World Urban Forum
Abu Dhabi (UAE), 8-13 February 2020

Special Session
Local 2030 – A global network to localize Agenda 2030
Strategies to scaling the implementation of SDGs at the local level

Tuesday 11th February 2020, 14.00 – 16.00

Description of the Session
Local2030 is a global multi-stakeholder initiative that supports the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the local level by encouraging knowledge exchange amongst local and regional governments and local stakeholders of different nature and sectors, helping to bring them closer to achieving the SDGs through awareness raising, research, data collection, campaigning and community networking for the development of effective, innovative and results-oriented local government systems for the SDGs. Local2030 mobilizes local actors in support of the Decade of Action.

Current Local2030 partners include the United Nations (UN) system, local governments, national governments, financing institutions, businesses and private sector, foundations and philanthropy, academia and civil society to collaboratively develop and implement solutions, share best practices, monitor that advance the SDGs at the local level.

Core features of Local 2030 include convening for commitment in which the network engages in high level advocacy with relevant actors for SDG implementation; scaling local-level for finance to support efforts to mobilize direct SDGs related finance; encouraging evidence for change by supporting reporting data in formal SDG reporting processes and the local 2030 hubs.

The session will be held as conversations, an easy-to-use method for creating a living discussion of collaborative dialogue around questions that matter in implementing SDGs at the local level. Participants will present and discuss their experience SDGs localization, with the aim of inspiring innovative practices in peer territories and in view of lunching new Local 2030 Hubs at local level. Discussion will be focused on the three key issues for empowering local governments in advancing SDGs: finance, data and partnerships.

At the end of the session, participants will be invited to create a new Local2030 Hub.

Key Words: Local 2030 / Localizing SDGs / Voluntary Local Reviews / Decade of Action
Specific linkages with Agenda 2030 and the New Urban Agenda
The sectoral nature of the SDGs requires a spatial framework for achieving the 2030 Agenda. Thus, Local 2030 is a catalyst which enables local governments to access knowledge, expertise and resources of the UN Development System and Local 2030 external partners.

Local2030 Hubs provide an opportunity for local governments to innovate and advance their own SDG-related priority areas for implementation, to help funding and data collection and to identify and solve bottlenecks faced by local governments.

Local 2030 supports hubs in strengthening their monitoring and reporting on local SDG implementation, including through voluntary local reviews.

This session will chart new pathways and contribute to provide a spatial or locational framework for the delivery and reporting on the SDGs within urban areas. Since has additional substantive urban issues not covered by the 2030 Agenda, in particular additional means of implementation, it will deepen several substantive urban issues already in the 2030 Agenda and focus on local level implementation.

Objectives of the session
❖ To offer a space to exchange experiences on SDGs implementation among peers and practitioners: city managers, decision-makers, NGOs and community representatives.
❖ To share trends and inspiring practices regarding the local implementation of SDGs and possible linkages with the New Urban Agenda (NUA) as an enabler for the local implementation of Agenda 2030; against the background of world leaders’ commitment to a Decade of Action to deliver the SDGs.
❖ To highlight common challenges faced by local governments and local stakeholders.
❖ To establish key recommendations and lessons learned.
❖ To explore challenges faced by local stakeholders and local government in SDGs financing, monitoring and reporting.
❖ To exchange support and collaboration in implementing efforts for creating Local 2030 Hubs.

Expected outcomes
❖ Encourage knowledge exchange amongst local actors and bring cities and communities closer to achieving the SDGs.
❖ Participants are informed on Local 2030 global network and its contribution in SDGs implementation in the fields of finance, data and energy.
❖ Participants identify innovative experiences in implementing SDGs at the local level.
❖ Participants are informed and invited to create a new hub.
Guiding Questions
Which range of actions (in the field of data, finance and climate change) are necessary to make cities and communities effective spatial or locational frameworks for sustainable development?
● How can cities and communities improve data knowledge and use of indicators when measuring SDGs achievement?
● How can VLRs and SDGs be integrated with reporting on other commitments such as NUA?
● How can NUA facilitate the delivery of SDGs within urban areas? Which strategies? What examples?
● How can municipal finances be improved and mobilize endogenous resources for creating specific Local SDGs projects and support the creation of new Local 2030 hubs?
● Which is the value added of the Local 2030 Hubs?

Format of the session
Following introductory remarks from the Moderator to present the Local 2030 and the LocalHubs concept, the session will be divided in two tables of discussion on the following subjects:

● Local 2030 contribution to realizing the SDGs and its link to the NUA
● Local 2030 contribution towards innovation and its link to the NUA.
● Local 2030 contribution in supporting locally appropriate monitoring and reporting processes and local data collection and its link to the NUA.

Moderator will close the session wrapping-up on the main trends of the discussion and call local and regional governments, local businesses and other local stakeholders to become a hub and to develop action statements.

Agenda

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<tr>
<th>Moderator</th>
<th>Ms. Shipra Narang Suri, Chief of Urban Practices Branch, UN-Habitat</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ms. Noraini Roslan, Mayor, Suban Jaya, Malaysia</td>
<td>Mr. David Jackson, Director of Local Development Finance, UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)</td>
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<td>Ms. Lene Conradi, Mayor, Asker, Norway</td>
<td>Ms. Denise Chan, Assistant Director of Cities and Sustainability, PricewaterhouseCoopers, United Kingdom</td>
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<td>Ms. Elin Fabre, Programme Director on Sustainable Cities, Global Utmaning, Sweden</td>
<td>Mr. Stefano Marta, Policy Analyst and Coordinator of the Territorial Approach to SDGs, Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development</td>
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