Side Event 26

Towards a multilateral collaboration and knowledge exchange system to accelerate SDGs implementation in cities.

7 JUNE 2023, 13.15 – 14.15
Conference Room 9, United Nations Office in Nairobi
English & Chinese

SUMMARY

In line with the theme of the second UN-Habitat Assembly, "Sustainable Urban Futures through Inclusive and Effective Multilateralism: Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in an Era of Global Crises," the Side Event, scheduled on 7th June 2023, explores an innovative form of multilateralism that systemizes data measurement, good SDG Localization practices and experiences of cities worldwide, and channels them to cities based on their specific sustainable development priorities and capacity development needs.

While cities are committed to the SDGs, they often struggle to find reliable data measurement means at the local level, as well as relevant, high quality best practices and training resources to guide and support the achievement of their sustainable development priorities. The Shanghai trio of interrelated tools, the Shanghai Adapted Index (SAI), the Shanghai Manual, and the Global Award for Sustainable Development (Shanghai Award), are designed to support effective implementation of urban sustainability at the local level. The Shanghai Adapted Index is the first adaptation of the Global Urban Monitoring Framework that provides a graded index system to measure progress on sustainable urban development and their contribution to the SDGs and New Urban Agenda. The Shanghai Award incentivizes cities to submit their best practices. These are peer reviewed and classified then documented in the Shanghai Manual, which is a searchable, ever-growing compilation of sustainable urban development best practices from all over world.

The UN-Habitat SDG Cities Global Initiative supports cities to accelerate the local implementation of SDGs through four tracks: data, strategic planning, institutional capacity development and investment in impact. The data track and strategic planning track ensure that cities can access and use data to report their baseline on SDG achievement and inform local decision making and priority setting. The capacity development track helps cities to identify their specific learning priorities and provides relevant local institutions with appropriate training resources, including best practices. Finally, the Investment in Impact Track supports the financial preparation of SDG impact projects and their linkage to sources of private and public capital. Linking the SAI, the Award and the Manual with the SDG Cities cycle provides the opportunity to establish a seamless flow of identifying sustainable development priorities of cities and related capacity development needs, establishing an effective performance
measuring mean, and curating a specific support package of best practices and learning resources that helps guide and support cities achieve their sustainable development priorities.

After the opening remarks by the ministers from China, Malaysia and Columbia, the Executive Director of UN-Habitat, and the Deputy Mayor of Shanghai, Cheng Jian from Shanghai Coordination Center of World Cities Day will introduce the history of the Shanghai Adapted Index, the Shanghai Award and the Shanghai Manual. Dyfed Aubrey from UN-Habitat will then explore systematic approaches to enable cities to more readily implement SDGs at the local level in order to help them achieve the local implementation of the SDGs and contribute to a more sustainable future. Lastly, local representatives from Malaysia, Kyebi of Ghana, and Puriscal of Costa Rica will discuss the challenges and opportunities they face when localizing SDGs.

Organizer(s)
Organization Name: Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development of the People’s Republic of China
Organization Name: Shanghai Municipal People’s Government China
Organization Name: UN-Habitat

Moderator
Mr Dyfed Aubrey, Inter-regional Advisor, UN-Habitat

Detailed Programme

13:15 – 13h40 Opening Remarks
- Ms Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director of UN-Habitat
- Mr Ni Hong, Minister of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, China
- Mr Nga Kor Ming, Minister of Local Government, Malaysia
- Ms Catalina Velasco Campuzano, Minister of Housing, City and Territory, Columbia
- Mr Guilherme Simões, National Secretary for Peripheries, Brazil
- Mr Zhang Xiaohong, Deputy Mayor of Shanghai, China

13h40-14h10 Panel Discussion
- Mr Cheng Jian, Director of Shanghai Coordination Center of World Cities Day
- Mr Dyfed Aubrey, Inter-regional Advisor of UN-Habitat
- Ms Norliza Hashim, CEO of Urbanice, Malaysia
- Ms Akosua Asabea, Mayor of Kyebi, Ghana
- Ms Iris Cristina Arroyo Herrera, Mayor of Puriscal, Costa Rica

14h10-14h15 Q&A