

## TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION

Mali is a unitary republic with three tiers of local governments. There are 10 regions and the District of Bamako, 58 districts (*cercles*), and 750 municipalities (*communes*).<sup>1</sup>



Unless otherwise indicated, all the information in this profile is taken from the previously published Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs).<sup>2</sup>

## 1. NATIONAL STRATEGIES FOR SDG IMPLEMENTATION

Mali's **Strategic Framework for Economic Recovery and Sustainable Development (CREDD) 2016-2018** and its action plan were aligned with the SDGs. In 2018, workshops were organized to integrate the SDGs into the CREDD 2019-2023, which prioritizes 77 SDG targets. Mali considers decentralization to be part of its SDG implementation strategy. The 2022 VNR states that the development of a roadmap for the implementation of the SDGs is the next step for Mali.

### 1.1 NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS

The **Ministry of Economy** has a major role in the national coordination mechanisms. There is a common coordination mechanism for the SDGs and the CREDD. It relies on a **National Strategic Orientation Committee** chaired by the Prime Minister, a **Steering Committee** chaired by the Minister of Economy, and a **technical secretariat**. A Mali-Partners Joint Commission was set up as a body for dialogue and consultation with technical and financial partners.

### 1.2 VNR ELABORATION PROCESS

The **Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation** coordinated the 2018 VNR process. It collaborated with the **Ministry of Economy and Finance** to coordinate the 2022 VNR process. A **technical committee** has been appointed as responsible for drafting both reports. The Association of Municipalities of Mali (AMM) was part of this core group for the 2022 VNR process. The 2022 VNR process also led to the creation of an inclusive **working group** including experts from national structures, LRGs, civil society organizations and the private sector, and international partners, which revised the report before its finalization.

### 1.3 MONITORING

A **common monitoring and evaluation mechanism for the SDGs and the CREDD** was adopted by the government. This mechanism brings together all development actors (public administration, LRGs, civil society, private sector and technical and financial partners). As part of this mechanism, Mali has been preparing annual SDG monitoring reports since 2016. The country also prepared three SDG monitoring reports, as part of the drafting of the West African Economic and Monetary Union SDG monitoring report. Mali adopted a third-generation **Statistics Master Plan** to improve the production and use of statistical data needed to monitor public policies and the SDGs.

## 2. LRGs INVOLVEMENT IN SDG LOCALIZATION

In 2021, **37% of local plans already integrated the SDGs**. Training, information and sensitization activities dedicated to local actors were carried out between 2019 and 2022. A guide for integrating the SDGs into local plans was developed in 2020 and disseminated at national, regional and local levels.

There is a coordination mechanism for monitoring the implementation of the SDGs at the subnational level provided by

1. See: <https://www.sng-wofi.org/country-profiles/>

2. See: [https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2021/20200Projet\\_de\\_RNV\\_ODD\\_VFcor2\\_06\\_06\\_2018\\_Actuel.pdf](https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2021/20200Projet_de_RNV_ODD_VFcor2_06_06_2018_Actuel.pdf) (2018); <https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2022/Rapport%20National%20Volontaire%20RNV.pdf> (2022)

the **Regional Committees for Orientation, Coordination and Monitoring of Development Actions (CROCSAD)**, the **Local Committees of Orientation, Coordination and Monitoring of Development Actions (CLOCSAD)** and the **Municipal Committees of Orientation, Coordination and Monitoring of Development Actions (CCOCSAD)**. The Regional Committees produce reports on SDG implementation. The regions are less involved than municipalities in localization processes.<sup>3</sup> The **Association of Municipalities of Mali (AMM)** has been invited for the first time to participate in the core group in charge of drafting the 2022 VNR. The association is also part of all the coordination and monitoring mechanisms of the CREDD, and it collaborates with certain government departments related to the SDGs.<sup>4</sup>

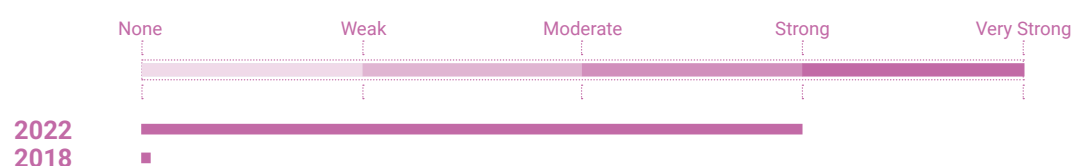
## 2.1 LRGs PARTICIPATION

### ► In the VNR process



Comments: The 2022 VNR mentions the participation of LRGs in the reporting process. The AMM was part of the core group in charge of drafting the 2022 VNR.

### ► In national coordination mechanisms for SDG implementation



Comments: Mali created regional, local and municipal committees to coordinate and monitor development actions.

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

Local and regional governments in Mali are mentioned throughout both 2018 and 2022 VNRs, without examples of locally-led initiatives for SDG implementation. The 2022 VNR stresses LRGs' ownership of the SDGs as an urgent necessity for advancing sustainable development across the national territory, highlighting the importance of reinforcing decentralization to do so.

## 2.3 SPECIFIC PROJECTS AND CASES

► The **Association of Municipalities of Mali (AMM)** has taken measures to address the lack of regular coordination between stakeholders on the SDGs. A **taskforce of locally elected officials** has been set up, which serves as an advocacy group to follow up on the national strategy and on the implementation of the SDGs at the LRG level. In 2019, an EU-funded AMM programme was launched to support the localization of the SDGs: the AMM assisted 106 local councils and trained more than 4,000 local stakeholders on the SDGs over a 24-month period.<sup>5</sup>

► The city of **Timbuktu** launched a strategy to reinforce the socioeconomic and urban fabric and civic participation in the city, urgently needed after its occupation in 2012 and 2013. The initiative strengthened local cultural heritage, defended citizens' freedom to maintain their cultural practices, and promoted culture as a strategy for resilience and sustainable cohabitation.<sup>6</sup>

► The implementation of the delegated management of markets approach in the Commune I of **Bamako** led to increased tax collection and established a dynamic and fruitful partnership between informal traders and the municipality.<sup>7</sup>

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

Not applicable.

3. UCLG, 2022, Towards the Localization of the SDGs, [https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/hlpf\\_2022.pdf](https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/hlpf_2022.pdf)

4. Answer of the AMM to the GTF survey in 2022.

5. Answer of the AMM to the GTF survey in 2022.

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

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

## 2.5 MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

Mali set up a Joint Program to finance the SDGs. The 2022 VNR emphasizes the need to accelerate the transfer of resources from the national government to LRGs for the relevant sectors. It stresses that “achieving the SDGs requires significant financial resources to be mobilized by the public authorities as well as by the private sector and LRGs”.

## 3. RELEVANT INFORMATION

**General comments:** In Mali, progress towards achieving the SDGs has been hampered by the country’s current political, security and health context. Mali has been subject to recurring political and security crises since 2012. The most recent dates back to 18 August 2020 marked by the popular uprising claiming the resignation of the President of the Republic and which ended with a military coup followed by the dissolution of the Parliament, the government and the resignation of the President of the Republic. A transition regime has been installed in accordance with the transition charter adopted during the national consultations held from 10 September to 12 September 2020.<sup>8</sup>

However, some progress has been made regarding the institutional environment for local governments during the past years: in 2015, the revision of the main texts on decentralization, territorial administration and elections followed the adoption of the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation. The Code of Local Authorities, the General Statute of Local Authority Officials and the Statute of the District of Bamako were adopted in 2017 but their implementation has been delayed.<sup>9</sup>

For regions and districts, the most recent elections were held in 2009. The last municipal elections were held in 2016. However, due to the security situation, several municipal councils were not able to be reappointed at that time. The mandates of all these elected officials have been extended until the present day through various regulatory texts. The renewal of all the mandates of municipal, district and regional councilors is on the agenda of the institutional and political reforms to be carried out as part of implementing the recommendations of the National Conference on Refoundation held in 2021.

### 3.1 WOMEN PARTICIPATION

In Mali, women enjoy a 30% quota in elections in accordance with the provisions of Law No. 2015-052 of 18 December 2015 instituting measures to promote gender in access to appointed and elective positions.<sup>10</sup> In 2021, there were 1,6% of women mayors and 25,6% of women local councilors (against 9% of women local councilors in 2009). Although progress has been made, the law that institutes gender at all levels of the administration and LRGs is not yet strictly applied.

### 3.2 COVID 19

The **Association of Municipalities of Mali (AMM)** had a very active role during the pandemic within the Multi-Stakeholder Platform to fight against COVID-19. It coordinated the distribution of sanitary kits in 106 municipalities. The municipalities were involved in sensitizing the population to respect governmental measures and watch committees were created.<sup>11</sup>

8. UCLG Africa, Cities Alliance, 2021, “Assessing the Institutional Environment of Cities and Subnational Governments in Africa”, [https://www.citiesalliance.org/sites/default/files/2022-05/CitiesAlliance\\_Assessing%20Inst.%20Environment%20of%20Cities%20and%20Subnal.%20Govs%20in%20Africa\\_EN.pdf](https://www.citiesalliance.org/sites/default/files/2022-05/CitiesAlliance_Assessing%20Inst.%20Environment%20of%20Cities%20and%20Subnal.%20Govs%20in%20Africa_EN.pdf)

9. UCLG, 2022, Towards the Localization of the SDGs, [https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/hlpf\\_2022.pdf](https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/hlpf_2022.pdf)

10. UCLG Africa, Cities Alliance, 2021, “Assessing the Institutional Environment of Cities and Subnational Governments in Africa”, [https://www.citiesalliance.org/sites/default/files/2022-05/CitiesAlliance\\_Assessing%20Inst.%20Environment%20of%20Cities%20and%20Subnal.%20Govs%20in%20Africa\\_EN.pdf](https://www.citiesalliance.org/sites/default/files/2022-05/CitiesAlliance_Assessing%20Inst.%20Environment%20of%20Cities%20and%20Subnal.%20Govs%20in%20Africa_EN.pdf)

11. Answer to the GTF survey complemented by an Interview with Youssouf Diakite, executive director of the Association of Municipalities of Mali (AMM).

## 4. SDG INDICATORS<sup>12</sup>

5.5.1. (b) Proportion of seats held by women (%) in local governments		25.3 (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	10 (2020)
	Rural	28 (2020)
11.1.1. Proportion of population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)		47.2 (2018)
11.6.1. Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed (%)		57 (2012, Bamako)
11.6.2. Air pollution – annual means of particulate matter in cities (population weighted)		63.6 (2016)
11.b.2. Proportion of local governments that have adopted local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national strategies (%)		-

12. The data used for this table come from the UN SDG Indicators Database. See: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/dataportal/database>