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6 The website of the awareness-raising initiative is accessible at this link: https://www.africanpoverty.io/.


8 UN-ECOSOC.


12 UN-Habitat and UNECA, Towards an Africa Urban Agenda (Nairobi: UN-Habitat, 2015).


18 These are: Algeria, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo (Republic of the), Côte d’Ivoire, Egypt, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania (United Republic of), Togo, Tunisia, Uganda and Zimbabwe.


24 LRGs were also consulted in two more countries that have not yet reported, those being Mozambique and Burundi.

25 Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, Kenya, Mali, Mauritania, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda. In Ethiopia, only regions.

26 For an additional overview of UNDP support in Africa on the SDGs see: http://www.mw.undp.org/content/malawi/en/home/sustainable-development-goals.html.

28 The percentage given for LRG participation in VNR preparation includes the fact that Benin and Togo presented their VNRs more than once; and in coordination mechanisms this includes two countries that have still not presented their VNRs, those being Burundi and Mozambique.


30 According to V-Dem Institute, the Department of Political Science at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden.

31 See: https://www.constituteproject.org/.


37 Available online at this link: bit.ly/2BZ3cl4.


39 UCLG ASPAC and Cities Alliance, Cities Enabling Environment Assessment (CEEA), 2018, 22. In 2018, this classification for the first time included criteria to measure provisions for the inclusion of women in national and local governance, and local government’s involvement in the fight against climate change.


41 Uganda and Tanzania Country factsheets.


50 See: Annual Report 2016/2017, Office of the Prime Minister, Namibia.


58 The OECD/UCLG World Observatory on Subnational Government Finance and Investment includes 34 country profiles out of 54 official UA State Members. Out of these, it was not possible to update fiscal data for the Republic of the Congo and there was a lack of reliable basic fiscal data in 14 countries. Data for the 21 Least Economically Developed Countries in Africa were collected with the support of the United Nations Capital Development Finance and the Commonwealth Local Government Forum.


62 While disaggregated quantitative data is not available on the World Observatory database, this qualitative information is extracted from the World Bank Ethiopia Public Expenditure Review.


65 See more on breakdown of SNR revenue by category: OECD and UCLG, “World Observatory on Sub-National Governments’ Finance and Investment. Country Profiles.”


67 UCLG Africa.

68 UCLG Africa.


For further details, see Alexander Chiarambó and Rhiannon McCluskey “Property tax reform increases municipal revenue in Mzuuzi, Malawi” at: https://www.ictd.ac/blog/property-tax-reform-increases-municipal-revenue-in-mzuuzi-malawi/.


For more information, see: https://www.c40.org/programmes/c40-cities-finance-facility.

For more information, see: http://old.iclei.org/index.php?id=3602.


For more information, see: http://disrupt-afrika.com/2017/10/senegalse-fintech-startup-matontine-launches-with-world-bank-support/.


99 For more information, see: https://face2faceafrica.com/article/african-governments-agree-establish-african-cities-development-fund.


86 For more information, see: https://face2faceafrica.com/article/african-governments-agree-establish-african-cities-development-fund.


82 African Development Bank, 85.


76 See: https://nextcity.org/features/view/kampala-africa-urban-development.


74 For further details, see Alexander Chiarambó and Rhiannon McCluskey “Property tax reform increases municipal revenue in Mzuuzi, Malawi” at: https://www.ictd.ac/blog/property-tax-reform-increases-municipal-revenue-in-mzuuzi-malawi/.


103 ANCB, answer to the UCLG-GTF 2018 Survey.


116 For more information, see: www.uclga.org.


119 For more information, visit: http://www.equinetAfrica.org/content/african-capital-cities-sustainability-forum-2018.


122 African members of the former 100 Resilient Cities network include Accra, Addis Ababa, Cape Town, Dakar, eThekwini-Durban, Kigali, Lagos, Luwero, Nainobi and Paynesville. See http://100resilientcities.org/cities/.


124 These activities include: (i) support for the development of sectoral plans for potable water, hygiene and sanitation in five communes in Togo; (ii) support of five communes in setting up a monitoring and evaluation mechanism for potable water, hygiene and sanitation; (iii) strengthening the capacity of 60 communal technical service agents and local committees in the management of the potable water, hygiene and sanitation sector; and (iv) facilitating household access to potable water and sanitation through the expansion of the potable water and sanitation network.

125 Wright, “UCLG/CIB Platform for Sustainable Development Goals and Local Government Associations.”

126 AMM answer to the UCLG survey 2018.


129 The Mantra Centre is a knowledge and sharing platform that documents and shares experiences, innovations and solutions between the country’s 47 county governments. This platform was recognized as the Best Innovation in the Service Delivery Category on African Public Service Day, held on 28th June 2018. For more information, see: https://maanra.co.go.ke.

130 Interview with Gertrude Rose Gamwera, Secretary-General of Uganda Local Governments Association (ULGA).


132 For more information, see: http://www.municipalbarometer.co.za/.

133 For more information, see: http://www.mile.org.za/QuickLinks/News/Pages/news_20190725.aspx.


136 Dellas, E.; Alexander C., Beisheim M., Parnell, S. and Messner, “Realising Synergies in Follow-up and Review: The Role of Local and Regional Governments and Their Partners in the Follow-up and Review of Global Sustainability Agendas.”

137 UCLG/GTF Survey on the localization of the SDGs.


139 See also: http://localizingthesdgs.org/story/view/252.


141 This handbook was written in partnership with the International Organization of French Speaking Countries (OIF) and is available on the following link: bit.ly/2BgO2df.


143 See for more information, see: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/16029Nigeria.pdf.

144 Wright, “UCLG/CIB Platform for Sustainable Development Goals and Local Government Associations.”

145 These MMDAs are the Nadowu-Kaleo District Assembly, Asunafo North Municipal Assembly, Asunafo North Municipal Assembly, and Tema Metropolitan Assembly. CLGF, “Achieving the SDGs through LED in Ghana,” 2018.

146 For more information, see: http://www.un.org/avpino-icipal_fogo.php.

147 The Ministry of Economy, Planning and Territorial Development has provided support to municipalities in the framework of its National Participatory Development Programme. Cameroon, “Cameroon Voluntary National Review,” 2019.

148 For more information, visit: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/15689Kenya.pdf.

149 Interview with Gertrude Rose Gamwera, Secretary-General of Uganda Local Governments Association (ULGA).


152 For more information, see: https://www.sum.uio.no/english/sdg/.


155 For more information, see: bit.ly/31kceHC and t.ly/OSV07.
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156 Examples of data projects at city level include Global Pulse-Pulse Lab Kampala on data innovation and the launch of local data hubs on sustainability solutions, including one in the Nigerian city of Minna by World Council for City Data (WCCD). The cities of Cape Town, Johannesburg and Tshwane are also part of the current Global Cities Registry of the WCCD.

157 Aligning national and subnational government systems for planning and monitoring SDGs – case of Rwanda. Presentation by Mr Peter Malinga, Coordinator, Single Project Implementation Unit (SIPU), Capacity-building and Employment, Rwanda Development Board (RDB).


159 Slum Dwellers International, “Know Your City: Slum Dwellers Count” (Cape Town, 2018).

160 For more information, see: http://www.aficanmonitor.org/what-we-do/data-followup-review/.


163 For more information about Leading Integrated Research for Agenda 2030 in Africa, see: https://www.slurc.org/.

164 For more information on Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre (SLURC), see: http://www.slurc.org/.

165 For more information, see: https://www.gatesfoundation.org/goalkeepers/report?download=false.


168 See the website of the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (bit.ly/2nNPypA) and FAO’s Urban Food Actions Platform (bit.ly/2BaEnPH).

169 Centre for Affordable Housing Finance in Africa, 2018.

170 CAHF Centre for Affordable Housing Finance in Africa.

171 CAHF Centre for Affordable Housing Finance in Africa.

172 For more information, consult: bit.ly/2IPBzSo.

173 More information at: http://blog.gdi.manchester.ac.uk/informal-settlements-mukuru/


175 For more information: bit.ly/31bqOeR.

176 Sandra van Niekerk and Vera Weghmann, “Municipal Solid Waste Management Services in Africa,” 2019, 12.


179 The city of N’Zérékoré received the UNESCO Learning City Award in 2017. See the case study online: http://tiny.cc/cz2iBy.


181 The city won the 2019 UNESCO Learning City Award. For more information, see: UCLG and GTF, “Towards the Localization of the SDGs’, LRGs’ Report to the HLFF (Barcelona, 2019).


183 For more information, see Genevieve J. and Dhuru G., Africa in focus – Figure of the week: Progress on SDGs in Africa, Brookings, (19 June 2019) available at: https://www.brookings.edu/blog/africa-in-focus/2019/06/19/figure-of-the-week-progress-on-sdgs-in-africa/.


190 The BRT systems in Africa in these five cities cover 131km and mobilize close to 500,000 passengers per day. See: https://www.brtdata.org/location/africa.


194 UCLG and GTF, “Towards the Localization of the SDGs,” LRGs’ Report to the HLFF (Barcelona, 2018).


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2. UNDESA. This figure excludes countries belonging to the MEWA and Eurasia regions as defined by UCLG.
12. Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kiribati, Korea (Republic of), Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Palau, Philippines, Samoa, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Vanuatu and Viet Nam.
16. The mapping concluded that 94 targets were aligned with the mid-term development plan and 85 of the 319 national indicators were directly aligned with SDG indicators.
17. The government of New Zealand adopted a Living Standards Framework, which focuses on measuring and analysing the dynamics of inter-generational wellbeing along 12 dimensions.
20. UCLG and GTF, “Towards the Localization of the SDGs 2018”; UCLG and GTF, “Towards the Localization of the SDGs,” LRGs’ Report to the HLPF (Barcelona, 2019); Shom Teoh, “Early Views of ASEAN’s ‘Frontrunner Cities’ on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Local Data Management” (Bangkok, 2018).
21. Countries where local governments participated to some extent in the consultation: Australia, Bhutan, Japan, Indonesia (although not through their associations), Kiribati, Nepal, New Zealand, Palau, Philippines, Timor-Leste, and Vanuatu. However, participation in some countries was limited (just one workshop or a response to a survey). In the Philippines, the League of Cities participated in the National SDG conversation, albeit informally. It is not involved in the drafting and is not recognized as a stakeholder (UCLG Survey 2019). In South Korea, the City of Seoul did participate partially in the VNR process. In Pakistan, consultations were led by CSOs with the involvement of the provincial level rather than district level. The Local Council Associations of Baluchistan, Sindh and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa reported not having participated in them (UCLG Surveys). In India, participation was limited to the state governments. In Viet Nam participation was limited to the presentation of the VNR once finalized. In Cambodia, the government provided guidelines to local governments to provide input for VNR 2019.
22 VNRs, Global Taskforce Surveys.


24 For previous decades, see GOLD I, II and III Reports.

25 The current project recognizes the 14 regions’ administrative regions. Provinces under a region might disappear. The governor of regions could be appointed, while regional councils could be elected. It also proposes amalgamating municipalities and abolishing villages. Local government organizations call to respect the current Local Governments Code.

26 UCLG ASPAC and Cities Alliance, Cities Enabling Environment Assessment (CEEA). The assessment examines countries’ constitutional and legal framework, local democracy and governance, financial autonomy, local capacity, transparency and citizen participation, local government performance, urban strategy and environmental and climate change governance as keys for assessing local governments’ enabling environments across the region. See also: http://localizingthesdgs.org/library/view/413.

27 For instance in the Philippines, education and health, agriculture and social services are still dependent on and answerable to national/regional offices (UCLG Survey 2019).

28 Vanuatu adopted the Decentralisation Act and the Decentralisation Policy 2017–2017. In Fiji, local administrations have been appointed since the 2006 military coup.

29 Lina Sönne and Anar Bhatt, “Local Economic Development in South Asia” (London, 2015). According to the 2014, 2015 Index, Kerala, Sikkim, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh are the highest-ranking states in terms of effective devolution, while Jammu, Kashmir, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Bihar and Jharkhand rank the lowest. While the Zila Parishads or District Councils have elected councillors, a chairman and a vice-chairman elected from among its members by majority vote. Since the 13th amendment to the constitution, the powers of local governments are vested in the Provincial Councils.

30 Matthew Arnold et al., “Municipal Governance in Myanmar: An Overview of Development Affairs Organizations” (Yangon, 2015). Myanmar is constitutionally a unitary state, but federal arrangements are under discussion within the framework of peace conferences.

31 Although the governance structure in Bangladesh is decentralized and there are local authorities with defined powers and duties, the centre oversees all the activities carried out by local authorities right down to the Parishad and Pourshava levels. The local government division within the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives formulates all policies and legislation to regulate and oversee local governments and ensure accountability.

32 The 18th Constitutional Amendment passed in 2010 increased the autonomy of the four provinces and devolved local governance from the federal to the provincial government. Provincial governments retain the authority to suspend or remove the heads of elected local governments and control the majority of the flow of finance to local governments.

33 Timor-Leste has a three-tiered governance structure, including central government, municipalities and districts (a total of 12 such structures plus one special administrative region) and villages (with 442 suco councils). Local assemblies are elected but executive bodies are appointed. Most local governments, especially sucos, lack the necessary support.

34 Before the elections, the central government oversees the activities carried out by local governments through representatives present at each tier. The President appoints a governor for each province. In addition, there are elected provincial councils with a chairman and a vice-chairman elected from among its members by majority vote. Since the 13th amendment to the constitution, the powers of local governments are vested in the Provincial Councils.

35 In Maldives, the revised constitution ratified in August 2008 includes a chapter entitled ‘Decentralised Administration’. Moreover, the Decentralization Act of 2010 defined three types of institutions to be developed: Local Councils (City, Atoll and Island Councils), Women Development Committees (WDCs) and Local Government Authorities (LGAs). Decentralized functions are managed by the elected council. Fiscal devolution is still being implemented.

36 In Tonga, there is no system of organized local self-government (there is no power to raise tax and define budgets at the local level), but 23 district and 155 town officials are elected by popular vote and report directly to the Prime Minister’s Office. The 14 regions of Nauru are each headed by appointed government representatives. Traditional chiefdoms remain important components of local governance in countries such as Fiji and Palau. In Fiji, traditional leaders head the 14 provincial councils elected by the indigenous iTukie people, while local administrations have been appointed since the military coup in 2006. The 16 states of Palau each have their own local governments, which include local legislators, governors, traditional chiefdoms, elders and clans, in accordance with their respective constitutions.


41 Around 432,000 are local governments (urban and rural municipalities), 4,300 are intermediary (provinces and counties) and 655 are regional governments (federal states, provinces and regions).

42 In 2019, China adopted a decree on the management of administrative divisions to foster urban integration and coordination between rural and urban areas with administrative divisions.


44 In Nepal, the federalization process is too recent.

45 New Zealand: 4.4% and 4.3% for expenditures and revenues of GDP respectively; Philippines, 3.1% and 3.8% and Thailand 4% and 4.1%.

46 In China, sub-national governments represent 72% of total public revenues (18.2% of GDP). In Viet Nam, the ratio is 46% of local revenues ensured locally (11% of GDP).
47 Japan introduced fiscal rules for local governments in 2015 in order to strengthen local fiscal discipline (Basic Policy on Economic and Fiscal Management and Reforms). In 2016, China announced a major intergovernmental fiscal reform to address the long-standing misalignment of revenue and spending across different levels of government, to be completed by 2020 through an Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations Act. In a similar fashion, within the framework of South Korea’s 2017-2018 Decentralization Programme, the Ministry of the Interior and Safety announced plans for increasing the ratio of local tax versus national taxes to 40%-60% in the long term. Prior to that, in 2016, the Korean Government launched a performance-based budgeting system: Indonesia transferred key responsibilities to sub-national levels in 2015. In 2016, it created the Village Fund following the approval of the ‘Village Law’, in which all levels of government must contribute to the Village Fund. In India, the SNF financing system is currently changing, following the reform of the 2017 Goods and Service Tax and the recommendations of the Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC - 2015-2020), which recommended an increase in states’ share from 32% to 42% of the national tax revenues and an improvement to the grants system to provide more fiscal autonomy and incentives to states.

48 In the Philippines within the framework of the federalization debate, the current modalities of grant allocation are under discussion. The amounts to be transferred as defined by law have not been implemented (share of local governments’ internal revenue allotment to address inequalities between local governments).

49 UN-ESCAP, “Urbanization and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific: Linkages and Policy Implications” (Bangkok, 2017), 16.

50 In OECD countries, as well as in India and the Philippines, local governments may borrow from banks, raise capital and issue bonds within the limits set by national and/or provincial/state finance ministries in the case of federal countries. In Japan and in federal countries, levels of state debt are rather high (e.g. in Australia and India), while in South Korea, Indonesia and the Philippines municipal indebtedness is more limited. India is revising its sub-sovereign lending policy: Some municipal councils and corporates have managed to raise loans with state government approval.

51 In 2017, 94 cities across 14 states received credit ratings from agencies as part of their preparations for issuing municipal bonds.

52 To provide guidelines and regulations, in 2010 the China State Council issued the ‘Notice of the State Council on Issues concerning Strengthening the Administration of Companies on Local Government Financing Platforms’. In 2014, the China State Council issued Rule No. 43, which laid out strict guidelines for the supervision of local government debt and operating procedures for the public release of local budgets and final accounts. The amended 2014 Budget Law allowed provinces to issue bonds for investment projects, subject to approval by the central government. A few wealthier municipalities have been allowed direct access to capital markets under central government supervision.


55 Morgan and Trinh, “Frameworks for Central–Local Government Relations and Fiscal Sustainability.”


57 There was a mismatch between the two national approaches: national strategy focused on economic issues and the 3i Sustainable Development Plan on the environment, but ‘the social agenda did not receive sufficient attention and pressing social issues such as housing and welfare (…) are given short shrift in plans’, see: Denise Yoon, “Starting Strong on the SDGs in Asia: Readiness in South Korea,” 2016, 14.


60 According to UNDP’s report, “SDG Localization in ASEAN: Experiences in Shaping Policy and Implementation Pathways.” The city needs to receive official endorsement from the provincial government, integrate a cross-departmental steering group to oversee the prospective SDG pilot zone’s development, prepare two key documents (the city’s Overall SD Planning to 2030 and Specific Actions Plan on the SDGs Innovation Pilot Zone) where local bottlenecks are identified and provide a ‘theme’ for formulating solutions, as well as an indicator system aligned with the SDGs. Policy innovation is mandatory and social and private sector participation encouraged.”

61 Li, Gong, and Shen, “Mapping Alignment of the 13th FYP (2016-2020) with the SDGs (2016-2030).”

62 APAKSI reports having participated in the coordination mechanism, but only at the provincial level. UCLG Surveys.

63 The National Policies and Strategies for Urban Development towards Sustainable and Competitive. Cities for 2045 (KSNPP) was released in 2015; Jasmine Ali and Jago Dodson, “National Urban Policy: Asia and Pacific Region” (Nairobi, Kenya: UN-Habitat, 2015). The information on the participation of LGAs was extracted from UCLG’s Questionnaire on NUPs (2016).

64 The Joint Memorandum Circular No. 1 Series of 2018 also encourages local governments to identify and implement programmes, projects and activities that will contribute to the achievement of PDP and SDG targets. Regional NEDA offices in Mindanao also passed a resolution requesting the establishment of an operational and integrated mechanism for the localization of the SDGs within the NEDA.


66 Other examples include the Bottom-Up Budgeting or KALsSADA for road maintenance. See: http://sdg.neda.gov.ph/localization/. UNDP developed another assessment tool, LoGOD, and a scorecard system (community-based monitoring system), implemented in 77 provinces to complement official data; UNDP, “SDG Localization in ASEAN: Experiences in Shaping Policy and Implementation Pathways,” 52-58.

Although after the adoption of the new constitution in 2015 local governments in Nepal have in principle more autonomy, they still depend on a national budget and 65% of transfers have been targeted at investments in infrastructures.

In Viet Nam, the Prime Minister issued Decision No: 622/QĐ-TTg on 10 May 2017 on the National Action Plan for implementing Agenda 2030 for sustainable development, outlining the responsibilities and roles of central ministries and civil society. Provincial authorities should submit their development plan aligned with the National Action Plan and the SDGs. Focal points for the 2030 Agenda were assigned at the Provincial Departments of Planning and Investment (DPI).


82 A ‘Handbook on the Institutional Architecture for Implementing the SDGs’ prepared in 2016 by MSDW revealed the deep fragmentation in the public administration system of Sri Lanka. Mandate-based responsibilities of 51 ministries and 425 statutory institutions were identified against implementing the 169 SDG targets.

As discussed in the GOLD IV report, intermediary cities are between 50,000 and 1,000,000 inhabitants.

84 UN-ESCAP, “Institutional Mechanisms for SDGs Coordination in Asia and the Pacific Voluntary National Reviews.”

85 See: http://www.loginas.org/. Local Governance Initiative and Network (LOGIN) is a multi-stakeholder network facilitating knowledge exchange and peer learning on topics related to local governance and decentralization, spanning 12 countries in South and East Asia.

86 ASPAC is the regional section of UCLG comprising more than 7,000 local governments in the region. ASPAC has delivered dozens of training sessions on the SDGs, Risk Mitigation, Women Local Leadership, Better Sanitation, Waste and Mobility throughout the region over the past two years (Cambodia, China, Indonesia, South Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan and Thailand); through the Social Media SDG campaign (2016) it has published roadmaps on the localization of the SDGs (in different languages); supported involvement of local governments in the region with Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy; and promoted local cooperation. For the regional assessment, see: UCLG-ASPAC and Cities Alliance, Cities Enabling Environment Assessment (CEEA). For more information, see also: https://uclg-aspac.org/en/.

87 For the Urban Portal see http://www.urbanzsddplatform.org/. CityNet is an association of urban stakeholders established in 1987 that includes over 135 municipalities in 23 countries. It organized an ‘SDG cluster’ to share best practices, and in 2018 delivered 11 capacity-building activities, as well as city-to-city cooperation and decentralized programmes. See: https://citynet-ap.org/.

88 UN-ESCAP developed an SDG HelpDesk and a Knowledge Platform (in partnership with CityNet and Seoul). It also developed different forums for dialogue with stakeholders. ASEAN launched a few SDGs Frontrunner Cities Programme (SDGs-FC) under the ASEAN Working Group on Environmentally Sustainable Cities (AWGESCI) funded by the Japan-ASEAN Integration Fund (JAIFF). See: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/partnership/?p=29570.

89 UNDP has begun a regional initiative to support the SDG localization and implementation process and the sharing of innovations and lessons learned at multi-government levels to support small Pacific Island states, and is also supporting several initiatives at country level in the majority of countries of the region. For details, see: http://www.pacific.undp.org/content/pacific/en/home/operations/projects/poverty_reduction/sdg-localization.html. In December 2017, the ADB started a programme to support ‘strengthening institutions for localizing the Agenda 2030’ (USD 1.5 million), see: https://www.adb.org/projects/50385-001/main.

90 APEksi has established working groups on climate change and inclusive cities to gather knowledge and generate dialogue.

91 Tanoto Foundation, in collaboration with LIPI (Indonesian Knowledge Agency) and UNDP, established an Indonesian Leadership Academy, a capacity development programme to localize SDGs for local government in Indonesia.


93 A national workshop was organized by the Ministry of Planning on ‘Consultation of the Draft SDGs Implementation Roadmap in Viet Nam’ in Hanoi in November 2017. The two workshops on SDGs were related to PMI LED’s Objectives (SDGs 5.8, 13.16). In March 2018, ACNV hosted the Consultation Workshop for the Action Plan to Viet Nam SDGs by 2030 of Phu Yen Province (with support from GIZ).
In particular, the Penang Green Initiative, see: http://www.pgc.com.my/ penanggreeneofficeproject.

LSAK established the Korea Institute Center for Sustainable Development (KICSD) in 2006. See: http://www. sdkorea.org/

Pakistan, “Pakistan Voluntary National Review 2019.”


See: https://www.lgzn.co.nz/.

See: www.kilga.org.ki. In June 2018, KiLGA brought together mayors from the 23 Kiribati Councils to organise a forum, using the opportunity to provide capacity building on the SDGs, Paris Climate Agreement and the New Urban Agenda.

Conclusions of the Joint Workshop on “Enhancing the Capacity of Local Governments in Localising the Sustainable Development Goals’ 8 – 9 April 2019 in Siem Reap, Cambodia.


This includes solar power, electric vehicles, CEMS (Severe Environmental Memory System), expansion of sewerage technology, renovation of old housing and transportation facilities, and the creation and transmission of culture and art. See also: http://doc.future-city.jp/pdflnuruki_city_yokohama_pamphlet_en.pdf.

See the following link: t.ly/Z29pe.

The following provinces have developed plans aligned with the SDGs: Sumbar, Riau, Bengkulu, Lampung, Jabar, Jateng, Dyi, Jatim, Kalara, Katim, Sulsel, Gorontalo, Bali, NTB and NTT (50% of provinces).

See: https://localisedsdgs-indonesia.org. Actions include 16 local training sessions attended by 553 people in 2018; and city diplomacy training (December 2018) with 875 participants from 5 ministries, 239 local governments, 57 national and international organizations, 9 universities and 9 private sector organizations. Partnerships with ministries, non-state actors, NGOs, philanthropy organizations, universities, international institutions and local government - both provincial and regencies. Collaboration with the Central Bureau of Statistics of Indonesia.


National Plan on Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, p.12. The document, published in September 2016, can be accessed online at this address: http://www.fmprc.gov.cn/mfa_eng/xwzx_662805/W20161014332600482185.pdf. The plan mentions that the 31 provinces and autonomous regions were already in the process of alignment.

UNDP, “SDG Localization in ASEAN: Experiences in Shaping Policy and Implementation Pathways.”

The China Sustainable Development Evaluation Index System Research Provincial and Large and Medium Cities Sustainable Development Ranking 2018 Annual Report’ was released in October 2018. 30 provinces (municipalities, autonomous regions) apart from Tibet, and 100 large and medium-sized cities across the country were ranked according to the sustainability performance indicator. The sustainable development indicator has five main categories: economic development, livelihoods, resource and environment, consumption and environmental governance. The five categories at city level have 22 indicators, while the provincial level has 26.

Provinces are obviously not equal within the five categories of sustainable development. Most provinces have some shortcomings and there is much room for improvement in terms of achieving sustainable development. For example, although Beijing ranks first in economic development and consumption indicators, it is weak in terms of resource and environmental sustainability. As with provincial level sustainable development, urban sustainable development is not balanced. Most cities have both strengths and weaknesses. The coastal city of Zhuhai ranks first once the five categories of sustainable development are balanced out. Beijing and Shenzhen rank second and third respectively, performing less well in terms of social sustainability and people’s livelihoods.

Yoon, “Starting Strong on the SDGs in Asia: Readiness in South Korea.


Korea Institute Center for Sustainable Development (KICSD).


The 2030 Seoul Plan is available at: http://english.seoul.go.kr/policy-information/urban-planning/urban-planning/1-2030-seoul-basic-urban-plan/.


The Australian government is following the performance of cities within the framework of Smart Cities Plan, see: https://smart-cities.dashboard.gov.au/all-cities/overview.

See: https://livelightlynz/.


Since 2015 the city has seen a material increase in native bird life including a 600% in the native Kakariki parrot population. An average of 45,000 native trees is also planted annually. For details, see: https://www.zeroarboncapital.nz/.


The Government has launched five urban missions – Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Smart Cities, Housing for All (Urban), National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM) and Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban). The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has launched the ‘City Livability Index ICLI’ for measuring the quality of life and SDGs in over 110 major cities; UN-India, “Sustainable Development Goals and Urban Local Bodies - The Future We Want,” 2018.

Grain Jain et al., “SDGs- Localizing the SDGs for India – Setting the Urban Context’’ (Bengaluru, 2018). See also Section 2.3.
Integrating SDGs in Local Plans (Gram Panchayat Development Plans - GPD) is mandatory. According to different sources, progress is being made in the development of model GPD guidelines and planning manuals and state guidelines to integrate SDGs, as well as resource materials for GPs and their role in implementing the different SDGs.


UNDP, “SDG Localization in ASEAN: Experiences in Shaping Policy and Implementation Pathways.”


See: http://cloud.neda.gov.ph/index.php/s/Scg6xV1wXUNPD/download. Some of these projects have been developed since 2008.


Even those ASEAN cities that are at the forefront of localizing the SDGs are unable to fully align their plans and strategies with the SDGs and invest in data management systems that complement the data from the National Statistics Office; Teoh, “Early Views of the SDGs in Malaysia: Impacts of integration on data management systems,” 2018. (Bristol University Press, Policy Press, 2016), 28.


Mayoral presentation during the ceremony of the Guangzhou Award (7 December 2018) which outlined the commitment to building a City for All, calling for a shift in the city development paradigm towards one that is more people centred.


UN-ESCAP, “Urbanization and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific: Linkages and Policy Implications.”

Wong and Ho, “Singapore as an Innovative City in East Asia: An Explorative Study of the Perspectives of Innovative Industries.”


Particularly small islands in the Pacific, but also Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Viet Nam. UN-ESCAP, 63.


180 Indonesia, “Indonesia Voluntary National Review 2019.”


182 Citynet, “City Voices,” City Voices, n.d.


184 ICLEI, Global Green Growth Institute, and National Institute of Urban Affairs, “Urban Green Growth Strategies for Indian Cities” (New Delhi, 2015).

185 Asian Development Bank, “Meeting Asia’s Infrastructure Needs.”

186 Many cities face vulnerabilities due to outdated water supply systems and inadequate capture and storage capacity, which will exacerbate water shortages in both large and medium-sized cities. UN-ESCAP, “Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2019.”

187 In Indonesia, only 14% of wastewater is treated, while it is only 10% in the Philippines, 9% cent in India and 4% in Vietnam.


190 UCLG and GTF, “Towards the Localization of the SDGs 2018.”


192 Xiaotan Fu, Lijin Zhang, and Vijay Jagannathan, “Converting Sludge to Energy in Xiangyang, China,” City Voices 7, no. 1 (n.d.).


194 UN-ESCAP, “Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2019,” 60.

195 See also: bit.ly/32guFW5.

196 World Observatory on Non-State Climate Action, The Mobilisation of the Local and Sub-National Governments.


200 UN-ESCAP, “Valuing Waste, Transforming Cities.”

201 McKinsey Global Institute, “Smart Cities in Southeast Asia. World Cities Summit 2018” (Singapore, 2018), 44.


204 See: https://www.britdata.org/. In the 43 cities of the Asian sample, the system carries 9.4 million passengers daily on a total length of 1,593 km. Jakarta includes a single payment system for several modes of public transportation, namely Transjakarta, metro, minibuses, and angkot (minivans). Throughout 2017, Transjakarta carried a total of 144.86 million commuters. See also “City Voices”, Spring-Summer 2018.


206 See: https://gowesin.id/.

207 See: https://kochimetro.org/.

208 UN-ESCAP, “Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2019.”

209 UN-ESCAP, “Urbanization and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific: Linkages and Policy Implications.”


211 Efforts were made to devolve the Community Mortgage Programme to cities, but it has now been brought back under national government control. In Indonesia, the famous Kamping improvement Programme launched more than 20 years ago, which enabled local governments and informal communities to improve housing and infrastructure in-situ, was later replaced with another national government programme to relocate informal communities to ‘One Thousand Low-Cost Flat Towers’ in remote parts of the city. Asian Coalition for Housing Rights (ACHR), Report on Housing Policies in Asia Region, (report prepared for UCLG-GOLD).

212 Yves Cabannes, Mike Douglass, and Rita Padawangi, Cities in Asia by and for the People (Amsterdam University Press, 2018), 69.


214 Begun in 2016, the programme tackles urban slums in an integrated manner, with the involvement of local stakeholders and civil society organizations to prevent slum expansion and enhance the slums communities’ quality of life. More information available at: http://www.urbanbattambang.org/profile/profile_caseView_detail.msc?no_case=190.

215 Initiated in 2004 with international support, the programme evolved from a small employment generating initiative to a City-wide Slum Upgrading Strategy, aligned with the Slum Free City Plan of Action and Open Defecation Free city involving the municipal commissioner, NGOs and communities. It was replicated in Delhi and elsewhere. ICLEI, Global Green Growth Institute, and National Institute of Urban Affairs, “Urban Green Growth Strategies for Indian Cities.”


217 Examples: Ratnapura, Batticaloa and Kotte Municipal Councils in Sri Lanka; Borëi Keila Land Sharing in Phnom Penh, Cambodia; Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea, supported by the National Capital District Commissions and the National Housing Corporation.


219 See: http://www.urbanbattambang.org/csd/csd_msc#&fVicloseId=8&goalto=11&regi on_all,region1,region2,region3,region r4,region5,region6,region7,region8&th emes2&status1,labels1,labels2,labels3&latest#&p=2#h=800le.

220 For more information, see: https://blogs.adb.org/blog/how-address-lack-affordable-housing-asia.
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221 UN-ESCAP, “Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2019,” 76.


223 The first project was launched in 2012. The robbery rate on the Salt Way, for example, has dropped by as much as 12% and there have been no reported cases of rape. Citynet, “City Voices,” n.d.


228 Yves Cabannes, “Highlights on Some Asian and Russian Participatory Budgeting Pioneers” (Seurkta-Barcelona-London, 2018).


230 Taoyuan (2.3 million inhabitants) earmarked resources (about USD 1 million in 2017) through the participatory budget for migrant workers from Viet Nam, Thailand, Indonesia, and the Philippines, ‘marginalized politically and suffering from cultural discrimination’. Case study prepared by Kai Ling Luo, Research Fellow, European Research Centre on Contemporary Taiwan, Germany; and Shizhe Lai, Senior Executive Officer, Taoyuan, Taiwan (2018), in Yves Cabannes (2019). More information at: https://participate.oipd.net/processes/award2018/6/4/proposals/250.

231 For more information, see: http://obs.agenda21culture.net/en/good-practices/batik-culture-based-sustainable-development-creative-economy.

232 For further details, go to: https://en.unesco.org/creative-cities/kanazawa.


234 Landmark document adopted in 1998 by civil society and human rights defenders in the region, it has been progressively embraced by local government such as Gwangju and the Indonesian human rights friendly cities movement. See the Charter: https://www.ucld-cisdp.org/sites/default/files/Asia20Human%20Rights%20Charter.pdf.

235 The city of Gwangju has hosted, since 2012 and on an annual basis, the World Human Rights Cities Forum. This is a key meeting point for the global human rights cities movement, which seeks to promote the values of peace and human rights beyond the city. More information at: https://www.ucld-cisdp.org/en/activities/human-rights-cities-international-meetings/World-Human-Rights-Cities-Forum-of-Gwangju.


238 In two more countries (India and Pakistan), states or provincial governments are mainly associated with both institutional mechanisms and the preparation of the VNRs. In some countries, the involvement of LGIs is limited to provincial or regional coordination mechanisms (China, Philippines).

239 Siem Reap Workshop, on Enhancing the Capacity of Local Governments in Localising the Sustainable Development Goals 8—9 April 2019, organised by UCLG-AS PAC, LOGIN, ADB, DeLoG, FCM, involving LGAs and representatives from national governments of Cambodia, Indonesia, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam. See: https://www.uclg.org/en/media/news/siem-reap-regional-workshop-enhance-local-governments-capacity-localising-sustainable. See also the UNESCAP document below, which proposes the following policy initiatives: realizing more effective multi-level governance, pursuing integrated solutions, leveraging partnerships and stakeholder participation, financing future cities, closing the data gap, sharing knowledge and replicating success stories. UN-ESCAP, “Urbanization and Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific: Linkages and Policy Implications."

240 UN-ESCAP, “Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2019.”

241 The ADB (2017) estimates the total infrastructure investment needs for the region will reach USD 22.6 trillion over the next 15 years (from 2016 to 2030) in a baseline scenario. Across the region, the investment gap varies significantly. Asian Development Asian Development Bank, “Meeting Asia’s Infrastructure Needs.”

242 Some Indian states, for example, have created pool funds to lower the risk and reduce transaction costs for medium-sized and small cities. As of 2016, global pooled finance mechanisms have raised over USD 2.6 billion for small and medium city infrastructure.

243 New Zealand announced in 2018 the establishment of a NZD 100 million Green Investment Fund; Indonesia proposed the green sukuk (syrarian bonds), the Philippines developed a small programme for local governments based on climate and resilient funds (People Survival Fund).

244 SDG Indonesia One is a platform that includes four types of pillars that are tailored to the interests of donors and investors, namely: Development Facilities, De-Risking Facilities, Financing Facilities, and Equity Fund. More information available at: https://www.ptsmi.co.id/sdg-indonesia-one/.


1. It is worth mentioning that ‘urban areas’ are defined by differing population sizes in Eurasian countries: from 5,000 inhabitants in Georgia and Azerbaijan, to 6,000 in Belarus, 10,000 in Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, and 12,000 in Russia.


4. Some programmes focus on working with the sub-national levels of government (Kazakhstan, Tajikistan on vulnerability and resilience) or with local communities (Ukraine). For more information, see http://www.eurasia.undp.org/content/rbce/en/home/sustainable-development/Supporting-the-SDGs.html.


13. See also: bit.ly/2oloowp.

14. The functional balance of Eurasian intermediary cities has been described in UCLG (2016) GOLD IV pp.181-185.

15. With the exception of Georgia, this usually refers to a special status of the capital city. In Armenia, the capital city shifted from a deconcentrated mazer to a local government of Yerevan (in 2008).


18. In Belarus, local taxes include only a tax on dog owners, resort fees and fees on collection of wild plants and mushrooms. In Russia, regional governments are assigned with collection of business property tax and vehicle tax. In Armenia, vehicle tax is also a local tax. In Azerbaijan, local taxes of Nakhchivan autonomous republic include the mining tax on construction materials of local importance, and corporate income tax on municipally owned enterprises. In Uzbekistan, gasoline tax is also established as a local tax. In a number of countries, municipalities can also collect charges on street advertisements, disposal of municipal property, mobile businesses, and hotels and parking. Lastly, it is expected that in Kazakhstan local taxes will be established in 2020.

19. The most popular sharing tax is PIT. However, in Belarus, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan local governments also receive shares of CIT and even VAT. It is worth mentioning that assignment of CIT and VAT to local governments makes them dependent on the volatility of these taxes during the economic cycle. It is nearly impossible to make a reliable and accurate forecast of CIT and VAT for district and local levels of government, which makes their revenues even less predictable and places them at risk of underfunding.


21. Tajikistan Ministry of Finance data.

22. In Russia during the last five years most sub-national governments started to use market borrowing instruments very actively for the purposes of balancing current expenditures, which started to increase first because of the aforementioned mandated wage growth in the government sector. As a result, the indebtedness (the debt load) of local governments rose sharply and places them at risk of underfunding.


26. The competition awards the best strategies developed in both urban and rural municipalities. More information on the programme is available at the competition’s website (in Russian): http://forumstrategov.ru/en/239.html.


29. UCLG, Basic Services for All in an Urbanizing World.


31. For more information on the Association of Small Towns of Ukraine, go to: http://amru.com.ua/


34. The Union of Russian Cities’ website may be accessed at: http://www.urc.ru.


37. The Joint statement by the heads of Russian cities on energy efficiency and sustainable development can be accessed at: https://bit.ly/30xAuWt.

38. For more information, see: https://www.uclg.es/media/news/eurasia-local-governments-congress-will-take-place-city-cheboksary.


40. For further details, visit: https://bit.ly/2m2LzQs.


43. More information can be found at: https://bit.ly/2kZ1Gd.


45. For more information on the CBA, visit: https://www.eaptc.eu/.

46. See also: https://bit.ly/2kYrSZY.

47. For more information: https://www.100resilientcities.org/cities/tbilisi/.

48. For more information, go to: https://bit.ly/2m8LDOt.

49. See: http://www.eurasia.local-stran-mira/.


53. The Joint statement by the heads of Russian cities on energy efficiency and sustainable development can be accessed at: https://bit.ly/30xAuWt.

54. For more information, see: https://www.uclg.es/media/news/eurasia-local-governments-congress-will-take-place-city-cheboksary.


56. For further details, visit: https://bit.ly/2m2LzQs.


59. More information can be found at: https://bit.ly/2kZ1Gd.


61. For more information on the CBA, visit: https://www.eaptc.eu/.

62. See also: https://bit.ly/2kYrSZY.

63. For more information: https://www.100resilientcities.org/cities/tbilisi/.
3 61% and 71.5% respectively). However, there are important differences between Eastern and Western Europe, as well as between Northern and Southern Europe (urban population: 64%, 80%, 82% and 71.5% respectively).


66  For more information, visit: https://unhabitat.org/books/trends-in-urban-resilience-2017/.


69  For more information, see: http://www.urbansdgplatform.org/profile/profile_case/view/detail_mac_no_case=183.

70  See also: https://db.a.rai.org.ua/attachments/article/10392/CBA_REPORT_FINAL_17.11.pdf p.9.

71  ServiceLab is one of the key mechanisms in Georgia’s public administration reform process. It focuses on bringing public servants and citizens into one space to co-design a new generation of services. See more at: https://www.oecd.org/governance/observatory-public-sector-innovation/innovations/page/serviceabinnovativeserviceelaboratory.htm.

72  See also: http://localizingthesdgs.org/story/view/242.


74  Visit: https://themag.uz/post/hashtag-week.

76  For further details, also see: https://www.100resilientcities.org/cities/tbilisi/

77  A list of signatories of the Covenant of Mayors is available at: https://www.unea.org/about/covenant-community/signatories/key-actions.html?ctgy_id=1898.

78  Tbilisi’s Sustainable Energy Action Plan may be accessed on: http://mycovenant.unea.org/docs/sepai/1537_1520_1303144302.pdf.

79  See also https://www.unea.org/about/covenant-community/signatories.html.

80  For more information, see: https://docplayer.ru/60943935-Plan-deystviy-po-ustoychivoemu-energeticheskому-razvitiju-gorod-rustavi.html.

81  Visit: https://themag.uz/post/hashtag-week.


83  See also: http://www.municipalitet.kg/ru/article/full/1939.html.


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**04 Europe — Notes**

1. UNDESA, “World Urbanization Prospects. The 2018 Revision.” The percentage of urban population in Europe is 74% (Russia and Belarus not included). However, there are important differences between Eastern and Western Europe, as well as between Northern and Southern Europe (urban population: 64%, 80%, 82% and 71.5% respectively).


4. Countries that presented their VNIRs in 2016: Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Montenegro, Norway, and Switzerland. In 2017: Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Italy, Luxembourg, Monaco, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, and Sweden. In 2018: Albania, Andorra, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Serbia, the Slovak Republic, Spain, and Switzerland (for the second time); and in 2019: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Serbia, and United Kingdom.


8. UCLG and GTF, “Towards the Localization of the SDGs 2019.”


11. European Council, Conclusions of European Council Meeting, 18 October 2018. The European multi-stakeholders Platform on the SDGs, created by the European Commission and the European Committee of the Regions, has raised a similar request, asking for “a territorial approach for the delivery of the SDGs” Committee of the Regions, “SDGs: A Basis for a Long-Term EU Strategy for Sustainable Europe by 2030,” ECON-VI/044 (Brussels, 2019) and also Committee of the Regions, “Europe Moving toward a Sustainable Future” (Brussels, 2018). The objective of the Platform is to “support and advise the European Commission and all stakeholders involved in the implementation of the SDGs at EU level,” gathering representatives from EU institutions, Member States, LRG organizations, NGOs, civil society coalitions, business sector, academia, trade unions, youth, etc. See https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/international-strategies/eu-and-sustainable-development-goals/multi-stakeholder-platform-sdgs_en.

12. Following a survey realized in March-April 2019 by CEMR, Platforma and UCLG (answered by 25 LGAs, see Section 3.1), the Flemish, Czech, Danish (LGDK and DR), French, Icelandic, Latvian, Norwegian, Scottish, Serbian, Spanish (FEMP), Slovakian, and Swedish associations have been consulted.

13. UCLG and GTF, “National and Sub-National Governments on the Way towards the Localization of the SDGs.”

14. UCLG and GTF, “Towards the Localization of the SDGs 2019.”

15. UCLG and GTF, “Towards the Localization of the SDGs 2019.”

16. CEMR-CCRE and Platforma, “#LocalizingSDGs: How Associations of Towns and Regions Are Drivers for Change” (Brussels, 2019).


20. See also the VNRs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Serbia and the United Kingdom in 2019. UCLG and GTF, “Towards the Localization of the SDGs 2019.”


30. OECD, 55.


32. Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, “Fact-Finding Mission on the Situation of Local Elected Representatives in the Republic of Moldova” (Strasbourg, 2018); Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, “La Démocratie Locale et Régionale En Suisse” (Strasbourg, 2017); OECD and UCLG, “World Observatory on Sub-National Governments’ Finance and Investment. Country Profiles.”


37. See CEMR-CCRE’s website, About Members; and National Associations of Local and Regional Governments in Europe, 2019.

38. OECD, Multi-Level Governance Reforms: Overview of OECD Country Experiences, 71.
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44 CEMR-CCRE and Dexia, “EU Sub-National Governments: 2008 Key Figures” (Brussels, 2010); OECD, “Subnational Governments in OECD Countries: Key Data 2018 Edition” (Paris, 2018). The total of sub-national governments (regions and local governments) fell from 17.2% of GDP in 2009 to 15.5% in 2016 and from 33.8% of total public expenditure to 33.4% in the same years.

45 OECD, “Making Decentralisation Work,” 47.

46 OECD and UCLG, “World Observatory on Sub-National Governments’ Finance and Investment: Country Profiles.”


49 OECD, Multi-Level Governance Reforms: Overview of OECD Country Experiences, 52–53.

50 OECD, 52.

51 OECD, 55.


55 For information on these organizations see Section 3.1.


57 The Committee of the Regions has 350 members representing LRGs from all 28 EU Countries. See: http://www.cor.europa.eu.


60 Committee of the Regions, “Charter for Multilevel Governance in Europe” (Brussels, 2014).


64 European Commission, “Towards a Sustainable Europe by 2030.”


69 European Economic and Social Committee, “Exposing EU Policy Gaps to Address the Sustainable Development Goals” (Brussels, 2018); OECD, Measuring Distance to the SDG Targets 2017: An Assessment of Where OECD Countries Stand (OECD, 2018).

70 See Futurium’s website at this link: https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/urban-agenda.

71 OECD, “Making Decentralisation Work,” 86.

72 OECD, 11, 131–34; OECD, Multi-Level Governance Reforms: Overview of OECD Country Experiences.

73 OECD, Multi-Level Governance Reforms: Overview of OECD Country Experiences.


76 For more information, see: https://ec.europa.eu/energy/topics/renewable-energy/sustainable-energy/sustainable-europe-by-2030_en.

77 UN-Habitat, “National Urban Policy: Europe and North America” (Nairobi, 2017); UN-Habitat and OECD, “Global State of National Urban Policy”


80 For more information, see: http://www.platforma-dev.eu/.


83 European Union, “New European Consensus on Development. Our World, Our Dignity, Our Future” (2017). In addition, the Consensus recognizes the importance of cities and urban development.

84 European Union.

85 OECD, Reshaping Decentralised Development Co-Operation: The Key Role of Cities and Regions for the 2030 Agenda, 40; Fernández de Losada, “Shaping a New Generation of Decentralised Cooperation.”

86 Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and, in lesser measure, Baltic countries, Czech Republic, France, Iceland, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Slovenia, and the United Kingdom (English cities and Scotland). The VNR of Serbia also stresses the important role of LRGs.

87 For a complete mapping of LRGs and their associations in Europe, see also CEMR-CCRE’s website: https://www.ccre.org/en/pays/map.
88 Created in 1951, CEMR brings together 60 national associations of LRGs from 41 European countries and represents, through them, all levels of territories – local, intermediate and regional. Visit their website for more information: https://www.ccre.org/.

89 Created in 2008, PLATFORMA is a pan-European coalition of 30 LRGs acting on EU international cooperation. For more information, visit their website at: http://platforma-dev.eu/about-us/.

90 The topic was part of the debate in the CEMR’s Task Force meeting on ‘Implementing the SDGs at the local level’.

91 Founded in 1986, Eurocities brings together 140 of Europe's largest cities from 39 countries. For more information, visit: http://www.eurocities.eu/.

92 See: http://www.eurocities.eu/eurocities/calendar/events_list/SDG_summer-deals-WSPO-AZZGZT.

93 For example, during the European Week of Regions and Cities (October 2018) and in April 2019, a joint event on the localization of the SDGs in Brussels with concrete examples from different LRGs. See: http://www.eurocities.eu/eurocities/calendar/events_list/Delivering-Sustainable-Development-Goals-at-regional-and-local-level-WSPO-B2KQGY.

94 Created in 1971, with 100 members (European border and cross-border regions) from 39 countries, the AEBR makes the voice of the border and cross-border regions heard at the European level. For more information: https://www.aebr.eu/en/index.php.

95 The Assembly of European Regions (AER), created in 1985, gathers 47 regions from 35 countries – from Norway to Turkey and from Russia to Portugal. For more information, visit: https://aer.eu/.

96 The Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions, created in 1973, brings together some 160 regions from 25 states from the European Union and beyond. For more information, visit: https://cpmr.org/who-we-are/.

97 Created in 1990, Climate Alliance is a network of 1,700 cities and municipalities from 26 countries. For more information, see: http://www.climatealliance.org/.

98 Created in 1990, Energy Cities represents 1,000 towns and cities across 30 countries. For more information, visit: http://www.energy-cities.eu/.

99 More information on all these networks is available on the website of the Global Taskforce: https://www.global-taskforce.org/.

100 All information about the EU Urban Agenda is available at: https://ec.europa.eu/futurum/en.

101 Air quality, housing, urban poverty, migrant and refugee integration, circular economy, digital transition, urban mobility, jobs and skills in the local economy, energy transition, climate adaptation, innovative and responsible public procurement, and sustainable use of land and nature-based solutions (as of March 2019). See also: http://www.eurocities.eu/eurocities/working_groups_Urban-Agenda-for-the-EU&tpl=home.

102 For more information: https://www.covenantofmayors.eu/en/.


105 The 2019 survey was also co-organized with UCLG. For an infographic summary of the 2019 survey: https://www.ccre.org/img/uploads/piecesjoointe/filename/PLT_19_13_infographics_SDGs_EN.pdf.

106 See also the press release ‘Great interest from municipalities and regions for Agenda 2030’ by UNA Sweden. Available online (in Swedish only) at this link: https://fn.se/aktuellt/pressmeddelanden/2019-05-15-intresse-fran-kommuner-och-regioner-for-agenda-2030/.

107 AICCRE organized several training sessions at local level and one at national level with more than 100 mayors involved in 2018 and planned a new training action for June 2019. An international meeting in Venice in November 2018, ‘Venice City Solutions 2030’, was held in partnership with UN-Habitat, UNDP and UNCDF: See: https://www.aiccre.it/sgd-2030/ and https://www.aiccre.it/vcs2030/.

108 The Czech LGA, SMO (in cooperation with the Cantas Czech Republic NGO), implemented a project called “Sustainable Cities and Municipalities for Development” (2016-2017) focusing on awareness-raising (outputs are available online: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1_2pCS3c3c8). Other activities for students and publications were also undertaken.

109 Since 2016, the Latvian LGA LALRG has been working on the project, ‘Working together towards empowering local and regional governments for effective development outcomes in EU partner countries’ with the support of Plaforma, to develop a multi-stakeholder approach to the SDGs and held various workshops in 2017 (in Jaunpils and Kuldīga). It also developed cartoons on the topic of the SDGs in cooperation with an animation studio in the Jaunpils region.

110 For example, the Department of Gironde, or the Regional Governments of Nouvelle Aquitaine and Normandie (AP'CCRE response to CEMR/Platforma survey).

111 For more information, see also: http://www.rgre.de.

112 This is based on SNCT’s answer to the survey. SNCT is responsible for the implementation of the second pillar of the project to coordinate local public policies and the elaboration of LRGs’ Development Plans in accordance with the Law on Planning System (in five pilot municipalities).

113 Based on the 2019 VNR of the United Kingdom and LGAs’ replies to the CEMR/Platforma survey.


115 CEMR-CCRE and Platforma, “#LocalizingSDGs: How Associations of Towns and Regions Are Drivers for Change.”

116 Strong involvement: LGAs from Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Iceland, Latvia, the Netherlands, Norway, Scotland, Spain and Sweden. Weak involvement: the United Kingdom, France, Italy, Lithuania, and Serbia. Three associations have not been informed (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro) and the Moldovan association was not aware of the process.

117 CEMR-CCRE and Platforma, “#LocalizingSDGs: How Associations of Towns and Regions Are Drivers for Change.” These percentages are a bit different from the percentages shown in Section 2.1, which take into consideration all European countries that reported to the HLPF or that created coordination mechanisms for the follow-up of the SDGs, and not just the LGAs that responded to the survey.

118 For more information, see: https://www.agenda2030.gob.es/sites/default/files/INFORME_DE_GOBERNANZA_AC_2030_1.pdf.

119 In the case of Albania, the VNR mentions the involvement of local governments in the preparation of the VNRs, but the Association of Albanian Municipalities was not consulted.

120 In France, LRGs are invited to produce a regular report on their sustainable development policies that can be translated into a regular overarching SDG report, e.g. Région Bourgogne Franche Comté, “Région Bourgogne Franche Comté, Le Développement Durable. Une Priorité Pour La Région, Rapport 2017-2018” (Besançon, 2018).

121 The survey has been answered by 39% of municipalities (6% of big cities), 17% of regions, 9% of intermediary entities (e.g. counties or provinces), 10% other local and regional bodies and 26% from academia, NGOs or public bodies. The results of the survey are available through the following link: https://cor.europa.eu/en/news/Pages/SDGs_survey.aspx. /See: Committee of the Regions and OECD, “Survey Results Note. The Key Contribution of Regions and Cities to Sustainable Development” (Brussels, 2019).
122 Committee of the Regions and OECD, 7. Participation in the VNR process is 21%, but higher between regions (38%) and intermediary bodies (29%) and lower for small municipalities (11%). In the CEMR/Platforma survey, the percentage is 26% for participation in the VNRS.


124 For example, cities such as Amiens, Besançon, Bonn, Bristol, Canterbury, Ghent, Freiburg, Haarlem, Hannover, Harelbeke, Helsinki, Malmö, Mannheim, Poznan, Oss, Strasbourg, Utrecht, departments or provincial governments such as Córdoba, Barcelona, Girona, and regional governments such as Brussels, the Basque Country, Catalonia, Kronoberg, Lombardy, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Normandie, Nouvelle Aquitaine, Scotland, Västra Götaland, and Wales, among others.

125 For more information, see: http://www.ccre.org/en/actualites/view/3555. See also the guidelines developed by Flanders’ VWSG. “Integrating the SDGs into your context analysis: how to start?”, accessible at: http://localizingthesdgs.org/library/431/Integrating-the-SDGs-into-policy-planning-context-analysis.pdf.

126 More information available at: https://www.diba.cat/web/ods/que-son-els-ods.


128 For more detail see: https://www.mannheim.de/sites/default/files/institution/13085/broschue_re_strategische_ziele_english.pdf.

129 For more information, visit: http://www.nalas.eu/News/SDGs_Handbook.

130 Sánchez Gassen, Penje, and Slatmo, “Global Goals for Local Priorities: The 2030 Agenda at Local Level.”


135 See also: Great interest from municipalities and regions for Agenda 2030* by UNA Sweden. Available online (in Swedish only) at: https://fr.se/aktuellt/pressmeddelande/stortintresse- fran-kommun och-regioner-for-agenda-2030/.


139 City of Bristol, University of Bristol, and Bristol Green Capital Partnership, “Driving the Sustainable Development Goals Agenda at City Level in Bristol,” Bristol Methodist (Bristol, 2018).

140 For more information, see: https://www.harelbeke.be/sdgs.

141 For more information, see: https://www.stadt-muenster.de/umwelt/nachhaltigkeit.html.


143 See also: http://www.telos.nl/94864.asp?r=Prototype+voor+een+lokaal+SDG-monitor+voor+Nederland (Dutch only).

144 See also: https://rhenen4globalgoals.nl.

145 See also: https://rhenen4globalgoals.nl.

146 For more details, visit: http://www.agenda21france.org/agenda-21-de-territoire/index.html.

147 CEMR-CCRE and Platforma, “RLOCALIZINGSDGs: How Associations of Towns and Regions Are Drivers for Change.”

148 For more information, visit: https://ciudadesboreomericas.org/nuevo-impulso-a-la-cooperacion-internacional-con-la-inauguracion-del-foro-madrid-solidario/.

149 See also: Visit: https://decide.madrid.es/.


151 For more information, see: https://pjp.eu.co.in/en/web/coyoote-magazine/somos.

152 Committee of the Regions and OECD, “Survey Results Note. The Key Contribution of Regions and Cities to Sustainable Development,” 5. Among all respondents who use indicators, the most common answer was for local indicators (26%) followed by national indicators (19%). Fewer than 15% of respondents used EU or UN-level indicators.

153 For more information, visit: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/sdi/indicators.

154 In 2018, these indicators were: overcrowding rate; population living in households suffering from exposure to noise; exposure to air pollution by particulate matter; population living in a dwelling with a leaking roof; damp walls, floors or foundations, or rot in window frames of floor; population reporting occurrence of crime, violence or vandalism in their area; difficulty in accessing public transport; people killed in road accidents; share of buses and trains in total passenger transport; recycling rate of municipal waste; population connected to at least secondary wastewater treatment; and artificial land cover per capita.

155 European Economic and Social Committee, “Exposing EU Policy Gaps to Address the Sustainable Development Goals.”

156 Visit also: https://www.wien.gv.at/stadtentwicklung/studien/pdf/b008466d.pdf.

157 See: http://www.rfsc.eu. Following the adoption of the Leipzig Charter on Sustainable European Cities in 2007, France initiated the tool, which was then developed in an inclusive process with representatives of the relevant stakeholders, CEMR and other relevant stakeholders, and supported by the European Commission.

158 See also: http://localizingthesdgs.org/library/447/Localising-the-SDGs-in-Utrecht-.pdf. Other cities such as Oss have developed their own indicators. More information at: http://telos.nl/94864.asp?r=P%20prototype+voor+een+lokaal+SDG-monitor+voor+Nederland.

159 For more information, see: https://www.vsg.b.gv.at/International/SDG-pagina/documents-in-foreign-languages/Local_SDGIndicators.xls. Additionally, a manual is available in English at: bit.ly/2ME9Ngf.


164 The Joint Research Centre with the support of the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy is developing a European Handbook for the preparation of Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs).

166. Some countries have surpassed or are close to the levels of employment rates defined in the European 2020 Strategy (75% of employment rate of people aged 20-64) – e.g. Sweden, Germany, Denmark, UK, Estonia and Netherlands; in other countries, employment rates did not increase (particularly in transition regions) or, even if they have increased, they remain high (e.g. Southern European countries). Lewis Dijkstra, ed., “My Region, My Europe, Our Future. Seventh Report on Economic, Social and Territorial Cohesion” (Brussels, 2017).

167. Dijkstra. The following countries have a majority of regions classified as ‘less developed’: Eastern European countries, Baltic and Balkan Countries, Czech Republic, Greece, Southern Italy, Western Spain and Portugal. The following countries include regions considered ‘transition regions’: Malta, Southern Spain, Belgium’s Wallonia, and several areas of Austria, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Portugal, the United Kingdom and Bulgaria.

168. For more information, see: t.ly/b10OA.

169. Dijkstra, “My Region, My Europe, Our Future.”


171. See also: https://maastrichtlab.nl/.

172. For more information, see: https://smartlabs.uni-graz.at/en/project-overview/living-lab-experiment-graz/.

173. For more information, see:https://ipurbaneurope.eu/project/urbexp/.


175. For more information, see: https://www.ilcittadino.it/stories/Economia/imprese-sostegno-allo-sviluppo-delle-pmi-in-un-incontro-in-assolombarda_1305052_11/.


177. Dijkstra, “My Region, My Europe, Our Future.”

178. See also the proceedings of the conference on the ‘Viability of Smaller Cities in Europe’, held in Barcelona on 25 October 2018 and co-organized by URBACT and the European Commission.

179. See also: bit.ly/35yXfNb.

180. See also: http://s3platform.jrc.ec.europa.eu/eu-how-the-project-s3-4aiclusters-supports-the-implementation-of-s3-inheritRedirect=true.

181. For more information: https://wil4eu.ec.europa.eu.


183. See: nws.euroatizicas.eu/MediaShell/media/The_role_of_cities_in_promoting_social_entrepreneurship.pdf.


188. For more information, see: t.ly/DKw3Y.

189. For more information, see: https://ec.europa.eu/clima/policies/strategies/2050_en.

190. For more information, see: https://www.covenantofmayors.eu/.


199. For more information, see: https://www.tallinn.ee/eng/freepublictransport/About-free-public-transport-in-Tallinn.


204. UCLG and GTF, “Towards the Localization of the SDGs 2018,” 56.

205. UCLG and GTF, 56.


207. UCLG and GTF, “Towards the Localization of the SDGs 2018,” 56.

208. UCLG and GTF, 56.


210. For more information: http://es.calameo.com/books/0007497785cb9079841ac.


217. Dijkstra, “My Region, My Europe, Our Future.”


220. See: http://www.economiecirculaire.org/.


225. See: www.ciudadesagroecologicas.eu/.
226 More information at: https://www.retetitsasane.it/

227 More information at: https://www.ruf.org/projects/dutch-city-deal-food-urban-agenda/

228 For more details visit: https://www.biostad.de/.

229 For more details visit: http://www.agroecocities.eu/.

230 More information at: https://www.ruf.org/cityfood.


238 UCLG and GTF, “Towards the Localization of the SDGs 2018,” 68.

239 UCLG and GTF, 69.


242 Dijkstra, “My Region, My Europe, Our Future.”

243 See the proceedings of the 2017 OECD conference on ‘Understanding the socio-economic divide in Europe’.


246 Hans Schalla and William JV Neill, “From Crisis to Choice: Re-Imagining the Future in Shrinking Cities,” URBACT II Capitalisation (Saint-Denis, 2013).

247 For more information, visit: http://www.charter-equality.eu/.

248 For more information, see: http://www.blog.urbact.eu/2017/12/12/umea-gender-equality-at-the-heart-of-the-city/.


251 Dijkstra, “My Region, My Europe, Our Future.”


257 UCLG and GTF, “Towards the Localization of the SDGs 2018,” 52–53.

258 UCLG and GTF, 51.

259 UCLG and GTF, 51.


261 See: https://www.uclg-cisdp.org/sites/default/files/2016-03/Practice-to-Policy.pdf.

262 See: https://ndp.ondatra.com/science/europe/geo/idph/und-trauma/.

263 Dijkstra, “My Region, My Europe, Our Future.”


265 Dijkstra, “My Region, My Europe, Our Future.”

266 See: https://www.oxford.gov.uk/sez.


269 See also: http://www.euro.who.int/__data/assets/pdf_file/0008/345599/67699e_SDGroadmap,170638.pdf?ua=1.

270 Dijkstra, “My Region, My Europe, Our Future.”


282 See also: https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/content/dg-home-meeting-european-integration-network-brussels.


288 See also: https://www.ccre.org/img/uploads/piecesjonte/filename/CEMR_resolution_refugees_final_EN-0.pdf.


290 See: https://solidaritycities.eu/about.


296 See also: https://www.uclg-cisdp.org/en/right-to-the-city/european-charter.

297 More information online: https://www.eccar.info/en.


299 See also: https://www.coe.int/en/web/interculturalities.

300 Dijkstra, "My Region, My Europe, Our Future.

301 More information at: http://www.eurocities.eu/eurocities/working-groups/urban-agenda-for-the-EU&pt=home.


305 See: https://lisboncouncil.net/index.php?option=com_downloads&id=1366


312 See also: https://apolitical.co/solution_article/manchester-focuses-spending-power-lock-wealth-local-community/.


314 Jackson and McNiven.


316 See also: https://www.smarticipate.eu/live-case-study-hamburg-december-2016/.


318 See: https://urbact.eu/urban-development-masterplan.


322 For more information, visit: https://www.labus.org/2017/04/regolamento-beni-comuni-il-nuovo-prototipo-di-labuso/.


324 See also: https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/sites/default/files/nine-files/eGovernment_in_EU_June_2018_0.pdf.

325 See: http://consulproject.org/en/
13 Annual reports on regional progress and challenges in relation to the Agenda 2030 in Latin America and the Caribbean 2018. Countries with long-term plans: Belize, Bolivia, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Dominican Republic. Countries in the process of formulating plans: Cuba and Uruguay.

14 UCLG-GTF Surveys (conducted between 2016 and 2018) of national associations of municipalities. Federation of Argentine Municipalities, Association of Bolivian Municipalities, Association of Chilean Municipalities, Federation of Colombian Municipalities, Corporation of Municipalities of the Republic of El Salvador and Paraguayan Municipal Cooperation Organization (OPACI). In the case of Venezuela, the VNR mentions the Presidential Councils of People’s Power installed in the territories (Law N° 40818, 29 December 2015) and the communal councils and communes as part of public consultation of the SDGs and Plan of Patria 2013-2019. The report does not mention the elected municipal authorities still in power.


19 This section draws mainly on the country fact sheets produced for the World Observatory of Sub-National Government Finance and Investment. OECD and UCLG, “World Observatory on Sub-National Governments’ Finance and Investment. Country Profiles.”


21 Constitución Política del Estado, República de Bolivia, 7 February 2009, Art. 1.


24 The data on sub-national government financing presented in this section has been taken from OECD and UCLG, “World Observatory on Sub-National Governments’ Finance and Investment. Country Profiles.”


26 For Colombia, sub-national governments ensure 27% and 30% of total government public expenditures and revenues respectively, in Bolivia 32% and 33% respectively; in Peru 35% and 40%, and in Ecuador 13% and 10% respectively. In Nicaragua, the percentage of sub-national government expenditures and revenues of the national budget is 17.6% and 16.7% respectively.

27 Own revenue in Bolivia, Chile and Guatemala represents between 31% and 47% of budgets. Own revenue in Ecuador, Mexico, Dominican Republic and Peru represents less than 20% of local budgets. Own revenue in Costa Rica, Paraguay and Uruguay is high (above 70%), but the role of municipalities is economically among the lowest in the region.

28 IDB, “Fiscal Decentralization and Regional Disparities in Latin America: The Potential of Equalization Transfers.”


31 In parallel, the Brazilian government amended several laws relating to land access that have a direct impact on the more vulnerable sectors (Provisional Measure 759/2017). Statement against setbacks in Brazilian Urban Policies.


34 Sub-national governments participate with voice but without vote in the National Council. They are full members on the Technical Committee. Of the 37 members of this Committee, five are representatives of state governments and five are representatives of the National Conference of Municipalities of Mexico (CONAMM), which brings together all municipal governments and Mexican municipal associations.

36 In July 2017, Mexico City created a council to follow up the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development in Mexico City, which included stakeholders. Four technical committees addressing various issues were created and the SDGs were integrated into various programmes (e.g. the 65 social programmes for 2018 are aligned with the SDGs). Conferences and workshops were held (e.g. CDMX 2030 in February 2018). The new government should confirm if it will continue with these commitments. See also: http://www.monitoreo.cdmx.gob.mx/


38 CONPES, “Política Nacional Para Consolidar El de Sistema de Ciudades.” p. 806 onwards and Law 1454, 2011. In addition to improving coordination among various government levels, the second stated objective in the PND-Pact for Colombia is to align planning for development and land-use planning, for which national regulations will be reviewed and tools updated. Finally, the third objective is to promote associativity at a regional level. Also mentioned is the need to strengthen the management capacity of local governments and consolidate the system of cities to encourage more balanced development and productivity in territories.

39 The government is developing a territorial kit to support the process. Later reaffirmed in CONPES, “Estrategia Para La Implementación de Los ODS En Colombia,” 2018.


41 The Plan Contracts have been promoted since 2011 as an essential tool for building a new model of multilevel governance. Inspired by the French experience of defining objectives and priorities of concerted investment, the Colombian model appears to be evolving towards a more vertical model. Colombia, “Colombia Voluntary National Review 2018,” 2018, 72-73. See also: https://www.dnp.gov.co/Contratos-Plan/Paginas/ContratosPlan.aspx.

42 The Federation of Colombian Municipalities believes that ‘excessive control over the disbursement of resources of the General System of Royalties is a major obstacle that local authorities must overcome in order to achieve financial resources that can help them to generate plans, strategies and execute projects that favor compliance with the SDGs’. In 2018, it similarly rallied against the Collegiate Body for Administration and Decisions (Organo Colegiado de Administración y Decisión - OCAD) as it considered it to be an obstacle to accessing development project resources. As a result, on 27 April 2018, the national government adopted resolution n° 1084, which enabled other entities, including some 550 municipalities, to directly define the investment projects supporting the implementation of the Final Agreement for Ending the Conflict and Building Peace.

43 UCLG-GTF Surveys (conducted between 2016 and 2018) with responses from the Federation of Colombian Municipalities, Medellín, indicated that they were not consulted in the preparation of the VNR 2018. Bogotá notes that it was consulted through surveys.

44 The municipalities with the least resources (category 6) represent 86% of sub-national governments. Colombia, “Colombia Voluntary National Review 2018,” 69.

45 The three levels are: 1) territorial coordination (territorial strategy, zonal agendas and planning councils of decentralized autonomous governments), 2) intersectoral coordination (seCTORal public policy councils, national equality councils and sectoral agendas) and 3) degree of institutional coordination (institutional policy planning). There are also national councils on gender equality, intergenerational gaps, disability, human mobility, peoples and nationalities. See: https://observatorioplanificacion.cepal.org/es/sistemas-planificacion/sistema-nacional-descentralizado-de-planificacion-participativa-de-ecuador.


47 For example, when it comes to water, municipalities are responsible for providing drinking water; provincial governments are in charge of providing irrigation water; SENAGUA has the stewardship of the resource; the Water Regulation and Control Agency (ARCA) controls it, as its name indicates, and there are also water boards set up in each municipality. This often generates confusion as regards the competences of each body.


49 UCLG-GTF Surveys, responses received in 2018 and 2019.

50 UN-ECLAC “Quadrennial Report on Regional Progress and Challenges in Relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,” 2019, 53.


53 In the framework of the 3rd Forum, 24 April 2019, a special session on the ‘Implementation of the Agenda 2030 at sub-national level’ was organized with representatives of national, regional and local governments of Argentina, Guatemala, Peru, Mexico City, city of Asunción (on behalf of Mercociudades) and the Association of Municipalities of Bolivia (on behalf of FLACMA). A preparatory meeting took place in Puerto Montt the day before to prepare LRGs’ position. In 2018, a side event was organized with the participation of the Mayor of Rosario (on behalf UCLG). See: https://foroalc2030.cepal.org/2019/en.

54 FLACMA brings together most municipal associations in the region (20 countries). Hemispheric Summits held in Mexico in August 2017, in Montevideo in August 2018 and in Chile in March 2019. It has an SDG working group that aims to strengthen the development of initiatives for the localization of the SDGs. See: www.flacma.com.

55 Summits in Santa Fe, Argentina, in 2016, in Córdoba, Argentina, in 2017, and in La Paz, Bolivia, in 2018. Mercociudades brings together 349 member cities from Mercosur countries and observers: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Paraguay, Peru, Ecuador, Uruguay and Venezuela. See: https://mercociudades.org/.

56 For more information on the Twelfth Summit (2017), organized by the Ibero-American Union of Municipalists, see: https://congresocaldas.eventosum.org/. See also: Caldas Declaration.

57 Organized in November 2018 by the UCCI, the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces, the Madrid City Council and SEGIB, signing the Madrid Commitment to implement the Agenda. See: https://diario.madrid.es/blog/notas-de-prensa/apuesta-de-los-gobiernoslocales-iberoamericanos-por-la-autonomia-la-participacion-y-la-educacion/.
For example in April 2017, the workshop on Local Implementation of Global Sustainability Agendas (April 2017) organized for 16 Colombian mayors by ICLEI South America, Mayor’s Office of Medellín, Metropolitan Area of Valle de Aburrá, ICA Medellin (http://sams.iclei.org/es/noticias/noticias/ archivo-de-noticias/2017/resultados-taller-implementacion-local-de-agendas-globales-de-sustentabilidad-en-colombia-i.html); June 2017, a workshop organized by UCLG and FLACMA in Cochabamba (Bolivia) as part of Second Regional Forum on Local Economic Development for Latin America and the Caribbean, (http://www.flacma.net/taller-de-formacion-de-formadores-cochabamba-bolivia-jun2017/); various meetings in 2018: FLACMA again in Chile (https://www.achm.cl/index.php/noticias/item/949-autoridades-locales-de-america-latina-participan-en-taller-de-objetivos-de-desarrollo-sostenible); Merccociudades in Córdoba, Argentina (https://merccociudades.org/taller-en-cordoba-avanza-en-localizacion-de-los-ods/); UCCI in San José de Costa Rica (https://ciudadesbieropardos.org/san-jose-prepara-la-xxiii-asamblea-general-de-la-ucc); CORDIAL promoted the virtual course “Cities, External Action and Cooperation within the Framework of the Objectives of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in coordination with Andalusian cooperation (Spain) (http://portal.merccociudades.net/node/6990).

61 Local Economic Development and Gender Initiative (DELGEN) promoted by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), Ibero-American Union of Municipalists (UIM), We Effect organization, Research Centre of the University of Florence (ARCO Lab), Basque Institute for Women (Emakunde), Union of Universities of Latin America and the Caribbean (UDUAL) and UNDP, cited by ECLAC (2019), p. 59

62 Jointly organized by FLACMA/ Merccociudades/CORDIAL and Confederation of Brazilian Municipalities, with the support of UCLG.

63 See: http://ods.cnm.org.br/parcerias/3120.

64 See: http://ods.cnm.org.br/ The training was attended by 100 municipal secretaries from 70 municipalities. See also: http://cmnqualifica.cnm.org.br; For the Guide to the Integration of the SDGs in Brazilian Municipalities, see: https://www.cnm.org.br/biblioteca/exibe/2855, The guide was developed with the support of UNDP ART in 2017. It offers methodological resources aimed at facilitating the alignment of municipal plans 2018-2021 with the Agenda 2030. It is a tool aimed primarily at municipal managers. See also: Mobilidade Urbana e os ODS, Os Objetivos de Desenvolvimento Sustentável e a Nova Agenda Urbana.

65 Interview with Ary Jose Banazzi, Mayor of Sao Leopoldo and President of ABM, conducted on 14 February 2019.


67 More information on the activities of the association are available online: https://www.confecciaciudadanas.org.

68 For more information: https://amevirtual capacitacion.gob.ec/eva/.


72 See also: https://www.ungc.org/la-organizacion-de-redes-regionales-poco-hay-para-impulsar-la-instrumentacion-de-la-agenda-2030-


75 See also: https://issuu.com/ogדוניזאקרורב/home/presscenter/articles/2019/03/localizacion-de-la-agenda-2030-en-el-ambito-subnacional.html.


78 See also: http://www.mx.undp.org/content/mexico/es/home/presscenter/articles/2019/03/localizacion-de-la-agenda-2030-en-elmundo-subnacional.


84 See also: http://www.mx.undp.org/content/mexico/es/home/presscenter/articles/2019/03/localizacion-de-la-agenda-2030-en-elmundo-subnacional.html.

85 UCLG-GTF 2018 Survey.


87 See https://issuu.com/ agenda2030barcarena/docs/agenda_2030_barcarena.

88 See also: https://municipios.odsargentina.gob.ar/noticias-individual.php?id_noticia=75.
98. According to the characteristics of the municipalities (population, per capita income, population in extreme poverty and HDI), they have been divided into 7 groups in order to adapt the goals to reality. See: https://www.cnm.org.br/biblioteca/download/3575 and https://www.ucgi.org/sites/default/files/el_mandala_o_ds.pdf.


100. See: https://www.medellincomovamos.org/medellin-hacida-donde-vamos.


102. See also: https://www.ods.gov.co/departments and https://trenddata.dhp.gov.co/.


104. For more information, go to: https://issuu.com/ucgclggl/docs/towards_the_localization_of_the_sdg.


106. See also: http://100resilientcities.org/strategies/mexico-city.


113. ECLAC, “Second Annual Report on Regional Progress and Challenges in Relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.”


118. For details, go to: http://www.conquito.org.ec/tag/grupurar.


120. See also: https://gobiernoaibento.cachi.gob.ec/es/news/428.


122. See also: https://www.santafe.gov.ar/index.php/web/content/view/full/224309/(subtema)/202790.

123. For details, go to: http://www.conquito.org.ec/tag/grupurar.


125. See also: http://www.agriurbanarosario.com.ar.


128. The Climate Risk Index indicates the levels of exposure and vulnerability to extreme events, so that countries are able to prepare for more frequent and/or more severe events in the future. For further details, see www.germanwatch.org.

129. The Colonias of Los Pinos and Villa Nueva are two of the largest human settlements in Tegucigalpa.

130. See: https://www.100resilientcities.org/cities.


135. UCLG and GTF, “Toward the Localization of the SDGs 2018.”


141. See also: http://www.nrg4sd.org/intersection-state-goias.


147. Jordán, Rifo, and Prado.

149 Inequality levels differ across cities. Capitals with the least inequality are Lima, Caracas, Montevideo and La Paz, while the greatest inequality is in Santo Domingo, and the three main cities of Brazil and Santiago. Jordán, Ríos, and Prado.

150 ECLAC, “Second Annual Report on Regional Progress and Challenges in Relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.”


158 ECLAC, “Second Annual Report on Regional Progress and Challenges in Relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.”


162 IDB.


164 IDB, “Comisión De Proceso Regional Región América.”


168 ECLAC, “Second Annual Report on Regional Progress and Challenges in Relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.”


171 See: bit.ly/32g7P9Q.

172 For details, go to: https://gestaurbana.pretur.pa.br/marco-regulatoria/plano-diretor.


176 At an international level, the number of Latin Americans who left their country increased from 26 million in 2000 to 30 million in 2010 (i.e. 4% of the total population). ECLAC, “Second Annual Report on Regional Progress and Challenges in Relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.”


181 With 9% of the world’s population, Latin America accounts for 33% of homicides, equivalent to a homicide rate of more than 22 per 100,000 inhabitants. Laura; Jaitman et al., “The Welfare Costs of Crime and Violence in Latin America and the Caribbean,” 2015.


184 Presidencia de la República, “Relatorio Da 1ª Edición Do Prêmio ODS Brasil,” 2018.

185 For more information, see: t.ly/MZyy1.


188 Women in Mexico City dedicate an average of 39.76 hours per week to unpaid work, while men dedicate only 15.61 hours; in Montevideo, 1 in 3 women takes care of other members of the household, while among men this proportion is 1 in 5. Lucía Pérez Fraguoso, “¿ Quién Cuida En La Ciudad?: Oportunidades y Propuestas En La Ciudad de México,” Series de La CEPAL. Asuntos de Género, 2016; Karina Bathdyán, “ ¿ Quién Cuida En La Ciudad?: Oportunidades y Propuestas En Montevideo (Uruguay),” Series de La CEPAL. Asuntos de Género, 2016.


191 Presidencia de la República, “Relatorio Da 1ª Edição Do Prêmio ODS Brasil.”


203 For more information, go to: http://obs.agenda21culture.net/en/good-practices/cultural-policy-canton-belen.
06 Middle East and West Asia — Notes

3 Estimated from UNDESA, 2011 and World Bank Indicators, 2011.

A more extensive discussion of the responsibilities of the various tiers of government in the region follows in Section 2.2.
8. The countries that already submitted their VNRs are Turkey (2016), Afghanistan, Jordan and Qatar (2017), Bahrain, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and the State of Palestine and Qatar for a second time (2018). In 2019, Iraq, Kuwait, and Oman and Turkey also submitted their VNRs for a second time.


20. Habib.


07 North America — Notes

1 Poverty rate is at 17% and child poverty rates around 20%. See: https://data.oecd.org/inequality/poverty-rate.htm.


8 Accessible online at: https://cdg.data.gov.


11 Comprehensive information on the Flint case is available through the coverage of news site Vox, at this address: https://www.vox.com/2016/2/15/10991626/flint-water-crisis.


15 Canada, “Canada Voluntary National Review 2018.”


17 The 17 states are Alabama, California, Colorado, Delaware, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. Henchman and Sapia, “Local Income Taxes: City and County-Level Income and Wage Taxes Continue to Wane.”


21 Refer to: Urban Institute, “State and Local Expenditures”.

22 For more information on The United Way, go to: https://www.unitedway.org/.

23 See: STAR Communities, “Alignment between UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the STAR Community Framework: Part 1.”

24 For details, see: https://www.nlc.org.


28 Further information on: https://www.weararestillin.com/.

29 See: http://climatemayors.org/.

30 For details, go to: https://www.nature.org/en-us/.

31 See: https://www.urban.org/.

32 For details, go to: http://www.100resilientcities.org/.


36 More information available at: https://www.canurb.org/.

37 See also: https://toronto.uli.org/.


39 More information available online: https://clearpath.org/policy/carbon-capture/.

40 More information available online: https://carbnn.org/.

41 See also: https://www.cdnp/en/.


43 More information on the Center for Climate and Energy Solutions, “State Climate Policy Maps” to be found at: Center for Climate and Energy Solutions, “State Climate Policy Maps”.


49 Boyce, Conroy, and Ibrahim, “Emergency Preparedness and Resilience: Community-Based Fact Sheets.”


51 Boyce, Conroy, and Ibrahim, “Emergency Preparedness and Resilience: Community-Based Fact Sheets.”


53 See: https://www.sierracub.org/ready-for-100.

54 More information available at: https://www2030districts.org/districts.

55 For details, go to: https://vancouver.ca/streets-transportation/transportation-2040.aspx.


60 There are some exceptions. For example, in Canada there are still 72 First Nations communities under long-term boil water advisories, and approximately 68 under short-term boil water advisories and do not drink advisories. In the United States, there are some instances where the drinking water system is broken. The case in Flint, Michigan is an example of negligence and poor public management of water sources and water treatment leading to a public health crisis where a population of 100,000 people drank water that contained lead and other toxins.


62 For details, visit: https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/.


08 Metropolitan Areas — Notes

1. UNDESA, “World Urbanization Prospects The 2018 Revision.”
3. Created in 1985, Metropolis is a network of more than 140 cities and metropolitan regions with more than one million inhabitants, advocating and fostering cooperation and knowledge-sharing among its members. The UCLG’s Peripheral Cities Committee, a platform for peripheral local authorities, is closely linked with the World Forum of Peripheral Local Authorities (FALP). The FALP network brings together nearly 230 local authorities from 32 countries, working with academics and social movements.
5. USAID, “Risk Assessment in Cities in Urban Governance and Community Resilience Guides,” 64.

15. See https://citiesfordigitalrights.org.
17. Our methodology to elaborate this chapter is based on a general analysis of the bibliography, and a focus on a representative sample of some metropolitan areas in the different regions.
22. Lanfranchi and Bidart, Gobernanza Metropolitana En América Latina y El Caribe.
24. OECD, Governing the City.
27. OECD, Governing the City.
32. For more information on the initiative “Advancing the SDGs in Practice,” by Melbourne Water, go to: https://www.wsaa.asn.au/sites/default/files/publication/download/WSAA%20Global%20Goals%20for%20Local%20Communities_Advancing%20the%20SDGs%20in%20practice_Melbourne%20Water.pdf.


36 See: http://www.energy-democracy.net.

37 See: https://www.barcelonaenergia.cat/ es/.


40 OECD, Governing the City.


43 R Bahl, “Metropolitan City Finances in Asia and the Pacific Region Issues, Problems and Reform Options” (Bangkok, 2017), 40.


46 See Badan Pusat Statistik available at: https://yogyakarta.bps.go.id/index.php?r=statistik&pageview=sosudak tabel.31-1.4.


49 It should be noted that there are a few exceptions in Africa, such as in South Africa and recently in Kenya where local governance powers and finances have been strengthened significantly. See Constitution of The Republic of South Africa (1996); Constitution of Kenya (2010). Published by The National Council for Law Reporting with the authority of the Attorney-General.

50 Falú, “Egalitarian Metropolitan Spaces.”


52 See also: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/20122VOLUNTARY_NATIONAL_REPORT_060718.pdf.


54 For more details, go to: https:// proyectooallas.net/2018/03/02/fortaleza-cdmx-trabajo-de-la-agenda-2030-de-desarrollo-sostenible/.

55 See: https://globalgoalsalaman.org/.


57 Refer to the Asia-Pacific chapter, as well as to the African chapter.


61 For more information, see the North America chapter, Box 1.

62 An example of the work carried out by SDSN is the yearly US Cities Sustainable Development Report, a city-level report which ranks 105 US cities on progress towards the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for 2030. The results show that there will be significant work to do across the board if the SDGs are to be achieved by 2030, as cities on average scored only 48.9%. For more information, see: https://www.sustainabledevelopmentreport.report/ reports/2019-us-cities-sustainable- development-report/.

63 See: https://www.dataforcities.org/ wccld/.


68 Details available at: t.ly/Yy8pJ.

69 Further information at: https://www. cidob.org/en/publications/publication_ series/note_internacionales/n1_198/ rethinking_global_cities_through_ international_municipalism_and_the_ right_to_the_city.

70 Refer to: bit.ly/2VH31t9.

71 See: t.ly/YY8pJ.


73 For details, go to: https://www. digitaltrends.com/cool-tech/smart- cities-singapore/.

74 For more information, visit: http:// archive.citiscope.org/citisignals/2016/ chicago-uses-predictive-analytics- pinpoint-rodents.


77 UCLG, “Co-Creating the Urban Future.”


81 See: https://citiesfordigitalrights.org/ The coalition includes metropolitan cities such as Amsterdam, Athens, Barcelona, Berlin, Chicago, Helsinki, Kansas, London, Los Angeles, New York, Milan, Moscow, Munich, Sydney and Vienna, amongst others.


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Conclusions — Notes

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