LOCAL 2030
LOCALIZING THE SDGS

2024 Update on the High Impact Initiative on Localization at the High-Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development

HALFWAY TO 2030

High Impact Initiatives at SDG Action Weekend, 2023

The SDGs are essential but we are off track

World leaders made a historic global promise to secure the rights and well-being of all peoples when they adopted the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015. This Agenda recognizes that collectively, we can deliver a better future for all. However, the Agenda is a promise, not a guarantee.

Over the past eight years, the world has seen unprecedented mobilization around the SDGs and we have made significant progress on some fronts, laying the critical foundations for our future success. However, now halfway to the 2030 deadline, we are not halfway there – in fact, we are only 15% of the way.

To keep the promise, we need a fundamental pivot

It will take more than rhetoric or increased attention to deliver the promise. We cannot stay wedded to current ways of working. Everything we do, in every corner of our world, will need to evolve for us to advance.

The fundamental pivot we need at the core of the 2030 Agenda demands that countries reorient economies, ways of working and mind-sets to ensure the rights and aspirations of all can be achieved while preserving our climate and natural environment.

This change will take everyone

In many ways, the foundations for transformation are right in front of us -the technical know-how, institutional infrastructure, global financial resources and proven programmes –but we need to channel these resources more effectively. This is the critical moment for political leadership and bold action from national governments; for the international community to come together in common purpose; and for all partners on the SDG journey to take their contribution to the next level. We start tomorrow, by accelerating what works today.

THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH IMPACT INITIATIVES

As we look to the future, our goal is simple: to generate renewed momentum, strengthen political leadership and channel tangible, integrated and coordinated support behind national plans and priorities. As part of the global effort to meet this challenge, the United Nations development system has mobilized 12 high impact initiatives which provide a platform to help take SDG progress to scale. This platform enables us to learn, evolve and scale what works with greater coordination and collaboration. The platform cuts across three major areas: economic and social transitions, means of implementation, and a core aspect of the cross-cutting issue of gender equality.

- **Energy** Compacts: Scaling up ambition to deliver on SDG 7
- Nature Driving Economic Transformation: Leveraging the power of **biodiversity and nature** to drive equitable economic progress
- **Food Systems** Transformation: Transforming food systems for a sustainable world without hunger
- Transforming **Education:** Learning to build a better future for all
- Global Accelerator: The Global Accelerator on **jobs and social protection** for just transitions
- **Digital** Public Infrastructure: Scaling inclusive and open digital ecosystems for the SDGs
- The SDG Stimulus**:** Scaling up long-term affordable **financing** for the SDGs
- Transforming4**Trade:** Paradigm shift to boost economic development
- **Local**2030 Coalition: Pushing key transitions and achieving the SDGs by 2030
- FutureGov: Building **public sector capabilities** for the future
- Power of **data:** Unlocking the data dividend for the SDGs
- Spotlight Initiative: To eliminate **violence against women and girls**

OVERVIEW: LOCAL2030 COALITION

The Local2030 Coalition enables connections across a diverse range of stakeholders –from local and subnational governments to the private sector other local actors – with the shared aim of localizing the SDGs. By bringing together localization efforts from across the UN system, the Coalition provides a bridge for sharing knowledge, expertise, innovations, tools and investments. Further, it empowers and strengthens local and subnational governments and other local actors through regional and local solution Hubs, providing advisory and technical support to accelerate action on the SDGs. Rather than implementing separate projects, the Local2030 Coalition is a convening space to build on existing initiatives and scale best practices to build an enabling environment to fill in gaps, where necessary.

The Local2030 Coalition aims to demonstrate the UN's collective offer on localized SDG action by providing technical and advisory support to strengthen and empower local and subnational governments and boost local stakeholders' capacities. Through these efforts, the Local2030 Coalition supports the acceleration of the six transitions needed to achieve the SDGs, viz., Food systems, Energy access and affordability, Digital connectivity, Education; Jobs and social protection, and Climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, and catalyzes inclusive, co-created local actions that leave no one behind.

VISION FOR IMPACT

The crises of our time – environmental, social, health, economic, and conflict – all have local dimensions and require localized responses. We know that two-thirds of the SDGs cannot be achieved unless local and subnational governments and stakeholders are fully involved and empowered to drive implementation at the local level. For the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to enable its transformative potential, it must be fully realized at the local level – it needs to be localized.

Despite the importance of local actions and solutions to global challenges and increased recognition in advancing the SDGs, local and subnational governments often face insurmountable challenges. Establishing and strengthening the capacity of multi-level governance systems and multistakeholder platforms is key to improving coordination across different levels of government and actors to realize the SDGs.

The Local2030 HII aims to accelerate all SDG transitions through three action areas:

1. **Advocacy**, to generate a deeper understanding of the importance of Localization to accelerate the SDG transitions
2. **Action**, to facilitate local implementation of these transitions, including via means of implementation such as technology, capacity building, and financing (e.g., through the launch of a Localization Window of the Joint SDG Fund, and the localization of Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs))
3. **Monitoring and reporting** on SDG implementation at the local level, including exchange of knowledge and perspectives, SDG voluntary local reviews and their linkages to national level reporting mechanisms

This High Impact Initiative is driving progress across all SDGs. By bringing together diverse stakeholders to enhance localization efforts, the Local2030 Coalition is accelerating the transitions needed to achieve the SDGs across energy, food systems, education, social protection and jobs, nature and climate and digitalization.

Local2030's activities operate across four key pillars:

1. **Local2030 supports capacity building of local and subnational governments and local actors** by advocating for the importance of localization; increasing participation of local actors in planning, policymaking and financing and implementation of projects; and leveraging their experiences in localizing the SDGs to inform national, regional, and global sustainable development efforts.

2. **Local2030 accelerates action on the ground by strengthening local and regional Hubs and other multistakeholder platforms.** These Hubs support communities—together with the UN system and external partners—in identifying their

priorities with respect to the SDGs and implementing innovative solutionsthat address local needs. In an effort to produce learnings that can benefit other communities, Local2030 Hubs also develop best practices and raise awareness on issues that are key to the local implementation of the SDGs.

3. **Local2030 leverages greater financing and targeted investments to scale local efforts and accelerate progress towards the SDGs**. Through the launch of a SDG Localization Window of the Joint SDG Fund, Local2030 will support catalytic initiatives for SDG localization efforts on the ground. The SDG Localization Window aims to raise USD 100 million to support localization activities to accelerate the SDGs and for impactful local action.

4. **Through specific initiatives targeting excluded or marginalized populations, Local2030 enhances and reinforces efforts to leave no one behind**, including women (Women-led Cities initiative), children and youth (Youth2030 Scorecard) and refugees (Call to Local Action), among others.

LOCAL 2030
LOCALIZING THE SDGS

LEADING UN ENTITIES

UN-HABITAT

UNDP

FAO

COLLABORATING UN ENTITIES AND PARTNERS

ESCAP Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

IOM UN MIGRATION

DESA

UNECE

UN environment programme

UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency

unicef for every child

UN WOMEN

World Health Organization

JOINT SDG FUND

GLOBAL TASKFORCE OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS

HAWAI'I GREEN GROWTH
LOCAL 2030

2030hub

For more information on the Local2030 Coalition access our website local2030.org or please contact Rafael Tuts (raf.tuts@un.org; Shipra Narang-Suri (shipra.narang-suri@un.org); Francine Melchioretto (francine.melchioretto@un.org)

For an overview of the High Impact Initiatives, visit the Transformative Actions action tab on the SDG Summit website.

LOCAL2030 COALITION

Timeline & Deliverables for Success

2023

2024

2025

2028

2030

2023:

- 50 national and subnational governments committed to supporting locally-driven actions by joining the Local2030 Coalition.

2024:

- Additional commitments of USD 25 million secured for the Joint SDG Fund's SDG Localization Window, including through commitments from at least 5 IFIs
- Women-led Cities Window established (including taskforce, donors, cities selected)
- All members of the UNSDG have joined the Local2030 Coalition.

2025:

- Network of Local2030 Hubs expanded by ten Hubs across four continents.

2028:

- Major private sector investment has been contributed in at least 100 cities aligned with the SDGs
- 100 Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) demonstrate a link with Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs).

2030:

- 1000 local governments have joined the SDG Cities initiative
- USD 150 million has been invested in catalytic initiatives at the local level through the SDG Localization Window
- USD 50 million has been mobilized under the Women-Led Cities initiatives to support cities led by women leaders to accelerate SDG achievement with a focus on reducing social inequality, achieving gender equality and eradicating violence against women.

Metrics for Success

While outcome metrics will depend on the locality and relevant SDG transitions that this particular locality is tracking, the Local2030 Coalition will focus on tracking the following output metrics as foundations for the achievement of these outcomes:

- Number of national and sub-national governments committed to supporting locally-driven actions as members of the Local2030 Coalition
- Amount committed to the Joint SDG Fund's Localization Window
- Number of Local2030 Hubs with tools (e.g., dashboards) for tracking local outcome metrics.

Roles & Responsibilities of Partners

This High Impact Initiative will ensure that advocacy, partnerships and stakeholder commitments are effectively deployed through the following governance structures:

- Lead UN entities: UN-Habitat, UNDP and FAO
- Champion Member States: Spain, Italy, Brazil, Ghana, Indonesia
- Contributing UN entities and partners:
  - UN entities: UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO, ESCAP, UNECE, UNEP, UN DESA, IOM and the Joint SDG Fund;
  - Members of the Local2030 Coalition Steering Committee: the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments, Government of Italy and the host of the Local2030 Coalition
  - Secretariat (Government of Spain, Basque Government and the City of Bilbao); and
  - Local2030 Hubs (Hawai'i Green Growth, Liverpool 2030hub, Paraná Hub, and Local2030 Knowledge Hub).

Responsibilities of partners include but are not limited to:

- Promoting this High Impact Initiative and initiatives showing local actors' unique capacity to deliver the SDGs
- Mobilizing local actors who can show how they are transcending the common challenge of working in siloes and promoting coherent and integrated local strategies and action plans aligned with global and national policies and priorities
- Encouraging knowledge-sharing with all relevant stakeholders including Local and Regional Governments and their associations, national governments, multilateral actors, regional organizations, indigenous peoples, amongst others
- Supporting the Local2030 Coalition to foster the exchange of knowledge and experiences, create partnerships and unlock opportunities to access additional resources and scale up efforts.

What progress has been made in achieving your 2024 deliverables?

DELIVERABLE 1

Two thematic working groups focusing on two of the transitions.

RESULT 1

The establishment of two thematic working groups, focusing on two of the six SDG transitions, was approved by UN Directors at the UN Directors Group Retreat in Bilbao in February 2024. The first WG will focus on “Localizing the Six Transitions” while the second will be dedicated to “financing the six transitions at the local level”. The establishment of thematic working groups represents a strategic and impactful initiative. By focusing on the six SDG transitions, leveraging specialized expertise, and promoting collaborative and inclusive approaches, these working groups are well-positioned to drive significant progress on the SDGs at the local level. The development of comprehensive mechanisms will further amplify their impact, serving as a repository of guidelines and global good practices that will inspire other countries to actively engage in the localization processes.

DELIVERABLE 2

50 national and subnational governments committed to supporting locally-driven actions by joining the Local2030 Coalition.

EXAMPLE 1

In addition to supporting the Local2030 Secretariat, Bilbao City Council and the Basque Government are developing a whole-of-government, whole-of-society approach to the localization of the 2030 Agenda. Placing the 2030 Agenda at the center of public policy-making, they have been working on strategic planning that integrates the different governmental areas, as well as the alignment of the budget to respond to the challenges of the SDGs in their territory, establishing innovative mechanisms of collaboration with the private sector, academia, social and cultural actors, as well as the commitment of citizens to the values of the 2030 Agenda. All of this is supported by a strong monitoring system that reports on 336 statistical indicators, 103 of which are disaggregated at the provincial level and 69 at the municipal level. This accountability is reflected in the 1st Bilbao VLR 2023 and the multi-level 7th Basque VRR 2023. This 7th review offers, for the first time, a multi-level report that reflects a territorial analysis, due to the joint commitment developed during 2023 by the Basque Government, the three Provincial Councils and the City Councils of the three Basque capitals. A long term multistakeholder mission for the territory with a multilevel framework of indicators facilitates a reliable scenario to attract mid and long term finance looking for stability, reduced volatility and impact on sustainability at the local level . The proposal entails a strategic connection with local finance players that could have an impact on the connections and contribution to the Finance for Development Agenda.

RESULT 2

Several national and subnational governments are committed to supporting locally-driven actions and a large number of them have been involved in the Local2030 Coalition, either by participating in its steering committee, signing cooperation agreements, or playing a prominent role in Local2030 Coalition advocacy events, thus disseminating the Coalition to their networks. We are currently counting on the commitment of 12 partners: Brazil Government, Paraná State, Government of Spain, Basque Government (Spain), Bilbao City Council (Spain), Government of Italy, Shizuoka (Japan), Government of Jordan, Irbid (Jordan), Aqaba (Jordan), Government of Tunisia and Kerkennah in Sfax Governorate (Tunisia). Several others have expressed an interest in engaging with the Coalition in different ways.

DELIVERABLE 3

Key international financial institutions committed to channeling significantly more financing towards the local level.

RESULT 3.1

Discussions are underway with IFIs to collaborate on an initiative and Expert Group Meeting (EGM) to integrate the local SDG financing dimension into investments for the just, green energy transition. The initial meetings thus far have primarily engaged with CAF as a representative of the joint initiative. The collaboration would offer an opportunity to encourage local participatory consultations, holistic SDG integration in financing pipelines, to address supply and demand side bottlenecks in local financing, and to potentially scale and refine the SDG localization marker. Further, the collaboration may set the stage for the Coalition to support and influence IFI financing to the local level.

RESULT 3.2

The Local2030 Coalition and USAID have partnered to develop good practices and guidelines access to financing for local actors and enhance the local absorption capacity of resources to advance the SDGs.

DELIVERABLE 4

Innovative practices, initiatives, and solutions demonstrating impact of localized actions serve as an inspiration to go to scale.

RESULT 4.1

The Local2030 Coalition has partnered with the Government of Italy to launch the “Local2030 Coalition Knowledge and Scientific Network” to connect Academia with policy-making processes on SDG localization. This Network is connecting global efforts on a country-level implementation, being Jordan and Tunisia the identified pilot countries to support local capacity building and solid policy making at country-level.

RESULT 4.2

The Local2030 Coalition has co-organized EU-UN Dialogues on SDG Localization, with the aim of developing a comprehensive roadmap of joint and aligned EU-UN actions for 2024-2025 to ensure that localisation remains a priority. Concrete advocacy results include the adoption of SDG localization messaging in resolutions of

the European Council's Working Party on Sustainable Development and the outcome documents of the European Committee of the Regions. Concrete upcoming collaboration opportunities include the presentation of key messages to the new EU Leadership, the involvement of EU institutions in the piloting and ruling out of the localization marker and the Joint SDG Fund, and working with EU Member States and Partner Countries to reflect localization in key documents, such as the Pact for the Future, the HLPF Declaration, and the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development Outcome 2025.

RESULT 4.3

The Local2030 Coalition has joined forces with the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to advance the localization of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). By actively participating in advocacy efforts, such as the 7th OECD Roundtable on Cities and Regions for the SDGs and the EU-UN dialogues on SDG localization, they are ensuring that SDG localization is part of global discussions and remains a priority in policy-making processes and collective endeavours. Moving forward, a cooperation with OECD and UN-Habitat under the umbrella of the Local2030 Coalition will focus on developing a Global Stocktake on SDG Localisation to understand the lessons learned from the past years on localization as they will be key to inform future development agendas.

RESULT 4.4

National governments, mayors, and governors made over 100 pledges through the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees, emphasizing the crucial role of local governments in addressing refugee and migrant inclusion amid global crises.

This initiative provides a pathway for local and regional governments to commit to the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) and the UN Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration (GCM). Recognized by the UN Secretary-General, the Call to Local Action leverages the extensive experience of LRGs and was highlighted during the 2024 Global Refugee Forum at the 'Local and Regional Governments Day', showcasing local and regional governments leadership in refugee and migrant protection and inclusion.

DELIVERABLE 5

USD 25 million invested in catalytic initiatives at the local level through the Joint SDG Fund.

RESULT 5.1

·The Local2030 Coalition has partnered with the Joint SDG Fund, and thanks to the support of the Spanish government, $10 million has been committed to catalytic initiatives at the local level through a call for seed funding proposal for SDG Localization, which will be distributed to 29 UN Country Teams: Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Bosnia y Herzegovina, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Honduras, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Micronesia, Nepal, Palestine, Philippines, Serbia, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uganda, Zambia. As Chile also developed a joint proposal within the digital transformation window, the two proposals were merged, and Chile was selected as the first pilot of a bigger localization transformative joint programme focusing on the digital transformation transition at the local. The joint programme will receive a larger

envelope of combined funding, totalling USD 3 million. This proposal is expected to serve as a model for similar, larger and more impactful joint programmes on localization.

DELIVERABLE 5.2

Expand the network of Local2030 Hubs to support localization efforts everywhere.

RESULT 5.3

The Government of Egypt, through the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, with support from UN-Habitat and UNDP, is establishing a Local2030 Hub knowledge to accelerate the localization of SDGs locally, nationally, and potentially regionally in Africa. in Cairo. This Hub will be people-centred, practice-based and use innovative

RESULT 5.4

The Hawaii Green Growth Local2030 Hub is expanding its multi-year stakeholder engagement process through the Aloha+ Dashboard, an online, open-data platform that tracks Hawaii's progress on the SDGs through locally and culturally-specific measurements and indicators. Through the Local2030 Islands Network, Hawaii is scaling the dashboard and dashboard process with islands such as Palau and Guam.

Have you had to make adjustments to the anticipated deliverables for 2025-2030? Please outline any adjustments made?

SHORT-TERM DELIVERABLES:

Presented at 2023 SDG Summit:

- 50 national and sub-national governments committed to supporting locally driven actions, including through support to the Local2030 Coalition.
- Key IFIs committed to channelling significantly more financing towards the local level, including through the Localization Window of the Joint SDG Fund.
- Innovative practices, initiatives, and solutions demonstrating impact of localized actions serve as an inspiration to go to scale.

Updated:

- Two thematic WGs focusing on “Localizing the six transitions” and “financing the six transitions at the local level”.
- 50 national and subnational governments committed to supporting locally-driven actions by joining the Local2030 Coalition.
- Key IFIs committed to channeling significantly more financing towards the local level.
- Innovative practices, initiatives, and solutions demonstrating impact of localized actions serve as an inspiration to go to scale.

MEDIUM-TERM DELIVERABLES:

Presented at 2023 SDG Summit:

- Secure additional commitments of USD 25 million to the Joint SDG Fund's Localization Window.
- Expand the network of Local2030 Hubs to support localization efforts everywhere and push all transitions forward.
- Ensure that UN country teams embrace localization as the accelerator for pushing the transitions and achieving the SDGs.
- Ensure that all key UN entities join the Local2030 Coalition.

Updated:

- US$25 Million invested in catalytic initiatives at the local level through the Joint SDG Fund’s Localization portfolio.
- Expand the network of Local2030 Hubs to support localization efforts everywhere.
- Ensure that UN country teams embrace localization as the accelerator for pushing the transitions and achieving the SDGs.
- Ensure that all members of the UNSDG are aware of the Local2030 Coalition and its activities.

LONG-TERM DELIVERABLES:

Presented at 2023 SDG Summit:

- 1000 local governments join the SDG Cities initiative, committing to align their policies, plans and budgets with SDGs, and tracking SDGs at the local level.
- USD 150 million invested in catalytic initiatives at the local level through the Localization Window.
- Major private sector investments in at least 100 cities aligned to the SDGs.
- 100 countries where VLRs and local and subnational governments contribute effectively to VNRs.
- USD 50 million mobilised under the Women-Led Cities initiative to support cities led by women leaders to accelerate SDG achievement with a focus on reducing social inequality, achieving gender equality, and eradicating violence against women.

Updated:

- 1000 local governments join efforts to advance the SDGs at the local level, including through the SDG Cities initiative.

- 100 countries where VLRs and local and sub-national governments contribute effectively to VNRs.
- USD 50 million mobilized to support women's leadership and empowerment to deliver on the SDGs at the local level.

What progress, if any has been made against your metrics for success?

METRIC 1

Number of national and sub-national governments committed to supporting locally-driven actions as members of the Local2030 Coalition.

RESULT

12 national and subnational governments are committed to supporting locally-driven actions through the Local2030 Coalition: Brazil Government, Paraná State, Government of Spain, Basque Government (Spain), Bilbao City Council (Spain), Government of Italy, Shizuoka (Japan), Government of Jordan, Irbid (Jordan), Aqaba (Jordan), Government of Tunisia and Kerkennah in Sfax Governorate (Tunisia). Several others have expressed an interest in engaging with the Coalition in different ways.

METRIC 2

Amount committed to the Joint SDG Fund's Localization Portfolio.

RESULT

The Spanish government has committed USD 10 million to catalytic initiatives at the local level through the Joint SDG Fund's SDG Localization Portfolio, which will be distributed to 27 UN country teams.

METRIC 3

Number of Local2030 Hubs with tools (e.g., dashboards) for tracking local outcome metrics.

RESULT

The Aloha + Challenge is a dashboard that identify priority goals and local metrics that Hawai'i is delivering against the Sustainable Development Goals.

Please provide a list of implementing partners, indicating any changes in partners and/or their roles and responsibilities since the SDG Summit

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

Leading UN entities: UN-Habitat, UNDP and FAO.

Collaborating UN entities and partners: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, International Organization for Migration, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, United Nations Environment Programme, UN Refugee Agency, UNICEF, UN Women, World Health Organization, UN Joint SDG Fund, Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments, Hawai'i Green Growth Hub, Liverpool 2030Hub, Paraná Hub and Local2030 Knowledge and Scientific Network.

NEW PARTNERS

OECD, USAID, EU Institutions and bodies (DG INTPA, CoR, etc.).

Please share one or more impact stories, as applicable.

THE LOCAL2030 COALITION'S PUSH TO RAISE FUNDING FOR SDG LOCALIZATION: A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE JOINT SDG FUND

In 2023, the Local2030 Coalition formed a partnership with the Joint SDG Fund with the shared goal of increasing financing and directing catalytic investments to accelerate the localization of the SDGs. The partnership has helped materialize SDG Localization as a core component of the Joint SDG Fund's strategy, serving as a critical driver for achieving key SDG transitions and creating transformative impact, and is an inspirational example of multistakeholder collaboration towards SDG Financing including a myriad of actors such as Member States, UN Country Offices, Donors, Local and Regional Governments, among others.

To date, the Joint SDG Fund has invested approximately USD 79 million through its previous portfolios to support SDG acceleration at the sub-national level and in March 2024, the Joint SDG Fund in collaboration with the Local2030 Coalition, launched a US$10 million funding round with a focus on SDG Localization in 29 countries. Examples of impact initiatives at the country level include (1) Chile working to ensure access to digital connectivity in 6 rural territories in Ñuble and Araucanía to improve the quality of life for the most vulnerable groups; (2) Georgia working to enhance policies on food systems by providing policy support on local food waste management plans and capacity building for local and regional governments; and (3) Honduras working to promote municipal investments on education through the development of investment guidelines, and indicators to monitor education and investments at the local level.

THE LOCAL2030 KNOWLEDGE AND SCIENTIFIC NETWORK

In 2024, the Local2030 Coalition, UN-HABITAT, the Government of Italy, CeSPI ETS, and the International Network of Doctoral Schools on the SDGs launched the Local2030 Knowledge and Scientific Network which aims to support the acceleration and localization of the SDGs by bridging the gap between research, data and knowledge and policy and decision-making. It does so by following an innovative approach which brings together research institutes, doctoral programs, and universities, around the theme of SDG Localization through national coalitions to produce research on local policy, develop training activities and engage in multi-stakeholder partnerships. Currently, the initiative is being piloted in two countries: Jordan and Tunisia with workshops on urbanization and local challenges taking place throughout the year as well as a policy brief expected to be launched in the fourth quarter of 2024. The Local2030 Knowledge and Scientific Network is creating impact at the local level by connecting the dots between academia and policymaking and by giving a space for multistakeholder collaboration in research to ensure new and innovative themes are taken into consideration at the national level and in policy spaces where they may not be so evident.

100 PLEDGES THROUGH THE CALL TO LOCAL ACTION FOR MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES AT THE 2023 UNHCR GLOBAL REFUGEE FORUM

National governments, mayors, governors, delivered over 100 people-centred and bold pledges collected through the Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees. In the face of growing global crises, local governments are central actors and in addressing refugee and migrant inclusion and protection. The Call to Local Action is the official pathway for local and regional governments (LRGs) to pledge to implement the GCR and the UN Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) in unison, as a concrete avenue to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Recognized by the UN Secretary-General, and acknowledged as a leading example of complementarity, the Call to Local Action captures the vast practical experience of LRGs. LRGs had their own political space within the agenda of the GRF through a 'Local and Regional Governments Day', co-organized by the Global Task Force on Regional and Local Governments and the leading role of LRGs in advancing the protection and inclusion of refugees and migrants.

Please confirm the current list of country champions

Donor Champions	Implementation Champions
Government of Spain (Spanish Government, Basque Government, Bilbao City Council, BBK Foundation) Government of Italy	Government of Spain Government of Italy Government of Egypt Government of Brazil Government of Ghana Government of Indonesia Government of Argentina Government of Botswana Government of Chile Government of Ecuador Government of Finland Government of Malaysia Government of Peru Government of Portugal Government of Sweden

