

# 6th OECD Roundtable on Cities and Regions for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

20 April 2023



## 6<sup>th</sup> OECD Roundtable on Cities and Regions for the SDGs

### Draft Agenda

Thursday 20 April 2023 | 09:30 – 16:30 (CEST) | Hybrid event

Committee of the Regions (CoR) HQs, Brussels

The Roundtable will bring together key stakeholders from cities, regions, national governments, the private sector, civil society, academia, philanthropy and international organisations to:

- **Launch** three OECD reports on i) *Reshaping Decentralised Development Co-operation in Cities and Regions: Lessons from Germany*; ii) a *Global Policy Toolkit on Decentralised Development Co-operation*; and iii) *Partnerships for Sustainable Cities: A Consensus-based Evaluation Framework to Localise the SDGs*
- **Analyse** the progress on SDG11 on Sustainable Cities and Communities as a contribution to the 2023 UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)
- **Present** the preliminary results of an OECD-Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)–European Committee of the Regions (CoR) survey on “The role of cities and regions for the SDGs in an uncertain geopolitical context”
- **Discuss** the role of cities in promoting sustainable food systems and addressing the food crisis generated by Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine.

## Session I: 09:30 – 11:30 CEST

### A renewed momentum for decentralised development co-operation and city-to-city partnerships

City-to-city partnerships and decentralised development co-operation (DDC) can play a key role in advancing the SDGs as well as in addressing global megatrends, the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic and other shocks. For example, cities and regions can support each other in addressing the current humanitarian and refugee crisis, rebuilding urban infrastructure and strengthening resilience. The adoption of the G20 Rome High-Level Principles on city-to-city partnerships for localising the SDGs in 2021 has emphasised the importance of DDC for the 2030 Agenda. Moving forward, it is critical to share guidance and examples on effective implementation modalities of DDC and to develop monitoring and evaluation systems to measure the impact of DDC on development outcomes.

This session will:

- Launch three OECD reports on i) Reshaping DDC in Cities and Regions: Lessons from Germany; ii) a Global Policy Toolkit on DDC; and iii) Partnerships for Sustainable Cities: A Consensus-based Evaluation Framework to Localise the SDGs.
- Discuss innovative examples of implementation modalities of DDC as well as monitoring and evaluation frameworks to strengthen the role of DDC and city-to-city partnerships

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**09:30 – 10:00**    **Launch of three OECD reports**

**10:00 – 10:45**    **Panel discussion with highlights from frontrunner pilot cities, regions and countries**

**10:45 – 11:30**    **Open discussion**

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**11:30 – 12:00**    **Coffee-break**

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## Session II: 12:00 – 15:00 CEST

### Towards the review of SDG11: the role of cities and regions for the SDGs in an uncertain geopolitical context

This year provides unprecedented momentum to advance the contribution of cities and regions to the SDGs. In July 2023, the UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) will feature an in-depth review of the progress on SDG11 on Sustainable Cities and Communities, including in terms of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. In 2019-2021, the world made no progress on the SDGs, and the consequences of the war since 2022 continue to fuel an alarming humanitarian and refugee crisis, while generating indirect effects on key policy areas such as the cost of living, energy and food. Cities and regions have an urgent role to play to put SDG11 back on track while navigating an uncertain global context.

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This session will:

- Analyse the progress on SDG11 on Sustainable Cities and Communities as a contribution to the 2023 HLPF
- Present the preliminary results of an OECD-SDSN-CoR survey on “The role of cities and regions for the SDGs in an uncertain geopolitical context”

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**12:00 – 12:20 Keynote on the progress on SDG11**

**12:20 – 13:00 Panel discussion on SDG11**

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**Lunch break: 13:00 – 14:00 CEST**

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**14:00 – 14:20 Presentation of the preliminary results of the OECD-SDSN-CoR survey**

**14:20 – 15:00 Panel discussion on the results of the survey**

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**Session III: 15:00 – 16:30 CEST**

**Cities for Sustainable Food Systems**

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Food – together with energy and the cost of living - is one of the main sectors affected by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. The shortages and disruptions in food supply chains caused by the war have highlighted the importance of local food production and systems to complement global food chains. Cities have a crucial role to play in achieving sustainable food systems: as the world is increasingly urbanised, by 2050 an estimated 80% of all food will be consumed in cities. Food systems are also increasingly seen as a key driver of urban and regional development and livelihoods.

This session will:

- Discuss the role of cities in promoting sustainable food systems and addressing the food crisis generated by the war.
- Analyse synergies between food systems policies and SDG localisation strategies

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**15:00 – 15:20 Keynote on cities for sustainable food systems**

**15:20 – 15:45 Panel discussion on highlights from frontrunner pilot cities, regions and countries**

**15:45 – 16:15 Open discussion**

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**16:15 – 16:30 Conclusion of the Roundtable and next steps**