



## **Fifth Local and Regional Governments Forum on the 2030 Agenda**

*“Fostering the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals from the local level towards the 2023 SDG Summit”*

Special High-Level Event on the occasion of the 2022 United Nations High-Level Political Forum (HLPF)

*Day 1 - 7 July 8:00AM - 10:30AM EDT - virtual*

*Day 2 - 12 July 3:00PM - 6:00PM EDT - UNHQ - CR2*

### ***Background Note***

#### **PANEL: MOVING BEYOND REPORTING: MULTILEVEL GOVERNANCE AND MULTISTAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION**

#### **DAY 1 – 7 JULY – 9:30 – 10:15 AM (EDT)**

Multilevel governance and multistakeholder engagement are acknowledged as key approaches to deliver on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In recent times, SDG monitoring and reporting at the local level have contributed to the evolution of the global discussion and most importantly nation-level practices towards the adoption of these collaborative and multi-level approaches. Local reporting efforts through VLRs and VSRs have been acknowledged into national monitoring and reporting processes, and specifically Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs). National governments have become increasingly aware of the potential of local action and local monitoring for SDG implementation, gradually moving towards a ‘whole-of-government’ and ‘whole-of-society’ approach for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

At the same time, cities and local governments have understood that to harness the potential of VLRs and VSRs, these should not happen in a vacuum, but that alignment and collaboration with national counterparts are key. In addition, experience shows that VLRs and VSRs have also provided platforms for dialogue, stakeholder engagement and for enhancing inclusion of local communities and vulnerable groups into decision-making processes.

Thanks to the above, VLRs and VSRs have contributed to an unprecedented push towards the localization of the SDGs. Local reviews have indeed helped local governments and communities to assess their development gaps, identifying priorities and defining long term visions, inspiring a new wave of local plans and transformative initiatives anchored on the global goals. VLRs and VSRs are much more than reporting tools, but inspiring processes through which all governance spheres and stakeholders can work together as legitimate actors and necessary partners to achieve the SDGs.

Speakers are invited to deliver a statement (**3 minutes maximum**) considering the proposed guiding questions below:

1. In your experience, which is the contribution of subnational reporting processes to the relation across governmental spheres? Has it contributed to improve multilevel collaboration? If yes, how?
2. How is multi-level governance supporting with the establishment and scaling up of partnerships for SDG implementation?
3. How can local governments
4. What is the benefit of connecting local and national reporting? And what ways VLRs and VSRs could be better connected to national reporting mechanisms? Which is the role of local and regional governments to improve this link? And national governments?
5. How can local and subnational reviews can contribute to move communities' participation processes from ad-hoc consultation to structural and continuous engagement?
6. How have VLRs and VSRs inspired SDG localization processes – i.e. local strategic plans and budgets based on the SDGs?