Shaping local strategies around the Sustainable Development Goals: the experience of Reggio Emilia

Training session organised by the Joint Research Centre for the High Level Political Forum 2020
Context

- Local strategic planning process
- July 2019 - today
- Territory of Reggio Emilia (beyond the municipality itself) located in the Emilia Romagna Region (Northern Italy)
- Previous actions on the SDGs
  - Shaping fair cities EU DEAR Project
  - Regional process investing on CSR and SDGs awareness
  - Great environmental action / concept of environmental sustainability
  - Great attention to education as a fundamental right of children and as an action to avoid inequalities
Main features of the proposed approach

• SDG oriented assessment
• SDG clustering in main transitions
• Re conceptualization of development concept
• Definition of Missions

• Community based process
• Participation of citizens
• Training / awareness raising process
• True commitment/ shared roles of local community
Main process constraints

• Following the pandemic
  • Major change in the development paradigm
  • New role of the mayor and local municipality
  • Greater awareness on SDG topics (even if not framed as such)
  • Emerging poverty
Lessons Learned

• Value and importance of each Goal and the targets may change through time... no
• Determination in political terms / Looking beyond the political mandate and the immediate consensus
• No «stop and go»
• Beyond municipal internal documents
• A wider process beyond civil servants
• «Guiding with an eye on today’s needs yet shaping a new future»
• Shaping the transition
a process still to be implemented.....

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