

RECALIBRATING... GETTING BACK ON TRACK TOWARDS THE SDG
XIV Ministerial Forum for Development in Latin America and the Caribbean
Cuenca, Ecuador
29-30 September 2022

Side Event: Promoting a Multi-level and multi-actor approach to accelerate the SDGs

Thursday, September 29, 2022 | 12.00-1.30pm

The new international context, due to the global crisis triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic and the security crisis, means that we are facing unprecedented local and global challenges that once again highlight the leading role of local and subnational governments in the decisions that most directly affect citizens.

One of the major development paradigm shifts brought about by the 2030 Agenda is the promotion of coherent and comprehensive approaches that respond to the immense development challenges implied by the 2030 Agenda at the global, national, and subnational levels. This new approach implies an evolution from purely sectoral development policies to comprehensive policies that have a territorial, multi-stakeholder and multilevel approach that encompasses both vertical and horizontal perspectives and makes it possible to work on the implementation of effective and coherent development policies. Currently, national, and subnational governments are making progress in promoting sustainable human development models adapted to the current context.

Localization of the SDGs, is understood as the process in which subnational governments (regional and local governments, or other territorial demarcations) and their stakeholders play a very important role in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, from a multi-stakeholder and multilevel governance perspective and under an umbrella of Policy Coherence for Development. In this context, the need for their involvement in the identification of policies, and strategies, as well as the follow-up and monitoring of the SDGs is highlighted, in order to analyze the impact of an approach based on the 2030 Agenda in their territories and to take its endogenous potential as a reference for action abroad.

In this context, **the Institutional Frameworks that promote Effective Local Governance, with a multilevel and multi-stakeholder approach, are guarantors of the coherence of sectoral priorities and an integrated multi-sectoral and multidimensional framework, at the National, Regional and Local levels, promoting the same in public policy.**

COVID-19 highlights the interdependence of sustainable development with global governance and security and highlights the importance of international cooperation as a response to this global challenge.

The 2030 Agenda reaffirms itself as the best roadmap for the type of transformation that needs to be accelerated.

COVID-19 leaves us and will leave many lessons, one of them being that it is the local and regional governments (sub-national governments) that ultimately manage the daily issues of citizens that are disrupted in any crisis, even if it is of a global nature and scope.

Latin America and the Caribbean have seen their inequalities and inequities increase as a consequence of the new context of the Global Crisis. An impact that has increased at the subnational level.

Many countries in Latin America and the Caribbean have begun decentralization processes, understood as the process of transferring political, fiscal, and administrative power from the central level to subnational levels of government. The 2030 Agenda represents an opportunity to deepen and improve the democratic state, strengthen effective bottom-up local governance processes, contribute to citizen equity and make public management more efficient.

In this context, the multilevel and multi-stakeholder approach is a key mechanism for increasing the processes of dialogue between the different levels of administration and their stakeholders. National and regional governments should favor global advocacy frameworks with the aim of promoting more horizontal cooperation between local and territorial governments in the global sphere, so that they jointly contribute to global governance and thus to the acceleration of the 2030 Agenda to reduce inequalities, leaving no one behind.

In this new multilateralism, the role of subnational governments is key.

This improvement in governance also involves strengthening the role of local institutions and recognizing local and regional cooperation for its diversity, plurality, and its own identity.

Active dialogue, clarifying and identifying common but differentiated responsibilities between levels of government, based on the shared commitment to the roadmap of the 2030 Agenda, will be of vital importance for social, and economic reconstruction.

These are times of renewal, of betting on the basic and intrinsic principles that integrate the 2030 Agenda, of rebuilding in Strategies based on Sustainable Human Development, where innovation at the local, subnational, and national levels will be a key element to adapt to the new situation.

Side Event

Objectives

The objectives of the side event are:

- Analysis and identification of best practices, processes, and lessons learned that can be developed for the implementation of the SDGs at the local level with a multilevel approach.
- Promote dialogue mechanisms between the national and subnational spheres around the localization of the SDGs.
- Promote a multi-stakeholder partnership to foster harmonization and alignment for SDG implementation at the subnational level.
- Promote attention to the localization of SDGs in fragile and conflict-affected environments, leaving no one behind.

Specific results of the event are:

- Explore lessons learned that can be leveraged for SDG implementation at the local level.



- Foster the alignment of development partners to promote the implementation of the SDGs at the subnational level under a multilevel approach in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Establish champions for the positioning of the SDGs.
- Convene a shared space for high-level policy discussion and create greater engagement and validation of the relevance of the discourse around multilevel governance and localization of the SDGs.

Participants

The key stakeholders that will join the event are: 1) National Governments; 2) Local Governments, as well as stakeholders involved in the positioning of the SDGs; 3) United Nations.

Event features and preparations

Based on the objectives and expected outcomes of the event, the event will focus on the different decision-makers and stakeholders currently involved in localizing SDGs. The objective is to have national and subnational government and stakeholder representation that fosters dialogue and involve policy makers and technical delegations. The event will seek to have these stakeholders share their experiences with the public. The event will be broadcast via streaming on the following link:

<https://undp.zoom.us/j/84857789793> Key code: 084904

As we indicated before, the event is focused on bringing together subnational and national governments and key stakeholders committed to the implementation of the SDGs, with concrete examples from the host country.

Guests

- Linda Maguire, UNDP Deputy Director for Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Erwin Ronquillo, Technical Secretary Ecuador Grows Without Child Malnutrition.
- Agustín Zimmermann, FAO Representative in Ecuador.
- Sergio Arredondo, Executive Secretary of the Latin American Federation of Cities, Municipalities and Municipal.
- Elkin Velásquez, UN HABITAT Regional Representative for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Agenda

EVENT MODERATOR: Ms. Ana María Díaz, UNDP Resident Representative in Guatemala.	
12.00	Event opening
12.05	Keynote speech. Linda Maguire Multilevel governance and positioning of the SDGs as mechanisms to accelerate the implementation of AGENDA 2030



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12.15	Deep dive into strategic issues, to promote dialogue around multilevel governance. The moderator will exchange questions among participants.
13.00	Dialogue opening
13.15	Remarks by Elkin Velásquez, UN-HABITAT Regional Representative for Latin America and the Caribbean
13.25	Closing remarks by the moderator.