

VNR NIGERIA STATEMENT 2025

We, a coalition of Nigerian Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) commend the Federal Government of Nigeria for presenting its third Voluntary National Review (VNR) and for adopting an inclusive consultative process. This marks progress toward inclusive governance, national ownership and accountability towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

However, there are persistent challenges that continue to undermine SDG achievement:

- Insecurity particularly disrupts education, healthcare, and livelihoods across the country.
- Increasing poverty and inequality affects over 60% of the population with marginalized, minority, CDWD and vulnerable groups disproportionately affected.
- Inadequate representation of women, youth, and those in the informal sector in decision making processes.
- Youth unemployment remains high and economic growth has not translated into equitable opportunities.
- Coastal pollution and climate impacts continues to threaten life below water and livelihoods, especially among rural and coastal communities because of poor policy decision and inadequate infrastructure,
- Weak institutions limited social accountability, and ongoing corruption erode public trust and Sustainable development.

We hereby respectfully pose the following questions:

1. What actions are being taken to address the persistent insecurity that severely limits SDG implementation across Nigeria?
2. How will social protection systems be strengthened to reduce poverty and reach marginalized communities?

3. what strategies will tackle women and youth political participation, unemployment including economic and social advancement of Nigerians?
4. How will the 2026–2030 development plan integrates coastal and climate resilience actions to resolving issues around environmental degradation?
5. What mechanisms will be put in place to institutionalize social accountability and ensure civic participation, particularly the delivery of the SDGs and partnership for the goals?

We stand ready to partner with the government in building a just, inclusive, and sustainable Nigeria. Let us move from promises to transformative action that truly *leaves no one behind*.

Thank you.