

# Local2030 Coalition: 2022 Annual Report

# SUMMARY

DECEMBER 2022



## Overview



The Local2030 Coalition is the UN System-wide platform and network for supporting and accelerating the localization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

We bring together the UN-System, local and regional governments and their associations, national governments, businesses, and community-based organizations to foster collaboration, incubate innovation, share solutions, and implement strategies to support local stakeholders in achieving the 2030 Agenda everywhere. We are guided by a Steering Committee composed of representatives from different sectors and constituencies, with UN-Habitat serving as our permanent co-chair and lead of the Secretariat, with a rotational co-chair currently served by UNDP for two-year period (2022 and 2023).

## Our priorities



The Local2030 Coalition Strategy for the Decade of Action, launched in December 2021, clusters the Local2030 Coalition's work into three main areas:

- Advocacy:** Increase awareness and enhance bottom-up and inclusive processes to engage local stakeholders on the 2030 Agenda to address interlocking crises and development challenges.
- Action:** Build and nurture a support platform to advance an effective multi-level governance system for SDG localization and increase and channel financing to multi-stakeholder initiatives.
- Monitoring:** Encourage monitoring and reporting by subnational and local actors and increase opportunities for them to exchange knowledge and perspectives and contribute to national frameworks.

## 2022 RESULTS

2022 was a pivotal year for the Local 2030 Coalition to establish itself as the UN System's platform for SDG localization. The Coalition focused on establishing and operationalizing its governance structure, mobilizing resources, and rallying support for local action.

The Coalition's main achievements in 2022 include the launch of the Steering Committee, its governance lead; the establishment of the UN Directors Group, the platform for engagement of agencies across the UN and which serves as the Coalition's management and substantive steer; the opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao, Spain; the development of the SDG Localization funding window in partnership with the Joint SDG Fund, to be launched in early 2023; the strengthening and reorientation of Local2030 Hubs; and strategic advocacy to ensure the successful lift-off of the Coalition, by organizing and participating in high-level events, such as the ECOSOC Partnership Forum, 11th World Urban Forum, UN High-Level Political Forum, 77UNGA, and COP27. Discussions are ongoing with the Governments of Italy and Egypt on opening Local2030 Hubs in their countries and further supporting the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat.





# ADVOCACY

## Establishment of the Steering Committee

The Local2030 Coalition is guided by a Steering Committee (SC), which makes key strategic decisions and ensures effective governance oversight. The SC has a maximum of seven members, comprising five designated focal points and two United Nations (UN) Co-chairs - a permanent Co-chair tasked with leading its Secretariat and a two-year rotational Co-chair. Based on consultations with the Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG) in 2021, United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) was appointed as the Local2030 Coalition's permanent Co-chair, while United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was invited to be the first rotational Co-chair for 2022-2023, to be followed by FAO in 2024-2025.

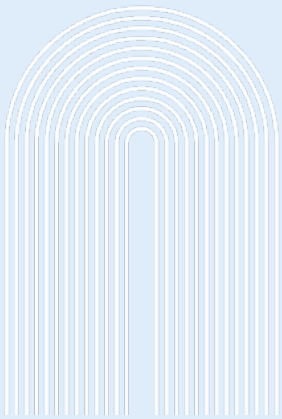
- **Terms of Reference:** In April 2022, the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the SC was finalized by the Local2030 Coalition Co-chairs, with the support of its Secretariat and EOSG and inputs from the Coalition's UN Directors Group. It specifies the SC's objectives, composition, membership, term of office, key tasks and responsibilities, and other crucial information to safeguard its functioning.
- **Launch of the Steering Committee:** The Local2030 Coalition's SC convened for the first time on 29 April 2022 online and in-person in New York. Ms. Amina J. Mohammed (Deputy Secretary-General of the UN and Chair of the UN Sustainable Development Group) delivered a keynote speech, followed by welcoming remarks from Local2030 Coalition Co-chairs, Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif (Executive Director of UN-Habitat) and Mr. Achim Steiner (Administrator of UNDP), and participation from a host of special guests. It also introduced the Coalition's priority actions and endorsed the SC's 2022 Work Plan.
- **First Meeting with Steering Committee Technical Focal Points:** The Local2030 Coalition Co-chairs (UN-Habitat and UNDP) held the first meeting with the technical focal points of the Local2030 Coalition's SC on October 21, which marked a new phase of the closer engagement and coordination between the SC and the Local2030 Coalition.

## Creation and institutionalization of the UN Directors Group

Established in 2021 as an advisory body for the Local2030 Coalition, the UN Directors Group (UNDG) meets regularly to provide strategic direction for the SC, along with inputs on the contribution of their institutions towards the Coalition's activities. It currently involves the participation of director-level members from 14 UN agencies, offices, funds, and programmes: UN-Habitat, UNDP, DCO, EOSG, ESCAP, FAO, ILO, UN-WOMEN, UNDESA, UNECE, UNEP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, and WHO.

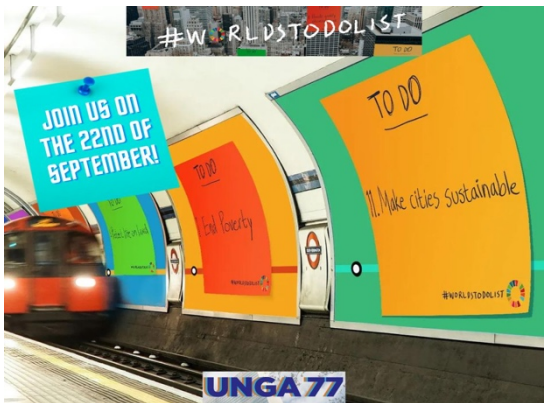
### UN Directors Group Meetings

**in 2022:** Convened by the Local2030 Coalition Co-chairs (UN-Habitat and UNDP), UNDP meetings were held on April 19 and October 18 and discussed the Coalition's strategic documents (ToRs of the Secretariat, SC, and Hubs), the Coalition's Work Plans, the potential contribution of UNDG members towards the Work Plan and the Coalition itself, the creation of the Thematic Working Groups (WG), and upcoming milestones, events, and updates. Moving forward, the Coalition will continue to engage with UNDG members on strategic outcomes.



# High-Level discussions on SDG Localization:

To enhance bottom-up and inclusive processes that boost the 2030 Agenda implementation at the local level through multilevel governance and multistakeholder partnerships, the Local2030 Coalition facilitated the participation of local governments and actors, as well as SC members and partners of the Coalition, in several events on SDG localization. In addition, the Coalition organized high-level events on SDG localization to facilitate exchanges of ideas and practices and create new partnerships while calling for more significant commitment, financing, and technical support to leverage local action to achieve the SDGs.



## 2022 ECOSOC Partnership Forum:

Featuring speakers from the Paraná Hub and Hawai'i Green Growth Local2030 Hubs, the Coalition organized a side event with UN-Habitat and UNDP at the [2022 ECOSOC Partnership Forum](#) on “[Enabling multi-stakeholder partnerships for sustainable development at the local level](#)” in February 2022. The panel discussed renewed multi-stakeholder arrangements and emerging local governance models based on collaboration and partnership.

## Special Session on SDG Localization at the World Urban Forum 11:

On 29 June 2022, the [Special Session on Localizing the SDGs](#) was held at 2022 World Urban Forum 11 (WUF11) in Katowice, Poland. It discussed multidimensional support from national governments towards SDG localization and funding and data challenges towards achieving the SDGs. With participation from the SC Members, Ms. Emilia Saiz, Secretary General of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), and Ms. Esther Muiruri, Founder of the Gold Ribbon Initiative, Kenya, the session introduced the Local2030 Coalition as the UN System’s platform to foster collaboration, incubate innovation, share solutions, and implement strategies that advance the SDGs through advocacy, action, and monitoring. It also presented the Coalition’s next steps for 2022, which included: i) Local2030 Coalition side-event at the 2022 HLPF; ii) Participation at the UNGA 77; iii) Operationalization of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat; iv) Implementation of work plan activities, including the launch of thematic working groups; and v) SDG Localization Window in partnership with the SDG Joint Fund and the UN Member States.

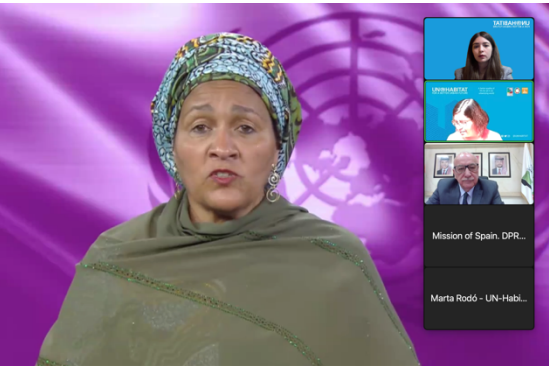
## Local2030 Coalition official side-event at the 2022 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF):

On 11 July, the Coalition held a side event, “[Local action: getting the SDGs back on track](#)”, to the 2022 HLPF in New York. Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, UN Deputy Secretary-General and Chair of the UN Development Group, delivered the keynote speech. The first panel, moderated by Dr. Shipra Narang Suri of UN-Habitat, discussed multi-level and multi-stakeholder cooperation from UN agencies, national governments, local and regional governments, and academia. The second panel, moderated by Mr. Gonzalo Pizarro of UNDP, highlighted the views and experiences of Local2030 members on how local action can accelerate the achievement of the SDGs under review in the 2022 HLPF. After remarks from Dr. Nenad Rava of the Joint SDG Fund, H.E. Ambassador María Bassols, Chargée d’Affaires a.i., Mission of Spain to the UN, presented the proposal of the government of Spain, the Basque Country and Bilbao’s ‘whole-of-government’ proposal to host the Local2030 Coalition’s Secretariat in Bilbao.



## Fifth Local and Regional Government Forum on the 2030 Agenda:

Held on 7 and 12 July as a Special High-Level Event of the 2022 HLPF, the [Forum](#) discussed how Local and Regional Governments (LRGs) could foster the achievement of the SDGs towards the 2023 SDG Summit. The Local2030 Coalition’s Secretariat was part of the Task Force that organized the event, which featured the participation of the Hawaii Green Growth Local2030 Hub on the second day.



## 77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 77):

The Local2030 Coalition partnered with Project Everyone to boost its “World’s To-Do List” campaign for cities at UNGA 77 by mobilizing cities from Brazil (Barcarena, Curitiba, Londrina, Maringá) to adhere to the campaign and amplifying its outreach through the Local2030 website and social media channels. The Coalition and Project Everyone agreed to continue advocating for unlocking finance and technical assistance to support cities in achieving the SDGs during key milestones and events in 2023.

## Opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao:

The Local2030 Coalition Secretariat was opened on 31 October 2022 (World Cities Day) in Bilbao, Spain, by the United Nations, the Government of Spain, the Basque Government, the City Council of Bilbao, and the BBK Foundation. The 2022 World Cities Day theme, “Act Local to Go Global”, inspired the panel debate, which focused on accelerating the implementation of the SDGs in cities, towns, and local communities. The event was also a milestone of the “World’s To-Do List” global campaign that calls for greater support to cities to achieve the SDGs. Through this campaign, the City of Bilbao joined other cities worldwide in underlining their commitment to the SDGs.



## COP27:

The Local2030 Coalition organized an official COP27 side event, “[SDG localization as a driver of urgent climate action](#),” on November 14 at the Egyptian Pavilion in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt. The side event promoted a multi-level and multi-stakeholder discussion on the importance of SDG localization to overcome climate-related challenges and achieve the SDGs.



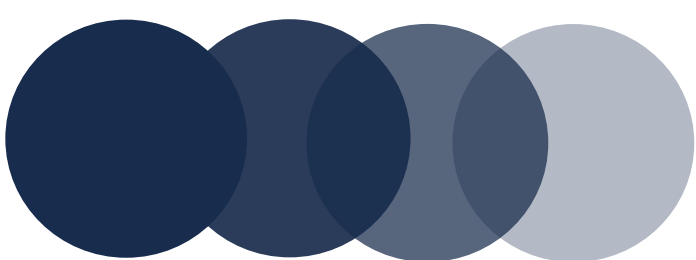
# Reinvigorating the Local2030 Coalition Hubs

The Local2030 Hubs hold a wealth of experience related to local governance and local development:

1. Liverpool 2030hub: In addition to a co-working space, the hub offers support to businesses and non-profit initiatives with a focus on the SDGs and related impact investing.
2. Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG): With the Global Island Partnership, HGG develops local solutions to global sustainability challenges, building on island cultural values and indigenous knowledge while catalyzing ridge-to-reef projects across the energy, water, food, and urban nexus.
3. Paraná Hub: Hosted by the Paraná State Government, the Hub focuses on supporting all municipalities within the state in localizing the SDGs.
4. Shizuoka Hub: Hosted by the local government, the Hub's main priorities are raising awareness of the SDGs and engaging with other cities, promoting the SDGs among citizens, businesses, and schools, and incorporating the SDGs into the city's five general policies and local indicators.
5. Local2030 Sweden Hub: While aiming to gather Swedish experiences of local SDG implementation, the hub improves inter-regional and North-South collaboration and highlights local challenges and solutions in adapting the SDGs to local governance and urban settings.
6. Malmö Local Ocean Action Hub: The Hub focuses on coastal cities, oceans, ocean literacy, and the effect of land-based activity on marine and coastal environments.
7. Red de Ciudades Cómo Vamos Hub: A network of 35 Colombian municipalities to support SDG monitoring and sharing best practices on monitoring.
8. Sahel Hub: Hosted by SOS SAHEL, the Hub focuses on local-level promotion of climate resilience, evergreen agriculture, and sustainable livelihoods for agricultural out grower communities.

In 2022, close communication was re-established between Hubs and the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat. A draft of the ToR for the Local2030 Hubs was prepared to define better how Hubs could contribute to and benefit from the Coalition. On 21 September 2022, an online consultation was held with six representatives from the Hubs to collect feedback on the ToR and the Coalition's Work Plan.

The Coalition has also facilitated the participation of the Local2030 Hubs in several high-level discussions, such as the 2022 ECOSOC Partnership Forum, Local2030 Side events at 2022 HLPF and COP27, and the Opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao.



# Compilation and sharing of good practices on SDG localization

The Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) was commissioned to develop a global baseline study based on relevant literature, research, and a selection of case studies from around the world linked to the localization of the SDGs. This exercise was completed in October 2021 and pinpointed significant gaps in SDG localization efforts, highlighting the need for a holistic approach and additional support to local authorities and actors. In 2022, following the guidance of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat, SEI started a validation process with all stakeholders interviewed in the case studies to ensure that the SDG Localization Baseline rightly documents their experiences. The final version of the SDG Localization Baseline will be made available for a wider audience in 2023.

# Local2030 Coalition online platform, communication, and social media channels:

**Online Platform:** The Local2030 online platform is a leading knowledge and information-sharing repository on the localization of the SDGs, disseminating best practices, relevant events, and stories. In 2022, it published many new events, publications, and stories, including submissions from partners in English, Spanish, and French.

**Twitter:** Throughout 2022, tweets were published (on <https://twitter.com/Local2030>) to highlight significant information from the Local2030 Coalition and its partners and cover key events.

**Communication:** Flyers, briefings, and other materials were developed to promote the Local2030 Coalition and its events. Likewise, press releases were produced to inform the public about key milestones, such as the Opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat in Bilbao, Spain.

# ACTION

## Support the use of integrated, tailor-made, and well-tested methods in SDG implementation at the local level

The Local2030 Coalition has produced an integrated mapping of UN tools and strategies on SDG localization, drawing on existing tools and inputs from UN agencies, which addresses information on working groups and technical meetings on topics related to SDG localization, such as partnerships, governance, air pollution, noncommunicable diseases, and injuries, etc. It includes 112 tools, 64 platforms, and 60 guides across 3 categories: advocacy, action, and monitoring.

## Facilitate cooperation between UN agencies and UN mechanisms to advance SDG localization

The Coalition is promoting integrated actions across the UN System, and breaking silos, to respond more effectively to the needs and priorities of local actors. In 2022, the Coalition institutionalized the UN Directors Group, as reported earlier, to mobilize resources across the UN system.

## Facilitate cooperation between UN agencies and UN mechanisms to advance SDG localization

Working Groups (WG) will develop normative tools and resources on SDG localization. The undg meeting in October 2022 discussed the purpose, functioning, and themes of proposed WGs. In 2023, WG’s ToRs will be developed, and the themes will be approved at the SC’s annual meeting. The SDG Summit, the Summit of the Future, and Our Common Agenda and existing frameworks will guide the WG’s proposed thematic areas.



# MONITORING



In 2022, the Local2030 Coalition advocated for the inclusion of local and subnational governments in the preparation of Voluntary National Reports (VNRs) and existing national reporting processes at various high-level events. In 2023, the goal is to further strengthen this work by bringing the UN System together to monitor and report SDG localization. This will reinforce the link between Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) and VNRs on SDG implementation.

# GOVERNANCE



### Local2030 Coalition Secretariat

The Local2030 Coalition Secretariat is institutionally anchored within UN-Habitat, the Coalition's permanent Co-chair, with strategic guidance from the SC and EOSG. The Secretariat has dedicated staff to coordinate defining, implementing, monitoring, and reporting the Local2030 Coalition's activities. Through meetings and consultations, the Secretariat coordinated with the SC, the UNDG, and partner institutions in 2022 to carry out the Coalition's Work Plan activities while producing several documents to support the Coalition's meetings. Through a whole-of-government proposal from the Government of Spain, Basque Country, and the city of Bilbao, the Secretariat will be hosted by the city of Bilbao for three years, starting in the first quarter of 2023.

### The 2022 Work Plan

The Local2030 Coalition's Co-chairs (UN-Habitat and UNDP) and its Secretariat, with the support of the EOSG, drafted the Coalition's 2022 Work Plan based on its three priorities of Advocacy, Action, and Monitoring. After consultations with the UNDG, the 2022 Work Plan was presented to the SC, which unanimously endorsed it in April 2022. The Work Plan includes establishing the Coalition's governance structure, raising awareness among UN agencies and partners about the Coalition's work, mobilizing resources, highlighting SDG localization in high-level debates, conveying the voices and experiences of local governments and actors, and making SDG localization tools and resources available through its online platform.

### Resource Mobilization

In 2022, the Local2030 Coalition engaged with potential donors championing the cause of SDG localization to support the Coalition, its Secretariat, and its activities.

- **Spanish whole-of-Government Proposal**

During the Local2030 Coalition side-event to the 2022 HLPF in July, the government of Spain, the Basque Country, Bilbao, and the BBK Foundation, officially presented a whole-of-government proposal to host the Local2030 Coalition's Secretariat in Bilbao and to promote SDG Localization activities globally, through the support of a "localization window" which is being set up by the UN Joint SDG Fund. The UNDG welcomed the proposal, which SC members unanimously endorsed. As a result, in 2022, we saw the official opening of the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat office in Bilbao take place on 31 October 2022.

- **Government of Italy**

The Government of Italy is interested in launching a global "Knowledge Hub". Discussions are ongoing, and an agreement is expected to be signed in 2023.

- **Government of Egypt**

The Government of Egypt is exploring with the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat the possibility of funding a Regional Hub in Cairo for advancing SDG localization in the region.

To learn more about the Local2030 Coalition and be part of our platform and network, please visit our website:



[local2030.org/](https://www.local2030.org/)



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