MULTILEVEL GOVERNANCE FOR SDG LOCALIZATION

BACKGROUND

2023 marks the midpoint on the implementation of the SDGs before the 2030 deadline and our work to achieve the expected results must be scaled up.

Local and regional governments have proved to be key actors to mitigate the consequences and impacts of the current global crises (climate change; COVID-19 pandemic; extended conflicts), grounding recovery and development on the principle of *caring*.

Years of implementation have showed that to be fully realized the 2030 Agenda must be implemented at the local level – it needs to be localized.

In this endeavor, no sphere of government nor actor can act *alone*, achieving the SDGs is only possible if **healthy and effective multilevel governance systems are in place.**

SDG reporting at different levels, and specifically the development of Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) and Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) has boosted the implementation of the SDGs at all levels – national and local. In addition, the interaction between VLRs and VNRs has proven to be a sign of the existence of a healthy multilevel governance system in many countries. Indeed, thanks to the VLR movement, the local-national link has been revamped and many national governments have strengthened their commitment to SDG localization and overall support to local governments.

This session is co-organized by UN-Habitat, UNDESA, UNECE, UNESCWA, UNECA, UNESCAP, and UCLG. It aims to contribute to the global projects: **UNDA-14**, VLRs: Evidence for greener, resilient and sustainable urban recovery in Eastern European and Central Asian countries in transition, and on the **2030 Agenda Sub-fund**: Accelerating SDG localization in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean at scale by leveraging innovative financial mechanisms and enhancing capacities. Both projects aim to accelerate the localization of the SDGs and of the MLG systems by building on the potential of the VLRs.

In this way, the session will contribute to the global VLR-VNR Studios process and will bring together stakeholders from different spheres of government to discuss how to accelerate SDG localization through enhanced multilevel governance.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE SESSION

- Generate greater engagement on the discourse surrounding multilevel governance and placing it as a key element for SDG Localization
- Define concrete actions to accelerate the fulfillment of the 2030 Agenda through SDG Localization and Multilevel Governance
- Bring together the global and regional partners working on SDG Localization and agree on a common roadmap
- Bring the experiences of different countries and cities around the world, creating a peer-to-peer knowledge exchange

AGENDA

Time of the session: 8:30 - 9:45 EST // 16:30 – 17.45 EAT (1h 15min)

Moderator: Martino Miraglia

> *Keynote (5 minutes)*
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> *Panel Discussion (60 minutes)*
>
> *Wrap-up and closing (5 minutes)*

UNITED NATIONS PEACE AND
DEVELOPMENT TRUST FUND

2030

AGENDA SUB-FUND

UNDA14

This session is supported by the UNDA tranche 14 project, VLRs: Evidence for greener, resilient and sustainable urban recovery in Eastern European and Central Asian countries in transition, and the **2030 Agenda Sub-fund**: Accelerating SDG localization in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean at scale by leveraging innovative financial mechanisms and enhancing capacities of the UN Development Peace Fund

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MLG MULTILEVEL
GOVERNANCE