF) has also been prepared with 44 indicators (*Refer Annexure-II*) for ranking localities/wards within urban areas having Municipal Corporation. These are mostly Community Driven data as explained above.

4. Landscape Mapping

- 4.1. *Theme-to-Department Mapping*: All the Goals and Themes under the LSDG framework have been mapped to their respective Government Departments. This is to enable the Departments to know and take responsibility of their respective Sustainable Goals and Themes and strive towards achieving the goals.
- 4.2. *Indicator-to-Scheme Mapping*: All indicators have been mapped with schemes of the Central and the State Governments. This will enable identification of schemes that need focus or review in order to positively affect the indicators in which the village and the local communities perform poorly.

5. Selection of pilot villages

5.1. Due to the enormity of the task of covering all villages within Mizoram and because LSDG is still in its formative stages, it has been decided to roll out LSDG for selected pilot villages for the current financial year (FY 2022-23). These pilot villages have been segregated into three categories.

5.2. *Category-I (26 villages)*

5.2.1. One pilot village from each of the currently functional 26 Rural Development (RD) block in the state has been selected by the respective Deputy Commissioners.

5.2.2. In order to converge activities of various departments and agencies involved in SDGs, such as Local Administration Department (LAD) and State Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (SIRD&PR), the DCs have made the selection from within the pool of 85 villages adopted by SIRD&PR for localization of SDGs. Where no village is adopted by SIRD&PR from any particular block, DCs exercised their discretion for selection of pilot village from that block.

5.2.3. Data collected will be used to rank these villages based on the 9 LSDG themes mentioned in Para 2.1 above and as per the guidelines laid down at Para 10.1 of this Plan of Action.

5.2.4. The collected information will be applied for plan formulation, policy reforms and project interventions in order to achieve the SDG's at the local level.

5.3. *Category-II (22 villages)*

5.3.1. Twenty-two Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) in Mizoram that have adopted villages have selected one pilot village each for inclusion in this Category.

5.3.2. In order to incentivise the HEI's to have impact in their respective adopted villages, competition and ranking of HEI's will be undertaken at two levels as indicated in Para 10.2 of this Plan of Action.

5.3.3. HEIs will commence their intervention through any of their existing set up such as their respective Entrepreneurship Knowledge Cells, NSS etc. Later, SDG intervention activities will be taken up by R&D Cells once they are established as per NEP 2020 guidelines.

5.3.4. The collected information will be applied for plan formulation, policy reforms and project interventions in order to achieve the SDG's at the local level.

5.4. *Category-III (14 villages)*

- 5.4.1. This category will include villages already selected for special intervention by the Government.
- 5.4.2. 5 Pilot villages under the ongoing state project for decentralised planning named Village Level Development Programme (VLDP) will be included in this category.
- 5.4.3. The 9 Backward Villages identified under MDoNER for Mission Mode Programme of rapid improvement of selected districts will also be included in this category.
- 5.4.4. The competition and ranking of this category of villages will be as per Para 10.3 of this Plan of Action.
- 5.4.5. The collected information will be applied for plan formulation, policy reforms and project interventions to achieve the SDG's at the local level.

(Refer Annexure – III for list of Pilot villages)

- 5.5. As one particular village, viz. Chawngtlai, features under two categories, the total number of pilot villages for the FY 2022-23 comes to 62 villages. Based on the results of this pilot initiative, LSDG in the villages will be scaled up in the following year/s.

6. Selection of pilot urban localities

- 6.1. In Mizoram, at present, elected Urban Local Bodies are functional only within Aizawl city in the form of Local Councils (LC's) under the Aizawl Municipal Corporation (AMC) and are spread across 19 Wards.
- 6.2. A healthy competition among the various LC's and among the 19 Wards under AMC is expected to not only generate awareness about SDG's but would also encourage the local authorities to pro-actively monitor the development indicators and take up initiatives within their jurisdiction in order to achieve the SDG's.
- 6.3. In this pilot exercise, 1 locality will be selected from each of the 19 wards by the Aizawl Municipal Corporation. Ranking will be done based on score attained in the Urban Indicator Framework mentioned in para 3.4 and as per the guidelines laid down at Para 10.4 of this Plan of Action. Based on the results of this pilot initiative, LSDG in the urban localities will be scaled up in the following year/s.
- 6.4. The collected information will be applied for plan formulation, policy reforms and project interventions to achieve the SDG's at the local level.

(Refer Annexure – IV for list of Pilot localities under AMC)

7. Awareness and capacity building

- 7.1. Awareness and capacity building for SDGs and Thematic SDGs at the levels of Policy makers, Administrators, Higher Educational Institutions, NGOs and the Public is crucial for the success of the objectives of LSDG. Workshops and consultative meetings on SDG and Local Indicator Frameworks will be conducted with the stakeholders. SDG training for villages will also be carried out through SIRD&PR training module. The institute is currently preparing 160 Master Trainers for this purpose.
- 7.2. Publicity of this initiative will be given in media including social media in order to create awareness, a feedback mechanism and an outlet for publication of achievements and awards.
- 7.3. To the extent possible, a brand ambassador for SDG at the local and village levels will be identified whose role would be to facilitate the activities at the ground level.

8. LSDG Dashboard

- 8.1. Localised SDG Dashboard will be prepared in partnership with UNDP who have extensive experience in developing SDG Dashboards for NITI Aayog, MDoNER and many other States.
- 8.2. In the meantime, for the pilot initiative, basic level (and low cost) MIS will be created by engaging local software developers.

9. Data collection

- 9.1. In the LSDG monitoring framework, the responsibility of monitoring of SDGs at the village level has been given to the Village Development Committee.
- 9.2. Consequently, the responsibility for collection of all data will rest with the Village Council/Village Development Committee who will provide first hand data or collect second hand data from relevant sources, i.e., village level Government agencies. Similarly, for localities under Municipalities, data will be collected from the Local Councils.
- 9.3. The order for collection of data will be issued by the competent authority for village councils in Mizoram, i.e., Local Administration Department (LAD) and in the case of Local Councils, it will be the respective Municipal Corporations.
- 9.4. Periodicity of Core data will be the latest data as is available on date of collection of data.

- 9.5. Periodicity of Community driven data will be the end of the calendar year, i.e., as on 31st December or in accordance with the format in which village and local councils maintain records for these indicators.
- 9.6. The submission of data by VDC / VC will be done in hard copy to the respective Block Development Officer (BDO). After due diligence, the BDOs will in turn upload data online using LSDG Dashboard. In the case of Local Councils, the hard copy will be submitted to the SDG Cell under P&PI Department for uploading into the LSDG Dashboard.
- 9.7. However, due to the limited no. of villages selected for the pilot exercise and since the Dashboard will be launched at a later period, BDO's will forward the data submitted by VDCs to P&PI Department after due diligence in soft/hard copy for compilation.
- 9.8. One-time monetary support to Local Councils and Village Councils for data collection will be arranged.

10. Competition and Ranking

10.1. *Category-I Ranking of 26 pilot villages.*

10.1.1. This will be based on 9 Themes. Cash award to the VDC / VC will be issued based on their performance in the VIF.

10.1.2. Performance Incentive for best performing villages will be awarded as under:

Rank 1st = Rs.10 lakh

Rank 2nd = Rs.8 lakh

Rank 3rd = Rs.5 lakh

Special recognition on achievement of Theme = Rs.2 lakh

Total = Rs.25 lakh

The award amount will vary as per decision of the Government from time to time.

10.1.3. Before the cash Award is physically handed over, the VDCs / VC's will be required to submit a DPR / concept note with estimates for a community project or projects within the award amount. Respective Block Development Officers (BDO's) under Rural Development Department and the relevant Department will assist in the preparation of such DPR / Concept note. The project will be implemented by the BDO in collaboration with the concerned respective VC.

10.1.4. Formal guidelines will be issued for utilization of Award money.

10.2. *Category-II Ranking of 22 HEI.*

10.2.1. Competitive ranking will be conducted at two levels: (i) College Local Immersion competition (ii) Fast Mover Village.

10.2.2. *College Local Immersion competition*

- In 'College Local Immersion competition', colleges will compete with each other in providing practicable solutions for community problems. The objective is to empower academia and students to drive SDGs through an experiential learning platform.
- Students from HEIs will conduct local immersion exercise in their adopted villages, study practical problems faced by the village in their everyday life or in their livelihood, and brainstorm innovative solutions during and after the site immersion exercise. Thereafter, each college will pitch the identified problem and its solution in front of an expert jury composed of Government officials, academia, NGO's and civil society.
- The jury will select economically viable projects which will enter the shelf of projects. Funding for the winning project solutions will be sourced primarily from CSR fund, donations or other sources identified by P&PI Department. Project solutions will be implemented by a collaborative effort of the village council, the foster HEI and CSR funder in a manner worked out on a case-to-case basis.
- Colleges that pitched the top 5 solutions will also be awarded cash prize of Rs. 1 lakh each.

10.2.3. *Fast Mover Village ranking*

- The fastest movers among HEI adopted villages will also be awarded. As noted at para 5.3, data collected based on the 9 LSDG Themes mentioned in Para 2.1 above during the present financial year (FY 2022-23) will be used as baseline data and villages will be assessed at the end of the next financial year on their performance in raising the score of their adopted villages.
- HEI's will be expected to conduct SDG related activities in their adopted villages and extend their knowledge in improving the performance under various SDG indicators.
- Top 5 fastest moving adopted villages will be provided with project award amounting to Rs. 5 lakh each.

- Guidelines for utilization of Award money will be the same as for Category-I.

10.3. *Category-III Ranking of 15 specially identified villages*

- 10.3.1. In the case of Category-III villages, the data collected based on the 9 LSDG Themes mentioned in Para 2.1 above during the present financial year (FY 2022-23) will be used as baseline data and villages will be assessed at the end of the next financial year on their performance.
- 10.3.2. The respective District Commissioners will take it upon themselves to monitor and raise the performance under various SDG indicators.
- 10.3.3. Project award amounting to Rs.5 lakh will be given to the Top 3 fastest moving villages taken from the baseline data.
- 10.3.4. Guidelines for utilization of Award money will be the same as for Category-I, with deeper involvement of the District Commissioners.

10.4. *Ranking of Local Councils*

- 10.4.1. Local Councils of the urban areas will be ranked based on the results of UIF.
- 10.4.2. Performance Incentive for best performing villages will be awarded as under:

Rank 1st = Rs.10 lakh

Rank 2nd = Rs.8 lakh

Rank 3rd = Rs.5 lakh

Special recognition on achievement of Theme = Rs.2 lakh

Total = Rs.25 lakh

The award amount will vary as per decision of the Government from time to time.

- 10.4.3. Before the cash Award is physically handed over, the LCs will be required to submit a DPR / concept note with estimates for a community project or projects within the award amount. Relevant departments will assist in the preparation of DPR. The project will be implemented by the LC with monitoring and guidance from the Municipal Corporation.
- 10.4.4. Proper guidelines will be issued for utilization of Award money.

11. Core Team

- 11.1. As P&PI Department is the Nodal Department for SDG in the State, initiatives under the ambit of LSDG will be coordinated by this Department through the

SDG Cell which is already in place since 2017 and the SDG Core Committee of the P&PI Department which has been constituted as under:-

Chairman	: Secretary to the Government of Mizoram, Planning & Programme Implementation Department
Vice Chairman	: Principal Adviser-cum-Additional Secretary, Planning & Programme Implementation Department
Member Secretary	: Under Secretary to the Government of Mizoram, Planning & Programme Implementation Department
Members	: Director, Economics & Statistics
	: Chief Scientific Officer, Science & Technology
	: Deputy Adviser-cum-Deputy Secretary, Planning & Programme Implementation Department, i/c SDG
	: Economist-cum-Under Secretary, Planning & Programme Implementation Department
	: Deputy Director, Economics & Statistics, i/c SDG
	: Scientific Officer, Science & Technology
	: Senior Scientific Officer, Mizoram Science, Technology & Innovation Council
	: Scientific Officer, Mizoram Science, Technology & Innovation Council
	: Principal Scientist, Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre
	: Senior Scientist, Mizoram Remote Sensing Application Centre

12. Partnerships

- 12.1. SDG – 17 is partnerships for the goals. In this regard, to achieve SDG's at all levels partnership with Government bodies, NGO's, Foundations, Companies in the private sectors and individuals will be fostered with due diligence and due process.
- 12.2. *Whole-of-Government* approach will be adopted for greater collaboration and coordination across departmental boundaries to create synergies for attainment of SDGs. The State Level Monitoring Committee will play a crucial role in this regard. Furthermore, integration of decision-making will be attempted at various strata of administration by meaningfully involving the district administration through the District Planning Committees, Village Development Committees at the village level and Municipalities/ Local Councils at the urban local level.

- 12.3. *Whole-of-Society* approach will be adopted to involve the civil society, i.e. VO, NGOs, religious organisations, and the private sector, in the development agenda for promoting universality and inclusiveness.
- 12.4. The areas of cooperation and partnership can be in any of the action points laid down in this plan of action and across all categories of localisation.

13. Reform Action Plan

- 13.1. Reform Action Plan will be formulated based on LIF (VIF and/or UIF) data consisting of the following components:

SN	Component	Action
a.	SDG-GPDP convergence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LIF data will be submitted to LAD/SIRD&PR for necessary action w.r.t. GPDP.
b.	Policy reform and No cost interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PPID will suggest policy reform measures. LIF and suggestions will be discussed with line departments. Actionable report will be laid before SLMC.
c.	SDG-CSS convergence - interventions that can be incorporated in Schemes of the Departments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mapped data at Para 4 will be used to identify CSS relevant for low performing indicators. LIF will be discussed with line departments. Actionable report will be laid before SLMC RAP and SLMC forum to be used for Monitoring of CSS.
d.	SDG based Shelf of Projects - gap filling Intervention for possible funding under MDoNER, NEC, Art. 275(1), PMJVK, GPDP, SEDP, CSR, PMDevINE etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PPID will suggest gap filling intervention specific to – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low performing village Low performing indicators Chosen theme by village High economic potential villages and localities Urgent intervention to prevent environmental degradation. Suggestions will be discussed with line departments. Actionable report will be laid before SLMC.

14. Approval Process

- 14.1. Reform Action Plan will be prepared by P&PI Department after analysis of LIF. Comments of District Planning Committees on the LIF and suggested interventions will also be taken into consideration.
- 14.2. Thereafter, consultation workshops on RAP will be conducted by P&PI Department with relevant Departments as indicated in the table at para 1.1.
- 14.3. After review & consolidation, the LIF and RAP will be laid before the State Level Monitoring Committee (SLMC) for SDGs chaired by Chief Secretary for approval.
- 14.4. Action will be taken as per SLMC approval.

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