THE KEY ROLE OF CITIES FOR THE SDGS

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OECD Action Plan on SDGs: i) key role of **subnational governments** and ii) need to go look **beyond national averages**;

Leaving no one behind is a **shared responsibility**;

**65% of 169 targets** will not be reached without engagement of LRGs

Subnational governments responsible for almost **60% of total public investment** in 2016 in OECD area and for almost **40%** worldwide;

SDG11 on cities is central, but we need a **territorial lens for all SDGs**;

SDGs are a means to promote **policy coherence**

A Territorial Approach helps to **prioritize, plan and budget**
Measuring

• A tailored, consensual and localised indicator framework
• Harmonised and comparable OECD territorial statistics for SDGs
• Common OECD/EU definition of « city » and « region »

Learning

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

Sharing

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

Policy Recommendations
Key Preliminary Findings for the Pilots

- SDGs as a tool for **strategic visioning, planning and budgeting**
- SDGs as a framework to **manage trade-offs across sectoral policies**
- SDGs to engage the **private sector and civil society** beyond CSR and green-washing
- Need for a comparable, harmonised and **localised SDGs indicator framework**

Key SDGs for the sustainability strategy of the city of Bonn

**SDG 11** is a cross-cutting priority goal for the city in its efforts to mainstream sustainable development throughout its institutions and structures. It also has political importance in light of the Mayor's role in forums like ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability and Bonn's position as Federal and Germany's UN City.

- SDG 12 **sustainable cities and communities**
- SDG 13 **climate action**
- SDG 17 **partnerships for the goals**

Clean energy and reduced CO2 emissions are central. Thus there is a strong focus on increasing the local production of renewable energies and by local energy providers (100% delivered from renewable sources by 2030) and by local households.

This priority goal reflects Bonn's role as Fair Trade City and aspiration towards global responsibility, promoting the concept at home and abroad. It is also seen as a cross-cutting goal with possible positive effects on goals like SDG 3 (healthy), 8 (decent work), 13 (climate protection) and 15 (protection of water and soils).

In light of over two decades of engaging in partnerships with the Global South, as well as the city's participation in international networks (e.g., ICLEI – Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy), Bonn is committed to continue expert exchange particularly on topics like water, energy and waste management.

**Vision and Actions for the Kitakyushu SDGs Future City Plan**

- 3 pillars: Economy, Society, Environment
- Basic concept: **Creation of a society in which every single person can take action and play a coherent role together**
- Principal actions:
  - Create a society that empowers all women
  - Build motivation in life for the elderly
  - Promote opportunities for all through actions on gender and other areas

Source: OECD SDGs Survey, 2018

Source: Kitakyushu City VLR, the SDGs Report, 2018
Cities and regions are starting including the SDGs into their development plans, but the transformative element of the 2030 Agenda is not there yet.

Cities, regions and national governments are creating mechanisms to address the SDGs holistically, but vertical coordination needs to be improved.

Measuring progress is a key priority, but a comparable localised indicator framework is still missing.

Private sector actively trying to include SDGs in the core business (e.g. insurance and soap companies, banks), but it will take time.

**MOVING FORWARD**

- SDGs tool to develop local development vision/strategies towards 2030.
- SDGs as a means to involve the private sector in public policies and use public funds to leverage private investments.
- SDGs as a framework to identify/measure synergies across sectors.
- SDGs as a tool to institutionalise processes with civil society and citizens towards 2030.