

TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION

Bolivia is a unitary republic with 9 autonomous departmental governments, 336 municipalities and 4 indigenous autonomies and 1 regional autonomy in the department of Tarija.¹



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

1. NATIONAL STRATEGIES FOR SDG IMPLEMENTATION

The **2025 Patriotic Agenda** and the **National Economic and Social Development Plan (PDES)** are linked to the SDGs. The implementation of the Patriotic Agenda is a shared responsibility of all levels of government, civil society, social organizations and the private sector, which has already had a first phase of implementation through the PDES 2016-2020 and will be continued with the PDES 2021-2025.

1.1 NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS

There is an **Interinstitutional Committee for the PDES and Sustainable Development Goals (CIMPDS)**, which brings together a group of ministries to follow up on the Development Plans and the SDGs in Bolivia. This Committee is under the overall coordination of the Ministry of Development Planning. The technical coordination is in charge of the Unit for the Analysis of Social and Economic Policies (UDAPE) and the Institute of Statistics (INE).

1.2 VNR ELABORATION PROCESS

The 2021 VNR was prepared within the framework of the activities of the **CIMPDS**. **Technical working groups** were formed with the different ministries of the Executive Branch in order to define indicators, baselines, status and goals, in order to carry out the mid-term evaluation of the PDES and prepare the VNR. Eight technical commissions were formed to identify the PDES results related to the SDGs; they were made up of the 20 ministries and public institutions at the central level of the State.

1.3 MONITORING

The **CIMPDS** is the technical body responsible for the follow-up and monitoring of the achievement of the results and goals of the Economic and Social Development related to the SDGs.

2. LRGs INVOLVEMENT IN SDG LOCALIZATION

Among the ten largest municipalities, two have incorporated elements of the SDGs in their institutional planning, and one of the departmental governments has also applied SDG indicator methodology, which has been very useful when responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Coordination with the national government has enabled municipal governments of departmental capitals, as well as **El Alto** and two intermediary cities, to participate in a project to territorialize the SDGs.³ However, a territorialization strategy is yet to be clearly defined.

The 2021 VNR process did not include support from local government associations (or only occasional consultations).

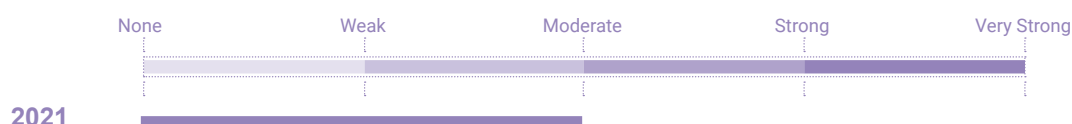
1. See: https://www.sng-wofi.org/reports/SNGWOFI_2019_report_country_profiles_DEC2019_UPDATES.pdf

2. See: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/28230Bolivias_VNR_Report.pdf (2021)

3. UCLG, 2019, GOLD V Report, <https://www.gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/ENG-GOLD-V-2020.pdf>

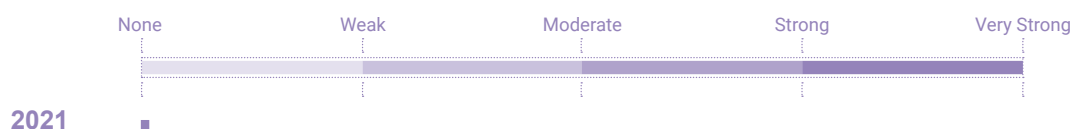
2.1 LRGs PARTICIPATION

► In the VNR process



Comments: The Association of Municipalities of Bolivia participated through a survey and occasionally. Nor the Federation of Municipal Associations of Bolivia, nor the capital city La Paz, participated (GTF Survey 2021).

► In national coordination mechanisms for SDG implementation



Comments: According to La Paz and the Association of Municipalities of Bolivia, LRGs are not included in national coordination mechanisms. The Federation of Municipal Associations of Bolivia participates on an ad hoc basis (GTF Survey 2021).

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

2.2 VNR REFERENCES

There is no specific reference or sections dedicated to LRGs in the 2021 VNR.

2.3 SPECIFIC PROJECTS AND CASES

► The municipality of **Sucre** has defined its 'SDG localization strategy' with the support of UNDP and the extensive participation of the business sector, academia and civil society.⁴

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

La Paz published two VLRs in 2018 and 2022 respectively.⁵ **Cochabamba, El Alto**, and **Santa Cruz de la Sierra** published a VLR in 2022.⁶

2.5 MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

Beginning in 2006, actions were taken to improve collection levels in order to have more resources available for the execution of public investment projects and social social policies. However, the crisis caused by the pandemic has significantly reduced the country's revenues.

3. RELEVANT INFORMATION

General comments: "The Plurinational State of Bolivia undertook a Democratic and Cultural Revolution to build a decolonized, depatriarchalized country, without racism, discrimination, with social justice, common welfare, solidarity, complementarity and care for Mother Earth; principles that have been established in the Political Constitution of the State."

3.1 WOMEN PARTICIPATION

No reference in the 2021 VNR. It is worth noting that the Association of Women Councillors of Bolivia (ACOBOL) was established to develop, support and promote women leaders. Indeed, women were largely absent from Bolivia's municipal government structure. ACOBOL has been instrumental in developing 'affirmative action' electoral legislation, The Law of Citizen Groups and

4. UCLG, 2019, GOLD V Report, <https://www.gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/ENG-GOLD-V-2020.pdf>

5. See: [https://www.gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/La%20Paz%20\(2018\)_0.pdf](https://www.gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/La%20Paz%20(2018)_0.pdf);

https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/field-document/la_paz_2022.pdf

6. See: https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/field-document/cochabamba_2022.pdf;

https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/field-document/el_alto_2022.pdf;

https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/field-document/santa_cruz_de_la_sierra_2022.pdf

Indigenous Peoples, which promotes the participation of citizen groups and of indigenous peoples as well as women. The Law requires 30% of each political party's candidates to be women. The proportion of elected women councillors has increased from about 18% in 1991 to 46% by 2004, due to the implementation of the electoral law. However, this law does not apply to mayoral candidates, and only about 4% of Bolivia's mayors are women.⁷

3.2 COVID 19

In the 2021 VNR, there is no section devoted to government measures with respect to COVID-19. It only mentions how it affected the indicators on social and economic development issues. Regarding the VNR process, the report mentions that "due to time constraints and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in the country, a summarized process would be carried out, not being able to count on the involvement of external actors to the Executive Branch this time".

4. SDG INDICATORS⁸

5.5.1. (b) Proportion of seats held by women (%) in local governments		50.5 (2018)
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	60 (2020)
	Rural	-
11.1.1. Proportion of population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)		48.5 (2018)
11.6.1. Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed (%)		68.3 (2008, La Paz)
11.6.2. Air pollution – annual means of particulate matter in cities (population weighted)		26.1 (2016)
11.b.2. Proportion of local governments that have adopted local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national strategies (%)		-

7. More information can be found here: http://www.cib-uclg.org/sites/default/files/uclg-cib_gender_equality_publication_june2021.pdf

8. The data used for this table come from the UN SDG Indicators Database. See: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/UNSDG/IndDatabasePage>. More information on the country's progress towards the SDGs here: <https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/bol>