



Localizing SDG indicators for Voluntary Local Reviews

Jürgen Gafke

Division for Sustainable Development Goals, UN DESA





SDG Indicator Localization

- The United Nations (UN) sees a need to accelerate SDG localization to improve policy coherence and integration. SDG localization is the process of adapting and customizing the SDGs and translating them into local development plans and strategies that fit the needs, context, and priorities of a particular region or locality, in coherence with national frameworks.
- Habitat has developed a localized indicator framework for SDGs, the Urban Monitoring Framework (UMF) to support regions and cities in measuring their progress towards the SDGs.



Selection of Indicators

- Identify indicators, specific to the municipality, ensuring that the data gathered was relevant and actionable for local policymakers and stakeholders.
- The municipality's technical team reviews the UMF metadata document for indicators interpretation, assessment of their local applicability, data availability and mapping of Stakeholders and data sources
- Involving all key stakeholders such as the statistical offices, civil society, and local administrations increase acceptability of the VLR



Sample Indicators

- Indicators can link to SDG and other frameworks. Examples:
- Indicator 11.1.1. Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements, or inadequate housing
- Indicator 11.2.1 Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities
- UMF 1.3.6 Population within 400m walking distance of a primary school (OECD)
- UMF 2.2.5 Affordability of transport
- UMF 2.2.6 Use of Public transport



Data and SDGs Monitoring

- Official statistics have traditionally been relied upon to craft policies and to measure SDGs progress and national plans.
- But there are still huge gaps and many countries are struggling to obtain relevant, timely, disaggregated data to track progress.
- Alternative data sources such as citizen-generated data (CGD), geospatial data, mobile data, and big data have become increasingly relevant to help close the data gap.

