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Local action for sustainability: Localizing the Sustainable Development Goals

The role of local public policies for food waste reduction and sustainable food systems

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The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Innovative characteristics:

- Intersectoral, interconnected; integrates the different dimensions of development: environmental, social, economic
- **Defined through a participatory approach**
- Universal: pact between 193 countries. *"All countries are in the process of achieving sustainable development"*
- Transformative: addresses the **root** causes of poverty and not the symptoms

An action plan for people, planet, prosperity

Why do the SDGs matter?

- Problems, priorities and demands of citizens are reflected: quality basic services, access to housing, fight against corruption…all aspects of daily life

- SDGs are not an end in themselves, but a means to achieve better quality of life for all

- For the first time justice, governance and peace are at the core

- For the first time, it is a universal agenda that must be implemented by all countries

The SDGs call for a reduction of Global Food-waste

The SDGs address food losses and waste in Target 12.3, which states that by 2030 per capita **global food waste at retail and consumer levels should be halved** and food losses along production and supply chains (including post-harvest losses) should be reduced.

The proposed global indicator for this target is the global food loss index which factors losses occurring on farm, during transport, in storage, and during processing.

Sustainable Development Goal 12 – ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns – includes the target of halving food waste by 2030.

Transforming the 2030 Agenda into a reality for all

- The new Agenda requires acknowledging the role that local governance stakeholders can have in leading and managing sustainable development processes

- Localizing the SDGs as the process of ***designing, implementing and monitoring SDG-based development strategies*** in alignment with the priorities and opportunities at the subnational level.

> *"Local spaces are ultimately the key site of delivery and development and, as such, local government is central to the success of sustainable development."*
>
> **South African Local Government Association (SALGA)**

- Entails an ***empowering process of all local stakeholders***, aimed at making sustainable development more responsive and relevant to local needs and aspirations (people's priorities).

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Why localizing the SDGs?

- If the Agenda wants to be truly transformative – an Agenda "of the people, for the people, and by the people" – it needs to be implemented and **fully realized at the local level**.

- **Sub-national governments are primary players in localizing the SDGs**: not mere implementers of the agenda – they are policy makers in their own right, and important catalysts of change.

- Implementation greatly depends on **local action and leadership**, in co-ordination of all other levels of governance.

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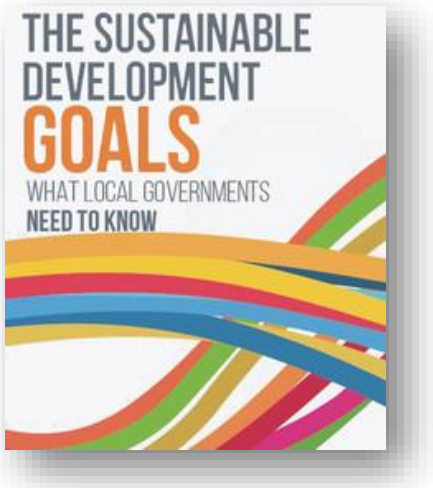
The SDGs localization process



- It is **not only about setting goals and applying indicators**; it is a chance to deepen democracy, to make development more inclusive and participatory, to strengthen local institutions and processes, … to involve people in decision making, build upon local resources, etc.

- **All of the SDGs** have targets directly related to the responsibilities of local and regional governments.

SDG 11 us important for local governments. But many SDGs have targets already assigned to local and regional governments

- Requires the set-up or strengthening of **enabling institutional environments** (multi-level governance mechanisms, multi-stakeholders approach, etc.).

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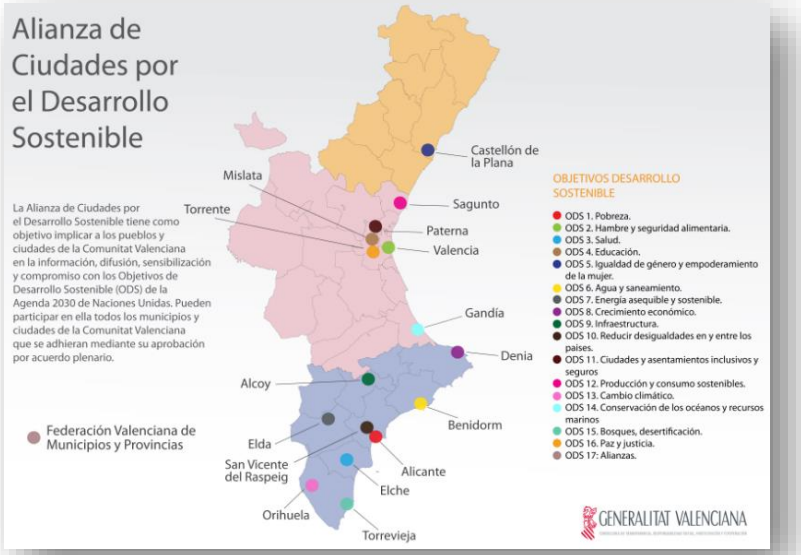
Local action for sustainability is already happening in cities and regions around the world…

Generalitat Valenciana



Brazilian municipalities

Tuscany Region

…and more

Toolbox for Localizing the SDGs

www.LocalizingTheSDGs.org

An online repository of an articulated set of tools to support local governments, their networks and other local governance stakeholders in the SDG localization and a space for dialogue and exchange of concrete knowledge and experiences

What can you do on the virtual platform?

1. You can discover new instruments as well as upload the tools and guides that you have developed

2. You can discuss and exchange with peers on the challenges and opportunities to localize the SDGs through e-discussions

3. You can share your experience and perspective by posting stories, events and more.

More than a platform…

A GLOBAL ALLIANCE OF ENGAGED STAKEHOLDERS

…towards concrete actions on the ground

The 2030 Agenda as an opportunity

Localizing the SDGs: as a cross-cutting effort encompassing all development initiatives, looking at how to transform the whole 2030 Agenda into local realties and concrete progresses for territories and communities;

Local and Regional Governments and Territorial Partnerships: key role of sub-national authorities in delivering on development policies in line with national and global priorities and in fostering knowledge-sharing based partnerships with peers - through innovative partnership modalities such as Decentralized Cooperation.

The 2030 Agenda requires innovative approaches, creative thinking to tackle complex challenges, actions for creating and ensuring a sustainable future for all.

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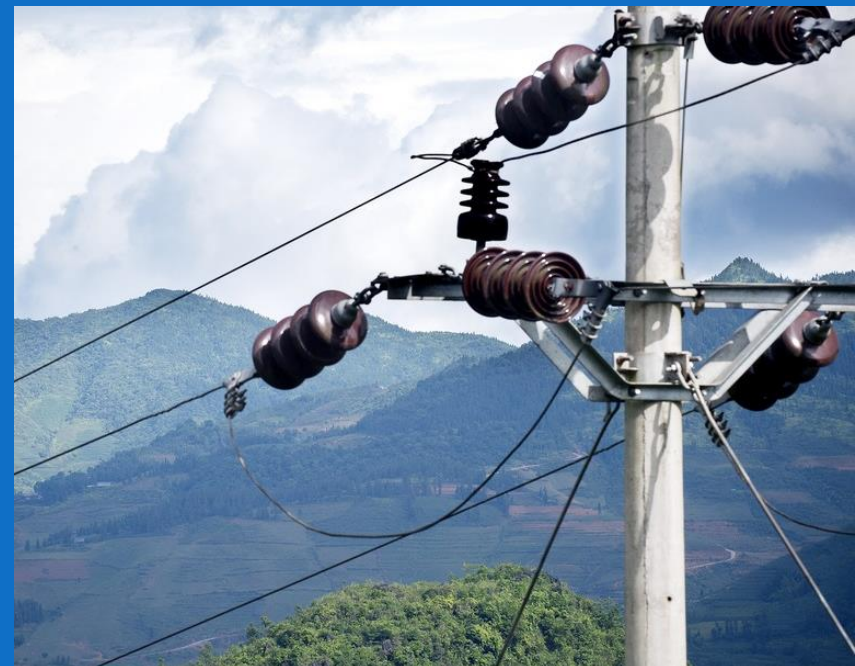
THANK YOU

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