

# THE OECD PROGRAMME ON A TERRITORIAL APPROACH TO THE SDGs

## A role for cities and regions to leave no one behind

### Why a territorial approach to the Sustainable Development Goals?

**65% of 169 targets** need local and regional governments' engagement in order to be achieved<sup>1</sup>.

Subnational governments were responsible for **59.3% of total public investment** in 2016 in the OECD area and for almost **40%** worldwide<sup>2</sup>.

Co-operative **climate mitigation commitments made by cities, regions and businesses** could result in additional reduction of global emissions by one-third compared to national government policies alone<sup>3</sup>.

While SDG11 on cities is central, most of the other goals are **inter-connected** and **hold implications for cities and regions**.

There are strong **territorial disparities** within countries: looking at national averages is not enough. **The SDGs can foster policy coherence and place-based solutions to complex problems.**

### Cities and regions are key actors in the 2030 Agenda

Regions can promote productivity growth, social inclusion and environmental sustainability. To realise this potential, regional development policies need to ensure that different types of regions are able to thrive. Decentralised development co-operation by cities and regions can also play an important role in localising the SDGs.

Cities can provide pioneering solutions and responses to megatrends and act as engines of economic growth and innovation. Localised policies can also help to prevent potential trade-offs between social, economic and environmental goals. Many mayors and city leaders deal with policies central to sustainable development.

<sup>1</sup> UN Sustainable Development Solution Network and Cities Alliance (2016)

<sup>2</sup> OECD (2018)

<sup>3</sup> Data Driven Yale, New Climate Institute, PBL (2018)

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- A tailored, consensus-based and localised indicator framework.
- Harmonised and comparable OECD territorial statistics for SDGs.
  - Common OECD/EU definition of « city » and « region ».



- Analyse and discuss local SDGs stories/evolving practices.
- Draw lessons in terms of incentives, processes and outcomes.
  - Pilot-test the indicator framework in different contexts.



- Peer-to-peer dialogue between cities, regions and national governments.
  - Twinning during field trips and missions.
- Engagement of umbrella/city networks and stakeholder groups.



- Specific policy recommendations based on the local context and findings.

## Pilot regions & cities

- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  Province of Córdoba   Argentina       |  City of Kitakyushu   Japan            |
|  Region of Flanders   Belgium          |  City of Bonn   Germany                |
|  Region of Southern Denmark   Denmark |  Municipality of Kópavogur   Iceland  |
|  County of Viken   Norway            |  City of Moscow   Russian Federation |
|  State of Paraná   Brazil            |   |

## Key milestones

**July 2018** | Launch of the programme at the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

**7 March 2019** | 1<sup>st</sup> OECD Roundtable of Cities and Regions for SDGs

**14 May 2019** | Technical meeting on the draft OECD localised indicator framework for the SDGs

**November 2019** | 2<sup>nd</sup> OECD Roundtable on Cities and Regions for SDGs, including review of the final draft report: A Territorial Approach leave no one behind

**February 2020** | Report launch at the 2020 World Urban Forum

**Stefano MARTA, PhD**

Co-ordinator, Territorial Approach to SDGs

[Stefano.MARTA@oecd.org](mailto:Stefano.MARTA@oecd.org)

**Stina Heikkilä**

Territorial Approach to SDGs

[Stina.HEIKKILA@oecd.org](mailto:Stina.HEIKKILA@oecd.org)

Cities, Urban Policies and Sustainable Development Division  
Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities