



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: LOOKING TOWARDS THE SDG SUMMIT: LOCALIZATION AT THE FOREFRONT

12 JULY 2022 – 16.30 – 17.15 EDT

In the midst of the interconnected crises that the world faces today, the importance of local and regional governments as providers and protectors of their communities has never been clearer.

Local and regional governments have been working to protect their communities in these complex contexts through local public service provision and by working to safeguard those in the informal economy, by providing safe transport, food, housing and working to halt evictions as well as safeguarding the health and human rights of communities. These crises have underscored that only through multilevel governance, multi-stakeholder collaboration and solidarity can we ensure that no one and no place is left behind.

To foster this, the multilateral system must consider the various dimensions of an urban world: a system of rural and urban territories, small and intermediary cities, metropolitan entities and regions. A world where rural areas and civil society gain presence in global debates, in particular

when formulating policies with a long-term horizon. A world where delivering financial support and capacity development for local and regional governments to participate in transformative policymaking becomes a reality.

This session of the Local and Regional Governments Forum at the 2022 HLPF intends to further explore how the role of local and regional governments in the achievement of the SDGs can be strengthened with a particular focus on the 2023 SDG summit in which the expected theme of the HLPF will focus on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at all levels and in which SDG 11 on sustainable cities will be in review. This session will also focus on the UN Summit of the Future and highlight the priorities of local and regional governments to achieve a better shared future. With only 7 years left until 2030, the empowerment of local and regional governments will prove to be crucial to the achievement of the SDGs and these milestones will act as key moments in this regard.

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

- What is the importance of the localization of the SDGs in achieving the 2030 Agenda and how can it be front and center in international policy processes?
- What are your main hopes and expectations for the 2023 SDG Summit and how can the review of SDG 11 be strengthened?
- How do you see multilevel governance reflected within the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and how can it be rethought? How can the system of cities be better reflected within policy processes?
- In light of the UN Summit for the Future, what key policies at local and regional levels should be supported and replicated for a better shared future for all?
- How can we accelerate action to implement the 2030 agenda in light of the Decade of action and with only 7 years left until 2030?
- What is the importance of partnership and multi-stakeholder collaboration in the achievement of the SDGs and how can governments at all levels and civil society work together ahead of the SDG Summit and UN Summit for the Future?