ANDORRA

EUROPE

TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION

The Principality of Andorra is a unitary country with 7 municipalities.[1]

Unless otherwise indicated, all the information in this profile is taken from the previously published Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs).[2]

1. NATIONAL STRATEGIES FOR SDG IMPLEMENTATION

The 2030 Agenda has been integrated into Andorra's policies and plans. As of 2016, the government decided that all actions subject to the approval of the Council of Ministers should be associated with one or more SDGs, so that the 2030 Agenda becomes the basis for the decisions of the executive. The preparation of the 2018 VNR showed that Andorra needed to create an SDG coordination mechanism at the national level. Thus, the Council of Ministers approved in 2019 the **National Strategic Plan for the implementation of sustainable development by 2030**. In addition, in 2020, the Andorran government approved the **Action Plan 2020-2023 – Horizon 23**, a set of policies and actions entirely aligned with the SDGs, in order to respond to the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic and to encourage an economic recovery laying the foundations for more sustainable development.

1.1 NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS

The Strategic Plan adopted in 2019 provides for the creation of an **Open Working Group (GTO)**, composed of representatives of all relevant sectors. It is responsible for promoting and coordinating policies and actions for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. This group includes representatives from ministries or technical departments, the statistics department, the general council, municipalities, the private sector, civil society, and other institutions.[3]

1.2 VNR ELABORATION PROCESS

To elaborate the 2018 VNR, an inter-ministerial team was set up, coordinated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and composed of experts from other ministries. For the 2022 VNR, a **drafting group** was created, composed of four diplomats from the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs**. The group also counted on the participation of other ministries and departments. For this second VNR, the government invited parliamentarians and local authorities to actively participate in the process and to send their contributions, which were directly included in the report. The Andorran population was also involved in this project. A public consultation, accessible to all, was carried out online, and the number of responses (623) increased compared to the consultation held in 2018 (130).

1.3 MONITORING

The 2018 VNR recognized that a major challenge for the Principality was to strengthen the production of statistical data given the growing need for official statistics. In order to remedy this, the government approved in 2018 the Statistical Plan 2018-2021, as a fundamental tool for ordering, regulating and systematizing the statistical activity of Andorra. Despite these advances, the law on this plan did not provide for the production of data and indicators relating to the SDGs. It is for this reason, and thanks to the conclusions of the first VNR, that the government has presented a new draft law for the **Statistical Plan 2022-2025**. The latter consolidates the previous plan and provides for the production of indicators and data relating to the SDGs.

1. UCLG, 2022, Towards the Localization of the SDGs, https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/hlpf_2022.pdf.
See also: https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paroisse_(Andorre) and https://books.openedition.org/putc/1618?lang=es.
2. See: https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2021/19898ANDORRA_VNR_2018.pdf (2018);
https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2022/ods2030_ANDORRA_fr_FINAL.pdf (2022)
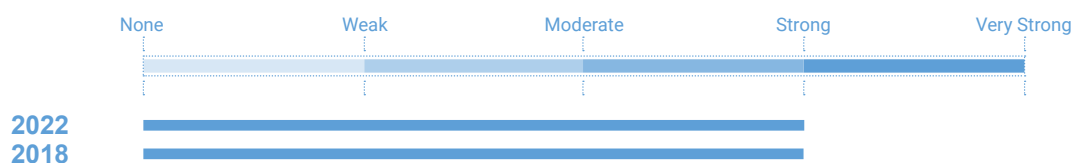3. See: https://www.exteriors.ad/campanya_ods/Pla_estrategic_nacional_Agenda_2030.pdf

2. LRGs INVOLVEMENT IN SDG LOCALIZATION

The municipalities participated in the 2018 VNR process by reviewing a first draft of the report, as well as other stakeholders. In contrast to the 2018 process, in 2022 LRGs were able to directly participate in the reporting process and submit their contributions. The VNR portrays several best practices from the municipalities and includes them in the analysis of the SDG they belong to.

Local authorities are involved in the **Open Working Group** coordinating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda (see above).
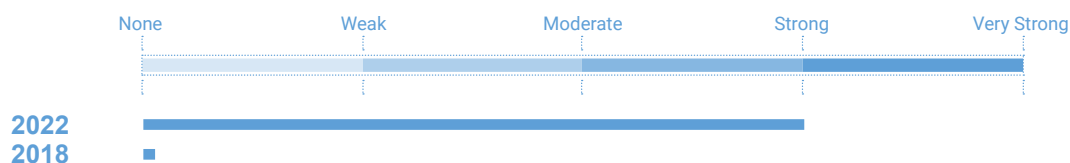
2.1 LRGs PARTICIPATION

▶ **In the VNR process**

None	Weak	Moderate	Strong	Very Strong

2022
2018

Comments: LRGs participated in the 2018 VNR by reviewing the report, and in the 2022 VNR through direct contributions.

▶ **In national coordination mechanisms for SDG implementation**

None	Weak	Moderate	Strong	Very Strong

2022
2018

Comments: Municipalities are involved in the Open Working Group.

This assessment is based on the information collected in the VNRs and in the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments' annual survey on the localization of the SDGs.

2.2 VNR REFERENCES

While the 2018 VNR contained very little reference to the municipalities, they are mentioned throughout the 2022 VNR, which also presents several examples of SDG localization.

2.3 SPECIFIC PROJECTS AND CASES

▶ The municipality of **Escaldes-Engordany** and the Andorran National Committee for UNICEF signed an agreement to convert Escaldes-Engordany into a child-friendly municipality. This denomination includes the maintenance and extension of social benefits for children, such as exemptions from childcare centers and leisure activities, as well as the detection and referral of vulnerable children or potentially at risk. Escaldes-Engordany also launched the campaign "Do not throw anything away, the sea begins here", as part of World Water Day in 2021.

▶ In the municipality of **Encamp**, in order to transmit to the younger generations the practices of the Andorran national cultural and agricultural heritage, urban gardens with auto-composters have been allocated to primary schools. These are fertile lands where children can learn and practice an agricultural activity, as well as know, produce and appreciate km0 products with high nutritional value. Encamp has also taken various joint initiatives with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and other partners, to raise awareness among school students about road accident prevention measures. It has also encouraged the creation of peaceful urban spaces to give priority to pedestrians and reduce car traffic. Finally, the municipality promotes equality between women and men and organized training for leaders on the management of innovation from a gender perspective and specific training for particular professional groups. In addition, the annual grant allocated to sports clubs and associations that promote equality policies has been increased.

▶ The municipality of **Ordino** received the UNESCO label of biosphere reserve in 2020.

▶ While the national government manages the existing national bus lines, the municipalities have created several public transport services at the local level. These municipal lines allow people living in areas far from national public transport lines to benefit from a service connecting with these lines. Municipalities such as **Escaldes-Engordany, Canillo** and **Encamp** offer a free on-demand bus service, while others such as **Andorra la Vella, Sant Julià, La Massana** or **Ordino** have established regular lines to connect the different towns of the municipality.

2.4 VOLUNTARY SUBNATIONAL AND/OR LOCAL REVIEWS (VSRs / VLRs)

Not applicable.

2.5 MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

Recently, the government broke down the state budget according to the SDGs. It is still only a project, but the goal is to distribute the budget items of the Andorran government according to the 17 SDGs in order to measure the contribution attributed to each of them.

3.RELEVANT INFORMATION

3.1 WOMEN PARTICIPATION

Local authorities have equal representation with four women mayors for seven municipalities.

3.2 COVID 19

Andorra has a 2020-2023 action plan focused on promoting economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic in a way that lays the foundation for more sustainable development. There is no reference in the 2022 VNR to measures taken for and/or with local authorities regarding COVID-19 and recovery.

4. SDG INDICATORS[4]

5.5.1. (b) Proportion of seats held by women (%) in local governments		41 (2019)
6.1.1. Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services (%)	Urban	-
	Rural	-
6.2.1. (a) Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	Urban	100 (2020)
	Rural	100 (2020)
11.1.1. Proportion of population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)		-
11.6.1. Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed (%)		100 (2012, All areas or breakdown by cities not available)
11.6.2. Air pollution – annual means of particulate matter in cities (population weighted)		8.7 (2016)
11.b.2. Proportion of local governments that have adopted local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national strategies (%)		-