

**Meeting of Regional Governments.
"A Territorial Agenda for the Objectives
of Sustainable Development: learning
between regions. "**

Document of conclusions.

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**GENERALITAT
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CONSELLERIA DE TRANSPARÈNCIA,
RESPONSABILITAT SOCIAL, PARTICIPACIÓ I COOPERACIÓ





PRESENTATION

The 25 of September, 2015, the 193 Member States of the United Nations adopted unanimously the Agenda 2030 for the Sustainable Development. (Hereinafter, “the 2030 Agenda”)

The core of the 2030 Agenda consists of a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 underlying goals. The SDGs are universal, apply to all stakeholders and to all citizens and involve all levels of governance-, from international, European and national authorities to subnational entities.-

The year 2015 was decisive for sustainable development throughout the world. Not only was the 2030 Agenda adopted, but also the Paris Agreement on climate change (COP21), the Addis Abeba Action Agenda, (as an integral part of the 2030 Agenda), and the Sendai Framework for Disasters Risk Reduction were adopted too.

National governments around the world are implementing national development strategies based on the SDGs or adapting their current plans to the objectives proposed in the 2030 Agenda. All these national strategies on the SDGs should include a subnational perspective as well as a multilevel and multilateral integrated approach to promote transformative programs at regional and local level.

The European Commission, in its communications, reiterates that the EU is firmly committed to being one of the pioneers in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) together with its Member States, in line with the principle of subsidiarity.

The first Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, held in Mexico City from April 26 to 28, 2017, recognizes the primary responsibility of the Governments in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for the Sustainable Development, which takes into account the different realities, capacities and





levels of development and respects its national policies and priorities.¹

The United Nations carried out a global consultation on the location of the SDGs in 2014, from which the following key messages were extracted²:

- Regional and local governments are essential to promote inclusive sustainable development within their territories and, therefore, are necessary partners in the implementation of the SDGs.
- An effective local governance can guarantee the inclusion of a variety of local stakeholders, thus creating a broad sense of ownership, commitment and responsibility.
- A multilevel and multilateral integrated approach is necessary to promote transformative programs at the local level.
- It is necessary for there to be strong national commitments that provide adequate legal frameworks and institutional and financial capacities.

The Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) encourages a change based on the SDGs to mobilize experience and resources – both technical and scientific - from academia, civil society and the private sector, providing solutions for sustainable development at the local, national and global levels.

The Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly recognizes that localization refers both to the way in which local and regional governments can support the achievement of the SDGs through grassroots actions and the way in which the SDGs can provide a framework for local development policies³.

1 Conclusions and recommendations agreed upon by the governments gathered at the First Meeting of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, held under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Mexico City. 26 to April 28, 2017.

2 Roadmap for the localization of the SDGs: implementation and monitoring at the subnational level, Global Task Team, UN-Habitat, United Nations Development Program (UNDP) 2016

3 Working Paper on the "Effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the local level" Commission for Sustainable Development, Environment, Energy Policy, Research, Innovation and Technology. 04.27.2017





CONCLUSIONS

1. The 2030 Agenda is a common frame of reference for all efforts in the promotion of Sustainable Development,- as regards economic, social and environmental issues-, which will require coordinating national, regional and local agendas in order to be effective and reach the goals.
2. The universal and indivisible nature of the 2030 Agenda obliges us to do things differently, calling for the breaking down of thematic, institutional and cultural silos. That nature involves proposing creative innovative solutions to advance the global debate on sustainable, just and egalitarian development.
3. The achievement of the SDGs depends, more than ever, on the capacity of local and regional governments to promote integrated, inclusive and sustainable territorial development, while at the same time we need to articulate an Alliance that includes both the local government, the private sector, the civil society, academia and other stakeholders that have direct and indirect links to sustainable development at the regional level. Its application must be carried out jointly by all.
4. Civil society must play a crucial role in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the global, regional and national levels. We must ensure that citizens are involved in decisions that affect their future. It is necessary to inform awareness and engage the active participation of citizens in the achievement of the SDGs in our communities, in order to promote multi-actor commitments to achieve them.
5. The 2030 Agenda underscores the need for political coherence and places us as regional governments to align our public policies towards the achievement of the SDGs, from a territorial approach with specific measures to locate the 2030 Agenda, recognizing our strengths and capacities to transform our world.
6. We underline the importance of coordinating and articulating spaces among the





different agents and stakeholder (public administrations, universities, the civil society and the private sector) that should lead us to the collective building of an action plan whereby the Sustainable Development Goals regionally become a shared and accomplishable horizon in anyone of our areas of coexistence.

7. Measuring progress at the national, regional level makes necessary to have a definition of reference indicators of the SDGs at the national, regional and local levels that have goals, and tangible monitoring and accountability mechanisms, to periodically monitor the progress at the regional and local levels and to report on the degree of progress towards each specific goal of the SDGs.
8. It is necessary encourage and articulate Partnerships with other regions, creating synergies in order to mutually support regional and local initiatives that allow for the advancement towards the SDGs.
9. Finally, it should be noted that the location of the SDGs, as regards their economic, environmental and social dimensions, at regional and local level, is precisely the most important challenge we face as of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. This challenge requires effective, responsible and transparent regional and local institutions, that are fully committed to the success of the 2030 Agenda, in close collaboration with academia, the civil society and other stakeholders, including the private sector, by strengthening alliances to transform the 2030 Agenda into concrete policies and actions at regional and local level. We are the first generation that can end poverty and the last generation that can fear the worst impacts of climate change.

