



The SDGs as a framework for long-term COVID-19 recovery strategies in cities and regions

Preliminary Agenda

Monday, 16 November 2020 | 12h00-15h00 (CET)

Tuesday, 17 November 2020 | 12h00-15h00 (CET)

Building on the results of the 1st and 2nd Roundtable, this 3rd edition will bring together key stakeholders from cities, regions, national governments, the private sector, civil society, academia, philanthropy and international organisations to:

- **Reaffirm** the relevance of the SDGs in the COVID-19 recovery phase through the voice of political leaders and leading international experts
- **Understand** how the SDGs can help cities and regions shape and implement COVID-19 recovery strategies by sharing lessons and showcasing successful experiences
- **Take stock** of what works in the pilot cities and regions of the programme (Bonn (Germany), Kitakyushu (Japan), Córdoba (Argentina), Flanders (Belgium), Southern Denmark (Denmark), Viken (Norway), Kópavogur (Iceland), Parana (Brazil) and Moscow (Russian Federation)) to accelerate progress in the Decade of Action
- **Launch** a number of OECD reports of the pilots of the programme and chart the way forward to implement the recommendations on the ground
- **Coordinate** *Voluntary Local Reviews* with *Voluntary National Reviews* to strengthen the multi-level governance of the SDGs
- **Harmonise** SDGs measurement frameworks for cities and regions, building on the OECD localised indicator framework that measures the distance of more than 600 regions and 600 cities to the SDG targets



16 November
12.00 – 15.00

Ten years left: leveraging the full potential of cities and regions to meet the SDGs

Only ten years remain. The Decade of Action launched by the UN Secretary General in September 2019 calls for accelerating sustainable solutions by mobilising all sectors of society to meet the SDGs targets by 2030. The call focuses on three key areas: local actions, global actions and people actions. Cities and regions have a key role to play in moving closer to the SDGs over the next decade. The OECD estimates that at least 100 out of the 169 SDGs targets will not be reached without the engagement of local and regional governments. However, at least 70% of cities have not achieved the end values in 15 out of the 17 SDGs. At least 80% of regions have not achieved the end values in any of the 17 goals.

This session highlights how frontrunner cities and regions are leveraging the full potential of the SDGs as a policy tool to improve people's lives, going beyond the mere objective of complying with the targets by 2030. The session will also address the importance of integrating National and Local Voluntary Reviews for more effective multi-level governance and coordinating the SDGs indicator frameworks and tools at local and regional level. It will include the launch of some pilot reports of the OECD programme as an illustration of the successful experiences observed throughout the policy dialogues.

- **Opening**
 - **Scene setting presentations by leading international experts**
 - **Short interventions from frontrunner cities, regions, national governments and international stakeholders on how they are leveraging the potential of the SDGs as a policy tool to improve people's lives and achieve the targets by 2030**
 - **Discussion**
 - **Closing remarks**
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17 November
12.00 – 15.00

Long-term pandemic recovery strategies and the SDGs in cities and regions

In today's highly uncertain environment, the SDGs are more relevant than ever as they offer a clear and stable framework to guide cities and regions in shaping a transformative recovery from COVID-19. All levels of government need to share the responsibility of building a more sustainable and resilient society. The transformative nature of the 2030 Agenda provides a key opportunity for national, regional and local governments to promote a new sustainable development paradigm and to move towards a resilient recovery from COVID-19.

Leading international experts, political leaders, high-level representatives of cities, regions and their associations, national governments, international organisations, representatives of civil society and the private sector will discuss the short, medium and longer-term responses of cities and regions to COVID-19 and the key role of the SDGs to help recover from the health, economic, social, and environmental impacts of the pandemic.

- **Opening**
 - **Scene setting presentations by leading international experts**
 - **Short interventions from frontrunner cities, regions national governments and international stakeholders on the importance of the SDGs in the COVID-19 recovery phase**
 - **Discussion**
 - **Closing remarks**
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