LOCAL 2030
LOCALIZING THE SDGS

LOCAL2030 COALITION

Accelerating the progress on the sustainable development goals at the local level

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Presented by the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat

December 2022

PREFACE

This report presents the activities and achievements of the Local2030 Coalition in 2022 according to the 2022 Work Plan approved by its Steering Committee in April 2022.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2022 was a pivotal year for the Local 2030 Coalition to establish itself as the UN System's platform for SDG localization. The Coalition focused on establishing and operationalizing its governance structure, mobilizing resources, and rallying support for local action.

The Coalition's main achievements in 2022 include the launch of the Steering Committee, its governance lead; the establishment of the UN Directors Group, the platform for engagement of agencies across the UN and which serves as the Coalition's management and substantive steer; the opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao, Spain; the development of the SDG Localization funding window in partnership with the Joint SDG Fund, to be launched in early 2023; the strengthening and reorientation of Local2030 Hubs; and strategic advocacy to ensure the successful lift-off of the Coalition, by organizing and participating in high-level events, such as the ECOSOC Partnership Forum, 11th World Urban Forum, UN High-Level Political Forum, 77UNGA, and COP27.   Discussions are ongoing with the Governments of Italy and Egypt on opening Local2030 Hubs in their countries and further supporting the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat.

LIST OF ANNEXES

ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS ACHIEVED IN 2022

The Local2030 Coalition Strategy for the Decade of Action[1], launched in December 2021, clusters the Local2030 Coalition's work into three main areas:

Advocacy: to implement the 2030 Agenda at the local level as a roadmap to overcome crises and their subsequent effects by raising awareness and enhancing bottom-up and inclusive processes	**Action**: to build and nurture a support platform system for SDG localization and increase and channel finance to multi-partner, multi-stakeholder initiatives backed by Local2030 Coalition members and partners.	**Monitoring**: to encourage monitoring and reporting by subnational actors and increase opportunities for them to exchange knowledge and perspectives on this theme.

The sections below highlight the concrete activities that the Local2030 Coalition undertook to achieve the objectives set in the 2022 Work Plan structured around its three working areas, as mentioned above, in addition to Governance, which has been one of the main focuses of the Coalition in 2022.

ADVOCACY

OUTCOME 1.1 Within the decade of action, local actors are engaged to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs

Establishment and activation of the Steering Committee

The Local2030 Coalition is governed by a Steering Committee (SC), which makes key strategic decisions and ensures effective governance oversight. The SC has a maximum of seven members, comprising five designated focal points and two United Nations (UN) Co-chairs - a permanent Co-chair tasked with leading its Secretariat and a two-year rotational Co-chair.

After a consultation process to define the strategic orientation of Local2030, held in 2021 by the Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG), under the guidance of the UN Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) was

appointed as the Local2030 Coalition's permanent Co-chair, while United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was invited to be the first rotational Co-chair for 2022-2023, to be followed by FAO in 2024-2025.

Terms of Reference
Against this background, the Local2030 Coalition Co-chairs, with the support of its Secretariat and EOSG, have developed the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the SC. The ToR was shared with members of the Coalition's UN Directors Group for input, which were addressed by the Secretariat (Annex 1). As a result, in April 2022, the ToR was finalized, including SC's aim, composition, membership, term of office, key tasks and other crucial information to safeguard its well-functioning (Annex 2).

Launch of the Steering Committee

The Local 2030 Steering Committee convened for the first time on 29 April 2022 in New York and online. Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the UN and Chair of the UN Sustainable Development Group, delivered a keynote speech. This was followed by the welcoming remarks of the Local2030 Coalition Co-chairs, Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director of UN-Habitat, and Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator of UNDP.

The Steering Committee's first cohort for the period 2022-23, who also participated of the launch, includes:

- The Government of Italy[1];
- Ms. Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr OBE, Mayor of Freetown, Sierra Leone;
- Ms. Emilia Saiz, Secretary General of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG);
- Ms. Esther Muiruri, Founder of the Gold Ribbon Initiative, Kenya; and
- Ms. Clara Arpa Azofra, CEO of Arpa Equipos Móviles de Campaña, Spain, and a member of the Board of the UN Global Compact.

The meeting officially introduced the Steering Committee, reviewed the Coalition's priority actions, and endorsed the 2022 Work Plan unanimously. It also counted on the presence of the special guests. Ms. Eva del Hoyo Barbolla, the Director-General of Sustainable Development Policies of the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation, and Mr. Unai Telleria, the Delegate from the Basque Country to the USA, who presented a whole-of-government and whole-of-society proposal for supporting the

First meeting with Steering Committee Technical Focal Points

The Local2030 Coalition Co-chairs (UN-Habitat and UNDP) held the first meeting with the technical focal points of the Local2030 Coalition Steering Committee (SC) on October 21. The Local2030 Coalition's state of play, along with its upcoming milestones and events, were presented on this occasion. The meeting also explored how the SC members could better engage, coordinate, and contribute to and benefit from the Coalition (Annex 4).
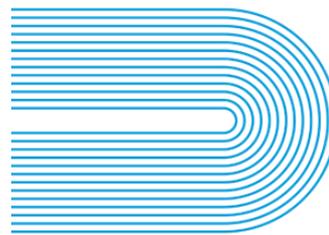
Create and institutionalize the UN Directors Group from interested UN Agencies, Offices, Funds, and Programmes

The UN Directors Group was established in 2021 as an advisory body for the Local2030 Coalition, comprised of director-level members of UN agencies, offices, funds, and programmes. The group meets regularly to provide strategic direction and inputs for the consideration of the Steering Committee and share how their institutions can contribute to delivering Local2030 Coalition's activities. It currently counts on the participation of 14 members: UN-Habitat, UNDP, DCO, EOSG, ESCAP, FAO, ILO, UN-WOMEN, UNDESA, UNECE, UNEP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, and WHO.

UN Directors Group meetings in 2022

Convened by the Local2030 Coalition Co-chairs (UN-Habitat and UNDP), the Directors Group Meetings took place on April 19 (Annex 5) and October 18 (Annex 6). The meetings aimed at discussing the Coalition's strategic documents (ToRs of the Secretariat, SC and Hubs), the Coalition's Work Plans, the potential contribution of members of the UN Directors Group to the Work Plan and the Coalition itself, and the creation of the Thematic Working Groups (WG). In addition, the meetings shared relevant updates, results, and upcoming milestones and events for the Local2030 Coalition.

Main outcomes

The contributions from the UN Directors Group (such as the ones for the ToRs, Work Plans, WG, etc.) are helping to shape the work of the Coalition, reassuring that the Local 2030 Coalition is truly an inclusive, global initiative.

As we move forward, the Local2030 Coalition will encourage Directors to continue engaging with the Coalition by creating a technical focal points group and coordination and reporting mechanisms to make sure that there is a strong engagement of UN entities beyond biannual meetings. Moreover, the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat will work together with UN colleagues to develop the Terms of Reference for the UN Directors Group and refine the upcoming Work Plan.

Create and institutionalize Local2030 Coalition Partners Group

The Coalition's activities are already being undertaken in collaboration with several partner institutions and governments at the national, subnational, and local levels, working on SDG localization. However, the institutionalization of a Local2030 Coalition Partners Group was postponed to 2023, when the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat will be fully operative.

OUTCOME 1.2 Local actors and lessons learned in the localization of the SDGs inform national, regional, and global SDG events

One of the Local2030 Coalition's priorities is to increase concrete engagement and enhance bottom-up and inclusive processes to apply the 2030 Agenda locally as a roadmap to overcome crises and their subsequent effects and foster sustainable development.

To bring this perspective to the discussion tables, the Local2030 Coalition facilitated the participation of local governments and actors, as well as SC members and partners of the Coalition, in several events on SDG localization that took place in 2022 in the framework of local, national, regional, and global events.

In addition, the Coalition organized high-level events on SDG localization and related themes to facilitate exchanges of ideas and practices and create new partnerships. As we approach the midpoint to achieve the 2030 Agenda, the Local2030 Coalition called for more significant commitment, financing, and technical support to leverage the power of local action to achieve the SDGs.

This continuous work demonstrates the Coalition's effort to raise awareness and boost the implementation of the SDGs at the local level through multilevel governance and multistakeholder partnerships, which is reflected in the different events and sessions reported below.

2022 ECOSOC Partnership Forum

The Local2030 Coalition organized, together with UN-Habitat and UNDP, a side event during the 2022 ECOSOC Partnership Forum on "Enabling multi-stakeholder partnerships for sustainable development at the local level" in February 2022.

The panel discussed the importance of renewed multi-stakeholder arrangements and shed light on emerging local governance models based on collaboration and partnership. The Local2030 Coalition facilitated the participation of two Local2030 Hubs as speakers of the side event, the Paraná Hub and Hawai'i Green Growth (Annex 7).
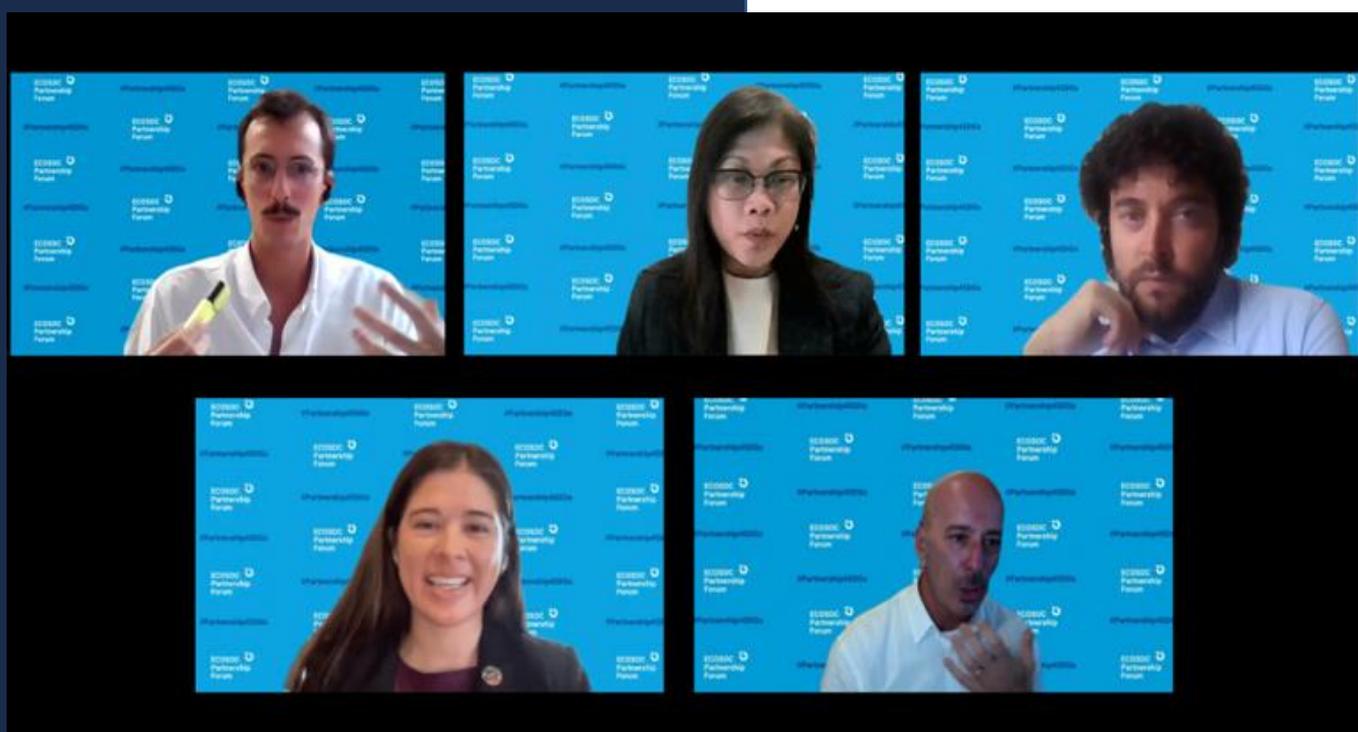
<u>Special Session on SDG Localization at the World Urban Forum 11</u>

The 2022 World Urban Forum 11 (WUF11) took place in Katowice, Poland, from the 6th to the 30th of July, under the theme 'Transforming our Cities for a Better Urban Future.' On this framework, the [Special Session on Localizing the SDGs](#) was held on the 29th of June 2022. The session discussed how the national government could become a stronger ally in delivering SDG localization via multidimensional support to the local and regional governments. It also reiterated the importance of addressing the lack of funding and the closure of data gaps, two of the most significant challenges for local actors to achieve the SDGs successfully.

On this occasion, the Local2030 Coalition facilitated the participation of the SC Members, Ms. Emilia Saiz, Secretary General of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), and Ms. Esther Muiruri, Founder of the Gold Ribbon Initiative, Kenya.
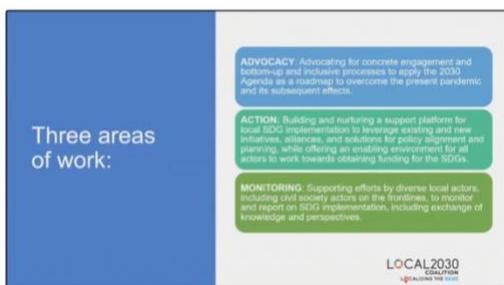
Moreover, along with other global initiatives for SDG Localization, the Local2030 Coalition was introduced as the UN System platform to foster collaboration, incubate innovation, share solutions, and implement strategies that advance the SDGs. It also explained the Coalition's three areas of work - advocacy, action, and monitoring - and presented the next steps for 2022, which included: i) Local2030 Coalition side-event at the 2022 HLPF; ii) participation at the 77UNGA; iii) operationalization of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat; iv) Implementation of work plan activities, including the launch of thematic working groups; v) SDG Localization Window in partnership with the SDG Joint Fund and the UN Member States ([Annex 8](#)).

<u>Local2030 Coalition official side-event at HLPF 2022</u>

The 2022 High-level Political Forum for Sustainable Development (HLPF) was held in New York from the 5th to the 15th of July under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Taking advantage of this high-level moment, the Local2030 Coalition organized a side event on 11 July 2022 titled "[Local action: getting the SDGs back on track](#)."

The session counted on the participation of Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, UN Deputy Secretary-General and Chair of the UN Development Group, who delivered a keynote speech.

The first panel, moderated by Dr. Shipra Narang Suri, Chief of UN-Habitat Urban Practices Branch, brought together different perspectives from UN agencies, national governments, local and regional governments, and academia to discuss multi-level and multi-stakeholder cooperation.

The second panel, moderated by Mr. Gonzalo Pizarro, UNDP Lead on Cities and Urbanization, focused on the experiences of Local2030 Hubs on the SDGs under review at the 2022 HPLF.

This panel discussion leveraged the views and experiences of Local2030 members and partners to advance sustainability at the local level. In addition to analyzing how local action can accelerate the achievement of the SDGs under review in 2022, the session highlighted the integrated, indivisible, and interrelated nature of the goals.

At the closing, the session heard from Dr. Nenad Rava, Head of Programmes, Joint SDG Fund and H.E. Ambassador María Bassols, Chargée d'Affaires a.i., Mission of Spain to the UN, delivered Introductory remarks to the video presentation of the proposal of the government of Spain, the Basque Country and Bilbao's 'whole-of-government' proposal to host the Secretariat of the Local2030 Coalition in Bilbao (Annex 9).

<u>Fifth Local and Regional Government Forum on the 2030 Agenda</u>

The fifth edition of the Local and Regional Governments Forum took place on 7 and 12 July as a Special High-Level Event of the 2022 HLPF. The debates were centered on how Local and Regional Governments (LRGs) can foster the achievement of the SDGs towards the 2023 SDG Summit. The Local2030 Coalition Secretariat team was part of the Task Force of partners (UN-DESA, UN-HABITAT, the Global Task Force for LRGs, and Local2030) behind the event's organization (Annex 10). The Coalition also facilitated the participation of the Local2030 Hub, Hawai'i Green Growth in the second day of the event.

UNGA (United Nations General Assembly) 77 – World's to-do list campaign for cities

The 77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) was held in New York from the 13th to the 26th of September. The Local2030 Coalition partnered with Project Everyone to boost its World's to-do list campaign for cities. Concretely, the Coalition mobilized cities from Brazil (Barcarena, Curitiba, Londrina, Maringá) to adhere to the campaign and amplified its outreach by publishing it on the Coalition's website and social media channels. A press release was issued by Project Everyone, including a quote from UN-Habitat's Executive Director on behalf of the Local2030 Coalition Co-chairs (Annex 11).
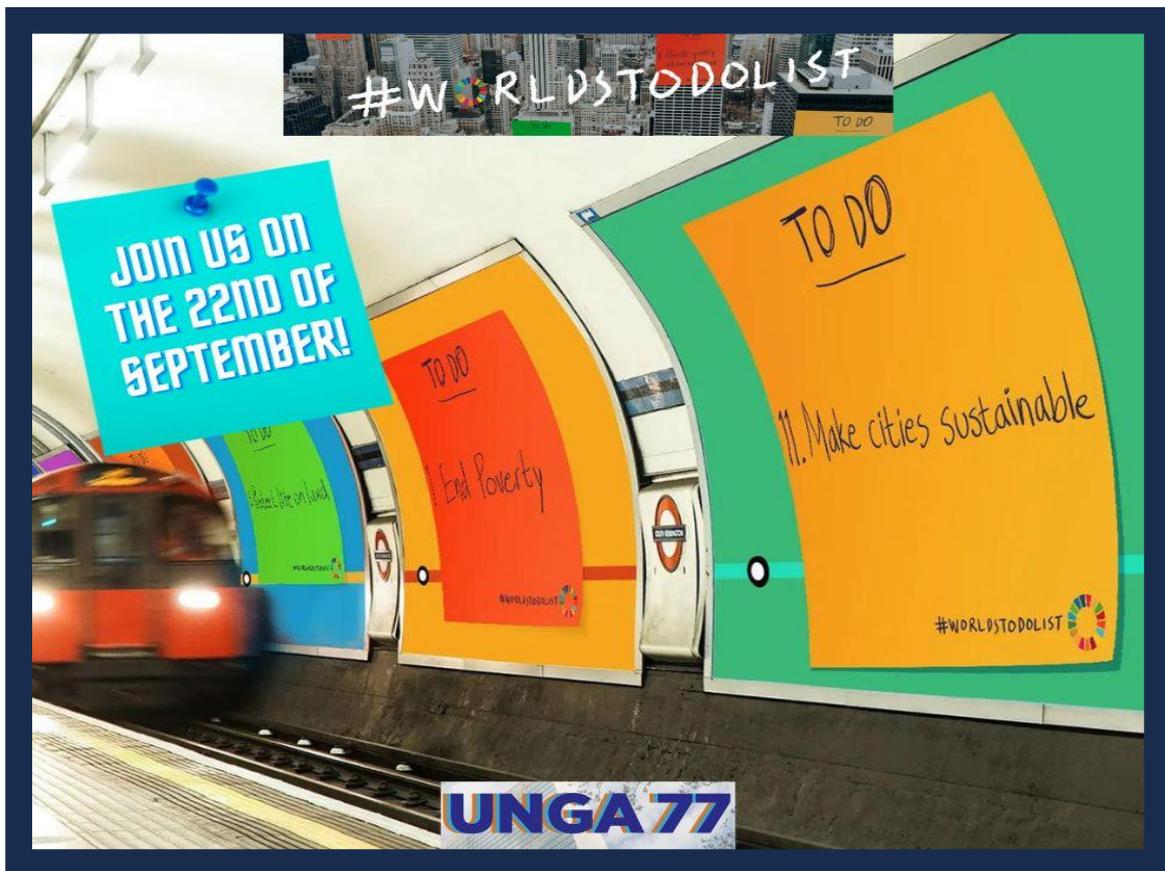
Together with partners, the Coalition and Project Everyone agreed to continue advocating for unlocking finance and technical assistance to support cities in achieving the SDGs. This ongoing campaign will continue during different milestones and landmark events in 2023.

Opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao

The Local2030 Coalition Secretariat was opened on 31 October 2022 in Bilbao, Spain, by the United Nations, the Government of Spain, the Basque Government, the City Council of Bilbao, and the BBK Foundation. More details on the Local2030 Coalition being hosted in Bilbao can be found here.

The UN Deputy Secretary-General and Chair of the UN Sustainable Development Group, Ms. Amina J. Mohammed; UN-Habitat Executive Director, Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif; UNDP Assistant Administrator and Director of Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, Mr. Haoliang Xu; the Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain, Mr. José Manuel Albares; the Secretary of State for the 2030 Agenda, of the Ministry for Social Rights and the 2030 Agenda of Spain, Ms. Lilith Verstrynge; the President of the Basque Government, Mr. Iñigo Urkullu; the Mayor of Bilbao, Mr. Juan Mari Aburto, and the President of the BBK Foundation, Mr. Xabier Sagredo, participated in the opening among other high-level authorities and stakeholders' representatives.

The opening was held on World Cities Day to recognize the contribution of cities and local actors towards addressing the world's urban challenges and engage the international community towards implementing the New Urban Agenda, which is the roadmap to sustainable urbanization that was adopted at the Habitat III Conference in Quito in 2016.

The 2022 World Cities Day theme, "Act Local to Go Global", inspired the panel debate, which focused on accelerating the implementation of the SDGs in cities, towns, and local communities.

The event was also a milestone of the World's To-Do List global campaign that calls for greater support to cities to achieve the SDGs. Through this campaign, the City of Bilbao joined other cities worldwide in underlining their commitment to the SDGs (Annex 12).

COP27

The Local2030 Coalition organized an official COP27 side event, "SDG localization as a driver of urgent climate action," on November 14, at the Egyptian Pavilion, in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt (Annex 13).

The side event promoted a multi-level and multi-stakeholder discussion on SDG localization's importance in pushing climate action by ensuring local actors are equipped to overcome climate-related challenges and achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Moderated by Dr. Erfan Ali, UN-Habitat Representative of the Regional Office for Arab States, the discussion promoted an exchange of knowledge, best practices, and transformative solutions contributing to mitigating climate change and supporting adaptation and resilience efforts at the local level.

H.E. Dr. Hala El-Said, Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Government of Egypt, and H.E. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, UN Under-Secretary-General, and Executive Director of UN-Habitat, opened the session.

They were joined by H.E. Usha Rao-Monari, UN Under-Secretary-General and Associate Administrator of UNDP, H.O. Fatma Şahin, Mayor of Gaziantep Metropolitan Municipality, Turkey, and Ms. Susan Ruffo, Local2030 Islands Network Steering Committee Member and Senior Advisor for Ocean and Climate at the UN Foundation, for a panel discussion that addressed how local action is driving an ambitious plan to deal with the climate emergency and simultaneously overcome other complex and interconnected crises that we are facing today.

REINVIGORATE THE LOCAL 2030 HUBS

The Local2030 Hubs hold a wealth of experience in local governance and development. In 2022, a total of 8 Local2030 Hubs are active:

1. Liverpool 2030hub: The 2030hub seeks to contribute to the achievement of the SDGs by fostering sustainable entrepreneurship. In addition to a co-working space, the hub offers support to businesses and non-profit initiatives with a focus on the SDGs and related impact investing.
2. Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG): HGG develops local solutions to global sustainability challenges, building on island culture and values, and indigenous knowledge. With the Global Island Partnership, this hub highlights islands as laboratories for innovation that catalyze and scale integrated ridge-to-reef projects, cutting across the energy, water, food, and urban nexus.
3. Paraná Hub: Hosted by the Paraná State Government, the Hub focuses on supporting all municipalities within the state in localizing the SDGs.
4. Shizuoka Hub: Hosted by the local government, the Hub's main priorities.
5. are: 1) raise awareness of the SDGs and engage with other cities; 2) promote the SDGs among citizens, businesses, and schools; and 3) incorporate the SDGs into the city's five general policies and develop local indicators.
6. Local2030 Sweden Hub: The hub's purpose is twofold. Geographically, it is a platform to gather Swedish experiences of local implementation of the 2030 Agenda. And thematically, to improve inter-regional and North-South collaboration and highlight local challenges and local solutions in adapting the SDGs to local governance and urban settings.
7. Malmö Local Ocean Action Hub: The Hub focuses on coastal cities, oceans, ocean literacy, and the effect of land-based activity on marine and coastal environments.
8. Red de Ciudades Cómo Vamos Hub: A network of 35 Colombian municipalities to support SDG monitoring and sharing best practices.
9. Sahel Hub: Hosted by SOS SAHEL, the Hub focuses on the local-level promotion of climate resilience, evergreen agriculture, and sustainable livelihoods for agricultural outgrower communities.

The main objective in 2022 was to develop a collective understanding of what it means to be a Local2030 Hub, to deliberate on what structure would ensure the effectiveness of the Hubs, and to explore how the Hubs could contribute and benefit from the Coalition.

Close communication was reestablished between existing Hubs and the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat, and a first draft of the Terms of Reference for the Local2030 Hubs was concluded (Annex 14), which will be endorsed in the upcoming Steering Committee meeting.

Moreover, to leverage the knowledge and experience of the Hubs, the Local2030 Coalition has facilitated the participation of Local2030 Hubs in several high-level discussions, such as the 2022 ECOSOC Partnership Forum, Local2030 Side events at 2022 HLPF and COP27 and the Opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao.

<u>Meeting with Local2030 Hubs</u>
The Local2030 Hubs meeting took place as an online conference on September 21, 2022. During the session, a consultation was held to collect feedback from Hubs on the ToR for Local2030 Hubs ([Annex 14](#)) and the Local2030 Coalition 2022 work plan. The meeting counted on the presence of six hub representatives, who contributed with enriching ideas and comments about the content presented ([Annex 15](#)).

Compilation and sharing of good practices on SDG Localization

<u>SDG Localization Baseline</u>

The Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) was commissioned to develop a global baseline study, based on relevant literature, research and a selection of case studies from around the world linked to the localization of the SDGs.

This exercise was completed in October 2021 and pinpointed significant gaps in SDG localization efforts, which are clustered into three distinct categories - advocacy, action, and monitoring - and highlighted the need for a holistic approach and additional support to local authorities and actors. The baseline is the substantive basis that has oriented the definition of the Strategy of the Coalition.

In 2022, following the guidance of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat, SEI started a validation process with all stakeholders interviewed in the case studies to ensure that the SDG Localization Baseline rightly documents their experiences. The final version of the SDG Localization Baseline will be finalized and made available for a wider audience in 2023.

OUTCOME 1.3 Knowledge-sharing and capacity-building opportunities on SDG localization are an integral part of the Local 2030 Coalition's work

Manage the Local2030 Coalition online platform, communication, and social media channels

<u>Online Platform</u>
The Local2030 online platform is the leading knowledge and information sharing platform in the localization of the SDGs. The platform gathers cutting-edge knowledge and disseminates best practices, relevant events, and stories.

- *Maintenance*

During the reporting period, meetings were held with Reverse Thought, the maintenance company, to ensure the Local2030 website was properly updated. In this regard, an email subscription (info@local2030.org) was purchased from GoDaddy for one year and a new account was opened with an email delivery company called Sendinblue. Moreover, the website has been constantly checked to ensure it was correctly functioning. In 2023, it is foreseen that the website will be completely renewed.

Publications

Likewise, new events, publications, and stories were published, and the ones submitted by partners were reviewed and published in English, Spanish, and French.

Here is a selection of publications released in 2022:

- Sustainable energy for all forum: https://local2030.org/event/view/455
- Side event: enabling multi-stakeholder partnerships for sustainable development at the local level: https://local2030.org/event/view/488
- Eighth Session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development and Regional Workshop on VNRs and VLRs: https://www.local2030.org/event/view/528
- International seminar on voluntary local reviews: https://local2030.org/event/view/514
- High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda and side-events: https://www.local2030.org/event/view/527
- Localizing the 2030 agenda - strengthening the capacity of local actors to influence leverage points for transformation: https://local2030.org/event/view/513
- Virtual UN summer academy 2022: https://local2030.org/event/view/523
- 9th Africities Summit: https://www.local2030.org/event/view/529
- The eleventh session of the World Urban Forum: https://www.local2030.org/event/view/530
- Sustainable Cities Discussion: https://www.local2030.org/event/view/531
- Inspirational guide SDG monitoring and reporting for local governments: https://www.local2030.org/library/view/849
- Roadmap Making Barcarena a resilient city https://www.local2030.org/library/view/847
- Carnegie Mellon University Voluntary University Review 2021: https://www.local2030.org/library/view/848
- The 5th version of Social Progress Index of Cities of Colombia is now available: https://www.local2030.org/story/view/365
- The first University of Mayors is announced in Paraná: https://www.local2030.org/story/view/364
- The first ever Local2030 Coalition Steering Committee Meeting was held in New York City: https://www.local2030.org/story/view/367
- Liverpool City Region to Rebuild Visitor Economy with Sustainability at Core: https://www.local2030.org/story/view/362
- Local Businesses Driving a Green Growth Economic Recovery: https://www.local2030.org/story/view/361
- 2022 Edition of the UN SDG Action Awards: https://www.local2030.org/story/view/359
- A pledge for Liverpool: https://www.local2030.org/story/view/363
- Enabling multi-stakeholder partnerships for sustainable development at the local level: https://www.local2030.org/story/view/366
- The Local2030 Coalition is launched: https://www.local2030.org/story/view/360

Figure 1: Example of flyer to promote the Local2030 Coalition

Twitter

Twitter
Throughout 2022, tweets were published to highlight significant information from the Local2030 Coalition and its partners and cover key events. Examples can be found here: https://twitter.com/Local2030

Communication

Communication materials (flyers, briefings, etc.) were developed to promote the Local2030 Coalition and its events. Likewise, press releases were produced to inform the public about key milestones, such as the Opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao, Spain (Annex 12).

OUTCOME 2.1 The UN system prioritizes promoting SDG localization

Support the use of integrated, tailor-made, and well-tested methods in SDG implementation at the local level

Local2030 Integrated mapping of UN tools

Based on the inputs provided by UN agencies on the current tools and systems already in place to support the localization of the SDGs, the Local2030 Coalition has produced an integrated mapping of UN tools and strategies for SDG localization. This document is a compilation of 112 tools; 64 platforms; and 60 guides divided into three categories: advocacy, action, and monitoring. Moreover, it brings information on working groups and technical meetings on topics related to SDG localization, such as partnerships, governance, air pollution, noncommunicable diseases, injuries, etc.

Facilitate cooperation between UN agencies and UN mechanisms to advance SDG localization

The Local2030 Coalition aims to change the way the UN system works in terms of local action. The Coalition is promoting coherent and integrated actions across the UN System so that the needs and priorities of local actors can be responded to more effectively. In 2022, the Coalition concentrated its efforts in institutionalizing the UN Directors Group, as reported earlier, so that resources of the UN family can be brought together. As the work advances, the Local2030 Coalition will help to transcend the classical problem of working in silos in the UN System to respond to local actors' challenges.

Establishment and management of Working Groups

The Local2030 Coalition started the process to launch the Working Groups (WG), which will develop normative tools and resources on themes relevant to the localization of the SDGs. During the UN Directors Group meeting, which was held in October 2022, discussion on WG's purpose, functioning, and themes were held. In 2023, WG's ToRs will be developed, and the themes will be approved by the Steering Committee at their annual meeting. The available agenda-setting mechanisms, especially the Common Agenda, SDG Summit and Summit of the Future, will be used as a guide to determinate the proposed thematic areas.

MONITORING

GOVERNANCE
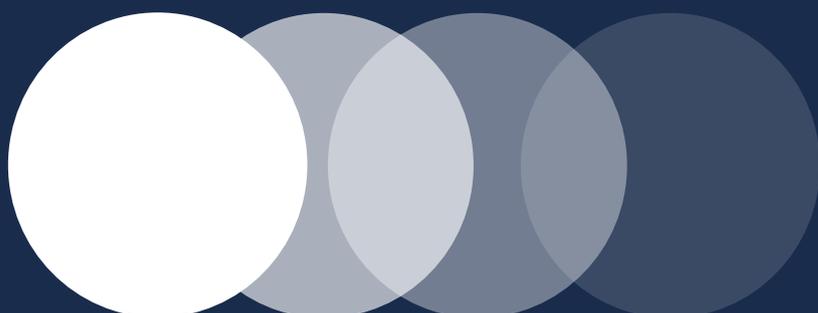
In 2022, the Local2030 Coalition promoted the inclusion of local and subnational governments in preparing voluntary national reports or existing national reporting mechanisms by raising awareness on this issue during various high-level events that were organized by or included the participation of the Coalition. In 2023, the goal of the Coalition is to strengthen this work further, by bringing together the work of the UN System to monitor and report SDG localization. This will include reinforcing the link between voluntary local reviews and voluntary national reports on SDGs.

In 2022, the focus of the Local2030 Coalition was to establish and fully implement its governance structure. To this end, critical strategic documents were produced by the Local2030 Coalition's Co-chairs and Secretariat in consultation and coordination with the Coalition's main implementing partners:

- the Terms of Reference of the Local2030 Coalition Steering Committee (Annex 2).
- the Terms of Reference of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat (Annex 16)
- the Local2030 Coalition 2022 Work Plan (Annex 17)
- the Terms of Reference of the Local2030 Hubs (Annex 14)

Furthermore, the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders were outlined as follows:

Permanent Co-chair	• Lead the Secretariat and oversee its functioning. • Strategic orientation and political support. • Financial management and support. • Implementation, monitoring, and reporting of activities, as defined in the workplan. • Administrative support.
Rotational Co-chair	• Strategic orientation and political support. • Implementation, monitoring, and reporting of activities, as defined in the work-plan. • Administrative and financial support.
Steering Committee	• Strategic orientation and political support. • Implementation, monitoring, and reporting of activities, as defined in the work-plan.
Executive Office of the Secretary General	• Strategic orientation and political support.

UN Directors group	• Strategic orientation and political support. • Support the implementation, monitoring, and reporting of activities, as defined in the work-plan. • Support where available (personnel, administration, finance, etc.).

The Local2030 Coalition Secretariat

The Local2030 Coalition Secretariat is institutionally anchored within UN-Habitat, the Coalition's permanent Co-chair. Under the overall orientation of the Local2030 Coalition Co-chairs, following the strategic direction of the Steering Committee, and with the guidance of the Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG), the Secretariat has dedicated staff to coordinate the definition, implementation, monitoring, and reporting of the Local2030 Coalition's activities.

In 2022, the Secretariat personnel and focal points acted as members of the Secretariat, keeping the Steering Committee, UN directors, and partner institutions informed by organizing meetings and coordinating the activities approved in the Work Plans (as reported in sections above).

The Secretariat has also produced several documents to support the Coalition's meetings and high-level events, such as:

- Agendas
- Save the dates
- List of participants
- Run of the shows
- Talking points for the UN Deputy Secretary General
- Presentations on the Local2030 Coalition main objectives
- Biographies of Steering Committee Members
- Twitter coverage
- Minutes of meetings
- Letters

Within the framework of a whole government proposal presented by the Government of Spain, Basque Country, and the city of Bilbao, the Secretariat will be hosted by the city of Bilbao for three years, starting its activities in the first quarter of 2023.

The 2022 Work Plan

Based on the areas mentioned earlier – Advocacy, Action, and Monitoring - the Local2030 Coalition's Co-chairs (UN-Habitat and UNDP) and its Secretariat, with the support of the Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG), drafted the Local2030 Coalition 2022 Work Plan. After consultations with the UN Directors Group, the 2022 Work Plan was presented to the Local2030 Coalition Steering Committee, which unanimously endorsed it in April 2022.

The main objectives in 2022 were establishing the Coalition's governance structure, raising awareness among UN agencies and partners about the Coalition's work, and mobilizing resources. Moreover, to take stock of the several sustainable development events in 2022, the Local2030 Coalition's activities were geared towards bringing the SDG localization approach to several high-level debates and conveying local governments' and actors' voices and experiences in these discussions. Likewise, the Coalition aimed to expand and curate its repository of SDG localization tools and resources and make them widely accessible through its online platform. See Annex 17 for more details.

Resource Mobilization

In 2022, one of the main priorities of the Local2030 Coalition was to reach out to potential donors that are championing the localization of the SDGs to support the Coalition, its Secretariat, and activities. Please find below a summary of resource mobilization achievements:

Whole-of-government Spanish Proposal

Spain is firmly committed to the 2030 Agenda, having defined institutional governance structures specifically dedicated to multi-stakeholder and multi-level coordination and strategic frameworks for implementing the Sustainable Development Goals, advocating for a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach. Due to their own highly decentralized political and administrative nature, local and regional governments are key actors in developing the 2030 Agenda.

The Basque Government has been one of the first global sub-national governments to develop transversal strategies for incorporating the 2030 Agenda as a transforming axis of public policy with sustainable development as a horizon. In April 2018, the "Euskadi-Basque Country 2030 Agenda" (EBC 2030 Agenda) was presented. In 2019, the Basque Country Urban Agenda - Bultzatu 2050, was also adopted.

Since 2018, Bilbao City Council has been promoting a framework for implementing public-private and multi-stakeholder partnerships for advancing the 2030 Agenda, articulated through the framework of the Municipal Plan and in coherence with the Basque Government's Action Plan.

During the Local2030 official side-event to the HLPF in July, the government of Spain, the Basque Country, and Bilbao officially presented a detailed, whole-of-government proposal to host the Secretariat of the Local2030 Coalition in Bilbao and to support SDG Localization activities globally, through the launch of a "localization window" to be set up as part of the Joint SDG Fund. This proposal was shared with the UN Directors Group and SC members, who unanimously endorsed it.

- Opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat office in Bilbao

Following the acceptance of the whole-of-government proposal made by Spain's administrations, the official opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat office in Bilbao took place on the 31st of October, 2022.

The Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao aims to energize the work of the Local2030 Coalition and further advance the localization of the SDGs within the UN system and at the territorial and local levels. Its partnership with the Government of Spain, the Basque Government, the Bilbao City Council, and the BBK Foundation will maximize the transformative impact of the Coalition and strengthen its strategic and catalytic capacities. The goal is to help local actors boost the impact of their efforts and foster partnerships that will generate innovative solutions for local action and impact.

The Local2030 Coalition Secretariat is currently discussing with Spain to finalize the cooperation agreement.

- Joint SDG Fund – SDG Localization Window

The Spanish whole-of-government proposal also includes support for the localization window through the Joint SDG Fund.

The Local2030 Coalition Secretariat is currently developing the Concept of this window with the support of the Joint SDG Fund. An anticipated plan towards the launch of the window comprises i) Launching the project for incubation of the window; ii) Stakeholder consultations, Investment Strategy for the window, and Resource mobilization; iii) Confirmation of funding for the first funding round; iii) Preparation of ToR and Description of the first funding round/call for proposals; iv) Approval of the Terms of Reference and establishment of the window; v) Launch of the first funding round.

Additional resource mobilization efforts in 2022

Knowledge Hub (Government of Italy)

The Government of Italy has shown interest in financially supporting the launch of a "Knowledge Hub". The Italian proposal is under discussion and should be finalized in 2023.

Regional Hub (Government of Egypt)

The Local2030 Coalition Secretariat is nurturing relations with the Government of Egypt. As the first concrete outcome, the Local2030 Coalition jointly hosted a Local2030 side event at COP 27. The Egyptian Government is currently analyzing the possibility of funding a regional Hub in Cairo to advance the localization agenda in the African region.

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- **Annex 2:** Steering Committee's ToR
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- **Annex 4:** Minutes of the Technical SC Focal Points – October 2022
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Annex 1: Contribution from UN Directors Group to the SC's ToR

ESCAP	UNECE	UNICEF	WHO	UN-DESA	UNFPA
		Comments			
No comments	**Comment 1:** The TOR of the Coalition Steering Committee mentions Annex 1 which should contain a procedure for appointment of the Steering Committee. It seems Annex 1 is missing, would appreciate if the Annex is added and the updated version of the document is circulated. **Comment 2:** We invite to consider revising the Steering Committee TOR to support better representation of all the global regions (current SC has representatives only from ECE and ECA regions).	**Comment 1:** The ToR notes that UNDP will co-chair for 2022-23, followed by FAO and UNICEF. In the accompanying strategy, it states that UNDP will co-chair for 2 years, 2022-24, and that FAO and UNICEF will each co-chair for 2 years after that. Could this be clarified? In addition, please note that we need to formally confirm with our Senior Management in due time to accept this role. **Comment 2:** the TOR states that the Chair/Co-Chair will appoint one member each from member states, local governments, local government associations, civil society and the private sector (non-UN members). Would be very useful to have more information on how they will be selected, approved etc. and if the TOR will be revised once they are on board.	**Comment 1:** There is a need to specify a bit better governance structure and functioning of the Steering Committee - as well as the overall role of the Local2030 Coalition and its Steering Committee. **Comment 2:** It is missing information about the Steering Committee representation and the rotation of the membership.	Agreed with the points raised by her colleagues about the terms of reference.	No comments to add beyond those already mentioned.

Annex 2: Steering Committee's ToR

Terms of Reference of the Local2030 Coalition Steering Committee

Aim and Composition

The Steering Committee (SC) of the Local2030 Coalition will be the governing body of the Coalition and will provide strategic leadership and governance oversight. The Steering Committee is expected to make key strategic decisions and ensure effective oversight through receiving regular reports and reviewing the results from the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat.

The SC should have a maximum of seven members, comprising two co-chairs from United Nations agencies and five designated focal points representing different constituencies. The SC composition will ensure the principles of inclusiveness and balanced representation (gender and geographic), as well as the need to have a manageable size for decision-making effectiveness. The Secretariat will ensure the active engagement of UN entities which are not members of the Steering Committee through the UN Directors group[1]. The Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG) will also closely accompany the work of the Local2030 Coalition.

Membership

1. Co-chairs

Purpose

The Local2030 Coalition is co-chaired by Principals from two UN agencies - a permanent co-chair, tasked with leading its Secretariat and a two-year rotational co-chair. The rotation of the co-chair is intended to diversify the leadership of the Coalition across different parts of the United Nations and promote a whole-of-system approach.

Co-chairs have the overall responsibility to (a) represent, supervise, and guide the work of the SC, (b) act as contact points between the Secretariat and the SC, and (c) serve as co-chairs for the SC meetings.

Appointment of co-chairs

After a consultation process[2] to define the strategic orientation of Local2030, held in 2021 by the Executive Office of the Secretary General, under the guidance of the UN Deputy Secretary General, UN-Habitat was appointed as permanent co-chair, while UNDP was invited to be the first rotational co-chair for 2022-2023, followed by FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization). For future mandates, UN agencies, offices, funds, and programmes will be invited to express an interest in taking on the role of the rotational co-chair

1. Members

Purpose

The members of the Steering Committee represent a diverse group of relevant stakeholders, who will bring to the work of the Local2030 Coalition different perspectives on how to implement global agendas and achieve sustainable development at the local level.

Appointment of members

Members of the Steering Committee include one representative each from:

Member States	*Local or Regional Governments*	*Local and Regional Governments Associations*
Civil Society Organizations	*Private Sector Actors*	

The members of the Steering Committee will be appointed by the co-chairs of the Local2030 Coalition for a period of 2 years, with the strategic guidance of the EOSG and according to the following criteria:

- Competence and experience in sustainable development.
- Recognized leadership in their fields of action.
- Capacity to represent their peers at global and regional debates.
- Ability to meaningfully contribute to the work of the Local2030 Coalition by linking their ongoing initiatives and connecting relevant platforms and partners.
- Gender and geographical balance.
- Availability of time to effectively fulfil the work of the Steering Committee.

UN agencies and strategic partners will be invited to submit nominations for SC membership every 2 years.

2. Observer members

The Local2030 Coalition will also grant observer status to future rotational co-chairs of the Steering Committee. This will also be the case if an institution, which is not already a member of the SC, hosts the Secretariat of the Local2030 Coalition. The objective is to contribute to a smooth transition of membership and to the coherence of activities.

Term of office

The members of the SC should begin their terms of office at the closure of the SC meeting at which they are appointed and should remain in office for two years. Members of the SC may be reappointed if such a recommendation is received by the co-chairs.

Should a member of the SC resign or be unable to exercise her/his functions, the SC will designate a replacement for the remainder of the term based on the established criteria and procedure for the appointment of SC members.

All entities who are members of the Steering Committee will be expected to formally appoint a focal point at the Director/working level to be the liaison with the work of the Local2030 Coalition, advance the implementation of other UN related strategies, such as the "System-wide strategy for sustainable urban development", and implement various activities as part of the work plans of the Local2030 Coalition. UN entities and Member States are also expected to provide secondments and contributions to the functioning of the Local2030 Secretariat.

<u>Key tasks and Responsibilities</u>

- Review and approve these Terms of Reference and update and/or modify them, as necessary, in case of compelling requirements.
- Provide strategic guidance to the work of the Local2030 Coalition.
- Approve the two-year work plans and the annual reports of the Local2030 Coalition and review their objectives and indicators as necessary.
- Review and ensure the alignment of the allocations for funds earmarked by donors to specific activities or UN agencies.
- Lead a stocktaking every year at the Principals level to refine the priorities, reflecting the most impactful action areas that will cumulatively accelerate the progress towards achieving the SDGs.
- Review changes to the thematic or work focus; ensure their conformity with the 10-year strategy of the Coalition.
- Review and approve the periodic progress reports (programmatic and financial) consolidated by the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat.
- Advocate for enhanced and accelerated SDG action, especially at the local level.

<u>Decisions</u>

- The Steering Committee makes decisions by consensus. Decisions of the Steering Committee shall be duly recorded.
- Prior to presenting their position on a significant issue to the members of the coalition, SC members must make sure that it is endorsed internally by participating UN Agencies and is in line with the Agencies' regulatory requirements.
- The Steering Committee can decide to establish working groups for specific workstreams that the Local2030 Coalition might prioritize in its work plan.
- Dedicated personnel[4] hired to support activities and the day-to-day management of the Secretariat.

<u>Detailed tasks of the Co-Chairs of the Steering Committee</u>

- Make sure that the decisions taken by the Steering Committee are in accordance with the regulatory requirements of the participating Agencies and agreements with the participating Member States and donors.
- Ensure that the decisions taken by the Steering Committee are duly recorded and promptly communicated to the members of the Local2030 coalition, including participating Agencies, the UN country teams, and donors, as appropriate.
- Appoint the non-UN members of the Steering Committee
- Monitor the implementation of the decisions of the Steering Committee.
- Make the full power and expertise of the participating UN Agencies available to the Local2030 Coalition.
- Summon members and Steering Committee for coalition meetings.
- Provide an efficient platform for engagement amongst coalition members.

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[4] A Local2030 Coalition Secretariat will be established with dedicated staff to implement activities, organize meetings, prepare reports, etc. The Secretariat will also help members identify strategies to garner global attention and support SDG localization solutions and initiatives, especially through major international meetings and conferences. UN Habitat will lead the Secretariat. See the ToR of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat for further information.

Annex 3: Minutes of the first meeting of the Local2030 Coalition Steering Committee

Minutes of the first meeting of the Local2030 Coalition Steering Committee

Date: 29 April 2022

Time: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm EDT
Place: S-1521 conference room, United Nations Headquarters, New York, and via Microsoft Teams

Participants

o **Opening remarks:** Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, and Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group

o **Local 2030 Coalition Co-chairs:** Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

o **Steering Committee Members:** Ms. Marina Sereni, Vice Ministers for Development Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy; Ms. Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr OBE, Mayor of Freetown, Sierra Leone; Ms. Emilia Saiz, Secretary General of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG); and Ms. Esther Muiruri, Founder of the Gold Ribbon Initiative, Kenya.

o **Presenters:** Haoliang Xu, UN Assistant Secretary-General, UNDP Assistant Administrator and Director of Bureau for Policy and Programme Support and Mr. Rafael Tuts, Director of the Global Solutions Division, UN-Habitat.

o **Distinguished guests:** Ms. Eva del Hoyo Barbolla, the Director-General of Sustainable Development Policies of the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation, and Mr. Unai Telleria, the Delegate from the Basque Country to the USA. The meeting was attended by 22 participants, including the technical teams of UCLG, EOSG, UN-Habitat and UNDP as observers. Ms. Clara Arpa Azofra, CEO of Arpa Equipos Móviles de Campaña and member of the Board of the UN Global Compact, was not able to attend the meeting due to medical reasons, but her letter and the comments were shared with the Steering Committee members.

Agenda item 01: Opening remarks by the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations

Key points highlighted by Ms. Amina J. Mohammed:

- The Local2030 Coalition shall assist the UN and local actors in ensuring that crises responses (conflicts, energy transition, food system, vaccines, digital, etc.) provide opportunities for transformative and sustainable development.

- The Local2030 Coalition should think innovatively and examine the discussions at the national level to understand and communicate what they mean for the local level. The Coalition must look at the opportunities offered by existing platforms and meetings to advance discussions. Likewise, the Coalition must take advantage of the views and experiences of its Steering Committee, a diverse group that can bring different perspectives to achieve the 2030 Agenda. The goal is to build on existing initiatives and not re-invent the wheel yet fill in the gaps where necessary.

- The Local2030 Coalition must use the UN's Common Agenda as a guide to lift the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. This cannot happen without a solid foundation, which is provided by the local level. The Coalition is a place to convene and reimagine our future, and the voice of young people and women will be central to its work.

Agenda item 02: Welcome by the Principals of Local2030 Coalition Co-chairs

Key points highlighted:

Mr. Achim Steiner highlighted that the Local2030 Coalition will help us to close the loop to achieve the 2030 Agenda, connecting local to national and vice versa. He noted that central governments need to learn from local governments and local responses, including the ones from business and civil society organizations. Those responses should not only be observed but also used to unlock and leverage national development. He also emphasized the importance of financing to advance the SDGs and advocated for the Coalition to focus on this critical gap.

Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif stressed that localizing the SDGs is one of her key priorities for the next two years, along with housing and climate. She underlined the importance of local action and leadership to keeping societies and communities afloat in challenging times. The Covid-19 pandemic and its health, social, economic impacts have demonstrated that amply, and the Local2030 Coalition must help shape recovery processes from the bottom up. She added that the Local2030 Coalition must set its sights on clear priorities, by learning from what works and what does not, measuring impact effectively, and rapidly scaling up successes.

Agenda item 03: Round of Introductions

Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif briefly introduced the Steering Committee Members during her intervention.

Agenda item 04: Presentation of Local2030 Coalition objectives and 2022 workplan

Key points highlighted:

Mr. Haoliang Xu presented the Local2030 Coalition objectives, highlighting its vision, focus and approach. He also described the process of reshaping Local2030 into its present form, which included consultations with UN agencies, Local2030 Hubs and key partners. He also summarized the process of production of strategic documents, such as the 10-year policy strategy, baseline, integrated mapping of UN tools, Terms of Reference for the Secretariat and Steering Committee, and the 2022 workplan.

Mr. Rafael Tuts stressed that the Local2030 Coalition is not aiming to implement its own projects, but rather to provide a convening space, and to support partners in the development of ideas and activities to advance local action for the Global Goals. He also presented the 2022 workplan, comprising three action areas: 1) advocacy, to increase awareness and engagement on SDG Localization at the global, national and local level, including curating a VLR (VOLUNTARY LOCAL REVIEWS) platform; 2) action, to ensure a prioritized and coherent approach to SDG Localization, including financing; and 3) monitoring, to promote VLRs and their linkages to national level reporting mechanisms. Additionally, a major part of the first year will be dedicated to the institutionalization of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat.

Key points highlighted:

Ms. Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr OBE stressed the need to differentiate local authorities, not only in terms of size and economic strength, but also in terms of their mandates and capacities. She also strongly advocated for local authorities to be given greater political space, especially in the UN arena. She also suggested that the ideas of the 2030 Agenda needed to be communicated in simpler, easier-to-comprehend language. With respect to thematic priorities, she emphasized access to financing, as well as the current complex set of environmental crises, which should go beyond climate mitigation and adaptation.

Ms. Emilia Saiz suggested that the Coalition promote the development of Voluntary Subnational Reviews (VSRs), which are prepared by national associations of local authorities to capture local realities of SDG achievement across various cities in a country, as a mechanism to feed into Voluntary National Reviews. Moreover, she recommended that the Coalition support clear linkages between the national and local approach to policy development. Likewise, the Coalition should ensure that LRGs – and other local stakeholders – actively shape discussions about the post-2030 Agenda. She recommended the inclusion of local service delivery into the Coalition priorities, which will enhance engagement of LRGs with global agendas and unlock financial opportunities. Furthermore, she suggested that the Terms of Reference of HUBs should build on the experience of LRGs and their networks. Finally, she recommended that Coalition promotes an integrated approach to crises prevention and recovery.

Ms. Esther Muiruri noted that often, the language of the global agendas does not directly correlate with what is happening at the local level and in the community. She emphasized the importance of creating a space for local actors to build synergies with the UN. She reminded the Steering Committee that inclusion per se does not translate into partnerships and collaboration and recommended that the Coalition address this gap. To strengthen advocacy, she recommended investing in capacity building for local actors, with particular attention to youth, women and girls who are the most affected by the multiple crises facing our planet today. Finally, she pointed out that most sectoral policies do not speak to one another, and the Local2030 Coalition should promote strategic collective actions that lie at the intersection of different sectors.

Ms. Marina Sereni recommended linking the work of the Local2030 Coalition with the G20 platform on intermediary cities. OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development), which is co-hosting the platform with UN-Habitat and Italy, could be invited to join activity 1.1.4. On the working groups, she advocated that priority should be given to a resilient and sustainable post-pandemic recovery. She also suggested the creation of a knowledge Hub to collect experiences and knowledge, foster exchange among local authorities, and help translate ideas into concrete policies. A network of universities could focus their research on these issues, for instance. Regarding monitoring, she noted that Italy's second Voluntary National Review will engage local authorities. The country's intention is not just to share the knowledge gained in this process with the Coalition but also to support the capacity of partner countries to do the same.

The distinguished guests from Spanish Government and the Basque Country, **Ms. Eva del Hoyo and Mr. Unai Telleria,** presented a whole of government proposal for supporting the SDG Localization Agenda and the secretariat of the Local2030 Coalition (attached as Annex 3).

The work plan was endorsed by the Steering Committee (attached as Annex 4) and will be further refined to include input received by members, who are also encouraged to submit further written details on how their work can fit into the activities of the Local2030 Coalition.

Next steps
- The Steering Committee will meet once a year. The next meeting is scheduled for April 2023.
- The UN Directors group will meet up to thrice a year. The next meeting is scheduled for October 2022.
- Steering Committee Members are asked to designate a focal point to follow the Local2030 Coalition activities and engage with the UN Directors' Group.
- Steering Committee members are also encouraged to share more information on how their institutions can contribute to the Local2030 Coalition, including platforms and aspects of their work that can be linked to the 2022 workplan.
- The Local2030 Coalition Secretariat will refine the activities of the 2022 workplan and identify up to three thematic working groups for 2022-2023.
- A more detailed proposition will be developed by the Secretariat on the whole-of-government commitment by Spain for the hosting of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat and advancing SDG localization and will be shared with the Steering Committee members.

Annex 4: Minutes of the Technical SC Focal Points – October 2022

Local2030 Coalition – Meeting with the Technical Focal Points of the Steering Committee

Date: 21 October 2022

Time: 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm EDT | 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm CEST | 9:00 am to 10:00 am EDT
Place: Microsoft Teams

Co-chairs:
- o **Ms. Francine Melchioretto,** UN-Habitat Technical Focal Point for the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat, SDG Localization Expert.
- o **Ms. Minerva Novero-Belec,** UNDP Technical Focal Point for the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat, Policy Specialist, Governance, Bureau for Policy, and Programme Support.

List of Participants:
- o Steering Committee Member – CSO/Youth Representative: **Ms. Esther Muiruri,** Founder of the Gold Ribbon Initiative and Disaster Risk Management and Environmental Planning and Management Professional.
- o Technical Focal Point SC - Private Sector Representative: **Ms. Francisca Hernández Uriz**, International Business Development, Arpa Equipos Móviles de Campaña.
- o Technical Focal Point SC - National Government: **Mr. Marco Ricci**, Minister Plenipotentiary, Directorate General for Development Cooperation, Government of Italy.
- o Technical Team UN-Habitat : **Ms. Camila Peres Milani**, SDG Localization Intern.
- o Technical Focal Point SC – National Government: **Ms. Loredanan Magni**, Senior Development Cooperation Adviser, Directorate General for Development Cooperation, Government of Italy

The goal of the meeting:
Convened by the co-chairs (UN-Habitat and UNDP) of the Local2030 Coalition, the first meeting with the technical focal points of the Local2030 Coalition Steering Committee (SC) aimed at discussing the Local2030 Coalition state of play and upcoming milestones and events. The meeting also aimed to explore how the SC members could better engage, coordinate, and contribute to and benefit from the Coalition.

Key points of the meeting

- Co-chairs presented the 2022 work plan achievements, the state of play of the Local2030 Coalition, and upcoming milestones and events (Annex 1).
- The next Steering Committee meeting next year will take place in the first semester of 2023, but the exact date is not confirmed yet.
- We are launching a group with the technical level focal points from the Steering Committee Members that will meet more regularly, enabling operational tasks to advance more quickly. Exchanges will take place by email and monthly meetings. This includes the revision of ToRs, the establishment of thematic working groups, the refinement of the work plan, joint development of the concept of the SDG Localizing window and its first call for proposal to be launched next year, and preparation for the upcoming Steering Committee meetings.

- The Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao will occur on October 31 with the presence of the DSG Amina Mohammed, the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation, the President of the Basque Government, the Mayor of Bilbao, UN-Habitat and UNDP Principals, among others. All SC members are invited to participate in the ceremony. The concept note and programme of the event will be shared for more details (Annex 2), and a short video statement (20-30 seconds) from SC members that will not be able to participate in person was requested to ensure the representation of all Steering Committee members during this official ceremony. It was also informed that the official invitation to SC members is underway.
- The Local2030 Coalition Event in COP27 will take place on November 14ᵗʰ at the Egyptian Pavilion. The theme will be 'SDG Localization as a driver for urgent climate action.' SC members were invited to contribute to this event.
- It was announced the creation of a joint calendar to share events and important dates, which will be fed with information from Local2030 and its main stakeholders. It was also put at the disposal of the Steering Committee the local2030 website, to share any publications, stories, and events.
- Mr. **Marco Ricci** highlighted that due to the transition in the Italian Government, the Knowledge Hub proposal presented to the Local2030 Coalition is on hold, and they will have to replace their representative at the Steering Committee. Italy will share a video statement in support of the opening of the Local2030 Coalition in Bilbao. He also invited SC members to participate in the annual G20 Platform on SDGs Localization and Intermediary Cities annual meeting, which will take place on the 28th of October. Finally, in partnership with UN-Desa, the Italian Government is supporting capacity building on VLRs in partner countries and suggests linking this activity with Local2030.
- Ms. **Francisca Hernández Uriz** confirmed the in-person participation of Ms. Clara Arpa at the opening ceremony event of the Coalition office and in the Local2030 Coalition at COP27. She is open and looking forward to collaborating with the Local2030 and SC members in different activities and welcomed the Secretariat for creating a dedicated group of SC technical focal points.
- Ms. **Esther Muiruri** will be able to attend the opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao, but she will send a video statement. Moreover, she would be pleased to bring the community perspectives on the ongoing climate crisis-which to the COP27 side event.

Next steps

- SC members that will not be able to attend the Opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao in person are asked to share a short video statement of 20-30 seconds in length to be played during the ceremony **by October 27.**
- SC technical focal points are asked to indicate their interest in engaging with the Local2030 Coalition Event at COP27 **by October 31**. Please note that the Concept Note shared is for internal use as it is pending approval from the Egyptian Government (Annex 3).
- SC technical focal points are requested to fill out a list to indicate their technical focal point to represent their institution **by November 11**, so that the technical focal points group can be launched (Annex 4).
- UN Directors Group members are asked to fill a calendar (Annex 5) with events and milestones to be shared among the Local2030 Coalition's main partners (Hubs, UN-Directors Group, and SC). This can be done on a rolling basis and shared with the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat as relevant.
- While the Local2030 website is under review, if SC technical focal points like to promote tools/documents, stories, and events, please send the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat Team the attached forms (Annex 6, 7, and 8), who will manually upload the content on the website. Moreover, please share any Tweet messages to be shared through Local2030's Twitter account or tag us on your posts that you would like to be retweeted.

Annex 5: Minutes of the UN Directors Group – April 2022

Minutes of the meeting of United Nations Directors ahead of the first Steering Committee of the Local2030 Coalition

Date: 19 April 2022

Time: 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm EAT
Place: Virtual Conference, Microsoft Teams.

Moderator:

- **Rafael Tuts**, Director of the Global Solutions Division, UN-Habitat.

Presenters:

- **Shipra Narang Suri**, Chief, Urban Practices Branch, UN-Habitat.
- **Gonzalo Pizarro**, Lead in Cities and Urbanization, UNDP.

Wrap-up and closing remarks

- **Rafael Tuts**, Director of the Global Solutions Division, UN-Habitat`
- **Lara Blanco**, Deputy Director, SDU (Sustainable Development Unit), EOSG.

Participants

- **Alexander Pak**, Team Leader, Inter-Agency Affairs, UNFPA
- **Diana Vakarelska**, Policy Specialist - Local Governance and Movements, UNICEF
- **Francine Melchioretto**, SDG Localization Expert and UN-Habitat Focal Point for the Secretariat of the Local2030 Coalition
- **Gulnara Roll**, Regional Advisor, Forests, Land and Housing Division, UNECE
- **Hong Shen,** Liaison Officer, FAO
- **Jose Dallo**, Senior Environmental and Sustainable Development Officer, SDU, EOSG
- **Lotta Tahtinen**, Chief of Outreach and Partnerships, Division for SDGs, UN DESA
- **Marta Masriera**, Intern SDG Localization and Local Governments Team, UN-Habitat
- **Martino Miraglia**, Programme Officer and Coordinator of the SDG Localization and Local Governments Team, UN-Habitat
- **Natalia Winder-Rossi**, Associate Director, Social Policy, UNICEF
- **Patrizia Gragnaniova**, Intern, Sustainable Development Unit Executive Office of the Secretary General
- **Nathalie Laure Roebbel**, Unit Head, Urban Health, WHO
- **Nicole DePaula**, Senior SDGs Expert, Office of Sustainable Development Goals, FAO
- **Sangheon Lee**, Director of the Employment Policy Department, ILO
- **Sharon Gil**, Programme Officer, Lead, Circular Economy in Cities, Coordinator Resource Efficient Cities, UNEP
- **Thomas George**, Global Lead, Urban, UNICEF
- **Tiziana Clerico**, Senior Policy Advisor, Global Solutions and Development, UNHCR.

Main points:

- The meeting was attended by 21 participants, who represented UN-Habitat, EOSG, UNDP, FAO, WHO, UNECE, UNHCR, UNFPA, UN-DESA, UNICEF, ILO, and UNEP.
- The following reference materials were shared with participants prior to the meeting: Terms of Reference of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat and the Steering Committee, 2022-2024 work plan, ten-year policy strategy, integrated mapping, and baseline for SDG localization.
- UN agencies reiterated their commitment to the Local2030 Coalition.
- The Secretariat of the Local2030 Coalition is hosted by UN-Habitat, which is also the permanent co-chair of the Coalition. The second co-chair is appointed for a period of two years, on a rotational basis. UNDP is the first co-chair, followed by FAO.
- It was noted that the Co-Chairs' cycle is 2 years, starting in 2022. Additional information about the Co-Chair selection process will be provided in due course.
- It was suggested that the Secretariat's Terms of Reference include more information about its composition and resources. It was also noted that the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat welcomes secondments and human resources support.
- Further elements of the governance structure, nomination and functioning of the Steering Committee will be included in its Terms of Reference.

- The Steering Committee will meet for the first time on April 29th in New York on the margins of the High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda. This meeting will officially launch the activities of the Steering Committee and approve the Local 2030 Coalition work plan.
- Participants are interested in learning more about the Local2030 Hubs and how to connect with them.
- The work plan timelines will be revised and aligned.
- The Co-chairs will work with RECs and DCO to define pilot countries.
- Participants highlighted a few priority areas that should be addressed by the Local2030 Coalition: repump the role of UNCTs to make sure that they are leading this process; facilitate cooperation between UN agencies on the ground; align and create synergies with activities of the UN Advisory Group on Local Governments; include in the narrative the linkages between rural and urban areas.
- It was agreed that UN Directors' meetings will be held twice a year, before the Steering Committee meeting and a follow-up meeting after 6 months.
- The Secretariat designated focal points to whom documents, guidelines, information about events and other materials can be shared: Francine Melchioretto, UN-Habitat (francine.melchioretto@un.org) and Minerva Novero-Belec, UNDP (minerva.novero@undp.org).

Specific contributions from participants:

- o **Natalia Winder-Rossi (UNICEF):** UNICEF would like to support the Co-chairs in producing capacity development packages. For example, building on ongoing efforts, UNICEF could help strengthen local and regional governments' capacity for planning, budgeting, and service delivery.
- o **Gulnara Roll (UNECE):** As each UN agency has different practices in this area, she suggests the possibility of developing specific guidelines aimed at enhancing the harmonization of our work.
- o **Nathalie Laure Roebbel (WHO):** WHO would like to link their capacity building efforts with the Local230 Coalition's activities. She provided a few examples, such as the repository of resources on local action for health and a training on urban development that will be launched in 2023. She added that depending on how we define good practices, more examples could be shared with the Coalition. Furthermore, given the importance of capacity building and advocacy, she suggested to have a dedicated meeting to discuss it.
- o **Lotta Tahtinen (UN DESA):** UN DESA would like to engage the Local2030 Coalition with the UN Ocean Conference, particularly in strengthening the capacity of coastal cities to build resilience and tackle climate change. UN DESA also offered full support on matters related to intergovernmental processes and to strengthen the connection between VNRs and VLRs. In addition, UN DESA could contribute to the area of SDG financing through its Financing for Sustainable Development Office, which has several projects that could be interesting and useful (e.g., infrastructure asset management and monitoring and local capacity for data collection).
- o **Alexander Pak (UNFPA):** UNFPA can contribute to issues related to strategy, data compilation, leveraging youth and women's network, and mobilizing regional actors to support local actions.

Next steps

- A list of Local2030 Hubs will be provided shortly so they can be included in activities and events. Following the first meeting of the Steering Committee, the Terms of Reference for the Hubs will be developed.
- **We will review the Terms of Reference of the Steering Committee and Secretariat and the Coalition's work plan based on your feedback. Please email Francine and Minerva with your written inputs by Monday COB.**
- A follow-up meeting with UN Directors will be held within six months.

Annex 6: Minutes of the UN Directors Group – October 2022

Minutes of the *Local2030 Coalition UN Directors Group Meeting*

Date: 18 October 2022

Time: 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm EDT | 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm CEST | 9:00 am to 10:00 am EDT

Place: Microsoft Teams

Co-Chairs:

- o **Mr. Haoliang Xu**, UN Assistant Secretary-General, UNDP Assistant Administrator, and Director of Bureau for Policy and Programme Support.
- o **Mr. Rafael Tuts**, UN-Habitat Officer-in-Charge of the Office of the Deputy Executive Director, and Director of the Global Solutions Division.

Presenters:

- o **Mr. George Ronald Gray**, UNDP Head of Strategic Engagement and Chief Economist at the Bureau for Policy and Programme Support.
- o **Ms. Francine Melchioretto**, UN-Habitat Technical Focal Point for the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat.

Participants:

- o **Ms. Lara Blanco**, Deputy Director, Sustainable Development Unit, EOSG [Executive Office of the Secretary-General]
- o **Ms. Natalia Winder-Rossi**, Associate Director, Social Policy, UNICEF [United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund]
- o **Ms. Lotta Tahtinen**, Chief of Outreach and Partnerships, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, UN-DESA [United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs]
- o **Ms. Sabine Freizer Gunes**, Chief of the UN-Women Leadership and Governance Section, UN-WOMEN [United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women]
- o **Ms. Tiziana Clerico**, Senior Policy Advisor, UNHCR [United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees]
- o **Ms. Gulnara Roll**, Regional Advisor, Forests, Land, and Housing Division, UNECE [United Nations Economic Commission for Europe]
- o **Ms. Olena Ovchynnikova**, Officer of sustainable development goals, FAO [Food and Agriculture Organization]
- o **Ms. Sharon Gil**, Programme Officer, Lead, Circular Economy in Cities, Coordinator Resource Efficient Cities, UNEP [United Nations Environment Programme]
- o **Ms. Catalina Santamaria**, Senior Climate Change and Development Officer, UNEP [United Nations Environment Programme]
- o **Ms. Renata Rubian**, Global Lead in Cities and Urbanization and Policy Advisor, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, UNDP [United Nations Development Programme]
- o **Ms. Minerva Novero-Belec**, Policy Specialist, Governance, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, UNDP [United Nations Development Programme]

The co-chairs of the Local2030 Coalition, UN-Habitat and UNDP, were delighted to hold the second meeting with the Local2030 UN Directors Group in 2022.

The goal of the meeting:
Convened by the co-chairs (UN-Habitat and UNDP) of the Local2030 Coalition, the second Directors Group Meeting aimed at discussing the creation of the Coalition's two to three Thematic Working Groups (WG) along with key objectives, roles and deliverables, and focus of each WG. In addition, the meeting shared the upcoming milestones and events for the Local2030 Coalition.

Agenda item 02: Moderated discussion on the functioning of the Thematic Working Groups

Key points highlighted:

o **Ms. Gulnara Roll** suggested urban resilience and post-COVID recovery as potential thematic groups.
o **Ms. Natalia Winder-Rossi** reinforced the importance of stipulating how broad the scope of the thematic groups should be and how to prioritize specific areas within each group.
o **Ms. Sabine Freizer** suggested having a thematic group on gender equality. It could be broken down into the participation of women in local governance, gender-responsive policymaking at the local level, and types of access to justice in cities.
o **Ms. Olena Ovchynnikova** reinforced the critical role of integration, policy coherence, and data management, which are crucial to turbocharging the SDGs and other elements.
o **Ms. Lotta Tahtinen** reflected on bringing a broader scope for the working groups addressing inequality in general, which is a vital driving force behind many of the impacts of the crises the world is facing. She also stressed the importance of mapping critical intergovernmental moments happening in the near future.

o **Ms. Tiziana Clerico** reflected on the importance of looking broadly to include the marginalized. She also brought to the attention of participants the global refugee forum that will happen in 2023, which will be a UN Common Pledge 2.0.
o **Ms. Lara Blanco** reflected on stakeholder engagement with the Coalition and their involvement in the development of the working plan and working groups.
o **Mr. George Ronald Gray** reinforced that several themes, such as gender equality and human rights, must be present with a cross-cutting perspective. Also, to incorporate several tools such as financing, innovation, data management, and digital tools through the working groups.
o **Mr. Rafael Tuts** addressed that the proposed working groups have a two-year lifespan, until 2024, thus finishing their cycle around the time of the Summit of the Future. This needs to be considered before formalizing the suggestions to the Steering Committee. Also, he reinforced that the Coalition must envisage these groups in terms of country teams' capacities and resources.

Agenda item 03: State of play of the Local 2030 Coalition

Key points highlighted:

o As noted by UN-DESA, the Government of Italy has shown interest in financially supporting the launch of a "Knowledge Hub". Unfortunately, the Italian proposal is in "suspended animation" as the new government takes over and settles in.
o UNICEF's suggestion to strengthen the capacity of the Secretariat was reinforced as well as FAO's suggestion to refine the Coalition's work plan, which will build on the last consultations held with this Group (Annex 2).
o Relations with the Government of Egypt under the framework of Local2030 are being nurtured. As the first concrete outcome, we will jointly host a Local2030 event at COP 27. The government is also analyzing the possibility of funding a regional Hub in Cairo to advance the localization agenda in the region.
o The work of the Coalition can support Resident Coordinators and teams in countries, especially where there is a critical moment of consultation around the sustainable development framework.

Agenda item 04: *Presentation of Local2030 upcoming milestones and events*

Key points presented by **Ms. Francine Melchioretto** (Annex 3) **:**

- o The next Steering Committee meeting next year will take place in the first semester of 2023, but the exact date is not confirmed yet.
- o The Local2030 Coalition Event in COP27 will take place on November 14th at the Egyptian Pavilion. The theme will be 'SDG Localization as a driver for urgent climate action' (Annex 6).
- o We will launch a group with the technical level focal points from the UN Directors Group that will meet more regularly, enabling operational tasks to advance more quickly. This includes the revision of ToRs, the refinement of the work plan, joint development of the concept of the SDG Localizing window and its first call for proposal to be launched next year, and preparation for the upcoming UN-Directors Group meetings.
- o The opening of Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao will take place on October 31 with the presence of the DSG Amina Mohammed, the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation, the President of the Basque Government, the Mayor of Bilbao, UN-Habitat and UNDP Principals, among others. The concept note and programme of the event will be shared for more details (Annex 4) and a request for a video from principals or the directors representing this group to ensure the representation of members of the UN Directors Group during this official ceremony.
- o It was announced the creation of a joint calendar to share events and important dates, which will be fed with information from Local2030 and its main stakeholders. It was also put at the disposal of the UN-Directors Group the local2030 website to share any publications, stories, and events.

Agenda item 05: Wrap-up and closing remarks

Key points highlighted by **Ms. Lara Blanco** **:**

- o Operationalizing the thematic working groups in a two-year lifespan will bring work concreteness, enabling the Local2030 Coalition to move forward in the current context. For example, the world is experiencing a cost-of-living crisis. Thus, this she suggested that this can be at the center of the Coalition's action in supporting local actors.
- o In terms of substantive topics, it is critical to go back to the work plan areas so that they can be used as a basis for the working groups.
- o The opening of the Local2030 Secretariat office in Spain will be an opportunity to bring innovation to the local actors, as we can benefit from the country's expertise on this topic.
- o Keep in mind the aspects of working with data and e-government and build on those ideas to support and bring better tools to local authorities.

Agenda item 05: Wrap-up and closing remarks

Key points highlighted by **Mr. Rafael Tuts** **:**

- o High-level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism, SG's high-level board, is visiting Nairobi. This is an opportunity to engage with the UCLG Secretary General and the High-level Board, focusing on inclusive multilateralism and the collaboration between the UN and the local and regional governments. I envision that the Local2030 Coalition can help promote more effective multilateralism.
- o The Co-chairs are committed that the Local 2030 Coalition being run as a global UN initiative that is truly inclusive from the design stage onward. In this regard, the collaborative and continuous support of all Local2030 Coalition members and stakeholders is crucial to achieving this goal and driving the systematic change needed to foster synergies and build strong and strategic partnerships to accelerate SDG localization.

*Key remarks highlighted by **Mr. Haoliang Xu**:*

- Co-chairs and the Secretariat will reflect on the ideas for two to three categories of Working Groups based on the participants' inputs, aiming to determine the ones that can help address the most common concerns and drivers.
- Encouraged participants to utilize these Working Groups to leverage actions.
- Stressed the common goal of the different UN agencies is to support the countries to achieve the SDGs collaboratively.

Next steps

- UN Director Group members are asked to share a short video statement of 20-30 seconds in length from their principals or directors to be played during the Opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao by **October 26** (Annex 4)
- UN Director Group members are requested to indicate or confirm a technical focal point to represent their institution **by January 13** , so that the technical focal points group can be launched (Annex 5).
- UN Director Group members are invited to share their inputs for the Terms of Reference of the Hubs **by January 20** (Annex 7).
- UN Director Group members are requested to express their interest in supporting the development of the first draft of the working group's terms of reference **by January 20**. The goal is to jointly consolidate the working group's ToR, and define its objectives, roles, and deliverables.
- UN Director Group members are asked to share any additional inputs regarding potential themes for the working groups **by January 20**. The Local2030 Coalition Secretariat will consolidate the proposal and follow up by email on the choice of 3 to 4 themes to be put under consideration and approved by the Steering Committee.
- UN Directors Group members are asked to fill a calendar (Annex 8) with events and milestones to be shared among the Local2030 Coalition's main partners (Hubs, UN-Directors Group, and SC). This can be done on a rolling basis and shared with the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat as relevant.
- While the Local2030 website is under review, if the UN Directors Group members would like to promote tools/documents, stories, and events, please send the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat Team the attached forms (Annex 9,10, and 11), who will manually upload the content on the website. Moreover, please share any Tweet messages to be shared through Local2030's Twitter account or tag us on your posts that you would like to be retweeted.

Annex 7: Report of the Side event at the 2022 ECOSOC Partnership Forum
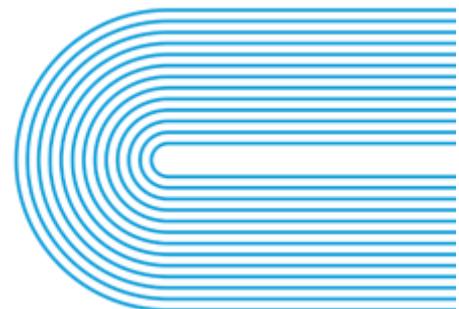
Summary of Side Event [Enabling multi-stakeholder partnerships for sustainable development at the local level]:

2 February 2022, [08:00 – 08:50 EST]

Background on the event

With less than ten years ahead to meet the global goals set on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the need for renewed and transformative partnerships to thrive sustainable development is more central than ever. The session, co-organized by UN-Habitat, UNDP and the Local2030 Coalition explored how the different settings of multi-stakeholder partnerships and multi-level governance are helping to advance sustainability at the local level and in line with the SDGs. Panelists had a fruitful discussion supported with practical experiences and meaningful reflections.

Key Issues discussed

- The Moderator, **Mr. Martino Miraglia**, reflected on the importance of collaboration across multiple actors, sectors, levels, and spheres of government and emphasized that the SDGs are helping to revitalize existing partnerships by providing a new, modern look at how different stakeholders can work together based on common objectives.

- The discussion was framed in line with SDG17 on "partnerships for the goals" and heard from different proposals on how to effectively engage the whole spectrum of actors that are advancing sustainable development. Focusing primarily on how to mainstream local action for the implementation of the SDGs, and regard local partners as experts.

- **Mr. Nicolas Gharbi**, representative of the Madrid City Council, emphasized that the SDGs and the New Urban Agenda (NUA) serve as the common language that gathers different stakeholders towards the city strategy that ultimately contributes to SDG implementation. According to Mr. Gharbi, Madrid's partnership strategy is based on a multi-stakeholder and the multi-level

perspective. This ensures the creation of synergies and brings consistency and transparency to the actions being taken by the city and different levels of government and a variety of territorial actors. He also emphasized the need to transit from the localization to the territorialization of the SDGs by fostering community ownership.

- **Mr. Felipe Braga Farhat**, from Paraná State, gave important insights on the bridging role of subnational government between municipalities and the central government. Paraná is closely supporting the municipalities to develop their strategies and implement initiatives in order to help municipal leaders achieve the 2030 Agenda, based on the specific needs of their territories. Along with that, the State developed tools, indicators and a report mechanism to guide the actions being taken by the municipalities. Moreover, the Paraná is actively creating a series of partnership opportunities that involve different stakeholders from the community and the private sector, to ensure that no one is left behind. Finally, Mr. Braga Farhat shared the example of the SDG Art initiative as a successful effort on how to bring different parts of

the society around the goals through culture.

- **Ms. Laura Kam**, from Hawaii Green Growth, a Hawaiian network-based organization, brought forward the value of representative partnerships that reflect the voices of society. Ms. Kam introduced the Aloha+ Challenge program, the statewide sustainability framework for 2030 that also guides the local implementation of the SDGs in Hawaii. She stressed the relevance of measuring the impact of SDG-related initiatives involving stakeholders through the Aloha+ Dashboard. Participatory processes such as the hyper-localized dashboards were also highlighted for including the opinions of the communities. This collaborative and inclusive process was reflected in the Hawaiian Voluntary Local Review.
- **Ms. Minerva Novero**, from UNDP on behalf of the Local2030 Coalition, advocated the role of the United Nations as enabler to achieve the SDGs in the face of contemporary challenges. Focusing particularly on the efforts made by local stakeholders to address global challenges and for being an integral part of the solution. Ms. Novero described Local2030 as a revolutionary institutional mechanism for being a truly global multi-stakeholder platform, which is fundamental to advancing the SDGs and the NUA.
- 2022 is a critical year for local authorities and SDG localization within the UN system. The Moderator highlighted the roadmap of coming events that will set the international community agenda: High Level Meeting on the New Urban Agenda (28th April 2022); World Urban Forum 11 (26th – 30th June 2022; High-Level Political Forum (5th – 15th July 2022).

Recommendations for meaningful and effective multi-stakeholder partnerships:

- Partnerships need to be understood as enablers and accelerators for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda, as they can enhance and have a multiplier effect on the actions already in place.
- In a multi-stakeholder scenario, it is important to find ways to harness the potential of local experiences that already gather knowledge and expertise.
- The relevance of designing a plan on how to proceed with multi-lateral partnerships: including the mapping of different actors and proposing a methodology for interested partners to work together, embracing spaces of dialogue, measuring and evaluating the real contribution of partners to public policies.
- The need to foster bottom-up rather than top-down approaches, including participatory processes that capture the opinions of society. In this way, sustainable measures and policies are aligned with societal needs and expectations.
- It is vital to build trust-based relationships in the first stages of partnerships with multiple stakeholders. For that, it is important to focus on finding common grounds to move forward.
- Collaboration and partnerships among different sectors of society are key across the whole SDG implementation cycle: from planning to delivery and monitoring of the SDGs.

SPECIAL
SESSION - Localizing the SDGs: Transformative partnerships to accelerate the achievement of the Global Goals at the local level

Organizer: UN-Habitat

Date: 29 June 202

Participants:

Master of Ceremony: **Shipra Narang Suri**, Chief, Urban Practices Branch, UN-Habitat

Keynote Speech

Anna-Leena Seppälä, Chief, Department of the Build Environment, Ministry of Environment, Finland

Emilia Saiz, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) Secretary-General, Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments (GTF)

First Panel

Mónica Eva Copa, Mayor of El Alto, Bolivia

Ernesto Orlando Mejia Mazara, Vice-Minister of Housing and Building Policy and Planning, Dominican Republic

Knut Hjorth-Johansen, Chief Adviser and Coordinator of European Policy Affairs, Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Governments, Norway

Johary Anuar, Mayor of Subang Jaya, Malaysia

Patricia Menezes, Focal Point for Agenda 2030, City of Barcarena, Brazil and Co-founder of "Rede ODS Brasil"

Second Panel

Edlam Abera Yemeru, Director a.i., Gender, Poverty and Social Policy Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)

Geraldine Lendor-Gabriel, Mayor of Castries, Saint Lucia

Pablo Ciccarelli, Head of Unit, Sustainable Transport and Urban Development, Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA), European Commission

Christian Hübel, Head of the Department for Democracy and Strategy, Manheim, Germany

Esther Muiruri, Founder of the Gold Ribbon Initiative, Kenya

Global Initiatives

Marco Ricci, Plenipotentiary Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy

Stefan Germann, CEO Botnar Foundation

Rafael Tuts, UN-Habitat Officer-in-Charge of the Office of the Deputy Executive Director, and Director of the Global Solutions Division

Main Outcomes:

- Jointly created momentum within UN Agencies, Local and Regional Governments and international stakeholders and **fostered collaboration and partnerships** amongst these actors to localize the SGDs.
- Co-created further political will and commitment to localizing the **SDGs as a tool for global resilience and inclusivity transformations** starting from cities and localities.
- Utilized **collaborative learning on the key challenges and opportunities** experienced in strategies to localize the SDGs. Discusses and shares potential solutions to data availability and management deficiencies, adequate and innovative financing, and true multilevel governance incorporation in local-level development strategies.
- Further **emboldened a whole-of-society approach** to developing and implementing Agenda 2030.
- Provided a platform for local and regional and international organization representatives to illustrate their **transformative ideas and action plans toward the SDGs, the Paris Agreement, and the New Urban Agenda.**

The 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) remain the global framework of reference for sustainable development and address the world's most pressing challenges. In the process of implementing the SDGs, there is increasing recognition of the importance of localizing them. In this way, the session reflected not only the increasing centrality of SDG localization but also the enhanced commitment of UN-Habitat to supporting partners all over the world in accelerating this process.

During the session, it was reinforced that **"co-creation" is crucial for the achievement of the SDGs**. The panelists emphasized the need to involve every sphere of governance and every actor, advocating for **multilevel and multistakeholder governance**, thereby creating a whole-of-society approach where communities are not only involved in the discussions but also in the policy-making processes, listening to all the voices and making sure that no one is left behind. It was agreed that an inclusive decision-making process is key to fulfilling the development agendas.

Keeping this in mind, the session discussion was built on the idea that **the role of the national government becomes stronger in delivering SDG localization via multidimensional support to the local and regional governments**. It also reiterated the importance of addressing the lack of funding and the closure of data gaps, considering that these challenges need to be overcome as they put a burden on local and regional governments to successfully achieve the SDGs.

In line with placing the local level at the center, the session also highlighted the work of UN-Habitat on the "**SDG Cities Certification**", which aims to award cities for their exceptional efforts towards the implementation of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda. Depending on where they stand in the achievement of the goals, there are four different levels of certification: silver, gold, platinum, and diamond. This system allows for a fair measurement and recognition of efforts by cities to accelerate SDG performance and creates role models for other localities to model their efforts on.

All in all, this event reiterated the vital importance of SDG Localization, empowering local and regional governments, and working towards multilevel and multistakeholder governance, while highlighting the current challenges and gaps that must be overcome to successfully achieve global goals and safeguard the future of the humankind.

Annex 9: Report of the Local2030 Coalition official side-event at HLPF 2022

The 2022 High-level Political Forum for Sustainable Development (HLPF) was held in New York from the 5th to the 15th of July under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Taking advantage of this high-level moment in bringing light to the importance of local action, the Local2030 Coalition organized a side event on 11 July 2022 titled "Local action: getting the SDGs back on track." This side event leveraged the views and experiences of Local2030 members and partners to advance sustainability at the local level. In addition to analyzing how local action can accelerate the achievement of the SDGs under review in 2022, the session highlighted the integrated, indivisible, and interrelated nature of the goals.

Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, UN Deputy Secretary-General and Chair of the UN Development Group, delivered an inspiring keynote speech that shared how the UN will deepen collaboration with everyone and everywhere through the Local2030 Coalition by promoting knowledge and understanding, mobilizing resources, and implementing activities on the ground and fostering data access and evidence-based policymaking.

The first panel, moderated by Dr. Shipra Narang Suri, Chief of UN-Habitat Urban Practices Branch, brought together different perspectives from UN agencies, national governments, local and regional governments, and academia to discuss multi-level and multi-stakeholder cooperation:

- H.E.Eng. Yahya Musa Kisbi, Minister of Public Works and Housing, Jordan
- Ms. Melisa Gorondy Novak, Director General of Articulation and Institutional Affairs, Ministry of Coordination, Government of the Province of Córdoba, Argentina
- Hon. Rohey Malick Lowe, Mayor of Banjul, The Gambia
- Professor Eugenie L. Birch, President of the General Assembly of Partners (GAP) and co-Director, Penn Institute for Urban Research

Panel members called for boosted partnerships, co-creation, and knowledge sharing to support local actors in delivering the SDGs and scaling up these efforts.

The second panel, moderated by Mr. Gonzalo Pizarro, UNDP Lead on Cities and Urbanization, focused on the experiences of Local2030 Hubs:

- Mr. Tetsuya Makino, Lead Staff for SDGs Promotion, Shizuoka City Government, Japan - Shizuoka Hub
- Ms. Celeste Connors, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Green Growth and Co-chair of the Local2030 Islands Network
- Mr. David Connor, Founder of the 2030hub, Liverpool, United Kingdom
- Mr. Filipe Braga Farhat, Partnership Liaison for the 2030 Agenda of the State of Paraná, Brazil - Paraná Hub

Youth empowerment, public-private partnerships, raising awareness, developing capacities, and island-led solutions are among the various initiatives presented by Local2030 Hubs to accelerate the localization of the SDGs.

At the closing, the session heard from Dr. Nenad Rava, Head of Programmes, Joint SDG Fund, how they are stimulating collective action among the UN System to support the SDGs and ensure that finance is

channeled to where it is needed most. Dr. Nenad also announced the partnership with the Local2030 Coalition to launch the localization window.

To conclude, H.E. Ambassador María Bassols, Chargée d'Affaires a.i., Mission of Spain to the UN, delivered Introductory remarks to the video presentation of the proposal of the government of Spain, the Basque Country and Bilbao's 'whole-of-government' proposal to host the Secretariat of the Local2030 Coalition in Bilbao and to support SDG Localization activities globally through a "localization window" to be set up as part of the Joint SDG Fund.

IISD Earth Negotiations Bulletin

LRGs Forum Bulletin
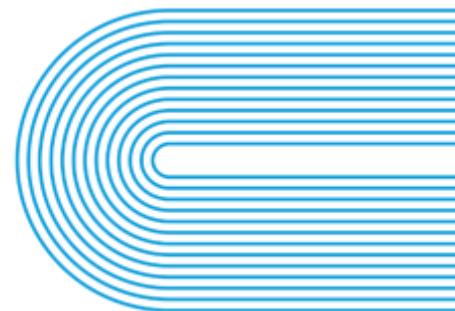
Local and Regional Governments FORUM

A publication of the International Institute for Sustainable Development

Friday, 15 July 2022 | Online at: enb.iisd.org/local-regional-governments-forum-2030-agenda-2

Fifth Local and Regional Governments Forum on the 2030 Agenda: 7 and 12 July 2022

Gathering in New York City for the first time in person, following almost three years of the COVID-19 pandemic, participants attending the Fifth Local and Regional Governments (LRGs) Forum reflected on the impacts of interconnected crises: the global COVID pandemic; climate change; and wars, including in Ukraine, resulting in food, energy and supply chain disruptions, and forced migration. Since LRGs have been at the forefront of responding to these crises, they have also developed innovative ways to protect the most vulnerable members of society to recover from these multiple crises through, among others, implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

In his opening remarks during the Ministerial Segment of the UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), Abdulla Shahid, UN General Assembly (UNGA) President, noted "there is hope." Part of that hope lies in the role that LRGs can play to bring about practical solutions. LGRs can help "steer the ship away from the harmful practices that have put us on a self-destructive path…and to fully seize the historic opportunity for a profound transformation, renewal and reset…" as called for by UNGA President Shahid.

Fittingly, this special high-level event took place alongside the 2022 HLPF and stressed the importance of localizing action towards achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a particular focus on the SDGs in review in 2022: SDG 4 (quality education), SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 14 (life below water), SDG 15 (life on land), and SDG 17 (partnerships for the Goals). The theme of the Fifth LRG Forum on the 2030 Agenda was: "Fostering the achievement of the SDGs from the ground up towards the 2023 SDG Summit." The forum showcased actions taken by LRGs for the SDG implementation, while also pointing to challenges and potential solutions and highlighting recommendations.

The event highlighted actions taken by LRGs to accelerate SDG implementation by emphasizing the link between local public service provision and education as a lever to address inequalities, the key role women play in local leadership, and the importance of LRGs in protecting nature and biodiversity. It also emphasized how, as the closest level of government to the people, LRGs have been playing a key role for many years in fostering peace and building bridges between communities and guaranteeing that their perspectives are reflected within policymaking at all levels.

The sessions were delivered in a hybrid format, the first session on 7 July took place online and featured panels on: voluntary local reviews (VLRs) and voluntary subnational reviews (VSRs) as key policy tools for the SDGs; and multilevel governance and multi-stakeholder collaboration. The second session took place in person on 12 July at UN Headquarters in New York, US. It featured panels on: local public services and policies fostering achievement of the 2030 Agenda; and localization at the forefront in the context of the SDG Summit 2023, where the mid-term review of the SDGs will take place.

Many participants noted local governments have been facing the effects of multiple global crises, from the global COVID-19 pandemic to climate change and wars, including in Ukraine. They also pointed to lessons learned from supporting the most vulnerable segments of the population, such as children, women, elders, people with disabilities, and Indigenous Peoples, while pointing out that the latter also hold knowledge that is key to sustainable development. Others stressed the importance of driving forward the SDGs at the local level, and emphasized

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that cities have become platforms for the future of sustainable development.

Many referred to the importance of VLRs and VSRs as essential tools to measure progress towards achieving the SDGs, urging their integration with monitoring and planning processes. Participants also considered how the disaggregated data in VLRs can help increase focus on SDG implementation gaps that may have been overlooked by national authorities. Others discussed the value of VLRs in shaping local budgetary and urban planning policies to better align them with the SDGs and the HLPF cycle, and how increased public participation could hone local budgets to citizen needs.

Participants stressed the importance of engaging with a diverse range of stakeholders, including women, youth, and the private sector, to develop tailored strategies and plans for local implementation of the SDGs according to these stakeholders' needs and priorities. Participants provided examples of local service delivery effectively integrating the SDGs and many welcomed hearing local success stories to help inspire and accelerate best practices among LRGs. Others urged interaction between multiple levels of government and with the UN, including using the upcoming SDG Summit in 2023 to reflect on what has been done and what needs to be done.

Participants considered how action at the local and regional levels can serve as a catalyst for SDG implementation. Some pointed out that LRGs are the first line of defense in times of crisis and are at the forefront of SDG implementation, which is why their practical experience integrating different aspects of SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities) with other SDGs could inform national and global decision makers. Many called for LRGs to have a place at the table in national and global decision making on the SDGs.

The event was co-organized by the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), the UN Development Programme (UNDP), UN-Habitat, the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), the Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments, and the Local 2030 Coalition.

Brief History of the UCLG Congress and LRG Forum

UCLG was founded in 2004 to ensure subnational and regional governments and other local authorities have a voice in the international processes that are defining the sustainable development and climate change agendas. Since its creation, UCLG has been bringing together city and local government representatives around common issues affecting subnational jurisdictions and defending the interests of local governments on the world stage.

UCLG Founding Congress: In May 2004, mayors, councilors, and elected city, local, and regional representatives gathered in Paris, France, to establish the UCLG Congress. The final declaration of the founding Congress addressed sustainable development, globalization, decentralization and local democracy, cooperation, diplomacy, and world health.

Second UCLG Congress: At UCLG's second Congress, held October 2007 in Jeju, Republic of Korea, participants discussed

the consequences of urbanization, cooperation with regions, and challenges of tomorrow's city. The final declaration lays out commitments on global warming and environmental protection, human rights, peace and development, and the Millennium Development Goals. In addition, a policy paper on local finance was approved.

Third UCLG Congress: First World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders: In November 2010 in Mexico City, Mexico, the first World Summit convened in conjunction with UCLG's Congress, adopting a document titled, The City of 2030 – Our Manifesto. The Manifesto lays out the common goals of local leaders and their determination to make the urban world a better place.

Fourth UCLG Congress: Second World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders: Held from 1-4 October 2013 in Rabat, Morocco, the second World Summit celebrated the centenary of the international municipal movement and allowed participants to debate and exchange views on the most vital issues for subnational authorities and partners. The Summit's outcome document, the Rabat Declaration, recognized the need to address change, innovation, and the issue of just societies by reinforcing bottom-up governance under the leadership of inclusive LRGs.

Fifth UCLG Congress: Third World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders: The third World Summit convened from 12-15 October 2016 in Bogotá, Colombia, under the theme, "Local Voices for a Better World." The Summit approved the Bogotá Commitment and Action Agenda, which provides a guide for LRG actions in the follow-up to the third UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III). It contains recommendations on: subnational contributions to achieving the SDGs and other global goals; reforming national legal, institutional, and policy frameworks; and securing LRGs' rightful place at the global table, especially in terms of global governance, international financing, and decentralized cooperation.

First LRG Forum: The first LRG Forum met on 16 July 2018, on the sidelines of HLPF 2018, in New York, US, to discuss LRG engagement in the preparation of voluntary national reviews (VNRs) and integrated territorial planning to achieve the SDGs. The Forum also promoted VLRs for city and regional levels that include the development of accountability mechanisms.

Second LRG Forum: The second edition of the Forum convened on 24 September 2019, in New York, during the SDG Summit. The Forum considered the theme, "Connecting global ambition and local action." It included sessions on: triggering the transformation needed to address the climate challenge; good practices and experiences on implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the local level; and commitments for accelerated SDG implementation.

Sixth UCLG Congress: Fourth World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders: Held from 11-15 November 2019 in Durban, South Africa, the 2019 Summit approved the Durban Political Declaration, Envisioning the Future of Our Renewed International Municipal Movement. It also approved, for the

first time at a UCLG Congress, a compendium of integrated policy recommendations resulting from a six-month consultation process with diverse stakeholders, which offered bottom-up continent- and region-specific priorities.

Third LRG Forum: The third Forum took place virtually, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, on 13 July 2020 on the sidelines of HLPF 2020. The event focused on the theme "The Decade of Action—bolstering change from the ground-up." It also highlighted LRG actions to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Speakers emphasized the importance of multilevel governance, sound local finances, decentralized cooperation, and territorial cohesion in the post-COVID-19 era.

Fourth LRG Forum: LRGs convened for LRG Day and a two-day LRG Forum on the sidelines of HPLF 2021. The fifth Towards the Localization of the SDGs report, prepared by the Global Taskforce of LRGs, highlighting sustainable and resilient recovery driven by cities and territories, was presented during LRG Day. During the forum, delegates deliberated on the LRG Joint Statement to HLPF 2021, reflecting the need for a safe, green, and just post-pandemic recovery that addresses inequalities exacerbated by the pandemic.

Report of the Fifth Local and Regional Governments Forum on the 2030 Agenda

Opening of the Forum

On 7 July 2022, Emilia Saiz Carrancedo, UCLG Secretary General, opened the Fifth LRG Forum on the 2030 Agenda, and thanked the co-organizers of the Forum: UNDP, UN DESA, UN-Habitat, the Global Task Force of LRGs, and the Local 2030 Coalition. She highlighted the importance of localizing action on the SDGs to effectively meet the challenges of the multiple crises and to accelerate action towards achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

Maimunah Mohd Sharif, UN-Habitat Executive Director, underscored the importance of local action to provide viable solutions to global crises since their effects are felt at the local level. She said the COVID-19 pandemic is a full-fledged socio-economic crisis, requiring collective solutions and actions, particularly considering that local governments have lost 20 to 50 percent of revenue. She indicated that global crises, like

Achim Steiner, UNDP Administrator

biodiversity and climate change, have forced many people to flee their homes. She stated that success depends on empowerment of LRGs and their capacity to adapt and overcome these challenges. She emphasized that progress has been made in localizing the SDGs since the number of VLRs has tripled in the past two years, resulting in transformation from the bottom up through local innovation and increased global dialogue. She urged renewed commitment and local action to make progress in the lead up to the 2023 Summit of the Future proposed by the UN Secretary-General.

Achim Steiner, UNDP Administrator, referred to the food, energy, and supply chain crises because of the global pandemic and the war in Ukraine, resulting in forced migration. He called for local and municipal action on multiple fronts, including the provision of basic services. He also suggested nature-based solutions for cities' challenges to meet the SDGs, including green infrastructure and alternative means of public transportation. He concluded that cities have become platforms for the future of sustainable development at UN agencies.

Berry Vrbanovic, Mayor of Kitchener, Canada, and UCLG Governing President, said that, in Canada, local governments aim to be stewards of the land and, as such, recognize the value and contribution of the traditional knowledge of Indigenous Peoples. He noted that local governments have been managing multiple global crises, emphasizing that their interconnected impacts require collective action. He acknowledged the value of the

Maimunah Mohd Sharif, UN-Habitat Executive Director

Berry Vrbanovic, Mayor of Kitchener, Canada, and UCLG Governing President

Online at: enb.iisd.org/local-regional-governments-forum-2030-agenda-2

UNGA High-level Meeting on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda, held in Accra, Ghana, in April 2022, the World Urban Forum 11, and the SDG Summit in 2023. He highlighted the impact of the multiple crises on the most vulnerable segments of the population and the need to provide them with education and opportunities for skills-based training.

VLRs and VSRs as Key Policy Tools for Achieving the SDGs

This panel was moderated by Amson Sibanda, National Strategies and Capacity Building Branch, UN DESA, who stressed the need for more SDG localization and data collection.

Carolina Cosse, Mayor of Montevideo, Uruguay, welcomed work to ensure social cohesion and a human rights approach, including the rights of cities, form the heart of recovery from the global COVID-19 pandemic. She considered VLRs to be a basic tool at the local level to align with planning tools and indicators, and to strengthen dialogue with citizens.

Rachid El Abdi, President of the Regional Council of Rabat Sale Kenitra, Morocco, referred to the multiple crises caused by the global pandemic, the war in Ukraine, and the increasing cost of living due to soaring inflation, calling for collective efforts to find innovative solutions from the ground up. He said VLRs are essential tools for work with stakeholders. He urged finding ways to enable people to live in dignity where they are, including through the provision of health, quality education, and sustainable infrastructure.

Jonan Fernández, Secretary General for Social Transition and Agenda 2030 of the Presidency of the Basque Government, Spain, said his government is committed to: planning, by engaging social contracts for the 2030 Agenda; evaluation, by aligning local indicators with international ones; and governance, by ensuring broad participation.

Belinda Gottardi, Mayor of Castel Maggiore, Italy, presented on her city's qualitative analysis, through case studies, and quantitative analysis, through local data collection systems.

Emilio Jatón, Mayor of Santa Fe, Argentina, said VLRs can help make local work visible and allow for its consolidation, by working collaboratively and learning from other experiences.

Luz Amparo Medina Gerena, Director of International Affairs at the Mayor's Office in Bogotá, Colombia

Luz Amparo Medina Gerena, Director of International Affairs at the Mayor's Office in Bogotá, Colombia, reported on her city's work on VLRs, including learning through communities of practice, and coordination with national reviews. She urged developing long-term policies for implementing the SDGs at the local level and use of participatory, democratic processes.

Lusanda Batala, Senior Sector Expert, National Planning Commission Secretariat, South Africa, said no development can happen without the local sphere of government, and that SDG implementation happens at the local level, which is closest to the people and can ensure no one is left behind. He urged learning from local responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, including identifying vulnerable groups. He underscored: employing a whole of government approach; prioritization of resources; and leadership and accountability.

Veronica Hitosis, Executive Director, League of Cities of the Philippines, said VLRs can help build new relationships, between cities with aspirations to focus on the SDGs, and with national governments who can provide the necessary assistance, in terms of financial resources. She urged rational and practical prioritization of the SDGs and their further localization and awareness building.

Moving Beyond Reporting: Multilateral Governance and Multi-stakeholder Collaboration

This panel was moderated by Rafael Tuts, Director, Global Solutions Division, UN-Habitat. He underlined that VLRs and VSRs have proven to be effective tools in integrating the SDGs into cities' strategies and budgets, as well as offering opportunities to revamp governance structures for more integrated multilevel governments. He noted that UN-Habitat was supporting this process in various ways, including by launching a VLR SDG dashboard that consolidates all VLRs across UN agency platforms.

Mahadi Che Ngah, Mayor of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, explained that producing VLRs enables alignment of local objectives with national SDG objectives. She also referred to increased transparency through the creation of an effective platform to share information with other stakeholders.

Silvina Rivero, Minister of Coordination, Province of Córdoba, Argentina, pointed to a focus on social access and social development to address high levels of inflation and

Panel on Moving Beyond Reporting: Multilateral Governance and Multi-stakeholder Collaboration

Luisa Salgueiro, Mayor of Matosinhos, Portugal

Emilia Saiz Carrancedo, UCLG Secretary General

unemployment. She said many of its multilevel government initiatives included food programmes for children and initiatives to target domestic and gender violence.

Luisa Salgueiro, Mayor of Matosinhos, Portugal, referred to the importance of nature-based solutions for development in coastal cities as highlighted during the 2022 UN Ocean Conference, held in Lisbon, Portugal, from 27 June to 1 July. She emphasized that community engagement was critical to adaptation measures and to promote and protect critical coastal economic sectors, such as tourism and fisheries. She said the challenge is to balance climate change with economic and social objectives through adequate planning

Victoria Alsina, Minister of Foreign Action and Open Government, Catalonia, Spain, urged improving community participation and strategic planning to engage youth and businesses towards common sustainable objectives. She called for applying the subsidiarity principle, according to which problems are addressed at the level where they have the greatest effect, and to network with other municipalities and regions.

Almudena Maíllo, Councillor of Madrid, Spain, and Secretary General of the Union of Ibero-American Capital Cities, called for deepening relationships between different levels of government, from the local to the global levels due to their increasing interconnectedness. She indicated that UN agencies, including UN-Habitat and the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, have recognized the importance of working together with local and national governments towards achievement of the SDGs.

Nicolás Justo, Mayor of San Justo, Argentina, spoke about the need for adequate urban planning to take advantage of synergies between different SDG objectives at the local level, including through green infrastructure and making the transportation grid more effective and efficient.

Jukka Mäkelä, Mayor of Espoo, Finland, underscored the importance of dialogue and engagement to achieve the multi-level, multi-stakeholder approach required for sustainable development. He indicated that VLRs can help create long-term engagement around sustainability objectives between people and their governments.

Alfonso Masso, Executive Secretary, International Affairs of the State of São Paulo, Brazil, noted his state has 45 million inhabitants, produces one third of the national GDP, and has the third largest consumer economy in Latin America, making its commitments with respect to the SDGs and climate change very significant. He pointed to initiatives involving the private sector resulting in environmental and socio-economic benefits and increased stakeholder involvement.

Opening of In-Person Meeting

On 12 July, UCLG Secretary General Saiz opened the second day of the Fifth LRG Forum on the 2030 Agenda, noting how LRGs are playing a key role in overcoming global interconnected crises through a multilevel government approach and multi-stakeholder network. She said LRGs have the potential to bring about innovative and practical solutions that could foster achievement of the SDGs from the local level towards the SDG Summit in 2023 and beyond.

Abdulla Shahid, President of the 76th session of the UNGA, highlighted LRGs' role in providing some of the most essential services and infrastructure, all of which are critical to achieving the SDGs. He called for an urgent comprehensive response to the ongoing crises, including consolidation of multilevel governance and multi-stakeholder partnerships. He underscored the role of LRGs in achieving SDG 4 (quality education) adapted to local

Abdulla Shahid, President of the 76th session of the UN General Assembly

Liu Zhenmin, UN Under-Secretary-General, UN DESA

contexts and SDG 5 (gender equality) through increased women's participation in local government. He also stressed LRGs' role in Ocean stewardship since much marine pollution originates from urban sanitation. He urged whole of society and whole of government approaches to SDG implementation to address their complexity and interconnection.

Liu Zhenmin, UN Under-Secretary General, UN DESA, urged action at the local and regional levels in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic, and the food, fuel, and fertilizer supply disruptions caused by the combined crises. He added that one of the lessons learned at the HLPF, through VNRs, is that effective SDG implementation relies on the concrete application of policies and programmes at the local level. He said VLRs contain a remarkable collection of lessons that can be gathered and analyzed for increased understanding at the national and global levels. He explained that the UN is supporting the production of VLRs through guidelines and online capacity-building workshops and emphasized that LRGs can be formidable agents of transformation.

Berry Vrabonovich, Mayor of Kitchener, Canada, UCLG Governing President, called for a governance system based on empathy, care, and a collaborative approach, including through increased gender equality and empowerment through initiatives like the feminist municipal movement. He reported that VLRs have tripled in the past two years and VSRs have been produced in 14 countries, both of which serve as instruments for increased policy coherence and institutional coordination. He called for a true multi-stakeholder network and a multilevel governance structure to accelerate progress during the Decade for Action towards the 2030 Agenda.

Local Public Services and Policies Fostering Achievement of the 2030 Agenda

This panel was moderated by Haoliang Xu, UN Assistant Secretary-General, and UNDP Assistant Administrator and Director of the Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, who stressed that local service delivery is important to achieving the SDGs. He noted that due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, human development had declined for the first time in 30 years.

Toshihiko Ota, Mayor of Toyota, Japan, urged all levels of government and business to work together. He said that in its VLR process, his city is monitoring and reviewing the SDGs based on three factors: governance, outputs, and outcomes.

Magnus Berntsson, Vice-President of the Regional Council of Västra Götaland, Sweden, welcomed the focus on local success stories to help inspire and accelerate best practices among LRGs, noting they are key to implementation on the ground.

Pablo Javkin, Mayor of Rosario, Argentina, recalled that the world's population is concentrated in cities. He said in 2020, the rate of extreme poverty increased for the first time in 30 years, making it even more important to provide services for the most vulnerable at the local level and to raise awareness of the SDGs at the local level.

Iracı Hassler, Mayor of Santiago, Chile, said achieving the SDGs cannot just happen at the highest level; it must also happen at the neighborhood level, where people are returning to public spaces to reclaim their identity and to make such spaces more sustainable. She urged taking care of people living in the streets, and a new model for waste management in situ through recycling rather than sending garbage to rural areas.

Alberto Pereira Fernandez, Mayor of Campo Aceval, Paraguay, called for increased interaction between multiple levels of government and with the UN, where the international goals are being set, and to translate them back into local public policies. He said LRGs play a fundamental role in achieving the SDGs through inclusive action, based on data collection and analysis of progress made.

José Hila Vargas, Mayor of Palma of Mallorca, Spain, pointed out how public services became essential during the pandemic in meeting people's needs and urged planning for public transportation, housing, education, and health to integrate the SDGs.

Johnny Araya Monge, Mayor of San José, Costa Rica, referred to the upcoming UN Summit on the SDGs as a point of reflection on what has been achieved and what still needs to be done, considering the impacts of the global crisis over the last three years and the need to make up for time lost, by focusing on local action.

Dais during the panel on Local Public Services and Policies Fostering Achievement of the 2030 Agenda

Celeste Connors, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Green Growth and Co-Chair of the Local 2030 Islands Network, spoke about islands being at the frontlines of addressing climate change and pointed to synergies with SDG implementation. She urged political leadership, public private partnerships, and a long-term focus on implementation.

Looking Towards the SDG Summit with Localization at the Forefront

This panel was moderated by Lucy Slack, Commonwealth of the Local Governments Forum Secretary-General. She underscored the impact of LRGs in accelerating progress towards the SDG Summit and pointed to SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities) as a lever for other SDGs.

Jan Van Zanen, Mayor of the Hague, the Netherlands, and UCLG Co-President, recalled the evolution of the LRG Forum, which now convenes as a special event during the HLPF. He said LRGs should be able to sit alongside key players due to their critical role as catalysts for action and change. In addition, he noted that that while localization is at the forefront of the agenda, national governments also have a critical role to play and that different levels of government should be combining efforts.

Yousef Shawaebeh, Mayor of Amman, Jordan, referred to urban strategies and plans as roadmaps for the development of smart cities. He spoke about the value of VLRs to identify gaps and the need to better align urban planning with the 2030 Agenda, including through increased quality of life with better public health and transportation systems aimed at leaving no one behind.

Pilar Díaz, Mayor of Esplugues de Llobregat, Spain, said strengthening municipalities' capacity to align local planning with the SDGs could increase policy coherence on strategic issues such as digital transformation and building increased resilience in vulnerable populations.

Turán Hançerli, Mayor of Avcilar, Turkey, pointed to the important lessons learned from the COVID-19 pandemic, including that LGRs and citizen solidarity networks adapt more quickly to their context-specific situation and can respond faster than national authorities.

Sandra Pellegrom, SDG Coordinator, the Netherlands, said LRGs can contribute to finding practical means of integrating different aspects of a complex transformative agenda, because sustainable development issues are addressed more immediately at the local level.

Valérie Dumontet, Vice-President Department of Aude, France, said LRGs are essential actors for achieving the SDGs in key areas, such as food and health, which are catalysts for social and economic development and increased resilience. She urged re-thinking the provision of food and basic services at the local level to advance human rights and wellbeing and reducing vulnerabilities.

Ingolf Dietrich, Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Germany, referred to international cooperation initiatives with the local governments of Oaxaca, Mexico, and in Georgia to integrate SDG considerations into local budgets and planning, allowing them to effectively prioritize government action.

Leendert Verbeek, President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities (CLRA), stated that two-thirds of SDG targets and indicators can only be implemented at the local and regional levels, which is why capacity building and resources should be targeted to these levels. He reported that CLRA is preparing an additional protocol to the European Charter on environmental protection using inputs from LRGs.

Closing of the Forum

During the closing of the LRG Forum, UCLG Secretary General Saiz emphasized the need to develop different relationships through localization as a way of implementing the 2030 Agenda. She presented a video on Flipping the Script, showing how LRGs are making a difference.

Fabrizio Rossi, Secretary General, Council of European Municipalities and Regions, called the Fifth LRG Forum a declaration of hope and trust, reaffirming their determination as a global community to take action on the ground to face the complexities caused by the global pandemic, war, biodiversity loss, and land degradation. He reiterated the need for urgent action on the SDGs, which requires more resources, a critical assessment of current efforts, and engagement of local communities.

Maria-Francesca Spatolisano, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, UN DESA, welcomed the guidance from LRGs on how to foster achievement

Dais during the panel on Looking Towards the SDG Summit with Localization at the Forefront

Emilia Saiz Carrancedo, UCLG Secretary General; **Maria-Francesca Spatolisano**, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, UN DESA; and **Fabrizio Rossi**, Secretary General, Council of European Municipalities and Regions

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of the SDGs at the local level, including through priorities identified in VLRs and VSRs. She said by sharing information, LRGs play a crucial role in localization of the SDGs and addressing challenges. She concluded by stating that LRGs can count on support from international agencies like UN DESA. The Fifth LRG Forum was then adjourned.

Upcoming Meetings

Third Global Conference on Strengthening Synergies Between the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: The conference will be co-convened by UN DESA and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat and hosted by the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, in partnership with the United Nations University and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies. The conference aims to build the evidence base for synergistic action to raise climate and SDGs ambition. **dates:** 20-21 July 2022 **location:** Tokyo, Japan **www:** ias.unu.edu/en/events/upcoming/third-global-conference-on-strengthening-synergies-between-the-paris-agreement-on-climate-change-and-the-2030-agenda-for-sustainable-development.html

World Water Week 2022: Organized by the Stockholm International Water Institute, World Water Week 2022 will convene on the theme "Seeing the Unseen: The Value of Water," and is built on a global need to not only see but also to understand the value of water. **dates:** 23 August – 1 September 2022 **location:** Stockholm, Sweden **www:** worldwaterweek.org

4th Meeting of the SAICM Intersessional Process: The 4th meeting of the Intersessional Process for Considering the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and the Sound Management of Chemicals and Waste Beyond 2020 is expected to continue discussions on a possible post-2020 platform for chemicals and waste management. **dates:** 29 August – 2 September 2022 **location:** Bucharest, Romania **www:** www.saicm.org/Beyond2020/IntersessionalProcess/FourthIntersessionalmeeting/tabid/8226/Default.aspx

IWA World Water Congress and Exhibition—Water for smart, liveable cities: This World Water Congress and Exhibition will report on the water sector's progress toward achieving the SDGs, with an emphasis on SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation). The event will also highlight and explore the interwoven relationship of water with all 17 SDGs. **dates:** 22 September 2022 **location:** Copenhagen, Denmark **www:** unhabitat.org/events/iwa-world-water-congress-and-exhibition-water-for-smart-liveable-cities

UN Climate Change Conference: The 27th session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC will take place in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. which will focus on implementation of the Paris Agreement and on the delivery of the various commitments and pledges made, including on the global goal on adaptation with implications for more resilient cities and human settlements. **dates:** 7-18 November 2022 **location:** Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt **www:** unfccc.int/cop27

UCLG 7th World Congress and Summit of Local and Regional Leaders: Convened by UCLG, this Congress will bring together the most influential local and regional leaders, councilors, local governments, partners, and actors involved in the decision making of city and community life. The meeting seeks to promote the values of local democracy and decentralization, support partnerships between stakeholders, including the private sector and civil society, and increase alignment with the global agenda on sustainable development. **dates:** 10-14 October 2022 **location:** Daejan, Republic of Korea **www:** www.uclg.org/en/media/events/uclg-7th-world-congress-and-summit-local-and-regional-leaders

Biodiversity Conference: The 15th meeting of the COP to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the tenth meeting of the COP serving as the Meeting of the Parties (MOP) to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, and the 4th meeting of the COP serving as the MOP to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization will convene face-to-face in December 2022. **dates:** 5-17 December 2022 **location:** Montreal, Canada **www:** www.cbd.int/conferences/2021-2022

For additional upcoming events, see sdg.iisd.org/

Glossary

HLPF	High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
LRGs	Local and regional governments
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UCLG	United Cities and Local Governments
UN DESA	United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlement Programme
VLRs	Voluntary local reviews
VNRs	Voluntary national reviews
VSRs	Voluntary subnational reviews

MY CAR IS NOT A GOOD INVESTMENT I USE PUBLIC TRANSPORT

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Annex 11: Press release of World To-Do-List for Cities Campaign September 2022

Cities around the world unite to call for greater support to achieve the Global Goals for Sustainable Development

- *Cities across the world are taking part in the 'World's To-Do List' campaign during the UN General Assembly.*
- *City leaders are calling for greater financing and technical support to leverage the power of local action to achieve the Global Goals*

City leaders from around the world are uniting to reinforce their commitment to tackling the biggest challenges facing the world – climate change, inequality and poverty – and achieving the Global Goals for Sustainable development.

The 'World's To-Do List campaign, driven by Project Everyone, is taking place as world leaders meet in New York for the UN General Assembly. It underlines the need for greater concerted action to deliver the Global Goals, which 193 world leaders agreed upon at the 2015 UN General Assembly to build a greener, fairer, better world by 2030.

The campaign reimagines the Global Goals as a series of 17 playful, yet profound, sticky notes. Physical and digital activations are taking place in cities around the world, including Barcarena, Bogota, Bristol, Cannes, Curitiba, Doha, Durban, Freetown, Liverpool, London, Londrina, Mexico City, Milan, New York and Yokohoma.

The World's To-Do List, which launched last September, was adopted by the C40, a global network of Mayors, in June this year as part of London Climate Action Week under the leadership of the Mayor of London and Chair of C40 Cities, Sadiq Khan. The campaign aims to highlight the global impact of local action and the need to unlock finance and technical assistance to support city leaders to achieve the Global Goals.

The UN System-wide platform and network for supporting and accelerating the localization of the Global Goals, the Local2030 Coalition, is also joining forces with the campaign. Together we are calling for drastically increased public and private finance and technical support to drive local action so that cities are better equipped to confront the perils we are facing and create a future where everyone can thrive.

As hotbeds for innovation, education, and creativity, cities hold the keys to tackling climate emergencies and achieving the Global Goals. More than one-half of the world's inhabitants currently live in cities, rising to two-thirds by 2050. Mayors play a critical role in responding to the challenges and opportunities presented by a rising urban population.

This message is reinforced in a film [watch here] produced by Project Everyone, that was screened in front of world leaders during the UN General Assembly.

Partners have also rallied behind the campaign: Vice Media will donate digital space across their portfolio; in the UK, the Financial Times, Ocean Media and Open Media are gifting media space in support of the campaign.

Project Everyone, the C40, the UN Local2030 Coalition, key Mayors, and other partners will continue to work together to build on the momentum of the campaign, including at the C40.

Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, United Nations Under-Secretary-General, Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), and Co-chair of the Local2030 Coalition said: "The World's To-Do List campaign shines a spotlight on the important role local leaders play in implementing the Global Goals. With enough finance and support, they could achieve even more, and that message is at the heart of this campaign. The Global Goals can only be achieved with local action, and once the UN General Assembly finishes, we know that hard work will be continuing in cities and communities across the world."

Co-Founder Project Everyone, Richard Curtis, said: "Culture and creativity play a crucial role in driving change. We are thrilled to see so many city leaders embracing the World's To-Do List. It's a fun campaign but with a serious message – that this really must be everyone's To-Do List if we are to achieve the Global Goals and a better world for everyone. As the halfway point to the 2030 deadline for achieving the Global Goals approaches, the importance of cities and local leaders to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is clear."

Co-founder of Project Everyone, Kate Garvey said: "The World's to Do List campaign has gone from strength to strength. It's been brilliant to see so many mayors adopt it this year – we know that cities - hotbeds for innovation, education, and creativity – hold the keys to tackling the climate emergency and achieving the Goals."

Annex 12: Report of the opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao

THE LOCAL2030 COALITION SECRETARIAT OPENS IN BILBAO, SPAIN, ON WORLD CITIES DAY

The Local2030 Coalition Secretariat was opened on the occasion of World Cities Day in Bilbao, Spain, by the United Nations, the Government of Spain, the Basque Government, the City Council of Bilbao, and BBK.

The Local2030 Coalition is the UN System-wide platform and network for supporting and accelerating the localization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), endorsed in 2015 by 193 member states to ensure sustained and inclusive economic growth, social inclusion, and environmental protection, as well as fostering peaceful, just, and inclusive societies.

The opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao was a significant milestone in the renewed, revamped Local2030 Coalition. It was the result of the bid presented by the Government of Spain, the Basque Government, and Bilbao City Council, together with BBK, to host the Secretariat, which was introduced earlier this year at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in July 2022.

The Secretariat in Bilbao will energize the work of the Local2030 Coalition, maximize its transformative impact, and strengthen its strategic and catalytic capacities to advance further the localization of the SDGs within the UN and across all territories and communities.

Spain's contribution to SDG Localization also includes support for establishing a localization window within the UN Joint SDG Fund to encourage catalytic actions towards SDG localization worldwide.

Symbolic Ceremony

The opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao included a symbolic ceremony with a guided visit to the new Secretariat's premises and the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding in recognition of the political commitment of Spain to the Local 2030 Coalition Secretariat and of the work to be undertaken in bringing local actors and real-world actions.

World Cities Day

The opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat was held on World Cities Day to recognize the contribution of cities and local actors to addressing the world's urban challenges and engage the international community towards implementing the New Urban Agenda, the roadmap to sustainable urbanization adopted at Habitat III Conference in Quito in 2016.

This year's World Cities Day theme, Act Local to Go Global, focused on accelerating the implementation of the SDGs in cities, towns, and local communities. Moderated by **Shipra Narang Suri**, Chief, Urban Practices Branch, Global Solutions Division, UN-Habitat, a panel session discussed urban challenges, accelerated implementation of the SDGs, and transformative solutions to leave no one and no place behind. Among the speakers were **Clara Arpa**, CEO of Arpa, Member of the UN Global Compact Board, and UN Global Compact Spain President; Eider **Inunciaga**, BBK Kuna Director; **Filomena Ruggiero**, Vice President of the Sustainable Development Council; and **Ragnheidur Elín Arnadóttir**, Director of the OECD Development Centre.

World's To-Do List

The opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat was also a landmark of the World's To-Do List global campaign that calls for greater support to cities to achieve the SDGs. Through this campaign, the City of Bilbao joined other cities worldwide in underlining their commitment to the SDGs. A mural with sticky notes highlighting citizens' opinions on what is needed to achieve

SDG 11 was displayed at the venue. It was a great occasion to connect Bilbao, Mayor Juan Mari Aburto, and its citizens with cities participating in the World To-Do List, such as Bristol, London, Doha, New York City, Curitiba, Barcarena, and Mexico City.

Highlighted Statements

Several high-level authorities were present at the opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao, including the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group, **Amina J. Mohammed**; the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), **Maimunah Mohd Sharif**; the Assistant Administrator and Director of Bureau for Policy and Programme Support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), **Haoliang Xu**; the Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain, **José Manuel Albares**; the Secretary of State for the 2030 Agenda, of the Ministry for Social Rights and the 2030 Agenda of Spain, **Lilith Verstrynge**; the President of the Basque Government, **Iñigo Urkullu**; the Mayor of Bilbao, **Juan Mari Aburto**, and the President of the BBK Foundation, **Xabier Sagredo**.

During the ceremony, the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group, **Amina J. Mohammed**, highlighted that "The Local2030 Coalition will bring together the combined resources of the UN family in enabling the energy, digital, and green and blue transitions needed for sustainable development."

The Executive Director of UN-Habitat (the permanent co-chair of the Local2030 Coalition and lead agency of its Secretariat), **Maimunah Mohd Sharif**, noted that "The push towards localization started with Agenda 21, evolved with the Millennium Development Goals, and has become a real driving force in achieving the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals. We hope that in the post-2030 Agenda, localization will be a central element rather than merely an instrument of implementation, a true manifestation of the principle of inclusive multilateralism."

The Assistant Administrator and Director of Bureau for Policy and Programme Support of

UNDP (the rotating co-chair of the Secretariat for the period 2022-2023),

Haoliang Xu, stated during the opening that "The Local2030 Coalition has a unique opportunity to promote local actions for sustainable development everywhere and connect these local actions to the global 2030 agenda. The Secretariat, opening today in Bilbao, will provide the locus for cross-fertilization of ideas and exchange of solutions from across the world. We are grateful for the support of the Government of Spain, the Basque Government, and the Bilbao City Council."

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain, **José Manuel Albares**, said that Bilbao's awarding as the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat "is a tangible sign of the effort and commitment of all institutions in Spain, as well as our society, with this common welfare Agenda."

The Secretary of State for the 2030 Agenda, **Lilith Verstrynge**, highlighted the "transformative potential of the local level to build the future of sustainability, rights and social justice that we want for everyone" and said that the opening of the Secretariat represents "a qualitative leap" in the commitment of the Government of Spain "with co-governance and with the work from the local level."

For his part, the President of the regional government of Basque Country (Lehendakari), **Iñigo Urkullu**, thanked the United Nations for selecting Bilbao to host the Secretariat, remarking that this "represents a recognition of the trajectory developed in the Basque Country in terms of the 2030 Agenda; and, fundamentally, it constitutes a commitment to the future." He also remarked on subnational governments' role in achieving the 2030 Agenda.

The Mayor of Bilbao, **Juan Mari Aburto**, conveyed what it means for the city to host the Coalition Secretariat, "We are proud to be the headquarters of the global community's efforts in localizing the 2030 Agenda, and we make available to this headquarters the resources, knowledge, and experiences of our city to make the motto of 'leaving no one behind' a reality."

And the President of the BBK Foundation, **Xabier Sagredo**, mentioned that "BBK is firmly and strategically committed with the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat for the localization of the 2030 Agenda of the United Nations that today we open in Bilbao; because we know the transformative value of sustainable competitiveness to respond to the challenges of our territory, the planet, and humanity."

Participation of Local2030 Coalition key partners at the Opening of the Secretariat in Bilbao

The Local2030 Coalition is a shared space to mobilize, engage and empower every local actor to bolster the localization of the SDGs. Accordingly, the Coalition is governed by a Steering Committee composed of a diverse group of relevant stakeholders, who, together with the Co-chairs, bring different perspectives on how to implement global agendas and achieve sustainable development at the local level. SC members have either joined the event in Bilbao or sent video messages.

The Secretary-General of UCLG, **Emilia Saiz,** represented by her Chief of Staff, **Pablo Fernandez**, sent a strong message stating that "UCLG stands committed to supporting this coalition on behalf of the whole local government constituency and supporting its work in ensuring that local action from all actors and sectors supports the achievement of the global goals and vice versa."

The CEO of Arpa, Member of the UN Global Compact Board, and UN Global Compact Spain President, **Clara Arpa Azofra,** advocated for "the need for innovation, finance, training, and education" for individuals and companies to address how we consume and produce products.

The Mayor of Freetown, Sierra Leone, **Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr OBE,** underlined that "The Local2030 Coalition really reinforces our commitments as those at the local level, the cities, the local authorities to work together with other stakeholders in our bid to drive forward the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals".

And the Founder of the Golden Ribbon Initiative, **Esther Muiruri,** shared her "deeply concerned by climate change. It is affecting our communities by deepening the existing vulnerabilities and creating new ones. At the same time, I am happy that we are launching our Secretariat office in Bilbao today, which will support and strengthen our work at the Steering Committee".

Fourteen UN Agencies, Funds, Programmes, and Offices are also part of the Local2030 Coalition, acting as the advisory body to its Steering Committee, which was also represented at the event.
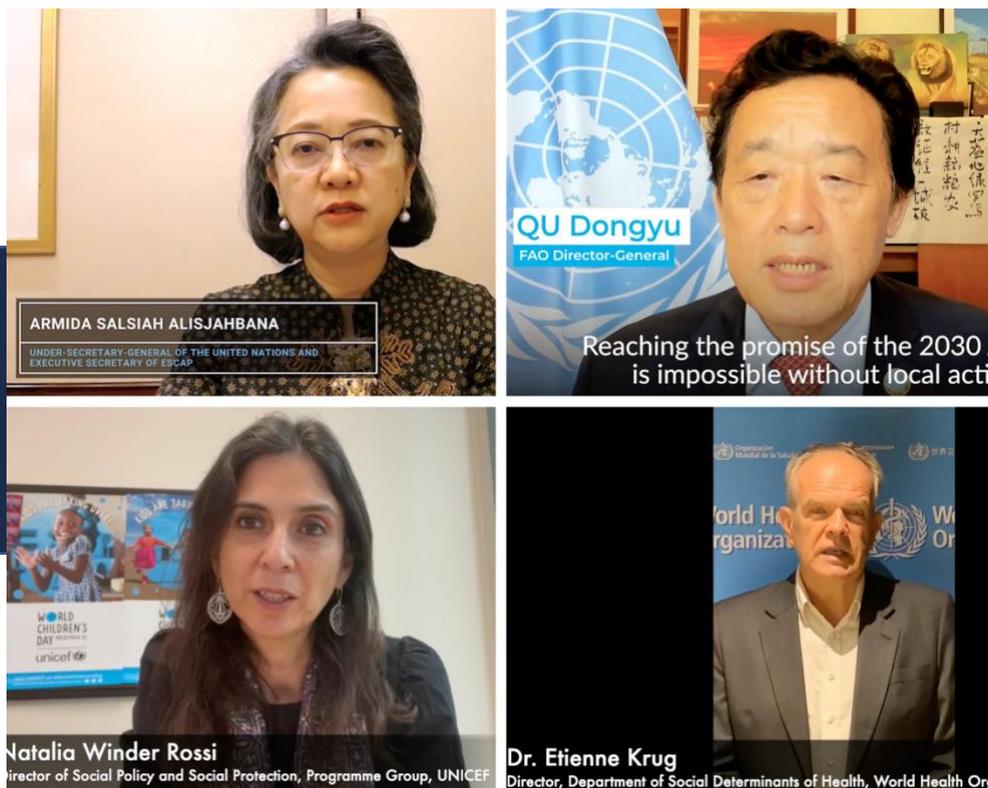
The Director-General of FAO, **Qu Dongyu**, emphasized that "FAO as a member of the Coalition and future Co-chair in 2024-2025, will contribute through its expertise of the FAO Office of SDGs - the first in the UN-System - the FAO Green Cities Initiatives and our urban agrifood systems programme".

The UN Under-Secretary-General, and Executive Secretary of UN- ESCAP, **Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana**, said, "Working with the Local2030 Coalition, we look forward to scaling up our work on VLRS and SDG Localization to many more cities".

Likewise, the Director of Social Policy and Social Protection at Programme Group of UNICEF, **Natalia Winder Rossi**, celebrated the opening of the Secretariat in Bilbao and stated that "UNICEF is excited to be part of the Local2030 Coalition. We look forward to continuing working together to further this critical agenda for every child". While the Director of the Department of Social Determinants of Health of WHO, **Etienne Krug**, stressed that "WHO will continue to support cities and national governments to improve urban health through technical support and training. We welcome additional UN coordination efforts and look forward to participating actively in the Local2030 Coalition".

Local2030 Hubs, SDG localization champions, and important drivers of the work of the Coalition have also shared video messages to show their support.

The Mayor of Shizuoka, **Nobuhiro Tanabe,** stressed that "As local leaders, we are the ones closest to our citizens to tackle global issues, such as natural disasters caused by global warming. Let's join hands and start a movement that sets all in motion."

The Founder of the 2030hub, Liverpool, **David Connor**, underlined that "Local2030 creates subnational relevance and ownership that supports but can also inspire civic leadership into coherent action."

And **Hawai'i Green Growth** (HGG) shared that "as the Local2030 Global Thematic Hub for islands, Hawai'i Green Growth champions island leadership, innovation, and solutions for achieving the 2030 Agenda". HGG also stated they "were honored to strengthen our commitment to the localization of the SDGs alongside the Local2030 Coalition". Together with its partners, the Coalition will generate innovative solutions for local action and impact. It will actively contribute to SDG acceleration and report progress at the SDG Summit in September 2023.

Coverage

The Opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao was widely disseminated by the Media, the Government of Spain, the Basque Government, the Bilbao City Council, and the UN System. Learn more about it by visiting the different articles and stories published.

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Annex 13: Concept Note of the Local2030 Coalition side event at COP27

SDG localization as a driver of urgent climate action

COP27 – Side event – Egyptian Pavilion – Blue Zone

14 Nov 2022 | 6:00 pm – 6:50 pm EET | In-person

Context

While we face a 'moment of great peril characterized by conflicts, climate catastrophe, division, unemployment, massive displacement, and other challenges"[3], the world comes together once more at COP27 to lay out ambitions and reaffirm its commitment to the global climate agenda in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt.

Climate change is an existential threat with very localized implications. Hundreds of millions of people are already being impacted, or likely to be impacted, by climate change consequences, disproportionately affecting vulnerable people. The World Bank estimates that over 100 million individuals could fall below the poverty line in 2030 without rapid and inclusive development that integrates climate action[4].

The latest Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report highlights that the window to stave off the worst consequences of climate breakdown is narrowing fast. The report points out that global temperatures are now most likely to rise above the 1.5-degree target, which means that climate change risks for cities, settlements, and infrastructure will increase rapidly in the mid-and long-term[5].

According to UN-Habitat, urban areas contribute significantly to climate change, accounting for 71 to 76 percent of CO_2 emissions, primarily through the consumption of fossil fuels for energy supply and transportation. They are also responsible for between 60 and 80 percent of energy consumption and absorb significant climate risks, such as bearing the climatic extremes of global warming, which are currently predicted at 3 to 4 degrees Celsius[6].

Our economic model of investment, consumption, and growth also adds to climate change due to its exploitative extraction of natural resources. This is clearly seen at the local level, where land used for forestry or food production is now occupied, and pollution affects the local population. In addition, these areas are where infrastructure and activities are concentrated, making them susceptible to the most significant impacts of climate change[7]. For instance, in

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[3]   UN, "Rescuing the SDGs: General Assembly highlights 'world's to-do list', 2022: https://news.un.org/en/story/2022/09/1126981

[4]   World Bank, "Shock Waves : Managing the Impacts of Climate Change on Poverty", 2016: http://hdl.handle.net/10986/22787

[5] IPCC, "Climate Change 2022: Mitigation of Climate Change. Contribution of Working Group III to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change", 2022: https://www.ipcc.ch/report/sixth-assessment-report-working-group-3/

[6] UN-Habitat, "Strategic Plan 2020-2023" : https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/documents/2019-09/strategic_plan_2020-2023.pdf

[7] UN-Habitat, "Climate Change" : https://unhabitat.org/topic/climate-change

recent years, natural disasters have become more severe and frequent in cities worldwide.

In addition, by 2065, around 6 billion people will live within 200km of a coastline[8] - putting the cities and towns located by the sea at significant risk. "Ice-melting, sea-level rise, marine heatwaves, and ocean acidification" are some of the unreversible effects to our oceans that climate change is causing[9]. These burdens combined are endangering the planet's ecosystem and can already be felt at the local level. To illustrate, the 2022 UN Ocean Conference's Special Session on LRGs[10] highlighted the damaged ecosystems, lack of coastal adaptation, and troubled port-city relationships as some of the most pressing issues and emphasized the need to build resilience to protect the local population in coastal areas.

Whereas these are some of the many of climate change's adverse impacts at the local level, climate change may also bring an opportunity to adopt ecological and inclusive pathways by rethinking how we can achieve green, resilient, and sustainable cities and towns – which is at the heart of the localization approach.

"Localizing the SDGs" is a powerful tool to support climate action at the local level since it places territories and communities at the center of sustainable development, if done and managed correctly. In this two-way process, the local meets the national and the global, and vice-versa.

The SDG localization approach offers the required and needed knowledge, tools, resources, and innovative governance models to guide national, subnational, and local governments and other local actors, including communities, to collaboratively achieve the ambitious Paris Agreement targets, which will also contribute to accelerating the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

Pursuing low emission and climate resilience development has an enormous potential to protect the poorest and most vulnerable who bear the brunt of climate impacts. Sustainable urbanization can play an essential role on this front as it applies a people-centered approach that considers all residents' interests, needs, and aspirations[11]. Thus, sustainable urbanization can bring opportunities to address environmental sustainability and develop resilience in cities that leave no one behind. For instance, it can mitigate and adapt urban growth through an inclusive approach that focuses on creating opportunities for disabled people, youth, and women. As well as reduce and minimize environmental degradation and adverse effects of climate that include least developed areas, which are often neglected.

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[8] McGregor, A. Roberts. C.and Ccusins. F., "Two Degreas- The Built Environment and Dur Changing Climate", 2013.
[9] UN, "How is climate change impacting the world's ocean": https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/science/climate-issues/ocean-impacts
[10] UN Ocean Conference 2022, LRG Special Event : https://sdgs.un.org/events/LRGspecialevent-2022UNOC
[11] UN-Habitat, "The value of sustainable urbanization, 2020: https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2020/10/wcr_2020_report.pdf

Likewise, action on climate change provides an unprecedented opportunity to unlock massive economic and social benefits that can help us achieve the SDGs at the local level. Recent studies outlined by UNDP have found that bold climate action could trigger at least US$26 trillion in economic benefits by 2030, create over 65 million new jobs and avoid 700,000 premature deaths[12].

Moreover, the localization approach promotes the participation of all governments and stakeholders, which is crucial to protect our planet. Innovative multi-level and multi-stakeholder partnerships can harness inclusive governance and decision-making that builds and maximizes effectiveness in climate change-related policymaking.

In this scenario, the Local2030 Coalition – the UN System-wide platform and network for supporting and accelerating SDG localization– is promoting environment-related targets as part of its 10-year strategy[13] to make cities and towns more resilient while addressing the need to push for adaptation and green transitions (clean energy, blue economy, multi-modal mobility, circular economy, etc.). Besides, to overcome the required global climate action coherence and coordination needed to adapt and scale up initiatives, the Coalition is enabling multi-level and multi-stakeholder collaboration by operating as a convening space to strengthen coordination within and beyond the UN-System.

The Government of Egypt is a prominent supporter of SDG localization, as it was one of the first countries to develop its Sustainable Development Strategy "SDS" 2030 in addition to volunteering to present its localization efforts during the HLPFs starting from 2016 onwards. The country has also reviewed its 2014 SDS and developed its second version with a clear direction towards just, inclusive and equitable development with a special emphasis on the localization of the SDGs to ensure that no one and no place is left behind. Being the host of COP27, the country upholds its commitment to accelerate global climate action at the national, subnational, and local levels and inspires others to follow.

Objective of the session

The Local2030 Coalition and the Government of Egypt are joining forces in the framework of COP27 to promote a multi-level and multi-stakeholder discussion on the importance of SDG localization to push climate action. To ensure local actors are equipped to overcome climate-related challenges while achieving the SDGs, the main objective is to:

(i) inspire local action by putting forward solutions and innovative partnerships that can be easily adapted and scaled up, and

(ii) call for technical support and increased public and private finance for locally driven initiatives.

Mains points of discussion

The event will outline how the localization of the SDGs can drive urgent and radical action to transform local systems and contribute to limiting global warming. Speakers will share best practices and transformative solutions at the local level that contribute to mitigating climate change and support

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[12] UNDP, "100th Meeting of the Development Committee", 2019: https://www.undp.org/speeches/100th-meeting-development-committee

[13] SEI, Local2030 Coalition for the Decade of Action, 2021: https://www.sei.org/publications/local2030-coalition/

adaptation and resilience efforts, including how they embrace meaningful action on loss and damage. In addition to analyzing how local action can help stop the climate breakdown, speakers will highlight the integrated and interrelated nature of their actions and how they support overcoming other complex and interconnected crises.

Participants Member states, local and regional governments, UN entities and civil society leaders.

Format The event will be hosted fully in English, in person, and only available for pre-registered attendees.

Agenda

14 NOVEMBER 2022 - starts at 6:00 PM EET (Cairo)	
Opening	
6.00 pm – 6.18 pm **(18 min)**	**<u>Introduction by the moderator</u>** • **Dr. Erfan Ali**, Representative, Regional Office for Arab States, UN-Habitat **<u>Welcoming remarks</u>** • **H.E. Maimunah Mohd Sharif**, UN Under-Secretary-General, and Executive Director of UN-Habitat **<u>Keynote speech</u>** • **H.E. Dr. Hala El-Said**, Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Government of Egypt
Panel discussion: SDG localization as a driver of urgent climate action	
6.18 pm – 6.50 pm **(32 min)**	**Moderator** • **Dr. Erfan Ali**, Representative, Regional Office for Arab States, UN-Habitat **Speakers** • **H.E. Dr. Hala El-Said**, Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Government of Egypt • **H.E. Maimunah Mohd Sharif**, UN Under-Secretary-General, and Executive Director of UN-Habitat • **H.E. Usha Rao-Monari**, UN Under-Secretary-General and Associate Administrator of UNDP • **H.O. Fatma Şahin,** Mayor of Gaziantep Metropolitan Municipality, Turkey • **Ms. Susan Ruffo,** Local2030 Islands Network Steering Committee Member and Senior Advisor for Ocean and Climate at the UN Foundation

Annex 14: Local2030 Hubs' ToR

Terms of Reference of the Local2030 Hubs

SDG Localization Hubs are centers of excellence established to help build capacities for innovative action, helping nurture the development of and access to methodologies and tools for SDG localization, promoting collaboration and co-creation across networks.

They provide global support to local, regional and national governments, civil society, academic, international, and regional organizations, development experts, private sector partners, and/or national and subnational Hubs.

Hubs are categorized into three types:

1. **Global Technical Hubs**: focus on one or more SDG Localization technical processes such as data collection and analysis, inclusive local development planning, urban and territorial planning, local institutional development, subnational finance, etc.

2. **Global Thematic Hubs:** focus on one or more themes such as climate change, social equality, local economic development, gender, public-private sector partnerships, youth empowerment, urban-rural linkages, etc.

3. **Territorial Hubs:** foster SDG Localization efforts within a particular region or language group (e.g., Lusophone countries, Francophone countries, SIDS, etc.).

Global Technical and Thematic Hubs

Technical and Thematic Hubs are global centers of excellence for the development and/or the repository of knowledge, tools, experiences, and training. They will also promote dialogue, facilitate the integration of these critical development themes, and connect partners within global UN-driven efforts for SDG localization.

They will:

A. Support partners and/or national and subnational Hubs by:

- Undertaking action research to develop and test tools, approaches, and processes.

- Curating and technically vetting existing tools developed by members of the Hub and outside institutions.

- Building repositories of searchable technical resources and reference material, including regulations, legislation, and case studies.

- Developing and refining technical tools and manuals and adapting them for specific contexts, ensuring continued improvement based on feedback.

- Developing and refining training materials and adapting them for specific contexts, ensuring continuous feedback-based improvement.

- Ensuring the above are available in at least one UN official language.

- Ascertaining specific needs of local partners and curating technical packages of resources, tools and training materials that meet such requirements.

- Facilitating the establishment of clusters of local partners with similar technical or training needs as 'learning communities' that share experiences and lessons learned, which can be used to feed Local2030 Coalition working groups.

- Maintaining a register of organizations and companies that are vetted and able to perform specialist functions in line with the SDG localization agenda, including urban and territorial planning, drafting legal documentation, etc., and supporting matchmaking needs with services.

- Organizing technical workshops and events.

- Facilitating communities of practice and regularly communicating on progress, lessons learned, and case studies.

To achieve their mandates effectively, technical and thematic Hubs should:

- Ensure multi-year funding.

- Be adequately resourced with a multilingual team of technical experts.

- Bring perspectives from different regions and development contexts.

Ideally, the Hubs will comprise a small consortium of partners such as local and regional governments, associations, and networks, CSO, and academic institutions and should include stakeholders from different geographic regions. The Hubs must be headed by a government or institution and have a technical team.

Territorial Hubs

Territorial Hubs foster SDG Localization efforts within a particular region or language group by:

- Defining a territorial mandate, such as a territory, region, or a group of countries within which they have the legitimacy to operate.

- Initiating localization processes within the territory, starting with a few frontrunners (such as municipalities), and providing necessary linkages to technical and thematic hubs to support their SDG localization process.

- Adapting and refining materials (tools, methodologies, case studies, training) for their specific contexts and developing new ones when not available.

- Curating and technically vetting existing tools developed by members of the Hub and outside institutions.

- Ensuring content is available in its focus(es) language(s), also contributing to translating documents of Technical and Thematic Hubs when necessary.

- Advocating and communicating SDG localization and progress through media and events and engaging politicians and decision-makers.

- Facilitating linkages between frontrunners and other partners wishing to engage.

- Mobilizing resources and establishing national/ subnational hubs that directly support local partners.

To achieve their mandates effectively, Territorial Hubs should:

- Ensure multi-year funding.

- Be adequately resourced with technical and political expertise.

- Bring to the global discussion the perspectives that are relevant to the geographic mandate of the Hub and vice versa.

Ideally, Territorial Hubs will be headed by a government or institution and include a technical team. A small consortium of partners is encouraged, including more than one stakeholder.

Local2030 Hub standard requirements

Contribution to the Local2030 Coalition | Hubs must directly contribute to the mandate of the Local2030 Coalition in accelerating the progress of the 2030 Agenda at the local level in the Decade of Action. For that purpose, Hubs will be asked to contribute to delivering specific activities of the Coalition's annual work plans and lead or participate in thematic working groups that match its area of expertise or interest.

Budget | A Hub must be self-funded, covering all its operational, human resources, and travel costs.

Staffing | For continuity, each Hub should be staffed by at least one full-time senior staff with over ten years of experience in local development, plus at least one technical and administrative staff. The more functions the Hub provides, the higher the minimum staffing required. A flexibly deployable team, specifically recruited consultants or seconded staff, can be envisioned to supplement the core staffing. Staff could work remotely, but face-to-face meetings for planning, training, and developing tools would be held periodically.

Appointment and term of office | Local2030 Coalition Members, UN institutions, and strategic partners will be able to submit Hub applications on a rolling basis for the consideration and approval of the Co-chairs and the Steering Committee. Nominations will be granted for an initial period of 3 years, which can be extended under mutual agreement.

Function | Hubs must assume the above-described roles depending on their type and focus.

Governance structure | To become part of the Local2030 Hubs network, Hubs must clearly stipulate its governance structure and show how it will relate to the Local2030 Coalition governance structure. This structure should also include transparency and accountability requirements.

Space | For efficiency, it is advisable that Hubs are hosted within an existing organization, ideally related to the mission of SDG Localization, or with some overlap in service provision or other synergies. At a minimum, a Hub requires a physical office where reference materials and records can be securely kept. The space must include access to a boardroom or workshop room where face-to-face meetings and training could be held and from which webinars could be broadcast or recorded.

Meetings | Hubs must participate in meetings held by the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat, which will take place at least twice a year.

Online | Each Hub will own and manage a page on the Local 2030 Website and carry on its communication efforts by using the Local2030 Coalition brand identity; their 'parent' organization (s) and donors will be publicized as key SDG Cities partners as relevant. Minimum expectations would be a dedicated phone number, an answering service available five days a week, published contact email addresses, and web-based contact forms. Each Hub would set up a secure cloud-based system to collect and file data submitted by local actors and ensure institutional memory. It is envisioned that Hubs would develop webinars or short videos to explain the localized process to their region, language, or specific situation.

Communication and coordination of activities | Hubs must designate a focal point to be in constant contact with the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat to coordinate activities and exchange key information, progress, and/or inform if challenges are being faced.

Relationship management | Relationship management systems-software would be employed to enable a distributed team to keep track of partners' needs and third-party service providers.

Standard operating procedures | A binder of operational procedures and policies would be developed to rapidly orient incoming staff.

Marketing and communication | Hubs would be responsible for keeping their communications package up to date and synchronized with the Local2030 Coalition guidelines. Hubs would be responsible for creating communications for specific situations that apply only within the purview of that Hub

Reporting | Hubs must report on their activities and results to the Secretariat of the Coalition twice a year by sending semimanual reports. These reports must highlight the Hubs' contribution to the work plan, working group, and other relevant activities and results.

Benefits of being a Local2030 Hub

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development calls for integrated solutions to break down traditional development sector silos and create horizontal and vertical policy integration, coherence, and partnerships across social, economic, and environmental sectors. No actor alone can achieve all the SDGs. Hubs will be vital in helping the Local2030 Coalition to sum up all efforts from global, national, regional, and local levels, as well as tools and mechanisms, to make the SDGs a reality for everyone and everywhere. In addition to actively contributing to the Local2030 Coalition and pushing the Localization of the SDGs agenda on a global scale, Hubs will have the opportunity to acquire knowledge and exchange experience with local development experts and access alternative funding sources. Hubs will also be part of the UN networking of SDG Localization champions, getting global visibility and recognition and participating in UN-led processes, events, and discussions.

Annex 15: Minutes of the Local2030 Hubs meeting – September 2022

Minutes of the Local2030 Hubs meeting

Date: 21 September 2022

Time: 4:00 pm to 5:15 pm EDT | 3:00 pm to 4:15 pm CEST | 9:00 am to 10:15 am EDT
Place: Microsoft Teams

Co-chairs

- o **Ms. Shipra Narang Suri**, Chief, Urban Practices Branch, UN-Habitat
- o **Ms. Renata Rubian**, Lead in Cities and Urbanization and Policy Advisor, Regional Bureau for Asia and Pacific, UNDP

Participants

- o **Hawai'i Green Growth:** Ms. Celeste Connors, CEO; Ms. Laura Kam, Local2030 Islands Network Coordinator
- o **Liverpool 2030hub:** Mr. David Connor, Founder
- o **Paraná Hub:** Mr. Filipe Braga, Partnership Liaison for the 2030 Agenda, Cedes, Government of Paraná; Ms. Mariam El Tasse, Technical Advisor for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda, Cedes, Government of Paraná
- o **Red de Ciudades Cómo Vamos Hub:** Ms. Maria Fernanda Cortes, Technical Coordinator of the Red de Ciudades Cómo Vamos
- o **Shizuoka Hub:** Mr. Takahiro Shiba, Managing Chief, Shizuoka City; Mr. Tetsuya Makino, Lead Staff, Shizuoka City; Mr. Yuki Shimoyama, Assistant Staff Administrator, Shizuoka City
- o **Sweden Hub:** Mr. Thomas Melin, Senior Urban Advisor
- o **UNDP:** Ms. Minerva Novero-Belec, Policy Specialist, Governance, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support
- o **UN-Habitat:** Mr. Martino Miraglia, Human Settlements Officer, Ms. Francine Melchioretto, SDG Localization and Programme Expert, Ms. Camila Milani, Intern, and Mr. Diego Uribe, Intern

The goal of the meeting

The co-chairs of the Local2030 Coalition, UN-Habitat, permanent Co-chair and lead of its Secretariat, and UNDP, first rotational Co-chair (2022-2023), were delighted to hold the first collective consultation with the Local2030 Hubs after Local2030 has gone through a reorientation process between 2021 and 2022. This consultation aimed to respond to the demand of Hubs to jointly define what it means to be a Local2030 Hub and ensure a clear structure for Hubs to contribute and benefit from the Coalition's platform, network, and activities.

Agenda item 01: State of play of the Local2030 Coalition
*Key points presented by **Ms. Shipra Narang Suri**:*

- The process of reshaping Local2030 into its present form included (i) consultations with the UN-System and key partners and (ii) the development of strategic documents, such as the 10-year policy strategy, baseline, integrated mapping of UN tools, Terms of Reference

(ToR) for the Secretariat, Steering Committee (SC) and Hubs, the 2022 workplan, etc.

- The first SC meeting on 29 April 2022 saw a robust discussion on the Local2030 Coalition's priorities and the 2022 Workplan, which was unanimously endorsed.

- During the Local2030 Coalition side-event at the 2022 HLPF, the Spanish Government, together with the Basque Country and Bilbao, presented a whole-of-government proposal to host the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao and boost SDG localization through a concrete contribution to a dedicated window in the Joint SDG Fund, which was endorsed by the SC and supported by the UN Directors Group.

- Priorities for 2022 are the organization of strategic meetings with key partners (Local2030 Hubs, SC technical focal points, and UN-Directors Group); launching the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao (31st of October); bringing the voice of local actors to key high-level events (e.g., COP27); Conceptualization of the SDG Localization Window with the Joint SDG Fund; and mobilize additional resources to implement other critical activities outlined in the Workplan.

Agenda item 02: Presentation of the approved 2022 Workplan and Local2030 Hubs ToR
*Key points presented **by Ms. Renata Rubian**:*

- The approved 2022 Workplan builds on the Coalition's three action areas, advocacy, action, and monitoring. A major part of 2022 has been dedicated to the institutionalization of the Coalition's governance structure and its Secretariat and high-level advocacy events.
- The ToR for Local2030 Hubs outlines the three types of Hubs and their related responsibilities, standard requirements, and benefits. The goal is to set a minimum to ensure Hubs are functional, efficient, and inclusive.

Agenda item 03: Moderated discussion: participants' reflections on Hub's ToR and potential support to Local2030's Coalition activities
*Key points highlighted by Hubs:*

- Mr. Filipe Braga highlighted the importance of bringing on board other actors (such as the private sector) to the work of a Hub. He also emphasized the need to overcome the language barrier, and as a suggestion, he proposed that Local2030 working documents (such as the ToR for Hubs) be available in more languages.
- Mr. Thomas Melin reinforced the importance of capacity building, knowledge exchange, and peer-to-peer learning between hubs. In addition, he stressed the importance for Hubs to come together to identify and support the needs of local governments (e.g., lack of resources, capacities, technical know-how, etc.).
- Ms. Celeste Konnors reflected on how Hubs can help Local2030 (e.g., funding, branding, communication, etc.). She also provided a few recommendations: (i) have Local2030 Hubs involved in the process of approving and vetting new Hubs; (ii) include one Hub as a member of the SC to be chosen on a rotational basis; (iii) put in place a reporting mechanism or provide a template for Hubs to report back to the Coalition; (iv) facilitate accreditation to Hubs participate at UN-led meetings and events; (v) developing a promotional video that includes the Hubs;
- Mr. David Connor reinforced the importance for Hubs to support local actors in dealing with Covid-19 impacts and post recovery process. He questioned if there were missing

geographic areas to be supported, identifying Lest Developing Countries and Fragile Settings. Thus, he suggested that Hubs and the Coalition work collaboratively to address this priority. In addition, he welcomed the alignment of Local2030 with the World To-Do List for cities campaign.

-   Answering the reflections on next year's landmarks events (SDG Summit, and Summit of the Future) and the Post-2030 Agenda, Ms. Shipra Narang Suri highlighted the importance of SDG localization to shape the discussions, and Local2030, with the support of its partners, will play a bit role in convening this message.
-   Ms. Renata Rubian informed us that there is a space for Local2030 Coalition in the UNDP pavilion at COP27. Hubs will be invited to participate if confirmed. She will keep us posted.

Next Steps

-   Hubs are asked to send comments and feedback on the proposed ToR by October 10th so that they can be integrated into the document that will be shared with the UN Directors Group.
-   Hubs are requested to complete a consolidated calendar (Annex 2) with events and milestones to be shared among the Local2030 Coalition's main partners (Hubs, UN-Directors Group, and SC). First inputs should be sent by October 14th, so they can be presented at the upcoming UN Directors Group meeting.
-   The Hubs will meet up to three times a year, including one in-person meeting. The in-person session will promote a learning exchange between Hubs and should piggyback on events already being organized by Hubs or Local2030. Proposals to host the first meeting in 2023 can be shared with the Secretariat.
-   The Local2030 Coalition Secretariat will create small working groups to build on Hubs' specific skills. The Secretariat team will contact you to put forward a proposal. Proposed topics are funding, communication (including the rebranding of the Local2030 website), and a committee to review new Hub applications.
-   A simple and straightforward reporting mechanism for Hubs will be jointly developed by the Secretariat and a volunteer(s) Hub(s). Please inform the Secretariat team about your availability to support this process.
-   Hubs are asked to fill out an excel with their information (Annex 3). This list will be the basis for sharing information and convoke meetings.
-   While the Local2030 website is under review, if Hubs would like to promote tools/documents, stories, and events, please send the Secretariat Team the attached forms (Annex 4, 5, and 6), who will manually upload the content on the website. Moreover, please share any Tweet messages to be shared through Local2030's Twitter account or tag us on your posts that you would like to be retweeted.
-   Once we receive the confirmation of focal points and contact information, a group email to share information will be created to keep us engaged and informed. At the same time, we will work to institutionalize a coordination mechanism.
-   Hubs will be invited to collaborate with Local2030 Coalition working groups.
-   The inclusion of a Hub in the SC will be brought to the discussion and submitted for approval at the next SC meeting (April 2023).
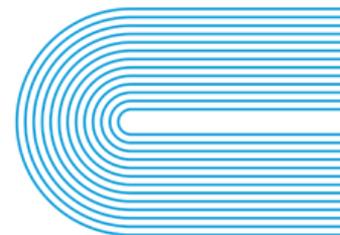
Annex 16: Secretariat's ToR

Terms of Reference of the Local2030 Hubs

Local2030 Coalition Background

In September 2021, the UN System launched the Local2030 Coalition, a platform and network designed to support and accelerate local level delivery of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Local2030 Coalition aims to offer a common space and approaches to mobilize, engage and empower every local actor, everywhere, to advance the SDGs.

This Coalition is built on the premise that the people closest to the challenges for sustainable development are best positioned to solve them, and that multi-level and multi-stakeholder partnerships are essential to ensuring results. Inside the UN system, the Local2030 Coalition aims to strengthen efforts to advance SDG targets in partnership with local and regional actors.

Local2030 Coalition Structure

The Local2030 Coalition is governed by two co-chairs, one permanent[14] and one rotational[15], representing the UN System, and its Steering Committee[16]. It also counts on strategic orientation and policy support of the United Nations Executive Office of the Secretary General (EOSG).

Moreover, the Coalition's activities will be undertaken in collaboration with the UN Directors group, Local2030 Hubs, and a number of partner institutions and governments at the national, subnational, and local levels, working on SDG localization.

Local2030 Coalition Secretariat

Under the overall orientation of the co-chairs, following the strategic direction of the Steering Committee, and with the key support of the EOSG, the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat will count on dedicated staff to coordinate the definition, implementation, monitoring, and reporting of the Local2030 Coalition's activities.

The Secretariat will also help members develop strategies to gain global attention and support SDG localization solutions and initiatives.

Secretariat Responsibilities

The Co-chairs and Steering Committee of the Local2030 Coalition will provide the strategic direction to the Secretariat. They will, together with the Secretariat, engage in all the activities foreseen in the Local2030 Coalition's approved work plans.

Specifically, the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat will coordinate activities around the following workstreams:

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[14] UN-Habitat was chosen as the Local2030 Coalition's Permanent chair.

[15] Every two years, the rotational chair of the Local2030 Coalition will change. The first Co-chair is UNDP (2022-2023), followed by FAO (2024-2025).

[16] See attached the Terms of Reference of the Steering Committee for more information about its composition and role.
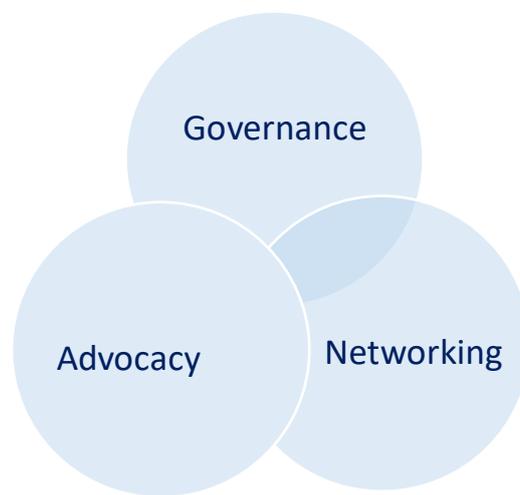
Governance

- Facilitate the establishment and operation of the Steering Committee and any other structures required for the functioning of the Secretariat.
- Draft work plans, reports, terms of reference and other necessary documents, as well as ensuring its approval.
- Support the implementation of the Local2030 Coalition's approved work plans. This includes, supporting co-chairs in monitoring the implementation of the activities foreseen in the Local2030 Coalition's work plan, by indicating progress and identifying bottlenecks.
- Produce an annual report of the Local2030 Coalition's activities against the work plan to be reviewed and approved by the Steering Committee.
- Support the co-chairs in activating the Steering Committee, including the drafting, and sending of invitation letters and relevant documents.
- Organize meetings of co-chairs and the Steering Committee.
- Hold regular meetings (2-3 times per year) with the UN Directors Group to gather input and coordinate support for the work plan and activities of the Local2030 Coalition.
- Ensure a constant and smooth coordination between co-chairs, members of the Steering Committee, UN Directors group, and partners of the Local2030 Coalition.
- Collate and consolidate information, knowledge products and initiatives on SDG localization and make them available to the Local2030 Coalition Steering Committee, UN Directors group and partners.
- Support the activities of Local2030 Coalition working groups and tasks forces on specific topics, by ensuring a coherent connection between these activities and the work of the Coalition and collecting reports and recommendations to disseminate with co-chairs, Steering Committee members, UN Director group, and partners.
- Identify strategic opportunities and partners, from the UN system, national governments, LRGs, and their associations, CSO, private sector, and other local actors to link their initiatives with the Local2030 Coalition's activities.
- Promote effective collaboration

between the organizations involved, as requested.
- Support fundraising efforts, by identifying potential fund opportunities and communicating it to the co-chairs.

Networking

- Facilitate the engagement of new partners.
- Help the co-chairs in engaging new partners.
- Support the co-chairs and Steering Committee with their fundraising activities, by facilitating information on funding and partnership opportunities, drafting documents, and organizing meetings.
- Act as the link between Local2030 Hubs, co-chairs, Steering Committee, UN Directors group, and partners. This includes following up Local2030 Hubs' activities, collecting relevant information and reports, ensuring their participation in relevant discussions related to SDG localization and their thematic focus, facilitating technical cooperation, and disseminating relevant initiatives and lessons learned.
- Facilitate the participation of partners in the activities of the Local2030 Coalition.
- Keep an up-to-date database of partners of the Local2030 Coalition.
- Share first-hand information with partners about the Local2030 Coalition and its activities, events, and publications.
- Organize meetings with partners of the Local2030 Coalition, as requested by co-chairs and Steering Committee.
- Facilitate in-depth peer-to-peer exchange between partners, as requested.

Advocacy

- Coordinate advocacy activities.
- Organize workshops and or events to promote the Local2030 Coalition within the UN system and with external partners, as defined in the work plan.
- Support the organization of events related to SDG localization promoted by the Steering Committee, UN Directors group, and partners, as requested[17].
- Facilitate the participation of the Local2030 Coalition's partners in events promoted by the Steering Committee members, UN Directors group, and/or other partners, as requested.
- Manage the Local2030 Coalition online platform and communication channels[18].
- Support co-chairs, Steering Committee's members, UN agencies, and partners with their outreach activities to promote the Local2030 Coalition[19].
- Keep the UN System abreast of the work and activities of the Local2030 Coalition and engage them with SDG localization.

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[17] The Local2030 Coalition Secretariat will assist by providing strategic guidance, putting at disposal the Coalition's vast networking, and inviting relevant speakers. Note that all operational and logistical arrangements must be carried out by the event organizer.

[18] The Local2030 Coalition platform and its communication channels will be hosted by UN-Habitat, who will be the responsible for if) managing the technicalities of the online platform and adding new information; and ii) promoting and managing the Local2030 Coalition's communication channels (Twitter, and YouTube).

[19] The Secretariat will be responsible for coordinating all outreach initiatives and will provide strategic guidance and relevant material to partners.

Secretariat Structure

The permanent chair of the Local2030 Coalition is also responsible for leading its Secretariat on a continuous basis. Within this framework, the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat will be managed by a Coordinator directly reporting to UN-Habitat's Senior Focal Point for SDG Localization and Local Governments, as well as to the co-chairs.

In addition, the Secretariat will be supported by:
- One focal point from each of the co-chairs, two in total.
- One focal point delegated by the Steering Committee.
- Dedicated personnel[20] hired to support activities and the day-to-day management of the Secretariat.

The Secretariat may also accept personnel on secondment from other organizations and governments and through junior professional and similar programmes. Any government and organization that is a member of the Local2030 Coalition is encouraged to appoint focal points, experts and/or contribute with human resources to strengthen the capacities of the Secretariat.

Location and operations

UN-Habitat as the permanent chair of the Local2030 Coalition leads the Secretariat, acting as the Trustee and administering its financial resources.

Governments and institutions can apply to host[21] the Secretariat for a specified period. Proposals must be presented to the co-chairs for consideration and approved by the Steering Committee.

The Secretariat personnel and focal points will act as members of the Secretariat, keeping the Steering Committee, UN directors and partner institutions informed by organizing and coordinating the respective activities.

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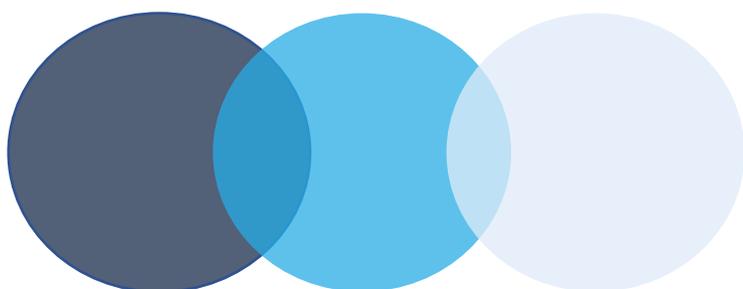
[20] The Local2030 Coalition Secretariat's personnel will be managed by the Coordinator of the Secretariat under the overall direction of the co-chairs and oversight of UN-Habitat's Senior Focal Point for SDG Localization and Local Governments.

[21] Terms of Reference for hosting the Secretariat are under development.

Roles

The table below is a non-exhaustive summary of the mains responsibilities of the key institutions supporting the work of the Secretariat:

Permanent co-chair	• Lead the Secretariat and oversee its functioning.
	• Strategic orientation and political support.
	• Financial management and support.
	• Implementation, monitoring, and reporting of activities, as defined in the workplan.
	• Administrative support.
Rotational co-chair	• Strategic orientation and political support.
	• Implementation, monitoring, and reporting of activities, as defined in the work-plan.
	• Administrative and financial support.
Steering Committee	• Strategic orientation[22] and political support.
	• Implementation, monitoring, and reporting of activities, as defined in the work-plan.
Executive Office of the Secretary General	• Strategic orientation and political support.
UN Directors group	• Strategic orientation and political support.
	• Support the implementation, monitoring, and reporting of activities, as defined in the work-plan.
	• Support where available (personnel, administration, finance, etc.).

Roles

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[22] See attached Terms of Reference of the Steering Committee for more details.
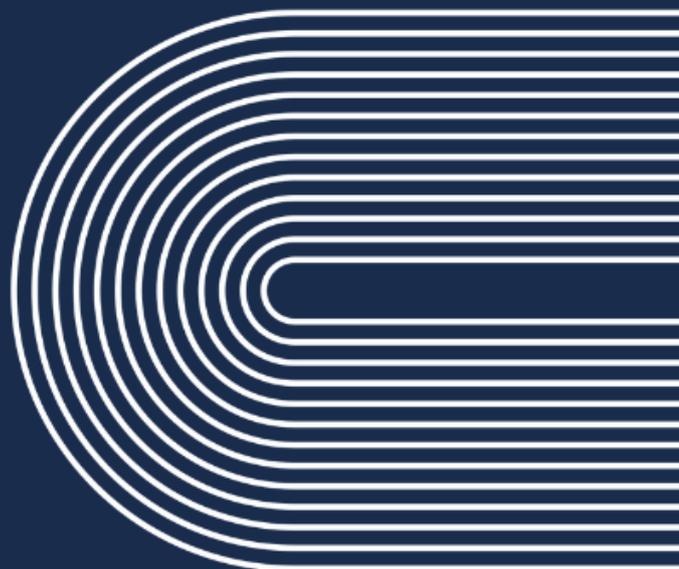
Annex 17: Approved 2022 Work Plan

2022 Work Plan's Summary

2022 will be a crucial year for the Local 2030 Coalition to establish itself as the UN-wide System platform for SDGs localization. With only 7 years left to achieve the goals of Agenda 2030, the Local 2030 Coalition is well-placed to empower local governments and other local actors to accelerate the delivery of the SDGs. The current context we face today highlights, more than ever, the importance of working together to address common challenges. Supporting health systems, building strong institutions, addressing climate change, and driving economic recovery and resilience are all interlinked and, therefore, must be handled in an integrated, inclusive, and coordinated manner. In this sense, the Local 2030 Coalition will establish a space to connect a wide range of actors to join forces and efforts towards achieving the 2030 Agenda at the local level.

To do that, the focus in 2022 will be on 1) launching and activating the Steering Committee and the UN Directors' Group, 2) raising awareness about the Coalition among UN agencies and partners, and initiating Working Group discussions to establish synergies and partnerships, and 3) resource mobilization. With many essential events foreseen in 2022, efforts will be made to keep bringing the voices and experiences of local governments and local actors to global agendas and debates through the Local 2030 Coalition and its members. Additionally, the Local2030 Coalition will continue to expand and curate the repository of tools and resources on SDG localization and make them widely accessible through its online platform.

Finally, one of the main goals for 2022 is the linking and facilitation of cooperation between members of the Steering Committee, the UN System, and partners. This will enable a strong positioning of the Local 2030 Coalition to become the reference for strengthening multi-partner approaches to achieve sustainable development at the local level.

Workplan at A Glance

ACTION AREA	OUTCOMES	RESPONSIBLE	OUTUPTS	DEADLINE	BUDGET
ADVOCACY	**OUTCOME 1.1 Within the decade of action, local actors are engaged to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs**				
	Activity 1.1.1 Establishment and activation of the Steering Committee	Local2030 Coalition Co-Chairs with the support of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat and EOSG	At least one Steering Committee meeting organized	April 2022	
	Activity 1.1.2 Create and institutionalize the UN Directors group from interested UN Agencies, Offices, Funds and Programmes	Local2030 Coalition Co-Chairs with the support of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat and EOSG	• Local2030 Coalition UN Directors Group established. • At least two meetings of the Directors Group organized	April 2022	
	Activity 1.1.3 Create and institutionalize Local2030 Coalition Partners group	Local2030 Coalition Co-Chairs and SC, with the support of the EOSG, the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat and the UN Directors Group	Local2030 Coalition Partners Group created, and activities reported under the umbrella of the Coalition.	October 2022	
	OUTCOME 1.2 Local actors and lessons learned in the localization of the SDGs inform national, regional, and global SDG events				

Activity 1.2.1 Facilitate the participation of local actors in events on SDG localization in the framework of local, national, regional, global events	Local2030 Coalition Co-chairs, with the support of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat, Steering Committee, UN Directors Group, and partners	Engagement of at least 200 partners in events ensuring balance in terms of gender, region, and stakeholder group.	Continuous	
Activity 1.2.2 Organize high-level events on SDG localization	Local2030 Coalition Co-chairs, with the support of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat	Organization of at least 3 high-level SDG localization events.	Continuous	
Activity 1.2.3 Reinvigorate the Local2030 Coalition Hubs	Local2030 Coalition Secretariat	New TORs developed for Local2030 Coalition Hubs; existing hubs supported and strengthened.	December 2022	
OUTCOME 1.3 Knowledge-sharing and capacity-building opportunities on SDG localization are an integral part of the Local 2030 Coalition's work				
Activity 1.3.1 Capacity building activities on SDG localization	Local2030 Coalition Secretariat, with the support of UN agencies, offices, funds, and programmes	Organization of at least 10 capacity building activities on SDG localization.	December 2022	
Activity 1.3.2 Compilation and sharing of good	Local2030 Coalition Secretariat, with the support of UN agencies,	• Criteria for selection of good practices established.	June 2022	

practices on SDG Localization	offices, funds, and programmes	• A wide range of good practices on SDG localization shared and linked with international debates and processes.	Continuous	
Activity 1.3.3 Enhance linkages among existing tools and platforms on SDG localization	Local2030 Secretariat	Mapping of existing tools and platforms on SDG localization	December 2022	
Activity 1.3.4 Manage the Local2030 Coalition online platform, communication, and social media channels	Local 2030 Coalition Secretariat	Online presence enhanced and updated	Continuous	
Activity 1.3.5 Link online repositories of Voluntary Local Reviews to Local2030 Coalition online platform	UN-Habitat	The 4 main online repositories of Voluntary Local Reviews linked to the Local2030 Coalition online platform.	December 2022	

ACTION

<table>
<tr><td colspan="5" style="background:#4BA3DC;color:white;">OUTCOME 2.1 The UN system prioritizes promoting SDG localization</td></tr>
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Activity 2.1.1 Support the use of integrated, tailor-made, and well-tested methods in SDG implementation at the local level	UN Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams, with the support of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat	Set of tools on SDG localization designed and shared with UNCTs and on the Local2030 Coalition online platform.	December 2022	
Activity 2.1.2 Facilitate cooperation between UN agencies and UN mechanisms to advance SDG localization	UN Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams, with the support of the UN Directors Group	• 15 technical workshops with UNCTs on SDG localization with specific thematic focus organized. • 10 cooperation opportunities between UN agencies created. • 5 technical workshops on the New Urban Agenda and its link with SDG localization facilitated.	March 2023	
OUTCOME 2.2 Member states adopt localization as a central component of national development plans and strategies				
Activity 2.2.1 Establishment and management of Working Groups	Assigned Working Group leads and Local2030 Coalition Co-Chairs and SC, with the support of the EOSG and the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat.	ToRs of Local2030 Coalition Working Groups produced, and 3 Working Groups activated	December 2022	

Activity 2.2.2 Development of normative tools and resources on localization, by WGs on specific themes	Each Working Group, with the support of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat	To be added specific outputs when the groups are defined.	March 2022 and beyond	
OUTCOME 2.3 SDG financing is promoted as a priority for effective localization				
Activity 2.3.1 Connecting international financing institutions with local actors	UNCDF with the support of Local2030 Coalition Co-Chairs	Selected financial institutions connected with local actors.	December 2022	
Activity 2.3.2 Climate action financing channeled to the local level	Local2030 Coalition Co-Chairs	Engagement of at local actors in climate action financing events.	Continuous	
OUTCOME 3.1 Local and subnational governments are included in the preparation of voluntary national reports or existing national reporting mechanisms				
Activity 3.1.1 Support the creation of the link between voluntary local reviews and voluntary national reports on SDGs	Regional Economic Commissions, UN RCs, UN-DESA	• Facilitated the structured participation of 4 cities on VNRs processes. • Link between VLRs and VNRs strengthened in selected countries.	December 2022	

MONITORING

	OUTCOME 3.2 Local and subnational national monitoring systems and SDG reporting are supported			
	Activity 3.2.1 Support the development of voluntary and subnational local reviews	UN-Habitat, Regional Economic Commissions, UN RCs	• 15 VLRs/VSRs supported. • 5 workshop sessions on VLRs/VSRs organized. • 1 knowledge products on VLR/VSRs published.	December 2022	