

Venice City Solutions 2018
Financing the SDGs at local level
16 – 17th November 2018



Co-organized by:



UNACLA
UNITED NATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



Empowered Lives
Resilient Nations

BACKGROUND

The approval of Agenda 2030 in September 2015 constitutes a unique opportunity for the world we live in. For the first time, all the member states of the United Nations committed to eradicating poverty, making the first universal plan of action for people, planet and prosperity.

Within the Agenda 2030, cities take a very special place as instruments for growth, equality and opportunity, as for the first time, an objective dedicated exclusively to cities was included in the Agenda. SDG 11 wants to “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”.

Cities cannot be an opportunity for all in the absence of able, capable and accountable local governments. Local and regional governments all over the world are already committed to implement the SDGs at local level and their global networks have been very present in the design and first stages of implementation of the Agenda 2030.

This first edition of the Venice City Solutions wants to explore how to make SDGs a reality for all from the local level. The event wants to bring a multi-level contribution on existing solutions and challenges to finance the SDGs at local level.

OCDE recently published that 65% of the SDG targets are already in the hands of local and regional governments. Financing the localization of the SDGs will ensure to achieve already 65% of the Agenda 2030. According to UN agencies such the United Nations Capital Development Fund, investing at local level also produces one of the highest returns in investment and it touches the lives of people right away.

In the words of the President of the United Nations General Assembly, Ambassador Miroslav Lajčák:



OBJECTIVES

The dialogue aims at bringing together representatives of central governments, local and regional government associations, Mayors, Governors and other governmental representatives and selected partners to identify existing experiences, gathering data and providing solutions to the challenge of how to finance the implementation of the SDGs at local level.

The outcome document will inform the seventh UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development that will take place in year 2019 addressing the theme, 'Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality'. Next year, the HLPF will conduct an in-depth review of SDG 4 (quality education), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), SDG 13 (climate action) and SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions), in addition to SDG 17 (partnerships for the Goals) which is reviewed each year.

The Venice City Solutions event will contribute to the assessment of both SDG 16 and SDG 17th, as well as will be submitted for consideration to the Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR), which is issued every four years.

Specific outputs of the Dialogue will include:

- **Accelerating** the implementation of SDGs at local level.
- Identifying **mechanism of financial support for local** and regional governments to achieve Agenda 2030.
- To **create awareness** about the need for local and regional governments to have the necessary financial resources to implement Agenda 2030.
- Assessment of **national legislation conducive** to the financing of the SDGs at local level.
- Identification of **existing practices** and initiatives, both at local and national level, about how different countries are making the SDGs a reality at local level, and for all.
- Elaboration about a very early set of **data collection** about municipal budgets dedicated to align to the SDGs.
- To share the **national strategies** that the different member states are putting into place to finance the SDGs at local level.
- Establishment of **dialogue mechanisms** between central and local governments to achieve the SDGs at local level.
- **Map untapped financial instruments** or practices to finance SDG at local level

ORGANISERS

The event is hosted by the [Italian Association for the Council of European Municipalities \(AICCRE\)](#) and financially supported by [Platforma](#) and [UNACLA](#), with the technical contribution of [FMDV](#). The event is co-organised by [UNDP](#), [UN-Habitat](#), [UNCDF](#) and [United Cities and Local Governments](#).

The City Solutions Series wants to identify trends and innovation in local public management by linking the examples from specific territory with its contribution to achieve the global agendas, including the SDGs, the Paris Agreement, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the New Urban Agenda. The proposal is this will be the first edition of the Venice City Solutions,

with possible editions in the subsequent years, concentrating in each occasion in one theme of relevance for the local implementation of the SDGs.

A technical visit to the City of Venice is also included in the programme on Saturday 17th November for participants wishing to stay. The visit will include aspects of how the unique city of Venice is facing urban sustainability and inclusion for its inhabitants within a highly challenging environment.

DRAFT AGENDA

Friday, 16th November 2018

09.00 – 10.00	<p>Opening welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Representative of the Italian Government - Representative of the United Nations - Representative of United Cities and Local Governments - Representative of the City of Venice - Mr. Stefano Bonaccini, President of the Emilia-Romagna Region, Italy, President of the Italian Association of the Council of Municipalities and Regions and President of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions
10.00 – 11.30	<p>Thematic trail BLUE: National strategies for financing the achievement of the SDGs at local level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National government representative, 10m - Local government representative, 10m - Financial institution representative, 10m - Ideas from the room, 5m max <p>Moderated by: UN-Habitat</p>
11.30 – 12.00	Coffee break
12.00 -13.30	<p>Thematic trail GREEN: Data available to track alignment of budgets to Localize Agenda 2030</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National government representative, 10m - Local government representative, 10m - Financial institution representative, 10m - Ideas from the room, 5m max <p>Moderated by: United Nations Capital Development Fund</p>
13.30 – 14.30	Lunch
14.30 – 16.00	<p>Thematic trail YELLOW: City Solutions, how local governments are making the Agenda 2030 a reality at local level</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National government representative, 10m - Local government representative, 10m - Financial institution representative, 10m

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ideas from the room, 5m max <p>Moderated by: United Nations Development Programme</p>
16.00 – 17.30	<p>Thematic trail RED: Dynamic local economies to achieve the 2030 Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National government representative, 10m - Local government representative, 10m - Financial institution representative, 10m - Ideas from the room, 5m max
17.30 – 18.30	<p>Recommendations to the High Level Political Forum 2019</p> <p>Group discussions about the main points to be included in the final report of the activity, including identified solutions, pending challenges and key ideas to be put forward to the HLPF in year 2019 and the Global Sustainable Development Report 2019.</p> <p>Moderated by UCLG</p>
18.30 – 20.30	Cocktail

Saturday 17th November 2018

Technical visit to the City of Venice to see how this particular territory copes with the different challenges posed by the Global Agendas.

The event takes also place within the last days of the Venice Biennale exhibition, this year concentrated in Architecture and Urban Planning. Participants are encouraged to visit this exceptional event. More information available at

<http://www.labiennale.org/en/architecture/2018>

LOGISTICS

The event will be hosted by the Italian Association for the Council of European Municipalities (AICCRE) in a venue to be confirmed within the island of Venice.

The activity has no cost for participants. The participation to this event is by invitation only and will have to be approved by the Secretariat of the event.

Our Italian hosts will also offer a preference fare in selected hotels, as well as recommended itineraries and local support to the event. Assistance to obtain visas can be provided through official letter of invitation by the Italian hosts.

The closest airports to the city of Venice are VCE (Marco Polo) as well as Treviso (TSF) where most low-cost airlines operate. The cities of Bologna, Milan and Rome are also very well connected to Venice by train.

Translation will be available in English, French, Spanish and Italian.

For more information, please contact [diana.lopez \(at\) un.org](mailto:diana.lopez@un.org)

For members of the CEMR, please contact Ms. Luana Lupi lupi (at) aiccre.it