

TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION

Portugal is a unitary republic with a two-tier system of local government, consisting of 2 autonomous regions and 308 municipalities. There are also 3,091 parishes.¹



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

1. NATIONAL STRATEGIES FOR SDG IMPLEMENTATION

The Council of Ministers has adopted the first intra-governmental **guidelines for the 2030 Agenda** in 2016. The SDGs are integrated in the **National Reform Programme**.

1.1 NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS

The **Ministry of Foreign Affairs** oversees SDG coordination, together with the **Ministry of Planning and Infrastructures**. They lead the **inter-ministerial commissions** on foreign policy and development cooperation. A network of **focal points** from different government departments has been established to better coordinate and exchange information on SDG implementation and monitoring.

1.2 VNR ELABORATION PROCESS

No reference.

1.3 MONITORING

The country's baseline analysis on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda began with the collection of data and information in relation to all 17 SDGs, and, as a result, led to a mapping of national policies contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. In this exercise, **Statistical Portugal** and the **Agency for Development and Cohesion** played a critical role. The 2017 VNR also highlights the role of the **National Statistical Systems (NSS)** in monitoring the progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

2. LRGs INVOLVEMENT IN SDG LOCALIZATION

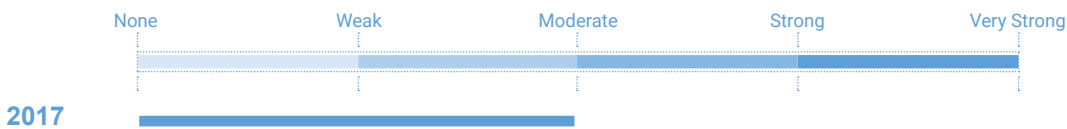
With the adoption of the New Urban Agenda, the national government intends to: i) review the planning, financing, development and management of cities, bearing in mind their relevance for sustainable development; ii) recognize the role of national, regional and local authorities as well as civil society in the definition and implementation of urban policies; and iii) adopt integrated, sustainable, citizen-based approaches based on age and gender.

Nonetheless, there is no evidence of any local government involvement in the national coordination mechanisms aimed at leading SDG implementation in Portugal.

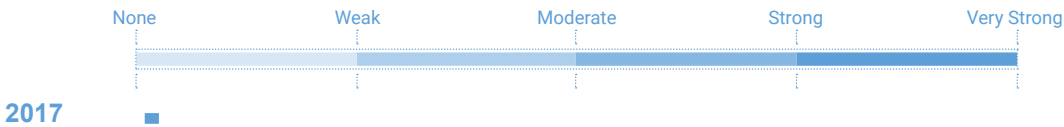
1. See: https://www.sng-wofi.org/reports/SNGWOFI_2019_report_country_profiles_DEC2019_UPDATES.pdf
2. See: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/15766Portugal2017_EN.pdf (2017)

2.1 LRGs PARTICIPATION

► In the VNR process



► In national coordination mechanisms for SDG implementation



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

The 2017 VNR acknowledges that “local authorities play a significant role in implementing the 2030 Agenda within their territory, through a set of initiatives that, in respect of their local autonomy, undoubtedly contributes to the implementation process at the national level, as a result of proximity and concrete action” (see VNR, 2017, p. 9).

2.3 SPECIFIC PROJECTS AND CASES

- The 2017 VNR highlights the **municipal plans for gender equality**, elaborated in articulation with the Commission for the Citizenship and Gender Equality, as key instruments in the combat to inequalities. It points out the role of local council members for equality, as essential focal points for a constructive collaboration in the construction and execution of policies in this area.
- In line with the UN Resilient Cities Campaign, which promotes the implementation of disaster reduction measures by local authorities, as well as with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Portugal identified 25 towns as resilient.
- Recognizing that the Common Agenda for Integration of Third-country Nationals recommended that member states further promote integration policies at local level, Portugal points out the **Network CLAIM – A Local Network for a Service of Proximity**, which, apart from providing information, gives support for the reception and integration of migrants, in cooperation with local communities. As a reflection of the Strategic Plan for Migration for 2015-2020, the **Municipal Plans for the Integration of Migrants (MPIM)** can define and implement local policies for the integration of migrants in the territories, as a factor of development and strengthening of democracy and social dynamics. There are currently 19 MPIM under implementation, involving 21 municipalities, and it is expected to reach 50 MPIM by 2020.
- In 2015, Portugal adopted the **2020 Sustainable Cities Strategy** for sustainable urban development, which seeks to advance and answer the needs for urban territory planning and take action to strengthen and consolidate the prospects and vision of territorial development. Its implementation requires the active involvement of various actors in the city and in the development and strengthening of the national urban system, both for the central and local public administration, the private sector and all other stakeholders.
- In 2016-2017, the **Inter-Municipal Network for Cooperation and Development (RICD)**, with a membership of 20 municipalities, organized a travelling exposition on the SDGs and their localization.³
- The municipality of **Valongo** made commitments in line with European Union guidelines, as well as with national commitments, seeking sustainable solutions and the capacity to respond to the challenges of climate change, such as the National Green Roofs Association, Aalborg Commitments, Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy, Portuguese Pact for Plastics, “For a Country with Good Air”. Valongo is a partner of the **‘ODS Local’ platform**, a network for municipalities working towards achieving the SDGs at the local level, and of **‘CESOP Local’**, a collaborative network that took on the mission of carrying out studies applied in administrative territories, having as reference the 17 SDGs and their respective targets.⁴

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

4. See: <https://odslocal.pt/> and <https://cesop-local.ucp.pt/>. Answer of the municipality of Valongo to the GTF Survey in 2021.

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

Cascais published a VLR in 2020.⁵

2.5 MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

No reference.

3. RELEVANT INFORMATION

General comments: The United Nations Global Compact Network Portugal coordinates the multi-stakeholder platform **SDG Alliance Portugal**, whose purpose is to raise awareness, inform, implement, monitor and evaluate the contribution of the private sector and other civil society partners to the SDGs at national level. Determined to build bridges for dialogue and cooperation, as advocated by SDG17, it creates a sustainable basis for the development of partnerships, projects, programmes and actions within the framework of the 2030 Agenda.

3.1 WOMEN PARTICIPATION

No reference.

3.2 COVID 19

Not applicable.

4. SDG INDICATORS⁶

5.5.1. (b) Proportion of seats held by women (%) in local governments		-
6.1.1. Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services (%)	Urban	97 (2020)
	Rural	93 (2020)
6.2.1. (a) Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	Urban	93 (2020)
	Rural	-
11.1.1. Proportion of population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)		3.6 (2018)
11.6.1. Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed (%)		90.1 (2015, Lisbon)
11.6.2. Air pollution – annual means of particulate matter in cities (population weighted)		7.7 (2016)
11.b.2. Proportion of local governments that have adopted local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national strategies (%)		-

5. See: https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/field-document/cascais_2020.pdf

6. 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/prt>