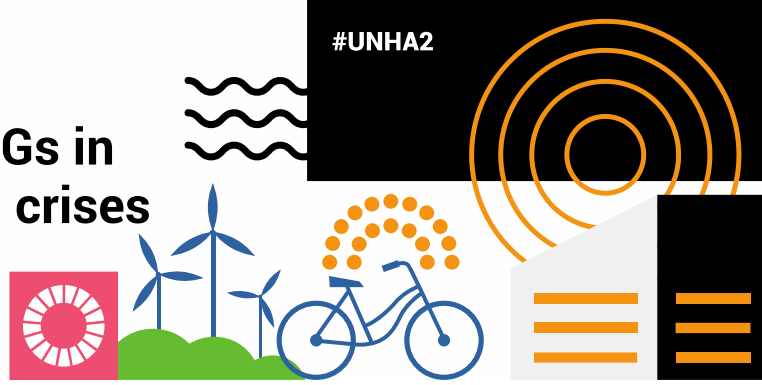



Achieving SDGs in times of global crises



Side Event 21

Transformation from the bottom-up: how African countries are advancing SDG localization and the Finland-Tanzania model of cooperation

 Tuesday 6 JUNE 2023, 13:15-14:15

 Conference Room 11

SUMMARY

How can the SDGs be localized? How can local and national governments work better together to achieve the SDGs? Which are the key steps to kickstart the localization process? How to plan for long-term transformative changes?

This event aims to animate a dynamic dialogue on SDG localization based on the experiences of African countries: Kenya, Tanzania, The Gambia and Uganda.

In addition, special attention will be given to the work of Finland and its cities – global champions on SDG localization – and to the cooperation between Finland and Tanzania, centered on Voluntary Local Reviews.

Cities are dealing with shared challenges related to climate change, rapid urbanization, and the raising of economic and social inequalities which, taken together, are threatening to set back years of progress on the implementation of the SDGs.

The first eight years of implementation and the global response to world crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic, taught us some key lessons for the way ahead: the successful implementation of the SDGs will depend on our capacities to put in place integrated and inclusive approaches centered on local action, multilevel governance and multistakeholder collaboration.

The Voluntary Local Reviews (VLR) movement has provided an unprecedented push to the localization efforts, providing opportunities to strengthen national data environments, participatory and planning processes at the local level, and by placing localization at the center of the national and global debates.

Kenya, Tanzania, The Gambia and Uganda are all committed to advance the localization of the SDGs, each country with its own priorities and working arrangements. In addition, Finland and Tanzania have recently joined forces to support cities in SDG planning and monitoring on the basis of a city-to-city cooperation between Tampere and Mwanza, centered on the VLR tool.

How are African countries working to advance SDG localization? What do all these processes have in common? Which opportunities can the SDG localization process bring? How can cooperation schemes with international partners such as Finland support?





UN-HABITAT

ASSEMBLY

5 to 9 June 2023

Achieving SDGs in times of global crises



Organizers

The Ministry of the Environment of Finland

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)



UN-HABITAT



Ministry of the
Environment Finland

Agenda

Moderator Mr. Martino Miraglia , Human Settlements Officer, UN-Habitat	
Opening (15 mins)	<p>Mr. Juhani Damski, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of the Environment, Finland (7mins)</p> <p>Ms. Threza Mtenga, Assistant Commissioner, Ministry of Finance and Planning of Tanzania, Tanzania (7mins)</p>
Panel Discussion 45 mins	<p>First Round (5mins each)</p> <p>Mr. Sima Constantine Sima, Mayor of Mwanza City Council, Tanzania</p> <p>Ms. Susan Kihika, Governor, Nakuru County Government, Kenya</p> <p>Mr. Kari Kankaala, Director for Environment and Sustainable Development, City of Tampere, Finland</p> <p>Ms. Rohey Malick Rowe, Mayor of Banjul, The Gambia</p> <p>Oyebanji Oyelaran-Oyeyinka, Senior Special Adviser to the President on Industrialisation, Africa Development Bank</p> <p>Q&A: 10 minutes</p> <p>Second Round: one question for everyone to close</p>

Guiding questions

- What are the key steps to kickstart the localization process in your city/territory? How does the development of Voluntary Local Reviews (VLR) help you through the process?
- What are some of the challenges you encountered in the development of meaningful partnerships for the SDGs? How can these challenges be addressed?
- How do local and national governments collaborate to work towards achieving the SDGs?
- What do you think the role of African cities is in advancing SDG implementation in Africa? How can financial institutions support cities in localizing the SDGs?



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<https://unhabitat.org/governance/un-habitat-assembly/second-session-2023>

