



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: LOCAL PUBLIC SERVICES AND POLICIES FOSTERING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE 2030 AGENDA

12TH JULY 2022 – 15.30 – 16.15

The COVID pandemic and the current global uncertainty have reversed the trends of poverty reduction over the past 2 years. The global poverty rate sharply increased from 8.3% in 2019 to 9.2% in 2020 due to COVID-19, representing the first increase in extreme poverty since 1998 and the largest since 1990.

Access to affordable and inclusive basic services is one of the tools available to take people out of extreme poverty. Local and regional governments play a unique role in public service delivery at the local level and their role has only been made more visible during the worst phase of the pandemic, keeping cities and territories working and protecting the most vulnerable.

The 2030 Agenda has become an inspiration for many local and regional governments, as the SDGs provide an excellent framework to align local action, integrating the different aspects of

development, providing a mid-term planning mechanism and offering concrete targets and indicators to measure progress.

This session intends to further explore how the SDGs are inspiring local and regional governments to deliver better public services, but also how the 2030 Agenda is changing the way to elaborate and implement public policy at the local level: increasing co-creation, integrating different SDGs with each other and finally, demonstrating how each local action, even if small, contributes to a more sustainable planet.

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

- How are the SDGs helping you to deliver better local public services? Can you mention a specific example?
- Do you think that the 2030 Agenda is influencing public policy at local level? How?
- What would you say to other cities and local governments who are interested in using the SDGs as a tool to improve public services and local policies? What would be your advice to them?
- Could you give us a local example about how different SDGs are interacting with each other in your city or territory? Is this having a positive impact on service delivery?
- How could we communicate better what local governments are doing to improve local service delivery thanks to the SDGs? How can the SDGs help in advancing/communicating local government listening/responsiveness to communities?
- How could we better engage citizens in the planning, monitoring and implementation of service delivery at local level?