Act Local to Go Global

Localizing the Sustainable Development Goals

- With nearly 70% of the world’s population living in cities by 2050, the future of humanity is urban. Though our current triple C crisis – COVID-19, climate and conflict – is global in nature, it unfolds locally and impacts people in local communities.

- In most countries, local and regional governments are responsible for coordinating and delivering basic services, which are critical for ensuring communities' wellbeing and development.

- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 goals offer the best framework to address the world’s most pressing challenges. More than the 65% of the SDG targets are related to the work and mandate of local governments.

- Local action and local leadership are critical to addressing the current global crises and to foster sustainable recovery and development.

- The success to address the current and future challenges and to redirect our world towards more sustainable paths will depend on increased capacities of local and regional governments.

- As the UN focal point for local and regional governments and the custodian of the New Urban Agenda, UN-Habitat has been advocating for the localization of SDGs since the very endorsement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

- The agency’s work on localizing the SDGs is guided by a partnership-based territorial approach anchored in the principles of leaving no one and no place behind; multilevel governance, and multi-stakeholder partnerships.

- UN-Habitat supports local and national partners to localize the SDGs through the Global Urban Monitoring Framework, Voluntary Local Reviews, and the SDG Cities cycle and certification.

- UN-Habitat hosts the secretariat of the Local 2030 Coalition, connecting the UN and all interested stakeholders to advocate, monitor and jointly advance the localization of the SDGs.