



1st OECD Roundtable on Cities and Regions for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

AGENDA

7 March 2019 | 9h-18h

OECD Conference Centre, Room CC4

2, rue André Pascal, 75016, Paris (*For access details, click [here](#)*)

English/Spanish Interpretation will be provided

The 1st edition of the Roundtable seeks to:

- **Provide a multi-stakeholder forum** to share knowledge, experience and best practices on how to use the SDGs to design and implement better policies across levels of government, public, private and non-profit sectors in OECD and emerging economies;
- **Advise cities, regions and national governments** in taking the needed steps for effective policy reforms from the ground up to mainstream the SDGs in local and regional planning, investment, priorities and strategies;
- **Provide a global co-production mechanism** to design a localised SDG indicator framework to measure cities and regions' performance and distance to targets, and use that evidence to raise the profile of their contribution within and across national and global agendas;
- **Discuss preliminary findings from ongoing OECD pilots** on the localisation of the SDGs with Bonn (Germany), Kitakyushu (Japan), Córdoba (Argentina), Flanders (Belgium), Southern Denmark (Denmark), Viken (Norway) and Kópavogur (Iceland);
- **Provide for a coordination tool** across different initiatives on localising the SDGs from cities, regions, countries, civil society, academia, private sector, donors or philanthropy.

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7 March 2019 | 9h-18h | OECD Conference Centre - Room CC4 | Paris

Agenda

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| 08.30 – 09.00 | Welcome Coffee, Registration & Family Photo |
| 09.00 – 09.30 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Ulrik Vestergaard Knudsen, Deputy Secretary General, OECD • H.E. Hiroshi Oe, Ambassador of Japan to the OECD • Ms. Emilia Saiz, Secretary General, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) |
| 09.30 – 11.00 | <p>Session I: From SDG-proofing to strategic visioning – how can cities and regions mainstream the SDGs in local and regional policy-making and planning?</p> <p>Localising the SDGs commonly starts by taking stock of what is already going on locally. In this context, the 2030 Agenda provides a useful framework to identify potential “blind spots” in local and regional policies to truly rethink sustainable development policies from the ground up. Many cities and regions have started including the SDGs in their development plans. Despite these efforts, the full potential of the 2030 Agenda as a visioning, planning, prioritisation and budgeting tool has not been fully exploited yet, nor has its transformative capacity.</p> <p>Key questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can the SDGs be mainstreamed into local and regional policymaking, planning tools and investment strategies? • What are successful practices in shaping local and regional planning and investment strategies through the SDGs? How can these be scaled up and replicated? • How to promote coordination across level of governments in designing and implementing the range of policies that are underlying the SDGs? <p>Moderator: Ms. Lamia Kamal-Chaoui, Director, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities (CFE), OECD</p> <p>Short interventions (7 min):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Soeren Rasmussen, Chairman, Committee for Regional Development , Region of Southern Denmark <i>SDGs as a tool to shape the regional development strategy</i> • Ms. Hilde Reine, Future Director for Planning Viken County, Norway <i>SDGs as a tool to implement territorial reforms</i> • Ms. Verena Schwarte, Coordinator, Department of International Affairs and Global Sustainability, City of Bonn, Germany <i>From sustainability to an SDGs strategy for the city</i> • Ms. Caroline Kern, Deputy Head of Unit, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany <i>National support to cities and regions in implementing the SDGs</i> • Mr. Tony Pipa, Senior Fellow, Global Economy and Development, Brookings Institute <i>Community-led implementation of the SDGs</i> <p>Debate with the participants</p> <p>Discussant: Mr. Mario Pezzini, Director, OECD Development Centre</p> |
| 11.00 – 11.30 | Coffee Break |

11.30 – 13.00 Session II: Interlinked, interdependent and indivisible: how to identify synergies and trade-offs between the SDGs at city and regional levels?

The 2030 Agenda was launched as “an indivisible whole”, with every SDG depending on and influencing the others to promote sustainability in a holistic, integrated and place-based way. However, in practice, decisions taken to improve one of the Goals may have detrimental effects on other Goals, and a race to the bottom can occur if the SDGs are managed in silo. Regional policies are well equipped to manage policy trade-offs and complementarities at the appropriate scale, as opposed to policies that are “spatially blind” or sector-specific.

Key questions:

- What are some concrete examples of trade-offs that cities and regions can manage across the SDGs where they have core competencies?
- How can cities and regions prioritise their action to maximise synergies at territorial level? How can sectoral strategies be aligned?
- What concrete tools and methods are available to measure synergies and trade-offs?

Moderator: Ms. Aziza Akhmouch, Acting Head of Division, Cities, Urban Policies and Sustainable Development, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities, OECD

Short interventions (7 min):

- Ms. Silvina Rivero, Secretary General, Regional Government of Córdoba, Argentina | *Towards a polycentric matrix for SDGs to promote social inclusion*
- Mr. Yoshifumi Ogawa, Assistant Manager, City of Kitakyushu, Japan | *Using “Planet” SDGs to achieve better outcomes for People.*
- Mr. Mathias Vanden Borre, Advisor for General Government Policy, Cabinet of the Minister-President, Region of Flanders, Belgium | *Vision 2050 and Focus 2030 to align sectoral priorities*
- Mr. Marc Darder Solé, Chief of Action in Urban Habitat, Generalitat de Catalunya, Spain and Ms. Olivia Patón, Manager, International Relations, Diputació de Barcelona, Spain | *SDGs as a tool to align sectoral priorities*
- Ms. Candy Lugaz, Programme Specialist, UNESCO/IIEP | *Education (SDG4) as a tool to promote policy coherence in cities*

Debate with the participants

Discussant: Mr. Marcos Bonturi, Director, Public Governance, OECD

13.00 - 14.30

Lunch Buffet served in the Atrium

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| 14.30 – 16.00 | <p>Session III: Everyone’s business – beyond governments: how do private sector and civil society contribute to a territorial approach to the SDGs?</p> <p>The way we live, produce and consume has far-reaching effects both locally and globally. As such, all actors need to be engaged in achieving the SDGs. Informed citizens can change their daily habits, while civil society can act as agents for change. Likewise, businesses that go beyond corporate social responsibility and invest seriously in sustainable development have an essential role to play in achieving the 2030 Agenda. Current levels of public investment will not be sufficient to catalyse the USD 6.3 trillion required to meet the 2030 Agenda infrastructure needs, and innovative financing sources will be instrumental. The SDGs provide cities and regions with a tool to effectively engage in multi-stakeholder dialogue with actors from the private sector, civil society, as well as citizens.</p> <p>Key questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the 2030 Agenda changing the way in which companies work with sustainability, going beyond CSR? • What role can civil society and education play in forwarding the 2030 Agenda in cities and regions? • What role for cities and regions in promoting concrete collaboration between public and private actors, NGOs, schools and investors? <p>Moderator: Ms. Patricia Purcell, Head of Partnerships, UN Global Compact, City Programme</p> <p>Short interventions (7 min):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Carla Montersi, Director, Planet and Prosperity, DG DEVCO <i>Implementing the SDGs through Decentralised Development Cooperation</i> • Ms. Estibaliz Urcelay Erguido, External Relations Officer, Foreign Affairs Department, Basque Country, Spain <i>Engaging stakeholders through Euskadi 2030</i> • Mr. Alexis Licha, Innovation and Startups Manager, Shell <i>The role of the private sector to promote the SDGs in cities</i> • Ms. Margo Thomas, Founder and CEO: Women’s Economic Imperative <i>Civil society and woman associations as key actors to achieve the SDGs</i> • Ms. Diana Lopez Caramazana, Head, Local government and Decentralisation Unit, UN Habitat <i>Engaging Territorial Stakeholders to achieve the Goals</i> <p>Debate with the participants</p> <p>Discussant: Mr. Jorge Moreira Da Silva, Director, Development Co-operation Directorate ,OECD</p> |
| 16.00 – 16.30 | Coffee Break |

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| 16.30 – 17.45 | <p>Session IV: Measuring SDGs Progress in Cities and Regions: towards an OECD Localised Indicator Framework</p> <p>Measuring where cities and regions stand against the SDGs (and their national average) is not an end in itself, but primarily a tool for dialogue that can shape better policies across levels of government. To shed light on regional disparities and go beyond the national average reported under the UN Global Indicator Framework, many regions and cities are defining place-specific targets and indicators. However, what is currently missing is a consensual, comparable and standardised localised SDGs indicator framework to benchmark performances within countries and across regions and cities. The session will discuss how such a framework can be co-produced to guide future decisions and public actions in cities and regions.</p> <p>Key questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do cities and regions assess where they stand against the SDGs and their national average, and what for? • Which datasets, methodologies and initiatives currently exist to assess subnational contributions to the SDGs? • What are the main bottlenecks and data gaps that prevent an understanding of where cities and regions stand and how to overcome them? • What should be the critical features of an OECD localised SDGs indicator framework in the future? <p>Moderator: Mr. Ahrend Rudiger, Head of Economic Analysis, Statistics and Multi-level Governance Section, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities, OECD</p> <p>Short interventions (7 min):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Paolo Veneri, Head, Territorial Analysis and Statistics, OECD <i>Towards an OECD SDGs localised indicator framework</i> • Ms. Claudia Baranzelli and Ms. Alice Siragusa, Project Officers, European Commission JRC <i>Towards an EU SDGs localised indicator framework</i> • Mr. Nico Tillie, European Vice-President, World Council on City Data <i>Measuring SDGs in cities</i> • Mr. Armann Olafsson, Mayor, Municipality of Kopavogur, Iceland <i>From Social Progress Index to SDGs Index</i> • Mr. Bert Janssens, European and international Coordinator, VVSG, Belgium <i>Local SDGs indicator framework for municipalities</i> <p>Debate with the participants</p> <p>Discussant: Mr. Marco Mira D'Ercole, Head of Household Statistics and Progress Measurement Division, Statistics and Data Directorate, OECD</p> |
| 17.45 – 18.00 | <p>Conclusion & Next steps</p> <p>Mr. Joaquim Oliveira Martins, Deputy Director, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities (CFE), OECD</p> |

*The Roundtable will be followed by a cocktail reception in the George Marshall Room in Chateau de la Muette
7 March 2019 | 18.00-20.00*

THE OECD PROGRAMME ON A TERRITORIAL APPROACH TO THE SDGs

A role for cities and regions to leave no one behind

Why a territorial approach to the Sustainable Development Goals?

65% of 169 targets need local and regional governments' engagement in order to be achieved¹.

Subnational governments were responsible for **59.3% of total public investment** in 2016 in the OECD area and for almost **40%** worldwide².

Co-operative **climate mitigation commitments made by cities, regions and businesses** could result in additional reduction of global emissions by one-third compared to national government policies alone³.

While SDG11 on cities is central, most of the other goals are **inter-connected** and **hold implications for cities and regions**.

There are strong **territorial disparities** within countries: looking at national averages is not enough. **The SDGs can foster policy coherence and place-based solutions to complex problems.**

Cities and regions are key actors in the 2030 Agenda

Regions can promote productivity growth, social inclusion and environmental sustainability. To realise this potential, regional development policies need to ensure that different types of regions are able to thrive. Decentralised development co-operation by cities and regions can also play an important role in localising the SDGs.

Cities can provide pioneering solutions and responses to megatrends and act as engines of economic growth and innovation. Localised policies can also help to prevent potential trade-offs between social, economic and environmental goals. Many mayors and city leaders deal with policies central to sustainable development.

¹ UN Sustainable Development Solution Network (2016)

² OECD (2018)

³ Data Driven Yale, New Climate Institute, PBL (2018)

JOIN OUR PROGRAMME!



- A tailored, consensus-based and localised indicator framework.
- Harmonised and comparable OECD territorial statistics for SDGs.
 - Common OECD/EU definition of « city » and « region ».



- Analyse and discuss local SDGs stories/evolving practices.
- Draw lessons in terms of incentives, processes and outcomes.
 - Pilot-test the indicator framework in different contexts.



- Peer-to-peer dialogue between cities, regions and national governments.
 - Twinning during field trips and missions.
- Engagement of umbrella/city networks and stakeholder groups.



- Specific policy recommendations based on the local context and findings.

Pilot regions & cities

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|  Province of Córdoba Argentina |  City of Kitakyushu Japan |
|  Region of Flanders Belgium |  City of Bonn Germany |
|  Region of Southern Denmark Denmark |  Municipality of Kópavogur Iceland |
|  County of Viken Norway | |

Key milestones



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