

Leaders Dialogue 4:
Localizing the Sustainable Development Goals
(Wednesday, 25 September 2019 at 12.05 – 13.00)

The VNRs conducted at the HLPF have shown that the 2030 Agenda has generated extensive implementation efforts in many countries. Goals and targets have been mapped and/or adapted to national situations and included in new or revised development plans and strategies. The SDGs are also being pursued through multisectoral policies, though ensuring policy coherence across sectors and levels of government remains an important challenge. For example, few countries appear to have costed the SDGs, making it difficult to develop an integrated financing framework.

Many countries have mobilized their institutions around the SDGs, or created new institutional arrangements to promote, coordinate and review the implementation of the SDGs. Some have even involved their parliaments or other oversight institutions in their effort to implement the SDGs, and in many cases those institutions have taken their own initiative and conducted dedicated hearings and discussions. Additionally, they have a critical role to play in helping to keep the momentum on SDGs implementation within the business sector and civil society.

Local and regional governments have also undertaken actions to raise awareness about the 2030 Agenda and are often well placed to lead implementation. Many mayors, governors and local public officers have already committed to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. They can play an important role in generating growth and employment through local economic development or fiscal strategies; promoting the inclusion of women and youth; raising awareness of the importance of sustainable consumption and production; and coordinating partnerships with all relevant stakeholders.

Objective

The session is intended to focus on country-level experiences in localizing the sustainable development goals, adapting them to national and local situations and incorporating them in policies, institutions, financial frameworks and ways of working. It will also discuss the mobilization of national and local actors around the SDGs.

Guiding Questions

What are the greatest challenges for governments in implementing the SDGs and how can they accelerate progress?

- What are some good examples of policy coherence and cooperation across different levels of government?
- What are successful good practices and experiences from local-level and can they be scaled-up?