



# SUSTAINABLE CITIES DIALOGUE

URBAN GOVERNANCE  
AT THE CORE OF THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF SDG 11

Strasbourg, France, 24-25 May 2018



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Contribution to the first assessment of Sustainable Development Goal 11 and to the First Forum of Local and Regional Governments at the 2018 High Level Political Forum (New York)

## **OUTCOMES OF THE HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUES BETWEEN MAYORS AND MINISTERS**

hosted by the UCLG Policy Councils in the framework of the Executive Bureau

**Strasbourg, 24-25 May 2018**

**CITIES AND REGIONS are ideally positioned to make catalytic changes and to transform the global agendas into concrete actions: they are places where people live, where poverty is tackled, where prosperity is generated and where women and youth are empowered. Being closest to the people, local governments are key policy-makers, ensuring among others, that affordable housing, public spaces, access to basic services for all, and that cities are climate resilient through adapted and innovative solutions.**

The Sustainable Cities Dialogue in Strasbourg showed how local governments are already taking ownership of the global agendas, organizing awareness-raising activities and implementing Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development by engaging all local stakeholders from the grass-roots and up. We have heard the commitment of national governments to work with communities, the private sector and to establish mechanisms of dialogue and cooperation with other levels of governments towards the achievement of sustainable cities.

The challenges of Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development are complex and they cannot be faced alone. The Sustainable Cities Dialogue in Strasbourg was precisely organized to facilitate and encourage mayors and ministers to find joint solutions. This report reflects the richness and plurality of voices and perspectives from different continents, cities, places and levels of government in implementing Sustainable Development Goal 11. It brings attention to the kind of collaboration needed across all levels of governance to achieve our common agenda. UN-Habitat, together with its key partner United Cities and Local Governments, is proud to bring these lessons learned to the United Nations High Level Political Forum in New York in July 2018, and in particular to the first Local and Regional Government Forum being hosted during this Forum.

Multilevel, inclusive and innovative governance can unlock the potential of urban areas and territories, and to leave no one behind. Urban governance is the string that holds all SDG 11 targets together, while multilevel and multi-stakeholder partnerships, nurture the urban dimensions of Sustainable Development Goals. We need to ensure that dialogue amongst the different spheres of government happens in a constructive, coordinated and long-term way. For this, the New Urban Agenda provides a clear path, and invites us to renew the institutional and governance structures to make them the driver of sustainable urban development and to transform our cities into livable, intelligent and sustainable places. The New Urban Agenda can also help us localize the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a unique opportunity to increase local democratic governance and to achieve together this vital plan for the people and the planet.

**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

**Maimunah Mohd Sharif**

United Nations Under-Secretary-  
General and Executive Director,  
UN-Habitat

**STRASBOURG hosted the Sustainable Cities Dialogue, in conjunction with the Executive Bureau of United Cities and Local Governments. We are delighted that our Executive Bureau welcomed and opened spaces of dialogue for representatives of local, regional and national governments and partners, reflecting our readiness to open, think and act together.**

In the same spirit of collaboration between United Cities and Local Governments and the United Nations, we jointly present in this report the conclusions of the Dialogue, as a contribution to the assessment of the Sustainable Development Goal 11 during the 2018 High Level Political Forum.

For Mayors and Governors, Sustainable Development Goal 11 and all other urban-related objectives are our everyday life. We govern, plan, develop, manage our territories to make them safe, inclusive, resilient and sustainable for our citizens. Therefore, we believe that the localization of the Sustainable Development Goals, taking into account local realities and communities throughout the process of implementing the Sustainable Development Goals, is a key issue for local, national and global development alike, and the only way in which the global agendas can be implemented and effectively brought to life. The localization of the Sustainable Development Goals requires for the alignment of the global goals with national and local development policies, and their implementation at the local level requires renewed efforts both from national and subnational spheres of government.

Dialogue with national institutions needs to grow at all levels. The involvement of local and regional governments in the global agendas is increasing and improving, and the Sustainable Cities Dialogue was to opportunity to take unprecedented steps towards this much-needed structural dialogue with the national spheres in a global context. For United Cities and Local Governments and the Global Taskforce of local and regional governments, bringing these constructive inputs to the global discussion is one more contribution to our commitment to sustainable development and to achieve, together, a better future for our communities.



### **Mpho Parks Tau**

President of United Cities and Local Governments, President of the South African Local Government Association (SALGA), South Africa



### **Roland Ries**

Mayor of Strasbourg, France, Co-president of United Cities and Local Governments

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## 1

The participants of the Sustainable Cities Dialogue reaffirmed that an enabling political, legal, institutional and financial framework is needed for the achievement of SDG 11 and the urban-related dimension of the 2030 Agenda. **URBAN GOVERNANCE** is the cornerstone of effective and sustainable implementation of SDG 11 and the link between the urban targets.

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## 2

Exchanges showed the on-going efforts for intergovernmental work and horizontal coordination at the national level as well as the local commitments and initiatives. Implementing the urban dimension of the SDGs represents an opportunity to **REACTIVATE THE VERTICAL AND MULTILEVEL DIALOGUE** and to work for more integration and policy support.

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## 3

SDG 11 speaks of issues that are decentralized to local and regional governments in many countries of the world. **POLITICAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND FISCAL DECENTRALIZATION** is crucial to strengthen territories, to improve service delivery and boost local democracy. The instrumental nature of local **SELF-GOVERNMENT** has to be placed at the heart of the cooperation between all spheres of government to leave no one behind.

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## 4

A **TERRITORIAL APPROACH**, marked by institutional and inter-sectorial cooperation is needed. Planning goes beyond developing instruments: it should

consider the national and local political economy and enhance urban functionality through an integrated and multi-sectorial approach. It means transitioning from sector programmes to area focused policies and supporting the socio-economic and human fabric that makes cities liveable and give them their identity.

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## 5

The missing link between planning and implementation is often **FINANCING**. Given the needs and the increasingly complex issues to be addressed, all levels of governments have to innovate, to encourage the localization of finance and the use of mixed solutions, and to engage further with the private sector.

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## 6

Cities are a collective good and their sustainability rely on a **SOCIAL CONTRACT** with the citizenship and the protection of **THE COMMONS**, through the mediation of interests between all levels of government. Accountability, **TRANSPARENCY** and open government are the foundation of this renewed social contract, enabling the effective democratization of cities.

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## 7

The inclusion of all segment of societies - public, private, civil society, informal sector - as stakeholders and beneficiaries is essential. All actors must be considered in urban governance processes, to enhance local economic development, safety, social cohesion and prosperity. It is intrinsically linked to **PARTICIPATION AND BOTTOM-UP PROCESSES** where citizens have a voice in the urbanization trajectories to accommodate their needs and the diversity of urban uses.

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## 8

Leaders can embrace a **RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH** in the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs to change the narrative for a collective right to live in inclusive and fair cities, ensuring opportunities for all and the elimination of discriminations.

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## 9

Urban crisis are multi-faceted and require de facto a multilevel and multi-stakeholder response. The interconnected nature of SDG 11, the 2015-2030 Sendai Framework and the Paris Climate agreement, offers a unique opportunity for collective local and global action towards risk reduction and enhanced **RESILIENCE**.

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## 10

SDG 11 and 2030 Agenda are, in principle, to be understood as integrated into the ordinary planning and political processes. **EMBEDDING PRINCIPLES** and targets into national frameworks is on-going but yet to be achieved. There are sectorial and alignment initiatives from front runners local and regional governments. However, this dynamic has to be strengthened and deepened at all levels to turn the global goals into concrete outcomes.

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## 11

**MOBILIZING CAPACITIES** to drive inclusive and localized approach is essential. Local governments associations are key actors to facilitate the multilevel dialogue and they are also promoters and providers of capacity development, fostering ownership and peer-to-peer learning.

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## 12

The urban dimension of the SDGs constitute an unprecedented opportunity to generate **PLACE-BASED AND DISAGGREGATED DATA**. A seamless and frequent dialogue - beyond mere consultation- between national statistic systems, local governments and 'data producers' (incl. communities) is increasingly needed. Local and regional governments have to be fully empowered throughout all the monitoring and reporting processes, by building local capacities and involving their associations in the VNR preparations.

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## 13

The **NEW URBAN AGENDA** makes explicit the underlying governance dimensions of the implementation of SDG 11. Although there is no one-size-fits-all approach to collaboration between tiers of governments, **LOCALIZING THE SDGs** was recognized by participants as an effective response. This political, institutional and operational approach implies more networked systems of governance and an increased iterative and multidimensional dialogue; it bridges the SDGs and the NUA implementation and puts the citizens at the centre of the development.

## FOREWORD AND KEY MESSAGES

# 01

### INTRODUCTION

*page 10*

# 02

### NATIONAL COMMITMENTS AND ACTIONS TO ACHIEVE SDG 11

*page 14*

- 2.1.** Institutional and coordination mechanisms to support the implementation of SDG 11
- 2.2.** Development and alignment of national policies, strategies and plans for the SDGs and the NUA implementation
- 2.3.** Coordination mechanisms with territorial governments
- 2.4.** Monitoring urban SDGs demands increased capacities and trust between all levels of governments
- 2.5.** Underlying urban governance elements of the SDG 11 targets

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

[https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5\\_18257](https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_18257)

