



# HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

## ***SIDE EVENT***

### ***FINANCING THE SDGS AT LOCAL LEVEL***

#### ***CONCEPT NOTE***

**Sponsored by:** Government of Italy

**Co-organized by:** United Capital Development Fund, United Nations Development Programme, UN-Habitat, United Cities and Local Governments, Global Fund for the development of cities, Italian Association for the Council of European Municipalities and Regions.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The achievement of Agenda 2030 at local level will require significant efforts to improve the mechanisms for local finance and local development. Local and regional governments are the institutions who are closest to citizens, and they are key in delivering many of the SDGs at local level.

This side event wants to bring to the HLPF a reflection that several partners and UN agencies have started over the last years regarding the analysis of needs to finance the local implementation of the SDGs as well as the opportunities generated by new instruments such enhancing local revenue and local taxation, aligning local budgets to the SDGs, improving central to local transfers, promoting effectiveness in local finances and changing the financial ecosystem so local governments and their local stakeholders can fully engage in the implementation of Agenda 2030 at local level and for all.

The side event wants to bring innovative solutions that countries and cities are already applying to finance the SDGs at local level, inspiring others and contributing to bring trends and experiences to HLPF.

The side event brings the contribution of the work of the Malaga Coalition for municipal finances and the Venice City Solutions 2030 event that took place in Venice (Italy) in November 2018. The Venice City Solutions is an annual event who wants to explore different themes regarding the local implementation of Agenda 2030. During its first edition, the event focused on how to finance the SDGs at local level. More than 100 participants from 30 different countries gathered in Venice to exchange

opportunities and challenges. The full recommendations from the event are available for consultation at:

<https://unhabitat.org/books/final-report-venice-city-solutions-2030/>

The second edition of Venice City Solutions will take place on 24 and 25<sup>th</sup> October with the title “Creating citizenship – The SDGs as an opportunity for all”. More information about this year edition at <https://www.localizingthesdgs.org/event/view/363>

## **OBJECTIVES OF THE SIDE EVENT**

The side event will bring representatives from both central, local and regional governments to exchange how different countries are tackling the financial aspects of implementing the SDGs at local level. The side event will also address the following questions:

- How to use existing financial mechanisms to accelerate the implementation of SDGs at local level.
- What are the new or untapped financial mechanisms to support local and regional governments to achieve Agenda 2030?
- How to create awareness about the need for local and regional governments to have the necessary financial resources to implement Agenda 2030?
- What are the challenges of legislative instruments at national level?
- What are the existing practices and initiatives, both at local and national level, about how different countries are making the SDGs a reality at local level?
- How can local and national governments establish new mechanism for multi-level dialogue to finance the SDGs at local level?

## **PROPOSED METHODOLOGY AND AGENDA**

The agenda will structure the debate as follows.

15m	Representative of the Government of Italy
15m	Stefano Bonaccini, President of the Emilia Romagna Region (Italy), President of AICCRE, President of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions  Presentation of the Venice City Solutions Recommendations to finance the SDGs at local level
15m	Representative of a central government
15m	Representative of a local/regional government
15m	Representative of a local/regional government
15m	Comments and questions from the floor.

Previous to the event, speakers will receive the specific questions they need to address during their allocated time.

## **CONTACT**

Diana Lopez Caramazana

Head, Local government and decentralization Unit

UN-Habitat

diana.lopez (at) un.org