Learning Module 3: Reporting to national & local reviews

UNDP

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GOVERNMENTS

UCLG
United Cities
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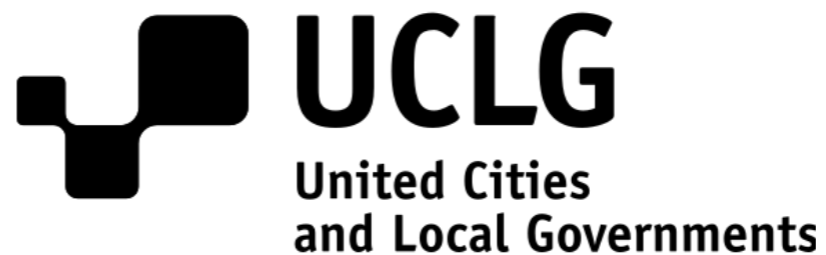
Structure of the Module

Chapter 1: Introduction to LRGAs role in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda

Chapter 2: The SDGs reporting and localization process

Chapter 3: LRGs in the reporting process

Chapter 4: Collecting local results and views, and drafting the LRGAs own review

Chapter 5: Voluntary Local Reviews

Chapter 6: Sharing the results

Objective of the Module

The Module aims to enhance the involvement of LRGAs in the preparation of national Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs).

It provides specific guidance to help LRGAs prepare their own reports highlighting the involvement of LRGs in the pursuit of the SDGs and the localization of global agendas.

It also provides guidance to support local governments that wish to engage in the reporting exercise.

LRGAs role in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda

- ## **Raising Awareness**

Help LRGs and citizens understand their role in:
1) the implementation of the SDGs in their territories; and 2) the definition and evaluation of national and territorial strategies.

- ## **Advocacy**

Facilitate the participation of LRGs in the development of national SDG strategies to ensure that they reflect and respond to local circumstances, needs and priorities, following a bottom-up approach.

- **Supporting implementation**

Promote the exchange of best practices among members, identifying policy challenges. Foster decentralized cooperation and forge links with key sectoral ministries.

- **Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting**

Promote and support the participation of LRGs and other stakeholders in the monitoring and evaluation process at the national level, to ensure local achievements are incorporated in national reports.

The SDGs reporting and localization process

HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEWS

UN Members meet every year at the UN HLPF to assess and monitor the achievement of the SDGs.

Member states are encouraged to conduct and present regular and inclusive reviews (VNRs) of progress at the national **and sub-national levels.**

Why is reporting key for the SDGs?

It serves as a way to be more **transparent** and **accountable**, both inwards and outwards. It can help **strengthen coordination** between agencies and between national and subnational tiers of government, ensuring **cohesive policy** and **effective implementation** of the SDGs.

How does reporting contribute to the SDGs and Public Policy?

It provides key information, feedback and learning mechanisms at every stage of implementation. It provides scope for inclusiveness and ensuring the broadest possible range of participation.
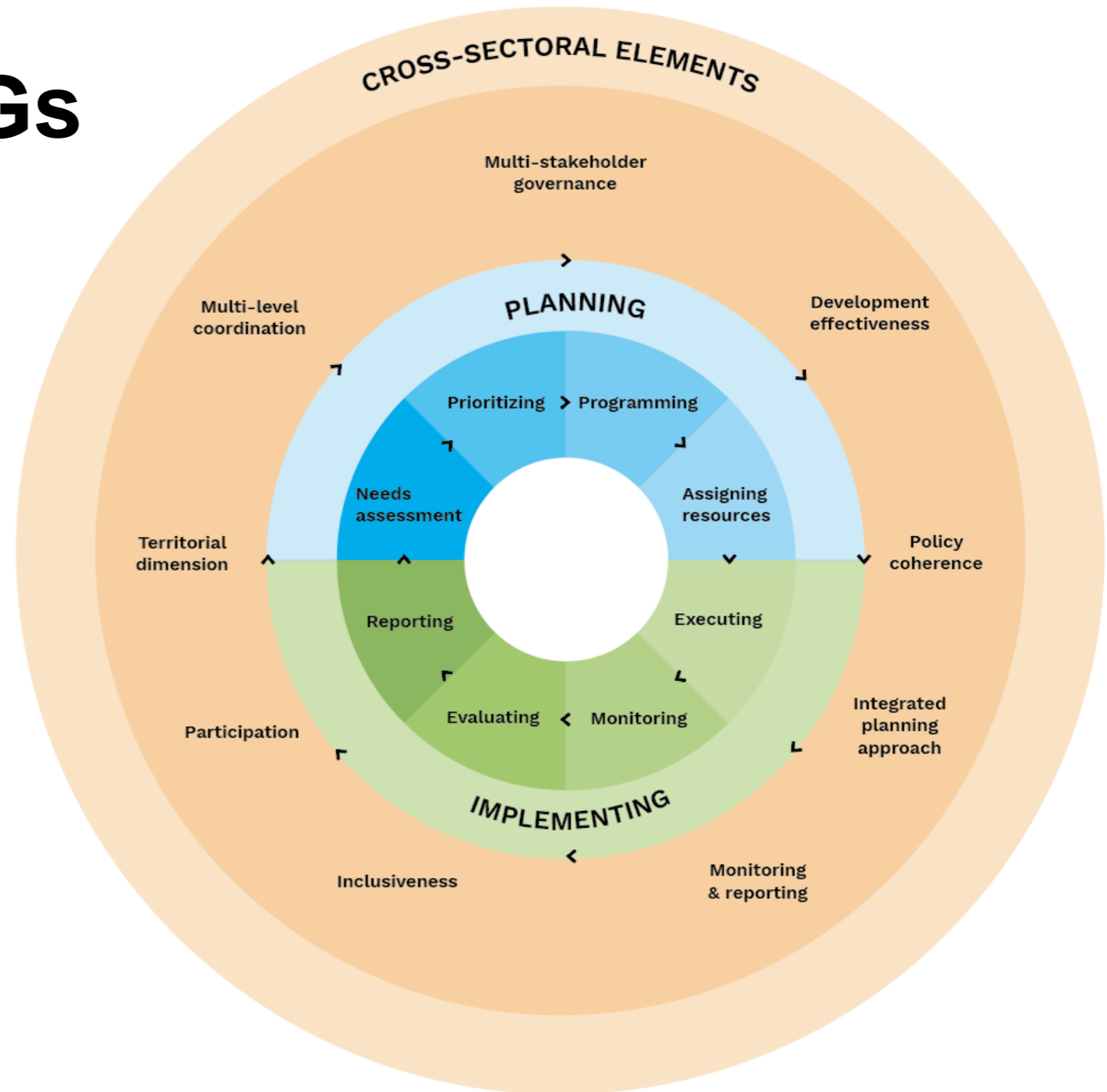
# How does the reporting process work?

- Every year around 40 countries present Voluntary National Reviews to the HLPF

  Governments are expected to report on actions and measures taken, progress and accomplishments, gaps found and lessons learned, both at the national and sub-national level.

- In addition to VNRs, HLPF focuses on a specific set of SDGs each year. In 2019, these were:

How is the consultation process organized?
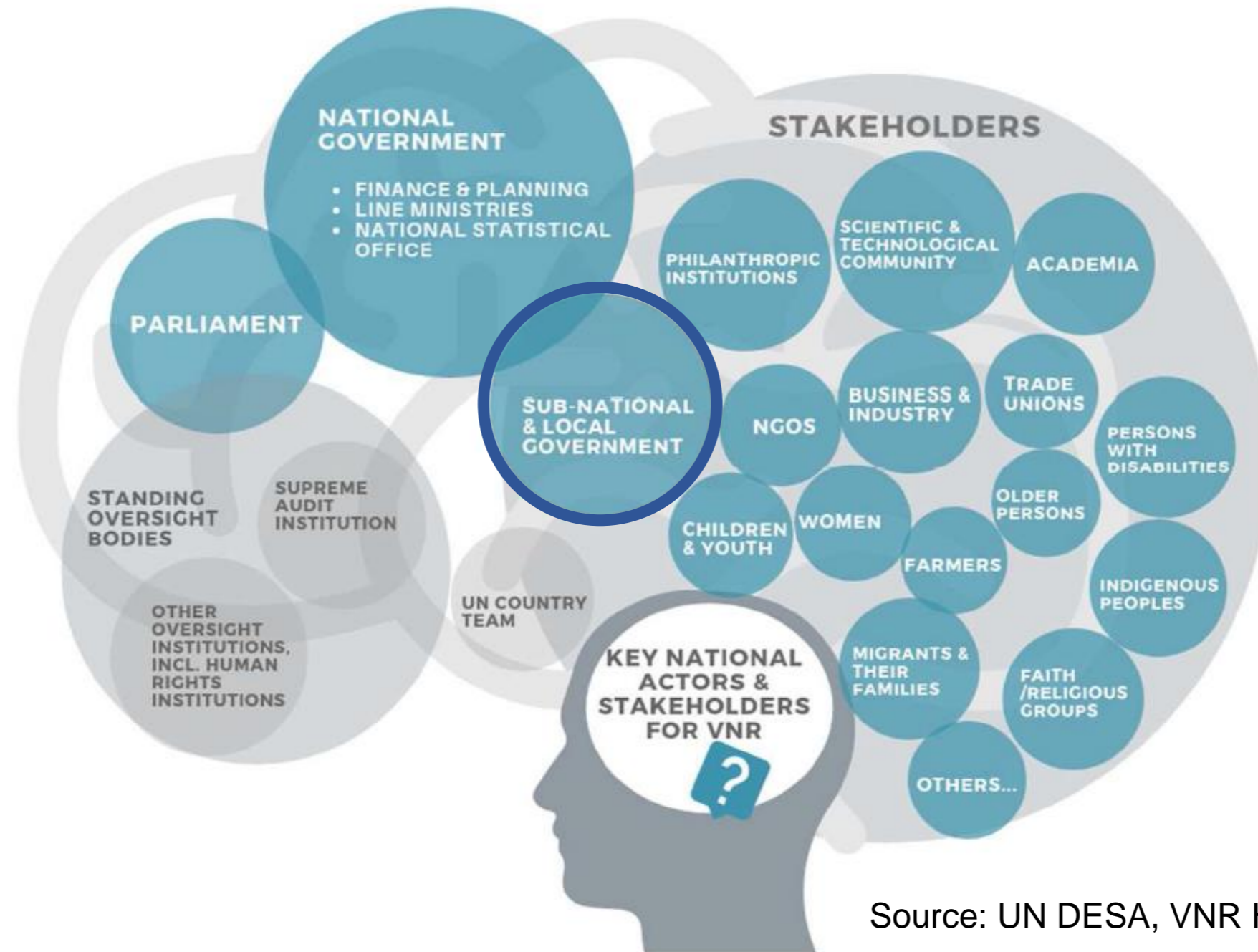
Source: UN DESA, VNR Handbook, 2018

Your Roadmap to Reporting Exercise 1

Your role in the reporting process

Is your country participating in the VNR?

YES ‹ — › **NO**

YES

How are you involved in the consultation process of the VNR?

›

Will your LRGA prepare its own report?

›

What will be your main role/s in the process (collecting data, advocacy, engaging stakeholders, drafting the report etc.)?

›

NO

How can you get independently involved?

›

Will your LRGA prepare its own report?

›

What could your role be in the reporting process (collecting data, advocacy, engaging stakeholders, drafting the report)?

›

LRGs in the reporting process

Involvement of LRGs so far

Involvement of LRGs in VNR process (2016-2019)

- Participation
- Weak participation
- No participation
- No LRGs in reporting countries
- Committed to report in 2019, no information yet available
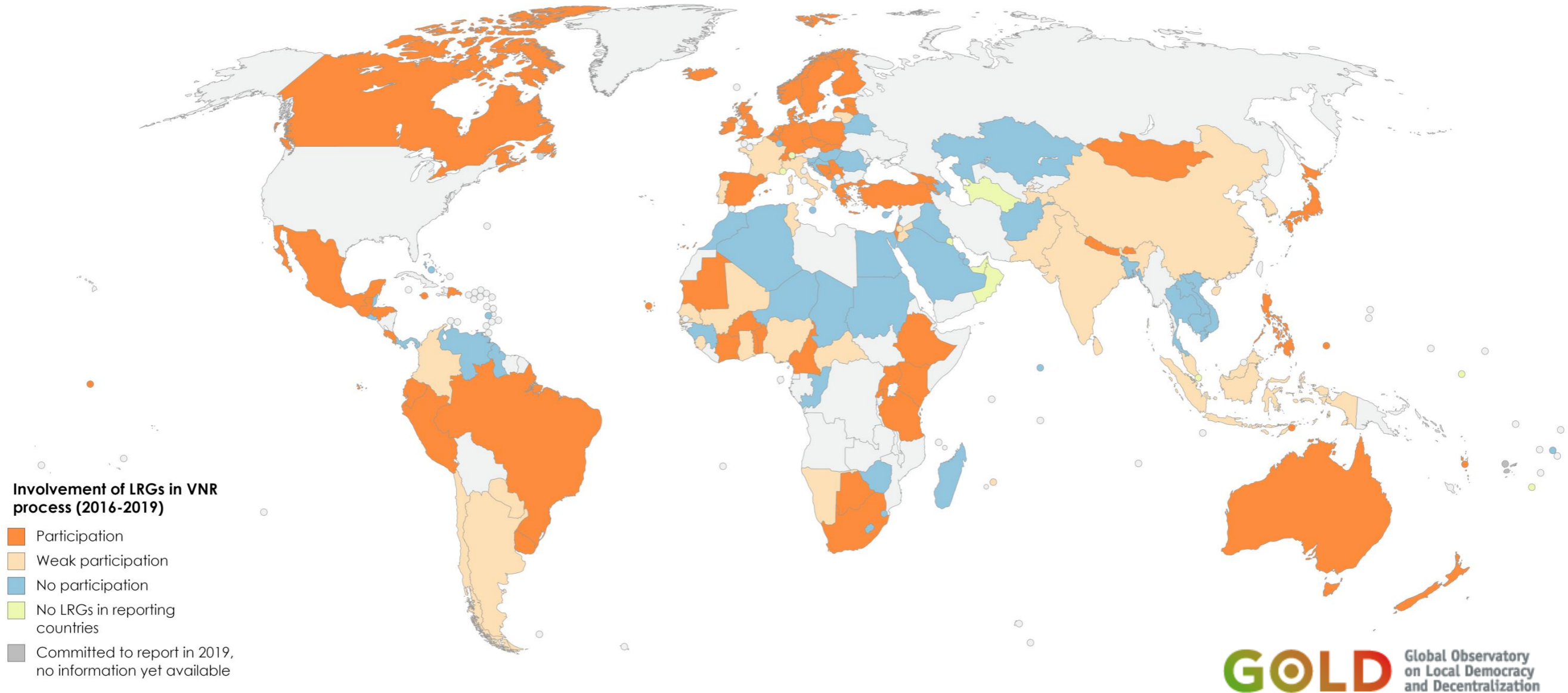
Source: UCLG, LRGs Report to the HLPF 2019

Lessons to highlight:

- Greater efforts are needed to involve LRGs in the VNRs and institutional mechanisms for coordination and follow-up.
- New institutional frameworks for collaborative governance, and better spaces for dialogue between different levels of government should be developed.
- LRGAs can channel, advocate, facilitate and promote the participation of LRGs.

# Key points when working with authorities in charge of the VNR

- Reaching out to national focal points at the highest political level.
- Maintaining permanent contact with national focal points at the technical level.
- Clarifying modalities and procedures of participation for LRGs in the VNRs.
- Co-organizing a conference or event presenting the national consultation strategy.
- Fostering the localization of the SDGs and its mechanisms, fostering a bottom-up approach.

Building alliances with local, national and international stakeholders

- **CSOs** and the **private sector** are often contributing and can share strategies towards the SDGs with local governments.

- **Academia**, experts and research centres can support the reporting process by providing geographically disaggregated data and information.

- Many **international organizations and networks** have considerable experience working with LRGs and are strongly committed to the localization of SDGs.
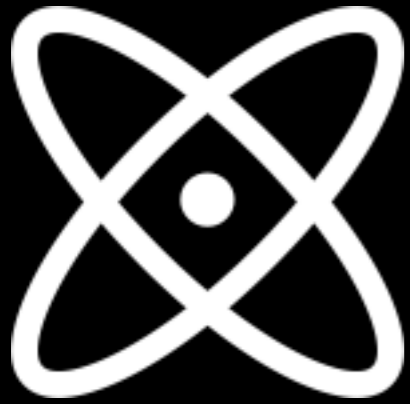
**Your Roadmap
to Reporting
Exercise 2**

Involving Stakeholders

Include on your mindmap:

1. A list of all the stakeholders (including specific institutions and providing names).

2. Choose five main stakeholders.

3. The Pros & Cons of each of the five stakeholders.

4. Ideas about how to engage them (specific actions).

Collecting local results and drafting LRGAs own review

In order to contribute to the VNRs with the local and regional perspective and to ensure that this perspective responds entirely to reality, LRGAs must collect data and information (including best practices and new policies) about good practices of LRGs and their contributions to achieving the SDGs.

What data and information are needed?

- Top SDGs that have been introduced
- Local targets and top priorities
- Local indicators and monitoring strategies
- Types of interventions (raising awareness, alignment, projects etc.)
- Best practices
- Financing and budget allocation
- Gaps and needs

Structure of an LRGA's country report

- 3-4 pages long
- Highlights the importance of local governemnts for the implementation and achievement of SDGs in the country
- Reviews policy environment and institutional mechanisms of governance
- Notes key challenges and needs (in terms of capacity building, financial support, policy, partnerships or technology)
- Highlights good practices

**Your Roadmap
to Reporting
Exercise 3**

What data should be collected?

Include on your mindmap:

1. What information should you collect in your territory? (concrete good practices, achievements etc.)

2. What data sources are available to you?

3. How will you collect the data? Which mechanisms will you use?

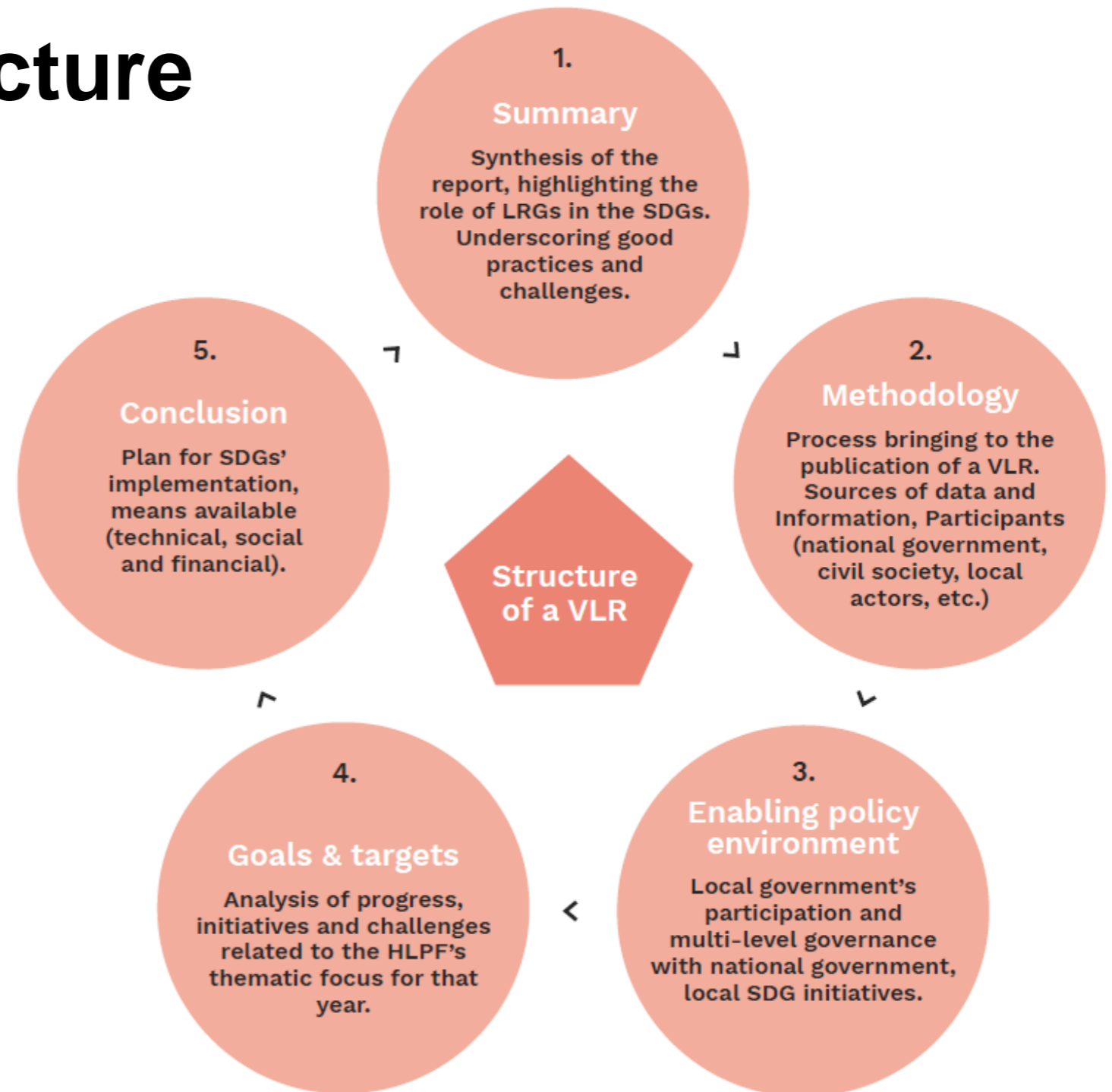# Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs)

What is a Voluntary Local Review (VLR)?

Many cities have taken the first steps towards mapping their activities to achieve the SDGs and using the goals as a comprehensive framework through which to assess their progress.

While not having official status at the UN, Voluntary Local Reviews (VLR) underlines the value of the SDGs as a global framework driving local action.

Contents & Structure

Territories should establish priorities and select SDGs based on their own specific political mandates and local needs, concentrating on those that they consider to be of greatest local priority.

Structure of a VLR

1. Summary
Synthesis of the report, highlighting the role of LRGs in the SDGs. Underscoring good practices and challenges.

2. Methodology
Process bringing to the publication of a VLR. Sources of data and Information, Participants (national government, civil society, local actors, etc.)

3. Enabling policy environment
Local government's participation and multi-level governance with national government, local SDG initiatives.

4. Goals & targets
Analysis of progress, initiatives and challenges related to the HLPF's thematic focus for that year.

5. Conclusion
Plan for SDGs' implementation, means available (technical, social and financial).

The Value of VLR

Within local government	Within civil society	Within national government	Within the global community

Align to Common framework, highlight the importance of data, update the divisions of labour, and break silos.
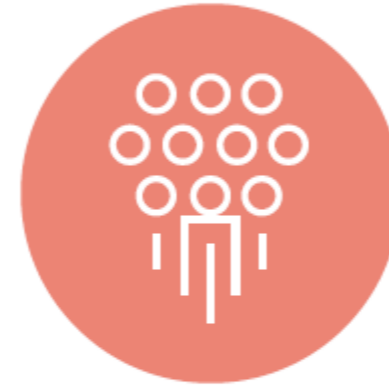
Listen to community and promote transparency and accountability, encourage new partnership and leadership.

Affirm the principle of subsidiarity and the role of local governments in achieving national commitments (VNRs).

Engage with the global community, make your effort visible, elevate city priorities to the global conversation.

How to organize it?

- Appoint an SDG coordinator or facilitator from municipal staff:
    Advantages: Funding and inter-departmental information sharing.
    Disadvantages: Risk of blocking momentum, decrease in proactiveness.
- Create a Commission or Working Group:
    Advantages: Fosters integration and empowers new leadership.
    Disadvantages: Difficulty in funding and discontinuity in reporting.

Ensure political support / Ensure citizen involvement / Consult the LRGA and VNR mechanism / Learn from peers

Your Roadmap
to Reporting
Exercise 4

Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs)

1. How can producing VLRs help local government organizations to become more efficient, more transparent and better connected to their own citizens? What would you need to present a VLR for your territory?

2. Who would be responsible for it in your LRGA?

3. Are there any sections of the template for preparing VLRs that would be particularly challenging for your territory? Why?

Sharing
the results

How to ensure impact?

- Ensure the country report is included in the country's VNR by the national authorities.
- Share the report with regional and international local government networks (such as UCLG) which can reinforce the message.
- Submit your report to the Localizing the SDGs website

Annual Local and Regional Governments' Report to the HLPF

**Your Roadmap
to Reporting
Exercise 5**

Sharing the results

Include on your mindmap:

1. Where and how will you submit your experience?

2. How will you ensure that your inputs will be taken into account in the VNR?

Module wrap-up

Additional Exercise: Storytelling for SDG Reporting

Make a 3-minute oral presentation about a city's successful changes in the last few years using the SDGs as a framework (refer to at least 2 SDGs).

Additional Exercise: Storytelling for SDG Reporting

Discuss:
- How can the SDG's framework be used to create a narrative about the city?
- How can you use it to talk about projects and events that take place in your territory?

Thank You!

It has been a pleasure to learn through your experiences!

Annex

Examples of VNRs/VLRs and other monitoring initiatives for use according to target audience/participants
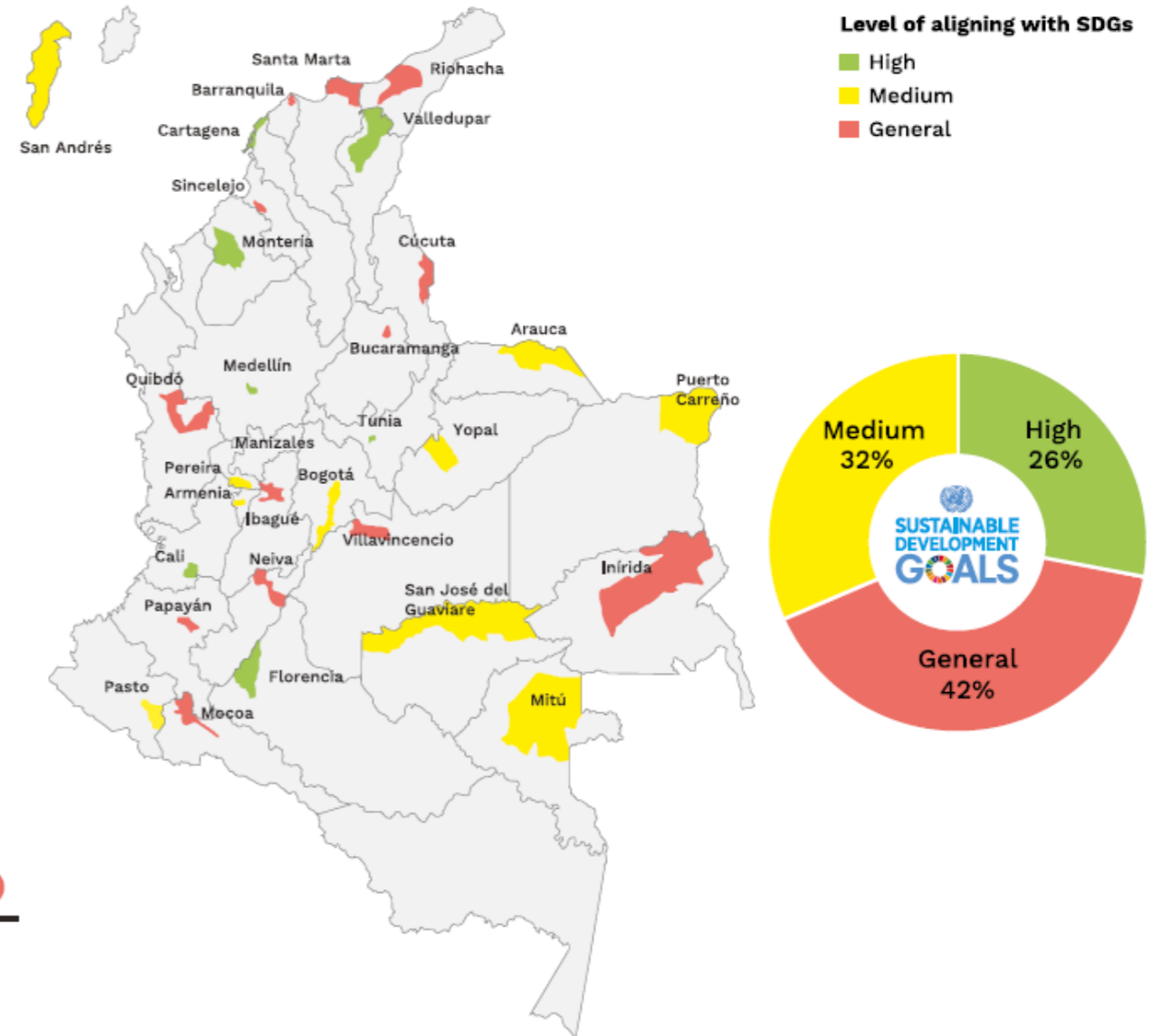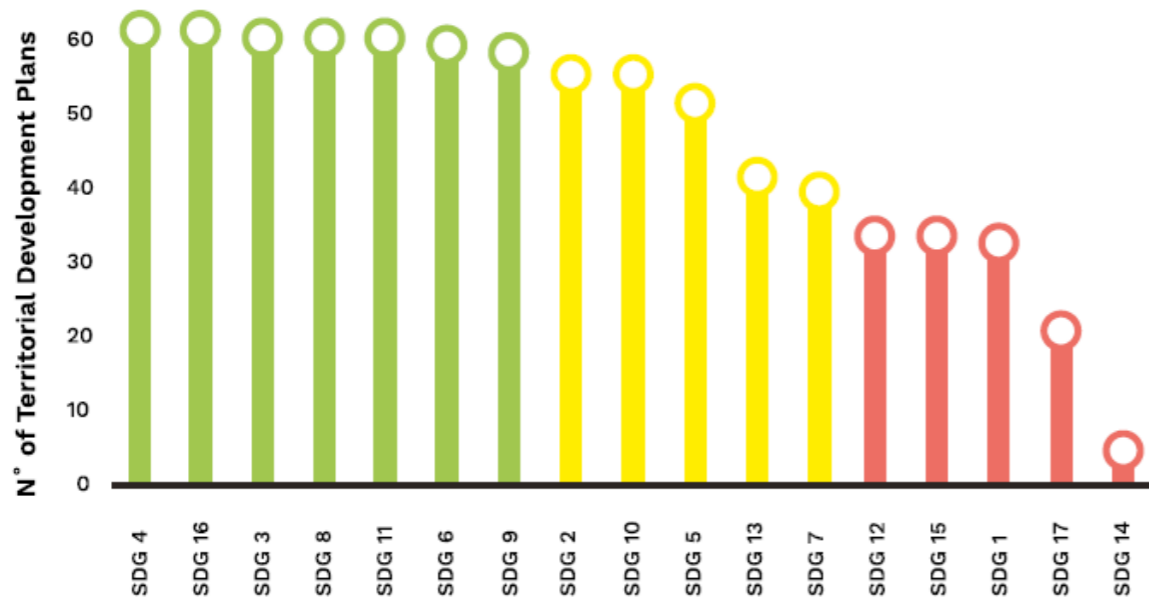
National Level Initiatives

Colombia:
Inclusion of SDGs in local development plans

Inclusion of SDGs in Capital Cities Development Plans

Inclusion of SDGs in Territorial Development Plans

Indonesia:
Provincial Local Action Plans

Top-down localization process. Provincial Governments are responsible for SDGs and their reporting in line with Local Action Plans.

UCLG-ASPAC has worked with Indonesian LRG associations to improve LRGs' capacities in planning, implementing and reporting, and is also supporting them to prepare their own reports.

Coordinating Ministry: National Development Planning Agency (Bappenas)
National Policy on SDGs: Presidential Decree No. 59 on Achieving SDGs

The role of sub-national governments (Article 15)

Localizing SDGS

The Role of Local Governments in Localising SDGs (Bappenas, 2017)

A. To achieve the targets of SDGs at local level, the Governor prepared a quinquennial SDGs LocalAction Plan together with the Regent/Mayor in respective regions by engaging CSOs, Philantropy, Private Sectors, Academician and other related stakeholders.

B. Further provisions regarding coordination mechanism onpreparation,su pervision,evaluation a nd reporting of quinquennial SDGs Regional Allocation Plan are stipulated in the Minister of NationalDevelopment Planning Regulation/Head of National Development Planning Agency

1. Provide support on policies, regulations, budget allocations and programs

2. Mapping and integration of national SDGs targets and indicators into RPJMD

3. Capacity lmprovement of LocalGovernment and related stakeholders in SDGGs implementation

4. Socialization/dissemination, communication and advocation to the whole community

5. Data/informationpreparation

Brazil:
SDG National Commission

SDG National Commission

Third Sector

Federal Government
Presidential Cabinet
SEGOV[1]
MRE[2]
MMA[3]
MPDG[4]
MDS[5]

Teaching, Research & Academic Extension

Civil society

Presidential Government Secretary
Executive Secretary

Governments*

Municipalities

Permanent advising
IBGE   ipea

Productive Sector

Federal States

Thematic Chambers
(or groups/commissions)
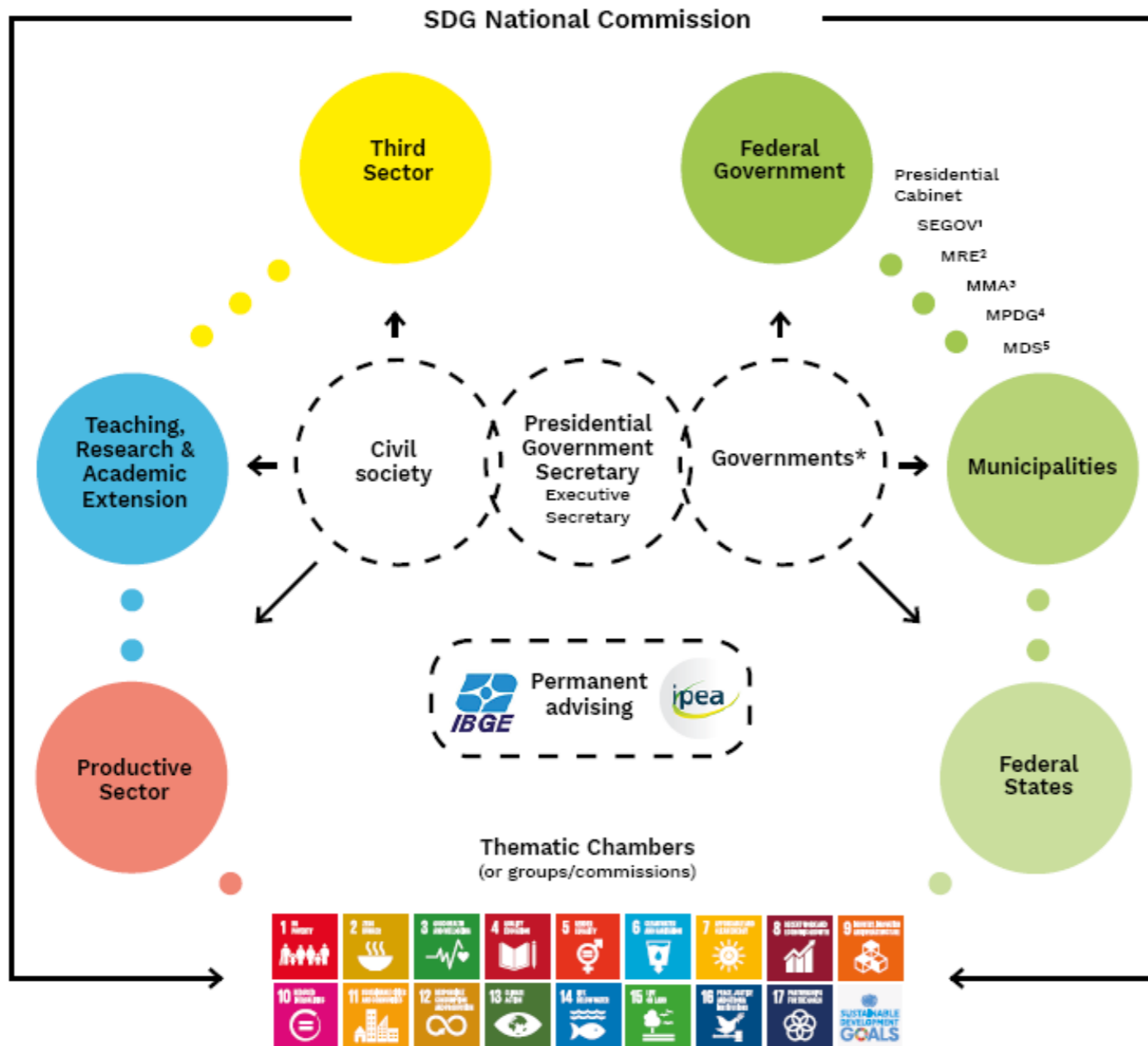
- National Association of LGs responsible for their representation in the SDG National Commission.

- Best Practices National Award for civil society and local and regional governments initiatives launched

- Development of the **Mandala tool** which facilitates the evaluation, benchmarking and comparison of progress around the SDGs between municipalities in the country. The tool generates an information chart for each municipality based on 28 indicators, which rely predominantly on secondary sources, easily accessible and regularly updated.

Germany:
SDG Indicators for Municipalities

SDG	No.	No. of subgoal/ intermediate goal:	Indicator	Calculation	Type
SDG 1	1	1.3.1	SGB II/SGB XII quote	(number of beneficiaries according to SGB II and SGB XII) / (number of inhabitants) * 100	Type I
	2a	1.3.2	Poverty – child poverty	(number of non-earning beneficiaries under the age of 15 + number of non-beneficiaries in needs communities under the age of 15) / (number of inhabitants under the age of 15) * 100	Type I
	2b	1.3.2	Poverty – youth poverty	(number of beneficiaries age 15-17 + number of non-beneficiaries in needs communities age 15- 17) / (number of inhabitants age 15- 17) * 100	Type I
	2c	1.3.2	Poverty – elderly poverty	(number of persons receiving basic security benefits over the age of 65) / (number of inhabitants over the age of 65) * 100	
SDG 2	3	2.2.1	Childhood obesity	(number of overweight children in school entry cohort) / (total number of children in school entry cohort) * 100	Type II
	4	2.4.1, 2.4.2	Ecological agriculture	(land area used for organic agriculture) / (total land area used for agriculture) * 100	Type II
	5	2.4.2	Nitrogen surplus	(nitrogen surplus) / (land area used for agriculture)	Type I
SDG 3	6	3.4.2	Premature mortality	(number of deaths among persons under the age of 65) / (number of inhabitants) * 1,000	Type I
	7	3.8.2	Doctor-provided medical care	(number of general practitioners) / (number of inhabitants) * 100,000	Type I
	8	3.9.2	Air quality	Emissions of air pollutants (sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, ammonia, volatile organic compounds and particulate matter)	Type II
SDG 4	9	4.1	Dropout rate	(number of school leavers without a secondary school diploma) / (total number of school leavers) * 100	Type I
	10a	4.2, 4.6	Child care–under 3 years old	(number of children under 3 years of age in daycare facilities) / (number of children under 3 years of age) * 100	Type I
	10b	4.2, 4.6	Child care–3 to 5-year-olds in day care centers	(number of children 3-5 years of age in daycare facilities) / (number of children 3-5 years of age) * 100	
	11	4.a	Exclusion rate	(number of pupils in special schools) / (total number of pupils) * 100	Type I
				(number of SvB women at place of residence 15-64 years of age /	

Municipal data bases used in combination with national indicators can offer an effective and viable solution for SDG monitoring at the local level, allowing measurement of progress and comparative analysis.

Local Government Initiatives

Kitakyushu, Japan:
SDGs Future City Vision

Environment

Creation of a sustainable city as a model for the world

- Development of an energy management and circular system as a model for other cities
- Creation of a stock-based society through the formation of a compact city
- Promotion of international contributions making use of Kitakyushu's technologies and experience

Fostering a trusted Green Growth City with true wealth and prosperity, contributing to the world

Economy

Development of new industries in harmony between people and the environment

- Creation of new businesses to design a frontier city
- Creation of energy industries that will form the core of new industry

Society

Creation of a society in which every single person can take action and play a vibrant role together

- Creation of opportunities for all through actions on gender and other areas
- Improvement of quality of life (QOL) through activities with the public participation

UN indicator	Kitakyushu parameters for measurement
5.5.1 Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments and local government organizations **5.5.2** Proportion of women in managerial positions	• Proportion of seats held by women on the Kitakyushu City Assembly • The proportion of women in managerial positions working at the city hall had risen to 14.8% by 2018 • Reference to the Kitakyushu City Basic Plan for Gender Equality
7.2.1 The share of renewable energy in total energy consumption	The percentage of renewable energy PRODUCED by the city (as it is not possible to calculate that consumed but not produced locally) Solar power generation, at 255,757 kW, ranked 3rd amongst the municipalities in Japan (2017). Wind power generation, at 32,270 kW (from 16 onshore wind power facilities and 2 offshore wind power facilities), ranked 1st amongst ordinance-designated cities. Hydropower generation was 1,708 kW. Waste power generation (waste-to-energy) was 46,840 kW (from facilities at 3 locations in the city).
8.2.1 Annual growth rate of real GDP per person employed **8.5.1** Average hourly earnings of female and male employees, by occupation, age and people with disabilities **8.5.2** Unemployment rate, by sex, age and people with disabilities	• Gross income tax per taxpayer by ordinance-designated city • Changes in the unemployment rates of Kitakyushu (1995-2010), by gender and age group

Durban/eThwinini, South Africa:
Integrated Development Plan

4-steps approach for SDGs alignment & monitoring:

1. Identifying areas relevant for SDGs
2. Incorporating SDG Goals into the Municipality's IDP, as part of the strategic approach to sustainability.
3. Proposing capital projects, linking each key project to one SDG.
4. Measuring the impact of investments, improving the long-term benchmarking of data, and planning a biannual progress review

Plan Description	SDG Goal	Sum of Capital Spend
1. Develop and Sustain our Spatial, Natural and Built Environment	15	6,817,000
	16	697,000
2. Developing a Prosperous Economy and Employment Creation	2	13,500,000
	7	2,500,000
	8	362,001,000
	11	30,000,000
	16	72,849,000
3. Creating a Quality Living Environment	6	1,420,318,000
	7	740,599,000
	9	32,792,000
	11	2,869,122,000
	16	286,008,000
4. Fostering a Socialy Equitable Envi	3	24,000,000
	11	29,790,000
	13	11,800,000
	16	58,867,000

Malaga, Spain:
Local Indicators

"The European 2020 strategy and the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda: an adaptation for the city of Malaga"

1 NO POVERTY	Average annual income per household; Unemployment rate amongst people between 45 and 64 years old	Local expenditure on social services (euros per capita)	Percentage of income tax returns of under € 6,010 with respect to the total number of local tax returns
2 ZERO HUNGER	City land area dedicated to agriculture (%)	Kg of fruit, vegetables and fish per inhabitant entering the local distribution market	Total hectares dedicated to ecological agriculture
5 GENDER EQUALITY	Number of women who denounced sexual violence to the local police	Number of women in key positions in the Municipality over the total number of high level positions.	Difference in the % of unemployment men and women
14 LIFE BELOW WATER	% of urban beach with excellent water quality	Volume of fish disembarked in the city (kg per inhabitant)	Waste collection from the city beaches (kg/inhabitant)
16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	Local transparency index	Electoral turn out	Municipal debt (euros per inhabitant)

Buenos Aires, Argentina:
Voluntary Local Review 2019

VOLUNTARY LOCAL REVIEW
BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE BUENOS AIRES

Focuses on 5 Goals prioritized by HLPF 2019

SDG 4 "Quality Education"
Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning.

SDG 5 "Gender Equality"
Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

SDG 8 "Decent work and economic growth"
Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all.
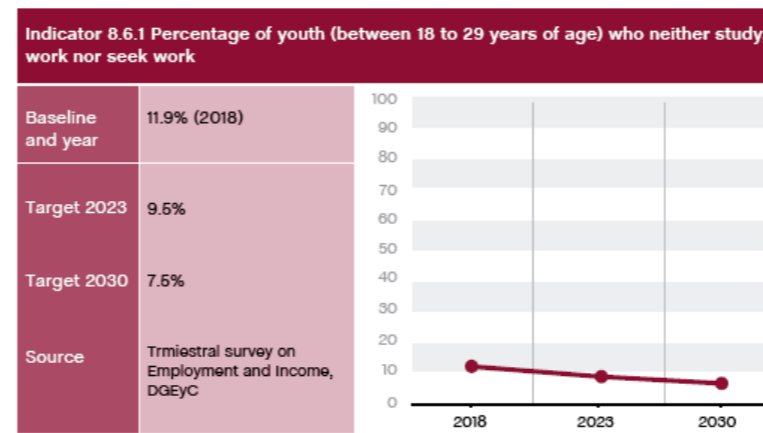
ODS 10 "Reduced inequalities"
Reduce inequality within and among countries.

SDG 13 "Climate action"
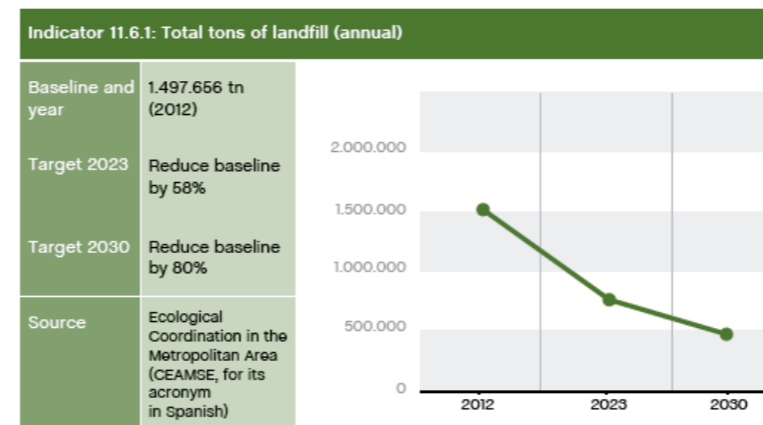Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

SDG 16 "Peace, justice and strong institutions"
Promote fair, peaceful and inclusive societies.
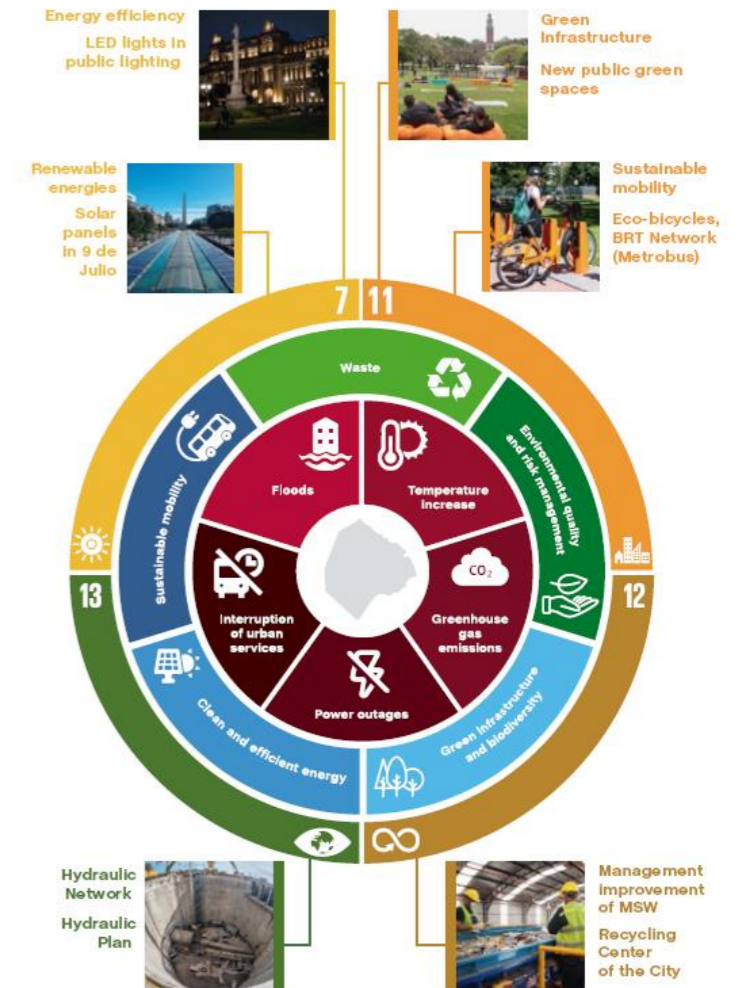
Includes relevant indicators and local targets

TARGET 8.6 By 2020, substantially reduce the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training.

Indicator 8.6.1 Percentage of youth (between 18 to 29 years of age) who neither study, work nor seek work

Baseline and year	11.9% (2018)
Target 2023	9.5%
Target 2030	7.5%
Source	Trmiestral survey on Employment and Income, DGEyC

TARGET 11.6 By 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and other waste management

Indicator 11.6.1: Total tons of landfill (annual)

Baseline and year	1.497.656 tn (2012)
Target 2023	Reduce baseline by 58%
Target 2030	Reduce baseline by 80%
Source	Ecological Coordination in the Metropolitan Area (CEAMSE, for its acronym in Spanish)

Highlights multiple links between city strategies and the SDGs

Energy efficiency
LED lights in public lighting

Green Infrastructure
New public green spaces

Renewable energies
Solar panels in 9 de Julio

Sustainable mobility
Eco-bicycles, BRT Network (Metrobus)

Hydraulic Network
Hydraulic Plan

Management Improvement of MSW
Recycling Center of the City

Barcarena, Brazil:
Local actions and monitoring process

4.1 By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys receive completely free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education, leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes

Actions — Public works on school buildings to reduce heat in the classrooms.

Indicator — Reduction of the number of pupils attending school during the hottest hours of the day from 3,536 (2012) to 3,187 (2017). Restructuring of 51 schools and the construction of 4 new schools and one new kindergarten.

6.1 By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all

Actions — Legislative change and approval of new municipal regulations including a "social water fee" for disadvantaged families.

Indicator — Number of households with access to drinking water (increase of 52% in 3 years)

17.1 Strengthen domestic resource mobilization, including through international support to developing countries, to improve the capacity to collect domestic taxes and other forms of revenue

Actions — Update the municipal property register and would notify those that would be the largest contributors — Implementation of a fiscal recovery plan to regularize municipal debt — Building greater capacity and improving municipal technical fiscal capacity for auditing and updating the register of debtors.

Indicator — Increase in revenue collection of 26.39% from 2015 to 2016.