

5th OECD Roundtable on Cities and Regions for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

26 April, 2022



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Agenda

Tuesday 26 April 2022 | 12:00-15:00 (CEST)

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

- **Launch** the OECD policy paper on *The Sustainable Development Goals as a Framework for COVID-19 Recovery in Cities and Regions*, based on the OECD-CoR joint survey conducted between 10 May 2021 and 18 June 2021;
- **Present** the draft OECD Toolkit to implement a Territorial Approach to the SDGs, including: i) lessons from 10 policy dialogues with cities and regions; ii) successful examples on how cities and regions are using the SDGs as a policy making tool; iii) a Self-Assessment tool for cities and regions to monitor to what extent they are following the OECD Checklist on A Territorial Approach to the SDGs; and
- **Discuss** how city-to-city partnerships and decentralised development co-operation can help localise the SDGs, particularly in the current international context.

Session I: 12:00 – 13:00 CEST

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

While the pandemic has set back part of the progress made on the 2030 Agenda, the SDGs offer a clear and stable framework to guide governments in shaping a transformative recovery from COVID-19 and accelerating the shift towards a new urban and regional paradigm. In particular, the SDGs offer three types of drivers to boost recovery. First, they provide a framework to identify specific local strengths and areas for improvement in terms of sustainable development. Second, they are a powerful tool to help align priorities, incentives, objectives and resources across national, regional and local levels of government. Third, they compel governments to engage with the whole of society – including the private sector, as well as civil society.

This session will:

- Launch the OECD policy paper on *The Sustainable Development Goals as a Framework for COVID-19 Recovery in Cities and Regions*, based on the OECD-CoR Survey conducted between 10 May 2021 and 18 June 2021.
 - Discuss how cities, regions, national governments and other institutions can use the key findings of the policy paper in their strategies to recover from the pandemic in the medium and long term.
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12:00 – 12:10 **Opening remarks: Launch of OECD policy paper *The Sustainable Development Goals as a Framework for COVID-19 Recovery in Cities and Regions***

- **Yoshiki Takeuchi**, Deputy Secretary-General, OECD
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12:10 – 12:40 **Panel discussion**

- **Ricardo Rio**, Mayor of Braga, Portugal, Rapporteur on the SDGs, Committee of Regions
 - **Guillaume Lafortune**, Vice President and Director of Paris Office, Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)
 - **Gulnara Roll**, Regional Advisor, Forests, Land and Housing Division, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
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12:40 – 13:00 **Open discussion**

Moderated by Soo-Jin Kim, Acting Head of the Cities, Urban Policies and Sustainable Development Division, OECD

Session II: 13:00 – 14:00 CEST

From concept to action – How to implement a Territorial Approach to the SDGs

Moving from concepts to place-specific actions is key to achieve the SDGs by 2030. To do so, policy makers at all levels need concrete tools, guides and successful examples on how to use the SDGs as a policy making tool to improve people's lives, including in the current uncertain international context. The OECD is developing a Toolkit to implement a Territorial Approach to the SDGs, which is designed as a user-friendly one-stop-shop that gathers lessons learned from cities and regions across the globe; proposes a How-To Guide for SDGs

champions; showcases localised data and indicators in select parts of the world; and offers a self-assessment tool for cities and regions willing to embrace the localisation path.

This session will:

- Explore how tools, guides and examples can support policy makers in localising the SDGs
- Discuss the draft OECD Toolkit to implement a Territorial Approach to the SDGs, ahead of its launch at the 11th World Urban Forum

13:00 – 13:20 **Keynote**

- **Åsa Persson**, Research Director and Deputy Director at Stockholm Environment Institute and member of the Independent Group of Scientists for the 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report
- **Q&A**

13:20 –14:00 **Panel on the draft OECD Toolkit on A Territorial Approach to the SDGs**

Presentation of the draft Toolkit by the OECD

- **Lorenz Gross & Joshua Monje-Jelfs**, Junior Economist/Policy Analysts, OECD

Discussant

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

Spotlight on the city of Mannheim, Germany

- **Diana Pretzell**, Deputy Mayor for Citizens' Services, Climate, Environment, Technical Operations, City of Mannheim, Germany

Panel discussion

- **Melisa Gorondy Novak**, Director General for Articulation and International Relations, Ministry of Coordination, Province of Córdoba, Argentina
- **Nicolas Gharbi**, Principal Advisor, City Diplomacy and International Affairs, city of Madrid, Spain

14:00-14:10 **Open discussion**

Moderated by Stefano Marta, Coordinator, A Territorial Approach to the SDGs, OECD

Session III: 14:10 – 15:00 CEST

City-to-city partnerships and decentralised development co-operation to address global shocks and localise the SDGs

Cities are grappling with the asymmetric impact of a 2-year long pandemic and global megatrends (e.g. climate change, digitalisation, demographic change), as well as renewed uncertainty looming over their efforts to rebuild their economies and communities (with the implications of the war in Ukraine). City-to-city partnerships and decentralised development co-operation can play a key role in addressing global megatrends, the COVID-19

pandemic and sudden shocks. For example, cities and regions can support each other in addressing the humanitarian and refugee crisis, rebuilding urban infrastructure and strengthening resilience.

This session will:

- Explore how city-to-city partnerships and decentralised development co-operation can help respond to and recover from current and future global crises
- Discuss the importance of monitoring and evaluation for city-to-city partnerships, notably in line with the Ten G20 Rome High Level Principles on City-to-City Partnerships for Localising the SDGs adopted under the Italian Presidency in 2021

14:10 – 14:30 **Keynote: The role of city-to-city partnerships and decentralised development co-operation in addressing global shocks and localising the SDGs**

- **Anja Wagner**, Head of the Federal States and Local Authorities Division, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany
- **Q&A**

14:30 – 14:55 **Panel discussion**

- **Andrea Ferrari Bravo**, Head of Sector, Civil Society and Local Authorities, DG INTPA, European Commission
- **Marie Rodriguez & Xavier D'Argoeuves**, Project Manager & Deputy Delegate for external action of local governments, Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, France
- **Nancy Matthys**, Flanders Chancellery & Foreign Affairs, Region of Flanders, Belgium

Moderated by Rachel Morris, Policy Analyst, Development Co-operation Directorate, OECD

14:55 – 15:00 **Conclusion of the Roundtable and next steps**