

# Achieving SDGs in times of global crises



## Side Event 22

### *Cities using data to support the localization, implementation and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda – A case example of City of Durban's Strategic Hub*

 6 JUNE 2023, 13:15- 14:15

 Conference Room 13

## SUMMARY

Cities are a critical stakeholder in the localization, implementation and monitoring of the New Urban Agenda (NUA). Without data and sound data ecosystems cities are unable to make insight-driven strategic decisions on sustainable development. This impacts on the allocation of resources, ability to predict and respond to climate related disasters and monitoring progress towards achieving sustainable development goals. This session demonstrates how positioning data as a critical infrastructure can support local government in the implementation and monitoring of the New Urban Agenda. The event will highlight and demonstrate the importance of building sound data partnerships with private sector, civil society, academia and government stakeholders to support the establishment of data-driven strategic tools for sustainable development. The City of Durban's Strategic Hub is an example of how local governments can leverage data to support planning, implementation, resource allocation and monitoring of the New Urban Agenda initiatives. The Strat Hub is the City of Durban's 'Single Source of Truth' that is co-created through internal and external partnerships. This tool has supported policy interventions and actions related to urban safety; road safety; disaster response; climate risk and vulnerability mapping; etc. Specifically on urban safety, the Strat Hub is supporting the implementation efforts related to the 2023 GC 26 resolution on Safer Cities and the adoption of the UN System wide guidelines in 2019.

For cities to collaborate and partner with their stakeholders there is a need to create innovative and transparent tools that monitor progress towards achieving SDGs. In this context, City of Durban has aligned its data work to the establishment of an Open SDG portal which allows stakeholder to participate in the tracking and monitoring of SDGs. This is co-governance and supports participation of local stakeholders in the SDG process. Furthermore, the event will highlight, amongst other initiatives, how the city is using data to create inclusive action around displaced and migration.



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## Organizer(s)

eThekweni Municipality; South Africa – [www.durban.gov.za](http://www.durban.gov.za) and [strathub.durban.gov.za](http://strathub.durban.gov.za)

Centre for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), South Africa - <https://www.csir.co.za>

UN-Habitat Data and Analytics Unit, Kenya - <https://unhabitat.org/knowledge/data-and-analytics>

Microsoft South Africa, United States - <https://www.microsoft.com/en-za>

CitiIQ, Canada - <https://www.citiq.com>

## Moderator

Ms Mackenzie Bent, CitiIQ, Canada

## Speaker(s)

Dr Sandile Mbatha (PhD) , eThekweni Municipality

Ms Amy Pieterse, Centre for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

Dr Robert Ndungwa (PhD), UN-Habitat

Mr Sandile Mahlaba, Microsoft

