

Local2030 Coalition Special Event

Actions, solutions, and partnerships to foster multilevel governance and unlock financing to accelerate SDG localization

2023 High-Level Political Forum (HLPF)

12 July 2023 | 3 to 5 pm EDT

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Context

Our world faces multiple and interlinked shocks that hinder progress on achieving the SDGs, from the setbacks caused by the COVID-19 pandemic to the impact of the war in Ukraine to the debt crises and the escalating climate emergency, among others. The combined and compounding impact of these shocks is worsening deep-rooted and multidimensional inequalities, putting the vulnerable at greater risk of being left further behind. They are also straining the capacities of governments from the national to the local level to ensure even progress on development priorities.

The 2023 HLPF convenes at a critical juncture, amid these severe challenges and at the midpoint of implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Its theme of "Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels" is thus an important call to action. The action we mobilize now will define how much we can rescue the SDGs and propel specific targets forward.

The Local2030 Coalition is the UN System-wide platform and network for supporting and accelerating the localization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It was established on the knowledge that global goals require local engagement and action to achieve and need to have a local impact to be meaningful. It views inclusive multilevel governance and engagement as fundamental to SDG localization and SDG achievement and mobilizing investment and financing as integral to efforts, particularly at the local level where concrete actions are carried out.

In this context, the Local2030 Coalition convenes this Special Event as a contribution to the HLPF processes. The event will gather experts and partners from across sectors to explore how we can enhance multilevel governance that streamlines vertical and horizontal governance systems and fosters coherent policy-making and cohesive action for SDG acceleration from the national to the local level. It will examine how we can enhance multilevel governance structures to fortify coordination and collaboration and expand opportunities for communities and businesses to engage in SDG localization.

Moreover, the event will take forward the call to action in the UN Secretary-General's SDG Stimulus to Deliver Agenda 2030, underscoring the need to address short-term and long-term sustainable development finance and the urgent need for impactful local action backed by robust and predictable resources.

Finally, the Special Event will call attention to the role of SDG localization and local action in amplifying the linkages across the SDGs, particularly the Goals under review this year (Goals 6 on clean water and sanitation, 7 on affordable and clean energy, 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure, Goal 11 on sustainable cities and communities, and 17 on partnerships). Likewise, it will be linked to the [6th Local and Regional Governments Forum \(LRGF\)](#), which will highlight how it is possible to harness high impact localization policies to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals through SDG 11 and towards the 2023 SDG Summit. We also wish to acknowledge the support provided by [United Cities and Local Governments \(UCLG\)](#).

Objectives

By centering our discussions around multilevel governance and financing, the Special event aims to foster greater collaboration, drive transformative actions and solutions, and pave the way to accelerate SDG localization. To this end, the session will:

- Explore the principles and models of multilevel governance, emphasizing its importance for efficient policy-making, service delivery, and cohesive leadership across various levels of governance.
- Highlight the significance of financing for the SDGs at the local level and the need to mobilize resources to implement the 2030 Agenda effectively.
- Facilitate dialogue and collaboration among government representatives from all levels, the private sector, civil society organizations, and international institutions to develop transformative partnerships for delivering the SDGs.
- Discuss policy guidance and best practices for multilevel governance and financing frameworks that support SDG localization.

Key questions

1. How can multilevel governance contribute to the localization of the SDGs? What strategies and best practices can be adopted to ensure effective coordination and cooperation among all spheres of governance?
2. How can we develop sustainable finance architectures that align with the SDGs? What funding mechanisms, financial instruments, and partnerships can be utilized to support SDG localization?
3. In what ways can the private sector be mobilized to develop new business models and become transformative partners in delivering the SDGs? How can private sector investments be directed towards sustainable development goals?
4. What policy guidance and measures can be recommended to address the challenges of uneven multilevel governance systems and available resources within and across countries?
5. How can international institutions and stakeholders collaborate to strengthen multilevel governance and financing frameworks, ensuring effective localization of the SDGs and accelerating progress towards the 2030 Agenda?

**Expected
outcomes**

- Enhanced the importance of multilevel governance for SDG Localization and uncover examples that can be used as inspiration to governments worldwide.
- Identification of innovative financing mechanisms, financial instruments, and partnerships that support SDG localization and align with the 2030 Agenda. As well as of mechanisms to foster the engagement and collaboration between the private sector and other stakeholders in developing transformative business models for sustainable development.
- Systematization of best practices and lessons learned in multilevel governance and financing for SDG implementation, with a particular focus on SDG 11.
- Generate a set of actionable recommendations and strategies to strengthen multilevel governance and financing mechanisms for SDG Localization that will inform the work of the Local2030 Coalition and the upcoming SDG Summit.

Participants

Member states, local and regional governments, UN entities, civil society representatives, and Local2030 Hubs.

Format

The event will be in-person and web-streamed. It will involve an opening segment, two moderated panel discussions, and closing reflections from hosts. The first panel will focus on multilevel governance and engagement, and the second will look at financing for SDG localization.

Registration

This event is open to all registered participants of the 2023 HLPF. Member states delegates, UN Staff, and other stakeholders who have a valid UN Grounds Pass are welcome to attend the event in person without registration. Interested participants not included in the above categories can register by contacting the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat at francine.melchiorretto@un.org.

Language

English, Spanish and French