



WEBINAR

Delivering the SDGs at the subnational level: opportunities and best-practices for regional governments

July 4th, 2017 - 14h30 - 16h00 CET
nrg4SD, ORU Fogar & UNDP ART

The webinar will be hold in English - Registration is required using [this link](#)

Summary

In the efforts of nations worldwide to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the involvement and contribution of regional governments are fundamental. Considering regions, states and provinces have ongoing efforts, strategies and projects concerned with Sustainable Development, why and how these should incorporate the UN 2030 Agenda? This webinar thus envisages to present introductory paths and examples of the opportunities and actions regional governments may adopt to address the SDGs in each territory. Building on this online meeting, we would like to establish a community of practice to enable exchanges and mutual support in the implementation of the SDGs.

Background

The United Nations Sustainable Development Summit adopted the 2030 Agenda back in 2015, containing a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets. The SDGs cover a broad range of themes aiming to balance the economic, social and environmental dimensions towards sustainable development. With the promise “to leave no one behind”, the SDGs implementation requires action at all levels, and especially at the subnational level, based on the efforts of local and regional governments.

With clear direct competences on planning, legislation and decision-making over territories, regional governments are fundamental partners to the success of national efforts on the SDGs. Particularly, regional governments have a clear role in the provision of basic services, such as water and sanitation, health, education and food security, it becomes a necessary partner to achieve the related goals and targets.

Most subnational governments already have many policies and programs in place for the sustainable development, and several regional governments have already started to put in motion actions to pursue the implementation of the SDGs in their territories. The government of Wales, for example, took the lead as the first government ever to commit to the SDGs implementation through legal enforcement. The governments of Catalonia, Valencia, Sao Paulo, Flanders, Azuay or the Western Province of Sri Lanka have already started internal participatory processes to agree on the best strategies to contribute to the SDGs.

In 2016, nrg4SD carried several consultations with member regions to understand and identify priority areas and topics that should be considered to begin the implementation process of the SDGs. Particularly, these areas are connected to the establishment of the appropriate enabling environment and internal institutional arrangements for the implementation of 2030 Agenda by regional governments. Even before taking action for each of the specific 17 thematic SDGs, regional governments need to consider the organizational elements to enable this agenda, which includes:

- 1- Mainstreaming the SDGs: internal integration and organization
- 2- SDGs Subnational Strategies and Plans: priorities, needs and gaps
- 3- Multi-stakeholder partnerships: ownership, participation and accountability
- 4- Means of implementation: financing and capacity building
- 5- Multi-level governance: national, regional and local governments
- 6- Follow-up and review: monitoring and data disaggregation



All these elements are crucial for the localization of the SDGs, in terms of bringing this global agenda to the subnational level, where action and transformation takes place on the ground.

Objectives

The key objectives of this webinar are to highlight:

- Opportunities and challenges for regional governments to engage and contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- Concrete cases of how regional governments consider and address the SDGs in their governments;
- The importance of collaboration, exchange and peer-review of these efforts in regional governments;
- The role of organizations as nrg4SD and ORU Fogar to support and assist members in the efforts towards the implementation, follow-up and review of the SDGs;
- Strategic alignment at the subnational level of the Agenda 2030 with the New Urban Agenda and other documents for sustainable development in order to generate synergy and catalyze the achievement of SDGs
- Multi-stakeholder and multilevel partnerships in terms of subnational actors and collaboration with national and local governments;
- A process to collect experiences and case-studies to be used as a reference publication for other governments and interested international actors on efforts of regional governments.

PROGRAMME

• Opening remarks (10min)

Rodrigo Messias, Policy Officer
nrg4SD

Localization and the engagement of regional government in the new UN development agendas.

Carles Llorens, Secretary General
ORU Fogar

How the organizations as nrg4SD and ORU Fogar can help subnational institutions in the SDGs implementation process

• Introduction (10min)

Gemma Aguado, Programme Analyst
UNDP ART

Territorial approach to the implementation of 2030 Agenda, specific roles and opportunities for regional governments.

• Concrete case #1 – implementing the SDGs in regional governments (15min)

Ken Oluoch, Programme Officer - Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Kenyan Council of Governors

Preparation and efforts of regional governments towards implementation of the SDGs, the approach and phases adopted by the Counties in Kenya, and collaboration with national governments.

• Q&A #1 (15min)



- **Concrete case #2 – existing strategies, follow-up and review (15min)**

Matthias De Moor, International Policy Advisor
Government of Flanders

How to connect the global agenda with existing agendas, and to pursue the adequate monitoring and follow-up of actions, Visie 2050, the sustainable development plan of Flanders, Belgium, and including contributions to the Voluntary National Review.

- Q&A #2 (15min)

- **Conclusion and next steps (10min)**

About nrg4SD

The **Network of Regional Governments for Sustainable Development - nrg4SD** - was established in 2002, and currently has 57 members from 29 countries in four continents. The Network acts in three main fields: sustainable development, biodiversity and climate change; and has two main working lines: on the one hand, it seeks to convey a common voice of regional governments at a global level, especially following the UN agendas on these three thematic areas; on the other hand, it promotes cooperation among regional governments from across the world to ensure the engagement and implementation of these agendas, fostering the exchange of information, knowhow and best practices. In the field of Sustainable Development, nrg4SD acts as the Organizing Partner of the Local Authorities Major Group, and contributed to the whole intergovernmental process, bringing the perspective of subnational government. Since the approval of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, nrg4SD works with members to support the subnational implementation of the SDGs, and to encourage their engagement in national processes of implementation, follow-up and review

About ORU Fogar

The **United Regions Organisation / Global Forum of Regional Associations (ORU Fogar)** brings together regions from all over the world acting as their voice before the international organizations, promoting a global policy of balanced development and territorial cohesion. Its main objective is to seek the intermediate governments' recognition as major players in the global governance. It defends that the decentralization of the national states' power towards other actors accelerates development; consequently fostering democracy by the proximity between these new actors and the citizens. ORU Fogar promotes a model based on a strong regional government, with capabilities and legally recognized powers and budgets. The organization has regional governments and regional networks from all five continents as members.

For more information, please write to rmessias@nrg4sd.org.