VENICE 2030
CITY SOLUTIONS

Visualizing
SDGs
in Cities

by Carla Rey

ed. 2020

Organizers

ASSOCIAZIONE ITALIANA PER IL CONSIGLIO DEI COMUNI E DELLE REGIONI D'EUROPA — AICCRE

UN@HABITAT FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

UNDP Empowered Lives Resilient Nations

Local4Action HUBs by UCLG AICCRE

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS **ACTION CAMPAIGN**

UCLG United Cities and Local Governments

Partners

The project is co-founded by the European Union

PLATFORMA LOCAL & REGIONAL INTERNATIONAL ACTION

ConCAVe

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DELLA REPUBBLICA DI SAN MARINO

Associazione **AEres** Venezia per l'altraeconomia

STUDIUM GROUP

Università Ca'Foscari Venezia

Associazione **Botteghe del Mondo** per un commercio equo e solidale

5880

CONTENTS

ABBREVIATIONS

AICCRE	Associazione italiana per il Consiglio dei Comuni e delle Regioni d'Europa / Italian Association for the Council of European Municipalities and Regions
CCRE/CEMR	Conseil des Communes et Régions d'Europe / Council of European Municipalities and Regions
CLGF	Commonwealth Local Government Forum
CUF	Cités Unies France (United Cities France)
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
ESOF	EuroScience Open Forum
FAMSI	Foundation for the Advancement of Mesoamerican Studies
G20	premier forum for international economic cooperation
GIS	Geographic Information System
HLPF	High Level Political Forum in New York
HLRS	High Performance Computing Center Stuttgart
ISM	Municipal Sustainable Development Index
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
MIT	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
PNDES	Plan National de Développement Économique et Social / National Economic and Social Development Plan
PPSU	Penang Platform for Sustainable Urbanisation
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SFM	State Municipal Financing System
UCLG	United Cities and Local Governments
UN75	75th Anniversary of the United Nations
UNCDF	UN Capital Development Fund
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UN/ECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UN/ECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
VLR	Voluntary Local Review
VNR	National Voluntary Review
VVSG	Vereniging van Vlaamse Steden en Gemeenten / Association of Flemish Towns and Municipalities

# Partecipants:
speakers

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Tatiana Bilbao	Architect - Mexico
Xavier Longan	UN Action Campaign - Germany
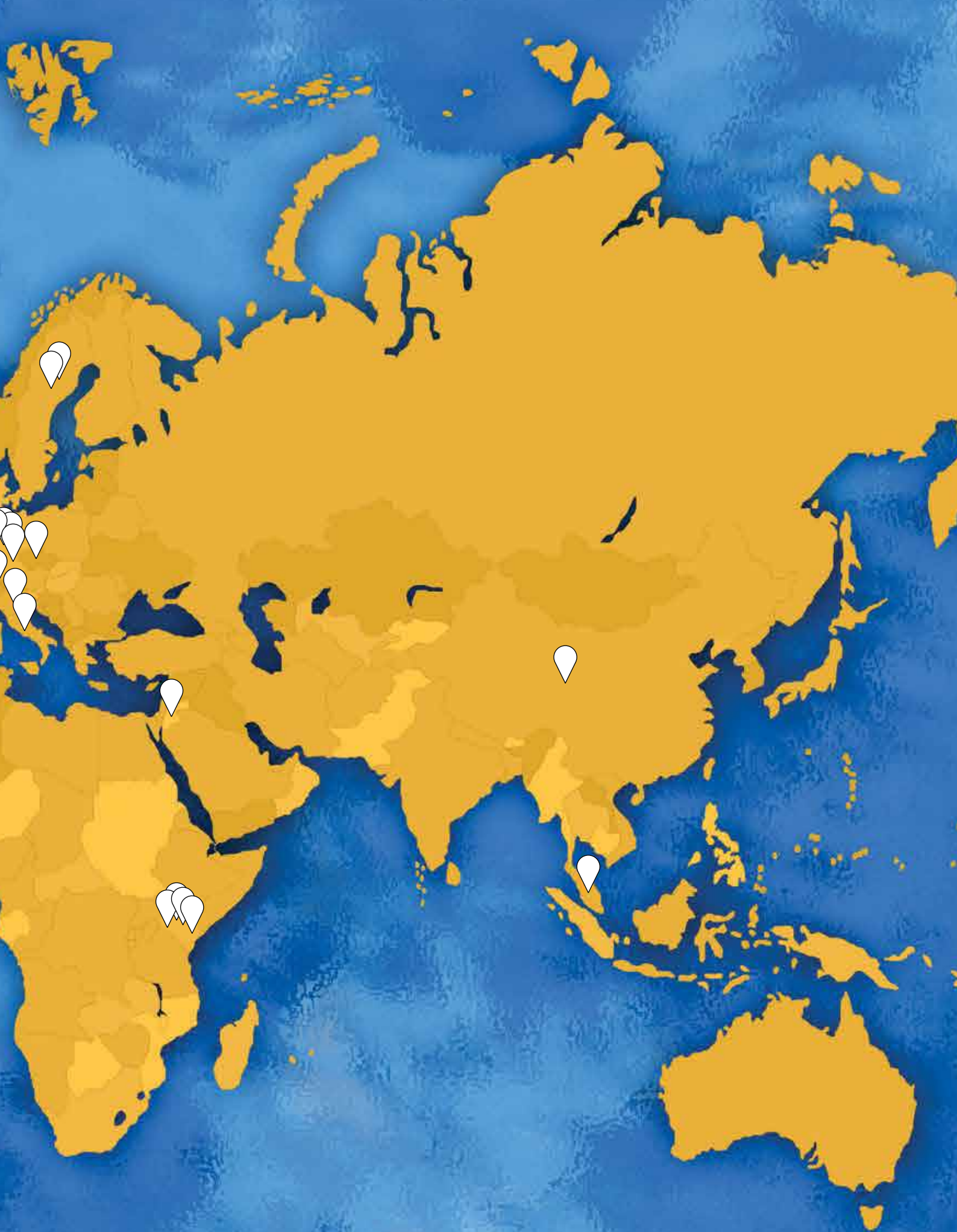
Speakers

Partecipants

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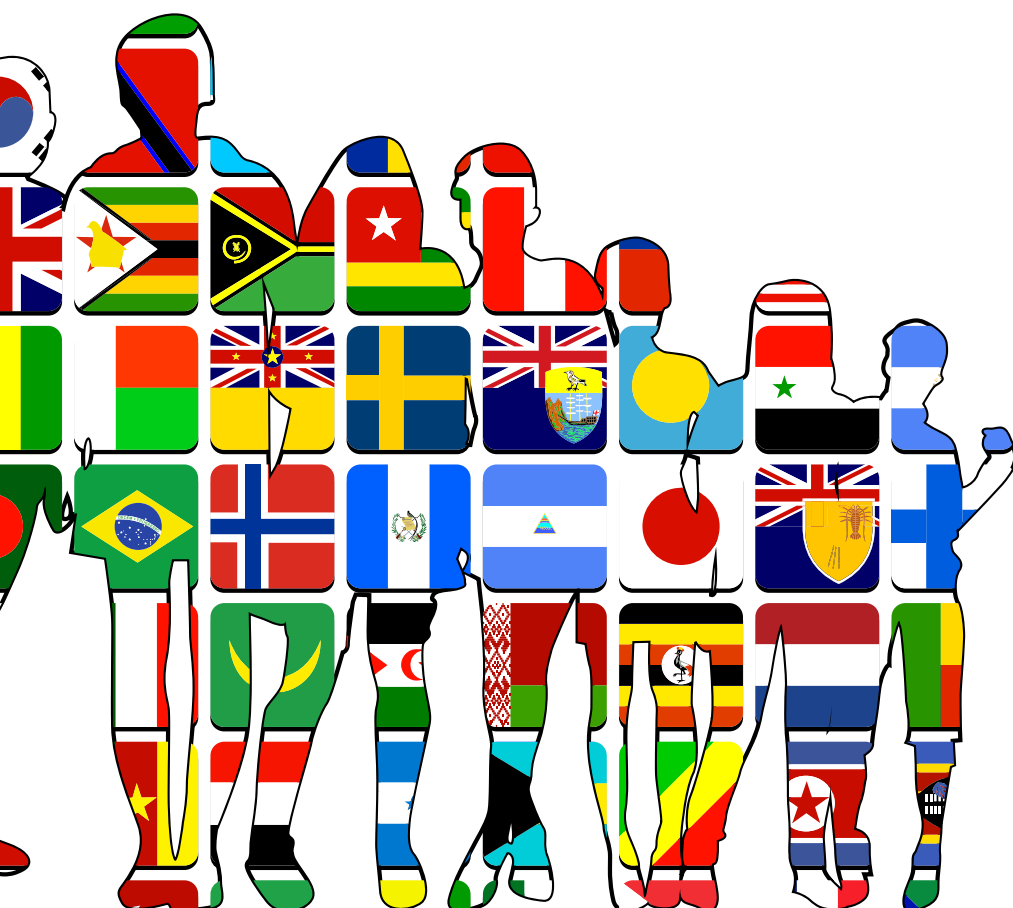
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International Organization

University / Research Centre

National Institution
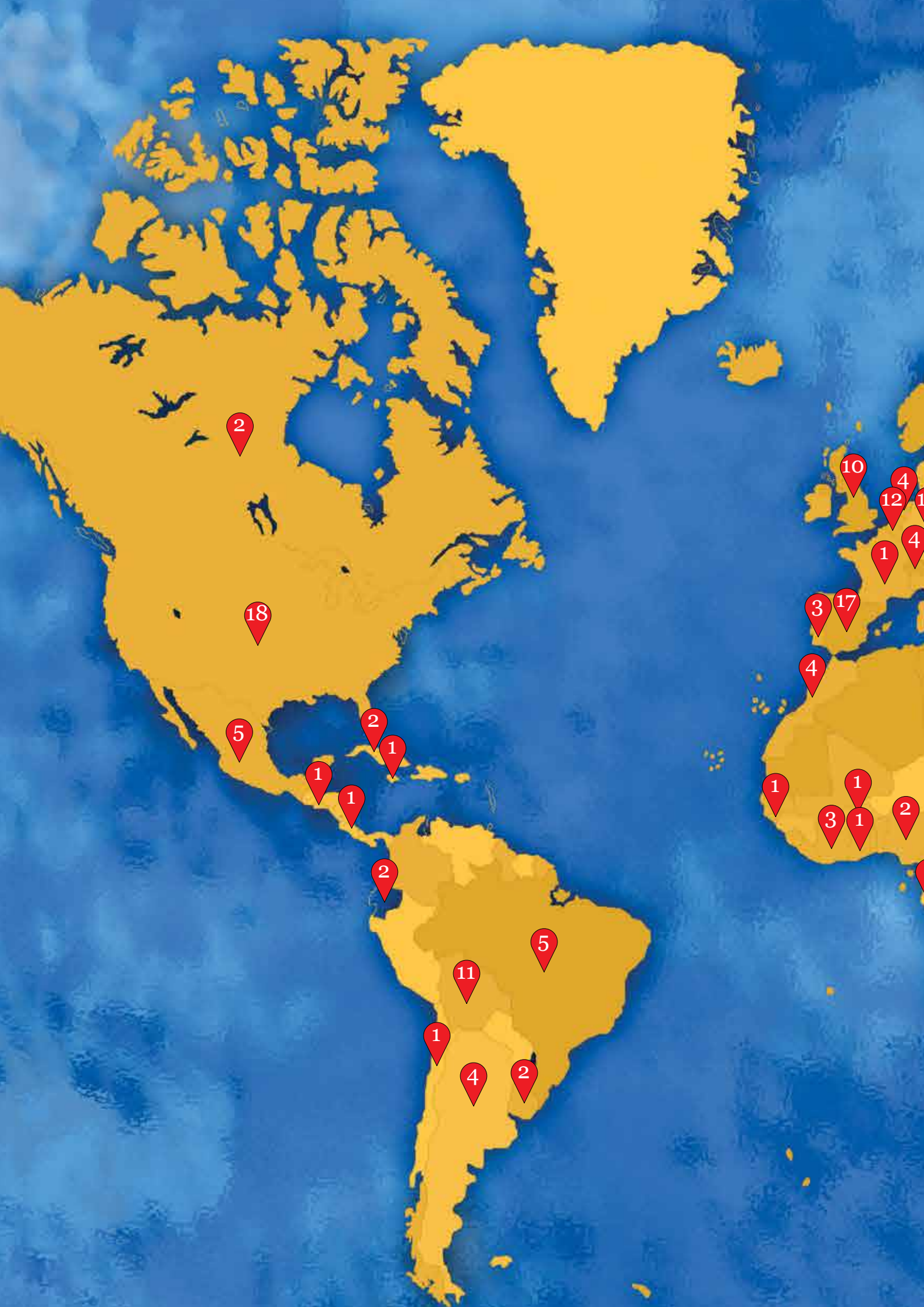
Association of local authorities

Private company

NGO / Association

European institution

Local authority

Network platform

Partecipants
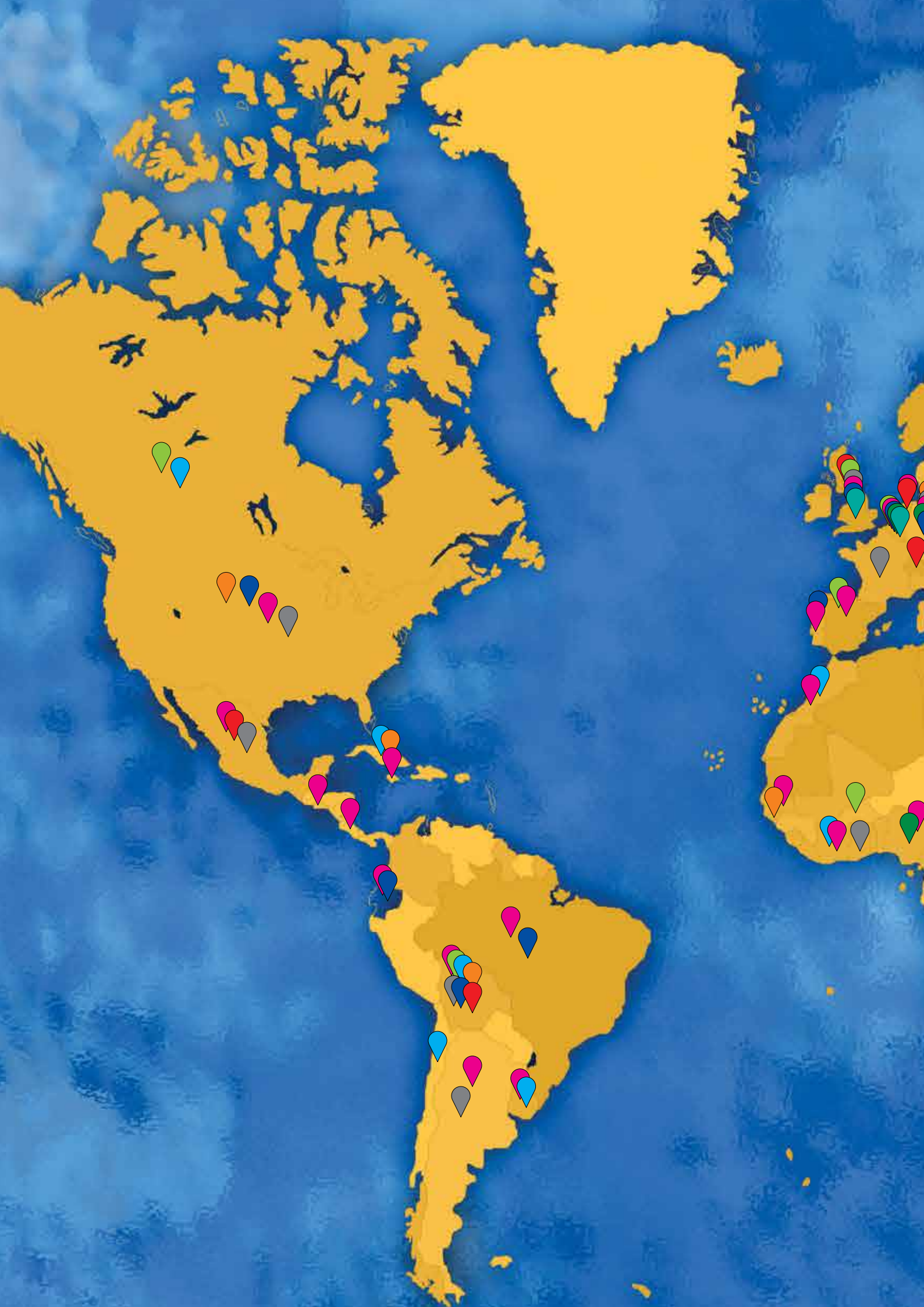
Organizations

248 partecipanti

Men 121
Women 127

Gender

51,2% 48,8

■ Men ■ Women
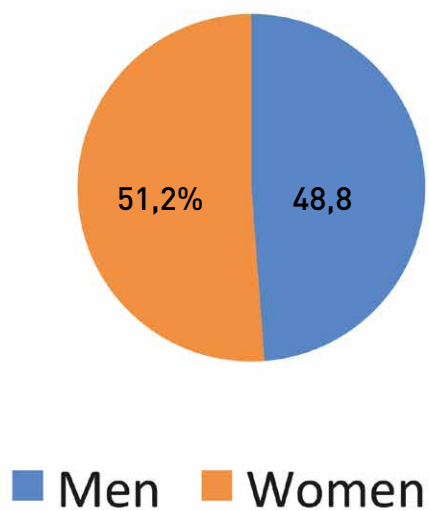
Europe 117
North-America 20
South-America 35
Asia 38
Africa 38

Continents/Macro-areas

15.3% 47.2% 15.3% 14.1% 8,1%

■ Europe ■ North-America ■ South-America ■ Asia ■ Africa
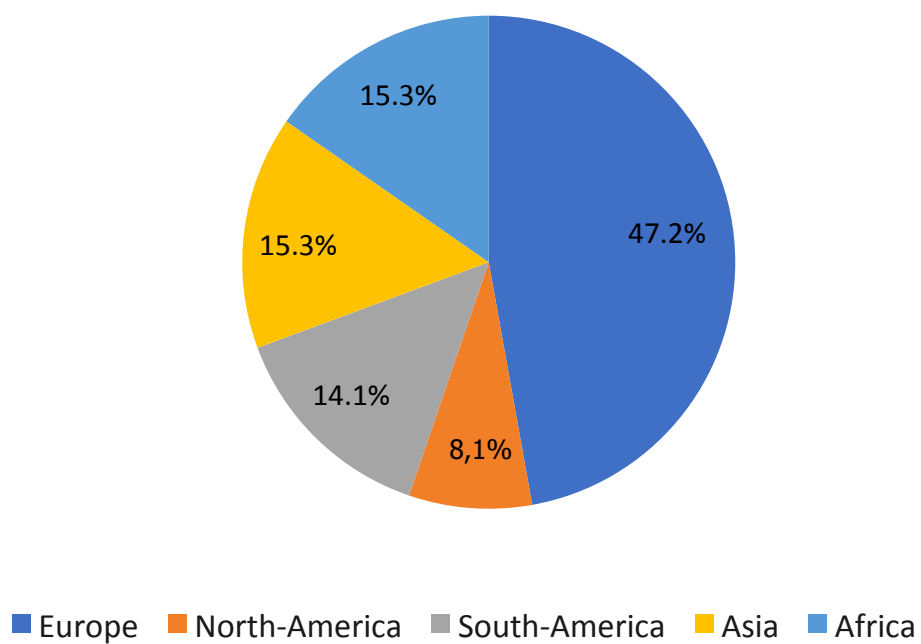
Univeristy/Research Centre 22
National Institution 18
Private company 27
European institution 3
Association of local authorities 38
Network/Platform 7
International organizations 31
NGO/Associations 19
Local authorities 83

Organisations

- Univeristy/Research Centre
- National Institution
- Private company
- European institution
- Association of local authorities
- Network/Platform
- International organizations
- NGO/Associations
- Local authorities

9%
7%
11%
1%
15%
3%
13%
8%
33%
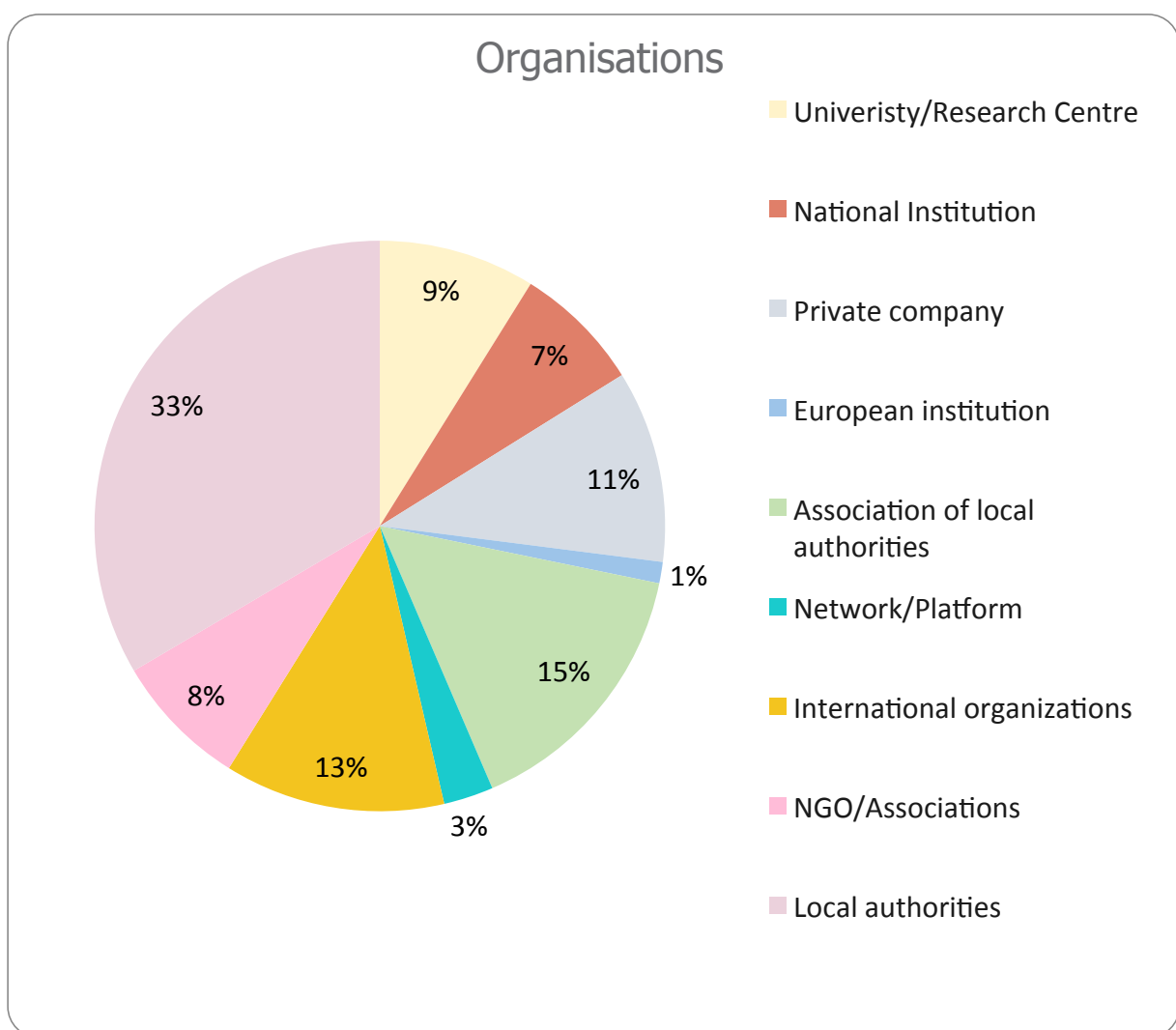
AGENDA

Venice City Solutions 2030

ed. 2020

AGENDA
Thursday 26 November 2020

12.50 – 13.00

Video introductions by AICCRE
Visualizing Agenda 2030 in Venice: the city´s body
Visualizing Agenda 2030 in Venice: the city's soul

13.00 – 14.00

Institutional Opening

Master of ceremonies: **Emilia Saiz,** Secretary General, UCLG

- **Mariangela Zappia,** Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations
- **Stefano Bonaccini,** President of Emilia Romagna Region, Italy; President of AICCRE and President of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)
- **Marina Ponti,** Director UN Action SDG Campaign
- **Frédéric Vallier,** on behalf of Platforma
- **Rafael Tuts,** Director Global Solutions Division, UN-Habitat
- **Haoliang Xu,** UN Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Bureau of Policy and Programme Support, UNDP

14.00 – 14.10

Presentation of this year approach and methodology
by **Carla Rey,** Secretary General, AICCRE, Italian association for the Council of European Municipalities and Regions

Setting panel yellow (transition)

14.10 – 15.40

YELLOW PANEL
Linking SDG to the territories: Mapping local actions & spaces
Led by Fraunhofer Institute

Moderator: **Petr Suska,** Head of Urban Economy Innovation, Fraunhofer IAO

- **Erna Polimac**, Global Goals project leader and **Yunus Balci**, Policy Advisor, Municipality of Eindhoven, Netherlands
- **Karim Tarraf**, CEO and Managing Director, Hawa Dawa
- **Fabian Dembski**, Visualization Department, HLRS, High Performance Computer Centre, Sttutgart
- **Cyril Klepek**, CEO of Cyrkl
- **Hellen Muller,** Co-founder and Head of Åland Index Solutions, Doconomy

15.40 – 16.10

SDG coffee break: Visual experiences in cities

- AICCRE: Visualizing Agenda 2030 in Venice – Space
- AICCRE: Visualizing Agenda 2030 in Venice - Community
- Lavazza Group: Towards Project
- Ca' Foscari University: Art night in Venice 2011 - 2021
- Studium Group: Sustainable cities thanks to CO2NO
- AICCRE: Visualizing Agenda 2030 in Venice – Citizenship

16.10 – 17.40

GREEN PANEL

Identifying correlations, actors & links of local SDG actions
Led by UNDP-Art

Introduction and moderation: **Johannes Krassnitzer**, International Coordinator of the ART Initiative, UNDP

- **Adriana Acosta**, Deputy Director of the Directorate of Strategic Development of the Ministry of Economy and Planning, Cuba

- **Joana Abreu** and **João H. C. António,** Representatives of the Center for Studies and Opinion Surveys (CESOP), Catholic University of Lisbon, Portugal
- **Geraldo Luiz Farias**, Municipal Development Analyst and Advisor to the Executive Superintendence of Paraná Cities, State of Paraná, Brazil
- **Luana Natali,** Head of Governance Unit, UNDP Guinea-Bissau
- **Santiago Saura**, Councillor for International Affairs and Cooperation, Madrid City Council, Spain

17.45 – 18.45

One on one with **Tatiana Bilbao**, Architect

AGENDA
Friday 27 November 2020

11.30 – 12.25

Interview with **Marlène Simeon,** Director of Platforma
Space for materials from participants

12.25 – 12.30

AICCRE: Visualizing SDGs in Venice from an international perspective

12.30 – 13.00

One on one with **Francesca Lavazza**, Board Member, Lavazza Group
"Can creativity drive SDG action at city level? "

13.00 – 14.30

RED PANEL
The vision for the future: strategic planning and imagining a sustainable city
Led by UN-Habitat

Moderator: **Shipra Narang Suri**, Director of Urban Practices Branch, UN-Habitat

*Discussion 1* - The city we want experiences in envisioning the cites of the future

• **Álvaro Blondel**, Executive Secretary, Municipality of La Paz, Bolivia
• **Nuha I. Qtaish,** Executive Director of Strategic Planning, Greater Amman Municipality, Jordan
• **Dan Hill**, Director of Strategic Design, Vinnova (Swedish Innovation Agency), Sweden

Discussion 2 - How to translate vision into reality?

- **Dyfed Audrey**, UN-Habitat SDG Cities Flagship Programme
- **Bart Tommelein**, Mayor of Ostend, Belgium, and Chair of the Municipality in the World Committee of the Association of Flemish Municipalities
- **Gulnara Roll**, Secretary to the Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
- **Norliza Hashim**, Chief Executive, Urbanice Malaysia

14.30 – 15.00
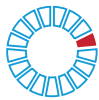
SDG coffee break: Visual experiences in cities
- AICCRE: Visualizing Agenda 2030 in Venice - peace
- Lavazza Group: Towards Project
- Ca' Foscari University: Waiting for Art night in Venice
- AICCRE: Visualizing Agenda 2030 in Venice - partnership

15.00 – 17.00

BLUE PANEL

Celebrating the Local4Action HUBs: Local actions with global impact
Led by United Cities and Local Governments

Moderator: **Emilia Saiz**, Secretary General, UCLG

Opening remarks: Celebrating Local4Action HUBs by UCLG. A platform to showcase and share local experiences that are transforming global policies

Video presentation of the Local4Action HUBs by UCLG initiative

Discussion 1 - Connecting with people

• **Luca Bergamo**, Vice Mayor, Rome, Italy - Culture 4th pillar of Sustainable development: Local - global commitment on the right to a cultural life, as a fundamental condition for cities and communities
• **Oihane Aguirregoitia**, Councilor for Citizen and International Participation and President of Bilbao TIK, Bilbao, Spain - SDG 16 & 17: Envisioning the SDGs as shared values, enhancing local democracy and the co-creation of a joint roadmap towards sustainability
• **Mariano Bar,** Legal and Technical Director of the State Secretariat for Equality and Gender, Santa Fe Province, Argentina - All SDG approach: Empowering youth democratic and entrepreneurial capacities for building more inclusive, sustainable territories
• **X**avier Longan, Lead for Partnerships and Operations, UN SDG Action Campaign

AGENDA
Friday 27 November 2020
part II

Discussion 2 – Cooperation to promote intergenerational opportunities for all

- **Maricel Lonati**, Manager of Institutional Articulation at the General Secretariat and International Relations, Buenos Aires, Argentina - SDG 13, 16 & 17: Open government for climate action: fostering accountability, co-creation and access to information in local environmental policies
- **Jasper Visser**, President of the Leiden 2030 Foundation, Leiden, Netherlands - SDG 11, 13, 17: Building and sharing inclusive, accessible and green public spaces: the Singelpark
- **Javier Castaño,** Senior Adviser, International Affairs and Cooperation Department, Madrid – SDG 3, 11, 13, 15, 17: Nature-based solutions through multi-stakeholder collaboration to establish a Green Metropolitan Corridor

Discussion 3 - Connecting with governments / cooperating

- **Pilar Díaz Romero,** Mayor of Esplugues de Llobregat and Elected member for International Relations, Barcelona Province, Spain - SDG 5, 11 & 16: Promoting women's political participation, leadership and gender equality mainstreaming in local public policies through dialogue, partnerships and decentralized cooperation
- **Emilio Rabasco,** Programme Director, Andalusia Municipalities Fund for International Solidarity (FAMSI), Spain - SDG 11, 13 & 17: Local action and cooperation platform for the defense and strengthening of municipal public services, linked to ecological transition and green economy
- **Johannes Krassnitzer,** Coordinator of UNDP ART

Building partnerships and empowering the network

17.00 – 17.15

Carla Rey, Secretary General, Italian Association for the Council of European Municipalities (AICCRE, Italy) - SDG 17: HUB of HUBs: living laboratory to promote dialogue, replicability of existing HUBs, networking and partnerships for the localization of the 2030 Agenda

Recommendations for the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development 2021 by **Emilia Saiz**, Segretario Generale, Città Unite e Governi Locali, UCLG

17.15 – 17.35

One on one con **Priyanka Sinha**, Specialista del settore pubblico e fondatore di Xitiway
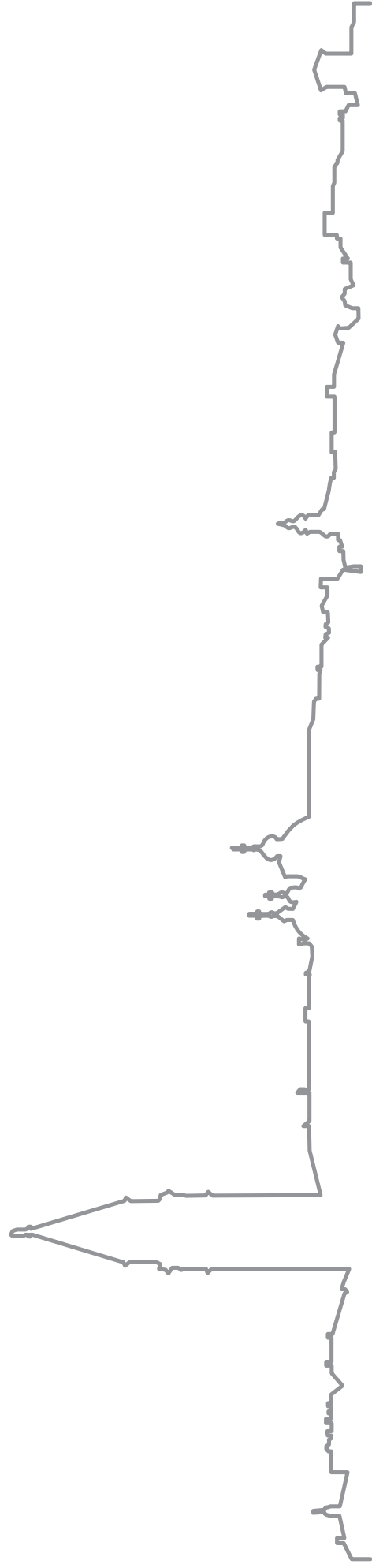
17.35 - 17.45

Video presentations by partners
Sustainable exhibitions, by Concave (Venice Hotel Consortium)
Ca' Foscari University and sustainability

PROCESS
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PREAMBLE

We all look to the United Nations 2030 Agenda as the guiding star for future policies, which must be global and shared if we are to truly save the planet, our most precious asset. Too often important decisions have been postponed or abandoned. One example is COP21 in Paris, where the world's major countries signed a significant environmental agreement that never became global because President Trump tore up the pact. Today, the Biden Administration can bring the United States back to the table and start a shared dialogue, bringing his country's strength to bear on such an ambitious challenge. China is investing heavily in green environmental conversion, but we all need to do much more. The World, Europe, Italy, my region, and myself have done too little.

This is why Venice City Solutions 2030 is particularly important, and especially this edition in this historic moment. The Recovery Fund is shaping up to be a great opportunity for development because it will support the countries most affected by the pandemic with huge economic resources and with the Green New Deal it will put sustainability at the centre of policies. We must be able to use these resources to recover jobs, restore oxygen and competitiveness to companies, and do this with a new development model. For this, the 17 Goals of the UN Agenda give us important references. For example, the CEMR has taken the Agenda as a reference for the policies it is implementing together with the cities and regions in the European Agenda.

National, regional and local governments must focus on planning medium-long-term strategic choices and not stop at the electoral consensus. I say this as the President of the Emilia-Romagna Region, where in a few days the **Labour and Climate Pact** will be signed with all the social partners and mayors of the territory. It is a unique experience in Italy and we will carry it forward, looking not at the legislature (i.e. the next five years of government) but at 2030. We have identified four priorities: **sustainability, knowledge, health and resilience**, and they will have to remain constantly linked to the activities of CEMR, AICCRE and UCLG. Sustainability is understood not only in terms of improving the places we live in, but as an opportunity for economic growth. The green economy and green industry can create new businesses and jobs. Knowledge, investment in know-how and research are only levers for innovation and the creation of professions that do not exist today. Seventy percent of our grandchildren and many of our children will have new jobs created by digital technology and robotics. We must not be afraid of the future, but we must provide citizens, businesses, universities and research centres with the tools to enable new jobs to replace obsolete ones. The digitalisation of the regions, for example, is a fundamental element to allow all citizens in whatever municipality or city they live in, from mountains to plains, from metropolises to the smallest municipality, the same opportunities. A central theme is obviously health, because we have unfortunately experienced first-hand the need for increasing public health care, which is guaranteed to the poor just as much as to the rich. Finally, priority must be given to resilience, a term on which UCLG and CEMR have worked a great deal in recent years and which consists of guaranteeing territories an increasingly strong capacity to hold on to and trust in the future.

The challenges ahead of us are very ambitious, only if we face them together guided by a vision of common development dictated by the UN Agenda 2030 we can build a new and better world, for people and for the planet itself.

Stefano Bonaccini
President of the Emilia-Romagna Region, President AICCRE and CEMR

INSTITUTIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Venice City Solutions 2030 as a hub for Local for Action Hubs

Emilia Saiz - Secretary General, United Cities and Local Governments, UCLG

For all humanity, Venice represents resilience, art, creativity and the will to build together. It is also a city that testifies to the great challenges we have to face in order to ensure that our model of development does not become obsolete under the weight, for example, of tourism and mass consumption.

This year's edition of Venice City Solutions 2030 is special because the world is facing a pandemic and we are all committed to overcome it, but at the same time we want to try to do an exercise in creativity and inspiration by trying to visualise the Sustainable Development Goals in cities. The only way to achieve the SDGs is to bring the 2030 Agenda to the local level.

This interesting idea comes from AICCRE and is enriched by the UN-Habitat's capacity to promote cities and local and regional governments and their associations, by UNDP, with its capacity to mobilise communities, and by PLATFORMA, the network to which we all belong and which involves local government associations and other relevant partners. For us, the localisation of the SDGs is not just the implementation of global goals at the local level, it is the political commitment to find solutions that can shape the world. We want to make sure that we learn from each other and we are grateful to the University of Venice for accompanying us once again in this event and to the civil society, which has always responded with interest to our calls.

UCLG is promoting the emergence of local experiences to be included in the Local for Action Hubs, within which the priorities of cities and municipalities are related to the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda acquiring an international dimension and inspiring other local governments.

Venice City Solutions 2030 will become a hub for Local for Action Hubs around the world and will create a global network firmly anchored to the needs of local areas and citizens.

Local authorities and Agenda 2030 will be protagonists at the next G20

Mariangela Zappia, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations

In many countries, as in the case of Italy, local authorities have been at the forefront of the health emergency caused by COVID19 and are trying to limit its economic and social impact on their territories. Their role will also be crucial in shaping the recovery for a more inclusive, resilient and sustainable future, in line with the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement. The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is convinced of this, which through its diplomatic network has given its full support to local authorities, also through the launch of the campaign "Together for SDGs", which includes the participation of the cities of Teramo, Prato, Cremona and Bari in the initiative "Cities for SDGs" aimed at inspiring and connecting people through street art projects and murals. Italy will soon take on the important responsibility of chairing the G20, the international forum that brings together the world's major economies, and our presidency will give particular importance to the role of cities and urban areas, especially in terms of connectivity, sustainable development and reduction of inequalities, recognizing their innovative contribution to the implementation of the SDGs.

The role of the individual, the power of the collective

Marina Ponti, UN SDG Campaign Director

The pandemic is teaching us that the actions of a single individual, for better or worse, can create a global impact. Wearing a mask, respecting physical distances, and reducing contact and movement are true safeguards against ourselves and others. Now more than ever, people are realizing that global problems require global solutions that must be clearly coordinated across different levels of governance. By making the lessons of this particular historical moment our own, we can build a more sustainable, inclusive

society that is attentive to the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda. Because everything seems impossible until it is done.

How to turn a threat into an opportunity?
Frédéric Vallier - CEMR Secretary General, representing Platforma

For many years, we have been alerting the international community to the effects of the climate crisis, and the difficulties in implementing the Paris Agreement have become apparent. The pandemic suddenly showed that in the face of dramatic and unexpected situations we are able to react, and this situation could be an opportunity to rethink our economies and make them more sustainable, green, cohesive and resilient. In this phase of reconstruction, decentralized cooperation is a valuable ally, because it promotes the exchange of best practices and innovative solutions to national governments, European institutions, citizens and stakeholders. PLATFORMA is bringing together a wide range of actors working in the field of decentralized cooperation, such as AICCRE, CEMR, UCLG, FAMSI, IMF, CLGF, as well as regions and cities, in order to start negotiations with European institutions and participate in the programming phase of EU development cooperation policies. That it is necessary to create spaces for co-learning and co-construction is demonstrated by the high number of participants in the initiatives organized online by CEMR and UCLG to support local authorities in the management of the pandemic. In January this year, CEMR will celebrate its 70th anniversary and this anniversary leads us to look ahead to 2051, when CEMR will be 100 years old, and imagine what European local governments will look like. In order to guide them towards a future of sustainability we must build a multi-year strategy and define a development model that considers local authorities and their citizens as the engine of the recovery that Europe needs. This will be our commitment and certainly Venice City Solution 2030 will

continue to be a fundamental support in our effort to shape the future.

Local governments as drivers of recovery

Rafael Tuts, Director, Global Solutions Division, UN-Habitat

Since the pandemic emerged, local governments have been forced to take drastic measures to curb the spread of the virus. Ninety percent of Covid19 cases have been recorded in urban areas, which also account for 80 percent of global GDP. Recovery must start from cities, which together with regions and local authorities must take a leading role in both the design and implementation of the Recovery Fund. The latest UN-HABITAT report analyses the four main challenges that governments around the world are facing: the economic and employment crisis, the widening inequalities among citizens and in particular the impact of the virus on the most vulnerable population, the questioning of traditional models of spatial organization and finally the challenges on the governance front. The report underlines how the crisis can give us the opportunity to do better, starting with a rethinking of urban development in a sustainable key. Visualizing the 2030 Agenda in cities allows us to identify concrete solutions and connect to the daily lives of citizens. The three aspects that we should take into account in this exercise are: the creation of partnerships, because no city can achieve the SDGs and get out of the crisis alone; the fight against climate change, to be considered a real emergency and finally, the support to cities in monitoring their performance against the SDGs, in order to formulate policies that favour local development and progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Agenda 2030 for exiting the crisis

Hao liang Xu, Director, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and Director, Bureau of Policy and Programme Support, UNDP

Since its first edition, Venice City Solutions 2030 has been an international laboratory for ideas and solutions, and a catalyst for transformative change and sustainable development, helping to translate the 2030 Agenda into local action. This year's edition is particularly significant because of the challenges we face in our territories, deeply affected by the coronavirus pandemic. Visualizing the 2030 Agenda in cities is a call to action: the Covid19 is not just a health crisis, it is a socio-economic drama that is affecting millions of people around the world. The World Bank estimates that urban poverty will increase, with more than 115 million people sliding into extreme poverty by 2020. UNDP's latest studies also show that if the pandemic continues and we do not take measures focused on the SDGs there will be over 207 million more people in extreme poverty by 2030. The containment measures that cities have been forced to take have caused business closures and job losses, and this has resulted in decreased revenues for local and regional governments making it difficult to keep essential services intact. We know that the challenges in urban development are extremely complex, and we will need to work together with an open mind to multi-stakeholder collaboration to get out of the crisis while achieving the SDGs. Local governments are already using the 2030 Agenda as their main planning tool and international events such as Venice City Solutions 2030 are helping to disseminate concrete examples of what can be achieved through local action. In turn, UNDP UCLG and UN-Habitat are developing "Learning Modules for Localizing the SDGs" to support local and regional governments in creating local plans and Voluntary Local Review reports. Today, more than ever, the 2030 Agenda must be the compass that leads us out of the crisis towards a more sustainable, inclusive and equitable future.

INTRODUCTION
to Venice City Solution 2030

The 2020 edition of Venice City Solutions 2030 was held for the first time solely online. This was a challenge and an obligatory choice, given the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic in the fall of that year, which nevertheless proved to be a good opportunity in terms of participation, as the remote mode encouraged connection to the event from all latitudes.

The third edition of our global workshop on the SDGs dealt with the theme of visualization: learning to see using your eyes, but also your imagination. Participants agreed that they wanted to use this moment to plan for the future of cities: we didn't want to talk about the Covid-19 pandemic, but about how the 2030 Agenda can become the starting point for the changes needed to ensure a more sustainable future. And we want to imagine this future through the eyes of cities, because cities are the most flexible places and the most capable of reinventing themselves. On the basis of this assumption, this publication has been conceived: to share as much as possible the discussion of the two days in Venice and promote its dissemination, bringing to the High Level Political Forum of the United Nations in New York, the results of the exchange.

The work program opened with the visualization of the UN 2030 Agenda in Venice, the city hosting the event, by AICCRE. A journey made of sounds, lights and images to tell the hidden face of sustainable Venice. This story introduces the four working sessions. The first working session is the yellow one, led by the Fraunhofer Institute, on how to connect the SDGs to the territory: the visualization here is thought in its spatial dimension and urban planners helped us to recognize the actions of the SDGs in the urban context and their impact. The second is the green session, coordinated by UNDP, dealt with the theme of interactions and connection of the SDGs between different actors. In this case, visualizing means talking about the value of partnerships and what cities are doing to engage territorial stakeholders and make the actions of the SDGs visible.

It is the turn of the red session, moderated by UN-Habitat, which deals with the vision of the future: visualize through imagination, but concretizing this exercise with planning, setting as a horizon 2030, and reflect on how the SDGs can help the city to transform.

The last one is the blue session, coordinated by UCLG, and visualizes local actions that, by creating a multiplier effect, can generate an impact in global policies: cities as a tool for global sustainability.

At the end of each session there are individual moments, defined as **"one on one"** with experts from different sectors: Tatiana Bilbao, a leading Mexican architect; Marlène Siméon, director of PLATFORMA, the local network for decentralized cooperation; Francesca Lavazza, board member of Lavazza, an international company known for its commitment to the 2030 Agenda and Priyanka Sinha, international consultant on eco-sustainable innovation.

Not to be forgotten are the video contributions that gave life to the different working sessions on the Venice City Solutions 2030 Youtube channel, and the materials on the website www.venicecitysolutions.com.

As with every year, the conclusions of the working sessions were collected in the Final Recommendations to be forwarded to the High Level Political Forum in New York in order to strengthen the key role of local authorities at the United Nations.

The publication closes with **the Agenda and Conclusions of Venice City Solutions 2030 at the HLPF** on July 8, 2021.

So let's start our journey from Venice, and then broaden our gaze to reach out to every city in the world. Each chapter of this publication represents a tesserae of the Venetian mosaic: the tesserae are already beautiful individually, but they give life to the mosaic only when they are all together. This is the philosophy of Venice City Solutions 2030!

Carla Rey
Segretario Generale AICCRE

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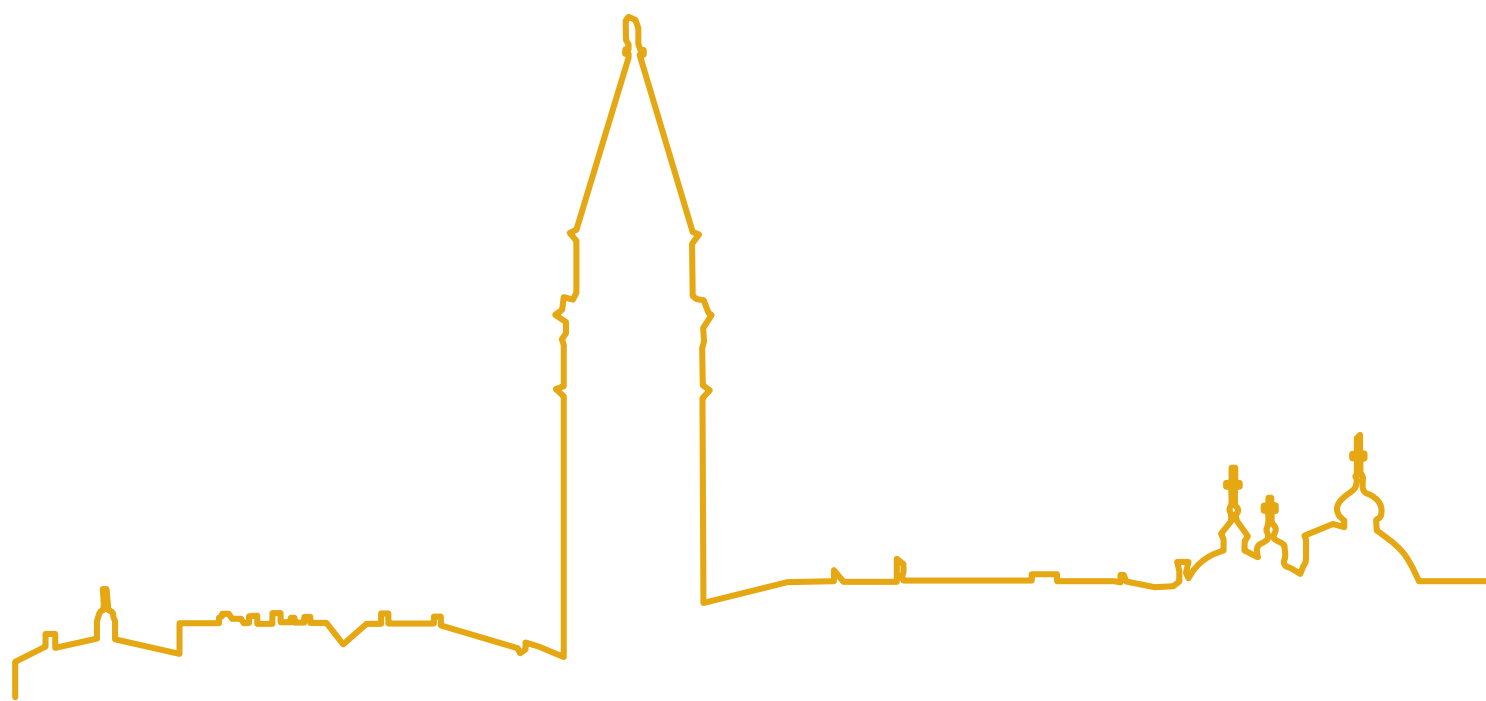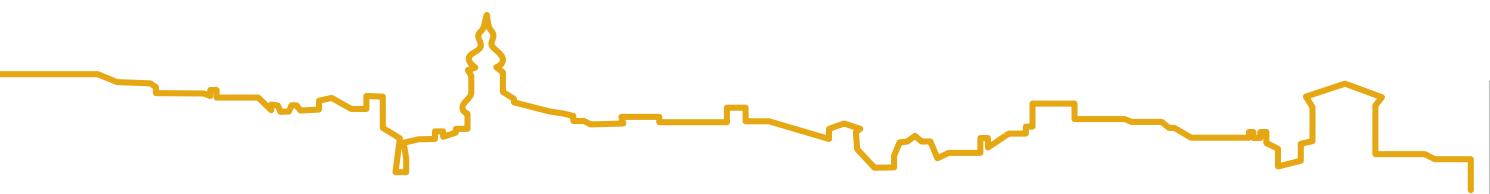# SDGs IN

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I VENICE

The Covid-19 pandemic did not allow the 2020 edition of Venice City Solutions 2030 to take place in Venice as it does every year, but we did not want the experience of a city that hosts the event and tells something about itself every year to be diminished.

In this edition we present Venice through the images of the videos that you will find indicated in the different working sessions (links are available in the box at the bottom of the page), starting from the narration of the body and soul of this city and its ability to represent the 17 SDGs. The shape of the city, made of water and land, is the most obvious example of the combination of natural elements and the result of the productivity and creativity of the people: the true partnership for goals.

This journey in Venice, through the Agenda 2030, wants to evoke, confirm, and feel the change that the city has implemented to meet the needs of sustainable development.

The tesserae of the mosaic of the Basilica of San Marco identify the SDGs of the UN Agenda: interconnected to each other, only in their unity they let us grasp the full picture of an inclusive, fair and sustainable city.

Venice City Solutions 2030, the platform dedicated to local authorities around the world, is itself the representation of a mosaic of actors: central governments, UN agencies, businesses, NGOs, civil society, universities, are all called upon to contribute to the design of social, environmental and economic sustainability of cities. The citizenship card cannot be missed, since no SDG can be achieved without the support of citizens and without good practices becoming their daily routine.

Venice as a place of Agenda 2030, a city where two different narratives confront and clash, where two ways of being and doing are challenged: balance and excess, slow and fast, global tourism and residence, the "souvenirization" of local production and quality craftsmanship.

In this first session we will tell you how Venice lives its daily life: as a gesture of existence,

towards a city that is often mistakenly considered only a tourist attraction emptied of the value of residence; as a gesture of resistance to the mass of tourism and globalization of production, because the city has much to tell in terms of sustainability, responsible consumption, zero kilometre agriculture, solidarity.

And so starting from the first light of morning, we accompany you with the images of the awakening of a city that we want to tell you through the voice of its citizens, sounds, noises, colours and shadows.

We want to tell you about the lifestyles of Venice, in line with the 5 P's of the 2030 Agenda. In the fade between the mosaics and the Agenda, we tell you about children who go to school by scooter, citizens with shopping carts who go to the market, rowing boats for public transport, green areas dedicated to the community and the sale of fair trade products, and how Venetian public spaces are community spaces.

A city that wants to tell, in addition to its famous urban and architectural dimension, also its social dimension, which integrates social development with environmental and economic development, which is not redeveloped when it transforms and innovates urban spaces, but when it manages to regenerate the social and economic fabrics, the result of daily choices of its community. Street workshops, neighbourhood stores, squares and streets on a human scale, markets, give voice to a city on the scale of its inhabitants.

The city wakes up and people go to work on foot, symbol of a sustainable mobility and of an inclusive social dimension: the Scalzi bridge seen at double speed stands for fast chains opposed to slow chains, loading and unloading of goods, rowing boats and motor boats, in a day marked by the hours of light, which increases the heartbeat of the city.

The combination of lagoon, city and work to understand how to keep resources in balance with the needs and demands of the community. Do choices change the
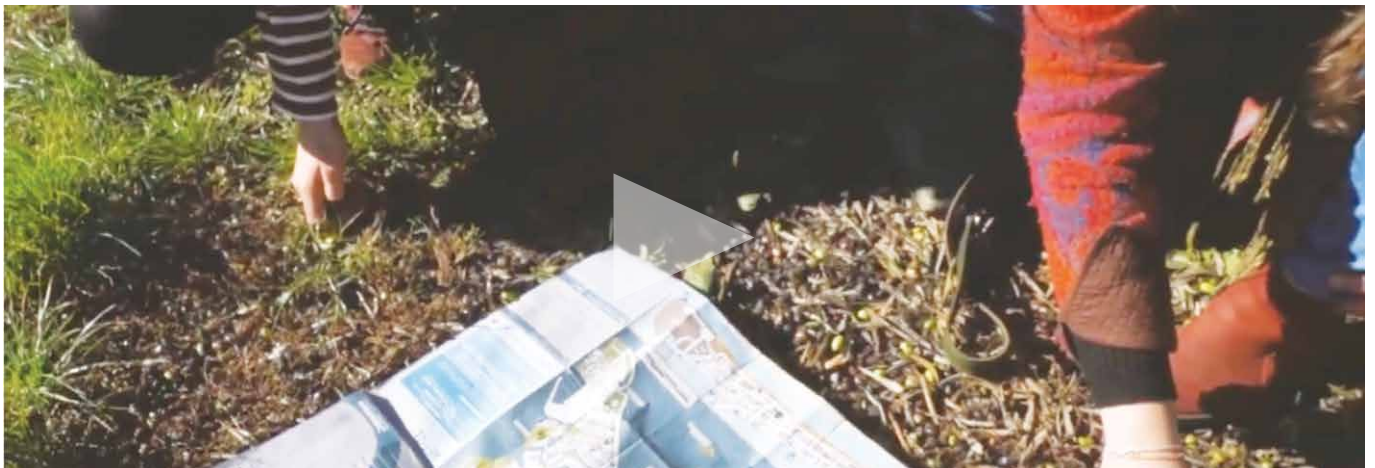
landscape? The blackmail of the 1900s between environment and work has shaped the industrial reality of Venice, which has not compromised the sustainable and resilient vocation of the city of water.

BODY https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NfyllXWs9GI

SOUL https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s-r2EoDL7iM

PARTNERSHIP per Obiettivi https://youtu.be/3IQ3-9ssNm0

Linking SDG to the territories: Mapping local actions & spaces

From Venice to the world, thanks to digital technology that helps imagine fully sustainable cities.

MODERATOR

Petr Suska, Head of Innovation in the Urban Economy, Fraunhofer IAO

The Fraunhofer Institute is the largest applied research organization in Europe. It is non-profit, funded by the German government that invests about three billion euros in research every year. Lately they have been working on programs and research projects that address the post-Coronavirus period, but Fraunhofer is particularly famous for inventing mp3 files, whose royalties are one of the most significant sources of funding.

Smart urban planning in Eindhoven

Erna Polimac, Project Leader on Global Goals and Yunus Balci, Councillor, City of Eindhoven, The Netherlands

OVERVIEW

- Eindhoven is the fifth largest city in the Netherlands and is located in the south of the country

- It is home to numerous companies and start-ups in the tech sector

The city of Eindhoven has its own urban development initiative, which is based on cooperation between institutions and local stakeholders and aims to find smart, integrated and innovative solutions to respond to social challenges and improve the quality of life in the region. This initiative, has prepared a digital program for integrated

and sustainable urban planning through tools such as digital twin and virtual reality, in order to make evidence-based decision-making processes and increase the empowerment of citizens. The results of these experiments can be translated into data and knowledge and help identify new and better solutions for the future.

Eindhoven's **smart urban planning program** consists of four strands (digital twin and virtual reality, tooling area-based management, sensing and citizen-centered services) and identifies social challenges in the city. Because of its size, Eindhoven presents the same issues as large cities with a greater capacity for integrated responses, including through digitization. The technologies are massively available but it is important to find the right application and this is the main purpose of smart urban planning. The digital twin is the key tool in the program but it should be used to visualize the city you want, not as a decision-making tool in itself. Eindhoven tested this tool by applying it to the main challenge of the moment, the health organization in the city centre, and trying to make a connection with the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda. The representation on the map of the city has made it possible to visualize the concrete consequences of the choices made, the possibilities and opportunities present in the neighbourhoods, and increase the participation of citizens helping to create consensus towards local policies and plans. This is a great advantage because the SDGs acquire concreteness in the eyes of citizens.

The same methodology has been used to monitor people's well-being in economic, social and environmental terms, and this regional monitoring has been applied to the city of Eindhoven. We believe that this tool represents a valid thermometer of the situation and can provide useful data when decisions have to be made, while not replacing the perceptions and feelings of the people who live in the city.

Finally, always through the digital twin the contribution of the city to the achievement of the SDGs was mapped and it was possible to view the overview of policies and projects
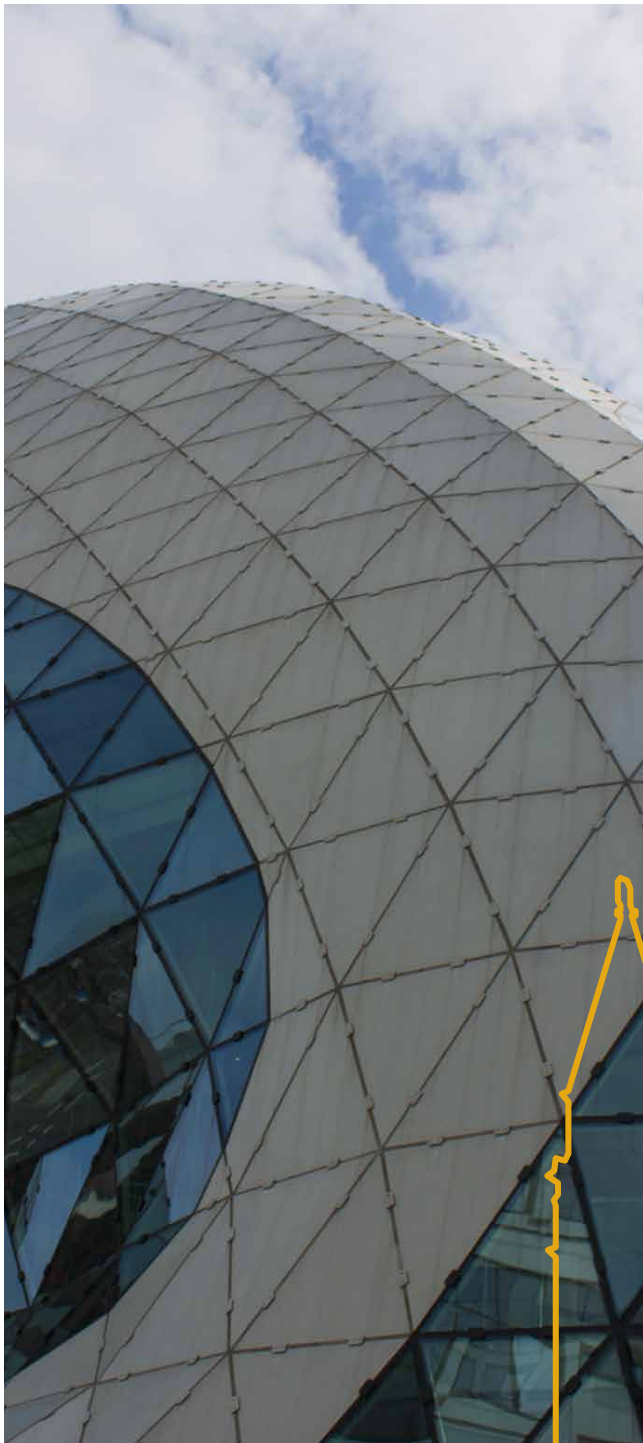
underway to assess whether they correspond to the current ambitions and preferences of citizens.

Fighting air pollution with data

Karim Tarraf, co-founder of HawaDawa

OVERVIEW

- Hawa Dawa is a Munich-based consulting firm that collects and analyses air pollution data to make cities more sustainable

At HawaDawa, we believe that air quality is closely linked to the health of the cities in which we live and that we need to initiate a change in the way we use data to detect air pollution. It has been calculated that pollution affects European GDP by reducing it by more than 10%, and that it contributes to exacerbating climate change: air quality, health and climate crisis are interrelated and breaking this vicious circle is difficult because of the way data has been handled until now. If a European city has an average of 40.1 micrograms per year of NO_2 it means it has a pollution problem, but if the values are slightly below 39.9 then it is thought that the problem does not exist.

HawaDawa believes that in an era of data, this approach is no longer acceptable and a change needs to be implemented. Suffice it to say that over 100 countries do not have air quality monitoring and over 50% of the world's population does not have access to air pollution data.

Their activities are to transform an analogue city into a city that communicates through data. How? By attaching sensors to light poles, billboards and cars and obtaining resources and information useful to public decision makers, who can intervene with dedicated initiatives and reward the actions of citizens that generate the highest ecological impact. In addition, working closely with the European Space Agency they can use satellites and this dual point of observation, global and local, allows them to create a globalized monitoring system and to have an overview of the emissions of the whole world and the changes taking place.

As an example, they applied the playful approach in Munich, where they provided more than 1500 drivers and commuters with an alternative route based on air quality data. More than 40% chose to take the route they provided because it was actually shorter, not in terms of travel time, but in terms of distance, resulting in lower nitrogen dioxide and CO_2 emissions.

These visualization projects help support the SDGs and drive decision-making through

Development Goals, in particular SDGs 9,10,11,13 and 15. Creating a digital twin for HLRS means including citizens and sharing knowledge, adopting an open source, open access and open data approach. In experimenting with digital twin prototypes, they have involved various stakeholders, such as youth, through which they have been able to assess and geo-reference certain spaces. For about nine years they have been working on the development of a digital twin for the energy transition of the town of Forbach in

evidence and data, from traffic to health management, from launching a climate action plan to real estate investments. "The technology is there, and it's time for cities to embrace it to address air pollution, otherwise it will be other parties doing it for them in the future."

The digital twin for urban planning

Fabian Dembski, Visualization Sector, HLRS, High Performance Computing Center, Stuttgart

OVERVIEW

- HLRS is the high-performance computing center in Stuttgart. It has in-house one of the fastest computers in Europe and is used for science and engineering research, climate simulation and urban planning.

HLRS is currently working together with the Fraunhofer Institute on digital twins applied to virtual realities to achieve the Sustainable

the Black Forest near Stuttgart and have initiated collaborative planning open to all stakeholders. Through virtual reality they simulated public participation on site and included noise simulation, and this also served to inform the stakeholders involved.

The simulation tool can also be applied to environmental disaster prevention. For example, a dam break was simulated to understand what the associated hazards and risks would be, as well as the consequences of building a new dam or power plant. Shifting the focus to the issue of poverty and reducing inequality, they asked how to use technology transfer to improve the lives of people in informal housing settlements, where technology is not yet accessible to all.

Their goal is to be a step ahead also with regard to the problem of pollution and the identification of clean technologies but to ensure this transition and not create dependencies they are focusing on open access and data sharing strategies so that technology can be available to all.

The waste cycle as a challenge of our time

Cyril Klepek, General Manager of Cyrkl

OVERVIEW

- CYRKL is a Prague-based green tech company focused on circular economy and waste management.

- It is committed to promoting the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda and focuses in particular on Goal 12 "responsible consumption and production", but also industrial innovation, Goal 9, and climate action, Goal 13.

In the 52 countries in which it operates, Cyril seeks to provide an answer to a specific problem: one third of the 100 billion tons of materials that are extracted each year turn into waste, which in turn is dumped in landfills and oceans. If we calculate the price of all the

plastic in the oceans today, we find that it's worth as much as Google, Amazon and Apple combined. Therefore, waste management is a current issue and must be addressed by leveraging data and adapting logistics. In Central Europe, 88% of waste comes from the construction sector, and it is large companies that generate most of the waste. In some parts of the world, waste is disposed of in incinerators, while in Eastern Europe, South America, Asia and North America it is stored in landfills.

Cyrkl also works with multinationals such as Siemens and Ikea, to whom it offers consulting services that include analysis of the waste stream generated. Very often, companies are surprised by the amount of product waste and the value it could have if it were reused. Cyrkl's mission is to enhance the value of waste and through recycling give life to a new and useful product for society. Through the cyrkl.com website, the largest waste exchange market in Europe has been
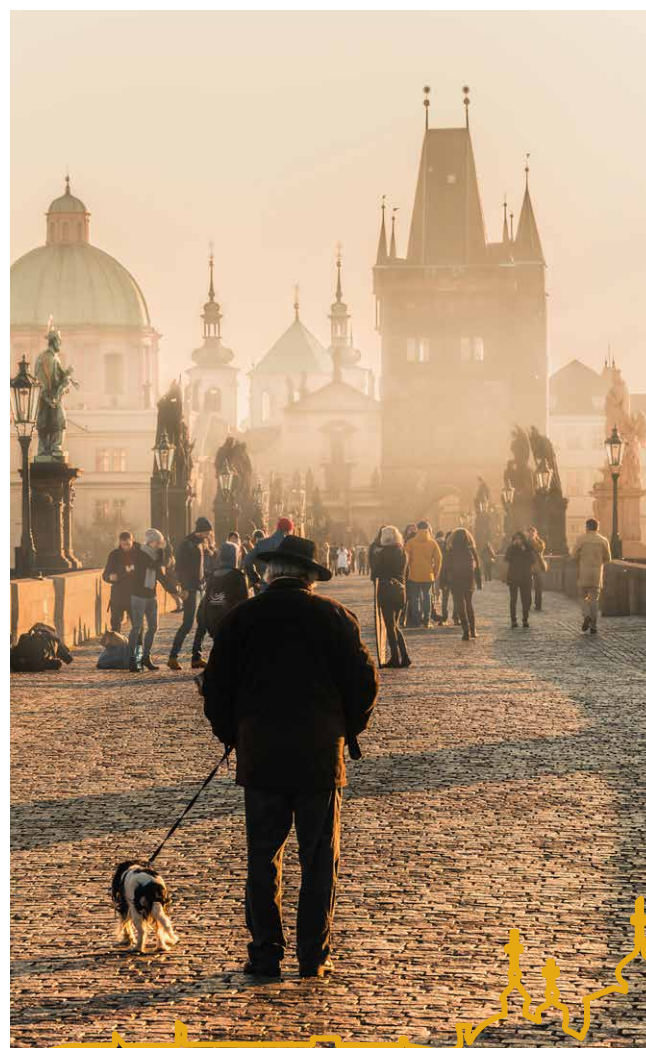
launched, which not only saves companies a great deal of money, but also significantly reduces CO2 consumption. Implementing an effective circular economy strategy requires some important steps: analyse the waste cycle to understand how to reuse it, break it down and differentiate its recyclable components or sell it to recycling companies. European legislation calls for the use of 25% recycled materials in packaging by 2025, so it is important to know what happens to our waste and how it is treated.

A lot can also be done with municipalities and cities. The starting point should always be an analysis of the waste stream, knowing what the main waste is and identifying the priorities on which you want to intervene. The entire waste management system must be digitized: data allow us to know how much waste material is produced in a territory, how it can be reused and who are the actors that produce it. This analysis is crucial in tackling the problem because the amount of waste generated by cities is huge and it is a challenge we need to address as soon as possible.

Finance and technology for sustainability: Doconomy

Helen Muller, Co-Founder and Head of Åland Index Solutions, Doconomy

OVERVIEW

- Doconomy is an impact-tech company investing in new financial tools to combat climate change

- It was founded in 2018 with the belief that it was time to connect consumption to the impact being generated on the planet and, through the use of digital tools, foster a sustainable lifestyle.

Doconomy aims to propose an action-oriented approach to economics and stimulate the emergence of a community sensitive to environmental and climate change issues. It is a small company based

in Stockholm that maintains relationships with large global companies operating in the field of finance, such as Mastercard, consulting firms, such as S&P Global and Truecost, European institutions and national and local governments. He also collaborates with UNFCCC for the development of climate offset projects.

The starting point for Doconomy's work is the perception that people around the world do not know what a Kilocarbon is, how their daily lifestyle affects the planet, and how they can contribute to the changes we need to make in the next 10 years. The company Intends to engage 500 million people by 2025 and help them reduce their carbon emissions, for a total of one billion tons of carbon reduction. It also seeks to direct capital to where it needs to invest, and to do this it has developed the world's first mobile banking service that monitors and measures the amount of carbon emitted with every purchase made. In the future, the service will also include the creation of a planet loyalty program, a climate offset platform and an impact-driven investment mechanism. The application was built on the basis of the Åland Index, the world's first carbon calculation index that can measure the carbon footprint of any financial transaction. Doconomy is working with many international lenders to license the service and is collaborating with energy companies, big pharma, and national and local governments to assess whether this tool can be effectively implemented for the benefit of people and the planet.

It is currently developing an SDGs index capable of quantifying and calculating the impact generated by each in the thematic areas of the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda. This solution also contains a pricing mechanism: the price of carbon is set at US$130 per tonne and is in line with the international collaborative partnership established by the Obama administration of which Truecost is a member.

Another Doconomy initiative is the Personal Impact Management Toolbox: a carbon viewer that helps people monitor, measure and understand their emissions. Through personal

or climate profiles, people can customize their experience and shape their daily choices based on their carbon consumption and align with national and global goals to reduce emissions by one and a half degrees in 10 years. The app also includes a personal coach who through outreach activities, tips and ideas helps generate changes in our daily behavior. In order to visualize the data and make it easily accessible to people, a graphic is reproduced of the total consumption generated, the sub-categories into which it is

divided (one of these concerns, for example, transportation) and the time frame taken as a reference.

Finally, Doconomy is working with UNFCCC on the Climate Offset and Impact Investing platform and intends to create a platform that helps visualize the positive impact that each of us generates on the planet through global development goals, personal investments and climate offsets.
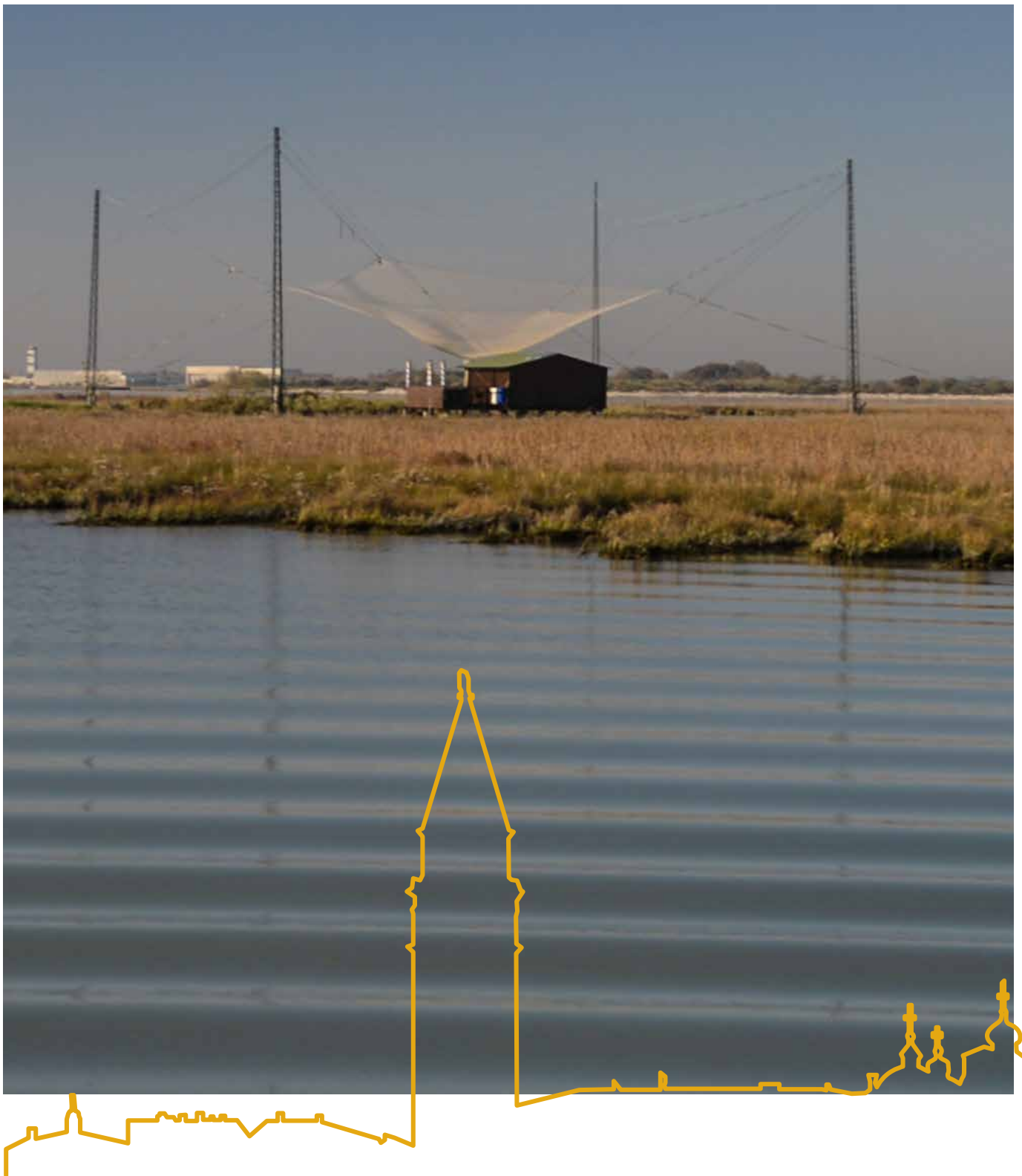
ONE ON ONE

with Priyanka Sinha-Public sector specialist and founder of Xitiway

A digital transition to implement SDGs

Covid-19 clearly highlighted which economies were digitally prepared and which were not. Digitally mature economies were able to continue on the path to achieving the SDGs, while others stalled. Online education for college students has enabled many to finish their studies and graduate, e-commerce platforms for mobile connectivity and digital payment platforms have enabled millions of businesses and consumers to continue to sell and consume well, and governments that have invested in e-government have continued to deliver critical services to their citizens.

Digital transformation has often been seen as a separate goal from the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, yet it is deeply embedded in each. Digital solutions are accelerating gains in specific sectors, such as agriculture, health, and education. SDG 1, improved food access and sustainable agriculture, benefits from digital solutions such as biosensors, mapping technologies, drones, and e-commerce platforms that provide farmers with higher quality, higher yielding crops. Goal 3, good health and well-being, addresses the quality of the economy and the accessibility of health care. Examples of digital solutions in healthcare include cloud storage, electronic health records, mobile apps, wearable technology, augmented reality, telemedicine, and predictive analytics. These tools promote rapid access to services and simplify collaboration among healthcare providers, ensuring round-the-clock care. SDG 4, quality education, promotes affordable, accessible, and empowering education by 2030. In this area, the digital solutions available cover online learning software, e-learning tutorials, video chats, and multimedia lectures and offer flexible, widespread, and more economically sustainable learning than traditional school and university. With the right digital infrastructure in place, educational content becomes available to all.

The development of digital solutions is not only a technological task, it is also a political, financial regulatory and cultural task; therefore, a comprehensive holistic ecosystem approach is needed to ensure greater deployment and ensure minimal long-term shocks and risks.

The 7 pillars of a robust digital economy

A strong and robust digital economy relies on: **leadership**, engagement and **shared value creation** among stakeholders, dedicated **policies**, **market accessibility**, **financial investment**, adequate infrastructure, digital **skills**, and a **culture** of entrepreneurship and innovation.

As each pillar is strengthened, certain risks arise that need to be assessed and monitored.

The 7 risks of digitization

A shift to digitization could accelerate our SDGs goals but could also create a number of new challenges.

The main ones relate to **socio-economic inequalities** between those who are digitally connected and those who are not; difficulty on the part of local communities to benefit from technology, in part due to lack of awareness and training about it; difficulty for citizens **to control the use of their personal data** by exposing themselves to cyber-attacks or digital theft; **regulation could be weak** or difficult to manage if governments do not have robust digital knowledge; **private companies could gain dominance**; and **automation** could cause job losses. Finally, **geopolitical interests** could lead to adopting the wrong digital solutions or putting powerful technologies and data in the wrong hands.

Risk management strategies are necessary and must be accounted for in advance. This is especially critical right now for those city

leaders and planners who are simultaneously trying to provide answers to the ongoing crisis. It is essential to strengthen each of the seven pillars by integrating them with each other so that opportunities are maximized and risks are minimized.

The immaterial dimension of communities - Riccardo Varini, Department of Architecture, University of Bologna

Often, in our work as designers and trainers at the University, we look at the city as a living organism consisting mainly of the place, the space, the people who live within the city and then of a totally immaterial element, the very soul of the city: the community.

The community evolves and changes, but it must always find a way to take root in a place. I wonder if planning companies have addressed the issue of the immaterial dimension of the city, trying to record the links between communities and people and discovering, perhaps, that in the same city there are some communities that are sustainable and proactive and others that have a strong impact on the environment. It would be interesting to explore with the eye of the technician these interpersonal and immaterial dynamics to really capture all the nuances of urban life."
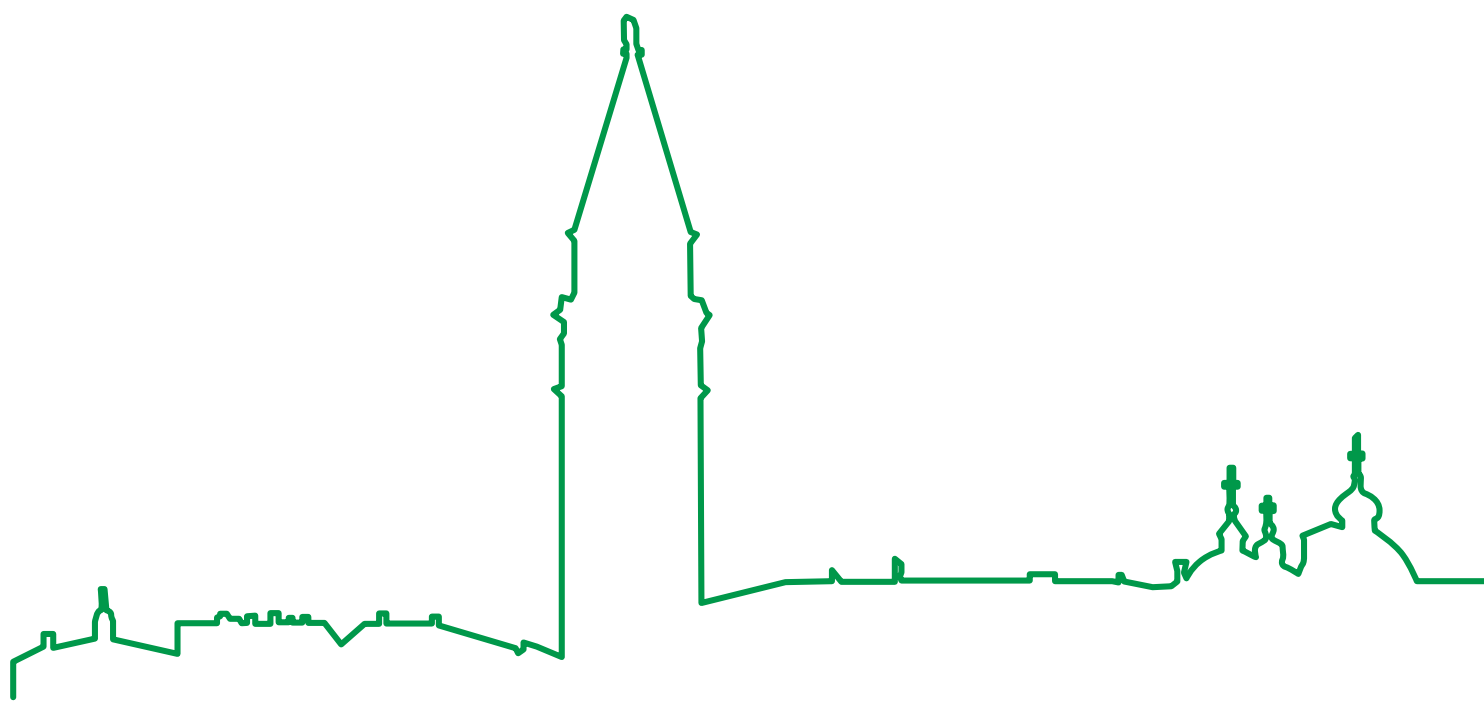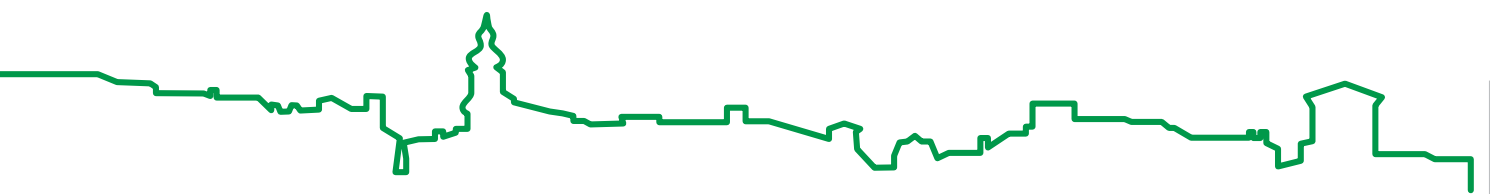
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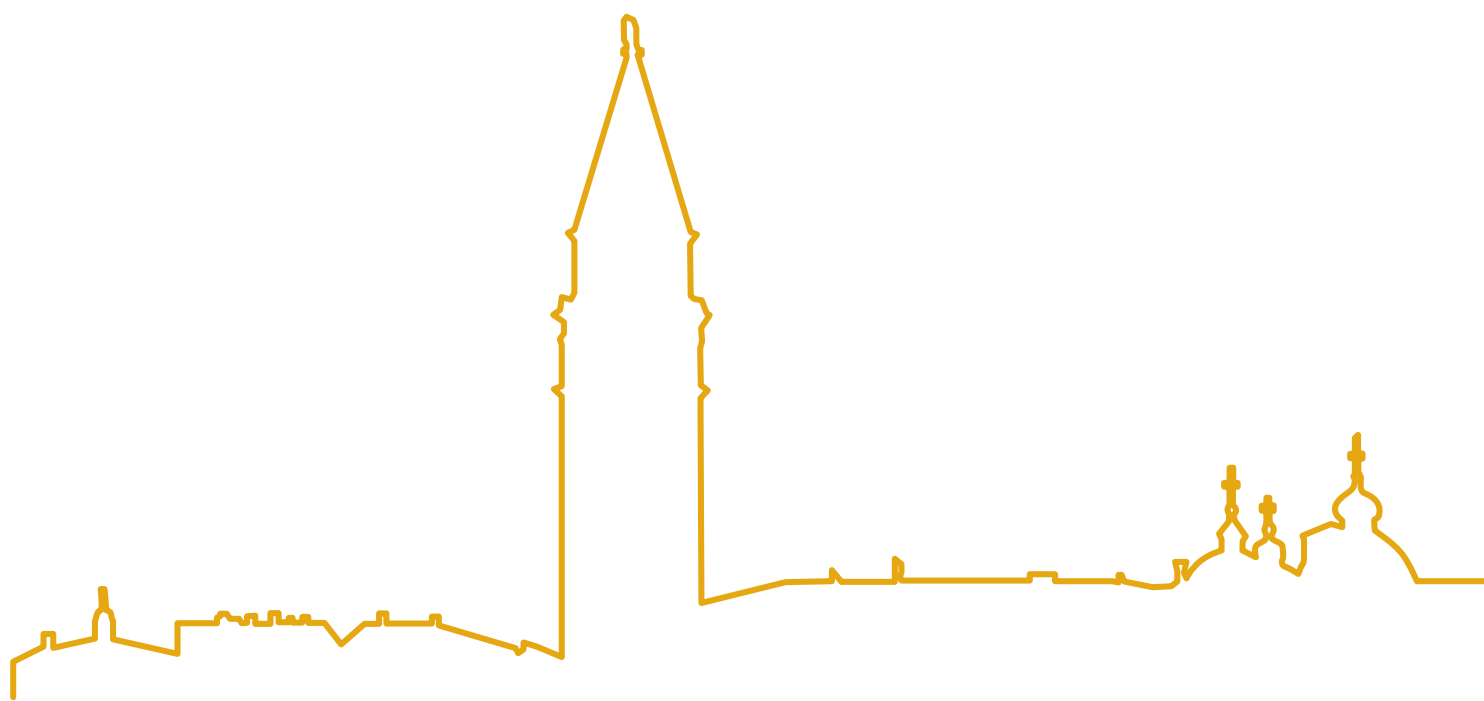
NABILITY

We tell of the Venetian experience aboard a boat that represents the desire to reconcile tourism with respect for the marine and terrestrial ecosystem. A particular boat, with a flat keel, to avoid the wave motion and with the ambition to enrich the experience of tourists by immersing them in the rhythms of life of the city: it is a visual, olfactory and sound journey in which nature becomes the protagonist.

In the video that accompanies this session, we cross the southern lagoon, and moving away from the industrial center of Marghera, aboard a bragozzo[1], we move towards the northern lagoon, between the islands of Burano and S.Erasmo in the white light of the afternoon. Our journey is filled with the sounds of the landscape, without a narrative voice.

PLANET, the space

The increase in "per capita speed", consumerism, has had the effect of depersonalizing the territory: living in one place or another is indifferent. In Venice, on the other hand, we are trying to rebuild a sustainable cultural, artistic, social and environmental landscape that will guarantee a future for the new generations.

Our boat trip takes us to learn about sustainable agriculture in the lagoon, visiting a farm on the island of S.Erasmo. The islands of Venice tell of organic farms, ecological boats, bike rides: the environment positively affects the quality of work and economy by producing local value scales and sustainable production. Even tourism can be sustainable if the environment is the new indicator for landscape tourism.

1 - Small sailing ship with a wooden hull, round and squat, usually with two masts and sails painted in bright colors, widely used in the northern Adriatic, for fishing or transport.

of the city: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JdfveIQD_7k

Identifying correlations, actors & links of local SDG actions

The value of partnerships and the development of shared platforms to foster citizen participation and inclusion

MODERATOR

How to create horizontal and vertical partnerships in a territory?

Johannes Krassnitzer - UNDP ART initiative

To create functional partnerships within cities and territories we need common processes that generate trust over time and help overcome prejudices between institutions. Relationships between different actors are essential to address local problems and global challenges and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda.

The technology and dialogue platform for strengthening and achieving the SDGs: the SDGs laboratory in Cuba - Adriana Acosta, Directorate of Strategic Development of the Ministry of Economy and Planning

OVERVIEW

- The Directorate of Strategic Development of the Ministry of Economy and Planning of Cuba is responsible for the elaboration of the National Plan for Economic and Social Development to 2030 (PNDES 2030) and coordinates the national group for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

The Technology and Dialogue Platform for Strengthening and Achieving the SDGs (Laboratorio ODS - Objectivos de Desarrollo Sostenible) is a participatory institutional tool that allows monitoring the implementation

of the SDGs at the national and local levels, presenting the main programs and actions in place, highlighting their points of contact with the National Plan for Economic and Social Development to 2030 (PNDES), measure the performance of indicators, foster multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder analysis to redefine priorities and the allocation of funding, and promote initiatives that accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. In addition, the platform has boosted statistical measurement and analysis activities, enhanced innovation and technology transfer, promoted integrated program and policy development, and stimulated public participation.

At the moment, the platform contains 329 initiatives of national and local character, promoted by 55 subjects and 151 entities belonging to different fields (civil society, private sector, academia, etc.) and through a map of Cuba it is possible to visualize the type and number of projects and subjects involved in activities for the promotion of sustainable development. At present, four provinces are mapped (Pinar del Rio, Artemisa, Cienfuegos and SanctiS virtus), but the Laboratory's objective is to reach the whole country. This tool also makes it possible to extrapolate the initiatives related to each SDGs and visualize the issues on which the country is working the most and those in which it is weakest. It is also possible to see which local, national and international actors are working on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and activate horizontal dialogues and identify the vulnerable groups that projects and initiatives are targeting to promote targeted policies.

In Cuba, the SDGs Lab has become a consolidated tool for sustainable development analysis, it contributes to the National Integrated Financing Framework, and strengthens provincial and municipal governments. During the first phase, which began in 2019, national bodies, local authorities, and civil society organizations have been involved, and by 2022, initiatives promoted by universities and research centres will also be mapped.

The municipal index of sustainable development

Joana Abreu and João H. C. António, Center for Studies and Opinion Polls (CESOP), Catholic University of Lisbon, Portugal

OVERVIEW

- CESOP conducts applied studies that enable public and private entities to adapt to social changes and prepare for the future.

- CESOP-Local a research unit of CESOP that develops studies for Public Administrations, taking as reference the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and the 169 indicators contained in the 2030 Agenda.

The Municipal Index of Sustainable Development (ISM) was born within CESOP-Local. The project began in 2016 with the objective of bringing the 2030 Agenda within the Portuguese University and its mission was to create tools to integrate the concept of sustainable development into land management policies.

The ISM is a continuously evolving tool capable of acting in favour of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The activity of constructing the index required the direct involvement of municipalities, whose knowledge of the strengths and weaknesses of their territories made it possible to identify the objectives and needs to be examined. Moreover, the elaboration of the ISM took place in direct collaboration with the organizations that are part of the CESOP network and is based on reference documents and indicators proposed by the OECD. Each year, the CESOP-Local team reviews the proposals and projects that are collected online and organizes in-person meetings, during which the proposals are reviewed and discussions are initiated. The process may require several repetitions and ends with a workshop on the topic of localizing the 2030 Agenda in Portugal.

Today there are 129 indicators that measure 66

goals and this year the portal was developed that facilitates the consultation of the results of each ISM and allows it to increase sharing towards citizens and increase awareness about the SDGs in society. CESOP-Local has informed all municipalities in Portugal of the possibility of consulting the indices online.

Beyond the activities at the local level, CESOP-Local adheres to international networks such as Sustainable Development Solutions. The centreanalyses the positioning of all Portuguese municipalities with respect to the 2030 Agenda and produces profiles of them. For the future, CESOP aims to map SDG localization experiences in the country.
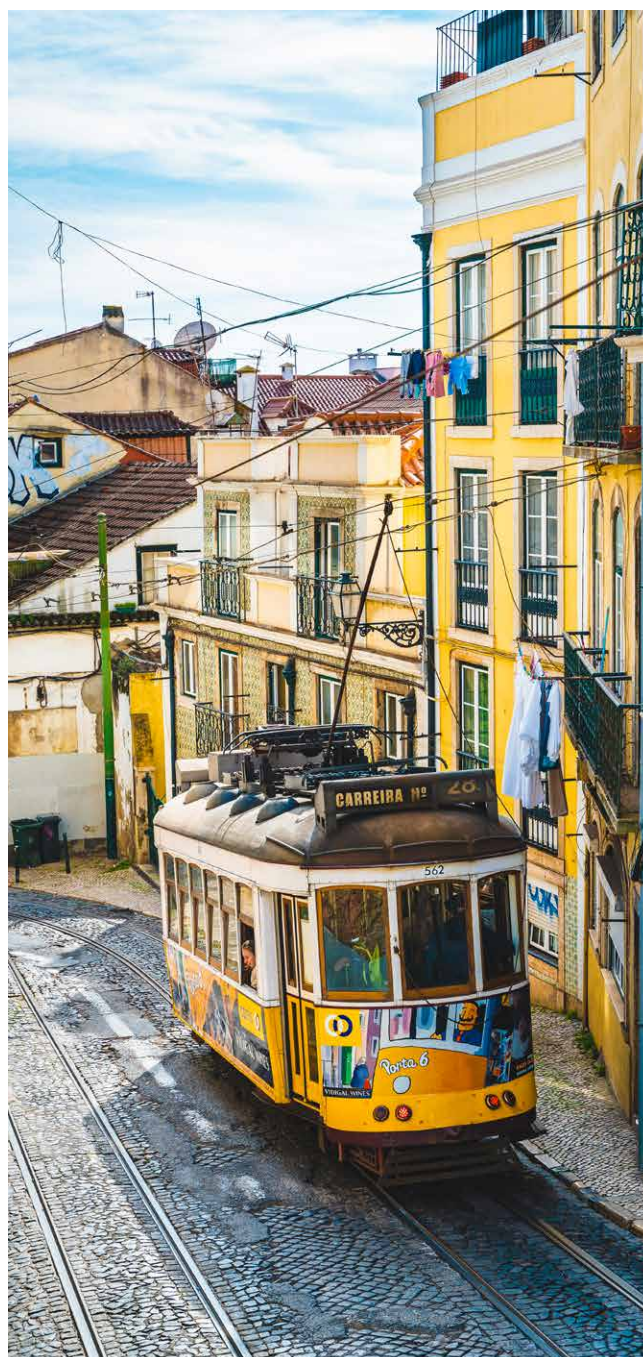
Paranacidade: the regional urban development strategy of the State of Paraná

Geraldo Luiz Farias, Superintendence of ParanáCities, State of Paraná, Brazil

OVERVIEW

- Parana is a state in Brazil and is bordered to the north by the state of São Paulo and to the south by the state of Santa Catarina. It is divided into 399 municipalities and the capital is Curitiba.

- 11 million inhabitants, 85% live in urban areas (2010) but by 2030 the percentage could reach 92%.

Paranacidade is the coordination at the State Secretariat of Urban Development and Public Works and is divided into six regional offices. Its mission is to promote regional urban development, strengthen the institutional capacities of local authorities, support the use of financial resources and provide technical assistance to the 399 municipalities. To "visualize" the Agenda2030 in cities, 19 regional associations have been involved and 16 of them are already committed to promoting the achievement of the SDGs in their territories. At the local level, 359 municipalities out of 399 are involved in activities regarding the localization of the SDGs.

The interventions put in place to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs have been diverse. Free access to consultation of maps containing geo-referenced data and indicators has been guaranteed for all 399 municipalities with the aim of supporting the formulation and monitoring of urban and regional development policies. After an initial phase of data collection, the municipalities have gradually integrated existing information (www.paranainterativo.pr.gov.br).

The issue of financing was addressed, representing one of the aspects to be improved in order to truly achieve the SDGs through the establishment of a revolving fund. The main objective of the Municipal Financing System is to provide loans for the purpose of strengthening institutional capacity and investing in basic and social infrastructure to promote urban and sustainable development in local governments through the State. This action allows for the dedication of specific resources to support municipalities in achieving the SDGs. All initiatives carried out since 2016 are focused on Agenda 2030 and the new Urban Agenda.

During the pandemic, a portal was activated that collects communications with the municipalities of the State of Parana and allows avoiding travel between different regional offices. Access is free for most documents, to access more sensitive documents it is necessary to register. Citizen participation is a fundamental element in the State of Paraná and a glue that holds the municipalities together and projects them into the international dimension.

A partnership for development

Luana Natali, UNDP Guinea-Bissau

OVERVIEW

- Guinea-Bissau is a small developing state in West Africa that has struggled with political instability and institutional weakness since independence in the 1970s.

In 2020, Guinea-Bissau experienced a serious political crisis which led to the installation of a new government, recognized only later by the international community. The country's

governance is highly centralized and the lack of institutional capacity on the part of local authorities makes the institutional set-up very weak. The State is unable to support businesses and the population, which lives mainly on agriculture and small business, and perceives the State as their sole employer. The pandemic has placed further barriers to access to basic services and the most vulnerable people have suffered in particular. In this context, UNDP Bissau, with the support of Art initiative and the Italian government, launched the Na NôMon initiative, which in Creole means "in your hands". This is a partnership that has created an online platform for planning and development of responses to community needs and priorities, in a coordinated way between all actors in the area that can contribute to the localization of the SDGs. The purpose of the platform is to connect communities with all stakeholders who are supporting local development and identify replicable solutions on a wide range of issues relevant to sustainable development and the SDGs. The mapping of formal and informal realities, belonging to the private sector or civil society, has allowed us to geographically represent the networks already activated and identify case studies. The ultimate goal is to facilitate a multi-stakeholder dialogue and create contacts between actors who often do not work together. In addition, Na NôMon is a space for dialogue and exchange on issues relevant to the community and allows the marginalized to make their voices heard.

The true value of this digital infrastructure will be evident in the connections it will be able to establish between communities and policy makers, development professionals, and the private sector to improve the lives of the people of Guinea-Bissau. Building participatory governance allows citizens to express their opinions, but internet connectivity is very limited in Guinea Bissau. Therefore, meetings have been held within the geographically remote communities, because no one should be left behind in this process.

Na NôMon is the first building block of a broader co-creation initiative that aims to

transform the country. The initiative was launched by UNDP but is an instrument open to all development players and other UN agencies. The African Bank has also expressed interest in participating and contributing to the activation of this multi-stakeholder partnership in support of the 2030 Agenda in Guinea-Bissau. In a context strongly marked by poverty and social exclusion, participation and cohesion are key elements in ensuring the strengthening of local governance and decentralization. Resilient communities can emerge from processes of representation and participation in public life, and the activation of these partnerships contributes to supporting the localization of the SDGs in Guinea-Bissau.

Madrid has a plan to combat climate change

Santiago Saura, Councilor for International Affairs and Cooperation of the City of Madrid

OVERVIEW

- Madrid is among the 15 European cities in which the Climate KIC (Knowledge and Innovation Community), the main European initiative dedicated to innovation in climate action, is being tested.

- A task force composed of officials and experts from the different departments of the Madrid City Council has been created to work together in the implementation of decarbonization projects.

The European Commission has set itself an ambitious goal to combat climate change: reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 55% by 2030. Madrid has taken up the challenge, aligning itself with European benchmarks and launching a local strategy to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda and try to cut emissions by more than 55%.

Madrid is among the 14 European cities demonstrating the Climate KIC and adheres to the Healthy, Clean Cities Deep Demonstration program, which brings together in a single multi-stakeholder platform innovative projects and interventions that can make a concrete contribution to the decarbonisation of the city. These are large-scale initiatives, aligned with the main European and international agreements on the subject, with a strong transformative capacity and transversality to different areas of society. The work of the platform is open to different actors from the world of economics, finance, business and academia, and the City of Madrid is the challenge owner, the "owner" of the challenge, to ensure that projects are linked to local needs and help create new jobs and new investments.

The areas of work identified are: sustainable mobility, green infrastructure, removal of regulatory barriers that limit the process

of decarbonisation and energy efficiency of neighbourhoods and buildings. The Municipality is engaged in two virtuous projects that concern sustainable mobility ("nos movemos nos cuidamos") and reduction of traffic concentration at peak times through the introduction of smart work methodologies and hourly flexibility, and the planting of an urban forest. An international ideas competition was held to implement the green infrastructure surrounding the city. The economic study carried out by the Madrid City Council to assess the costs and benefits of the city's decarbonisation process from 2030 to the present has shown that the balance is positive. In addition to finding significant energy savings, new jobs have been created and the economic return has been over 30%. This analysis is particularly important because it demonstrates to citizens that engaging in green initiatives pays off economically as well.

ONE ON ONE

with Francesca Lavazza, Board member Lavazza Group

Can creativity affect the implementation of the SDGs at the city level?

Cities are complex but privileged places because it is where artistic and cultural experimentation finds fertile ground. Turin is the city where our company was founded in 1895 and it is still our city of choice. It has been the starting point for extraordinary projects of sustainable urban art, thanks to the teamwork that has brought together local administrators, artists, creative minds and photographers from all over the community.

Sustainability in its three dimensions (social, economic and environmental) has distinguished our company's actions since 2015 when, together with the Lavazza Foundation, we joined the Global Compact initiative. It was then that the decision was made to transform the 17 global objectives of the United Nations into Lavazza's guidelines for the present and future of the company.

To raise awareness about sustainability and create a common language, we devised Goal Zero, which amplifies the message of the SDGs, and we became ambassadors for our 2030 Agenda, a tool to encourage people to take action and become the real protagonists of this change. Our story, at this point, met and introjected other voices present in the city. The project "Towards 2030: what are you doing" was the spark that allowed us to bring artists together and issue them with a challenge: how to bring the 17 global goals to the walls of Turin and turn them into a manifesto? How to communicate the United Nations 2030 Agenda in a clear and universal language that can be understood by the whole community?

The enthusiasm and the great participation of Italian and international artists made us realize that we were on the right track. Together we turned Turin into the first open-air laboratory,

and street art expressed the essence of the UN SDGs. Eighteen urban canvases were created (18 walls of the city) and Martha Cooper, mentor and photographer of street artists, made the project known worldwide.

Following his testimony, Feltrinelli published the book "TOward 2030 - Urban Art for Sustainable Development" and is now a narrative manual of the project.

To what do you attribute the success of the initiative?

All the stakeholders firmly believed in the

project and the artists made their art available by getting personally involved. They each interpreted a goal of the 2030 Agenda, as well as incorporated Goal Zero, with the intention of engaging the citizenry. The artists established a dialogue with the neighbourhoods by creating conscious spaces, and the community responded by actively involving schools, guided tours, workshops, and presentations with the common goal of taking action for sustainability.

Pandemic prompted us to complement the physical project with the digital initiative TOward Tomorrow. This is a contest launched on Instagram that engaged creatives from around the world in a discussion about art and sustainability, with the aim of encouraging them to look at their work in light of the 17 SDGs and create a network that includes the American magazine Juxtapoz, Art Helps and the United Nations SDG Action Campaign and 17 international NGOs.

We hope that "TOward 2030" can become a source of inspiration for other cities and companies because we believe that art is a tool to raise awareness, inspire and encourage sustainable behaviour.
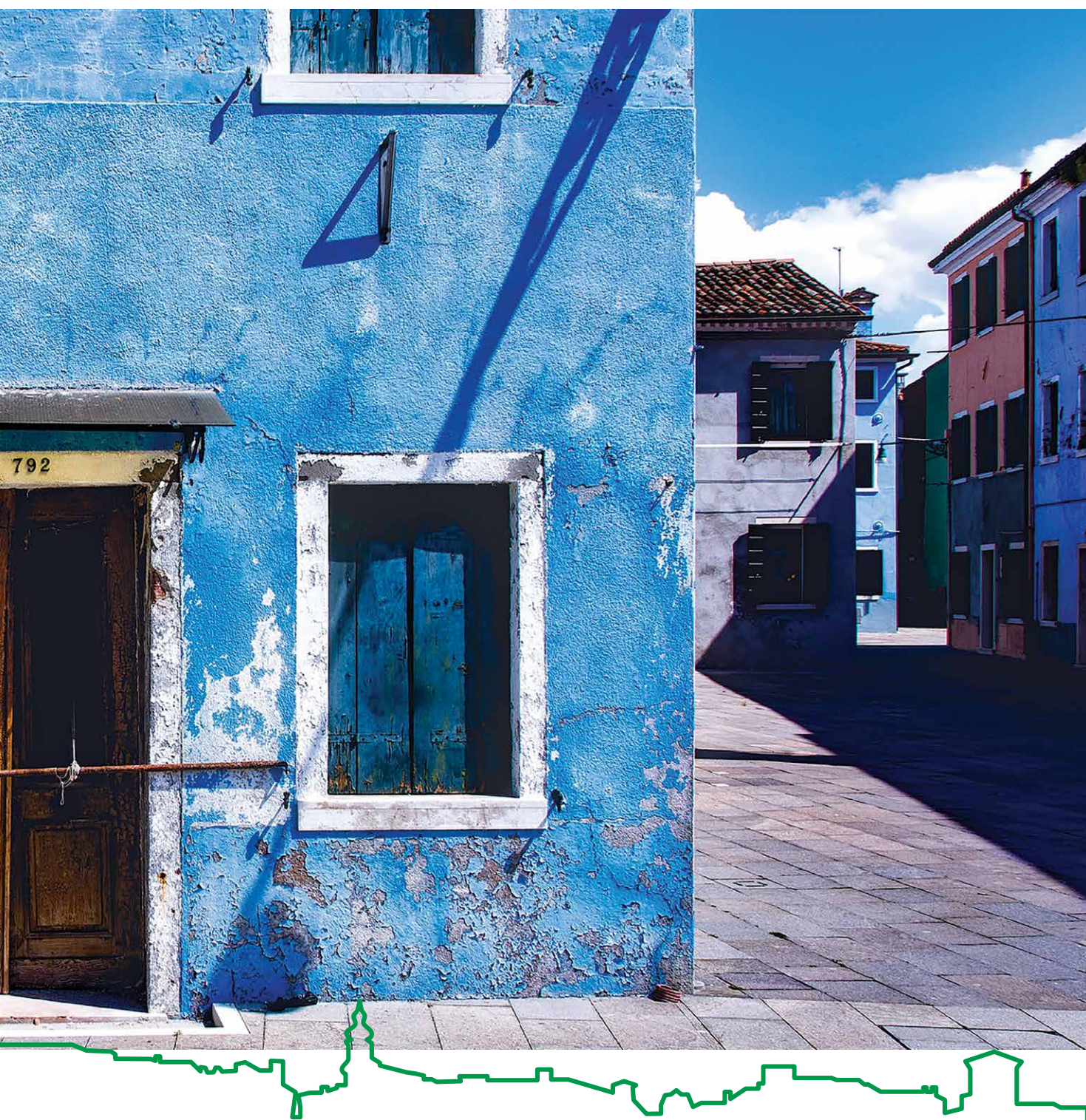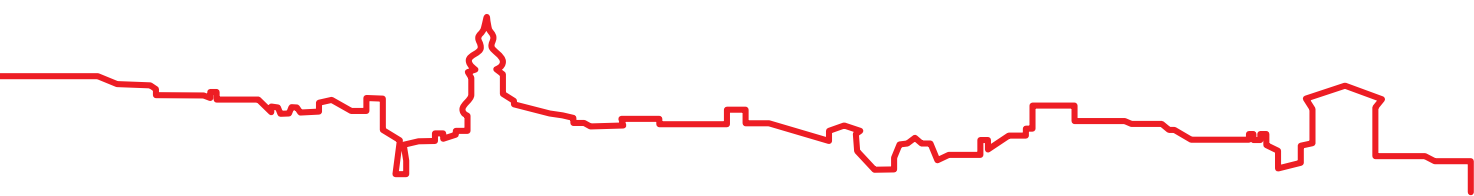
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Telling the story of Venice in its economic dimension requires describing the historical tradition of glass factories on the water. But the history of Venice must be read through the actualization of new forms and realities, in a new way of life. Today, glass technicians work with Universities and tell them about a new community made of an exchange of knowledge between young architects and historical craftsmen, in order to preserve the ancient knowledge and adapt it to the new productive needs.

In this way, quality craftsmanship is born in laboratories that are witnesses of future work, that invest in solidarity, inclusion and sustainability and that become ateliers of proximity. These are small realities, inserted in the historical context of the city, that even during the Covid-19 pandemic have been able to reinvent themselves by converting their productions into sanitary face masks later donated to those who, in the emergency, needed help.

There are many examples of realities that apply the SDGs and they can be seen walking around the city. Even the organic market tells of an experience of street workshops, of artisans who, among the fruit and vegetable stalls, offer recycled products and teach their craft to the most fragile and disadvantaged. Organic crops and environmentally sustainable products are examples of a city that looks to future generations. Tourist products such as Venice Carnival masks take on a new meaning and are produced by prisoners in their workshops.

The sense of change in a reality that continues to have uncertain future scenarios, starts from the choices that are made. The "Impronta di Comunità" project goes in the direction of a change of perspective that brings together and enhances the rights of people, including the most fragile, the social responsibility of the public body and the productive economic sector and the resources of the third sector.
It is primarily a place where people with disabilities meet, enter into relationships by engaging in the creation of artefacts, changing and giving a new meaning to their daily lives, as well as the labour market and the social context of the territory.

We want to put this experience as a laboratory, taken in the double meaning of a place of learning / production, but also as a reality of study and observation for the deepening of new forms of social economy. Let us therefore be carried away by the images and sounds of the teeming community life.

Venice communities: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kGlBwbs0Mlc
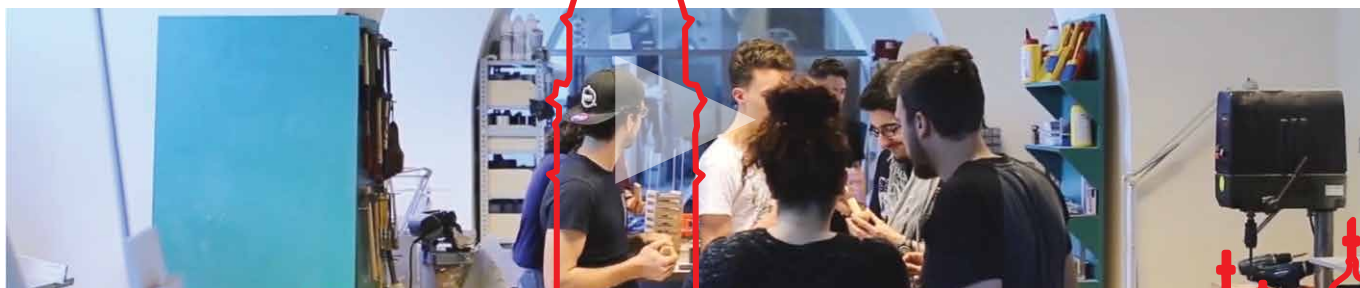
Venice citizenship: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PtkII_E7jmE&t=163s

The vision for the future: strategic planning and imagining a sustainable city

The city that becomes community

MODERATOR

ShipraNarang Suri - Director of Urban Practices Sector, UN-Habitat

Venice City Solutions 2030 has, since 2018,represented a unique creative space for the debate on the localization of sustainable development goals. In this edition, we will try to imagine and create the cities of the future, a topic of fundamental importance today. The pandemic generated by the coronavirus is first and foremost an urban crisis, because more than 90% of cases have been recorded in urban areas, and the economic recession will be particularly heavy in cities. How we recover and how we rebuild our societies will depend on the response that cities and local and regional governments around the world are able to make.

And where better to start this process than from Venice? Venice is a place of resilience and creativity, resting on an important artistic and cultural heritage but always looking to the future. The SDGs offer us an integrated and comprehensive framework to reimagine our cities and the way we live them. This initiative is an opportunity to envision a better future through the SDGs and discuss how we can translate this vision into policy strategies, funding, and concrete initiatives to bring our aspirations to life.

The La Paz 2040 Development Plan: La Paz quequeremos

Álvaro Blondel Executive Secretary of the Municipality of La Paz, Bolivia

OVERVIEW

- In 2014, La Paz adopted the La Paz 2040 integrated development plan, which was

- The Plan is linked to the sustainable development goals of the 2030 Agenda.

- It was formulated through broad participation of citizenship and different stakeholders in the area

La Paz is one of the first municipalities in South America to have articulated its territorial planning through the lens of the SDGs of Agenda 2030, demonstrating that local governments can become promoters of public policies that can have a real impact on the quality of life of citizens. In fact, 63% of the objectives of the agenda are related to the tasks and responsibilities of local authorities. The creation of the development plan "La Paz 2040: La Paz quequeremos" goes in this direction. This is **the third municipal development plan and the first multi-year Municipal Plan of the City of La Paz**, it is strongly linked to the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda and aims to guide the structural and strategic transformation of the territory by overcoming the main challenges (climate change, water scarcity and food security). The process of formulating the La Paz 2040 Plan involved more than 10,000 people, including citizens, institutions, public and private entities, with the aim of building a shared and long-term development project.

The city government will continue to work to implement the SDGs, focusing in particular on three priorities: healthy living, sustainable mobility and decent work, and to counter the spread of Covid through a rethinking and adaptation of the city's spatial planning.

Making your way through complexity: the Amman experience

Nuha I. Qtaish, Executive Director of Strategic Planning, Municipality of Greater Amman, Jordan

OVERVIEW

- Amman is the capital of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and is a multicultural city: one-third of the population is non-Jordanian and home to more than 30 percent of Syrian refugees.

- The city covers 800 square kilometres, and the population density is 13,600 inhabitants per square kilometre (48,000 inhabitants per square kilometre in the central and eastern parts of the city alone).

- 48% of the land is zoned regulated, and 37% is built up.

The Covid19 pandemic and the long lockdown period have posed many challenges to the Amman municipal administration. One of these has concerned the high population density that characterizes, in particular, the central-eastern area of the city and, consequently, the possibility of guaranteeing each citizen access to essential services and listening to individual needs.

In order to analyse in depth the relationship between the high concentration of housing settlements and the possibility of easy access to services during the lockdown, the Municipality of Amman conducted an urban planning analysis of the city. The approach used was evidence-based, therefore based on data and advanced digital tools that allow a **multidimensional reading of the space and social networks present in an area**. First of all, a three-dimensional map of Amman's population density was created, overlaid with a **map of the accessibility** and reachability of the main services (grocery stores, pharmacies, hospitals, etc.). The latter was conducted through the City Form Lab toolkit for Urban Network Analysis (Harvard and MIT) that highlights the "weakest" areas of the city. Finally, a questionnaire was distributed in Amman's districts, the results of which were digitized and cross-referenced with the evidence from the mapping to validate the results.

The city administration intends to lead Amman towards a sustainable future. To do this, two major initiatives have already been put in place: the Climate Action and the Green City Action Plan. However, the pandemic and the lockdown period have brought out new priorities, made evident by the analysis conducted by the administration: new integrated urban development policies to intervene in areas identified as "weak" and populous (SDG 16), and the need to improve access to services by promoting inclusiveness and leaving no one behind (SDG11).

Innovation starts on the road

Dan Hill, Director of Strategic Design, Vinnova - Innovation Agency of Sweden

OVERVIEW

- Vinnova is a Swedish government agency for innovation systems.

- Its mission is to promote sustainable growth by improving the conditions that enable innovation and to fund needs-based research

In Sweden, mission-driven innovation is being piloted to activate interactive processes of co-creating the future at the local level based on collaboration between citizens, the public sector and businesses. The starting point is the street, the basic unit of cities. There are about 40,000 kilometres of roads in Sweden, which they can adapt and rework, making them healthy, sustainable and vibrant. This creates a ripple effect on almost everything else in the city, from democracy to buildings.

The working methodology first involved co-creation sessions in the field that brought together 500 organizations from different Swedish cities (including the large company Erickson), start-ups and public transport planners working together on the same path. Clear and tangible visions emerged on how to transform existing environments. We started in Stockholm, identifying a few streets for prototyping, and selected sections of streets in the city centre and near schools that were under-utilized or used for parking with the goal of understanding how they could be enhanced.

Being close to the schools, children of about six years of age were involved, letting them be the designers and giving them a special kit to draw the street they wanted. We chose a participatory approach at the local level, because anyone who lives in the streets and spaces is the best figure to redesign their use.

Based on the ideas that emerged and using a technique of tactical urban planning, modular kits were made adaptable for the creation of different types of services, from scooter and bike sharing, to the provision of play areas and green spaces.

From the modular kits and the services and goods identified as priorities, the main needs and preferences of the people living in those areas emerged. Examples include the proposal to create children's play spaces or green areas. This ties in with issues such as inclusion or biodiversity, which in turn recall the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda.

To date, 300 surveys have been administered on four different sets of street prototypes and the majority (70-75%) were positive about the change, which is surprising.

The feasibility of the intervention is ensured by involving all stakeholders: municipalities, regions, large companies like Volvo, and the national transportation regulator. The ultimate goal is to transform every street in Sweden, "flipping" all 290 municipalities, adopting a participatory approach that can change the entire country.

A systems approach to achieving sustainable development

Dyfed Audrey, UN-Habitat SDG CitiesFlagshipProgramme

OVERVIEW

- The goal of UN-Habitat's SDG CitiesFlagship Program is to realize the potential of cities to lead the achievement of the SDGs.

- The program aims to collaborate with cities, various levels of government, the private sector, development actors, and communities to fuel the value chain through data use, government capacity, planning, financing, and impact investments that accelerate the achievement of the SDGs in cities.

Cities are key in the implementation of the SDGs globally, but they need collective action to unleash their potential, accelerate sustainable development and improve the quality of life of citizens. The United Nations system, local governments, civil society and different stakeholders must act in a systematic way and implement a strategic planning process that allows them to move from data collection to impact creation, in accordance with the New Urban Agenda, and equip local governments and institutions with the necessary skills to better manage their territories and find funding.

To think systemically, it is appropriate to consider the SDGs within a wheel that analyses social, economic, and environmental dimensions and ask what outcomes our city intends to achieve by 2030. In order to identify the areas on which to focus efforts, one should measure the distance from where we are to the goal we intend to achieve. This gap should be translated into soft actions, such as through ad hoc regulations, or hard, with targeted investments. The evidence-based approach of data and increased management skills on the part of local administrators makes it possible to promote strategic planning and to develop a comprehensive urban monitoring framework that brings together different urban indicators. Such an approach makes local government a reliable partner for investors and enables the development of multi-stakeholder projects. Finally, it is essential to develop ad hoc working tools and activate partnerships between institutions, associations and local authorities in order to be aligned and move in the same direction.

SDGs in local planning: Flemish municipalities and the "Ostend" case

Bart Tommelein, Mayor of Ostend, Belgium, and President of VVSG

OVERVIEW

- Ostend is located on the west coast of Belgium and is the largest city in the Region of Flanders.

Over the past five years, two out of three local governments in the Flanders region have used the 2030 Agenda Goals to develop their **multi-year policy plans for the period 2020-2025**. These include the city of Ostende, which together with 19 other Flemish municipalities joined the pilot project of the Association of Flemish Cities and Municipalities - VVSG on localizing the SDGs.

In order to identify the main strategic objectives on which to focus the new multi-year plan, "inspirational" fact sheets were created for each theme of the coalition agreement. The sheets included the main data regarding the city, the objectives and actions related to the same theme in the previous multi-year plan and the SDGs and targets. This approach ensured that the city administration used the 2030 Agenda as a framework for planning the next six years of government and that the SDGs were used in the implementation and monitoring of local policy through the follow-up of indicators.

Integrating the SDGs into local policy has many advantages: it allows to identify a common language, to have a useful reference point for more targeted and long-term decisions, but above all it allows to look at sustainable development in a global way, avoiding to relegate it to environmental policies only. Agenda 2030 also encourages interdepartmental cooperation. The Ostende Policy Department has taken the lead in localizing the SDGs, but it is the goals themselves that provide an incentive for collaboration between different offices and departments to achieve the five pillars of sustainable development. Localization of the SDGs can' start from the bottom up, but must necessarily include involvement at the political and administrative levels, and must link to existing processes and policies so that citizens and stakeholders are also encouraged to participate.

In the coming years, the main challenges will be to keep the focus on the SDGs, particularly during the design, implementation and monitoring of local policy. The support of local government associations will be central, as they can facilitate the sharing and exchange of best practices and lobby for local governments to sit at government tables where SDGs implementation strategies are decided.
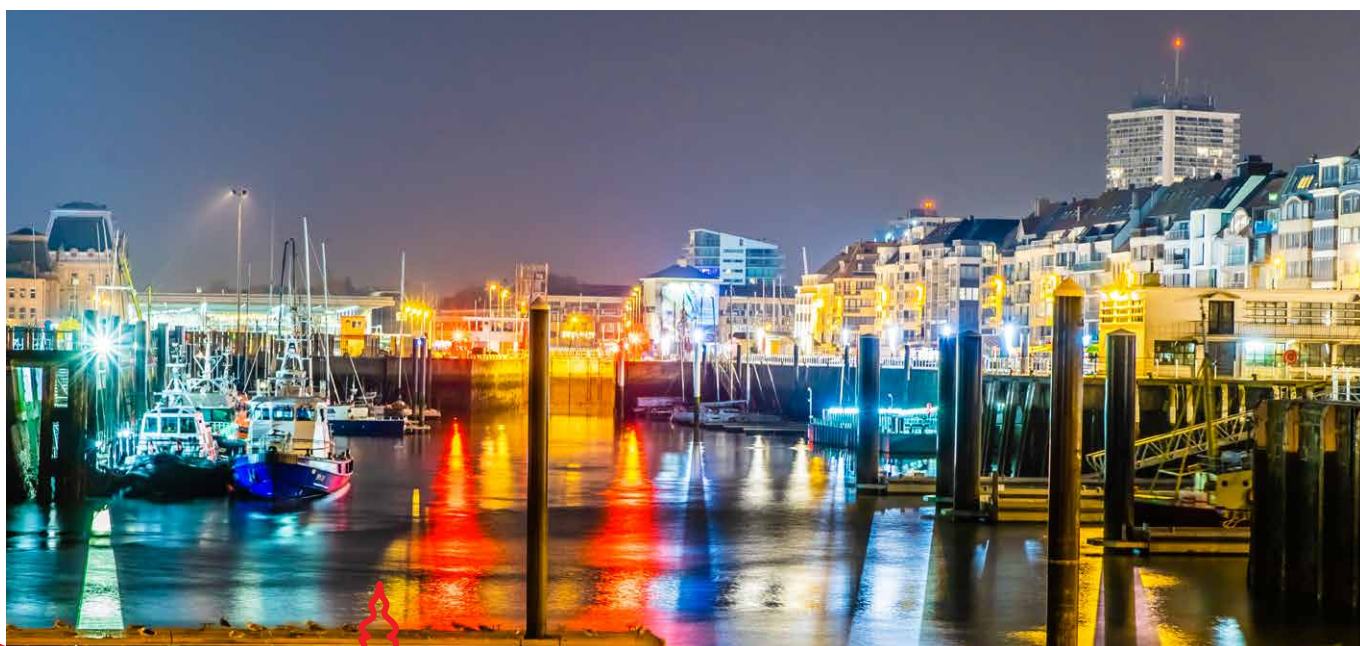
GulnaraRoll, Secretary of the Commission on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management - United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

OVERVIEW

- UNECE is a platform that brings together 56 states in Europe, North America and Central Asia.

- Its mission is to foster economic integration and cooperation, sustainable development and prosperity

- UNECE's Commission on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management and addresses housing affordability and sustainable urban development

The Commission works closely with five regional commissions, located in different countries. It collaborated with UN-Habitat and UCLG in the organization of the UN Mayors Forum and the "SDG 11 Day" in which the Geneva City Hub, which brings together 26 city networks, also participated. Venice City Solutions 2030 is another opportunity to strengthen horizontal cooperation at the international level and create a real global impact.

The 5 UN regional commissions (ESCAP, ESCWA, UN/ECA, ECLAC, UN/ECE), together with UN-Habitat and UN Capital Development Fund, have initiated a project on building economic resilience during and after Covid-19. First, an analysis of 16 cities around the world was developed in order to understand what impacts the pandemic had and how to reboot the economy. UNCDF provided the methodology to conduct this study while UN-Habitat worked on mapping and capacity building activities. This is an important project and currently in our region we are working with the cities of Tirana, Bishkek and Kharkiv in Ukraine, and we note that the cities have a strong interest in this experience.

UNECE has also launched a project on informal settlements, on which it is working together with the Forum of Mayors and at the same time promoting vertical cooperation between national governments and local authorities. Cities have very limited competencies in terms of policies for economic recovery and depend heavily on national laws. Together with UN-Habitat, ITU and the United for Smart Sustainable Cities initiative, UNECE has launched a group to analyse methodologies for assessing the impacts of Covid on economic activities.

Local government representative organizations are showing great enthusiasm with respect to voluntary local reviews (VLRs) but the risk is that they remain stand-alone activities. To address this need, key performance indicators for Smart Sustainable Cities are used that are already coordinated with the SDGs and using a data and evidence-based approach.
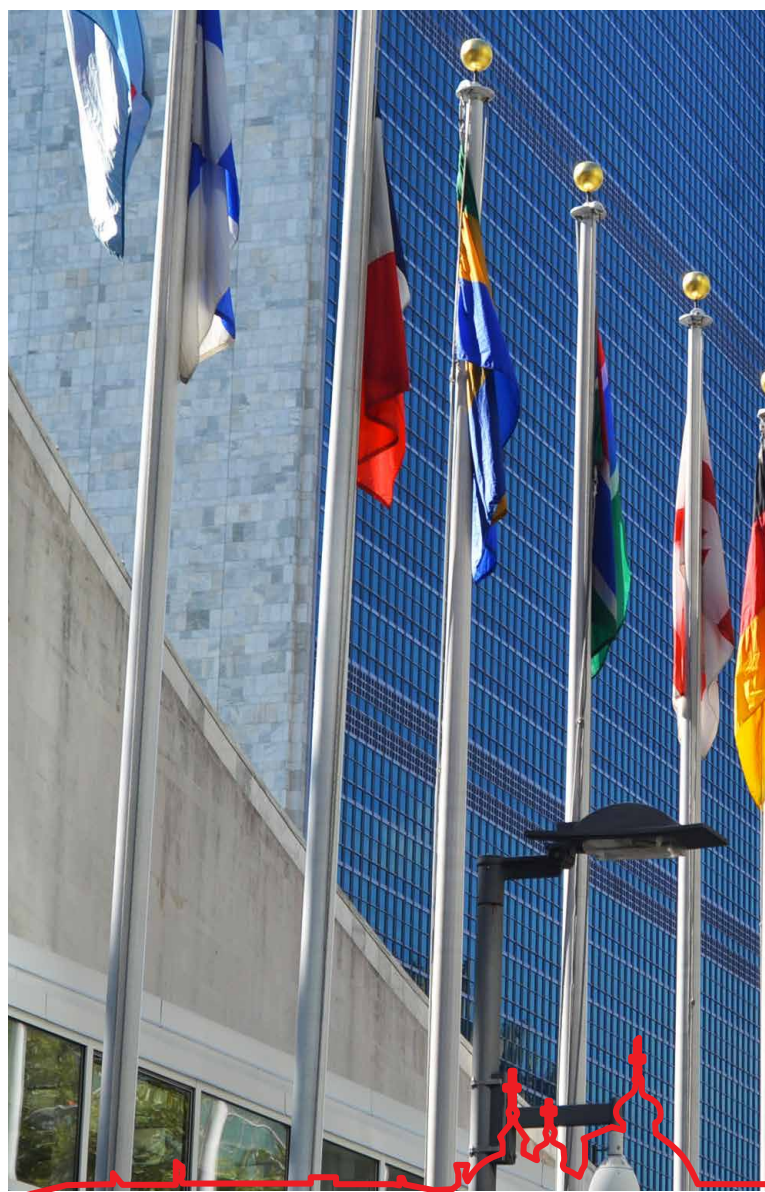
Multi-stakeholder partnerships to strengthen local development

Norliza Hashim, Chief Executive Urbanice Malaysia

OVERVIEW

- URBANICE Malaysia is a think-tank established in 2016 to foster the creation of integrated and innovative urban solutions for a future of sustainability and well-being in cities

Malaysia has been involved in sustainability programs since the 1970s and this commitment has been translated within national planning documents. With the introduction of the 2030 Agenda, an effort was made to set a common goal and bring together all the programs that Malaysia is involved in locally, and globally, into one universal Agenda to be included in national documents.

To facilitate this process, the Malaysia SDGs cities document was produced, to be developed, monitored and evaluated by Malaysia's 154 local governments, reporting on progress at both the national and local levels. To date, 10% of local governments have produced their own roadmap for the implementation of the SDGs, and the goal is to gradually expand the number of cities present and encourage vertical integration between local and national government. In the process of localizing national indicators, it became clear that Malaysian local governments alone cannot meet the Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda because only 70% of the SDGs can be effectively implemented at the local level. To ensure a true match between people's needs and the policies adopted, governments must focus on the goals closest to the challenges they face every day and establish multi-stakeholder partnerships that also involve national government, the private sector, and other stakeholders. URBINICE encourages cities to adopt the same bottom-up approach to VLR preparation, to avoid this activity being limited to writing a report on the city. The goal is to ensure that each city in its own review adheres to the Malaysia SDGs cities and VNR document by putting in place strategic projects at the local level.

Part of URBANICE's work is the result of partnerships with other organizations in the Asia-Pacific region. Together with ESCAP and UN-Habitat, the Asia-Pacific Urban Forum was organized and the Penang Platform for Sustainable Urbanization (PPSU) alliance of 15 partners was formed. Recently, the alliance has launched regional guidelines on VLR and it has become evident that many associations in the Asia-Pacific region are working in the same areas on issues such as training and support to prepare cities for the SDGs. The purpose of the partnership is therefore to network and help each other by supporting some of the selected cities in the preparation of the VLR.

ONE ON ONE

with Tatiana Bilbao, architect

An urban planner's view on sustainability

Presented by Diana Lopez Caramazana, UNDP

"Venice City Solutions 2030 is designed to support local governments in achieving the Goals of the 2030 Agenda and we know that to facilitate this process we need everyone: the private sector, civil society and the technicians and professionals who deal with urban planning. This edition is very special because we can count on experts in urban issues who will help us visualize the SDGs in the city. We asked Tatiana Bilbao, an experienced architect, to share with us some reflections on how to make the Agenda visible in the context of the city, since the city is the perfect place for innovation and the level of governance closest to the citizens. It was a long time that we wanted to involve that an architect, so that he could accompany us in this journey of rethinking the SDGs at the local level, because the point of view of those who plan and build is a fundamental piece of the great mosaic that here at Venice City Solutions 2030 we contribute to make."

Tatiana Bilbao, The city as a place of opportunities and contrasts

The city is the place where individuals can achieve fulfilment and opportunities for growth, but at the same time it is the dimension in which the greatest contrasts and inequalities occur. It is a hyper-popular apparatus that, while attracting people with the prospect of improved living conditions, very often tends to crush them under the weight of an economic and political system that puts production at the centre and the individual in the background.

In order to break out of this dynamic, it is necessary to create different social relationships aimed at caring for oneself and for others. In rural areas, for example, productive work is instrumental to the growth and well-being of the community and the logic is that of cooperation. Being part of the "care process" and being included in a sustainable ecosystem allows us to take care of what surrounds us, first of all the environment, and trigger virtuous processes.

Pandemic and domestic space

In these eight months of pandemic we have realized the importance of domestic space. Not so much in terms of the form of the home but with respect to the physical and social configuration of the concept of dwelling. In cities, the home has become the place where acts of discrimination are perpetrated, especially against women, imposing divisions even in terms of social status. This is where architecture comes into play, as it can promote a social transformation of the ways in which the city is designed and used, starting with our bodies and their needs.

The pandemic has shown us how some governments have put the economy above

the health and welfare of people, not realizing that without the lives of individuals there is no possibility and usefulness in production. If the two main needs of human beings are nourishment and shelter, it is evident that our homes must provide us with the means to take care of ourselves. They must be the most efficient hospital, the most advanced school, and the most functional work space.

Most people either don't have a home or don't live in a space that allows them to take care of themselves: it's either too small, too overwhelming, without light or ventilation.

This experience has led to the emergence of different needs, depending on the composition of families, and these differences are reflected in the organization of domestic space, forcing us to rethink the definition of home.

What can architecture do?

Architecture must become a platform for social decisions, opening up new possibilities in the use of the home. People need an intimate space that at the same time can open up and encourage relationships with others. To go in this direction, we have analysed and imagined modules that can be organized in different ways, according to the needs of each family. Each individual needs to share some spaces and moments of their living and it is not possible to continue to imagine identical homes.

In this regard, we have collectively designed a housing intervention that allows each family to decide the type of space they prefer. Each building has its own identity and the possibility of entering into a relationship with the other.

We are currently carrying out a project in Monterrey (Mexico) that consists of 164 apartments with different characteristics: a group of four apartments share a terrace, another four or six apartments share a grid, others share a garden or stairways. This organization of spaces placed vertically allows to open more channels, relating with different people and allowing more families to live in the same building. We are convinced that the way forward is not to continue to build suburbs that drive people away from the city but to opt for vertical solutions, different from those we know today, which can ensure that more people can live close to the city centre in a space that meets their needs.

And what is the role of cities?

Cities need to create platforms that open up to citizen participation in determining the spaces they live in, abandoning the public-private dichotomy. In Berlin, for example, collective spaces are starting to be managed by communities and in general there is a negotiation between institutions, private individuals, banks and communities. We are convinced that this is the way forward to make more inclusive and sustainable not only housing but the very way we live in cities.
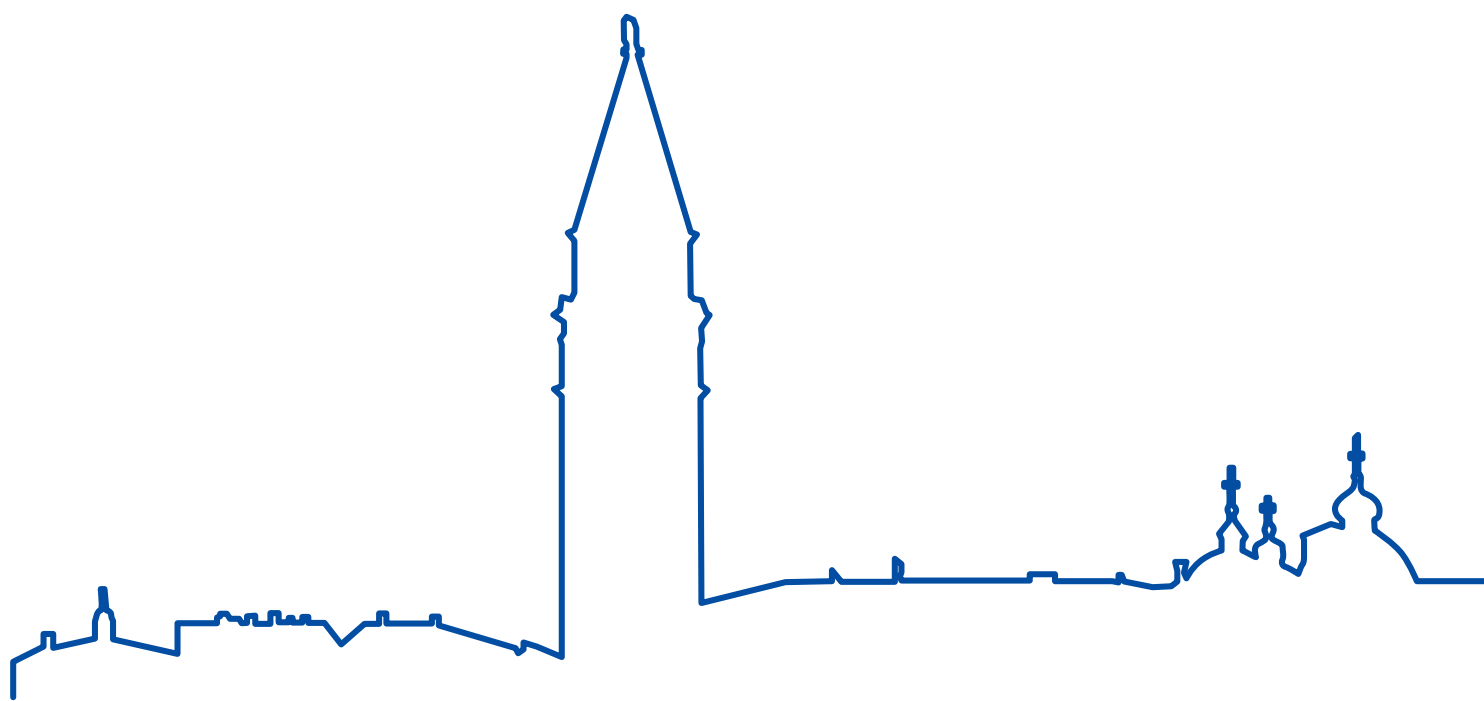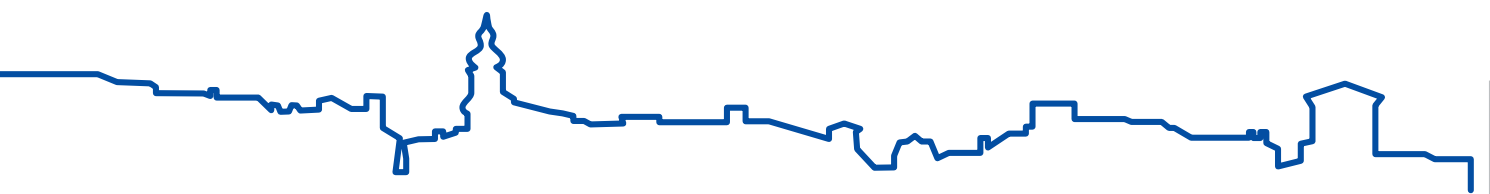
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In the blue session, which discusses local experiences with a global impact, the city of Venice represents an experience of solidarity and justice of a community that wants to ensure equal opportunities for all.

We want to talk to you about Goal 16, taking you to a place that fits perfectly into the urban context: the prison. It is immersed in the life of the local market of Rio Terà dei Pensieri and is an object of social inclusion. The prison of Venice is populated by people from different parts of the world, who in Venice hope to find a chance of rehabilitation.

The Social Cooperative Rio Terà dei Pensieri[2] deals with the job placement of prisoners and people in criminal execution in the territory of Venice; it organizes craft workshops and service activities for prisoners inside the prison and on the territory of Venice; it invests in people and their desire for redemption, it offers people a second chance to start over, promoting the vision of a more collaborative society, fair and attentive to diversity. All their products are handmade and follow a production chain that is careful to recycle materials, to recover resources and environmentally friendly. The products made in jail are in common use and the community makes them its own.

The last video, dedicated to this experience, concludes our journey in the name of Agenda 2030 in Venice and in the world.

PEACE: https://youtu.be/PMPhWtyX0fA

2 https://www.rioteradeipensieri.org/
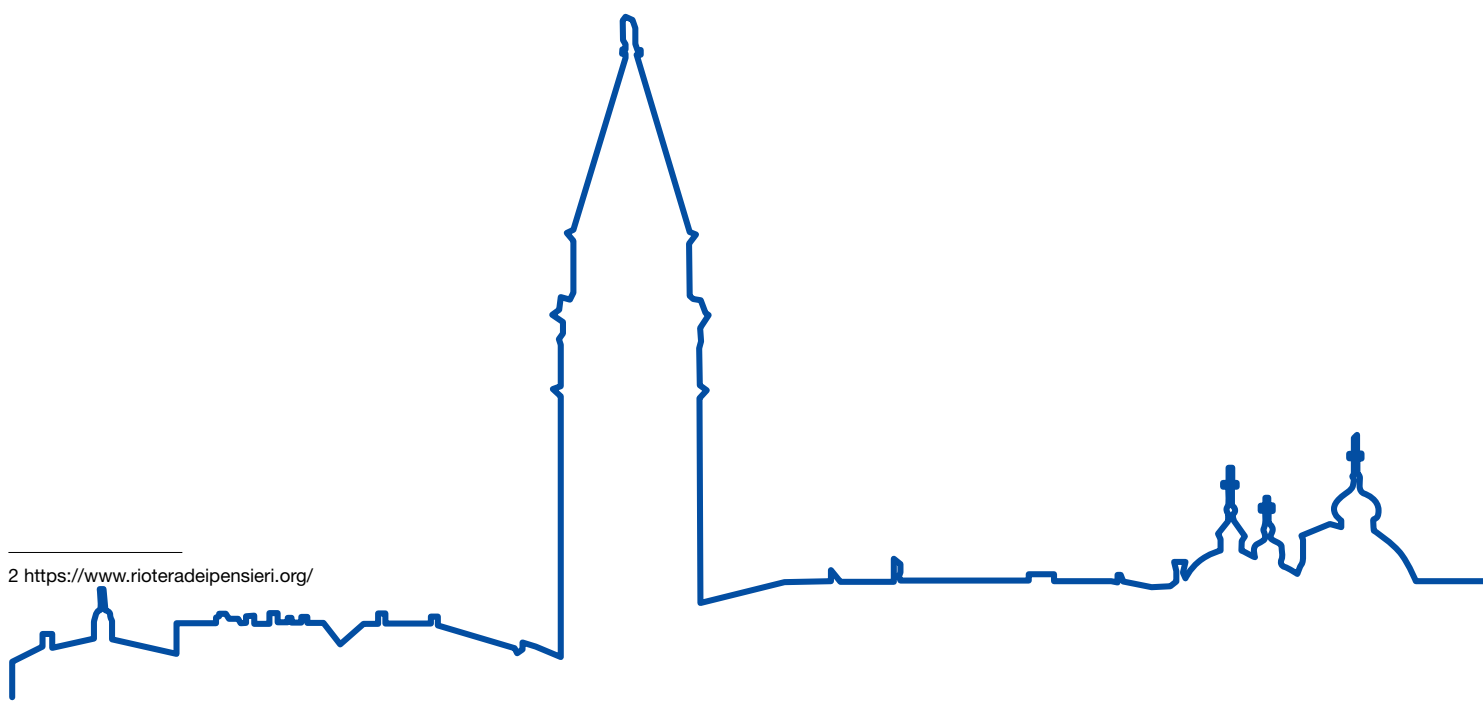
Celebrating UCLG's new initiative, the Local4action HUBs: Local actions transforming global dynamics

From local hubs good practices to transform the world

Sulla Via della Seta nasce un Hub per l'educazione dei giovani ed il dialogo

Qiang Sheng, Director of International Affairs, Xi'an, China

OVERVIEW

- Xi'an is the capital city of Shaanxi Province in Central China.

- It is one of the four major Chinese capitals and the eastern starting point of the Silk Road.

The pandemic caused by Covid19 is challenging countries and cities around the world and risks slowing down the implementation process of the 2030 Agenda. The Local4Action Hub initiative launched by UCLG is particularly important because it creates an international platform for the exchange of local best practices that can transform global policies. Xi'an's experience is particularly relevant because the city has been a hub for as long as I can remember. It has been an important crossroads on the Silk Road and a meeting and passage point for people from all over China, Central Asia, and the Middle East. Past and future intersect here, where 63 universities have sprung up, and the ability to stand together in diversity is an integral part of the city's identity.

Together with UCLG and the local and international community, a hub dedicated to youth education and dialogue is about to be launched, taking as reference goals 11 and 17 of the 2030 Agenda, and focused on creating quality educational programs capable of initiating dialogues between the different social and cultural contexts of society and creating new partnerships at the global level.

The hub will help strengthen the capacities and skills of local governors and civil servants involved in policy making activities. Thirty officials from the Asia-Pacific region will benefit from scholarships provided by the city of Xi'an and will be able to participate in master's or doctoral programs at the university. A youth leadership training program on a specific SDG will be organized each year, because localizing the Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda is a task that requires the efforts of multiple generations, and training young people from diverse cultural backgrounds can ensure their sustainable and effective implementation in the long term.

With the Silk Road University Alliance, we have asked universities and colleges to include the SDGs in their educational programs through seminars, courses, and publicity campaigns so that students can discuss and research the topic and identify innovative solutions to the current challenges facing local administrators around the world.

Finally, the city of Xi'an has launched a High Level Dialogue Forum for young officials to discuss local issues and exchange ideas. The goal is to bring young people into the dialogue, forge their political leadership, and ensure that their voices can be heard at every level of government.

The social value of culture: the Charter of Rome 2020

Luca Bergamo, Deputy Mayor, Rome

OVERVIEW

- The Rome 2020 Charter is an initiative of Roma Capitale and the UCLG Culture Commission that aims to promote sustainable cultural development.

- The document has been signed by 43 major cities around the world.

The year 2020 will not only be remembered as the year of the pandemic but also as the year of culture which, although suffering from the limitations imposed by the lockdown around the world, has entered the international debate on sustainable development. The social value of culture and its ability to include and achieve the full emancipation of human beings are the cornerstones of the Charter of Rome 2020, the initiative promoted by Roma Capitale together with the Culture Commission of UCLG and signed by 43 major cities internationally.

The Charter is inspired by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which recognizes that everyone has the right to take part freely in the cultural life of the community, enjoy the arts and participate in scientific progress and its benefits (art.27) and calls on institutions to remove obstacles that prevent access to culture and citizen participation. The objective of the Charter was to build a framework within which each city could approach the issue and provide ideas, tools and language for the creation of a network of local authorities able to generate impact at the global level.

The drafting took place in the first months of the pandemic, when Roma Capitale and UCLG brought together online numerous cities, international networks and experts to create a document that would have a multilateral approach that would respect the peculiarities of each territory but would also be a point of reference for the protection of participation in cultural life at the international level. The work carried out together with UCLG has made it possible to define opportunities, services, future activities in the field of education, knowledge and film production, and is a fundamental piece of the contribution that cities can make to the creation of a model of sustainable development that also takes into account cultural life.
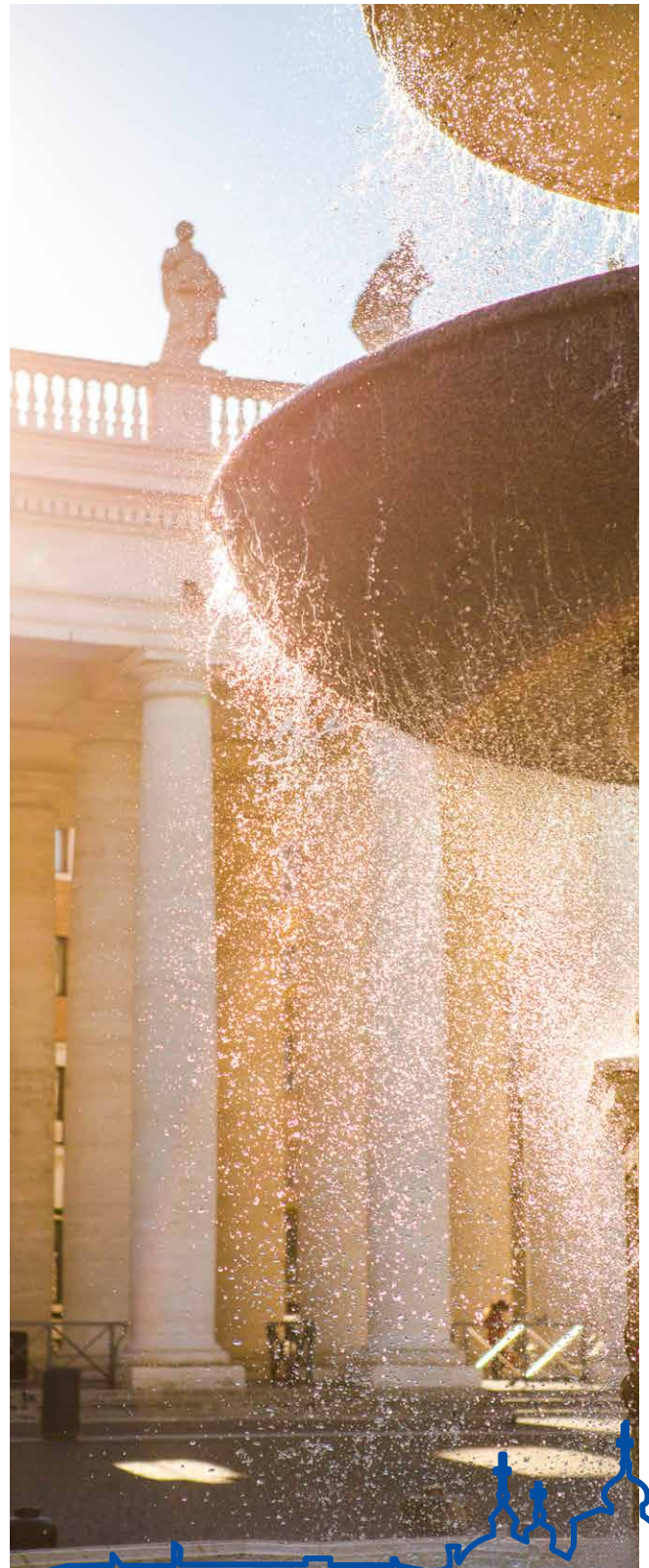
The Province of Santa Fe focuses on youth to promote the Sustainable Development Goals of Agenda2030

Mariano Bar, Secretariat for Equality and Gender, Province of Santa Fe, Argentina

OVERVIEW

- The province of Santa Fe is located in the northeast of Argentina and represents one of the most developed and important areas of the country.

In December 2019, the Province of Santa Fe created the Secretariat for Equality and Gender Policies within which Youth Policies is included. The main objective of the Secretariat is to territorialize youth policies and make sure that all 365 municipalities of the Province engage in participatory and democratic initiatives addressed to young people and generated by young people, so that each young person is in the conditions to attend school, have access to the internet, achieve economically and professionally and participate in the social and political life of the country. The first line of action has provided for the launch of a public call for the presentation of participatory projects on issues such as connectivity, participation and the environmental crisis, on which the younger generations have shown great sensitivity. The aim is to bring out the voice of young people, encourage critical thinking to stimulate them to perceive themselves as leaders of the future, enhance territorial differences and contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals of Agenda 2030. More than 500 projects have been submitted and the Secretariat intends to continue collecting and funding new proposals.

The transformations that drive sustainable development

Xavier Longan, United Nations Campaign for the SDGs

OVERVIEW

- The United Nations Campaign for Action aims to foster transformative changes that achieve the Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda.

Local4ActionHUb and the Venice City Solutions Lab are important catalysts for bringing about the transformation that people and the planet need to overcome this challenging time and accelerate the path to the Sustainable Development Goals. The pandemic has shown us all that individual actions can have a huge impact, and the response to the health crisis has highlighted the power of individual behaviour in addressing global challenges. Similarly, Local4Action HUb by strengthening local leadership and a sense of community can generate strong global impact. The results of the United Nations Day (UN75) led by the UN Secretary General, confirm the interest of citizens in international cooperation and solidarity. Local governments and regional governments are also promoting cultural initiatives and creative partnerships to inspire and connect with new audiences and reaffirm key values such as social justice and equality, which are the backbone of the Decade of Action and the 2030 Agenda itself.

A Climate Action Plan

Maricel Lonati, Manager for Institutional Articulation, Secretariat for International Relations, Buenos Aires, Argentina

OVERVIEW

- In 2020, the City of Buenos Aires approved its third Climate Action Plan (CAP), which aims to bring CO_2 emissions to zero by 2050.

Buenos Aires was one of the first cities in the world to set the goal of reducing its CO_2 emissions within ten years and to zero them by 2050. The update of the Climate Action Plan (CAP), the third developed by the Municipality of Buenos Aires, recognizes the value of citizen participation as an essential element in the fight against climate change. To ensure the achievement of the objectives, two spaces for discussion and dialogue have been established: the Climate Change

Cabinet, which ensures transversality on the issue, and the Consultative Council of the Environment and Sustainable Development, which represents a space open to civil society and youth organizations and a bridge between citizens and institutions. In addition, a platform for the promotion of civic activism has been created, bringing together over 600 citizens and 20 organizations, highlighting the interventions of the City of Buenos Aires and the elements citizens need to monitor the work of institutions and change their individual habits. The site contains more than 30 downloadable and reusable videos and provides useful information on sustainable mobility, waste management and specific targets to 2030 and 2050 and reinforces the concreteness of the Climate Action Plan so that it does not remain just a document but is able to promote concrete actions and interventions in favour of the environment.

SDG 11, 13, 17: Building and sharing inclusive, accessible and green public spaces: the Singelpark

Jasper Visser, President of the Leiden 2030 Foundation, Leiden, The Netherlands

OVERVIEW

- Leiden is a medieval city in the Netherlands.

- The historic city centre is crisscrossed by numerous canals but green spaces and parks are absent.

The lack of green areas near the historic centre of Leiden was evident during the lockdown, when people could only move around their homes and could not leave the city. The people of Leiden are particularly sensitive to sustainability and there are thousands of civil society-led initiatives aimed at achieving the 2030 Agenda Goals. Many of these involve biodiversity and the creation of green areas and public spaces to foster city sustainability.

One of the most interesting SDGs localization projects involved the transformation of a waterway into a 7km long park, composed of the small green areas surrounding the city centre. To achieve this goal hundreds of organizations have collaborated with the municipal administration and today it is possible to walk through the city centre crossing a large park full of art and biodiversity. This is a considerable achievement, not only because it brings oxygen to the city, but for the very way in which it was designed. Citizens have had the opportunity to come together and collaborate, giving rise to new projects, such as community gardens, or new social enterprises.

Currently we are trying to bring together all these projects and initiatives to create, together with the UN museum, UN Live, and with EuroScience Open Forum (ESOF), platforms that channel the energy coming from the communities towards activities related to the achievement of the SDGs.

A green lung for Madrid: the Metropolitan Forest

Javier Castaño, Department for International Relations and Cooperation of the City of Madrid

OVERVIEW

- The Metropolitan Forest is one of the measures included in Plan Madrid 360°.

- During the current term, 100,000 trees of native species will be planted to reach a total of 450,000 when the infrastructure is completed.

The Metropolitan Forest is an emblematic project for the city of Madrid. It was initiated thanks to the political impetus of the mayor and vice-mayor of Madrid and is a very concrete example of the effort made by the city to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. It consists of the creation of new green infrastructures starting with the existing ones: 81% of the metropolitan forest already exists but it is necessary to standardize and interconnect areas that currently lack green areas, such as the south-eastern part of the City Hall.

The main objective of the Metropolitan Forest project is to allow a territorial rebalancing, also involving the municipalities of the metropolitan area of Madrid to generate an impact at the supra-municipal level. It will be an ecological belt that will embrace the city acting as a barrier against desertification and improving the air quality of the city of Madrid and neighbouring municipalities.

Currently, the Madrid City Council is entering into agreements with private agents, companies in the area and owners of the land where the forest will be located and has launched an international ideas competition to gather innovative projects to be implemented. For the evaluation of the projects, a multidisciplinary working team of experts has been set up to judge the proposals based on criteria such as the quality of the project and the technical and economic feasibility of the intervention. In addition, the projects must promote ecological connectivity and

be multifunctional: it is not just a matter of planting trees, but to include infrastructure that allows outdoor sports and enhance the presence of species that are adapted to climate change.

The Metropolitan Forest project is also a space of co-creation that has generated dialogue and participation among citizens, associations, technicians, landscape architects and artists.

Gender equality at the basis of sustainable development: the EqualMed projec

Pilar Diaz Romero - Mayor Esplugues de Llobregat, Province of Barcelona

OVERVIEW

- Esplugues de Llobregat is a Spanish municipality located in the province of Barcelona and part of the Autonomous Community of Catalonia.

Gender equality is a universal right and an indispensable component of sustainable development, but it continues to remain a missed objective in most parts of the world.

With the EqualMed project, the Province of Barcelona together with the Moroccan Institute of Local Development promotes the inclusion of the gender perspective in local public policies and the political participation of women. The project takes place in Morocco but involves local government representatives from other countries in the area where gender equality continues to be a major challenge. The ultimate goal of EqualMed is to stimulate alliances between elected women in local governments in the Mediterranean through the creation of a platform for the exchange of experiences between local governments in Morocco and Barcelona and to establish partnerships with other municipalities to broaden the impact of local actions.

EqualMed is part of a larger project that involved the Province of Barcelona between 2017 and 2019 and recently received the first of the Platforma Awards for decentralized cooperation.

To date, 25 Moroccan local governments, and 12 Barcelona municipalities are participating in the initiative, and alliances have been created with Lebanese and Tunisian local governments and civil society organizations working on gender issues. EqualMed has three characteristics that make it consistent with the logic of the Local4ActionHub: it gathers local practices with global goals, it is an accelerator of the 2030 Agenda, it acts in particular on SDGs 5,11, 16, 17, and it has a great transformative will. It does not limit itself

to a "technical" exchange but stimulates the protagonism of local authorities in creating a concrete impact on people's lives and well-being.

The project offers the opportunity to strengthen relationships between local governments and stimulate the political will of public decision makers so that we can work together to develop the talents of all and create a more equitable and just society.
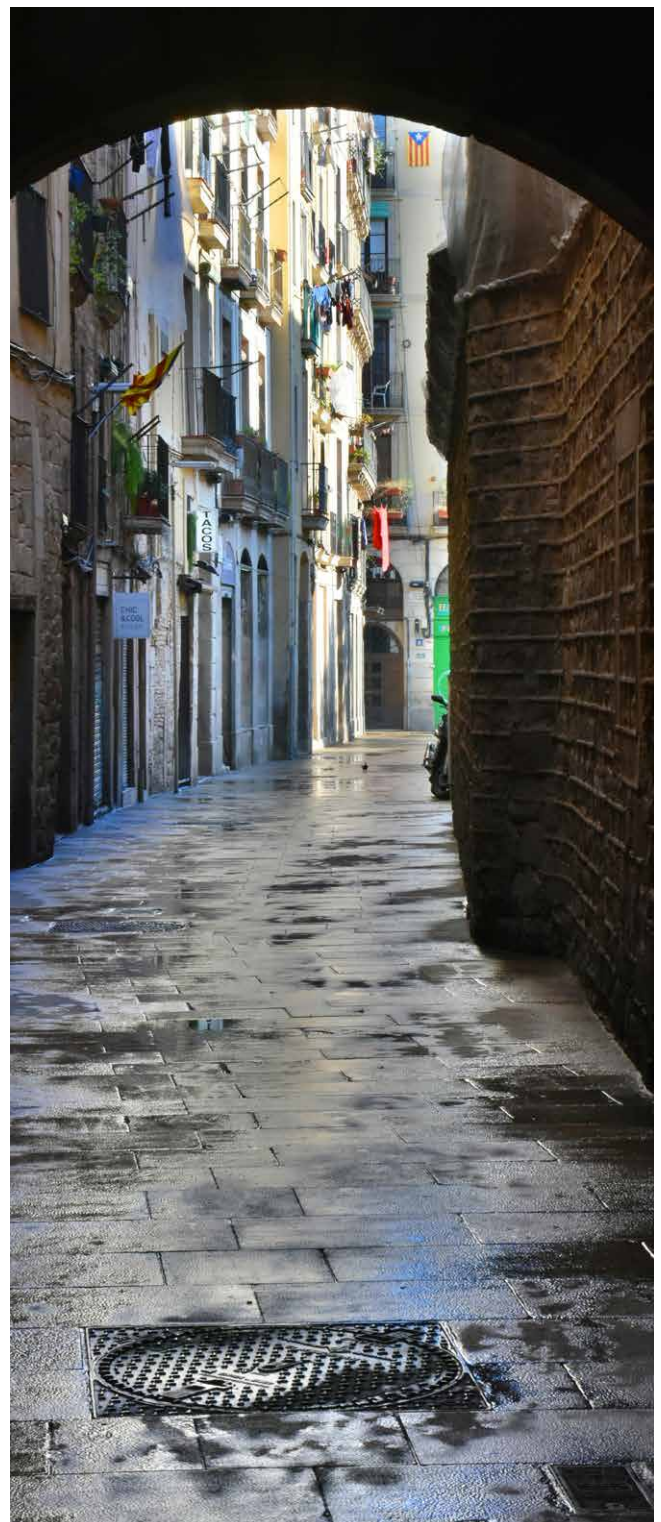
Local authorities and decentralized cooperation

Emilio Rabasco, Fund of Andalusian Municipalities for International Solidarity (FAMSI)

OVERVIEW

- The Fund of Andalusian Municipalities for International Solidarity (FAMSI) is a network of more than 120 Andalusian local governments that promotes the exchange of best practices, the creation of mutual knowledge and the connection to international networks and initiatives to promote social, environmental and economic sustainability (Agenda2030 and New Urban Agenda).

The Spanish State is among the most decentralized in Europe and its local and regional governments have been working for years in the field of decentralized cooperation. Since 2002, FAMSI began to cooperate with Morocco to promote the labour inclusion of young people and has since intensified its activities in the area of technical cooperation. In 2016-2018, FAMSI's cooperation model focused on defending public services and strengthening management at the local level. In those years, the methodology of peer learning with African and Latin American local

governments was used, and at the same time the wealth of expertise of local governments and Andalusian public enterprises was analysed.

To work in technical cooperation, an alliance process was initiated with UCLG, the United Nations Development Program and Latin American networks such as Mercociudades, and fostered the matching of the demand for technical cooperation by Latin American and African local governments with the skills and innovations present in the public management of Andalusian municipalities. The result was an internship program that involved over 30 representatives of local governments interacting with one another.

This activity resulted in an alliance of public enterprises in favour of defending public services and the Declaration of Huelva was adopted, which is part of the alliance of more than 25 African, Latin American and Andalusian local governments. FAMSI considers public services to be decisive in improving the quality of life of the citizenry and promoting social cohesion and human development. This pandemic period will necessarily have to transform our cities, starting with public services that are more ecological and oriented towards the green transition. Public management is good management because it aims at social progress and not only at profit. It is possible to achieve economic balance while ensuring the quality of services and leaving no one behind, and doing this by adopting an economically sustainable model and encouraging people's participation generates active citizenship and stronger and more competent local governments.

FAMSI's proposal is to enhance this process within UCLG, through spaces of meeting and action in defence of public services and ecological transition. This hub has been very useful in the activities of technical cooperation, because it allows a glimpse into the activities of local governments and the competence of regional governments, and to generate alliances with the many experiences of efficient public management by UCLG members.

Civil society's perspective

Oli Henman, Global coordinator Action for Sustainable Development

OVERVIEW

- Action for Sustainable Development is a global platform that supports civil society and citizen action to achieve the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement on climate change.

- More than 3,000 organizations and activists from over 155 countries (over 80% in the Global South) adhere to the platform with the goal of creating a common transformative agenda.

The Action for Sustainable Development platform has gathered interesting insights from its partners on the state of implementation of the 2030 Agenda, also in light of the pandemic caused by Covid-19. The main obstacle to a uniform achievement of the SDGs is represented by a large gap in funding. This issue should be highlighted more at the international level, and local governments could play a key role by being the institutions closest to the needs of communities. Mutual learning between different regions of the world is also a theme that HLPF should focus more on. The question that Action for Sustainable Development has asked itself and its partners is: what has happened in the last year and how are things now from a civil society perspective?

The pandemic came at a time when they were ready to put in place a number of important initiatives regarding the decade of action. So they started working with international partners such as Action Aid, Civicus and Oxfam to come up with some shared priorities from which to start rebuilding.

First of all, the health issue is fundamental to provide answers in the initial phases of the pandemic and the issue of health care is even more pressing in those countries that lack it. It is fundamental to reflect on initiatives that can free those countries most in difficulty from the heavy debts that oppress them and focus on the health of their citizens. In addition, it would be important to divert funding to local governments to allow resources to be used more closely to the real needs of citizens. Finally, the macro-theme of sustainability, to which biodiversity and green industrial transition are linked, represents a substantial opportunity to really change things. Action for Sustainable Development works closely with SDGs Action Campaign and this collaboration is the basis from which to promote a new vision of the planet once we emerge from the pandemic.

The role of hubs in local and global dimensions

Remy Sletchiping, UN-Habitat

"From today's speeches we have grasped the importance of building hubs for localizing the SDGs. The current pandemic crisis must make us believe even more in local action and in the value of these moments of encounter, during which we can learn from each other and co-create the future. The role of hubs is not only to shape local action, but also to connect to global dynamics, and such momentum is crucial because only through concrete, citizen-observable experiences can existing policies be improved. UN-Habitat proudly supports initiatives like Venice City Solutions 2030, and is close to cities and local governments because it strongly believes in community cooperation."

ONE ON ONE

with Marlene Simeon, Director Platforma

Cooperation and sustainable development: the vision of PLATFORMA

- PLATFORMA is a pan-European coalition of cities, regions active in development cooperation and their national, European and international associations.

- It is a centre of expertise on international action by local and regional governments and is supported by the European Commission.

- Its objective is to strengthen the contribution of local and regional governments to EU development cooperation policies and international frameworks;

The objectives of PLATFORMA

The objectives of Platforma are threefold: to shape the development policy of the European Union by promoting the protagonism of local authorities and decentralized cooperation as a key element for innovative and sustainable territorial development; to raise awareness and promote international cooperation between cities and regions around the world by enhancing capacity building and to facilitate learning and testing of innovative approaches related to cooperation between cities and regions, supporting partners in achieving the SDGs of the Agenda 2030.

The five areas of work

The five areas in which Platforma operates are: Sustainable Development Goals and Decentralized Cooperation, Awareness Exchange on International Cooperation Action, Eastern Neighbourhood, Southern Neighbourhood, and the Role of National Associations.

The method

Platforma analyses the development policies of the European Union, produces position papers and carries out advocacy activities towards European institutions and in particular towards the European Commission and the European Parliament; organizes workshops, webinars and peer exchanges and is currently developing a training module on SDGs and decentralized cooperation, with the support of global associations of local and regional governments; it produces publications, studies and monitoring and this year the PLATFORMA Awards were held, which saw municipalities from the province of Barcelona and the Safi Marrakesh region in Morocco win the first prize on citizen participation and development cooperation.

At the heart of Platforma's activities is the promotion of the localization of the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda, because it is our common responsibility to move towards more sustainable socio-economic and environmental models, through partnerships involving all the countries of the world, and that is why we must continue to actively support the international actions of local and regional governments at the European institutions. Although some obstacles in the process of localizing the SDGs continue to persist, these challenges can be solved if shared with partners around the world, and the COVID-19 pandemic, with the wave of solidarity that followed it, has shown that the time is now.

Two recommendations

First, it is worth remembering that local and regional governments are making great efforts to pave the way for the implementation of the SDGs but need more support from local governments and European and international institutions, which need to maintain a dedicated funding line. Secondly, it is important to further promote multi-level and multi-stakeholder partnerships, which are a key element for an effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Venice City Solutions 2030 today is doing just that: creating partnerships that start from the bottom but generate impact at a global level.

Venice City Solutions 2030 HUB of Local4Action HUBs

HUBs
Local4Action
AICCRE

This concludes the third edition of Venice City Solutions 2030 which, as always, leaves us with many stimuli and ideas to reflect on. Listening to the innovative experiences of the Local4action Hubs, it is clear that local governments have perceived the challenge they face: they feel the full responsibility not to waste what has already been achieved in cities around the world and has proved valuable in terms of achieving the SDGs. As a community of local authorities, we need to transform every single precious drop of water into a refreshing spring, to fertilize our planet, which is drying up, and not only in a technical sense. Therefore, the experiences of the local Hubs dedicated to the SDGs must be perfected and we must all strive to multiply their effects.

We are faced with a challenge that is both political and technical in nature: political in terms of our role as local authorities, which requires us to be recognized as key players in the forums where decisions affecting territories and communities are made. We are always present in international initiatives, but we are not always seated at the tables of decision-makers: at the HLPF we are heard and we participate, but I think of the COP on environmental issues, or in ministerial fora where local authorities have no decision-making power, and I think that these local workshops on the SDGs can also help us to make visible and make known what we already know how to do. The technical aspect, which is related to the political one, concerns the obvious need, which emerged during these two days, to be able to communicate in a more effective way, to tell about all the successful initiatives. This helps to gain accreditation with central governments, but also to infect other cities and regions of the world in replicating the best actions.

Why has Venice City Solutions 2030 become the hub of the world's SDGs hubs? The motivation does not lie in the fact that our lab was born before the others; but the reason goes back to the motivation of our hub: a craft lab, a place of knowledge where everyone works concretely for the good of the global community and where everyone is welcome, whatever kind of actor they represent, from whatever sector they come from, because the strength that unites us comes from the ideas shared among people with different cultural backgrounds. Our strength lies above all in having understood that we can work together, with a common language, which is the 2030 Agenda, in a shared laboratory that is confronted not only in the two days of events in Venice but throughout the year, and that represents an open and unconditioned place, recognized by the institutions, but at the same time autonomous in the expression of the results that are produced, which are mostly the sum of the achievements of our partners.
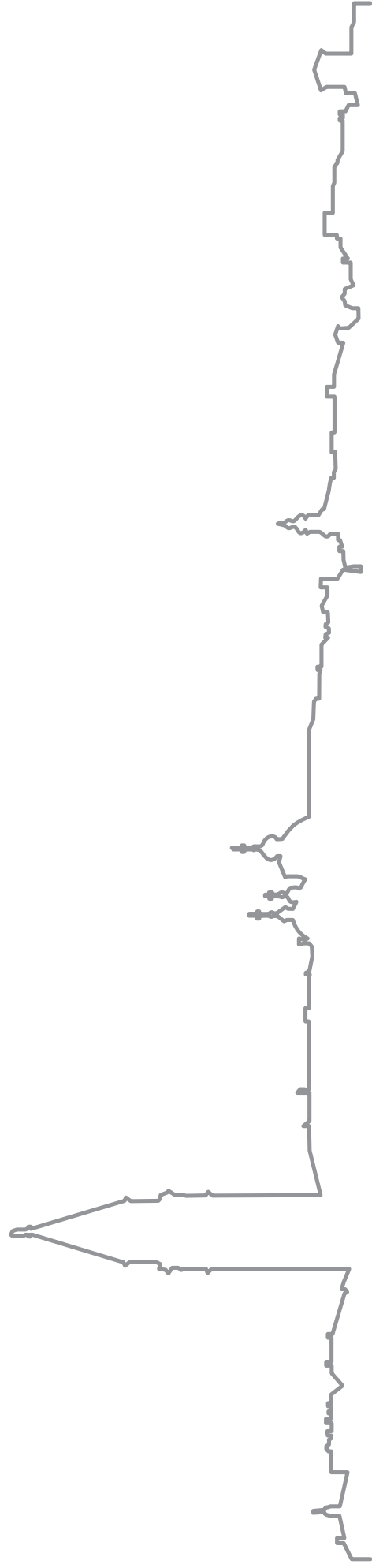
What can Venice City Solutions 2030 do for all the other Hubs? Create a platform for the exchange of best practices among the Hubs, giving them the necessary visibility, but above all the possibility to replicate the virtuous actions and ensure the continuity of the laboratory work.

To conclude, Venice City Solutions 2030 will continue to work as in an orchestra, where the symphony requires the perfect synchrony of all musicians, where all instruments are equally important in their role, and whose outcome depends on the ability to coordinate efforts so that no sound can prevail over the others. As Agenda 2030 teaches, Venice will support the synchronization of local Hubs without leaving anyone behind. The world is sound, is vibration, according to Hinduism. So let's use this symphony to try to change the world starting from our cities and our local government workshops on the SDGs. A Burkina Faso proverb says: "If ants work in full accord, they can move even an elephant." Let's move elephants together!

Carla Rey
Secretary General AICCRE

High Level Political Forum, New York 2021 recommendations

Visualizing SDGs in the city

High Level Political Forum 2021

8th July 7.30 – 9.00am New York Time

VENICE CITY SOLUTIONS 2030 RECOMMENDATIONS TO 2021 HLPF

Venice City Solutions 2030, in its third edition, proves to be the global platform for exchange between central and local governments, the private sector, universities, the third sector and civil society which produce common reflections and objectives based on concrete experiences.

In the latest edition, which focused on the different facets of the "Visualizing the 2030 Agenda in the cities", the recommendations to the HLPF can be summarized in 7 findings:

1. Visualizing the 2030 Agenda to RECOGNIZE the Localizing SDG

In fact, localizing does not just mean transposing global goals into local actions, but ensuring that local actions shape the transformation to change the world. The current challenge is to accelerate and synchronize the actions of different stakeholders, learning and working together, and recognizing local initiatives for their impact on international policy development. In an interconnected world, local issues become global and the global ones require local collective commitments and actions.

2. Visualizing the 2030 Agenda to better understand the local dimension of the SDGs

Cities and territories have a unique position to identify vital needs and gaps to improve the delivery of public services and to involve all stakeholders in the design of development strategies. The experience and commitment of local authorities must be displayed and recognized for its key potential to drive transformation at all levels and for accelerating the implementation of the SDGs.

3. Visualizing the 2030 Agenda as a common language between LRG and other urban stakeholders

There are differences in language between different urban actors. It is necessary to find common elements among urban actors to promote understanding and alignment to speak globally. The 2030 Agenda and the SDGs can provide a common language that connects the different territorial actors that have an impact both in the lives of citizens and in the global debate. Setting the SDGs as a common language will allow different stakeholders to understand each other, to connect the dots to go beyond silos, and make sure that individual policies impact collective policies and that the local reaches the global.

4. Visualizing the 2030 Agenda as a framework for functional partnerships

To achieve good local governance and to advance on the transformative changes outlined by the 2030 Agenda, functional horizontal and vertical partnerships, and between different territories, must be promoted as a way to identify new correlations and new ways of working. The very nature of Venice City Solutions 2030 is showing how the relationship between the various stakeholders is fundamental to trigger the transformation we want: we need inclusive and participatory processes that involve all the society sectors.

5. Visualizing the 2030 Agenda to identify individual actions with collective and global impact

The multiplier effect of actions based on the SDGs is not only valid for public action, but for individual actions in the local community that contribute to the achievement of global sustainability. The challenge now is to move from collective impact to global: a false dichotomy has been identified between nature sustainability and people well-being. Platforms and spaces such as Venice City Solutions 2030 and UCLG's Local4Action HUBs can be unique catalysts, as leaders from all sectors work collaboratively, to define how to restart greener economies, how to redesign resilient societies and redefine democracy.

6. Visualizing the 2030 Agenda as an opportunity even in times of crisis

The 2030 Agenda must be seen as a local tool within a post-COVID 19 crisis scenario, to show how the SDGs are essential for rebuilding cities and rebuilding them better, with the aim of a more sustainable future. The SDGs offer visions and policies for resilient, fair local development, to combat the structural urban inequalities that have been more exposed than ever by the Covid-19 pandemic, and to build a new social contract.

7. Visualizing the 2030 Agenda to build a community based on shared values

In cities and territories it is easy to identify the dimension of space and people, but often the immaterial aspect of the community, that connects them, is not even considered: in this perspective, it is urgent to redefine new models of consumption and production, to pay attention to the way in which efficiency and growth are defined, to truly understand the intangible and immaterial sense of the community, careful to leave nobody or no one behind. The community expresses key values such as social justice, cooperation, decentralization, gender equality, self-government and accountability, which are shared values of the 2030 Agenda, to co-create a sustainable future for cities and territories.

...perimentare il cambiamento. Significa aver cura dei saperi e delle tradizioni, significa fare conoscenza degli esseri viventi e farne esperienza diretta, significa comprendere il cambiamento e l'importanza di tutelare dei beni comuni. E' un modo per interagire con gli altri condividendo oblettivi, metodi e gesti.

Organic vegetable garden

Creating a garden at home, school, in its own community is a way to learn and experience the change. It means taking care of knowledge and traditions, it means getting to know living beings and making direct experience, it means understanding the change and the importance of protecting common goods. It's a way to interact with others by sharing goals, methods and gestures.

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMY GROWTH

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

WATER

15 LIFE ON LAND

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

THE GLOBAL GOALS for Sustainable Development

this is not just a GONDOLA

7 AFFOR CLEAN

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