

The VNR in a Nutshell – National Strategies for SDGs.

Colombia

Capital	Bogotá
Population	47.7million
Area (in sq. km)	2.070.408
Language(s)	Castellano
National poverty line	11.7
Human Development Index	0.727 (Rank 95)
Gross national income (GNI) per capita	13,540
International Tourist Arrivals	3,317,000



Sources: UNDP, The World Bank

The recognition of the role of tourism in sustainable development and the emphasis placed in the SDGs on the development of public policies for sustainable tourism is a landmark breakthrough that provides a unique opportunity for all governments to create a sound and favourable policy foundation.

The first two years of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda have shown that countries are making headway in aligning national strategies, adapting institutional frameworks and adjusting policies to realize the SDGs.

The countries' efforts have been reported in the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs), presented by UN Member States during the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) in 2016 and 2017.

Title of VNR: Foro Político de Alto Nivel 2016 - ECOSOC Presentación Nacional Voluntaria de Colombia Los ODS como instrumento para Consolidar la Paz

Presenter for VNR: Simón Gaviria Muñoz, Minister for National Planning of Colombia

National Thematic Focus:

The government is fully committed and had already a strategy in place: "Todos por un Nuevo País" 2014-2018, which includes the vision of the 2030 agenda, also concrete strategies, targets and indicators. (92/169 targets).

For the strategy "El Crecimiento Verde", other actions are required and consequently connected to other SDGs (sustainable consumption, mitigation and climate change, ecosystem protection and sustainable use of coastal areas and marine capital SDGs 2, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15).

The peace treaty is pioneer worldwide, since it includes SDGs as a tool to foster peace building in the country.

Institutional Arrangement:

The **National Council for Economic and Social Policy** is the highest authority in planning and coordinating various economic and social reforms and strategies in Colombia. Since 2015, the Council has put forward policies and proposals that have encompassed various SDGs. It has prioritized providing assistance to the public, and supporting an environment that would facilitate the achievement of the SDGs.

Colombia has created a **High-level Inter-ministerial Commission for the preparation and effective implementation of the post-2015 development agenda and its sustainable development goals** in February 2015 to oversee the implementation and monitoring of programs that would lead to the achievement of the SDGs. It is chaired by the head of the **National Planning Department** with ministerial level representation across the government under the guidance of the **Office of the President**.

The Commission is designed to include different institutions to function in a cross-sectoral manner. It includes five working groups, i.e., indicators, territorial, resource mobilisation, international affairs, and communications. The Commission is in charge of developing the SDG implementation strategy and action plan at national and regional levels, as well as of monitoring, following-up and evaluating the achievement of the SDG targets.

SDG Incorporation to National Framework:

In Colombia, the National Development Plan 2014–2018, drafted by the **National Planning Department** in 2014, presents the key strategic framework for the country's SDG implementation. It focusses on each specific SDG and provides guidelines for SDG implementation.

Tourism Ministry /NTA portfolio:

Tourism Ministry of Colombia <http://www.mincit.gov.co/>

Tourism and SDG in Colombia:

Opportunities

- **Economic development**
- **Security and Peace**
- **Tourism diversification**



Colombia's tourism sector has grown more than the national economy. The positive evolution of security and the exploitation of ecotourism potential of the regions has contributed to make tourism a viable economic alternative for the regional population, contributing to the development of a new sustainable economy that contributes to peace in the post-conflict era.

- **Green Economy**
- **Security and Peace**



Colombia has created the bases for structural adjustment towards a new economy characterized by green growth - less dependent on the extraction of non-renewable resources, with industry, agriculture and tourism being the principles drivers.

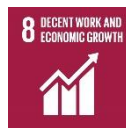
- **Economic Development**
- **Employment creation**
- **Climate change**



Colombia considers target 8.9. (in which tourism is mentioned) as a means to create decent work and economic growth, which, together with SDG 1 and 3 should help to address climate change SDG 13.

Challenges

- **Employment creation**



Only around 1% of Colombian employment is based on tourism. It is noted that women's representation in the tourism workforce is two times higher than men's.

Resources and Useful Links

[Colombia VNR 2016](#)